



LAII FALL 2018  
K-12 EDUCATOR  
WORKSHOPS

OCTOBER 3<sup>rd</sup> WEDNESDAY • 5:00 PM  
NATIONAL HISPANIC CULTURAL CENTER

# Día de los Muertos and Cultural Literacy

## ABOUT

Join us for an evening of free professional development for all K-12 educators: in-service and pre-service teachers, educational aides, administrators, and librarians.

We will focus on the celebration of Día de los Muertos. Using culturally relevant resources, participants will learn how to integrate Día de los Muertos into their classrooms through art and literacy based activities that explore the history and practices associated with this tradition.

Día de los Muertos is an important celebration in Mexico and other parts of Latin America that dates back to the Aztec Empire, before the arrival of the Spanish. In recent decades, it also has become increasingly celebrated in US cities. Oftentimes in the US, Día de los Muertos is misunderstood as a variation of Halloween, but it is a very different celebration. It is a time during which families remember and honor their loved ones who have died. Death is celebrated as a natural and normal part of life. It is believed that during Día de los Muertos, the spirits of those who have passed away return to visit their family and loved ones who are still alive. Families and communities create altars filled with brightly colored flowers, papel picado, sugar skulls, pictures of the deceased, and favorite foods. Cemeteries are cleaned and decorated. All of this is done as a way of inviting the spirits of our loved ones back to visit with us for one day out of the year.

Participants will receive certificates of professional development, access to curriculum materials, and dinner. Questions and comments may be directed to [laiioutreach@unm.edu](mailto:laiioutreach@unm.edu).

## SPONSORS

This workshop is organized by the UNM Latin American and Iberian Institute and National Hispanic Cultural Center.

## PRE-REGISTER

Registration is required for this free event. RSVP at <https://dia-de-los-muertos-and-cultural-literacy.eventbrite.com>