

LAWNDALE ART CENTER

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August 1, 2011

Dear Educator,

Lawndale Art Center is excited to announce its 24th annual *Day of the Dead/Día de los Muertos* celebration! Each Fall, Lawndale highlights the food, music and art of Mexico with student and community exhibitions and events. If you are not familiar, this packet will help introduce you to the *Día de los Muertos* tradition at Lawndale. There are various ways that you and your students can participate in this spectacular event that range from simply joining us for the festivities during our event days to undertaking a project with your class that will be featured in Lawndale's Day of the Dead show. For your planning purposes and ours, we have included a project planning worksheet. **To be considered for a student exhibition, please submit your planning worksheet and any supporting documents to Lawndale Art Center by Monday, September 5, 2011.** We will accept applications through this date, or **until the spaces are filled.** Please note that space is available on a **first-come, first-served** basis and that the show fills up very quickly.

Lawndale encourages teachers to educate their students about important aspects of Mexican culture and their related art practices. Lawndale staff assists teachers in coordinating activities for their students and offers approximately 15 schools the opportunity to display their work in our Mezzanine and Cavnar galleries. In past years, students have submitted projects such as sugar skulls, *papel picado*, *papier mache* skeletons, *retablos*, altars and other large-scale installations. To honor these young aspiring artists, Lawndale hosts a *Family Day Fiesta* for teachers, students and the general public. In past years hot chocolate and *pan de muerto* have been served at the *Fiesta* while *Mixteco Ballet Folklorico* has provided entertainment. This fun filled event garners much attention and an audience of over 400 people thanks to the many schools who coordinate the transportation of their students and families to Lawndale. **This year's Family Day Fiesta will be held Saturday, November 5, from 12-4pm.** Even if you won't be able to undertake a project this year, please encourage your students to join us for this event and come by to enjoy the festivities yourself!

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To be considered for the student exhibition, please fill out the Project Planning Worksheet completely along with any supplemental materials needed to give us the clearest picture of your proposal. If your proposal is accepted, you will be responsible for bringing all tools necessary for installation and installing the work in its entirety. Although we do our best to give each school their requested amount of space, it is not guaranteed. The two galleries will be divided between approximately 15 schools, so please take this into consideration when planning your exhibition. That said, we hope this will be a magnificent celebration and look forward to working with you!

Be sure to visit our Teacher's Resource Page: <http://lawndaleartcenter.wordpress.com>

Don't forget... **Complete Project Planning Worksheets and supporting documents are due MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5. Proposals will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis through this date until the exhibition spaces are filled.**

Please contact me at elink@lawndaleartcenter.org or 713-528-5858 with any questions you may have in regards to this years *Día de los Muertos* celebration.

We hope to see you around Lawndale this year; even if you aren't submitting a proposal, we hope you'll join us for the festivities and encourage your students to do so as well!

EMILY LINK
Community Relations Coordinator
Lawndale Art Center