



JUNE 12-13-14

2026

CHARLOTTE CONVENTION CENTER  
501 SOUTH COLLEGE STREET, CHARLOTTE NC 28202

# PANELS & PROGRAMMING

## FRIDAY

12 pm

ROOM 204

### BASIC PUPPET MAKING TECHNIQUES

Hands-on workshop by **Cher Lambeth**, Former Puppet Builder at The Jim Henson Company. Capped at 20; supplies available on the spot for \$6.

12 pm

ROOM 206

### STAR WARS DRAWS

This year *Star Wars* cartoonist **Jamie Cosley** is going to show you how to create your own Jedi or Sith character! It's going to be so much fun! Plus, learn the "secret password" so you can receive a free sketch from Jedi Jamie! Let's all draw together Friday, Saturday, and Sunday! May the force be with you!

12:30 pm

ROOM 201

### HOW TO MAKE COMICS

**Mike Baron** (*Flash, Punisher, Nexus, Badger*) walks you through how to make a comic from concept to writing to visuals. His methods may strike some as unusual, but it's worked for him for decades! Bring a pen and pad!

12:30 pm

ROOM 207AB

### PODCASTING 101

Discover the how's and why's of podcasting. Get tips on equipment, improving your on-mic performance, promotion, and more with a panel of veteran podcasters, **Darrin and Ruth Sutherland** (*Trekker Talk*), **Steve Bird**, (*Marvel Reread Club*) **Brad and Lisa Gullickson** (*Comic Book Couples Counseling*) and moderator **Terence Dollard**, a Mass Comm professor and host of PBS's *Comic Culture*.

## FRIDAY

12:30 pm

ROOM 207CD

### **“THE NEEEEWWW STYLE!” : UNDERSTANDING EVOLUTION, GROWTH AND THE PURSUIT OF STYLE IN POPULAR ILLUSTRATION**

Veteran painter, illustrator, and educator **John Hairston, Jr.** leads this panel discussing the artist’s journey and the discovery of an ever-evolving style and approach to finding one’s creative voice. Learn the importance of research, rigor, and utilizing the human experience to build one’s own unique and creative voice in the professional art market.

1 pm

ROOM 204

### **BASIC LEATHERWORKING WORKSHOP: MAKE YOUR OWN CUFF**

A walk through of the basics of leatherwork led by the designers at **Ribbons and Rivets**. Participants will be instructed on how to edge, burnish, dye, seal, and decorate their very own wrist cuff and leave with a finished product. All tools and materials will be provided, just bring a pair of hands. **Participation fee is \$20 (capped at 30 participants). Run time is two hours.**

1 pm

ROOM 208

### **THEY ARE LEGION: ANN NOCENTI'S HEROES & VILLAINS**

Join us for a spotlight panel with the incredible comics editor and writer, journalist, and filmmaker **Ann Nocenti**. We'll discuss her early career in the 1980s Marvel Bullpen and her experiences writing and editing decades of notable comics, with particular emphasis on the creation process behind beloved heroes like Longshot and spectacular villains like Mojo and Typhoid Mary. Moderated by librarian **Jennie Law**.

2 pm

ROOM 201

### **SCAD: CHARACTER DESIGN WORKSHOP**

Join SCAD professor, comic artist, and fantasy author **Will O'Donnell** for a hands-on character design workshop built for aspiring comic creators, animators, game designers, and storytellers of all kinds. Develop a unique character from the inside out—exploring their physical traits, psychological depth, and backstory. Then, bring your creation to life through a concept art sheet, including turnarounds, expressive heads, props, and more. This fun, fast-paced session will spark your creativity and help you build characters that leap off the page!

2 pm

ROOM 206

### **QUICK DRAW—A HEROESCON TRADITION**

Sit and sketch anything you want for 20 minutes for a chance to win amazing prizes! Drawing paper and #2 pencils await you. Our fantastic friends and art instructors SCAD will judge the drawings and award 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in the following age categories: 10 and under, 11-15, and 16 and up. Bring your imagination and inspiration!

## FRIDAY

2 pm

ROOM 207AB

### HEROES' PRIDE PANEL

Let's celebrate Pride at Heroes 2026! We'll talk about LGBTQIA+ joy, representation, and subtext in comics with panelists **Ben Crane** (*Cosmic Cadets, Scattered Futures*), **Sarah Myer** (*Cheer Up, Michael!, Monstrous, TMNT*), **Margeaux Pepoy** (*Simone & Ajax, Fables*) and **Mayday Trippe** (*Power Lunch, Something Terrible*). Moderated by **Jennie Law** (Librarian) and **Jessica Swanson** (Libra).

2 pm

ROOM 207CD

### "DAD WAS A COLLECTOR: NOW WHAT?": BEST PRACTICES FOR PREPARING YOUR BELOVED COLLECTION FOR YOUR EQUALLY BELOVED HEIRS

You have loved and saved collectibles all your life, but eventually, someone else will have to inherit and disperse all of your coveted treasures. Who gets your stuff, and how will they know what to do with it? Join Professors **Tom Eysell** (UMSL) and **Daniel Yezbick** (STLCC) with **Jerry Stephan** (CGC/Heritage Auctions), **David L. Schmidt** (All American Collectibles), and **Michael Shanker** (private collector) for an introduction to strategic planning for bequeathing, liquidating, or donating your collection. They'll offer recommendations for dealing with inherited items and heirlooms from a variety of perspectives.

2 pm

ROOM 208

### WALT SIMONSON IN CONVERSATION WITH MICHEL FIFFE!

Over the course of his legendary career, **Walt Simonson** (*Thor, Manhunter*) has worn just about every hat that a comic creator possibly could, and done so to great acclaim. This year, we invited **Michel Fiffe**, multi-hyphenated force behind the recently completed epic *Copra*, to sit down with Walt and talk about all things comics. Don't miss these two brilliant creators in a special one-on-one conversation!

3 pm

ROOM 201

### SCAD: AN INTRODUCTION TO STORYBOARDS

with SCAD Professor, storyboard artist, and illustrator **Ray Goto**.

Storyboards are a great way to communicate an idea, allowing everyone on your team to have the same vision. This workshop will be an introduction to visual storytelling. Storyboards save time and money and help prevent mistakes on your production. Open to all skill levels.

3:00-4:00 PM

### COSPLAY RUNWAY REGISTRATION

(COSPLAY STAGE - MAIN CON FLOOR, CAPPED AT 50 PARTICIPANTS)

## FRIDAY

3:30 pm

ROOM 206

### HOW TO PITCH TO A PUBLISHER: A COSMIC LION GUIDE ON CATCHING A PUBLISHER'S EYE

Join Cosmic Lion publisher **Eli Schwab** to discover the best practices for catching the eye of a publisher, from the socks you wear to the pens you use, and everything in between! With him will be a panel of creators from Cosmic Lion. **Ro Higashi** (head of CLManga), **Raymar Brunson** (Ghost Man, Detective Pickle), and **Kevin Anthony Catalan** (Space Knights, Godzilla). The discussion will focus on indy comic creation and what a publisher might be looking for when scouting new talent, including self-identity, self-expression, and community building.

3:30 pm

ROOM 207AB

### THE MELANIN MINDS PODCAST PRESENTS: THE IMPORTANCE AND IMPACT OF BLACK WOMEN IN COMICS

Black women have a larger impact in comics than often given credit for. In this panel we talk about the history, importance, and impact of Black women characters and creators in and around the comic space.

3:30 pm

ROOM 207CD

### COMIC BOOK COUPLES COUNSELING WITH CHRIS SCHWEIZER AND KYLE STARKS: A LIVE PODCAST EVENT!

There's no romance quite like a comic book collaboration. Join **Brad and Lisa Gullickson** of the popular podcast **Comic Book Couples Counseling** as they put comic book creators **Chris Schweizer** (*6 Sidekicks of Trigger Keaton, The Crogan Adventures*) and **Kyle Starks** (*6 Sidekicks of Trigger Keaton, Peacemaker Tries Hard!*) on their couch for a discussion about their unique collaborative relationship. What's required to make a good creative team-up last? How have they avoided potential fights when passion runs high? Bring your questions and concerns; audience participation expected.

4 pm

ROOM 208

### MARK BUCKINGHAM SPOTLIGHT

**Mark Buckingham** is one of the most respected comic artists of the Twenty First Century! Join us for an hour of scintillating conversation with the immensely talented artist of *Fables, Miracle Man, Fantastic Four, Wonder Man* and more! Moderator **Andy Mansell** plans to keep the conversation focused on the aspect of Buckingham's comic art. We ask that you leave any comic business topics at the door. Join us for a fantastic conversation!

4 pm

**COSPLAY RUNWAY HOSTED BY AMBERLE LINNEA - (COSPLAY STAGE - MAIN CON FLOOR)**

## FRIDAY

5 pm

ROOM 201

### SPORTS COMICS

Where have you gone, Joe DiMaggio? Why were so few sports-themed comic books published, despite sports' broad popularity? Athletes are among the most compelling real people in all of pop culture and among the most realistic fictional figures in comics. So why did comic books about sports fail to attract readers? *Hogan's Alley* editor **Tom Heintjes** interviews veteran comics journalist (and sportswriter) **Michelle Nolan** to examine the genre to find the reasons.

5 pm

ROOM 204

### Basic Leatherworking Workshop: Make Your Own Collar

A walk through of the basics of leatherwork led by the designers at **Ribbons and Rivets**. Participants will be instructed on how to edge, burnish, dye, seal, and decorate their very own collar and leave with a finished product. All tools and materials will be provided, just bring a pair of hands. **Participation fee is \$20. Run time is 2 hours.**

5 pm

ROOM 206

### NOAH VAN SCIVER: USING SATIRE TO MAKE CHARACTER DRIVEN COMICS

How can cartoonists use satire to turn familiar tropes and archetypes on their head? When can exaggeration become an engine that drives a narrative forward and helps create a character who is both familiar and wildly original? Writer and cartoonist **Lara Boyle** sits down with acclaimed cartoonist **Noah Van Sciver** (*Fante Bukowski*, *Beat It*, *Rufus*) to discuss the delicate balancing act of using humor to make serious observations about our world and the people who live in it.

5 pm

ROOM 207AB

### BRETT BEAN and MARTIN SIMMONDS: CREATOR OWNED COMICS

Veteran educator and scholar **Aaron Kashtan** sits down with two of the most popular artists of today - **Brett Bean** (*D'orc*, *Muk 'n' Honey*) and **Martin Simmonds** (*Department of Truth*, *Dying is Easy*) to discuss their career journeys, and how they balance work-for-hire and creator owned projects in their successful careers.

5:30 pm

ROOM 208

### CHRIS CLAREMONT and JOHN ROMITA, JR!

We've hosted panels with both of these legendary comics creators in the past, but this is the first time they'll share a panel stage together at HeroesCon! Don't miss a great discussion about their varied careers, their influential collaboration on *Uncanny X-men*, and much more!

## FRIDAY

6pm

ROOM 201

### HEROESCON COMICS TRIVIA - ROUND 1

What's more fun than bar-trivia with trivial prizes? Glad you asked!

Quiz Master **Brian Martin**, *Memory Hole Trivia's* Head Honcho (and veteran Heroes' moderator), leads this first of two COMIC trivia rounds. The second round will be on Saturday at 5 pm, and the winners of the first two rounds will be invited to compete at the Big Finale on Sunday at 1:30. EVERYONE IS INVITED to play! Teams can have up to four players! Join us today, then come back for Saturday and Sunday! Win the whole shebang and every member of your team will receive a three day pass to HeroesCon 2027!

**7:00 PM – THE CON IS CLOSED FOR THE DAY, BUT THE FUN CONTINUES!**

**8:00 PM – THE HEROESCON DRINK AND DRAW BEGINS ACROSS THE STREET IN THE GRAND BALLROOM AT THE WESTIN AT OUR ANNUAL DRINK AND DRAW YOU CAN CREATE AND BUY SOME GREAT ART AND HELP US RAISE MONEY FOR TEAM CUL DE SAC AND PARKINSON'S RESEARCH!**

## SATURDAY

11 am

ROOM 201

### SCAD: "BASIC PERSPECTIVE GRIDS, BASICALLY"

Join **Pat Quinn**, SCAD Professor and comic artist, to explore a basic introduction to using linear perspective in your art. Linear perspective helps us create the illusion of depth for our backgrounds, vehicles, props and figures.

11 am

ROOM 204

### FROM COSPLAY TO DRAG: AN INTRO TO CHARACTER PERFORMANCE

Attendees will learn how to incorporate music, makeup, and storytelling to create a fully conceptualized masquerade piece or drag number. Panel is led by **Carolina Creepshow Ghoul School Winner Liam Laughin, Co-Founder of Crown Kings of Charlotte Will Charmer, Scrawny Brawny, and Vincent Sational**. 18+ only.

11 am

ROOM 207CD

### JOHN ROSE PANEL

Great balls o' fire! **John Rose** has helmed the venerable *Snuffy Smith* comic strip for a quarter century, and he's only the third creator to handle a property that is more than a century old. *Hogan's Alley* editor **Tom Heintjes** conducts a bodacious interview with Rose about the strip, balancing the tightrope of keeping tradition alive while remaining current, and also his recipe for corn squeezins!

11 am

ROOM 208

### THE FUTURE OF TWOMORROWS PUBLISHING

Join publisher **John Morrow** as he reveals TwoMorrows Publishing's plans for the future, and looks back at the company's more than three decades in business! In addition to getting the scoop on his 100th issue of *The Jack Kirby Collector* (the publication that started it all), featured panelists include: **Roy Thomas** (former Marvel Comics editor-in-chief, main writer for Marvel and DC Comics, and current editor of *Alter Ego* magazine, who's debuting his new autobiography and *Alter Ego* #200 at HeroesCon), **Keith Dallas** (editor of the *American Comic Book Chronicles* history book series), **Eric Nolen-Weathington** (co-author of the company's long-awaited Jim Aparo biography), and **Ed Catto** (Editor of *RetroFan* magazine).

11:30 am

ROOM 207AB

### 40 YEARS OF ORIGINAL ART SKETCHES & COMMISSIONS AT HEROESCON

For over four decades, **HeroesCon** has been the premier destination for comic book purists and original art collectors. Join **Dewey Cassell** in conversation with **Aaron Sultan, Steve Yarish, Tyler Turner, and George Hage** as they trace the convention's storied history of original art - sketches and commissions, in particular - sharing firsthand accounts of meeting legends like George Pérez, Mike Zeck, John Romita, George Tuska and so many more! From vintage treasures to modern masterpieces, we'll discuss the evolution of the hobby and highlight the incredible talent in this year's Artist Alley. Whether you're a veteran collector or looking to commission your first piece from a 2026 guest, this session is your guide to the best artwork Heroes has to offer—past, present, and today.

## SATURDAY

12 pm

ROOM 201

### **SCAD: YOUNG ADULT COMICS AND GRAPHIC NOVELS WORKSHOP WITH LIZ ENRIGHT**

**Liz Enright** is a sequential artist, illustrator, and educator passionate about helping young creators develop their storytelling and artistic skills through comics and visual narrative. In this engaging workshop geared toward middle grade and young adult students, participants will explore visual storytelling while developing original comic concepts in a supportive, hands-on creative environment.

12 pm

ROOM 204

### **STAR WARS COSTUMING WITH THE 501ST LEGION, THE REBEL LEGION, AND THE MANDO MERCS**

Have you ever wondered what it takes to put together a costume from the Star Wars universe? Join members of the three largest Star Wars costuming groups—the 501st Legion, the Rebel Legion, and the Mando Mercs—as they discuss how to put together a costume of your favorite Star Wars characters! Showing real-life costumes constructed by group members, the panel will provide information and answer questions on choosing a costume/character to suit your style, to where to find materials and resources to help guide your journey on becoming a character from a galaxy far, far away!

12 pm

ROOM 206

### **STAR WARS DRAWS**

This year Star Wars cartoonist **Jamie Cosley** is going to show you how to create your own Jedi or Sith character! It's going to be so much fun! Plus, learn the "secret password" so you can receive a free sketch from Jedi Jamie! Let's all draw together Friday, Saturday, and Sunday! May the force be with you!

12 pm

ROOM 207CD

### **CREATIVES, COMICS, AND THE IMPACT OF AI**

AI in comics is one of the most controversial issues affecting comics today. Join *Creator Law's* **Chris Caira** and **Brian Saucier** in conversation with artists **Mark Chiarello**, **Cully Hamner** and **Stephen Green** for a lively and thought-provoking panel discussion exploring the law, the ethics, and the business of AI and its impact on comics. Hear firsthand from comic industry veterans and lawyers where AI is now, where it is going, and stick around as they answer your burning questions!

1 pm

ROOM 201

### **VISUAL STORYTELLING TECHNIQUES FOR COMICS with CARL POTTS**

Learn the concepts and techniques of sequential visual storytelling from veteran Marvel editor, artist and writer, **Carl Potts**. These days, in addition to his various creative endeavors, Carl teaches onsite and online at School of Visual Arts. A few of the comics creators Carl mentored include Jim Lee, Whilce Portacio, Scott Williams, June Brigman and Jon Bogdanove.

## SATURDAY

1 pm

ROOM 207AB

### FROM RAW TO SLAB: THE CGC GRADING EXPERIENCE

Step behind the grader's desk with Vice President of Comics Grading, **Shawn Caffrey**, and see how comics are evaluated from raw to slab. Learn what impacts grade and value, then put your skills to the test in "Guess the Grade" for prizes, plus an interactive Q&A.

1:30 pm

ROOM 204

### BASIC ARMOR PATTERNING

Come see how the process of armor making begins as the designers at **Ribbons and Rivets** lead participants through making their own bracer pattern that can later be transferred to foam, plastic, or leather. Participants will also learn about seam allowances, rigid crafting mediums, and adhesion methods. All tools and materials are provided for this free workshop, just bring a pair of hands. **Run time is 1.5 hours.**

1:30 pm

ROOM 207CD

### RETROFAN: THE NOSTALGIA THAT WOULDN'T DIE

In an age of clickbait, oddball trivia and quick flashes of memory, many fans, especially pop culture and comic fans, are more rabid than ever to get to the real story behind the stories they love. Join *RetroFan* magazine editor **Ed Catto**, along with **Bob Harrison** (Editor in Chief of *Pop Culture Squad* and co-host of the *Pop Culture SquadCast*) and *TwoMorrows* publisher **John Morrow**, for a deep dive into the crazy, cool pop culture we grew up with, from Slurpee cups and comics, to TV shows and movies!

1:30 pm

ROOM 208

### DAREDEVIL, PANEL WITHOUT FEAR

Thanks to great comics and a popular television series, the Hero from Hell's Kitchen is as popular now as he's ever been. We've assembled a veritable who's who of *Daredevil* creators - **Ann Nocenti**, **Klaus Janson**, **Stephanie Phillips**, and **Lee Weeks** - to discuss their work on the character, and what makes him so appealing for creators and fans alike.

2 pm

ROOM 201

### DISABILITY IN COMICS

Join comic writer **Stephanie Williams** and disability advocate **Vilissa Thompson** to discuss disability representation in the comics industry. Together, they examine both disabled characters in comics and the experiences of creators with disabilities working in the field.

2 pm

ROOM 206

### QUICK DRAW—A HEROESCON TRADITION

Sit and sketch anything you want for 20 minutes for a chance to win amazing prizes! Drawing paper and #2 pencils await you. Our fantastic friends and art instructors SCAD will judge the drawings and award 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in the following age categories: 10 and under, 11-15, and 16 and up. Bring your imagination and inspiration!

## SATURDAY

2:30 pm

ROOM 207AB

### RETHINKING WAR COMICS

Join us for a special mission through the history of American War comics. Join **Tom Eyssell** (UMSL) focusing on Reed Crandall and Blackhawk, **Rick Stevens** (U COLORADO) on Timely Captain America comics, **Dan Yezbick** (STLCC) on Milton Caniff. They'll also leave plenty of room for discussions on Kubert, Kurtzman, Severin, and other creators and characters developed around military scenarios.

### 3:00-4:00 PM - COSPLAY RUNWAY REGISTRATION

(COSPLAY STAGE - MAIN CON FLOOR, CAPPED AT 50 PARTICIPANTS)

3 pm

ROOM 207CD

### COMICS & LIBRARIES: NOW WITH AWARDS!

Did you know that the American Library Associations' Graphic Novel & Comics Round Table established the very first library specific comics award this year? It's named the Outstanding Comics Award (OCA)! Join us to hear from the award seal's designer **Chris Schweizer** and two of the very first award honorees **Jesse Lonergan** (*Drome*) and **Tony Fleecs** (*Feral*). Moderated by librarian and chair of the 2026 OCA Children's Award committee, **Jennie Law**.

3pm

ROOM 208

### DENYS COWAN and ART ADAMS

Legendary artists and creators **Denys Cowan** (*Milestone Comics*, *Nightwing*) and **Art Adams** (*Uncanny X-men*, *Longshot*) sit down with author **de'Angelo Dia** to discuss their decades of significant and influential works in comics.

3:30 PM

ROOM 201

### XAVIER'S SCHOOL DROPOUTS

The first age of Krakoa may be over, but X-Men Improv never dies! Join us for an unpredictable comedy show inspired by the comics, cartoons and movies you love plus suggestions from you, the audience.

3:30 pm

ROOM 206

### THE POWER OF THE PODCAST: POC PERSPECTIVES ON COMICS & COMMUNITY

While the pages of comic books have become diverse, the voices critiquing and celebrating them are undergoing a huge revolution. Join **Theodis Wright** (*The Comic Bin Comic Book Podcast*), **Dr. Ebony Toussaint** (*Ororo Comics Podcast*), **Toshi J** (*Melanin Minds Podcast*), and **BJ KICKS** (*Comics Are Dope Podcast*) for a candid discussion on the rise of comic book podcasting within communities of color. This panel explores the origins of our favorite podcasters, their motivations for getting into comic podcasting and podcasting in general, and the unique challenges of building an inclusive platform in the digital space. We'll discuss how podcasting serves as a tool for reclamation and celebration in the modern comic landscape.

4:00 PM - COSPLAY RUNWAY HOSTED BY AMBERLE LINNEA - (COSPLAY STAGE - MAIN CON FLOOR)

## SATURDAY

4 PM

ROOM 207AB

### WILL EISNER TRIBUTE PANEL

Will Eisner is undeniably one of the giants in comic book history. Join **Mark Schultz** (*Xenozoic Tales, Prince Valiant*) and **John Hitchcock** (*Dear John: The Alex Toth Doodle Book, Parts Unknown*) as they discuss their friendship with Eisner, and offer personal insight into the history and influence of this legend of comics history.

4 pm

ROOM 207CD

### POWER PULP: THE SELF-PUBLISHED COMICS AGE HAS ARRIVED

**Power Pulp Comics** is a collective of the best of the best self-publishers in the business. This panel will feature the work of **Tony Fero, Jesse Lonergan, Jamie Jones, Jim Rugg, Audra Stang, Rick Lopez, Scott Gerard Ruhl, Nick Forker, Anthony Haddix, Chris Anderson** and announce their latest member! See what the future of comics looks like through your new third eye. Q&A to follow, time permitting.

4:30 pm

ROOM 208

### MEN OF LETTERS: JOHN WORKMAN & TOM ORZECZOWSKI

Two creative legends — each with their own 50-year career in comics — finally sit down and compare immaculately written notes with each other. Their own defining collaborations - Chris Claremont and Walt Simonson! Logos designed to catch the eye AND open the wallet! Relettering Moebius and getting his opinion in person! Flipping the script (literally) to help America discover manga! All that and more is bound to be discussed by letterers **John Workman** and **Tom Orzechowski** if moderator **Greg Matiasovich** (*Robots From Tomorrow*) has anything to say about it!

5 pm

ROOM 206

### HEROESCON COMICS TRIVIA - ROUND 2

What's more fun than bar-trivia with trivial prizes? Glad you asked! Quiz Master **Brian Martin**, *Memory Hole Trivia's* Head Honcho (and veteran Heroes' moderator), leads this second of two COMIC trivia rounds. Winners from Friday's first round and today's will be invited to compete at the Big Finale on Sunday at 1:30. EVERYONE IS INVITED to play! Teams can have up to four players! Join us today, then come back for Sunday's finale! Win the whole shebang and every member of your team will receive a three day pass to HeroesCon 2027!

6:00 PM – CONVENTION FLOOR CLOSSES

HEAD ACROSS THE STREET TO THE GRAND BALLROOM AT THE WESTIN FOR OUR **ANNUAL HEROESCON ART AUCTION!** BIDDING BEGINS AT 8 PM, BUT GET THERE EARLY TO SEE ALL OF THE INCREDIBLE ART BEFOREHAND!

## SUNDAY

11:30 am

ROOM 209CDEF

### ABSOLUTE UNIVERSE

Join **Scott Snyder** (*Absolute Batman*), **Nick Dragotta** (*Absolute Batman*), **Hayden Sherman** (*Absolute Wonder Woman*), and **Che Grayson** (*Absolute Catwoman*) for a discussion about their contributions to the phenomenon that is the Absolute line from DC Comics. Hear about their work on these books up until now, and how they craft entertaining comics that continue to excite readers across comic fandom. Moderated by DC Comics Editor-in-Chief **Marie Javins**.

12 pm

ROOM 201

### SCAD: CREATING DYNAMIC ACTION SCENES IN COMICS

Join Professor and Sequential Artist, **Mike Becker** (*The New Space Age*) as he teaches an active workshop on how you can conceptualize and layout your comics pages for exciting sequences.

12 pm

ROOM 206

### STAR WARS DRAWS

This year Star Wars cartoonist **Jamie Cosley** is going to show you how to create your own Jedi or Sith character! It's going to be so much fun! Plus, learn the "secret password" so you can receive a free sketch from Jedi Jamie! Let's all draw together Friday, Saturday, and Sunday! May the force be with you!

12 pm

ROOM 207AB

### MARVELS AND MONSTERS with TOM SCIOLI

From graphic biographies of Jack Kirby and Stan Lee to his own revisionist history of the *Fantastic Four*, from original space-faring and post-apocalyptic epics to a post-modern mash-up of *Godzilla* and *The Great Gatsby*, **Tom Scioli's** comics contain multitudes. Join Scioli and **Prof. Michael Kobre** for a career-spanning conversation that will explore Scioli's immersion in Marvel history and his own creative vision and distinctive sense of comics storytelling.

12 pm

ROOM 207CD

### COMICS IN WONDERLAND

Let's head down the Rabbit Hole and explore the many fascinating interactions between comic book culture and Lewis Carroll's *Wonderland*. There's LOTS to share in our mad tea party of examples from early platinum age work by Tenniel, Rackham, and Pogony as well as Golden-Age adaptations, Walt Kelly's *Pogo in Wonderland*, and a wide variety of later variations, adaptations, satires, and appropriations.

## SUNDAY

1 pm

ROOM 208

### NOW, THAT'S HOW YOU WRITE COMICS!

For our annual HeroesCon comics writing panel, we've assembled some of the best wordsmiths to ever put pen to paper! Join Eisner-nominated **Stephanie Williams** (*Roots of Madness*, *Wonder Woman*), **Louise Simonson** (*New Mutants*, *Power Pack*), and **Ann Nocenti** (*Daredevil*, *Longshot*) as they discuss how they craft influential storylines and myriad characters over multiple genres in comics. This one is not to be missed!

1:30 pm

ROOM 201

### HEROESCON COMICS TRIVIA FINALE!

What's more fun than bar-trivia with trivial prizes? Glad you asked!

Quiz Master **Brian Martin**, *Memory Hole Trivia's* Head Honcho (and veteran Heroes' moderator), leads our HeroesCon COMICS trivia Finale! Winners from Friday's first round and Saturday's second round are back to compete in this championship round. The winners from this final round of competition will each receive a three day pass to HeroesCon 2027!

1:30 pm

ROOM 206

### THE BIG OWLY HOOTENANNY RETURNS! AGAIN!

Join *Owly* creator **Andy Runton** and librarian **Jennie Law** for the triumphant return of the BIG OWLY HOOTENANNY! We'll sing, learn how to draw like a cartoonist, make some comics, do crafts, and have an absolutely amazing time! All ages welcome. You don't have to be a kid to join in the fun, just young at heart!

1:30 pm

ROOM 207AB

### ORIGIN STORIES - HOW CREATIVES FOUND COMICS, AND HOW THEY CONTINUE TO IMPACT THEIR WORK AND LIVES

Do you remember the moment you fell in love with comics? This panel explores the origin stories of how different creatives discovered the medium, the impact it's had on their careers, and how comics make us better artists, writers, authors, editors, readers, students, educators, and people. Join writer and cartoonist **Lara Boyle** in conversation with **Dr. Michael Kobre**, (Queens University of Charlotte, author of the forthcoming *Origin Stories: Fans, Scholars and The Superhero Comics that Shaped Their Identities*), and multiple award winning cartoonist **Noah Van Sciver** (*Blammo*, *Fante Bukowski*, *As A Cartoonist*, *One Dirty Tree*).

1:30 pm

ROOM 207CD

### 60 YEARS OF STAR TREK COMICS

From Gold Key to Marvel to DC and IDW, there's plenty to discuss in the 60 years of Star Trek comics. Join **Darrin** and **Ruth Sutherland** of the *Trekker Talk* Podcast to discuss key storylines, notable writers and artists, and what continues to make this universe so appealing to comic creators and fans alike.

## SUNDAY

2 pm

### **COSPLAY RUNWAY REGISTRATION**

*(COSPLAY STAGE - MAIN CON FLOOR, CAPPED AT 50 PARTICIPANTS)*

3 pm

### **COSPLAY RUNWAY HOSTED BY AMBERLE LINNEA**

*(COSPLAY STAGE - MAIN CON FLOOR)*

3 pm

**ROOM 206**

### **QUICK DRAW—A HEROESCON TRADITION**

Sit and sketch anything you want for 20 minutes for a chance to win amazing prizes! Drawing paper and #2 pencils await you. Our fantastic friends and art instructors SCAD will judge the drawings and award 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in the following age categories: 10 and under, 11-15, and 16 and up. Bring your imagination and inspiration!

**6:00 PM**

**CONVENTION ENDS!**

***SEE YOU NEXT JUNE 11-13 FOR HEROESCON 2027!***

