5. Symbolic Triggers

What are things that the person you are celebrating reacted to from the world around them? How can you use physical computing to symbolize this reaction with sound, touch, light, motion, data?

Day of the Dead / Día de Muertos

1. Who is someone important to you that has died?

2. Why were they important to you? How did their death impact you?

3. What is the story you want to tell about the person you are celebrating?

4. Symbolic Representation

What is something the person you are celebrating did in the world that mattered to you? How can you represent that physically, visually, with sound?

Colors

In a Dia de los Muertos tattoo, mural, altar or painting, each color represents something different and of crucial importance.

- Pink - Celebration and joy
- Red - The blood of life and a symbol of sacrifice
- Purple or Indigo - Grief and mourning, the pain of loss and suffering
- White - Hope, promise and purity of spirit
- Orange - The brilliance of the sun; a new day
- Yellow - symbolizes marigolds, known in the Aztec language of Náhuatl as cempazuchitl. Both the yellow color and marigolds are symbols of death according to Aztec and other Central American mythology. Here, the flowers themselves are broken apart so that the petals can be used to lead the dead to the altars and homes where they are prayed for and thought of, so including marigolds in art and crafts of Dia de los Muertos invokes powerful symbolism.