



DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

Contact: John Kopczynski (213) 485-8225

Who: The Olvera Street Merchants and
El Pueblo Historical Monument

What: Day of the Dead /
Dia De Los Muertos Celebration

Where: El Pueblo Historical Monument,
Home of Olvera Street

When: Oct. 25 through Nov. 2, 2009

The Olvera Street Merchants will hold their annual Dia de los Muertos celebration from October 25 through November 2, 2009 at El Pueblo Historical Monument, home of world famous Olvera Street. The following activities are free to the public:

- Children's workshops will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. October 14-16, 21-23, 28-30 and November 2, 2009. The workshops include mask and necklace making and will provide students with a history of this colorful and beloved Mexican celebration. A festive piñata breaking takes place each day following the workshops.
- On the weekend of October 31 - November 1, 2009 enjoy face painting, street theater performances, strolling mariachi bands, Aztec dancers, art workshops, puppets, ballet folklórico, piñatas and other fun family activities from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. each day.
- The candlelight Novenario processions will be held nightly from October 25-November 2, 2009 beginning at 7:30 p.m. on Olvera Street. This traditional pre-Columbian procession evokes special memories of deceased loved ones with colorful pageantry and indigenous blessings. Following each procession, free pan de muerto (sweet bread) and champurrado (a Mexican hot beverage) will be served.
- The Dia de los Muertos community altars (*las ofrendas*) and Merchant family altars will be on display outdoors in the Plaza area and in the various shops on Olvera Street from October 31-November 2, 2009 for everyone to view and reflect upon.
- The art exhibit *Sacred Memories: Cross Cultural and Contemporary Reflections of Day of the Dead* will be on display in the Pico House October 21-November 21, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. The exhibit explores Dia de los Muertos and other rituals memorializing the dead.

El Pueblo Historical Monument is located at 125 Paseo de la Plaza in downtown Los Angeles (across from Union Station.) For more information on Dia de los Muertos festivities, the public may call (213) 625-7074. Educators making reservations for the student workshops are asked to call (213) 716-1373. For additional information regarding the Pico House exhibit please call (213) 485-8437. Website: www.lacity.org/elp