



**CITY OF TUCSON**

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **PRESIDIO ARCHAEOLOGY OPEN HOUSE SET FOR JANUARY 28-29**

Desert Archaeology, Inc. will host an Archaeology Open House from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday January 28-29 at El Presidio de Tucson. The site is located in the center of Downtown Tucson at Church Avenue and Washington Street. Visitors will be able to tour the site, watch archaeologists at work, and examine artifacts found at the site. Also, Means Design, Inc. will demonstrate adobe brick making.

Formerly part of an 11-acre fort built by the Spanish in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, El Presidio de Tucson will be the initial element of Tucson Origins Heritage Park, the cultural cornerstone project of Río Nuevo. Construction will be completed in 2007. Cost of the project is \$2.2 million, to be paid by Río Nuevo Tax Increment Financing (TIF).

Río Nuevo is the comprehensive Downtown revitalization project funded by the State of Arizona, the City of Tucson, and private enterprise. Its goals are to create a vibrant experience in Downtown Tucson for citizens and visitors through the development of new attractions, shops, restaurants, office space and housing, and to ultimately make Downtown Tucson into the "Heart of the City."

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