

EL OBSERVADOR

'Day of the Dead' Honors Loved Ones Past

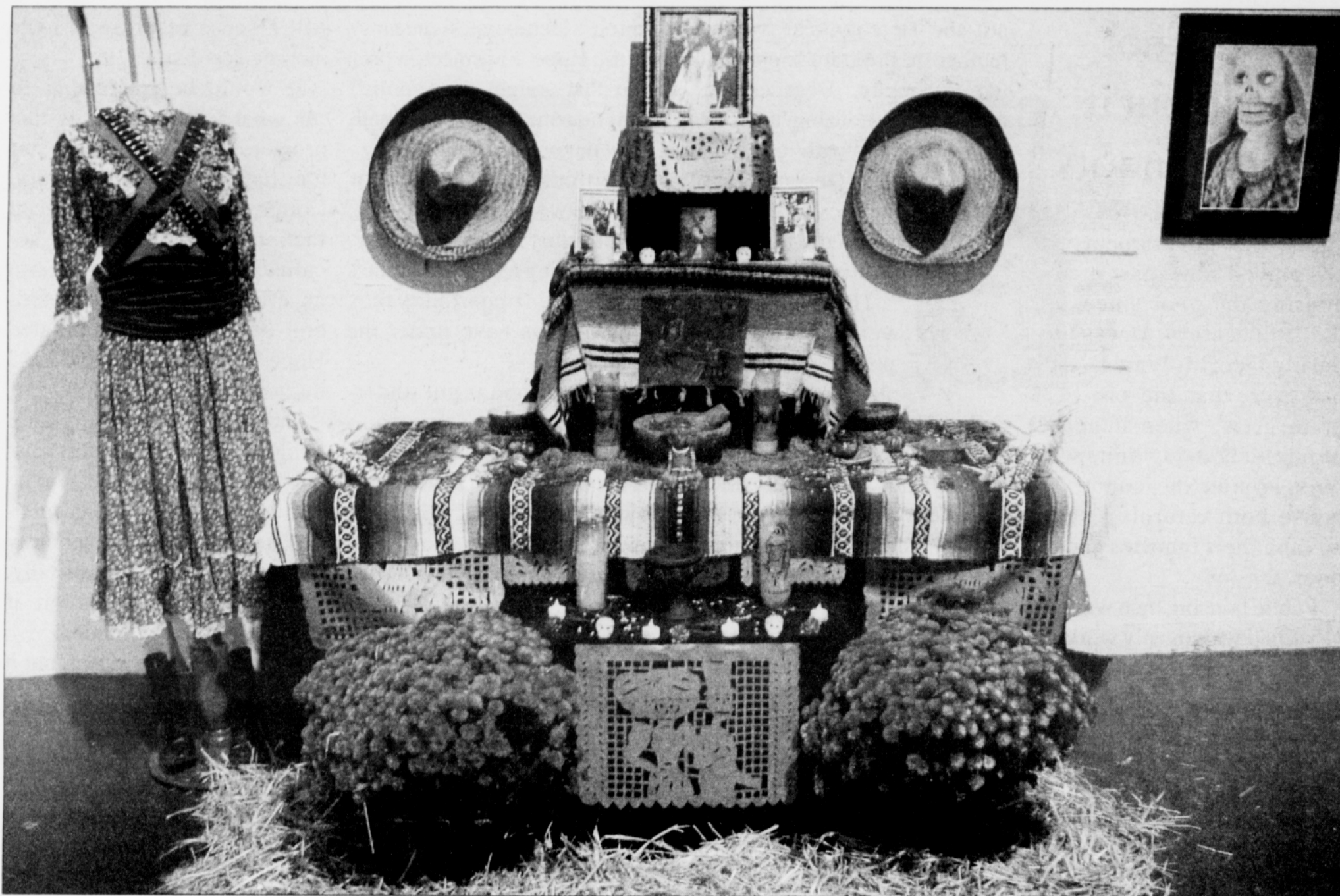
Miracle Theatre hosts annual celebration

An exhibit of altars created by local Latino artists will be presented to the community at Miracle Theatre in honor of the Day of the Dead, which is an occasion when the spirits of dead relatives are allowed to return to the mortal world to visit loved ones.

Every fall, the dead are commemorated in Portland's longest-running Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebration by honoring ancestors through music, dance, and stories of those who have fought fearlessly for liberty throughout history.

This year's free altars exhibit, curated by Pepe Moscoso of FusionArte, honors the women who bravely planted themselves in the line of fire in support of the Mexican revolutionaries.

The Miracle Theatre Group has been dedicated to bringing the vibrancy of Latino theatre to the Northwest community and beyond for more than 25-years, and provides a home for Spanish and Latin American arts and culture at El Centro Milagro, where it enriches the local community with a



Local Latino artists create one of a series of altars as part of Miracle Theatre Group's Day of the Dead celebration.

variety of community outreach Latino culture. projects and educational programs Created by Miracle Theatre designed to share the diversity of Group staff, the altars exhibit can

be seen by the public in the theater's lobby for free one hour prior to each performance of the group's original bilingual production ¡Viva la Revolución!, which will run from Oct. 20 through Nov. 13 at El Centro Milagro located at 537 S.E. Stark St.

The exhibit is sponsored by the Consulate of Mexico in Portland in conjunction with Miracle Theatre original Group's production.

For more information about the Miracle Theatre Group or to purchase tickets, visit milagro.org or call 503-236-7253.

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Bilingual Message on Safety

Electrical dangers told in song and dance

In an effort to educate local youth about electrical safety, Portland General Electric and Oregon Children's Theatre are partnering to present Pedro's Path to Power, a bilingual interactive musical about electrical safety that will visit 30 schools in the Portland area.

The production, written by Playwright Matt Zrebski, uses song, dance and audience participation to teach kindergarten through third-grade students they have the power to make smart, safe choices around electricity.

"Electricity is an amazing part of our lives, but can also be dangerous, so it's imperative we help young people understand how electricity

works," said Kregg Arntson, PGE's community affairs manager. "Through Pedro's Path to Power, students learn what it takes to be safe around electricity as well as the power of making smart choices."

The 30-minute play, free to schools, follows 7-year-old Pedro, played by actor Alberto Romero, on his path to power where he learns about electricity - how it's made, where it comes from and why it's important to make safe choices.

Sprinkled with Spanish phrases, Pedro's Path to Power, breaks both cultural and language barriers students may face. "The production has the potential to do many things," said Playwright Matt Zrebski. "Not only is it practical to have electrical safety tips in Spanish, I think it has even more impact in helping some students feel more included in their school and communities."