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## All 'Hallows' Eve: Anticipation hits fever pitch

By Herald staff  
Friday, July 20, 2007

It's time to grab your wand and wizard's robes and party with the Potterverse until Book 7 is released at 12:01 Saturday morning. Check out one of these Boston-area parties, or visit [www.potterparties.com](http://www.potterparties.com) to find another near you. All will sell the book just after midnight; call first to see if you need to preorder a copy.

**Costume contest:** 9 p.m.-1 a.m., The Book Rack Book Store, 13 Medford St., Arlington, 781-646-2665. Costumes judged on stage at the nearby Regent Theater, plus trivia contests, raffles and prizes.

**Potterpalooza:** 8 p.m., Harvard Street at Beacon Street, Coolidge Corner, Brookline; 617-566-6660. Indoor/outdoor street festival features a Hogwarts' Yule Ball, trivia contests, a look-alike contest and Potter-themed menus at local restaurants. Books available at Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard St.

**Midnight Magic:** 7 p.m., Prudential Center, Boston; 617-247-6959. This Barnes & Noble-sponsored bash features a trivia scavenger hunt, activities provided by the Museum of Science and a bean-counting contest.

**Swordplay and Magic:** 8 p.m., Guard Up fencing school, Burlington; 781-270-4800. After all, Harry's just as good with a sword (buh-bye, basilisk) as he is with a wand. The night starts with Hogwarts house games and prizes and ends with a midnight delivery of "Deathly Hallows."

**Grand Hallows Ball:** 9:30 p.m., Borders Books, 10-24 School St., Boston; 617-557-7188. Borders promises wizardly activities, games and giveaways.

**The Best Harry Potter [website] Party EVER!:** 5 p.m., Harvard Square, Cambridge; [harvardsquare.com](http://harvardsquare.com). Local bands Harry and the Potters, Draco and the Malfoys and the Hungarian Horntails will rock Harvard Yard, while the square will be transformed into Diagon Alley. Books available at the Harvard COOP, 1400 Massachusetts Ave., 617-499-2000; Harvard Book Store, 1256 Massachusetts Ave., 617-499-2000; and Curious George Goes to Wordsworth, 1 JFK St., 617-498-0062.

**Costume Party:** 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m., Barnes & Noble at Boston University, 660 Beacon St., Kenmore Square; 617-267-8484. Come dressed as your favorite character and enjoy snacks, games, a Quidditch tournament and other activities.

**Harry Potter Mead Tasting (for Harry's 21-plus fans):** 4 p.m.-1 a.m., Grapevine Travelers, 18 High St., Medford. Taste two kinds of mead (Harry knows it as "butter beer") and witness a mead-making demonstration. Magic, storytelling and crafts.



Fans line up outside a bookshop in London to get their hands on 'Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows,' which will be released just after midnight. (AP)

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