

**LAURA** the second coming  
-RECTION



4TH ANNUAL LAVA  
HALLOWEEN PARTY

COVER BANDS:  
THE WHO  
NIRVANA  
BAD ASS 80'S  
EMINEM

5 BONES WITH A COSTUME  
8 BONES WITHOUT

SAT. OCT 30, 2004  
9:00 - 2:00  
The DEAD CHURCH  
34TH & NORTHWESTERN  
DIRECTIONS TO CHURCH  
WWW-LAVAHOUSE-ORG

## LAVA-rection Halloween Party

Saturday, Oct. 30  
34th Street and Northwestern  
Parkway  
www.lavahouse.com  
\$6 w/ costume, \$8 w/out;  
9 p.m.- 2 a.m.

# LAVA House moves its haunted show to Portland

Three years ago, Aron Conaway wrote a manifesto to create an artists' collective featuring non-commercial and independent visual art, music and film. He shared his vision with friend and fellow artist Bart Herre, and the two went on to establish

**preview** the Louisville Assembly of Vanguard Art with other young artists and set up digs called the LAVA House at 927 Shelby Parkway in Germantown (a building Herre's father owns).

Over the years, the LAVA House collective has grown in reputation due to its art and its annual Halloween party. "If there's any holiday that LAVA is known for, it's Halloween," Conaway says.

But in August, LAVA House drew the attention of the Louisville fire marshal's office, which contacted the building's owner when the collective threw a fundraising event for Democratic U.S. Senate candidate Tony Miller and warned that the building wasn't up to fire code for large gatherings. That created a conundrum for the collective — what to do about Halloween.

The predicament didn't last long. Conaway and fellow member Hallie Jones

had attended a seminar in the spring called The Neighborhood Institute, sponsored by Louisville Community Design Center and Metro United Way. There they met John Mark Owens, a member of the Portland Festival Organization and Portland Now. They began a dialogue about what LAVA could do in Portland. When LAVA lost a place to have its Halloween party, the members called Owen. He introduced them to other members of Portland Now at a September meeting. Owen says he saw working with LAVA as a way to push the revitalization of Portland.

"During the summer, Adorno just pushed the edge of the envelope," says Owen, referring to the Adorno Studio's July opening in the Shippingport area of Portland, at 24th and Main streets. "Then when LAVA was looking for a place, I said, 'Well, we have this church with a sanctuary.' And, of course, being Halloween, it's the right setting."

The facility, built in 1860 at 34th Street and Northwestern Parkway, was a Methodist church, which counted filmmaker D.W. Griffith among its attendees during its history, says Owen. The church

closed in the early 1990s, due to declining membership, and the Portland Festival Organization bought the building in 2000.

Conaway says he and the other 13 LAVA members are looking forward to hosting this year's Halloween party — dubbed LAVA-rection — in the space as well as showing the art work of collective members and featuring bands there on a regular basis. They are even talking about having post-First Friday Gallery Hop events with music in the facility.

"It has a great space. It's beautiful," Jones says. "It has a certain charm to it and the energy in that space is amazing."

The energy of the place will be infused with music during Saturday's Halloween party with "cover" bands, comprised of members of several real local bands, dressing the part and paying homage to Joan Jett, Eminem, Nirvana and The Who. Also, a band calling itself Bad Ass 80s will play a mixed set of '80s tunes.

For more info on LAVA-rection, go to [www.lavahouse.com](http://www.lavahouse.com).

**BY ELIZABETH KRAMER**  
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