

## Wilkie Legacy Honored at Fiesta Finale

For Immediate Release, July 20, 2004:

Contact: Marie Profant, John E. Profant Foundation For The Arts

Phone: (805) 682-8184

The legacy of the Wilkie Fiesta Parties will be remembered as Honorary Chairs Jon and Bonnie Henricks host the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Fiesta Finale at the Courthouse, on August 8<sup>th</sup>.

**5:30 pm - 8pm Gala Dinner Party, Fan Project exhibit,**

**Dancing, special seating and dessert during Performance**

**5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Free Children's Party - crafts and dancing**

**8 pm Free Performance in the Sunken Garden**

This event is produced by the John E. Profant Foundation For The Arts, a non-profit organization assisting artists of all ages in Santa Barbara. Proceeds from the Gala provide scholarships to artists of all ages in art, dance, literature, music, and theater. Decorative fans created by artists are displayed in a silent auction and the Mediterranean buffet dinner party is followed by dancing and then a performance in the Sunken Garden, with MC Erin Graffy. Newly elected County Supervisor Salud Carbajal and City Councilmember Roger Horton will present Michaelangelo Awards. The State Street Ballet, Francisco Martinez Dancetheatre, soprano Kerry Walsh, and Eli Villanueva of LA Opera and will perform, and the painting that comes to life features flamenco dancer Marcellina de Luna. This is an evening of memories:

“It was the best - I got a chance to dance with my father!”

Taylor Eson

“There's no way to describe it - you just have to be there!”

a former El Presidente

The performance “could be taken around the world on tour!”

Adele Wilkie 2002

Barbara Burgess has been selected to co-chair the Fiesta Finale Gala. Ms. Burgess has been very active in the community serving many organizations including the Marymount

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School Board, the St. Vincents School Board, The Art Affiliates of UCSB, National Charity League, Junior League of Santa Barbara, and as Past President of the Lobero Theatre Foundation. She owns an Interior Design company.

Montecito designer Joyce Cooper will co-chair the Fan Project, where fans will be auctioned off beginning with a showing at Saks Fifth Avenue the evening of July 27th, continuing throughout Fiesta. Ms. Cooper is a Certified Interior Designer and has been the head designer for CALM Showcase Houses as well as a featured designer in several. She has also served on the board of the Stanford Alumni Association, as President of the Santa Barbara City Center of the International Interior Design Association.

Barbara Benon, former owner of Benon For Clothes in Montecito, will Chair the Costume Contest, and the El Encanto Hotel is the exclusive sponsor of this contest, offering prizes for both the Contemporary and Traditional categories; an overnight stay for two, dinner for two, and brunch for two - all at the El Encanto Hotel. Joining Barbara in planning the contest are Sue Adams, Vaughn Greditzer, Jerry Jackman, Antoinette Lopez, Christine Palmer, Diana Vandervort, and Maryke White. A February fashion show at Saks Fifth Avenue was the venue that launched this committee.

William S. Campbell will act as Executive Editor advising Nels Henderson as he develops the video tribute to the Wilkie Fiesta legacy. Montecito Antiques proprietor Richard Weiss promises a transformation of the dining hall, using a Wilkie doll collection as well as Spanish shawls from Katalina Textiles. Larry Crandell will MC the gala and present several awards. Marymount, Crane, and Roosevelt School 4<sup>th</sup> graders have created fans for the Junior Fan Project under the direction of artist/teacher Laurie Pincus. Childcare is available during the

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Gala at the concurrent Children's Party, with Co Chairs Scott and Lisa Burns and C.J Ward and Beth Farnsworth. The party featuring crafts, dancing and interviews with the performers.

Dancer Gena Davis - featured on the cover of the 2004 Gala invitation - will demonstrate the Story of the Fan, describing the many messages one can give, depending on how the fan is held or used. Actress Collette McGuire, visiting her mother Haley, will be home from New York to act as the Fiesta Finale Media Liaison, assisting the performers and artists during the busy week of interviews prior to the event. She will also model an exotic necklace which was designed by Heyoka Merrifield for Fiesta Finale and which will be on display at A.H. Gaspar in late July. Heyoka's client list includes Cher, and other celebrities. The necklace and Gala tickets, which build the scholarship fund, can be purchased by calling (805) 682-8184. Patron parking for Fiesta Finale is available at Wells Fargo Bank & Trust, corner of Figuero and Anacapa, and transportation can be provided from Montecito.

### Committee

Board Member Mary Collier welcomes those mentioned above as well as the following committee members who are helping make the event a success.

Jerry Bellamy, Alice Forbes, Patricia Hinds, Anne Luther, Laura McCormick,

Brooke Rye, Gianna Sayre, Terin Smith, and Marilyn Zellet.

### Fan Artists

Cheryl Ambrecht, Janis Blair, Donna Bradley, Amber and Joyce Cooper, Barnaby Conrad,

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Sara Culmore, Steve Cushman, Tina Funcich, Fred Gowland, Vaughn Greditzer, Stan & Betty Hatch, Patricia Hinds, Victoria Hines, Peter & Carole Krohn, Paul Leasure, Anne Luther, Beida Marc, Soosan Marshall, Rosario Molina-Gaudo, Shirley Mueller, Timo Nunez, Nicholas Pearce, Gerin & Galin & Lisa Piltz, Sally Posner, Cathy Quiel, and Thomas Van Stein.

### Sponsors

Woods Claeysens Foundation, Hutton Foundation  
Performing Arts Scholarship Foundation, MidState Bank & Trust,  
Santa Barbara County Arts Commission, Wells Fargo Bank & Trust, AH Gaspar Jewelers,  
Boone Printing, El Encanto Hotel, Saks Fifth Avenue,  
Barbara & Leon Benon, Scott Burns Family, Citrix Online, Joyce Cooper ISID,  
the Dickens Family, the Papayans Family, Laurel & Graham Phillips,  
Studio B, Chris Toomey & Family, the Whites Family

### The History

*Dr. Henry Profant came to Santa Barbara in the early 1920s to help start the "Clinic". He and his wife Mabel, both pianists, were very involved with the Music Academy, CAMA, and Old Spanish Days. Their daughter Dorothy became a concert pianist - who still plays an hour a day, their son Bob was a beloved professor at SB City College, and their son John had a 35 year career at a large corporation. It wasn't until he was in his 40's, that he pursued his talent as a tenor. He had met his wife Lyn at EL Paseo during the elegant Fiesta days of 1950, he at the time was a Jose Manero dancer, she a former ballerina, and teacher at Franklin School. Their home was filled with music and dance, and they helped found a dance company now in it's 20th year. The John E. Profant Foundation For The Arts was formed in his memory with the dream of helping the artists of his native Santa Barbara, and in preserving some elegant traditions. The community is invited to join us in supporting this dream.*