



## 2020 Día de los Muertos Short Film Competition Participant Eligibility Criteria

Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is considered one of the most important cultural celebrations in Latin America. With ancient roots in Mesoamerica, the tradition as we know it today is largely a combination of indigenous and European cultural practices that demonstrate the culture's strong sense of love and respect for one's ancestors, while celebrating the continuance of life.

In honor of this vibrant celebration of life and loved ones, Denver Botanic Gardens invites you to create your own short film (not to exceed five minutes) that illustrates what Día de Los Muertos means to you. This first-ever competition is an opportunity to tell a visual story of how communities come together and create a sacred space, finding joy in the face of death and comfort in reuniting with loved ones. **Three winners will receive cash prizes and will be featured on the Gardens' Día de los Muertos web page.**

Follow these guidelines to enter the Día de los Muertos Short Film Contest:

### Eligibility Criteria

- Competition is open to all ages.
- Films must be five (5) minutes or less.
- Films can be fiction, documentary, animation or experimental.
- Films must focus on Día de los Muertos as it relates to celebrating the lives of those who have passed away.
- Films must be original and not copied from others. For example, films that use unlicensed music may be disqualified.
- No nudity, extreme violence or vulgar language permitted.
- You must create or have an existing YouTube channel to participate.

### Application Timeline

- All entries must be submitted by Friday, October 2, 2020.
- All communications will be sent via email.

### Submission Details

- All films must be uploaded to your YouTube channel. Save your video as 'Public' or 'Unlisted' in YouTube. Under 'More Options', 'Additional Options', check 'Allow embedding'.  
Instructions for using YouTube can be found [here](#).
- All entries should begin with a 5-second full screen "title screen" that includes the following information:
  - a. Lead producer's name
  - b. Title of video
  - c. Total running time (not including the 5-second title screen)



# DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

- All entries must be emailed to [dia@botanicgardens.org](mailto:dia@botanicgardens.org) and must include the following information:
  - a. Contact name
  - b. Contact email
  - c. Contact phone
  - d. Movie title
  - e. Link to YouTube channel
- If you have a special circumstance and need to submit a DVD, contact [dia@botanicgardens.org](mailto:dia@botanicgardens.org)

## Rules and Guidelines

- There is no entry fee.
- One submission per household.
- Not all films submitted will receive a prize.
- Nudity, extreme violence or vulgar language is not permitted.
- All information presented in the film must be cited, giving credit to the original source. Plagiarism of any kind will result in disqualification. You must include your citations in your film. No copyrighted materials (music, images, etc.) may be used unless you own the copyright or have a license to use the material. Written permission must be obtained and provided upon request for all copyrighted materials.
- Late submissions will be accepted and may be shared on the YouTube playlist but will NOT be eligible for awards or prizes.
- Each film must have one representative to serve as the point of contact.
- All entries must be uploaded to your YouTube channel and a link shared with the Gardens between August 31, 2020 and 5 p.m. Friday, October 2, 2020, Mountain Time.
- All entries must be submitted in English or include English subtitles.
- Entrants grant Denver Botanic Gardens the right to use their names, photographs, statements, quotes, testimonials and film submissions for advertising, publicity and promotional purposes without notification or compensation. This includes but it is not limited to website, social media, onsite screens, conferences or at other venues.
- All minors that appear in your film must have the consent of parent or guardian.
- Films that are chosen as a finalist or are asked to share on Denver Botanic website must submit a signed/completed Parent Permission Form and a signed/completed Actor Release Form for each person appearing in your video.
- Non-winning entries may be featured on the Gardens' website.

## Review Process

- All entries are judged on creativity, individuality, content and how applicant uses his or her artistic vision to portray the theme.
- Films will be judged by Denver Botanic Gardens' staff.
- Winners will be notified by email by Friday, October 23.

## Award & Prizes

- The top three filmmakers will receive **cash prizes of \$200, \$100, \$50.**