



# 2026 JUNE NEWSLETTER

## Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta Sister City Committee



Published May 25, 2026

Santa Barbara, California



**Sunday June 7, 2026**  
**2:00 – 6:00 pm**  
**Friendship Center**  
**89 Eucalyptus Lane, Santa**  
**Barbara, CA 93108**

**Chicken Mole, Birria de res,**  
**Chiles Rellenos**  
**Meal by Villanueva Catering**  
**\$35/ \$40 non members**  
**RSVP early to:**  
**sbpvsistercity805@gmail.com**



**Puerto Vallarta delegation visits**  
**Santa Barbara – dates: July 2 – 8,**  
**2026**

The planning committee is working very hard to make this year's Visitation a success for visitors and members alike. We are expecting about 20 visiting guests. We are seeking housing for singles or a couple and also transportation to and from events.

If you are interested in helping in any way please feel free to contact Marti Correa, [marti@gilgarcia-aia.com](mailto:marti@gilgarcia-aia.com);  
 Margaret [lk4maggie@gmail.com](mailto:lk4maggie@gmail.com)  
 or at Gil [gil@gilgarcia-aia.com](mailto:gil@gilgarcia-aia.com)



**All photos courtesy**  
**of Tere Jurado**

*@TereJurado805*

## APRIL 30, 2026 RED CROSS HAS RECEIVED BOOTS FOR THEIR 1<sup>ST</sup> RESPONDERS

The boots have been received and the Red Cross will convene a delivery ceremony with PV Sister City and Rotary Representatives. We thank International Fire Training (IFTA) President Bret Russell and Tuxpan, Jalisco Fire Chief Adolfo Ramos for their support. Adolfo found a source for good quality boots, picked up and delivered them to PV Red Cross. Pictured are two very happy young ladies with their new boots!

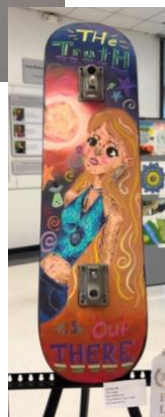


## YOUNG AUTHORS AND ARTISTS SHOWCASE April 9, 2026 Voices of Today, Visions of Tomorrow. – Santa Barbara County Education Auditorium

The Student Artist Reception and Award Presentation was held at the Santa Barbara County Education Office. The Young Authors and Artist Showcase is sponsored by all of Santa Barbara's Sister Cities. It allows young people between the ages of 13 – 18 to submit works of art, poetry or digital entries on a theme chosen by SCI. The reception and theme allows young people to express their creativity and explore how their voices, ideas and dreams can share a brighter future, locally and globally.

Many students were present with family members to receive recognition for their entries and the winners receive a cash award. Again year, we had entries of art works and poetry received from Weihai Experimental High School in Weihai, China. This artwork was submitted by Santa Barbara's Weihai China Sister City Group.

Many, many thanks to Superintendent Dr. Susan Salcido of SBCEO, Yoseline Gonzalez, Kelly Mitchell and the staff at Children's Creative Project, our partners in this event.





Heriberta Caballero, of Puerto Vallarta/ SB Sister Cities coordinated this festival. First Pl winner Rickie Venegas came to SB I Madonnari, Erik Montanez also returned this year from Guanajuato.



## 2026 Puerto Vallarta Visitation

*Tentative activities - More Info to Follow*

*rev. 5/26/26*

July 2 Thursday	6:00 PM Potluck Casa Garcia – Please bring dish for 10 – 12 people Members- Last Name Initial A-G = salad G-K = finger foods. M- Q = main. R- S = desserts	Arrival Time unknown No cost
July 3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday	Welcome Breakfast - Villanueva Catering Home of Jackie Duran  <b>5:00 p.m. Chili Cook Off</b> – Home of Scott Burns Semi – Potluck - Beverages, utensils, paper goods, will be provided	Cost \$15.00  Cost \$15
July 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	Montecito Community Fourth of July Parade and picnic	TBD
July 5 Sunday	Visitation to Port Hueneme by PV committee	
July 6 Monday	Brander Winery, Los Olivos. 10 – 3 or ? pm Includes cost of wine tasting @ \$25 pp and a lunch. 1 Van (15) and carpool- if two vans are needed, cost may increase slightly	Cost \$50.00 (approx.)
July 7 Tuesday	Free morning  5:00 Taco Tuesday – Moose Lodge – tentative	Cost TBD
July 8 Wednesday	Departure Time – unknown	

### Tentative List of visitors



Valeria Zamora Vargas, and  
Francisco Javier Garcia Benitez  
Ma. Elena Sahagún  
Amalia Martinez Oronis  
Veronica Lizzette Torres Alvarez  
Heriberta Caballero  
Elsa Sanchez  
Andres Tamania Ortega  
Jose Luis Arrellano  
Blanca Esther Arrellano  
Juan Carlos Arrellano  
Laurel Carrillo Ventura,  
And Hito Garcia

Ma Mercedes Larios Mendez  
Arturo Ramirez Hernandez (Singer)  
Melissa Ramirez Hernandez  
Miguel Ortega  
Gabriel Romero Lopez

### Actions - Board of Director's Meeting, May13, 2026

1. Budget for Puerto Vallarta Visitation – tabled, discussion to follow at special meeting
2. **Accepted Marisela Katsapis's** resignation from the Board with regret
3. **Approved cost** of \$326.66 for **Square** Point of Service (POS) terminal to track credit cards and cash payments of Sister City events
4. **Approved** \$4,000 for 17 AFFC mothers and young women scholarship for enrolling in courses and purchase of supplies.
5. **Approved** the donation of \$500 raised from opportunity drawing and concert ticket drawing to St. George Community Event Center.
6. Special Guest: Diego Carneiro, Rotary guest of Marti and Gil Garcia, played a short medley for us.

### May Renewing Members

Sylvia Butler  
Jorge Guerrero  
Laurie Hidalgo  
Toni Navarro



Brazilian Diego Carneiro, cellist, known for spreading a message of peace, worldwide through his music. YouTube: Orchestrating Peace

### Coming Events:

#### JUNE 2026

- 6/9 – Sunday SB/PV General Membership Dinner  
Friendship Center, 89 Eucalyptus Lane,  
6/10/26 Board of Director's Meeting  
6/21/26 Father's Day

#### JULY 2026 –

- 7/2 – 8 Visitation from Puerto Vallarta  
July 4<sup>th</sup> – Independence Day  
7/22/26. BOD Meeting  
7/26/26 SB-Miraflores – Peruvian Independence  
Day – Manning Park

#### AUGUST 2026

- 8/5 – 9, 2026 **VIVA LA FIESTA** -  
8/9 /26 Veteran's Fiesta Breakfast 8 – 1 pm  
SB/PV Sister City & Amer. Legion Post 49  
Aug. BOD Meeting TBD

#### SEPTEMBER 2026

- 9/2/26 General Meeting – TBD  
BOD Meeting TBD  
9/8-23/2026 Patras Sister City Trip to Greece

Board of Directors 2026  
Marti Correa de Garcia , Pres.  
Cheli Hidalgo, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pres .  
Gary Petlow, Treasurer  
Sebastian Aldana, Corres. Scty.  
Directors: Danny Contreras,  
Jacqueline Duran, **Alma Vaja** ,  
Martha Chavez, Antonio Rodriguez  
**Carlos Velasco**  
Margaret Saavedra, Recording Scty. ,  
**President Ex Oficio**



Don't forget to renew your membership for 2026  
You can renew at the June Dinner.



Santa Barbara /Puerto Vallarta  
Sister City Committee  
P.O. Box 3718  
Santa Barbara, CA. 93130  
June 2026 Newsletter