

## Ghosts and Goblins invited to 'haunt' downtown Ames during the day

Ames, Iowa—As Halloween creeps closer, local businesses and families look forward to daytime trick-or-treating in Downtown Ames. The event will take place Friday, October 30, from 10a.m. to 2p.m. and

offers a fun alternative to evening activities.

Cindy Hicks, Executive Director of the Main Street Cultural District, says the central purpose of this trick-or-treating opportunity is to bring people downtown to enjoy a family-fun event on Main Street.

"Daytime trick-or-treating benefits families by giving parents another option for Halloween events that is fun and safe," said Hicks. "This is also an event that all of the downtown business owners look forward to every year."

This is especially great for families with smaller children who still want to take part in Halloween festivities. She encourages children to dress up in their most creative costumes and head to the Main Street Cultural District.

With several fun places to shop and eat, trick-or-treating brings new families downtown and helps to support local businesses. Any business wanting to participate should simply buy candy and welcome in visitors. Parents and daycare providers should look for the orange posters on Main Street and all of the side streets between Duff and Grand Avenue, and at City Hall.

"Several departments in City Hall plan to hand out goodies, including the police department, so don't forget to stop in there too," said Hicks. "I can't wait to see all the fun and excited faces in downtown!"

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The Main Street Cultural District was established on January 1, 2004. Its mission is to advance and promote downtown as the destination district in the heart of our community. To keep updated on MSCD happenings, become a fan of the Main Street Cultural District on Facebook, bookmark <a href="www.AmesDowntown.org">www.AmesDowntown.org</a>, or contact our office at 515-233-3472. MSCD is an affiliate organization of the Ames Chamber of Commerce.