

MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Melanie Barton, Museums Administrator
Mike Boyle, Assistant County Executive Officer

DATE: May 13, 2008

SUBJECT: PROCLAMATION – Approve a Proclamation declaring May, 2008 as
“California Museum Month” in Placer County.

ACTION REQUESTED

Approve a Proclamation declaring May, 2008 as “California Museum Month” in Placer County.

BACKGROUND/COMMUNITY BENEFITS

The Board is being asked to support a Proclamation designating the month of May as “California Museum Month” in Placer County. California is home to over 1,300 museums that are located in every county and region throughout the state. The county museums serve millions of visitors annually. California museums represent a multitude of learning experiences, including art museums, zoos, aquaria, historical societies, science centers, botanical gardens, children’s museums, and cultural centers. Over the last decade, California museums have experienced a 25 percent increase in K-12 school fieldtrip attendance and a 31 percent increase in the variety of public activities they offer. Placer County has 6 county museums. The Bernhard Museum Complex serves nearly 3,000 3rd grade students annually through their Living History program between the months of March and May alone. In addition, over 32,000 people visit Placer County museums each year.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

**In the Matter of a Proclamation declaring
May as "California Museum Month" in
Placer County.**

WHEREAS, California is home to over 1,300 museums that are located in every county and region throughout the state and serve millions of visitors annually; and

WHEREAS, California museums represent a multitude of learning experiences, including art museums, zoos, aquaria, historical societies, science centers, botanical gardens, children's museums, and cultural centers; and

WHEREAS, over the last decade, California museums have experienced a 25 percent increase in K-12 school fieldtrip attendance and a 31 percent increase in the variety of public activities they offer; and

WHEREAS, two-thirds of California museums partner with schools and school districts to provide valuable and relevant educational programs that serve their local students and enhance instruction provided by the public sector; and

WHEREAS, Americans view museums as one of the most trustworthy sources of objective information, and, offer their families, the most significance in creating a strong connection to the past; and

WHEREAS, California museums foster dialogue, utilize critical thinking skills, and support exploration to advance knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of history, science, the arts, and the natural world; and

WHEREAS, California museums provide a spark that inspires the future generation of scientists, artists, politicians, historians, and entrepreneurs; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Placer County Museums is to serve the public and to promote community involvement through heritage education programs, preservation of historic artifacts, preservation of the county's rich historic and cultural legacy, and by adding to the understanding of Placer County, its people, places and events; and

WHEREAS, Placer County has 6 county museums; the Placer County Museum located on the 1st floor of the Historic Courthouse in Auburn, the Gold Country Museum located at the Gold Country Fairgrounds in Auburn, Bernhard Museum Complex located on Auburn-Folsom Road in Auburn, Griffith Quarry Museum located in Penryn, the Foresthill Divide Museum located in Foresthill and the Golden Drift Museum located in Dutch Flat; and

WHEREAS, nearly 3,000 3rd grade students attend the Living History Program at the Bernhard Museum Complex between March and May of each year and over 32,000 people visit Placer County museums each year.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT the Placer County Board of Supervisors does hereby declare May as "California Museum Month" in Placer County in support of the essential role museums have in the State of California and Placer County as an educational resource and a vital link between our past, present and future cultural development.

Jim Holmes Supervisor, District 3
Chairman 2008

Rocky Rockholm
Supervisor, District 1

Kirk Uhler
Supervisor, District 4

Robert M. Weygandt
Supervisor, District 2

Bruce Kranz
Supervisor, District 5