

WHEREAS, Día de los Muertos is a colorful tradition celebrated in Mexico, Latin America and other parts of the world, and provides an opportunity for families and members of our community to come together to remember, honor and celebrate loved ones who have passed on; and

WHEREAS, Día de los Muertos is a community-wide celebration that began in the City of Santa Rosa in 2001, spearheaded by a small group of community leaders, parents, educators and the support of the Santa Rosa Junior College, holding activities in Courthouse Square; and

WHEREAS, Día de los Muertos will once again bring our community together to honor our loved ones with activities that will include dancers, altars and sacred spaces of remembrance, music and old traditions to welcome back ancestors and family members who have passed on; candles will be lit in their names, flowers will be offered to represent their lives and their beauty, food and drinks will be set out, their names will be called out, and they will be remembered and released with love and tenderness; and

WHEREAS, people of all ages, from diverse cultures and backgrounds join together in unity to continue this tradition in the City of Santa Rosa, to offer prayers to the creator, Great Spirit, the universe, and life itself; and

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Rosa recognizes the strong commitment to continue this yearly celebration as it embraces the contributions from our diverse community to honor our ancestors and our shared humanity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, I, Scott P. Bartley, Mayor of the City of Santa Rosa, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby declare that Friday, November 1 and Saturday, November 2, 2013, be celebrated as

## DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

in recognition of the cultural contributions of Latin America traditions, the human need to honor loved ones who have passed on and the importance of building community by celebrating together

in harmony.

Mayor Scott P. Bartley October 29, 2013