



**AWESOME CON 2017 SCHEDULE**  
Last Updated June 13

**All Day- Open Video Gaming**  
**6/16/2017 / 12:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon A-C**

**The Moon: Cornerstone of Solar System Science**  
**6/16/2017/ 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM / 143**

The Moon is a witness plate to the history of the Earth-Moon system – and the cornerstone for understanding processes affecting airless bodies in the Solar System. Come learn about the latest discoveries in lunar science from NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter mission, how these discoveries are revolutionizing our understanding of our nearest neighbor, and what insights we are gaining about our Solar System by studying the Moon.

Panelists: Noah Petro, Wes Patterson, Brett Denevi, Tim Livengood, Nayi Castro  
Rated G

**Giant Robots: Crushing Your Misconceptions**  
**6/16/2017 / 2:30 PM - 3:15 PM / 144 A**

What's the first thing that springs to mind when you think of giant robots? Is it metal monsters hammering at each other? Overpowered machines that stomp through problems without rhyme or reason? This panels will explore these tropes and misconceptions and look at their origin in mecha anime and manga.

Panelists: Julia Klag, Eric Rutledge  
Rated G

**CosLove Presents: #icanbeaHERO**  
**6/16/2017 / 2:30 PM - 3:15 PM / Backlot Stage**

Cosplay promotes creativity, camaraderie, and can even evolve into community service and philanthropic pursuits. CosLove Presents: #icanbeaHERO. Meet members of CosLove, DC Heroes, East Coast Avengers, Hope for Henry and The 501st as they provide tips on how to combine your passion for cosplay along with giving back to your local community and other charity efforts. Find out how you can reach out to local organizations, other cosplayers/costumers to organize events as well as how to use cosplay to reach new patrons or engage students. #TeamCosLove is a group of cosplayers & creatives that support local communities through school & hospital visits within the DC/MD/VA Mid-Atlantic Region and assists with organizing similar events across the US

Panelists: Patrick Michael Strange, Rebecca Hawk, Maki Roll, Bill Marcellino and Liam Stillman  
Rated G

**Magic: the Gathering Minimaster Tournament (\$8)**  
**6/16/2017 / 3:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Each player receives 1 pack of Amonkhet plus an additional pack every time they win a game. Everyone will receive foil promo cards, plus additional prizes to top players. Limited to 16 people.

### **Museum on the Moon**

**6/16/2017 / 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM / 143**

Scientists, curators, and educators from the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum share the many wonders of our Moon. Ask the experts about the evidence that the Moon is shrinking, how our Moon compares to others, the fates of the spacecraft we've left behind, how to preserve and display iconic Apollo spacesuits, where you can go to see the Apollo XI Command Module Columbia on its upcoming US tour, and how to enjoy the Moon's moment in the sun, this summer's solar eclipse.

Rated G

### **Steampunk 101**

**6/16/2017 / 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM / 149**

Steampunk fandom is growing fast. You see people in garb, with all sorts of neat gadgets at most sci-fi/fantasy conventions -- but what is it? Where did it come from?

This panel tackles the origins of the subgenre, its definitions, and covers a little bit of the recent explosion in popularity.

Rated G

### **A Brief History of Comics**

**6/16/2017 / 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM / 150**

You love them, you read them, but do you know where that wonderful comic book came from? Join Joe Sergi, attorney at law and author of *The Law for Comic Book Creators* for a discussion on the history of comics from early cave drawings through to modern digital comics.

Panelist: Joe Sergi

Rated G

### **Cosplay Rule 63**

**6/16/2017 / 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM / 144 B/C**

The difficult navigating of gender-bent cosplay and how it affects us vs how others perceive the costume.

Panelists: Matthew Levine, Jay justice, led levi, Karen, Danny lantern (Mr. Green Lantern 2017)

Rated PG-13

### **DC Stunt Coalition Workshop: Brawling**

**6/16/2017 / 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM / Backlot**

### **Artemis Bridge**

**6/16/2017 / 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM / Salon F**

Artemis is a multiplayer, multi-computer networked game for Windows computers, and now IOS devices too. Artemis simulates a spaceship bridge by networking several computers together. One computer runs the simulation and the "main screen", while the others serve as workstations for the normal jobs a bridge

officer might do, like Helm, Communication, Engineering, and Weapon Control. Artemis is a social game where several players are together in one room("bridge") and work together as a Captain and crew.

**All Day - Open Tabletop Gaming Presented by Geico**

**6/16/2017 / 3:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Our board game library is available for people to borrow a wide assortment of fun games all weekend long! Your Awesome Con badge is your ticket to free lending from our library of games. We have table signs to indicate that you're looking for more players, or looking for someone to help teach you a new game!

Note: Please bring your Driver's License or other ID to be returned when games are checked back in.

**All Day - Learn to Play Looney Labs Games**

**6/16/2017 / 3:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

The Looney Labs Game Techs will be around to help teach and demo awesome Looney Labs board games all weekend long!

**All Day - Dungeons and Dragons Adventurer's League**

**6/16/2017 / 3:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Join us for a variety of D&D Adventurer's League Events - Free and no experience needed. Start times and exact games are available at Gaming HQ

**Celebrating Five Years of Awesomeness**

**6/16/2017 / 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM / 103**

It's Awesome Con's fifth year! Join Awesome Con founder, Ben Penrod, for a look at what the first Awesome Con looked like and what the Awesome Con of the future looks like!

Panelist: Ben Penrod

Rated G

**Representation Matters**

**6/16/2017 / 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM / 152**

How important is it to see characters and creators that look like you? Join Identity Comics Studio and the Loading Snacks Crew for a discussion on diversity in media, from the characters in the stories to the creators behind them.

Panelists: Jerry Gaylord, Penelope Gaylord, Bryan Turner

Rated G

**Nerdiquette/Anerdomy: Geekdom in Theory & Practice**

**6/16/2017 / 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM /154**

What is the essence of "nerd" or "geek"? What is the nature of the culture? What are the behaviors of membership? Behaviors to celebrate? To correct? How has nerd culture changed over time? What's the future of nerd...dom...ossity...ness...?

Nerdiquette explores ways to enhance the way nerds and the world interact. Using qualitative research, a pop culture philosophical approach, and audience dialogue, the panel will get to the bottom of what it really means to be a geek (if that's even a thing), and fun, useful ways to engage in the modern world. An objective is for audience members to go back out into the convention with a different view of the nature of "nerd culture," and truly practical explorations of communication.

Panelists: Gary Colletti, Caleb LaMont, Meghan Yost, Brad Yost  
Rated G

### **Modern Directors Who Are Not Miyazaki**

**6/16/2017 / 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM / 144 A**

This panel will explore modern day anime directors who are not Miyazaki. The panel will utilize different clips from different directors to compare and contrast their styles. Some of the directors that will be explored include Hosoda, Shinkai, and Monty Oum.

Panelists: popanimecomics (Andrew Davis)  
Rated PG-13

### **Mandalorian Mercs Costuming**

**6/16/2017 / 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM / Backlot Stage**

Kyrimorut Clan would like to host a panel about the Mandalorian Mercs Costuming Club and Armor construction and the approval process. Similar panel we had the past 2 years with updates and a new presenter.

Panelists: Jason Suchodolski, Arielle Cormier, Joshua Colucci, Jason Wolfe  
Rated G

### **NASA's Space Lasers**

**6/16/2017 / 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM / 143**

Beaming down from spacecraft to measure Earth, investigating lunar dust, and tracking satellites from suburban Maryland -- lasers are at the forefront of cutting edge technology at NASA. Explore the latest laser technology and the key science behind missions helping us investigate our home planet and beyond. Engineers and scientists will take you behind the scenes with missions like the Ice, Cloud, and land Elevation Satellite 2, launching with its green lasers in 2018, the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter currently orbiting the Moon, the Lunar Atmosphere and Dust Environment Explorer mission, and the Laser Communications Relay Demonstration. Plus, watch what happens when scientists team up with art and design students, producing an animated short starting an anthropomorphic light photon.

Panelists: Luis Ramos-Izquierdo, Erwan Mazarico, Jan McGary, Jennifer A. Sager, Kate Ramsayer  
Rated G

### **Color Theory and Cosplay with Kurenai Kiba**

**6/16/2017 / 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM / 149**

Once debuted at AwesomeCon, we're bringing it back! Cosplay is an art form so treat it like artwork! We will be going over basic color theory and the right color choices for your cosplay from enhancing your makeup job to finding that right pop of color of fabric when taking a creative turn on your cosplay adaptation. Learn to pull from the source of the character you will become and we'll be going through some ideas in a group discussion at the end to better help you with future projects to make your 2D character a 3D reality

Panelist: Kurenai Kiba

Rated G

### **Mike Kingston Q&A**

**6/16/2017 / 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM / 150**

Mike Kingston will discuss his exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

### **Homophobia in Fandom**

**6/16/2017 / 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM / 144 BC**

A discussion of homophobia in a variety of different television, film, comic, and young adult literature fandoms and how it leads to fandom in-fighting. We will be discussing the Once Upon a Time, Star Wars, and Disney fandoms in addition to other fandoms.

Panelist: Catherine Meushaw, Kathryn Trammell, Valerie Complex, Alexis Sanchez

Rated G

### **Papercraft Made Easy with David Landis, SCHOLASTIC Author (OPEN TO FIRST 30 KIDS)**

**6/16/2017 / 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM / Awesome Con Jr.**

No tape! No glue! No knives! Using only colored pencils and scissors you will draw your own 2D character and convert it into an elegant and fun 3D paper sculpture.

### **Mortal Kombat 3 Tournament**

**6/16/2017 / 4:00 PM / Salon A-C**

### **Phil LaMarr Q&A**

**6/16/2017 / 4:15 PM - 5:00 PM / 146**

Phil LaMarr will discuss his exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

\*\*This panel will have ASL interpretation.

### **Classic Doctor Who: An Introduction**

**6/16/2017 / 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM / 103**

Today, Doctor Who is an extremely popular TV show; however, most people are only familiar with the 2005 revival. With 26 seasons, around 700 episodes, and a movie, catching up on the show's past can be a daunting enough task to scare off even the most enthusiastic fan. This program will look to alleviate the difficulty. We'll look at which serials are essential and which can be skipped to help you familiarize yourself with the origins of this long-running series.

Panelist: Sean Gleeson

Rated PG

### **YA Literature Today**

**6/16/2017 / 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM / 154**

The Young Adult(YA) genre of literature is always evolving, and today, it's home to some of the most exciting, trope-defying, and diverse storytelling there is. Learn more about writing and reading for young adults(and the young at heart) as we discuss current trends, writing tips, and more.

Panelists: E. K. Johnston, Jessica Spotswood, Robin Talley, Carrie Ann DiRisio, E. C. Myers

Rated PG

### **Discworld: Where Fans Become Family**

**6/16/2017 / 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM / 144 A**

An introduction to the fandom of the Disc and how it has changed people's lives. There are many benefits to all fandoms, but with Terry Pratchett's particular brand of humor and humanity, the fans have proved time and again to be some of the most welcoming and supportive. The Discworld Conventions are a great example of how the fans meet not just for the programming, but for the atmosphere and to be with their tribe.

Panelists: Richard Atha-Nicholls, Andrea Hetley, Beth Zipser, Phil Budahn, Lee Budahn

Rated G

### **Meet the 501st Legion**

**6/16/2017 / 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM / Backlot Stage**

Come see the 501st Legion (Star Wars) in action as they answer any questions you might have about costuming and joining the 501st.

Panelists: Emily Schram, Allen Shepherd, Matthew Morley, Charlie Mann

Rated G

### **The Total Solar Eclipse, from NASA**

**6/16/2017 / 5:00 PM - 5:45 PM / 143**

A total solar eclipse will cross the United States on August 21, 2017. Come find out how eclipses help us learn about the Universe - and what we can learn about the Sun only during a total solar eclipse, how our

detailed knowledge of the shape of the Moon's rugged surface affects the viewing experience for Earth-based observers, and what you can expect to experience in North America.

Panelists: Michelle Thaller, C. Alex Young, Ernie Wright, Kristen Weaver, Hannah Wakeford  
Rated G

### **#TotallyAwesomeAsians:Creators & Representation**

**6/16/2017 / 5:00 PM - 5:45 PM / 149**

#TotallyAwesomeAsians: A Celebration of Asian American Creators and Heroes and Future Representation. Inspired by Greg Pak's ground-breaking, Marvel Comics' Totally Awesome Hulk #15 wherein Pak pulls together the world's first(and largest) Asian American superhero team-up in mainstream comic book history. Join us for a panel discussion celebrating the contributions of the many Asian American and Pacific Islanders working in american comics and advocating for a more diverse representation within the pages. "The Asian American community is defined by the rich diversity of our differences, and it is that distinctiveness that makes us who we are; and it is also what allows some of us to shine as heroes." ~ Jenn, <http://reappropriate.co>

Panelists: Patrick Michael Strange, Keith Chow, Sorah Suhng, Arsia Rozegar  
Rated G

### **AwesomeMania V - The Pro Wrestling Fan Panel**

**6/16/2017 / 5:00 PM - 5:45 PM / 150**

Join Michael Lindenbaum, Ben Taylor, and Mansa Herndon as they talk about the current state of pro wrestling.

Panelists: Michael Lindenbaum, Ben Taylor, and Mansa Herndon  
Rated PG-13

### **Making LGBT+ Representation Matter in Fiction**

**6/16/2017 / 5:00 PM - 5:45 PM / 144 BC**

In a world where we have LGBT+ characters in fiction, how do we make it matter? Is it enough for them to be there or do we need to expect more of today's creators? Should creators be answerable to the audience, and to what end? How do we make real, meaningful representation? Come discuss all of this and more with a panel of writers, artists, and more.

Panelists: Jeremy Whitley, Magdalene Vissagio, Tini Howard, Leah Ly  
Rated PG

### **Kids vs Adults: Childhood Challenge with Chris Mariano**

**6/16/2017 / 5:00 PM - 5:45 PM / Awesome Con Jr.**

Kids face off against the adults in a drawing contest that celebrates childhood! Both sides will draw products, toys, TV Shows, and characters from their childhood. The opposing side has to guess what it is.



**DC Stunt Coalition Workshop: SwordPlay**

**6/16/2017 / 5:00 PM - 5:45 PM / Backlot**

**The Law for Comic Book Creators: IP**

**6/16/2017 / 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM / 103**

Since the creation of comics there has been legal conflict and confusion. Join Joe Sergi, attorney and author of *The Law For Comic Book Creators*, for a discussion of copyright and trademark law as it relates to comic creation.

Panelist: Joe Sergi

Rated G

**IBM Watson: Superman or Supercomputer? Making money with Artificial Intelligence**

**6/16/2017 / 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM / 146**

IBM's Artificial Intelligence, Watson, made its debut as a research project on the American game show Jeopardy! in 2011. As part of IBM's strategy to accelerate the growth of artificial intelligence and cognitive computing, today Watson is an open platform to the world! With millions of developers connected to this advanced and diverse cognitive computing tech, entrepreneurs, students and tech enthusiasts can easily tap into the growing solution base for use and deployment. The community is growing quickly –in over 45 countries, across 20 different industries - of those who build and bring to market their own powered-by-Watson applications. Learning what is possible may seem obscure. With thousands of companies who build and offer 'smart' products, we may be lead to think that AI is just to enable 'new things'. But, says Teerlink "it turns out that people just want to do the same things they've always done, only faster, across an obscene amount of data, and preferably cheaper". Marc's guidance for startups is no-nonsense: "If you want to build a successful business, take a process that you know well, and move the heavy lifting to AI, whilst letting humans do the creative thinking".

Panelist: Dr. Marc Teerlink, Chief Business Strategist, IBM Watson

Rated G

**Following Your Bliss: How the Stories We Love Can Help Us Succeed**

**6/16/2017 / 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM / 152**

Artist Russell Walks spends a few minutes talking about his lifelong love for Science Fiction, and how that love has helped him succeed at life. In an interesting, informative, and funny presentation, Walks introduces Joseph Campbell and the Hero's Journey, and explores the connections between the stories we love and living a successful, rewarding life.

Panelist: Russell Walks

Rated G

**Pitfalls of Unwary Self Publishers**

**6/16/2017 / 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM / 154**

M.L.S. Weech shares the mistakes he made in self publishing that he doesn't want you to make. Every author wants to be successful, find out the things to watch out for and the tips that will ensure your book is as successful as possible.

Panelist: M.L.S. Weech

Rated G

### **A Visual Feast: Food in Comics**

**6/16/2017 / 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM / 144 A**

Let's talk about food in comics. Comics where food is an integral part of the story, comics that use food as worldbuilding, comics that make you want to learn to cook.

Panelists: Mallory Yu, Leah Ly, Jade Feng, Holli Mintzer

Rated G

### **Sci-Fi Speed Dating Session #1 (18+)**

**6/16/2017 / 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM / 102**

Ladies and gentlemen, are you tired of looking for love in Alderaan places? Are you ready to Terminate your single life? Maybe you want someone to Trek through life with? Look no further, Sci-fi Speed Dating is back at Awesome Con! Sessions will be held all weekend long, for questions please visit Sci-Fi Speed Dating on Facebook!

Rated: 18+ - ID will be checked at the door

### **The Human-Technology Frontier: To Enhancement and Beyond?**

**6/16/2017 / 6:00 PM - 6:45 PM / 143**

Geordie LaForge's visor. Luke Skywalker's prosthetic hand. Identification and memory implants in The Expanse. Cybernetically enhanced humans in Robocop and Ghost in the Shell. Science fiction gives us so many examples of humans using technology to overcome, adapt, and enhance the body – for ends good and...not so. But what's actually possible? How do scientists see us integrating technology ever closer into our lives and bodies? And will these technologies cause us to become more or less than human? Join the National Science Foundation and NSF-funded researchers for a discussion about the cutting edge research in engineering, computer science, materials, biology, and the social and ethical implications of our increasingly technologically advanced lives.

Panelists: Katherine Pratt, Tim Brown, Dr. Suveen Mathaudhu

Rated G

### **Introduction to Foam Cosplay Armor**

**6/16/2017 / 6:00 PM - 6:45 PM / 149**

EVA and craft foam. This lightweight and inexpensive material is a perfect resource for the beginning cosplayer! In this introductory level panel, learn the steps to creating your own cosplay armor as we discuss patterns, sealing, and strapping.

Panelists: Kati Coe, Brandon Taylor, Sharon Rose, Jessica Fields  
Rated G

**Diversifying Marvel: The Societal Other within the Ms. Marvel Comics**

**6/16/2017 / 6:00 PM - 6:45 PM / 150**

Learn how a young, brown, Muslim woman sparked a dialogue on the importance of intersectional narrative within the comic industry.

Panelist: Ashley Dam  
Rated PG-13

**Full Spectrum: Why Color in Comics Matters**

**6/16/2017 / 6:00 PM - 6:45 PM / 144 BC**

One of the most basic traits of a hero is to fight for humanity and impact the world around them. If the majority of our heroes are all from the same race, heritage, or ethnicity, it not only sends the message that only one group is capable of heroism, but it also leaves no room for other races to fight for humanity as well. Exploring the ideas behind diversity and talking about how we can help spread those changes, without excluding any race, is vital to the comic book discussion.

Panelists: Dilettante Bass, Naseed Gifted, Joe Illidge, Regine Sawyer, Karama Horne, Roye Okupe, Micheline Hess  
Rated G

**Building a Better Batcave! with John Gallagher**

**6/16/2017 / 6:00 PM - 6:45 PM / Awesome Con Jr.**

You are part of Batman's trusted team of engineers and interior designers. He has just tasked you with a very important job. Working together, you must design and draw the blueprints for a new Batcave!

**Friday Backlot Costume Contest Presented by ANA**

**6/16/2017 / 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM / Backlot Stage**

New this year at Awesome Con are daily costume contests on our Backlot Stage! The Backlot is home to everything cosplay, and our Backlot Costume Contests presented by ANA are the centerpieces of the Backlot's events! More casual than Awesome Con's Main Stage Contest, our Backlot events do not require online registration. Simply sign-up each morning of the con.

**Friday Night Magic (Free)**

**6/16/2017 / 6:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Format: Standard

Each player will receive a promotional foil, plus additional foils to top players.

**Getting Started**

**6/16/2017 / 6:30 PM - 7:15 PM / 103**

When a new writer is brought on to a series or a character, what happens? Do they read everything ever published, ignore it all and start fresh? Join Robert Greenberger as he finds out the secrets from Joe Harris, John Layman, and Jeremy Whitley.

Panelists: Joe Harris, John Layman, Jeremy Whitley

Rated G

### **Whose Roll is it Anyway?**

**6/16/2017 / 6:30 PM - 7:15 PM / 152**

We are a group of tabletop gamers who travel across the multiverse playing a game of Dice and Daring not entirely dissimilar to a well known title involving subterranean lairs and fire breathing lizards. But in our game, the players and even the Dungeon Master are at the mercy of the audience. The monsters, the spells, and the treasure are all created by YOU! No one is safe. Dice will roll. Hilarity will ensue.

Panelists: Eric Poch, Ben Wyatt, Phil Docolo, Derek Brown, Danielle Robinette, John de Campos, Erika Pakota, Riggs Marietta

Rated PG-13

### **The Advent of a New/Old Comic Company -- C3 Comics**

**6/16/2017 / 6:30 PM - 7:15 PM / 154**

Even though we've been around for almost 20 years, few have ever heard of C3 Comics. And it's not your fault, it's ours. We entered the Comic Indie Market thinking that we could take it over in one fell swoop; change the industry with just our imagination and boundless ambition. Little did we know that the comic book industry is actually an industry, and that hopes and dreams only get you so far. Join us and as we formally introduce the Indie creators, and company that's finally ready to make it's mark in the comic industry. Broaden your horizons. Read C3 Comics.

Panelists: Alan Cole, David Welcher, Jose Loeri, Raymond Francis, Douglas Pendleton, Robert Spencer

Rated PG-13

### **The Big Score: The Science Fiction Soundtrack**

**6/16/2017 / 6:30 PM - 7:15 PM / 144 A**

We always know when Darth Vader is on the way, when James Bond is coming to the rescue, or when you're entering the city limits of Bon Temps, Louisiana. Music forms an integral part of television and cinema, yet is rarely examined or celebrated. Or are there fans out there that collect soundtracks as some collect cards and comics? What is some of the best music from the genre? Where did soundtracks begin, and where are they headed musically?

Panelist: Tee Morris

Rated G

### **The Amazing Collaboration between Hollywood and Real Space Exploration**

**6/16/2017 / 7:00 PM - 7:45 PM / 143**

Representatives from both the entertainment community and the space exploration community come together to discuss their ongoing synergy, and how both communities can build their relationship to not only create profitable, accurate (as possible), and entertaining movies and television shows, but also inspire the public about the true prospect of space exploration and discovery over the next few decades.

Panelists: Chris Carberry - CEO, Explore Mars

James Green: NASA, Director, Planetary Science

Ann Merchant: The Science & Entertainment Exchange, National Academy of Science

Rated PG

### **Historical Costume for Cosplayers**

**6/16/2017 / 7:00 PM - 7:45 PM / 149**

Vintage fashion experts, reenactors, and cosplayers discuss how to find, wear, and make historically accurate clothing, and how to incorporate it into your cosplay.

Panelists: Holli Mintzer, Allison Dietz-Hicks, Lisa Adler-Golden, Becca Battelini

Rated G

### **Stop Queerbaiting, It's Time to Be Brave**

**6/16/2017 / 7:00 PM - 7:45 PM / 144 BC**

As the LGBTQIA community has gained a louder voice, queer fans have become more and more vocal about the need for queer characters in mainstream stories. Creators have taken notice. Unfortunately, in many cases, many creators are much more willing to treat the possibility of queer characters as a little inside joke with the fans than as a serious possibility. Queerbaiting — coding a character as queer or hinting at a possible queer relationship to capture fans with no intention of actually portraying it as such — is on the rise. And it's hurting fans.

Queer stories aren't a joke, and fans deserve better than to be teased with the possibility of seeing their lives represented. This is a direct call to current and future content creators mixed with a workshop to give fans the skills they need to demand better from the creators and companies that control our favorite stories.

Panelists: Mary Stanfield, Nicole Catterlin

Rated PG-13

### **Phase Shift (RPG)**

**6/16/2017 / 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Phase Shift is a science fantasy tabletop RPG where you play as a futuristic group of laser-wielding, magic-flinging, mind-melting, shape-shifting, robot-building mercenaries that fight horrific beasts and eldritch horrors that threaten the Galactic Federation. The system is easy to learn, doesn't take itself too seriously, and allows for complex character customization.

### **Worldbuilding in Sci-Fi and Fantasy Stories**

**6/16/2017 / 7:30 PM - 8:15 PM / 103**

For science fiction and fantasy writers, good worldbuilding is critical--if readers feel estranged from the world of the story, they will likely lose interest and pick up another book. Come hear a panel of writers discuss their favorite sci fi/fantasy worlds, how these worlds mirror our own reality, and how successful writers entice their readers into new and exciting worlds.

Panelists: Lisa Maxwell, Tobie Easton, Meg Eden, Kathy MacMillan, Nik Korpon  
Rated G

**OC ReMix: Honoring Video Game Music Since 1999!**

**6/16/2017 / 7:30 PM - 8:15 PM / 154**

We're always busy at OC ReMix arranging game music in all sorts of styles, so come by and see some of our latest tracks, including our Chrono Trigger jazz and Super Mario RPG remix albums, our upcoming Seiken Densetsu 3 album, and our recent collaboration with composer and ex-OCR judge Danny Baranowsky for the Crypt of the NecroDancer: Amplified DLC! We've also partnered with Impact Soundworks for the virtual instrument Super Audio Cart, so come by and hear some new music using throwback sounds from 8 classic game systems! Of course, we plan on having folks duke it out in games for prizes as well, so come for the music, stay for the carnage! ;-D

Panelists: David "djpretzel" Lloyd, Shariq "DarkeSword" Ansari, Stevo "Level 99" Bortz, Jarel "Arrow" Jones  
Rated G

**Torchwood, or Doctor Who for Adults**

**6/16/2017 / 7:30 PM - 8:15 PM / 144 A**

Doctor Who has created a number of spin-off series. One of them was Torchwood, starring John Barrowman as Captain Jack Harkness. Come on out and learn about the further adventures of Captain Jack Harkness!

Panelists: Professor JP McClendon  
Rated PG-13

**MAGfest Versus! Trivia Game Show**

**6/16/2017 / 7:45 PM - 8:45 PM / 152**

Versus! is a fan-remake of the 90's video game quiz show, Nick Arcade! A game-show like no other, which pits contestants in a test of trivia, video game skill...and maybe just a little bit of luck a chance to face off against Count Buff Von Studhorse himself in the video zone!

**Cosplaying Alternate Universes**

**6/16/2017 / 8:00 PM - 8:45 PM / 149**

Alternate Universe cosplay is a great way to explore your favorite characters and express yourself! In this panel we will discuss what an AU is, how to pick and develop your AU cosplay, and why people cosplay different AUs.

Panelists: Steampunk Family, GhostyCosplay  
Rated G

**Super Art Fight Unleashed (18+)**

**6/16/2017 / 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM / 150**

Get ready for this insane, adults-only event where the members of Super Art Fight go no-holds-barred and deliver a show completely UNLEASHED! The Artists of the Greatest Live Art Competition in the Known Universe get to indulge their sickest and most twisted ideas, and you, the audience, get to endure every minute of it! Tell your friends, tell your enemies, and tell your therapist, this is a show you won't forget for some time!

Panelists: Super Art Fight  
Rated: 18+ - ID will be checked at the door

**Not Without You: Discussions and Reading from the Stucky Anthology**

**6/16/2017 / 8:00 PM - 8:45 PM / 144 BC**

NOT WITHOUT YOU, a Stucky anthology, is a collection of fanart, stories, and comics centered on a romantic relationship between Steve Rogers and Bucky Barnes(aka Captain America and the Winter Soldier). This fan-driven project raised over \$80,000 on Kickstarter earlier this year. Contributors will read excerpts, discuss the project, run a trivia/Cards Against Stucky game, take audience questions, and squee about all things Stucky.

Panelists: Lizzie Harker, Rohkeutta, Maichan, Clare DeZutti, Kaitlin Wadley, Katie Locke  
Rated R

**StarTalk Live!**

**6/16/2017 / 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM / Main Stage**

Future Con's kickoff event will welcome Colonel Chris Hadfield to host a special edition of StarTalk Live! Col. Hadfield is a veteran of two space shuttle missions and former commander of the International Space Station. He's also been called the "most social media savvy astronaut" by Forbes for his ongoing documentation of his time in space to over 2 million Twitter followers. Col. Hadfield will appear at Future Con to lead a taping of StarTalk Live!, an award-winning talk show bridging the intersection between pop culture and science with humor and passion. Scott Adsit (Big Hero 6, Veep, 30 Rock) will take the stage as co-host for StarTalk Live!

\*\*This panel will have ASL interpretation.

**Cards Against Humanity (18+) (Free)**

**6/16/2017 / 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Come play the most depraved party game of our age. Similar to Apples to Apples, players choose which card or cards best answers a question or fills in blanks in a phrase. Unlike Apples to Apples, this game is 100% not appropriate for people of all ages.

**Demo: Giant King of New York (Free)**

**6/16/2017 / 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

**Geek Nite Out Presents Cheesy Line Reading Contest**

**6/16/2017 / 8:30 PM - 9:15 PM / 103**

Calling all actors! Do you think you can deliver the most famously cheesy lines from your favorite movies and TV shows better than the pros? Compete against other AwesomeCon attendees to see who will be the next Nicolas Cage or Hayden Christensen, or just sit back and cheer on your favorites.

Panelists: Zach Scheinerman, Brandon Troy, Larry Waldman, Jason Chang

Rated PG-13

**The History of Dragons in Film**

**6/16/2017 / 8:30 PM - 9:15 PM / 154**

This presentation looks at Dragons in film, starting from the early days of cinema in the early 1900's up to today. We'll take a look at images and clips from movies that feature the most famous of all fantasy beasts, as well as some Dragon-adjacent creatures, such as the Hydra and King Ghidorah.

Panelist: Sean Gleeson

Rated PG

**Awesome Con Short Film Fest**

**6/16/2017 / 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM / 144 A**

Finish your day of insanity at Awesome Con by grabbing some popcorn, all your friends, and a seat, as Joe Carabeo(Director, Astray Productions, Project Resolution) and Otessa Marie Ghadar(Director, 2020 Production, DC Web Fest Founder) bring to Awesome Con for the first time, an Awesome Con Short Film Festival! Check out on the fringe films that have been making waves by Otessa Marie Ghadar, Rick Spears, Matthew Lucas, Michele Lombardi, Danny Caporaletti, and Joe Carabeo. Grab your seat fast for this exclusive, first time, Awesome Con mini film festival.

Panelists: Joe Carabeo, Otessa Marie Ghadar, Danny Caporaletti, Rick Spears, Matthew Lucas, Michele Lombardi

Rated PG

**Trekoff LIVE! -The NSFW Star Trek Comedy Show!**

**6/16/2017 / 9:00 PM - 9:45 PM / 149**

The sexy, raunchy, hilarious STAR TREK live show with the stars of the TREKOFF feature film and the TREKOFF podcast with hundreds of downloads from across the globe returns to Awesomecon again to take you on a wild ride through the Final Frontier.



If you've never experienced TREKOFF, hold on to your bat'leths, because this will be the show you do NOT want to miss.

Panelists: Justin Timpane, Alexia Poe, Darrell Poe, Kelly Timpane

Rated R

### **PURE:THE MOVIE TEASER**

**6/16/2017 / 9:00 PM - 9:45 PM / 144 BC**

PURE is an epic tale of ingrained racism and the evils of inequality - a project where models get body painted to become the characters of a graphic novel and a feature length movie.

The movie is based on a fumetti style graphic novel named PURE. A story built around the small nation of Seyns. It's governed by 7 feuding Western defined families(Baum, Cassidy, Dolle', Kindris, Rome, Mundi and Slaven); each with unique characteristics(heritage, social norms, cloning, ethical values, traditional customs, religious beliefs, political systems, artifacts and technologies). They don the ornate clothing and jewelry of money, beauty, and corruption. Their golden exterior and sky blue eyes belie any preoccupation with altruism, for the commoners serve as mere stepping-stones to money, power and useless things.

Panelists: Anthony Dortch, Grant Collins, Charlie Belle, Sha Golanski, & Gazelle Powers

Rated R

### **Interactive Demo of Post-High School Reality Quest**

**6/16/2017 / 9:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Join us for a live-action "demo" playthrough of Meg Eden's forthcoming text-adventure novel Post-High School Reality Quest! Fans of Action Castle and text adventure games will enjoy this interactive experience. Participants will get limited edition swag.

### **All Day- Open Video Gaming**

**6/17/2017 / 10:00 AM - 11:00 PM / Salon A-C**

### **David Tennant Explores Time and Space**

**6/17/2017 / 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM / Main Stage**

David Tennant, a man who's pretended to visit the farthest future, is joined on stage by Dr. Grant Tremblay and Dr. Matt Shindell, experts on the outer reaches of our galaxy. Together they'll geek out about Doctor Who, what's really out there among the stars, and take questions from fans about life, the universe, and everything.

Rated PG

\*\*This panel will have ASL interpretation.

### **Sci-Fi Speed Dating Session #2 (LGBT+) (18+)**

**6/17/2017 / 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM / 102**

Are you tired of looking for love in Alderaan places? Are you ready to Terminate your single life? Maybe you want someone to Trek through life with? Look no further, Sci-fi Speed Dating is back at Awesome Con! Sessions will be held all weekend long, for questions please visit Sci-Fi Speed Dating on Facebook!

Rated: 18+ - ID will be checked at the door

### **Military Science Fiction and Fantasy**

**6/17/2017 / 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM / 103**

Space marines, magician soldiers, and psychic spies--how does the military perspective change the conflicts and storytelling in science fiction and fantasy? What movies, novels, games, and comics get the professional military characters and details right? What are the common errors and myths in stories of combat and campaigns? Four authors of military SF/F will discuss how you can improve your own creative work.

Panelists: Jack Campbell, Alan Smale, Robert E. Waters, Tom Doyle

Rated PG

### **Comics Conversation: Collections and Preservation at the Library of Congress**

**6/17/2017 / 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM / 150**

Join Library of Congress staff members Claire Dekle, Senior Rare Book Conservator, Sara W. Duke, Curator of Popular and Applied Graphic Art, Megan Halsband, Reference Specialist, Georgia Higley, Head of the Newspaper Section, and Martha H. Kennedy, Curator of Popular and Applied Graphic Art, for a panel discussion about the comic book and original comic art collections at the Library. They will share highlights of the collections, provide insights on the conservation and preservation of this material, and suggest how attendees might come to use the Library's collections for their own research.

Panelists: Claire Dekle, Senior Rare Book Conservator

Sara W. Duke, Curator of Popular and Applied Graphic Arts

Megan Halsband, Reference Specialist

Georgia Higley, Head of the Newspaper Section

Martha H. Kennedy, Curator of Popular and Applied Graphic Art

Rated G

### **Establishing Shots!: Environments in Storytelling**

**6/17/2017 / 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM / 144 A**

Join Professor Elvin A. Hernandez as he explores the use of background design for the production of immersive storytelling in comics, animation, gaming and illustration art!

Panelist: Elvin A. Hernandez

Rated PG

### **DC Stunt Coalition Workshop: Swordplay**

**6/17/2017 / 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM / Backlot**

**Artemis Bridge**

**6/17/2017 / 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM / Salon F**

Artemis is a multiplayer, multi-computer networked game for Windows computers, and now IOS devices too. Artemis simulates a spaceship bridge by networking several computers together. One computer runs the simulation and the “main screen”, while the others serve as workstations for the normal jobs a bridge officer might do, like Helm, Communication, Engineering, and Weapon Control. Artemis is a social game where several players are together in one room(“bridge”) and work together as a Captain and crew.

**All Day - Open Tabletop Gaming Presented by Geico**

**6/17/2017 / 11:00 AM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Our board game library is available for people to borrow a wide assortment of fun games all weekend long! Your Awesome Con badge is your ticket to free lending from our library of games. We have table signs to indicate that you're looking for more players, or looking for someone to help teach you a new game!

Note: Please bring your Driver's License or other ID to be returned when games are checked back in.

**All Day - Learn to Play Looney Labs Games**

**6/17/2017 / 11:00 AM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

The Looney Labs Game Techs will be around to help teach and demo awesome Looney Labs board games, all weekend long!

**All Day - Dungeons and Dragons Adventurer's League**

**6/17/2017 / 11:00 AM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Join us for a variety of D&D Adventurer’s League Events - Free and no experience needed. Start times and exact games are available at Gaming HQ.

**Science Channel: Outrageous Acts of Science: LIVE!**

**6/17/2017 / 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM / 143**

Join Science Channel as they celebrate the return of the hit series Outrageous Acts of Science with some of the greatest(and most hilarious) minds in science featuring: Hakeem Oluseyi, Adam Ruben and Saad Sarwana. Fans will have front-row seats to some mind-blowing experiments broken down live by the experts and exclusive footage along with giveaways.

Panelists: Hakeem Oluseyi, Adam Ruben, Saad Sarwana

Rated G

**Next Generation's 30th Anniversary**

**6/17/2017 / 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM / 149**

It's hard to believe it's been three decades since Captain Jean-Luc Picard first told his crew to “engage” the Enterprise D while boldly going where the original Trek had not gone before – 79 years later – but

this year is a special time for fans of The Next Generation. After seven profitable years on syndicated television, the cast starred in four feature films while focusing on such popular characters as Worf, the Klingon member of the crew, and Data, an android officer. Notable adversaries in the series included Q, an omnipotent pest, and the powerful Borg. Which character was your favorite, and would you like to see the cast get together for one last adventure?

Panelists: Ann Harding, Lorenzo Heard, Andrew Kelley  
Rated G

### **Trauma & Neurodiversity Images in Comics**

**6/17/2017 / 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM / 144 BC**

The Sharp End of the Needle. Mental Health. Trauma & Neurodiversity images in comics is a panel presentation and audience discussion on why characters on the mental health & Neurodiversity spectrum seem to become villains. (I.e. Two-Face, Catwoman, Norman Osborne, Hulk, Jubilee etc.), why these images are critical especially among youth, and why mental health and family abandonment are never addressed, but are always key pieces of the character's origin story.

Panelists: Kamilah Martin-Proctor, Day Al-Mohamed, Odunola "Ola" Ojewuni, Ari Neeman, Ariam Ferro  
Rated G

### **The Official HERO HAIR Cosplay Wig Panel**

**6/17/2017 / 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM / Backlot Stage**

A 60 minute, INTERACTIVE, Keynote presentation, close-up wig display and Q&A panel, devoted to the professional CUSTOM cosplay wig, conducted by the entertainment industry artisans who have made wigs their life's work. Content will range from proper basic pin curling & prep, to perfect crowning of wigs for cosplay appearances & photo/video shoots, "lace fronts" vs "hard fronts" and much more!

Panelists: Travis Cowsill, Erin Kennedy Lunsford, Cate Broomhead, Scarlett Jaye  
Rated PG-13

### **Carole Barrowman Q&A**

**6/17/2017 / 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM / 103**

Carole Barrowman will discuss her exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

### **Christopher Sabat & Sean Schemmel Q&A**

**6/17/2017 / 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM / 146**

Christopher Sabat and Sean Schemmel will discuss their exciting careers and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

\*\*This panel will have ASL interpretation.

**Felicia Day Q&A****6/17/2017 / 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM / 152**

Felicia Day will discuss her exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

**Magical MacGuffins and the Heroes Who Love Them****6/17/2017 / 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM / 154**

Join a roundtable discussion with other fans regarding the never ending list of mythological and literary characters, and the polarizing (somewhat dreaded) musical episode in Once Upon a Time!

Panelists: Cristina Nino, Sergio Nino III

Rated PG-13

**Unlocking the Mysteries of Twin Peaks****6/17/2017 / 12:00 PM -12:45 PM 144 A**

A distinguished panel of Twin Peaks experts – authors, podcasters, documentarians, etc. -- deconstructs three great mysteries of Twin Peaks, using video, interviews, and other clues sprinkled about by David Lynch and Mark Frost through the three seasons of the show and the theatrical film Twin Peaks: Fire Walk with Me. We'll also take a close, hard look at the developments of season three (which premieres on Showtime on May 21) to date, and dissect all those glaring inconsistencies in Mark Frost's new book, The Secret History of Twin Peaks, like how in God's name did Doug Milford turn into such an important character, and is Frost sure he didn't intend to write about The X-Files rather than Twin Peaks? Also on tap: a game of "Stump the Experts," where audience members try to best our panel of Twin Peaks mavens on trivia, with prizes to be awarded.

Panelists: David Bushman, Scott Ryan, Peter Diom, Mark Givens, Mya McBriar

Rated R

**A Piggy's Tale Comic Reading and Drawing! with Piggy and Tod Emko****6/17/2017 / 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM / Awesome Con Jr.**

Join Tod Emko for a live reading of A Piggy's Tale, the universally loved all-ages comic. Piggy the Three-Legged Super Pup will be present to greet his public and model as the audience draws the heroic canine. If Piggy likes the drawing, the child will receive the first issue of A Piggy's Tale! All participants will have their photos taken with their drawings, for the piggytale.com website.

**Magic: the Gathering Amonkhet Sealed Deck Tournament (\$30)****6/17/2017 / 12:00 PM -11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Each player receives 6 packs of Amonkhet and a promotional foil. Prizes to top players.

**Scott Snyder Q&A****6/17/2017 / 12:15 PM - 1:00 PM /150**

Scott Snyder will discuss his exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

### **Kickstarter: Dos and Don'ts**

**6/17/2017 / 12:30 PM - 1:15 PM / 149**

Kickstarter has been proven to be a wonderful platform in helping creators get their projects off the ground.

Join our panelists who have each launched successful Kickstarter campaigns as they talk about their first-hand experiences.

Panelists: Arsia Rozegar, creator of Shahnameh For Kids

Carolyn Belefski, creator of Curls

Jason Rodriguez, creator of The Little Particle That Could

Rated G

### **A History of LGBTQ+ Representation in Comic Books & Television**

**6/17/2017 / 12:30 PM - 1:15 PM / 144 BC**

Want to learn more about the history of LGBT Representation in Nerd Culture? Come to this panel, and we will attempt cover the most iconic LGBT characters to ever occur in anime, comic books, video games and television. After the fact, we will discuss the importance of LGBT+ characters in the media and in pop culture.

Panelists: Jasmine Jackson, Annelise Mejicanos, Eva Brooks, Phylicia Walker

Rated PG

### **Writing with Purpose**

**6/17/2017 / 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM / 103**

Love to write, but don't know how to get your voice out there? Learn how to focus your work and make it marketable enough to sell with networking strategies, writing exercises, and tips from professionals.

Panelists include journalists and authors who have worked with leading brands like HarperCollins, Birth.Movies.Death. and Film School Rejects. Come feed your creative confidence and get your work sold!

Panelists: Liz Reed, Brad Gullickson, Emily Sears

Rated G

### **Stella Chuu Q&A**

**6/17/2017 / 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM / 152**

Stella Chuu will discuss her exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

### **Experience Japan!**

**6/17/2017 / 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM / 154**

Experience Japan with the JICC, Embassy of Japan! Understand the influence of Japanese culture on American pop culture by exploring traditional Japanese culture, trying out Japanese games, and meeting the JICC's very own therapeutic robot, PARO. This engaging and interactive presentation and workshop is fun for all ages!

Panelists: David Baasch, Julia Ford, Takaaki Nemoto, Michala Rollé, Wayne Sparks

Rated G

### **Skeleton in the Closet: Film Structure in Prose**

**6/17/2017 / 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM / 144 A**

The world of film is filled with comedy and drama, sci-fi and fantasy, thriller and romance, and everything in-between, but what many don't realize is that nearly every film boils down to the same three-act structure. Novels and memoirs are different, based upon a less precise formula of inciting incident, rising action, climax, falling action, and denouement. But there's a lot we can learn about general story structure by focusing on three-act film structure. This talk will explore what three-act structure teaches us about how and why stories are constructed, and how these lessons can be incorporated into our own writing.

Panelist: Harrison Demchick

Rated G

### **Let's go Lego! With John Gallagher**

**6/17/2017 / 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM / Awesome Con Jr.**

Cartoonist John Gallagher shows you how to draw Lego versions of your favorite characters.

### **Settlers of Catan Tournament (\$5)**

**6/17/2017 / 1:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

No experience necessary. Win prizes by playing Settlers of Catan!

### **Marvel vs Capcom 2 Tournament**

**6/17/2017 / 1:00 PM / Salon A-C**

### **Legendary Comics: Monsters & Myths**

**6/17/2017 / 1:15 PM - 2:00 PM / 146**

Legendary Comics is part of Legendary Entertainment, the company behind such films as KONG: SKULL ISLAND, PACIFIC RIM, and GODZILLA. Join Legendary Comics' Robert Napton and creators Jessica Chobot and Erika Lewis, who will be sharing secrets about their ongoing series FIREBRAND: THE INITIATION OF NATALI PRESANO, and get the latest news about SKULL ISLAND: THE BIRTH OF KONG which is part of Legendary's "Monsterverse." And if that wasn't enough, John and Carole Barrowman will make a special appearance as only they can!

Panelists: Erika Lewis, Jessica Chobot, John Barrowman, Carole Barrowman, Robert Napton

Rated PG

\*\*This panel will have ASL interpretation.

### **Parallel and Multi Universe Theory in Sci-Fi**

**6/17/2017 / 1:30 PM - 2:15 PM / 143**

Dr. Erin Macdonald presents different theories of multiple universes and where they are seen in science fiction movies and television series. We will primarily explore infinite universes, quantum multiverses and simulated universes as well as the classic parallel universe (populated with many goatees). Come learn about some fun, theoretical science while traveling through our favorite moments in science fiction.

Panelist: Dr. Erin Macdonald

Rated PG

### **Time To Get Your Product Noticed**

**6/17/2017 / 1:30 PM - 2:15 PM / 149**

You have a great idea for a comic, video game, movie, toyline, or cartoon; but now what? How do you get your idea to completion and then get it out to the public? There are thousands of questions that need to be answered and Bryan "Kaiser" Tillman is here to answer them for you.

Coming off of his successful lectures on Proper Pitching and Promoting Yourself at SDCC, Bryan has gone through the process of having an idea, developing it, and then getting it out to the public, and lastly getting it picked up by a major company. He wants to share his experience and help answer questions to put you well on your way to getting your product noticed.

Panelist: Bryan "Kaiser" Tillman

Rated G

### **The Tech of Batman**

**6/17/2017 / 1:30 PM - 2:15 PM / 150**

An investigation into the World's Greatest Detective! Join comic creators in conversation with engineers and experts on replicating Batman in real life. This conversation will look at his endurance, intelligence, and technology, discussing what's real, what's not, and what's on the verge of possibility.

Panelists: Rhea Waldman, Suveen Mathaudhu

Rated G

### **Beyond Labels - I Know You'd Love This....**

**6/17/2017 / 1:30 PM - 2:15 PM / 144 BC**

Geeks may have won the war, but sometimes in our little niches of fandom it seems like we're still battling. Whether you're Queer or Straight, a Fantasy fan or a hard SF fan, a Comics fan or an Anime fan, or maybe it's Star Trek versus Star Wars. Can't we all just.....meet in the middle?



It's time to put aside our differences and realize that underneath the fandom gang colors we might wear, we're all just geeks. And if we open our eyes to the things those other fans love, we might just realize we'd love it to!

Come join us as - and be prepared to participate - as we gather a group of fans with varying interests in geekdom and find our connection points. We'll get to the heart of why we love what we love, and then open ourselves up to ideas of works from \*other\* fandoms that will appeal based on those things we love. We promise, you might enter thinking you're just a fan of military sci-fi(for instance), but you'll leave wanting to explore some other fandom!

Panelists: Carl Cipra, Peter Knapp, Rob Gates  
Rated PG-13

### **Mega Merica Wedding**

**6/17/2017 / 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM / 102**

The wedding adventures of Megan Mattingly and Adam Merica! Join us for an EPIC cosplay wedding!

### **Wargaming: Gaming for National Security**

**6/17/2017 / 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM / 103**

Wargaming is more than a hobby. Gaming provides a powerful tool for education, training, and analysis-- and is used every day across the Department of Defense and broader national security community. Wargaming can range from virtual environments such as Virtual Battlespace 3, to complex algorithmic models, to physical sand table combat with miniatures, to roleplay based crisis decision-making exercises. These should all sound familiar as they share a heritage and techniques with the games many people outside of the national security community play. Join us to learn more about the world of professional wargaming and how it relates to your games.

Panelists: Scott Chambers, Dr. Callie Le Renard, Timothy Wilkie, Kenneth Kligge  
Rated PG

### **Nolan North Q&A**

**6/17/2017 / 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM / 152**

Nolan North will discuss his exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

### **Harry Potter and the Genetics of Wizarding**

**6/17/2017 / 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM / 154**

Witches and wizards can do many forms of magic. They can easily break the rules of physics by changing shape and size, creating energy and teleporting on a whim. One of the things they cannot do is create witches or wizards. The use of magic is an inherited genetic trait. Here we describe some aspects of the

Wizarding gene, explain muggle-borns and squibs, and explain why you didn't get an owl on your 11th birthday.

Panelist: Eric P. Spana

Rated PG

### **The Life & Works of Hideaki Anno**

**6/17/2017 / 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM / 144 A**

Evangelion has been wildly successful and popular worldwide. But despite its popularity, its principal creator, Hideaki Anno, remains shrouded in mystery for many people. This panel will take a look at his life and works, from his earliest student work, to his most recent foray as the writer and director of the Toho produced Shin Godzilla, and provide biographical information about the man who created Evangelion.

Panelist: Aaron Clark, EvaMonkey.com

Rated PG

### **Superhero University with Chris Mariano (OPEN TO FIRST 30 KIDS)**

**6/17/2017 / 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM / Awesome Con Jr.**

You won't be able to fly and it won't give you superpowers, but you will learn all the ins and outs of superheroics from the industry's top professors. PLUS you'll have fun making your own cape and superhero mask! Come to this workshop as a kid, leave as a superhero!

### **Saturday Backlot Costume Contest Presented by ANA**

**6/17/2017 / 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM / Backlot Stage**

New this year at Awesome Con are daily costume contests on our Backlot Stage! The Backlot is home to everything cosplay, and our Backlot Costume Contests presented by ANA are the centerpieces of the Backlot's events! More casual than Awesome Con's Main Stage Contest, our Backlot events do not require online registration. Simply sign-up each morning of the con.

### **Edgar Wright: Meet the Director of Baby Driver**

**6/17/2017 / 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM / Main Stage**

Meet the director of Scott Pilgrim vs. The World, Shaun of the Dead, Hot Fuzz, and The World's End, and get a first look at his new film Baby Driver! Edgar Wright and a celebrity host take Awesome Con's Main Stage to speak about Wright's career, the creation of Baby Driver, his fans, and working with the film's all-star cast. The panel will feature giveaways, surprises, and special clips from Baby Driver.

Panelists: Edgar Wright

Rated PG

\*\*This panel will have ASL interpretation.

### **DC Deckbuilding Game Tournament (\$5)**

**6/17/2017 / 2:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

**Axiom****6/17/2017 / 2:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Galactic Arena is a strategic and action-packed alternative to traditional trading card games.

**Clare Kramer Q&A****6/17/2017 / 2:30 PM - 3:15 PM / 143**

Clare Kramer will discuss her exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

**WWE Superstars Charlotte Flair & Shinsuke Nakamura Q&A****6/17/2017 / 2:30 PM - 3:15 PM / 146**

WWE Superstars Charlotte Flair and Shinsuke Nakamura will discuss their exciting careers and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

\*\*This panel will have ASL interpretation.

**The Other Side of the Table: Lessons from Creators****6/17/2017 / 2:30 PM - 3:15 PM / 149**

Are you a creator considering exhibiting at Artist Alley or Small Press comic conventions? This panel will give you tips and suggestions on how to create your professional appearances from the POV of being behind the table. We will discuss the metamorphosis from attendee to exhibitor, effective table display design, how to talk and interact with people at your table, and how to generate sales with your table pitch. We will highlight the process of starting a comic book tour on a low budget and methods of attracting potential readers by promoting your appearances and will take questions and comments, as this will be a conversation on multiple subjects regarding how to build rewarding convention appearances from the ground up.

Panelists: Ryan North, Carolyn Belefski, Dawn Griffin, Joe Carabeo

Rated G

**Cosplay Construction Breakdown****6/17/2017 / 2:30 PM - 3:15 PM / 150**

Join veteran cosplayer Yaya Han for an in-depth Behind the Scenes look at how her costumes are constructed, from the reference images to the finished costume on stage. Learn about the thought process behind each creative step, as well as the techniques used for the construction. Hear funny anecdotes and inspiring stories from Yaya's 16 years activity in the cosplay community.

Panelist: Yaya Han

Rated G

**Your Move: Creating Inclusive Gaming Spaces**

**6/17/2017 / 2:30 PM - 3:15 PM / 144 BC**

A gamer should be judged not by her gender, but by the content of her character sheet! We're back for our third year at Awesome Con to discuss diversity in gaming, with a focus on the challenges faced by women within our community. This panel will be a welcoming and fun space to share stories and brainstorm solutions. This year we will talk more about women professionals - developers, journalists, academics, and e-sport players. Before the panel, feel free to check out our Facebook page at: [facebook.com/YMCIGS](https://facebook.com/YMCIGS)

Panelists: Selvi Sriranganathan, Sylvia Gimenez, Margaret Riley, Kathleen Donahue  
Rated PG

**We Have Always Been Here: Women Who Built Nerddom**

**6/17/2017 / 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM / 103**

From Mary Shelley onward, women and girls have been an instrumental part of sci-fi and fandom. Let's talk about their contributions as writers, artists, fans, and organizers, without which the history of fandom would look very, very different.

Panelists: Holli Mintzer, Anne Langsdorf, Kat Overland, Jessica Krenek  
Rated G

**Love Your Cosplay Body**

**6/17/2017 / 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM / 154**

Tired of limiting yourself based on your size, height, race, or gender? Tired of not being as happy in your cosplay as you should be? Come to the Love Your Cosplay Body panel and we will show you tips and tricks to make you love your body and be more confident in your cosplays. We will discuss a range of topics from costume construction to dealing with bullies. Cosplay is for everyone! All are welcome

Panelists: Amaya, Ao no Basket Cosplay, Damien, Melanie, and Ani-Mia  
Rated G

**The Drawing Drawing with Mark Mariano**

**6/17/2017 / 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM / Awesome Con Jr.**

Random words, thoughts, and ideas, combined with artistic talent of all levels makes this the most incredible interactive workshop you will ever attend. Sit back and enjoy the show or grab a marker and join in. This collaborative art experiment is sure to yield plenty of laughs and fantastic art that you can win!

**DC Stunt Coalition Workshop: Women's Slayer Training**

**6/17/2017 / 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM / Backlot**

**Giant King of New York Demo (Free)**

**6/17/2017 / 3:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

**Magic: the Gathering Kaladesh Minimaster Tournament (\$8)**

**6/17/2017 / 3:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Each player receives 1 pack plus an additional pack every time they win a game. Everyone will receive foil promo cards, plus additional prizes to top players. Limited to 16 people.

**Phase Shift (RPG)**

**6/17/2017 / 3:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Phase Shift is a science fantasy tabletop RPG where you play as a futuristic group of laser-wielding, magic-flinging, mind-melting, shape-shifting, robot-building mercenaries that fight horrific beasts and eldritch horrors that threaten the Galactic Federation. The system is easy to learn, doesn't take itself too seriously, and allows for complex character customization.

**Super Art Fight**

**6/17/2017 / 3:15 PM - 5:15 PM / 152**

Super Art Fight is the greatest live art competition in the known universe. Equal parts pro-wrestling and improvised art event, you'll laugh and cheer as you guide your favorite artists to victory! Get ready to see amazing art created in the moment, artists rise to the challenge, and a show unlike anything you've ever witnessed before... but watch out for the WHEEL OF DEATH!

Panelists: Super Art Fight

Rated PG-13

**Osamu Tezuka's Metropolis**

**6/17/2017 / 3:15 PM - 5:15 PM / 144 A**

Brace yourself for a totally new experience in cutting-edge animation. Based on the classic comic created by Osamu Tezuka (Astro Boy), written by Japanese anime legend Katsuhiro Otomo (Akira) and directed by Rintaro (Galaxy Express 999), Metropolis is a spectacular film featuring stunning imagery and unforgettable characters. In the industrial, tri-level world of Metropolis, Duke Red is a powerful leader with plans to unveil a highly advanced robot named Tima. But Duke Red's violent son Rock distrusts robots, and intends to find and destroy Tima. Lost in the confusing labyrinth beneath Metropolis, Tima is beginning a friendship with the young nephew of a Japanese detective. But when Duke Red separates the two innocents, Tima's life - and the fate of the universe - is dangerously at stake.

Panelists: David Baasch, Julia Ford, Takaaki Nemoto, Michala Rollé

Rated PG-13

**Sci-Fi Speed Dating Session #3 (18+)**

**6/17/2017 / 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM / 102**

Ladies and gentlemen, are you tired of looking for love in Alderaan places? Are you ready to Terminate your single life? Maybe you want someone to Trek through life with? Look no further, Sci-fi Speed Dating is back at Awesome Con! Sessions will be held all weekend long, for questions please visit Sci-Fi Speed Dating on Facebook!

Rated: 18+ - ID will be checked at the door

### **Artificial Gravity and Faster-Than-Light Travel**

**6/17/2017 / 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM / 143**

Dr. Erin Macdonald presents the science behind some of our favorite sci-fi concepts, particularly artificial gravity and faster-than-light travel. We will talk about warp drives, mass relays, hyperspace and much more, as well as the possibility of these technologies actually existing.

Panelist: Erin Macdonald, PhD

Rated PG

### **Using Comics to Tell the History of D.C.**

**6/17/2017 / 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM / 149**

ReDistrictedComics.com is a new serialized online anthology that focuses on lesser-known historical stories about Washington, D.C. The site has caught the attention of students, teachers and historians. Join editor Matt Dembicki (District Comics, Trickster, Wild Ocean) for a panel conversation with local educators, historians and community leaders on how the website and its resources are being used as teaching tools inside and outside classrooms.

Panelists: Matt Dembicki, Jason Rodriguez, Jane Freundel Levey, Mary Ann Zher, Eric Cervini

Rated G

### **Bizarre States**

**6/17/2017 / 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM / 150**

A paranormal podcast created and hosted by Jessica Chobot and Andrew Bowser from Nerdist. All things weird and wonderful are welcome here.

### **Blacks & Women: True Diversity in Comics?**

**6/17/2017 / 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM / 144 BC**

In an age of supposed diversity in comics, why are there so few Women and Black characters headlining comic books? In a follow up to last year's hit lecture: "A Brief History of Unacknowledged Black Creators and Characters in Comics," we discuss why this may be the case.

Panelists: Darrell Goza, Katrina Oxner, Asa Jarju and Kelly Williams

Rated PG-13

### **12 Angry Batman**

**6/17/2017 / 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM / Backlot Stage**

12 versions of Batman from across the multiverse gather to host a panel discussion at the Multiversal Batman Crime Fighting Convention, when a sudden interruption calls the very notion of Batman itself to trial. Will our Caped Crusaders survive past the accusations of one of their own? Flying V returns with a staged reading featuring 12 of DC's best actors and the writer and director of last year's Awesome Con hit Brother Mario with this meditation on the power of childhood heroes and the seminal 12 Angry Men.

Panelists: Seamus Sullivan, Jason Schlafstein, Cast  
Rated PG

**Jason David Frank Q&A**

**6/17/2017 / 3:45 PM - 4:30 PM / Main Stage**

Jason David Frank will discuss his exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

\*\*This panel will have ASL interpretation.

**Gender Roles in the Whedonverse**

**6/17/2017 / 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM / 103**

Join us for a live taping of the Revisiting Sunnydale Podcast as we explore the typical gender roles that are depicted in Joss Whedon's Universe. We'll discuss everything from Buffy to Shield and back again. We'll also be giving away some cool prizes.

Panelists: Kahmeela Adams, Marcella Spear, Dan Friedson, Ravan Webb  
Rated R

**Rampant Speculation in a Galaxy Far Far Away**

**6/17/2017 / 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM / 154**

Join Star Wars super fans as they once again rampantly speculate about the future of the Star Wars universe... with a little help from the audience. (Don't worry, there will be no actual spoilers on this panel.)

Panelists: Bria LaVorgna, Alexandra Petri, Eric Geller  
Rated PG-13

**Stories and Skills From a Storyboard Artist with Bryan Turner**

**6/17/2017 / 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM / Awesome Con Jr.**

Bryan Turner has worked on several of your favorite animated series including Spider-Man, Guardians of the Galaxy, and DC Superhero Girls. In this workshop, he will discuss the making of an animated series and share some tips on drawing super cool characters.

**Alter Arms (RPG)**

**6/17/2017 / 4:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Alter Arms is a rules-lite, narrative based tabletop RPG that asks the question: "What happens after the teenagers with attitude have defeated the evil empire?"

Players take on the role of heroes or villains with the ability to transform into beings with incredible powers, in a world where such people are becoming alarmingly more common!

Are you a monster in disguise? A super robot made to look human? Do you gain powers from a special belt? Or transform into enchanted royalty by drawing power from celestial bodies?

What will you become?

Only by working together and overcoming their individual issues can players gain more powerful forms.

Alter Arms takes influences from tokusatsu shows like Power Rangers, Masked Rider, The Guyver and Sailor Moon.

This is a free playtest of a new game created by Duffy Austin. Players can roll characters or use pre-generated ones that will be provided.

### **Indistinguishable From Magic: Nanotech in Sci-Fi**

**6/17/2017 / 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM / 143**

No technology featured in science fiction may better exemplify Arthur C. Clarke's third law, "any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic," than nanotechnology. Often used as a panacea or doomsday device, nanotechnology is invoked to explain away phenomena that, at least for now, aren't possible. Writers often summon nanotechnology to cure the incurable or to explain enhanced human abilities; to justify mystery materials that are indestructible, capable of cloaking, or impossible to characterize; or to rationalize instant, molecular manufacturing that meets all our needs. Join experts in nanotechnology as they share their predictions for the future of nanotechnology and discover how close your favorite sci fi reference to nanotechnology may actually be to coming true.

Panelists: Lloyd Whitman – Chief Scientist at NIST and Acting Lead for Technology and Innovation Policy at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy

Jordan Green, Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Ophthalmology, Oncology, Neurosurgery, and Materials Science & Engineering at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Mihal Gross – former Program Officer at the Office of Naval Research, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, and Depart. of Energy; currently a patent agent specializing in nanotechnology

Ronald Cowen – Science writer and editor at the Center for Nanoscale Science and Technology at the National Institute of Standards and Technology

Rated G

### **A Crash Course in Online Reviewing**

**6/17/2017 / 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM /149**

Always wanted to be an online reviewer but don't know the first thing about it? Pop Culture Uncovered gives you the inside scoop on how write a good review that gets noticed! Whether it's movies, comics, books, games, or whatever, we'll teach you how to tear into a product and tell people if it's worth buying.

Panelists: Adam Frey, Doug Toyryla, Armand Hill and Peter Robertson

Rated G



**David Hayter Q&A****6/17/2017 / 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM / 150**

David Hayter will discuss his exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

**Pokémon, Musicals, & Gay with Voice Actor Jamie McGonnigal****6/17/2017 / 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM / 144 BC**

A discussion with openly-gay Pokémon & Yu-Gi-Oh! voice actor, Jamie McGonnigal. From his first con appearance in 1999, Jamie has been proud to be using his opportunities at cons to talk about being LGBTQ, and creating opportunities for fans to discuss who they are and the change they'd like to create in their own communities. As a voice actor, Jamie is known for his roles as Ash's rivals, Barry and Trip on Pokémon. He has also been heard on Yu-Gi-Oh! GX & 5Ds (Brron, Thunder, Blitz), Viva Pinata(Teddington Twingersnaps), One Piece(Kuromarimo, Eyelash), Huntik(Tersely), Three Delivery(Eugene), Chaotic(Vlar), Weiss Kreuz/Knight Hunters(Omi), Magic Users Club(Takeo), Kirby(Whippy), Big Windup(Kanou), Beck(Yoshito), Gokusen(Uchiyama), El Cazador de la Bruja(L.A.), Kizuna(Ranmaru), and games including Shadow Hearts from the New World(Johnny Garland) and Viva Pinata. His voice has been heard on the Cartoon Network, Fox Kids, DisneyXD, Playstation, and XBOX. Outside of voice acting, Jamie has been busy producing more than 200 Broadway concerts and events, running a summer camp for inner-city teens living with HIV/AIDS, working as a UN Ambassador for their HERO campaign in Namibia and South Africa, and working alongside his husband to organize the rallies outside the Supreme Court when Prop 8 and DOMA were struck down. Pokémon, Musicals, and Gay covers all of it. From questions about how to get started in voice acting to how to come out to your high school anime club.

Panelist: Jamie McGonnigal, Sean McGonnigal

Rated G

**Evil GMing 101: Basic Evil****6/17/2017 / 5:00 PM - 5:45 PM / 103**

Want to take your gamemastering up a notch? Want to know how to get your players on the edge of their seats and involved in the game? Come learn techniques suitable for all systems and settings, and how even a critical failure is an opportunity for adventure.

Panelist: Matthew Bowman

Rated G

**Brave New Girls: Women in STEM****6/17/2017 / 5:00 PM - 5:45 PM / 146**

Some of the greatest scientific advances in history have been made by women, but girls are seldom encouraged to explore the sciences. Future Con presents a panel of celebrities and scientists jointly

discussing the achievements of female scientists, the role of women in STEM today, and the need for advocacy to create the next generation of great female scientists, engineers, and astronauts.

Panelists: Dawn Myers, LRO Science Mission Planner, Dr. Lynnae Quick

Rated G, Jessica Chobot

\*\*This panel will have ASL interpretation.

### **Cosplay 201: Contesting and Reference**

**6/17/2017 / 5:00 PM - 5:45 PM / 154**

Come and get the scoop on cosplay contests - categories, awards and participation dos and don'ts. Learn how to put your best foot, hoof or armored boot forward during judging - with tips on how to stay cool under pressure. And find out the "DOs" of building killer reference material, that will take your cosplay to the next level.

Panelist: Rebecca Roberts Ryan

Rated G

### **The AaaaWoooooo Werewolf Workshop with Chris Flick**

**6/17/2017 / 5:00 PM - 5:45 PM / Awesome Con Jr.**

Have a howling good time as cartoonist, Chris Flick, shows you how to draw werewolves of all shapes and sizes.

### **The Force Experience: A Live Lightsaber Show**

**6/17/2017 / 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM / Backlot Stage**

Saber Guild's Corellia Temple will transport you to a galaxy far, far way with our live, costumed lightsaber show. Watch Jedi and Sith battle for the fate of the galaxy. Perfect for young padawans, who can help defeat the evil Sith! Stick around for padawan lightsaber training following the show!

Performers: Matthew Procaccini, Adrienne Procaccini, Joseph Clukies, Jeff Bohler, Scott Lind, M. Justin Brantley, Edward Brunson

Rated G

### **Sci-Fi Speed Dating Session #4 (18+)**

**6/17/2017 / 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM / 102**

Ladies and gentlemen, are you tired of looking for love in Alderaan places? Are you ready to Terminate your single life? Maybe you want someone to Trek through life with? Look no further, Sci-fi Speed Dating is back at Awesome Con! Sessions will be held all weekend long, for questions please visit Sci-Fi Speed Dating on Facebook!

Rated: 18+ - ID will be checked at the door

### **Dark Skies, Bright Science: The 2017 Great American Eclipse**

**6/17/2017 / 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM / 143**

The Sun? Solar Superstorms? The 2017 Great American Eclipse? In 1989, a solar eruption with the strength of thousands nuclear bombs knocked out power to over 6 million people in North America. Hear from the National Science Foundation about how we understand our nearest star and its phenomena that can impact life on Earth. The 2017 Great American Eclipse will present a unique opportunity to study the Sun using ground-based observations by citizen scientists and professional researchers alike. Learn the science behind a solar eclipse and how you can safely observe it. Explore the future of solar astronomy with the Daniel K. Inouye Solar Telescope, the world's largest and most powerful solar observatory, currently under construction on a mountain in Hawaii.

Moderator: Joseph Pesce (Program Director, NSF Division of Astronomical Sciences)

Panelists: Dr. Dave Boboltz, Dr. Valentin Martinez Pillett (NSO Director), Dr. Joseph McMullin (DKIST Project manager and DKIST Deputy Director)

Rated G

### **Cosplay Makeup: the Art of Transformation**

**6/17/2017 / 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM / 149**

Take your cosplay to the next level!

Wondering what kind of body paint will withstand the summer heat? How to apply a Klingon's forehead piece? How on earth you apply false lashes?

Join Cinema Makeup school graduate, Rebecca Hawk, as she demonstrates techniques that will really turn heads!

Panelist: Rebecca Hawk, Tess Banky, Nicholas Strnad

Rated G

### **Dark Matter Q&A**

**6/17/2017 / 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM / 150**

Melissa O'Neil and Zoe Palmer will discuss their exciting careers and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

### **NASA's James Webb Space Telescope: Art + Science**

**6/17/2017 / 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM / 144 A**

There is art to bringing science to the public, sometimes literally! Members of NASA's James Webb Space Telescope team will talk about communicating science and tech by appealing to artistic sensibility. This includes use of photography, fine art, music, and the written word. Webb has a 6.5 meter exposed primary mirror that is coated with gold for reasons scientific; it also makes the telescope visually appealing. Webb launches in 2018 and will inspire by seeing the first stars and galaxies in the early universe, the formation of stars and planetary systems, and helping us learn more about exoplanet atmospheres.

Panelists: Maggie Masetti, Laura Betz, Christine Nolan Essig, Chris Gunn, Mike McClare, Rob Gutro

Rated G

**Blerdcon: The Diversity Missions Means YOU!**

**6/17/2017 / 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM / 144 BC**

A walk through the intersectionality of unrepresented and underrepresented geeks across all fandoms that encompasses the mission that brings together nerds of all colors, shapes, ages, genders, orientations and nationalities!

With the "rise of the blerd" in media, pop culture, fashion, music and comics, all diverse populations are feeling the pull out of the background and into the forefront. If you aren't one, you know one, and if you don't know one, you will, and should!

Listen to conrunners, social media group admins, podcasters and academics on how we are all part of the Blerd family!

Panelists: Hilton George, Tiffon Canzius, Cerise Canzius, Carmen Shamwell

Rated G

**DC Stunt Coalition Workshop: CQC**

**6/17/2017 / 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM / Backlot**

**John Barrowman Q&A**

**6/17/2017 / 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM / Main Stage**

John Barrowman will discuss his exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG-13

\*\*This panel will have ASL interpretation.

**Rob Schamberger Q&A**

**6/17/2017 / 5:45 PM - 6:15 PM / 152**

Rob Schamberger will discuss his exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

**Padawan Lightsaber Training**

**6/17/2017 / 5:45 PM - 6:45 PM / Backlot Stage**

Join Jedi Knights from Saber Guild Corellia, who have come to Earth from the Jedi Temple on Coruscant searching for new padawans to train. Our young padawans have helped the Jedi defeat the evil Sith. Now, they can learn the ways of the Force and basic lightsaber skills to complete their training.

Panelists: Matthew Procaccini, Adrienne Procaccini, Joseph Clukies, Jeff Bohler, Scott Lind, M. Justin Brantley, Edward Brunson

Rated G

**Creating Powerful Females in Fantasy Worlds (18+)**

**6/17/2017 / 6:00 PM - 6:45 PM / 103**

Superheroines to Wise Women: What goes into creating strong, compelling female characters in fantasy worlds? Speculative fiction authors discuss how to approach elements such as world-building, magic, special powers, and plot when crafting a multi-dimensional female character, and how to avoid the pitfalls of the "Mary Sue."

Panelists: Margaret J. Bates, Dawn Ibanez, L. Penelope, Rebecca Rivard, Irene Vartanoff  
Rated 18+ - ID Check required

**Dimensional Riffs on Nerd Rock**

**6/17/2017 / 6:00 PM - 6:45 PM / 154**

A panel discussing what nerd rock is and what types there are out there. Discussing how nerd rock is written and where the bands get their inspiration from.

Panelist: Jenny Hendricks, Kat Sinclair, Chuck Parker, DJ McGuire, Mary Parker, Drew McFayden  
Rated PG

**Super Dungeon Arena Tournament (\$5)**

**6/17/2017 / 6:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

**NBA Jam Tournament**

**6/17/2017 / 6:00 PM / Salon A-C**

**Wil Wheaton Q&A**

**6/17/2017 / 6:15 PM - 7:00 PM / 146**

Wil Wheaton will discuss his exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

\*\*This panel will have ASL interpretation.

**Alien Climates on Planets Near and Far**

**6/17/2017 / 6:30 PM - 7:15 PM / 143**

A panel of NASA scientists will discuss some of the ingredients that make planets in and beyond the solar system habitable or uninhabitable. Join us as we explore processes that govern planetary climates on real (and fantasy!) alien worlds near and far.

Panelists: Giada Arney, Hannah Wakeford, Ravi Kopparapu, Conor Nixon  
Rated G

**How did we get here, how far can we go? Observing the universe with the James Webb Space Telescope**

**6/17/2017 / 6:30 PM - 7:15 PM / 150**

Dr. Mather will tell the awesome story of our amazing history, from the Big Bang to now, and how we will learn more with the astounding James Webb Space Telescope, successor for the brilliant Hubble Space Telescope. The JWST, planned for launch in October 2018, will unfold after launch to be far larger than the Hubble, and cooled to a low temperature so it can detect infrared. If you were a bumblebee, hovering at the distance of the moon, the JWST could see you, both in reflected sunlight, and in the heat radiation you would emit. With these superpowers, what might the JWST reveal? Astronomers will use it to study everything from the first stars, galaxies, and black holes, to stars forming nearby with planetary systems, to planets, dwarf planets, comets, moons, and asteroids in our own Solar System.

Panelist: Dr. John Mather

Rated G

### **The Art of Getting Punched in the Face**

**6/17/2017 / 6:30 PM - 7:15 PM / 144 A**

What is it about the action on screen and on the page that draws us in? This panel hopes to give writers of all different mediums tools to add depth to their own works.

Panelist: David Van Tassell, Nick Vasiliou, Christian Hidalgo, Brian Boltz

Rated PG

### **The Law for Video Game Creators—IP**

**6/17/2017 / 6:30 PM - 7:15 PM / 144 BC**

The video game industry has become larger than the movie and music industry combined. As a result, it is important than ever to understand the very unique intellectual property rules to protect themselves and their material. This panel discusses some of the unique aspects of copyright and trademark protection in the video game industry.

Panelist: Joe Sergi

Rated G

### **Cross-Play 101**

**6/17/2017 / 7:00 PM - 7:45 PM / 103**

Always wanted to cosplay as a gender you're not? Not sure where to begin, or how to do it? Come learn! We've got tips, tricks, and resources to work for budgets of every kind!

Panelist: Justin Sparks, Sora Sirota, Stephanie Buck

Rated PG-13

### **MAGfest Versus! Trivia Game Show**

**6/17/2017 / 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM / 152**

Versus! is a fan-remake of the 90's video game quiz show, Nick Arcade! A game-show like no other, which pits contestants in a test of trivia, video game skill...and maybe just a little bit of luck a chance to face off against Count Buff Von Studhorse himself in the video zone!

**Slash of Our Ancestors: History of Fanfic**

**6/17/2017 / 7:00 PM - 7:45 PM / 154**

This panel explores the historical origins of fanfiction, 20th century fandom, zine culture, the rise of Internet fanwork fandom, and the changes in writing style, distribution, and community norms that have taken place over the years.

Panelists; Holli Mintzer, Anne Langsdorf, Kat Overland, Jessica Krenek  
Rated PG-13

**Phase Shift (RPG)**

**6/17/2017 / 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Phase Shift is a science fantasy tabletop RPG where you play as a futuristic group of laser-wielding, magic-flinging, mind-melting, shape-shifting, robot-building mercenaries that fight horrific beasts and eldritch horrors that threaten the Galactic Federation. The system is easy to learn, doesn't take itself too seriously, and allows for complex character customization.

**Scott Snyder & Greg Capullo Masterclass**

**6/17/2017 / 7:15 PM - 9:15 PM / 149**

This is your chance to learn from the best! Scott Snyder and Greg Capullo will take the stage together for a very special masterclass for aspiring writers and artists. Pre-registration for class is required!

Panelists: Scott Snyder, Greg Capullo  
Rated PG

**Sci-Fi Speed Dating Session #5 (18+)**

**6/17/2017 / 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM / 102**

Ladies and gentlemen, are you tired of looking for love in Alderaan places? Are you ready to Terminate your single life? Maybe you want someone to Trek through life with? Look no further, Sci-fi Speed Dating is back at Awesome Con! Sessions will be held all weekend long, for questions please visit Sci-Fi Speed Dating on Facebook!

Rated: 18+ - ID will be checked at the door

**Frozen Fossils: Dinosaurs of the Antarctic**

**6/17/2017 / 7:30 PM - 8:15 PM / 143**

Dinosaurs? In Antarctica? How do we find them? Once you've found them, how do you bring them to life in film and in museums? Hear from National Science Foundation's researchers about the process of unearthing dinosaurs in one of the most remote and formidable locations on the planet. Learn how filmmakers bring these monstrous and fascinating creatures to life on screen, and how museum curators transform them beyond the screen into exhibits that capture the human imagination like few creatures- living or otherwise- can.

Panelists: Nate (Nathan) Smith, David Clark, Tom Skwerski  
Rated PG

### **An Astronaut and Aerospace Leaders Discuss Space**

**6/17/2017 / 7:30 PM - 8:45 PM / 146**

This panel will explore the influence of science fiction on careers in aerospace and the development of new space technologies. Panelists will include a former astronaut and aerospace leaders from NASA, Virgin Galactic, and SSL.

Panelists: George Zamka, Astronaut(retired); Sirisha Bandla, Virgin Galactic; Mike Gold, Commercial Space Transportation Advisory Committee  
Rated G

### **Nerdlesque: Bringing Fandom to the Burlesque Stage**

**6/17/2017 / 7:30 PM - 8:15 PM / 150**

What is Nerdlesque, and how does it differ from standard burlesque or cosplay? Why do audiences and artists alike love it so much? We've gathered some of the best performers in the Nerdlesque scene to talk about what fandom means to them, and to discuss how they use this emerging art form to create stories and explore characters. Panelists will also answer any burning questions you may have about this exciting topic- don't miss out!

Panelists: GiGi Holliday, Cherokee Rose, Cherie Sweetbottom  
Rated PG-13

### **Ghost in the Shell: Major Impact**

**6/17/2017 / 7:30 PM - 8:15 PM / 144 A**

This year Ghost in the Shell broke into the mainstream with its live action movie, but its story started in 1989 with the original manga by Masamune Shirow. It has had multiple different story lines, but at their core they all have Major Kusanagi's search for identity and Batou's friendship with the Major. Let's discuss the live-action movie, all of the previous manga, books, and anime, and how they relate to real-life issues of cybersecurity and personal identity.

Panelists: John White, Ann White, Andrew Kelley

### **ABO and the Rest of the Alphabet**

**6/17/2017 / 7:30 PM - 8:15 PM / 144 BC**

This will be a safe space discussion for the popular fanfiction trope ABO(Alpha/Beta/Omega Dynamics) and how it pertains to LGBT representation and discussion.

Panelist: Morven Moeller  
Rated R

### **Of Dice and Men**



**6/17/2017 / 8:00 PM - 9:15 PM / 103**

Few dungeon masters can make the game come to life better than John Francis. Dwarves, Mages, and Barbarians jump right off of their character sheets whenever he sits down at the gaming table of frisky suburbanite parents, Linda and Brandon. John Francis' best friends, sailor-mouthed John Alex and thoughtful jock Jason, bring roguish swagger and knightly nobility to the game. And the object of John Francis' affection, the feisty Tara, provides all the Half Elven Double Princess backstory they could ever need.

But when Jason enlists to go to Iraq and with the relationship with Tara going nowhere, it may be time for John Francis to hang up his twenty sided dice and take a job on the other side of the country. However, John Francis is about to discover that leaving will prove tougher than the Tomb of Horrors.

OF DICE AND MEN is a blisteringly funny and deeply affecting look at the things that truly matter in life.

Panelists: Francis Abbey, Cameron McNary

Rated PG-13

**Fandom as a Subversive Act**

**6/17/2017 / 8:00 PM - 8:45 PM / 154**

Fandom has always been subversive—we take someone else's stories and characters and find ways to make them our own. For many fans, this means ignoring or even correcting the more problematic aspects of our favorite media. It can mean using characters and their painful stories as a way to heal. And in the age of alternative facts, it can be an act of resistance.

Topics discussed will include fandom and marginalized communities, slash/femslash culture, creating fanworks as a political act, and how fandom deals with and corrects problematic media.

Panelists: Katie Locke, E. K. Johnston, Kaitlin Wadley, Clare DeZutti

Rated PG-13

**Awesome Con Costume Contest Presented by ANA**

**6/17/2017 / 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM / Main Stage**

Costumes spanning the worlds of comics, movies, television, anime, manga, musicals, books, and games are all eligible for entry – as well as original characters inspired by these themes. Watch as beginners and advanced contestants alike compete to be Awesome Con's best in show!

**Magic: the Gathering Shadows Over Innistrad Minimaster Tournament (\$8)**

**6/17/2017 / 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Each player receives 1 pack of Shadows over Innistrad plus an additional pack every time they win a game. Everyone will receive foil promo cards, plus additional prizes to top players. Limited to 16 people.

**Cards Against Humanity [18+] (Free)**

**6/17/2017 / 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Come play the most depraved party game of our age. Similar to Apples to Apples, players choose which card or cards best answers a question or fills in blanks in a phrase. Unlike Apples to Apples, this game is 100% not appropriate for people of all ages.

### **The Shipping Game Live!**

**6/17/2017 / 8:15 PM - 9:00 PM / 152**

An interactive game of matchmaking. Two players are chosen to ship two random characters, or break them up. The players argue their side and the audience chooses the winner. Win prizes in this hilarious game of interactive fan fiction where romance and geekiness collide!

Panelists: Orië Enav, Han Pan, David Puccio

Rated PG-13

### **Nerd Nite DC Crashes Awesome Con!**

**6/17/2017 / 8:30 PM - 9:15 PM / 143**

Nerd Nite DC is crashing Awesome Con again this year with a super nerdy panel. Think Sci Fi & Fantasy Nerd Mashup and Science in Pop Culture and you'll get a sense of what to expect. What is Nerd Nite? Nerd Nite is a worldwide organization that brings scientists, engineers, artists, and all types of super nerdy specialists together to blend fun with facts. It is a monthly event held in more than 75 cities across the globe during which several folks give fun and information-filled presentations across all disciplines in a bar while the audience drinks a few or a few too many. Nerd Nite DC has covered everything from space toilets and voodoo zombies to roman hairstyling techniques over its eight year span, and we then we spice it all up up with music, trivia, costumes, and other nerdery. Nerd Nite DC at Awesome-Con is bringing you some of the best speakers in order to Nerd out!

#### **Speaker #1**

Fly by Wire? More like Die by Wire: When software kills, crashes, and combusts.

Scared that the MRI you're about to get will fry your brain? You should be: this sort of thing has actually happened; as well as spacecraft smashing to pieces, airplanes flying without air traffic control, and World War III almost wiping out humanity, all due to simple software faults and design mistakes. Come hear about ten of the most awful disasters in software engineering, and you'll never want to trust anything connected to a wire again.

#### **Speaker #2**

The Biophilia Hypothesis: How what makes us animals, may very well be what saves our humanity.

Join Alexis for a crash course into the planet-people-profit nexus across human history. From the big bang launching star dust into the cosmos, to millennials taking selfies at the Capitol, learn how the emerging field of sustainability has shaped the human experience yesterday, today and optimistically tomorrow.

Panelists: Cat Aboudara MC: Alexis Goggans & Kinga Dobolyi

Rated PG-13

### **Awesome Filmmakers: Making it Happen**

**6/17/2017 / 8:30 PM - 9:15 PM / 150**

The legendary Awesome Con filmmakers panel that had everyone talking has returned! Join filmmaker panelists Otessa Marie Ghadar(DC Webfest, Orange Juice in Bishops Garden), Rick Spears and Michele Lombardi(Black Eyes) , Matthew Lucas(Moonshot) and Danny Caporaletti(Making Movies is Easy) and moderated by Director Joe Carabeo(Astray Productions, The Magic Trick), as they break the 4th the wall and reveal the realities of being a filmmaker and making it happen in today's media consuming society. You might even see an exclusive trailer or two or three. A must see for all filmmakers and film lovers at Awesome Con

Panelists: Otessa Marie Ghadar, Rick Spears, Michele Lombardi, Matthew Lucas, Danny Caporaletti and moderated by Joe Carabeo

Rated PG

### **Exploring Dystopia through Attack on Titan and TWD**

**6/17/2017 / 8:30 PM - 9:15 PM / 144 A**

This panel will focus on the dystopian theme that runs through the anime Attack on Titan, The Walking Dead comic book, and the novel Fahrenheit 451. It will also include comparing and contrasting the key elements of each dystopia of the three works.

Panelists: Andrew "popanimecomics" Davis, Cliff Davis

Rated PG-13

### **Comics Made Me Gay (Well, No, They Only Just Confirmed It) (18+)**

**6/17/2017 / 8:30 PM - 9:15 PM / 144 BC**

"Comics Made Me Gay(well, no, they only just confirmed it)" shows how and why graphic novels are uniquely suited for representing both the objective and subjective experience of homoeroticism using page samples from classic superhero comics, Tom of Finland homoerotic comics, and contemporary gay and gay erotic illustrators and cartoonists. This is a presentation for adults only.

Panelist: Aldo Alvarez, Ph.D. aka Dale Lazarov

Rated 18+ - ID will be checked at the door

### **All Day- Open Video Gaming**

**6/18/2017 / 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM / Salon A-C**

### **All Day - Open Tabletop Gaming Presented by Geico**

**6/18/2017 / 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Our board game library is available for people to borrow a wide assortment of fun games all weekend long! Your Awesome Con badge is your ticket to free lending from our library of games. We have table signs to indicate that you're looking for more players, or looking for someone to help teach you a new game!

Note: Please bring your Driver's License or other ID to be returned when games are checked back in.

**All Day - Learn to Play Looney Labs Games**

**6/18/2017 / 10:00 AM / Salon G-I**

The Looney Labs Game Techs will be around to help teach and demo awesome Looney Labs board games all weekend long!

**All Day - Dungeons and Dragons Adventurer's League**

**6/18/2017 / 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Join us for a variety of D&D Adventurer's League Events - Free and no experience needed. Start times and exact games are available at Gaming HQ.

**DC Stunt Coalition Workshop: Open Fight Choreography Workshop**

**6/18/2017 / 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM / Backlot**

**Stan Lee Q&A**

**6/18/2017 / 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM / Main Stage**

Stan Lee will discuss his exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

\*\*This panel will have ASL interpretation.

**Sci-Fi Speed Dating Session #6 (LGBT+) (18+)**

**6/18/2017 / 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM / 102**

Are you tired of looking for love in Alderaan places? Are you ready to Terminate your single life? Maybe you want someone to Trek through life with? Look no further, Sci-fi Speed Dating is back at Awesome Con! Sessions will be held all weekend long, for questions please visit Sci-Fi Speed Dating on Facebook!

Rated: 18+ - ID will be checked at the door

**OMG DIY**

**6/18/2017 / 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM / 103**

Assemble the team, pick the songs, and get booking! Get started in the growing 8-bit music scene. Learn how to emulate the tones of early video game music on rock instruments, with live demonstrations by musicians on electric guitar, electric bass, GameBoy, and synthesizer/keyboard.

Panelists: Wilfredo Morales, Marco Morales, Sarah Fong

Rated G

**LIVE Carolyn and Joe Show Podcast "400th Episode"**

**6/18/2017 / 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM / 154**

The Carolyn and Joe Show podcast celebrate their 400th episode! Every year one of the best times at Awesome Con is the live recording of The Carolyn and Joe Show podcast in front of a LIVE Awesome Con audience. They've had special guests from Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Pulp Fiction, Renowned Animation voices and Walking Dead Actors. This is a panel/recording/live show like no other and it's the 400th episode. What in the world could possibly happen this year?

Panelists: Carolyn Belefski, Joe Carabeo  
Rated PG

### **Evil GMing 201: Advanced Evil**

**6/18/2017 / 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM / 144 A**

The much-requested sequel to Matthew Bowman's popular Evil GMing 101 now comes to Awesome Con! This talk covers advanced gamemastering techniques like structuring a story, designing hooks and encounters, and what to do when – not if! -- your players do something you didn't predict.

Panelist: Matthew Bowman  
Rated G

### **Artemis Bridge**

**6/18/2017 / 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM / Salon F**

Artemis is a multiplayer, multi-computer networked game for Windows computers, and now IOS devices too. Artemis simulates a spaceship bridge by networking several computers together. One computer runs the simulation and the “main screen”, while the others serve as workstations for the normal jobs a bridge officer might do, like Helm, Communication, Engineering, and Weapon Control. Artemis is a social game where several players are together in one room(“bridge”) and work together as a Captain and crew.

### **King of New York Tournament (Free)**

**6/18/2017 / 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM / Salon G-I**

### **Citizens in Space! Explore the Universe!**

**6/18/2017 / 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM / 143**

From studying gravitational waves emitted from distant black holes, to analyzing the hunting patterns of rare species of bats, to identifying new forms of cancer, non-scientists are working with professional researchers to answer some of the most difficult scientific questions of our day. Find out how you can be an integral part of exploring our universe through free and engaging online programs like Zooniverse. Talk with scientists and learn how you can explore our planet, our Sun, and the most distant galaxies by becoming a Citizen Scientist!

Panelists: Dr. Henry "Trae" Winter, Kaitlyn Loftus, Dr. Elizabeth MacDonald, Dr. Shane Larson  
Rated G

### **The Guild Reunion**

**6/18/2017 / 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM / 146**

The cast of the Guild will discuss their exciting careers and answer audience questions.

Rated PG

\*\*This panel will have ASL interpretation.

**Star Trek: Deep Space Nine: Star Trek's NEW Legacy**

**6/18/2017 / 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM / 149**

Once the red-headed stepchild of Star Trek, now the most popular Star Trek show of them all! Help us discover why this show has surpassed the others in this franchise.

Panelists: Randy Hall, David Brewer, Ann Harding

Rated G

**Garrett Wang Q&A**

**6/18/2017 / 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM / 150**

Garrett Wang will discuss his exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

**Exploring the Creators of Gay and Lesbian Comics**

**6/18/2017 / 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM / 144 BC**

This panel will explore some of the creators and their contributions to producing gay and lesbian comics and how they have influenced the mainstream comic industry to this day. Some of the creators that will be explored are Howard Cruse(Stuck Rubber Baby), Trina Robbins(wimmen's comix), Alison Bechdel(Fun House), and Joe Phils(Joe Boys) to name a few. With each of the creators we cover there works and significances of their comics and how it affects the current comic world today.

Panelists: Andrew Davis (popanimecomics), Anne Davis, Cliff Davis

Rated PG -13

**Ladies of the Legions**

**6/18/2017 / 11:45 AM - 12:30 PM / Backlot Stage**

Ever wondered what's it like being a woman in the 501st, Rebel Legion, and Mandalorian Mercs? Join ladies from all three international costume organizations as they share their experiences, tips and tricks for making and wearing costumes, and some of their favorite trooping stories.

Panelists: Anna Mitchell, Emily Schram, Kellie Hendley, Jessica Holsinger

Rated G

**Teen Girl Squad: Ms. Marvel & the YA Comics Boom**

**6/18/2017 / 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM / 103**

We're currently seeing a wave of successful comics aimed at a YA audience, many with girls as protagonists: Ms. Marvel, Lumberjanes, Spider-Gwen and more. Join comics readers, writers, and artists for a conversation about their favorites.

Panelists: Mallory Yu, Kat Overland, Leah Ly, Carmen Williams, Holli Mintzer

Rated G

### **In My Dreams**

**6/18/2017 / 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM / 152**

Are there dream characters, dream publishers, writers, artists, stories that creators still lust after? What might those opportunities look and sound like? Daniel Govar, and John Layman explore the matter with moderator Robert Greenberger.

Panelists: Daniel Govar, John Layman, Robert Greenberger

### **Squee! The Challenges & Rewards of Fangirling**

**6/18/2017 / 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM / 154**

In this panel, four women who identify as fangirls explore the shame that still exists around fandom for women, especially adult women, as well as the benefits of being a fan. They discuss the support of the fangirl community, in encouraging collaboration, creativity, individuality, and genuine self expression. In addition, the ways in which fandom facilitates identity exploration and development is explored.

The panelists will also discuss the challenges facing female fans and the ways in which fans are negotiating those challenges to find fulfillment, inspiration, and creative expression and entertain attendees with the pilot episode of the web series "Squee!"

Panelists: Hansi Oppenheimer, Chinisha Scott, Christine Evans, Dr. Lynn Zubernis

Rated PG

### **Cosplay Photography 101**

**6/18/2017 / 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM / 144 A**

Welcome photographers of all levels! Cosplay Photography 101 will provide you with the basics of camera work and advice when taking photos of cosplayers! This is hosted by Cherry Cos & Photography, a freelance photographer of 4 years in the DC Metro area!

Panelist: Asia Law

Rated PG-13

### **Alien Art with Dawn Griffin**

**6/18/2017 / 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM / Awesome Con Jr.**

Awesome Con Jr. will be transformed into an alien factory when cartoonist, Dawn Griffin, shows you easy ways to draw wacky aliens.

**Magic: the Gathering Amonkhet Booster Draft Tournament (\$15)**

**6/18/2017 / 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Each player receives 3 packs of Shadows Over Innistrad and a promotional foil. Prizes to top players.

**Demo: Alien Labyrinth (Free)**

**6/18/2017 / 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM / Salon G-I**

Check out Foam Brain's first published game, coming to Kickstarter soon!

**Catherine Tate Q&A**

**6/18/2017 / 12:15 PM - 1:00 PM / Main Stage**

Catherine Tate will discuss her exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

\*\*This panel will have ASL interpretation.

**Cassini's Spectacular Grand Finale at Saturn**

**6/18/2017 / 12:30 PM - 1:15 PM / 143**

On September 15th, the incredible Cassini voyage comes to an end. For more than 13 years Cassini has orbited Saturn, making repeated close encounters with its diverse satellites, rings and the giant planet itself, taking spectacular pictures and making new scientific discoveries. But all good things must come to an end, and Cassini's journey is nearly finished now that its fuel supplies are running low. However before the spacecraft plunges into Saturn's atmosphere to disappear forever, the mission team has planned a daring finale: Cassini will dive into the narrow gap between the rings and planet to make a final set of unique measurements, including where ring particles spiral into the planet. We will show the latest images, and discuss Cassini's incredible science legacy from the discovery of giant seas of liquid methane on Titan's north pole, to a year-long storm on Saturn, to water geysers caught in the act of erupting from the small moon Enceladus, and more.

Panelists: Conor Nixon, Paul Romani, Carrie Anderson (tentative), Mike Flasar (tentative)

Rated G

**Comic Book Digital Coloring Workshop**

**6/18/2017 / 12:30 PM - 1:15 PM / 149**

Learn how to color comics just like the pros with Comic Book Digital Colorist, Arsia Rozegar (credits include Marvel's The Hulk and Iron Man). Arsia will demonstrate step-by-step techniques on how to color comic pages using Adobe Photoshop.

Panelist: Arsia Rozegar

Rated G

**Lost Girls Q&A**

**6/18/2017 / 12:30 PM - 1:15 PM / 150**

Rachel Skarsten and Zoe Palmer will discuss their exciting careers and answer audience questions.



Rated: PG

**Super Heroes in Color - Diversity Behind the Mask**

**6/18/2017 / 12:30 PM - 1:15 PM / 144 BC**

We hear "diversity" used as a word meant both to attract and annoy when people talk about comics, but what does real diversity look like? Do heroes of color matter? Does it matter who to creation is coming from? What does the future of comics look like?

Panelists: Sam Stone, Jamie Noguchi, Ethan Young, Keith Chow, Mikhail Hardy, Jeremy Whitley, Alexis Sanchez

Rated G

**Science of Spider-Man**

**6/18/2017 / 12:45 PM - 1:30 PM / 146**

National Science Foundation experts are actively working on bringing super powers to life, and today we'll speak about the cutting-edge science that could be used to re-create Spider-Man's powers. Learn from arachnologists Brent Opell and Todd Blackledge, Ali Dhinojwala, a leading name in biomimetic research, and more!

Panelists: Brent Opell, Todd Blackledge, Ali Dhinojwala

Rated G

\*\*This panel will have ASL interpretation.

**Sci-Fi Speed Dating Session #7 (18+)**

**6/18/2017 / 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM / 102**

Ladies and gentlemen, are you tired of looking for love in Alderaan places? Are you ready to Terminate your single life? Maybe you want someone to Trek through life with? Look no further, Sci-fi Speed Dating is back at Awesome Con! Sessions will be held all weekend long, for questions please visit Sci-Fi Speed Dating on Facebook!

Rated: 18+ - ID will be checked at the door

**Good Omens: Nature vs Nurture**

**6/18/2017 / 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM / 103**

If the spawn of Satan was accidentally raised by 'normal' parents, can he really be evil? We discuss the merits of nature vs nurture as presented by the cult classic novel Good Omens, by Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett.

Panelists: Richard Atha-Nicholls, Andrea Hetley, Racheal Uselton, Bill O'Connor, Richard Hetley, Carol McCollough, Emily Whitten

Rated G

**Kel Mitchell Q&A****6/18/2017 / 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM / 152**

Kel Mitchell will discuss his exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

**Ladies in a Galaxy Far, Far Away****6/18/2017 / 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM / 154**

You know Leia, Padmé, Rey, and Jyn--but what about Sloane, Hera, Aphra, and Asajj? Join us for a discussion and celebration of the women in a galaxy far, far away as we talk about some of our favorite Star Wars ladies both old and new!

Panelists: Bria LaVorgna, Anna Mitchell, Lillian Noble, Shoshana Bailar

Rated G

**Animate the Future****6/18/2017 / 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM / 144 A**

This East meets West panel looks at subgenres of science fiction and how they appear in a variety of different media from the U.S., Europe and Japan. Come and learn about how some of your favorite science fiction subgenres are expressed and influenced in and by some of your favorite anime and manga. -Space Opera, cyberpunk, and alien invasions, oh my!

Panelist: Doomtastic

Rated G

**Draw a Little Dream with Chris Mariano****6/18/2017 / 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM / Awesome Con Jr.**

Chris Mariano interviews kids and parents about their strangest dreams. Professional artists bring their dreams to life on the drawing board.

**Kid's Costume Parade Presented by The Emoji Movie****6/18/2017 / 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM / Backlot Stage**

As part of Awesome Con Jr., Awesome Con is excited to announce the Kids Costume Parade presented by the Emoji Movie! Registration is limited to the first 30 kids (and their parents).

**7 Wonders Tournament (\$5)****6/18/2017 / 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM / Salon G-I****Primal Rage Tournament****6/18/2017 / 1:00 PM / Salon A-C**

### **You've Heard of Black Holes - We Reveal the Truth**

**6/18/2017 / 1:30 PM - 2:15 PM / 143**

Two black holes come crashing together, sending ripples through the very fabric of space-time. A star wanders too close to a monster black hole, disappearing in a bright flash of light that signals its demise. The tiny region at the center of a galaxy packs an enormous punch, blasting its radiation out to stars and planets over 500 trillion miles away. These are not science fiction, they are the real objects and events studied by astrophysicists at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. Come see and hear about some of these extremes in the universe from the scientists making front-line discoveries.

Panelists: Dr. Barb Mattson, Dr. Bernard Kelly, Dr. Erin Kara, Dr. Travis Fischer  
Rated G

### **GeekDad Celebrates Father's Day: Raising Geek Generation 2.0**

**6/18/2017 / 1:30 PM - 2:15 PM / 149**

Join some of the writers from GeekDad.com to discuss raising the next generation of geeks. They'll talk about introducing various fandoms to kids, sharing old and new geeky passions with kids, and choosing which things are appropriate for different ages. Some of them may even be joined by their kids who will discuss what it's like growing up geek. Come for the unabashed geekery, stay for some great surprises! Join in the conversation and bring your own experiences and questions!

Panelists: Jamie Greene, Matt Blum, Mike LeSavage, Brian McLaughlin, Mark Mariano  
Rated G

### **Are We Looking for the Wrong Aliens?**

**6/18/2017 / 1:30 PM - 2:15 PM / 150**

Could our efforts to ferret out signals from extraterrestrials be misdirected? We've always made the assumption that the aliens share some of our own fundamental characteristics – that they're members of a brainy species consisting of billions of individuals, living out their lives on planets or moons sporting liquid oceans and thick atmospheres. But could the truth be entirely different? Could it be that the majority of the intelligence in the cosmos is not soft and squishy, but in sophisticated machines that might not be limited to the type of worlds we examine? If so, what would this mean for our search for cosmic company, and for the future of Homo sapiens?

Panelist: Dr. Seth Shostak  
Rated G

### **Queering Cosplay**

**6/18/2017 / 1:30 PM - 2:15 PM / 144 BC**

Six queer cosplayers assemble to discuss their experiences navigating the cosplay community. They will share personal stories about how they discovered and continue to explore parts of their identity through cosplay, and about how they learned to overcome challenges, such as homophobia and hate-mail. They will talk about the difficulty of finding characters to fit their identities, and how sometimes they choose instead to "queer" the characters to match, creating their own representation when their favorite source

material fails to, and expanding the visibility of the queer communities within their fandoms in the process. The panelists are a mix of professional and amateur cosplayers, representing a wide range of sexual orientations and gender identities, and will be happy to answer your questions at the end of the panel.

Panelists: Roaring Girl Cosplay, Sgt-Bucky-Bear, Maki Roll, Buster Britches, Captain James, Carlita Caliente  
Rated PG-13

### **Keeping it Fresh**

**6/18/2017 / 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM / 103**

How do veteran artists keep themselves fresh and interested in sequential storytelling? When do they need to recharge? Do they take classes? Daniel Govar, Jim Calafiore, and Dan Parent chat with Robert Greenberger to look at the visual side of comics.

Panelists: Daniel Govar, Jim Calafiore, Dan Parent, Robert Greenberger  
Rated G

### **How to Run a Cosplay Related Business**

**6/18/2017 / 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM / 152**

Join Yaya Han for an informative panel on how to run a Cosplay related Business. There are many ways to turn Cosplay into a business, but they may be different than you'd imagine! As a brand new, emerging Industry, there is a lot of hard work and dedication required to make Cosplay into a Career. Yaya will share her personal story as well as what it takes to turn your back on a steady job and become a Business Owner in a unique creative field.

Panelist: Yaya Han  
Rated G

### **ARKHAM FILES: SUPERVILLAIN PSYCHOSES Vol. 2**

**6/18/2017 / 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM / 154**

Ever wonder what makes our favorite Batman villains tick? Well, look no further, as the folks behind last year's ARKHAM FILES: SUPERVILLAIN PSYCHOSES panel return to Arkham Asylum to discuss the possible psychoses for a BRAND NEW set of villains in Batman's rogues gallery!

If you thought last year's villain profiles were interesting, wait until you see what villains we profile in this sequel edition!

Panelists: Brandon Troy, Julian Lytle, Charles Samenow  
Rated R

### **Dark Matter by the Numbers**

**6/18/2017 / 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM / 144 A**

It's been two seasons since people on the Raza spaceship woke up with no memory of who they were or where they came from. After naming themselves "One" through "Six" in the order they awakened, the characters got help from the android named "Android" as their adventures across the stars led the ever-changing crew to be stranded on an exploding space station with many of them injured, fleeing or already dead. What would you like to see in this program's upcoming third season?

Panelist: Randy Hall, Lorenzo Heard

Rated G

### **Create Your Own Superhero Symbol with Carolyn Belefski**

**6/18/2017 / 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM / Awesome Con Jr.**

Every hero needs a logo! Many superheroes have personal branding on their outfits and My Little Pony characters even have cutie marks! Join artist and designer Carolyn Belefski and learn how to incorporate graphic design elements to create an icon and establish your own powerful visual identity.

### **Eliza Dushku Q&A**

**6/18/2017 / 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM / Main Stage**

Eliza Dushku will discuss her exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

\*\*This panel will have ASL interpretation.

### **Robots In Space**

**6/18/2017 / 2:30 PM - 3:15 PM / 143**

Satellites do a lot for us, including allowing us to explore and learn about the universe itself. In an average year, several billion dollars' worth of satellites are retired when their fuel supply is exhausted, or when repairable issues are overlooked. But there's a better way! Rather than launching new satellites when previous ones run out of fuel or run into issues, why not try to fix, refuel, or upgrade them?

That's where NASA's Satellite Servicing Projects Division (SSPD) comes in. After completing five successful Hubble Space Telescope (HST) Servicing Missions, SSPD is continuing this legacy by advancing the state of the art in robotic servicing.

Join SSPD engineers as they walk you through the revolutionary robotic technology NASA is developing to facilitate and advance satellite servicing and other missions. From robotic arms to relative navigation systems and beyond, these technologies are paving the way to the future.

Panelists: Benjamin Reed, Ross Henry

Rated G

### **Khary Payton & Cooper Andrews Q&A**

**6/18/2017 / 2:30 PM - 3:15 PM / 146**

Khary Payton and Andrew Cooper will discuss their exciting careers and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

\*\*This panel will have ASL interpretation.

### **Thrift Store and Closet Cosplay**

**6/18/2017 / 2:30 PM - 3:15 PM / 149**

Does cosplaying just sound too expensive? Find out how to put together great cosplays on a budget! From strategically picking a character to knowing where to look and what to modify, we'll help you express your favorite characters without breaking the bank.

Panelists: Steampunk Family, GhostyCosplay

Rated G

### **Samurai Jack Live Read**

**6/18/2017 / 2:30 PM - 3:15 PM / 150**

Join Samurai Jack comic writer, Jim Zub, and Samurai Jack voice actor, Phil LaMarr, in a live read of one of the Samurai Jack comics!

Panelists: Jim Zub, Phil LaMarr

Rated PG

### **Representation Matters, So Let's Make It Good**

**6/18/2017 / 2:30 PM - 3:15 PM / 144 BC**

Stories matter. More diverse media representation is incredibly important, but not all representation is created equal. The result of years of narrative research, this panel will lay out a comprehensive and easy to follow guide to creating healthy and compelling queer characters and stories, with examples and suggestions across media and genres. Write stronger characters, tell better stories, and maybe save a life when you join us in making queer lives visible.

Panelist: Mary Stanfield, Nicole Catterlin

Rated PG-13

### **Sci-Fi Speed Dating Session #8 (18+)**

**6/18/2017 / 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM / 102**

Ladies and gentlemen, are you tired of looking for love in Alderaan places? Are you ready to Terminate your single life? Maybe you want someone to Trek through life with? Look no further, Sci-fi Speed Dating is back at Awesome Con! Sessions will be held all weekend long, for questions please visit Sci-Fi Speed Dating on Facebook!

Rated: 18+ - ID will be checked at the door

### **The Sarah Jane Adventures, or Doctor Who for Kids!**

**6/18/2017 / 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM / 103**

Doctor Who spawned several spin-off series. One of them starred one of the most beloved Doctor Who characters of all time, Sarah Jane Smith. If you're a Doctor Who fan and you've got kids, but you feel that they're still too young for Doctor Who, the Sarah Jane Adventures is right up their alley!

Panelists: Professor JP McClendon

Rated G

### **Greg Capullo Q&A**

**6/18/2017 / 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM / 152**

Greg Capullo will discuss his exciting career and answer audience questions.

Rated: PG

### **Games and Grub 101: How to Run a Board Game Cafe**

**6/18/2017 / 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM / 154**

If you've ever been to, or even heard of a board game cafe, you've probably wondered how they work. Between a library of over 700 games, a delicious menu, a specialty coffee program, weekly events, and a college campus within walking distance, The Board And Brew located in College Park, MD has a lot on its proverbial(and literal) plate! Come hear from employees from every station in the restaurant, and figure out how one opens and maintains such an awesome business

Panelists: Brian McClimmens, Jess Gladstone, Arden Winner, David Montier, Ford Duvall, Kenny Federline

Rated G

### **Comics and Graphic Novels in Education**

**6/18/2017 / 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM / 144 A**

Comic books and graphic novels are a great way to engage students in all subjects and levels. Not only do they serve as a perfect hook, but they also help to teach 21st Century skills (such as hypertext reading) create analytical readers and writers, and provide a window into the changing global society around us. Tim Smyth is a high school social studies teacher of 15 years and holds a Masters of Science degree as a Reading Specialist. During this session, you will be walked through established lesson plans that can be utilized in your classroom.

Panelist: Tim Smyth

Rated PG

### **Scribble Scramble! with Mark Mariano**

**6/18/2017 / 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM / Awesome Con Jr.**

Eight artists chosen from the crowd compete in a series of quick-thinking drawing quests for the ultimate prize: The Scribble Scramble Championship belt. Your doodling destiny awaits.

**DC Stunt Coalition Workshop: Open Fight Choreography Workshop**

**6/18/2017 / 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM / Backlot**

**Sunday Backlot Costume Contest Presented by ANA**

**6/18/2017 / 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM / Backlot Stage**

New this year at Awesome Con are daily costume contests on our Backlot Stage! The Backlot is home to everything cosplay, and our Backlot Costume Contests presented by ANA are the centerpieces of the Backlot's events! More casual than Awesome Con's Main Stage Contest, our Backlot events do not require online registration. Simply sign-up each morning of the con.

**Mars - Past, Present, & Future: NASA Explores Mars**

**6/18/2017 / 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM / 143**

Come hear NASA scientists talk about catastrophic climate change in Mars' ancient past, about how NASA is today searching the martian surface for clues about the possibility of life, and how astronauts might someday explore the martian surface. If you joined us last year, we'll be updating our presentation with the latest results and it'll be even more awesome!

Panelists: Jared Espley, Jake Bleacher, Jen Stern, Andrea Jones

Rated G

**Dressforms for Dummies**

**6/18/2017 / 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM / 149**

Tired of sewing cosplays on your own body? Need an extra pair of hands, but can't afford a new dress form? Come learn to make your own! This workshop will show you an easy way to make a dressmaker's dummy with products that you can find at any store! Perfect for the cosplayer or tailor(from virgin to veteran) who wants a simpler way to alter their clothing.

Panelist: Stacey Overby, Julia Klag, Britany Marriott

Rated G

**To Tell My Story: A Hamlet Fanfic**

**6/18/2017 / 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM / 144 BC**

"To Tell My Story: A Hamlet Fanfic" is set in the only place more fertile, expansive, and full of ghosts than Shakespeare's Denmark: the mind of a teenage girl. Bringing the story into the Internet era by replacing Hamlet's corps of actors with a chorus of outrageous online fan fiction, this is a Hamlet for the Internet era, when we really can be bounded in a nutshell and count ourselves kings of infinite space -- as long as there's wifi. This play explores the way we search for self-meaning through others' mythology and where the line between homage and originality lies.

Panelists: Alexandra Petri, Megan Behm, Performed by The Ensemble



Rated PG-13

### **Pro Wrestling Today**

**6/18/2017 / 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM / 152**

The Awesome Con tradition continues! Every year Awesome Con gathers the sharpest minds from Pro Wrestling, Podcasting, Radio, and parts unknown to converge on one stage, for one panel, with one big audience, to contemplate, dissect, prophesize and pop for this past years big happenings in the Pro Wrestling world. This year the panel is led by Underground Pro Wrestling journalist, Marco Dela Cuesta with guests, Michael Mcnutt ( Hater Bation Show ), Philip Stamper ( The President of Wrestling ) Thom Loverro (The Chad Dukes Wrestling Show) and Ellis Mbeh (Shocked Undertaker Guy). If you're a Pro Wrestling Fan, this is the place you'll want to be.

Panelists: Marco Dela Cuesta, Michael Mcnutt, Philip Stamper, Ellis Mbeh, and Tom Daly

Rated PG

### **These Are a Few of My Favorite Tropes**

**6/18/2017 / 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM / 154**

Soulbonds! Amnesia! High School AUs! Discuss the fanfic tropes dearest to your heart, why they appeal, where they come from-- and maybe find a new favorite.

Panelists: Holli Mintzer, Mallory Yu, Breeanna Sveum, Becca Battelini

Rated R

### **Reimagining the Fairy Tale**

**6/18/2017 / 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM / 144 A**

Who doesn't love a fairy tale retelling? Part of the universal appeal of fairy tales is that they were never a static form, at least not as an oral tradition. Re-tellers have used these archetypes and modes to spin new variations ever since these stories first came to the page. Angela Carter once said that "Ours is a highly individualized culture, with a great faith in the work of art as a unique one-off.... But fairy tales are not like that, and nor are their makers." We can find fresh insight into our own lives and connections through these age old tales. This panel will focus on a variety of approaches in reconstructing fairy tales with a modern bent, both in their favorite re-spins and in their own work.

Panelists: Sarah Ann Winn, Meg Eden, Sally Rosen Kindred

Rated PG