

Cosplay Contest

- Categories and Prizes
 - Prizes per category:
 - Best Overall
 - Best Craftsmanship
 - Judges Award
 - Categories:
 - Junior: 15 and under regardless of awards in craftsmanship
 - Novice: 16+, 0 - 1 major awards (best in show, best in category) OR more than 3 minor awards (honorable mention, judges awards). Entrant has created no more than four costumes, or had no more than one year of sewing or crafting experience.
 - Journeyman: 16+, 2 - 4 major awards (best in show, best in category) OR more than 6 minor awards (honorable mention, judges awards). Entrant has created no more than six costumes, or had no more than two years of sewing or crafting experience.
 - Master and professionals: 16+, 5 or more major awards (best in show, best in category) OR more than 8 minor awards (honorable mention, judges awards). Entrant has created no fewer than eight costumes, and had no less than three years of sewing or crafting experience. This category also can include professional costumers and prop makers who receive 75% or more of their income from this craft.
- Pre Judging Contest Rules (XXX entrants total):
 - All Cosplay participants must be registered attendees of the convention.
 - Junior entrants must have completed 50% of his or her costume, with 50% assistance allowed from a friend or family member. Junior entrants must be accompanied by an adult at all times during the pre-judging process, before, during, and after the Cosplay Competition. We are the cosplay department, not babysitters.
 - To compete in the competition an entrant must have made 80% of his or her costume. Commissioned, purchased, and rented costumes are not permitted to enter. Costumes purchased on eBay, from commissioners, Milanoo, or other online retailers and sellers are not permitted in the competition and will be disqualified. We ask that entrants be honest about the origins of their costume. There are a few exceptions to this rule: if you did not create the costume the creator must be present at judging and to receive the award. For those competing in a group, one person, some, or all persons in the group must have made their costumes to be eligible for an award. The third exception is the Found Item category. You must have created 60% of your costume. Commissions and purchased costumes do not count as Found Item. You must alter or change the original garments in some way to be

eligible. If you require clarification or are not sure about your entry please contact the cosplay director.

- All applications must be submitted at the time of pre-judging and applications will be available at that time. THERE ARE NO ONLINE APPLICATIONS, they will only be available physically at the pre-judging session.
 - Contestants' full name(s), *If you are registering as a group, you may register your group name as well, but you will need to include each member's name on the registration.
 - Name(s) of character(s)/costume(s) Your model's name and email address.
 - Skill level category in which you wish to compete
 - A description of your creative process including materials and tools used
 - A web-sized JPG of the Front, Back and Profile view of your costume
 - Your entry must be finished before you get to the Pre judging room. No sewing, gluing, spray painting, welding, or other construction work is allowed backstage. However, final assembly of large pieces and/or props and unexpected repairs will be allowed.
 - NO blatant nudity/adult related content. This event is rated PG-13, and we are a family-friendly convention. Please use some discretion with your character, props and presentation. Also, please keep bad language to an extreme minimum level.
 - Finally, you are strongly encouraged to bring reference material for your costume, the inspiration of the costume, if it is an original design, images and/or videos of the costume construction process and/or a printed description from the literary work, if it is a character from a novel. While we will not turn away entries that do not bring reference material, the absence of references could affect the final score. Judges may not know all characters and creatures, so it's in everyone's best interest to bring a color photo (or several) for reference, if possible. Electronic devices, such as a phone or tablet, may be used to present reference photos to the judging panel.
 - The cosplay director has the right to change your division to a higher division to create a fair competition. Consider this an honor.
 - Top XX from each category will be asked to final Judging on the Main stage.
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- Main stage (Final Judging) Cosplay Contest Rules
 - Be careful onstage! Running-tackle-hugs (glomping) might not be very safe.
 - Presentations have a required minimum of 60 seconds to be on stage in any competing category. That way, the judges have enough time to actually do their job and see/judge your cosplay or performance.
 - Participants will be required to sign a liability release and a release for use of video and photo images.
 - For safety reasons, the following are not allowed:
 - Live animals

- Substances which might damage or soil
 - Aerosol sprays
 - Projectiles of any kind.
 - No pyrotechnics will be allowed including but not limited to: fire, flash powder, explosives, smoke bombs or fireworks.
 - Entries that could potentially damage the Convention Center facilities, other participants or the wearer will not be allowed.
 - Illegal weapons of any kind are not allowed.
- Prop weapons used as part of the costume are allowed with restrictions. You are expected to act responsibly with your weapon. If you decide to carry a weapon, by attending you accept any legal and financial responsibility for damage your weapon may cause to persons or property.
 - Entries with electric power requirements need to be self-contained. There will be no access to electrical outlets on stage.
 - Smoking is not allowed in the Convention Center. Contestants who leave the building for a smoke break may lose their turn to appear on stage.
 - All contestants must be able to move their costume on their own. So please no 80 lb wings or giant mecha unless you can walk up stairs in it.