

By [Sarah Miller](#)

One of my focus areas at Blink is how to create a great working culture where employees are committed to their work, but also have fun spending time together and enjoy coming to the office every day. In my opinion one of the easiest ways to do that is to celebrate the obvious and take a break from the average routine.

Last Friday for the Halloween holiday, the Blink UX team celebrated with costumes and tacos. The year prior we had a fun staff lunch to celebrate the holiday, but this year I decided to up the ante by offering a \$100 cash prize to the person in the best costume as voted on by their fellow co-workers. I really wanted to encourage participation because the more people we had contributing to the event the more hilarious it would be for all involved. Having a contest as part of the celebration really worked because we ended up with 90% participation at the office! The costumes gave employees a dose of healthy competition and reminded us to not always take ourselves so seriously.

Greg dresses up as Coach Pete Carroll

Blinkers are creative and I love giving the employees opportunities to let that side shine. There is nothing more inventive than having to pick a costume to wear, and the employees definitely put a lot of that creative energy into their choices. It was such a fun surprise to see what everyone walked into the office wearing. Of the many, many costumes we had at Blink that day there were a few that stood out and had me in stitches... Pete Carroll, the coach of the

Seahawks, a “not-so-grim” reaper who adorned his scythe with stickers of puppy dogs and fairies, a pig roast complete with an apple prop, and a lumberjack with the largest and furriest beard I have ever seen.

The winner of our contest was our very pregnant project manager who decided to go as the wrecking ball from Miley Cyrus’ song and music video. It was comical and clever to say the least. We had a taco bar brought in for lunch, and the staff took time to break from the work day and have lunch together. This festive and jovial atmosphere created a great time for employees to bond, which just goes to show that you don’t have to be a kid to get the most out of this holiday. At the end of the day, I hope employees look forward to a little office silliness. I mean, it’s not every day that you get to do work next to a pirate.

I am so encouraged about the amount of fun that the party brought to the office. I’m thinking next year we are going to have to get even more elaborate...can someone say pumpkin carving contest?

Here are some Halloween shots from around the Blink headquarters.

Tristan as a lumberjack

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Kristina shows off her Rosie The Riveter strength

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Lauren playing the part of a pork roast

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Godzilla, a lemur, and a penguin stopped by

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Laura dons a creepy gold mask

Laura dons a creepy gold mask

*Sarah Miller leads employee development at Blink UX. When she’s not at work, you can typically find her vacationing at an exotic location such as Thailand or Illinois.*