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**NEWS
RELEASE**

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Call for Artists and Vendors Opens for 2026 Chalk the Block and Día de los Muertos Festivals

EL PASO, Texas—The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Department (MCAD) is now accepting artist and vendor applications for two of the region's biggest arts and cultural events: Chalk the Block and Día de Los Muertos.

About Chalk the Block

Presented by Raiz Federal Credit Union, Chalk the Block returns to the El Paso Downtown Arts District on October 3 and 4, 2026. The free festival attracts more than 45,000 attendees and more than 200 artists annually. The centerpiece of the event is the popular chalk art competition, where artists of all skill levels transform downtown sidewalks into vibrant, temporary masterpieces while competing for prizes.

Artisan, cottage food, and food truck vendors are invited to apply online at www.ChalkTheBlock.com/Get-Involved. The application deadline for vendors is July 31, 2026.

Chalk artists are also encouraged to [apply online](#) and may compete in one of three categories:

- **Showcase:** Advanced artists, ages 18 and older
- **Emerging:** Intermediate artists, ages 18 and older
- **Student:** High school students currently enrolled in school

The deadline for Chalk Artist applications is August 15.

About Día de los Muertos

Centered at the Mexican American Cultural Center (MACC), the 2026 Día de los Muertos Festival will be held on October 24. The annual celebration honors life and loved ones who have passed and features live music, a mile-long parade, free cultural activities, artisan marketplaces, and more.

Applications for artisans, specialty food vendors, and food trucks will open on July 8, 2026. Vendors are invited to apply online at www.EPMACC.org/Dia-de-los-Muertos.

The festival is seeking vendors offering culturally relevant merchandise, including Día de los Muertos-inspired attire, Mexican regional goods, and handmade *artesanías* that celebrate the traditions and significance of the holiday.

The application deadline for artisan vendors is August 14, 2026. Parade applications for 2026 have closed, and accepted participants will be notified in July.

For more information about the Museums and Cultural Affairs Department and upcoming events, visit www.EPMCAD.org.

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