



the new children's museum

## news release

**For immediate release**

**media contacts**

Denise Montgomery  
858 373 7066

[pr@thinkplaycreate.org](mailto:pr@thinkplaycreate.org)

Gavon Morris  
619 795 1766

[gmorris@thinkplaycreate.org](mailto:gmorris@thinkplaycreate.org)

### **DANDARA “BRAZILIAN TINA TURNER”, CAPOEIRA ARTISTS & SOCCER PLAYERS AMONG 60+ PERFORMERS TO ENTERTAIN AT THE NEW CHILDREN’S MUSEUM 2011 GALA, AUGUST 27**

*‘Carnaval do Rio’ guests celebrate with purpose – to bring art to all San Diego area children*

August 15, 2011 — San Diego — On Saturday, August 27, 2011 authentic performances of Capoeira, Maculele, Bahiana dance, Bossa Nova and a Samba parade will dazzle attendees at The New Children’s Museum’s fourth annual benefit gala, “[Carnaval do Rio](#).” Guests will be transported to the streets of Rio de Janeiro for the stunning sights, sensuous sounds, and fresh flavors of Brazil. Funds raised will ensure every student has access to the arts, including San Diego’s most underserved kids.

Altogether, over 60 artists and athletes will provide over 80 performances throughout the evening, creating a rich explosion of the senses in the spirit of Brazil.

Brazilian singer [Dandara](#)’s samba stylings (<http://www.myspace.com/brazilianflavorband>) will be a highlight of the evening as she headlines the Club Copacabana dance party beginning at 10pm. Professional soccer players from the [San Diego Boca Futbol Club](#) (<http://sdboca.com/>) will demonstrate their soccer prowess. [Tania Luviano](#) (<http://www.tanialuviano.com/>) will serve as emcee.

#### **About Dandara**

Singer, writer, and filmmaker Dandara was born and raised inside Rio’s Samba cultural world and is now based in San Francisco. Dubbed “the Tina Turner of Brazil”, Dandara has been likened to a provocative, groovy melody. One attendee at a Dandara performance exclaimed, “It was a moment to take pleasure in being alive. Dancing the samba, Dandara sparkled her way into the middle of a circle of 40 dancing people.” Dandara’s singing artistry is an experience not to be missed.

\*\*\*

Proceeds from “Carnaval do Rio” support free visits for every child in a disadvantaged school, free art-making opportunities and take-home projects, and free turn-key projects and materials for every visiting educator.

“The New Children’s Museum nurtures imagination and creativity in the lives of school kids throughout the region, including San Diego’s most in need,” states NCM Executive Director Rachel Teagle. “As arts education disappears from public schools, we need the community’s help to ensure that the museum fills the gap. Every student deserves and needs access to the arts.”

Lisette & Michael Farrell, Event Chairs for the Gala, and Olivia and Peter Farrell, Honorary Chairs, are all committed supporters of arts education and The New Children’s Museum.

“The Farrell Family Foundation sponsors a program where Title 1 school children are provided free admission to experience the museum’s dynamic educational programs and to inspire the next generation of innovative thinkers,” explains Michael Farrell, president of ResMed Americas and co-chair of the 2011 museum gala. “‘Carnaval do Rio’ will allow the museum to enhance its educational programs and positively impact the lives of students across San Diego—let’s spark imagination in every child!”

Event highlights:

### **6PM, Caipirinha Cocktails**

Sample the steps of the sexy samba or pose for the paparazzi. Brazil's signature cocktails and street fare along with music and dance. Fruit and feathers optional! Each guest has a chance to showcase their individuality.

### **7PM, Brazilian Churrascaria with Maracatu Band, Bossa Nova and Capoeira Performances**

A feast for the senses — rodizio style! Under the stars, guests enjoy a selection of succulent meats carved at the table, creating a truly authentic Brazilian dining experience.

### **8:30PM, Live Auction & Paddle Raise**

Give back with flare by bidding on sultry getaways or supporting museum educational programs.

### **9PM, Carnaval Parade and Samba Show**

Dazzling street performances and authentic costumes — a Brazilian spectacular! Guests celebrate the night through a rich explosion of music, dance, and spirit.

### **10PM, Club Copacabana featuring Dandara**

The party continues at Club Copacabana with decadent desserts and dancing. The night's not over until guests show off their sexy dance moves.

"Carnaval do Rio" is made possible by generous support from the Farrell Family Foundation, ResMed, Hughes Marino, and Sycuan. Additional support is provided by Competitor Group, Torrey Pines Bank, US Bank, Cooley LLP and M Squared Consulting. Media sponsors include KPBS, *Giving Back Magazine*, Univision KBNT, Telemundo XHAS, myTV13 XDTV, XEWT Televisa, 102.1 KPRI, 105.7 The Walrus, and *San Diego Magazine*. In-kind support is provided by Eyemotive, Best Beverage Catering, Blue Ice Vodka, Cabana Cachaça, Country Wine & Spirits, Pacific Event Productions, Patron, Sambazon, SmartWater, Sol E Mar, Stone Brewing Co., Vix Swimwear, Waters Fine Catering, and WestAmerica Graphics.

### **Glossary for "Carnaval do Rio"**

**Bossa Nova** — the wedding of jazz and samba personifies smooth elegance. The beauty of Portuguese poetry with compelling guitar rhythms. This musical style is said to have originated in the upscale beach towns of Rio de Janeiro and has a sophistication that is both subtle and significant in its quality. Grounded in samba rhythms, "Bossa" soothes and uplifts the spirits.

**Caipirinha**, pronounced kie - pee - REEN - yuh, is Brazil's national cocktail, made with cachaça, (ka SHAH suh) sugar and lime. Cachaça is Brazil's most common distilled alcoholic beverage, made from the alcohol resulting from the fermentation of sugarcane juice that is afterwards distilled. Refreshing, festive caipirinhas are the perfect cocktail for a summer night.

**Capoeira** is an afro-Brazilian martial art disguised as a dance. It is practiced through Brazil and now has spread worldwide. Capoeira is recognized by quick and complex moves, using mainly power kicks and leg sweeps with breathtaking ground and aerial acrobatics. Special musical instruments and songs combine to make this art form a visually captivating sight.

**Forro** is a very simple couples' dance from the countryside of Brazil that draws everyone into a dancing mood. It is combined with American song favorites played with an accordian, American rhythm section and specific percussion instruments. Also lambaerobica is a uniquely Brazilian follow-along dance style that creates a unique club like experience with everyone involved.

**Maculele**, pronounced mah-koo-leh-LEH, is an Afro Brazilian dance where a number of people gather in

a circle called a “roda”. Each person in the circle brandishes a pair of sticks and begins to dance around hitting the sticks together in rhythmic unison with the drums.

**Samba Pagode** is celebrated year round through out Brazil filled with joyous melodies sung and played on the **cavaquinho**, a four-string guitar. This music is accompanied by percussion that does not overpower the melodies, providing a captivating atmosphere of celebration. “Pagode” originally meant a celebration with lots of food, music, dance and a party.

The Carnaval parade of Rio de Janeiro is a symbol of Brazil and of Carnaval around the world. Throughout Rio, 18 neighborhood groups compete with their themed creations. Samba schools produce new themes each year. Lavish costumes, choreography, floats and a theme song combine with a powerful drum ensemble to produce a celebration of life and freedom.

###

### **ABOUT THE NEW CHILDREN'S MUSEUM**

The New Children’s Museum is a dynamic new model of a museum that provides inventive and engaging art experiences that are meaningful to children and families. NCM brings families together in a rich educational environment that fosters creativity — blending elements of art museum, children’s museum, and community center.

A non-profit institution funded by admissions, memberships, and community support, the Museum stimulates imagination, inquisitiveness and innovative thinking by exhibiting participatory works of art by contemporary artists and providing a venue for art making and play. Serving all ages, from toddler to teen, NCM inspires new ways to see the world through the language of art. To learn more, visit [thinkplaycreate.org/pressroom](http://thinkplaycreate.org/pressroom).