

Dia de Portugal 2009, another proud day



Left: POSSO's Crochet Club, admirers and subscribers of The Portuguese Tribune
 Bottom left: Tribune columnist Filomena Rocha of Tempos d'Outrora
 The music highlights of the Festival: Evelina and Madalena Dias, of the Five Wounds Youth Group (below) and Roberto Lino, Antonio Severino (of Tributo) and Nelson Ponta-Garça (Portuguese Tribune's columnist and 2008 Person of the Year.



Portuguese-American project

Amanda Borges graduates SCU

Amanda Borges graduated from San Jose High Academy in 2005 and from Santa Clara University in 2009 with a major in Studio Art and a minor in Theater Art. She is looking forward to an upcoming job as a scenic artist this summer. She is also working on completing her portfolio to apply to graduate school to attain her Master's in Fine Arts. In addition she hopes to travel to Europe in the next year and finally experience all of the art she studied in her classes.

Amanda was selected as The Portuguese Tribune's 2008 Inspiration of the Year.

Amanda is the daughter of San Jose residents Mary and Rufino Borges, owners of Borges Security Systems.

The Portuguese Tribune congratulates



Amanda on this significant achievement and wishes her continued success.

Jim McGlinchey responds to FLAD and Lusa article published in The Portuguese Tribune in the last edition:

"In the June 15 edition of the Tribuna Portuguesa, a Lusa article entitled "FLAD no longer funds Citizenship," the report stated that the ten years of the Project cost the Foundation between \$10.27 and \$10.95 million dollars. This estimate of the total cost is not correct. The actual cost of the Project from 1999 to 2009 was \$1.2 million – one tenth of the total listed in the article. We have spent an average of \$120,000 per year. The spending includes a salary for the Project Coordinator, travel costs, hiring of college students to process data and prepare for elections, and grants to local communities. While this is not a small amount of money, we took great pride in using these resources to create the Citizenship Project in 25 communities spread over five states ranging from California to Massachusetts. We believe that over its ten year history the Portuguese American Citizenship Project has contributed the growing respect given to the Portuguese American community by local, state and federal leaders. We also believe we have been faithful stewards of the Foundation grants and accomplished the task of promoting citizenship and civic involvement in the most cost effective and efficient manner possible. We have accomplished a great deal but have much more to do. The Luso



American Foundation is not abandoning the Project but on the contrary is looking for partners to help finance the Project's future work. The government of the Azores has indicated that they do not want the Project to end and are willing to support it in the future. It is critical that members of the Portuguese American community partially share this cost. If we meet our fundraising goals by November of this year, we will recruit a new Coordinator and plan new strategies for further outreach to the community. If we do not reach this fundraising goal, the Project's Board of Directors will have to consider a number of alternatives ranging from reducing the service offered to the communities to shutting the Project down completely. For further information on the Project, please go to

www.portugueseamerican.org..