



Carlos J. Otero receives the 2018 Master's Award for Lifetime Achievement



Carlos J. Otero with wife Victoria

SANTA FE—The Spanish Colonial Arts Society announced today that Carlos J. Otero will receive the Master's Award for Lifetime Achievement at this year's Spanish Market. The Los Lunas native is an accomplished santero who has won four (4) Best of Show awards, along with numerous first-place honors and other awards in Spanish Market. He has been a member of the prestigious Spanish Colonial Arts Society since 1996 and participated in every summer and winter show since then.

A public reception to honor Carlos will be held at the Hotel Santa Fe on Wednesday, June 27, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. A Northern New Mexican cuisine buffet with a cash bar will be provided. Tickets: \$25 for Adults, \$12 for 13 to 7-year-olds, with 6 & under free. To RSVP and purchase tickets, please call 982-2226.

The 67th Spanish Market takes place on Saturday and Sunday, July 28 and 29, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. following the weeklong celebration, ¡Viva la Cultura!, of special events.

Otero is a true traditional artist who grinds his own earth pigments and makes varnish from piñon sap and gesso from gypsum and rabbit-hide glue before carving and painting each piece. A retired Albuquerque Public Schools teacher of Spanish, New Mexico culture, tradition, architecture and industrial technologies, he has continued to make presentations and performances to children and adults on his favorite topics—New Mexico history, art, culture, tradition and genealogy. He is an award-winning poet and composer who has written corridas, entregas (advice for newlyweds), and marchas (traditional wedding marches).

Otero served in Vietnam in 1967–68. Upon returning, he married Vicki Sedillo y Chavez de Otero in 1970. The two are direct descendants of many of the founding families of Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Alameda, Tomé, Los Chaves, and Los Griegos. The couple are part of the music ministry for Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Peralta, where Otero made the 14-b6-14-foot reredos, altar, and angel candles.

The Masters Award is recipient must have participated for more than 20 years in Spanish Market; been a teacher, artist, and promoter of the Spanish New Mexican artistic traditions and culture; raised awareness of the art form on a regional and/or national level; included in private and museum collections; and received awards at Spanish Market and at other fairs/exhibitions.

Past recipients include straw appliqué innovator Mel Rivera (2017), Gustavo Victor Goler (2016), and Lawrence Baca (2015). For a full list of winners, dating back to 1987, [click here](#).

For more information and high-resolution images, contact:
Catherine L. Owens, Spanish Market Director, at the Spanish Colonial Arts Society and Museum of Spanish Colonial Art, market@spanishcolonial.org, 505-982-2226 ext. 123

The Spanish Colonial Arts Society was founded in 1927 to encourage and promote Spanish colonial arts and crafts and to inform and educate the public about traditional art forms, about traditional art forms in both their historic and contemporary contexts. The society plays a major role in developing markets for the artists, increasing public awareness, preserving Spanish colonial art, and emphasizing the importance of continuing community traditions.