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### **Community Altar for Dia de los Muertos at the Morris Graves Museum of Art**

The Humboldt Arts Council and the Morris Graves Museum of Art will have a Community Altar to remember the loss of loved ones through November 3, 2006. All are invited to bring pictures and offerings for the altar.

Dia de los Muertos, Day of the Dead, is a holiday (or festival) which is celebrated in Mexico, Ecuador, Guatemala, and other areas in Central and South America populated with the Latino ethnic background. The *Day of the Dead* is also celebrated in areas of the United States, such as California, Texas, and many others, in which the Mexican/American heritage exists. November 2nd is the official date for Day of the Dead, although it is celebrated between October 31st and November 2nd. The best way to describe this holiday is to say it is a time when family members who have died are remembered. It is a holiday when the whole family comes together - both living and dead. This holiday festivity is believed to be a time for the departed to join the living in the celebrations of the "continuum of life." In Mexico, this festival is considered to be the most important holiday of the year.

This year's altar was made by Linda Wise. Linda Wise is an Environmental Compliance & Safety Specialist for the garbage company in Eureka. Wise frequently creates her own work from recycled materials, creating "Junk Art". Prior to working in the waste industry, she primarily worked oil and pencil. She has generously donated her time to create the altar for Dia de los Muertos.

The Morris Graves Museum of Art is open Wednesday through Sunday from 12-5pm.