

Media contacts: Laura Pennino, Senior PR Consultant, 713 419 1776, <u>lp@penninoandpartners.com</u>

Dropbox link for photos:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1SX7PHwZbjW2p3RZTi9AftVZUS2Jr1B5W?usp=sharing Photo Credit: The Mystical Parade of Boo

History-Making Mystical Parade of Boo Parade to Take Place in Historic Downtown Galveston On Saturday, October 26, 2024

GALVESTON, Texas (Oct. 24, 2024) – Making history as the first Halloween parade on Galveston Island, <u>The Mystical Parade of Boo</u> will roll at 6:30 p.m. in the Strand District on Saturday, Oct. 26.

Hundreds of participants from 36 organizations will march, walk, dance and "let the ghoul times roll" through the streets of The Strand District to delight thousands of supporters. Admission to this family-friendly parade is free. Vehicles (with the exceptions of Jeeps, slingshots, car clubs, and limited golf carts), floats, and groups on foot have registered to participate in the parade.

The Ball High School Color Guard will lead the parade and will be accompanied by members of the U.S. Navy in celebration of Navy Week. The parade also includes a Monster Mash-up between the Texas A&M University at Galveston Sea Aggie Band and the Galveston Community Band.

Carnes Parade Krewe, Krewe of Misfits, and Tutu Live Krewe are producing The Mystical Parade of Boo with considerable support from the City of Galveston, Galveston Police Department, Visit Galveston and generous sponsors. Sponsors to date include, but are not limited to, Market Station, MarMo Plaza, tola MO BETTAH MARKET, Daiquiri Time Out, The Proletariat Gallery and Public House, Baywatch Dolphin Tours, Brewchacho's Tacos & Cantina, C-Level Surf Shop, The Tremont House, Pelican Island Gift Shop, Spooky Galveston, HAZYDAZE, and Pennino and Partners.

Lead organizers for The Mystical Parade of Boo are Jay and Lori Carnes, founders of Carnes Parade Krewe; Becky Major, founder and president of the Krewe of Misfits; and Donna Swartz, founder of Tutu Live Krewe. "I am so honored to work with Jay Carnes, Lori Fogarty Carnes, and Becky Major on this WILD idea that is the Mystical Parade of Boo. When you have the right team beside you, the possibilities seem limitless. I am so grateful and appreciative for this meeting of the minds," said Swartz, who first approached Jay and Lori Carnes and Major with the idea to create The Mystical Parade of Boo in May 2024.

"Support has been tremendous, and the planning has been seamless," Swartz said.

Swartz's dream has become a reality: Participants will line up at 5:30 p.m. at 28th Street between Market, Post Office, and Church Streets. At 6:30 p.m., the parade will start at 28th and Market Street, proceed down Market Street to 20th Street, turn north on 20th Street to Strand Street, turn west on Strand Street to 25th Street, turn south on 25th Street, and exit at Santa Fe Place. The parade will make two loops around this route.

"The Mystical Parade of Boo is something if you asked me a year ago would be happening I probably would have laughed and just thought there wasn't enough time. It wasn't until the founder of Tutu Live Krewe and my dear friend Donna Swartz had an idea and asked Misfits to be a part of it that I realized this could be a thing. Now did I have any idea that it would grow and become what it is? Absolutely not! I'm honored to be working with so many people I highly respect, and I am super stoked to be doing something that impacts our community creatively and collaboratively!" Major said.

Jay and Lori Carnes will host riders and revelers on the popular Dancing Queen and Dancing King parade floats. They are also introducing the "mini Dancing Queen" in The Mystical Parade of Boo, and are providing an 80 foot truck and trailer for the Sea Aggie and Galveston Community Bands to perform on during the parade.

About The Mystical Parade of Boo

Mission: To create a safe, family-friendly, inclusive, and imaginative event that brings people together in celebrating the magic of Halloween. We are committed to fostering artistic revelry and collaboration by inspiring creative expression, promoting local talent, and enhancing community engagement. Our parade serves as a platform for artists and other parade enthusiasts to work together, crafting a celebration that is both fun and meaningful, while honoring the traditions and stories of Halloween.

Vision: To establish the Halloween Parade as the most anticipated celebration in the region, where everyone feels safe and welcome to participate and express themselves. We strive to set a standard for artistic collaboration, community solidarity, and cultural diversity, making our parade a symbol of local unity and imagination. Through ongoing partnerships with the artistic and business communities, we aim to create an evolving event that leaves a lasting impact, inspiring future generations to carry on the spirit of Halloween with pride, creativity, and a strong sense of belonging.

Website: www.mysticalparadeofboo.com