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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Downtown Taunton Pumpkin Extravaganza

Downtown Taunton Foundation (DTF) invites the public to join us for the 2nd Annual Pumpkin Extravaganza in beautiful and historic downtown Taunton. Pumpkins will be displayed at Liberty & Union Park as well as on Main Street in Downtown Taunton from Friday October 22nd thru Sunday October 31st. Pumpkins will be lit on October 22, 23, 29, 30 & 31, weather & pumpkin health permitting, from 5:30 pm thru 8 pm. For safety, pumpkins will be lit with battery powered lights.

The public is invited to join in the fun by entering a carved pumpkin into the contest. Individuals, organizations, businesses, and groups are welcome to enter pumpkins that are in good taste and suitable for all ages. To register and receive contest guidelines, email ekelleher@downtowntaunton.org with your name and/or group name and the name of your pumpkin by Monday October 18th. Pumpkins must be dropped off at Tresscott Street Gallery on Thursday October 21st between 1:00-6:00 pm OR at Liberty & Union Park on Friday October 22nd between 3 -5 pm.

Judging will take place from 6:30-7:00 pm on Friday 10/22. Winners will be marked with place ribbons by 7 PM and announced on Facebook where photos of the entries will also be posted. Ribbons will be awarded for most CREATIVE, SCARIEST & FUNNIEST carvings.

Many businesses and individuals have already signed-up including students in the Design & Visual Communications program at Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical High School who will be entering 20 pumpkins, Taunton Antiques, Taunton Thrift, Tex Barry's, and Ferreira Co, and several local families. All are welcome to visit the downtown to stroll through and view the Pumpkin Extravaganza AND the Downtown Scarecrows. While visiting the downtown neighborhood to enjoy the seasonal fun, please consider supporting our area **restaurants and cafes**: Alina's, The Pearl, El Mariachi, Devito's Pizzeria, Off Broadway Diner, Stephanie's, Liberty & Union Alehouse, The Ugly Duckling, Uplifted Nutrition, Tex Barry's.

Downtown Taunton Foundation programs are supported in part by grants from Mass Cultural Council, Taunton Cultural Council, and by Members and Sponsorships. ***Special thank you to our sponsors Bristol County Savings Bank, Morton Hospital, and Blount Soup Company.***

The **Downtown Taunton Foundation** (DTF) is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) charitable organization and is recognized by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a certified Community Development Corporation (CDC) for its service to the community. DTF engages in projects and programs that promote the arts, strengthen small business, eliminate blight, create affordable housing, and improve overall quality of life in the Downtown neighborhood. The Foundation works in close partnership with the nonprofit Taunton Business Improvement District (BID), with which we share staff and office space. **The Trescott Street Gallery** (TSG) was created in 2011 as part of a collaborative project to rehabilitate a vacant Downtown Taunton furniture warehouse into revitalized housing, office, and arts space. The Gallery is managed by the DTF. For more information about DTF & TSG and the programs and exhibits offered, visit downtontaunton.org/ and trescottstreetgallery.org/. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Both DTF and TSG are located at 8 Trescott Street in Downtown Taunton.
