

once again be blessing the event as well as the altars, and will be leading a candlelit procession at 9:00 PM on South Fourth Street. Traditional style Calaveras (sugar skull) face painting, sugar candy art making, coloring, tissue flower construction stations, and a photographer will be available providing an opportunity to create gifts and tributes for departed loved ones at the public altar. The public altar will be available on the night of the event for anyone to place objects, photos, art, or candles for their deceased loved ones from 6:00 PM until 9:00 PM.

“Our Annual Day of the Dead celebration grows each year as word gets around Louisville about how much fun it is to embrace this rich cultural tradition, complete with Mexican entertainment, great ethnic food, and beverages,” said Karen Welch, co-owner of CRAFT(s) Gallery and Mercantile on South Fourth Street. “In Mexico, the annual celebration lasts for several days and usually takes place between October 31st and November 2nd, but we’re doing it a bit later as we wanted to celebrate the holiday in conjunction with the Republic Bank First Friday Hop,” added Welch.

The event will feature plenty of hands-on workshops, including face painting, sugar skull decorating, paper flower making, and much more. Workshops will be staffed with volunteers from U of L’s LALS Program, as well as students from the Kentucky College of Art and Design. Party goers are encouraged to dress in costumes, especially as Frida Kahlo, or their favorite “Calaveras” (skeleton). Free entertainment includes Caminos Flamenco Dancers, Children and Folkloric dancers, Appalatin – a popular, local Latin musical group, Salsa Rhythms Band, Chad Balster – a special fire performer, and street performers from Cirque Louis. Mi Cocina will feature Mexican food, beer, and El Jimador tequila offerings for sale on the street. Cellar Door Chocolates will also be featuring a traditional hot chocolate, a selection of Day of the Dead themed spicy chocolates, and decorated sugar skull shaped white chocolates.

The event is free, open to the public, and family friendly.

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LDP is the dynamic organization that drives economic growth in Downtown for the benefit of the entire region, as well as oversees multiple on-street enhancements that help establish Downtown Louisville’s distinctive character and widespread appeal. LDP believes the

economic engine of any great city starts with a strong Downtown. For more information: visit www.louisvilledowntown.org, or call (502) 584-6000.