FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Asheville Sister Cities/ASCI
Asheville, NC

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THE MEXICAN COMMITTEES OF ASHEVILLE SISTER CITIES HOST A DAY OF THE DEAD EVENT ON NOVEMBER 1ST, AND CELEBRATE OUR SISTER CITIES OF SAN CRISTOBAL de las CASAS and VALLADOLID

The Day of the Dead, in Spanish, *Dia de Los Muertos*, brings a longstanding Mexican cultural tradition back to Asheville. The event will take place at The Mule at Devil's Foot Beverage Company, 131 Sweeten Creek Rd in Asheville, from 4:00 – 8:00pm on Sunday, November 1st. Event tickets are $35.00 adult/$25 youth, Children under 12 free, and can be purchased on the ASCI website: ***ashevillesistercities.org/event/2026-dia-de-los-muertos/***
Come dressed in costume!

The origin for this special commemoration and celebration traces its roots back to the indigenous communities throughout Mexico, and other Latin countries around the world. It is a time of remembrance for friends and family who have departed this life, and a celebration for the memories that live on.

Event activities include: Traditional Dance by Ballet Folklorico Raices, Live Music by Sirius B, Maiz y Amor Food Truck, an altar for participants to bring and place photos of their loved ones, a candlelight procession with musical accompaniment by Asheville Second Line, Face painting, photo booth and headdresses available, and a mini Mercado (shopping!) with items from our sister cities for sale.

The event is being held as a fundraiser for a Wheelchair Project for both San Cristobal and Valladolid, to purchase and deliver much needed wheelchairs to improve the quality of life for the mobility impaired.

Asheville Sister Cities was formed in 1988 as a 501c3 organization, and is a people-oriented, community organization affiliated with the City of Asheville and Sister Cities International. In conjunction with local governments, it serves to promote international awareness and maintain relations with the sister cities linked to Asheville. Founded by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Sister Cities International serves as the national membership organization for individual sister cities, countries and states across the United States. This network unites tens of thousands of citizen diplomats and volunteers in 570 member communities with over 2,300 partnerships in 150 countries on six continents. Sister Cities International helps advance peace and prosperity through cultural, educational, humanitarian and economic development efforts, and serves as a hub for institutional knowledge and best practices to benefit citizen diplomats. Sister Cities International empowers individual citizens to become diplomats and represent their community and their country in new and meaningful ways.

This year, ASCI's relationship with San Cristobal de las Casas celebrates 30 years of collaborative partnerships via a multitude of projects and programs, and Valladold is celebrating 20 years of working together as well. These cover a variety of programs in both Asheville and Mexico: cultural presentations, humanitarian projects, School supplies, books, computers, wheelchairs, pen pal programs, municipal leader meetings with delegations, installation of ceiling fans in classrooms, support for the Mexican native Melapona Bee population growth, student exchanges and internships to document the arts and culture of both cities, art, photography, carved amber sculptures and textile exhibits. The list is long!

People wanting to learn more about the seven Sister Cities of Asheville, NC can visit:
www.ashevillesistercities.org

Mission Statement
Asheville Sister Cities, Inc. promotes peace, understanding, cooperation and sustainable partnerships through formalized agreements between international cities and the City of Asheville, North Carolina.