

Industry Experts Say McKamey Manor Is NOT A Haunted House!

Haunted Attraction Industry Rejects Highly Publicized Event

Grandville, **MI** (Friday, October 25, 2019) — With another Halloween season come the articles on traditional media and social media about that 'extreme haunted house' that requires a 40 page waiver and offers a huge cash prize to anyone who can make it through.

Members of the Haunted Attraction Association, the only official association of the haunted house industry, are tired of seeing this consensual torture experience described as a 'haunted house'.

"Responsible haunted attraction operators are dedicated to providing visitors with an experience focused equally on providing a good scare as on providing a fun, safe environment for guests." Said Brett Molitor, President of the Haunted Attractions Association.

"McKamey Manor is more or less the antithesis of everything we try to put forward with our haunted attraction. The average consumer needs to understand that nothing described in those articles bears any resemblance to what they can expect at a modern haunted house. While it's all about the scares, it's also about the safety of our guests and recognizing boundaries" said Brett Hays. Hays is the operator of Fear Fair, a haunted house in its 19th season and former President of the Haunted Attraction Association." The intensive media attention received by McKamey Manor in recent years is very harmful to our industry", Hays continued "The average person who might be considering attending their first haunted attraction sees those articles and may be deterred from beginning a fun annual tradition. At the same time, those who might be seeking that sort of intense experience may come to expect something like that from their local haunted house. I truthfully am not sure of the appropriate term to describe McKamey Manor; endurance test, extreme horror tour, torture tour, a number of things come to mind. One thing it certainly is NOT, is a haunted house."

The Haunted Attraction Association's mission is to *Protect, Promote, and Educate* the haunted attraction industry.

The Certified Haunted Attraction Operator Safety (<u>C.H.A.O.S.</u>) Program is the Haunted Attraction Association (HAA)'s safety course that is recommended to anyone running a haunted attraction. Each year, HAA offers safety classes haunt industry professionals can attend to fulfill their requirement for certification.

Individuals must complete eight hours in order to receive their certification. Once they have completed the eight hours, they will receive a certificate that can be used to show their fire marshal, insurance carrier, and local authority their desire to run a safe haunted attraction.

The Haunted Attraction Association maintains a list of the top haunted attractions in the US. These attractions all meet standards for safety and show quality. "You will note that Russ McKamey's event, whatever it is, does not appear anywhere on the HAA Top Haunts List", said Hays.

Brett Molitor added, "McKamey Manor is not a member of the Haunted Attraction Association and is not qualified for membership."

2019 HAA Top Haunt List: https://hauntedattractionassociation.com/top-haunts

HAA Safety Tips: https://hauntedattractionassociation.com/chaos

HAA Logos: https://hauntedattractionassociation.com/logos

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ABOUT THE HAUNTED ATTRACTION ASSOCIATION

The Haunted Attraction Association (HAA), (the only official association in the haunt industry) serves as the voice of the haunted attraction industry. Our worldwide network of members exchange ideas, information, and experiences via our conferences, exclusive networking events, message boards, newsletters, magazines, and more. HAA members have been featured on national television shows such as "Good Morning America," "The Today Show," "The Travel Channel," and "NBC Nightly News."

The HAA represents professional haunted attraction owners, operators, designers, vendors, enthusiasts, and artists who have turned the business of fright into a multi-million dollar industry with its own tradeshows, experts, suppliers, magazines, educational seminars and events. Each year, haunted attraction owners and operators spend millions of dollars on state-of-the-art special effects, audio-animatronic creatures, Hollywood-quality makeup and masks, costumes, lighting gear, sound equipment, and other products to ensure their customers have a frightful experience.

HAA membership is open to all haunted attraction owners and operators, vendors, home haunters, conventions, professional actors, makeup artists, costumers, and enthusiasts.

The HAA advocates haunts that keep activities on-site and follow standards of ethical, responsible behavior at all times. A key goal of our organization is to promote the safe operation of haunted attractions through affordable, quality safety education and training. Each year, HAA runs the Certified Haunted Attraction Operator Seminar (C.H.A.O.S.) safety program.

Visit www.hauntedattractionassociation.com or call 888-320-8494. Like the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/hauntedattractionassociation and follow HAA on Twitter to see the Official Halloween Countdown at https://twitter.com/HAAHaunts.

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