



Día de los Muertos opens cultural door



Library, museum unite with Latinos in annual life-and-death celebration

Art that surrounds the annual Día de los Muertos holiday can be jarring.

So much of it is about skulls – stark, teeth bare, eyes that can be either dark and vacant or bursting with flowers. The uninitiated might find it macabre, even creepy.

But what about the 9-year-old who shows up on a doorstep Halloween night carrying a bag

and wearing a store-bought mask depicting a Hollywood-horror serial killer? Trick or treat! Less artful, and maybe more creepy.

Día de los Muertos and Halloween could hardly be more different, no matter that they nearly coincide on the calendar.

The Loveland Public Library, the Loveland chapter of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) and the City's Department of Cultural Services are collaborating this fall on the Third Annual Día de los Muertos celebration, a weeks-long program devoted to the rich and purely Mexican holiday.

Loveland's celebration derives from a conversation four years ago between Robert Ayala, adult services manager at the library, and Christina Díaz Estrada, principal organizer of Loveland's LULAC chapter.

A 'no-brainer' event

"One of the main things that I do is to produce cultural events, and it was a no-brainer when Christina suggested this to us," Ayala said. "Día de los Muertos is something that she wanted to celebrate, with the library's help, and I said we would participate. LULAC has community ties, and they are the primary contact for

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restauranters, dancers, artists and others in the Latino community.”

Díaz Estrada is Mexican American, a resident since she was 7 years old, a downtown Loveland homeowner and a key driver of a Greeley public schools program to prepare more low-income students for college.

She is also a strong advocate for Latino culture in Loveland, a place that has a Latin American heritage much older and firmly rooted than some relative newcomers can know.

Much more than tacos

“Our culture is about a lot more than ‘Taco Tuesday’ and tequila,” she said. “For people to understand that, we have to move our culture into the community. Our City institutions have to help bring the culture in. It won’t arrive by itself.”

Día de los Muertos is as Mexican as Thanksgiving is American. Its roots are in southern Mexico, and its most lavish celebrations happen in cities such as Oaxaca and Tuxtla Gutierrez, where the indigenous tradition developed.

The holiday spread throughout



Children gather for the 2016 Día de los Muertos parade in Oaxaca, Mexico.

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Mexico during the last two centuries, becoming a national celebration as prominent there as Halloween is in the United States.

For three days each year between Oct. 31 and Nov. 2, the rituals associated with the holiday embrace reverent remembrance of those who have passed, celebration of their lives, and offerings to honor their spiritual journeys.

Díaz Estrada, Ayala and Loveland Museum curator Jennifer Cousino earlier this year huddled in a museum conference room to plan an expanded program for this year’s celebration.

Menu: Art, dance, music, film

“It takes a few key people to produce something on a scale that people notice,” Ayala said. “This is one of the few public events in Loveland where Latinos are recognized for their own culture, and every year we add just a little bit more.”

On this year’s menu are art, dance, film, food, music, history – all wrapped around the annual display of “ofrendas,” alters that celebrate the dead, honor them, thank them and tell their stories. For details, see the complete calendar adjacent.

This year, based on last year’s success, Ayala and Díaz Estrada say they expect about 400 to 500 guests for the main event – the afternoon-long Día de los Muertos celebration in the library where Latino culture comes full-force to Loveland. “One of the things that’s important to me is to open up our space to everyone,” Ayala said. “So much of Loveland seems interested in cultures that they didn’t grow up with, and this is a perfect opportunity for them to learn about and experience ours.”



Día de los Muertos Events



Día de los Muertos: History and Culture Loveland Museum Foote Gallery

5:30 – 7 p.m., Thu. Oct. 26

Dr. Andrea Purdy explores the meaning and mystery of the Day of the Dead. Attendees will enjoy delicious Mexican treats.

Amor Eterno: Armando Silva Exhibition Loveland Museum Foote Gallery

Oct. 26 – Feb. 25, 2018

Armando Silva uses his artistic platform to pursue his passion and purpose. His intensely vibrant, colorful works tell stories of life, culture and the never-ending adventure that is life.

Passing Berthoud: A Film by Caryn Sanchez Loveland Museum Foote Gallery

Oct. 26 – Feb. 25, 2018

The protagonist, Eva, contemplates a future far away from the comfort of her close-knit Latino family and the security of the small town where she lives. The film will run on a loop every 13 minutes.

Armando Silva: Live Performance Loveland Museum Foote Gallery

5:30 – 7 p.m., Thu. Nov. 2

See a live performance of Colorado artist Armando Silva painting his interpretation of Día de los Muertos.

We Were Chicanos: A Film by Caryn Sanchez Loveland Museum Foote Gallery

1:30 – 3 p.m., Sat. Nov. 4

Richard Castro emerged from the early struggles of Denver’s Hispanic movement and left a profound impact on the community of Denver.

Día de los Muertos: Third Annual Cultural Celebration Loveland Public Library, 1 – 4 p.m., Sun. Nov. 5

The Día de los Muertos/Day of the Dead celebration will include Mariachi performers, Aztec ritual dance, folklorico dancing, sugar-skull decorating, altars, Mexican food and much much more!

For more information go to

www.lovelandpubliclibrary.org/DIA.

While a distant memory for many, four years later flood recovery continues

Loveland's "to-do" list in the aftermath of the 2013 Flood is a short one. As the City marked the Fourth Anniversary of the event, just three major projects remain in progress or in the planning stage.

The flood caused nearly \$30 million in damage to City-owned properties, including parks, golf courses, utilities, roads and bridges.

Two of the most visible projects completed in the past year were the building of the Foothills Solar and Substation complex in west Loveland, and the reconstruction of the Recreation Trail and flood-control projects from Wilson to Taft avenues in central Loveland.

Here's a rundown of what remains:

- Reconstruction is underway at Viestenz-Smith Mountain Park, mostly scoured away by the flooding Big Thompson River in the canyon west of Loveland. The park will reopen next summer with a more natural and resilient design.
- Rebuilding of Railroad Avenue just west of Fairgrounds Park will begin next year, with a 100-foot bridge and elevated roadway the



This new high-water mark sign at Fairgrounds Park in Loveland is one of several installed in the region to commemorate the 2013 Flood and keep residents flood-aware.

main features of the more flood-resilient design. A \$3.3 million federal highway grant will cover most costs.

- Separate from the flood recovery list, but closely related, is a project that will elevate a stretch of Wilson Avenue south of the Big Thompson bridge, keeping it open in the event of another flood of the same magnitude of the 2013 event.

A \$2.2 million federal disaster relief grant will pay for that work.

City, county and FEMA officials gathered with residents of Loveland on Sept. 9 for the unveiling of a "High Water Mark" sign in Fairgrounds Park, pictured here. The marker will serve as a permanent remembrance of the 2013 Flood as the City continues work to erase its effects.

New Winter Wonderlights is a fun and festive way to celebrate the holidays

Local residents and visitors alike are invited to celebrate a season of wonder at Winter Wonderlights – a magical, one-of-a-kind light show and free holiday attraction, showing from Nov. 18 through Jan. 7, 2018 at Chapungu Sculpture Park at Centerra in



Loveland.

The Wonderlights come to life every evening with a choreographed light show set to music, which will run every hour at 30 minutes past the hour Monday through Friday starting at 5 p.m.

Don't miss the weekends for even more holiday fun beginning at 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

Local talent will take center stage on the Visit Loveland Igloo performance stage, followed by a choreographed holiday light show.

Non-perishable food items will be collected to benefit a local food bank and these events are free and open to the public.



More information about the events and detailed schedules of performances will be updated regularly at www.VisitLovelandCO.com/WinterWonderlights.

Local performance groups are encouraged to sign up while slots are still available at www.visitlovelandCO.com or call 962-2602.

HALLOWEEN FAMILY FUN FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28
10 am - 2 pm

Peters Park & 5th Street in
front of the Loveland Museum

**FOOD, TRICK-OR-TREATING,
COSTUME CONTEST AND MORE!**



LOVELAND MUSEUM
LOVELAND ARTS AND CULTURE

503 N. Lincoln Ave., Loveland
(970) 962-2410
www.lovelandmuseumgallery.org

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Keep your 1st - 6th grader happy &
engaged in our FULL-DAY CAMPS
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- **SCHOOL DAYS OUT**
M-W 11/20-11/22
- **WINTER BREAK CAMPS**
Tu-F 12/26-12/29
Tu-F 1/2-1/5

More Information Online:
www.CityofLoveland.org/ABDC
or call: (970) 962-2487

TOUCHED BY THE HANDS OF GOD: MICHELANGELO'S MODELS

October 7 - November 26, 2017

Michelangelo



LOVELAND MUSEUM
LOVELAND ARTS AND CULTURE

503 N. Lincoln Avenue, Loveland, CO 80537
(970) 962-2410
www.lovelandmuseumgallery.org

Yard cart services Ends November 30!



Loaded carts
must weigh
less than
250 pounds
and the lid
must close.

The following items can
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yard debris cart:

- Grass clippings
- Leaves
- Garden trimmings
- Twigs (cut to fit into cart)

Please do not include:

- Soil
- Food
- Pet droppings
- Plastic bags
- Trash, rocks or metal
- Ashes (hot or cold)
- Oversized branches,
stumps or lumber

For more information visit:
www.cityofloveland.org/YardWaste

35th Annual SKI & Sports SWAP at Chilson

**Sell your gently used
equipment or buy some
great SKIS & SPORTS
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of the cost!**

Friday, November 3
5:00-9:00 pm

Saturday, November 4
8:30 am-1:00 pm

Call (970) 962-2467 for more information



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*One of the top
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**TOM
PAPA**

Thursday, November 2, 7:30 pm

RIALTO THEATER CENTER
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City Update is a monthly publication of the City of Loveland. Residents receive City Update according to their utility billing cycle. Timeliness of the information may be affected by recipients' billing schedule. City Update is also available around the first of every month on the City's website at www.cityofloveland.org. Your comments are welcome. Please call 962-2302, or email Tom.Hacker@CityofLoveland.org. The City of Loveland is committed to providing equal opportunity for citizens and does not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or gender. The City will make reasonable accommodations for citizens in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. For more information, please contact the City's ADA Coordinator at 962-3319.

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LED STREET LIGHTS

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, street lighting accounts for a whopping 30 percent of all energy used to generate electricity for outdoor lighting. Parking lots and garages account for another 60 percent. Municipalities across the United States are converting to LED streetlights because they are highly energy efficient and live extremely long lives, reducing maintenance costs of replacing streetlights bulbs and ballasts that frequently burn out and reducing the amount of electricity that sodium lights require to keep our streets safe and bright.

Loveland Water and Power (LWP) spent the last five years testing a wide variety of LED streetlights in an effort to find the ultimate in efficiency and effectiveness. LWP tried nine different varieties offering varying lighting levels

from different manufacturers before they settled on the new cobrahead lights that stretch out over the street and post-top lights that line the streets of subdivisions of Loveland.

Outdoor LEDs illuminate streets more efficiently than high-pressure sodium lights because they are directional, emitting light in one direction rather than a diffused glow that can creep into homes and produce glare for drivers. They produce less up light and less light pollution. The new lights also increase color acuity because they are closer to a white light than the more traditional orange-hued lights.

LED lights warm up quickly, eliminating the wait for the bulb to shine bright that occurred with other energy saving bulbs. They also attract fewer bugs because they do not

produce ultraviolet light.

Although the transition to LED streetlights is more expensive on the front end, the new lights last longer than their high-pressure sodium counterparts and provide a whiter, soft light. Typically, crews replace streetlights every two to four years. The new lights will not require replacement for 15 to 20 years. LWP is replacing streetlights as lights need repair or in new construction projects which allows the city to receive full life of the existing infrastructure and not prematurely retire equipment before it has been fully depreciated. LWP is committed to fiscal responsibility and the reduction of overall operations cost down the road. Staff estimates the return on the LED investment will be five years.



DID YOU KNOW?

Loveland Water and Power is responsible for the installation, operations and maintenance of roughly

6,000 STREETLIGHTS

Notice a damaged or burned-out streetlight?

Report it to Loveland Water and Power:
Note the yellow 2 digit number on the streetlight and the major cross streets to the pole.

CONTACT LWP AT...
cityofloveland.org/StreetLightOutage
or (970) 962-3581

UTILITY NEWS



MAIN SWITCHBOARD
970-962-3000

UTILITY BILLING
970-962-2111

visit us online...
cityofloveland.org/LWP



DO YOU HAVE A BURNED OUT CFL BULB?

CFLs contain small amounts of mercury and should be disposed of properly. Local retailers may offer free CFL recycling including:

BATTERIES PLUS 1439 Denver Ave, Loveland

**LARIMER COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS
WASTE FACILITY** 5887 S. Taft Hill Road, Fort Collins

ORCHARDS ACE HARDWARE 269 E 29th St, Loveland

THE HOME DEPOT 1100 Nickel Dr, Loveland



38M GALLON DAY



WATER TREATMENT PLANT CAPACITY VERIFIED

Loveland Water and Power put the new and improved Water Treatment Plant to the test in late July by ramping up water flow to the maximum 38 million gallons a day capacity.

Water Division specialists drained tanks in the City's distribution system to lower than normal levels the night before the test to make room for the additional water that would be produced. Crews began increasing flow at 4 a.m. and slowly ramped up to 38 million gallons a day by 6 a.m. Maximum flow was sustained until 8:30 a.m., allowing staff to thoroughly test all the systems at the max-rated outputs. Staff reported all systems ran efficiently and the capacity of 38MGD was successfully verified.

Loveland's Water Treatment Plant underwent a thorough overhaul during the last two years including the construction of a new filter building, chemical storage building, soda ash feed system and improved treatment processes. As a result of the expansion, completed in the fall of 2016, the plant capacity increased from 30 million gallons per day to 38 million gallons per day.

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