

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**THE NINTH ANNUAL
FLORIDA DAY OF THE DEAD CELEBRATION
ONE OF THE LARGEST IN THE COUNTRY
"Memory for the Dead - Party for the Living"
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2nd, 2018**

Get ready for the ninth installment of Ft. Lauderdale's ever popular and spirited "**Dia de los Muertos**" or **Day of the Dead**, a festival of remembrance and revelry. Featuring the Skeleton Processional with 50 giant puppets up to 18 feet tall and more than 2000 skeletons leading the way!

Our ancestors believed that on every 2nd of November, the gateway between Mictlan, the ancient Aztec Land of the Dead, and our world opens so we may celebrate with our lost loved ones for one special time of year.

This **FREE** Fort Lauderdale based event, named one of the "**Top 10 Day of the Dead Events**" in North America by The USA Today, attracts legions of talented skull inspired artists, mariachi musicians, dancers and painted performers, along with crowds of more than 10,000 enthusiastic families and revelers over all of our events.

Event Founder and Master Puppeteer, **Jim Hammond** stated, "Our mission is to produce a signature event for all ages that maintains and respects the cultural integrity of international **Dia de los Muertos** traditions. The **Florida Day of the Dead Celebration** provides a memory for the dead and a party for the living."

It all starts at the antique New River Inn where you can experience authentic **Ofrendas**, altars of remembrance, and sugar skull art exhibits presented by the Fort Lauderdale History Center from 3-8pm. The Celebration continues in Huizenga Plaza at 4pm on Las Olas Boulevard where mask and puppet making, sugar skull face painting, traditional Aztec and Mayan dance performances will be live on the **Aztec Stage**. Officials from Fort Lauderdale City Commission and General Consulate of Mexico in Miami will formally welcome participants at 6pm.

At 6:30pm, the **Skeleton Processional**, featuring 50 giant puppets up to 18' tall and over 2000 skeletons, will follow Mariachi musicians along Fort Lauderdale's beautiful Riverwalk, culminating at the **Folklorico Stage, Craft Crypt** and **Muertos Street Festival** on SW 3rd Ave and Broward Boulevard. Food trucks, traditional dance, interactive street performers, and original indie art and crafts will be available until 11pm.

Continued on Page 2

2018 DAY OF THE DEAD / Page 2

From 8pm-midnight on America’s Backyard nightclub stage, experience South Florida’s coolest rock sounds with the return of the **Boneyard Bandstand** plus this year, we introduce **DJ Muertos** bringing together late Friday night partiers donned in sugar skull gear until 4am.

The Florida Day of the Dead Celebration is produced by Puppet Network and supported by our event partners including: Damn Good Hospitality (Revolution Live, America’s Backyard, Stache), Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale, Fort Lauderdale Historical Society, City of Fort Lauderdale, General Consulate of Mexico in Miami, Visit Mexico, and Broward County Cultural Division among many others. Our generous major sponsors include: Koffee Kult, Red Bull, Modelo, Corona, and iHeartRadio.

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About Florida Day of the Dead Celebration:
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 2nd, 2018 - 3-11pm
www.dayofthedeadflorida.com

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