

Otafest 2014



Official Guidebook

J-ROCK NORTH PROMOTIONS INC. PRESENTS

Rose Noire

IN ASSOCIATION WITH *Darkest Labyrinth*
SATURDAY MAY 17TH, 2014



OTAFEST 2014
2500 UNIVERSITY DRIVE NW
CALGARY, AB, T2N 1N4

CONCERT IS FREE FOR CONVENTION ATTENDEES

CONCERT STARTS

7PM

SECOND ACT 8PM

VISIT US ONLINE FOR MORE INFO OR FOLLOW US ON OUR SOCIAL NETWORK LINKS



WWW.OTAFEST.COM



WWW.J-ROCKNORTH.COM

Rose Noire

WWW.ROSENOIRE.INFO



◆◆◆ *Chii Sakurabi* ◆◆◆
OTAFEST 2014
◆◆◆ May 16th - 18th 2014 ◆◆◆



She will be performing on the 16th and the 18th at Otafest

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

2500 University Drive NW Calgary, AB, T2N 1N4
CONCERT IS FREE FOR CONVENTION ATTENDEES
VISIT US ONLINE FOR MORE INFO OR FOLLOW US ON OUR SOCIAL NETWORK LINKS



www.OtaFest.com

www.chiisakurabi.com

www.j-rocknorth.com



Otafest Convention Policies

Definitions

1. In these policies,

- (a) "Artist's Alley" refers to the designated location for the sale of personal artwork and may be known as "Artist Alley"; Artist's Alley is also the location for sketch requests;
- (b) "Cosplay" refers the special event known as Cosplay or Cosplay Contest;
- (c) "OPC" refers the Otafest Planning Committee, the governing entity of Otafest;
- (d) "O.P.E" refers to the Otafest Policy Enforcement department.
- (e) "Otafest" refers the Otafest convention;
- (f) "Vendor Room" refers the designated location for the sale of merchandise. Some events call this room the Merchant Hall, the Vendors' Hall, or the Dealers' room;
- (g) "Viewing room" refers the designated viewing areas for video programming;
- (h) "Weapon" is as defined in Section 37 of these policies;
- (i) "Wristband" refers to the proof of admission used by Otafest.

General Policies

2. The following activities are not permitted during Otafest:

- (a) Engaging in any activity prohibited by law;
- (b) Any act which could result in substantial risk or harm to people or property;
- (c) Engaging in disruptive and unsafe behaviour that disturbs other patrons, staff, or the public;
- (d) Sexual misconduct, such as indecent exposure, offensive touching, or sexual harassment;
- (e) Physical or verbal harassment of the public or staff;
- (f) Loitering.

3. All patrons must abide by all University of Calgary procedures, policies, and bylaws, as well as all local, provincial, and federal laws and bylaws.

4. Seating for events or in viewing rooms is first-come, first-served. Due to fire regulations, sitting in aisles and seating beyond the room's capacity are not allowed, and Otafest is bound by law to strictly enforce this.

5. Alcohol or intoxication is not permitted at Otafest. Any incidences will be dealt with accordingly.

6. Food and drinks are normally permitted during events and inside viewing rooms, but please clean up after yourself. Please use available garbage bins to dispose of waste. Patrons will be informed if food or drinks are prohibited.

7. Talking out of turn during events or in viewing rooms is disruptive to other patrons. Please save your comments for outside the event or viewing room.

8. With respect to some Otafest events, such as Cosplay, Otafest Convention Policies may be temporarily overridden for participants of that event. The only persons that may authorize this override are:

- (a) Chairman;
- (b) O.P.E Head;
- (c) Assistant O.P.E;
- (d) Cosplay Director or delegate.

Wristbands and Admission

9. Wristbands must be worn and be visible at all times. Individuals without wristbands will not be granted access to the convention.

10. Any patron who has their wristband revoked will not receive reimbursement or refund of any part of their admission.

11. A fee will be charged for replacing a lost wristband. Replacement badges must be authorized by Registration.

12. Please return any wristbands found to Otafest staff immediately.

Attire and Costumes

13. All patrons are required to dress in accordance with public decency laws while at Otafest.

14. All patrons are required to wear footwear. Socks or bare feet are not acceptable.

15. OPC reserves the right to deem any attire or costume unacceptable and request the wearer to either change or make modifications as necessary.

16. Patrons should be aware that they may be asked to remove all or part of any costume that is bulky, difficult to manoeuvre, or otherwise presents a possible safety issues for the wearer or other patrons.

Harassment and Assault

17. OPC has zero tolerance for any type of harassment and/or assault. Harassment is any behaviour that irritates, alarms, or threatens another person. This includes, but is not limited to, any unwanted physical contact, following someone without a legitimate reason, or threatening to harm someone.

18. Sexual misconduct is unacceptable at Otafest, and will result in the revocation of the patron's wristband.

Liability

19. Although we strive for the safest possible environment, Otafest, OPC, and its affiliates are not responsible for any loss, damage, theft, or injury while attending Otafest.

20. Patrons are responsible for their individual actions and any repercussion that may result.

21. Civil or medical emergencies are to be handled directly by the proper authorities.

Merchandise and Theft

22. All merchandise from Otafest itself, the Vendor Room, or Artist Alley, must be paid for.

23. Any patron caught shoplifting will be handed over to the proper authorities, have their wristband revoked, and refused service into all future Otafest events. There will be no exceptions.

Photography and Video Recording

24. Photography of original artwork in Artist Alley is not allowed without express permission of the artist.

25. Photography may be restricted in specific events. Patrons will be informed if photography or video recording is prohibited.

26. Photography of all other aspects of the convention is allowed, so long as it does not disrupt events or the flow of traffic, and the subject does not object to the photo.

27. Please be considerate and ask first before taking pictures of guests, other patrons, or the general public.

28. Please be advised that you may be video recorded by OPC during some events.

Signage

29. Possessing any signs that offer products or services, for solicitation, financial gain, physical act, or otherwise, is prohibited at Otafest.

30. Signs with inappropriate content will be removed without warning, and may result in the patrons' expulsion from the convention.

Weapons & Props

31. Otafest has the following definitions:

- (a) A "weapon" is defined to be any item that: is designed to cause injury or death, or anything a person actually uses or intends to use to cause injury or death. Also includes any item which is designed, used, or intended for use to threaten or intimidate. This includes but is not limited to: anything prohibited by the criminal code, any firearms and ammunition of any and all sorts, rifles, shotguns, hand guns, BB guns, pellet guns, cap guns, air-soft weapons, paintball guns, blow guns, tasers, explosives, knives, swords (including katana and other martial arts-style swords), bokken, shinai, daggers, sword canes, switchblades, balisong (butterfly) knives, axes, hatchets, pole arms, staffs, clubs, paddles, bows, arrows, martial arts weapons, brass knuckles, chains, whips, pepper spray, mace, and any projectile item, toy or real, whether or not such weapon is loaded, broken, or then-currently in firing or usable condition.
- (b) A "prop" is defined as any item used by an attendee to enhance their costume.
- (c) A "prop resembling a realistic weapon" is defined as any prop that can be mistaken for a weapon by a casual observer at any distance.
- (d) A "prop resembling a non-realistic weapon" is defined as a prop meant to resemble a weapon, but that would not be mistaken for a dangerous item by a casual observer at any distance. This would include props that resemble fantasy weapons, futuristic weapons or stylized weapons.
- (e) A "general prop" is defined as any other prop that is not meant to resemble a weapon.

32. The following items are not allowed at Otafest at any time:

- (a) Weapons.
- (b) Props resembling realistic weapons.
- (c) In particular, but not limited to, props that resemble firearms are not allowed, including toy guns, water guns, NERF-style guns, or prop guns made out of craft materials.
- (d) Props made predominately out of metal.

33. Prohibited items must be removed from campus grounds immediately or they will be confiscated until the end of the festival. Otafest reserves the right to refuse admission to the individual until the item is removed entirely from campus grounds.

34. Props resembling non-realistic weapons are only allowed in a designated area for photography, or for use during the Cosplay Contest. Props resembling non-realistic weapons must be transported to University of Calgary properly in a proper container (i.e., kept in a box or wrapped in a cloth or bag), until they are inspected by Otafest personnel. Once these items have been inspected, and deemed to be appropriate, they will be stored at the designated photography area, for display and photography uses within this area only. If the prop is to be used for the Cosplay Contest, they will be transported from the designated photography area to the Cosplay Contest area by Otafest personnel.

35. All props that are brought to Otafest must be inspected by Otafest personnel immediately upon arrival and registration at the festival.

- (a) General props will be marked in a highly visible way such that staff and patrons can tell from a distance that the prop is allowed for general use at the festival.
- (b) Props that resemble a non-realistic weapon will be stored at the designated photography area, for display and photography uses in this area only.
- (c) Props that resemble a realistic weapon or is otherwise inappropriate must be removed from campus grounds or be confiscated until the end of the festival.

36. For the sake of clarity, weapons and props resembling realistic weapons should not be brought to Otafest. Props resembling non-realistic weapons should be brought to the University of Calgary in a proper container until you have arrived at Otafest and have registered as an attendee. It is your responsibility to ensure that casual observers will not mistake your prop for something dangerous.

37. For the sake of clarity, the following props are considered to be general props and are allowed so long as the rest of the regulations are followed:

- (a) Props of items that are not meant to be weapons to the casual observer (i.e., walking sticks, wands, shields, stuffed animals, giant keys, anchors, staves, baseball bats, other household items, etc.)

Violation of Otafest Policies

38. Otafest reserves the right to enforce punishment against any patron who violates these policies. Such punishment can include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Asking a patron to leave a particular event or viewing room;
- (b) Revoking a patron's wristband without refund;
- (c) Banning a patron from any or all future Otafest events and conventions.

39. Any action prohibited by law will result in notification of the proper authorities.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Special Guests	6
10	Main Events
24	16
29	Merchandise
42	Vendors + Artists Alley
45	26
56	Literature Contest
	34
	Charity
	45
	Staff + Special Thanks

	Fri. 16	Sat. 17	Sun. 18
CONVENTION HOURS	6 ^{PM} - 12 ^{AM}	10 ^{AM} - 12 ^{AM}	10 ^{AM} - 10 ^{PM}
ADMISSIONS	4 ^{PM} - 9 ^{PM}	9 ^{AM} - 7 ^{PM}	9 ^{AM} - 5 ^{PM}
VENDORS' ROOM	X	10 ^{AM} - 7 ^{PM}	11 ^{AM} - 5 ^{PM}
ARTISTS' ALLEY	X	10 ^{AM} - 7 ^{PM}	11 ^{AM} - 5 ^{PM}

April 2014



A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR NENSHI

On behalf of my City Council colleagues and the citizens of Calgary, I would like to welcome you to Otafest 2014.

Many people might be surprised when they find out that Calgary is home to such a successful conference for anime. It speaks to the dedication and vision of the organizers of Otafest that they have grown this festival from a one day film festival to a three-day, multi-faceted celebration of Japanese art and culture.

Once again, Otafest's offerings are incredibly diverse, with several opportunities for creative expression and discussion. Festivals like Otafest are part of what make our city such a great place, and I am grateful that the organizers have channelled their passion for anime into this unique cultural event.

Sincerely,



Naheed K. Nenshi
MAYOR

Otafest is a Calgary-based non-profit organization, expressing the values of charity, quality, and transparency. The body of our activity pertains to the promotion of Japanese art, culture, and media in the Canadian community, and our organization rests firmly on the spirit of community collaboration and volunteerism.

On behalf of the Otafest Film & Cultural Festival Planning Committee, welcome to Otafest 2014! It's hard to believe that Otafest in its sixteenth year - it's certainly come a long way since its inception as a one-day event back in 1999.

Our society has now existed for 6 years, and we've been privileged to see how Otafest has grown over that time. The members of the board have been working very hard over this past year to build on Otafest's previous successes while continuing to look to the future and all of the amazing opportunities to come.

On behalf of the Otafest Film & Cultural Planning Committee, I would like to welcome you to Otafest 2014. We are excited for you to make many special memories in what will be our 16th year of our festival.

Throughout my time as Chairman, I have been able to witness the development of a community surrounding Otafest and Otafest Aurora. As we continue to grow, Otafest has become something bigger than a Japanese animation and culture festival. It is now a stage for people to be themselves and to share their passion and creativity. When I see strangers become life long friends, I can't help but think that I am witnessing magic.

On behalf of everyone on the board, I would like to say a huge "Thank you" to all of the executives, staff & volunteers for all of the hours that you have spent to put on this amazing event. Without all of your efforts, Otafest simply wouldn't be the event that it is today.

And to all attendees, we invite you to experience all that Otafest has to offer over the next three days. Have a great time at Otafest 2014!



Shawn Hansen

President
Otafest Film & Cultural Festival
Planning Committee

I would like to invite you to become a part of our community by joining us on our stage. Visit a panel about a topic you know nothing about. See a concert and sing along. Introduce yourself to a stranger. The more you participate at Otafest 2014, the more memories you will make. When Otafest 2014 comes to a close, share your feedback with us, follow us on social media, or sign up to volunteer at our next event. Without our patrons, Otafest would not be what it is today and for that we thank you!

Thank you for attending and I hope to see you at our next event, Otafest Aurora in the winter!



Justin Lo

Chairman
Otafest Film & Culture Festival 2014



Yuu Asakawa

VOICE ACTRESS

Everyone at Otafest is delighted and proud to present our first Japanese *seiyuu* (voice actor) talent **Yuu Asakawa**! She's a singer and voice actress from Tokyo, Japan, represented by Arts Vision talent agency.

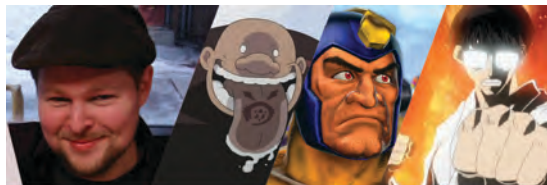
She is recognized for her roles as Sakaki (*Azumanga Daioh*), Rider (*Fate/stay night*), Motoko Aoyama (*Love Hina*), and Priss Asagiri (*Bubblegum Crisis 2040*) and many others. Fans of *Vocaloid* will know her voice as the model for Megurine Luka.

Furthermore, her video game voiceovers include Nel Zelpher (*Star Ocean: Till the End*

of Time), Shalua Rui (*Dirge of Cerberus: Final Fantasy VII*), and Lebreau of *Final Fantasy XIII*.

She has also been featured in CD dramas, radio shows, and Japanese dubs of Western works, including roles such as Sheriff Sarah Breaker in the video game *Alan Wake*, and Malina in *The Emperor's New School*.

Aside from her impressive voiceover career, her hobbies include English, and she'd love to hear from her fans! Follow Ms. Asakawa on her English Twitter account (@Julia320)!



Chris Cason

VOICE ACTOR

Mr. Popo and Tien Shinhan of *Dragonball Z*.
Holy Roman Empire of *Hetalia*.
Albert "Chamo" Chamomile in *Negima! Magister Negi Magi*.
Gluttony, of *Fullmetal Alchemist*.
Face McShooty and Mal, *Borderlands 2*.
Jack the Ripper in *Soul Eater*,
Miyamoto and M1 in *Yu Yu Hakusho*.
Taruru in *Sgt. Frog*.
Boo and Whitey in *Crayon Shin-chan*.
Haruki Hanai in *School Rumble*.
Chikage Ukyo in *Ouran High School Host Club*.

All of the above are just a small sample of **Chris Cason's** favourite and best known roles!

Additionally, you've likely heard his work in *Gunslinger Girl*, *Tsubasa Reservoir Chronicles*, *Darker Than Black*, *One Piece*, *D. Gray-Man*, *BECK: Mongolian Chop Squad*, *Summer Wars*, *Initial D*, *Deadman Wonderland*, *Michiko &*

Hatchin, and *Fairy Tail*.

He has also had the opportunity to be a part of many popular video games: as random ghouls in *Ghostbusters: The Video Game*, contributing guitarist in *Guitar Hero 3*, and as Mega Man in *Street Fighter X Tekken*.

Also working as an Automated Dialogue Replacement (ADR) Director, Chris has had the pleasure of casting, directing, and assistant directing such series as *Kodocha*, *Galaxy Railways*, *Baki the Grappler*, *Hell Girl*, *Kaze no Stigma*, *Bamboo Blade*, and *Tsubasa Tokyo Revelations*.

For additional information, visit "Chris Cason's Anime Chuckle Hut" on Facebook and follow @Casonworld on Twitter!



Vancouver-born and raised, **Brad Swaile** began acting at a relatively young age and had his first audition for an animated series during high school, landing the role of Ace in *My Little Pony Tales*. Soon afterwards, he landed his first anime role as Mousse from *Ranma 1/2*.

Over the years, Brad has worked on several anime series' including *InuYasha*, *Soul Taker*, *Nurse Witch Komugi*, *Maison Ikkoku*, *Hikaru No Go*, *Tokyo Underground*, *Boys Over Flowers*, *Shakugan No Shana*, *Dokkoida*, *Saber Marionette J*, and *Powerpuff Girls Z*.

Some of his notable anime characters include Light (*Death Note*), Gohan (*Dragon Ball Z*), Rock (*Black Lagoon*), Kicker (*Transformers: Energon*), Lan (*Megaman: NT Warrior*), as well as Amuro Ray, Quatre Raberba Winner, Dearka Elsman, and Auel Neider from all of their respective *Gundam* series!

Amongst many *Gundam* video game titles, in *Dynasty Warriors: Gundam 3*, you can watch Brad in conversation with himself as both Setsuna and Amuro. More recently, he can be heard as Jin Kazama in *Street Fighter X Tekken*.

North American cartoon voiceover credits include Nightcrawler on *X-Men Evolution* and other projects including *Barbie*, *Matchbox*, *Double Dragon*, and *Sonic the Hedgehog*.

Along with voice acting, Brad continues to work professionally as a Graphic Designer/Illustrator and, when not at the hockey rink or on the baseball field, enjoys playing drums and guitar (often while doodling in his sketchbook.)



Rose Noire was formed by members **Louie** (vocals) and **Jill** (violin), when they were students of the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music. They won the ZOOM award at the SONY-ZOOM DEMO tape competition of 2007.

Their music is free from predefined genres and concepts - composed of their own world, in their own image, of their own existence and music. Classical with a touch of variety of genres such as rock, R&B, club music, hip-hop, industrial, electronica and so on.

rosenoire.info



Chii Sakurabi is an international J-POP singer and recording artist from Tokyo, Japan. Chii originally performed live throughout Tokyo, and in 2010 moved to the U.S., expanding her music to the international stage.

2011 saw Chii release her first full-length album *Mirage*, featuring a unique electro-pop style, as well as a mixture of English and Japanese lyrics. In 2013, she released a new single and music video for *Kaguya*, and in March 2014 she will be releasing her next full-length album, *Moon Princess*.

Chii has performed live at various anime and pop culture conventions in such countries as the United States, France, Mexico, Canada, New Zealand, and Japan. Chii's concerts are known for their high energy as well as Chii's passionate voice, kawaii dancing, and lolita fashion! Chii is excited to perform for the first time in Calgary at Otafest! Experience Chii's music through a visual story as she takes you to her fantasy world!

chiisakurabi.com &
facebook.com/ChiiSakurabi



Hitbox consists of quirky pink-haired British nerd rocker **Kieran Strange**, and blonde bombshell pop artist **Sarah Adams**.

This deadly dynamite duo of geek ambassadors hail from Vancouver, and soared into the anime and gaming scene at the start of 2014 with energetic live music, entertaining blogs, passionately portrayed cosplay, and exceedingly random tweets.

Supporters of LGBT rights, autism and mental health awareness, and the body positivity movement, the girls have made it their mission to spread self-love and respect.

Professional musicians in their own right, as well as cosplayers, gamers, and models, the girls have paved the way for many other teens and young adults worldwide wanting to follow their own creative passions and dreams.

The pair's costumes have ranged from the characters of *My Little Pony*, *Doctor Who*, *Legend of Zelda* and other popular video games, along with their own fantasy creations. With their talent and burning passion, they are most renowned for their humility and their relationship with their fans.

Follow the girls on Twitter (@KieranStrange and @SarahAdamsMusic) and make sure you stop by to say hi to them - they can't wait to meet you!



Otafest is pleased to present the return of the Calgary-based **Lightning Knights**!

Consisting of deejays **R3jection**, **Critical**, **Disillusion** and **MC Vicious**, they'll be playing an eclectic mix of anime, J-pop, J-Rock, K-pop, dance, and electronica at Saturday night's Anime Dance!

facebook.com/tadakatsu.honda.71216



Midnight Taiko is a group of *taiko* drummers who have played at Otafest for the last several years, spreading their love of the art of Japanese ceremonial drumming in Calgary.

The group is so named as their passion for *taiko* is so intense it would have them playing all night long!

With their unique brand of audience participation, they will continue to put on a show you surely don't want to miss!

midnight-taiko.com



At first glance, **THWOMP** is a collection of indie rockers with a passion for the nostalgia inspired by the music of games from the classic era of console gaming. They re-create the classic gaming themes we all know and love at a visceral pace and with unparalleled energy.

THWOMP is:

Colin "Salty" Mitchel - Super Dangerous Lead Guitar

Brad "Evening News" Stanton - Extreme Bass Guitar

Scott "The Party" Moffat - Rhythmic Apocalypse

David "Plexico" Marshall - Synthesizer Sonic Destruction

Dan "Panda Whisperer" Bronson - Ludacris Lead Guitar!

The show is high-energy, fun, and accessible to everyone, whether you've played these games or not (but let's be honest — you all have... a lot!)

thwomp.bandcamp.com/



Yaya Han

COSPLAY GUEST

Yaya Han is a costume designer, model and cosplay entertainer with over a decade of experience. After discovering cosplay at Anime Expo 1999, she quickly absorbed the heart and soul of costume design and creation, creating 250+ costumes of anime/manga, comic books, video games, sci-fi and her own original designs!

Yaya has built a successful business in the cosplay community, creating a cosplay accessory line available online and at conventions, as well as her line of Yaya Han Brand merchandising.

Her intricate, lavish creations have won awards and acclaim nationwide, and she has been invited to appear as a special guest to over 100 conventions and events all over the world.

Yaya's impact on the world of cosplay has paved her way to appearances on popular media: as a Guest Judge on TBS TV Network's *King of the*

Nerds competition, featured in a documentary titled *Cosplay - Crafting a Secret Identity*, and starring in the Syfy TV Network Docu-Series, *Heroes of Cosplay*.

No matter where cosplay has taken her professionally, Yaya strives to stay true to what got her into this field originally - fun and creativity.

Through hard work, unmatched passion and infectious enthusiasm, she has helped cosplay gain respect and integrity as an art form, and her decade long campaign for creativity has helped raise cosplay to the standards we know today. Every day, Yaya continues to pave the path for the beloved art and lifestyle we know as Costume Play.

yayahan.com



Dave Rathnow
PERFORMANCE GUEST

Iaido - "The Way of Drawing the Sword", is a non-combative martial art practiced with a replica or real *katana*. Practitioners strive to achieve improved awareness, focusing mind and body on a complex activity. *Iaido*'s roots go far back to the origins of the *samurai*.

Dave Rathnow has studied *iaido* for over 18 years and possesses 5th-dan ranking in the *Muso Jikiden Eishin Ryu Iaido* school, teaches for the *Shin Ken Kai Nobara Iaido* dojo, and demonstrates at the Lethbridge *Nikka Yuko* Japanese Gardens.

skknobara.com



Synaptic Chaos Theatre
PERFORMANCE GUESTS

Synaptic Chaos Theatre is your friendly neighbourhood geek comedy troupe, specializing in live improv and semi-scripted comedy shows such as "Late Night Dub Fight" and "Doki-Doki Kyuu-Kyuu Challenge"!

Formed in 2010 and boasting decades of improv experience amongst its members, SCT regularly performs for anime, gaming, and sci-fi conventions across North America, and they'll be performing at Otafest too!

synaptic-chaos.com



Cosplay Events

Cosplay Contest (Saturday)

One of the biggest events of any anime convention, and certainly the most popular here at Otafest! Come and see the results of fan creativity as they pay tribute to their favourite characters through costumes and entertain the crowd with their skits!

Mr. and Miss Otafest (Sunday)

Did you see someone with an amazing costume? Vote for your favourite male and female cosplayers! We'll tally up the votes and present Mr. and Miss Otafest at the Awards Ceremony on Sunday!

Otafest Cosplay Showcase (Sunday)

Otafest proudly presents its sixth annual Cosplay Showcase! For cosplayers out there who want to show off their costumes but don't necessarily want to do so on-stage during the Cosplay contest, this event is for you!

This year, we are featuring the appearance of guest judge Yaya Han!

With herself and our judges, they will look specifically at your costume in detail. No prior experience is necessary as we have separate categories for beginners and experts.

Winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony!



Concerts, Dances, Performances, & Special Guest Events

Autograph Sessions! (Saturday & Sunday)

It's time to meet your favourite guests and make sure to get your prized piece of memorabilia signed!

All autographs given by our Special Guests will be free of charge! Please limit your amount of items to be signed to be fair to others.

Please check the schedule for specific locations and times for each autograph session!

Chii Sakurabi (Friday Night Main Concert & Sunday Afternoon Performance)

Specializing in J-POP, Chii Sakurabi is an international recording artist from Tokyo who now calls Los Angeles home! Her concerts are known for their high energy as well as Chii's passionate voice, kawaii dances and Lolita fashion! Chii is performing her main concert on Friday night, and will follow up with another performance on Sunday! You'll also be able to catch her during the following times outside of her Friday Night Main Concert and Sunday performance:

- Friday night – Concert!
- Saturday – J-Rock Meet & Greet - Chii Sakurabi & Rose Noire
- Sunday – J-Rock Q&A - Chii Sakurabi & Rose Noire, and Sunday Performance

HITBOX - Kieran Strange & Sarah Adams (Friday Night Main Concert)

Hitbox consists of quirky pink-haired British nerd rocker Kieran Strange, and blonde bombshell pop artist Sarah Adams. Kieran performed at Otafest 2013, and we're really excited to have her back! Welcome Sarah for her Otafest! You can catch them at the following events:

- Friday evening: Concert!
- Saturday: "Who are Hitbox?" & "Harry Potter and the Panel of Brilliance" Panels
- Sunday: Otafest Idol Guest Judges

Midnight Taiko (Saturday Afternoon)

There is nothing quite like the sound of Taiko drums! Midnight Taiko will be performing outdoors (weather pending only) on Saturday afternoon! Just follow the sound of the vibrations in your feet!

After the performance, stick around to participate in a hands-on drum session!

Lightning Knights (Saturday Night Dance)

After the concerts, make sure you stick around and dance the evening away at the dance with Calgary's own Lightning Knights! Be prepared for an eclectic mix of anime and other dance music that will make your heart jump with the intense rhythm of your body!

Otafest Idol (Sunday)

Come watch vocal talent from your very own community perform your favourite Japanese songs at Otafest 2014! Come and watch our aspiring vocalists perform a variety of anime, video game and J-pop songs with our Guest Judges, Kieran Strange and Sarah Adams!

Who will be crowned the Otafest Idol champion of 2013?

Rose Noire Concerts (Saturday Night Main Concert, Sunday Afternoon Performance)

Ready for J-Rock so fresh, it's straight from Japan!/? Rose Noire is one of Otafest 2014's headlining guests, so make sure you attend their massive concert Saturday night in the upstairs ballroom and then make sure you follow for an acoustic performance on Sunday! You'll also be able to catch Rose Noire during the following times outside of their Saturday Night Main Concert and Sunday performances:

- Friday night – Concert!
- Saturday – J-Rock Meet & Greet - Chii Sakurabi & Rose Noire
- Sunday – J-Rock Q&A - Chii Sakurabi & Rose Noire, and Sunday Performance

THWOMP (Saturday Night Main Concert)

Join us in welcoming back and cheer on Calgary's own homegrown video game rock stars as they crank out video game music at 115 decibels! Always a fan favourite, THWOMP will also have a "Hang with THWOMP" panel, where they will interact with fans in a more casual setting!

Iaido with Dave Rathnow (Saturday Afternoon)

Dave has studied *iaido* for over 19 years and holds the 5th-dan ranking in the *Muso Jikiden Eishin Ryu Iaido* school.

Teaching at the *Shin Ken Kai Nobara Iaido* dojo in Calgary, he gives regular demonstrations at the *Nikka Yuko Japanese Gardens* in Lethbridge.

Don't miss his demonstrations with the live sword – always a hit!





Nishikaze

Saturday, June 28, 2014

Lethbridge, Alberta

Maid Cafe &
Charity Auction
proceeds to go:



LAST CHANCE CAT RANCH

See nishikaze.ca for more details

Art by Clare Ng @clare_n9

SYNAPTIC CHAOS THEATRE (All-Weekend Performances)

The perennially popular improv comedy troupe SCT returns with more geeky-related programming than you can shake a stick at!

Please check the schedule for exact location and performance times!

Friday Night

- **All Ages Improv Show:** Kick off a weekend of improv with SCT's Friday night improv show!
- **Acting for Cosplayers:** For all cosplayers and actors alike! We will teach you to improve your acting skills so you can shine onstage!

Saturday

- **Kabuki Theatre in Anime:** Kabuki is a living art form over 300 years old, and the foundation of Japan's pop culture. Join Ryan Caron to learn about this beautiful and bombastic theatre tradition, and how its influence is everywhere in the anime you love.
- **How to Improv:** Get a look at how these talented funny men (and women) have honed their craft for over a decade and improve your own skills!
- **Doki-Doki Kyuu-Kyuu Challenge:** In the mood for something less physical? This is a panel game where two opposing teams are given silly things to do! A co-production with tiltyhouse.com!
- **Late Night Dub Fight:** A SMASH SCT HIT! Watch SCT flex their improv skills as they re-dub a bizarre selection of anime, TV and movies you've probably never heard of! No prizes! No limits! No way to leave after we lock the doors!
- **Improv Show (18+ Only):** It's improv with jokes soooo delightfully wicked you'll want to make sure the kiddies are away for this one!

Sunday

- **Roll Your Own Con:** Want to do more than just attend a con? Join Brendan "Beej" Dery for a seminar on how to roll your own convention! Learn from his years of experience as an Animethon executive and guest of many other cons!

Sunday (con't.)

- **Improv for Roleplayers:** Every RPG has one: the rules lawyer, the min/maxer, the game destroy. SCT has the cure for your RPG woes – IMPROV! Join SCT for a talk and demo on how improv rules can turn your campaigns from party-loss into party legend!
- **Sunday Afternoon All-Ages Improv Show:** It's SCT's Flagship show on Sunday afternoon! What's a better way to wind down Otafest than to bust a gut laughing?!



Yaya Han

Otafest is very pleased to present Yaya Han, our first formal Cosplay Guest, in her first time in Calgary! Yaya is participating in a meet & greet, a Q&A session, and will also be a judge in our Cosplay Showcase contest:

- Friday: Yaya Han's Meet & Greet!
- Saturday – Q&A with Yaya Han
- Sunday – Guest Judge at Cosplay Showcase

Outside of formal programming, you will also be able to catch Yaya at her table in the 'Special Guests' area, just by the Vendors' Hall! Ms. Han will be selling merchandise, signing autographs, and meeting fans!

Voice Acting Q&A! (Saturday & Sunday)

Join all of Otafest's voice acting guests - Yuu Asakawa, Chris Cason & Brad Swaile as they answer your burning questions about the industry, their interests, and personal anecdotes!



Gaming, Themed Rooms, & Photoshoots

The AMV Room (All Weekend - ST148)

With so many great AMVs out there, how do you pick the best ones? Come out to the AMV blocks, where the most-awesome Vlad Pohnert, curator of the world's most comprehensive AMV collection will show you some of the most entertaining AMVs from the past several years! Just sit back and enjoy! The AMV blocks we have include the following:

- **Otafest 2014 AMV Contest:**
It's back, but with a twist! Now on Friday night, with an all-entries showing block on Sunday, and an all-winner's block too!
- Returning favourites:
AMV Showcase!
The AMV Gameshow!
Comedy & Fun Hour!
Upbeat Videos!
AMV Mortal Combat 2.0!
Comedy on the Edge (18+ Only)!
Cosplay Music Videos!
- Brand new this year:
AMV Clap-along!
AMV Nightmares!
Once upon an AMV!
10 years of AMV Contests - Otafest AMV Contest Retrospective!

And, last, but certainly not least,
PONIES the Anthology III!

Anime Board Games (Saturday & Sunday - SA129)

The Anime Board Game Room is designed for attendees to take a break from the hustle of the convention and just play! There are many anime and Asian-culture inspired board games out in the market today, and this is a chance for you to come in, sit down and learn one of these games!

Collectible Card Gaming (All weekend - ST128)

Come visit the CCG room hosted by Trilogy Gaming! Tournaments include Yu-Gi-Oh! and Cardfight!! Vanguard!

Please see the schedule for more details!

Competitive Smash Bros. Tournaments (All weekend - ICT116 & ICT122)

In conjunction with ULTIMATEMACH and STRANGE5, Otafest is pleased to offer *Super Smash Brothers*-based cash-pot gaming tournaments!

- Friday: *Project M*
- Saturday: *Super Smash Bros. Melee*
- Sunday: *Super Smash Bros. Brawl*

Please check the Otafest website for full rules and details!

How to Play Go! (Sunday Afternoon - ST147)

Hosted by the Calgary Go Club, *Go* originated in China over 2,500 years ago. It is one of the oldest strategy games in the world and was popularized amongst a generation of anime fans by the hit anime and manga, *Hikaru no Go* in the early 2000s.

Come to the *Go* room, and have learn to play the game with the Calgary Go club!

Otafest's Hibiscus Maid Café (Saturday & Sunday - ICT114)

One of the most curious phenomena to take off in *otaku* culture today, the maid café has become a staple of any outing to Akihabara, Japan.

If you find yourself parched or weary, come stop by Otafest's Maid Café for a drink and dessert served to you by a charming maid! Afterwards, stay for their *kawaii* group dance performance!

Proceeds from the Maid Café will go towards Otafest's charity!

Reservation tickets are required and will be available at Otafest's Info Desk.

Otafest Pokémon League (Saturday & Sunday; SA119 & SA121)

Do you wanna be the best, like no one ever was? Is catching them your real test, is training them your cause?

Battle in the Otafest Pokémon League, where you can meet fellow trainers, Pokéfans and maybe even become the League Champion!

Full rules are available on the Otafest website!

Chinook
Crafts
Crafting Nostalgia.

Booth C6
Vendor Hall

PROUDLY SPONSORING THE 2014
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POKÉMON, DIGIMON, ZELDA, AND SO MUCH MORE!



Otafest Photo Booth (Saturday & Sunday - ST130)

Whether showing off your cosplay, or immortalizing your Otafest memories, the Photo Booth is the place to be!

At Otafest 2014, we'll have your choice of two settings: June's classroom, a homage to Otafest 2014's high school theme; or a tasteful black curtain to really bring out the details of your costume, taken by our professional-level photography team!

Photos taken by Otafest's photographers are free of charge! However, we ask that each participant donate a minimum \$2 towards Otafest's charity of choice if possible!

All photos will be available on Otafest's official Facebook page shortly after the convention.

Synaptic Chaos Theatre (All Weekend - ST126 & ST140)

Synaptic Chaos Theatre is back once again! With improv programming all weekend long, there will be more hilarious hijinks than you can shake a stick at! Check out the Main Events section for more info on SCT's panels and shows!

AMV Contest (Friday; All Entries shown Sunday)

One of the most popular events at Otafest is back for another year! Creators select scenes from various anime shows, set them to music, and edit and splice them until an amazing music video is born!

Opening Ceremonies (Friday)

Come join us as we kick off Otafest 2014! Come and see what's in store this year for our sweet 16th anniversary!

Awards Ceremonies (Sunday)

Otafest is (almost) over!?! Not when there are still awards to be handed out! Come to the awards ceremony, where all the winners to all the contests will be announced and prizes are given. It could be your name coming out of those speakers!

Auction (Sunday)

This is the place to come for a chance to pick up bargain deals on anime memorabilia!

Some items will be designated Charity Donation lots, where proceeds will benefit our charity of choice!

Come for the deals, but stay for the insanity!

Charity Sketch Drive (Saturday & Sunday)

Want to get a quick doodle of you and your buddy at Otafest?

For just \$10, the Charity Sketch Drive is a fantastic way to make a piece of your convention memories tangible as our sketch artists draw upon their skills to provide you with a unique memory of your convention weekend while simultaneously supporting local artists and Otafest's charity!



At Otafest, we know that we are only as awesome as our community, and we know that you're fantastic! Panelists are the reason Otafest can provide amazing, new, innovative programming each and every year. A majority of panels at Otafest are hosted by the local community; we feel this is a great opportunity for patrons to get involved with Otafest and its audience in a very important way!

Every otaku loves anime, manga, video games, or simply just loves Japanese culture for different reasons. Taking this passion and turning it into a demonstrative, informative or competitive panel idea is something that Otafest embraces and gladly welcomes them from our patrons!



Battle Chess (Adam K.)

Battle Chess returns again! Come out in your best costumes and do battle on a massive chess board! Come down and watch or play!

Con Photography: A Panel (Christopher T.)

A panel that will discuss all the issues related to con photography. This panel is for everyone from snap-shooter to photography professional.

Cosplay by Dummies (Dakota L. & David A.)

Have you wanted to cosplay? Have you wanted to see how a dummy does it? With fantastic tips like, "Make sure you're up all night the night before, still finishing it off!" and many others!

Cosplay Photography 101 (Dakota L. & David A.)

Covering the basics, starting from basic camera controls all the way to common mistakes to avoid and proper etiquette when approaching a cosplayer!

Costume Making 101: A Beginner's Guide (Robin F.)

Tired of commissioning and ordering online? Want to make your own costume but have no idea where to start? We're here to help!

Feeling Awesome in Cosplay (Ashley R. & Linda Y.)

Finally finished that costume you've been slaving over? What more can you do to make sure you feel as amazing as possible in it? Exercise and makeup can make a world of difference to your cosplay, so join us, learn the basics, and discuss!

From Good to Great: A Guide to Skits (Ashley J.)

You can have a solid idea, but what makes a cosplay skit great? We explore the difference between "good" performances and "great" ones!

Posing with Weapons (Harley J.)

Feel like your photos lack a little lustre? A trained instructor will help you pose with a variety of weapon props, as well as prop safety.

So You Think You Dance! (Trevor O.)

Get ready to move, dance and perform in this one-day workshop!

Stage Makeup Info (Kalyn E.)

An introduction panel to stage makeup and things you can do at home to make yourself look wonderfully frightening and possibly dead!



Fandoms

A Study In Sherlock (Nichol M.)

Ever wonder what Holmes thinks of anime? What Mycroft does in his spare time? Ask your favourite characters from BBC's *Sherlock* and join in on some hilarious shenanigans!

Ask a Magical Girl (Sydney P.)

Ask Madoka, Homura, Mami, Sayaka, Kyuuko, Nagisa, and Kyuubey all the questions that you could ever wish for!

Ask Dramatical Murder (18+ Only) (Kristina L.)

An 18+ ask panel based off the popular yaoi game, Dramatical Murder. Ask your favourite characters any questions you wish!

Bioware: How to Cope (Robin F.)

Still can't get over the ending of *Mass Effect*? Can't wait for *Dragon Age: Inquisition*? Have no fear! We'll help you cope!

Cool Kids Times Two (Ashley J.)

"I'll take Suburb for 100!"
Come join the epic showdown between Dave and Terezi as they compete for the ultimate *Jeopardy* title: Cool Tier.

Do You Wanna Date Dave Strider? (Hannah L.)

A dating game show hosted by Nepeta and Karkat where they try to find a husband/wife for Dave Strider! The audience will ask the contestants questions and Dave will eliminate them one by one to find the love of his life!

Hetalia in Reality (Rachael Y.)

Are you a history fan? A *Hetalia* fan? Someone who gets annoyed by the inaccurate history presented by some part of the fandom? If you answered yes to one of them, welcome to Hetalia in Reality.

History vs. Assassin's Creed (Alfred L.)

Nothing is true, everything is permitted. Join us for a quick tritip through the ages as we discuss everything Assassin and everything world history!

Homestuck: Not Even Once (Sam H.)

There are good fans, there are bad fans, and there are the ones that make you never want to associate with *Homestuck* again. We're going to tackle all of these and more!

Kantai Collection Panel (Peter C.)

What if all the WWII Japanese naval warships became moe anthropomorphisms? Learn about the immensely popular Japanese browser game *Kantai Collection*!

The Never-ending Summer (Kaitlin L.)

An introduction to the popular *VOCALOID* series *Kagerou Project*. Join us as we walk through each PV and introduce you to the characters, the plots, and the music itself.

PANELSTUCK! A Homestuck Ask Panel (Destiny G.)

Ever wondered how long it takes Gamzee to do his makeup in the morning? Find out at PANELSTUCK! A Homestuck 'Ask' Panel!

Pokémon 101 (By Ashley L.)

Pokémon and all its well-loved fanbases, from the trading card game to anime to fanart!

Questions and Relative Answers In Space (QARAIS) (Helen T.)

Ask the Doctor and his companions all of the questions you've always wanted to! Mind the spoilers!

SHSL Panel of DesBear (Hyun-jo P.)

Come meet the students from the hit series *Dangan Ronpa* as well as the sequel *Dangan Ronpa 2*!

Starcraft 2 Panel (Peter C.)

Meet-up panel for *Starcraft 2* players. Discuss strategies/builds as well as your favourite programmers! Bring your laptop if you have the game installed so we can play 1v1s and Arcade games!

Steampunk 101 (Mike J.)

What is Steampunk? A quick guide to the genre, costume styles and their associated props for the Steampunk novice

Steampunk Prop Design (Mike J.)

A quick introduction to creating your own Steampunk props. How to modify existing items or create them from scratch.

Touhou Fanworks Showcase (Jonathan F.)

An all-ages presentation of the various creations the fans of the *Touhou* series have created, such as remixes of the games' music, fan-made comics, games and animated shorts.

Touhou Hisoutensoku (Jeremie C.)

Come test your *Touhou* skills on *Touhou Hisoutensoku 12.3*! Beginners and experts are welcome to try!

Touhou Panel (Dennis L.)

Touhou Project is a series of "Bullet Hell" shmups (shoot-em-ups) featuring a cast primarily consisting of magical girls! Find out what's great about it here!

Touhou Sports Festival Tournament (Jonathan F.)

Think your favourite *Touhou* character is the best? Come prove it in this video game tournament!



TRIOLOGY
GAMING CLUB



Trilogy Gaming Club

#2, 7005 18th Street SE, Calgary - AB - T2C1Y1

Hours of Operation

Monday: Closed
Tues: 10am - 6 pm
Wed: 10am - 9pm
Thurs: 10am - 9pm
Fri: 10am - 12 midnight
Sat: 10am - 9pm
Sun: 11am - 6pm

Phone Number

(403) 279-2290

● *Website* ●

www.trilogygamingclub.com

***Yu-Gi-Oh, Magic the Gathering and
Cardfight Vanguard***

Email at info@trilogygamingclub.com

TRANSFORM AND ROLL OUT (Matthew W.)

Like giant robots? Want a chance at a free toy? Want to learn more about Cybertronian society? Calling all 'Bots and 'Cons! 30 years of *Transformers* history in 60 minutes!

Welcome... to Night Vale (Sarah W.)

Ever wonder why the night sky is so vast, terrifying, and empty? Concerned about the hooded figures you've seen lurking? This panel will give an introductory overview of the podcast series that's exploded onto the pop culture scene.

Writing with Calliope - Homestuck Choose Your Own Adventure (Ashley J.)

Calliope is writing a fanfiction and needs your help! Come help Calliope make all the important decisions. From characters to locations, the story will develop at the audience's command.



Fun Shows, Games, & Contests

Anime Board Games (Aaron S. & Mindy S.)

Come in and learn to play some anime-inspired board games with us!

Featuring:

- **King of Tokyo:** A Kaiju battle royale!
- **Takenoko:** Chase away a hungry panda and grow a bamboo garden.
- **Tanto Cuore:** A deck-building game featuring maids.
- **Tokaido:** A scenic trip down the historical Tokaido road.

Anime EDGE (Francis C.)

Anime EDGE returns for another year with more insanity, hilarity and everything in between! Strap yourself in and be prepared to fly off the Anime EDGE!

Anime Name That Tune (Daniel D'A.)

A classic Name That Anime Tune gameshow panel with the staff of Kita-Kon! The winner of the contest will have the opportunity to play against one of our staff members for some unique prizes!

Anime Things (Shawn M.)

Humorous, delightful, and witty describes Anime Things. What would you answer when given an anime-based statement starting with the word "Things..."? Come and try to outdo your fellow contestants on Anime Things!

Anime Wits and Wagers (Aaron S.)

Think you know EVERYTHING about anime? Would you bet on it? Anime Wits and Wagers is a game-show where you can guess the answer and then bet on the right answer. Bring your poker face and try your luck!

The Animu Gameshow (Chelsea B.)

Ever wanted to compete to be the best game show team this side of Otafest has ever seen? Want free doughnuts for competing? Well if you think you've got what it takes to go for gold, come on down!

Batsumaru the Gameshow (Dan R.)

Prepare yourself for deadly game show combat in BATSUMARU, a brand new comedy quiz game show from Synaptic Chaos Theatre's Dan Ross. Contestants selected from the audience will choose dragon tiles, answer bizarre quiz questions and attempt to defeat their opponents and the Evil Oni for the chance to win prizes and become the Supreme QuizMeister!

Bento Banzai - Worst. Ever. Edition (Behfar L. & Jei W.)

Spicy? ✓
Sour? ✓
Salty? ✓
Hilarious? ✓✓✓

Random audience members will be chosen to participate in Otafest's one and only deliciously evil culinary challenge! There's prizes, pride, and barf bags on the line for everyone!

Beyblade Tournament (Ashley M.)

A single-elimination tournament for all Beyblade fans! 'Bladers will battle one-on-one until a champion is chosen! Prizes will be awarded to those who place in the Final Four.

Please note that illegal Beys, large metal Beys, and the Phantom Orion Bey are banned from competition.

Cards Against Otafest (Dan R.)

A modified edition of Cards against Humanity with an Otafest twist.

Ca\$h & Gun\$: We're Back, Baby! (Dan R.)

CA\$H 'N GUN\$ LIVE returns! Prop guns may be banned from Otafest, but finger guns ain't! So show your mob style by taking out your opponents and collecting loot to please the Godfather.

Channel A! Otafest Edition (Adam K.)

Can you make the next big anime for this fall, our panel of faux producers will give crazy premises, and its up to you to assemble a title and invent a new show on the spot! Come try your hand at creation or just watch and laugh at the next hit show!

Channel H! Otafest Edition (18+ Only) (Adam K.)

The Channel A game but with an adult spin! Test your ability to create the most interesting adult shows possible! 18+ Only!

Force Start Comedy presents: An EPIC READING of Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone...
Rewritten! Come see the movie narrated in a way only we can!

Force Start Comedy's Themed Torture Tag!

Force Start returns with Themed Torture Tag, the most intense Batsu (punishment) Game ever held at Otafest! (Weather pending only!)

Foul Bachelor Frog Bingo: Last One Ever (18+ Only) (Alfred L.)

This is the end. Relate to terrible Reddit meme. Be the scummiest bachelor(ette) frog of all time. Win prizes. Get out.

Iron Cosplay (Sara M.)

How fast can you and your friends put together a costume? Your group has duct tape, plastic bags, and other odd materials and one hour. May the best man win.

Japanification Identification (Dan R.)

We've all seen the funny and weird commercials that come out of Japan at times, but the question is, can you figure out what they are for without the product splash?

Lulzy FanFics as read by Lulzy Guys (Vern T.)

We've all read fan fictions that were so horrible they made us laugh and die a little inside. Join us as we read out loud horrible fan fictions submitted by you!

Magical Battle Arena (Francis C.)

Time to do battle, Mahou Shoujo Style. Come out for some fun times as players battle their way to magical girl supremacy in this fan made video game challenge.

The Mario Kart Gauntlet (Ian S.)

How good are you at *Mario Kart*? Good enough to go through 3 games and 50+ tracks against 3 other people? If you think you're good enough, come to the panel and compete for some sweet prizes. Or, come and cheer on a contestant!

Mystery Science Fanfiction (18+ Only) (Heather S.)

In the style of *Mystery Science Theatre*, our panelists read some of the worst fanfiction the Internet has to offer for their pain and your pleasure.

Otafest 1 vs. 100 (Adam K.)

Based off the TV show *1 vs. 100*, people come on down to win prizes and compete at trivia; the player who eliminates the whole mob is the winner!

Otafest Tactical Challenge (Dan R.)

The top secret plans for Otafest's latest weapon of mass entertainment, Project FOXHOUND, have been stolen. It is your task to retrieve them. Don't get caught by the guards or else you will have to start the mission over!

Video Game Name That Tune (Alfred L.)

"How did that one song on that one level go again?" Or do you already know all the soundtracks off by heart? Test your might at Video Game Name That Tune!

Visual Battle Royale (Lamia Z.)

If you love competitions or are interested in Japanese music, then check out Visual Battle Royale. Don't miss the opportunity to win prizes and meet new people in this interactive game show.



Information, Discussions, & How-To's

An Introduction to Kenji Miyazawa
(Cory G.)

The short life of Japanese author Kenji Miyazawa produced works of enduring beauty. Explore the poems and fairy tales of this writer, mystic, and tireless seeker of justice who is most famous for his story, "A Night on the Galactic Railroad."

The Art of Storytelling - Part Deux
(Brendan H.)

Want to leave the room in stitches, but don't know how to sew? While telling stories of heroic exploits and epic convention mishaps, Brendan will teach you how to captivate your audience, and carry on the ancient tradition of storytelling

Convention Etiquette 101 (Sarah K.)

Stop by for a quick lesson in the rights and wrongs of convention etiquette, and how to make sure everyone at the convention, including yourself, feel happy and safe.

Doujinshi 101 (18+ Only) (Daniel D.)

Our goal is to inform you about doujinshi's origins, non-hentai doujinshi, hentai doujinshi, and where to find it. We'll also go over some of the funnier title's we've found over the years.

How to Start Your Own Anime/Manga Club
(Dustyanne E.)

Did you ever think your school would be better with an anime club? How do you even go about starting one up?

In-Depth Hentai (18+ only) (Alana M.)

A look at some of the most popular hentaies and what makes them all unique and the same. What goes into a great hentai and why are they great?

The History of Manga (Chad N.)

Learn about the origins of modern Japanese visual culture! This is a lecture on the history of manga, beginning a very long time ago and ending with Osamu Tezuka and the birth of the modern manga industry.

Japanese Tea Tasting (Liza K.)

In this panel we will explore the history, the culture and the significance of tea in Japan. Come over to learn more about tea and try out some samples!

Japanese Warfare and History (Nathan V.)

A hobbyist's panel of Japanese history, culture and warfare though to the beginning of the 20th century.

Kimono and Yukata Fashion Show
(Jessica R.)

The Japanese kimono and yukata are both traditional garments of Japan. This fashion show is going to expand your world on the wonderful clothes that have made their way into the world of anime.

Learn about Ball Jointed Dolls (Janet L.)

Come meet our Calgary Ball Jointed Dolls (BJD) group, where we will show our Dolls and give info on where to get them, how to care for them, and much more.

Nyaa Figurines: Collecting 101 (Dani P.)

Learn the basics to collecting anime figures! Nyaa Figurines will give you tips on where to buy, what types there are, and how to tell if a figure is bootleg or not!

Otafest 101 (Otafest Staff)

First time at Otafest? Check out the Otafest 101 panel put on by Otafest staff, which highlights some of the things we think you should definitely try to check out this weekend!

Public Speaking for Otaku (Cory G.)

For many otaku, the idea of speaking in front of a group of people is incredibly intimidating. Let a professional public speaker and past Otafest panelist guide you through the process of turning your expertise into an entertaining, engaging convention panel.

Self-Studying Japanese (Valma J.)

A guide to self-studying Japanese - including tips, books/materials, tricks, good FYI regarding the language and writing/script!

Speedrunning 101: Video Games Done Quick (Lauren W.)

How fast can you beat a game? This panel is an introduction to the grand world of speed runs in video games, with a special focus on Ocarina of Time. Watch how this huge game can be finished in less than half an hour.

The Survival Guide to Convention Road Trips (Dustyanne E.)

A survival guide to anyone and everyone who wishes to have a stress free and relaxing convention road trip! Get some new ideas and maybe some new resources for your own use for next time!

Yaoi Panel (18+ Only) (Rei R.)

Discussions of yaoi and its impact on the way people view gay couples and individuals, focusing on gender ideals and the perception of "straightness". As well as tons of improv games including "Dating Game", "Scenes From A Hat", and more!



Convention Horror Stories (Chelsea B.)

What could be worse than reading about horror stories on 4chan? Having real life experience, that's what. So come on down to hear the worst from the best!

Crossplay Pageant (Landon D.)

A beauty pageant where 10 of the most talented and beautiful/ handsome crossplayers from across Otafest compete!

Feedback Panel (Otafest Staff)

Otafest Feedback Panel! Please come by and give us your thoughts to help us improve Otafest! Tell us what you liked, what we need to improve on, and what you want to see!

Force Start Comedy presents: Table Flip for Charity!

We all know you spent too much in the Vendors' Hall, so come on down and flip a table for charity and let out some of that pent up rage! (Weather pending only!)

Mario Kart for Charity (Otafest Staff)

One of Otafest's Charity Events! To participate, a donation of your choice is required - however much you want to donate! Donate, and have a chance to race against 5 other carts in Live Action Mario Kart! (Weather pending only!)

Otafest Mix & Mingle! (Michael P.)

Come on in and socialize! A relaxed-yet-organised way to meet new people at Otafest; you'll be mixing it up with a different person to mingle with every few minutes - we'll even provide the drinks, prepared by a professional bartender! (Virgin drinks only!)

Otafest Pin Trading (Otafest Staff)

Have you heard about Otafest's special Pin Trading? Are you missing just one to complete the set? Then come to Otafest's Pin Trading Meetups and see if you can't trade for the one that's getting away!



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LEGENDS WILL COLLIDE HERE ONCE MORE!!



Our popular t-shirts have returned for Otafest 2014 with a new design for both women and men.

Perched atop of the clock tower of Otafest Academy, Persephone, the Angel of Death, stands tall in the moonlight. On the back of the shirt, the Otafest Academy logo is displayed under the neck line. With a subtle monochrome design, this shirt begs to be worn wherever your travels may take you.

The women's shirt is a tri-blend of 50% cotton, 25% polyester and 25% rayon from American Apparel. The combination of fabrics help the shirt retain its shape and elasticity while allowing it to drape on the body for a slimming look.

The color featured is Tri-Black. As this color is darker than our men's shirt, we have adjusted the art to match appropriately.

The women's shirt is available in sizes S to XL.



The men's shirt is a 50/50 cotton/poly blend from American Apparel. This allows for our t-shirt to be soft, comfortable and shrink resistant.

This shirt is unisex. Women may want to purchase a size smaller for a slimmer fit. The color featured is Heather Black.

The men's shirt is available in sizes S to 2XL.



Digital Idol Persephone

Special Guest
Kieran Strange



Special Guest
Synaptic Chaos Theatre

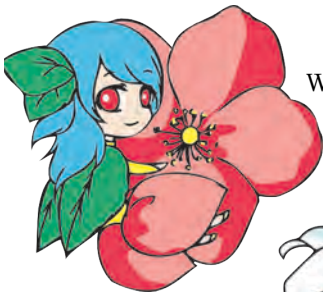


White Swan Aurora & Black Swan Persephone



Grand Slam Seph & High Heat Aurora

Merchandise



Wild Rose Persephone



Battle Girl
Aurora

Lily Aurora

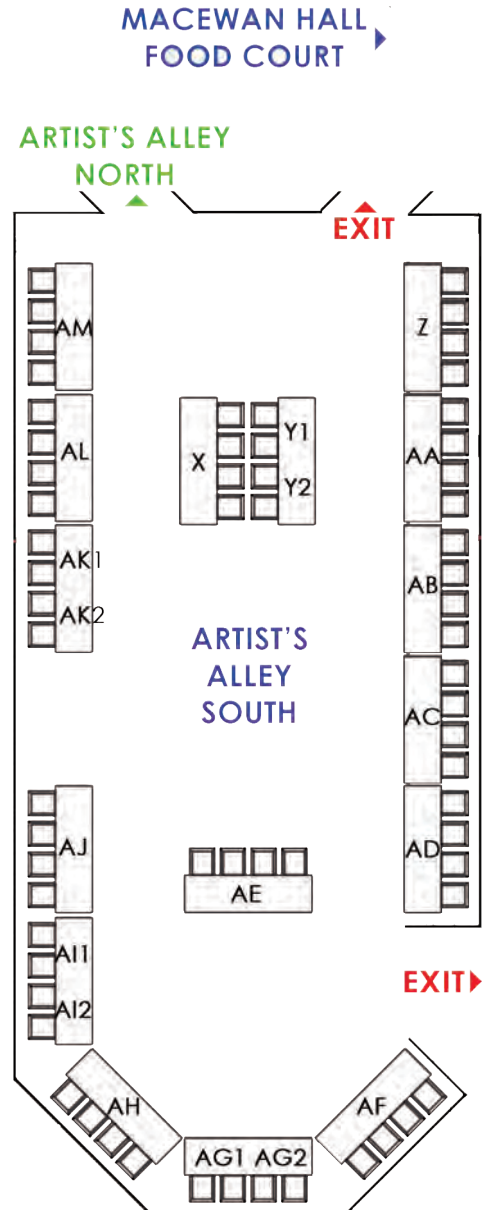
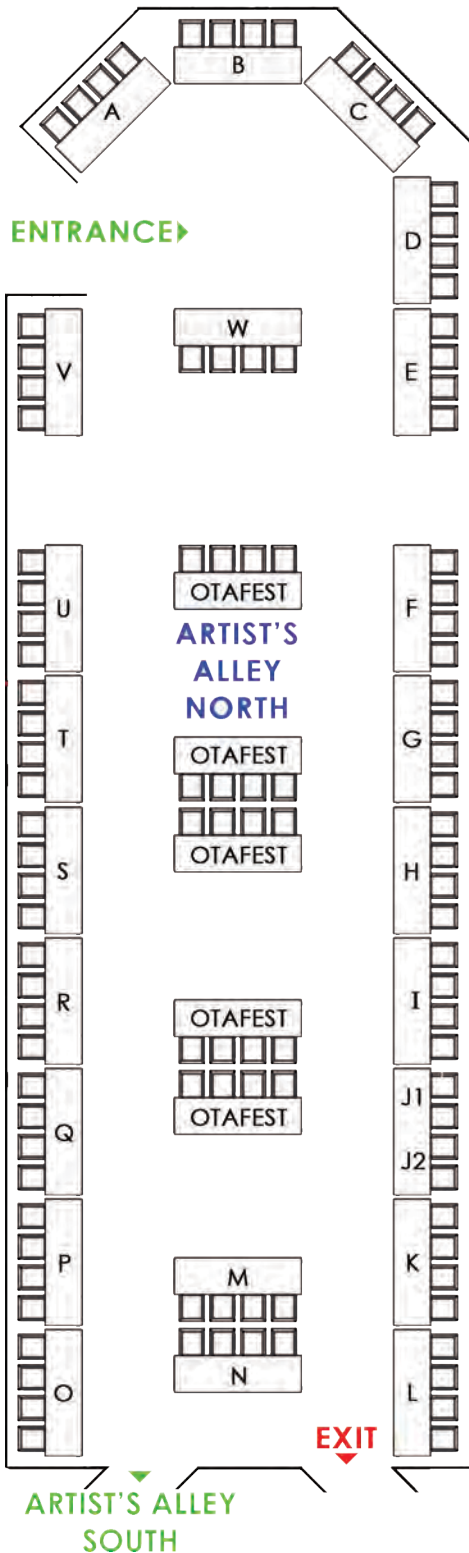


Battle Girl
Seph



Pin Trading is a great way to add to your Otafest experience! Our pins are beautifully designed by local artists and most often feature our amazing mascots, Seph and Aurora. By trading pins with Otafest staff and patrons, you can collect the designs that you love the most!

Most of our designs are available at our merchandise desk but some are only available if you trade with Otafest staff! By trading a pin that you purchased, you'll be able to get one of our staff designs. These special designs can be found throughout the convention however some are only available at certain events and times. These limited quantity pins are harder to find but will make your collecting experience more enjoyable and rewarding if you find them!



MACEWAN HALL
FOOD COURT

ARTIST'S ALLEY
NORTH

ARTIST'S
ALLEY
SOUTH

ARTIST'S ALLEY
SOUTH

Artist Locations

• North Courtyard

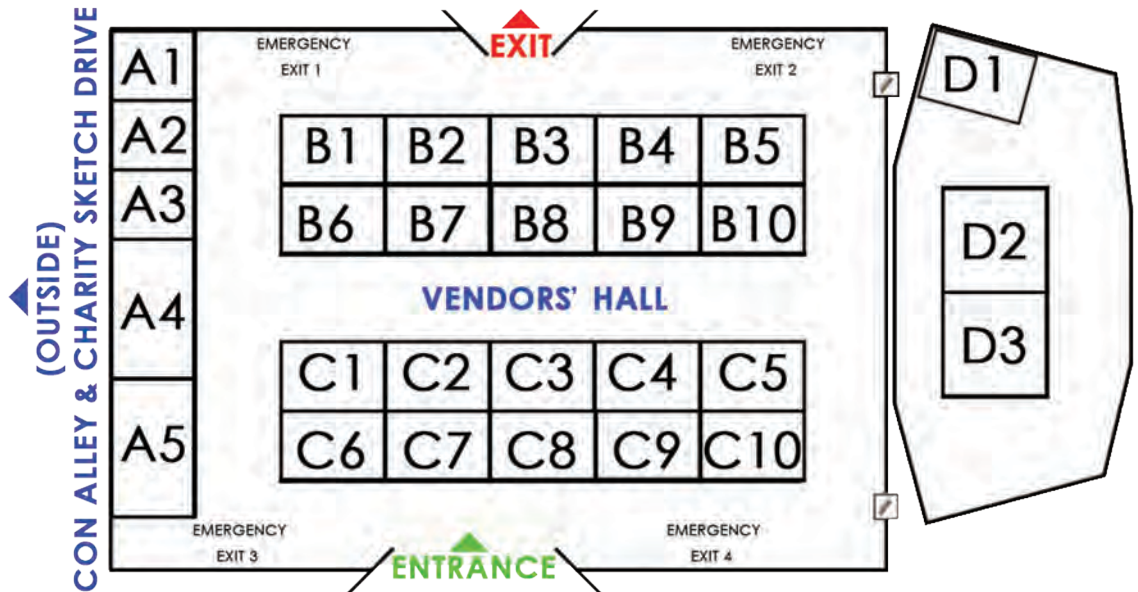
- A - Ngoc Nguyen Pham
- B - Angela Tran
- C - Yueyin Zheng
- D - James Clement
- E - Hyun-jo Park

• North Courtyard (con't)

- F - John Nanasca
- G1 - Johnni Kok
- G2 - Tyler Jepson
- H - Valerie Sellers
- I - Julie Neil
- J1 - Megan Murphy
- J2 - Katie Nielsen
- K - Stephanie Esperida
- L - Cynthia Wong
- M - Simone Heatley
- N - Angela Penner
- O - Trisha Thu Kieu
- P - Gigi Lau
- Q - Janice Duan
- R - Prince Aparici
- S - Kate Depatie
- T - Chelsea Goerzen
- U - Jinny Liang
- V - Yu Min Zhang
- W - Birdy Crisologo

Otafest is proud to present a larger-than-ever-before Artist's Alley, located in the courtyard near the MacEwan Hall Food Court! They finally have a creative space to call their own, so make sure to visit our local artists and official Otafest artists!

The Vendors' Hall is bustling with merchandise, both local and from across the nation. We hope you find that special something you've been looking for, from cosplay, anime/manga, music CDs, plushies, models, or accessories! Good luck!



Vendor Locations

- A1 - Elemental Illusions
- A2 - Nerd Loft
- A3 - Greentea Design
- A4 - Otaku Entertainment
- A5 - Irben Entertainment

- B1 - AWGD.ART
- B2 - Global Anime
- B3 - C&L Multimedia
- B4 - Cartoon Passion
- B5 - Tenshi Hobby
- B6 - New Game+
- B7 - Chez Rhox
- B8 - Maru Cosplay
- B9 - Chinook Crafts
- B10 - Sun Anime

- C1 - Canada Cosplay
- C2 - Viibrants
- C3 - Random Array
- C4 - Lesa's Enchanted Attic
- C5 - Japan Gifts
- C6 - Megazone
- C7 - Animodeling Zone
- C8 - Animage Hobby Shop
- C9 - Anime Fanatic
- C10 - Dark Phoenix

- D1 - Comic-Kazi
- D2 - Anime Hypercubed
- D3 - Nerdhaven Collectibles

Artist Locations (con't.)

- South Courtyard

- X - Sabrina R. O'Donnell
- Y1 - Melanie O'Donnell
- Y2 - Laura Bell
- Z - Twyla April
- AA - Hannah Kun-Vas
- AB - Derek Weselake
- AC - Matthew Carberry
- AD - Jennifer Liu
- AE - Winson "Drake" Tsui
- AF - Andrea Tamme
- AG1 - Kelly Porteous
- AG2 - Danielle Meger
- AH - Ven Seunnapha
- AI1 - Karli Knaff
- AI2 - Gavin Laverty
- AJ - Ashley Harder
- AK1 - Dayna Walton
- AK2 - Kelly Lane
- AL - Elise Zilinski
- AM - Daniel John Derksen



Otafest is a community-built event and we greatly value everyone who participates in our festival, from the first-time attendee to the veteran volunteer. Everyone brings something special to Otafest and we could not host this convention without your participation! As you may have noticed, this is actually Otafest's 16th anniversary which means its also Seph's Sweet 16th birthday, so we thought we could celebrate with some community contests!

The Literature Contest was created to host a wide variety of written content relevant to Otafest and Japanese culture, and the Mascot Art Contest for aspiring artists to illustrate Persephone in Otafest 2014's High School theme.

Here are the winners of each category:

Literature Contest

First Place:

Combatting Cosplay Elitism: The Dark Side of the Hobby
by Sarah Woloschuk

Runner-Up

Traveller's Guide to Otafest
by Kristy Wong

Honourable Mention

Cons are communities, not just conventions
by Yarden Batshaw

Mascot Art Contest

First Place

Squigi

Runner-Up

Derek Weselake

Honourable Mention

Jararu

We would like to thank all applicants for their dedication to our convention and the community. We hope to see your entry next year! We had amazing submissions to both contests and it was very difficult to select the top three entries.

Due to space limitations, we have only printed the winning entries of the Literature Contest; however, all Mascot Contest entries have been included.

All entries for both contests can be found on <http://www.otafest.com/contests>

Along with Seph, we're looking forward to your contest submission next year!



Literature Contest

First Place: Sarah Woloschuk

Combatting Cosplay Elitism: The Dark Side of the Hobby

Allow me to preface this article with a belief that's present throughout: Giving and receiving attention is inseparable from cosplay.

Regardless of the origins of the costume (homemade, commissioned, bought, altered, or any combination of the above), cosplay is still an inherently visible hobby; as soon as you enter public space, you attract attention.

Some might be from the general populace who have no idea what's going on and why everyone suddenly has green/blue/pink hair. However, I'd argue that most of the attention cosplayers get is generated from fellow convention attendees (in person encounters) and online (through social media, dedicated cosplay sites, and recently through cosplay showcase videography).

Now, with that said, I'm going to make this assertion: giving or receiving attention for cosplay is not inherently bad. After all, it can be enormously beneficial for an individual's self-esteem to be complimented for a gorgeously crafted costume; as a social activity, cosplay enables like-minded fans, congregating for a few short days (say, over the May long weekend) to share appreciation of the characters, the series, and each other.

Cosplay is a hobby built on mutual enthusiasm, community, and artistry. These are the positive foundations of cosplay that I've seen since I began in 2006... and the hobby continues to grow, which is an incredibly cool phenomenon to observe! Social media websites like Tumblr have made it easier than ever to share cosplay photos and other content with a wide audience, including tutorials, progress pictures, and other references. Contests, both at conventions and online – such as those hosted by ACP – enable cosplayers to perform and/or to be recognized for craftsmanship. Cosplay helps build a network of friends, many of whom can be life-long! Finally, cosplay is a rewarding creative activity if you do have the resources, time, and inspiration to begin or to continue making your own costumes; it's an art form utilizing a wide array of skills, and one worthy of recognition and admiration.

However, it'd be remiss to fail to acknowledge that for all these positive aspects, cosplay has a dark side. I believe that one of the most prevalent – and most insidious – negative

aspects of cosplay can be summed up in the following term: “cosplay elitism”.

Cosplay elitism might be expressed in a number of ways, but generally each form has a root in one of cosplay's strengths: namely, visibility. Or rather, attention and attention-seeking.

Where there is a visibility component, there are judgements. Most are based on purely subjective standards: of physical appearance, of the quality of a costume, of how elaborate an outfit is, even of what fandom the cosplayer represents.

Other downfalls within cosplay involve interactions between members of the community. Occasionally, there are hurt feelings based in a sense of ownership of the character or outfit: “so-and-so is cosplaying the same character as me, but I called them first!” Other times, the hurt is based in one-upmanship: a feeling that, in order to be afforded a desired amount of attention, you need to somehow prove yourself to be ‘better’ than other cosplayers. Go bigger, go harder, spend more money, use more expensive materials... or even just receive more likes on Facebook or notes on Tumblr comparatively. Sometimes the elitism stems from disappointment when you expect to receive attention in certain ways – verbal callouts, being asked for photographs, winning prizes – and your expectations are not met, resulting in you lashing out at other cosplayers in an effort to explain why you're not getting noticed.

It's not important whether or not you feel these things; I would argue that all cosplayers do at some point. What is important is how you deal with these feelings.

What I have found personally helpful in combatting elitism is consistently examining my personal motives for cosplay: why do I do it? Ultimately, I love creating outfits from scratch: tackling the logistical tasks associated with the act, enacting creative problem solving, and taking pride in the end results. The art keeps me investing time, effort, and money... and I always learn something.

Keeping this motive in mind doesn't make the negative aspects go away... it just helps me keep perspective. Why do I cosplay? Yes, the attention is part of it – it feels good to be recognized – but that's not the whole reason. Other motives are no less important or valid! Do you cosplay because it is something to do with friends? Because you love the character, the series, or the design? Because it is a challenge? Because you love performing and entertaining? Excellent!

Sometimes it is enough to refuse to be judgmental, petty, and mean. Bring the attitude you want to see from others into cosplay, keep things in perspective, remain positive... all of these are effective countermeasures to toxic attitudes. So is communicating feelings respectfully if drama arises: acknowledge that you are hurt and try to understand where others are coming from. Likewise, instead of trying to beat out other cosplayers, try to strive to do better than yourself. Set your own standards and then strive to achieve them without or perhaps instead of comparing yourself to others. Be the best cosplayer you can be, instead of trying to be a theoretical 'best cosplayer'.

In a broader sense, it is useful to acknowledge that all cosplayers have varying access to resources – time, money, raw materials, experience – and that even within contests each cosplayer is worthy of receiving respect simply for participating. And when it comes to self-esteem? Cosplay can – and has – been a springboard for many people in their personal development, building confidence and community. However, investing confidence in all areas of your life may take time... but is ultimately more rewarding than expecting a single hobby to supply all positive validation.

As my friend and fellow cosplayer Lauren W. once told me: “At the end of the day, we’re all nerds in costumes. That’s what cosplay is.”

A good reminder.

Let’s go out and keep cosplay fun.

Runner-Up: Kristy Wong

Traveller’s Guide to Otafest

My third year of Otafest is just around the corner. My first time at Otafest, only at a wee (ish) 12 years of age, was a joyous and fun occasion! (Doing the math would currently make me 14 years of age.) Speaking from experience, I’d like to offer you a nifty guide of the general policies, rules of Otafest. But apart from all that boring stuff, I’ll write about what you should bring to the convention! Otafest is super fun, only if you make it fun and respect other people’s fun.

Let’s get down to it... Some of the GENERAL POLICIES/RULES, the boring but important stuff. Full list found on the Otafest website. (<http://otafest.com/policies>)

- Wear shoes: At Otafest attendees, we are a sanitary group of civilized citizens. Bring shoes! I hate to break it to you folks, but the floor is dirty. All floors are dirty.
- Be friendly: Otafest is a wonderful organization that is run on volunteers. Be kind and respect everybody! So no, you can’t hit them with your staff-inspected cosplay weapons.
- Weapons: Only non-realistic weapons are allowed. These should be transported in some kind of consealed bag or container before one of the kind Otafest staff have inspected it. This is for the general safety of the public! **Don’t bring any real weapons!**
- Drugs & Alcohol: Hugs, not drugs. No alcohol either. This includes your beer, wine, or liquor. Keep in mind Otafest is family-friendly! ;)
- Making a mess: You can bring food and drinks everywhere as long as you clean up after yourself! Don’t leave trash everywhere you go! Unless you’re a raccoon, I guess that’s fine. But you shouldn’t really be at Otafest then!
- Pay the admission and keep your wristband visible: For the first year attendees, remember to go pay your admission and make sure your wristband is visible at all times! Or you will be denied entry into many fun events!

The fun stuff. Or boring. Depending on how you look at it. SUGGESTED THINGS TO BRING:

- Water and lozenges. Call me crazy, but I think lots of fangirls will be screaming at Otafest! Concerts, and merchandise will definitely get you all excited

and scream. Water is good for screaming and when you're out of breath. Lozenges (not the shape) are taking it to the next level and fixing those nasty sore throats! They should call them 'fangirl lozenges.' Apparently Google doesn't think they exist. Picture proof available. —>



- Different colored sharpies or any type of permanent marker.



Why bring these? Sure you can draw on each other, but where's the fun in that? You can, however, get Rose Noire or Yaya Han to sign your beautiful

and spotless white boots with pink and black sharpies. Or maybe that shiny new iPhone 5S you currently have in your hand! (Oh and did I mention Rose Noire, Yaya Han, and many others will be at the convention?)

- Stress balls.

For your everyday use due to not having enough money to buy your favorite anime's necklace. We've all been there, my friend. Try not to overspend and you should be fine! But everything is just so awesome there, that might be a little hard. Still, I'd throw one in your knapsack.

-Money

I'd advise you to keep a budget and try not to overspend too much. Don't leave your wallet at home! You need money for admission (look on the Otafest website for prices) and to buy all the very, very, cool merchandise! Otafest is full of super awesome stuff! Don't forget to take a look in the Artist Alley for homemade goodies, and the Vendor Room for absolutely CRAZY items!

-Camera

Otafest is the perfect place for snaps of your favorite cosplayers! With permission, of course! Just ask those 37 pictures of that hunky Naruto cosplayer from last year. *sly smile* There are so many cool things to take pictures of and film. Who wouldn't want the Rose Noire concert in HD? Perfect to rocking out virtually everywhere. Be sure to stalk YouTube after for some great highlights of the convention.

-Snacks (optional)

I tend to get hungry almost everywhere. Pack some snacks. You'll be tired from walking around the whole day! Otafest also has a great food court so if you forget, you're all covered! If you brought money, that is. But hey, sharing is caring!

Honourable Mention: Yardena Batshaw

Cons are communities, not just conventions

Like many people in attendance this weekend, I have loved animation, Japanese culture, video games and all sorts of media that many would consider odd or for someone far younger than me for a long time. Like many children that grew up in the 90's I was in love with anime before I even knew what anime was and why it was so different from every other cartoon on YTV. I latched on to what I loved and refused to let go, simply because it was time for me to move on to more "mature" things. I adapted those things into my life but never let go of what spoke to me and had connected with me without social influences telling me to do so. Because of this, I had unwittingly made myself an outcast among my school peers and had become a target for bullying. The biggest driving force of this was my love of Digimon. It was the first thing I was ever passionate about to the point of near obsession and because it was less popular in elementary then Pokémon and childish in Jr. High it was added to the list of things to pick on me for. But I never gave in, even as they taunted me by shouting out "digi-MAN" or when I became more involved in anime "how's the cartoons?" It was hard, and it was lonely but I kept it in and continued to read manga in school and tried to draw in the "anime" style. It might not seem all that bad but it was only part of a bigger bullying problem.

It never got better in school so on weekends and after school I would take refuge in my room, on the internet and on trips to Chinatown to buy posters, plushies and new anime (bootleg but I didn't know better at the time.) Because of my love of anime, my parents found an animation after school program so on weekends and during the summer vacations I would start to make friends who shared in my love of anime. It was in this program that I had first found out about anime conventions and about Otafest. I was filled with a joy I had never known at that point and was making plans with my new friends on our costumes and what we would do there. So on May 15th 2004 I was bouncing on the balls of my feet at Anderson station, eagerly awaiting the train when I first saw cosplayers. Even though I didn't know them and had never made friends quickly, I walked up to the group and asked if I

could sit with them on the train ride to Otafest. They happily agreed and that began the day that changed my life.

At Otafest I was surrounded by people who liked the same things as me and were happy to make new friends and hang out with someone they had only just met. By the end of the 16th I was already looking forward to next year and also began to dread what the day's in-between Otafest would be like. The days in-between were hard, even more so as my troubles continued but I had something to balance it out and bring a small bit of cheer to my days. I had made friends at Otafest. Even if we didn't go to the same schools we messaged and chatted on forums, even meet up some weekends at Chinatown. Soon it was 2005 and the next Otafest was almost here! On the Saturday I jumped on the train and joined the other cosplayers as we couldn't contain our excitement, even as we ran across downtown in our crazy costumes to find the shuttle busses.

For the first time ever, I had somewhere where I felt a sense of belonging, people remembered me and I was able to love what I love with others who also loved what I loved. I never wanted it or the feeling it gave me to end. But with every Sunday night it had to end and I had to return to a normal life that offered very little joy. Knowing there was something better, somewhere better kept me going year after year, long after I had given up on finding anything good outside of the May long weekend. It was anime, Otafest and the people I meet there that gave me the

strength to face every day where I would rather end it. Before I knew it, it was 2007 and I was done with High School and Otafest was more than a single weekend. There were meet ups and cosplay picnics and even trips to water parks! By 2009 I was volunteering with Otafest and had been fully embraced in a community that had come to be like a second family to me. I sat down with a friend I had made the year before and comforted her when she got a call from her mom that her dog passed away that day. I help another friend by making sure she got home safely after having twisted her ankle, even if it took me an extra hour to get home that night. I had become a part of something wonderful and had even more Otafest related days as a volunteer and an even richer experience.

So, if this is your first time at Otafest or an anime convention in general, welcome. If you've had a hard time fitting in at school, ask if it's ok to sit down with a group on the hill and chat with them, or ask if you can sit with someone at Mac hall, or in a showing room. Because it's likely that the thing that brought you to Otafest is the same with them. Know that there are people here who are like you. And be sure to take things slow, for yourself and for those around you. Know that there is a community that you can belong to, all you have to do is take that first step and move at your own pace. You can even track me down (during my off time, Otafest volunteers are for life by love) and say hi if you wish, after all: every friend I have to this day is thanks to Otafest and anime.



Mascot Art Contest



First Place: Squigi

"I wanted a happy and bubbly Persephone as I feel that is her charming quality.

Whenever I think of school, I always think of students being late and running for class, so I had Persephone in a mid-running pose, and at the same time capturing her bubbly personality.

I wanted the uniform to have an elite private school look, because our mascot is a very dedicated student!"

Runner-Up: Derek Weselake

“Instead of adding a scythe and wings, I interpreted angel of death in a school setting as punk or Gothic so added a bit of that into the design. I kept the outfit to be a believable school uniform that you would see this day and age but with a unique color test.

I chose the colour scheme to have optimal contrast to bring the viewer’s eye around the design and the tie leading your eyes to her face. Her expression, bubbly and inviting, with her hair style meaning to be playful yet punk.”



Honourable Mention: Jaruru

“It was difficult designing a uniform that matched with Seph’s blue hair and red eyes. In the end I decided to limit myself to a few colours.

The pose I chose for Seph was a pose I believed that most effectively allowed me to show off every aspect of her outfit, while still maintaining a feminine, yet casual appearance. By giving her a tie, I was able to give her a tie bar in the shape of the Otafest wing symbol.

Since the theme was not suitable to portray Seph’s scythe or her wings, I incorporated many elements of her personality into her outfit, such as the colour of her bag and the strawberry keychain. Seph’s cardigan is scalloped in design to personify her wings, and ultimately, her role as an angel of death. I wanted to give Seph a cute and innocent look that matched her bubbly personality, so I gave her a fluffy and mid-length



hairstyle. I wanted to show Seph’s favourite animes somehow, and given the theme of this year, I decided to make her hold a notebook that resembles a Death Note, and wear a pin on her blazer that is an alien from *Urusei Yatsura*.



Amy Zhang

Caitlin Mayer



Cathy Chen



Aroona Khiani

Denise Truong



Caitlin Mayer



Blackthistle



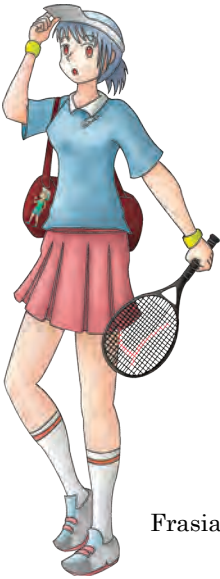
Denise Truong



Emily Choy



Ivan Loveless



Frasian



Jai R



Jessica Wen



Hannah Zaitlin



Jararu



Josie Liang



Karen Ly



Marinda Loubser



Lulu Wang



Katherine Long



Marian Yet



Melissa Ngo



Kyra Conyers



Mizuki



Natasha Shevchenko



Sabina Pang



Sienna Pang



Papaya



Sandy Ly



Stephanie Esperida



Ruby



Sienna Pang



Steve Cheng



Swagdaddy_420



Yoyo



Swan



Tiffany Ao



Yvonne Hoang



Sweetestar



Ultraspank



Yvonne Hoang

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Otafest is proud to announce the Alberta Animal Rescue Crew Society as our local charity for Otafest 2014!

AARCS' mission is to improve the lives of animals by rescuing and providing sanctuary to abandoned, surrendered or abused animals; assisting communities to achieve healthy and respectful relationships with animals; and promoting responsible and compassionate guardianship on behalf of all animals.

In 2012, they opened their first shelter in northeast Calgary, designed to provide temporary housing, emergency shelter and quarantine for animals.

As a member of the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies and World Society for the Protection of Animals, AARCS strives to promote animal welfare and are committed to preventing the suffering and cruelty to animals and instill in people, empathy, compassion and appreciation for all living things.

We invite all patrons to get involved in our fundraising initiatives:

- Charity Auction
- Maid Café
- VIP Passes
- Live Action Mario Kart Racing
- Table Flipping
- Sketch Drive
- Photo Booth
- Donation Jars

...and many more!



Each of the above initiatives are a great way to involve yourself in the work of a local charity, and proceeds will go towards the benefit of AARCS!

For every \$1000 raised by Otafest attendees, one of the members of the executive team will be forced into an animal kigurumi (onesie). Visit us at Closing Ceremonies for a hilarious, fun, and embarrassing (for us) activity and to hear how much our community raised this year!

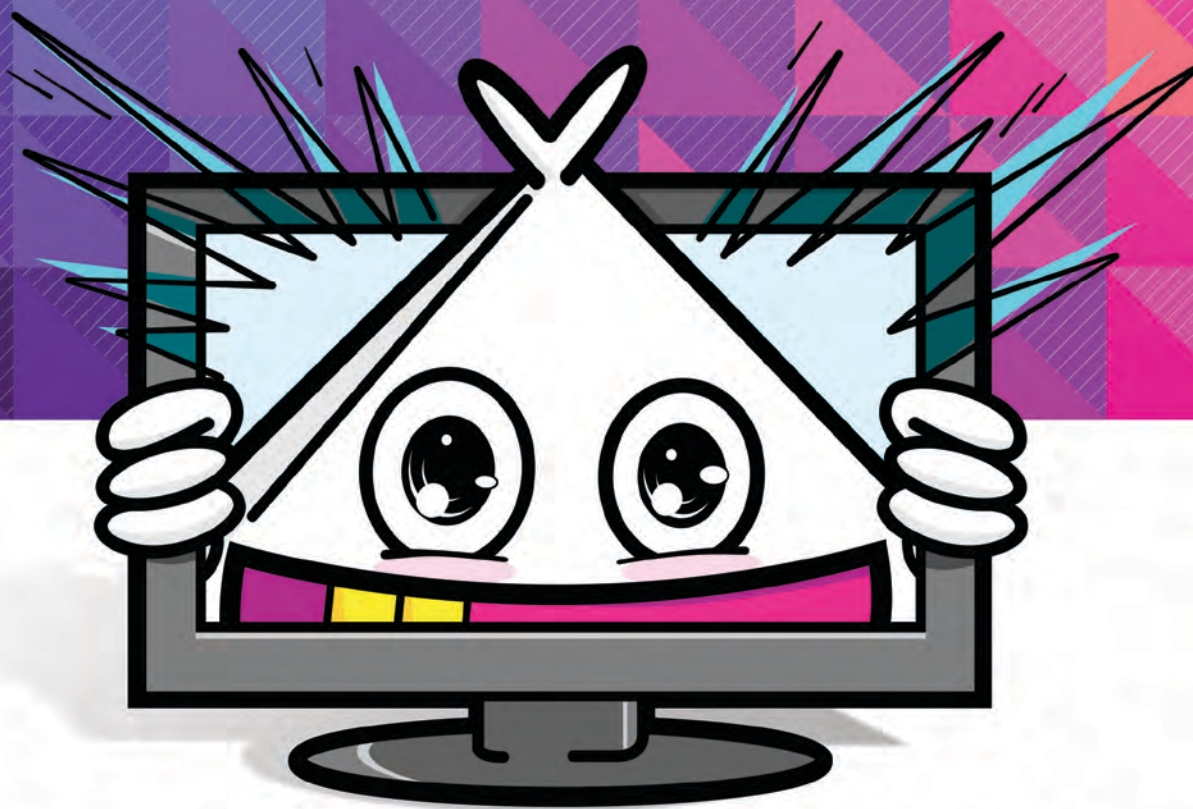
Since 2009, the Otafest community has donated over \$50,000 to charitable organizations in Calgary, Alberta, and around the world. This would not have been possible without your love of Japanese culture and your generosity. We are excited to add to our charity efforts with our first ever Otafest Community Quilt!

This quilt is a one of a kind Otafest item that will be available at our charity auction on Sunday, May 18. You are bidding on a exclusive and rare piece of Otafest history that you will be able to display in your home forever!



Inspired by Naguri's pixel pins that were released at Otafest Aurora 2013, Christina Windley has decided to recreate these designs in fabric form. Each square was lovingly cut and sewed together by hand. It is approximately 5' x 6', and is made out of 100% quilting cotton and has a natural quilt batting inside that will keep you cozy and reminiscing with warm Otafest memories!

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Enjoy every genre of anime on theatre-size screens at Otafest! Share joy, sadness, and indescribable emotion as you witness your favourite character's stories unfold. With Otafest 2014's high school theme, we are pleased to feature a selection of high school genre anime, both classic or contemporary.

Feeling like you've seen it all? Visit our dedicated showing blocks!

Content ratings are as follows:

AP: Suitable for all ages.

13P: Guardian accompaniment suggested for persons under 13.

MP: Guardian accompaniment is mandatory for persons under 18.

Photo ID required at the door.

Check your Program Guide for all viewing times!



Ace of the Diamond (AP)

Eijun Sawamura is a pitcher who joins an elite school with a brilliant catcher named Kazuya Miyuki.

Together with the rest of the team, they strive for Japan's storied Koushien championships through hard work and determination.



Aishiteruze Baby (AP)

Kippe just wants to spend his high school days getting to intimately know every girl he sees.

One day, he is abruptly forced to care for his 5 year old cousin Yuzuru.

Can he still lead his playboy life and become a responsible adult?



Amagami SS (13P)

When his date stood him up on Christmas Eve two years ago, Junichi Tachibana felt a little piece inside him shrivel up and die. Now he distrusts the very idea of love, but karma's about to get him back in a major way.



AnoHana: The Flower That We Saw That Day (13P)

Jinta Yadomi and his childhood friends became estranged after a tragedy split them apart. Now in their high school years, a surprise forces each of them to confront the ghosts of their past.



Arakawa Under the Bridge (AP)

Kou Ichinomiya's family motto is "Never Be Indebted To Anyone," but after losing his pants and falling into the Arakawa River, he quickly finds himself in debt to his saviour, the cutely insane Nino who happens to live under the bridge. To repay her, he vows to help her with her desire to experience love.



Azumanga Daioh (AP)

The chronicle of six ordinary, stereotypical girls and their two teachers expand every day they are at school. From school festivals to field trips, the girls find ways to entertain themselves through the typical high school experience. Also, cats.



Baka and Test (AP)

When fights break out at Fumizuki Academy, nobody throws a single punch. Instead, the students utilize the school's technology to summon Avatars, pint-sized stand-ins with battle powers based on academic ability. What if you're not exactly honour roll material?



Beyond the Boundary (13P)

One day, Kanbara Akihito meets freshman and recent transfer student Mirai Kuriyama as it appears that she is about to attempt suicide by jumping off the school's rooftop. Unfortunately, his good intentions aren't reciprocated as she promptly proceeds to run him through with a sword.



Cromartie High School (13P)

A public learning centre harbouring insane students, a rock singer, a mechanical wonder, a plane hijacker pretending to be a student, a rich man and his servant, one nearly-normal student, almost no teachers, and various crazy events - Welcome to Cromartie High!



Daily Lives of High School Boys (13P)

This comedy follows a group of students who attend Sanada North High School, an all-male school. Centred around three friends, Tadakuni, Yoshitake, and Hidenori, and surrounded by odd classmates, peculiar family members, and many other unique individuals.



***Engaged to the Unidentified* (AP)**

Kobeni Yonomori, an ordinary girl, finds out on her 16th birthday that she is betrothed to Hakuya Mitsumine, a boy the same age as her. Hakuya moves in from the countryside and starts living with her, bringing his younger sister who is still a primary school student with him.



***Eureka 7* (13P)**

For Renton, every day's the same. Nothing happens, nothing changes; the one thing that keeping him happy is lifting on his reflection board.

One day, a giant mecha called an LFO comes crashing down on him - literally. Inside is the most beautiful girl he has ever seen!



***Good Luck Girl* (13P)**

Ichiko is incredibly lucky: rich, beautiful, smart, and better than you at everything. How? She unwittingly steals happiness energy from everyone else!

Momiji, a poverty god with a freakishly huge syringe, has to take Ichiko's extra good fortune and return it to those who deserve it.



***Gosick* (13P)**

Kazuya Kujo, third son of a Japanese Imperial soldier, is a transfer student at St. Marguerite Academy where urban legends and horror stories abound. There he meets the mysterious and brilliant Victorique, who spends her days reading the entire content of the library or solving impossible mysteries.



***Green Legend Ran* (13P)**

In this futuristic environment, alien objects have transformed Earth into a desert. The Rodoist cult fights for control of the remaining water supply against the Hazzards.

Ran is searching for the man who killed his mother, but his goal shifts when he encounters the silver-haired Aira.



***Ground Control to Psychoelectric Girl* (13P)**

Makoto Niwa moved in with his aunt in the city after his parents had been reassigned to work overseas. That's fine, as it gives him the chance to live the dream life of an adolescent boy. At least, that was the plan...



***Gurren Lagann: Childhood's End* (13P)**

A retelling of the first arc of the original *Gurren Lagann* anime, Simon and Kamina have spent their entire lives in an underground city, unaware of the world above. When Simon stumbles across an ancient artefact and enemies invade from the surface, the duo take up arms to save the world.

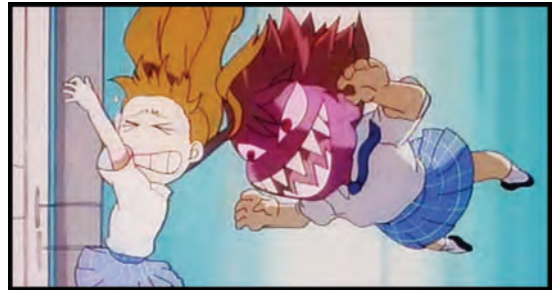
***Gurren Lagann: The Lights in the Sky are Stars* (13P)**

Simon, Kamina, Yoko, and Nia continue their journey across the Earth combating the villainous Anti-Spiral forces. Love, courage, and sacrifice are in the cards as the team confront the Spiral King.



***Hanasaku Iroha: Blossoms for Tomorrow* (AP)**

When Ohana's mother flees with her boyfriend to avoid their debts, she is sent off to live with her grandmother, who owns the hot spring inn. Upon arrival, Ohana is put to work at the inn where she must earn her keep.



***His and Her Circumstances* (AP)**

Like a drug, Yukino Miyazawa was addicted to admiration and praise from those around her; working hard become the perfect student, the perfect girl. But that was before *him*. Souichirou Arima. The instant they met, she hated him.



***Hyakko* (AP)**

Ever have a crazy best friend? The kind who jumps out of windows, makes robot clones of herself, and (accidentally) punches teachers in the gut? Well, Ayumi ended up lost on campus on her first day at school and ended up with just such a friend.



***Is This a Zombie?* (13P)**

Some guys have no luck; he's got no pulse. That's life for the unfortunate, undead Ayumu. First, he was murdered by a serial killer and resurrected as a zombie. Then he unwittingly stole the powers of a passing magical girl and is now forced to fill in for her in the fight against evil.



K-On! (AP)

When Yui Hirasawa enters high school, she wants to join a club but can't decide what's right for her. Fortunately, the Light Music Club is desperate to find a new member on danger of becoming disbanded!

Yui joins up and becomes the lead guitarist in this all-girl high school rock band.



Kiniro Mosaic (AP)

Shinobu Omiya, a 10-year old girl spending time in Great Britain during a home-stay, meets shy English girl Alice Cartalet.

On Shinobu's last day in England, Alice makes the promise to visit Japan someday. Fast forward 5 years, and the day has come for the friends to reunite.



Kokoro Connect (13P)

Up until recently, the Cultural Research Club thought that they and their friends lived normal, happy lives; but now, the Heartseed is pulling their lives apart and exposing their inner desires through body switching, urges, and age regression.



Kill la Kill (13P)

Ryuuko Matoi has a chip on her shoulder: someone used a giant pair of scissors to kill her father and now she's out for revenge. Rumours have led her to Honnouji Academy where it is said the student council president knows the identity of the one she seeks.



Love, Chunibyo & Other Delusions (AP)

Yuuta Togashi has a problem: he used to be a "chunibyō" and acted childish with a wild imagination during junior high. Now, in a new high school, all he wants is to be normal. However, Rikka Takanashi, his neighbour and classmate is still a chunibyō and is determined to restore him to the way he was.



Minami-ke (AP)

The Minami sisters, Haruka, Kana, and Chiaki only have each other. Despite their hardships, they know they can depend on each other to figure out the challenges of everyday life, from cooking to love confessions.



My Little Monster (13P)

Mizutani is a self-absorbed overachiever, concerned only with maintaining the ideal academic status. Haru, her classmate, is known for his explosive violent streak and short temper. Together, they'll learn a thing or two about friendship and love.



My Ordinary Life (AP)

The ordinary lives of Class 1-Q's peculiar students, their odd acquaintances, and interactions within the town they reside in.



My Teen Romantic Comedy SNAFU (13P)

Hachiman Hikigaya is a antisocial student with no friends or girlfriend and as a result, has a distorted world-view. Trying to help, a teacher persuades Hachiman to join the volunteer-based "Service Club"; where Yukino Yukinoshita, the prettiest girl in school, spends her time.



Sasami-san@Ganbaranai (13P)

Sasami Tsukuyomi does not like to leave her house; in fact, she *can't*. Her only connection to the outside world is her brother who is head-over-heels for her and does everything for her from cleaning, changing, cooking, and feeding.



Say "I love you." (13P)

Friends suck, and trusting someone is a fool's errand. That's the lesson Mei Tachibana learned after her heart was ripped out and only a shell left behind. But at least she has a solution to her problem: Never make another friend. Ever.



School Rumble (AP)

High school is hard with academics alone, but when love enters the picture it will unravel into a comedy of errors. Tenma Tsukamoto has fallen hard for the oblivious and weird Karasuma while being blind to the affections of the class delinquent, Kenji Harima.



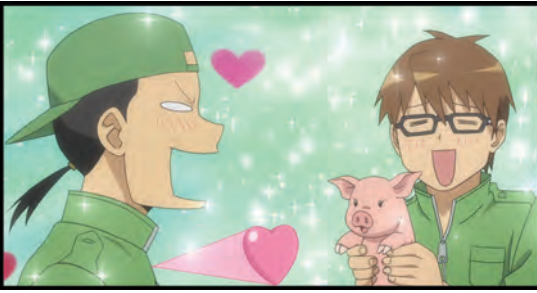
Setokai Yakuindomo (13P)

Takatoshi is a new student in a recently gender-integrated, former all-girls high school. Now he's joined the student council vice president as the only boy amongst 3 female student councillors.



Servant X Service (AP)

Being a civil servant is not an easy job: dealing with angry citizens, facing boggling challenges, and putting up with wacky co-workers each day. However, Lucy is determined to do whatever it takes to get her revenge!



Silver Spoon (AP)

Yuugo Hachiken sought to escape from the stress of school and home, enrolling at Yezo Agricultural High School only because he mistakenly believes it would be less competitive academically.



Space Dandy (AP)

Space Dandy: he's a dandy guy, in space! He combs the galaxy like his pompadour, hunting alien life-forms. Planet after planet, asteroid after asteroid, he discovers bizarre new creatures, friendly or otherwise. These are the spectacular adventure of Space Dandy and his spaceship crew... in space.



Stella Woman's Academy, High School Division Class³ (AP)

Yura Yamato has just arrived at the prestigious Stella Women's Academy, when senior student Sonora Kashima invites her to join the C³ Club. Upon further investigation, it turns out the club is for military survival games!



The Disappearance of Haruhi Suzumiya (13P)

SOS Brigade Chief Haruhi Suzumiya announces the Brigade is going to hold a Christmas party in their clubroom but a couple of days later, Kyon arrives at school only to find Haruhi is missing and the club doesn't even exist anymore.



***The Hero Yoshihiko* (13P)**

Yoshihiko is the Chosen One and has been tasked by the great, wise, handsome Buddha of unrivallaed grace and foresight to save the world. Unfortunately, Yoshihiko even see the Buddha without the help of 3D glasses and he's easily distracted...



***The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya* (AP)**

Haruhi Suzumiya is an eccentric girl to say the least. She's always up to something exciting to keep her world from being boring. Unfortunately for Kyon and the rest of their afterschool club the SOS Brigade, they're forced to go along for the ride.



***The Pet Girl of Sakurasou* (13P)**

Banished from normal housing for the crime of adopting stray cats, Sorata Kanda's life has gone to the dogs. Now he's been impounded within Room 101 of Sakura Hall, a notorious den of troublemakers, geniuses, and weirdoes.



***Tiger & Bunny* (AP)**

Sterbild City is a thriving metropolis where superheroes protect the streets, sponsors pull the strings, and a hugely popular reality TV show captures all of the action. The veteran hero Wild Tiger is forced to pair with the ambitious rookie Bunny to protect the city and earn the best TV ratings possible.



***Today in Class 5-2* (AP)**

This anime series follows the lives of a group of elementary schoolchildren and their adventures; where games, silly jokes and misunderstandings about the opposite sex are all part of growing up.



***Toradora!* (AP)**

Ryuji Takasu is cursed with his father's threatening looks, and is labelled a delinquent for it. Taiga "Palm-Top Tiger" Aisaka is a small girl with a notorious temperament. They're in love... with each other's best friend but co-operation between them won't be easy.



Valvrave the Liberator (13P)

In T.C. Year 71, the majority of humanity is living in space thanks to the development of the Dyson Sphere. Haruto Tokishima is just another high school student when he suddenly encounters the humanoid weapon, Valvrave.



World of Narue (AP)

Narue is an adorable schoolgirl with a secret - she's really an alien with superpowers! Growing up is never easy and facing threats like alien invaders and androids don't even compare to the biggest challenge in her life: her first date with the boy next door!



Yuruyuri (AP)

Right after the start of junior high Akari Akaza joins the Amusement Club, whose only members are her two childhood friends Kyoko and Yui. The Amusement Club has meets at the abandoned Tea Ceremony room and has no clear purpose, leaving the girls to do whatever they want.



Yuyushiki (AP)

Follow the subtly humorous daily lives of three girls: Yuzuko the intelligent airhead, Yukari the loopy airhead, and Yui, the mature and stable heart of the trio as they enter the daily trials of high school.

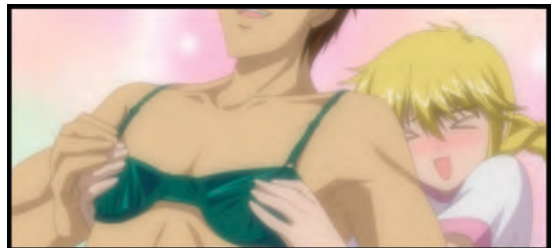


Odd... Showing Block (13P)

Reminiscent of the WTF?! series block, except without an age requirement! It's crazy and fun for the whole family!

WTF?! Showing Block (MP)

Our "legendary" showing block returns for another year as the bottom-of-the-anime-barrel is desperately scraped in search for the best of the worst anime series available. Vulgar and crude, rarely well-animated, and *never* politically correct or family-friendly, it's the only way to end your day at Otafest.



Yuri & Yaoi Showing Block (13P)

A selection of yuri and yaoi genre anime series that's sure to please 75% of the audience 100% of the time, every time, guaranteed.



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Winter is coming.

Keep warm with us at Alberta's premiere winter anime festival, Otafest Aurora 2014 on November 29th!

Since its inception, we've wanted to create a special experience unique to Otafest Aurora, a winter convention. In addition to the classic events you love, such as special guests, cosplay contests, and panels. Exclusive events only found during Aurora include winter-themed events such as the Holiday Maid Café.

Otafest Aurora's showcase event is our Winter Gala. Guests who purchase the gala pass will finish their convention with a delicious buffet dinner, all while featuring a variety of entertainment. After dinner, the dance floor opens up for you to waltz the night away with someone special. Many of our patrons use the gala as an excuse to dress up in tuxedos and dresses, or even cosplay as a dapper version of their favourite character! The gala is truly something special that defines the look and feel of the entire festival.

In 2012, Otafest Aurora moved to the downtown campus of the University of Calgary. That year, we had 843 patrons join us. In 2013, our attendance doubled to 1,716 patrons! While we loved our downtown home, we found that the space could not accommodate the growing demand of our audience and we have found a new venue that will allow us to grow while maintaining the Otafest Aurora experience that you know and love.

Within our new venue, we'll be offering an expanded Vendors' Hall & Artist's Alley area, increasing the selection of merchandise available for the holidays. It has areas where you may take a moment away from the action and relax. This venue also features spectacular outdoor spaces with a mix of modern and traditional architecture ideal for cosplay photoshoots!

Otafest Aurora 2014's new venue and theme will be announced at Otafest 2014's Award Ceremonies! If you are unable to attend, check out otafest.com to find out more.

Pre-registration for Otafest Aurora 2014 will be available at our Registration Desk on Sunday, May 18th.

We look forward to seeing you this winter!





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<u>Photography/ Videography:</u>	Paul Kiemele Gary Cheung Andy Wang Ian Harris Vicky Lau Chris Postnikoff Benjamin Sim Paul Spenard Hank Wang	<u>Volunteers:</u>	Andrew Quesnel Behfar Lotfizadeh

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers and community; their energy, enthusiasm, dedication and effort make Otafest possible!



SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS



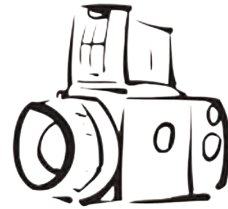
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