

# PUERTO RICANS In San Diego



*Bomba and Plena Dancers*

## Based on the 2000 U.S.

Census, there are over 14,937 Puerto Ricans in San Diego County and over 140,570 Puerto Ricans in the State of California. These numbers continue to increase, not only in San Diego, but throughout the United States. The Commonwealth Government of Puerto Rico recognizes that there are now more Puerto Ricans in the U.S. than on the island.

Puerto Ricans whom have migrated to San Diego come from many places: the island of Puerto Rico, the U.S. east coast communities of New York City, Philadelphia, Orlando, etc. as well as members or descendants of the U.S. armed forces.

Puerto Ricans are deeply rooted in their culture and are thrilled to share its culture with everyone. The efforts here in San Diego were formalized through the leadership of Mrs. Casilda Pagan thus founding La Casa de Puerto Rico in 1972. The organization was re-incorporated as the House of Puerto Rico San Diego in 1998 when as a member of the House of Pacific Relations, it was invited to build a cottage in Balboa Park. The Puerto Rican community, its family and friends united through grass-roots efforts to raise the necessary funds and make this project a reality.



*Coqui*



## House of Puerto Rico Cottage Museum In Balboa Park

### Realizing Our Dream...

House of Puerto Rico San Diego celebrated the grand opening of its cottage museum at the world-renown Balboa Park in San Diego, CA, on Saturday, February, 4, 2006. The opening of the cottage museum is the culmination of a 7-year effort and \$230,000 raised with the goal to dedicate a public building in Balboa Park for the purpose of promoting the history, art and culture of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and of Puerto Ricans residing in the United States and abroad.



Come to see the cottage which is open to the public every Sunday from noon to 4pm. The cottage is located at 2172 Pan American Rd East in Balboa Park, San Diego, California. Stay tuned for new exhibits and events.

## House of Puerto Rico San Diego

The House of Puerto Rico San Diego is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit corporation aimed to promote a better understanding amongst people of all nationalities, to promote and cultivate the Puerto Rican culture, and to promote social activities amongst its members.

### HPRSD organizes many events and programs:

- Monthly membership meetings,
- Culture Corner seminar series,
- El Día de Reyes Family Festival,
- Local/regional cultural festivals,
- Annual HPRSD Lawn Program,
- Annual HPRSD Family Picnic, and
- Annual HPRSD Christmas Gala.

HPRSD awards the Casilda Pagan Scholarships for college-bound students. HPRSD's College Student Youth Committee (CSYC) organizes the highly sought Oye Boricua events and the Día de Los Niños Festival. The HPRSD will develop new programs for children's education, a dominos club, and classes in Puerto Rican cooking, crafts, music, and dancing.

Persons and families interested in joining HPRSD can check its website for an application. Be a part of the continued development of our Puerto Rican culture in San Diego—for our community, for our children.



*CSYC with PR Actor Modesto Lacen*