

Spooktacular returns Oct. 27 at the Bullock

Games, treats, science activities planned at Halloween event

OCTOBER 17, 2017 (AUSTIN, TX) - Characters are welcome as families explore the Bullock Museum after hours during Spooktacular, a free Halloween celebration on Oct. 27, 2017 from 5 to 8 p.m. Visitors of all ages will enjoy an evening of treats, games, demonstrations, and hands-on art and science activities, in addition to free admission to the museum's three floors of interactive exhibitions.

Families are encouraged to dress as favorite video game characters at this year's event, which is inspired by the Bullock's original exhibition, *Pong to Pokémon: The Evolution of Electronic Gaming*. Activities and demonstrations will include clay Minecraft character creation, vintage Halloween cartoon screenings, robotic hand controller engineering, color-coded programming, dry ice boo bubbles and a family friendly dance floor.

"Spooktacular is a great way for families to kick off the Halloween weekend," Bullock Museum Family Programs Manager Angela Kennedy said. "Where else can you trick or treat for toys and trinkets, boogie alongside LED dancers, and explore the science and art behind some of your favorite video games? The night should be a memorable one for the whole family."

The Austin nonprofit Girlstart will once again partner with the museum to offer activities that encourage exploration in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), this time with a gaming twist.

"This year at Spooktacular, Girlstart is excited to launch paper witch brooms, explore eerie sounds, program mini robots through a haunted house maze, and more," Girlstart Director of Programs Katelyn Wamsted said. "Girlstart loves to use Halloween to make STEM meaningful for kids and families, and this year we're incorporating activities inspired by the Bullock's *Pong to Pokémon* exhibit, including designing a video game slingshot and engineering a robotic hand controller prototype."



Video game characters of all ages are welcome to dance, make art, experiment with science, and explore the exhibits after hours at the Bullock Museum's annual Spooktacular event. Admission is free.

Spooktacular offers an opportunity for visitors to experience the museum's Texas History Galleries and special exhibitions at no charge. For more information about the museum or the 2017 Spooktacular event, visit TheStoryofTexas.com or call (512)936-8746.

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Pong to Pokémon: The Evolution of Electronic Gaming is presented by
Nintendo® and Retro Studios.

The Bullock Texas State History Museum is owned and operated by the State of Texas through the State Preservation Board. Additional support of exhibitions and programs is provided by the Museum's nonprofit partner, the Texas State History Museum Foundation.

ABOUT THE BULLOCK MUSEUM

The Bullock Texas State History Museum includes three floors of exhibitions, IMAX® and special-effects theaters, a café and museum store. The Museum collaborates with more than 700 museums, libraries, archives and individuals to display original historical artifacts and host exhibitions that illuminate and celebrate Texas history and culture. For more, visit TheStoryofTexas.com or call (512) 936-8746.

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