

2021 DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS ALTARS OF REMEMBRANCE PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

In conjunction with the 10th annual celebration of Día de los Muertos, Denver Botanic Gardens invites community groups or individuals to create a commemorative *nicho*, for the annual Altars of Remembrance display.

Event Information

Date Saturday, November 6

Time: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Location

Denver Botanic Gardens

1007 York Street

Denver, CO 80206

Eligibility Criteria

- Participation is open to all, but space is limited.
- A refundable deposit is required to reserve your spot.
- All individuals/groups/organizations must sign a waiver to participate.
- All applicants must provide a brief (100 words or less) narrative describing the loved ones you are honoring.
- Application information must be complete and accurate to be fully considered for the 2021 Día de los Muertos Altars of Remembrance.

Application Timeline

- Applications are due by Friday, September 24th
- All deposits and waivers due by Friday, October 1st

Review Process

- Requests will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis until all slots are filled; spaces are limited.
- If you are selected, you will receive a confirmation email with detailed event information within one week of your application submission.
- Any applications submitted after September 24th will be reviewed only if spaces remain. Late applicants will be notified of status within one week of send date.

Submission Process



- All applicants will receive one mini-10" x 7" *nicho* to create their ofrenda. Participation will be limited to two categories: 1) individuals; 2) groups/organizations (such as nonprofits, businesses, or community organizations.) Participants may choose only one category to participate.

* Nicho pictured is for illustrative purposes only. The nicho you receive to decorate may differ in style.

Individuals

- All individuals must submit a \$25 refundable deposit to secure their spot.
- All individuals may enter ONE *nicho*.
- Participants will create a unique work of art that honors their loved one's life story.

Groups

- All groups must submit a \$50 refundable deposit to secure their spot.
- Denver Botanic Gardens will provide your group with (6) or (12) tin *nichos*.
- Groups will create a unique work of art that honors their loved one's life story.

Event Overview

1. **Location:** Altar of Remembrance location will be indoors. All space assignments are final and made at the discretion of the event coordinator.
2. **Pick-Up Nichos:** Participants are responsible for picking up their *nichos* after the event. Please refer to **Important Dates** section below.
3. **Cancellations:** If applicant cancels their participation, the deposit will not be refunded regardless of how far out they are withdrawing.
4. **Deposits:** All deposits are due within one week of application submission.
5. **Security:** While the Gardens has security on-site during the general admission hours, as well as overnight, please use your best judgment as the Gardens are not responsible for any lost, damaged or stolen items.

Important Dates

- **September 24:** Application closes
- **October 1:** All deposits and waivers due, *nichos* will be mailed to participants
- **October 25-26:** Groups or individuals drop off *nichos* at Denver Botanic Gardens
- **November 6:** Día de los Muertos Celebration 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- **November 8:** Groups or individuals pick up *nichos* at Denver Botanic Gardens

Other Important Information

- If you are selected to participate, additional event information will be emailed to you within one week of your application.
- All materials received may be used by Denver Botanic Gardens for publicity and promotional purposes.
- All *nichos* received will be available for pick-up from Denver Botanic Gardens during the week of Nov 8th, during business hours. They will not be held after that date.

***See FAQ sheet below for more information.**



FAQs

What is a *nicho*? *Nichos* are small, hand-made tin boxes constructed to display lovingly crafted scenarios. Many Day of the Dead altars will include *nichos* as a way of rendering tribute to a person of great significance to the artist. This 3-dimensional box is often decorated by a variety of images or objects and can be accentuated with bright colors.

What size is my *nicho*? Each *nicho* is 10" x 7".

Is there a fee to participate? Yes. A \$25 (individual) or \$50 (group) refundable deposit is required to secure your spot. Denver Botanic Gardens will provide *nichos* to participating organizations or individuals. Participants are responsible for their own materials based on their creative vision.

Is this a competition? Will there be prizes? No. Día de los Muertos is a community celebration intended to highlight the unique talents of all participants and provide a space for their stories to be seen, heard and felt.

What type of media/materials can I use for my *nicho*? Does it have to be traditional? We encourage everyone to interpret the idea of the *nicho* in any way they wish. Denver Botanic Gardens will provide prefabricated aluminum structures for the participants, but participants must provide all other materials and equipment, including photos and glue, if applicable. Organic materials, including plants and food, are not allowed in the Gardens.

Does my *nicho* have to be about a deceased relative or loved one? The beauty of *nichos* is that they begin as empty tin boxes waiting to come alive with the inspiration of the artist. How you decorate your *nicho* and what symbols you use is entirely up to you. It may be dedicated to a departed individual, but it does not have to be.

When will my *nicho* be mailed to me? *Nichos* will be mailed during the week of September 20.

What if my *nicho* arrives damaged?

Please email the event coordinator Surbhi.Kamboj@botanicgardens.org to discuss a replacement.

Am I responsible for delivering my *nicho* after I decorate? Yes. Drop-offs take place on Monday, October 26th and Tuesday, October 27th during regular business hours (9 AM-5 PM).

Will I be able to keep my *nicho*? Yes. After the Día de los Muertos event, you can pick up your *nicho* on Monday, November 8th from 9 AM until 5 PM or Tuesday, November 9th, from 9 AM until 5 PM. *Nichos* not picked up by 5 PM on November 9th will be disposed of.