

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Art, Tradition, and Community Unite for BIMA's *Día de los Muertos* Celebration Annual Celebration and Exhibition Beginning November 1st

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, Wash. – The Bainbridge Island Museum of Art (BIMA) is excited to announce their 12th annual *Día de los Muertos* (Day of the Dead) community celebrations and exhibition by contemporary Latine and Hispanic artists. The events kick off on Saturday, November 1st, and run through November 16th. All events and access to BIMA are free, though the celebrations often reach capacity, so pre-registration is suggested.

This year's events include:

Community Celebrations, at BIMA, Saturday, November 1st at 11am and 3pm

These ceremonies, presented by Alice Mendoza, begin with a procession that starts at KiDiMu and then features a public remembrance and music, art, activities, food, and drink. BIMA's *Día de los Muertos* exhibit will be on display, and visitors can add their own mementos to the *ofrenda* (altar) during the public ceremony or find a quiet moment to reflect on their own. This event is free, though the celebrations often reach capacity, so pre-registration is suggested. See here for the schedule and tickets.

Día de Los Muertos Mariposa (Butterfly) Wings, at KiDiMu, Saturday, November 1st at 9am-3pm

Stop by KiDiMu (Kids Discover Museum) next door with the kids and grandkids to make and decorate wearable butterfly wings. Plus, don the wings in order to participate in the BIMA *Community Celebrations* processions at 11am and 3pm. All groups making and wearing wings will receive 50% off admission to KiDiMu all day. <u>Learn more here.</u>

BIMA Mercado, at BIMA, Saturday, November 8th, 10am-5pm

BIMA is hosting its first *mercado* (market) in honor of *Día de los Muertos*. This vibrant art market will feature local and regional Latine and Hispanic artists and vendors, plus there will be raffles throughout the day. BIMA members can shop an hour early (9-10am). See here for more information.

Día de los Muertos Ofrenda 2025, at BIMA, November 1-November 16

The *ofrenda* at BIMA, created by artist Araceli Cruz, is a living, collective installation to honor those who have passed away. All guests are invited to contribute photographs, notes, and small tokens in honor of departed loved ones and ancestors. It is free to visit and contribute to the *ofrenda* during regular museum hours (daily from 10 AM-5 PM). Learn more here.

Día de los Muertos and Beyond II, at BIMA, November 1-November 16

BIMA's annual *Día de los Muertos* exhibit showcases Latine and Hispanic artists in the Puget Sound region, as well as art projects from Bainbridge Island schools. Artists this year include Alfredo Arreguín, Janine Courtemanche, and Araceli Cruz. Like all of BIMA, the exhibit is accessible and free to the public during all museum hours (daily from 10am-5pm). See here for more information.

BIMA is honored to uplift this holiday and to invite everyone to celebrate it together, whether it's part of someone's familial and cultural tradition or their first time learning about it. Through art, shared space, and reflection, BIMA hopes to foster community connection, education, and inspiration.

The press is welcome to join for any of the Community Celebrations or to visit the exhibit and *ofrenda*. Please reach out to Korum Bischoff (<u>korum@biartmuseum.org</u>) to arrange an interview with one of the event producers.

About Día de los Muertos:

Día de los Muertos is a deeply rooted Mexican holiday centered around praying for, remembering, and supporting the spiritual journey of those who have passed away. Celebrated primarily on November 1st and 2nd, it is a time for family and friends to come together in remembrance.

Traditions around Día de los Muertos include creating *ofrendas* (altars) that honor the deceased and adorning them with joyful offerings to welcome their spirits back in celebration. Decorations often include *cempasúchil* (marigolds), *calaveras* (skulls, often edible sugar skulls), *papel picado* (perforated paper), photographs, and favorite foods, drinks, and mementos of the departed.

About Bainbridge Island Museum of Art:

Bainbridge Island Museum of Art inspires curiosity, wonder, and understanding by connecting people with the contemporary art and craft of the Puget Sound region. The art museum exhibits, interprets, preserves, collects, and promotes works of proven cultural value as well as new works by emerging artists and craftspeople.

The art museum is open daily 10am-5pm. Free admission. BIMA is located in beautiful downtown Bainbridge Island, at the corner of Hwy 305 and Winslow Way, just steps away from

the ferry terminal, and with easy access via public transportation or by car from the Kitsap Peninsula. https://www.biartmuseum.org/

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