



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH CITY ARTS COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

June 11, 2026
Agenda Item No. 6

TO: CITY ARTS COMMISSION

FROM: Library Services Department
Melissa Hartson, Library Services Director
(949) 717-3801, mhartson@newportbeachca.gov

PREPARED BY: Rebecca Lightfoot, Library Services Manager

TITLE: 2026 Halloween Spooktacular Event

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Arts Commission review and approve the Music and Live Entertainment Ad Hoc Subcommittee's proposal to have the City Arts Commission host a booth at the Halloween Spooktacular event.

DISCUSSION:

The City of Newport Beach Recreation and Senior Services (RSS) Department organizes an annual Halloween Spooktacular fall event. This event hosts a variety of carnival games, costume contests, and other family-friendly activities such as crafts and trunk-or-treating. The 9th Annual Halloween Spooktacular will take place on Saturday, October 24, 2026, from 3 p.m. – 6 p.m. at Mariners Park.

For the past two years, the City Arts Commission (CAC) hosted a booth at the event. Hundreds of children painted pumpkins, which they were able to take home and enjoy. Participants used stencils, brushes and more than a dozen colors of paint. The booth also featured massive, custom hand-carved pumpkins on display by award winning internationally-renown Disney artist Joseph Yakovetic.

The Music and Live Entertainment Ad Hoc Subcommittee proposes that the CAC reserve a booth for the Halloween Spooktacular event and provide a small art activity for attendees. This family-friendly event will provide an opportunity for the CAC to connect with the Newport Beach community and bring further awareness to the City's Cultural Arts programs and events.

The activity will consist of painting miniature pumpkins for children to take home. Art activity supplies include pumpkins, paint, brushes, and paper plates. In addition, candy will be purchased to pass out to attendees. Last year the CAC had some paint and other supplies left over from the first Spooktacular; however, those reserves have been exhausted, and the cost of supplies is higher this year due to replacing the supplies.

Staff recommend that the CAC approve the proposal. If approved, staff will coordinate with RSS to reserve a booth space at the event.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Pumpkins, paint, brushes, and additional supplies are estimated at approximately \$2,650.00, to be expensed from the Fiscal Years 2025-26 and 2026-27 Cultural Arts Division Programming Budgets.

NOTICING:

This agenda item has been noticed according to the Brown Act (72 hours in advance of the meeting at which the City Arts Commission considers the item).