

Editor's Note: Images located <u>here</u>.

Día de los Muertos Virtual Festival Presented by SRP

Saturday, October 24 | 12 – 3 p.m.

Mesa, AZ (September 28, 2020) – On Saturday, October 24, from noon to 3 p.m., Mesa Arts Center will host a virtual celebration of the memory of departed loved ones with the annual Día de los Muertos Virtual Festival. The festival will be live-streamed on Mesa's Channel 11 and Mesa Arts Center's website at www.MesaArtsCenter.com/diadelosmuertos.

The free virtual festival will be hosted by Telemundo Arizona News Anchor, Paola Morales with special guest speakers including Jorge Mendoza Yescas, Consul General of Mexico and Mesa Mayor John Giles. The event will feature performances by **La Luz de la Luna**, a Phoenix group known for their intimate approach to classic styles such as Rancheras, Boleros and Huagangos; a special video presentation of the world-renowned **Ballet Folklorico de México de Amalia Hernández**; and local favorites **Mariachi Pasion**, an all-women mariachi group.

In the spirit of traditional Día de los Muertos festivities, the event will host a Pan de Muerto cooking demonstration by Mesa's La Estrella Panaderia bakery as well as artist demonstrations of fun family at-home activities including paper flower making, papel picado, face painting and altar making. Finally, the Día de los Muertos Virtual Festival will host a virtual Mercado featuring traditional and contemporary merchandise, jewelry, and Mexican arts and crafts from local artisans and vendors. The virtual mercado will be hosted on www.MesaArtsCenter.com/DiadelosMuertos.

The event is presented by SRP and also sponsored by The Mexican Consulate, First Things First, Food City, La Estrella Panaderia, Mesa Hispanic Network, Telemundo Arizona and Mesa Channel 11.

Mesa Arts Center is located at One East Main Street in downtown Mesa.

###

About Mesa Arts Center

Mesa Arts Center, owned and operated by the City of Mesa, is a unique, architecturally stunning facility located in the heart of downtown Mesa. Arizona's largest multidisciplinary arts center is home to four theaters, five art galleries in the MCA Museum, and 14 art studios. Guests, patrons, and students come to Mesa Arts Center to enjoy the finest live entertainment,

performances and festivals, world-class visual art exhibitions, and outstanding arts education classes. Mesa Arts Center's mission is to inspire people through engaging arts experiences that are diverse, accessible, and relevant. For more information, visit mesaartscenter.com.