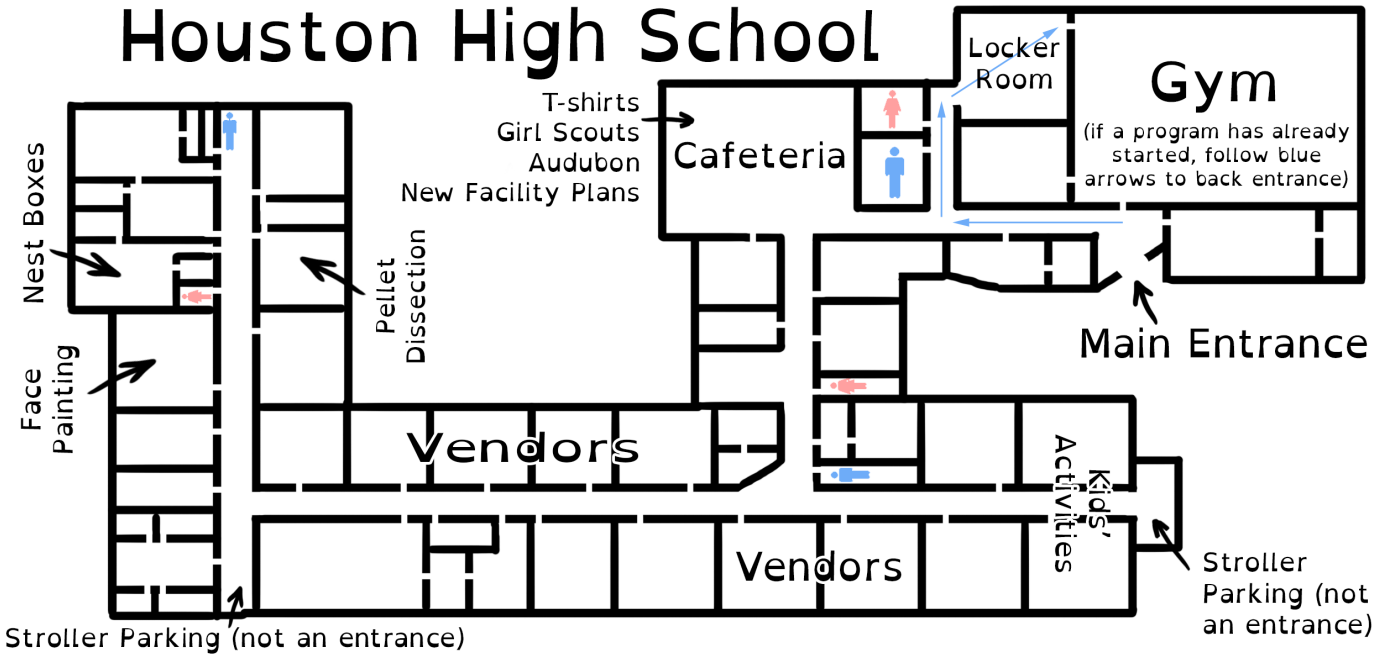


Houston High School



March 1-3, 2024
Houston, MN

International Festival of OWLS

The Owl Behind the Festival

The Festival of Owls began as a way to celebrate Alice the Great Horned Owl's "hatch-day" in 2003 and has evolved into a full-fledged, all-weekend event.

When she was only three weeks old, Alice fell out of her nest and broke her upper wing bone right at the elbow joint. This meant that she couldn't fly or live in the wild, but she had a great personality. She was trained as an education bird instead, and what an amazing impact she's had!

This year, Alice is turning 27 years old. She retired in 2018.



Sat/Sun Admission

Adults: \$12
Kids age 4-17: \$8
Kids age 0-3: free
Members: free
Event wristbands are available at Houston High School and the International Owl Center.
Friday: \$9 adults, \$6 kids

On display all weekend from 10-4 at the International Owl Center:

JR, Eastern Screech-Owl
Ruby, Great Horned Owl
Piper, American Barn Owl
Bea, Burrowing Owl (maybe)

Friday, March 1

Admission - adults \$9, kids \$6, ages 3 and under free, members free, seniors 65+ and vets \$8

Location	Owl Center Admission sticker required - Open 10 AM-4 PM	
Time		
10-10:30 AM		10:00-4:00 Live owls on display Gift shop Kids' art contest winners and staff picks
10:30-11 AM		
11-11:30 AM	Program: Identifying Open-country Owls	
11:30-12 PM		
12-12:30 PM		
12:30-1 PM		
1-1:30 PM	Program: Identifying Local Owls	
1:30-2 PM		
2-2:30 PM		
2:30-3 PM	Program: Identifying Northern Owls	
3-3:30 PM		
3:30-4 PM		
4-4:30 PM		
4:30-5 PM		
5-5:30 PM		
5:30-6 PM		
6-6:30 PM	6:00 - Nature Center	
6:30-7 PM	Family and Adult-Only Owl Prowls (Pre-registration required)	
7-7:30 PM		



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts & cultural heritage fund.

Saturday, March 2 - Admission - adults \$12, kids \$8, ages 3 and under free, members free

Location	Owl Center Wristband required - Open 10 AM-4 PM	High School Wristband required -- Doors open at 8:45 AM	Other locations
Time			
8-8:30 AM			
8:30-9 AM			8:00-11:00 - Lutheran Church Owl Face Pancake Breakfast (adults \$10, ages 4-12 \$5, ages 3 and under - free)
9-9:30 AM			
9:30-10 AM			
10-10:30 AM			
10:30-11 AM			
11-11:30 AM	"Night Owl Night" reading		
11:30-12 PM			
12-12:30 PM			
12:30-1 PM			
1-1:30 PM			
1:30-2 PM			
2-2:30 PM	Short Program: Meet an owl		
2:30-3 PM			
3-3:30 PM			
3:30-4 PM			
4-4:30 PM			
4:30-5 PM			
5-5:30 PM			
5:30-6 PM			
6-6:30 PM			
6:30-7 PM			
7-7:30 PM			
7:30-8 PM			
8-8:30 PM			
8:30-9 PM			

World Owl Hall of Fame award presentation
 "Little owl on the brink of extinction: From research to applied conservation"
 10-minute video of Nepal Owl Festival by Krishna Mani Baral
 Owl woodcarving exhibition by Robin Warburton

6:30 - Elementary School
 Hall of Fame Reception &
 Keynote by Dr. Martin Šálek
 (pre-registration required)

Sunday, March 3 - Admission - adults \$12, kids \$8, under 4 years old free, members free

Location	Owl Center Wristband required - Open 10 AM-4 PM	High School Wristband required -- Doors open at 8:45 AM	Other locations
Time			
8:30-9 AM			
9-9:30 AM			
9:30-10 AM			
10-10:30 AM			
10:30-11 AM			
11-11:30 AM	Short program: Meet an owl		
11:30-12 PM			
12-12:30 PM			
12:30-1 PM			
1-1:30 PM			
1:30-2 PM			
2-2:30 PM	Program by Dr. Roar Solheim		
2:30-3 PM			
3-3:30 PM			
3:30-4 PM			

Speakers

Roar Solheim—Natural History Museum, Agder University, Norway
Martin Šálek—Department of Vertebrate Biology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic
Karla Bloem—Executive Director of the International Owl Center
Jo Severson—Educator at the International Owl Center
Live Owl Programs by the Illinois Raptor Center

"When dead owls hoot: What museum specimens can teach you"