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Spooktacular celebration returns October 26 at the Bullock Museum

Live music, science, and art activities planned at free family Halloween event

OCTOBER 23, 2018 (AUSTIN, TX) — The Bullock Texas State History Museum, in partnership with Girlstart, will host its annual free, family-friendly Halloween celebration on Friday, October 26 from 5 to 8 pm. Visitors of all ages will enjoy an evening of treats, games, hands-on science and art activities, live music, giveaways, and after-hours admission to three floors of interactive exhibitions.

"Each year we love seeing the museum filled with our littlest costumed visitors. This night is a fun and safe way to kick off your family's Halloween celebrations, while also getting to explore the museum at night," said Angela Kennedy, Family Programs Manager at the Bullock Museum. "There is a little bit of something for every kid and kid at heart to enjoy — music, art, science, and more."

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

"Girlstart is excited for another year of Halloween STEM fun at Spooktacular. At this free event, kids and families can make their own LED wearable bracelet, dissect owl pellets, play with ooey goey slime, make boo bubbles, and more! This year, the first 100 kids in the door will also get a free spooky tote bag — great for trick-or-treating," said Katelyn Wamsted, Director of Programs at Girlstart. "From designing catapults and chunking mini pumpkins on the plaza to programming Sphero robots through haunted house mazes, we hope everyone comes out to enjoy spooky hands-on fun for the whole family."

New this year will be a live performance from the Austin-based band The Que Pastas, offering music for all ages to enjoy. Smudge Studios will be on hand to guide families through art activities, and



Families are invited to take part in spooky STEM fun on Friday, October 26 at the annual free Spooktacular event hosted by the Bullock Museum and Girlstart.

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costumed characters will enjoy snapping photos in the Say Cheese photo booth. Families will also have the opportunity to explore the Bullock Museum's three floors of interactive Texas History Galleries and special exhibitions, including *Comanche Motion: The Art of Eric Tippeconnic* and *Rodeo! The Exhibition*.

For more information about the Bullock Museum or the 2018 Spooktacular event, visit TheStoryofTexas.com or call (512)936-8746.

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Spooktacular is presented in partnership with Girlstart, a nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing girls' interest and engagement in science, technology, engineering, and math through innovative, nationally-recognized informal STEM education programs.

The Bullock Texas State History Museum is a division of the Texas State Preservation Board. Additional support for educational programming provided by 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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