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## PORTUGUESE AMERICAN DANCERS OF SAN DIEGO

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### **Mission Statement**

The Portuguese American Dancers strive to preserve our Portuguese heritage through the teaching and performance of folkloric dancing. The dances represent all regions of Portugal, and our group has entertained and educated people around the world.

The Portuguese American Dancers (PAD) is comprised of 28 members; consists of two (2) dance groups – Junior and Adult; that range in age from 8 to 22 years of age. We are very proud of our dancers, their families, and their dedication to the group.

The dancers started rough in 2023. Many did not return after covid, due to school, work etc. So, we had to regroup, which is never an easy task. But determination by Chris Pimentel prevailed. He has recruited 6 more dancers and is off to getting the group back in form. As for the small group, our dilemma was too many boys and not enough girls. Never as long as I can remember the boys outweighing the girls. But finally, by October we equal girls and boys. Sadly 2024 4 of the junior group will be moving on to the big group! We will be meeting at the end of January discussing merging the 2 groups into one. Dancers donated to UPSES Romarias, Luso Halloween Party, Festa Casino

### 2023 Performances

- Bom Jesus Festa, Bom Jesus fundraiser, Luso Halloween Party
- Festa Rosary, Festa Friday & Saturday
- Trinity Sunday Rosary
- Festa da Lapa
- Holiday Dancing – Hosaka Family, Mary Freitas Family, Patterson Family, Xavier Family, Goncalves Family & Neves Family

### Goals:

- Purchasing new costumes
- Trip to Universal Studio
- Working on Hawaii trip

Congratulations to 2023 Festa Presidents Ted & Marisea Drummond the Festa was beautiful!

To 2024 Festa Family, Brennand & Bridget Schoeffel we wish you much success!

Respectfully submitted,

*Therese Garces*

Therese Garces, Director