

For Immediate Release

**Get Ready for a New Year of Festivity: 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Carnaval San Francisco Unveils  
“Honor Indigenous Roots” Theme, Kicks Off with Mardi Gras & More**

*Experience the Fun, Fabulousness, and Multicultural Spirit of Carnaval San Francisco. Join the Free Two-Day Festival **Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>** Starting with Mardi Gras Fat Tuesday in February, followed by the King & Queen Competition in March and Beyond.*

**San Francisco, CA – January 19, 2024** – At the top of the New Year, there’s no better time than to get ready for [Carnaval San Francisco 2024](#), with its theme, “[Honor Indigenous Roots](#).” Join the vibrant celebration of food, music and camaraderie at various locations in the historic Mission District. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> for the kick off of festivities with Mardi Gras/Fat Tuesday, one of three captivating prelude events leading up to Carnaval San Francisco.

**Carnaval’s Mardi Gras Fat Tuesday** is free and will be from 5 pm-10 p.m. at multiple venues in San Francisco Mission District (TBA soon). The public is invited to enjoy live samba drummers, dance performances, and lively music from soca to cumbia and rumba, expressing the artistry of Latin America, the Caribbean and the African Diaspora. Attendees are encouraged to wear costumes, masks & beads and join the celebration of [Carnaval’s Mardi Gras Fat Tuesday](#) in true Carnaval San Francisco style and traditions.

“It’s time to put Carnaval San Francisco on everyone’s radar,” said **Rodrigo Duran**, Executive Director. “It’s the beginning of the New Year and the perfect time to plan to attend all the great prelude events and get ready to be a part of the festival with family and friends from across the Bay Area and visitors from around the world as Carnaval San Francisco honors indigenous roots.”

March 30<sup>th</sup>, the Carnaval festivities continue with the popular crowd-pleaser, the **Carnaval King and Queen Competition** at The Commons from 5pm-7 pm at KQED’s state-of-the-art headquarters, located at 2601 Mariposa Street in San Francisco. The [Carnaval King and Queen](#) event will be live in-person and livestream. The highly competitive colorful dance-off judged by a panel of Bay Area dance community leaders and master artists, is an event that captivates audiences with majestic movements rooted in Latin American and Caribbean traditions. The reigning 2023 Carnaval King and Queen **Ezra Bristow** and **Mayela Carrasco** will be passing the title on to the 2024 winners.

The California Academy of Sciences will host **Carnaval San Francisco Nightlife** on Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from 6pm-10pm. It will be an evening of music, dance, food amid the programs and exhibits of the California Academy of Sciences in Golden Gate Park. [Carnaval San Francisco Nightlife](#) is a premier festive occasion, the last pre-event leading up to the finale of fun.

Over the Memorial Day Weekend, May 25<sup>th</sup> and May 26<sup>th</sup> 11 am -6 pm, is the ultimate signature event that brings nearly half a million people from around the world to San Francisco. Carnaval San Francisco is the largest multicultural celebration on the West Coast. The free, two-day Festival covers 17 blocks in the Mission District, with five music stages, 5 DJ block parties, 400 vendors and 50 local performing artists. The festival on Harrison between 16<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> streets includes international food, dancing, sampling sites and entertainment for families, couples and friends of all ethnic, social and economic backgrounds.

Keep on top of the fun and happenings about Carnaval San Francisco and all the events leading up to the two-day festival including the **Grand Parade** that will be on the second day of the festival, Sunday, May 26th. The cultural heritages of Brazil, Mexico, Panama, Bolivia, Cuba, Peru, Puerto Rico, Nicaragua, Colombia, Trinidad & Tobago, Guatemala, El Salvador, and more will be represented. Who will be this year's Grand Parade Marshal leading sixty contingents with over 3,000 artists?

Amid all the weekend festivities, will be the grand opening and tour of "**Casa de Carnaval San Francisco**" at 683 Florida Street. The media and general public will be invited to tour the new location and see where many year-round services to the public administered by Carnaval San Francisco, can now call home/"Casa." Carnaval San Francisco now has a home to carry out programmatic services and plan for the annual event that goes beyond entertainment and culture by impacting the Bay Area economy as well.

The evolving news of Carnaval San Francisco can be found on the new website. Check out all the great website features: <https://www.facebook.com/reel/746560310333978>. See and experience more at [www.carnavalsanfrancisco.org](http://www.carnavalsanfrancisco.org).

**Note to editors:**

Poster Image: [Honor Indigenous Roots](#)

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**About Carnaval San Francisco**, please visit: <https://carnavalsanfrancisco.org/about/>

**Carnaval Social Media:** [Instagram](#); [Facebook](#); [YouTube Channel](#)

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