

International Hands-on Workshops for Architectural and Site Conservation



News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local Mason to Lead Volunteer Restoration Effort at Historic Bartow-Pell Mansion

Bronx, New York, July 2, 2009 – Kevin Towle, a local mason specializing in natural, dry-laid masonry, will work with volunteers at the upcoming workshop entitled “Galleting Galore in the Garden” at the Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum in the Bronx’s Pelham Bay Park, August 3-6.

The work follows a similar, highly successful effort initiated last year by the Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum and Heritage Conservation Network. Volunteers will be restoring the steps and walkways of the house’s terrace garden to their original 1915 appearance. The work involves removing the incongruous concrete from previous repairs and filling the joints with small stone gallets, creating a more natural appearance.

On the first day of the four-day project, participants will travel with Mr. Towle to a local stone quarry to learn how to select the appropriate stone for the job and then bring it back to the mansion for use the rest of the week.

Additional volunteers are welcome to join this hands-on restoration project. The cost, which includes the field trip, lunches, insurance, instruction, and a contribution towards the cost of conservation work, is \$175. The rate for volunteers needing lodging is \$765, which includes all of the above plus double occupancy accommodations the nights of August 2 - 6.

Registration closes July 17. For more information on this volunteer vacation, or to register online, visit HCN’s website, <http://www.heritageconservation.net/ws-bartow-pell-2009.htm>.

Heritage Conservation Network is a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of architectural heritage around the world. HCN’s workshops support community-based preservation projects and give volunteers the opportunity to give something back by helping to protect valuable cultural treasures. To learn more about HCN’s international workshops, visit www.heritageconservation.net.

Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum is owned by City of New York Parks & Recreation, operated by the Bartow-Pell Conservancy and a member of the Historic House Trust of New York City. For more information about the Museum and its gardens, visit www.bpmm.org.

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