**Press Release** Date: Thursday, Sept. 14, 2017 **Contacts:** Gwen Meister, gmeister@windstream.net or 402-420-5442 or

Sharon Kennedy, sharon.kennedy@nebraska.gov or 402-471-4445

**Dia de los Muertos FREE EVENT on Sunday, November 5, 2017**

**Time:** From 1:00 – 7:00 p.m. (times vary –see schedule below)

**Where:** Nebraska’s Centennial Mall and nearby locations in downtown Lincoln NE

Experience *Dia de los Muertos* in downtown Lincoln with *ofrendas (*traditional memorial displays*)*, storytelling, mariachi music, traditional Mexican folkloric dance, face painting, art making, refreshments and more. Pick up your passport pamphlet at any of the locations where activities are occurring. Get a stamp at every location and enter a prize drawing.

Beginning at 1:00 p.m. is a Mayor’s Proclamation ceremony on the north steps of the State Capitol where *ofrendas* will also be on view. The day concludes at UNL’s Student Union (Centennial Room) from 5:00-7:00 p.m. where there will be *ofrendas*, song and dance performances, refreshments and a passport prize drawing.

*Dia de los Muertos* is an official Nebraska Statehood 150 event. Participating groups include: Latino-American Commission, Lincoln Commission on Human Rights, Lincoln City Libraries, Mourning Hope Grief Center, Nebraska History Museum in partnership with Lux Center for the Arts and the Mexican American Historical Society of the Midlands, Nebraska Folklife Network, Lincoln Children’s Museum, UNL Mexican American Student Association, El Centro de las Americas, and the Downtown Lincoln Association. Artist support is provided by Humanities Nebraska and Nebraska Arts Council. Promotional materials are courtesy of Eagle Printing.

**Schedule of Activities:**

Nebraska State Capitol 1445 K Street: proclamation at 1:00 p.m. and *ofrendas* 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Nebraska Folk Life Network: Performances by Mariachi Zapata and Fiesta Mexicana of the Heartland dancers 2:00-4:30 p.m. on the third floor of the Nebraska History Museum (131 Centennial Mall North).

Bennett Martin Public Library 136 S 14th Street: Family story times at 2:00 and 4:00 p.m., skull-making crafts, full-size *La Catrina*, and *ofrenda* in remembrance of Nebraska authors.

Mourning Hope Grief Center: Letter writing and mask making at the Lincoln Children’s Museum from 2:00-4:00 pm.

Nebraska History Museum, Centennial Mall at P Street (131 Centennial Mall North): Artist-led artmaking activities and *ofrendas* 1:00-4:30 p.m. In partnership with Lux Center for the Arts and Mexican American Historical Society of the Midlands. Supported by Humanities Nebraska. Music and dance on third floor 2:00 – 4:30 pm.

Lincoln Children’s Museum 1420 P Street: face painting and dance performances every half hour 2:00- 4:00 p.m. Mourning Hope sponsored letter writing and mask making.

Mexican American Student Association at UNL Nebraska Union 1400 R Street: *ofrendas*, song and dance performances, refreshments and passport prize drawing 5:00- 7:00 p.m. Activities will be in the Centennial Room of the UNL Student Union and are held in partnership with El Centro de las Americas of Lincoln.

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