Special Events & Lectures!

May 31st on Zoom at 5:00pm

Join us for an opportunity to hear about the 2nd edition of the Museum’s publication, Spanish Colonial Style. Among the key architectural designers fueling the Spanish Colonial architectural movement was the married couple, James Osborne Craig and Mary McLaughlin Craig, he responsible for the famed El Paseo complex, she the designer of the evocative Plaza Rubio housing division opposite the Santa Barbara Mission.

1st Thursday June 1st at 5:00pm

Enjoy access after hours with wine and music while you explore our galleries, including a final opportunity to explore our exhibition about the bohemian Mountain Drive community.
Free entry. No RSVP needed. Bring a friend!

June 8th & June 22nd Flamenco Íntimo

Join us for an intimate evening of flamenco in the historic Covarrubias Adobe with award winning artist Manuel Gutierrez and Andres Vadin.

99 Years of Old Spanish Days Fiesta - July 12

Old Spanish Days Fiesta is a community-wide, 5-day long festival celebrated during the first week of August. The annual event provides an education to residents and visitors about the history, customs, and traditions of the American Indian, Spanish, Mexican, and early American settlers that comprise the rich cultural heritage of Santa Barbara. This year’s Fiesta El Presidente and Old Spanish Days Historian David Bolton takes on a historic journey through the first 99 years of Fiesta. As we look to next year’s Old Spanish Days centennial celebration, David will examine the unique stories behind our beloved summer-time celebration.
Special Events & Lectures!

**Saturday, July 22**
Fiesta del Museo

An elegant night celebrating Old Spanish Days Fiesta under the stars at the Historical Museum.

New Exhibits!

**Opening July 6th, 2023**
Project Fiesta! 99 Years of Old Spanish Days Fiesta

A photo exhibition documenting 99 iconic moments in Fiesta history, just in time for the festival’s 99th year. Join us on July 6th for drinks, tacos, and flamenco at the Museum to celebrate the opening of this exhibition!

With more to come in the fall!
WE ARE LOOKING FOR DOCENTS!

The Historical Museum is looking for enthusiastic and passionate leaders who love learning and sharing their knowledge of Santa Barbara’s history. As a volunteer, you will have the chance to develop new skills, meet like-minded people, and provide real and meaningful educational opportunities for the Santa Barbara community. Docents make a difference!

The Historical Museum receives visitors of all ages, and backgrounds. We are looking for docents to participate in:

- Touring adult visitors to the museum – local and visiting
- Touring local K-12 school and summer camp groups
- Leading K-4 and teen activities.

General knowledge of Santa Barbara and experience with public speaking and groups is necessary. Historical Museum education staff provide additional training and support on special topics.

Benefits

- Unique opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of Santa Barbabra’s history and present-day community
- Ongoing learning opportunities with the museum’s curatorial and education staff, local historians and authors, and fellow docents
- Access to the museum’s private research library, free materials, resources, and articles for self-study
- Complimentary admission to Museum lectures, exhibit openings, and events
- A 10% discount on Museum store purchases
- Complimentary SBHM swag bags, volunteer appreciation events and gifts
- Making a difference in your community!

Amenities

- Flexible hours
- Free parking
- Free Food + drink during events

If you're excited about connecting to your local history, and connecting with others, please consider volunteering with the Santa Barbara Historical Museum!

If interested, please contact emily@sbhistorical.org
WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Summer Volunteer Opportunity #1

The Santa Barbara Historical Museum is seeking helpful and welcoming volunteers to assist Visitor Services and hospitality staff at our summer events and public programs.

In 2022, the Historical Museum’s exhibitions brought in record-breaking numbers, and lectures and events attracted tremendous patronage – 5,878 attendees! Programming is an essential part of our mission to inspire meaningful connections to Santa Barbara history. This year, we continue to invite all our members, and the wider Santa Barbara community to participate in our exhibition openings, lectures, and concerts held at the Historical Museum. To make these events successful, we need volunteers! No prior experience is necessary, and we will provide you with all the training and support you need.

Tasks & Responsibilities

- Welcoming guests and providing information about the event, including directions to seating and refreshments, event start and end time
- Answering guest inquiries regarding event information, Museum galleries, directions around the Museum, and upcoming events and exhibits
- Monitoring guest flow in, out, and within Museum galleries; assisting guests to their seats
- Assisting front desk staff with gift shop and membership transactions
- Assisting bar and food staff with prepping and stocking bar, serving wine and beverages and food behind the bar and to guests’ seats
- Clearing cocktail tables of trash and empty wine glasses
- Communicating with Museum hospitality staff and Visitor Services staff to ensure smooth running of the event
- Cleaning event space following end of event: clearing tables, collecting trash, stacking chairs and tables

Skills

- Teamwork
- Multi-tasking
- Flexibility
- Cash-handling
WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Summer Volunteer Opportunity #2

The Santa Barbara Historical Museum is seeking outgoing and dedicated volunteers to assist Visitor Services staff at the Museum front desk and at the Museum’s Old Spanish Days Fiesta Booth, during Santa Barbara’s Fiesta festival through August 2 – 6. Take part in the Fiesta festivities while gaining experience in the museum industry!

Old Spanish Days Fiesta is a community-wide, 5-day long festival celebrated during the first week of August. The annual event provides an education to residents and visitors about the history, customs, and traditions of the American Indian, Spanish, Mexican, and early American settlers that comprise the rich cultural heritage of Santa Barbara. Festival activities and events include dance performances, live music concerts, a historical parade, and two open air markets.

The Historical Museum hosts its own educational and merchandise booth at the El Mercado de la Guerra, located in De La Guerra Plaza, on the first block of East De la Guerra Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101. Visitors to the Mercado can eat Spanish and Mexican-American foods, shop for crafts and souvenirs, and enjoy live entertainment all day and into the early evening. At the Historical Museum booth, visitors have the opportunity to learn about the festival’s history through pop-up interpretive panels, and shop for a variety of Fiesta merchandise – posters, pins, postcards, hair accessories, fans, instruments, and clothing.

We are looking for volunteers at our booth:

- Every day during El Mercado de la Guerra, from 10am to 9pm. August 2-5
- We are looking for volunteers to work 2 to 4 hours during operating hours, specifically fill lunch break and dinner break shifts around 12-2pm and 6-8pm. Hours are flexible.

During the festival, the Historical Museum at 136 E de la Guerra Street, is open to the public, and will host its own photography exhibition of 99 iconic Fiesta moments, to commemorate the festival’s 99th year. The Museum welcomes hundreds of visitors a day to its annual Project Fiesta exhibition.

We are looking for volunteers at the Museum:

- Every day during Museum operating hours, 12-5pm (Weds-Sun), 12-7pm (Thurs), August 2-6.
- We are looking for volunteers to work 2 to 4 hours during operating hours, specifically fill lunch break shifts around 1-3pm. Hours are flexible.
Tasks & Responsibilities

- Enthusiastically greet entering visitors to the Museum and Mercado booth and successfully communicate general information about the Museum including admission, directions, and current exhibitions.

- Accurately answer visitor questions regarding a wide variety of topics including general Santa Barbara history and Old Spanish Days Fiesta Festival, directional inquiries, and inquiries about tourism & other attractions in the Santa Barbara area during the Fiesta celebration.

- Handle cash, card, and check transactions.

- Assist visitors with directions around the Museum building and campus.

- Attentively monitor and control visitor flow into, within, and out of Museum spaces and galleries.

Benefits

- Unique opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of Santa Barbara’s history and present-day community
- Skills development and resume-building experience in the museum and guest services industry
- Mentorship opportunities with the museum’s education and guest services staff
- Complimentary admission to Museum lectures, exhibit openings, and events
- A 10% discount on Museum store and Mercado booth purchases
- Complimentary SBHM swag bags, volunteer appreciation events and gifts

Anemities

- A complimentary tour of the Historical Museum’s Project Fiesta exhibition and educational training
- Free parking
- Flexible hours
- Free food + drink at Museum events

If you're excited about connecting to your local history, and connecting with others, please consider volunteering with the Santa Barbara Historical Museum!
Please contact emily@sbhistorical.org for more information.