



# SABS SPANISH ASSOCIATION OF BARBERSHOP SINGERS

## OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE

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### BARBERSHOP HITS TOWN!

San Pedro del Pinatar played host to the Spanish Association of Barbershop Singers (SABS) last weekend, welcoming guests from all over the world and members from around Spain and Portugal. Two major contests were held at the Castelar College for quartets and choruses on Friday and Saturday, culminating in a winners' and guests' show at the Cine Moderno in San Pedro del Pinatar on Sunday night.



'Hanfris' quartet from Barcelona, walked away with a well-deserved gold medal in the quartet contest, followed by 'Melomans', who are new to barbershop, winning silver and Torrevejea quartet 'Fourmidables' taking the bronze.

Two local choruses walked away with medals in the chorus contest: Spangles Ladies' Harmony Chorus from Los Alcázares won Gold, becoming the first Spanish Barbershop Chorus Champions, with men's chorus 'Torrevejea Barbershop Harmonisers' taking the Bronze medal. The silver medal was won by 'Barberidad' who are a newly-formed men's chorus from Madrid. Gail Grainger, Musical Director of both Spangles and TBH is the proud owner of both a gold and a bronze medal and local ladies' quartet 'Fénix', also from Spangles, won the gold medal for the highest scoring ladies' quartet, coming fourth overall.





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“The SABS mission is to encourage more and more people throughout Spain to take part in the wonderful art form of barbershop four part harmony singing, and we are delighted to see so many new and talented young people taking part” said Nico de las Peñas Plana, SABS President. “Although SABS is just three years old, we are proud that already we have been accepted as an affiliate member of the Barbershop Harmony Society in America, the home of barbershop, and we were delighted that their Director of Education, Paul Wietlisbach, was able

to attend our convention this weekend, as well as representatives from the UK barbershop organisations: Ladies’ Association of British Barbershop Singers (LABBS), the British Association of Barbershop Singers (BABS) and the World Harmony Council”.



In addition to their Spanish and Portuguese members, SABS also welcomed champion choruses and quartets from the UK: Crystal Chords ladies’ chorus and Grand Central men’s chorus from Greater Manchester, as well as the current gold medallist men’s quartet ‘Steel’ and ladies gold medal champions ‘Miss-Demeanour’.



“We were honoured to have such an illustrious guest list at our third convention” commented Lyn Baines, SABS Marketing Manager “And all of them are such great ambassadors for barbershop; providing judges, coaches, help and support throughout the weekend, epitomising the true spirit of harmony, not only in singing, but also in friendship”.

SABS members and guests stayed at the Aparthotel Bahía, Hotel Traiña, Lodomar Thalasso and the Castelar College and were ferried around San Pedro del Pinatar by El Tren Habanero. “The hotels and the college have been fantastic” remarked Lyn Baines “And Jeff and Jordi have worked like Trojans all over the weekend to ensure that our guests were in the right place at the right time. Everyone thought the train was a brilliant idea and the locals enjoyed it too”.



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Joining a barbershop chorus is a great way to meet new people and release those healthy endorphins that make you feel happy. If you would like to find a chorus near you, you will find a list of all member choruses on the SABS website: [www.sabs.es](http://www.sabs.es)



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**EDITORS' NOTES:** Photographs attached of chorus and quartet medallists. Please accredit Trevor Maston and Mike Prentice.

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