



**preserve** ALA  
ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
468 South Perry St. ♦ Montgomery, AL 36104  
334.242.3184 ♦ [www.preserveala.org](http://www.preserveala.org)

Contact: Melissa Beasley, 256.637.8513  
[wheplan@hiwaay.net](mailto:wheplan@hiwaay.net)

May 23, 2011

## **BELLE MONT OFFERS FREE ADMISSION TO ACTIVE MILITARY THIS SUMMER**

Belle Mont is offering free admission to active duty military personnel and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day 2011.

As a Blue Star Museum, Belle Mont is one of more than 1,300 museums across America to offer free admission to military personnel and their families this summer. Blue Star Museums is a partnership between the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and participating museums.

“The Alabama Historical Commission encourages all active military personnel and their families to visit our historic sites and museums at no cost,” said Mark Driscoll, AHC historic sites division director.

Belle Mont is one of early Alabama’s crowning architectural achievements. The Palladian-style house is an outstanding example of Thomas Jefferson’s influence upon the architecture of the early American republic. It is owned by the Alabama Historical Commission and located on County Road 52, just off Highway 43 in Tuscumbia.

### About Blue Star Museums

The Blue Star Museums initiative runs from Memorial Day, May 30 through Labor Day, September 5, 2011. The free admission program is available to active duty military and their immediate family members (military ID holder and five immediate family members). Active duty military include Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, and active duty National Guard and active duty Reserve members.

Leadership support has been provided by MetLife Foundation through Blue Star Families. The complete list of participating museums is available at [www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums](http://www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums).

*To protect, preserve, and interpret Alabama’s historic places is the mission of the **Alabama Historical Commission, the State Historic Preservation Office.***