

# WITTE MUSEUM

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Historic Home on Witte Campus to Re-Open in Conjunction with Tejano Heritage Month**

**SAN ANTONIO**—The **José Francisco Ruiz House**, one of the historic homes on the grounds of the Witte Museum, was recently closed in order to restore and preserve the building. Join us **10-11:30 a.m., Saturday, September 16** for a rededication and ribbon cutting ceremony, being held in conjunction with **Tejano Heritage Month**, designated as the month of September. The ceremony is free with museum admission.

This historic home was originally built in 1745 by José Francisco Ruiz, one of the two native-born Tejanos to sign the Texas Declaration of Independence. Ruiz was the first official schoolmaster in San Antonio and held classes in the house, making it the San Antonio's very first public school. The Ruiz House restoration is generously funded by the City of San Antonio.

“The city of San Antonio is proud to partner with the Witte Museum to preserve this important piece of Texas history,” said City Councilman Kevin Wolff. “The Witte has been committed to preserving the heritage of South Texas for 80 years. As the owner of these buildings, the city is equally committed to the Witte and to the next generation of South Texans.”

The Witte Museum is a proud partner of **Tejano Heritage Month**, created to educate, elevate and celebrate the lives and legacies of Tejanos. Tejano Heritage Month is presented by Texas Tejano.com, a San Antonio-based research, publishing and communications firm, in conjunction with the Alamo Legacy & Missions Association

(ALMA), a San Antonio-based, non-profit organization that provides living history reenactments to educate youth and adults about Texas history.

For more information call 210.357.1900 or visit [www.witemuseum.org](http://www.witemuseum.org).

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