



EUZKALDUNAK

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OTSAILA

FEBRUARY

Monthly Member Newsletter

FROM THE KITCHEN

The 2025 Valentine's Dinner/Oinkari Bingo is scheduled for [Saturday, February 22](#). The dinner will be prepared by Chef Jesus Alcey and hosted by the Oinkari Alumni and Dancers. The doors will open to the dining room at 6 PM with dinner served buffet-style at 6:30 PM. Prior to entering the dining room, please pick up your reservation ticket as you will need it to pay for dinner. If you did not prepay online, you will be able to pay in cash, check, or credit card at the door.

February Dinner Menu:

Tossed salad with Oñati dressing
Alaskan cod Koshera with clam sauce
Chicken with mushroom sauce
Garlic mashed potatoes
Dessert
Homemade bread and butter
Coffee and wine

To make your dinner reservation, please visit basquecenter.com/monthly-dinner and fill out the reservation form including your name and the names of all those in your party. Only if you are unable to use the online form, please text or call 208-572-0604 with this information.

DINNER HOSTS

Basque Foundation Inc. would like to thank the families and organizations who have acted as hosts for a monthly dinner. We are always in need of additional assistance. Please email vicepresident@basquecenter.com to get involved!

MONTHLY DINNER BABYSITTING RETURNS **FEBRUARY 2025**

Babysitting at monthly dinners was put on pause because of several issues that were consistently occurring. To bring the service back, the Euzkaldunak board is introducing a new system in hopes of resolving the prior issues. Families with children ages 1-10 can add their child to the babysitting list when they make their reservation for the monthly dinner. There will be a **\$10 fee per child** for using this service which will help to cover the cost of food, drink, and child care. If you do not add your child to the list, they will not be allowed to join the fun downstairs as it will lead to unsafe ratios for the babysitter. If your child doesn't need the babysitting service, you are welcome to add them to your normal reservation and have them sit upstairs with you. If you or someone in your family (age 14 or older) is interested in this paid babysitting position during the dinners, please email secretary@basquecenter.com.

OINKARI BINGO NIGHT

Join Oinkariak after the February Valentine's Dinner for our annual Bingo Night fundraiser! All proceeds benefit the Oinkari Basque Dancers in their efforts to continue keeping our culture alive far and wide through the art of traditional Basque dance. All are welcome, so bring your friends and neighbors to a night of family friendly fun!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Basque Foundation Inc. wants to thank the Board members and our NABO representative whose terms expired in January. The efforts of Board Members Jenny Aldape, Mark Bieter, Joe Meuleman, Bernice Madariaga, Ed Orbea and Argia Beristain (NABO Rep), have ensured that our traditions will continue for many generations. At the annual membership meeting on January 25, the Basque Foundation announced the 5 new board members for the years 2025 and 2026. In alphabetical order they are: Mark Bieter, Jessica Bilbao, Amaia Donahue, Bo Norton, Rosa Totorica, and alternate Ed Orbea. At the same meeting the Basque Foundation announced the Euzkaldunak NABO Representative who will occupy a 2-year term is Alex Wray.

For 2025 the Euzkaldunak officers are:
President—Mike Franzoia
Vice President—Ricardo Yanci
Board NABO Delegate—Mark Bieter

The Board of Directors appreciates the continued confidence from the membership at large in their abilities to lead the community and to grow our culture. We look forward to a great 2025 and the joyous return of Jaialdi.

JANUARY DINNER THANK YOU

Thank you to Boiseko Ikastola for hosting the January dinner!

A special Eskerrik Askto to:

Sarah Artis	John Larrea
Julen Conde	Jon Lopez
Amy Cortabitarte	Udane Madariaga
Dani Coyle	Meg Mariani
Eric Everson	Ben Monasterio
Jennifer Everson	Amaya Monasterio
Asier Garcia	Dan Stewart
Alaina Gavica	Jenny Stewart
Sara Harvey	Marie Louise Whittington
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SHEEPHERDERS THANK YOU

January's newsletter was published too soon to thank all the helpers from the Shepherders Ball and Dinner.

A special Eskerrik Askto Juliana Aldape, Cheryl Asin, Sandy Bishop, and Teresa Amillategui Grimm of Aiztan Artean who provided the holiday table decorations for the Shepherders Dinner. And Eskerrik Askto all of our donors at the Shepherders Ball:

Gerri Achurra Family
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2025 NABO MUS (4-KINGS) QUALIFIER TOURNAMENTS

2/8 Boise
2/15 Homedale
3/8 Mountain Home
3/9 Elko
3/15 Gardnerville
4/12 Oinkari (must be/have been an Oinkari)
4/22 Gooding
4/26 Santa Rosa (Paradise Valley, NV)
5/3 Basque Museum

The Euzkaldunak NABO Qualifier is **Saturday, February 8**, in the Basque Center Main Hall. Registration is at 8:30 & games start at 9:30. Breakfast will be available & lunch will be served. Entry fee is \$40/person, including lunch & NABO mus fee (must be a member of Euzkaldunak).

FEBRUARY AT THE BOISE FRONTON

Seasons are about to kick off! Spring Pala leagues will begin the week of February 10. We are happy to announce that we have 6 Men's A, 12 Men's B, and 7 Women's teams this season! League games are once per week (Mondays are Men's A, Wednesdays are Women's League, Thursdays are Men's B) running through May. The season includes a multi-week Spring Tournament, with league tournament finals scheduled for Saturday, May 17. If you are even just a little bit pala-curious, we invite you to contact boisefronton@gmail.com for additional information about signing up for future seasons, or to become more engaged and just play pilota!

MORZILLAK FOR SALE

Come by the Basque Center Bar and pick up a package of this year's morzillak! Morzillak are frozen so you don't have to rush home, you can stay for a drink at the Bar! Price is \$10 for a package of 4 morzillak or \$18 for two packages.




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JOIN US FOR AN INSPIRING LECTURE WITH RENOWNED COMPOSER JOSU ELBERDIN

The Basque Studies Section at Boise State University is delighted to announce the 2025 Eloise Garmendia Bieter Chair lecture. We warmly invite you to join us on **February 12** at 5 PM in the Bishop Barnwell Room of the Student Union Building, for an engaging presentation by the renowned composer Josu Elberdin. This year's Eloise Garmendia Bieter Chair is hosted by the Basque Studies Section in collaboration with the Department of Music and the generous support of Etxepare Basque Institute. Mr. Elberdin will share his insights on "The Transformative Power of Music and Choral Singing in Today's World." This lecture promises to be an enriching experience, highlighting the profound impact music and choral arts have on individuals and communities. This is a free event, and everyone is welcome to attend. Come and enjoy an evening of inspiration and connection through music. We look forward to seeing you there! Anima zaitez!

M. Margaret Lezamiz

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TXANTXANGORRIAK & BOISEKO GAZTEAK **SPRING SHOW - MARCH 9**

Mark your calendars for the Spring Show on [Sunday, March 9](#). Weather permitting, we're going to hold the performance outside on the Basque Block! Dancers & Musicians should arrive in costume at 12:15 PM. Txantxangorriak will start the performance off at 12:30 PM, with the dancers following at 1 PM. Remember, we spring our clocks forward one hour that Sunday morning. Be sure to tell your family and friends! Please bring a can of food for our contribution to a local food bank. Don't forget to dress for the weather!

2025 Calendar:

01/07-03/04 - Practice at 7PM
03/09 - Spring Show at 12:30PM (Basque Block)
07/28 & 29 - Jaialdi 2025 practices at 7PM
08/02 - Jaialdi 2025 performance (Expo Idaho)

OINKARI KEGS 4 A KAUSE

Support your local Basque dancing group in the absolute easiest way possible—come out and have a few beers. How could it be? Join us at Payette Brewing (733 South Pioneer Street) on [Monday, March 24](#), from 6-10 PM for Kegs 4 a Kause. Payette will donate 50% of profits from draft beer sales in the Tap Room that evening to Oinkaris! Please help us spread the word, whether by sharing on social media or calling your friends and family, and we can make our own party. Talk about the most effortless fundraiser ever...we'll see you there!

BASQUE CENTER BLOOD DRIVES

It's not just a sneaking suspicion, Basques have special blood. With some of the highest concentrations of both O and Rh negative types, we have something that sets us apart. We can make a difference in the lives of others by donating our special blood right in the Basque Center Dance Hall. Come down and save a life on [February 3](#), [April 14](#), [June 9](#), [August 11](#), [October 13](#), and [December 8](#) (all Mondays). You can schedule now at redcrossblood.org or in the American Red Cross Blood Donor app with the sponsor code *basque*.



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Mortgage rates are projected to come down slightly

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BasqueStudies.BoiseState.edu



JAIALDI CORNER

Book now: Jaialdi hotels

For out-of-town friends and family, or even those of us in town who would rather make a short walk to a hotel room after evening festivities on the Basque Block, Jaialdi rates at Boise hotels are live! Hotel blocks fill up surprisingly fast, so if you or someone you know needs rooms during the festival, now is the time to book! Visit the [Travel & Lodging](#) page on the Jaialdi website for booking instructions and discount codes.

Tickets on sale February 11

Tickets to Sports Night, Festara, Dantzaldi, and Expo Idaho events go live on Tuesday, February 11! Please check the [Schedule & Tickets](#) section of the website for details.

Tickets will be sold directly through the participating venues (Idaho Central Arena & Expo Idaho) but all ticket purchase links will be listed on the Jaialdi website.

Volunteer signups open March 1

Did you know Jaialdi is staffed entirely by volunteers like you? Jaialdi 2025 volunteer signups will go live on March 1, and we'd love for you to be part of the magic ✨. Expect to see volunteer shifts for food and beverage booths, setup, teardown, and more. All volunteer shifts will be posted on www.jaialdi.com when the shift schedules go live.

Don't forget to follow Jaialdi on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Threads](#) for the latest updates!

BASQUE CHORAL COLLABORATION

With world-renowned composer, teacher, organist, and this year's Eloise Garmendia Bieter Chair Josu Elberdin, Boise State University's Meistersingers, University Singers, Vox Angelis, Vocal Jazz Ensemble, and Biotzetik Basque Choirs will be in concert to sing a variety of choral selections, including a few of Elberdin's well-known pieces as well as a newly commissioned piece for Boise State. The Meistersingers' commission is a set of two of Shakespeare's sonnets newly translated into Basque by Juan Garzia.

Date: February 23, 2025

7-7:15 PM: Pre-Concert Talk

7:30 PM: Spring Choral Collage

Location: First Presbyterian Church
(950 W State St, Boise, ID)

Join us for this rare opportunity of enjoying Basque choral music with these choirs – and hearing new choral music with Basque roots!

ONTARIO DINNER DANCE

The Ontario Basque Club is pleased to announce their Dinner and Dance on [Saturday, February 22](#).

A traditional Basque Dinner will be prepared by guest Chef Jesus Alcelay, Executive Chef at the

Cottonwood Grille, and previously at Oñati Restaurant. Stick around to dance with Triki Taka Stomp!

Doors open 5:30 PM

Silent Auction 5:30-8:30 PM

Dinner 6-7 PM

Triki Taka Stomp 7-8 PM

Lamb Auction 8-9 PM

Triki Taka Stomp 9-10 PM



Join the fun at the Ontario Armory (1330 SW 4th St., Ontario, Oregon)

Get tickets here: bit.ly/ontario2025

BIOTZETIK KANTARI AFARIA - A NIGHT OF BASQUE FOOD AND SONG!

Biotzetik Basque Choir is once again hosting their annual fundraising dinner. They invite you, your friends, and family to join them for a delicious meal, silent and live auction items, entertainment, and a fun sing-along! Join the fun on [Saturday, March 1](#), from 6-9 PM in the Main Hall of the Basque Center. Tickets are available to purchase online at boisebasquechoir.com. Follow the links to see the menu and event details. Tickets are for sale individually at \$65 or \$600 for a table of 10. The choir appreciates your support as they plan for upcoming travel in 2026! Please send any questions to Biotzetik at info@boisebasquechoir.com

OINKARI APPAREL

Did you say Oinkari Merch Sale?! Over the years we've had a lot of demand to have Oinkari merchandise open to the public—and we heard you! We are going to have limited releases of Oinkari logos each season as we ramp up for Jaialdi. Don't miss your chance to get some fresh gear and represent Oinkaris out there! Go to oinkari.org/apparel to shop!

TOLOSARRA SEEKS JOB OPPORTUNITY

Urko Esquiroz Azaldegui (20) from Tolosa, Gipuzkoa has a strong interest in spending the summer of 2025 in Boise to immerse himself in the local Basque community, participate in cultural activities, and improve his English. He would like to volunteer at events like Jaialdi but needs to secure a job in order to obtain a temporary work visa. Urko is open to various types of work, and has experience in different sectors like farming, mechanical maintenance, engineering design, including customer service and sales. If you are able to help him find job opportunities, please contact him via email (urkoesaz@gmail.com) or WhatsApp (+34 644742584). His LinkedIn URL is included for more details about his background: bit.ly/uealinkedin24.

BERMEOTARRA SEEKS HOST FAMILY

Seventeen-year-old Enaitz from Bermeo is seeking a Boise area host family (or families) for the 2025-2026 school year. He has always had an interest in studying abroad, and most especially in Idaho. He states that his great uncle lived and worked in and around Boise as a shepherd, arriving in 1910. Having heard his many stories, Enaitz is interested in having an American experience himself. He says that he has decent English skills, but he would love to improve them. He stays active by surfing and hiking, and he loves meeting new people and spending time outdoors. Most of all, however, he is enthusiastic about music and he sings and plays guitar in a local band. He would like to become a music producer in the United States and share his passion for music. He believes that living abroad would help him grow as a person and connect to his own family story. He is excited to share his culture and language, and meet new people. His family is willing to offer monthly compensation to his hosts. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Nekane Arrubarrena at (208)891-8504 or nekane2014@hotmail.com.

YOUNG EUSKALDUN SEEKS THE BOISE EXPERIENCE

Ander Etxaniz Zabaleta from Antzuola, Gipuzkoa would like to visit Boise this summer to volunteer and meet new people! He will be 16 by the time that he visits us and is interested in Basque dancing and sports (especially soccer and pilota, among others). He works well with children or adults and is energetic and enthusiastic. He is a native speaker of Euskara and Spanish and has been studying English and French since he was a young child. He is looking into coming July 1 through the first week of August. If you are able to host (or help host) Ander or have ideas for his volunteering, please contact Juliana Aldape (208-850-8687 or julaldape@gmail.com) who can provide more information.

CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY PROJECT

Several Basque students from the University of Deusto in Donostia are interested in speaking with people from Boise. They would like to hear more about how we integrate our Basque culture into daily life alongside American culture. If you're willing to chat with them, please email josebacrisswell@gmail.com to be put in contact.

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Jim Kauss
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Esther Muniategui Totorica

EUZKALDUNAK PHOTOS WANTED

We all use our cell phones to take a lot of pictures, but have you thought about sharing those photos with future generations? We have a large collection of historical pictures (San Inazio, Oinkari dancing, Morzilla making, Mus Dinner, etc.) from past eras, but will our children have pictures of this era? Do you have photos from past Euzkaldunak events? We are interested in any pictures that capture our rich history and/or our current activities. They can include photos from local events like Jaialdi, San Inazio, Shepherders Ball, monthly dinners, etc., or anything that involves our member activities like Boiseko Gazteak, Txantxangorriak, Aiztan Artean, Biotzetik, or Oinkari Dancers. Historical photos of the Basque Center facility are always appreciated as well. Your submissions (if necessary) will be digitally scanned, archived and placed on the website. If you have photos to share, please contact Ed Orbea at photos@basquecenter.com.

BASQUE CENTER BRICKS

The Basque Center is once again selling engraved sidewalk bricks. They are \$60 per brick with up to 3 lines available. Each line can contain up to 15 characters. Orders must be received by April 1, 2025, so as to ensure placement by Jaialdi 2025. See next page for order form. Purchase your brick today!

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ENGRAVED BRICK ORDER FORM

Yes, I would like to purchase _____ personalized engraved brick(s) for the Basque Center Sidewalk Brick project. (\$60.00 per brick).

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Email Address:		

- **PLEASE PRINT ONE CHARACTER PER BOX (Letter, number, punctuation mark, or space), starting in the 1st box on the left side of the input area.**
- **There is a MAXIMUM of 15 characters per line (including spaces, numbers, punctuation, etc)**
- **Do not write outside of the 15 designated blocks**
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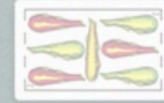
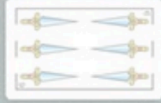
Please mail payment and completed order form by **April 1, 2025** to: *Basque Center Brick Project, 601 W. Grove St, Boise, ID 83702.*

Please make checks payable to Basque Foundation, Inc. Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

EUZKALDUNAK BRISKA TXAPELKETA

THE BASQUE CENTER
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Sunday, March 9 - 4:30 PM
Sunday, March 16 - 4:30 PM
Sunday, April 6 - 4:30 PM

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OINKARI MEMORIALS

Oinkaris appreciate these gifts as they help fund our costumes, equipment and travel. Donations, including for memorials, are graciously accepted online at oinkari.org/donationsgrants, or via mail at:

Oinkari Basque Dancers

PO Box 1011

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Eskerrik Askto to the following who made donations:

In memory of Ron & Marsha Enright

Robbie Lou and Jude Gary

In memory of Dave Berggren

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Phil & Linda Aldape

Kathy & Frank Arana

FEBRUARY ZORIONAK

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Noah Storey

N.A.B.O. DELEGATES

Mark Bieter (board delegate)
Alex Wray (Euzkaldunak delegate)

To contact the entire board (10 directors), send an email to board@basquecenter.com.

BASQUE CENTER RENTAL

To inquire about renting the Basque Center for a function or meeting, please contact Albert Totorica, Basque Center Rental Manager, at rentals@basquecenter.com, visit basquecenter.com/rentals, or call 208-331-5097. Euzkaldunak members receive discounted rental rates.



Jaclyn Lasuen,
Newsletter Editor

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Our newsletter is composed of submissions from our Basque Center membership, and we want to hear from you! Send your news to newsletter@basquecenter.com by **Monday, February 17**, to appear in the next newsletter. For mailing address changes, contact Patty Gabica at secretary@basquecenter.com.

2025 EUZKALDUNAK EVENTS

1/5–2/2: Euzkaldunak 8-King Mus Tournament
2/22: February Valentine's/Oinkari Bingo Dinner
3/9–4/6: Euzkaldunak Briska Tournament
3/15: March Mus Dinner & 8-King Mus Finals
4/19: Anniversary Dinner/Dance & Briska Finals
5/17: Mother's Day/Legacy Award Dinner

7/19: Basque Open Golf Tournament
7/29–8/2: Jaialdi
9/20: September Welcome Back Dinner
10/18: October Dinner
11/8: Morzilla Dinner / Bazaar / Bingo
12/20: Shepherders Ball