



FEBRUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta

Sister City Committee



Published January 23, 2025

Santa Barbara, California



General Meeting February 5, 2025

6 – 8 p.m.

Cesar's Place 712 Milpas St.
(indoor seating)

Menu: Sea Bass filet or
Carne a la Mexicana or
Pollo a la Plancha

Bring your own bottle of wine!!
(\$5.00 corking fee)

Cost is \$35.00 / \$40.00 non
member

Speaker is Jacqueline Duran of
Duran Financial Management
“Living Trusts, Wills how to
minimize taxes, Question and
answer period

RSVP by Feb. 1, 2025:

Sbppsistercity805@gmail.com

Or leave message at 805-965-1573
with your meal choice.

*If you have to cancel your reservation,
please advise as soon as possible. In
some instances you will be charged for
the cost of the meal if you do not show.*

Time to Renew - Your Membership expires every December 31! The dues are only \$35.00. As a member you receive the monthly Newsletter that keeps you up-to-date on the local happenings and in Puerto Vallarta. You get a \$5.00 discount on your monthly dinner. You have access to trips to Puerto Vallarta at very reasonable rates and information on trips sponsored by our other Santa Barbara Sister Cities.

About our Dinner Meetings: Your RSVP is important Please remember to RSVP in a timely manner for our general meetings. The event committee calculates costs on the total number of RSVP.'s Also included is the cost of any music if needed, cost of venue, etc. If we have a number of rsvp's that are no-shows, we have to pay for the meals anyway. If a member notifies that he/she will not be attending as planned, we sometimes have others on a waiting list and we contact them. If you don't notify us we can't fill your seat. If we can't fill the seat, you will be asked to pay for your meal.

December Posada Dinner Meeting at Moose Hall

Our Posada celebration was a hit and well attended. Our member wore red for the season and over 60 were present. A delicious meal was prepared by Maria, the cook at the Moose, tamales were prepared by Mayo. The meal was excellent!! Music was by DJ Joey Desales and members danced until the end,

Many wonderful items were donated for the silent auction. Thanks to all of our members who made the donations, the Betancourt's, Cheli Hidalgo and Margaret Saavedra to name a few.

Thanks also go to members Maria Sanchez, Maria O. Garcia, Teresa Dorado, Marti Correa and Lynda Gomez Saunders for decorating and serving. Many thanks to Cheli for being in charge of door and receiving dinner payments!!

Many thanks to the "Berryman" for the delicious salad and to "Veronica's Bakery" and "El Tarasco Bakery" for our after dinner Mexican bread.



Board of Directors News

The SB/PV Board of Directors met on Jan. 8, 2025 to finish up business from last year and begin the new year with new board members. An election of officers is always held at this first meeting and the board members selected their new officers for 2025.

Recording Secretary – Zahaida Carrera

Corresponding Secretary – Alma Soto

Treasurer - Gary Maxwell

2nd Vice President – Maria Sanchez

1st Vice Marti Correa de Garcia

The Board has scheduled a Retreat for Sat. Feb. 8, 2025. The board will go over accomplishments from 2024 and set new goals for 2025, among other things.

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Sister Cities International (SCI) and Santa Sister Cities

Presents

Young Artist and Authors Showcase (YAAS)

2025 THEME: Friendship: The Heartbeat of Global Peace

Santa Barbara Sister Cities, in partnership with the Children’s Creative Project (CCP) of Santa Barbara County Education Office, invites students to participate in the 2025 Young Artists and Authors Showcase. This annual competition is part of Sister Cities International’s youth programming and gives students, ages 12-18, the opportunity to express their ideas of global citizenship and universal issues. For the 2025 showcase, students are invited to share their perspective on the theme “**Friendship: The Heartbeat of Global Peace,**” highlighting the power of friendship to foster understanding, collaboration and peace among nations. Each year all of Santa Barbara’s Sister Cities sponsor this opportunity for students 12 – 18 years old.

Cash Prizes will be awarded in three different categories. Winners will be selected by a panel of judges with expertise in their fields. Student winners will be announced at an award ceremony at the Santa Barbara County Education Office. More Information on following flyer.

2004 Winners Climatescape -Cities of the Future

Cityscape of Climate Champions

*“ In the face of adversity, we stand tall,
Building walls, that will not fail,
Innovating, adapting and transforming.
Climate escape is our goal,
In resilient cities, we enroll,
In the fight against climate change.
For a better world, we arrange”*

*Juliana Rose Dinglasan
Sariaya, Phillipines International Winner –*

Santa Clarita Sister Cities

Greenhouse

*“...in that moment, Adam realized that he, too
Was part of this vast interconnected system,
his choices and actions mattered, The world
Was evolving, and so was he. Adam knew
that he couldn’t change the world single-handedly,
But he could change himself – and his
‘complacent’ inaction. Like Adam, many of us
Are waking up to the stark realities of climate
Change and our role in shaping its trajectory.
The old saying about glass houses and stones
Takes on new significance when applied to our
Fragile planet. It’s high time we take action...”*

Christabel Yun, Saugus High School



Photography - Green Spaces
Celeste Jenkins-O'Reilly,
Fort Worth Sister Cities International

These are winners from
last year's Showcase:
Climatescape: Cities of
the Future

Her Cries
By Mary Capadocia ...

*"Mother Nature weeps, her tears unseen.
In polluted waters,
that once ran clean.
Her breath stolen by fumes of our creation,
Yet she offers hope, a chance for salvation.
Envision a city, green and alive,
Where nature and progress harmoniously thrive.
With gardens and progress harmoniously thrive.
With gardens everywhere, and parks all around,

In the end, it is our choice, our fate,
To mend the wounds, before it's too late.
In these cities, with nature as our guide.
A brighter, sustainable future, where all can reside.*

Mary Lyzbette Anne Capadocia
Norfolk Sister City Association Philippines

Classic Medium - City Cooking
Kathleen Yu
Tempe Sister Cities.





Presented by
The Santa
Barbara Sister
Cities Board
and
Children's
Creative Project

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?
Students aged 12 to 18 can submit one entry per category, with a signed guardian entry form required for each submission.

Deadline for submission: Thursday, March 20, 2025

WRITING & POETRY
Students can submit original pieces, including creative writing, essays, anecdotes, poetry, or other written formats. Submissions must be in English and limited to a maximum of 500 words.

HANDCRAFTED 2D ART
This category accepts artwork created using various media, including colored pencils, oil paints, acrylics, watercolors, and mixed media. All submissions must be entirely handcrafted by the student.

DIGITAL ART & PHOTOGRAPHY
Submissions can include digitally created art and photographs. Moving visuals, such as video or animation, are not allowed. Entries must be submitted as high-quality prints with a minimum resolution of 1350 x 1080 pixels.

HOW DO I SUBMIT WORK?
To submit your entry, please give finished artwork/ written work and a completed entry form to a teacher or drop them off at Children's Creative Project located at 3970 La Colina Rd Suite 9, Santa Barbara, CA by 3/ 20/ 2025.

ARE THERE PRIZES?
Winners in each category will receive a check for \$150 for first place, \$100 for second place, and \$75 for third place. Students in Jr High can earn \$75 for winning in their category.

WHAT IS YAAS?
The Young Artists and Authors Showcase (YAAS) is an annual contest that encourages youth worldwide to express the mission of Sister Cities International through original artistic and literacy creations.

HOW WILL IT BE JUDGED?
Entries must focus on the theme "Friendship: The Heartbeat of Global Peace" and will be assessed by a panel of judges based on creativity, composition, and interpretation of the theme.

For questions or more info, contact Kelly Mitchell, kmitchell@sbceo.org or (805) 468-8184

The 2025 YAAS Awards Reception will be held on Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 4:00 PM in the SBCEO Auditorium located at 4400 Cathedral Oaks Rd, Santa Barbara, CA 93110

SB/PV Scholarship Students in Puerto Vallarta

SB/PV Sister City supports two scholarship students. Letters of appreciation, and their photo, receiving the 2024-2025 school year scholarship check in the amount of \$400. Both students appreciate the scholarship that helps them achieve their education goals. Thanks go to a few SB/PV sister city members for their individual scholarship yearly donation that supports these students education goals. Scholarships are administered through the Vallarta Sur Rotary Club in Puerto Vallarta.



Patrocinador: SB/PV Sister PV

Estudiante: Brandon Isaac Ramirez Lopez

Fecha de nacimiento: 17 Noviembre 2006

Nombre de tu papá: Victor Hugo Ramirez Rodriguez

Ocupación: Secorces Turisticos

Nombre de tu mamá: Verónica Magdalena López

Ocupación: Ama de casa

Nombre de tus hermanos: Derrick Ramirez Lopez

Dirección: Calle Cascada #101, Col. Boca de Tomatlan

Teléfono: Celular 322 736 78 98

Correo electrónico: brandon.ropez@alumnos.upv.mx

Nombre de tu escuela: Centro Universitario de la Costa

Año escolar terminado: 2024/25 Calificación: 80.54

Tus actividades después de la escuela: Hacer tareas, leer, dibujar

Carrera que te gustaría estudiar o qué carrera estudias: Arquitectura

Tus planes futuros: Ejercer mi carrera y seguir con una maestría.

CLUB ROTARIO PUERTO VALLARTA SUR

LA MAGIA DE ROTARY

Rotary

Olas Altas 425 Col Emiliano Zapata CP 48380
Puerto Vallarta Jalisco, México

Patrocinador: Santa Barbara Sister PV

Estudiante: Julieta Castañón Maldonado

Apoyo: \$ 400 dólares.

Puerto Vallarta Jalisco, México, a 21 de octubre del 2024

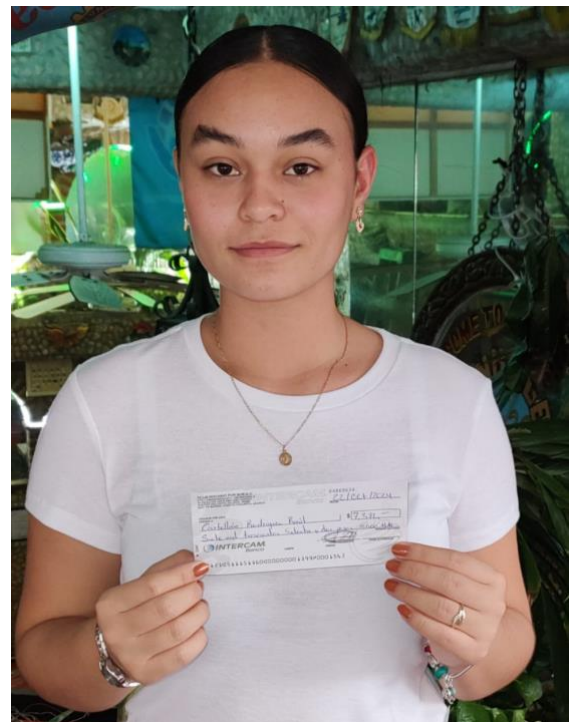
I am extremely grateful for all the support you have been giving me this year. I certainly needed it because as you already know I'm studying to be a flight attendant which isn't a cheap career and also I'm taking personal lessons with a french professor because I love the language and I need to learn it for my future job. So in french I just wanna say thank you all for this opportunity I'll do my best to reach my goals.

Firma:

CLUB ROTARIO PUERTO VALLARTA SUR

LA MAGIA DE ROTARY

Rotary



News from Santa Barbara's Other Sister Cities

Miraflores, Peru: Margarita Zaske, President of Miraflores, Peru group has planned another trip to Peru. Dates are from April 23 – May 7, 2025. This trip is sold out, but this maybe an annual event so you may have a chance next year. Tours of Machu Picchu, Cuzco, Lima, Paracas, the Nazca Lines, are some of the highlights of this trip.

Patras, Greece: Plans in the works for a social for the membership, and also planning a wine tasting fundraiser.

Weihai, China: Feb. 15, 2025 – SB/Weihai will celebrate their 30 year Anniversary and Chinese New Year with a **lunch buffet catered** by “China King Restaurant”. Contact SB-Weihai at email: sbweihai2020@gmail.com. Weihai also has a monthly ‘Dim Sum Brunch’ usually the first Sunday of the month at China Pavillion, rsvp requested to Betsy Green at bjgreen07@gmail.com. In March of 2025 - a train trip to a Chinese Restaurant in Glendale is planned, date TBD.

Toba, Japan: The Toba Sister City Group will have a Shin Nen Kai Celebration for the Year of the Snake. The date is Feb. 23, 2025 at the Unitarian Church, at 1535 Santa Barbara, St. Contact is Rory Moore acquitter@hotmail.com to rsvp for this event.

2025 Members, New and Renewals

Elena Aguilera	Laurie Hidalgo	Mary Lou Ornelas
Sandra Arroyo*	Ma. Elena ‘Nena’ Hidalgo	Gloria L. Ortiz
George and Alma R. Alfaro*	Arcelia Lopez Silva	Elvia Rivero
Rosario Bautista	Bertha & Rafael Luna*	Victor Gaytan Robles
Mignon “Mimi” Bradley	Tomas Maganda Ayala*	Joe Ron and Mary Ruiz
Shirley Cabeen*	Angelica Martel*	Maria Sanchez
Teresa Dorado	Rory Moore	Lynda Gomez Saunders
Herminia Estrada	Toni Navarro	Alicia Sorkin
Mima Garcia	Jan Casserly-Olivas	Lisa Thomas*
Robert Hernandez		

* new members

Board of Directors 2025

Marti Garcia de Correa,
President Danny Contreras- 1st V. Pres
Maria Sanchez – 2nd V.Pres
Gary Petlow, Treasurer
Zahida Carrera- Rec. Scty
Bonnie Carroll
Luz Maria Ortiz
Jacqueline Duran
Margaret Saavedra, Ex Oficio
And Newsletter Editor
Since November 2022
Published once per month
about the 20th



Many thanks to
Takako Wakita
A New lifetime
member

**Best Wishes for your
Good Health and Positive
Outcomes:**
Tony de Paco

Santa Barbara /Puerto Vallarta
Sister City Committee
P.O. Box 3718
Santa Barbara, CA. 93130
February 2025 Newsletter

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