

Terror for a Cause – Stanwood’s Haunted Experience

April 3, 2025

Progress and Success Stories

Purpose & Mission

The purpose of Terror for a Cause is to operate a haunted house attraction for the enjoyment of the community while raising funds for charitable causes, fostering local creativity, and promoting community engagement.

Terror for a Cause is a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating thrilling haunted experiences while giving back to our community. Each year, we design an immersive and spine-chilling event with a new theme, bringing people together for frightful fun. As a non-profit, we are dedicated to channeling the excitement of the Halloween season into meaningful support for local community organizations and programs. By working with community businesses and volunteers, we aim to boost the local economy, strengthen connections, and make a difference—one scream at a time.

Review Last Year

- 10 local sponsors providing \$2,000 in donations.
- Title sponsor Fast Track providing the space in kind!! Brought in \$8,700 towards the Trips Abroad program through the high school.
- Providing scholarships for 6 kids!
- 31 volunteers!!

Strategic Planning and Goals

- Theme: Twisted Tales—think warped fairy tales like a sinister Cinderella, a haunted Hansel and Gretel forest, or a menacing Mad Hatter’s tea party.
- Charities: Net profits will support The Dance Project NW (empowering youth through dance) and Future Business Leaders of America (building tomorrow’s leaders).
 - Why These Charities?
 - The Dance Project NW: Helps kids express themselves through dance—perfect for our creative twist!
 - FBLA: Prepares students for leadership, aligning with our community-building vision.
- Goals: Launch in October 2025, attract 500+ visitors, and raise \$10,000+ to split between our charities.

Event Prep

- Spring (Now–July): Secure a venue (Fairgrounds) and start fundraising with local businesses. Create website. Start list of rooms - Twisted Tales scenes (e.g., a cursed castle, a wicked witch's lair),
- Summer (August–September): Build walls, craft and collect props (like a poisoned apple or a creepy storybook), and launch ticket sales.
- Fall (October): Run the haunt over 4 weekends (Oct 3–4, 10-11, 17-18, 24, 31-Nov.1), with actors bringing twisted characters to life. **Blackout**

Date Oct 25

- November – Clean up by 11/7

Volunteer Roles (Committees)

- **Design/Construction:** Create a warped fairy-tale world—thick fog, eerie lights, and twisted props. Set up AND Clean up.
- **Actors:** Play sinister storybook characters (e.g., a deranged Little Pig or a vengeful Goldilocks).
- **Volunteer Coordination:** Schedule and train our spooky crew.
- **Social Media / Marketing:** Post regularly on platforms like FB, IG, TT. Create teaser videos, behind the scenes content and countdown posts. Showcase actors, makeup sessions, set building and thanking sponsors...
- **Fundraising:** Secure sponsors and promote Twisted Tales to hit our \$10,000 goal.

Membership

- Membership (Article II): Open to anyone 16+ who gives 10+ volunteer hours/year and attends one meeting. Members vote on big decisions—like confirming our charities!
 - Membership Perks: Vote on funds, shape the haunt, and support The Terror for a Cause
- What Are Bylaws? “Our spellbook for keeping things fair and frightful!”
- Board of Directors (Article III): President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary run the show. Being our inception year, we already filled these roles, however we will be voting our board of directors moving forward. You can join the Board after a year of membership.

Key Highlights (from the Bylaws)

- Fund Distribution (Article III, Section 9): The Board will be presented 4 charities from members, they will vote in November, the top 2 to split the profits for next year.
- Committees (Article V): We'll need Design/Construction (to twist those tales into reality), Volunteer Coordination (to manage our crew), and Fundraising (to boost our funds).
- Code of Conduct (Article VIII): Safety is key—keep the scares fun, not harmful. Respect all visitors and volunteers.

Next Steps

- How to Join: “Sign up tonight to volunteer or become a member—help us twist some tales!”
- Next Steps: Monthly Board and Volunteer meetings start in May to plan Twisted Tales. Stay tuned for dates!
- November: Clean up and Annual meeting to vote on charity funds and elect officers for next year.

Thanks for stepping into our twisted world. Let’s make 2025 a haunting hit for Stanwood!

Notes