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Night of the dancing dead

Green-minded venue to host a weekend bash that is sure to die for

By Korri Kezar

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No matter your style, everyone one can tap their inner-zombie and dress up this year. For those of us that are less creative, never fear: you can get dressed and tressed to undead perfection at the Zombie Ball.

Makeup artist Jennifer Ayers will be on the scene, turning ordinary living citizens into the walking undead. Maybe you're wondering just how to "make up" a zombie. While the Ball's cosmetic masterminds aren't revealing all of their secrets just yet, think latex and white face paint for rotting flesh and red makeup for blood.

"Rice makes good maggots," said Neal Turley, Zombie Ball founder.

During your last trip to the mall, you probably didn't browse any racks of zombie couture. While Prada isn't releasing a line of zombie-wear this season, don't worry about what to put on to look the part.

"Zombies wear whatever they're buried in," Turley said.

For those who have developed severe costume-block, some on-site costumers will be helping attendees find their zombie personality.

The Ball will be at Sustainable Waves, which specializes in "green" solutions for concerts, festivals and other events. While the venue has hosted outside events in the past five years, the Zombie Ball is a Waves original, intended to revive some creativity and get the place moving.

"The Zombie Ball is our vision, and also a reflection of where we are. Events are usually a reflection of what is going on in society and culture. And with the economy in the state that it is, there is a darker side to creativity out there in the world," Turley said. "For Sustainable Waves, the creative piece within us is a little dead and rotting from being on the shelf for more than five years. We are excited to wake from the dead, shake the dust off and shake our ass to Michael Jackson's 'Thriller.'"

In addition to costume fun, the Ball will feature the musical talents of bands Spoonfed Tribe, PONG, Killa Dilla, Moving Matter, BoomBox, T-Bird and the Breaks, Narcissia Dhill, FM Campers, Princess Slay-ah and more. Audiences will also get to sit back and enjoy twisted stories, comedies and other antics put on by performance artists SICK and Reina.

Try to skip out on taking your little brother trick-or-treating this year and don't make plans to stay in and watch "Hocus Pocus." Get up, go out and let your zombie appetite be filled this Halloween weekend.



Photo courtesy of NEAL TURLEY

WHAT: Zombie Ball**WHEN:** Friday, 8 p.m.**WHERE:** Sustainable Waves Studios, 4704B Cesar Chavez Suite 120**TICKETS:** \$14 advance, \$20 at door**MORE INFO:** zombieball.com

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