

FRIENDS OF OCEANSIDE PARKS/OCEANSIDE NOCHE MEXICANA 2016

Contact: Esther Sanchez, Chair
Tel: 760-435-3057
Email: esanchez@ci.oceanside.ca.us
Date: September 2, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

12TH ANNUAL OCEANSIDE NOCHE MEXICANA EVENT ON SEPTEMBER 11TH

Largest North San Diego County Event Commemorating Mexican Independence Day

On Sunday, September 11th, the City of Oceanside will be kicking off National Hispanic Heritage Month with its 12th Annual Noche Mexicana. This fun, free, family event, open to the public, will take place at the Oceanside Civic Center Plaza, 300 N. Coast Highway, from 1 pm to 7 pm.

The event will begin with a Color Guard by the Oceanside Fire Department, in honor of September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance, followed by a moment of silence.

Following with a blessing by the Aztec Dancers Calpulli Omeyocan and Father Mike of St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church, the event will include performances by Ballet Folklorico Tapatio de Oceanside, Mariachi Juvenil de Chula Vista and other Latino bands and local singers, including local popular youth singer Arianne & Sisters. The event will close with a representative from the Mexican Consulate, who will present a special re-enactment of the Grito de Dolores ("Cry for Independence").

In addition to the dance and music entertainment, there will be a special presentation by Victor Villaseñor, exhibitions by SoCal Pro Wrestling, Por Siempre Car Club line of classic cars, free activities for the children sponsored by the Oceanside Public Library, and food, artisan, retail and informational booths.

"The first time we celebrated the *fiestas patrias* in Oceanside 12 years ago, it was very emotional," said Oceanside City Council Member Esther Sanchez. "Young and old, our residents feel pride in Mexican history and culture, as do I. This year's celebration will be the greatest."

"My involvement began several years ago," added Luis Ocegüera, an Oceanside resident. "I wanted to give our kids an alternative to the streets, so I started a professional ballet folklorico dance company. We are doing so well, I am happy to announce we are starting a youth mariachi performance class, here in Oceanside."

This community event is made possible by the very generous financial contributions of our sponsors: Tri-City Medical Center, Oceanside Firefighters Association, Maximum Real Estate Services, Mira Costa College Continuing Education, Ocean's Eleven Casino, Oceanside Chamber of Commerce, and the City of Oceanside.

Other generous in-kind contributions by and partnerships with are Friends of Oceanside Parks, Oceanside Public Library, La Perla Tapatia, Hispanic Chamber of eCommerce, Vista Community Clinic, Ballet Folklorico Tapatio de Oceanside, Education Begins in the Home, Por Siempre Car Club, The Movement Brand, and St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church.

About Friends of Oceanside Parks/Oceanside Noche Mexicana Committee: We are a non-profit group of Oceanside officials, residents, businesses and social service organizations, dedicated to the betterment of our city's Latino neighborhoods and families. To learn more, call us at 760-435-3057 or by email, esanchez@ci.oceanside.ca.us. Visit us on Facebook @nochemexicanaoc and Oceanside's Noche Mexicana 2016.

###