



MESA ARTS CENTER



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**City of Mesa's Día de los Muertos Festival at Mesa Arts Center
Saturday, October 22 and Sunday, October 23, 2022**



Mesa, AZ – The City of Mesa, Mesa Arts Center and the community are proud to celebrate the memory of departed loved ones with the 17th annual Día de los Muertos Festival on Saturday, October 22, and Sunday, October 23, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

On Saturday, October 22, Councilmember David Luna will kick off the free festival at 10:00 a.m. On Sunday, October 23, the closing ceremony at 4:30pm will include Jorge Mendoza Yescas, Consul General of Mexico and Mesa Mayor John Giles.

The nationally recognized, award-winning free community festival will offer a nonstop schedule of live entertainment, hands-on artmaking activities, traditional face painting, a wide variety of food options, studio demonstrations, and a vibrant Mercado Marketplace, featuring traditional and contemporary merchandise, jewelry, and Mexican arts and

crafts from local artisans and vendors. Mesa Arts Center's art studios will offer free demonstrations throughout the festival. The Store, an artist's cooperative and gallery will also be open and offering Day of the Dead themed items.

In the spirit of traditional Día de los Muertos festivities, a community altar designed by local artist Luis Estrada and will be the centerpiece for the festival, where attendees can leave mementos in honor of their loved ones who have passed. Photographs will be collected and replaced on the altar each year or can be collected by 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 23.

The festival will culminate in a performance and an open procession to the Community Altar led by the all-female group, Mariachi Pasion and Ballet Folklorico La Llorona at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 23.

The National League of Cities selected the City of Mesa's Día de los Muertos festival as the 2022 Cultural Diversity Awards winner.

SRP is the Presenting Sponsor of the Día de los Muertos Festival. Additional festival support is provided by Amazon, the City of Mesa, Consulate General of Mexico, Crescent Crown Distributing, First Things First, Food City, Celerion, Larry H. Miller Ford Mesa, Modelo, 93.3 Alt AZ, 100.7 KSLX, Oscar and Phoenix New Times.

There is no charge to attend the Día de los Muertos Festival, and parking is free. Mesa Arts Center is located at One East Main Street in downtown Mesa. For more information, visit [MesaArtsCenter.com](https://www.mesaartscenter.com).

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ABOUT MESA ARTS CENTER

Mesa Arts Center, owned and operated by the City of Mesa, is a unique, architecturally stunning, international award-winning facility located in the heart of downtown Mesa. Arizona's largest arts center is home to four theaters, five art galleries, and 14 art studios. Guests, patrons, and students come to Mesa Arts Center to enjoy the finest live entertainment and performances, world-class visual art exhibitions, and outstanding arts education classes. The facility is an architectural showpiece and a destination for visitors to the Phoenix area. Mesa Arts Center's mission is to invite all people to create and discover entertaining, challenging and diverse art and arts experiences within joyous, dynamic and welcoming environments. For more information, visit [mesaartscenter.com](https://www.mesaartscenter.com).