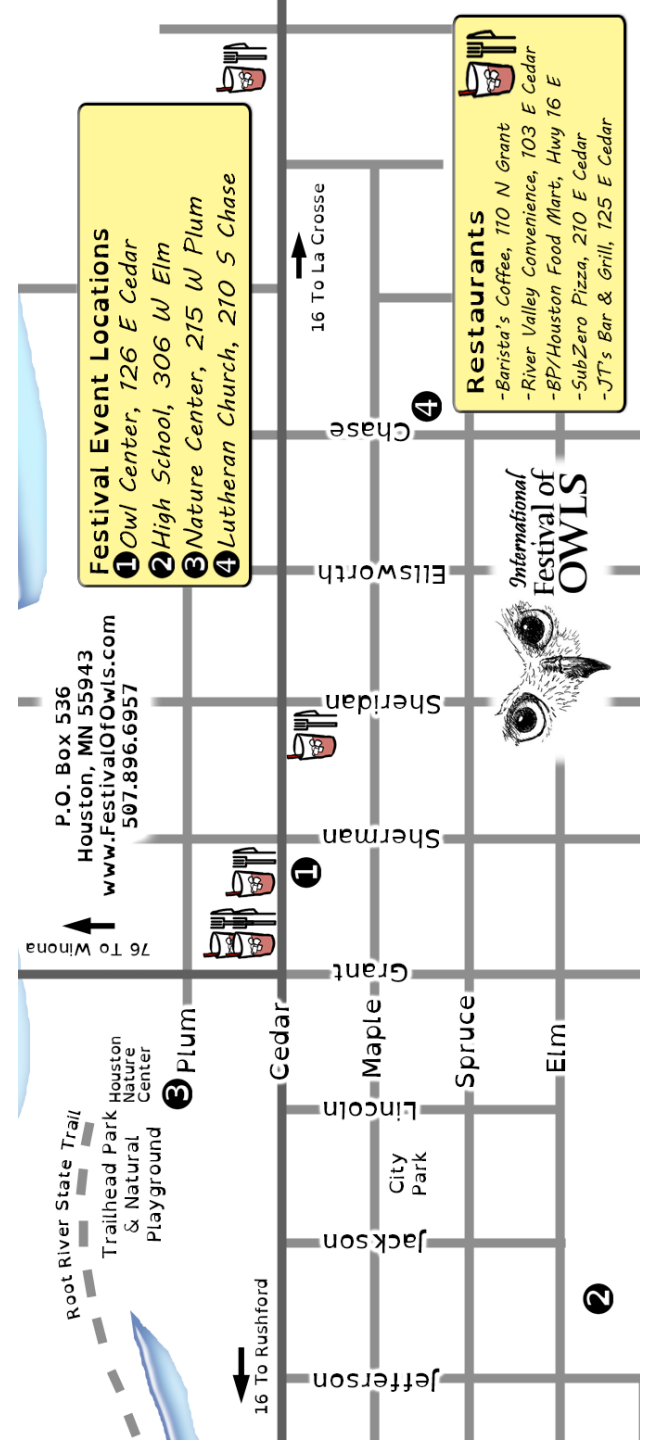
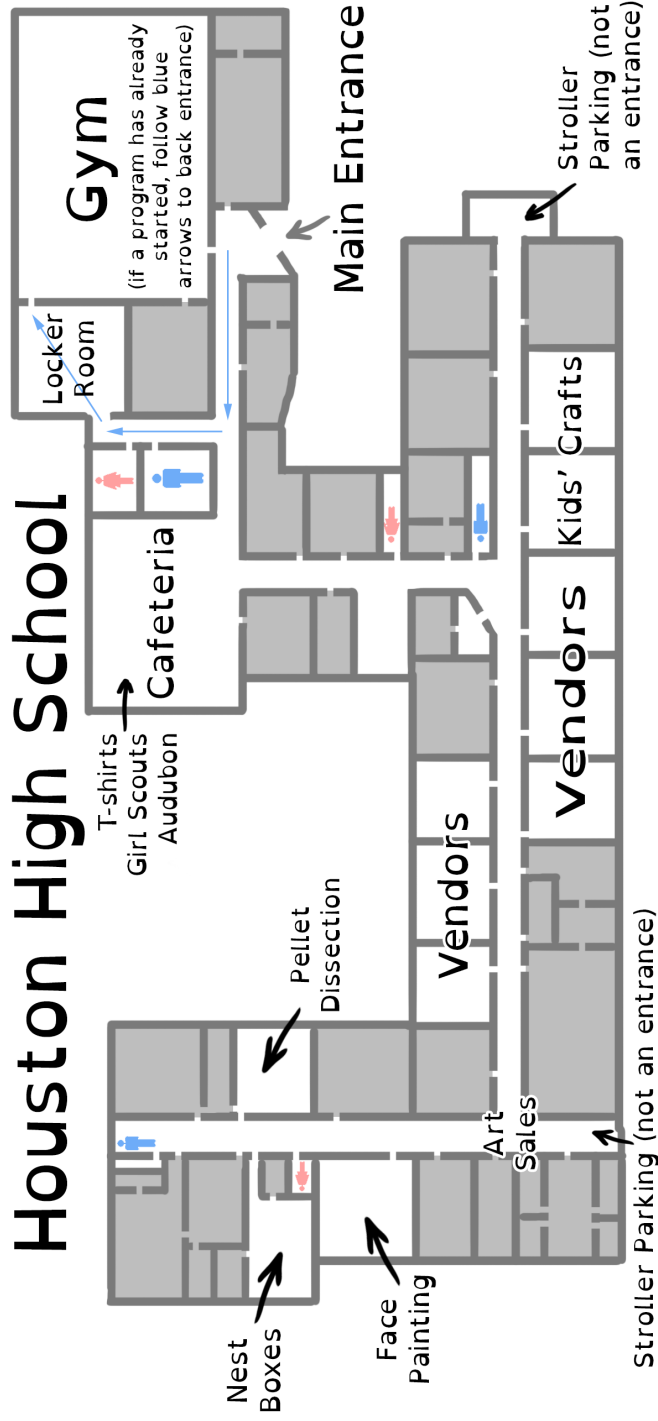


# Houston High School



*International*  
**Festival of OWLS**  
March 6-8, 2026  
Houston, MN

## 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 that has inspired other owl festivals in Italy, Nepal, India and elsewhere in the U.S..

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!

Alice is turning 29 years old this year. 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, \$8 senior/veteran/military

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

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

<b>Friday, March 6</b> Admission: adults \$9, kids \$6, ages 3 and under free, members free, seniors 65+ and military or veterans \$8	<b>Location</b>	10-10:30	10:30-11	11-11:30	11:30-12	12-12:30	12:30-1	1-1:30	1:30-2	2-2:30	2:30-3	3-3:30	3:30-4	...	6:30-8ish PM
	International Owl Center (IOC)	Live owls on display, gift shop, kids' art contest winners and staff picks*													
	IOC program space			Program: Identifying Northern Owls							Program: A Landowner's Guide to Helping Owls				



<b>Saturday, March 7</b> Admission: adults \$12, kids \$8, ages 3 and under free, members free	<b>Location</b>	8-8:30	8:30-9	9-9:30	9:30-10	10-10:30	10:30-11	11-11:30	11:30-12	12-12:30	12:30-1	1-1:30	1:30-2	2-2:30	2:30-3	3-3:30	3:30-4	4-4:30	4:30-5	5-5:30	5:30-6		
	International Owl Center (IOC)	IOC opens at 10. Admission wristband is required for display area and to see the live owls and programs.																					
	IOC program space	Live owls on display, gift shop, kids' art contest winners and staff picks*																					
	Houston High School (HHS) - see map	High School doors open at 8:45.																					
	HHS Gym	Admission wristband is required for entry.																					

\*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.

<b>Sunday, March 8</b> Admission: adults \$12, kids \$8, ages 3 and under free, members free	<b>Location</b>	8-8:30	8:30-9	9-9:30	9:30-10	10-10:30	10:30-11	11-11:30	11:30-12	12-12:30	12:30-1	1-1:30	1:30-2	2-2:30	2:30-3	3-3:30	3:30-4	
	International Owl Center (IOC)	IOC opens at 10. Admission wristband is required for display area and to see the live owls and programs.																
	IOC program space	Live owls on display, gift shop, kids' art contest winners and staff picks*																
	Houston High School (HHS) - see map	High School doors open at 8:45.																
	HHS Gym	Admission wristband is required for entry.																

"Honoring Flaco: The Remarkable Story and Legacy of New York City's Beloved Owl" by David Lei and Jacqueline Emery David and Jacqueline will be signing copies of "Finding Flaco" at 5:45

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**Featured Speakers**

**Marjon Savelsberg**—World Owl Hall of Fame Special Achievement Award Winner

**David Lei & Jacqueline Emery**—Authors and photographers, receiving Flaco the Eurasian Eagle Owl's World Owl Hall of Fame Lady Gray'I Award

**Live Owl Programs by the Illinois Raptor Center**