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Stephanie Williams

Santa Barbara Beautiful

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Santa Barbara *Beautiful* THE NEW LEAF SPRING 2022

Dear Friends of Santa Barbara Beautiful,

As we move beyond the last two years of a global pandemic, and with renewed hope for brighter days ahead, I am excited to bring you our enhanced Spring Newsletter full of inspiring announcements and photos.

We are pleased to bring updates of our 2021 grant projects and introduce you to an active 2022. In the first few months of this year alone we have engaged in and contributed to several community project grants in two funding areas: Arts & Culture and Horticulture.

This year three elementary schools enthusiastically welcomed us for Arbor Day tree planting. Kindergartners, second graders, and third graders - along with teachers, school administrators and Santa Barbara Beautiful Board members - celebrated the importance of trees. Some students entertained with song and all engaged in Q&A with City Arborist Nathan Slack. The children delighted in the hands-on planting of avocado, lemon, and strawberry trees. This annual ceremony continues our long-standing partnership with local schools to expand the beauty and health of the community's natural environment by planting and nurturing trees.

We are appreciative of the many new members who have joined and are also pleased to introduce our four new Board Directors!



Deborah L. Schwartz,
Santa Barbara Beautiful
President



Jacaranda Tree, one of the two Official City Trees of Santa Barbara

TREE OF THE MONTH

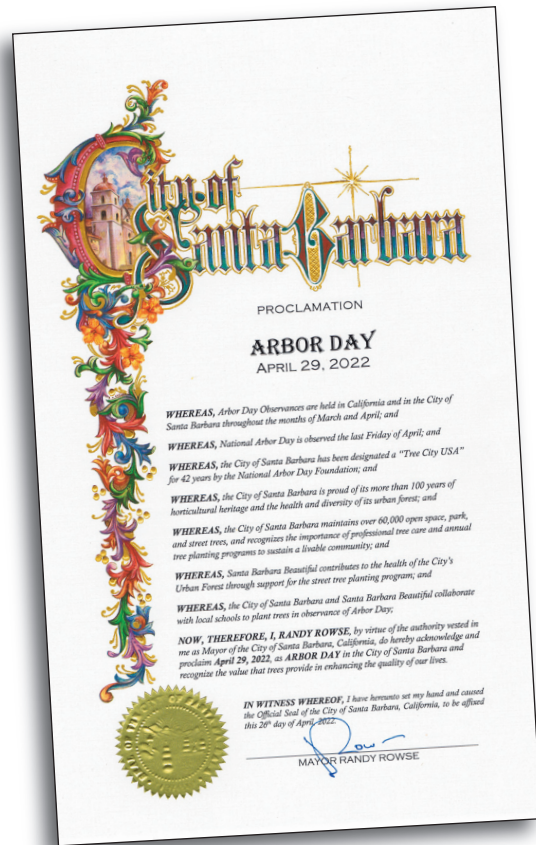
Our ever-popular Tree of the Month column written by Past President and Certified Arborist David Gress is posted on our Website; featured online at Edhat.com and published in *VOICE Magazine*. The Western Redbud, Tree of the Month, received almost 5,100 visits online!

[Learn More About Trees of the Month...](#)

Save The Date For
Santa Barbara Beautiful's
Annual Awards:

**Santa Barbara
Shines!**

September 18th
Music Academy of the West



ARBOR DAY — A CELEBRATION OF TREES

SBB was delighted to once again partner with the City of Santa Barbara Urban Forestry Program and return to local schools for tree planting celebrations in honor of the 150th Anniversary of National Arbor Day.

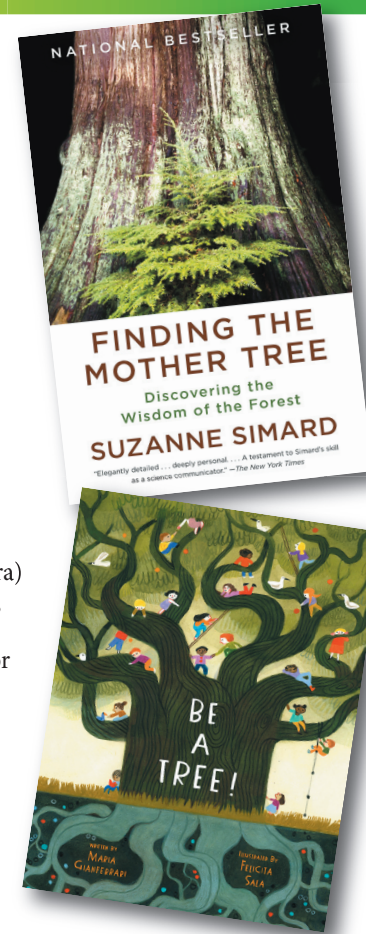
Hands-on tree planting by the children and tree – related book donations to the schools are a vital element of our long-standing commitment to educating our future leaders the benefits of trees.

This year three local schools participated in planting six new trees.

A special Thank You to Adams Elementary School Principal Kelly Fresh; Cold Spring School Superintendent/ Principal Amy Alzina; and Riviera Ridge School (formerly Marymount of Santa Barbara) Jenny Kustura, Lower School Division Coordinator, Second Grade Co-Lead Teacher.

Arbor Day celebrations include an annual Arbor Day Proclamation presented by the Mayor at City Hall in Council Chambers. Our partnership with the city has qualified the City of Santa Barbara as “Tree City USA” every year since 1980.

Tree-related Arbor Day Books were donated to the local schools and public libraries:



Elementary School Book: *Be a Tree!*

Secondary School Book: *Finding the Mother Tree*



Cold Spring School students plant a Lemon Tree for Arbor Day



Riviera Ridge School girls get ready to plant an Avocado tree



Adams Elementary School Principal **Kelly Fresh** brings “Be a Tree!” book to the school library



City Urban Forestry Crew: **Charles Chistman**, City Arborist **Nathan Slack**, **Ruben Flores**, and **Walter Gault**



Adams Elementary School students cheer as they plant a Jacaranda tree

Celebrating the 150th Anniversary of National Arbor Day!



Cold Spring School Superintendent/ Principal **Amy Alzina** and students eagerly await tree planting with SBB President **Deborah L. Schwartz**



SBB Board Members outside City Hall: **Caroline Rutledge**, **David Gress**, **Stephanie Williams**, City Arborist **Nathan Slack**, and **Jacqueline Dyson**



David Gress, Horticulture Committee Chair presents Arbor Day books to **Jessica Cadiente**, SB Public Library Director

SANTA BARBARA BEAUTIFUL FUNDED PROJECTS

Santa Barbara Beautiful is proud of this year’s major funding for these important Arts & Cultural legacy projects

[Learn More About Community Grants & Grant Applications...](#)

SUNFLOWERS ON STATE – PUBLIC ART PROJECT

Sunflowers on State public art project celebrated the Santa Barbara Museum of Art Van Gogh exhibition with visible, larger-than-life sunflower sculptures on State Street. Eight local high school student groups engaged in the painting of the (eight) flowers which were fabricated with steel underpinnings to ensure their durability and safety on the pedestrian thoroughfare. The flower mold was a composite created by Bell Plastics based on the actual sunflowers Van Gogh depicts in his paintings and informed by accompanying line drawings produced by Office of Arts and Culture Exhibition Designer, Artist Tom Pazderka.



Sarah York Rubin announces the official Ribbon Cutting by Mayor **Randy Rowse**, SBMA Executive Director & CEO **Larry Feinberg** and SBB Board President **Deborah L. Schwartz**

PLAZA GRANADA MURAL RIBBON CUTTING (SB Center For The Performing Arts)

The painted mural artwork — by local muralists Tracy Lee Stum and Sayak Mitra — will communicate and promote the performing arts within the ‘character and spirit’ of Santa Barbara through the use of design, color and subject matter for public viewing of all ages.

RESTORING THE BAND SHELL AT PLAZA DEL MAR

Established as a City park in 1899, Plaza del Mar was a favorite location for strolling and outdoor gatherings. The Plaza del Mar Band Shell, a designated City of Santa Barbara landmark, was constructed in 1919 to provide a venue for public concerts. Five thousand people attended the opening concert on May 4, 1919, which featured a 22-piece municipal band.

Renovation of the Band Shell will revitalize Plaza del Mar for music, drama, dance, and celebratory events. As a public park, the City provides low-cost access for non-profit organizations that serve a broad cross-section of the community.



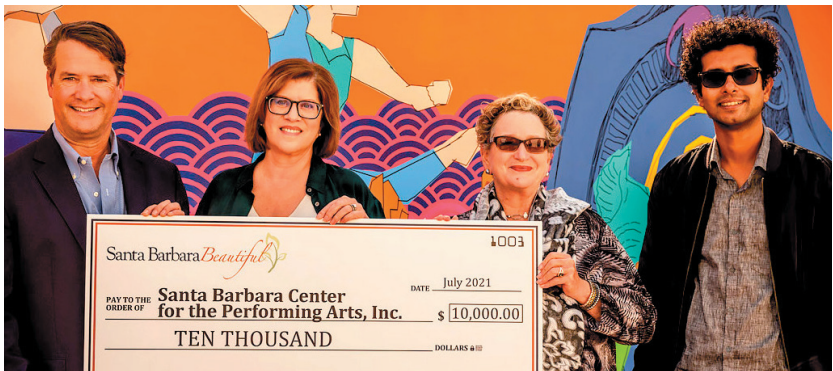
SBB Board President **Deborah L. Schwartz** with SBB Project Liaison **Susan Bradley**



Sunflower sculpture near the Granada Theater



The Band Shell at Plaza del Mar



SBB Board President **Deborah L. Schwartz** presents the Plaza Granada Mural “Big Check” grant of \$10,000 to The Granada team: Executive Chairman **Palmer Jackson, Jr.**, Executive Director **Caren Rager**, with mural artist **Sayek Mitra**

Through Vincent’s Eyes: Van Gogh and His Sources Santa Barbara Museum of Art

Through Vincent’s Eyes: Van Gogh and His Sources was one of the most ambitious exhibitions ever organized by the Santa Barbara Museum of Art.

The museum presented an impressive 20 works by Van Gogh with an additional 75 works of the artists he admired.

Santa Barbara Beautiful was proud to be a sponsor of this once in a lifetime legacy project.



SBB Board Members enjoy Van Gogh’s *White Roses* during a docent tour of the exhibit: **Christine Holland, Ellen Robinson, Leslee Sipress, Caroline Rutledge, Jeffrey Sipress, and Kate Kurlas**



SBMA State Street Entrance welcomes visitors to the Van Gogh Exhibit



SBB Board Members **Suzanne Fairly, Jacqueline Dyson, Penny Haberman**, and Board President **Deborah L. Schwartz** conclude a memorable docent tour of the exhibit

MICHAEL TOWBES LIBRARY PLAZA GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY

The revitalization of Library Plaza (now known as the Michael Towbes Library Plaza) will celebrate the architecture and historical significance of the Library by paying homage to the past and welcoming the future with increased programming space, accessibility upgrades, and drought tolerant landscaping. The Library Plaza will link its neighbors – La Arcada, the Arlington Theatre, the Granada Theatre, the Santa Barbara Museum of Art, and the Courthouse – that form the cultural heart of Santa Barbara.



SBB Project Liaison **Suzanne Fairly** looks forward to completion of the Library Plaza



SBB Project Liaison **Suzanne Fairly**, SBB board member **Caroline Rutledge**, and SB Public Library Foundation Director **Lauren Trujillo**



Photo by Priscilla@SantaBarbaraBeautiful.com

FLAGS ON STATE STREET

Our beautiful SBB Flags once again flew up and down State Street celebrating National Arbor Day on April 29th. The State Street Flags program is sponsored through our partnership with Downtown Santa Barbara.

KEEPING SANTA BARBARA BEAUTIFUL ... *Sponsoring Cultural Arts Events*

SUMMER SOLSTICE PARADE

SBB is proud to sponsor the return of the Summer Solstice Parade and look forward to watching the action going up the new route along Santa Barbara Street.

DOWNTOWN SB 20TH ANNIVERSARY LIVE ART & WINE TOUR

SBB is pleased to support this vital cultural arts fundraising event at the heart of our city.

COMMEMORATIVE TREE PROGRAM

The Commemorative Tree Program has become very much In-demand this year. Our donors appreciate the personal attention given to each heart-felt request. Did you know we have processed 24 new plaque applications since January?



Commemorative Tree Plaque



Photo courtesy Lyn Fairly

SBB Walk of Fame "Director of Distinction" Tree Dedication on Chapala Street included SBB Board President **Deborah L. Schwartz**, **Jeffrey Sipress**, **Jacqueline Dyson**, honoree **Suzanne Fairly**, "Mr. Santa Barbara" **John Palminteri**, **Leslee Sipress**, and **Stephanie Williams**

Commemorative Trees Make Great Gifts!

Honor a special someone or a special occasion with an attractive commemorative plaque that will be installed at the base of an existing street tree – located in the parkway between the sidewalk & the street – within the City of Santa Barbara. Santa Barbara Beautiful has participated in the planting of over 13,000 street trees, so there are plenty of trees from which to choose! Your Application Fee includes a Free 1-Year Membership.

[Click Here for the Online Application](#)



JOIN US!

Become A Member
Give A Donation
Make A Difference

We cherish your Support. Help us continue to keep Santa Barbara beautiful with a New or Renewed Membership! Make a Sustainable Monthly Donation to your favorite beautification effort; Dedicate a Tree or Sponsor a Scholarship. Contact Us. We're here to help You.

[CLICK HERE for Membership Opportunities & Benefits](#)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Barbara Backlund
Megan Borie
Kathryn Burba
Shari Childs
Bob Cunningham
Lucrezia DeLeon
Aldora Eller
Cassandra Ensberg
Lynette Figuera-Spievak
Thomas Foley Jr
Christine Holland
Carol Kallman
Paul & Jacqueline Kurta
New Beginnings
Greg Otero
Erik Perez
Craig Price
Laura Ragan
Joseph Sabatino
Phil & Caitlin Sayegh
Barbara Scollin
Seaside Yoga
Judy Semenza
Sapna Shah
Marcella Simmons
Amy Steinfeld
Jim Turner
Judi Weisbart
Stephanie Williams

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS



Santa Barbara Beautiful is pleased to welcome four newly elected board members: **Marcella Simmons**, SBB Board President **Deborah L. Schwartz**, **Lucrezia R. DeLeon**, and **Stephanie Williams**

MARCELLA SIMMONS is a REALTOR with Village Properties, an interior designer, and artist who grew up in Southern California and attended UCSB, where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Economics. She has lived in Santa Barbara for over 45 years. Her appreciation for Santa Barbara's beauty and culture feeds her desire to give back to the community.

Marcella has been on several non-profit boards, including the Pearl Chase Society and Friendship Center, and volunteers (since 2001) at the Mission Historical Park Rose Garden. Currently she is a director on the Santa Barbara Board of REALTORS.

LUCREZIA R. DELEON has demonstrated her passion for the community with wide ranging engagement from Advocacy for our unhoused population on SB Act's Housing and Shelter Group; to the Women's Political Committee; Democratic Women of Santa Barbara; SB Leadership under former Mayor Hal Conklin, and now Santa Barbara Beautiful.

Lucrezia is a Housing Advocate, an Entrepreneur, and Architectural Designer. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Architecture and Sustainable Built Environment from the University of Arizona. Lucrezia is the mother of three boys who works to keep Santa Barbara Beautiful for generations to come.

STEPHANIE WILLIAMS moved to Santa Barbara from Los Angeles in 2018. Now retired from a career in magazine publishing, she enjoys the splendid surroundings and the cultural activities in Santa Barbara. She enjoys art, architecture, gardens, and beauty in general. Stephanie is delighted to join the board of directors of Santa Barbara Beautiful and to be a part of making a difference in our community.

CHRISTINE HOLLAND has been a resident of Santa Barbara since 1996. She is a former attorney who worked in civil litigation with several Los Angeles firms.

Since stopping lawyer work 20 years ago, Christine has enjoyed pursuing a variety of activities in Santa Barbara. Her chief area of interest has been the visual arts and art history, with a focus on the Museum of Art (SBMA), The Ensemble Theatre, Opera Santa Barbara, and is a supporter of the Music Academy of the West.

In addition to enjoying life with her husband Michael and several wonderful dogs over the years, Christine's interests include participating in several book groups, French conversation groups, painting classes, choir singing, and wine groups.





Photo by Priscilla

Holiday Party Greeters **Rodney Baker**, **Susan Bradley**, and **Robert Ooley, FAIA**

FLASH BACK! ~ 2021 HOLIDAY PARTY “Back Together Again!”

With a brief window of opportunity cracked open for In-Person Gatherings during early December 2021, Santa Barbara Beautiful eagerly returned to the annual Holiday Party tradition with the theme “Back Together Again.” Nearly 100 enthusiastic guests arrived in festive attire and partied out in the open under strict COVID guidelines.

Co-Hosted by Rodney Baker and Robert Ooley, FAIA,; catered refreshments by Lorraine Lim; Wine by Caella Wines; Musical Entertainment by DJ Delusa, and kudos to chief Mixologist Jonah Norton, creator of the holiday party’s signature drink *Crimson Yuletide!*



Photo by Baron Spafford

Musical Entertainment **DJ Delusa** set the right tone



Photo by Baron Spafford

Co-hosts **Rodney Baker** and **Robert Ooley, FAIA**, decked the outdoors with cheerful holiday décor



Photo by Priscilla

Caella Wine Sponsors **Adam** and **Nicole Camardella** with **Cass Ensberg** and **Robert F. Adams**



Photo by Baron Spafford

Leslee Sipress and **Suzanne Fairly**



Photo by Baron Spafford

City Parks & Recreation Director **Jill Zachary**



Photo by Baron Spafford

A good time was had by all!



JoAnn Mermis



Penny Haberman



Henry Brown



Photos by Baron Spafford



Photos by Baron Spafford

Stephanie Poole, **Bruce Hickey**, **Karen Feeney**, and **Tai Yeh**



Ron and **Rosalind Fendon**



Photos by Baron Spafford

SB County Supervisor **Gregg Hart**, and City of SB Architectural Historian **Nicole Hernandez**



Erin Graffy; **Barbara Boyd**; **Robert Ooley, FAIA**; and **Caroline Rutledge**



Photos by Baron Spafford

Bob Cunningham and guest with **Duke McPherson** and **Alea Cunningham**



Photo by Priscilla

Penny Haberman, **Mary Love Thralls**, Councilmember **Eric Friedman**, and **Deborah L. Schwartz**



Photo by Baron Spafford

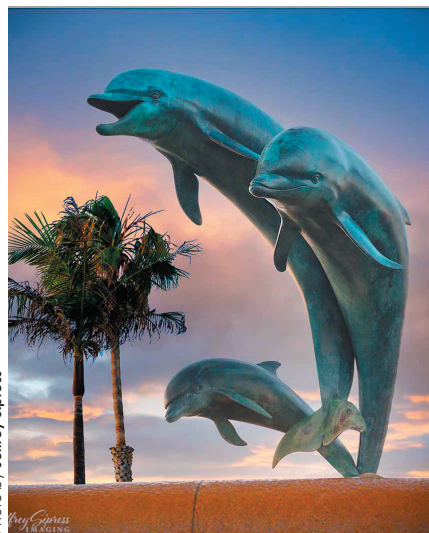
Chief Mixologist **Jonah Norton** serving Caella Wine

2022 SANTA BARBARA BEAUTIFUL BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Left to Right: **Kate Kurlas; Jeffrey Sipress; Susan Bradley; Christine Holland; Penny Haberman; Robert Ooley, FAIA; Kerry Methner; Mark Whitehurst; Deborah L. Schwartz; Ellen Robinson; Caroline Rutledge; David Gress; Leslee Sipress; Jacqueline Dyson; and Nathan Slack.**

Not pictured: Lucrezia DeLeon; Lori Kari; Marcella Simmons; and Stephanie Williams.



I MADONNARI FEATURED ARTIST Dawn Morrison Wagner

This year, SBB welcomes incoming Kai Tepper, Executive Director for Children's Creative Project and honors Founder and former Executive Director Kathy Koury for her legacy of creating the first of its kind I Madonnari Street Painting Festival.

As Festival Sponsors, SBB celebrates this year's talented featured artist Dawn Morrison Wagner.

Morrison Wagner, produced her first street painting back in 1988 during the I Madonnari festival and immediately fell in love with the art form. She is proud to say that she has participated in at least one festival per year, over the last 35 years.

"I felt the SB Mission was the perfect place to showcase a compilation of images that represent art, artists or movements that have had a significant influence on the subject choices I chose during my 35 years of street painting. As a nod to the SB Mission, and the origins of the art form, the general theme for my compilation is the Madonna and to those who painted her



Dawn Morrison Wagner

so beautifully," Morrison shared.

Dawn has enjoyed sharing her love of the medium with other artists through chalk art workshops, organizing children's festivals during her boys' elementary school years, and with the audience that comes to watch her pieces emerge from the pavement. Dawn is dedicating this year's piece in memory of her father, who was always her biggest fan.



Dawn Morrison Wagner's rendering of Madonna compilation to be created with chalk for the 2022 I Madonnari Festival

MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of Santa Barbara Beautiful is to stimulate community interest and action toward the enhancement of Santa Barbara's beauty as a complement to current and future government and private activity.

Santa Barbara Beautiful is an organizations of volunteers dedicated to beautifying our area in a variety of ways not only by working independently but also by cooperating with city departments, neighborhood associations and other agencies. Formed in 1965 by concerned civic leaders, Santa Barbara Beautiful is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation. Contributions are tax-deductible.

A 501(c)(3) Corporation • Tax ID# 23-7055360

For more info visit
ccp.sbceo.org/i-madonnari/welcome