



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**OXNARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER CELEBRATES LIFE AND CULTURE
FOR DAY OF THE DEAD PERFORMANCE OF “SUGAR SKULL,” THE MUSICAL**

OXNARD (October 14, 2019) — The music, traditions, and customs of celebrating Día de Los Muertos/Day of the Dead, will get center stage at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center (PACC) on Saturday, November 2, 2019, from 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. The main attraction of the event will be a performance of Sugar Skull – A Día de Los Muertos Musical Adventure, a joyous, heartfelt live performance that delves into the rich traditions of the Mexican holiday. The PACC is pleased to present this event as part of its 2019/2020 Season.

Mexico Beyond Mariachi, an ensemble of professional artists, musicians, actors, and dancers from different cultural backgrounds, is the creative company behind the production. Their love of the traditions, festivals, and richness of life in Mexico shines bright in every performance. Mexico Beyond Mariachi’s philosophy is rooted in the belief that art and culture form an integral part of the development of an individual’s outlook on life. The site also offers plenty of facts, information and resources about Día de Los Muertos/Day of the Dead. To get audiences prepared for the performance, the website also features a vocabulary listing of some of the more popular Muertos terms such as, *ofrenda* (a collection of objects placed on a ritual altar during the holiday), *cempazuchitl* (the Nahuatl word for yellow marigold, the traditional flower for Day of the Dead), and *calaca* (a colloquial Mexican Spanish name for skeleton).

Mexico Beyond Mariachi wants to remind audiences that Day of the Dead is not a Mexican version of Halloween, so there aren’t any scary ghosts, witches or zombies. It is a celebration of happiness as they remember loved ones that have passed on. It is also a recognition of the cycle of life. While this holiday dates back almost 3,000 years, many American audiences first got their taste of Muertos by watching Disney’s highly successful animated film, *Coco*.

Included in the event, the PACC will host plenty of interactive fun with muertos-themed face paintings, a dance performances by Oxnard College’s Ballet Folklórico Mestizo, live music and poetry, information booths, decorated altars, refreshments, and plenty of family-friendly fun.

Tickets to the Sugar Skull performance are available for \$10 children/students, \$15 for adults. Tickets are now on sale on the PACC website at oxnardperformingarts.com, or at the box office, Monday thru Saturday from 12 to 6 pm at 800 Hobson Way, Oxnard. For more information, call (805) 486-2424.

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Oxnard Performing Arts and Convention Center
800 Hobson Way, Oxnard, California
oxnardperformingarts.com