



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: April 22, 2015

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Recreation Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Arts and Crafts Show 50th Anniversary

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receive a presentation from staff regarding the history of the Santa Barbara Arts and Crafts Show and plans to celebrate its 50th Anniversary.

DISCUSSION:

The Santa Barbara Arts and Crafts Show will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary during the month of May 2015. The show was started in 1965 by Robert Eischen, who was inspired by the European sidewalk shows and outdoor art fiestas of Mexico City. Originally called "The Domingo Art Show", a small group of approximately 12 artists gathered on Sundays in De la Guerra Plaza and displayed their art, free to residents to browse and watch the artists create their work. The group soon outgrew De la Guerra Plaza, and with sponsorship by the City's Parks and Recreation Department, changed their name to "The Sabado and Domingo Art Show" and moved to Cabrillo Boulevard.

In 1971, the show invited local crafts people to join, and in 1972, the name was changed to the "Santa Barbara Arts and Crafts Show". Today, there are 180 members ranging from hobbyists seeking a way to make pocket money, to serious artists whose work is displayed in galleries. The show continues to attract thousands of visitors to the community and provides an inexpensive and creative outlet for our local artisans. Whatever the size, subject, media and price, all works are original art, created by the artists you meet. The show's beautiful beachfront location at Chase Palm Park provides an informal atmosphere that encourages visitors to talk with the show members about their art or craft.

During the month of May, the show will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary. Activities planned to commemorate this milestone anniversary include:

- Art Exhibit at the Cabrillo Pavilion Arts Center, April 29th through May 25th, 2015
- Art Exhibit Reception, Friday, May 8th from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- Anniversary Show, Sunday, May 17th - all day
 - Show members will be demonstrating their work along the show line

- Free concert held on Chase Palm Park soccer field, adjacent to show
- Food trucks to provide food and beverages to visitors.

Press releases, flyers, posts to social media and advertisements will inform residents and visitors of the 50th Anniversary events. Additional information on the anniversary events, as well as, a directory of all show members can be explored at the Arts and Crafts Show's new website at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/sbaacs or www.sbaacs.com

The Santa Barbara Arts and Crafts Show has become a piece of living history celebrating the artistic and creative talents in our community. It is believed to be the longest running continuous, year-round, non-juried art festival in the country. The Parks and Recreation Department is looking forward to the upcoming anniversary and moving into the next 50 years of showcasing local artisans.

PREPARED BY: Jason Bryan, Senior Recreation Supervisor

SUBMITTED BY: Judith McCaffrey, Recreation Programs Manager

APPROVED BY: Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director