

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 8, 2012

CONTACT: Diane Thompson
(916) 445-7026

Office of Historic Preservation Accepting Nominations of Projects, Groups, or Individuals Demonstrating Excellence in Historic Preservation for 2012

WHO: California Office of Historic Preservation

WHAT: Nominations now being accepted for the 2012 Governor's Historic Preservation Awards for excellence in historic preservation

WHEN: Nominations due May 11, 2012

The California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) is now accepting nominations for the 2012 Governor's Historic Preservation Awards. The deadline for the receipt of nominations this year is May 11, 2012. The awards will be presented in November 2012 in Sacramento.

OHP welcomes nominations of individuals who have made a difference, organizations that are helping California communities recognize and celebrate, interpret, or educate the larger community about the stories and artifacts that make them unique, and companies and public agencies that have exceeded expectations and contractual obligations in preserving the heritage of California. Historic preservation extends beyond the sites and buildings that remind us of our history. It also includes the people who have made California their home and have imprinted it with their presence and their stories. What is happening in *your* community that may be worthy of a Governor's Historic Preservation Award?

The Governor's Historic Preservation Awards program has recognized large projects, such as the restoration of Leland Stanford Mansion State Historic Park—as an example of a public-private project that allows Californians to visit a mansion fit for a governor—and small projects, like Chicken Boy, a huge fiberglass Paul-Bunyan-as-chicken effigy, who caught the eye and heart of a graphic artist and, after years of sacrifice and

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meticulous touchups, now graces the suburban Los Angeles building where her business is located. She believed in the magic of Chicken Boy, much like an archaeologist who had participated in the San Nicolas Island Archaeological Field School Program believed in that program, another award winner that gives students marketable skills, a rich learning experience, and summertime hands-on archaeological field experience.

These awards have also recognized planning projects like the landmark historic context statement that the San Francisco Planning Department and volunteers researched and wrote, supplementing their limited funding with passion and dedication, and producing the first context statement to focus on Modern architecture and landscape design and its pioneering Bay Area practitioners.

The Governor's Historic Preservation Awards have also acknowledged the importance of broad heritage conservation programs, such as the efforts of the myriad people who worked together to produce the many facets of the Kawaiisu Project, celebrating the revival and resurgence of the Kawaiisu Nation and language.

In one way or another, the projects, organizations, and individuals who have been given awards in the years since 1986 when the Governor's Historic Preservation Awards were first instituted, have epitomized the innovation, creativity, and dedication of people working to preserve and share the many threads of the rich and textured heritage of California. The Office of Historic Preservation and the independent jury who will review the nominations look forward to receiving this year's nominations for the 2012 Governor's Historic Preservation Awards.

For more information about this awards program, including information about past award winners and this year's nomination form, visit www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/governorsawards or contact Coordinator Diane Thompson at 916 445 7026 or dthompson@parks.ca.gov.

More information about the Office of Historic Preservation is available at www.ohp.parks.ca.gov.

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