



An ofrenda (spanish for "offering") is the offering placed in a home altar during the annual and traditionally Mexican Día de los Muertos celebration. An ofrenda, which may be quite large and elaborate, is usually created by the family members of a person who has died and is intended to welcome the deceased to the altar setting.



## Top Level



The topmost tier identifies the dead person who is being invited to the altar, often with photos of the deceased, along with images of various saints.

Nickel Plate Arts has included images of artists in our community who have recently passed.

We also have included images of the [Our Lady of Guadalupe](#) (*Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe*) and [Our Lady of Holy Death](#) (*Nuestra Señora de la Santa Muerte*)



# Middle Level



The second tier houses items encouraging the dead to feel at home and welcome.

Here you'll find sesame pan de muerto. Some traditions state that the round top represents a grave, the bones represent the deceased, and the bones' placement represent the circle of life.

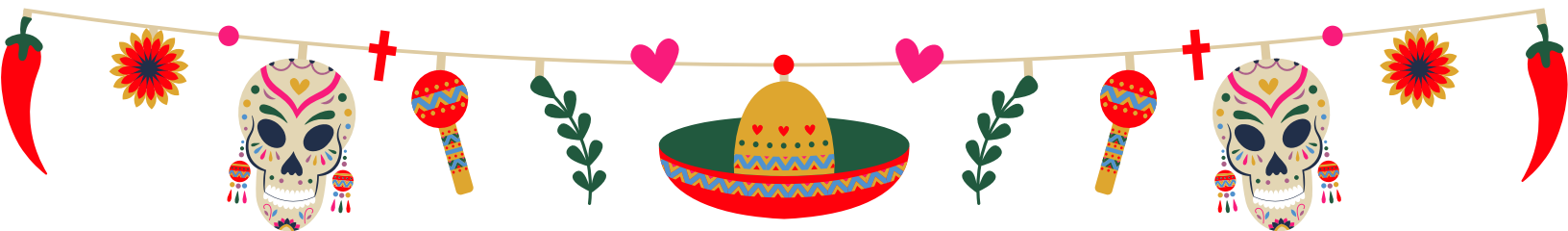


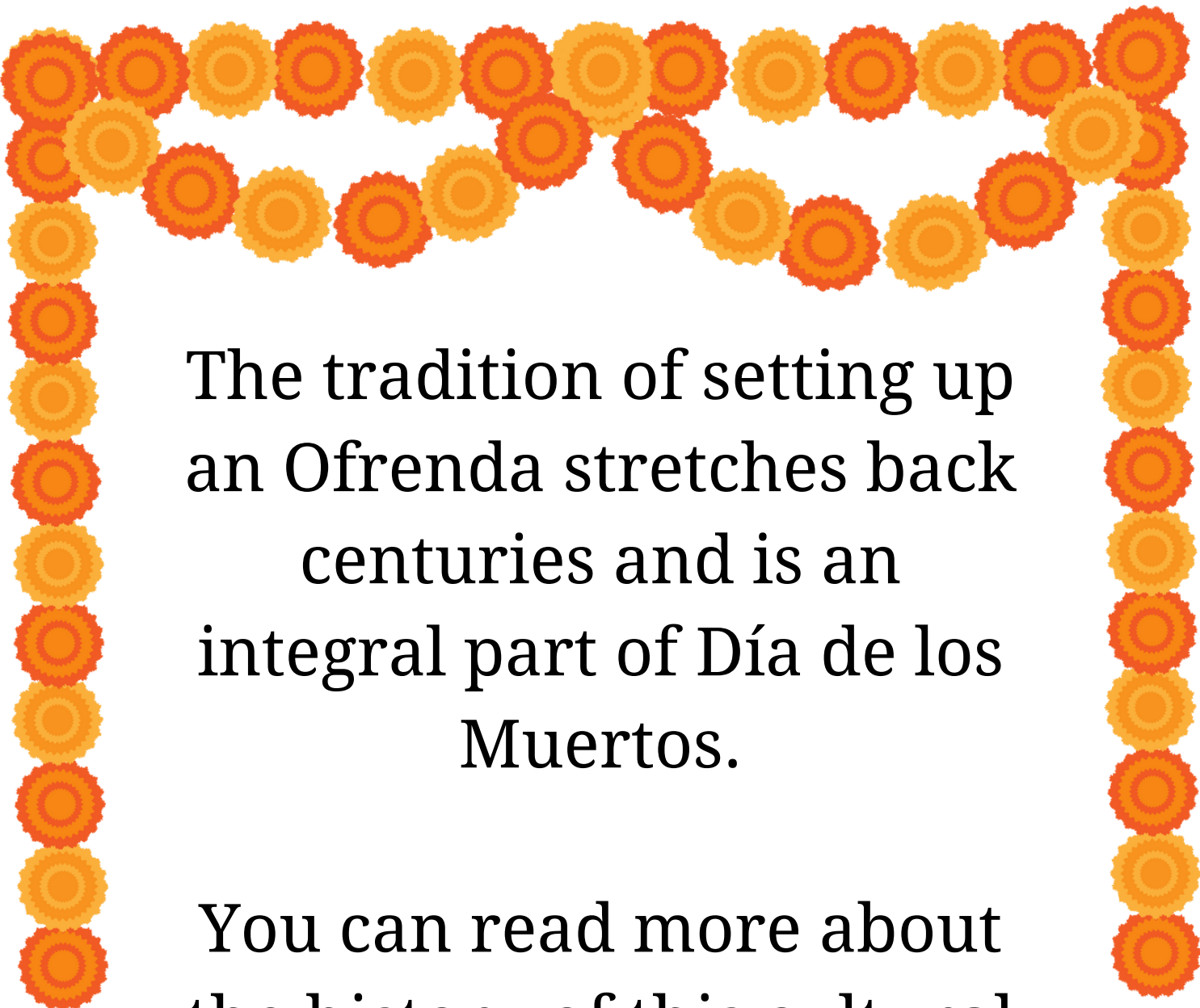


# Bottom Level



The bottom-most tier almost always contains lit candles, and might also have a washbasin, mirror, soap, and a towel so that the spirit of the deceased can see and refresh themselves upon arrival at the altar.





The tradition of setting up an Ofrenda stretches back centuries and is an integral part of Día de los Muertos.

You can read more about the history of this cultural practice by [clicking here!](#)

