



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
**WORLD HERITAGE OFFICE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Save The Date! San Antonio World Heritage Festival One-Year Anniversary Celebration Weekend**

**SAN ANTONIO (July 5, 2016)** – Today, on the one-year anniversary of the San Antonio Mission’s designation as a World Heritage Site, the City of San Antonio, The Rivard Report, San Antonio River Authority (SARA), Bexar County, National Park Service, Los Compadres, Las Misiones and The Alamo invite the community to celebrate the San Antonio Missions One-Year Anniversary as a World Heritage Site designated by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) September 9<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup>.

“San Antonio is a city filled with immense history and culture,” said District 3 Councilwoman Rebecca J. Viagran. “We invite the entire community to celebrate San Antonio’s unique legacy at the World Heritage Anniversary Celebration coming this fall.”

The San Antonio World Heritage Festival will commemorate the World Heritage designation and raise funds for National Park Service projects within the park. The San Antonio Missions Site is only the third U.S. site to be designated in the past 20 years, the first in Texas and the 23<sup>rd</sup> in the United States. The five Spanish missions help tell the global story of the movement and combining of people.

The festivities kick off Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, with a press conference. Friday evening will welcome *Restored by Light* to Mission San Jose, located at 6701 San Jose Drive. *Restored by Light* will celebrate the National Park Service’s 100<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary. This family-friendly event will feature kid’s activities, tours and music. The highlight of the evening will be the lighting of Mission San Jose which will be “restored” using projection technology. *Restored by Light* is a free, public event and will also feature live entertainment, food and a great time celebrating the National Park Service Centennial Anniversary.

After enjoying the special evening, residents are invited to get into gear for the *World Heritage Festival Bike Ride & Walk*. The Bike Ride & Walk will take place at Mission Park Pavilion, located at 6030 Padre Drive, on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. The morning events will bring together members of the community to participate in a leisurely ride ranging from a 7- to 22-mile route stopping at each mission. Festival partners will welcome riders at each of the missions with children’s activities, interactive workshops, educational opportunities, and giveaways.

Afterward, guests are invited to head over to Mission Park Pavilion for a live music evening celebration. The celebration will feature live music, entertainment and food truck vendors.

The weekend celebration will conclude with a celebratory Sunday Mass on September 11, 2016.

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## **One San Antonio**

*Diverse, internationally connected and globally competitive, San Antonio has a vibrant culture and economy and is consistently ranked among the fastest-growing cities in the United States. America's seventh-largest city offers opportunities in industries ranging from bioscience, financial services, aerospace, cybersecurity, energy and transportation manufacturing to healthcare. In 2016, San Antonio was named an All-America City by the National Civic League. We are "Military City USA," home to crucial military commands supported by a patriotic citizenry. We welcome 32.5 million visitors annually who inject \$13.4 billion annually into our economy, and UNESCO recently designated the city's Spanish colonial missions as a World Heritage Site. Celebrating its 300th anniversary in 2018, San Antonio is a city with a storied past and an even brighter future. For more information, visit [www.sanantonio.gov](http://www.sanantonio.gov).*