



# Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

*El Presidio de Santa Bárbara SHP • Casa de la Guerra  
Santa Inés Mission Mills • Jimmy's Oriental Gardens*

## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Additional photos available upon request**

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## Early California Days Lottery Winners Announced



(SANTA BARBARA, CA) –

Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP) is pleased to announce the winners of its Early California Days field trip lottery, offered annually to third grade students across Santa Barbara County. Now in its 14th year, this field trip to El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park offers students a glimpse into lives of the men, women, and children who inhabited the Spanish fort in the

late-eighteenth century through a series of living history stations positioned throughout the park.

Earlier in the school year, teachers submit applications on behalf of their classes, a select number of which are then selected at random for this exciting opportunity. A total of 1,938 students entered the 2015 Early California Day Lottery from 37 different schools county-wide. On Thursday, April 9 and Thursday, May 7, SBTHP will host a total of 700 students from the following schools:

Adams Elementary School  
 Ballard School Carpinteria Family School  
 Christian Academy  
 Coastline Christian Academy  
 Cold Spring School  
 Crane School  
 Hollister Elementary School  
 Clarence Ruth Elementary School  
 La Patera Elementary School  
 Peabody Charter School  
 Roosevelt Elementary School  
 Santa Barbara Charter School  
 Santa Ynez Valley Charter School  
 St. Mary of the Assumption School  
 Summerland Elementary School  
 Vieja Valley Elementary School



Each year, SBTHP works to secure grant funding and to organize volunteers and specialists who staff 16 educational demonstrations. This year, support for Early California Days came from generous grants from the Towbes Foundation and California State Parks Foundation.

Lottery entrants who were not selected for the field trip, as well as the general public, may participate in the living history stations and other activities at the Founding Day Festival, held on Saturday, April 25, 2015, 11am-4pm.

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**ABOUT Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP)**— For over fifty years the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP) has worked 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 18<sup>th</sup> century birthplace—under a unique agreement with California State Parks. The State has purchased the 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. In 2009, 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. In 2011, SBTHP was awarded the Trustees' Emeritus Award for Excellence in the Stewardship of Historic Sites by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. With the help of continuing education programs and exhibits, SBTHP strives to encourage community involvement and foster an appreciation for Santa Barbara County's distinctive history. **Learn more at [www.sbthp.org](http://www.sbthp.org).**