

Photos and video by Ed Scannell

## Division 8 Wins Contest for Best Halloween Decorations



(October 29) More than the usual number of ghosts, goblins and ghouls gathered on Patsaouras Plaza, Friday, to screech and howl that their division's bus was the best decorated. But, Division 8, whose bus featured a blood-chilling array of horror scenes, won the MTA's annual Halloween Bus Decorating contest.

Judges chose the Division 15 bus for second-place honors and the Division 5 bus for third place. Also entering decorated coaches were divisions 1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 10, 15 and 18. Last year's winner, Division 7, declined to enter this year.



The exterior of the Division 8 bus was decorated by senior art students at Chatsworth High School. Interior decorations were provided by Girl Scouts from Dearborn Elementary School. The Division 8 bus will participate in the Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebration on Olvera Street in Los Angeles, Nov. 2.

**Barbara Maycott, Division 15.**

"It's masterful, interesting, and it's fun" said CEO Julian Burke as he stepped down from inspecting the interior of the Division 8 bus. "Obviously, a lot of work went into these buses. I was told by the art teacher at Chatsworth High that this is the best experience her students have had all year."

All divisions entering buses teamed up with students from local schools or with youngsters from community organizations to create the Halloween-themed buses.

"This is a good way for the divisions to get involved with school kids

for a fun event," said Dan Ibarra, deputy executive officer, Bus Operations. "This paints the MTA in a positive light, knocks down some walls in the community and puts a human face on the agency."

The Halloween contest drew media coverage by Channel 22, Channel 62, Eastern Group Publications, KFWB Radio and the LA Times.

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