



Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

El Presidio de Santa Bárbara SHP • Casa de la Guerra
Santa Inés Mission Mills • Jimmy's Oriental Gardens

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, October 2, 2014

Additional photos available on request

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Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation presents the Fifth Annual Asian American Neighborhood Festival

Celebrate Santa Barbara's Asian American Heritage



(SANTA BARBARA, CA) – The Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP) presents the **Asian American Neighborhood Festival**, an outdoor festival celebrating Asian American heritage at El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park Sunday, October 12, 2014 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This free, family-friendly event celebrates the history and culture of the Asian communities that once occupied the area in and around

the Santa Barbara Presidio. The festival will transform the historic Presidio into a tapestry of diverse Asian cultures and communities. Learn about a number of Asian cultures through performances, food, and hands-on activities.

Performances and artistic displays will celebrate the rich and vibrant traditions of our Asian American community. Traditional cultural performances feature dance, drumming, music, and other performing arts.

Performance Highlights



Lion Dance by Camarillo Mi Zong Lo Han Kung Fu and Lion Dance Association

Enjoy a lion dance performance, a form of traditional dance in Chinese culture and other Asian countries, in which performers mimic a lion's movements in a lion costume. The lion dance is usually performed during the Chinese New Year and other Chinese traditional, cultural and religious festivals.



Taiko Drumming performed by Togen Daiko of Oxnard

Togen Daiko, a Buddhist taiko group based out of the Oxnard Buddhist Temple, will be giving a heart-pounding performance of the taiko. This group embodies a "Buddhist Taiko" style.



Japanese Folk Dance, *Tanko Bushi*, directed by Roberta Cook

Learn the steps to a traditional Japanese folk dance, *Tanko Bushi* with community members and friends. Often referred to as the "Coal Miner's Dance," this dance is popular at the Obon festivals held during the summer months. Come join the fun!



Shakuhachi by Bob Sedivy

Listen to the gentle and often haunting sound of ancient Japanese flute played by this local artist. Shaku-hachi literally means, "one shaku eight sun" (almost 55 centimeters), the standard length of this style of flute. It was originally introduced from China into Japan in the 6th century and underwent a resurgence in the early Edo Period. Its soulful sound made it popular in 1980s pop music in the English-speaking world.

Savor the taste of Asian cuisine including sushi from **Studio Nihon**, Indian food by **Nimita's Cuisine**, and others.

Various performers will demonstrate their art throughout the day. Try **origami**, the Japanese art of paper folding, learn about the **ancient art of calligraphy** and **Chinese brush painting**, and see **bonsai**.

On exhibit in the historic Cañedo Adobe at El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park:

Nihonmachi Revisited: Santa Barbara's Japanese American Community in Transition, 1900-1950.

Visit the used book sale and support the Presidio Research Center. Used books for sale include a variety of hardbacks, paperbacks, fiction, and non-fiction; SBTHP is collecting book donations. Books may be dropped off at the Presidio Visitor Center at 123 East Canon Perdido Street.

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CALENDAR LISTING



Asian American Neighborhood Festival

Sunday, October 12, 2014

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park

123 East Canon Perdido Street, Santa Barbara, CA

FREE Admission and Parking

For more information: (805) 965-0093 or visit www.sbthp.org

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ABOUT Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP)— For over fifty years the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP) has worked to *protect, preserve, restore, reconstruct, and interpret historic sites in Santa Barbara County*. Founded in 1963 by Dr. Pearl Chase and other concerned community leaders, SBTHP operates El Presidio de Santa Bárbara State Historic Park—Santa Barbara’s 18th century birthplace—under a unique agreement with California State Parks and purchased the neighboring building that housed Jimmy’s Oriental Gardens, providing an opportunity to interpret the history of Santa Barbara’s Asian American community in the Presidio Neighborhood. SBTHP owns and operates Casa de la Guerra, the 1820s home of Presidio Comandante José de la Guerra and his family—the restored home is now a museum featuring original furnishings and rotating exhibits. SBTHP signed an agreement with State Parks to manage and develop the Santa Inés Mission Mills, located near the town of Solvang, as a future California State Park. In 2011, SBTHP was awarded the Trustees’ Emeritus Award for Excellence in the Stewardship of Historic Sites by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. With the help of continuing education programs and exhibits, SBTHP strives to encourage community involvement and foster an appreciation for Santa Barbara County’s distinct history. **Learn more at www.sbthp.org.**