

# DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

## RECUERDOS DE SABORES



**A big thank you to all the artists who submitted work to this annual exhibit:**

Hilda Cardiel Ambriz, Andrea Austin, Gloria Toti-Bell, Lisa Cabrera, Casa Calaveras, Chaffey High School, Colony High School, the City of Ontario Housing Services, the City of Ontario Lewis Library, Xavier Cazares Cortez, Mary Cheung, Andrea Cypert, Deserai Davis, Mary Lucille Delira, Christina Frausto, Debbie Fuentes, Vanessa Gomez, Raymond Gonzales Sloan, Diana Elizabeth Hernandez, Lytle Creek Elementary School, Arhyen Ibanez, Robert Jacka, Catalina Lopez, Celia Lopez, Irene Nunez, Lucia O' Cleary, Melanie Polanco, Andrea Ramirez, Yolanda Reyes, Lisabella Russo, Michelle Sifuentes, SNHS Rancho Cucamonga High School, Linda Ternoir, Monica Thaller, Patricia Jessup-Woodlin.

**Special thanks to the artists who supported our annual community installation:**

Jessica Cruz created the title wall mural and has participated in our annual Día de los Muertos exhibition for 16 years. Elide Sanchez created the visitor engagement activity mural. Karla Camacho led community workshops on ceramics so that community members could contribute to the *Trastero*. Artists such as these are pillars of our museum community and the reason why this exhibition is so vibrant and memorable every year.

## A Message From the Assistant Curator

The Ontario Museum of History & Art is proud to present *Día de los Muertos: Recuerdos de Sabores (Flavorful Memories)*, a cherished annual exhibition that has been a cornerstone of our cultural programming for a quarter of a century. For 25 years, this exhibition has provided a vibrant platform for artists and organizations across Southern California to pay homage to the rich and enduring cultural traditions of the Day of the Dead.

Día de los Muertos is one of the pioneering exhibits that spotlights Ontario's creative community and has become a vital component of the exhibits program at the Museum. This long-standing exhibit embodies the cultural significance of this beloved holiday within our community. It underscores the enduring relationships that have blossomed between the Museum and the participating artists for 25 years. Many of the artists who contribute to this exhibition return year after year, motivated by their passion for sharing the significance of the holiday through their artwork and the opportunity to learn about diverse traditions and experiences reflected in each year's theme.

- Samantha Herrera

## Un Mensaje de la Curadora Asistente

El Museo de Historia y Arte de Ontario se enorgullece de presentar el Día de los Muertos: Recuerdos de Sabores (Flavorful Memories), una preciada exhibición anual que ha sido fundamental en nuestra programación cultural durante un cuarto de siglo. Durante 25 años, esta exhibición ha proporcionado una plataforma vibrante para que artistas y organizaciones de todo el sur de California rindan homenaje a las ricas y perdurables tradiciones culturales del Día de los Muertos.

Día de los Muertos es como una de las exhibiciones pioneras que destacan a la comunidad artística de Ontario, la exhibición se ha convertido en un componente vital del programa de exhibiciones del museo. Esta exhibición, que existe desde hace mucho tiempo, encarna el significado cultural de esta querida festividad en nuestra comunidad y resalta las relaciones duraderas que han florecido entre el museo y los artistas participantes a lo largo de los años. Muchos de los artistas que contribuyen a esta exposición regresan año tras año, motivados por su pasión por compartir el significado de la festividad a través de sus obras de arte y por la oportunidad de aprender sobre diversas tradiciones y experiencias que se reflejan en la exploración temática de cada año.

- Samantha Herrera

# History of Day of the Dead

Día de Los Muertos is a culturally significant holiday that can trace traditions back to the Aztec/Mexica people and Nahua people. In its origins, Día de los Muertos celebrations occurred six months out of the eighteen-month Aztec (Mexica) calendar year.

The Nahua people of Mesoamerica, comprised of modern-day countries El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Mexico, and Colombia, celebrated and honored their dead in hopes that their ancestors would bless them in their everyday lives.

Today, these celebrations often include ceremonial dances, processions, feasts, visiting graves, and erecting altars for the dead. Traditional foods are prepared as offerings to the deceased during this time, symbolizing nourishment and a way to call upon the departed souls from the afterworld to visit the families honoring them.

What types of food do you see in the exhibit? (Fill in your answer here)

# Historia de Día de Los Muertos

El Día de los Muertos es una festividad culturalmente significativa cuyas tradiciones se remontan a los pueblos azteca/mexica y nahua. En sus orígenes, las celebraciones del Día de los Muertos ocurrían seis meses del año calendario azteca (mexica) de dieciocho meses.

Para el pueblo nahua de Mesoamérica, que comprende los países de hoy en día El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panamá, México y Colombia, celebraban y honraban a sus muertos con la esperanza de que sus antepasados los bendecirían en su vida cotidiana.

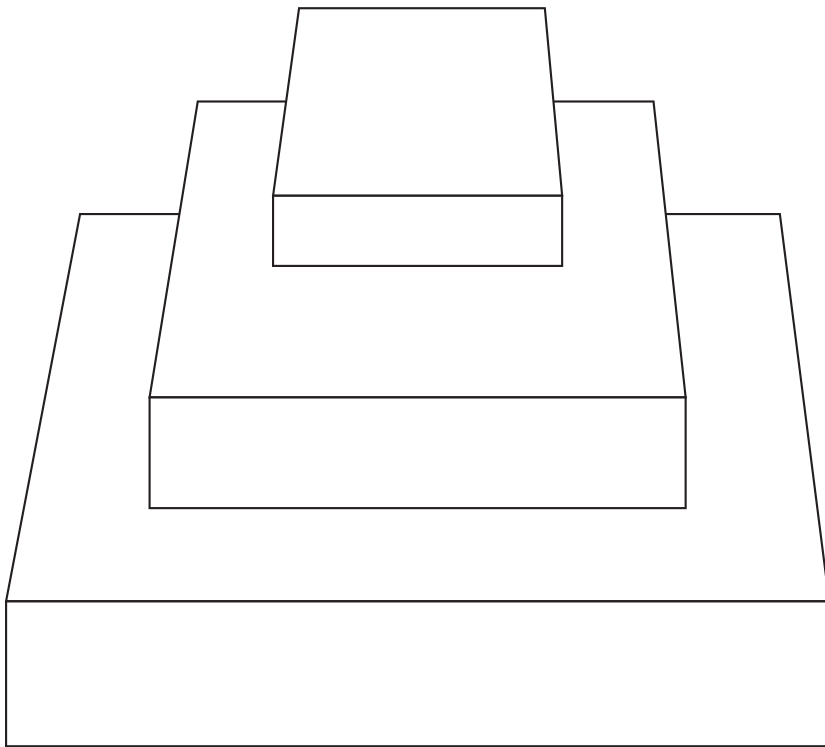
A hoy en día estas celebraciones seguido incluyen danzas ceremoniales, procesiones, banquetes, visitas a las tumbas, y construir los altares para los muertos. En estos días las comidas tradicionales son preparadas para ofrecérselas a los muertos. Esto simboliza la nutrición que, de alguna manera hacen llamar a los espíritus de los difuntos que vienen del otro mundo a visitar las familias quienes los honran.

¿Qué tipo de comida ves en la exhibición? (ingrese su respuesta aquí)

# About Day of the Dead & Altars

**During the Day of the Dead, families clean and decorate cemeteries to reunite with the spirits of their loved ones. It is tradition to create an altar that includes ofrendas or offerings to someone who has passed away. Who would you like to dedicate an altar to? Use the altar below to draw your offerings to a loved one:**

**Durante el Día de Muertos, las familias limpian y decoran los cementerios para reunirse con los espíritus de sus seres queridos. Es tradición crear un altar que incluya ofrendas u ofrendas a alguien que ha fallecido. ¿A quién le gustaría dedicarle un altar? Use el altar a continuación para dibujar sus ofrendas a un ser querido:**



## Draw the following items:

**Water** quenches the thirst of the visiting souls.

**Salt** is used as the cleansing of the soul so in their travels back they are not corrupted, it is also rooted in Aztec ceremonial sacrifices.

**Cempasúchil** is the Aztec/Mexican marigold flower – an ancient flower of the dead, which attracts the soul to the altar.

**Pan de muerto** can be shaped in many forms to represent the flesh and body of the dead.

**Candles** light the way to the ofrenda and represent the life lived.

**Sugar Skulls** bear the names of the dead and represent the sweetness of life.

**Favorite foods, beverages, candy** provide nourishment to the visiting souls.

**Papel Picado** represents the element of the wind and arrival of the spirits as well as the fragility of life.

**Photographs** display the images of the spirit that will come and visit you.

## Dibuja lo siguiente:

**El agua** quita la sed de las almas visitantes.

**Sal** da la limpieza del alma para que en sus viajes de regreso no se corrompan, también tiene sus raíces en los sacrificios ceremoniales aztecas.

**Cempasúchil** es la flor de caléndula - antigua flor de los muertos, que atrae el alma al altar.

**El pan de muerto** puede tener muchas formas para representar la carne y el cuerpo de los muertos.

**Las velas** iluminan el camino a la ofrenda y representan la vida vivida.

**Calaveras** llevan los nombres de los muertos y representan la dulzura de la vida.

**Alimentos, bebidas y dulces favoritos** proporcionan alimento a las almas visitantes.

**Papel Picado** representa el elemento del viento y la llegada de los espíritus, así como la fragilidad de la vida.

**Fotografías** muestre las imágenes del fallecido que vendrá a visitarlo.

# DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS RECIPES FOR YOUR KITCHEN

Day of the Dead invites us to come together in celebration. Families make delicious foods to accompany the altars of their loved ones. Common dishes found on altars include *Fiambre*, a cold-cut salad with lots of vegetables; a cup of *atole*, which is a beverage made from corn flour and sweetened with piloncillo, cinnamon, and vanilla; and *ayote en miel*, which is acorn squash glazed with honey.

Scan the QR codes on the other side of this page to view recipes for some of these dishes.

El Dia de Los Muertos nos invitan a unirnos y celebrar. En este Dia, las familias preparan comidas deliciosas para acompañar los altares de sus seres queridos. Los platillos comunes que se encuentran en los altares pueden ser el fiambre, una ensalada de fiambre con muchas verduras, una taza de atole, que es una bebida hecha de harina de maíz y endulzada con piloncillo, canela y vainilla, Bellota glaseada con miel y ayote (calabaza) en miel y más.

Utilice los códigos QR al otro lado de esta página para ver recetas de algunos de estos platos.

R: "Fiambre" in a clay plate,  
a traditional festival dish for  
All Saints Day  
By SALMONNEGRO

Mexico  
*Pan de Muerto*



Yucatán Peninsula  
(Maya descent)  
*Mukbil Pollo*



Guatemala  
*Fiambre*



El Salvador  
*Ayote con Miel*



Ecuador and Peru  
*Guaguas de Pan*

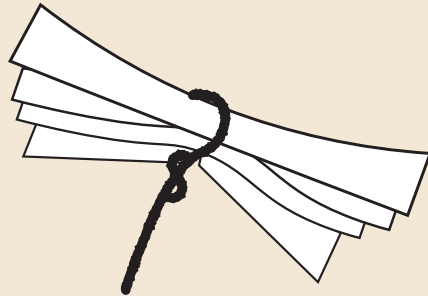


# Make your own cempasúchil at home!

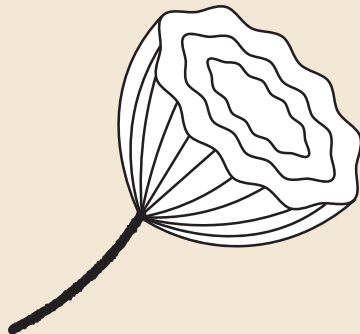
## Materials:

- Tissue Paper
- Scissors
- Pipe cleaners

1. Using 3 sheets of tissue paper, stack and cut them to measure 20" x 30" .
2. Fold your 3 tissue papers together accordion style in ½ inch folds.
3. Wrap half of a pipe cleaner firmly around the middle of the tissue paper.



4. Cut the ends of the tissue paper in a rounded or pointed shape (these will be the shapes on your petals).
5. Fan out the tissue paper, then separate each sheet, lifting and fluffing as you separate.

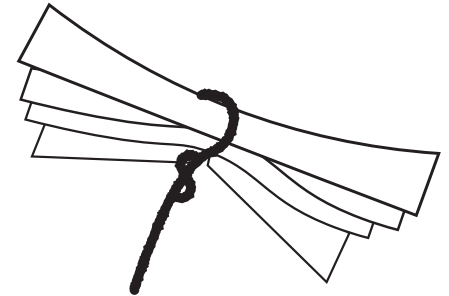


# ¡Haz tu propio cempasúchil en casa!

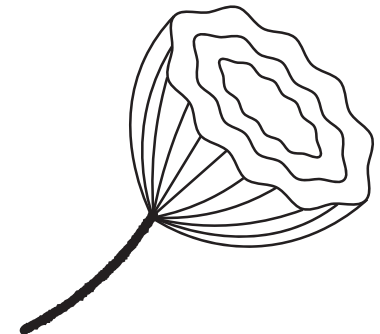
## Materiales:

- Papel de seda
- Tijeras
- Limpiadores de pipa

1. Usando 3 hojas de papel de seda, apélelas y córtelas para que midan 20 "x 30".
2. Dobra tus 3 papeles de seda juntos estilo acordeón en pliegues de ½ pulgada.
3. Envuelva la mitad con una limpia pipa firmemente alrededor del centro del papel de seda.



4. Corta los extremos del papel de seda en forma redondeada o puntiaguda (estas serán las formas de tus pétalos).
5. Distribuya el papel de seda en abanico, luego separe cada hoja, levantando y esponjando a medida que las separa.



# Literature on Día de Los Muertos for the Family!

This list includes just a few of the many books about Día de Los Muertos that are available at your local Ontario City Libraries!

## Children's Picture Books

- *Calavera Abecedario: A Day of the Dead Alphabet Book* – by Jeanette Winter
- *Citlali and the Day of the Dead = Citlali y el Día de Muertos* – by Berda de Llano
- *Esqueletitos: Un Libro para Contar en el Día de los Muertos = Little Skeletons: Countdown to Midnight* – by Susie Jaramillo
- *Felipa y el Día de los Muertos* – by Birte Müller
- *Funny Bones: Posada and his Day of the Dead Calaveras* – by Duncan Tonatiah
- *A Gift for Abuelita: Celebrating the Day of the Dead = Un Regalo para Abuelita: en celebracion del Día de los Muertos* – by Nancy Luenn
- *Mi Familia Calaca = My Skeleton Family* – by Cynthia Weill
- *Rosita y Concita: A Rhyming Storybook in English & Spanish* – by Eric Gonzalez
- *Uncle Monarch and the Day of the Dead* – by Judy Goldman

## Children's Non-Fiction Books

- *Celebrating Day of the Dead* – by Theodore Jones
- *Daniela's Day of the Dead* – by Lisa Bullard
- *El día de los muertos: una celebracion de la familiay la vida* - by Carol Gnojewski
- *The festival of bones = El festival de las calaveras* – by Luis San Vincente
- *Pablo Recuerda: La Fiesta del Día de los Muertos* – by George Ancona
- *Paper Crafts for Day of the Dead* – by Randel McGee

**Lewis Family Branch Library**  
3850 East Riverside Drive  
Ontario, CA 91761



**Ovitt Family Community Library**  
215 East C Street  
Ontario, CA 91764

## Check out Día de Los Muertos related programming across the City of Ontario!

We hope to see you at the following events! For more details about reservations for museum programs, visit our website at [OntarioMuseum.org](https://OntarioMuseum.org).

### October

**First Thursdays: Calavera Mask-Making**  
Thursday, October 5, 2023 | 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

| All Ages

Explore First Thursdays at the Museum and discover exhibitions and art activities, as well as enjoy food and drinks from local eateries – with extended hours, every first Thursday of the month. Food will be available for purchase from pop-up vendors.

**Reception: Día de los Muertos: Recuerdos de Sabores (Flavorful Memories)**  
Thursday, October 13, 2022 | 5 PM – 8 PM

| All Ages

Celebrate the 25th year of the Museum's exhibition, *Día de los Muertos: Recuerdos de Sabores* reception will be filled with flavorful memories, wonderful artwork, small dishes related to the Day of the Dead holiday, and artmaking activities. Join exhibiting artists and Museum staff in celebrating this milestone!

**Community Event: Ontario Arts Festival**  
Saturday, October 21, 2023 | 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

| All Ages

The Ontario Museum of History & Art and the Chaffey Community Museum of Art are excited to announce the fifth annual Ontario Arts Festival. The Festival exemplifies the City's commitment to making Ontario the destination for arts and culture in the Inland Empire. This one-day event will feature artwork for purchase from local artists, free entry to museums, food trucks, and a beer garden! For more information about the Ontario Arts Festival, e-mail [OntarioArts@OntarioCA.gov](mailto:OntarioArts@OntarioCA.gov) or call (909) 395-2510.

### November

**First Thursdays: Paint in the Dark: Día de los Muertos**  
Thursday, November 2, 2023 | 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

| Aged 18+

Explore First Thursdays at the Museum – celebrate Día de los Muertos by creating your own glow-in-the-dark calavera painting. Experiment with neon paint in a UV setting with Artist Mario Solorzano. Space is limited; reserve your space now!

**In the Vault: Ontario and the Armed Forces**  
Saturday, November 4, 2023 | 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

| All Ages

Veterans Day is a day to commemorate the service of all U.S. Veterans. Explore the lives of soldiers and the support civilians provided through some of the hidden gems found in the Museum's collection.

**Ontario Art Walk: An Evening at the Museum**  
Saturday, November 18, 2023 | 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

| All Ages

Visit the Museum, shop artisan vendors and support local businesses as the Downtown Ontario Arts District hosts open studios, gallery exhibitions, and extended store hours. Interested in participating as a vendor? To learn more about the Ontario Art Walk and becoming a vendor, visit <https://www.ontarioartwalk.org/>



Museum staff:

Marissa Kuccheck, Museum, Arts & Culture Director

Kim Boganey, Museum, Arts & Culture Manager

Michelle Sifuentes, Curator of Collections

Miriam Valle-Mancilla, Curator of Education

Dan Faltz, Assistant Curator of Education

Samantha Herrera, Assistant Curator of Exhibitions

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Amanda Foster, Collections Museum Assistant

Amanda Marchese, Collections Museum Assistant

Alcira Mendoza, Collections Museum Assistant

Kari Kessinger, Office Specialist

Kaina Bernal, Preparator

Sarah Breucop, Preparator



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ASSOCIATES

The Ontario Museum of History & Art is a facility of the City of Ontario's Department of Museum, Arts & Culture. The Ontario Museum of History & Art Associates is a 501c(3) nonprofit organization that supports the Museum's education programs.

225 S. Euclid Ave., Ontario, CA 91762

Thursday – Friday 12 PM – 4 PM, Saturday – Sunday 11 AM – 5 PM



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