



Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

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

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 15, 2008

MORE PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

PRESS CONTACT

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Celebrate Day of the Dead, “El Día de los Muertos,” at Casa de la Guerra
*8th Annual Free Family Craft Workshop Honors the Departed through Crafts, Treats,
and Education*



(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 26 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM** 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, creating tissue paper marigolds and festive holiday prints. Traditional *Día de los Muertos* refreshments, including *pan de los muertos*, or bread of the dead, and Mexican hot chocolate will be served.

Day of the Dead is an annual celebration to honor the spirits of the dead and is observed primarily in Mexico and other Latin American countries where it is a national holiday. With its rare mix of pre-Hispanic and Roman Catholic rituals, Day of the Dead is a wonderful illustration of the synthesis of cultures that has come to define Latin America and its people, and in part, reflect the history of Santa Barbara. According to popular belief, on the Day of the Dead the spirits of the dead return to commune with the living. Families leave offerings for these spirits,

attend *fiestas* dressed in costumes and clean or decorate the graves of deceased family members.

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CALENDAR LISTING

Día de los Muertos

DATE & TIME

Sunday, October 26, 2008

11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

WHERE

Casa de la Guerra

15 East De la Guerra Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

ADMISSION

FREE

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit www.sbthp.org or call (805) 965-0093



SHORT DESCRIPTION

Celebrate *El Día de los Muertos*, “Day of the Dead” with a free family craft workshop at the Casa de la Guerra. Discover the fascinating history of this special holiday while making skeleton masks, decorating sugar skulls, designing traditional tissue paper marigolds and creating holiday prints. Traditional *Día de los Muertos* refreshments served.

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ABOUT the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP) – Founded in 1963 by Dr. Pearl Chase and other concerned community leaders, the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization working to preserve, restore, reconstruct and interpret historic sites within Santa Barbara County. SBTHP is the primary force behind 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. SBTHP 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. **SBTHP 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 Santa Barbara 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. **For more information visit www.sbthp.org**

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