



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Nicole Stephens

Director of Development & Communications

Tacoma Art Museum

Email: NStephens@Tacomaartmuseum.org

Celebrate Día de los Muertos this year at Tacoma Art Museum

Tacoma Art Museum and Mi Centro present the 22nd annual Día de los Muertos Festival

Tacoma, WA — Tacoma Art Museum and Mi Centro present the 22nd annual Día de los Muertos Festival, a celebration of life, memory, and culture on Sunday, November 1, 2026. The free, all-day family friendly event shares vibrant traditions, creative activities, and opportunities to come together as a community.

Vanessa Harris, Museum Educator and Programs Coordinator at Tacoma Art Museum shared, "Día de los Muertos is a tradition near to our hearts as we create space for our community members to honor their departed loved ones, and to celebrate their lives through music, food, art, and culture."

The cherished annual festival honors the traditional Mexican holiday, Día de los Muertos, where families come together to remember and celebrate the lives of their departed love ones. The community celebration is free and open to everyone; advance registration is required.

The festival has grown in its 22 years to include live music, food trucks, traditional dance performances, hands-on-art workshops and community-made ofrendas. A full timeline of events can be found on the Tacoma Art Museum website.

"Each year we are honored to plan our Día de los Muertos festival here at TAM in collaboration with Mi Centro", Harris added.

Visitors are also invited to view the creation of a tapete created just for the festival by artist René Julio. Tapete, (Spanish for “carpet” or “rug”) refers to a vibrant, temporary sand painting created on the ground for Día de los Muertos. Traditionally made with colored sand, and often incorporating flower petals and seeds, tapetes are artworks which honor and welcome the spirits of loved ones who have passed.

About Día de los Muertos:

Known in English as Day of the Dead, this life-affirming celebration of the eternal cycle of life has been observed for centuries. Day of the Dead combines ancient and colonial traditions, folk customs, and spiritual beliefs. Celebrated in Mexican and Latin American communities on November 1 and 2, Día de los Muertos is a powerful, symbolic way to honor relatives and friends who have died.

Traditionally, families assemble altars or ofrendas, in their homes laden with offerings of food and drink to nourish the spirits on their long journey back home. Flowers, candles, clay figurines, sugar skeletons with the names of the deceased, and personal messages to the spirits are placed on the altars.

Tacoma Art Museum’s annual Día de los Muertos Festival has grown over the years, bringing together community organizations, schools, families, and individuals to create altars, celebrate, and share.

Festival Details

Title: Día de los Muertos

Dates: Sunday, November 1, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM- 5:00 PM

Location: Tacoma Art Museum

Presented by: Tacoma Art Museum and Mi Centro

About Tacoma Art Museum

Tacoma Art Museum connects people through art, presenting exhibitions and programs that emphasize the art and artists of the Pacific Northwest. Located in downtown Tacoma,

the museum is committed to equity, community engagement, and fostering meaningful encounters with art.

About Mi Centro

Mi Centro is a community-based non-profit that works with the Latino and Indigenous native families through educational programs, crisis intervention, family outreach services, arts & culture programming, and advocacy efforts that concern families and community.
