



Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ADDITIONAL PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

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Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation presents the 8th Annual “Casa Cantina” at the home of Fiesta—Casa de la Guerra

Four-day SBTHP fundraiser features live music by Beleza Pura, Somos Son and Spencer the Gardener



(SANTA BARBARA, CA) – Celebrate Fiesta where it all began as the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation presents “Casa Cantina” in the courtyard of the historic Casa de la Guerra. A highlight of the annual Old Spanish Days Fiesta celebration, from **Wednesday, August 5 to Saturday, August 8, 12:00 PM to 12:00 AM**, locals and visitors alike are invited to stop by, have a cold drink and celebrate at the home of Fiesta—Casa de la Guerra.

When the first modern Old Spanish Days Fiesta celebration was held in 1924, parties and teas in honor of members from early Santa Barbara families were held at Casa de la Guerra. Featuring beer, margaritas, and wine for sale, “Casa Cantina”

continues the sites tradition as a place for civic celebrations and special events. Located across the street from De la Guerra Plaza in the heart of downtown’s Fiesta activities—for a small fee guests can relax, have a cold drink and enjoy live music from 8:30 PM to 12:00 AM in the Casa courtyard. **All proceeds benefit the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic preservation and the continued restoration of Casa de la Guerra. SBTHP**

members receive **FREE** admission with a valid membership card. Before 4:00 PM admission includes entrance to the newest exhibit at Casa de la Guerra, *Touring Santa Barbara through the Magic Lantern: Images from the Pearl Chase Collection, 1915 –1926*. For more information call (805) 965-0093 or visit www.sbthp.org.

“Casa Cantina” Entertainment:

Wednesday, August 5, 8:30 PM to 12:00 PM

Live Music by **Spencer the Gardener**

Thursday, August 6, 8:30 PM to 12:00 PM

Live Music by **Beleza Pura**

Friday, August 7, 8:30 PM to 12:00 PM

Live Music by **Somos Son**

Saturday, August 8, 8:30 PM to 12:00 PM

Live Music by **Somos Son**

CALENDAR LISTING

Casa Cantina

DATE & TIME

Wednesday, August 5 to Saturday, August 8, 2009

12:00 AM to 12:00 PM

WHERE

Casa de la Guerra

15 East De la Guerra Street, Santa Barbara, CA

ADMISSION

\$: Admission fee varies (includes 1 FREE drink before 6:00 PM)

21 years of age and over ONLY after 6:00 PM

FREE Admission for SBTHP Members

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit www.sbthp.org

SHORT DESCRIPTION

Celebrate Fiesta where it all began with the 8th annual “Casa Cantina” in the courtyard of Casa de la Guerra. From Wed, Aug 5 to Sat, Aug 8, guests are invited to relax, sip a cold drink, and party at the home of Fiesta.

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ABOUT the Casa de la Guerra—One of the most important remnants of Santa Barbara's Spanish-Mexican heritage, the Casa has been at the heart of Santa Barbara's history since its construction (1819-1827) by the fifth Presidio comandante, José de la Guerra. The house played an important role in the civic and social life of Santa Barbara well into the twentieth century as the site of regular gala celebrations for family weddings, community gatherings, and visiting government emissaries. When the first modern Old Spanish Fiesta was held in 1924, parties and teas in honor of members of the early families were held at Casa de la Guerra. Following the devastating June 29, 1925, earthquake in Santa Barbara, the Casa and neighboring El Paseo served as models for rebuilding parts of downtown Santa Barbara. Starting in 1990, the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation began conducting research to determine the structural history of the Casa, with particular emphasis on its original configuration during the time José de la Guerra and his family resided there, a thirty-year period between 1828 and 1858. Today the restored home is a museum featuring original furnishings, a history of the De la Guerra family, and rotating exhibits.

ABOUT Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP)— Since 1963 the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation has worked to protect, preserve, restore, reconstruct, and interpret historic sites in Santa Barbara County. SBTHP operates El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park under a unique agreement with California State Parks and recently purchased the building that housed Jimmy's Oriental Gardens restaurant, providing an opportunity to interpret the history of Santa Barbara's Asian American community. SBTHP owns, has restored and operates as an historic house museum Casa de la Guerra, the 1820s home of Presidio Comandante José de la Guerra and his family. In 2008, SBTHP signed an agreement with State Parks to operate and develop the Santa Inés Mission Mills, located near the town of Solvang, as a future California State Park. Learn more about SBTHP by visiting www.sbthp.org.

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