

# NORTH SUBURBAN YMCA

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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## YMCA's "Fall Fest" Community Party Delivers a Treat for All Ages

**Northbrook, IL** — Rain did not dampen the community spirit as the North Suburban YMCA concluded a year-long celebration of its 50th anniversary with "Fall Fest." The free community party had a record breaking attendance with over 1700 guests and was held at the Y on Saturday, October 5th. Attendees enjoyed live music, games, art projects, fall treats, celebrity Bingo, a haunted trail and it closed out the night with a performance on the main stage by Northside.

"This year the Y really outdid themselves. We come every year and this was by far the best event. It had something for everyone," exclaimed Jocelyn Garner, local resident of Northbrook. "My favorite part was the haunted trail, it was super scary this year," said Soren, nine-year old son of Garner.

Fall Fest was planned in lieu of the Y's two biggest and long-standing community events: Y Fest and the Halloween Spooktacular. "We're so grateful for all the support we've received from the community as we celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> year," commented Howard Schultz, NSYMCA President/CEO. "This party was our way of giving back and having fun with the amazing variety of people we serve. We plan to throw this event every year moving forward."

The event's success can also give credit to the many event sponsors and vendors that supported Fall Fest this year. "Without local business support, these events couldn't be possible, so we are very grateful for companies who believe in supporting the community," stated Kim Nyren, Director of Community Investment. This year had a record breaking 40 vendors and sponsorship support from Northwestern Medicine, Illinois Bone and Joint Institute (IBJI), 22<sup>nd</sup> Century Media, 94.7 WLS-FM, , Sunset Foods, Waterway Carwash, Wintrust and many more.

Generations of families in Northbrook and the surrounding suburbs have relied on the YMCA for outstanding activities that support youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. A nonprofit organization, the NSYMCA provides financial assistance through its Strong Kids Fund that enables individuals in financial need to participate fully in the Y's benefits. Currently, the Y invites community members to be forever remembered by purchasing a brick in the Y's new Memorial Brick Wall Program.

## **About the North Suburban YMCA**

Celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2018/19, the North Suburban YMCA provides individuals in Northbrook and 15 surrounding communities with programs and tools that help them become healthier, more connected, and confident, ensuring that everyone, regardless of age, income, or background, has the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive. The NSYMCA focuses on Youth Development, Healthy Living, and Social Responsibility and is a charitable organization, inclusive and welcoming to all in our community. Learn more at <a href="NSYMCA.org">NSYMCA.org</a>.



Photo caption: Local Y kids who volunteered to be the "Fright Fest" Characters throughout the night. (Right to left, Soren Garner, Ethan Erlich, Carly Erlich, Liam Mathein, & Colt Nyren)



Photo Caption: The North Suburban YMCA hosted Fall Fest, a free community event on October  $5^{th}$  that included a performance by the band Northside. Photo by Mini Morgan Photography.



Photo Caption: Kids came to show off their Halloween Spirit.