



For immediate release

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San Diego Natural History Museum to Host Binational Fiesta *Dos Aguilas* is the Museum's Largest Celebration

San Diego; September 2006—On Saturday, October 14, over 400 friends of the San Diego Natural History Museum and regional community leaders will gather together for the sixth annual *Dos Aguilas/Two Eagles* Binational Fiesta at the Museum. Each year, the Museum is transformed by a special fiesta atmosphere to celebrate our binational region and recognize two honorees who have contributed significantly to cross-border cooperation and environmental understanding. The event is held from 6 PM to midnight.

Dos Aguilas is co-chaired by the unbeatable mother-daughter team, Yolanda Walther-Meade and Yolanda S. Walther-Meade. Says Yolanda S., “This year, *Dos Aguilas* will definitely live up to its feted reputation—we are going to raise the roof, raise awareness of cross-border and environmental issues, and give a big thank you to our honorees.”

This fiesta will honor two individuals who have demonstrated their commitment to binational cooperation: Christy Walton of National City, CA, and Jackson Hole, WY, and Rodolfo Ogarrio of Mexico City, Mexico. Both have been strong supporters in raising funds and consciousness of environmental issues in the binational region of San Diego and Baja California.

This year, guests will enjoy live music and dance performances that will get the blood going; gourmet food and beverage tasting stations provided by outstanding restaurants and caterers from both sides of the border; and a silent auction featuring items literally from A–Z.

This annual fundraiser directly benefits the San Diego Natural History Museum's binational research and education programs while furthering the event's mission to publicly express commitment to binational understanding, education, and partnership within the southern California and Baja California region.

More than \$350,000 has been raised for the Museum via *Dos Aguilas*.

Christy Walton is a past board member of the San Diego Natural History Museum and remains an advocate and friend of the organization. She currently serves on the Binational Advisory Board of the Museum, which supports binational educational and scientific efforts in Mexico and the United States. Walton's passion for the natural world has drawn her to myriad conservation and environmental education initiatives in the Rocky Mountains, Western United States and Baja California. She has also been an advocate of education reform on the national level.

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Rodolfo Ogarrio has been a leading figure in the environmental movement in Mexico, where he has co-founded and directed a number of conservation and education organizations, including Environmental Restoration, Inc., the Mexican Foundation for Environmental Education, the Mexican Center for Philanthropy, and the Environmental Education and Training Institute of North America. He also founded Pro-Mariposa Monarca, A.C., a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the wintering sites of the monarch butterfly, and helped develop a unique ecological residential community on Mexico's southern Pacific coast. He recently led the successful effort to rescue Espiritu Santo island in the Gulf of California for its conservation in perpetuity and played a major role in securing the inscription of the Islands and Protected Areas of the Gulf of California as a World Heritage Site of UNESCO.

Rodolfo Ogarrio earned a law degree from the Escuela Libre de Derecho, a master's degree from Harvard Law School and studied business administration at the Instituto Panamericano de Alta Dirección de Empresas. In addition to his conservation efforts, he is active in a variety of historical, social and community organizations. He was Technical Secretary for the National Water Advisory Council of Mexico from 2000–2003 and the first foreign national to serve on the Board of Directors of the National Wildlife Federation Board from 1999–2005. He is an active member of the Binational Advisory Board of the San Diego Natural History Museum and played an active role in the development of the Museum's internationally acclaimed film, *Ocean Oasis*.

Dos Aguilas sponsors include:

Cuisine sponsors

Cendio Restaurant—La Jolla, CA
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JRDN Restaurant—San Diego, CA
La Diferencia—Tijuana, B.C.
Negai Japanese Fusion—Tijuana, B.C.
The Palm Restaurant—San Diego, CA
The Prado at Balboa Park—San Diego, CA
Romesco Baja Med Bistro—Bonita, CA
Stingaree—San Diego, CA
Terra Restaurant and Catering—San Diego, CA

Beverage sponsors

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Stingaree—San Diego, CA
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Founded in 1874 and actively engaged in biodiversity research and education, the San Diego Natural History Museum has a strong binational mission: *To interpret the natural world through research, education and exhibits; to promote understanding of the evolution and diversity of southern California and the peninsula of Baja California; and to inspire in all a respect for nature and the environment.* Located in Balboa Park, near downtown San Diego, the Museum is open daily from 10 AM to 5 PM; and is closed on Thanksgiving and Christmas. The website is: www.sdnhm.org, the phone number: 619.232.3821. To reserve *Dos Aguilas* tickets, call 619.255.0188.

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