



**ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY Press Release**  
**—FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—**

**Ancient Ofrenda: Elements of an Altar**  
**9<sup>th</sup> Annual Día de los Muertos Festival Exhibit**

Opening celebration: Oct. 30, 2008  
Admission is free and food will be served  
Oct. 27, 2008 – January 23, 2009

TEMPE, Ariz. – The ASU Museum of Anthropology invites the public to the opening celebration of its **9<sup>th</sup> Annual Día de los Muertos Festival Exhibit** October 30, 2008, 5 to 7 p.m., in the lobby of the School of Human Evolution and Social Change building on the Tempe campus. The event will feature music and food and is free of charge.

For the past nine years, the museum has played host to a vibrant community-centered **Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) Festival Exhibit**. Traditionally, the museum has featured a gallery filled with individual altars. This year, the gallery will be transformed into **one altar** through individual works of art. Each piece of art in the exhibit will represent one of the many offerings that compose a traditional altar. Emphasis will be placed on the **four elements** (earth, wind, water and fire) found on traditional altars that tie this celebration to its Aztec roots.

**Ancient Ofrenda** will bring together artists from the Chicano/a, university and Valley communities in the creation of an innovative communal space, emphasizing the elements of a traditional altar. Though their subjects are ancient, artists will work in a variety of traditional and contemporary media, incorporating personal and symbolic imagery into their work. Visitors are encouraged to bring offerings for the dead, which will become part of the altar.

The exhibit will run from October 27, 2008, to January 23, 2009. Admission is free.

**The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Día de los Muertos Festival Exhibit** is a joint collaboration between the ASU Museum of Anthropology, CALACA Latino Cultural Arts Collective and the community.

For more details, call the museum at (480) 965-6224 or visit: <http://asuma.asu.edu>

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