

April 2011 Edition

A Message from the Historic Preservation Officer

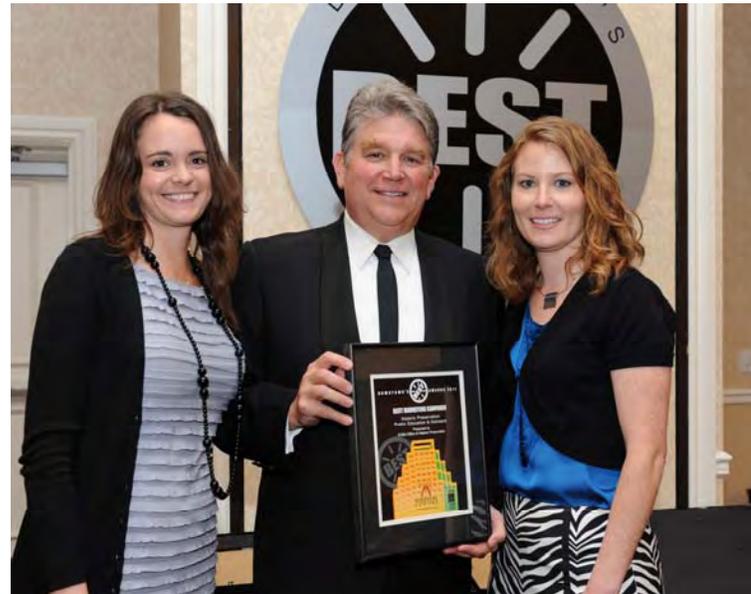


I am thrilled to announce that the Office of Historic Preservation received the **2011 Downtown's BEST Marketing Campaign** award for our public education and outreach programs. The judges indicated that they were persuaded not only by the importance of the subject matter but by the “contemporary and comprehensive nature” of the approach. We are honored to be among the people, organizations, and places recognized by the Downtown Alliance as having made a significant contribution to the quality of life in downtown San Antonio.

With the addition in March of new staff members Nicholas Fuqua and Rashad Jackson, our office looks forward to further improving and expanding our outreach and education programs. These programs are critical to creating public awareness and building a strong preservation ethic in San Antonio—the foundation of effective and sustainable preservation efforts. One of our major outreach initiatives each year is the celebration of National Preservation Month in May. This year’s theme is “Celebrating America’s Treasures” and our office has put together a full slate of activities and events designed to celebrate the many historic treasures located right here in San Antonio.

I invite you all to join Mayor Julián Castro and me as we kick off **Preservation Month** on May 5th with a State of Historic Preservation announcement and networking event at the Spanish Governor’s Palace. In addition to our annual *This Place Matters* photo contest, guided tours, and Amazing Preservation Race for Kids, we are offering a variety of new ways to celebrate the places in San Antonio that matter to us all. New activities in 2011 include the Amazing Preservation Race for Adults, a design charrette for high school students co-hosted by the San Antonio Architecture Foundation, the launch of the Historic Hugman River Walk Tour, a “San Antonio’s Historic Architectural Styles” lecture at the Central Library, the unveiling of the Conservation Society’s updated Texas Star Trail Walking Tour, and the Paseo por el Westside, a continuation of the Westside Cultural Resource Survey initiative. Mark your calendars now and join the celebration!

I especially encourage you to join the thousands of Americans who participate each year in the *This Place Matters* campaign. In the upcoming weeks, take a fresh look at the places where you live, work and play. What places hold special meaning for you? Your childhood elementary school, your grandmother’s house, the neighborhood corner store, the local park or library, the tall building that you pass by and admire every day? Snap a photo and let us know why they matter to you. We want to hear from you!



City of San Antonio Historic Preservation Officer Shanon Peterson Wasielewski (left) and Senior Planner Anna Glover accept the 2011 Downtown's BEST award for Best Marketing Campaign from Downtown Alliance President Ben Brewer.

April 2011

In the meantime, I hope you will join the OHP in supporting the city's [Fiesta San Antonio](#) events in April. Be one of the first to own an official OHP Fiesta medal. Check out [Miss Margaret's Victorian House Tour](#) or the [Fiesta Mission 10K and Kids' Runs](#). Join the OHP at the King William Fair on April 16th. And don't miss "A Night In Old San Antonio" (NIOA). The San Antonio Conservation Society event provides nearly \$350,000 in funding for the restoration and preservation of historic properties and parks in Bexar County and neighboring counties, plus more than \$400,000 for education and advocacy programs and projects. Information on all these great events and the upcoming Preservation Month activities can be found in this month's newsletter. Hope to see you there!

Happy Fiesta!



River Improvement Overlay (RIO) Amendments Adopted by City Council

The Office of Historic Preservation, at the request of City Council, has spent the past several months assessing the need for amendments to the River Improvement Overlay (RIO) standards adopted in 2002. RIO standards affect commercial properties and multi-unit residential properties of eight or more units. Single-family properties are not affected by the RIO overlay.



The purpose of the initiative was to assess the effectiveness of the current RIO regulations and recommend enhancements to ensure protection of the significant public investment that has been made to the San Antonio River. The OHP assembled the RIO Task Force to work with local business leaders, preservationists, public officials, and other interested parties to prepare recommended amendments to the RIO sections of the Unified Development Code (UDC) for City Council.

The Task Force endorsed the proposed changes at their final meeting on February 22nd. On March 1, The City's Zoning Commission recommended approval of the amendments prepared by the Task Force. The Historic and Design Review Commission followed suit on March 2nd. **The proposed changes were approved by City Council on March 31st.**

2011 Approved RIO Amendments

Get Your 2011 OHP/CVB NIOSA Medal Today!



The Office of Historic Preservation partnered with the City's Convention & Visitors Bureau to offer this year's must-have Fiesta medal. Featuring artwork by OHP staff member Nicholas Fuqua, the medal celebrates the historic Tower Life Building in downtown San Antonio. Designed by Architects Atlee B. Ayres and Robert M. Ayres in 1927, the Tower Life building is one of the city's best-known historic structures. Only 400 medals will be available for purchase, so make plans to stop by the Visitors Information Center in early April to get your official OHP/CVB medal for \$5. The Center is located on Alamo Plaza across from the Alamo.



PRESERVATION MONTH MAY 2011 Preview of Events

ALL DATES ARE TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
PLEASE VISIT THE
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION WEBSITE AT
www.sanantonio.gov/historic
FOR UPDATES AND MORE INFORMATION.

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| April | |
| 30th | High School Student Infill Design Competition Kickoff at AIA offices at Pearl |
| 30th | Ludwig Mahncke Historical Marker Dedication at Mahncke Park |
| May | |
| 5th | State of Preservation Announcement and Reception at Spanish Governor's Palace |
| 7th | High School Student Infill Design Competition Awards at AIA offices at Pearl |
| 7th | Los Bexareños Genealogical Society Presentation at Central Library |
| 7th | SA Historic Architectural Styles Presentation at Central Library |
| 7th | Westside Cultural Resource Survey Event |
| 7th | Preserving Our History, a Family Fun Day at Spanish Governor's Palace |
| 8th | Guided Running/Walking Tour of Downtown |
| 10th | Unveiling of Hugman Features Tour on the Riverwalk |
| 12th | Conservation Society Military History Tour At Fort Sam Houston and Randolph AFB |
| 13th | Conservation Society Military History Tour At Camp Bullis |
| 13th | The Amazing Preservation Race Start/Finish at Market Square |
| 18th | Historians and Researchers Brown Bag Luncheon Brackenridge Park |
| 21st | Kids Amazing Preservation Race in King William Historic District |
| 24th | Unveiling of updated Texas Star Trail Walking Tour of Downtown |
| 26th | Guided Running/Walking Tour in Brackenridge Park |
| | <i>This Place Matters</i> Photo Contest runs throughout the month |



Celebrating
San Antonio's
Treasures

Celebrate America's Treasures!

Across the United States communities will celebrate historic preservation during National Historic Preservation Month in May. The National Trust for Historic Preservation has chosen the theme, "Celebrating America's Treasures" for 2011. America's treasures are more than landmark properties. They are individual houses and historic neighborhoods that create an inviting place to call home. They are commercial corridors that remind us of life before the shopping mall. National Historic Preservation Month gives us the opportunity to celebrate those places and educate the public on why they matter.



Join us for the Preservation Month kick off event May 5th. Mayor Julián Castro and Historic Preservation Officer Shanon

Peterson Wasielewski will deliver a State of Historic Preservation announcement followed by a reception in the courtyard of the Spanish Governor's Palace. Your favorite events from last year are back again, including the *This Place Matters* photo contest, running and walking tours of Downtown and the Brackenridge Park area, the Amazing Preservation Race for kids co-hosted with Villa Finale and the San Antonio Conservation Society, and more.

New events in 2011 include:

Amazing Preservation Race for Adults: teams participate in a downtown architectural scavenger hunt, physical activities, and an after-party (proceeds from the adult race will help keep the kids race free of charge).

Design charrette for high school students: co-hosted by the San Antonio Architecture Foundation focusing on appropriate infill design projects in historic districts.

Paseo por el Westside: a continuation of the Westside Cultural Resource Survey initiative to promote identification and documentation of the culture and history of the Westside.

Historic Hugman River Walk Tour launch: an interactive digital tour of the original Robert H. H. Hugman features along the River Walk.

"San Antonio's Historic Architectural Styles" lecture: a pictorial tour of San Antonio's historic architectural styles and historic resource survey presented at the Central Library

Texas Star Trail Walking Tour unveiling: celebrating the San Antonio Conservation Society's updated walking tour of downtown.

Get Your Team Together Now for the Amazing Preservation Race - May 13th



This downtown event has it all: architectural scavenger hunt, trivia questions, urban challenges, and an awesome after-party! **Teams of 4** adventurous adults who want to put their street smarts and trivia skills to the test will hit the streets of San Antonio for an adventure like no other. Registration is \$80 per team. Participants receive a race T-shirt and a drink ticket for the post-race fiesta! Proceeds from the adult race will help keep our kids race free of charge and help support the education and outreach programs of the Office of Historic Preservation.

How it works: Each team will have exactly two hours to complete the race. Your team will receive a packet of information, which includes a list of various downtown locations and descriptions, visual clues, as well as a set of riddles that will be used to find your destination. Once your destination is reached, each team will have to perform an activity in order to get the next clue. Between locations, teams will be responsible for performing urban challenges. This information is top secret and will be provided to the teams the day of the race!

Prizes awarded for winners and team with best costume—yes, that's right, themed teams are encouraged! Registration is open through May 11. No on-site registration. Space is limited, so register online today at www.active.com by clicking [Amazing Preservation Race](#). Download the event flyer [here](#).

Race Partners:



Race Sponsors:



Phillip Cortez Council District 4

Justin Rodriguez Council District 7

MARY ALICE P. CISNEROS COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

The Amazing Preservation Race for Kids Returns May 21st



Join us for a morning of family fun, food, and prizes! Like last year, the kid's race will be held in the King William neighborhood in conjunction with the Conservation Society and Villa Finale. This is a **FREE** race designed for elementary-aged kids.

Kids with their adult chaperones use clues to solve riddles as they search for destinations in the King William Historic District. At each destination participants will complete a physical challenge such as jumping rope in order to get their next clue.

Be the first to cross the finish line and win the grand prize. All participants eligible for door prizes. Food and games for all at the finish line.

Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. Race will start at 9:30 a.m. Click [here](#) for an event flyer.

For more information on the Amazing Preservation Races, contact Anna Glover at 207-7925 or anna.glover@sanantonio.gov.



Get Moving and Go! Historic SA on Mother's Day - May 8th

The Office of Historic Preservation announces the launch of our 2011 Go! Historic SA Guided Running and Walking Tours. We've added new routes this year and are now offering fitness walking tours in addition to our 5k guided runs. At various stops along the route, tour guides will share the stories behind the buildings, neighborhoods, and parks that make San Antonio unique. Runners and walkers of all abilities are welcome. Participants will be divided into small groups according to experience.



As part of Preservation Month, the OHP is offering two guided tours in May. Join us on Mother's Day, May 8th, at 8:00 a.m. for a brand new *Downtown Tour*. Tour begins at the City Marina, located at 202 E. Nueva and will include stops at the Milam Building and other sites along the Texas Star Trail, Main Plaza, Houston Street and the Hugman River Walk. The tour is a great way to start your Mother's Day celebration, so make plans to bring the family.



On Thursday, May 26th, at 6:00 p.m. guides will lead runners and walkers on a *Brackenridge Park Tour*. Tour begins at the zoo parking lot on N. St. Mary's Street and will include stops at the Sunken Gardens, the Spanish Colonial Era Acequia, Joske Pavillion, the Tuesday Music Club and Trinity University.

Register now to take advantage of this great way to experience San Antonio's historic sites and get fit!

Each tour is \$15 per person and includes a mesh running cap. Register online at www.active.com by clicking the following links:
[Downtown Tour](#) [Brackenridge Park Tour](#)

Paseo por el Westside - May 7th

Following the February Westside Cultural Resource Survey Kick Off, a *Paseo por el Westside* is scheduled for May 7th during Preservation Month. *The Paseo* will include morning walking tours highlighting architecture, culture, and history of the Westside. Tours will also feature an introduction to surveying historic resources, identifying key architectural features, and understanding the basics of documentation. The event will continue at the Casa de Cuentos at 816 S. Colorado with food and festivities. Join us as we continue to explore the rich cultural history of the City's Westside. For more information contact Elizabeth Porterfield at 207-3327 or elizabeth.porterfield@sanantonio.gov.



Unveiling of the R. H. H. Hugman River Walk Tour - May 10th



In recognition of R. H. H. Hugman's important role in the development of the River Walk, the City is installing commemorative plaques at original Hugman features. The bronze plaques replicate the architectural seal used on Hugman's original drawings. Each plaque contains an interpretive feature which is accessible with a Smart Phone. The text by renowned San Antonio historian Lewis Fisher and the historic photos provided by the Institute of Texan Cultures detail Robert Hugman's enormous contribution to the development of San Antonio's historic River

Walk. Join Downtown Operations, the Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the OHP for the unveiling of this fantastic new way to experience the historic River Walk on Tuesday, May 10th, at 10:00 a.m. on the River Level of the Commerce Street Bridge near the site of Hugman's former office at 425 E. Commerce.

Tell Us About the Places that Matter to You



Take a moment today to think about the places that hold special meaning for you. How would you feel if they were lost forever? Tell us the places that are important to you by participating in the ***This Place Matters*** campaign. Organized nationally by the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP), the ***This Place Matters*** campaign gives individuals an opportunity to highlight the places that are important to them. Your favorite place could be a neighborhood school, the house where you grew up, a local park, a street lined with bungalows, the theater where you saw your first movie, the old corner building that used to be a drug store, a gas station, or a towering downtown landmark. Show your support for your community and preservation! Take a photo in front of your favorite place with your own ***This Place Matters*** sign. Send the picture with a caption about why this place matters to you to OHP@sanantonio.gov. All photos will be entered in our local ***This Place Matters*** contest and posted on our website and facebook page. Winners will be

announced in June. [Download your This Place Matters sign here](#) and visit the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) [website](#) for more information on the national campaign.

High School Student Infill Design Competition Charrette - April 30th



The Office of Historic Preservation is partnering with the Architecture Foundation of San Antonio to offer area high school students a chance to participate in a unique design charrette.

Although designated local historic districts are protected from unwarranted demolitions, circumstances arise that result in vacant lots prime for redevelopment. This charrette will be centered on the idea of creating infill architecture that could be placed in one of San Antonio's historic neighborhoods. Infill architecture that is placed in historic neighborhoods needs to follow several guidelines that are directed by the Secretary of the Interior Standards and by local codes. These guidelines and codes focus mostly on the overall exterior appearance, massing, and materials used. This charrette will give students the ability to use these guidelines to create an appropriate design, suitable for a historic neighborhood.

The charrette will begin on Saturday, April 30th, at the Center for Architecture where the students will initially receive directions and materials pertaining to the site and neighborhood where they will be creating their new construction design. The students will be given two hours to brainstorm initial ideas with their teammates in the morning. In the afternoon, they will have an additional three hours of work time to start developing their drawings. Students will reconvene on Saturday, May 7th, at the Center for Architecture for a lecture by two local architects who have experience with designing infill architecture in historic districts. They will then have one hour to finalize their presentations. They will then present their designs to the other teams and be critiqued by a panel of experts.

For more information, contact Trisha Logan at 207-7244 or trisha.logan@sanantonio.gov

Co-sponsors:



S.T.A.R. Program Transforms 12 Houses In Dignowity Hill



On March 26th and 27th and April 2nd and 3rd, UTSA architecture students joined volunteer contractors and the OHP for the Spring 2011 S.T.A.R. (Students Together Achieving Revitalization) service event.

Over 250 student volunteers from the UTSA College of Architecture assisted owners of 12 houses in the Dignowity

Hill Historic District on the city's Eastside. S.T.A.R. is a unique hands-on service learning experience for the students at UTSA, as well as an opportunity to assist homeowners in labor intensive and costly tasks. The positive effort in the community is contagious and many other homeowners are seen working on improving their owner properties.

The S.T.A.R. Project is funded entirely from generous donations by sponsors in the community to the OHP Preservation Academy. The direct **cost** for S.T.A.R. is **less than \$750 per house**, including materials, supplies and food for volunteers. The **value** of S.T.A.R. to each homeowner ranges from **\$5,000-\$15,000 per house**, depending upon the scope, including the value of the sweat equity of volunteers, donated labor by professional contractors, supplies, city staff time and food for the volunteers.

This project would not be such a success without the assistance, support and involvement from the UTSA College of Architecture Dean John Murphy, faculty member Sue Ann Pemberton, and our volunteer contractors Victor Salas, owner of Architectural Interiors, Inc.; Adrian Flores with Bartlett Cocke (a student leader in the first S.T.A.R. that came back as a volunteer contractor after graduation); and Hilary Scruggs, owner of Outwater Ventures, LLC.

To learn more about S.T.A.R., contact Trisha Logan at 207-7244 or trisha.logan@sanantonio.gov.



S.T.A.R.

STUDENTS TOGETHER ACHIEVING REVITALIZATION

March 26th & 27th, April 2nd & 3rd



Texas Hill Country Trail Region



There's still time to register early for our Spring Workshop!

"Preservation Geared to the Homeowner"



Join us for a day-long workshop to learn maintenance and repair skills you can use on your older home, without compromising its historical integrity!

May 5th (rain date - May 11th)

8:30am-4:00pm

Lyndon B. Johnson
National Historical Park
(Settlement Area)

WORKSHOP SESSIONS:

(when you register, choose 4 sessions you'd like to attend)



Peeling
Paint &
Wood
Repair



Stone
Pointing



Window
Repair



Pest
Control



Energy
Efficiency



Planning,
Contractor,
& Historical
Perspectives

For more information, visit our website at www.txhillcountrytrail.com

Ann Branson
Texas Hill Country Trail Region
830-739-1362
hctrail@fbgtx.org

Meet the Newest Office of Historic Preservation Staff Members



Trisha Logan joined the office in September of 2010. Originally from Indianapolis, Trisha has several years of experience in Architectural Conservation as well as Preservation Planning. She is responsible for the administration of the S.T.A.R (Student Together Achieving Revitalization) Program, Revolving Fund Programs including the Historic Acquisition Program and the Owner-Occupied Loan Program, as well as other preservation education and outreach programs. Citizens applying for Certificates of Appropriateness benefit from Trisha's extensive

knowledge of building materials, innovative repair methods, and her experience in historic structure evaluation and building investigation. She received a master's degree in Historic Preservation from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a Bachelor of Arts in Interior Design and Art History from Purdue University. She is a member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, United States Green Building Council, and Preservation Action.



Nicholas Fuqua was born in Austin and moved to Virginia when he was seven, where he grew up in the Shenandoah Valley. He began to cultivate an interest in history and architecture from an early age. Nicholas received his Bachelor's Degree in Historic Preservation and a Master's Degree in Architectural History from the Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Georgia. Before coming to the City of San Antonio, Nicholas worked on projects with Villa Finale and the Alamo. He is a licensed historian with the city of Charleston, South Carolina, where he led

walking tours of the city. He has also worked as a historic cemetery conservationist in Savannah. Nicholas joined the OHP in February. His primary responsibilities include the Architectural Survey, Education and Outreach, historical research and assisting citizens applying for Certificates of Appropriateness. Nicholas enjoys watercolor painting and creative writing in his spare time.



Rashad Jackson is our newest staff member. Originally from Dallas, Rashad has professional experience in both architecture and city planning. As an Architect Intern for HKS Architects Inc., he worked on large-scale developments such as the Aria Resort (aka MGM CityCenter in Las Vegas). Before joining the OHP in March, Rashad worked as a planner for the City of San Angelo where he gained valuable city planning experience working with zoning, historic preservation, and river corridor issues. Rashad is responsible for review of public projects and

projects within the RIO Overlay Districts as well as other HDRC related programs such as the HDRC Design Review Assistance Program. Along with Trisha, Nicholas, and Amy Unger, he assists citizens applying for Certificates of Appropriateness. Rashad received a Bachelor's Degree in Architecture and a Master's Degree in City and Regional Planning from the University of Texas at Arlington.

HPA Wins Best New Student Organization at UTSA!



Congratulations to the UTSA Historic Preservation Association (HPA) for winning the Best New Student Organization at the UTSA Life Awards! Sponsored by the Student Government Association, the University Life Awards honors UTSA's most outstanding students, student organizations, faculty, and staff members. Also honored was HPA chair Laura Carrera as College of Architecture Graduate Student of the Year. The OHP has worked closely with Laura and the HPA on a number of service projects and events. A large part of the success of the S.T.A.R. program is due to the dedication and hard work of the HPA students.

HPA was created by UTSA College of Architecture students in 2010 and is dedicated to historic preservation and related areas of study through activities including volunteering, advocacy, community outreach, extracurricular scholarship and interdisciplinary collaboration. Visit their [website](#) or [facebook page](#).



NIOSA begins April 12th

“A Night In Old San Antonio®” (NIOSA®) occurs April 12-15 from 5:30 to 10:30 p.m. during the city’s [Fiesta San Antonio®](#). Produced by the San Antonio Conservation Society and 16,000 dedicated volunteers, NIOSA provides more revenue for historic preservation than any other event in the nation. Out of the roughly \$1 million in profits from NIOSA, the Society spends nearly \$350,000 annually supporting the restoration and preservation of historic properties and parks in Bexar County and neighboring counties, plus more than \$400,000 annually supporting

education and advocacy programs and projects. In addition, two special funds are set up as part of the contract between COSA and the Conservation Society when it leases La Villita:

- The “La Villita and HemisFair Park Historic Districts Preservation Projects” fund for restoration projects in La Villita and HemisFair Park.
- The “Historic Neighborhood Preservation Projects” fund for citywide historic preservation projects.

Visit www.niosa.org or www.niosa.org/mobile or follow them on facebook.

Monticello Park Fiesta Home Tour - April 9th

The Monticello Park Historic District Organization will host its 17th annual Fiesta Home Tour this Saturday, April 9th. Don’t miss this tour of six historic homes! Tickets are sold the day of the tour and are \$15.

**When: Saturday, April 9th
11:00 am - 5:00 pm**

**Where: Tickets available Saturday at Jefferson Church of Christ
702 Donaldson (across from Thomas Jefferson High School)**

For more information contact the [Monticello Park Historic District Organization](#) at 736-0130.



King William Fair & Parade - April 16th



Villa Finale is this year's King William Fair & Parade's Grand Marshall! The King William Association is a non-profit voluntary neighborhood organization dedicated to addressing urban and neighborhood issues, communicating with city officials, and providing information to residents and visitors. The Fair is the association’s primary fundraiser, providing resources for preserving and protecting the oldest historic district in the state of Texas and promoting the unique cultural heritage of San Antonio.

Children 12 and under free. All children will receive an admission ticket to be entered for a free drawing.

Tickets for food and beverages are \$1 each.

Please note: Alamo Street will be closed between Pereida and Probandt from 6:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon on Fair Day.

Learn more at <http://www.kwfair.org/>

Learn How to Preserve Books, Newspapers, and Family Documents – April 20th

On April 20th, **Villa Finale** will offer a workshop on the handling, care, and storage of paper items such as family documents, books and newspapers as part of their series of monthly workshops designed to teach how to care for objects in your own home. Curator Meg Nowack will lead the workshop at the Villa Finale Carriage House. Pre-paid registrants should meet at the front gate of Villa Finale, 401 King William Street.

Cost: \$10.00 for members of Villa Finale or the National Trust for Historic Preservation
\$20.00 for non-members
Price includes workshop supplies and light refreshments.

Call (210) 223-9800 ext. 34328 for reservations or further details.



On HPTV in April: Lambermont Restoration and Tax Incentive Programs

April's show focuses on restoration using tax incentives that are available for substantial rehabilitation of historic properties. The show features a visual tour of Lambermont, a remarkable late-19th-century home designed by San Antonio architect Alfred Giles. Lambermont has recently re-opened as an event center and private hotel after an extensive two-year restoration. Shanon talks with Lambermont's owner, Dona Liston, who shares her experience restoring this San Antonio masterpiece.

See the show on:
Tuesdays @ 9:00am
Wednesdays @ 1:00pm
Fridays @ 7:00pm

[View past episodes of HPTV online](#) at the OHP website. (sorry, PC only)

We're on the web:



The Office of Historic Preservation is on Facebook! Click the Facebook icon to add us as your friend. Facebook is a great resource for promoting preservation events and networking with other people in the community interested in preservation topics. If you are unable to open the link, simply login to www.facebook.com and search for "City of San Antonio Office of Historic Preservation."



Check out the historic preservation blog on the San Antonio Express-News website at <http://voices.mysanantonio.com/swasielewski/>

Federal Historic Preservation Issues

Provided by Erik Hein, President, Preservation Action

Note from OHP: The mission of Preservation Action is to make historic preservation a national priority by advocating to all branches of the federal government for sound preservation policy and programs through a grassroots constituency empowered with information and training and through direct contact with elected representatives. What happens in Washington directly impacts the work we do at the local level: grant funding to Certified Local Governments, Preserve America and Save Americas Treasures programs, federal rehabilitation tax credit policy, etc. This feature is intended to provide information to those who are interested about the status of current national legislative priorities within the preservation movement.

For more information about Preservation Action or current issues on the national legislative agenda or for information about becoming a member, visit www.preservationaction.org or contact Shanon Peterson Wasielewski at shanon.wasielewski@sanantonio.gov.

Progress Slow on FY 2011 Continuing Resolution

With the government currently operating under a Sixth Continuing Resolution in the absence of a full-year FY 2011 spending bill, all eyes are on Congress wondering how the current impasse over spending cuts will play out.

As we reported [last week](#), in a blow to preservationists, the Senate approved a House short-term CR expiring April 8th ([H.Res. 167](#), sponsored by Rep. Harold Rogers, R-KY) that eliminates approximately \$6 billion in FY 2011 funding. Among the cuts are the Save America's Treasures (SAT) and Preserve America programs - both of which were zeroed out. Together the programs represent approximately \$30 million. Funding for State and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers remains at FY 2010 levels - \$46.5 million and \$8 million respectively as does funding for National Heritage Areas.

With a huge divide between legislators wanting deeper spending cuts and those wanting more modest cuts, it is unclear whether two weeks is going to be enough time to work out a compromise. The White House has been trying to broker a deal between House and Senate Republicans and Democrats for a top-line spending level that would be acceptable to both chambers, but by all accounts, little progress has been made. There is still a strong constituency advocating for the already-passed House long-term CR ([H.R. 1](#)) that cuts \$61 billion in spending which has been so far rejected by the Senate.

Despite significant support for SAT among legislators, we are being told that the chances of restoring any funding in any further CR's are slim to none. However, legislators may be open to providing some funding for SAT and Preserve America in FY 2012, albeit at greatly reduced levels. **The ask being made by preservationists for FY 2012 is \$50 million for SHPOs, \$11 million for THPOs, and \$9 million for Save America's Treasures and Preserve America (combined), funded out of the Historic Preservation Fund. This represents 10% less than the combined funding for these programs in FY 2008 - a strategy that has been extremely well received.**

For a complete update on the status of preservation-related legislation currently before congress, visit <http://www.preservationaction.org/states/archive.htm>