

Press Release

University of Oklahoma Game Developers Association

<https://sites.create.ou.edu/gamedev/>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OU GDA's Annual Halloween Escape Room Begins October 26

NORMAN, Okla. - The University of Oklahoma Game Developers Association will be holding its Halloween escape room at Felgar Hall from Oct. 26 to 29 in collaboration with Oklahoma Blood Institute.

OBI supplied OU GDA with resources they needed to use to create the “zombie-virus” themed room, where puzzles are solved in order to formulate a cure for a virus plaguing the world outside of the room. The partnership was created to help promote OBI’s ongoing blood drives along with funding GDA.

Isaac Moore, an OBI volunteer, oversaw the partnership and is excited for the event to help spread awareness for the need of blood donations.

“It’s a win-win when it comes to helping GDA,” Moore said. “It means so much for both parties involved.”

The escape room is created by each of the GDA’s committees: game design, visual arts, narrative, sound and engineering, giving its members real game development experience.

The engineering committee director, Parker Hix, programmed and developed a short video game that is included in the various hands-on puzzles in the room.

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“We wanted this experience to include every facet of what we do at GDA,” Hix said. “What better way to do that for engineering than make a game the escapists have to play to win?”

The event takes place Thursday from 7 to 10 p.m. for free, and Friday from 7 to 10 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 2 - 6 p.m. for \$8 per person.

Anyone interested in signing up for the challenge can do so on OU GDA’s Instagram, [ougamedev](#) or at the escape room’s entrance on the first floor of Felgar Hall.

The University of Oklahoma Game Developers Association (OU GDA) offers the college’s only path for students to learn about game development. Originally created in 2007, the organization dissolved in the wake of the pandemic but was resurrected in 2021. Today, it strives for the recognition of game development careers as the profession grows and preparing student game developers for their dream jobs.

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