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Press Release

For Immediate Release

Date: September 30, 2008

Harvest Festival and Pumpkin Merriment Aims to Break Record

Salem, OR—Last year, A.C. Gilbert's Discovery Village lit 458 carved pumpkins as the final event of Harvest Festival and Pumpkin Merriment. This year on October 18, the museum will attempt to beat its record by calling on the help of all community members to bring a carved pumpkin for the display, which will be lit at dusk beneath the Marion Street Bridge.

Everyone who brings a carved pumpkin and three-inch votive candle to the children's museum will receive one free admission to the festival, a full-day event featuring live music and entertainment, a Pacific Northwest fruit tasting booth, fresh pressed cider, crafts and activities for kids and a 4-H farm animal petting zoo. Activities start at 11 a.m. and run through 8 p.m. Admission to the festival includes the museum's three historic houses.

To help break last year's record, the museum will host free pumpkin carving workshops on October 16 and 17 from 3 to 5 p.m. Trained carvers from Salem's Riverfront Carousel will provide tips and techniques to transform a pumpkin into an artistic creation. Participants in the workshop will receive one free admission ticket to the festival and their pumpkins will be added to the display. Space is limited, and advance registration is required for this free workshop.

For more information about the 10th Annual Harvest Festival and Pumpkin Merriment, sponsored by Foresters, contact the museum at 503-371-3631.

A.C. Gilbert's Discovery Village
116 Marion Street NE Salem, Oregon 97301-3437

P: 503-371-3631 F: 503-316-3485 E: info@acgilbert.org W: www.acgilbert.org



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SHORT DESCRIPTIONS

Free Pumpkin Carving Workshop

October 16-17

3 – 5 p.m.

Attend this free workshop at A.C. Gilbert's Discovery Village and work with a professional carver. All pumpkins carved during this workshop will be displayed at the Harvest Festival on October 18. Participants in the workshop will receive one free admission to the festival. Space is limited, so please register in advance by calling 503-371-3631. A.C. Gilbert's Discovery Village, 116 Marion St. NE, Salem, OR 97301. Info: 503-371-3631 or www.acgilbert.org.

Harvest Festival and Pumpkin Merriment

Saturday, October 18

11 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Pull up a hay bale and bask in the glow of hundreds of carved pumpkins as the 10th Annual Harvest Festival and Pumpkin Merriment brings the bounty of the season to you! Boogie beneath the bridge to LuAnn Ritts and her band Cash & Company, sample fresh pressed cider and Northwest fruits, participate in a scavenger hunt or sunflower seed spitting contest, create a glow-in-the-dark Harvest Moon and much more. The children's museum abounds with family friendly activities inspired by the harvest season.

A.C. Gilbert's Discovery Village, 116 Marion St NE, Salem, OR 97301.

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Regular museum admission applies to this event. Members get in free—or bring a carved pumpkin for one free admission!

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