

Monarch Butterflies and Day of the Dead!!!

Teach your students about Mexican culture, Day of the Dead, and monarch migration through an engaging community art project!



Coordinated by The Living Arts and Science Center and
Hosted by The Old Episcopal Burying Ground

Project Description

Every Autumn, millions of beautiful orange and black monarchs flock to Mexico to avoid the cold weather of the North. Their migration coincides with El Dia de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead). The Ancient Aztecs of central Mexico, believed that the monarch butterflies were the souls of their fallen warriors and that they should be honored. This was and still is a time of joyous celebration when the souls of loved ones are remembered and rejoiced. Join us in creating monarch butterflies to be installed outside along the fence by the Old Episcopal Burying Ground at the corner of E. 3d Street and Elm Tree Lane. The monarchs will be tied to the fence surrounding the property for all to see for several weeks leading into our Day of the Dead Festival on Tuesday November 1st from 5:00 – 9:00.

El Festival Del Dia de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead Festival) at the Living Arts and Science Center is a joyful celebration that the entire family can participate in and enjoy. It is a holiday that is full of color, art, activities, and traditional Mexican music, dance, and food. There will be several hands-on arts and crafts activities, such as sand murals, papel picado (cut paper designs), paper flowers, tin ornaments, sugar skulls, and this year's featured exhibition in our art gallery will be "Alebrijes" a community art exhibition of colorful creatures. (See www.lascllex.org for more information)

How to Participate

Participation is easy! We have ideas and materials to assist with the project. We will provide three different project ideas that you can use to create monarchs with your class. Please use the orange, black, yellow, and white colors that are characteristic of monarchs. We welcome your creativity, and are open to any method of creating monarchs suitable for outdoor display, however these butterflies will be facing the elements outdoors for a few weeks, so materials such as paper, cardboard, and watercolor paint may not be suitable. The LASX is not responsible for any damage that may occur. Please make sure your students names are on the artwork if they want to be able to find them at the end of the project.

Show off your schools talent! Please email EQuave@LASCllex.org, your school name, your name, the class grades, and an approximate number of students for each grade that will be participating. We will list participants on a banner along with the monarchs. Please send this no later than October 1st.

Our Project Ideas

We have three ideas for projects:

1. Monarch created with transparency sheets and acrylic paint
2. Monarchs created with orange plastic plates and black paint or sharpies
3. Monarchs created with aluminum pie pans and sharpies – Mexican tin ornament style!

For the transparency monarchs we are happy to provide you with as many transparencies as needed for your group. Email EQuave@LASClex.org for materials. Complete project directions and additional materials may be downloaded from the website www.LASClex.org



Installing the Butterflies

The monarchs may be installed by you, your class, or by any responsible person. They may be tied to the fence any time between October 7th – October 14th. Any accessible area on the outside of the chain link or iron fence on E 3rd Street and Elm Tree Lane at the location of the Old Episcopal Burying Ground is fair game for monarch installation. We recommend that the person who installs them be the person who retrieves them so that they have an idea of where to find your classes work.

Calendar

October 7th – 14th : Work may be set up on the fence at the Old Episcopal Burying Ground

October 14th – November 4th : Work will be displayed at the Old Episcopal Burying Ground

November 5th – November 12th: Retrieve your art!

About The Living Arts and Science Center

The Living Arts and Science Center inspires participation in art and science by engaging the community through discovery, exploration, and creativity. Since its establishment in 1968, The Living Arts and Science Center has not only moved with the times but has become a trusted creative resource in the heart of the community. Through art and science exhibits, classes, events, neighborhood projects, and programs for the at-risk, special needs, and underserved populations, The LASC has established itself as a stimulating force that makes Central Kentucky a better place.

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