

# Dia de los Muertos: Symbolic Portraits Printmaking

*Our diverse social histories and heritage can inform our identities which can be represented through narratives and visual culture.*

Key Concepts	Related Concepts	Global Context
Identity	Narrative & Visual Culture	Orientation in time and space (Civilization and social histories, heritage)

## Inquiry Questions:

- What is *dia de los muertos*? When is it celebrated? What are ways in which people celebrate *dia de los muertos*?
- Why is *dia de los muertos* celebrated?
- Is there a difference between folk art and fine art?

**You:** are an artist. You will produce artwork around the theme, Dia de los Muertos. You are exploring ways in which you create a symbolic portrait of a loved one using printmaking materials.

**Goal:** You will create a work of art that commemorates and celebrates the life of a loved one who has passed away.

**Audience:** Your peers and your teachers are your audience. Your artistic representation will help your audience learn a few things about you and the person you are celebrating.

**Situation:** You may or may not be familiar with key concepts and artistic traditions of Dia de los Muertos. The key to this assignment is to learn or review the key concepts and artistic traditions and interpret them in your artwork. You will also be publicly displaying your artwork in a school wide exhibition.

**Product:** Each student will make a Dia de los Muertos print inspired by a variety of printmakers. The piece must communicate the identity of the individual being commemorated through visually narrating aspects of that individual's life.

**Standards for Success:** Your work in progress and final book need to meet the benchmarks listed.

### **Benchmarks:**

(You will be assessed on the following 10 benchmarks)

#### Understand and apply media, techniques, and processes.

- 1a: I can use (a variety of medium) to create a work of art with a beginning level of mastery.
- 1b: I can create (a print) using (soft cut printmaking method).
- 1c: I can construct a piece of art that demonstrates intentional workmanship.

#### Choose and evaluate a range of media, symbols, and subject matter.

- 2a: I can apply appropriate symbols to effectively show meaning in a work of art.

- 2b: I can effectively show an idea (introduce myself through visual images) in a work of art.

Explore and document ideas in a sketchbook.

- 6c. I can use my sketchbook as a source of inspiration for school based and personal artwork.

Understand how the Elements and Principles contribute to the emotional qualities and/or meaning of an artwork.

- 7c: I can apply the elements of art and design in a work of art.
- 7d: I can apply the principles of art and design in a work of art.

Explore careers in the arts.

- 8b. I can manage my studio time in order to complete project deadlines.

Begin developing a portfolio demonstrating an exploration of themes and media

- 9a. I can exhibit a body of work from completed class projects.