



Face painting at Texas Renaissance Festival



Photo by Liem Bur

Artist Joel Yau creating a chalk masterpiece at the Via Colori Festival

Family Fun Fall Festivals

Written by Wendy Teng

As the fall season arrives, Katyites can enjoy spending more time outdoors in the cooler weather. From pumpkin patches to Howl-O-Ween, these nearby festivals will get you into the spirit of the season.

Pumpkin Patch and Scarecrow Festival

October 1 - November 1
Oil Ranch | Hockley, Texas
oilranch.com

Hitch a hay ride and see over 50 scarecrows, and thousands of pumpkins. Barbecue sandwiches are available or attendees can bring food and have a picnic. Admission is \$15 per person, but with a group of 15 or more admission is \$8 per person. Every child with paid admission gets a free pumpkin.

Texas Renaissance Festival

October 11 - November 29 (weekends)
Todd Mission, Texas
texrenfest.com

Be prepared to see people dressed up as pirates, fairies, lords and ladies, kings, queens, and more and don't be too shy to dress up yourself. Music can be heard throughout and stage performances are available with free seating. Try a variety of cultural foods found at every corner. There will be Renaissance-inspired craft making, amusement rides, and shops at the festival. Admission is free for kids under 4 and kids ages 12 and under on Sundays. Kids 12 and under are \$14 and adult admission is \$26.



Photo by Liem Bui

For a minimal donations, children will be able to create their own chalk paintings at Via Colori



Indian culture booth at iFest Live

Needville Harvest Festival

October 16 - 17
Harvest Park | Needville, Texas
needvillefest.com

The festival attractions include a raffle, 5K fun run, barbecue cook-off, lawn mower racing, talent contest, pageant contests, auctions, a beer garden, and car shows. Funds raised will be used toward maintaining the park for the community. There will be live music, food, crafts, and helicopter rides will be available. Admission is \$6 for both Saturday and Sunday, and free for children ages 6 and under.

Pumpkin Fest

October 17
Faith United Methodist Church | Spring, Texas
faithumcspring.org

For the 21st year in a row, United Methodist Church will be holding their Pumpkin Patch Fest in support of the Navajo Nation in New Mexico and Arizona. The festival will have games, food, a silent auction, and crafts to entertain the entire family. Vendors or volunteers who would like to participate can fill out an application on their website.

Scarecrow Festival

October 17
Cross Creek Ranch | Fulshear, Texas
crosscreektexas.com/scarecrow-fest

The biggest creative collection of scarecrows will come to life at this festival. Families will be entertained with a carnival, food trucks, apple bobbing, face painting, pumpkin decorating, and more. Admission is free and open to the public and carnival tickets are \$5. Sign up online to participate in the scarecrow contest. There will be cash prizes as large as \$1,000 for the most creative scarecrow.

Cinco Ranch Fall Fest

October 24
Villagio Town Center | Katy, Texas

The festival will have many fun activities for kids including a petting zoo, pony rides, games, inflatables, and camel rides. Tom the Turkey Dash Turkey, a juggler, and a balloon artist will make an appearance. Attendees can go on a parachute that can fly up to 20 feet high. Residents will have the opportunity to submit their chili recipe in the Cinco Charities Chili cook-off contest and Boy Scouts will be selling food and drinks. Entry is free, but a \$10 donation is suggested.

Howl-O-Ween Fest

October 24
Bridgeland | Cypress, Texas
bridgeland.com/howl-o-ween-fest

Attendees will be entertained with performances such as Todd Oliver and his talking dogs, Panfilov's Performing Pets, Popeye and Sailor, Magic of Lanny Kibbey, and Houston Canine Frisbee Disc Club. The audience will also witness a dog runway fashion show. The festival will offer delicious food trucks from Koagie Hots, Kona Ice, The Waffle Bus, and Rita's Ice. Kids can participate in activities such as pumpkin decorating, sand art, face painting, balloon making, and trick-or-treating. Admission is free.

Texian Market Days

October 24
George Ranch Historical Park | Richmond, Texas
texianmarketdays.com

Families will learn about 150 years of Texian history at this festival. Witness battle reenactments, live entertainment, and participate in hands on activities. Food and crafts will be available. Admission is \$15 for adults and \$10 for children. Kids ages 4 and under are free.

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Gulf Coast International Dragon Boat Regatta

October 24 - 25

Brooks Lake at Fluor | Sugar Land, Texas
texasdragonboat.com

Families can watch different teams paddle and race to the finish line on dragon-like boats. There is a new race to enjoy every 15 to 20 minutes. Enjoy lion and dragon dances, martial arts, and tai chi performances. Live music will create an exciting atmosphere and food vendors will also be available. Shaved ice is a popular treat for many at this event. Admission is free.

Halloween Town

October 25

Sugar Land Town Square | Sugar Land, Texas
sugarlandtx.gov

Spooky witches, superheroes, and princesses are all welcome to join in on the fun and frights at Halloween Town. Bring the whole family, friends, and pets to this festive event at Town Square. There will be a costume contest for kids, toddlers, and pets and winners will receive a spooktacular prize! Remember not to dress too gruesome or scary, as this is a family event. Admission is free.

iFest Live

November 7

Sugar Land Town Square | Sugar Land, Texas
sugarlandtx.gov

A variety of cultural diversity will be seen, shared, and celebrated at this lively festival. Different cultures will have showcase booths, and attendees can visit each booth to learn about the different cultures. Student groups and local organizations will provide musical and dance performances. International cuisine will be available. Admission is free.

Children's Festival Woodlands

November 14 - 15

Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion
The Woodlands, Texas
woodlandscenter.org

In past years, attendees have enjoyed performances from Choo-Choo Soul, Junie B. Jones, sing-a-long with Barney, Kidz Bob kids, and more. Mascots such as Scooby Doo, Clutch from Houston Rockets, and more have also made an appearance. Outdoor activities like kite making and flying, parachute races, panning for gold, rock walls, and bumper boats will keep the kids busy. Admission is \$8 for adults purchased in advance or \$10 at the gate. Admission is free for children 2 years old and under.

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Children can enjoy activities at the Pumpkin Patch and Scarecrow Festival at the Oil Ranch

Via Colori

November 21 - 22

Downtown at Hermann Square | Houston, Texas
centerhearingandspeech.org

Take the whole family to see unique street paintings created with pastel chalks. For a \$10 donation, you can create your own street painting. Kids will be able to enjoy chalk games such as hop-scotch, four square, and tic-tac-throw. A scavenger hunt and an activity to construct musical instruments are some fun activities to look forward to. Rain or shine, the event will still go on. Food vendors will be available. Admission is free. **KM**

WENDY TENG is a freelance writer with an MHA degree. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, writing, volunteering, and trying new restaurants.

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 You may even find yourselves on our next InstaFaves page!



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Texian MarketDays at George
Ranch Historical Park



MORE FALL FESTIVALS

Pick-a-Dilly Craft Fair

October 17
St. Peters Unite Methodist Church
Katy, Texas
stpkaty.org/pick-a-dilly-craft-fair

Pumpkin Fest

October 17
Faith United Methodist Church
Spring, Texas
faithumcspring.org

Autumn Fest

October 24
The Woodlands Christian Church
The Woodlands, Texas
twcc.org

Woodlands Fall Market & Fair

October 24
Christ Church United Methodist
The Woodlands, Texas
cc-um.org/thewoodlandsfallmarket

Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat

October 25
Holy Covenant United Methodist Church
Katy, Texas
holycov.org

Ferrari Festival

November 15
Highland Village
Houston, Texas
facebook.com/ferrarifestival



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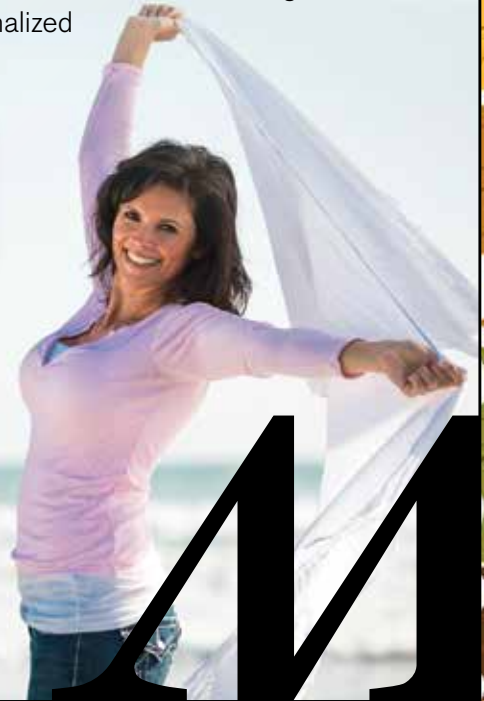
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