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## **A howling good time for PAWS Chicago**

*First Annual PAWS Chicago Howl-O-Ween Event to be held this month*

CHICAGO, IL: There are few things cuter than a Shih-Tzu in a ghost costume or a Pit Bull dressed like a princess. At the First Annual PAWS Chicago Howl-O-Ween event there is sure to be a vast array of pets and humans in costume.

This event will be held on October 28, 2012 from 2-5pm at the Park Hyatt Chicago, sponsor of the event, in the Grand Salon. All proceeds benefit PAWS Chicago. Tickets are sold for \$20 per pet, \$25 for children ages six to 12, and \$75 for adults older than 13.

The PAWS staff is looking forward to the event, because the Howl-O-Ween party will be the first annual Halloween themed costume party. It will be a new experience for both the staff and the participants with plenty of fun, festive forms of entertainment for the guests.

There will not only be plenty of entertainment for families but also for their furry friends. The event will feature a live auction, face painting for children, "intuitive dog readings," and of course, a costume contest.

There will be celebrity judges and prizes for the costume contest. There will be winners chosen for Best in Show for Dogs, Favorite Duo, and Most Outrageous. The celebrity judges include Lisa Dent (US99.5 D.J.), Suzanne LeMignot (CBS2 Reporter), Ji Suk Yi ("Windy City Live" Contributor), and Angela Pargas (Radio Disney Chicago DJ).

Just like any great party, there will also be plenty of food. There will be desserts made by Pastry Chef Meg Galus and pampered pet treats baked by Executive Chef Ryan LaRoche. NoMI Lounge will also provide beer, wine, and Tail-tini's for adults.

PAWS Chicago is the largest no-kill animal shelter in the city and has contributed to a 50 percent drop in the number of homeless animal killings. Our mission is to find and apply solutions to end killings of homeless pets. One of these solutions is affordable pet sterilization to decrease overpopulation. The PAWS Chicago Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic is the largest free spay/neuter clinic in the nation.

PAWS Chicago runs on a dedicated staff, roughly 5,000 volunteers, and donations from caring individuals. Because of this, we have helped find forever homes for 4,268 pets in 2011 and is expected to find homes for 2,500 pets in 2012.

"We [PAWS staff] are always thrilled to help raise money to help save more homeless pets!" said Sarah Ahlberg, development and communication manager of PAWS Chicago.

Tickets are limited as the event is fast approaching. Currently, there are expected to be 200 human guests and 50 pets. To purchase tickets, visit [www.pawschicago.org/halloween](http://www.pawschicago.org/halloween) or call 773-843-2500.

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