

SANTA BARBARA TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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To Bring Alive the History of Santa Barbara for Present and Future Generations

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Additional Photos Available Upon Request

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EL DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS: CELEBRATE “DAY OF THE DEAD” WITH A FREE FAMILY CRAFT WORKSHOP AT THE CASA DE LA GUERRA



**El Día de los Muertos
Sunday, October 28
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**Casa de la Guerra
15 E. De la Guerra St
Santa Barbara**

FREE Admission

(SANTA BARBARA, CA) – Join the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation in celebrating ***El Día de los Muertos***, “Day of the Dead” with a free family craft workshop on **Sunday, October 28 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Casa de la Guerra** in downtown Santa Barbara. Discover the fascinating history of this special holiday while making skeleton masks, decorating sugar skulls, constructing traditional tissue paper marigolds and creating holiday prints. Traditional *Día de los Muertos* refreshments, including pan de muerto and Mexican hot chocolate, will be served.

The Day of the Dead is a Mexican celebration honoring the memory of deceased ancestors. This national holiday and is celebrated enthusiastically throughout the country. With its rare mix of pre-Hispanic and Roman Catholic rituals, it is a wonderful illustration of the synthesis of cultures that has come to define Mexico and its people, and in part, reflect the history of Santa Barbara.

ABOUT the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation—Founded in 1963 by Dr. Pearl Chase and other concerned community leaders, the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization working to preserve, restore, reconstruct and interpret historic sites within Santa Barbara County. The Trust is the primary force in the reconstruction and preservation of El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park and the restoration of Casa de la Guerra in downtown Santa Barbara. The Trust is also preserving and restoring the Santa Inés Mission Mills—the site of a future California State Park and recently purchased the building that housed Jimmy’s Oriental Gardens, providing an opportunity to interpret the history of Santa Barbara’s Asian community in the Presidio neighborhood. The Trust is currently reconstructing the Northwest Corner of El Presidio de Santa Barbara, the eighteenth-century Spanish colonial fort that is Santa Barbara’s birthplace. Using over 50,000 adobe bricks made on site, these additions will eventually house the new Presidio visitors’ center, and with the help of the new Presidio Research Center, serve to interpret the city’s Hispanic heritage, and the larger multi-cultural heritage of the surrounding Presidio neighborhood from the eighteenth century to the present. The new Santa Barbara Presidio Research Center was recently unveiled to the public at the Trust’s *Tapas, Vino y Arte 2007* celebration on Saturday, September 29, 2007. **For more information visit www.sbthp.org**

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