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# Soka University of America

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## **Soka University's Haunted House Welcomes 1300 Community Members**

Soka University's student clubs combined their ghostly and ghastly talents to host SUA's third annual Haunted House on October 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. For the first time, the Haunted House was open on two consecutive nights – and attendance more than doubled with 1300 visitors paying \$5 each to enter the “crypt” on the first floor of the SUA Recreation Center. All proceeds will benefit SUA's student clubs.

The Haunted House was first presented by SUA's Rhythmission dance team (student club) in 2002. It started off with a couple of club members who wanted to do something fun for the community during Halloween. They decided to create a Haunted House as a fundraiser and also provide an opportunity for club members to bond and for community outreach, but over the next two years it became a production that required the help of the entire SUA community.

In 2004 Rhythmission decided to transfer the responsibility of sponsoring this event to the Club Senate in order to continue this tradition, to share the profit with other clubs, and to provide an opportunity for all classes to unite. About 100 students volunteered to be everything from ghouls to parking lot attendants this year and welcomed 1300 people over two nights. Many attendees were from neighboring cities and had never visited SUA before.

"The students did a fabulous job in every aspect of organization, and some very positive real-world lessons have been learned in business management, marketing, facilities, personnel, etc," noted Keith Shackelford, SUA's Athletics Director. "I saw some true leadership skills."

This successful annual event has become a unique way of uniting students and inviting families to visit “boo-tiful” SUA, Aliso Viejo for an evening of fun and excitement.

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Soka University, Aliso Viejo is a private, non-profit, four-year liberal arts college founded upon the Buddhist principles of peace, human rights and the sanctity of life. SUA offers a 9:1 student/faculty ratio and an average class size of 16. The university is open to top students of all nationalities and beliefs. For more information or directions go to [www.soka.edu](http://www.soka.edu).

