

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM

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News Release

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For release: Immediately

Opening reception: Friday, February 15 (members, media, and by invitation)

Exhibit opens: Saturday, February 16, 2013

Always a Bridesmaid at County Museum

A new special exhibit, "Always a Bridesmaid," will open at the San Bernardino County Museum on Saturday, February 16. The exhibit is included with paid museum admission. An exhibit opening reception for Museum Association members, sponsors, and invited guests is planned for Friday evening, February 15 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

"Always a Bridesmaid" will feature artifacts from the museum's historic costume collection worn to marriage ceremonies by brides, grooms, and guests from the 1860s into the 1960s. Visitors to the exhibit can explore related artifacts, traditions, and customs surrounding weddings in the United States in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Examples of fine hand-sewing techniques and tools used on wedding-wear are a part of the exhibit, too.

Wedding photographs, party favors, invitations, and "guides for brides" from past eras are a great way to delve deeper into social customs related to marriage events. These artifacts from the museum's archives will round out the exhibit. Visitors can pose at the "family portrait" wall and take their own wedding photos, complete with fanciful costume props, or try fancy napkin folding patterns, popular at wedding banquets of the past. "Always a Bridesmaid" is sponsored in part by the member guilds of the Western Textile Center Association, a San Bernardino County Museum support organization.

The San Bernardino County Museum is at the California Street exit from Interstate 10 in Redlands. The museum is open Tuesdays through Sundays from 9 am to 5pm. General admission is \$8 (adult), \$6 (military or senior), \$5 (student), and \$4 (child aged 5 to 12). Children under five and Museum Association members are admitted free. Parking is free. For more information, visit www.sbcountymuseum.org. The museum is accessible to persons with disabilities. If assistive listening devices or other auxiliary aids are needed in order to participate in museum exhibits or programs, requests should be made through Museum Visitor Services at least three business days prior to your visit. Visitor Services' telephone number is 909-307-2669 ext. 229 or (TDD) 909-792-1462.

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