

Thursday, October 23, 1980

Jaycettes face test, create Halloween fun

Story and photos:
PAT BORDMAN

The hiss of the cat, the snarl of the lion, and the sneer of the devil will be tempered by the scent of grease paint this Halloween.

One area Jaycettes group will run a Halloween Safety Faces booth from 3-6 p.m. at the Farmington YMCA this Halloween. To prepare themselves, the members held a workshop last week designed to teach them how to turn ordinary makeup into bewitching face masks.

"Masks are not safe, especially for really young children," stated Mary Bills, a Jaycettes member. "We decided this year to do something about the danger of masks. We felt that painting faces was a good alternative, a safer way to be out at night," she explained.

To develop expertise, the Jaycettes turned to Jack Lightcap, a professional clown for the past seven years. Lightcap, a resident of Pontiac, also teaches clowning classes at area schools and community centers, and has a class in process at the Farmington Community Center.

"You can see certain masks in certain faces, but imagination can do a lot. That's what so good about makeup, your imagination can do so much," Lightcap said.

"THERE ARE SO many masks to do to complement their faces," Lightcap explained as the group began to experiment with the makeup. The 10 women who took part became familiar with the grease paint while having their own faces made up. They submitted themselves to artistic renditions of clowns, cats, devils and mimes, all in preparation for Halloween when they hope to paint similar faces on about 200 area youngsters.

"It's open to the imagination, we can try different things. But, first we had to learn how to put the makeup on," explained Mrs. Bills.

So, with mirrors in front of them, kleenex at hand, the gradual transformation of the makeup artists began.

IT IS these very transformations that sometimes frighten the youngest children, the women learned. "Especially very young children have a real fear of Halloween, because they see the

transformation as being permanent," said Sandy Andringa, an early childhood education instructor at Oakland University.

"When somebody changes in terms of a mask they see that as a permanent transformation. The old person ceases to exist. They do not realize that person can change back," Mrs. Andringa warned.

"I would always prefer makeup over masks. It's a chance to use creativity, but it's also an opportunity to control what's happening to you. The child can have the mirror right in front of him so he can see how much (makeup is being used) and the process of putting the makeup on."

The Jaycettes seemed to have the children's fears in mind as they studiously applied what they were learning. "We'll see the kids and ask them what they want. We'll try and accommodate them. We'll work together," Mrs. Bills promised.

The Jaycettes will be wearing full makeup and greet their clients with painted "Safety Faces" when the children arrive on Halloween. For a 50-cent donation the Jaycettes will turn a clean face into a safe face.



As more and more people express concern for the safety of their children this Halloween, groups like the Jaycettes are learning how to help. This group took lessons in makeup artistry, which they will use to help area children enjoy a safe holiday.



Carol Jurek combines makeup and a plastic lampshade to create a pixie-like disguise for the holiday.



Jack Lightcap, a professional clown, offered his services to train Bette LeBlanc and others how to apply makeup.



Now that she knows how to do it herself, Bette LeBlanc will help children create fanciful faces that provide unimpaired vision.

They draw on their talent

Professional clown Jack Lightcap advises youthful would-be goblins, ghosts and jack-o-lanterns to follow these simple directions to create their own Halloween "Safety Faces."

- Begin with a clean face
- Using a brown eyebrow pencil, lightly sketch the outline of the design you want. Exaggerate the marking. Don't follow the natural contours of the face. Instead, take the mouth line way out past the lips and bring the eyebrows way up.
- Once the basic mask has been sketched, add clown white makeup all over the face or in selected portions

as around the eyes and mouth for a clown. Apply the gooey mixture to the palm of the hand first and let it come to room temperature by rubbing it with the fingers of the other hand.

- With a powder puff, use talcum powder over the entire face to set the makeup. On any spaces not already covered by clown white, add contrasting accent colors to make the overall face look like a mask.
- Some face designs don't require clown white. For instance, a robot can be created by using silver grease paint. A monster calls for green grease paint.

• Avoid the temptation to use food coloring or lipstick on the skin. Both cause stains that may take days to get rid of.

• After the final colors have been added, reemphasize the mask sketch by using black liquid eyeliner to accent the features of the mask. Add decorations such as musical notes, hearts, tiny flowers, whiskers or stars.

• The final step comes just before going to bed for the night. That's the time that elbow grease will replace the grease paint. Lightcap advises vegetable oil or baby oil for the sticky job of removing the cover up.

Butcher, baker, lawyer ... where are the hobgoblins

Story and photos:
PAT BORDMAN

"Most of the little ones like to dress up in costumes that they can identify with, like animals. Some kids are into playing dress up and role playing. I know one woman whose child decided she she wants to be a waitress on Halloween."

— Linda Pool

Remember when Halloween meant spooks, goblins and ghosts, or when a trip to Grandma's attic supplied all the costume material you could hope for? Well, no more. We now have "Halloween 'Cute."

Rainbow Lollipops, a children's shop at Somerset Mall, presented a Halloween Costume fashion show recently, at which the younger set eyed the latest in fashionable scare-wear.

It wasn't very scary, however, when the toddlers and their parents sat down to preview what's "in" for Halloween '80. Ghosts were replaced by adorable bumble bees. Spooks were replaced by gentle ladybugs. And, that old standby, the down-and-out hobo, has become a career man. He's either a zoo keeper or a highway patrolman.

Typically, Halloween is a time when children can legitimately let loose with fantasies of terror. "Kids in their middle years of 6-12 really like ex-

perimenting with being terrified. It's a way of dealing with natural fears, only in a controlled setting," said Linda Pool, a clinical social worker with Counseling Associates of Southfield.

But, Mrs. Pool cautioned that that is not the case with the littles' trick-or-treaters. "Once they are able to distinguish between what's real and what's not, they enjoy the scariness of it," she said. "But, the little ones have a hard time because they can't distinguish what's real and what's not."

BUT, NO WITCHES came out to terrorize the children at this scary show. There weren't even any black cats to cast evil spells. Just a tiny plump pumpkin and a pointy red crayon walked down the runway. The giggles, smiles and admiring glances of the audience of about 100 adults and children indicated that Rainbow Lollipop was right on target with the youngest trick-or-treat crowd.

"Most of the little ones like to dress up in costumes that they can identify with, like animals," Mrs. Pool said. "Some kids are into playing dress up and role playing. I know one woman whose child decided she wants to be a waitress for Halloween."

Even the parents seemed to prefer the less scary costumes. "Adults find it disquieting that kids want to take on such scary roles," Mrs. Pool said.

Linda Schlesinger, owner of Rainbow Lollipop, has a slightly different explanation for the success of the show and costumes. "I know that I like to see my own kids in things that I can relate to from when I was a little girl. Not only that, the costumes reflect the way we want our kids to be," she said.

Evidently, the store's customers found the choices irresistible. The stock of five dozen costumes was sold out in three days.

"We thought the costumes were cute. But, we were worried about ordering so many. We took a chance. Now, people are ordering them on the phone, sight unseen, and we have a special-order list," Mrs. Schlesinger said.

THE COSTUMES showcased by Rainbow Lollipop were all handmade by local companies. They also seemed to conform to suggestions by Patrolman Larry Knapp, who appeared at the fashion show with Barney the Bear to talk about Halloween safety.

Among Patrolman Knapp's recommendations for a safe holiday were that children wear bright colors, shoes that fit, make-up faces instead of masks, and use soft-material props that can't accidentally poke someone in the eye.

The officer also suggested that children travel in groups, plan their routes in advance, share their destinations with their parents, establish a return time, and that they only cross at corners.



Jason Edelman, left, and Nicole Jacobson are typical of the youngsters whose parents bought out the entire Rainbow Lollipop costume collection in the first three days. The experts say that the littles' trick-or-treaters are less frightened by costumes that they can identify with.

1/2 off Breuer Chairs!

Made in Italy, this popular chair sells everyday for \$89.95. But at Bright Ideas it's only \$44.95 while quantities last! Armchair to match \$69.95 reg. \$129.95

\$44.95



handcrafted bentwood

durable quality caning

fine-furniture joints

natural hardwood

chromed-steel frame

100 chairs available

bright

downtown rochester
652-3388