

Spook Night Costume Contest Rules

Contest Categories: Baby and Toddler (Ages 0-3) Children (Grades K4-5th), Teen (Grades 6th-12th) and Adults (18+)

Prizes: A **trophy for best overall costume** will be awarded in each age bracket for costumes that display the most outstanding Quality, Accuracy, Effort, and Presentation.

Ribbons for scariest, cutest, funniest, and most creative will be awarded in each age bracket.*

Costumes of all shapes and sizes are allowed. Superheroes, supervillans, princesses, puppies, fairies, pirates, robots, and Jedis are all welcome!

Group Costumes: You are welcome to dress in coordinating group costumes, but each costume will be judged individually.

Judges will be looking for the spookiest, sparkliest, most colorful, craziest, well-crafted and creative costumes. Costumes may be homemade or store bought.

***Please read costume guidelines carefully.**

Registration is required!

Registration begins Monday, September 25 at 3PM

Register online at the Greenwood County Library's website. A registration link is available on the Children's, Teen, and Adult program pages or register in person with a staff member at the Children's, Teen, or Circulation departments.

All costume contest participants must register for the contest by 12:00 PM on October 9. Judging begins at 6 PM. Prizes will be awarded after each category is judged. Must be present to win.

Costume Contest Guidelines

Costume Guidelines

Costumes from all genres of fandom and non-cosplay Halloween costumes are acceptable. Handmade and self-constructed costumes are highly encouraged but not necessary.

No construction materials will be provided by the Library so please come prepared.

As a courtesy to other Library patrons, please have any makeup or costuming done before the event.

All costumes must be family-friendly and appropriate for all ages.

Nudity or any allusion to it is prohibited. All contestants must have at least 60% of their body covered with clothing- extreme necklines, bare chests, etc. are not allowed. Contestants wearing mesh, sheer or other see-through clothing or body paint as a part of their costume must still meet the minimum coverage requirements.

All contestants must wear clothing (shorts, skirt, etc.) that completely covers their behind.

Shoes, boots, slippers, or plastic-type foot prosthetics are required (socks are not considered foot coverings). If your character does not wear shoes, the lack of accuracy in your costume will be forgiven.

Makeup, body paint or face paint should not come off in casual contact.

No firearms are allowed on Library property. Library policy prohibits possessing weapons or other items deemed by Library staff or law enforcement officers as potentially dangerous to others. Costume weapons are allowed but must meet the Costume Weapons Policy guidelines.

For safety reasons, the following props are not allowed:

- Live animals (with the exception of service animals)
- Substances that might damage or stain facilities or other costumes and participants (i.e. fake blood, glitter, confetti, silly string, water, messy body or face paint etc.)
- Aerosol sprays (please apply hairspray or hair color before you leave home)
- Projectiles of any kind. Don't throw anything.
- Flames, pyrotechnics or explosives of any kind.
- Metal bats, large wrenches or shovels.

Library staff have the right to modify these rules on the spot to protect Spook Night attendees and the safety of the event.

Costume Weapons Policy

- All costume props and weapons are subject to the approval of Library staff.
- Live steel (real knives, blades, and swords) are prohibited.
- Projectile weapons such as water guns, Nerf guns, and bubble blowers are prohibited.
- Realistic-looking firearms and realistic bladed weapons must be approved by a Library staff member and must be peace bonded (essentially some kind of secure tie that ensures a weapon cannot be drawn from its holster or sheath).
- We highly encourage orange caps on all costume related firearms.
- Any questionable prop may be inspected by staff at any time and attendee may be asked to remove the prop from the building (lock it in their car) for the duration of Spook Night.
- Library staff reserve the right to amend these rules without prior notice. Noncompliance of any rules will result in expulsion from the event.

Contest Guidelines

Contestants must register for the contest by 12 PM on October 9th.

Contestants will have no more than 30 seconds to complete the catwalk. This is enough time to walk to the end of the catwalk, strike a pose and walk back.

Swearing, sexual humor, flashing, extreme political or religious statements, or other inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. Contestants engaging in such behavior will be immediately disqualified and removed from the event.

For safety reasons, no running, jumping, or acrobatics.

Throwing props is not allowed.

Awards will be presented shortly after each group. Prizes must be claimed on-site and winners must be present to win.

CONTESTANTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY AND ALL DAMAGES AND/OR MEDICAL BILLS THAT MAY OCCUR AS A RESULT OF NOT OBEYING THE RULES.

Greenwood County Library Staff have the right to modify these rules on the spot to protect Spook Night attendees and safety of the event.