

HEROESCON 2023 PANEL SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

1:30 pm

Room 201

SCAD WORKSHOP I: PREPARING AN ART SCHOOL PORTFOLIO

Join Foundations professor **WILL O'DONNELL** as he gives you the inside scoop on preparing a creative portfolio for art school. Will has been reviewing 8,000+ collegiate portfolios every year for the last 6 years and will show you how to build a successful portfolio utilizing three simple principles.

1:30 pm

Room 205

BACK ISSUE MAGAZINE 20th ANNIVERSARY

Celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Eisner Award-winning *Back Issue* magazine as editor **Michael Eury**, publisher **John Morrow**, and many of BI's writers relive the magazine's history and discuss upcoming content.

1:30 pm

Room 206

KIDS!!!--LEARN TO DRAW STAR WARS CHARACTERS

Star Wars Insider's **JAMIE COSLEY** will show the kids (and adults too!) how to draw Star Wars characters!! Learn how to draw Ewoks and BB-8s and Yodas and maybe even Stormtroopers! (You learn to draw one, then you've drawn them all!)

1:30 pm

Room 207

FELIX COMIC ART ROUNDTABLE

Join masterful artists **SANFORD GREENE, ANDREW MACLEAN, TRADD MOORE** and **DANIEL WARREN JOHNSON** in conversation with their esteemed Art Rep **FELIX LU!**

1:30 pm

Room 208

LGBTQIA+ CHARACTERS IN COMICS

A conversation with **STEPHANIE WILLIAMS, JEREMY WHITLEY, GEORGES JEANTY** and **CULLEN BUNN** about writing and drawing LGBTQIA+ characters in comics. Join us to look back (and forward) at LGBTQIA+ characters like the all-new Nightshade, Valkyrie, Gwenpool, Iceman, Northstar and more. Moderated by **JESSICA SWANSON**.

3:00 pm

Room 201

SCAD WORKSHOP II VISUALIZING STORY

There is a lot of information on how to structure a story, but how do you get a reader to invest in your story? Good storytelling in sequential art starts with a written story that utilizes visualization, pacing and results in writing visuals. SCAD Professor **ANTHONY FISHER** will walk you through the steps of visualizing a story by using emotion, action, characters, and scene staging to visually pace the story.

3:00 pm

Room 205

COMICS ALOUD!

Creators will stage dramatic readings of excerpts of their comic work while it is projected on screen. Hear creators **DAVID PETERSEN** (*Mouse Guard*), **JEREMY BASTIAN** (*Cursed Pirate Girl*), **STEVE CONLEY** (*The Middle Age*), **CORY GODBEY** (*Dark Crystal/Labyrinth*), and **CRAIG ROUSSEAU & TODD DEZAGO** (*Perhapanauts*) perform the characters they've written and drawn.

3:00 pm

Room 206

QUICK DRAW—A HeroesCon Tradition.

FANCY PANTS invites you to a splendiferous sketch break to brighten your day! Sit and **sketch anything you want for 20 minutes** for a chance to win **AMAZING PRIZES** courtesy of **Cheap Joe's Art Stuff!** Bristol boards and #2 pencils await you but make sure not to take our pencils with you because the pencil police will be on duty all weekend. Our fantastic friends and art instructors at SCAD will judge the drawings and award **1st-3rd** winners in the following age categories: **0-10, 11-15 and 16-99!** Bring your imagination and inspiration and FANCY PANTS will provide comic relief!

3:00 pm

Room 207

LEGENDS: JEFF SMITH

Over the past three decades, **JEFF SMITH** has garnered a readership of millions and dramatically changed the landscape of comics, both on the page and off. Join cartoonist **CHRIS SCHWEIZER** in a discussion with Smith about his work, his publishing practices, the legacy of *BONE*, and his current project, *TUKI*.

3:00 pm

Room 208

MARVEL EXPERIENCE at DISCOVERY PLACE

Make Mine Museums: Curating the Marvel Universe!

In 2018, *Marvel: Universe of Super-Heroes*, an exhibition illuminating eight decades of Marvel's characters and creators, had its world premiere at the Museum of Pop Culture (MoPOP) in Seattle – and now, in expanded and updated form, this blockbuster exhibition is having its final US engagement at **Discovery Place**, right here in downtown Charlotte! Filled with original comic art, film costumes and props, immersive set pieces, and interactive info stations, this show gives

audiences a unique way to experience and learn about the excitement of the Marvel U. Join curators **BEN SAUNDERS** and **PATRICK A. REED** and some very special guests to hear how this exhibition came to be, see exclusive concept material, and learn how the production found ways to bring the history and creativity of Marvel to life as a ground-breaking museum show!

4:00 pm

Room 206

Comic Art Portfolio Reviews FRIDAY AND SATURDAY ONLY!

If you dream of being a comic book artist, then this is an opportunity for honest and encouraging feedback. Acclaimed comic book editor and educator **Andy Schmidt** is ready to evaluate your work in a brief portfolio review. Andy's editorial credits include stints at Marvel Comics and IDW Publishing; he's written comics for most publishers, he's the founder of **Comics Experience** (the world's most successful online comics school), and most recently he became the editor-in-chief at CEX Publishing. Andy enjoys meeting with artists and giving honest and respectful feedback. Your portfolio should include several pages of comics (sequential) art. Cover and splash illustrations are fine, but the storytelling pages are the heart of any comics artist's portfolio.

4:30 pm

Room 201

Podcasting 102 (The Sequel)

Want to start a podcast but don't know how? Have a podcast and want to get to the next level? 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 and moderator **TERENCE DOLLARD**, a Mass Comm professor and host of PBS's *Comic Culture* talks with **DARRIN** and **RUTH SUTHERLAND** – Co-hosts of *Trekker Talk*, **STEVE BIRD** - *Marvel Reread Club*, **THE IRREDEEMABLE SHAG** - *Fire and Water Podcast Network*, **PAUL HIX** - *Waiting for Doom*, and **DELVIN WILLIAMS** - *The Longbox Crusade*

4:30

Room 207

JONATHAN HICKMAN: IN CONVERSATION

He's reinvented the *Fantastic Four*, the *Avengers*, and the *X-Men*. He's traveled from *East of West* to *Infinity* and started *Secret Wars* from *The Manhattan Projects*. But what's going on in the mind of **JONATHAN HICKMAN**? Where does he get his ideas? What inspires him? **DOUG MERKLE** sits down to probe the mind of this prolific writer.

4:30 pm

Room 208

CARL POTTS: VISUAL STORYTELLING

Join editor extraordinaire **CARL POTTS** for a presentation on the techniques of sequential visual storytelling based on his instructional book **The DC Comics Guide to Creating Comics**. Carl has given this talk at School of Visual Arts, Academy of Art Univ. Princeton Univ., Syracuse Univ., Google NYC and many other institutions and businesses. Now it's Charlotte's turn!

5:00 pm

Room 205

LOVE & STAPLES: ROMANCE IN THE COMICS

Comics have a rich and varied genre history in addition to the synonymous superhero. Veteran Heroes' staffer **JUSTIN CROUSE** joins author and noted comics historian **MICHELLE NOLAN** (*Love on the Racks: A History of American Romance Comics*) and former Marvel Bullpen "Gal Friday"/advice columnist **SUZAN LOEB** ('*Suzan Says*') for a discussion of romance comics, the origins and popularity of the genre, and its impact on the medium.

6:00 pm

Room 201

DINOSAURS!!

From childhood on, we have ALL been fascinated and mystified by the Great Reptiles. Several of the best Dinosaur artists in comics, **WILLIAM STOUT**, **MARK SCHULTZ**, and **BUDD ROOT** along with moderator **DUSTIN HARBIN** discuss the challenges and rewards involved in bringing everybody's favorite prehistoric monsters back to life without the use of any DNA-bearing amber!

6:00 pm

Room 205

MODOK/MACBETH

WHAT IF *Shakespeare in Love* happened to the Marvel Age of Comics as **Martin de Goodman** and his nephew **Stanislaus** (*The Manislaus*) **Lieber** need to come up with money — fast? One has an idle printing press and the other no end of ideas. (How Timely!) *Whatever will they do?*

ANNOUNCING THE WORLD PREMIERE OF A ONE-ACT (30 MINUTE) PLAY MODOK/MACBETH

written by **ZYG FURMANIUK** and directed by **SIMON DONOGHUE**

The Not Ready for CGI Players makes its debut at HeroesCon 2023! Past productions include *What If the Fantastic Four Starred in the Original Hello Dolly!* *Deathstroke Does Dallas* and *Long Day's Journey Into Ragnarök*.

I smell a BLUMEY nomination!

6:00 pm

Room 207

WRITERS: THE ADVANTAGE OF GENRE

IAN CAHALL and our panelists of writers: **NANCY COLLINS**, **AMY CHU**, **VAN JENSEN**, and **CHUCK BROWN** dive into the concept of genre, and how writers utilize and manipulate various genres as a tool for their writing. Later, the panelists will discuss AI and how it influences a writer's craft.

6:00 pm

Room 208

IN LIVING COLOR

A Q&A with comic colorists who have worked on some of the biggest books of the last three decades. Featuring award winning colorists **LAURA MARTIN** (*The Authority*, *Planetary*), **JEROMY**

COX (*Teen Titans, Detective Comics*), **STEVE OLIFF** (*Akira, Spawn*), and **RICO RENZI** (*Spider-Gwen, She-Hulk*). Hosted by colorist **RYAN CODY** (*Family Tree, Knight Terrors: Titans*).

6:45 pm

in THE WESTIN PROVIDENCE BALLROOM:

CREATOR LAW: BUSTING MYTHS

Attorneys **BRIAN SAUCIER** and **CHRIS CAIRA** provide information, bust legal myths, and take your questions about copyright, trademarks, and other issues that artists and writers may face in the comics business – including the recent Supreme Court decision about fair use and the impact of AI! **The Drink and Draw** follows immediately.

7:00 pm— THE CON IS CLOSED FOR THE DAY, BUT THE FUN NEVER STOPS!!!!

7:30 PM --HEROESCON'S DRINK AND DRAW BEGINS AT THE WESTIN PROVIDENCE BALLROOM

IT'S THE **ANNUAL DRINK AND DRAW**. COME CREATE SOME GREAT MEMORIES AND BUY SOME GREAT ART AND HELP US RAISE MONEY FOR **TEAM CUL DE SAC** AND **PARKINSON'S RESEARCH!**

SATURDAY

11:00 AM

Room 201

SCAD WORKSHOP III: CONCEPT ART WIZARDRY

The "Spellbook Guide" on how to create a professional pattern of design for concept art and world building illustration and development. Professor **ROBERT ATKINS** (*GI JOE*, Renegade Game Studios) will talk about key elements of design theory, composition, and a practical way to break down design prompts to create new characters. Do your characters look cliché? Are your illustrations not dynamic enough? Are your colors bland, or is your lighting not creating enough focus? Find the answers at this workshop!

11:00 AM

Room 205

TARZAN OF THE APES IN COMICS

A discussion of the history and future of Edgar Rice Burroughs' Tarzan of the Apes in comic strips and comic books, with renowned writer and editor **ROY THOMAS** and artist **WILLIAM STOUT** (moderated by **HENRY G. FRANKE III**, editor of *The Burroughs Bibliophiles*). Tarzan first appeared in newspaper comic strips in 1929 and continues today in online comic strips. The ape-man's first original comic-book stories were published in 1947, with new stories appearing today. Tarzan comics have been popular in North America, Europe, Asia, and elsewhere for over 90 years.

11:00 am

Room 207

SKETCH OFF starring JOSE LUIS GARCIA-LOPEZ, ALAN DAVIS & PAUL PELLETIER

Three comics legends talk about their craft and answer questions, all while drawing some of your favorite characters!

11:00 am

Room 208

AUTO-BIO COMICS

Autobiographical comics and graphic memoirs have been an important genre for at least half a century, but cartoonists continue to produce innovative and experimental work in these forms.

KAYLA E., SARAH MYER, ZOE THOROGOOD and **NOAH VAN SCIVER** discuss their current and forthcoming autobiographical work with moderator **AARON KASHTAN**.

12:00pm

Room 206

KIDS!!!--LEARN TO DRAW STAR WARS CHARACTERS (offered all three days!!)

Star Wars Insider's **JAMIE COSLEY** will show the kids (and adults too!) how to draw Star Wars characters!! Learn how to draw Ewoks and BB-8s and Yodas and maybe even Stormtroopers! (You learn to draw one, then you've drawn them all!)

12:30 pm

Room 201

SCAD WORKSHOP IV— TAKING YOUR GRAPHIC NOVEL PITCH TO TRADITIONAL PUBLISHERS IN THREE STEPS

Learn the three steps to taking your middle grade or young adult graphic novel pitch to traditional publishers like Random House, Little Brown, and Scholastic! We'll be tackling forming graphic novel pitches, querying literary agents, and pitching to publishers.

DANIELLE CHUATICO (they/them) is an Eisner-award-winning Filipino comic creator based in Savannah, Georgia. They're working on their first graphic novel.

12:30 pm

Room 205

THE TEAM-UP COMPANION

Learn about *The Brave and the Bold*, *Marvel Team-Up*, and other team-up comics with **Michael Eury**, author of the 2022 TwoMorrows book, *The Team-Up Companion*. Moderator: Ed Catto.

12:30 pm

Room 207

BREAKING INTO COMICS AND STAYING IN!

Your dream is to make comics; you're willing to do the work but the industry is tough to crack into.

This is an **INVALUABLE** guide to breaking in! Join **Comics Experience** founder **ANDY SCHMIDT**

(Marvel, IDW, CEX) and other comics industry veterans as they break down the walls & offer practical advice that will jumpstart your comics career! This panel will serve you well in your pursuit of finally achieving your dream!

12:30 pm

Room 208

STAR*REACH at 50!!!

In 1974, Mike Friedrich found a middle path between the underground scene and mainstream comics by creating what he called “ground-level” comics with *Star*Reach* #1. For several years, *Star*Reach* published some of the most innovative comics and paved the way for graphic novels and independent comics. Guests **JOHN WORKMAN** and **JOE STATON** were there, so join moderator **ANDY KUNKA** as they talk about this important period in comics history!

1:30 pm

Room 206

QUICK DRAW—A HeroesCon Tradition.

FANCY PANTS invites you to a splendiferous sketch break to brighten your day! Sit and **sketch anything you want for 20 minutes** for a chance to win **AMAZING PRIZES** courtesy of **Cheap Joe’s Art Stuff!** Bristol boards and #2 pencils await you but make sure not to take our pencils with you because the pencil police will be on duty all weekend. Our fantastic friends and art instructors at SCAD will judge the drawings and award **1st-3rd** winners in the following age categories: **0-10, 11-15 and 16-99!** Bring your imagination and inspiration and **FANCY PANTS** will provide comic relief!

2:00 pm

Room 201

1963

60(?) Years in the Making! **DON SIMPSON**, creator of *Megaton Man*, joins **ANDY KUNKA** to discuss his involvement in his forthcoming *X-Amount of Comics: 1963 (WhenElse?!) Annual* — the unauthorized completion of Alan Moore and Image Comics’ legendary unfinished universe thirty (sixty?) years after the fact!

2:00 pm

Room 205

BILL AMEND IN CONVERSATION

BILL AMEND (*Foxtrot*) is joined by BFF (Bravo Foxtrot, Foxtrot) and Editor of *Hogan’s Alley*, **TOM HEINTJES** to discuss his long career in the newspaper comic strip business. All iguanas must always remain on leashes. We’re looking at you Quincy!

2:00 PM

Room 207

MARVEL EDITORS King-size ANNUAL #2

Warming Up in the Marvel Bullpen (check Don Blake’s walking stick for pine tar!)

Get the inside story of some of your favorite comics of the 80s and 90s from the editors who ruled the Marvel Bullpen Featuring: **TOM DEFALCO** – Editor-in-chief 1987 – 1994, **LARRY HAMA** – Conan, **AL MILGROM** – Marvel Fanfare, **HOWARD MACKIE** – New Universe, and **CARL POTTS** – Power Pack, with your moderator UNC Pembroke, Professor **TERENCE DOLLARD** producer/host of *Comic Culture*.

2:00pm

Room 208

CELEBRATING THE STAR WARS COMICS GALAXY

Join some of the great talents behind modern *Star Wars* comics — including **STEVE MCNIVEN** (artist, *Star Wars: War of the Bounty Hunters*), **CULLEN BUNN** (writer, *Star Wars: Darth Maul*), **GEORGES JEANTY** (artist, *The Mandalorian*), and **NOLAN WOODARD** (colorist, *Star Wars: Thrawn*) — for a special discussion about telling stories in the galaxy far, far away. Moderated by writer and senior editor of StarWars.com at Lucasfilm, **DAN BROOKS!**

3:30pm

Room 201

COMICS ARE STILL FOR KIDS!!

Comics for kids are enjoying an explosive boom in popularity which shows no signs of slowing. Young adult and middle grade comics are perhaps the most vibrant sector of the contemporary comics market. **SHADIA AMIN, ASIAH FULMORE, MIKE KUNKEL, CARA MCGEE,** and **MIKE MAIHACK** talk with **AARON KASHTAN** about their past and current comics intended for younger readers.

3:30 pm

MEGA PANEL

Room 205

TARHEELS AND INK-STAINED FINGERS: COMICS AND NORTH

For this year's Heroes mega-panel, fan/scholars **JENNIE LAW** and **CRAIG FISCHER** tackle a vast topic: **the history of comics in North Carolina!** They'll begin by interviewing artist **Jenny Zervakis**, whose long-running *Strange Growths* zine often focuses on nature's beauties and enigmas, particularly the indigenous plants and animals of Durham County, Jenny's home. Then **John Hitchcock**, proprietor of Greensboro's Parts Unknown comic shop, will join Craig and Jennie to chat with John specifically about the history of comic conventions in the Tarheel state, including the cons John organized featuring guests like Jack Kirby, Harvey Kurtzman, and Al Williamson. Throughout, Jennie will present profiles of some of the most significant early comics creators from NC, and the panel will end with as comprehensive a list as Craig and Jennie can compile of writers and artists with deep ties to the Heroes state. (Come to the panel to correct their errors and omissions!) Hurrah! Hurrah! The Old North State forever!

3:30pm

Room 208

BRZRKR: A CHAT WITH THE CREATORS!

Find out how **BRZRKR** became one of the best-selling and most in-demand comics straight from the masterminds behind the epic series: **MATT KINDT** and **RON GARNEY** join **BADR MULLIGAN** (*The Short Box: A Comic Book Talk Show*) for an in-depth conversation you won't hear anywhere else!

4:00pm

Room 206

Comic Art Portfolio Reviews (LAST DAY)

If you dream of being a comic book artist, then this is an opportunity for honest and encouraging feedback. Acclaimed comic book editor and educator **Andy Schmidt** is ready to evaluate your work in a brief portfolio review. Andy's editorial credits include stints at Marvel Comics and IDW Publishing, he's written comics for most publishers, he's the founder of **Comics Experience** (the world's most successful online comics school), and most recently he became the editor-in-chief at CEX Publishing. Andy enjoys meeting with artists and giving honest and respectful feedback. Your portfolio should include several pages of comics (sequential) art. Cover and splash illustrations are fine, but the storytelling pages are the heart of any comics artist's portfolio.

4:00pm

Room 207

SPINNING WEBS with ROMITA and MACKIE!!!!

HOWARD MACKIE and **JOHN ROMITA, JR.** have each left their mark on Spider-Man, including as the creative team that brought the infamous (or beloved - depends on who you ask) "Clone Saga" to a close in *PETER PARKER SPIDER-MAN* #75. Join **JASON WHEATLEY** as he talks to the writer/artist duo about their time working together on everyone's favorite wall-crawler, their thoughts on the character, their creative process, and more.

5:00 pm

Room 201

THE GREAT HEROES DEBATE: WHO WOULD WIN IN ANYTHING BUT A FIGHT?

Spider-Man vs. Batman, Superman vs. Thor, Detective Chimp vs. Howard the Duck... the classic "hero vs. hero" comic shop arguments get a new spin thanks to **LJ Bowens'** unique debate format. Audience members pick their favorite heroes and get three rounds to make a case for why they are the best... but at what? Landscaping? Dating advice? Bedtime stories? Drinking buddies? That's the surprise part: the topic will be chosen at random! The **NERD SKOOL PODCAST** gang will judge the winners, so come join the fun and let the debate begin!

5:00pm

Room 208

THE ART OF BUILDING COMPELLING WORLDS AND CHARACTERS

AMY CHU writer (*DOTA Dragon's Blood*, *Carmilla*, *Poison Ivy*, *Sea Sirens*), Eisner winning artist **JANET LEE** (*Return of the Dapper Men*, *Sea Sirens*) and artist/writer **MICHEL FIFFE** (*COPRA*, *Zegas*, *Panorama*) talk about what it takes to build a compelling world for their stories and the characters that populate them.

6:00 pm CONVENTION FLOOR CLOSING: GO HOME AND PUT THE KIDS SNUGGLY IN THEIR MYLAR SLEEVES or stay put because....

THE ART AUCTION IS NOW OPEN!!

COME OVER TO THE WESTIN AND SPEND SOME HARD-EARNED SCRATCH ON SOME REALLY GREAT ORIGINAL ART. BIDDING BEGINS AT 8:00, BUT THE GAWKING BEGINS NOW!!!!!!

SUNDAY

12:00pm

Room 201

SCAD WORKSHOP V: CHARACTER DESIGN BASICS

SHADIA AMIN is a Colombian comics artist and SEQA teacher at the SCAD Atlanta campus. She provides a quick demo on how to break down characters into shapes, body acting and clothing.

12:00 pm

Room 205

THE CROWDFUNDING PANEL

Interested in crowdfunding comics? Want to know more? Learn tips? Ask questions? Hear exclusive announcements and reveals? We've got you covered on ALL of that!

Join **JORDAN PLOSKY** (*CEO, Zoop*) as he talks with industry professionals, **VAN JENSEN** (*The Flash, Green Lantern*), **CULLEN BUNN** (*X-Men: Blue, The Sixth Gun*), and **ANDY BELANGER** (*Southern Cross, Mother Trucker*) about their experiences crowdfunding, and more!

12:00pm

Room 206

KIDS!!!--LEARN TO DRAW STAR WARS CHARACTERS (LAST day!!)

Star Wars Insider's **JAMIE COSLEY** will show the kids (and adults too!) how to draw Star Wars characters!! Learn how to draw Ewoks and BB8s and Yodas and maybe even Stormtroopers! (You learn to draw one, then you've drawn them all!)

12:00 pm

Room 207

EXPLORING EXCALIBUR AND THE X-MEN

Creative team **CHRIS CLAREMONT** and **ALAN DAVIS** look back at their hit series *Excalibur* along with their moderator: **TERENCE DOLLARD** – Professor, Dept. of Mass Communication at UNC Pembroke; producer/host *Comic Culture*.

12:00 pm

Room 208

JON SABLE: 40 YEARS OF FREELANCE ACTION

In the summer of 1983, First Comics published the inaugural issue of *Jon Sable, Freelance*, Mike Grell's action-packed series that set the stage for one of the most innovative decades in comics. With a brand new, remastered omnibus on the way, Sable is ready for a comeback! Join legendary creator **MIKE GRELL** in a free-flowing discussion with **ANDY KUNKA** as they go over the past, present, and future of this groundbreaking series.

1:30 pm

Room 201

PRETEND THAT YOU'RE DEAD: *Significant Estates, Pedigree Markets, and Getting the Most Out of Lifelong Collections*

You loved comics/toys/cards all your life, but eventually, someone else will have to adopt, inherit, disperse, or donate all of your coveted treasures. Who gets your stuff, and how will they know what to do with it? Join Professors **TOM EYSELL** and **DANIEL YEZBICK** for an introduction to strategic planning for bequeathing, liquidating, or donating your collection. They'll discuss current markets for significant finds, high end collections, and pedigrees as well as recommendations for dealing with inherited items and heirlooms from a variety of perspectives.

1:30pm

Room 205

BEYOND WAKANDA: AFROFUTURISM IN COMICS, FILM, AND TELEVISION

Propelled by media sensations like the *Black Panther* films and HBO's *Watchmen*, thrilling voices from the African Diaspora are more powerful than ever in comics, motion pictures, and streaming. Led by moderator **JESSE J. HOLLAND** (*Black Panther: Tales of Wakanda* and *Star Wars: Finn's Story*), creators **CHUCK BROWN** (*Bitter Root*), **JAMAL IGLE** (*Molly Danger* and *The Wrong Earth*), **BRIAN STELFREEZE** (*Black Panther: A Nation Under Our Feet*), and **STEPHANIE WILLIAMS** (*Moon Girl and Devil Dinosaur: Wreck and Roll* and *Wonder Woman: Black and Gold*) reveal the exciting new vistas that have opened up for a whole new generation of audiences.

1:30pm

Room 206

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1:30 pm

Room 207

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF SKOTTIE YOUNG

SKOTTIE YOUNG's animated art style and clever wit have been a hit with audiences and influenced countless creators since he broke onto the comics scene. But what influences him, and how did he develop his signature style? Join **DOUG MERKLE** for a one-on-one conversation with the writer/artist behind *I Hate Fairyland*, Marvel's *OZ* adaptations, *Rocket Raccoon*, "baby variant" covers, *Strange Academy* and more!

1:30 pm

Room 208

TOM DEFALCO and His AMAZING FRENZ

Join **JASON WHEATLEY** as he sits down with **TOM DEFALCO** and **RON FRENZ**, the team that brought you the first appearance of Spider-Man's black costume and the creators of beloved characters such

as *Thunderstrike*, *Spider-Girl*, *New Warriors*, and more, to discuss their frequent and longtime collaboration over the decades. PLUS, news about *The R.I.G.H.T PROJECT*.

3:00 pm

Room 201

SUPERVILLAIN MADNESS TOURNAMENT from **NERD SKOOL**

The inimitable **TBJ**, **The Mighty ArtStar**, **Professor Andy & Student Joe** from **The NERD SKOOL**

PODCAST return to HeroesCon after their debut last year, bringing another Madness-style tournament where the audience picks the winners of each match-up! This time around, it's a bracket full of bad guys! Who is the greatest supervillain of all time? Dr. Doom? Darth Vader? The Joker? Homelander? Or is it a dark horse from Dark Horse? Come on out to this panel and take part in the lowdown throwdown.

3:00 pm

Room 207CD

CANON

What Belongs in the Comics Canon?

What's the comic or graphic novel you *must* read if you love comics? You know, the great stuff you point to when you want to explain the magic of comics to someone who just doesn't get it yet. And with all the great scholarship *about* comics these days, which books are absolutely essential if you want to study comics? We'll talk about these questions and more in this panel on the comics canon. Join **CRAIG FISCHER**, **ANDY KUNKA**, **JENNIE LAW**, **DAN YEZBICK** and **MICHAEL KOBRE** for the final panel of Heroes 2023! *Comics Scholars Assemble!*

6:00 pm CONVENTION ENDS

Thanks for being here! See you next year for **HeroesCon 42!**