

## PRESS RELEASE

Press Contact: John Andrews, Economic Development Director  
Phone Number: (909) 395-2242  
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[FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE]

City of Ontario  
Ontario Museum of History & Art

### **CITY OF ONTARIO PRESENTS DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS: SEASONS OF LIFE**

**Thursday, October 6 through Sunday, November 13, 2016**

The Ontario Museum of History & Art has been honoring Day of the Dead traditions with large-scale exhibits and programs for two decades. *Día de los Muertos: Seasons of Life* will showcase vibrant pieces of art honoring the deceased. This year's artists bring their own highly personal views of life and death to a diverse array of media, including painting, sculpture, mixed media, photography, and altar installations. Whether exhibiting serious tributes to loved-ones, or light-hearted and humorous pieces, the collective result is as broadly educational as it is entertaining.

The *Día de los Muertos* (Day of the Dead) holiday, is a vibrant celebration of life and loved ones celebrated on November 1st and 2nd. It is a long standing cultural celebration in Latin America with strong ties to indigenous Mexican culture. Today, *Día de los Muertos* is increasingly popular with Latinos and Non-Latinos throughout the United States.

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This year's theme of *Seasons of Life* focuses on the natural world and the cyclical aspects of life. Winners from the city-wide Mask Making Contest will have their masks on display in the *Día de los Muertos* exhibit. Other participants' masks and photos documenting the workshops will be presented on a large screen monitor.

### **Special Events that will be held in conjunction with the exhibition:**

#### **Community Altar Workshop: The Women of Ontario, Saturday, October 1, 2016 (2 PM to 4 PM)**

Contribute to the Museum's community altar dedicated to the Women of Ontario, as part of the annual *Día de los Muertos* exhibit. Bring an object to display on the altar or help make paper flowers to decorate. Materials will be provided. This is a free event. Reservations are required.

#### **Artists Reception for Día de los Muertos: Seasons of Life, Saturday, October 8, 2016 (1 PM to 3 PM)**

Celebrate the artists of the annual *Día de los Muertos* exhibit, showcasing contemporary work in painting, sculpture, mixed media, photography, ofrendas (altars), and the winners from the city-wide Mask Making Contest! Meet the artists, enjoy live music, and participate in a drop-in workshop. Light refreshments will be served. This is a free event.

#### **Calavera (Skull) Piñata Workshop, Thursday, October 20, 2016 (6 PM to 8 PM)**

Celebrate *Día de los Muertos* by building your own calavera (skull) piñata with a workshop led by artist Dulce Ibarra. Materials will be provided. This is a free event. Reservations are required.

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**Family Discovery Day: Día de los Muertos, Saturday, November 5, 2016  
(12 PM to 4 PM)**

Celebrate *Día de los Muertos* through art workshops, live performances, a photo backdrop, and face painting for the whole family! *Día de los Muertos* attire is strongly encouraged – come dressed as a *esqueleto* (skeleton)! This is a free event

**About the Ontario Museum of History & Art**

The Ontario Museum of History & Art is located at 225 S. Euclid Avenue, Ontario, California 91762. Gallery hours are Noon to 4 PM, Thursday through Sunday. Admission is free. For more information call (909) 395-2510, email at [museuminfo@ontarioca.gov](mailto:museuminfo@ontarioca.gov), or visit [www.ontarioca.gov/museum](http://www.ontarioca.gov/museum). The Ontario Museum of History & Art is a public-private museum operated by the City of Ontario with support from the non-profit Ontario Museum of History & Art, Associates.

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