

'How-To Halloween' scares up crowd

By Hannah Anderson
A&E Editor

The spooky music wound through the booths, and orange and blue lights flashed in the dim room as the event participants worked through each activity.

"How-To Halloween" reached out to people of all ages to provide Halloween themed hands-on activities. The event was held Saturday, Oct. 15 and Sunday, Oct. 16 at the Lansing Center in downtown Lansing.

Geared toward teaching people how to do their own Halloween props, decorations and make-up, the event took place from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. There was a steady flow of participants throughout the day, and many dressed in Halloween costumes.

The many booths provided a variety of different information and activities. There was a booth for face painting, some drawing activities for kids, a blow-up haunted house, a blow-up dinosaur from Jurassic Park and many technology-themed activities.

In fact, according to event planner and "Mad Scientist" Steve Sneed, the event was heavily influenced by the science, technology, engineering and math fields (STEM).

"We want to entice kids to get into STEM," Sneed said, explaining how the event was themed a little differently this year. He added there was a nice combination of things to do.



Photo by Hannah Anderson

Two participants are shown dressed as characters from Iron Man for "How-To Halloween." There were many costumes and themes at the event.

"There's a lot of technology that's fun to play with," said event participant Margaret Stewart. "It all catches your attention."

In addition to the technology-themed activities, there were also some events and shows. Capital City Martial Arts put on several demonstrations, one on stage and others at a booth.

There was also a contest for the best zombie costume on Sunday for all the participants of the Downtown Lansing Zombie Walk.

There were plenty of costumes besides zombies in the building. The "Ghostbusters" had a corner of the room. The



Photo by Hannah Anderson

Participants are shown dressed as characters from Star Wars for "How-To Halloween." They could be found roaming around with R2-D2 in the Lansing Center.

"Stormtroopers" from Star Wars could be found roaming around with R2-D2. Many other cosplayers also came out to get into the Halloween spirit.

Most people agreed their favorite part about "How-To Halloween" was the atmosphere.

"It's like walking into a haunted house," said Ty Lee, a vampire magician who performed "the fastest chain escape in histo-

ry." Several others agreed they enjoyed the "spooky atmosphere."

With its atmosphere, cosplay, activities and more, "How-To Halloween" offered a variety of things to do for people of all ages. It is an annual event so there will be an opportunity to see what it is like next year.

For more information about the event, call (517) 204-6119 or go to <http://how-tohalloween.com/h2h/>