



News Release

For Immediate Release
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Sutter's Fort to Present "Hands on History: A Simple Emigrant Christmas on December 12

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – California State Parks and Sutter's Fort State Historic Park (SHP) are proud to present an interactive, fun and festive "Hands on History: A Simple Emigrant Christmas" event on Saturday, December 12, 2015 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

In John Sutter's day, people from around the world passed through the gates of Sutter's Fort, each with their own customs and traditions for the holiday season. For this special day in December, friends and families are encouraged to visit the Fort to step back in time to holidays past and enjoy docents in period attire as they interpret and demonstrate a variety of early holiday traditions and cultural activities similar to what early emigrants did in the 1840s. Entertaining vignettes will be set up that showcase a few of the diverse holiday scenes that will include food, music, decorations and other holiday traditions.

Fort visitors can also participate in a number of special hands-on activities such as craft holiday ornaments – that include snowflakes, cornhusk angels and bird nests – plus decorate the Christmas tree, make holiday cards with nib (or "dip") pens and colored ink, grind raw wheat into "Christmas flour," sing Christmas carols with Fort musicians and more! And, of course, popular demonstrations of black powder weaponry in action will take place including the crowd-favorite firing of Sutter's cannon.

Admission costs for this special "Hands on History: A Simple Emigrant Christmas" event at the Fort are as follows: \$7 per adult (18 and older), \$3 per youth (ages 6 to 17) and free for children 5 and under. For more information, please call 916-445-4422 or visit www.suttersfort.org

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