



Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

PO Box 388, Santa Barbara, CA 93102-0388
(805) 965-0093 | Fax (805) 568-1999 | www.sbthp.org

To Bring Alive the History of Santa Barbara for Present and Future Generations

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ADDITIONAL PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

PRESS CONTACT

Jared Brach

Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

Tel: (805) 966-1279

Fax: (805) 966-9888

E-mail: jared@sbthp.org

Website: www.sbthp.org

“Presidio Pastimes” Returns in Celebration of National Preservation Month

*El Presidio de Santa Barbara Comes to Life with Living History
Experience for the Entire Family*

(SANTA BARBARA, CA) – History comes to life with the year’s first “**Presidio Pastimes**” on

Saturday, May 17 from 10:00 am to Noon at El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park. Step back in time and join in the activities as you experience life in Santa Barbara in the 1800s. Get your hands dirty and **make adobe bricks** to be used in the reconstruction of El Presidio. Experience **Chumash stories and culture with Julie Tumamait-Stenslie**. Learn about **Early California cuisine with tortilla making and demonstrations in the authentic Presidio cocina** (kitchen). Watch the **Presidio soldiers (*Los Soldados de Cuera*) perform drills**, while the blacksmith makes nails and horseshoes at a hot forge. Hear about the ongoing archaeology at



Young guests learn about archaeology in the rear courtyard of El Presidio at “Presidio Pastimes.”

El Presidio and try your hand at excavation. Practice calligraphy in the Comandancia (Commander's quarters) and learn about Early California earthenware as you make pottery with help from Maser Potter Ruben Reyes.

Museum admission is free on this day as the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation celebrates and shares Santa Barbara's distinct heritage in recognition of **National Preservation Month** and this year's theme – ***"This Place Matters."***



Guests look on as Master Potter, Ruben Reyes demonstrates Early California pottery making on a kickwheel at "Presidio Pastimes."

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CALENDAR LISTING

"Presidio Pastimes"

Saturday, May 17, 2008

10:00 am to Noon

El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park

123 East Canon Perdido Street, Santa Barbara, CA

FREE Admission

For more information (805) 965-0093 or visit www.sbthp.org

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ABOUT National Preservation Month - Since the National Trust for Historic Preservation created Preservation Week in 1971 to spotlight grassroots preservation efforts in America, it has grown into an annual celebration observed by small towns and big cities with events ranging from architectural and historic tours and award ceremonies, to fundraising events, educational programs and heritage travel opportunities. Due to its overwhelming popularity, the National Trust has extended the celebration to the entire month of May and declared it Preservation Month to provide an even longer opportunity to celebrate the diverse and unique heritage of our country's cities and states and enable more Americans to become involved in the growing preservation movement. This year will mark the first official Preservation Month.

ABOUT the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation – Founded in 1963 by Dr. Pearl Chase and other concerned community leaders, the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization working to preserve, restore, reconstruct and interpret historic sites within Santa Barbara County. The Trust is the primary force behind the reconstruction and preservation of El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park and the restoration of Casa de la Guerra in downtown Santa Barbara. The Trust is also preserving and restoring the Santa Inés Mission Mills—the site of a future California State Park and recently purchased the building that housed Jimmy’s Oriental Gardens, providing an opportunity to interpret the history of Santa Barbara’s Asian community in the Presidio neighborhood. The Trust is currently reconstructing the Northwest Corner of El Presidio de Santa Barbara, the eighteenth-century Spanish colonial fort that is Santa Barbara’s birthplace. Using over 50,000 adobe bricks made on site, these additions will eventually house the new Presidio visitors’ center, and with the help of the new Santa Barbara Presidio Research Center, serve to interpret the city’s Hispanic heritage, and the larger multi-cultural heritage of the surrounding Presidio neighborhood from the eighteenth century to the present. **For more information visit www.sbthp.org**

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