



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

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Additional photos available on request

PRESS CONTACT

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Celebrate *Día de los Muertos* (Day of the Dead) Craft Day at Casa de la Guerra

13th annual family craft day honors the past through traditional arts and crafts



(Santa Barbara, CA) – Celebrate *Día de los Muertos* (Day of the Dead), with a free craft day and exhibition on **Sunday, October 27 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at Casa de la Guerra in downtown Santa Barbara. **Fun for the whole family—discover the fascinating history of this special holiday while making skeleton masks, decorating sugar skulls, creating tissue paper marigolds, making tin artwork and festive holiday prints.** Enjoy traditional refreshments,

including *pan de los muertos* (bread of the dead) and Mexican hot chocolate.

Día de los Muertos, an annual celebration to honor the spirits of deceased ancestors, is observed primarily in Mexico and other Latin American countries where it is a national holiday. With its mix of pre-Hispanic and Roman Catholic rituals, **Day of the Dead is a wonderful example of the synthesis of cultures that has come to define Latin America, and in part, reflect the history of Santa Barbara.** According to popular belief, on *Día de los Muertos* the spirits of the dead return to commune with the living. Dedicated to

remembering and honoring those that have passed before us, the celebration also focuses on the artistic expression of the living as families leave homemade offerings for these spirits and decorate the graves of departed family members.



CALENDAR LISTING

***Día de los Muertos* Craft Day**

Sunday, October 27, 2013

12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Casa de la Guerra, 15 East De la Guerra Street, Santa Barbara, CA

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



Celebrate *Día de los Muertos*, “Day of the Dead,” with a free family craft workshop at Casa de la Guerra in downtown Santa Barbara. Discover the fascinating history of this special holiday while making skeleton masks, decorating sugar skulls, designing traditional tissue paper marigolds and creating holiday prints and tin art. Traditional *Día de los Muertos* refreshments, including *pan de muerto* and Mexican hot chocolate, served.

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ABOUT Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP)— For 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.