



NEWS RELEASE:

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CONTACT:

Matt Serino
Marketing Manager
Hermitage Museum and Gardens
7637 North Shore Road
Norfolk, VA 23505-1730
ms@thfm.org

Phone: (757) 423-2052 x 208

**All Hallows Eve: Free Family Event at the Hermitage
The Sixth Annual Fall Celebration for All Ages is Back and Better than Ever**

Norfolk, VA- The Hermitage Museum & Gardens will hold its sixth annual fall celebration, *All Hallows Eve*, on Sunday, October 26th from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m. Grounds admission and parking are free of charge as are the day's activities, with the exception of spooky tours and ghost pictures. Costumes are encouraged and welcome, but not required.

Don't miss the hauntingly fun events at this year's *All Hallows Eve*! Free outdoor activities will include puppet shows by **Fuzz and Stuffing Puppets**, face painting by **Pic-N-Paint**, and enigmatic balloon creations by local's favorite Ryan Lavalley, a.k.a. **Ryan 'The Balloon Guy'**. In the evening, fire side ghost stories will be narrated by April Uhrin of **Gypsy Moon Tellers**. Lawn chairs and blankets are suggested for this outdoor activity that is best enjoyed over a cup of hot cider, provided by the museum.

Of special note this year is a 1,000 pound pumpkin to be carved throughout the day by nationally renowned Boston master sculptor **Sean Fitzpatrick**, whose talents have been showcased on NBC's Today Show.

Inside the museum, entertainingly *Spooky Tours* featuring the Emerging Artist Ensemble from the **Virginia Stage Company** will be offered with paid admission of \$4 for adults and \$2 for children over five. *Spooky Tour* tickets sell out fast and will be available for pre-sale to museum members. Guests will also have the chance to become a ghost by having their time elapsed photograph taken in the museum.

Guest artists can be visited at:

Picnpaint.com

Ryentheballoonguy.com

Fitzysnowman.com

Fuzzandstuffing.com

Gypsymoontellers.com
Vastage.com

In addition to the day's activities, a very special guest, **Doctor Madblood**, will be filming at *All Hallows Eve* for his Halloween Special, *Doctor Madblood's Halloween Horror Express*, to air on WHRO-TV15 and HD15.1 October 31st at 11:00 p.m.

All Hallows Eve 2008 sponsors include: BB&T, Cavanaugh Nelson PLC, Farm Fresh Charitable Foundation, Norfolk Waterside Marriott, Scott & Stringfellow, and the Virginia Stage Company.

For more information on *All Hallows Eve* or *Spooky Tour* tickets, contact Karen Perry, Manager of Administration and Development, at (757) 423-2052 x 205 or kp@thfm.org.

The Hermitage offers 45-minute guided tours, on the hour, of fifteen galleries filled with the Sloane family world-wide art collection, furniture, and history. The Visual Arts School houses classrooms, a complete ceramics studio, and darkroom photography facilities. Open daily 10-5, Sundays 1-5—closed Wednesdays. Free for Museum Members, children under 6, and Active Duty military. Admission: \$5 for Adults, \$2 for ages 6-18, and \$3 for students. For more information on the museum and membership offerings call 757-423-2052 or visit www.thfm.org.

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