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POPULAR SUMMER SERIES RETURNS TO SANTA CRUZ MISSION ADOBE STATE HISTORIC PARK

*BEGINNING MAY 2, FRIENDS OF SANTA CRUZ STATE PARKS WILL HOST SEVEN
FREE EVENTS INCLUDING FIRST FRIDAYS MUSIC & ART, MOVIE NIGHTS AND
THE 2ND ANNUAL MOLE & MARIACHI FESTIVAL*

APRIL 15, 2014—SANTA CRUZ, CA—Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks today announced the return of its free and family-friendly Summer Series at the Santa Cruz Mission Adobe State Historic Park in downtown Santa Cruz. The Summer Series includes seven events with a wide spectrum of cultural experiences, fine art and outdoor movies, culminating with the 2nd annual Mole & Mariachi Festival on Sept. 20.

The 2014 Summer Series kicks off May 2 with the first of three First Friday Music & Art events, featuring artist Summer Rhee-Pizano, a Day of the Dead artist who adds local and personal touches to her work, and musician Michelle Kiba, “the Ukulele Lady of Santa Cruz.”

On June 6, Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks and artist Michael Schwab will debut two new Santa Cruz State Parks art prints at the second First Friday Music & Art event. The two new prints will join Schwab’s existing four iconic designs (Natural Bridges, Nisene Marks, Seacliff and Wilder Ranch). The Tailgaters, a Santa Cruz band that utilizes a blend of male and female voices to create intricate, rich harmonies, will perform.

The Summer Series includes three outdoor movies screenings: June 21, Pirates of the Caribbean (costumes encouraged); July 19, Chasing Mavericks; and August 16, Jurassic Park: The Lost World. The Snack Shack will be open, with proceeds to benefit the park.

There also will be a third First Friday Music & Art event Aug. 1, featuring the work of landscape painter Erika Perloff, complimented by tunes from the Mystic Truebadoors, whose complex, melodic and multicultural instruments couple with bilingual vocal tunes.

All First Friday Music & Art events run 5-8 p.m. with music at 6 p.m. For Movies @ the Mission Adobe, doors open at 7 p.m. and films start at sunset.

The hugely popular Mole & Mariachi Festival returns Sept. 20, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free and the park will be full of music, food and children’s activities. Tasting kits will be for sale to allow tasting multiple, mouth-watering private recipes from local chefs.

About Santa Cruz Mission Adobe State Historic Park

The Santa Cruz Mission Adobe State Historic Park is home to the oldest building in Santa Cruz County. Built between 1822 and 1824 by local Ohlonean and Yokuts Indians, the park’s signature adobe is the only remaining structure from Mission Santa Cruz, founded in 1791. One of just four adobe buildings left in Santa Cruz County—and sometimes confused with the nearby replica mission chapel—it is the only building of its kind preserved as a museum in the State of California. The adobe served as housing for Neophyte families who lived and worked at the Mission, which operated until 1834 when it was secularized. After decades of private ownership, the adobe was sold to the State of

California, extensively restored and finally opened in 1991 to the public as the Santa Cruz Mission SHP.

Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks saved Santa Cruz Mission Adobe SHP from closure in 2012. Friends' donor agreement to fund maintenance and operations at the park, as well as continue operation of the Mission ParkStore, also includes a commitment to partner with the community and work with California State Parks to make needed improvements. Key improvements include the opening of new interpretive exhibits, renovated outdoor cooking facilities and new hours of operation to serve local school children. The park is supported by the Mission Adobe Committee, members of which include representatives of Friends, State Parks and dedicated community volunteers.

About Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks

Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks is an entrepreneurial nonprofit sustaining the legacy of our state parks and beaches. Through an innovative partnership with California State Parks, and by leveraging local community support, Friends has provided millions of dollars of funding for educational programs, visitor services and capital projects. Founded in 1976, Friends is passionately dedicated to the preservation of our spectacular natural environment and rich cultural history. Friends supports dozens of state parks and beaches in Santa Cruz and San Mateo counties and operates six ParkStores, offering nature- and history-themed merchandise for sale to benefit local parks and beaches. ParkStore locations include Natural Bridges, New Brighton, Santa Cruz Mission, Seacliff, Wilder Ranch and Online. Learn more at ThatsMyPark.org or via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and Pinterest.

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