

Day of the Dead Community Altar - An Invitation to Participate

October 16 – November 4, 2006

In the tradition of Dia de los Muertos, the Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft invites you to help us create a Community Altar in honor of deceased loved ones or recently deceased public figures. It is customary to leave those who have preceded us in death small gifts of items they would have enjoyed during their lifetime, thus nurturing the memory of their lives and letting them know that they remain a part of our lives today. The altar is being installed in our third floor Education Center lobby. We will begin the altar on Monday, October 16th and it



will remain up through the end of our LIFE INSIGHT exhibition on Saturday, November 4th.

Panel Discussion

The installation of the public altar coincides with a panel discussion about the cultural importance of the Day of the Dead which is being held on Friday, November 3rd at 7:00 pm during the November Trolley Hop. The event is being co-sponsored by the University of Louisville Latin American Studies Department. The discussion will be moderated by Dr. Rhonda Buchanan and will include fiber artist Arturo Alonzo Sandoval, community activist Miguel Lagunas and U of L scholar Dr. Manuel F. Medina. Arturo has a fabulous Ofrenda currently installed in the Museum as part of the LIFE INSIGHT exhibition.

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Please bring items to add to the altar in memory of the dearly departed, but know that there are a few rules. As a condition of our insurance, we cannot use lit candles. Please do not leave liquid in open containers, perishable food, living organisms, or any items that are illegal or overtly political. This ofrenda is intended to be a community memorial. Items must be retrieved by the 11th of November, after which they will be disposed of, so it is advisable not to leave anything of great sentimental or monetary value. Copies of original photographs are optimal. No electricity is provided. KMAC assumes no responsibility for anything left upon the altar and reserves the right to remove any items we deem inappropriate. When placing your items on the ofrenda space, please do so with care, respecting those left by others.

