

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Contact Dennis Nance  
713-528-5858  
dnance@lawndaleartcenter.org

# LAWNDALE ART CENTER

4912 Main Street  
Houston, TX 77002  
713 528-5858  
Fax 713 528-4140  
[askus@lawndaleartcenter.org](mailto:askus@lawndaleartcenter.org)  
[www.lawndaleartcenter.org](http://www.lawndaleartcenter.org)

## Lawndale Art Center

presents

### 24th Annual *Día de los Muertos* Events

*A celebration of the art and music of Mexico*



#### **Retablo Exhibition**

October 17 – November 5, 2011

#### **Gala / Retablo Silent Auction**

October 21, 2011, 7 - 9PM

*Member and Sponsor Preview, 6 - 7PM*

#### **Musical Ofrenda**

October 25, 2011, 5:30 - 7:30PM

#### **Papel Picado Workshop**

October 27, 2011, 6PM

#### **Sugar Skull Workshop**

November 3, 2011, 6PM

#### **Family Day/Fiesta**

November 5, 2011, 12 - 4PM

Lawndale Art Center is pleased to present its 24th Annual *Día de los Muertos* programs, a celebration of the art, music and folklife of Mexico. For over twenty years Lawndale Art Center has presented an annual open call, non-juried exhibition that celebrates the Mexican tradition of *Día de los Muertos* in a contemporary context. This program supports area artists and students by offering them an opportunity to show their works to diverse audiences in a museum quality setting. Over the years additional programming has been developed to educate audiences and encourage dialogue in celebration of Mexican-American heritage in our region. *Día de los Muertos* programs and exhibitions at Lawndale Art Center promote cultural awareness of Mexican folk art practices associated with this celebration of family, life and community.

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## ***Retablo Exhibition***

On view October 17 - November 5, 2011

In 1988, Lawndale Art Center presented its first annual *Día de los Muertos* exhibition of retablos: small art works inspired by the traditional Latin American devotional art form of the same name. It is now one of Lawndale's most popular programs that reaches out to communities across the region. Lawndale invites artists and the public to create contemporary interpretations of retablos on 8" x 10" pieces of sheet metal. These retablos are then sold at the gala to benefit both Lawndale and the artists. Many well-known Houston and nationally known artists participate; the exhibition attracts a large audience and the gala is one of the most fun parties in Houston! *Día de los Muertos* is Lawndale's only open-call, non-juried exhibition. The retablo Silent Auction is our single largest fund raising event of the year.

Retablos available for auction include work by:

The Art Guys, Daniel Adame, Mark Aguhar, Daniel Anguilo, David Aylsworth, Heather Bause, Ken Beasley, Chuy Benitez, Bexar, Natasha Bowdoin, Elaine Bradford, Sally Chandler, Hollis Cooper, Nina Craig Makepeace, Janie DeGuerin, Kent Dorn, Josephine Durkin, Noah Edmundson, Loli Fernandez, Bill Fester, Carmen Flores, Rodney Flores, Sean Flournoy, Dixie Friend Gay, James Glassman, Ann Harithas, Sarah Hazel, Michael Henderson, Joel Hernandez, Rachel Hewlett, Linda Hofheinz, Ann Hollomon, Jimmy Houston, Terrell James, Kathy Kelley, Hogan Kimbrell, Trish Klenow, Sharon Kopriva, Ya La'ford, Jonathan Leach, Charmaine Locke, Apama Mackey, Jason Makepeace, Ken Mazzu, Daniel McFarlane, Matt Messinger, Paul Middendorf, Seth Mittag, Penny Morrison, Paula Murphy, Aram Nagle, Kia Neill, Jim Nolan, JoAnn Park, Emily Peacock, Eric Pearce, Kristy Peet, Mitch Pengra, Donna Perkins, David Politzer, Mark Ponder, Linda Post, Britt Ragsdale, Anne J. Regan, Carlos Rosales-Silva, John Runnels, Stephanie Saint Sanchez, Mitch Samuels "Grystar", Charlie Jean Sartwelle, Louise Schlachter, Herb Shapiro, Carole Smith, Malcolm Smith, Al Souza, Annie Souza, David Stone, Annie Strader, James Surls, Anthony Thompson Shumate, Shane Tolbert, Rachelle Vasquez, Dandee Warhol, Mat Wolff, Scott Woodard and Jo Zider

## ***Gala / Silent Auction***

Friday, October 21, 2011, 7 - 9PM

*Member and Sponsor Preview, 6 - 7PM*

**Event Chairs:** Jessica Phifer & James Glassman

**Admission:** \$45 / \$35 for Lawndale members

The festivities begin with a silent auction Friday, October 21. The auction of retablos, created and donated by nearly 250 Texas artists, will feature contemporary interpretations of this traditional, devotional art. Guests will also enjoy *Día de los Muertos* exhibitions in the Cavnar and Mezzanine Galleries which feature the works of Houston school children. Complimentary food and drinks will be provided for attending guests by local restaurants. For ticket information, call 713-528-5858.

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## ***Musical Ofrenda***

Tuesday, October 25, 2011, 5:30 - 7:30 PM

*Performances begin at 6:15 PM*

Join us for an evening of celebration and remembrance. During *Día de los Muertos* families create ofrendas or altars to remember and honor the memory of their ancestors. A ROCO chamber group and Musiqa composers will present short original contemporary, classic compositions as musical ofrendas. Inprint will also present original readings written in the tradition of making an offering during the *Día de los Muertos* celebrations. This event is a partnership between ROCO, Inprint, Musiqa and Lawndale Art Center.

## ***Papel Picado Workshop***

Thursday, October 27, 2011, 6PM

Houston art educator and Lawndale supporter, Jean King, will lead a papel picado workshop free and open to the public as part of this year's *Día de los Muertos* celebration. Visitors will not only learn about the traditional art of Mexican paper cutting from one of the best, but will also get to create and take home their own unique perforated paper creation.

## ***Sugar Skull Workshop***

Thursday, November 4, 2011, Demonstrations at 6:00 and 6:30PM

In conjunction with our 24th annual *Día de los Muertos* celebration, Lawndale Art Center is offering a sugar skull making workshop. The workshop is free and open to the public. Registration is requested as space is limited. To register, please email [dnance@lawndaleartcenter.org](mailto:dnance@lawndaleartcenter.org). Bring a bag of sugar and add it to the mix or just drop in for a quick demonstration. All participants may take home one sugar skull and a printed recipe.

## ***Family Day Fiesta***

Saturday, November 5, 2011, 12 - 4PM

**Admission:** *Free*

Lawndale's 24th annual *Día de los Muertos* celebration continues with a Saturday fiesta honoring participating teachers and students whose works of art can be viewed in the Cavnar and Mezzanine Galleries. Sugar skulls, papel picado, papier mache skeletons, retablos, altars and large-scale installations are just a few of the many projects on display. Guests will enjoy hot chocolate and pan de muerto and various children's activities, such as decorating sugar skulls, along with performances including Mixteco Ballet Folklorico.

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## About *Día de los Muertos*:

Every year, according to Mexican folk tradition, the living honor the return of the souls of dead family and friends on November 1 and November 2. The first of November is reserved for the return of departed children and the second for adults. The living celebrate the return of the dead with elaborate home altars and graveside arrangements composed of the deceased's favorite foods and keepsakes. For more information on *Día de los Muertos* as celebrated in Mexico as well as at Lawndale Art Center, please visit our *Día de los Muertos* Resource page, <http://lawndaleartcenter.wordpress.com>.

## About Lawndale Art Center:

Lawndale Art Center is a non-profit alternative space for the exhibition of contemporary works in all media, unique in its focus on Houston area artists. Founded in 1979, Lawndale has owned its present location on Main Street in Houston's Museum District since 1993. With four galleries in its locally significant Art Deco building, Lawndale includes close to 500 artists annually in changing exhibitions. Over twenty exhibitions, informal talks and special events are offered yearly including annual events such as *Día de los Muertos* /Day of the Dead, Design Fair and The Big Show.

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<b>For More Info:</b>	<a href="http://www.lawndaleartcenter.org">www.lawndaleartcenter.org</a> or <a href="mailto:askus@lawndaleartcenter.org">askus@lawndaleartcenter.org</a>
<b>Gallery Hours:</b>	Monday-Friday, 10-5; Saturday, 12-5; Closed Sunday
<b>Admission:</b>	Admission is free and open to the public
<b>Viewing Dates:</b>	This exhibition will be on view October 17, 2011 through November 5, 2011.
<b>Press Contact:</b>	Dennis Nance, 713-528-5858, <a href="mailto:dnance@lawndaleartcenter.org">dnance@lawndaleartcenter.org</a>

Programs at Lawndale are supported in part by The National Endowment for the Arts, The City of Houston through the Houston Museum District Association, The Texas Commission on the Arts, Houston Endowment, The Brown Foundation, Inc., Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The Cavnar Foundation, The Cullen Foundation, The Wortham Foundation, Inc., John M. O'Quinn, Cecily Horton, Ann W. Harithas, Jonathan and Barbara Day, Diana M. Hudson and Lee Kaplan, Anita and David Garten, Mary and Roy Cullen, Bruce Eames, Felvis Foundation/David R. Graham, Jenny and Mark Johnson, Andrew C. Schirrmeister III, Scott Sparvero, Continental Airlines, Art Colony Association, other contributors, memberships, benefit events and many volunteers.

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