



SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT
Public Information Office

10/24/08

Media Advisory

1300 Hrs

For Immediate Release PST
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“Commemorate and Celebrate SF History”

Coit Tower 75th Jubilee Celebration

(San Francisco, October 25th, 2008) - The Recreation and Parks Department and San Francisco Fire Department in partnership with other City Departments and SF Fire Fighters Local 798, will be holding the Coit Tower 75th Jubilee Celebration to commemorate the 75th year since the opening of Coit Tower. The San Francisco Fire Department will participate in Friday’s Fun Run with kids from the Francisco Middle School, conduct an artful demonstration of the 65 foot ladder raise (an historical ladder) and be in attendance at the public the event (with red helmets to hand out to kids). The SFFD Historical Society will have antique rigs on display for the event and SF Fire Fighters Local 798 is one of the generous sponsors. Donna Ewald Huggins will be on site as Lillie Hitchcock Coit along with a display case containing some of her authentic personal items and photos of the construction of the tower (1929-1933).

The Fire Department is celebrating the memory of Lilian Coit who was an ardent supporter of San Francisco and its Fire Department while she was alive. The 210 foot high Art Deco Tower was built atop Telegraph Hill to fulfill her bequest to beautify the city she loved. “On this day we commemorate Coit Tower and the memory of Lilian Coit who loved this city and recognized the contributions of its firefighters”, said Fire Chief Joanne Hayes-White. “We are reminded of the history of this city, the great spirit of its citizens and the rich history and tradition of its Fire Department.”

This free event begins at 1030am at Coit Tower. The ceremony starts at noon with the SFFD 65 foot ladder raise and will include several prominent speakers: Mayor Gavin Newsom; SFFD Chief Joanne Hayes-White and Representative Aaron Peskin from District 3, among others.

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