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Ghoulish Good Times at Tampa's Lowry Park ZooBoo, Haunting Soon

Preview the Zoo's Halloween Happenings Online Now; Event Opens September 25-26

TAMPA, Fla. (September 7, 2009) – Let the Halloween hoopla begin! The countdown is on for the 10th anniversary of ZooBoo, Tampa's largest family Halloween event, made possible by Bank of America. In celebration of the upcoming season of spooky fun, the Zoo has launched its [ZooBoo web site](#), [ZooBoo Facebook](#) page and [ZooBoo Twitter](#) page as a "shriek" peek of the thrills, chills and family frights opening September 25-26.

Revealing a slightly spookier side, the theme and promotions for this year's event feature the slogan "just keep telling yourself it isn't real." In 2009, ZooBoo has 12 special attractions, including five haunts to appeal to older and braver guests. Each haunt has an elaborate storyline, floor plan, music, props, lights, sound effects and unique entry portal.

In keeping with the family-orientation of the event, the haunts provide a frightening experience for those who choose to participate, without depicting violence or gore. A "skull" rating system of one to seven is assigned to each attraction to indicate the scare factor; seven is the most intense and is intended for mature audiences.

Special experiences for younger audiences include: holiday character "meet and greets;" Frankenstein's Foam Party, an outdoor foam play area complete with disco lights and lively seasonal music; Boo House with colorful, non-frightening seasonal décor; and free Zoo rides. Little boys and "ghouls" (ages 11 and under) are invited to come in their most spooktacular attire. (Note: For the comfort and safety of all guests, adults (ages 12 and older) are prohibited from wearing masks, wigs, face paint or costumes of any time.)

When the sun goes down, the frights come out on September 25-26 (Shriek Peek Weekend) and October 2-3, 9-11, 15-18, 22-25 and 29-31. Hours are 7-11 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 7-10 p.m. on Sundays through Thursdays. Admission for Shriek Peek weekend (Sept. 25-26 only) is reduced to \$10 per person age 3 and up. General admission for all other nights is \$17 for adults, \$14 for children ages 3-11, and free for children age 2 and under. Tickets may be purchased online now at LowryParkZoo.com to expedite entry.

The event is a fundraiser for the zoo, a nonprofit organization, with proceeds benefiting animal care and education programs. Events like ZooBoo improve the zoo's capacity to be self-sustaining and help stabilize annual operations.

Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo gratefully acknowledges the sponsors and partners who make this event possible: Bank of America, AT&T Real Yellow Pages, Verizon, Publix Supermarkets Treat Street, Cutler Associates, Edy's Grand Ice Cream, Shapes Total Fitness for Women, and Century Tampa Buick Pontiac GMC.

About Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo

Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo is operated by the Lowry Park Zoological Society, an independent 501(c)(3) charitable organization committed to excellence in education, conservation and research. Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), and has been named the No. 1 zoo in America by both *Parents* magazine (2009) and *Child* magazine (2004). The Zoo is located at 1101 W. Sligh Avenue in Tampa, one mile west of I-275 (exit 48) and is open seven days a week, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Parking is free. Visit LowryParkZoo.com or call (813) 935-8552 for information. Also find the Zoo on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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