

Request for Proposals: Contemporary, Non-Traditional Ofrendas

Day of the Dead November 3-4, 2018 Harbourfront Centre

The Vision

Harbourfront Centre is an innovative, non-profit cultural organization, which provides internationally renowned programming in the arts, culture, education and recreation, all within a collection of distinctive venues in the heart of Toronto's downtown waterfront.

Diversity has always been at the heart of Harbourfront Centre. In the lakeside places and spaces it encompasses. In the multitude of cultures and backgrounds it celebrates. In the eclectic programming, engagement and entertainment it provides. And in the broad range of people it attracts.

Over the November 3-4, 2018 weekend, Harbourfront Centre will present the 15th edition of Day of the Dead / Día de los Muertos celebration. Through contemporary art and music, Day of the Dead is a celebration of the life of people, their memories, their achievements, and their impact on the coming generations. The Day of the Dead is a personal and communitarian, eternal and ephemeral celebration.

Being an organization that promotes contemporary arts and inspires artistic dialogue among artists, our focus this year will be to present contemporary ofrendas created by Latin American artists, duo or group of artists based in Canada.

Based on this, we are inviting Latin American artists to present a proposal of non-traditional ofrendas. An installation of contemporary art that considers the origin within popular art and respects the significance of the ofrenda tradition. The intention and execution of each installation is a contemporary response that will bring a new perspective to the traditional form.

We will also have a few traditional ofrendas in a different location, created by community groups as we want to show the evolution from traditional to contemporary.

Dates & Deadlines

- **Application Deadline:** July 13, 5 pm
- **Set Up Dates:** October 30 - November 2, 9 am – 5 pm
- **Strike/Removal Dates:** November 4 once event concludes, 6 pm
- **Exhibit Dates:** November 3, 12 - 7 pm & November 4, 12 pm - 6 pm

Selection Process: Curation

- Harbourfront Centre will select a jury that will decide which artists will present ofrendas
- Artists must be able to work with Harbourfront Centre staff, such as sound engineers, producers and curators, in order to successfully execute:
 - What it means to preserve and safeguard the heritage of the ofrenda's significance
 - Displaying or arranging the work / selecting locations according to each proposal
 - Meeting with the Harbourfront Centre team when requested / agreed among everyone involved
 - Follow set-up and strike procedures (see below)
 - Working collaboratively
- Harbourfront Centre will send an e-mail with acceptance or rejection notice to the address in the proposal, no later than end of day Thursday October 19
- Decisions from the jury are final

Fee / Production

Harbourfront Centre will pay each artist a fee of \$1,000 for:

- Artist's fees
- Materials
- Transportation
- Storage
- Set up and Strike (*)
- This fee includes HST

A contract will be signed between Harbourfront Centre and the artist. Payment will be made in two installments 50% at the signature of the contract and the balance on Sunday November 4 or sent by mail after November 5, if preferred.

(*) Artists are responsible to setting up and striking their work, as well as the transportation and storage of all items.

Harbourfront Centre will have basic support with some personnel to assist artist on tasks that only Harbourfront Centre staff can do (for example climbing a ladder). Works must be self-sufficient in their set up, running and strike.

Guidelines

Proposals must be sent to asabogal@harbourfrontcentre.com. Files heavier than 2 mg must be uploaded to dropbox, WeTransfer or Google Drive. You must send the link within the email that contains your written application. Deadline is Friday July 13 at 5 pm.

Each proposal (artists can submit more than one) must contain the following:

- Artist's bio and photograph (for marketing purposes)
- Exhibition or project description (max two pages)
- Ofrenda's sketch/mock up
- Material's list, including props and any audio visual elements
- The maximum space for each ofrenda is 10' x 7' x 8' high
- The minimum space for each ofrenda is 6' x 7' x 8' high
- The location of the ofrendas does not contain walls, nevertheless the back has a glass garage window that the artist can intervene or use as support for a backing (see photo at the end of this page)

Harbourfront Centre will be able to provide to each artist (if needed)

- We have limited amounts of risers (6'6" wide x 3'3" deep x 9" high) to provide to some artists
- 15 amp power outlets = 1 per artist

Harbourfront Centre does not have storage capacity before, during or after the event

Contact Information

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Programming Partner



LATIN AMERICAN-CANADIAN ART PROJECTS

