Upcoming Events (view our events calendar at www.txstate.edu/honors/events/upcoming):

**MFA Faculty Poetry Reading on Wednesday, October 23 at 5:30pm in the Honors Coffee Forum (LAMP 407)**
"Tell Me This Didn't Happen": Poems on Truth.
Featuring MFA Poetry faculty:
Steve Wilson
Cecily Parks
Roger Jones
Naomi Shihab Nye
Kathleen Peirce
Please contact ml45@txstate.edu for more information.

**Resume Building for Honors Students on Tuesday, October 29 at 5:30pm in LAMP 407A**
This presentation is tailored to Honors students, who are preparing for a variety of future paths in Peace corps/foreign service, master's/doctoral programs, medical and law school, as well as non-traditional creative careers. Learn how to articulate your Honors experiences into "marketable" skills! Please contact ms84@txstate.edu for more information.

**Día de Los Muertos:**

**Schedule of Events**

**Altaires Across Campus**
Honors College  October 1 – November 4
DHSI Programs  October 28 – November 1
LBJ Student Center  October 29 – November 1
Various across campus  October 28 – November 1

**Screening of Coco Movie**
Wednesday, October 30, 2019 from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM in Evans Liberal Arts Room 118

**Pan Dulce Para El Alma**
Thursday, October 31, 2019 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM in LBJSC 3-13.1

Information below provided by University College HSI:
Please join us in commemorating our deceased loved ones and ancestors.

**Purpose and Goals of Celebrating Dia de Los Muertos at TXST**

**Increase a sense of belonging for Hispanic and Latinx students.**
Dia de los Muertos is a celebration of life, ancestral connection and heritage. This event provides a direct service to students and other community members who identify as Hispanic or Latinx to participate in a significant cultural event on campus. This event connects Hispanic and Latinx students to peers with a shared cultural identity and foster greater visibility and pride for the Hispanic and Latinx community at Texas State.

**Improve non-Hispanic and Latinx individuals’ appreciation of a beloved tradition of Hispanic and Latinx cultures.**
The week of events encourages the authentic engagement of non-Hispanic or -Latinx students, faculty, and staff, by inviting them to create their own altares to honor their relatives or perhaps contribute to departmental altares to honor “heroes” of their respective disciplines who have passed. Campus community members who have not previously understood the meaning and customs of Día de los Muertos will come to understand the holiday as a Hispanic or Latinx expression of honor for deceased loved ones and ancestors.
Here is a video explaining the significance of Día de Los Muertos and attached is a handout about the significant components of an altar.

**Schedule of Events**

**Altares Across Campus**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Honors College</td>
<td>October 1 – November 4</td>
</tr>
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**Sponsors and collaborators: Hispanic Policy Network, Honors College, DHSI Programs, and Student Diversity and Inclusion**
Day of the Dead (Día de los Muertos) is a Mexican celebration when families gather to honor the memory of deceased loved ones on November 1 and 2. Spirits are guided home to enjoy offerings left for them on meticulously crafted altars. Its roots are a fusion of traditions found in Europe and Mesoamerica, particularly the ancient Aztec empire.

The altar is a complex creation with incredible symbolism as each element carries specific meaning. Here are the most important elements and what they mean:

**Levels**
- “Ofrendas” can be made up of two, three or seven levels.
- 2 levels represent the division between the earth and the sky.
- 3 levels represent the sky, the earth, and the underworld.
- 7 levels are the most common and relate to the seven levels that a soul must traverse before reaching heaven (or hell). It also relates to the Seven Deadly Sins.

**Fire**
- Fire in the form of candles and torches are symbols of our love for our deceased relatives and guiding lights for their spirits.

**Paper**
- “Ofrendas” usually have “papel picado” or tissue paper, typically in yellow and purple, made into intricate designs. They are a representation of the union between life and death.

**Incense**
- A chalice with incense or copal (an aromatic tree resin used in indigenous ceremonies) is placed on the altar. It is a way to purify the souls of the dead and ward off evil spirits.

**Water**
- A glass of water is often placed on the altar to quench the thirst of the deceased and strengthen them for their return journey.

**Banquet**
- To celebrate the arrival of your deceased loved ones, a banquet of their favorite food and drink items is placed as an offering.

**Typical Food**
- As well as the deceased’s favorite food items, altars usually contain traditional Day of the Dead food items such as Pan de Muerto, rice, mole, pumpkin, sugar cane, jicama and oranges - the fruits of the season.

**Flowers**
- Flowers are not just a beautiful visual addition to the altar.
- Yellow flowers, or cempasúchitl, are a guide for the spirits into the mortal world.
- White flowers represent the sky, while purple flowers are the traditional color of mourning in Mexico.

**Calaveras:**
- “Calaveras” or skulls are representations of deceased relatives. Made of sugar or chocolate and often consumed by kids after the celebration, they are an example of the Mexican ability to celebrate, mourn and play with death.

**White Cross:**
- A cross made of slaked lime is drawn on the ground under the altar. It originally represented the four cardinal points corresponding to the four elements. Now it is also a representation of the Christian cross.
Día de Los Muertos

Gain an understanding of the history, traditions, and celebrations associated with this Hispanic and Latinx holiday

ALTARES

October 28 - November 1

Sponsors and Collaborators: Hispanic Policy Network, Honors College, DHSI Programs, and Student Diversity and Inclusion