Nine Days and Counting!  
**Sunday, April 5, 2009**

**16th De Colores Art Show & Festival**

For some reason, we are getting non-deliverable notices to addresses we know are current. Please help us out and forward this e-newsletter to those you know are interested in Latino cultural events and are especially looking forward to the De Colores Art Show. ¡Gracias!

**SNEAK PREVIEW #1:** **De Colores Art Show & Festival ~ First Friday Gallery Walk in Ventura @ Artists Union Gallery,** Ventura

Xavier will be playing the harp (to be joined by other local musicians) at the Artists Union Gallery for Ventura's monthly First Friday Gallery Walk art event on **April 3 from 5 to 8 pm.** You will have your first opportunity for a sneak preview of the great art on exhibit for the 16th De Colores Art Show. The 16th art show will have on exhibit over 30 Latino artists or artists with an affinity for Latino Art. For more detailed information, please visit [www.venturaartistsunion.org](http://www.venturaartistsunion.org) or call (805) 805-643-3012.

**SNEAK PREVIEW #2:**

A special artists’ reception is being organized by the Gallery on **Saturday March 28, 6pm to 9pm.** Xavier will be playing the harp at this special event. Those attending will get a second preview of the art on exhibit before the festival on April 5. Admission is free, there is nominal parking fee. Refreshments will be served. For more detailed information, please visit [www.venturaartistsunion.org](http://www.venturaartistsunion.org) or call (805) 805-643-3012.

In previous e-newsletters, we have featured Carmencristina Moreno; **Conjunto Hueyapan** and **MEXIKA: Ancient Sounds of Mexico.** *(Click on the links to read those particular e-newsletters.)* In this one, we bring you Ballet Folklorico Mestizo de Oxnard College and Conjunti Xi.

**De Colores Art Show & Festival Featuring:**

**Ballet Folklorico Mestizo de Oxnard College**

Performing from 4:00 to 6:00 pm *(with Conjunto Hueyapan and Mariachi Aguilas de Mexico)*

The Ballet Folklorico Mestizo de Oxnard College is an organization originally established by Oxnard College students and faculty interested in promoting Mexican culture through music and dance. In representing Oxnard College, the students offer programs that demonstrate discipline
combined with a love of performing before appreciative audiences. The Ballet Mestizo has performed for non-profit organizations and schools as a way of celebrating the artistic and cultural traditions of Mexico while also educating audiences about the music and traditions that have existed for generations. At California Lutheran University, the Ballet Mestizo has performed for the Festival de Encuentros, a Latino cultural festival. Other performances include the City of Oxnard Earth Day Celebrations, the Mariachi Festival in Oxnard, and yearly performances at the Ojai Valley Fiestas in September. Ballet Mestizo director/choreographer and Oxnard College faculty member, Mati Sánchez says that the troupe's purpose and goal is that of being ambassadors of culture and education. The performers take pride in educating as well as entertaining their audiences while keeping the culture and traditions of Mexico alive.

To read more about Ballet Folklorico Mestizo de Oxnard College, please log on to their webpage on the De Colores Art Show website, [www.decoloresartshow.com/performers/folkloricomestizo.html](http://www.decoloresartshow.com/performers/folkloricomestizo.html).

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**De Colores Art Show & Festival Featuring: Conjunto Xi**

Performing at 3:15 pm

**Conjunto Xi** (pronounced "si") derives its name from *Xoloitzcuintli* that comes from the *Nahuatl* (language of the Aztecs) word meaning-dancing dog. In Mexico, children are affectionately called *itzcuintlis* little dog. When the group was first organized, two members were still children, hence the name.

A proponent of Mexican ensemble music, **Conjunto Xi** specializes in music from the state of Veracruz, Mexico. The ensemble performs *huasteco* from northern Veracruz and *jarocho* music from the southern part of the state. Richard Coria founded the *conjunto* 10 years ago in an attempt to introduce Mexican conjunto music to young people of California. The group has performed throughout Los Angeles in many educational settings, they have performed in the Rose Parade, the Placita Olvera, Los Angeles County Fair, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, the *Encuentro de Jaraneros*; and previously at the De Colores Art Show and Festival.

For more information about **Conjunto Xi** please log-on to their website at [www.conjuntoxi.com](http://www.conjuntoxi.com).

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**Festival Program:**

<p>| 11:30am to 12noon | Aztec Blessing ~ <a href="http://www.decoloresartshow.com/performers/danzamexicacuauhtemoc.html">Danza Mexica Cuauhtemoc</a> |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12noon to 12:15pm</td>
<td>Opening Remarks by Emcee Roberto Vargas</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15pm to 1:00pm</td>
<td>Grupo de Colores with special guest, Delia Gonzalez</td>
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<td>1:15 pm to 2:15 pm</td>
<td>Mexika--Ancient Sounds of Mexico, with special guest, poet Luzmaria Espinoza</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30 pm to 3:15 pm</td>
<td>Carmencristina Moreno</td>
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<td>3:15 pm to 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Conjunto Xi</td>
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<td>4:00 pm to 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Conjunto Hueyapan</td>
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<td>Ballet Folklorico Mestizo de Oxnard College</td>
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<td>5:00 pm to 6:00 pm</td>
<td>Mariachi Aguilas de Mexico, with special guest, Daniela Flores Palomino</td>
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<td>Ballet Folklorico Mestizo de Oxnard College</td>
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In our next newsletter, we will highlight other performers. Remember, the De Colores Art Show Festival is on **Sunday, April 5**: the art exhibit will be at the Artists Union Gallery at 330 South California Street; the festival will be on the California Street Plaza and Promenade just outside the Gallery. Additionally, we will have arts & crafts vendors, artists booths, and a special jewelry beading activity for children by Sada Bolaños. Please visit our website to view more information about each performer and a listing of the exhibiting artists.

Please forward this e-newsletter to interested people in your distribution.

This and previous e-newsletters are available on my website: [www.XavierMontes.com/newsletters](http://www.XavierMontes.com/newsletters)

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*Xavier Montes*

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