



LALS 205: Latinx in the Media/  
MEDST 225: Ethnicity in  
American Media  
Dr. Sara Hinojos

“Creating an Ofrenda”



# Families

by Sebastian Ballinas,  
Brendan Depuy,  
and Jhordyn Griggs

Our theme represents a traditional approach to Dia de los Muertos, honoring the memories of our families. We included customary elements found on ofrendas like calaveras, papel picado, and cempasúchiles. We learned that these elements help guide our ancestors back home so they may find their way back to loved ones. We personalized the ofrenda by including their photographs and personal items. Each of us dedicate a shelf to our family members.



# DRMAN AND



## Peace & Freedom by Michaella Gordon & Valery Nino

We were inspired by the Chicanx traditional honoring of Dia de los Muertos. Making an ofrenda with a political message. Additionally, we are shocked by the public displays of hate and multiple wars around the world. We want peace, freedom, and respect for everyone. The hands of different colors represent equality. The inclusion of candles is for the survivors and victims of hate crimes and genocides. The use of the chain symbolizes people who have been unjustly criminalized based on their nationality, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, or for going against the status quo.

# Immigrant Backgrounds

by Isaiah Brown & Jonathan Cheng

Our ofrenda theme is personal and inclusive to everyone because we all have ancestors from different parts of the world. The central focal point is a world map to represent everyone's diverse ancestry. Brown created a painting to symbolize the journey of our ancestors. The suitcases reiterate that same journey and we realize that not everyone has the privilege to pack when they migrate. Traditional Dia de los Muertos elements included are candles, cempasúchiles, sugar skulls, and sage. An interesting fact, Day of the Dead is not only celebrated in Latin America but also in Ireland and the Philippines.



# ARHAM ROT



## Latinx Activists

by Jessica Guzman, Sarai Quispe,  
& Christina Ward

We were moved by the film *Artbound: Day of the Dead* (2019) which represents ways to not only honor biological family but important people in our lives. People we never met but feel connected to. Héctor Lavoe used his music to address social issues like racism and poverty, giving a voice to Puerto Rican communities in NYC. Celia Cruz, the “Queen of Salsa,” celebrated Afro-Caribbean culture, broke stereotypes, and supported causes like music education and cancer awareness. César Chávez co-founded the United Farm Workers, leading nonviolent movements for fair pay and safer conditions for farmworkers. Dolores del Río was the first Mexican actress to succeed in Hollywood, paving the way for Latina representation.

# Honor for Grandfather: Seeds They Planted by Jason Luo, Christian Raymond, & Lizbeth Tejada

Our ofrenda is a traditional family altar where we honor the lives of our grandfathers. We display our memories of them for the next generation of people within our own families who did not have the opportunity to meet them. We included traditional elements like fire (candles) and earth (flowers and fruit). Personal items included are their favorite drinks, candy, and items they loved. Photographs are not included because we do not have any. A reminder that photographs are not required on an altar to honor loved ones. We were inspired by working class families who might not have much of their ancestors but still gather to remember.

# UNDA



# THE NORMAN AND CAROLE A. BARHAM ROTUNDA



