

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**September 15, 2008**

## **Ninth Annual Gala Celebrates San Francisco's Seafaring Heritage**

**San Francisco – California** (September 15, 2008) – San Francisco Maritime National Park Association will hold its premier fundraising event, the 9th Annual Maritime Heritage Awards Gala, *Voyages From the Past to the Future*, on October 4, 2008 at 6 p.m. in the Herbst Pavilion, Fort Mason.

Gala program highlights are the presentation of the Maritime Heritage Award, silent and live auctions, dinner and dancing.

This year, the Association will honor **Anne Halsted** for her years of service and support as a trustee of the Association. Ms. Halsted is a devoted advocate for San Francisco's waterfront, neighborhoods and social well-being. Through appointed civic positions and non-profit leadership work, Anne has labored to safeguard San Francisco's public spaces and improve the quality of life in the city.

The Association is also celebrating the 160th anniversary of **American President Lines**, a maritime industry leader, and a long time supporter of the Association. From the first American steamer voyage from New York to San Francisco during the California Gold Rush, APL has touched the lives of millions of people in virtually every country in the world. Today, APL is a global container shipping company that connects continents through a network of over 200 offices, with services to more than 25,000 locations throughout the world.

Tickets are now available for \$250 each and sponsorship opportunities are available from \$5,000 to \$50,000.

For more information about tickets, sponsorship or donation opportunities please contact Bina Shah via e-mail or phone at [bshah@events2.org](mailto:bshah@events2.org) or 415-655-9500.

### **San Francisco Maritime National Park Association**

Since 1950, the San Francisco Maritime National Park Association has been bringing Bay Area seafaring history to life through preservation and education. With generous public support, the Association serves over 15,000 thousand school children annually, providing life-changing education programs to underserved children and teenagers.

San Francisco Maritime National Park Association is the official non-profit support partner to San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park. The Association raises money and provides resources for iconic national treasures located at the Park. The Association also partners with the Park to conduct innovative education and interpretive programming to the public.

The Association is the steward of the USS *Pampanito*, the only World War II submarine and memorial open to the public on the West Coast. Restored to the summer of 1945, the *Pampanito* offers an invaluable historical link to the middle of the 20th century and a magnificent tribute to the service of the "greatest generation".

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### **For more information:**

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