



SANTA BARBARA TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Post Office Box 388
Santa Barbara, CA 93102-0388
(805) 965-0093 (805) 966-9719 FAX (805) 568-1999

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

NEWS RELEASE

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PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

Press Contact:

Jared Brach
Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation
Phone: 805.966.1279
Fax: 805.966.9888
Email: jared@sbthp.org
Website: www.sbthp.org

'CASA CANTINA' RETURNS TO CASA DE LA GUERRA AS PART OF ANNUAL FIESTA CELEBRATION

Fiesta fundraiser features live music by *Spencer the Gardener*, *Vientos del Sur*, and
Somos Son



(SANTA BARBARA, CA) – Celebrate Fiesta where it all began as the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation presents the 6th annual Casa Cantina in the Courtyard of the historic Casa de la Guerra. Part of the annual Old Spanish Days Fiesta celebration, from **Wednesday, August 1 to Saturday, August 4** locals and visitors alike are invited to relax, sip a cold drink, and celebrate at the home of Fiesta, the Casa de la Guerra.

Featuring beer, margaritas, and wine, Casa Cantina is situated across the street from De la Guerra Plaza in the heart of downtown's Fiesta activities. This year's **entertainment includes *Spencer the Gardener* (Wed, Aug 1 at 9pm), *Vientos del Sur* (Thurs, Aug 2 at 9pm), and *Somos Son* (Fri, Aug 3 & Sat, Aug 4 at 9pm).** \$3 admission includes one FREE drink before 6pm. After 6pm admission is \$5 and does not include a drink. 21 years of age and over after 6pm. All proceeds benefit the continuing restoration of Casa de la Guerra and El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park, birthplace of Santa Barbara.

Sponsored in part by Pacific Beverage, KTYD 99.9, Slushers of Santa Barbara, Firestone Walker Brewing Co., Jordano's, Santa Barbara Olive Company, and Plaza Liquor.

Event: Casa Cantina

Date: Wednesday, August 1st to Saturday, August 4th

Time: August 1 & 2, Noon to Midnight
August 3 & 4, Noon to 1am

Location: Casa de la Guerra, 15 E. De la Guerra Street, Santa Barbara, CA

Admission: \$3 before 6pm includes 1 FREE drink
\$5 after 6pm (No Drink)
FREE for Trust Members

Drinks: \$5



ABOUT the Casa de la Guerra – One of the most important remnants of Santa Barbara's Spanish-Mexican heritage, along with the Presidio and the Mission. 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 and

government emissaries visits. **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 El Paseo served as models for rebuilding parts of the downtown. Beginning 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. As information is compiled and verified, the Trust is returning the Casa to its appearance during the time José de la Guerra resided there, a thirty-year period between 1828 and 1858.

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 protect, 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 will be unveiled to the public at the Trust's annual "Tapas, Vino y Arte" celebration on Saturday, September 29, 2007. **For more information visit www.sbthp.org**

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