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Former councilwoman Saul-Sena to guide tours of historic Tampa

Between cozy Hyde Park bungalows and one-time Ybor City factories, former Tampa councilwoman Linda Saul-Sena knows her hometown boasts a wealth of historic gems.

"Our neighborhoods are fascinating places," said Saul-Sena, a historic preservation advocate. "Seeing their history and evolution is a delightful way to spend an afternoon."

Saul-Sena will guide participants on a leisurely two-hour stroll through communities including Hyde Park, Ybor City, and the Channel District as she helps others admire the architectural features and quirky histories of areas she worked to preserve during her five-term tenure on the Tampa City Council.

Her Sunday afternoon tours will benefit local nonprofit Community Stepping Stones, which offers an out-of-school, arts-integrated curriculum designed to inspire, educate and mentor at-risk Sulphur Springs children to become successful adults.

The tours are part of the offerings at "Inside the Creative Studio," the adult art education program at Community Stepping Stones. The tour's \$15 cost will go directly to the nonprofit.

For those who prefer a more hands-on approach to art, Community Stepping Stones offers instruction in other areas including ceramics, metalworking, photography and jewelry making. For more information, visit www.communitysteppingstones.org or call (813) 503-1919.

What: Architectural/Neighborhood Walking Tours led by Linda Saul-Sena

When: Sundays beginning February 19, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Where: Channel District (February 19); Ybor City (February 26); Hyde Park (March 3)

Cost: \$15 per tour

To sign up: Visit www.communitysteppingstones.org or call (813) 503-1919