



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA  
CALIFORNIA

**RESOLUTION HONORING TOMÁS A. CASTELO  
FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO  
THE SANTA BARBARA COMMUNITY**

*WHEREAS, Tomás A. Castelo served as the first executive director of the iconic La Casa de la Raza as part of the movement of Latinos to foster pride in their heritage and provide services to the community; and*

*WHEREAS, Tomás purchased the La Casa building from auction at the beginning of the pandemic; and*

*WHEREAS, Tomás moved the building to a new nonprofit called La Casa Founders, and steered it through the process of its designation as a historic landmark; and*

*WHEREAS, Tomás partnered with the Resilience Institute to undertake an extensive rehab of the building, including restoration of the iconic library, teatro, youth center, substance use center, radio station, and kitchen; and*

*WHEREAS, the restoration has also given a breath of fresh air to other parts of the facility, including the offices to the main half floor;*

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors honors Tomás A. Castelo for his outstanding contributions to the Santa Barbara Community.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by this Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 1<sup>ST</sup> day of October 2024 by a unanimous vote of all members present.

Mona Reyes

Rob Williams  
Lark Cooper  
Joan Anton  
Bob Miller  
S. J. Jarama