

2010 CONVENTION THEMES AND EVENTS

“Leave Your Heart in San Francisco”

BAY TO BREAKERS

The Bay to Breakers is an annual footrace in San Francisco, dating back to 1906! This race starts at the northeast end of the downtown area and runs west through the city to finish at the breakers at Ocean Beach. It is 7.46 miles (12 Kilometers) long and is run on the third Saturday in May.

Friday night your presence is requested at the first NSD Bay to Breakers footrace. Come dressed in your running clothes or a costume in the theme of your choosing. Nothing is too outlandish, as this event embraces the outward expression of our inner spirit, but we do request that clothing be worn at all times. (Violators will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.)

Be sure to get a prime seat around the course for an event of can't-miss entertainment and surprises that will leave you cheering for more. Prepare to root for your favorite “racers” as the Team Match gets under way. Special mention will be given to the chapter with the most team spirit and at the end of the evening we will cross the finish line knowing that the fun has only begun . . . **On Your Marks! Get Set! Dance!**

SOUTH OF MARKET (SoMa)

SoMa is a neighborhood bound by Market Street, South Van Ness Avenue, and Cesar Chavez Street. This neighborhood is a vast and diverse stretch of warehouses, auto repair shops, nightclubs, residential hotels, art spaces, loft apartments, furniture showrooms, condominiums, and technology companies. It is home to many of San Francisco's museums (which include Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, the Museum of African Diaspora, the Cartoon Art Museum, Children's Zeum, and the Contemporary Jewish Museum).

GGSD has chosen to pay tribute to the Latin influence in our city with our SoMa Salsa Dance, which includes a Salsa Line Dance to teach our guests. Dress colorfully, Latino style, and be ready to dance to great Latin rhythms!

NOB HILL HIGH SOCIETY

Nob Hill is one of San Francisco's signature neighborhoods, renowned for its city landmarks (Pacific Union Club, Grace Cathedral, Masonic Temple, and Huntington Park) and famous 5-star hotels (Fairmont, Intercontinental Mark Hopkins, Stanford, and Huntington to name a few). It is on one of San Francisco's 44 hills and was settled in the 19th century. The neighborhood was completely destroyed in the earthquake and fire of 1906. It was rebuilt, but many of the original mansions were rebuilt elsewhere in the city and new hotels were built over the ruins of the former mansions. Because of its views, central location, and affluence it continues to be of interest to tourists.

Sometimes it is sarcastically referred to as SNOB HILL (“nob” is slang for a “wealthy and distinguished person”). During this high-style event all NSD members will have the opportunity to “strut their stuff” and honor our royal State Queen, Amy.

UNION SQUARE ESCAPADES

Union Square is a 2.6 acre (10,522 m²) plaza bordered by Geary, Powell, Post, and Stockton Streets. It also refers to the central shopping, hotel, and theater districts that surround the plaza for several blocks. The name “Union Square” came from the fact that this area was once used for rallies and support for the Union Army during the Civil War.

Dress as you would for a day of serious shopping in cosmopolitan downtown San Francisco, and share the common mantra “Shop ‘til You Drop!” with dancing, competitions, and local vendors for your entertainment and pleasure.

ALL THAT JAZZ AND ALCATRAZ

The mood is the 1920’s. Imagine Golden Gate’s own Joe Malta as a Real Estate Tycoon who has rented Alcatraz for Sunday evening. This is an incomparable chance to lose yourself in a series of music and dance routines that celebrate “All That Jazz”, and a break from the ordinary, including some historical flashbacks about the notorious Al Capone, Lucky Luciano, John Dillinger, Bugsy Malone, and Elliott Ness (to name a few).

Gentlemen, dress like gangsters or tycoons. Ladies, dress like flappers or in elegant evening wear. Like the days of long ago, this event is sure to be one we all will long remember . . .