



MARKETING  
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## **TWAINFEST EXPANDS IN OLD TOWN SAN DIEGO STATE PARK ON AUGUST 18**

TwainFest is a free and family-friendly festival celebrating the writing of Mark Twain and his contemporaries. TwainFest bursts into action on Saturday, Aug. 18, in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. This will be TwainFest's third annual celebration of mid-19<sup>th</sup> century American arts and culture. The fun starts 11 a.m. and runs until 5 p.m. Admission is free and open to all.

TwainFest will present stories, music, professional actors and musicians, puppets, poems, inventive games and delightful performances plus a brand new feature called "History on the Move" presented by Wells Fargo Bank. Performances and activities will be offered in venues all over the state park's grassy plaza as well as in its historic structures.

TwainFest offers various activities for the entire family such as:

**The Arcade** – Twelve imaginative games and activities ranging from Fish for Words, which is geared to children as young as three, to the Spelling Bee, which features commonplace words from the 1850s and the Never-Ending Story where everyone adds their own chapter to an ongoing story.

**Overland Express** – Old Diego's equivalent of the Pony Express where you can send a letter that will be delivered by horse and rider – and get a letter in response!

**Frog Launch** - TwainFest tips its hat to Twain's first widely read story, The Celebrating Jumping Frog of Calaveras County. Frog Launch is a catapult that propels bean-bag frogs into the air. Compete to make the longest launch.

**Literary Séance** – Madame Olga with her loyal retainer, Igor, makes contact with the spirits of great writers from the past.

**The Manly Art of Cigar Smoking** – Twain smoked between 20 and 40 cigars a day! Racine & Laramie, the venerable tobacco retailer in the State Park, hosts a Long Ash contest on its front porch. Ladies as well as gentlemen are welcome and the contest is adults only.

**History on the Move** – Wells Fargo Bank presents an exciting hands-on activity that brings the Pony Express and other aspects of 19<sup>th</sup> century America to life. This is an entirely new and exciting element of TwainFest. It will be located in the courtyard behind the Robinson-Rose Building.

**Liars Contest** – tell your story (as long as it's a tall one) and compete for the TwainFest Liars Crown on the TwainFest Main Stage. Open to all.

**Twain for Kids** – Professional actors read stories by and about Mark Twain – (one of them even written by his daughter, Suzy) – in the historic Seeley Stable in the Old Town San Diego State Historic Park.

TWAINFEST is produced by Write Out Loud in partnership with Fiesta de Reyes and the Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. For more information, call Write Out Loud at 619-297-8953 or the State Park Information Center at 619-220-5422.

Learn more about TWAINFEST at [www.WriteOutLoudsd.com](http://www.WriteOutLoudsd.com) and TWAINFEST on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/writeout.loud.9>.

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