

SMALLVILLE COMICCON

2017 COSTUME CONTEST GUIDE

SMALLVILLE COMICCON HAS A ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY FOR HARASSMENT OF ANY KIND.

GENERAL COSTUME RULES:

- **Anyone is welcome to dress up when attending Smallville ComicCon!**
- We encourage everyone to dress in costume, regardless if they are competing in the costume contest or not.
- We look forward to your creativity and ingenuity in the realms of comic, science fiction, anime, fantasy, steampunk, gaming, movie and television or original creation costumes!
- When selecting your costume for Smallville ComicCon, please remember this is a family-oriented event and costuming should be safely within a PG rating.
- No partial or full nudity. Body paint and pasties do not qualify as a costume. Fabric must appropriately cover critical areas without risk of a wardrobe malfunction.
- No pyrotechnics, smoke, fog, fire, fireworks, explosions, concussions, etc.
- Electronic or electrical components must be self-contained as you will have no access to outlets.
- No dripping or oozing of fluids, confetti, or glitter which could create an unsafe walking surface.
- A personal wrangler is required with costumes which limit visibility, are oversized or equipped with large components or associated props. Please be mindful of people, exhibits, and merchandise around you.
- Weapons will be inspected at the door each time they are admitted. Weapons are required to be replica or prop by design. No illegal or functioning weapons are permitted. Airsoft/paintball and similar weapons must be unloaded, not charged with air/gas, and rendered inoperable. Peace bonding will not be required provided you police yourself.
- **Smallville ComicCon staff reserve the right to deny entrance for inappropriate costumes.**

COSPLAY ETIQUETTE:

The internet is filled with excellent suggestions for appropriate conduct and etiquette when attending a crowded venue filled with individuals in costume. For those of you who are unfamiliar, a quick search and review is encouraged. However, there are a few recommendations which are universal which are important for everyone to follow:

Ask to take a photograph. The majority of those participating in cosplay are more than willing to pose for a photograph, and will want your photograph to be the best it can be, so they will want to pose. Don't sneak photographs while they are eating, adjusting their costumes, or using restroom facilities.

Be considerate. Don't monopolize a cosplayer's time. Don't block doors, event aisles, or artist/vendor booths and don't interfere with events/activities. There are other fans who want to interact or get photographs, even autographs. The cosplayer also wants to enjoy their ComicCon experience as well.

Don't touch. Cosplay is a huge investment. Those fans striving for an accurate representation have invested considerable time and money in their costume and props. Some elements may be fragile, easily break, and even be irreplaceable.

Be respectful. Cosplay is not consent. Be polite, accept the responses you are given; and treat those in costume to same as you would any stranger on the street. Respect personal boundaries. Do not permit others to harass a cosplayer. Report inappropriate behavior to Smallville ComicCon staff.

INDIVIDUAL CONTEST:

- The Individual Costume Contest is Saturday, June 24, 2017 beginning at 6:00 pm.
- The location will be on the Main Panel Stage, Sunflower South Building.
- Participation in this contest provides Smallville ComicCon permission to photograph for promotional needs.

REGISTRATION:

- Registration will be run by Brandon Ruiz.
- Registration is open Saturday, June 24, 2017 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at Booth #209 within the Sunflower South building.
- Participants must be in costume at the time of registration.
- Participants will complete and submit the registration form.

- A number will be assigned to each participant.
- Photographs will be taken for pre-judging which includes the assigned participant number displayed. Photographs will be taken in front of the small Smallville ComicCon banner.
- There will be three age categories
 - **Ages 6 and below** – non-competitive, commercially produced costumes are welcome, ***no registration required***, just show up! All participants will receive a token of participation!
 - **Ages 7-15** – Competitive category, divided between male and female based upon participant's gender, not their character's. No commercially mass-produced or rented costumes permitted.
 - **Ages 16+** – Competitive category, divided between male and female based upon participant's gender, not their character's. No commercially mass-produced or rented costumes permitted.
 - Prizes will be provided for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for each gender within each age category.

PRE-JUDGING:

- Pre-judging is Saturday, June 24, 2017, from 3:00 to 6:00 pm.
- Judges are Heather Robinson, Sophi from OhmySophi, and Ryan Garrison.
- Registration forms will be divided into established age groups and gender categories.
- Judges will review applications and photographs.
- Judges will evaluate costumes based upon:
 - Character Selection
 - Costume Complexity
 - Costume Craftsmanship
- Preference will be given for handcrafted costuming.
- Judges will identify the top 3 finalists within each established age group and gender category.

CONTEST MANAGEMENT:

- Announcements will be made for participants and spectators to begin assembling within the northwest corner of the Sunflower South Building, adjacent to the front doors, at 5:45 pm.
- Mandy Thibert will be the guest Emcee for the Individual Costume Contest.
- Participants will be formed into five lines according to age category and gender. All available staff will be on hand to assist with line management and wrangling.
- At 6:00 pm, all participants **Ages 6 and below** will be paraded to the west side of the stage, across the stage, to the east side where they will receive their token of participation, then proceed down the east wall back to their parents.
- Once the stage is cleared, categories will be called in the following order:
 - **Age 7-15 Female**
 - **Age 7-15 Male**
 - **Age 16+ Female**
 - **Age 16+ Male**
- Each age group will be paraded to the west side of the stage, across the stage, to the east side.
- Judges and Emcee will then call up the three top finalist in the category by name.
- Finalists will be given an opportunity to introduce their character to the audience and briefly discuss their selection and creation of the costume. If the finalist has difficulties, the Emcee will use the registration form to assist with introducing the finalist and costume to the crowd.
- Audience reaction will be measured using a decibel meter monitored by the judges.
- The audience will be solicited to cheer for the winner of their choice.
- The finalist with the highest decibel reading will win first place.
- The procedure will be repeated again to determine second and third place.
- Prizes will be awarded and the winners will be photographed with the prize packages.
- The procedure will then be repeated for each category until finished.
- Monitor and gauge time to insure you do not go over, but at the same time, do not cut the event short.

GROUP CONTEST:

- The Group Costume Contest is Sunday, June 25, 2017 beginning at 4:00 pm.
- The location will be on the Main Panel Stage, Sunflower South Building.
- Participation in this contest provides Smallville ComicCon permission to photograph for promotional needs.

REGISTRATION:

- Registration will be run by _____.
- Registration is open Saturday, June 25, 2017 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at Booth #209 within the Sunflower South building.
- Participants must be in costume with full group assembled at the time of registration.
- All costumes must be applicable to the collective theme of the group.
- Participants will complete and submit the registration form.
- A number will be assigned to each group.
- Photographs will be taken for pre-judging which includes the assigned participant number displayed. Photographs will be taken in front of the small Smallville ComicCon banner.
- Judging will be group-based and not focused upon specific individuals.
- Preference will be given for handcrafted costuming.
- Prizes will be provided for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place overall.

PRE-JUDGING:

- Pre-judging is Sunday, June 24, 2017, from 3:00 to 4:00 pm.
- Judges are Jen Greely, Paige & Jim Dixon, and Clay Askarben.
- Judges will review registrations and photographs.
- Judges will evaluate costumes based upon:
 - Collective Theme
 - Costume Craftsmanship
- Judges will identify the top 3 finalists.

CONTEST MANAGEMENT:

- Announcements will be made for participants and spectators to begin assembling within the northwest corner of the Sunflower South Building, adjacent to the front doors, at 4:45 pm.
- Mandy Thibert will be the guest Emcee for the Individual Costume Contest.
- Groups will be randomly ordered. All available staff will be on hand to assist with line management and wrangling.
- At 5:00 pm, each group will be paraded to the west side of the stage, across the stage, to the east side.
- Judges and Emcee will then call up the three top finalist groups.
- The Emcee will use the registration form to introduce the finalists to the crowd.
- Audience reaction will be measured using a decibel meter monitored by the judges.
- The audience will be solicited to cheer for the winner of their choice.
- The group with the highest decibel reading will win first place.
- The procedure will be repeated again to determine second and third place.
- Prizes will be awarded and the winners will be photographed with the prize packages.
- Monitor and gauge time to insure you do not go over, but at the same time, do not cut the event short.