



**Santa Barbara Trust
for Historic Preservation**
El Presidio de Santa Bárbara SHP • Casa de la Guerra
Santa Inés Mission Mills • Jimmy's Oriental Gardens

To preserve, restore, reconstruct and interpret historic sites in Santa Barbara County

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 30, 2011

High resolution images available upon request

PRESS CONTACT

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Celebrate Santa Barbara's 229th Birthday with "Founding Day"
at El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park
*Living History Event & Birthday Celebration and
Observance & Ceremony in Honor of the Official Founding Day*



(SANTA BARBARA, CA)—**Celebrate Santa Barbara's 229th birthday "Founding Day" on Saturday, April 16 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM at El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park (123 East Canon Perdido Street). Step into the past and watch the Presidio come alive with **Early California dance, pottery, archaeology, native and Presidio plants, leatherworking, adobe brick making, and more!****

This free birthday celebration for the community begins at 11:00 AM with onsite educational activities focused on the history and culture of early California and the Presidio neighborhood. Commencing at 12:00 PM, enjoy a reenactment of the founding of the Santa Barbara

Presidio in 1782, presented by *Los Soldados de Cuera* (soldiers of the Royal Presidio), followed by the presentation of Saint Barbara 2011 and an Early California dance performance by *Las Fiesteras* sponsored by Reina del Mar Parlor # 126 of the Native Daughters of the Golden West.

Visit with costumed demonstrators and experience life in Santa Barbara during the late-1700s. Join master potter Ruben Reyes as he shares the art of pottery making, learn about leatherworking from Juan Lara, and discover Early California food. Observe native and Presidio plants and learn how pack mules were vital to the settlement.

This project is funded in part by the COMMUNITY EVENTS & FESTIVALS Program using funds provided by the City of Santa Barbara in partnership with the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission. Additional support provided by The Towbes Foundation and Outhwaite Charitable Trust.

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In observance of the official founding of the Santa Barbara Presidio on April 21, 1782, a traditional mass will be at the El Presidio Real de Santa Bárbara Chapel on Thursday, April 21 at 3:00 PM. The ceremony includes raising of the flag followed by a Latin service in the Royal Presidio Chapel. Participants include members of the Royal Presidio Regiment, the Quire of Voyces, and the Westmont College Orchestra.

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CALENDAR LISTING

Founding Day: Birthday Celebration for the Community

Saturday, April 16, 2011, 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park

123 East Canon Perdido Street, Santa Barbara, CA

FREE Admission

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

Observance and Ceremony in Honor of Official Founding Day

Thursday, April 21, 2011 at 3:00 PM

El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park

123 East Canon Perdido Street, Santa Barbara, CA

FREE Admission

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

SHORT DESCRIPTION

Founding Day: Birthday Celebration for the Community

Celebrate Santa Barbara's 229th birthday with "Founding Day" at El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park. Join us for the presentation of Saint Barbara and see the Presidio come to life with Early California dance, pottery, archaeology, native and Presidio plants, leatherworking, adobe brick making, and more!

Observance and Ceremony in Honor of Official Founding Day

A traditional mass in observance of official Founding Day, Thursday, April 21. The ceremony includes a raising of the flag followed by a Latin service in the Royal Presidio Chapel.

ABOUT the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP) – The Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP) works to *protect, preserve, restore, reconstruct, and interpret historic sites in Santa Barbara County*. Founded in 1963 by Dr. Pearl Chase and other concerned community leaders, SBTHP operates El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park—Santa Barbara's 18th century birthplace—under a unique agreement with California State Parks and recently purchased the neighboring building that housed Jimmy's Oriental Gardens, providing an opportunity to interpret the history of Santa Barbara's Asian American community in the Presidio Neighborhood. SBTHP owns and operates Casa de la Guerra, the 1820s home of Presidio Comandante José de la Guerra and his family—the restored home is now a museum featuring original furnishings and rotating exhibits. Recently, SBTHP signed an agreement with State Parks to manage and develop the Santa Inés Mission Mills, located near the town of Solvang, as a future California State Park. With the help of continuing education programs and exhibits, SBTHP strives to encourage community involvement and foster an appreciation for Santa Barbara County's distinct history. Learn more at www.sbthp.org.

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