



27th Annual Día de los Muertos Celebration at SBMA

Free Family Day on Sunday, October 23, 1 – 4 pm

October 3, 2016 – The Santa Barbara Museum of Art (SBMA) presents a free family day in celebration of **Día de los Muertos on Sunday, October 23, from 1 to 4 pm**, in the Museum's back plaza, State Street terrace, Family Resource Center, and galleries. For the 27th year, the Museum honors the Mexican tradition of remembering the dead with a variety of family festivities include altar displays, art activities, live music, dance performances, an interactive altar installation to artists in the collection designed by the Museum's Teaching Artists, and traditional Mexican refreshments. **Admission to the family event and to the Museum is free.**



Inspired by the Día de los Muertos traditions and works of art currently on view in the Museum galleries, the event's art activities include skeleton portraits of works in *British Art from Whistler to World War II* with Spanish translations, Papel Picado pattern frames honoring the landscapes of Ansel Adams, skeleton Claude Monet landscape postcards, as well as traditional skull charms. In the Family Resource Center, the public is invited to pay homage to Man Ray, David Alfaro Siqueiros, and Joan Brown by creating portrait collages, "cats and dogs" triptychs, and pop-up altar boxes as offerings to add to the interactive altars celebrating the lives and works of these three artists.

Conjunto Jardin, Mariachi Sol Huasteco, Folkloric Dance Group Quetzalcoatl, and Yolotecuani sones de Guerrero (above)—co-presented by *¡Viva el Arte de Santa Bárbara!*—offer music and dance performances throughout the day.

The Day of the Dead is traditionally celebrated by creating altars or "ofrendas" (offerings) that include portraits, personal goods, clothing, favorite foods, and possessions of the deceased family member. This is an important social ritual that symbolizes the cycle of life and death that is human existence. SBMA's display of altars are created by various partner schools and community organizations including **La Cuesta Continuation High School, Santa Barbara Public Library Eastside Branch, and Knox School**; students enrolled in the Museum's after-school outreach programs, including **Homework/Artwork After-School at the Eastside Library, Art After School** in partnership with **Girls Inc. Santa Barbara and Girls Inc. Carpinteria**; and **Brandon Elementary, El Camino Elementary, Summerland Elementary, Canalino Elementary, and Notre Dame School**, recipients of the Museum's in-classroom outreach program **ArtReach**. Each group has incorporated traditional symbols and iconography to offer thanks to departed family, friends, or artists in the Museum's collection.



Free Family Guides are available at the Visitor Services desks in both English and Spanish.

The Museum Cafe will be serving a special menu of beef barbacoa and chicken tamales and pozole.

Free Family Days and all other Family Programs are made possible through the generosity of the Schlosser Family Trust and Connie Frank and Evan C. Thompson. Additional support for Día de los Muertos Free Family Day is provided by Wells Fargo.

The Santa Barbara Museum of Art is a privately funded, not-for-profit institution that presents internationally recognized collections and exhibitions and a broad array of cultural and educational activities as well as travel opportunities around the world.

Santa Barbara Museum of Art, 1130 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA.

Open Tuesday - Sunday 11 am to 5 pm, Free Thursday Evenings 5 – 8 pm

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