

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## **'BOHO CASTRO,' A BOHEMIAN-THEMED PARTY, CELEBRATES THE ARTISTIC ROOTS OF SOUTH COUNTY'S CASTRO ADOBE**

*The ticketed event at Castro Adobe State Historic Park on Saturday, June 10, supports the opening of the park*

**MAY 23, 2017—SANTA CRUZ, CA**—Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks (Friends) today announced it will host Boho Castro, a Bohemian-style fundraising party at Castro Adobe State Historic Park, to celebrate artistic counterculture that thrived at the Castro Adobe in the 1960s, while raising funds to support the full opening of Castro Adobe State Historic Park in the Pajaro Valley.

The special event will be 5-8 p.m. Saturday, June 10, at Castro Adobe State Historic Park, 184 Old Adobe Road. Tickets are \$75 and include food and drinks.

Tickets available on Eventbrite (<https://bohocastro.eventbrite.com>) or by calling 831-429-1840. Advance ticket sales only. Additional donations are gratefully accepted. All donations and ticket sales will be matched 1:1 toward the opening of the park, up to \$317,920 by the James & Carol Toney Fund.

Period dress is encouraged. The Castro Adobe site is fragile. Guests are asked to park offsite at Strawberry Business Center, 125 Hangar Way, Watsonville. Free shuttles will be running throughout the evening. Some parking for mobility-impaired guests is available at the adobe.

### **Step back into the 1960s at the Castro Adobe**

Boho Castro will embrace the period when the Victor and Sidney Jowers owned and cared for the property (1963-68). Attendees will relive the Jowers' good times, when an eclectic ensemble of their artistic friends made the Castro Adobe a Bohemian center of arts and culture.

Boho Castro also will pay tribute to the Jowers' iconic Aptos restaurant, the Sticky Wicket, by featuring foods modeled after the original menu as prepared by Mickey's Catering. Beer by Corralitos Brewing Co., wine from Storrs Winery, and made-to-order tea and espresso will be served.

The Sticky Wicket outdoor concerts evolved into the Cabrillo Music Festival thanks to Lou Harrison, Robert Hughes, the Jowers and others. Boho Castro will highlight this connection with live music at the event. Enjoy Lone Prairie, a vintage Western band, of which former Castro steward Joe Kimbro was a member. Also featured will be harmonica player Brendan Power (Laura Jowers' partner). Brendan Power has recorded with Sting, Kate Bush, James Galway and other luminaries, played in the Riverdance show and performed on the Oscar winning soundtrack for the movie "Atonement." Recorded Lou Harrison music will also be played.

"The Jowers were great stewards of the Castro Adobe. Their years here were marked with art and culture, and they helped to create many of the cultural centers our community continues to

celebrate,” said Bonny Hawley, executive director of Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks. “We are excited to share more of the history of this special adobe, which we are working tirelessly with California State Parks to restore, while raising money to support the new park.”

Friends is leading a multi-year restoration effort to preserve and interpret the Castro Adobe as the region’s next State Historic Park and the first non-beach State Park in south Santa Cruz County. All proceeds from Boho Castro will be dedicated to this effort. D’La Colema Market & Taqueria is a generous sponsor of this event.

Boho Castro is the fourth annual Stewardship Event at Castro Adobe State Historic Park honoring those who had a role in preserving this special piece of Pajaro Valley history.

### **About the Jowers**

The Jowers, Castro Adobe stewards (1963-68), owned and lived in the Castro Adobe during the Bohemian era of the 1960s. The Jowers also were the proprietors of the avante-garde Sticky Wicket restaurant in Aptos, a center for Santa Cruz County’s artistic community. The Jowers were instrumental in establishing the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music and even held early fundraising events for the festival at the Castro Adobe.

Victor and Sidney Jowers led remarkable lives, part of them at the Castro Adobe. Victor – reporter, restaurateur, Londoner – and Sidney – author, costume designer, New Yorker – loved the Old Adobe, as everyone called it in the 1960s. It was Victor’s home when he died at 39; it was the home Sidney left soon after when she moved with her two children to England, there to stay. For them, the Adobe was a celebration of culture, history and family, of the arts and of life. Their children, Laura and Andrew, will be at the event.

### **About Castro Adobe State Historic Park**

Located in Larkin Valley, near Watsonville, the two-story Castro Adobe, built between 1848-49, is one of the finest examples of a rancho hacienda in the Monterey Bay area. The property includes the restored cocina (kitchen) and the Potter-Church Garden, a unique outdoor space originally created by then-owners Elizabeth and David Potter (1968-72) in consultation with noted landscape architect Thomas Church.

Friends is leading a multi-year restoration effort to preserve and interpret the new State Historic Park in partnership with California State Parks. Work is currently being done to complete seismic stabilization, finalize the preservation of the historic adobe and establish a visitor center. It is Santa Cruz County’s second state historic park and the first non-beach state park in the Pajaro Valley. To follow progress on the restoration effort, visit [www.thatsmypark.org/castro-blog](http://www.thatsmypark.org/castro-blog). The Castro Adobe, located at 184 Old Adobe Road, is open on a limited basis for special events, such as Open House Days. Admission is free; donations are gratefully accepted.

### **About Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks**

Established in 1976, 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 provides funding for educational programs, visitor services and capital projects. Friends is passionately dedicated to the preservation of our spectacular natural environment and rich cultural history. Friends also 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](http://ThatsMyPark.org) or via Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube and Pinterest.

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