

OPEN CALL

Mexican Day of the Dead
„*Día de los Muertos* - Ein tierisches Fest im MARKK“
11/07/2026-11/08/2026

The Museum am Rothenbaum (MARKK) promotes the appreciation of the world's cultures and arts. It engages with contemporary social debates in which topics such as colonial legacies, living together in a globalized society, and opening museums to broader audiences play a central role. With its globally connected collections and knowledge archives, the museum is currently evolving into an innovative exhibition, event, and research center dedicated to entangled histories and transcultural creativity.

As part of the Mexican Day of the Dead / *Día de los Muertos*, organized in cooperation with the German-Mexican Association – Círculo Mexicano Alemán e.V. (CIMA e.V.), MARKK invites artists to contribute to this year's program. The event will take place on Saturday, November 7, and Sunday, November 8, 2026, throughout the day at MARKK. This year's focus is animals in relation to death in Mexico. In pre-Hispanic Mexico, many different animals - including hummingbirds, dogs, and jaguars - played an important role in beliefs surrounding death, as they do in many cultures around the world. They are regarded as guides to the afterlife and as messengers between worlds. This also includes the concept of *nahuales* (animal spirit companions), who accompany and guide people throughout both their earthly and spiritual journeys.

For this edition, we are seeking **contemporary performative artistic works** that reflect on the relationship between animals and death in the context of *Día de los Muertos* and beyond. We particularly welcome queer-feminist and decolonial perspectives. Applications may include both existing works and proposals for new projects to be developed specifically for the occasion.

Application

Please submit:

1. A short artistic biography (CV)
2. A portfolio of recent work
3. A description of the proposed artistic work or project, including images (maximum 3 pages)

Conditions

The selected artist or collective will receive a **lump-sum fee of €1,800 (including VAT)** to cover artist fees, production, and material costs.

Installations or other artistic elements should be set up before **November 7, 2026**, while performances may take place on **November 7 and 8, 2026**. Attendance on both event days is required.

Artistic contributions may take place in the **Large Lecture Hall** (approx. 10 × 3 m) or in the **Intermediate Space**, which offers a variety of possible uses (approx. 5 × 6 m). A link to the 3D tour is available [here](#).

MARKK welcomes applications from people of all nationalities, People of Color, applicants with refugee or family migration backgrounds, and people of all genders. Applicants with severe disabilities will be given preferential consideration if equally qualified. Please note that the venue is **accessible for wheelchairs**.

For questions regarding the content of the open call, please contact:

Gabriel Schimmeroth gabriel.schimmeroth@markk-hamburg.de

Please submit your application as a **single PDF file (maximum 20 MB)** by **August 12, 2026**, via email to: veranstaltung@markk-hamburg.de