



SULTANA PROJECTS

PRESERVATION THROUGH EDUCATION

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Press Release

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Sultana Projects Announces 2008 Sultana Crew

Sultana Projects is pleased to announce the crew of the schooner Sultana for the spring of 2008. The seven person crew, composed of four men and three women, was selected from dozens of applicants from across the United States. The crew will assemble in Chestertown in mid March to prepare the schooner Sultana for its 2008 sailing season which begins on April 3rd.

Captain Robert M. Brittain - Widely regarded as one of the most personable and competent captains on the Chesapeake Bay, Robert M. Brittain has been the heart and soul of the schooner Sultana since assuming command in April 2004. Captain Brittain has decades of experience sailing traditional vessels and more than fifteen years of sea time on the waters of the Chesapeake Bay. A native of England, Brittain first learned to sail in small dinghies on England's Blackwater River. After attending Nottingham University where he was a member of the University's sailing team, Brittain moved to the United States in 1980 and has subsequently served as captain on numerous traditional sailing vessels including the schooners Lady Maryland, Woodwind and Woodwind II as well as the skipjack Martha Lewis. Earlier in his career Captain Brittain sailed as crew on both the original Pride of Baltimore and on the maiden voyage of the Pride of Baltimore, II. Captain Brittain lives in Chestertown with his wife Cindy whom he met when they both served as crew onboard the Pride of Baltimore

Chris Whitlock- Chief Mate/Relief Captain: Chris is no stranger to the Sultana Projects family. He began sailing on Sultana as a deckhand in 2002 and has popped up on her decks periodically since then. Chris got the sailing bug while spending his summers sailing small boats on Lake Michigan, and currently holds his USCG 100 Ton Inland Masters license. In addition to Sultana, Chris has previously sailed on such tall ships as Pride of Baltimore II, Ernestina, and Denis Sullivan. When he's not sailing, Chris enjoys playing the guitar, boatbuilding, walking in the woods, and hanging out with his new wife and their dog, Angus.

Leona Dalton- Education Director: A graduate of Washington College, where she earned a B.A. in Anthropology and a M.A. in History, Leona brings many years of on the

water experience to her new job as Education Director onboard the Schooner Sultana. An experienced rower, Leona was a four years member of the Women's Varsity crew team and later an Assistant Women's Rowing Coach at Washington College. Most recently, Leona spent five months rowing Sultana Projects' 18th century replica shallop around the Chesapeake Bay as part of the Captain John Smith 400 Project. She is looking forward to leading the stellar educational programs onboard Sultana this year.

Adam Prokosch- Educator/Deckhand: Adam comes to Sultana Projects from Washington State where he most recently worked as part of the crew onboard the Lady Washington. Adam recently graduated from Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington where he designed his own Emphasis on Leadership major which allowed him to study both science and history. When he's not working, Adam can be found on the West Coast living and traveling in his green Volkswagen bus. He also enjoys camping, hiking, mountain climbing, and has built the occasional igloo. He is very excited to be joining this year's crew onboard the Sultana.

Edna Ogola- Cook/Deckhand: A Biology and Psychology major at Cornell College in Mt. Vernon, Iowa, Edna will spend her summer educating children about the history and ecology of the Chesapeake Bay. Edna will be indispensable onboard Sultana as she will also be the ship's cook! Originally from Kenya, Edna has traveled extensively throughout that country. She spent one year of high school in Arlington, Texas before heading to Cornell College where she is currently a sprinter on the Women's Track and Field team. When not studying or practicing, Edna likes to read and to cook.

Brian Bytnar- Educator/Deckhand: Brian is familiar with Kent County after working as a Staff Naturalist at Echo Hill Outdoor School in Worton for their 2007 season. He is a 2006 graduate of Dickinson College where he received his B.S. in Environmental Science. Since then, Brian has been actively involved in working with the environment. His previous experience includes working for the National Park Service on both the Blue Ridge Parkway and Appalachian Trail as well as working for Marinetic, an organization running an oyster farm in the Choptank River. When not working, Brian enjoys playing the guitar, hiking, biking and being near the water.

Deborah Rowan- Educator/Deckhand: Deborah has spent nearly 2 decades working on tall ships around the world. She has previously sailed on the ships Malcolm Miller and Sir Winston Churchill in England as well as the original Pride of Baltimore, Lady Maryland, Mildred Belle, and Schooner Woodwind here in the States. Deborah has a B.A. in Music from Bucknell University as well as a M.S. in Sustainable Development and Conservation Biology from the University of Maryland, College Park. A licensed acupuncturist, Deborah will be able to calm the crew after a weary day at sea. She also enjoys photography, music, and botany.

About Sultana Projects:

Each year more than 15,000 students of all ages take part in a unique educational experience with Sultana Projects. Whether sailing on the decks of the 1768 schooner Sultana, exploring the world of early America with the John Smith shallop, or studying the Chesapeake's incredible history and environment through a Sultana classroom curriculum unit, students gain a greater appreciation for the national treasure that is the Chesapeake Bay.