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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## **History San José Hosts Series of Family Days: Gold Rush Day on July 15 Launches Series**

*San José, CA – June 18, 2012* – Summer is a good time to have an adventure, and History Park will provide the backdrop. **Gold Rush Adventure Day** will allow families to be a '49er for a day---as in the original gold rushers of 1849---Sunday, July 15 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

There will be family activities, including panning for gold, cowboy grub (food available for purchase) and good old-fashioned music. Other activities will include the hand car, trolley rides, pony express relay and the Wells Fargo Stage Coach will be available for photo opportunities.

The second of the series of Family Days will be on Sunday, August 12, **Happy Birthday Car 124!**, a celebration of Trolley #124's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday party. This signature red trolley will be running on its track, there will be a horse car, and hand-car rides will be available. The newly-acquired cabooses will also be featured. Vintage vehicles on display will include fire engines, an electric car, and Model T's.

There will be choo-choo crafts for the kids, live music featuring the Peninsula Banjo Band. And what a birthday party! Even the San Jose Giants will celebrate. Party-goers can stay, picnic and watch the fireworks after the baseball game. Food typical of the Gay Nineties will be available for purchase.

The following week, **Sunday, August 19, is the annual Fandango** at Peralta Adobe, in the heart of the new San Pedro Square Market.

This date is significant in that it commemorates the death 161 years ago of Maria Luis Peralta. He was the Californio who lived in the Peralta Adobe with his family, and was one of the first *Accolades (mayor) of Pueblo de San Jose de Guadalupe*.

Typical of that era, there will be music and dancing, as well as a descendant of the original horses that were brought by the Spanish explorers.

**Saturday, October 13**, the last in the series of Family Days, is Filipino-American Heritage Day, celebrating Filipino American Month and honoring the current exhibit, *Through My Father's Eyes*. That celebration will include Filipino food, dancing and music, and other activities.

The series of Family Days at History Park is supported, in part, by a Cultural Affairs grant from the City of San José.

Upcoming events include:

- **Haunt History Park**, safe trick-or-treating, on October 28;
- **Happy Birthday San Jose!** At the Peralta Adobe and Fallon House at the San Pedro Square Market on Sunday, November 18;
- **Children's Holiday Festival** with Santa Claus at History Park on Saturday, December 8;
- the **Heritage Holiday Tea** is on December 1 at the Fallon House.

General admission is \$8 per adult, \$5 for seniors and students with a valid ID and children under five are free. Admission is free to members of History San Jose.

For more information call 408 918-1047 or visit [www.historysanjose.org](http://www.historysanjose.org)

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**About History San José:**

History San José is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and sharing the continuing history of the Santa Clara Valley. HSJ manages one of the largest and most comprehensive regional history collections in the State of California, from 1784 Spanish governmental records to twenty-first century Silicon Valley technology. History San José aspires to provide innovative national leadership in preserving and sharing regional history by engaging diverse audiences in exploring the varieties of human experience that contributes to the continuing history of San José and the Santa Clara Valley.

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