



“California’s Capitol: A Reflection of Democracy”

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(916) 324-0333 ♦ www.capitolmuseum.ca.gov

2009 Calendar of Events & Exhibits

Current as of 4/10/09

*NOTE: All events and times subject to change without notice.

Special Events

April 18

1906 Earthquake Living History Program

Step back in time at the California State Capitol Museum and witness volunteers and staff of the Capitol Museum costumed in the attire of the period re-enacting scenes in response to one of America’s greatest disasters – the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake and Fire. Meet Governor George Pardee as he receives a telegram from President Theodore Roosevelt offering \$1 million for disaster relief. Attorney General Ulysses S. Webb, Secretary of State Charles Curry, and Treasurer Truman Reeves will be on hand to help the refugees, some of whom camped out on the Capitol grounds and at Sutter’s Fort. Meet the women of Sacramento who assisted the San Francisco families to obtain meal tickets, clothing and blankets. Guided tours run every 15 minutes from 10:30 am to 3:00 p.m. This glimpse into turn-of-the-20th-century California history is free for everyone.

May 22, 2009 thru May 23, 2010

OUR UNION FOREVER: California’s Role in the Civil War

California played a significant role in the American Civil War. Civil War correspondent, Noah Brooks, wrote that “Honest Abraham spoke affectionately and warmly of our state . . . he loved her for her fidelity to the Union under circumstances which would have shaken the patriotism of a less noble state.” This exhibit at the State Capitol Museum explores California’s political, financial, and military support of Abraham Lincoln and the preservation of the Union. It

also honors the extraordinary efforts of the thousands of California citizens who supported and sacrificed for the Union in a variety of ways.

May 22, 2009 thru May 23, 2010

CARRIED WITH COURAGE: Historic Flags from the Capitol Collection

The California State Capitol is home to a remarkable collection of nearly 50 flags dating from the Civil War, Spanish American War and World War I. Originally kept in the Adjutant General's Office in the State Capitol, the flag collection was later displayed in the State Capitol rotunda. Since 1928, the flag collection has undergone extensive conservation efforts to preserve these fragile pieces of our State's history. This exhibit features a number of conserved Civil War flags from the Capitol Historic Flag Collection. Some of these flags were flown on display on the parade ground, while others have accompanied Californians into battle. Many of the flags to be exhibited have never before been seen by the public. This exhibit is a unique opportunity and will offer the public a once-in-a-lifetime chance to view this remarkable collection.

Late 2009 and 2010

Thomas Starr King Exhibit

This exhibit will be presented in partnership with the California State Legislature Joint Committee on Rules, State Capitol Museum, and California State Parks. It will showcase the placement of the statue of Unitarian Minister Thomas Starr King on the second floor landing of the historic Capitol building. Thomas Starr King was described as "a tower of strength to the cause of his country" by the California Legislature in 1927. The statue, currently located in the National Statuary Hall, symbolizes California's debt to King and reflects his important role in California History. From the statues' new location in the California State Capitol, the public will be exposed to King's legacy as tireless advocate for Union loyalty during the Civil War, his support for an early form of the Red Cross, and his efforts as promoter of California's natural beauty.

October 17

Governors Day Living History Program

The California State Capitol will be turned back to the years 1899-1917, when volunteers and staff of the Capitol Museum costumed in the attire of the period portray Governors Henry Gage, George Pardee, James Gillett, and Hiram Johnson and their wives re-enacting important events from their administrations. Each of these notable politicians discusses the issues and events that defined his term of office, such as the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire and the era of the Southern Pacific Railroad abuses. Guided tours run every 15 minutes from 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

September 9**California State Capitol Museum Admission Day Celebration**

The California State Legislature, California State Parks, and the State Capitol Museum, with support from the California State Capitol Museum Volunteer Association, invite the public to celebrate Admission Day on Wednesday, September 9, 2009 at 11:30 a.m. The California National Guard Honor Guard will present the colors on the first floor of the Rotunda of the State Capitol to begin the celebration. Immediately following, on the north steps of the State Capitol, a music group will perform patriotic songs and birthday cake and ice cream will be served to celebrate California's 159th year of Statehood.

November 10 thru November 22**Capitol Historic Flag Exhibit / in honor of Veterans Day**

Veteran's Day was originally established as a national holiday to commemorate the 4.7 million men and women who had taken part in the "Great War" or World War I. The State Capitol and the California State Legislature is proud to place on this temporary exhibit four historic from World War I. Some of the flags on exhibit at the Capitol have only been display on the parade ground, while others have accompanied Californians into battle. The four historic flags from this valuable collection will be on display from November 10, 2009 to November 22, 2009. These fragile flags have been undergoing conservation and have not been on exhibit for several years.

December 1 thru December 23**State Capitol Museum Holiday Music**

In 1996, California State Parks, the Department of General Services, Joint Rules Committee of the Legislature and the Governor's office worked together to restore historic holiday traditions at the Capitol. As a result, glowing decorations, Victorian-style floral arrangements, live holiday music performances and the traditional holiday tree lighting ceremony help to recapture the spirit of past holiday festivities. Daily holiday concerts at noon in the first floor rotunda.

ONGOING

Museum open daily 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's)
Guided Tours offered every hour on the hour.

School Group Reservations (ReserveAmerica): Toll Free (866) 240-4655
Reservations are Required for School Group Tours of the California State Capitol Museum

For Media Information: Mindy Orosco, 916.802.9723 or Pati Brown 916.417.1159

24-hour events/info line: (916) 324-0333

Web site: www.capitolumuseum.ca.gov

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