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For Immediate Release

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Des Moines Art Center hosts 17th annual Day of the Dead celebration

DES MOINES, IA (October 2017) On Sunday, October 29, noon – 4 pm, the Des Moines Art Center will host the 17th annual Day of the Dead / *Día de los Muertos* celebration. The event will take place at 4700 Grand Avenue and is free and open to the public. A free shuttle will be available at Merrill Middle School, 5301 Grand Avenue, Des Moines.

Day of the Dead is a traditional Latino celebration that honors the lives of members of the community who have passed away, as well as a festive day of music, dancing, food and drink, art activities, and remembrances for the entire family.

This year's celebration will honor the influence of the many local Mexican bands that provided the community with traditional and modern sounds, playing an important role in the lives of many, from weddings to quinceanera celebrations to family reunions.



Mariachi Zapata will provide music throughout the day. Art activities will be held in the studios. Complimentary hot chocolate and Day of the Dead bread will be provided and food will be available for purchase in the



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restaurant. An ofrenda with mementos from the musicians' lives will be on display in the main lobby October 29 through November 5.

Celebration Schedule

- Noon – 4 pm Entertainment by Mariachi Zapata | Art Activities in the studios | Traditional Day of the Dead bread | Mexican hot chocolate by Zanzibar's Coffee Adventure | Food available for purchase by Tamale's Industry | Cash Bar | Museum Shop open featuring Day of the Dead merchandise
- 12:30 and 2:30 pm Museum tours (Spanish and English)
- 1 and 3 pm Film in Levitt Auditorium: *Music of our Fathers*, Vince Valdez, director

On Exhibit

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| Day of the Dead Ofrenda | October 29 – November 5, lobby |
| <i>Drawing in Space</i> | Through January 21, 2018, Richard Meier building, Anna K. Meredith Gallery, I. M. Pei building, lobby |
| <i>I, too, am America</i> | Through November 26, 2017, John Brady Print Gallery |
| <i>Iowa Artists 2017: Yun Shin</i> | Through December 3, 2017, Blank One Gallery |
| Single-channel 7: Journeys into Peripheral Worlds: Alex Prager
<i>La Petite Mort</i> | Through January 7, 2018, Pamela Bass-Bookey and Harry Bookey Gallery, Richard Meier Building |

Des Moines Art Center

Recognized by international art critics as a world-class museum in the heart of the Midwest, the Des Moines Art Center has amassed an important collection with a major emphasis on contemporary art. The collection's overriding principle is a representation of artists from the 19th century to the present, each through a seminal work. This accounts for an impressive collection that ranges from Edward Hopper's *Automat* to Jasper Johns' *Tennyson*, Henri Matisse's *Woman in White*, Georgia O'Keeffe's *From the Lake No. 1*, Francis Bacon's *Study after Velásquez's Portrait of Pope Innocent X*, Bill Viola's *Ascension*, and Cecily Brown's *Half-Bind*.

The Art Center's physical complex marries with the collection for a totally integrated experience. The collection is housed in three major buildings, each designed by a world-renowned architect – Eiel Saarinen, I. M. Pei, and Richard Meier. With the exception of special events, admission to the museum is free.

In September 2009, the John and Mary Pappajohn Sculpture Park opened in Des Moines' Western Gateway Park. Philanthropists John and Mary Pappajohn have provided funding for and donated 28 sculptures by



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internationally acclaimed contemporary artists to the Des Moines Art Center. The collection of sculptures by such artists as Louise Bourgeois, Deborah Butterfield, Willem de Kooning, Olafur Eliasson, Keith Haring, Ellsworth Kelly, Jaume Plensa, Richard Serra, Joel Shapiro, and Mark di Suvero, is the most significant donation of artwork to the Art Center in a single gift in the museum's history. The Pappajohn Sculpture Park is a collaboration of the Pappajohns, the City of Des Moines, the Des Moines Art Center, and numerous corporate and private donors.

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