



CITY OF CHICAGO • OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CITY OF CHICAGO ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL 'HALLOWEEK' ACTIVITIES TO CELEBRATE SAFELY AMIDST COVID-19**

CHICAGO- Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot today joined the Chicago Park District, the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE), and the Chicago Police Department (CPD) to announce new and exciting events for Chicagoans to enjoy Halloween this year, while still adhering to Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) guidelines. The previously announced 'Halloweek', which will take place from October 26-31, will include the "Arts in the Dark Upside-Down Halloween Parade" in addition to opportunities to safely trick-or-treat around the city. The City's 'Halloweek' guidelines will allow for a responsible celebration taking place over the course of a full week to minimize congregation, while calling on both children and adults to abide by COVID-19 safety precautions that are necessary to keep all of us protected and limit the spread of the virus.

"Halloween means so much our kids, and after so much has been taken away, it's important for all of us that we still give them something to look forward this October," said Mayor Lightfoot. "But 'Halloweek' is about more than just having a week of fun Halloween-related activities, it's also about us as a city continuing to find new opportunities to come together in healthy and safe ways throughout this unprecedented moment."

The City is offering specific guidance on how to trick-or-treat safely, including advising that trick-or-treating groups remain limited to six people or less and that trick-or-treaters stay on the move without congregating – which means more houses visited and more candy for all! People passing out candy are asked to try to socially distance while doing so, perhaps by using a tube or pipe to drop candy into trick-or-treaters' bags from a distance.

The "Arts in the Dark Upside-Down Halloween Parade," in partnership with LUMA8 and sponsored by Bloomer Chocolate Company, is a reverse parade in which the entertainment is stationary and attendees drive by and watch the visual artists and performers from the safety of their vehicles. Each year, the parade, which celebrates Chicago's diverse communities and cultures, draws close to 100,000 guests, and



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features artists and performers from world-renowned institutions including the Art Institute of Chicago, the Lookingglass Theatre Company, After School Matters and aspiring artists in every field. A special Halloween goody bag, courtesy of Blommer Chocolate Company, will await parade-goers at the end. The parade will take place along Washington Park on October 31 from 12-3pm. Attendees are encouraged to join the visual experience and dress up their cars in “Car-stumes”. Admission is free, but reservations are required. To register visit: <https://artsinthedark.com/attend/>

“We are very pleased to support Mayor Lightfoot’s plans for a safe celebration of Halloween through our sponsorship of the Arts in the Dark Upside-Down Halloween Parade and the donation of 10,000 candy bags,” said Peter Blommer, CEO of Blommer Chocolate Company. “The Mayor and her team’s effort to re-imagine Halloween in the time of COVID, making it safe, fun and permissible, shows great leadership and creativity. We hope that the Chicago Halloweek festivities serve as an example to cities and families across the US.”

Mayor Lightfoot would also like to thank the generous donations of candy that will bring smiles to 10,000 children and their families across Chicago. Donations were provided by Ferrera USA, Pepsico/Quaker Oats, Ferrero, Mars Wrigley, Jelly Belly, The Hershey Company & Amplify Snack Brands

“A mainstay in the city we’ve called our ‘sweet home’ for more than 100 years, Ferrara is uniquely positioned to give back this Halloween season in one of the best ways we can – through an actual ton of candy, including beloved brands from NERDS, Laffy Taffy and Trolli to Now & Later and SweetTARTS,” said Sarah Kittel, Vice President of Corporate Affairs of Ferrara Company. “We strive to be an organization engaged in the communities where we work and live in. We are proud to be a part of the city’s Halloweek celebration to provide safe and accessible Halloween activities across the city.”

The Chicago Park District and CPD will also participate in ‘Halloweek’ by providing candy for socially distanced trick-or-treaters. Starting October 26, residents can check with their local park for additional information and locations where candy is available. Trick-or-treating with CPD will take place at the specific district locations below between 4:30-7:00 p.m.:

- Monday, October 26 - Districts 6, 17, 25
- Tuesday, October 27 - Districts 3, 14, 15
- Wednesday, October 28 - Districts 8, 9, 12
- Thursday, October 29 - Districts 5, 7, 10
- Friday, October 30- Districts 2, 4, 11
- Saturday, October 31 - All districts



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A complete list of Halloween safety guidelines, which are in line with those issued by the Illinois Department of Public Health and additional Halloween events happening across the city can be found at [ChicagoHalloween.org](http://ChicagoHalloween.org) starting on October 18th.

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