

August 2003

INSIDE THE EXCHANGE

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SAN JOSE, CA

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History|San José 1650 Senter Road, San Jose, CA 95112-2599

THE Exchange

HISTORY SAN JOSÉ



Sellout at the Cellar

By all standards, History San José's first fundraiser was a huge success. The Manny's Cellar – Open One Night Only! event took place Wednesday, June 25th in the outdoor space adjacent to its former entrance at 175 West St. John Street. The evening featured traditional Manny's fare and complimentary beverages, including notorious vodka Martinis mixed by former Manny's bartender Tommy Taylor. Judge John Ball, a Manny's regular, emceed the

evening's entertainment, which included hysterical historical vignettes by City Lights Theater Company and historical anecdotes by members of the audience. Proceeds will benefit HSJ's Children's Educational Programs.

"The response was amazing," said Vilma Palette, Event Chairperson. "We appreciate everyone's enthusiasm and support."



The idea came to HSJ president and CEO David Crosson one evening while he and a colleague were lamenting the loss of several classic watering holes around the downtown San José area.

"Manny's was one of those places where stories became legends and legends became memories," Crosson said. "When it came time to plan our first fundraising event, we wanted an evening that was unique and not another black-tie dinner. Manny's provided the perfect venue."

Attendees settle in for an evening of good food and great entertainment at the Manny's Cellar-Open One Night Only! event. Photo: John Eric Paulson, Master Photographer

What About Homo Civitas?

I was participating in a remarkable Independence Day church service when the light bulb went off. Just as my church is defined by a set of basic precepts, rather than its building, America is defined more by a group of often vague, sometimes contradictory, hotly-debated ideas than by artificial boundaries drawn on a map.

America is about ideals, rather than place; aspirations, rather than aspersions; values over venue; hope as opposed to hopelessness. Indeed, the fact that the Declaration of Independence was authored by a small group of white male property owners, including slaveholders, provides irrefutable proof that God works through whomever (s)he pleases.

This republic is held together not by people, but by a broad consensus on a fairly limited number of ideas about how people should treat each other and how a government can be structured to negotiate conflicts over the intent and implementation of those ideas. America is not a place. It is a goal.

Just as in religion, we should expect conflicting opinions about specific courses of action. The genius of American democracy is that it establishes the only historic or contemporary model of resolving those differences in a non-violent way. Only once has that model broken down, and that was when the ideals themselves diverged.

Now I have to raise the question. What is the future of a nation of ideas that does not require that the heritage of those ideas be studied in its schools? Unfortunately, that is the country created by the current "No Child Left Behind" movement that focuses solely on a set of technical skills at the expense of what once was called *civics*.

I have just returned from a meeting where representatives of historical organizations around the country documented the egregious effects of the new federal and state school testing and performance requirements. Math, science, and even "language arts" increasingly are taught as skills necessary for individuals to compete successfully in the economic world. (The idea of actually contributing to the world—or the community or the nation—is conspicuously absent.) This model addresses the individual solely as *homo economicus*. But what about the society as a whole, the community, or the individual as a member of both? What about *homo civitas*? What about the future of this nation of ideas?

The answer is before us. A nation that elected as its second president a lawyer who had defended British soldiers after the "Boston Massacre" has become a nation increasingly intolerant of public disagreement over any matter, whether trivial or profound. A nation that was designed to cherish and protect the diversity of people and ideas daily is increasingly contemptuous of that diversity. And the selfish pursuit of individual wealth has replaced any sense of community responsibility—*civitas*.

What are we to do? First, demand that history and American government—not just a social science—be required and placed on equal standing with other "skills" in our schools. After all, citizenship is a skill that absolutely is necessary in a democracy, and it can only be learned if it is taught.

Second, historical museums and organizations such as HSJ must again play the role that we played in the past, but now in a different way. We again must assume the mantle of teaching civics, both the promise and the imperfect realities of American democracy as they continue to evolve over time. We must actively engage contemporary audiences in relating current issues to their historical context. We must remind everyone that disagreement and discord are the unseemly but legitimate children of the democratic experience.

Who better to accept the challenge? We have the resources. We care about our communities. We have pre-existing partnerships with the schools. Certainly as much as anyone else, we—the historical museums and organizations of America—are the trustees of American democracy. *Civitas!*

David Crosson
President & CEO

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SEE WHAT'S NEW AT HSJ

Overland: The California Emigrant Trail of 1841–1870 Opens September 18th!

More than 150 years ago, American pioneers first went west by covered wagon, crossing vast plains, formidable mountains and arid deserts. *Overland* is a traveling exhibition of 64 modern photographic images of the Trail route traveled overland from Missouri into California. Scholar and exhibition photographer Greg MacGregor relates,

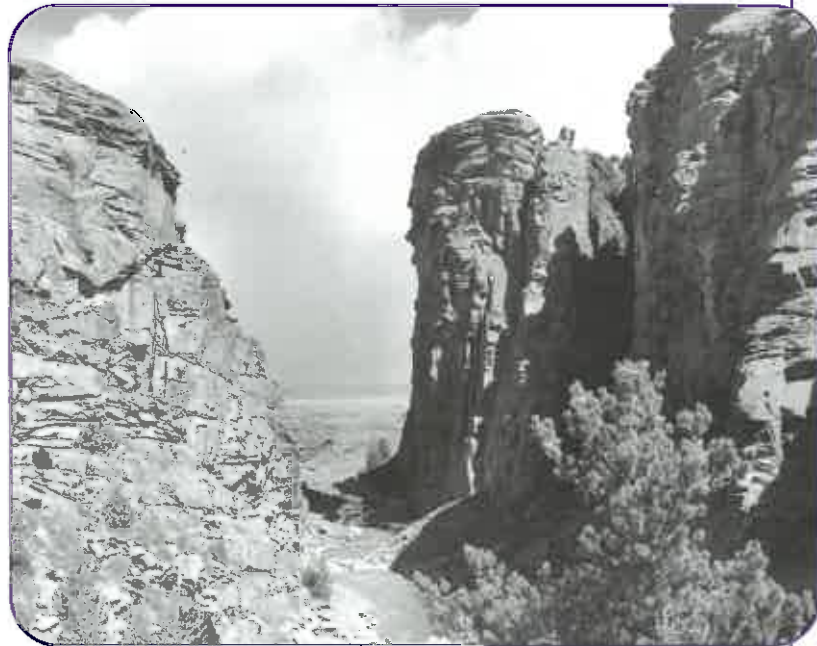
“All the photographs were made standing directly in the ruts of the trail or looking straight at where they used to be. It was tempting to wander one hundred feet off to capture a spectacular image, but I resisted. The maps of the trail are very specific, and I followed them whether they lead under concrete, through cities, or under water.”

The photographic images of the exhibition are juxtaposed with fascinating excerpts from emigrants' diaries and popular nineteenth century guidebooks. Although the route is mostly unmarked today, MacGregor has researched and documented the eroded ruts, emigrant graves and wagon remains, as well as the campgrounds, golf courses and highways that currently cover the Trail. The exhibit presents a portrait of what the harsh journey was like for those with no idea of what lay ahead, and the ironies of the modern Western landscape.

The California/Oregon Trail is a two-thousand-mile-long trace across the country by which an estimated 300,000 to 500,000 emigrants traveled to settle California and Oregon between 1841 and 1869. The crossing usually took five or six months by wagon. It is estimated that, averaged over the entire length of the trail, one person died for every hundred yards, with most deaths resulting from cholera. On the other hand, nearly one-half million people survived the wearisome journey to begin their new lives in the West.

HSJ has added a local component to the exhibition focusing on the survivors who settled in the Santa Clara Valley, namely the Stephens-Townsend-Murphy Party. With a financial gift from the Daughters of the American Revolution, HSJ has contracted with Painting Conservator Pauline Mohr to conserve three paintings that will be included in the exhibition.

The exhibition tour was organized by the California Exhibition Resources Alliance (CERA), with support of the California Council for the Humanities. CERA is supported by grants from The James Irvine Foundation and The William Randolph Hearst Foundation. Through the generous support of Robert Bettencourt and the Wells Fargo Foundation, History San José is able to bring the *Overland* exhibition to



Sweetwater River Cutting Through Devil's Gate, Natrona County, Wyoming. Photo: Greg MacGregor



During conservation treatment. Elizabeth Townsend with her son John Henry Moses, artist unknown, oil on canvas Courtesy of the California Pioneers of Santa Clara Valley. Photo: Pauline Mohr

History Park and help underwrite the museum's Westward Ho! school program. Join us for a members only preview the evening of September 16th.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY HISTORY

Eadweard Muybridge and Instant Photography

BY JACK DOUGLAS

Many important early photographers found our Valley a vital place to ply their trade. Some, like the renowned artist Carlton Watkins, got their start here, then later became famous throughout the West. Eadweard Muybridge, who lived briefly in San José in the late 1860's, made his name prior to his arrival here. The most significant aspect of his career, however, took place on the farm of Leland Stanford, near Palo Alto, in the 1870's.

Born in England in 1830 as Edward Muggeridge (he altered the spelling of his first and last names several times during his life), he had a flair for self-improvement. He arrived in San Francisco in 1855 where he became known as a bookseller specializing in volumes with fine engravings, including early Audubon bird plates. For a time he was a director of the Mercantile Library. Then, in July of 1860, while traveling to the East, the young man suffered a serious head injury in a near fatal carriage accident. After winning a suit against the carriage company, he returned to San Francisco to take up photography.

It was in the mid-1860's that Eadweard's career began to parallel that of Carlton Watkins. Both photographers found Yosemite a focus for large plate landscape photos. Muybridge focused on the rugged details of the scenes, while Watkins took a broader, more painterly view. Critics lauded Muybridge for his artful cloud formations which the photographer added through darkroom techniques.

There were other similarities in the careers of the two photographers. Both had friends or patrons among California's Big Four railway barons – Watkins with Collis Huntington, and Muybridge with Leland Stanford. Both did 360 degree panoramas of San Francisco from atop Nob Hill. Of the two, Muybridge was the more accomplished promoter and business man. In 1878, in perhaps the earliest effort at microfilming, he proposed to copy the City of San José's records in one-sixth their actual size. The city fathers balked at the expense.

Both Muybridge and Watkins seemed to have been on hand to capture California history as it was taking place. In 1873, Muybridge traveled north to the Lava Beds to document the Modoc Indian War. Watkins worked for the coast and Geodetic Survey, and was commissioned to photograph California's progress all along Huntington's rail lines.

Tried for Murder

Eadweard Muybridge's career almost came to an end when he was tried for the murder of his wife Flora's lover, the playboy and soldier of fortune, Harry Larkyns. Muybridge's lawyer, William Wirt Pendegast, a close associate of Governor Stanford, built his case on the new "temporary insanity" defense, citing his client's earlier brain injury. The jury, all good family men, ignored this plea but acquitted Muybridge

on the grounds of justifiable homicide. Flora became ill and died soon after.

Muybridge had their young son placed in an orphanage, assuming that he was not the child's biological father.



Leland Stanford on his pony Gypsy. Detail from a series 1879. Lantern slide. Photo: Eadweard Muybridge courtesy of Cantor Arts Center, Stanford Family Collections

Stanford Experiments

Governor Stanford's great pride was his stable of horses, and he commissioned Muybridge to photograph them. The photographer was just then experimenting with a new fast film processing technique. For centuries men had speculated as to whether all four of a trotting horse's hooves were in the air at the same time. Rumor had it that Stanford had a bet that they were. On August 3, 1877 the photographer captured Stanford's champion, Occident, at full speed, proving for all time that a horse's legs all left the ground simultaneously.

With the new film and a rapid electrified shutter, Muybridge, with Stanford's financial backing, set up a series of scientific studies to catch bodies in motion. Done on a calibrated running track, the photographer used two dozen cameras to catch various nude models (one of himself) in various motion studies. Through the use of the zoopraxiscope, a device of his own invention, these sequential still photos could come alive when set in motion, becoming the prototype for the future motion picture. The idea of freezing motion was a revolutionary development for physicists, and Muybridge was invited to many learned societies to lecture and demonstrate his concepts.

At this early stage, long before the advent of silicon chips, the Santa Clara Valley, with the Stanford connection, was the site of one of the world's great scientific breakthroughs. Stanford and Muybridge fell out over who should get credit for these experiments, and Muybridge would continue his work at the University of Pennsylvania in 1884. He demonstrated his time and motion experiments at the Great Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893, and spent the last decade of his life in England, dying in 1903 at his birthplace in Kingston Upon Thames.

This fascinating story is related in detail in the recent book: *River and Shadows: Eadweard Muybridge and the Technological Wild West* by Rebecca Solnit (New York: Viking, 2003). Ms. Solnit ties in the many strands of western history in a volume that is essential reading for anyone interested in our State's early years.

NOTE: The Cantor Art Museum at Stanford University recently had an extensive exhibit of Muybridge photos in their main gallery.

HISTORY SAN JOSÉ HAPPENINGS

Map Preservation and Access Project-Phase I Complete!

Less than a year ago Robert Bettencourt gave HSJ a substantial donation to help conserve the historic map collection. The Joint Plant of Santa Clara matched Bettencourt's gift, and the Farrington Foundation added to it. With funding secured, HSJ hired Conservator Kathleen Orlenko and Preparator Matt Isble to conserve and archivally re-house the collection.

HSJ Archivist Paula Jabloner coordinated the project by first prioritizing significant maps with the greatest conservation needs. Recognizing their research and exhibition potential, Jabloner selected original Santa Clara County wall maps dating from 1868 through 1967 that included some rare and unique items. Some of the maps were unstable, and most are extremely large – with some over 7' x 9'. The size and condition of these maps made them impossible to handle without further damage, thus this historically valuable collection was unavailable to the public.

Thanks to these generous donors, the preservation and public access to these important maps has been secured. Phase II of this project will focus on the conservation of smaller maps in the collection.



Santa Clara County c 1850 before (left) and after (right) Photo: Kathy Orlenko

IN-KIND DONORS

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HELP US MAKE HISTORY



New membership: Amount: \$ _____ Additional gift/upgrade: Amount: \$ _____

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- \$250 Associate
- \$500 Partner
- \$1000 Advocate
- \$2500 Leader
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Name _____ Phone _____

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HISTORY SAN JOSÉ HAPPENINGS

Thank You To Our Manny's Sponsors and Volunteers

SPONSORS: Patron: Vilma Kennedy Palette; Co-Partner: Garden City Construction, Inc., Heritage Bank, Tricia Hill, Design, The Mercury News; Friend of Manny's: John Luckhardt; Wines courtesy of: Joseph George Wines; Bar Sponsors: Ritchie Commercial, Shore Associates; Band Sponsor: Bank of America; Antipasti courtesy of: Catered Too, Sonoma Chicken Coop, Lupretta's Delicatessen; Coffee courtesy of: Willow Glen Coffee Roasting Co.; Water courtesy of: Great Water; Sound Production: LJ Productions, Spumoni courtesy of: Armani Ice Cream; City Lights Theater performers: Marin Carpenter, Tom Gough, Kevin Miller; Invitation Picture courtesy of: Debra Reingold, Catered by: Lupretta's Delicatessen; Master of Ceremony: Judge John Ball.

VOLUNTEER EVENT COMMITTEE: Bonnie Bamburg, Alida Bray, Carl Cookson, Lynn Crocker, Gerry DeYoung, Bill Dubbin, Elodie Escobar, Anne Louise Heigho, Barbara Johnson, Sally Logothetti, John Luckhardt, Trish Newfarmer, Dan Orloff, Vilma Palette/Chair, John Paulson, Joan Shomler, Dan Shore, Linda Spencer, Pam Watson

Special thanks to the student volunteer food servers from Notre Dame High School & Bellarmine High School



Manny Pereira and Tommy Taylor enjoy a trip down memory lane. Partners in business, Manny managed the restaurant while Tommy tended bar. Photo: Sarah Puckitt



Judge John Ball, former Manny's regular and emcee for the evening poses with HSJ board member Gerry De Young in front of the original Manny's sign. Photo: John Eric Paulson, Master Photographer



The Chuck Travis Band entertained guests. Photo: John Eric Paulson, Master Photographer

HSJ Unveils New Look for Website

We are pleased to announce the unveiling of the revamped History San José website. Designed by cWare under the careful direction of Trish O'Flinn, HSJ's Director of Administration, the new website features colorful home page graphics and "buttons" along the top which allow visitors to easily navigate the site. In addition the new site affords HSJ staff members the ability to update the information on the site themselves, including events and press releases. Be sure to visit our new site at our old address: www.historysanjose.org.

HISTORY SAN JOSÉ HAPPENINGS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST

Volunteer Recognition Dinner
Tuesday, August 12th, 6:00pm at History Park. HSJ staff is pleased to honor all volunteers on this annual occasion. Service awards will be given out to volunteers with 5, 10, 15 and 20 years of service. Volunteers and Staff only.

History Makers

Covering the Valley: 50 Years of News by the People Who Covered It.

Thursday, August 14th, 7:00pm,

Barnes and Noble Booksellers at the corner of Almaden Expressway and Blossom Hill Road. HSJ president and CEO David Crosson will moderate a panel discussion of the most newsworthy events of the past fifty years with the people who reported them to you. Long-time *Mercury News* political reporter Harry Farrell also is author of *Swift Justice: Murder and Vengeance in a California Town*. Once a speech writer for Dwight Eisenhower, Bob Kieve is the owner of Empire Broadcasting, which operates radio stations KLIV and KRTY. Rigo Chacon's career as a broadcast journalist encompasses 26 years with ABC-7 and numerous broadcasting and community service awards, including two Emmy® Awards. FREE.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library Opening

Saturday, August 16th,

10:00am – 4:00pm at 4th and San Fernando on the SJSU Campus. Enjoy a day of fun-filled games and activities for all ages. The Printer's Guild will be onsite printing commemorative bookmarks on a portable C&P Pilot Press. FREE.

Family Sundays at History Park: We're Still Here

Sunday, August 24th, Noon – 5:00pm

Hands-on activities provide opportunities for children to learn about the lifestyles of many native tribes who first inhabited the Santa Clara Valley. FREE.

SEPTEMBER

Heritage 100 Event - Overland Preview and Curator Talk

Thursday, September 4th at HSJ's Collection Center. Join HSJ's curator and museum staff for a sneak peak at several key components of the upcoming exhibit: Overland: The California Emigrant Trail of 1841-1870. Heritage 100 Members only.

Family Sundays at History Park: Time Travel

Sunday, September 7th, Noon – 5:00pm

Join Antique Autos in the Park, the California Trolley and Railroad Corporation and the Fire Muster Team in exploring the different ways that we have gotten from here to there. FREE.

Member Exhibit Opening:

Overland: The California Emigrant Trail of 1841-1870.

Tuesday, September 16th at the Pacific Hotel Galley in History Park. Organized by C.E.R.A., this exhibit features over 64 contemporary photographs by artist Greg MacGregor and moving emigrant diary excerpts. HSJ has added a local component with art and artifacts that represent the emigrants who settled in the Santa Clara Valley. On September 18th, the exhibit is open to the public.

OCTOBER

History Month

Sunday, October 5, 12:00 – 4:00 pm at the Peralta Adobe, Downtown San José
HSJ will participate in the Santa Clara Valley Heritage Council's annual

History Month celebration by hosting "An Adobe Experience." This family-oriented event will allow visitors to experience first-hand the daily life of people living in San José 200 years ago, and provide opportunities to make adobe bricks, dip candles, grind maize, rope a steer, make corn husk dolls, and dress up in Californio clothes. FREE

Poetry Center San José – Poetry Workshop

Saturday, October 11th, 9:00am

– 5:00pm at the Markham House in History Park. Francisco X. Alarcon award winning author and poet will conduct a workshop for anyone interested in writing poetry. Please visit www.sjcpl.com to sign up. \$100 per person.

Poetry Center San José – Poetry Reading.

Saturday, October 11th, 7:30pm at the Firehouse in History Park. Francisco X. Alarcon, author of ten volumes of poetry, including, *From the Other Side of Night / Del otro lado de la noche: New and Selected Poems* (University of Arizona Press 2002), and *Sonetos a la locura y otras penas / Sonnets to Madness and Other Misfortunes* (Creative Arts Book Company 2001) will read selections from his various works. \$10 (free for workshop participants.)

NOVEMBER

Heritage 100 Event and Joint Plant Title Company presentation

Thursday, November 6th at HSJ's Collection Center. As acknowledgement and thanks to Joint Plant Title for conservation of maps from the HSJ collection, HSJ will host a reception and behind the scenes preview of the maps. The conservator, Kathleen Orlenko, will offer expertise on the conservation process and the next step for Phase II. Heritage 100 Members and Joint Plant Title Company only.

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR YOU?

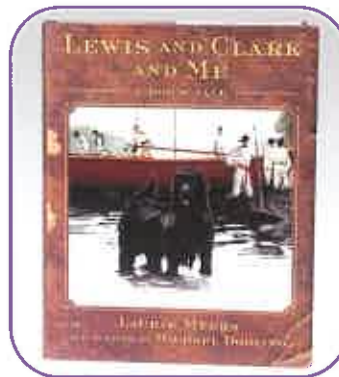
Start Your Own Parade

This wonderful assortment of four different instruments provides hours of musical fun and is a great compliment to *This Land is Your Land*. Now, for the first time, this classic is brought to life in a richly illustrated edition for the whole family to share. Featuring complete lyrics and musical notation, this book is a celebration of the power of a song to move people.



Lewis and Clark and Me

Accompanying Lewis and Clark and their team of explorers was Lewis's dog, Seaman. Based on the explorers' original journals, *Lewis and Clark and Me* is a dog's recounting of one of the most extraordinary expeditions of all time. Seaman's tale is filled with the joys of companionship and the excitement of adventure.



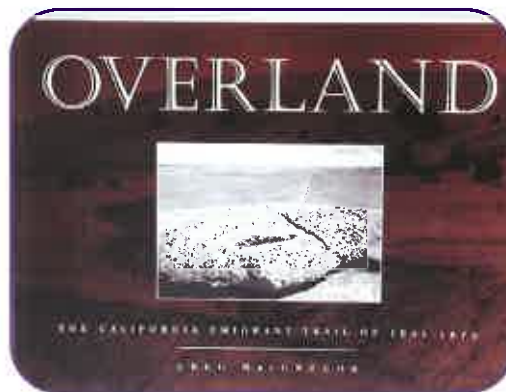
Chinese Cooking – Our Legacy

The Chinese American Women's Club of Santa Clara County has produced their second cookbook keeping some of the tried and true basic recipes from their first cookbook, *Chinese Cooking Our Way*. This comprehensive book not only contains reliable favorites, but also includes expanded sections on Chinese celebrations, home remedies and a glossary of ingredients.



Overland: The California Emigrant Trail of 1841-1870

The California Emigrant Trail is mostly unmarked today but much evidence remains. Photographer, Greg MacGregor, has researched the trail and traveled it for thousands of miles. He presents a vivid and intimate picture of what the journey was like for those with no idea of what lay ahead. At the same time he captures the ironies in the landscape of the late-twentieth-century west.



Photos: Sarah Puckitt

MUSEUM INFORMATION

Please call 408-918-1040 for reservations and current program prices.

SITES

History Park
Kelley Park, 1650 Senter Road
San Jose, CA 95112
408-287-2200, Fax: 408-287-2201

Peralta Adobe & Fallon House
175 W. St. John St., San Jose, CA 95110
408-993-8182, Fax: 408-993-8104

Administrative Offices

1650 Senter Road
San Jose, CA 95112
408-287-2200, Fax: 408-287-2201
www.historysanjose.org

FEES

GENERAL ADMISSION FEES

A ticket for both sites is valid two weeks from date of purchase.

	One site	Both sites
Adult	\$6.00	\$10.00
Senior (age 65+)	\$5.00	\$8.00
Youth (age 6-17)	\$4.00	\$6.00
Child (5 and under)	Free	Free

GROUP TOUR FEES

10 or more individuals who have pre-scheduled a tour.

	One site	Both sites
Adult	\$5.00	\$8.00
Senior (age 65+)	\$4.00	\$6.00
Youth (age 6-17)	\$3.00	\$4.00
Child (5 and under)	Free	Free

HOURS

History Park & Gallery: Tues. – Fri., Noon to 5:00 p.m., self-guided tours, admission is free.
Research Center: Wed. 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Museum Store: 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (O'Brien's cafe, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Sat. & Sun., Noon – 5:00 p.m., docent-guided tours, regular admission fee. Last tour leaves at 3:00 p.m. Museum Store and O'Brien's cafe: Noon to 4:00 p.m.)

Peralta/Fallon: Sat.-Sun., Noon to 5:00 p.m., docent-guided tours, regular admission fee. Last tour leaves at 3:00 p.m.

OFFICE HOURS AT BOTH SITES:

Mon. – Fri., 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

All school programs and group tours must be reserved. School programs & group tours are offered Mon. – Fri., 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Group tours are offered Tues. – Sun. by reservation only. Call 408-918-1040.

PROGRAMS

Public Programs: History Makers

School Programs: Experience Adobe Days – Experience Victorian Days – Explore Peralta/Fallon – Explore San Jose's Past – Gold Rush Adventure – Historic Transportation Experience – History Hike – School Days in the 1850s – Victorian School Kit – Westward Ho! – Women Who Made A Difference

Outreach Programs: Portals of the Past

The Exchange is published four times a year by History San Jose Editor Lynn Cricker