

The New World Baroque Orchestra is committed to both enriching the cultural life of our community as well as seeking opportunities to present our repertoire for the enjoyment and edification of audiences everywhere.

Become a member of the San Luis Obispo Early Music Consortium! Joining the Consortium will help the New World Baroque Orchestra to continue to present and preserve the history of the wonderful music and dance we perform. Your contribution is tax deductible.

Membership Levels

Member

- Individual - \$10.00
- Family - \$25.00

Sponsor - \$100.00

Patron - \$500.00



Name: _____

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We welcome all contributions!
You may send a contribution by mail to:

The San Luis Obispo Early Music Consortium
P.O. Box 2121
Paso Robles, CA 93447-2121

Your support will help keep this musical legacy alive and assure that it lives on for future generations.

Thank You!



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The San Luis Obispo Early Music Consortium's

New World Baroque Orchestra



Celebrating the Music, Song and Dance of the Missions, Presidios and Outposts of Alta California and the Frontier regions of New Spain.

The San Luis Obispo Early Music Consortium has three primary goals...

To research the past:

- To continue to research historic sources, such as the Joseph Maria Garcia Manuscript of 1772*, to discover and preserve the music of the New World.
- To continue the transcription of rare early musical works composed in the New World into modern notation and orchestration for public performance.
- To continue to catalog, research and restore original musical instruments from the California Mission collections and acquire quality reproductions of period instruments to be used in recordings and in public performance.
- To explore and archive the historical legends, musical traditions and dance of our ancestors in the New World.

To inform the present:

- To present historically informed performances of the music and dance of early Alta-California and the Spanish New World.
- To make CD recordings and create a library of educational media resource materials and files to be available for public on-line access and distribution
- To work with Native American groups, such as the Chumash and Salinan Tribes, to heighten the public awareness and respect for their history and traditions and the importance of their contributions to the development of modern California.
- To cooperate with local California Missions and historical societies to preserve the legacy of the few remaining buildings and structures of Alta-California where life took place.

To nurture the future:

- To educate and inspire young classical musicians.
- To provide an opportunity for aspiring musicians of all ages to perform historical music in public with seasoned professional performers.
- To provide an opportunity for members of our youth, whatever their musical abilities, to hear and develop an appreciation for historical classical music and dance traditions so that they may be preserved for future generations.

*Courtesy of the Braun Research Library of the Southwest Museum of the American Indian, The Autry National Center, Los Angeles, California



Alta California was an exotic mix of people of aboriginal American and European extraction. Influenced by North American-European and-Mexican traditions, as well as those of the local Native People, Alta California developed its own distinct culture.

Thankfully during the colonial period of Alta California, a number of observers were present who took the time to document their observations of both the formal religious and public traditions, as well as the life and song of the common folk.

Prior to the advent of universal literacy and modern audio visual communication media such as television and radio, the traditions and history of a people were preserved and transmitted to succeeding generations primarily in the form of song and dance. To sing was not just to entertain, but to teach as well. Within a folk song there maybe be both a lesson in history as well as instruction in civics and morality.

But music was not just the preserve of the common people, it played an important part in both religion and the public affairs. With a distinct style to suit these specific purposes, the music was a universal medium of expression understood by all. When we use these early observations and transcriptions of music and dance to reconstruct the aural traditions of our California forbears, we also reconstruct the essence of the their history, as well as their beliefs, hopes and aspirations.

The San Luis Obispo Early Music Consortium, a 501c.3 not for profit corporation was founded in 1994. The primary objective of the consortium is to promote the public education, research and performance of the Early Music of both the Old and New World.

The San Luis Obispo Early Music Consortium's New World Baroque Orchestra offers lively and entertaining programs of the music, song and dance of the colonial missions, presidios and outposts of Spanish-California and frontier regions of New Spain. Presentations are not just concerts, but LIVING historical re-enactment of the music and festivals of the Early Mission years. Spectators are not only entertained, but are drawn into the festivities and become a part of the festival to experience for themselves that which was so intense and so meaningful to the original colonial inhabitants.

The music performed is carefully transcribed and edited from rare manuscripts and when possible is performed on antique and authentic replicas of original 18th century instruments.

The ensemble features the talents of student and professional musicians, singers and dancers of all ages and cultural backgrounds, representing a number of artistic communities throughout San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties. All are brought together with great love and dedication to this beautiful music and dance of the past, and the history and traditions of our Western Frontier communities.