

Mi Casa Es Tu Casa 2017

Lessons From Loved Ones/Lecciones de Nuestros Seres Queridos

Mi Casa es Tu Casa is PVA's annual exhibit inspired by Día de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead), a traditional holiday in Mexico that celebrates ancestors and others who have passed away. Altars (ofrendas) are built in homes to honor and remember the dead. Similar customs exist throughout the world and we share common ground with many cultures in our desire to honor and remember those whom we have lost.

Family traditions start with a lesson, and our loved ones' lessons leave impressions which outlive us. When we continue family traditions it reconnects us to that which has made us who we are. Family secrets, recipes, arts and crafts, ways of speaking and behavior; these are all passed down through generations. We repeat them to comfort us, build closeness, and strengthen our families. Traditions are the harmonious thread of remembrance we all share.

—Curator, Tracy Heller-LeCroy