

Opera Santa Barbara La Dolce Vita

By **Jeanette Casillas** / CASA

I**NSPIRED BY CLASSIC ITALIAN FILM, *LA DOLCE VITA***, the stage of the Granada Theater was transformed into a cabaret setting for Opera Santa Barbara's fundraising event on May 22nd. The evening honored Roger and Sarah Chrisman for their continued support of the arts.

"The Chrisman's are large contributors and supporters of Opera Santa Barbara and The Granada," shared Sandy Urquhart, Event Chair. "It was only fitting to host the event on the stage where most of Opera Santa Barbara's productions take place."

The main stage was lined with installation art of piazzas and fountains created by Santa Barbara architect Britt Jewett. For dinner, the 160 guests enjoyed an Italian buffet and gelato catered by Via Maestra. The signature martini bar was sponsored by Ventura Limoncello Company and wines were provided by Palmina.

The evening's entertainment included soprano Jessica Medoff and her husband, pianist Michael Bunchman, and local Italian dance band Bella Musica.

"It was a fun night," shared Urquhart. "I loved the way everyone was dressed to adhere to the event's theme."

The event raised \$158,000. The proceeds help fund Opera Santa Barbara's season productions.

For more information visit www.OperasB.com.



Honorees **Sarah Chrisman**, Business Advisory Council and **Roger Chrisman**, Board Member



Duncan Mellichamp, OSB President and **Suzanne Mellichamp**



Bob Urquhart and **Sandy Urquhart**, Event Chair



Diane Sidon and **Fred Sidon**

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Contact her at priscilla@santabarbaraseen.com • (805) 969-3301