

War of 1812 Symposium Returns to Ogdensburg for Fourth Year

OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK, January 22, 2012 – The Fort La Présentation Association’s fourth annual War of 1812 Symposium in Ogdensburg, NY April 27-28, 2012 marks a milestone in local War of 1812 bicentennial commemorations.

Eight expert speakers are coming from Chicago, Ottawa, Kingston, Plattsburgh, Potsdam and Niagara-on-the-Lake, will present seminars on campaigns and battles, Indian allies, archaeology, artefact conservation, medical practices, research challenges and more.

The symposium will again be hosted by the Freight House Restaurant at 20 Market Street in Ogdensburg. The seminars will be held in the banquet hall. Other rooms will be used for book signings, and exhibits from regional museums and heritage organizations.

“We intend the symposium to be welcoming and appealing to a broad public and are holding the line on fees,” said Barbara O’Keefe, President of the Fort La Présentation Association. “Students are offered a 50-percent discount because we believe the symposium has much to interest budding scholars in college and high school.”

The cost of the symposium remains the same as last year at a maximum of \$110 to as low as \$10 for the Friday evening meet-and-greet alone, and the discounts are extended. Members of Forsyth’s Rifles and the Canadian Friends of Fort de La Présentation will pay the same reduced rate as Fort Association members. Students will receive a 50 percent discount. However, they must pay a members full amount in advance and receive their cash discount on arrival at the symposium with photo ID.

“Efforts to organize the symposium and confirm an equal number of presenters from the United State and Canada began late last summer,” said O’Keefe. “This is a major undertaking, and we are so pleased the Canadian Friends of Fort de La Présentation took on the lion’s share organizing our 2012 symposium.”

The Canadian Friends are dedicated to educating the public while preserving and researching our shared history along the St. Lawrence River. In the true spirit of education, the seminars will appeal to a wide audience of educators, history buffs, re-enactors and the curious.

Two of the historians featured in the recent PBS production, “The War of 1812,” are giving seminars at the symposium. Four other historians who appeared in the production have presented at previous symposia.

Registration is online through PayPal or by mail with a check enclosed. Information is available at www.fort1749.org.