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May 2021

2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR MEDIA

“A NIGHT IN OLD SAN ANTONIO®” (NIOSA®)

EVENTS OPEN TO THE MEDIA AND PUBLIC:

NIOSA MEDAL: Produced in limited quantities and always a hot seller, the 2020 NIOSA medal is on sale for \$12 (**a new medal was not created for 2021**):

- ❖ Now until sold out - NIOSA website at www.niosa.org
- ❖ Now until sold out - During NIOSA in NIOSA souvenir booths, while supplies last

NOW THROUGH FRIDAY, JUNE 25:

- A limited number of tickets for each night of NIOSA will be sold in advance [HERE](#) on the NIOSA website. This will lessen crowds and allow for more distancing.
 - Entrance e-tickets are on sale now, **ONLY** on NIOSA website.
 - After buying tickets online, guest must present e-Ticket ticket code by cell phone (or print-out of ticket code) at the entrance gates, where it will then be scanned.
 - **No paper entrance tickets will be sold at locations around San Antonio, as in past years.**

TUESDAY, JUNE 22 THROUGH FRIDAY, JUNE 25 – NIOSA OCCURS:

5:30 p.m. - Gates open. Gates close and alcohol beverage sales stop nightly at 10 p.m.; food sales and entertainment continue until 10:30 p.m.

MEDIA INVITED (BUT NOT THE PUBLIC):

EVERY THURSDAY FROM NOW THROUGH JUNE 17, 10 a.m. to noon:

Approximately 7 volunteers from the Decorations Committee meet weekly to create flowers and other decorations used at NIOSA. Annually the Decorations Committee creates approximately 14,000 flowers to make over 500 “flower sticks” (16 flowers stapled to 8’ slats), 217 triplets (3 flowers wired together), 830 streamers, and extra flowers to decorate NIOSA wherever needed. The committee meets in the River House, behind Steves Homestead, 509 King William Street. Decorations Committee Chair Gloria de Hoyos is bilingual.

NOTE: The Cascarone Committee that usually meets at this time will not meet in 2021 because they already made enough cascarones for this year’s NIOSA.

SATURDAY JUNE 5, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.:

The NIOSA Packet Pick-up (formerly called the NIOSA Chairman’s Dinner) will be held at the Whitley Center, 285 Oblate Drive, **with a twist**. This year, the 160+ booth and committee chairmen will pick up the important workers passes from 2021 NIOSA chairman Terry Schoenert and her team of vice chairmen, in a drive-by procedure. These booth chairmen oversee the huge army of dedicated volunteers who make NIOSA happen. Great chance to interview NIOSA Chairman Terry Schoenert!

TUESDAY, JUNE 15 THROUGH TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (including weekends):

Staging of NIOSA on the grounds of La Villita (more detailed schedule available upon request)

MONDAY, JUNE 21, 10 a.m.:

Official hanging of the Rain Rock on the porch of NIOSA headquarters on NIOSA grounds, 227 S. Presa St. (corner of Presa and Nueva streets). 2021 NIOSA Chairman Terry Schoenert, the three NIOSA vice chairmen, NIOSA Treasurer and the NIOSA Stagers will continue the decades-long tradition of raising the Rain Rock the Monday before NIOSA opens, to ward off undesirable weather. The NIOSA Rain Rock tradition dates back to the late 1970s when NIOSA volunteer Sue Armitage assured then NIOSA chairman Joanna Parrish, who was fretting about ominous clouds, with the Texas good luck tradition of hanging a rock with a hole in it on a fence to ward off bad weather. That year, Joanna took her advice, and NIOSA was blessed with beautiful weather. NOTE: NIOSA fences will be up so you cannot drive a vehicle onto the grounds.

TUESDAY, JUNE 22 - OPENING DAY OF NIOSA:

9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.: Last minute preparations and staging on grounds of NIOSA

4:30 p.m. – Gates open for volunteers and media with appropriate passes

5:15 p.m. - OPENING CEREMONIES OF NIOSA (on grounds of NIOSA, in front of the Hitching Post on Presa Street, near Villita Street):

- Ribbon-cutting with NIOSA Chairman Terry Schoenert, The Conservation Society of San Antonio President Patti Zaiontz and Bexar County Judge Nelson W. Wolff.
- These three will be joined by Mayor Ron Nirenberg, Rey Feo, King Antonio and Conservation Society/NIOSA leaders for the opening parade, which will be led by Christopher Wallace (the "Huichol Shaman" of NIOSA), the Bexar County Buffalo Soldiers and the Brackenridge High School Drum Line as it parades up Villita Street. NOTE: it will be considerably shorter in 2021 with no stops after taking off and ending near the Little Church of La Villita.

5:30 p.m. – Gates open for general public

TUESDAY, JUNE 22–FRIDAY JUNE 25, 2021 – NIOSA OCCURS:

4:30 p.m. – Gates open for volunteers and media with appropriate passes.

5:30 p.m. – Gates open for general public.

10 p.m. - Gates close and alcohol sales stop at 10 p.m.

10:30 p.m. - Food sales and entertainment continue until 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 2021 - 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and SUNDAY JUNE 27 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.:

Take-down/tear down of NIOSA booths and props

NOTE: More detailed entertainment and staging schedules—as well as photos, recipes, advance interviews—are available from Jeanne Albrecht.

NIOSA media passes and interviews must be coordinated through Jeanne Albrecht at 210-392-9047 or jca@jeannebiz.com. NIOSA does NOT honor Fiesta media passes.

- 30 -



“A Night In Old San Antonio®” (NIOSA®) has earned one of the highest certifications every year since the City of San Antonio began its Green Events Ordinance sustainable policies for medium and large-scale events. In 2011, NIOSA earned the “Platinum Status” in the city’s Fiesta Verde program, the first organization in the city to do so.