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Own This City

Time Out New York / Oct 30, 2008

Best of the fests

Say adios to Halloween and hola to Día de los Muertos, plus a month long Puerto Rican fiesta.

By Amy Plitt

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Halloween '08



[The complete planner »](#)

Blogs

The TONY Blog

Last-minute frights

Published on 10/31/08

There are many frightening things out there: werewolves, vampires, hungry mutant rats, Dick Cheney, parents from Park Slope, the state of Ohio, zombies who can operate motor vehicles (even if...

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Video

Tons of clips!

Get a heads-up on the week's top events, go inside the hottest restaurants and trendiest shops, and more.

[Watch videos »](#)



Día de whaaa?

The Day of the Dead honors deceased loved ones, but don't get sad—it's a joyous holiday when spirits can commune with the living.

Like Demi and Patrick in Ghost.

Uh, sorta. Observers build elaborate altars, called *ofrenda*, to remember the dead: Traditionally, marigolds are used for decoration, while small trinkets that symbolize the person's favorite things—a Bible, cake, booze, etc.—are added. Skulls are also a major motif. Sugar versions are imprinted with the loved one's name and added to an *ofrenda* or given out to (live) friends and family. *Calaveras*, little skeletons in an assortment of outfits and positions, also memorialize the dead.

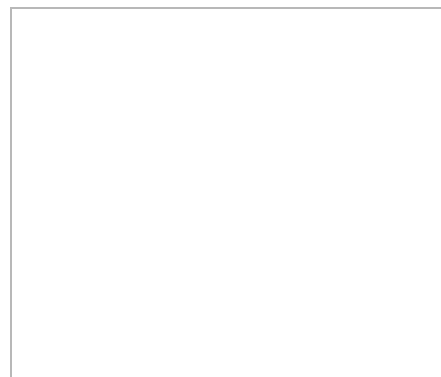


Let's get this party started!

From Thursday 30 through Sunday 2, **St. Mark's Church in-the-Bowery** will host a Day of the Dead celebration with *Mano a Mano: Mexican Culture Without Borders*. Chow down on *pan de muerto* (egg bread traditionally served during the fest) as you check out workshops on paper crafts and altar building, theatrical and musical performances by *La Carpa* and *Semilla*, and a traditional dance procession. **FREE 131 E 10th St at Second Ave (212-587-3070, [manoamano.us](#)).** *Subway: 6 to Astor Pl. Thu 30 2–8pm; Fri 31 6–8pm; Sat 1 3–8pm; Sun 2 4–8pm.*

Or try this!

The National Museum of the American Indian hosts its own Día de los Muertos fest on Saturday 1, focusing on the ancient traditions that influence the holiday. Learn how to make *papel picado* (art created by punching holes in paper); cut a rug with Aztec dance troupe *Danza Mexica Cetilztlil Nauhcampa*; or listen up for Native American storytelling by sisters Elvira and



Most viewed in Own This City

Articles Venues

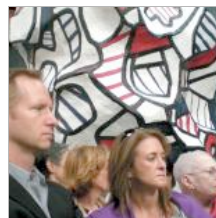
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My lecture in one minute

Isn't it cute how parrots can be taught to repeat stuff—like really dirty words?

[more »](#)

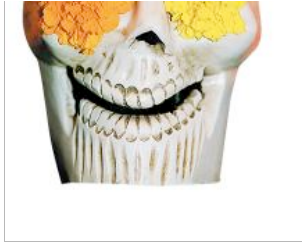
The great outdoors



Hit the road!

We review the season's best, worst and newest walking tours.

Hortensia Colorado. **FREE** Alexander Hamilton U.S. Custom House, 1 Bowling Green between State and Whitehall Sts (212-514-3700, nmai.si.edu). Subway: 4, 5 to Bowling Green. Sat 1 1–5pm.



Keep the fiesta bumpin'
Commune with the living at Borimix: Puerto Rico Fest 2008. Presented by the Society of Educational Arts, the monthlong showcase is a multidisciplinary celebration of Puerto Rican arts and culture, and gets under way Saturday 1 with a performance by Teatro SEA children's theater, as well as a musical tribute to poet and activist Juan Antonio Corretjer. *For a full schedule of events, visit sea-online.info.*

See all street fairs and parades this weekend

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