



## **City of McKinney Press Release**

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

### **McKinney entertains Trick-or-Treaters with free Scare on the Square**

*Businesses in Historic Downtown offer treats during festive Halloween Eve*

McKINNEY, TEXAS (Oct. 16, 2009) – On the night before Halloween this year, McKinney residents and visitors will enjoy the sights of thousands of ghosts, goblins, superheroes and princesses of all ages in Historic Downtown McKinney. The annual Scare on the Square event has grown to be an annual favorite, with trick-or-treaters celebrating a safe, family-friendly Halloween.

**Date:** Friday, Oct. 30  
**Time:** 4 – 6 p.m.  
**Place:** Historic Downtown McKinney

Streets in Historic Downtown McKinney are closed off for trick-or-treaters to cross the streets safely, going from shop to shop to collect goodies from local business owners.

“Scare on the Square is another great free family event in Historic Downtown McKinney. Residents can celebrate Halloween in a safe, secure and festive environment in our charming and unique downtown,” said Ty Lake, Program Director of McKinney Main Street.

This year, Main Street is partnering with 3E and is requesting Halloween revelers bring canned food donations to benefit the Food Pantry. Canned food can be dropped off at the McKinney Performing Arts Center anytime between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. beginning today through Friday, Oct. 30. The specific canned food needs include 15-ounce cans of fruits and vegetables.

“This is our second year to work with 3E in supporting such an important project,” said Lake. “We are calling on the community to clean out your pantry and help your neighbor. This is a great opportunity for giving, and we encourage our residents to help the Food Pantry to help feed those in need,” Lake added.

Costumed kids can pick up goodies from shop owners during the safe and fun trick-or-treating event. The free event will benefit from the wider sidewalks, additional parking and landscaping installed in downtown last year.

The Office of Environmental Stewardship presents new programs this year with the "Be Green on Halloween" costume and pumpkin contest. Instead of buying a Halloween costume that will be worn once and thrown away, the contest encourages trick-or-treaters to make costumes utilizing items already around the house, or make an environmental statement by creating a costume from reused or recyclable items. Costumes will be judged on creativity and simplicity. Judging will take place promptly at 5 p.m. following by the announcement of winners at 5:30 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place.

Admission is free and parking can be found throughout the historic downtown area. Visit [www.downtownmckinney.com](http://www.downtownmckinney.com) for more information or contact McKinney Main Street at 972.547.2660.

# # #

### **About McKinney**

McKinney, Texas, is unique by nature. As one of the fastest-growing cities in the U.S., McKinney has a current population of 122,000. Incorporated in 1848, the city is located 30 miles north of Dallas and is the county seat of Collin County. McKinney offers rolling hills, lush trees, a historic downtown square and unique neighborhoods and developments. Visit the city's Web site at [www.mckinneytexas.org](http://www.mckinneytexas.org).

**Media Contact:** Anna Folmnsbee, [afolmnsb@mckinneytexas.org](mailto:afolmnsb@mckinneytexas.org), 972-547-7525