



Press Release

Official Groundbreaking Tomorrow

La Fonda on the Plaza Officially Breaks Ground on Guest Room Renovation

Santa Fe, New Mexico, January 15, 2013 - La Fonda on the Plaza will formally break ground on an ambitious renovation of its guest rooms on **January 16, 2013, at 4pm**. Chairman of the Board Jennifer Lea Kimball, Board Member Penina Ballen, and Santa Fe architect Barbara Felix, will host local and state officials and VIP La Fonda customers for **a champagne toast to inaugurate the eight-month project**. The renovation will be **one of the largest improvements to the historic property's guest rooms** since it was redesigned to its current form by the famous architects John Gaw Meem and Mary Elizabeth Jane Colter in 1926-29.

The renovation will **update all guest rooms** for enhanced comfort, including replacement of guest room windows, upgraded temperature controls, sound insulation, communication systems, electrical wiring, and plumbing. **The project provides an opportunity to continue making the hotel energy-efficient.**

Demolition work has begun on 100 of the guest rooms facing Water Street. We're excited to let everyone know that the hotel will remain open throughout the project, with no staff reductions. Renovation work will not affect the lobby area, La Plazuela restaurant, La Fiesta Lounge, our meeting rooms, or the retail shops.

Along with infrastructure improvements, guest rooms will have new floor coverings, window treatments, and many handcrafted furnishings in keeping with the aesthetic established by Mary Elizabeth Jane Colter. We're also restoring some original colored concrete floors. Two model guest rooms, completed in 2010, serve as templates for new lighting and furniture made to order for La Fonda.

"I want to thank our customers for their continued loyalty, and our wonderful staff for their years of dedicated service, which have allowed us to invest in this historic venture," said Jenny Kimball, Chairman of the Board. "My goal is to enhance our historic hotel and ensure a viable business that will continue to support our valued employees and the greater Santa Fe community."

La Fonda friends and family are invited to share a toast to the start of a new era for the Santa Fe landmark, an evolution that ensures the hotel will remain a world-class property for decades to come.

About La Fonda

Opened in 1922, La Fonda on the Plaza sits at the terminus of the Santa Fe Trail just steps from Santa Fe's historic Plaza. The former Harvey Hotel has 174 unique guest rooms and suites, including 14 luxury rooms built around a rooftop terrace. La Fonda is a favorite location for conferences and weddings with more than 21,275 square feet of event space. La Fonda is a member of the National Trust Historic Hotels of America.

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