

## Community Environmental Council

**Green Gala Gypsy Caravan**

**T**HE HISTORIC SANTA BARBARA ARMORY was transformed into an exotic gypsy village, complete with fortune tellers and tarot card readers, for the Community Environmental Council's (CEC) third annual Green Gala on October 21st.

"It was such a fun event that I am still hearing about it," shared Dave Davis, CEC Executive Director. "It was a smashing success for an organization that is trying to increase their visibility!"



**Dave Davis**, CEC Executive Director and **Lynda Weinman**

Over 335 guests made their way into the encampment with gypsy servers bearing organic wines and decadent specialty drinks. After a locally-sourced dinner from Full of Life Flatbread, a short live auction took place. The featured item was an authentic gypsy caravan valued at \$80,000.

The 10-foot-by-10-foot caravan can be used as a guest house, home office, romantic retreat, or playhouse and was built using reclaimed wood, organic paint, repurposed fabrics, and even a solar panel that provide electricity to power interior and exterior lights and computer energy needs. The gypsy caravan was featured at the event and is currently available for purchase by auction. To place a bid visit [www.charitybuzz.com/categories/65/catalog\\_items/2728110](http://www.charitybuzz.com/categories/65/catalog_items/2728110). Bidding is open until November 30th.

For the third year, Merryl Brown Events created the unforgettable event full of color, movement, and music. The event earned its 'eco-chic' title by focusing on repurposed,



**Mario Borgatello**; SB Mayor **Helene Schneider**; and **Mike Noling**, CEC Board Member



**Jim Forsha** of Imagine Design Studios; artist **Maryvonne LaParriere** and **Jamie Nelson** of Jamie Nelson Construction with gypsy dancer and guitarist. These are some of the artisans that created the unique gypsy caravan.

borrowed, and recycled elements throughout. Tina Schlieske and the Graceland Exiles rocked the house under a fiery gypsy sky.

The evening raised an estimated \$100,000 that will be used to support CEC's mission of moving the Santa Barbara region away from fossil fuels in one generation.

For more information about the CEC, visit [www.cecsb.org](http://www.cecsb.org).

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