



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## City of San Antonio and Collaborative Partners Kick Off 2019 World Heritage Festival taking place September 4-8



**PHOTO:** Hundreds of participants are expected to take part in the 2019 Tour de Las Misiones Bike Ride-Walk-Run on Saturday, September 7, 2019. Tour guides lead this one-of-a-kind opportunity to visit and learn about the historic San Antonio Missions.

**SAN ANTONIO (September 4, 2019)** – Today, the City of San Antonio and its collaborative partners officially began the 2019 World Heritage Festival, which lasts today through Sunday, Sept. 8, 2019. The festival was established in 2016 to commemorate the anniversary of the inscription of the historic San Antonio Missions as a World Heritage site by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2015. The festival provides an opportunity for residents and visitors to celebrate San Antonio’s unique history, heritage, and culture through various informational and family-friendly events.

“The annual World Heritage Festival is a time when we come together as a city to celebrate our beloved San Antonio Missions and all that makes San Antonio exceptional and authentic. It is also an opportunity to pause and remember the people, places and history that have made us a world-renowned cultural destination,” said District 3 Councilwoman Rebecca J. Viagran. “I encourage everyone to take part in this one-of-a-kind celebration that is uniquely San Antonio.”

From culinary to fitness to film and music, the fourth annual festival has events of all types and for all ages. As part of this year’s celebration, attendees can also participate in new events and special commemorations including the official launch of the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park quarter by the U.S. Mint on Thursday, September 5; and a salute to San Antonio’s military history and our local men and woman in uniform with “Music and Movie Under the Stars” on Friday, September 6.

This year’s schedule of events includes:

### **WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 4, 2019**

- **U.S. Mint Coin Forum – 6 p.m.**  
San Antonio Missions National Historical Park Visitor Center Auditorium  
6701 San Jose Drive, 78214

Free and Open to the public

The Mint Coin Forum is hosted by the United States Mint and the National Park Service, and provides an opportunity for the public to learn about upcoming United States Mint coin programs and initiatives.

#### **THURSDAY, SEPT. 5, 2019**

- **America the Beautiful Quarters Program San Antonio Missions National Historical Park Quarter Launch Ceremony – 10 a.m.**

Laurie Auditorium at Trinity University  
715 Stadium Drive, 78212  
Free and Open to the Public

The America the Beautiful Quarter Launch Ceremony is hosted by the National Park Service and the United States Mint. The event will include an exchange of \$10 rolls of newly-minted San Antonio Missions quarters after the ceremony. The San Antonio Missions National Historical Park quarter is the 49<sup>th</sup> release in the United States Mint America the Beautiful Quarters Program, a 12-year initiative that honors 56 national parks and other national sites.

- **Mesa at the Missions: A Culinary Crossroads – 6 p.m.**

Mission San Juan  
9101 Graf Road, 78214  
\$75 per ticket

Mission Heritage Partners and the Texas Culinary Alliance will create a unique experience that combines the beauty of the first UNESCO World Heritage site in Texas, the San Antonio Missions, with the city's unique cultural food traditions and its designation as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy. Tickets are available at [www.missionheritagepartners.org](http://www.missionheritagepartners.org).

#### **FRIDAY, SEPT. 6, 2019**

- **Music and Movie Under the Stars – 6 p.m.**

Mission Marquee Plaza  
3100 Roosevelt Avenue, 78214  
Free and Open to the Public

Enjoy an evening of live music and a movie under the summer sky, featuring U.S. Air Force Band of the West Jazz Ensemble and a screening of the one-hour documentary, "The National Parks of Texas: In Contact with Beauty." Celebrate our local heritage with food, music, and fun, while connecting with our military historians and veterans to learn about our city's rich military history. This family-friendly event will be filled with fun interactive activities, pop-up vendors, food trucks, and refreshments. Hosted by the National Parks Conservation Association, Mission Heritage Partners, City of San Antonio Military Affairs Office and the World Heritage Office.

#### **SATURDAY, SEPT. 7, 2019**

- **Rehabarama – 7:30 a.m.**

Mission Historic District  
Registration: [www.sanantonio.gov/historic](http://www.sanantonio.gov/historic)

Rehabarama is a single-day service event that brings together local contractors, volunteer groups, and students to perform repairs and maintenance on historic and aging homes spanning two city blocks near Mission Concepción. 300 volunteers – 20 houses – 1 day!

- **Tour de Las Misiones – 8 a.m.**

Mission Park Pavilions  
6030 Padre Drive, 78214  
Registration: [www.worldheritagefestival.org](http://www.worldheritagefestival.org)

Tour de Las Misiones is a one-of-a-kind opportunity to visit and learn about the historic San Antonio Missions. This Bike Ride Tour, Walk and Run will feature tour guide escorts. All events will begin and end at Mission Park Pavilion #1. Registered participants are guaranteed to receive a commemorative bib, passport and t-shirt. Bike ride tour includes 7, 14, or 22-mile ride. Walk and run includes 5k or 10k tours.

- **Mission Pachanga – 10 a.m.**

Mission Park Pavilions  
6030 Padre Drive, 78214  
Free and Open to the Public

The fun isn't over at the finish line! Immediately following Tour de Las Misiones, participants and the community are invited to enjoy a celebration of San Antonio's unique heritage and culture, past and present. This family-friendly event will be filled with fun activities for the family, local bike and pop-up vendors, food trucks, and music by several of San Antonio's premier DJs - DJ Steven Lee Moya, DJ SUNNYBOY, DJ Lovedocument, DJ Elocuencia, and DJ John Puga.

## **SUNDAY, SEPT. 8, 2019**

- **El Camino de San Antonio: Caring for Creation Mass and Procession – 8 a.m.**

Mission Espada  
10040 Espada Road, 78214  
Free and Open to the Public

Join Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller, in a celebration of the Season of Creation, with a Mariachi Mass. At 9 a.m., attendees will walk in support of God's creation from Mission Espada to Mission San Juan along the San Antonio River trail. The walk will culminate with a special blessing by the Archbishop. Attendees are reminded to bring water bottles and wear comfortable shoes.

Partners for the 2019 World Heritage Festival are: City of San Antonio, Bexar County, San Antonio River Authority, National Parks Conservation Association, The Alamo, National Park Service, Las Misiones, Mission Heritage Partners, San Antonio Conservation Society, Visit San Antonio, Frost, NRP Group, H-E-B, American Volkssport Association, South Texas Off Road Mountain Bikers, Nicha's Comida Mexicana, Niagra, Summer Moon, Ward Moving & Storage, SATX Social Ride, IAAP, and San Antonio Bike Share.

For more information on the 2019 World Heritage Festival, visit [www.worldheritagefestival.org](http://www.worldheritagefestival.org).

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### **SAN ANTONIO: AMERICA'S 21ST CENTURY CITY**

*San Antonio is a global city with a dynamic economy and workforce, a deep cultural heritage and diverse communities that are resilient and welcoming. It is one of the strongest fiscally managed cities in the country, nurturing entrepreneurship, encouraging investment and funding infrastructure. America's seventh-largest city offers a vibrant business climate and growth opportunities in bioscience, financial services, aerospace, cybersecurity, energy, transportation, manufacturing and healthcare. In 2015, UNESCO designated San Antonio's 18th century Spanish colonial missions as a World Heritage Site – the first in Texas. Proudly called Military City, USA®, San Antonio is home to one of the largest populations of active duty military, veterans and crucial military commands. For more information, visit [www.sanantonio.gov](http://www.sanantonio.gov).*