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NEWS RELEASE

Música, Motos y Mercado

Local nonprofit hosts celebrity-studded event, an evening of Latin jazz celebrating Cause, Culture and Community initiative

CHULA VISTA, Calif. (July 17, 2023) – Chula Vista-based nonprofit Community Through Hope would like to invite you to join us for an evening that promotes a great cause in National City. At Música, Motos y Mercado, attendees can enjoy incredible Latin jazz featuring Gilbert Castellanos and the new Latin jazz quintet, delicious food and drinks from local vendors, including a pop up mercado presented by MommyCo and complementary sunset on the rooftop deck of Harley-Davidson Coronado Beach.

The July 22 event, which runs from 5 to 9 p.m., will be co-hosted by Regina Yurrita, a broadcast journalist for CBS 8. Born and raised in Los Angeles, Yurrita knew from a young age that she wanted to be involved in storytelling and after attending Cal State Fullerton she developed a passion for TV news. During her college years she was an anchor and producer for the English and Spanish newscast and as a student earned an Emmy for a border project that she also anchored and helped produce.

Yurrita's professional career began with NBC Palm Springs and Univision where she was a bilingual journalist and weekend anchor. The bulk of the stories she reported on dealt with the unincorporated areas of the eastern Coachella Valley, including immigrant farm workers. She was later hired at CBS 8 in San Diego.

During the Música, Motos y Mercado event, National City resident and MasterChef Claudia Sandoval will be honored with the Cause, Culture, Community (3C) award from Community Through Hope for her dedication to local causes. Born of a family from Mazatlán, Sinaloa, her mother and grandmother, who taught her how to cook from a young age. Sandoval was a contestant on Season 6 of MasterChef U.S. with Gordon Ramsey, which she won and was awarded with the MasterChef trophy, the right to publish her own cookbook, and a salary of \$250,000.

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After winning the coveted title of MasterChef, she began the successful culinary consulting and catering company “Claudia's Cocina,” and has worked with significant brands including Coca-Cola, Kellogg's, Nestlé, Disney and T-Mobile. She published her bestselling cookbook "Claudia's Cocina: A Taste of Mexico" and has become a judge on various shows including, Chopped, Chopped Jr., MasterChef Latino on Telemundo, and is currently a judge on MasterChef Latinos on Estrella TV. Most recently, Sandoval released a new food travel show called “Taste of the Border” on Discovery+.

“Chef Claudia is an individual that personifies the 3Cs,” said Community Through Hope CEO Rosy Vasquez. Despite her enormous professional achievements, Chef Claudia isn't receiving this award for her fame in the culinary world. “We're recognizing her because even through her celebrity, she hasn't forgotten where she's from. She keeps her tax dollars here and uplifts up Mexican culture. She represents female empowerment and equity for all.”

Sandoval said that receiving the 3C Award from Community Through Hope is meaningful to her because it signifies that she has achieved what she set out to do as far as giving back to the community. “...The community that gave me the roots to bloom, values that guide my decisions, and pervasive drive to continue inspiring the next generation of thought leaders and game changers,” she said.

As a proud National City native, Sandoval admits that the city doesn't necessarily convey bowties and rainbows to those looking from the outside in. However, she said it's through this kind of “textured” upbringing that she discovered the capability to overcome the hardships she's endured.

After winning MasterChef in 2015, Sandoval made it her mission to give back to the community that raised her—the one that bought tortillas from her as a child when her family couldn't make ends meet and also helped her unsheltered aunt before she passed away.

“It is through this commitment that I have helped raise over \$800,000 for local organizations to nourish, shelter and provide for our own,” Sandoval said. “People from the National City community are much stronger than we seem ... and can change the world if we so choose whether that's on a local level or an international one.”

The cost is \$50 for general admission or \$75 for the VIP lounge, which includes beverages and bites. Harley-Davidson Coronado Beach is located at 3201 Hoover Avenue in National City. Members of the media should reach out to our appointed contact to schedule any interviews ahead of time or for coverage during the event. For more information, visit us [online](#) or call (619) 947-6002.

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