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Mano a Mano Día de los Muertos

Photograph: Enrique Gonzalez

Tuesday 2 marks the culmination of El Día de los Muertos (the Day of the Dead), the Mexican holiday celebrating the circle of life—and death. Take part at these events.

Mano a Mano's Día de los Muertos

Friday 29–Sunday 31

This event kicks off with Noche Mexicana, a celebration featuring Mexican food and traditional music and dancing. On Saturday, take part in a parade through the East Village—be sure to wear a paper-skull mask, typically worn in celebration of the day—that culminates at St. Mark's Church-in-the-Bowery for a blessing of the an altar to lost loved ones. Learn how to make *pan de muerto* (bread that's used as an offering to the dead) and hear live music from NYC's Radio Jarocho. On Sunday, master the art of creating sugar skulls (a customary holiday sweet) before helping dismantle the altar. **FREE** Location and time vary; visit [manoamano.us](#) for details.

Day of the Dead/Día de los Muertos

Saturday 30

Native American storytellers and musicians anchor this event: Michael Heralda combines stories with traditional Mexican music, while New York troupe Cetiliztli Nauhcampa Quetzalcoatl in Ixachitlan leads a dance procession. Get crafty during four different workshops, including ones on creating paper marigolds (the flower associated with the Day of the Dead), and skull masks. **FREE** National Museum of the American Indian, Alexander Hamilton U.S. Customs House, 1 Bowling Green between State and Whitehall Sts (212-514-3700, [nmai.si.edu](#)). Noon–5pm.

Día de los Muertos Party

Sunday 31

The work of Mexican artist José Guadalupe Posada, who became famous for his satirical skeletal illustrations of political figures, informs this celebration. As an homage, a costumed figure of one of his most famous skull drawings, *La Calavera Catrina* (which represents death), will mingle with partygoers. Meanwhile, you can sample *champurrado* (a cocktail containing tequila, chocolate, milk and spices), or add an offering to the party's altar—the theme is "Economy," so bring a token of your own fiscal problems. *Observatory*, 543 Union

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