

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dark Art and Oddities Con 2024 Returns to Dekalb with Expanded Lineup of Entertainment, Workshops, and Spooky After Hours Events

Dekalb, IL – October 2024 – The **Dark Art and Oddities Con** returns this year with a larger-than-ever lineup of chilling experiences, set to take place **November 16th and 17th** at **Northern Illinois University's Castle, Altgeld Hall**. Aimed at horror fans, paranormal enthusiasts, and fans of dark art, this unique convention offers a range of immersive workshops, spine-tingling entertainment, and a collection of one-of-a-kind vendors.

Entertainment Highlights:

This year's convention features exclusive screenings, interactive performances, and a chance to meet some of the best talent in horror and dark arts:

- **John Borowski**, award-winning filmmaker, will present a chilling look at his documentaries, known for focusing on infamous historical killers such as **H.H. Holmes**.
- **Whispers in the Dark Literature Reading Series**: Hosted by **Colin Gorman**, this immersive series will feature live readings of horror classics including *Frankenstein* by **Mary Shelley**, *The Tell-Tale Heart* by **Edgar Allan Poe**, *The Call of Cthulhu* by **H.P. Lovecraft**, and more. These readings are performed by a talented group of actors who bring each tale to life.
- **Nosferatu Screening with Live Accompaniment**: The silent horror film *Nosferatu* will be shown with a haunting live organ performance by **Jay Warren**, adding a vintage horror touch that blends classic cinema with gothic ambiance.

Workshops and Hands-On Experiences:

The Dark Art and Oddities Con offers a range of workshops designed for hands-on learning and skill-building for those with a taste for the eerie and mystical:

- **Ghost Hunting Techniques Workshop**: Led by **Dale Kaczmarek** from the **Ghost Research Society**, this workshop introduces ghost-hunting

techniques, equipment, and real evidence gathered by Kaczmarek over his 40-year career.

- **Anti-Anxiety Satchel Workshop:** **Serenity Rayne** guides attendees in crafting their own anti-anxiety satchel, including an introduction to calming herbs and techniques for grounding and balance.
- **Insect Pinning Workshop:** Hosted by **AJ's Arthropods**, this workshop teaches participants to pin and frame insects, providing a unique chance to create a beautiful specimen to take home.
- **Witches Protection Bottle Workshop:** Learn the art of crafting protective bottles with **Serenity Rayne**. Attendees will make a personal protection bottle using spellwork techniques and traditional ingredients for grounding.

Each workshop has limited availability, with add-on tickets available through the event website.

Official After Hours Event: Macabre Minds Trivia Night

The thrills continue after hours on **Saturday, November 16th**, with **Macabre Minds: The Ultimate Dark Trivia Challenge** hosted at **Fatty's Pub & Grille** in Dekalb. Trivia begins at 8 PM, with dark and eerie questions for fans of horror, paranormal, and true crime. **Heather Harlow** will host the event, and prizes are up for grabs. Fatty's also offers a selection of delicious food and drinks available for purchase, making it a perfect spot to continue the fun after hours.

Indie Horror Film Festival

The **Indie Horror Film Festival** at the Dark Art and Oddities Con will showcase an array of horror films, including *The Beast of Gévaudan*, *Bay for Blood*, *Lumberjack*, and *Jolt*, with each film selected for its unique contribution to indie horror. Attendees can meet and network with filmmakers and other creatives at the **Filmmaker Social Hour** on **Sunday, November 17th at 1 PM**.

Vendor Spotlight

Unique vendors at this year's convention offer a wide variety of dark and spooky items:

- **Bethany Madison Designs:** Featuring horror-inspired art and handcrafted dolls.

- **Rotting Cherry Jewelry:** Gothic jewelry, including bone and crystal pieces with chainmail.
- **Adorably Kowai:** Creepy-cute art and accessories perfect for horror fans with a whimsical side.
- **Scary Lair of Doom:** A mother-daughter team crafting macabre items like beaded spiders, painted skulls, and more.

Sponsored by the Weird Darkness Podcast

This year, the **Weird Darkness Podcast**, hosted by **Darren Marlar**, is the official sponsor, adding its own dark touch to the convention. Known for delving into the paranormal, true crime, and mysteries, Weird Darkness is a fitting partner for an event that embraces the eerie and unexplained.

Event Details

Dates: Saturday, November 16th & Sunday, November 17th

Location: Altgeld Hall, Northern Illinois University, Dekalb, IL

Admission: General admission tickets are available online, with some workshops and after-hours events requiring additional ticket purchases.

For tickets, the full schedule, and more information on special guests, visit www.darkartandodditiescon.com or follow us on social media for updates.

Media Contact:

Willy Adkins

815-901-1504

willy@breakingfate.com

Dark Art and Oddities Con 2024

Breaking Fate Entertainment