



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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News Release

UTSA Architectural Students Learn “Hands-On” as They Repair Historic Homes in Dignowity Hill

SAN ANTONIO (March 24, 2014) – More than 170 students from The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) College of Architecture will repair 11 homes in Dignowity Hill Historic District.

The City’s Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) partners with SAC and UTSA’s College of Architecture twice a year to coordinate the ***Students Together Achieving Revitalization (S.T.A.R.)*** project. Taking place on *March 29-30* and *April 5-6* from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., volunteer contractors mentor architecture and construction science students as they assist homeowners with minor exterior repair and maintenance to their historic homes.

“This program is an innovative and proactive approach to prevent further deterioration of San Antonio’s local historic districts and spark revitalization. It’s also a great service learning opportunity for the students while assisting homeowners with projects such as siding repairs, window rehabilitation, yard maintenance and painting,” said Shanon Miller, Director of OHP.

Historic homes being revitalized include:

- 601, 917, 921, 930, 932, 1009, 1110, 1122, Burnet St.
- 820 Nolan St.
- 328 Burleson St.
- 802 N. Pine St.

“S.T.A.R. has an ‘infectious’ quality to it. Students who have participated in previous years want to return and, as the flurry of activity begins, neighbors are inspired to work on their own homes,” states Sue Ann Pemberton, Senior Lecturer, UTSA College of Architecture.

“It’s wonderful to see neighbors, friends, children, students, and businesses working side by side to achieve revitalization in East San Antonio because we all have a role to play in the betterment of our communities,” said District 2 Councilwoman Ivy R. Taylor. “The S.T.A.R. Program in partnership with the Office of Historic Preservation is one piece of the puzzle that provides real solutions to address revitalization efforts of the city.”

Sponsors for this program include Power of Preservation Foundation, San Antonio Conservation Society, Office Councilwoman Ivy Taylor (District 2), Select Federal Credit Union, ARTchitectural Interiors, Pearl, Baywood Hotels, The RK Group, A-1 Engineering, Alamo Beer, Historic Preservation Association (HPA), COSA Solid Waste Management Department, COSA Parks and Recreation Department.

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