



News Release

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Sutter's Fort to Present "Hands on History: A Community of Many Faces" on May 16

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Continuing a popular series of interactive and fun "Hands on History" activities each month, Sutter's Fort State Historic Park (SHP) will present a special "Hands on History: *A Community of Many Faces*" event on Saturday, May 16, 2015 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The special "Hands on History: *A Community of Many Faces*" event will celebrate and honor the richly diverse cultures represented at the Fort. In fact, the Gold Rush of 1849 brought tens of thousands of people to California from all over the world. But even before the first gold seekers arrived, Sutter's Fort was already a melting pot of ethnic, social and cultural diversity. In the *New Helvetia Diary* (the daily log book of Sutter's Fort), there are at least 30 different groups of Native people mentioned as having visited the Fort and/or provided labor for John Sutter.

On this special "Hands on History" day, Fort guests will be treated to exciting live performances by talented groups such as the Folklorico Aztlan Dancers and the Sacramento Swiss Society, who will provide entertaining live music. Fort visitors will also meet members of various cultures such as the Hawaiian community and the Sacramento Valley Native People who will share interesting insight, information and anecdotes about their respective cultures. In addition, there will be rancho culture demonstrations and French and English fur trappers demonstrating how traps work. Interactive and fun hands-on craft making will be available for kids of all ages who are interested in creating special keepsakes to take home. And, of course, demonstrations of black powder weaponry in action will take place including the crowd-favorite firing of Sutter's cannon.

All "Hands on History" activities are included in the cost of admission. Sutter's Fort SHP admission costs are as follows: \$7 per adult (18 and older), \$5 per youth (ages 6 to 17) and free for children 5 and under. For more information, call 916-445-4422 or visit www.suttersfort.org

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