



Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

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

PRESS RELEASE

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PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

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“Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation Announces First Corporate Gift to the Trust’s Pearl Chase Endowment”

Santa Barbara Bank & Trust becomes a member of Los Distinguidos (the distinguished ones)

(Santa Barbara, CA) – The Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP) welcomes **Santa Barbara Bank & Trust** as the first corporate supporter of the Trust’s Pearl Chase Endowment and the newest member of Los Distinguidos. Los Distinguidos is a special recognition circle for friends who share the Trust’s vision of preserving Santa Barbara’s unique history and heritage for future generations. Members of Los Distinguidos have made a commitment of \$10,000 and up to the Trust’s endowment. Named in honor of Pearl Chase, a founding member of the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation and one of its largest private benefactors, the endowment provides a secure and permanent financial base for the Trust’s ongoing preservation and restoration work. Christine DeVries, Senior Vice President and Regional Manager for Santa Barbara Bank & Trust will present the check to SBTHP Board President Craig Makela at **El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park (123 East Canon Perdido Street) on Friday, July 11, 2008 at 11:30 a.m.** Santa Barbara Bank & Trust has been a supporter of the SBTHP since 1989, this commitment is their largest to date and is a wonderful investment in the future of the Trust and the city of Santa Barbara.

In August the SBTHP will celebrate the completion of “My Friends Call me Miss Chase” a video on the life and legacy of Pearl Chase, particularly her role in the founding of the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation. A private showing in the Presidio Chapel, followed by a reception will honor those who worked on the film, produced by LifeStory Productions, and the donors who supported this important project. Copies will be available for sale in the Trust’s museum gift shops and plans are underway to feature the video on Santa Barbara City TV.

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ABOUT the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP) – 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. SBTHP 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. SBTHP 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. **SBTHP 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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