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La Catrina Doll: La Catrina, one of the symbols of Day of the Dead, is easy to make by decorating a small Styrofoam ball with a calavera (skull) face and folding a paper plate covered with scrapbook paper to make a dress. Her flower is made of felt, and her hat is crafted from tissue paper.

DEARLY DEPARTED

GROWING UP PUERTO RICAN, I DIDN'T CELEBRATE *DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS*, BUT AFTER LEARNING ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HOLIDAY, I CREATED THIS *OFRENDA* WITH PHOTOS OF MY LOVED ONES PAST—MY GREAT-GREAT-ABUELA EUSEBIA, AND MY ABUELO FRANCISCO—AND THEIR FAVORITE FOODS AND DRINKS.

Flor de la Muerte: The marigold is the official flower of *Día de los Muertos*. To make oversize blooms, layer 4 to 6 sheets of tissue paper or crepe paper, fold into an accordion and cut the edges to a point, tie the middle with pipe cleaners, and pull the sheets apart.

Calavera Marshmallows: Have the kids help you decorate marshmallows using food-coloring markers, making the faces vibrant and different. Then pop each on a stick.

Edible Bones: Bones are an important symbol of this special day. To create these fun—and tasty—*huesos*, put two mini marshmallows on the ends of pretzel sticks, and dip the whole thing in melted white chocolate.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAVID LAZARUS



What DIY projects do you want me to share? Write to me at evette.rios@latina.com. Evette Ríos is a TV host, home cook, and interior designer. You can watch her every Saturday morning on her CBS daytime show, *Recipe Rehab*, and catch her column every month here at *Latina*, latina.com, and thelatkitchen.com.