



For Immediate Release

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Photos & Interviews Available

Images from past events: <http://bit.ly/DoDnyc>

**Day of the Dead | *Día de Muertos* Festival
Tribute to Mexican Journalists murdered in Mexico**

Manhattan Oct. 31—Nov. 2, 2015

All events are free and open to the public.

New York, NY, October 23, 2015 - Mano a Mano: Mexican Culture Without Borders will host its annual **Day of the Dead (*Día de Muertos*)** celebration with a variety workshops and live music performances offered in the East Yard of St. Mark's in the Bowery (10th Street and Second Avenue in Manhattan) from Saturday, October 31 to Monday, November 2.

Every year Mano a Mano honors prominent Mexicans and Mexican-Americans who have died. This year we dedicate the altar to journalists José Moisés Sánchez Cerezo, Armando Saldaña Morales, Filadelfo Sánchez Sarmiento and Rubén Espinosa killed in Mexico in 2015. According to the National Human Rights Commission in Mexico more that 85 Mexican journalists have been murdered in Mexico since 2000. This makes Mexico one of the most dangerous places for journalists to work, often receiving extortion and threats.

Day of the Dead has been one of Mexico's most important festivals since Pre-Hispanic times. It is a time for families to gather and welcome the souls of the dead on their annual visit home. *Cempasúchil* (marigold) flowers, burning copal incense, fresh *pan de muerto* bread, candles, sugar skulls, photographs and mementos of the departed adorn special altars. In Mexico, Day of the Dead is celebrated over an entire week with the preparation of altars, foods, dance, music and special offerings for people who have died. Mano a Mano recreates the magical space of a village churchyard during the celebration and has organized a series of events including altar building, workshops, dance, poetry and music.

(A complete schedule of all activities below.)

Program Highlights include:

- Jorge Espinosa, Mexican folk harp, will perform on Saturday, and Son Pecadores, a spirited music and dance ensemble, performing in the Afro-Mexican tradition on Sunday, November 1st.
- Visitors of all ages can attend workshops where they will learn traditional Mexican paper crafts on Sunday, November 1st and Monday, November 2.
- The celebration concludes on Monday, November 2 with a beautiful performance by Mariachi Tapatio de Alvaro Paulino. During this time, the public is invited to come share the bread and flowers and join in the clearing away of the altar.

All events are free and open to the public. Mexican food will be available for purchase throughout the event, including:

Hot drinks: *Atole* (Hot gruel flavored with cinnamon), *Chocolate caliente* (Hot chocolate)

Traditional dishes: Chicken with mole sauce (chilies and chocolate)

Tamales and *sopes* (Corn based dumplings with different toppings and fillings)

About Mano a Mano: Mexican Culture Without Borders

Mano a Mano: Mexican Culture Without Borders is a New York-based non-profit organization 501(c)(3) dedicated to celebrating Mexican culture and promoting the understanding of Mexican traditions.

General Information about the event

How to Get There:

Subway: #6 to Astor Place, L to 3rd Avenue, F to Second Avenue, or any train to Union Square.

Bus: M8, M15, M101, M102, M103.

St. Mark's Church in-the-Bowery

131 E 10th St (at Second Ave.), New York, NY 10003

Website:

www.manoamano.us

Schedule:

Saturday, October 31

12-6 pm Marketplace

10 - 3 pm Ofrenda/Altar Building

4 pm Jorge Espinosa, Mexican Folk Harp

Sunday, November 1 - All Saints' Day

1-6 pm Marketplace

1 pm Workshop: Paper crafts

3 pm Son Pecadores (Performance)

4 pm Cetiliztli Nauhcampa Quetzalcoatl in Ixachitlan

Monday, November 2 - Day of the Dead

1-6 pm Marketplace

2 pm Workshop: Paper Flowers

4 pm Mariachi Tapatio

5:30 pm Taking down the Altar and Closing

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