



Madison Children's Museum
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For Immediate Release

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Madison Children's Museum scares up two new Halloween events

MADISON, Wis. (Oct. 19, 2009) — Halloween weekend at Madison Children's Museum will be frightfully fun for the whole family this year with the addition of some new special events to celebrate what is perhaps Madison's favorite holiday.

Kick off festivities on Thursday, Oct. 29, from 9 to 11 a.m. when we team up with Happy Bambino for the first time to present the baby apparel store's Baby's First Halloween event at the museum, 100 State Street. Dress infants up to age 1 in costumes for a morning of music and snacks. There will be a costume parade at 10 a.m. on State Street, a costume contest, and plenty of time afterward for the babies to play and learn.

Raising a mad scientist? Bring elementary-age children to the museum on Friday, Oct. 30, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. for a night of wacky experiments during the first annual Beakers & Broomsticks. Costumed kids will additionally enjoy live music, including a Kids' Theremin Jam for some eerie sounds; a costume parade; and delicious treats from Bean Sprouts Cafe. Tickets for this fundraiser are \$12 each, or \$40 for a family-four pack. Make a day out of it by bringing the family to State Street on the kids' day off school between 11 a.m.-6 p.m. for the Downtown Madison Family Trick or Treat. Participating businesses will have a sign in their window.

Weekend activities include an arts and crafts program where kids will paint decorative gourds, construct Halloween puppets, and make marshmallow skeletons. Drop in on Friday, Oct. 30, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. or Saturday, Oct. 31, from 1 to 3 p.m. to participate. Costumes are encouraged!

Not as scary as it sounds, Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is the Latino celebration of All Saints' Day — a day to honor loved ones who have passed on with special decorations, foods and customs. Learn about the fascinating practices of this Latino holiday on Sunday, Nov. 1, from 1 to 3 p.m. Participants will build traditional Mexican shrine displays and create holiday crafts like papel picado banners and skeleton figurines. There will be a free shuttle to the museum from Centro Hispano, 810 W. Badger Road, Madison, from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. for this event, and a return shuttle as well.

Tickets for Beakers & Broomsticks are \$12 each, or \$40 for a Family Four-Pack. The regular museum admission rate of \$5 applies for adults for Baby's First Halloween (the museum does not charge an admission fee for children under 1). MCM always offers 25-cent subsidized admission for

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any family members with proof of public assistance. Día de los Muertos is taking place on a Free Family Sunday, so there is no cost to attend this event or to use the museum that day.

Contact Adam at 608.268.1231, ext. 16, to learn more about Baby's First Halloween and Beakers & Broomsticks. For information regarding other activities, visit www.MadisonChildrensMuseum.org.

Madison Children's Museum: Madison Children's Museum is an award-winning organization that fosters family and community connections by providing a place where children learn through play in an interactive environment. MCM's hands-on exhibits and programs encourage children's imaginations and the power of play as the cornerstones of learning.

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