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Wikinews attends Texas Hunters Convention

Monday, August 5, 2019

Wikinews attended the Texas Hunters Convention on the last weekend of July — July 27–28 — in [Mesquite, Texas](#). The event was held at the Mesquite Convention Center and spanned roughly 35,000 square feet of exhibit and classroom space. [Halloween](#)-themed, the event was focused on equipment, techniques, props and costumes used in haunted attractions and home haunts.

A children's costume contest was held each day, with an array of characters and monsters featured.



A costumed character present at the event.
Image: Paul Budd.

An array of classes were on offer, one of which allowed attendees to make a faux shrunken head. In a separate class, instructors taught attendees how to build a 'bubbler' prop, as might be displayed in a spooky laboratory scene.

Other classes included:

- Stunts and Stilts
- Circular Haunting
- Foam Fright Guns
- Facade Planning and Building

[YouTube](#) personality *Mr. CreepyPasta* was on hand and did a reading of scary stories. [Belly dancing](#) troupe *Tribal Evolution* performed on Saturday and again that evening at the adults-only Costume Ball.

Local actor and producer Joshua Winch was on hand offering DVD's of his films and promo photos and posters. Winch told *Wikinews* he began acting in theater 20 years ago and also worked on several film projects as a Production Assistant. Ultimately, he began producing film projects writers would present to him in 2004. Winch said he has produced a great deal of horror-comedy films, but grew tired of reading reviews that his films weren't horror because they had comedic elements. He then approached a director and said, "I want you to make a pure horror movie." The result was his recent film, *Fall of Grace*. Winch said the film has been screened at 14 film festivals and he was named Best Actor at one of those events.



Indie film actor and producer Joshua Winch was on hand at the event.
Image: Paul Budd.

More than 70 vendors were present at the event, coming from various parts of the U.S., including California and Florida. A mobile escape room was onsite and allowed playthroughs for VIP attendees.



A child portraying the 'Predator' character at the convention.
Image: Paul Budd.



Box used to make bubbler prop.
Image: Paul Budd.

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Sources

- "main web site^{[[?](#)]}" — *Texas Hunters Convention*, August 5, 2019 (date of access)
- "Fall of Grace^{[[?](#)]}" — August 5, 2019 (date of access)



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