

The poster has a dark blue background with a large, bright yellow full moon in the center. Stylized red clouds with dark blue outlines swirl around the moon. A black silhouette of a cat with pointed ears sits atop a dark sword that is planted in the ground. The sword is surrounded by more red clouds. In the background, to the left, is a small silhouette of a Japanese torii gate. The text 'ANIMEFARGO' is written in a bold, stylized font, with 'ANIME' in white and 'FARGO' in red. Below it, 'ENTER THE Ninja' is written in a yellow, cursive font, flanked by two yellow diamond shapes. At the bottom, the event details are written in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

ANIMEFARGO

♦ ENTER THE *Ninja* ♦

RAMADA BY WYNDHAM ★ FARGO, ND
SEPTEMBER 15-17, 2023

Anime Detour 2024™

GLOW



MARCH 29-31, 2024

**HYATT REGENCY
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA**

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HOURS OF OPERATION

Registration

Outside Room 174

Friday: 11:30a - 9:00p

Saturday: 9:00a - 9:00p

Sunday: 9:00a - 3:00p

Vendors & Artist Alley

Woodland South & East

Friday: 1:00p - 8:00p

Saturday: 10:00a - 6:00p

Sunday: 10:00a - 3:00p

Sponsors enter 15m early each day

Programming

Main, Cedar, Elm, Chestnut

Friday: 1:00p - 2:00a

Saturday: 10:00a - 2:00a

Sunday: 9:30a - 3:00p

Tabletop Gaming

Walnut

Friday: Noon - 2:00a

Saturday: 9:00a - 2:00a

Sunday: 9:00a - 4:00p

eGaming

Birch

Friday: Noon - Midnight

Saturday: 10:00a - Midnight

Sunday: 10:00a - 4:00p

Anime Screening

Executive III

Friday: Noon - 2:00a

Saturday: 9:00a - 1:00a

Sunday: 9:00a - 3:00p

Con Ops (Lost & Found)

Room 174

Friday: Setup - 2:00a

Saturday: 9:00a - 2:00a

Sunday: 9:00a - Teardown

Charity Auction

Woodland South & East

Friday: 1:00p - 8:00p

Saturday: 10:00a - 4:00p

Winners must pick up items in Vendor Hall between 4:00p and 6:00p Sat.

Sapphire Concert

Main

Saturday: 10:30p - 12:30a

Cosplay Schedule

Contest Sign-up

Across from Reg

Friday: 2:00p - 7:30p

Participant Orientation

Chestnut

Saturday: 10a - 11:30a

Rehearsal & Workmanship Judging

Main

Saturday: 4:30p - 7p

Contest

Main

Saturday: 7:30p - 9:30p

Seating begins at 7:00p

GENERAL CONDUCT RULES

Be Respectful

Respect the hotel, hotel staff, Anime Fargo staff, and respect others staying at the hotel.

Pick up after yourself and be mindful of the hotel property.

Follow staff member instructions.

Wear your Badge

Wear your badge between your head and waist and keep it visible at all times. If you enter a convention area without a badge you will be asked to leave.

Obey the Law

All local, state and federal laws must be observed. If it's illegal outside the convention, it's illegal inside the convention. This includes underage drinking: the drinking age is 21.

Observe Curfew Hours

Keep the noise levels down overnight - others may be trying to sleep!

Please note the hotel's curfew hours in the Hotel Rules section below.

Lost Items

If you find something that isn't yours, take it to ConOps (Room 174). If you're missing something, check ConOps.

Emergencies

In the event of an emergency, call 911. You may ask convention staff or hotel staff for assistance as well.

Above All: Have Fun!

HOTEL RULES

Please be respectful of hotel property and staff. We don't want anything broken, and we're sure you don't want to be responsible for something being broken. Just keep in mind that we're all guests at the hotel, and we want them to keep loving us!

Only use painter's tape (any brand will do) to hang posters and things like that around the convention. Anything else will be (carefully) taken down.

Again, we don't want to break the hotel!

Please note that curfew hours for the city of Fargo are between 11pm and 6am. Minors (any person under age 16) are not allowed to be in a public space without a parent or guardian during this time (this includes the public spaces of the hotel). See City of Fargo Ordinances, Article 10-0104.

ACCESSIBILITY & INCLUSION

Anime Fargo strives to be accessible to our con goers. We offer a variety of accommodations, such as priority seating, large print program guides, a quiet room, and more. If you are in need of any assistance please ask to speak to the accessibility head.

We also are inclusive of the LGBTQIA2S+ community. Gender neutral bathrooms are located across from Walnut. Pronoun stickers are available at Registration.

COSPLAY & WEAPONS POLICY

Anime Fargo staff members have the final say on whether something is appropriate.

If it's illegal outside the con, it's illegal inside the con.

AnimeFargo reserves the right to change our policies at any time. That being said, we want all congoers to have fun and be able to proudly display their costumes!

For the purposes of this policy, a "costume" includes all parts of a cosplay, including clothing, accessories, props, etc.

- Badges must be visible at all times, regardless of your costume/dress. Please wear your badge somewhere on your torso (between neck and waist).
- Shoes must be worn at all times. This is a hygiene issue, as well as common sense. Socks and bare feet are not permitted.
- Costumes must cover the "private" areas of the body.
- Remember, this is a family-friendly convention, and there will be children present. Profane language or symbols as part of a costume or printed on normal clothing will not be tolerated.
- Be tasteful with regards to clothing that may be religiously or governmentally offensive in any way.
- Cosplayers are asked to be mindful of the radius of their costumes and props. Some cosplays can be large and elaborate. However, if you are unintentionally (or intentionally) taking out other congoers left and right (for example, with a sword/ staff or large stiff wig), you will be asked to retire the offending item or costume.
- No projectiles are allowed. This includes operating airsoft guns, filled water guns, and NERF gun darts.
- Any weapon props must be visibly peace bound.
- Live steel is permissible, but it must be peace bonded into the sheath. If there is no way to bind it into the sheath it is NOT allowed in the con space. It CANNOT come out of the sheath at any time during the convention. If it is found that you have broken your peace bond and unsheathed your live steel you will be spoken to by safety.
- Any projectile weapons must be unfireable. How this is accomplished is up to the attendee. Some actions that will achieve this goal may include removing the firing mechanism, removing the firing pin, or making the slide/magazine load non-functioning. All projectile weapons will be peace bonded with a zip tie in such a fashion that the trigger cannot be pulled, as an added safety measure. If the peace bond is found to be removed, you will be directed to safety.
- All non steel and non projectile weapons or props must be peace tied. This will be done with a non permanent marking in a visible location on the prop that indicates that your prop has been approved by safety to be in the convention space. Once again, if a peace tie is found to have been removed you will be directed to safety.
- Consequences for removing a peace tie/peace bond will be determine depending on the type of weapon or prop, any actions involving the prop/weapon in question, and whether you have been previously approached in regards to the issue.
- Consequences are at the discretion of convention safety and chairs. All decisions made will be non negotiable and final.

Anyone deemed to violate these policies will be asked to change or leave the convention by a staff member.

AnimeFargo fully believes that **COSPLAY IS NOT CONSENT.**

Please be respectful of your fellow congoers.

We have no tolerance for harassment.

REGISTRATION

Registration is your first stop at Anime Fargo! You can pick up or purchase a convention badge at the registration table, plus snag a fun lanyard and add your preferred pronoun.

If you pre-registered, your badge is ready for you at the registration desk. Please provide the Eventeny QR code or confirmation number to pick up your badge.

If you'd like to purchase a badge, we accept all major credit cards and cash as payment.

All con attendees must have a badge! All con attendees must wear their badge at all times while in con-run areas: Vendors & Artists Alley, Panels, Events, eGaming, Tabletop Gaming, Cosplay Contest, etc.

We do not offer limited-access badges, including parent or shopper badges. If you have questions about our badge policy please contact Registration staff.

Registration is located just outside of Con Operations, Room 174.

BUFFINGTON'S BUNCH



Anime Fargo could not be the amazing convention it is without the help from con-goers like you who volunteer a few hours to help us with a variety of small tasks such as badging doors and keeping an eye out at a table in one of the gaming rooms. Volunteering will introduce you to lots of fellow con-goers, helping you make both friends and memories to brag about later.

If you didn't sign up before the convention, please visit Katie in the Volunteer HQ Fan Suite for more information. Not only is it a good place to mingle with other volunteers, but you can track who's leading the bunch and grab a quick snack as you relax in between helping out and enjoying the rest of your con experience. There are other perks to volunteering too such as special stickers and prizes for those who help out around con the most! Welcome to Buffington's Bunch!

THE SAVE POINT

We have always believed you should capture the moment as we don't know what the future holds.

Photographers practice or learn new skills.

Cosplayers get free photos while trying and learning new posing.

And if you want to re-load any old "save points" you may have made in the past - join Anime Fargo on our Discord Server <https://discord.com/invite/cNh7cT8> and fill the #show-your-cosplays with old and new cosplay work.

COSPLAY CONTEST

It's no secret that cosplaying is a core part of a great convention, so of course we at Anime Fargo are more than happy to host a cosplay contest for all of our registrants! Please see below for information about this year's cosplay contest as well as general guidelines for the contest.

Anime Fargo 2023 Cosplay Contest Information and Policies

1. Sign Up

Sign Up and Liability Forms will be available on Friday near registration. Submitting a form is an agreement that you will participate in the Anime Fargo Cosplay Competition on Saturday of Anime Fargo weekend. **Sign-ups at con will only be available 2:00p - 7:30p on Friday.**

2. Orientation

All entrants are required to attend the AnimeFargo Cosplay Contest Orientation at 10:00 am Saturday morning in Main Programming. If you do not attend, or show up after we take attendance, you will not be allowed to partake in the contest. During Orientation we will go over Rules and Guidelines, give out times for Rehearsal and Workmanship Judging, and answer any remaining questions. Please bring a pen and paper for any questions you may have.

3. Rehearsal

Rehearsal times will be given during Orientation and will take place in Main Programming. Please be on time for rehearsal. Again, if you are not present after we take attendance, you will not be allowed to partake in the contest. Rehearsal will be your time to practice getting on and off stage, setting your marks with the tech crew and hearing the MC announce your entry. **Please arrive in full costume.**

4. Workmanship Judging

Workmanship judging will be happening at the same time as rehearsals. If you have chosen to have your costume judged, you will be given a time slot at Orientation. Judging will happen in Cedar and Elm. Woodland North is where the rehearsal and contest will take place. Workmanship judging is optional, but strongly encouraged!

5. Green Room (Elm)

All entrants are required to be in the Workmanship Judging room no later than 40 minutes before the show starts. Exact time will be specified at Orientation. Please check-in with the Cosplay Contest staff when you arrive. All entrants are to arrive in full costume and makeup. Special consideration may be provided to entrants with difficult costumes if notice is given to event staff prior to the event. Once checked in, entrants are assigned to an area and a staff member will be in the room to answer any questions. All entrants are required to follow the direction of event staff once checked in and are asked not to leave for the duration of the event. Please be aware that the Green Room is not the biggest, so leave any excess bags and items in your hotel room. Makeup and Sewing Kits are okay.

6. Disallowed Cosplays

A costume or uniform recreating or resembling any local, state, or federal law enforcement will not be allowed. If you cannot provide proof that you are a law enforcement officer you will be asked to change.

COSPLAY CONTEST CONT'D

Prohibited From the Green Room

- Individuals not competing in the event (excluding guardians supervising minors)
- **Any** food (please eat beforehand)
- Drinks other than water (water must be in bottles)
- Leaving without staff acknowledgement

While in the Green Room, please contact one of the staff for any questions.

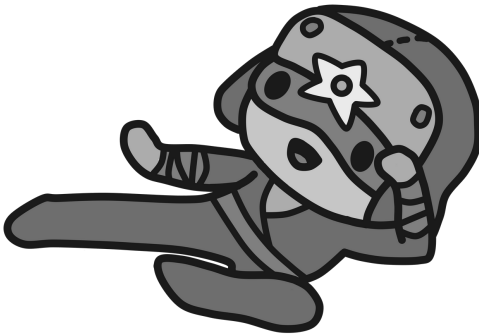
Award Categories

- Best Novice Class
- Runner-Up Novice Class
- Best Journeyman Class
- Runner-up Journeyman Class
- Best Master Class
- Runner Up Master Class
- Best Representation of Theme*

Only those participating in Workmanship Judging are eligible for Awards, excepting Best Representation of theme which is open to all participants.



Anime Fargo would like to thank CHI Friendship for the usage of the wheelchair ramp during the cosplay contest.



CHARITY AUCTION



HERO
Healthcare Equipment
Recycling Organization

Anime Fargo is proud to support HERO, the Healthcare Equipment Recycling Organization, as its 2023 charity.

In 1996, a group of operating room nurses researched a method of safely recycling health care supplies and presented their project to F-M area healthcare facilities. The providers, who were once forced to discard opened packages because of the cost and liability of reprocessing, found the alternative of recycling very attractive. Now they could reduce costly medical waste expenses and help others at the same time. HERO was born from that cooperative project and the number of agencies, health care facilities, and individuals joining the effort to recycle medical supplies continued to multiply.

Through the efforts of a dedicated HERO board, staff, and an army of volunteers, HERO has grown exponentially since its humble beginnings of operation out of a garage.

The message of collecting, recycling, and distributing durable medical supplies resonated with the community, allowing HERO to grow and expand its services and operation.

HERO proudly operates a retail space of 1200 square feet located at 5012 53rd St S, Ste C in south Fargo. Our warehouse storage includes 1500 square feet with future plans to expand and improve.

Anime Fargo would also like to recognize the donors to the charity auction:



FAN SUITES

Ninja Academy (Kids' Room)

Friday, 12p-7p & Saturday, 10a-7p

Join us future ninjas - tiny to teen - as we prove ourselves in the Ninja Academy. Here you will hone your physical skills, sharpen your mind, and find unity with the world around you. At the end of the weekend you will have the opportunity to test your skills and see if you have what it takes to become a true ninja master!

Music Room #3

Friday, 1p-7p & Saturday, 1p-7p

The Ouran Host Club is where the school's most attractive individuals, with too much time on their hands, entertain individuals who also have way too much time on their hands. Just think of it as Ouran Academy's elegant playground for the super-rich and beautiful. Come join our hosts for some snacks, drinks, and games!

The Zoo

Friday, 8p-1a & Saturday, 8p-2a

We have the toons! We have the Booze! Come and hang awhile. Fursuits and cosplay welcome.

That Time I Reincarnated and I got Isekai'd into a Anime Party Room "Volume 1"

Friday, 6p-2a & Saturday, 6p-2a

The party room will be a lofi/Isekai themed party room for con-goers. We'll be playing lofi music in the beginning of the day then slowly transition into a more up beat music. Alcohol served after 10pm. 21+ ID required

Teen Terrors

Friday, 4p-10p; Saturday, 12p-10p; Sunday, 12p-4p

A room for Teens, run by Teens (technically). We do fun events, we have fun decorations, we have a mannequin. What's not to love? We also provide a 100% Alcohol-free room that's offered as a safe space from the Terrors of Con.

Let's Do the Time Warp Again

Friday, 4p-2a & Saturday, 1p-2a

Take a timeout with CoreCon and relax with some games, coloring, and time-traveling shenanigans.

Pokemon Center

Friday, 12p-late & Saturday, 12p-late

Pokemon-themed gaming, trivia, karaoke, and more!

Dragon's Hoard Tavern

Friday, 6p-midnight & Saturday, 4p-midnight

Come all Adventurer's! Fight monsters, do quests, and go on adventures as you vie for the Dragon's Hoard!



SCREENING ROOM

Drop in to our screening room and catch some anime! Screening takes place in Executive III and will run continuously throughout the day.

Titles this year are:

My Love Story!!

Naruto

Kill Me Baby

Princess Tatu

Ushio & Tora

Blade of the Immortal

NANA

Girls Und Panzer

Non Non Biyori

Say "I Love You"

GATE

Inuyasha

Aura Battler Dunbine

Dororo

GunBuster! The Movie

WataMote!

Ranma 1/2

Moribito: Guardian of the Spirit

EGAMING



Come check out Anime Fargo's eGaming Room, where you can find a large selection of games of various types. We have Classic Consoles and Arcade Cabinets with your favorite Retro Games. Want something more modern? We also have PS4s and Xboxes for you. Looking for something more Japanese? You're in luck - we have a selection of Japanese rhythm game cabinets as well. And if you've always wanted to to be a Japanese train conductor, stop by and try your hand at the con favorite: Densha de Go!!

TABLETOP GAMING

Welcome to Tabletop Gaming, (literally) the coolest room at Anime Fargo! Feel free to stop by at any time during our open hours to pull out a game from our collection to play with your friends or ask our staff to teach you how to play a game that looks interesting. Rumor has it that a Ninja Master may be taking up residence in Tabletop Gaming on Saturday and Sunday if you wish to challenge him - so long as our Grunkle isn't actively running another event!



Friday

Learn to Play - Red Dragon Inn: You may have heard in years past of the Red Dragon Inn Tournament that is held on Saturday of the convention; if you have, this is a session that will teach you how to play this rip-roaring game so you can participate in the Tournament on Saturday. You do not need to be available for the entire time block and may come and go as you please.

Splendor Tournament: (Max 8 players; sign up early) Splendor is a game of chip-collecting and card development. You are a merchant of the Renaissance and trying to win enough prestige to have a Noble visit your estate and recognize your prowess. Single-elimination; Prize for 1st Place.

Paranoia - Truth or Dare: (Max 5 players; sign up early) Paranoia is a humorous "zap-style" Role-playing game (you have 6 lives - expect to die, a lot) taking place in the far future in an underground complex run by an insane AI (the computer IS your friend, citizen.) This mission will answer the question: Is treason committed while undercover still treasonous?

Saturday

Learn to Play - Red Dragon Inn (See above)

Red Dragon Inn Tournament: You've killed the dungeon boss, you've brought home all the treasure, and you've upgraded all your gear, so what do you do with the 10 gold left to your name? Buy drinks for your friends at the Red Dragon Inn, of course! A non-alcoholic "Drinking" game where the last player with gold standing is the winner. This Tournament is Single Elimination. Happy brawling!

Dungeons & Dragons 5e - The Rescue of Princess McGuffin: A one-shot adventure for 5e that hits many of the classic D&D Tropes. 2nd level characters can be built in advance with any WotC published source books. Point buy or Standard Array, No starting magic items; Generically generic characters will be available if you don't have the time or inclination to build your own! Dice can be provided.

Sunday

Character Building and Learning to Play D&D 5e: Sooo....what's this Dungeons and Dragons thing all about? How do you play? What's with all the different funky dice? We'll be sitting down with all your questions and building characters together, then, if you have time left over, a roleplaying session will follow with the Sandpoint Festival. Literally no experience or materials expected or required.

Dungeons & Dragons 5e - The Sandpoint Festival: A beautiful coastal fall day and the end of the harvest bringing the community together for a day of fun activities like pie eating, pig wrasslin, and pin the tail on the mayor! An introductory session to D&D 5e for new players. Preference will be given to new players for this session.

RAY CHASE



Ray Chase is best known for his versatility as a voice actor in video games, animation, and feature films. He's played countless protagonists in JRPGs, starting with Noctis in *Final Fantasy XV* (2016), and brought his same cinematic energy to Brother Nier in *NieR Replicant: ver.1.22474487139...* (2021), and Alphen in *Tales of Arise* (2021). On the flip side he's played wildly different and iconic roles such as brave Roy in *Super Smash Bros. Ultimate* (2018), evil Sukuna in *Jujutsu Kaisen* (2020), the corporate Rhys Strongfork in *Borderlands 3* (2019), the devious Master of Masters in *Kingdom Hearts III* (2019), mafioso Bruno Bucciarati in *JoJo's Bizarre Adventure* (2012), and the flamboyant Puri Puri Prisoner in *One Punch Man* (2015).

He got his start making YouTube videos and working on audiobooks, narrating over a hundred before setting his sights on breaking into voice acting. After getting some small roles in anime, his first big break came with Noctis in 2016. After making dozens of appearances in more anime and games, he's begun to break into feature films. In 2021, director James Wan chose him to give voice to the sinister Gabriel in *Malignant* (2021), imbuing the antagonist with dramatic flair.

He is a con fixture making appearances all over the world with his show "Loud, Annoying, and Very Annoying" (LAVA) with fellow voice actors Robbie Daymond and Max Mittelman. They stream weekly on Twitch playing games they have made appearances in.

MORGAN BERRY

Morgan Berry is a professional voice actor, singer, and YouTuber; best known for her voice roles in various anime television series, films, video games, and web series. Some of the many franchises Morgan has voiced for include:

"Pokemon", "Dragon Ball", "Beyblade", "My Hero Academia", "Final Fantasy", "Inuyasha", "Fire Emblem", "Miraculous Ladybug", "Sword Art Online", "One Piece", "Fruits Basket", "Food Wars", "Tokyo Ghoul", "Borderlands", "Love Live!", "Smite", "Overlord", "The Rising of the Shield Hero", "Marvel Avengers Academy", "Cells at Work", the award winning film "The Boy and the Beast", and many more. Morgan has worked with many prestigious companies including Disney, Nintendo, Cartoon Network / Adult Swim, Marvel Entertainment, SEGA, Square Enix, Netflix, Crunchyroll / Funimation, Rooster Teeth, Bandai Namco, Gearbox Software, Sanrio, Team Four Star, and various other notable establishments.



PAUL ST. PETER



Paul St. Peter, twice nominated for BTVA Awards, is a voice actor from Los Angeles, whose many anime and video game credits include KINGDOM HEARTS (Xemnas), NARUTO (Nine Tail Fox), ONE PUNCH MAN (Beast King), DIGIMON (Wormmon, Leomon), ROBOTECH (Zor Prime), BLEACH (Yammy Riyalgo), WORLD OF WARCRAFT (Boden The Imposing), DYNASTY WARRIORS I-IV (Yuan Shao), DIGIMON: THE MOVIE (Kokomon), ZETMAN (Sugito), MAJIN (Majin), TESTIMONY OF THE NEW SHE DEVIL (Valga), BERSERK (Grunbeld), MIRACULOUS LADYBUG (Master Fu), GODZILLA III (Takeshi), LUPIN Pt.5 (Mamo), and RESIDENT EVIL 5 (Swahili Zombie). Paul does comical voices too, from WORMMON (Digimon Warriors) to PUNCH (Cowboy Bebop).

Among his other game, anime, and feature anime credits are GURREN LAGAAN (Jorgun), THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO, (Mondego), MONSTER (Dr. Reichwein), PAPRIKA (Konakawa), LUPIN III: THE SECRET OF MAMO (Mamo), DURARARA (Higa), X-COM (Dr. Heinrich), BATTLE B-DAMON (Armada), DIABLO III (Demented Spirit), and DEFIANCE (Burgess). Paul's voice can also be heard on such titles as MONSTER STRIKE (Death Panda), DRAKENGARD III (Michael The Dragon), JOJO'S BIZARRE ADVENTURES (Wamuu, Dire, Jack The Ripper), NARUTO 7: ULTIMATE NINJA STORM (Kurama), THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS (Armor Giant), AJIN (Hirasawa), HEARTHSTONE (Igneous Giant), KILLER (Colonel Derick) YS VIII: LACRIMOSA OF DANA (Sahad), ACE COMBAT 7 (various roles), GUNDAM: IRON BLOODED ORPHANS (McMurdo), DRAGON BALL SUPER (Sorbet), HUNTER HUNTER (Razor), LITTLE TIARAS (Oak), IRON 17 (Ionias IX), MEGALO BOX (Burroughs), and SAINT SEIYA (Hakurei).

A versatile performer, Paul also sang for four seasons with the San Diego Opera Company, three years with the Civic Light Opera, and appeared in several productions at the Old Globe Theatre. In Los Angeles, Paul has acted at the Globe Playhouse, Richard Basehart Theatre, Palos Verde Shakespeare on The Meadow, performed with the Rogue Artists, and has "gone on the road" for eleven seasons with the Nevada Shakespeare Festival.

As an instructor, Paul has taught speech, accents, dialects, phonetics, vocal production, and Shakespeare at The American Academy of Dramatic Arts, California State University Los Angeles, San Diego State University, Los Angeles Broadcasting School, the Windward School, and is a speech and acting coach for Native Voices at the Autry, a Native American Theatre company, and for the Rogue Artists.

Paul's TV appearances include work on NCIS, LAST MAN STANDING, JESSIE, LEGIT (for FX), RINGER, TIM AND ERIC'S AWESOME SHOW (Great Job!), and the hilarious KEY AND PEELE (Comedy Central.)

Sapphire is a YouTube singer, translyricist and sound mixer, with a full, powerful and mature voice in the higher ranges.

She mainly sings English renditions of anime songs and her most popular solo cover is her English cover of the Kill la Kill opening "Sirius", with over 158K views on YouTube as of May 2014.

On occasion, she commissions musicians to record instrumental versions of anime songs which were never given official instrumental versions.

Sapphire has often collaborated with Y. Chang, and many other YouTubers, including Apatheria, Rikatwoo, Merr, and Steven Kelly. They have made appearances in her songs, as well as in her webcomic fandubs.

In addition to singing anime songs, she also does fandubs for webcomics.



THE KAMIKAZE SNOWMEN



The Kamikaze Snowmen originally began in 1993 as a fun improvisational pastime between three junior high friends. The group evolved in the late 1990s–early 2000s into an indie comedy band, recording albums and playing live shows at coffee houses and college campus events. In the 2010s the Snowmen found a kinship with comedians and a home at conventions. Over the years they've grown their repertoire to include comedy showcases, hosting opening/closing ceremonies and cosplay contests, moderating panels with other guests, game shows, trivia, music video shoots, and more. The group now consists of primary members Paul Tebben and Josh Trumbo, with alum Terry Bown II still appearing on album tracks when able. Taking cues from classic vaudeville and adapting various pop-culture landmarks into their music, The Kamikaze Snowmen provide inclusive and interactive content perfect for any convention setting.

COSPLAY GUESTS

Sartorial Jutsu Studio



Ashley and Lucas of Sartorial Jutsu Studios are a married cosplay duo from Minneapolis. Ashley is most known for her award winning custom textiles and teaching workshops at con. Her sewing and fiber studio focuses on textile fabrication, dyeing, natural plant dyes, weaving, hand spinning thread and yarn, and costuming. Lucas is the brain behind Trivia Jutsu and has taken over 3d printing and prop work for SJS. Ashley has recently merged her day job and cosplay life with the creation of Sartorial Physical Therapy & Wellness LLC, which caters to artists, crafters, and fellow nerds. Lucas and Ashley both enjoy teaching, and are happy to be here to share knowledge on ergonomics, self care, safe binding, and similar health and wellness topics that are relevant to this community. On the con floor they are most commonly found cosplaying some variation of Jiraiya and Tsunade from *Naruto*, so make sure to say hi when you spot them!

Winterose.cosplay

Hi guys my name is Krystal! I'm an Award Wining cosplayer from Puerto Rico. I've been cosplaying for 12 years now. I'm known for my weathered armors and visual effects with cosplays. I enjoy creating intricate and challenging pieces with moving details, LED's and gravity defying accessories. I'm mostly known for my *Nier Automata* "Simone" and Audrey 2 cosplays. I'm a self-taught crafter and seamstress, but when I'm not battling my empty bobbin, I'm volunteering at my local animal shelter or spend time with my daughter crafting and playing video games.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Sapphire's Concert

Saturday 10:30p - 12:30a, Main Programming

Taking place after the Cosplay Contest, you are invited to take a seat in the Velvet Lounge as Sapphire serenades us into the night with her musical talents and powerful vocals as she sings cover songs from anime and video games! **No requests please.**

Traditional Japanese Martial Arts Demo

Saturday 2:00p - 3:30p, Main Programming

Demonstration of Kendo (Japanese fencing), Iaido (Japanese swordsmanship), Jodo (sword vs stick), and Kenjutsu (sword vs sword). In kendo, practitioners wear armor and try to score points using bamboo sword (shinai). Iaido is the art of drawing and cutting with a Japanese katana (sword). In Iaido, a practitioner executes set forms, or kata, against one or multiple imaginary opponents. Each kata describes how a swordsman should respond to a specific situation, such as when you encounter a surprise attack from an opponent seated in front of you or an attack from multiple opponents as you are walking. At the Agassiz Dojo we practice the approved All Japan Kendo Federation seitei Iaido katas, as well as the older koryu Musoshindenryu. There are 12 seitei kata, and close to 50 of the MSR kata. There are 12 Jodo kata, and additionally 10 kenjutsu kata. It's a lot! Students wear traditional "hakama" uniforms, and practice with either a wooden sword called a bokuto, or with a dull-bladed katana called an iaito. The instructor, Bradley Anderson, currently holds the rank of 5dan Iaido, and 3dan in Jodo, 1dan in Kendo and practices with an authentic (sharp) Japanese-made katana.

Chunin Exams - Conwide Event

All day, everywhere

Do you have what it takes to pass the Chunin Exams? Through a series of tests and challenges, you and your clan will test your mettle to see if you can prove your skills! To start your mission, you must prove you can be aware of your surroundings before proceeding into the more dangerous missions. Attend Opening Ceremonies, or, if you happened to sleep through that, find our exam proctors by heading to Registration or wandering around convention for more information on starting your ninja journey! The proctors will be wearing black headbands with a star symbol.

A testing portion will be held on each day of Anime Fargo and challenges are open on the following hours:

- Friday 5pm-8pm
- Saturday 9am-9pm
- Sunday 9am-12pm

Note that clan leaders are unavailable during the costume festival (cosplay contest).

For more details, please see the next page.

CHUNIN EXAMS EVENT

Stage One: Throughout the convention spaces, you will find ninja scrolls hidden to test your awareness of your surroundings. Each applicant for the Ninja Exam must bring two scrolls to the exam proctors to prove that they are ready for the challenge section of the exam. Ninja applicants who cheat by keeping the scrolls preventing others from a fair shot may face expulsion from the exam.

Stage Two: Once an applicant has proven that they are aware of their surroundings, the proctor will give them their admission ribbon for the exam. Now you can prove your abilities by locating three of the seven ninja masters and issuing a challenge! Each ninja master has their own specialty so make sure you choose wisely. Keep an eye out for the ninja masters by looking for their clan headbands! Once you have challenged three ninja masters follow up with the exam proctors to receive your ribbon.

Stage Three: Once you have passed the Chunin exam, you will have the opportunity to continue your journey and achieve your Jonin status. Find the primary exam proctor to be given the final challenge.

Clan v Clan: Throughout the convention there will be the opportunity for clan v clan challenges. These challenges will be to further your clan's standing in the Ninja Academy. These clan challenges will be held once a day during the convention during the Ninja Exam panel.

PvP: When you receive your admission ribbon, you may also choose your challenge status (challenge, ask or closed). This status declares your openness to be challenged by other attendees. The challenged opponent may select the challenge to be completed. To complete the challenge, it must be proctored by a member of Anime Fargo staff, the winner will receive a ticket to turn in to the exam proctors to have the challenge and results recorded.

Clans, Colors, Symbols and Ninja Master

Origins: Red, AF Symbol, Stan

Class 2-A: Yellow, Coat of Arms, Brittany

Kawaii: Pink, Heart, Taylor

Festival of Spirits: Blue, Flame, Lisa

Galactic Adventures: Orange, Rocket, Äge

Digital Breakdown: Green, Circuit chip, Celton

Magical Transformations: Purple, Wand, Jess



PANELS

Please note: panel times are posted in the included insert due to scheduling flexibility. Those times are still subject to change; for the most up-to-date schedule, scan the QR code.

Panels that are 18+ are marked. No guests under 18 are permitted.



<http://www.animefargo.org/schedule/>

3D Printing: Basics and More!

Wig-Wig Cosplay, Sartorial Jutsu Studios

Interested in 3D printing but unsure where to start or how to incorporate it into your costuming? Come join Lucas and WigTail as they discuss modeling programs, filament, printers, and more!

Artist Alley 101

BBDesign, Fox

Have you ever wondered what goes into being an artist at a convention? From applying, to what you should bring, common setup ideas, in or out of state convention differences, come learn some tips from veteran artists with over 10+ years of experience selling at conventions and artist alley coordinators.

Cooking Inspired by Anime

Ross

Have you ever wanted to eat food from or based on your favorite anime? Or wanted to enhance your anime watching experience with food? Then join me for a discussion of Ramen, Japanese Curry, Fried Rice and Milk Tea and filling your belly on limited time and budget.

Cosplay Chess

Taylor

Besides a shared voice actor, what do Lelouch and Izaya have in common? They love chess! Come join Taylor for a rousing game of Cosplay Chess, a great way to kick off the con weekend right after opening ceremonies! Cosplay is encouraged, but never required!

Cosplay Contest 101

BBDesign

One of the greatest ways to show off your cosplay at a convention is during the cosplay contest, but how enter? What do you do on stage? Who am I supposed to contact? We know you have a lot of questions, so a couple of our coordinators and judges are here to help answer all your questions and provide tips on entering a cosplay contest, from novice, journeyman to master level categories, we have you covered!

D&D - One Shot

Kamikaze Snowmen

Come witness what shenanigans Paul from The Kamikaze Snowmen get into when he hosts a round of Dungeons and Dragons with an unsuspecting party of cosplayers...wait nevermind what am I saying?! There will be chaos! Monsters! Maybe dungeons! and probably dragons!

How Hololive Cured our Pandemic Pain (Peko)

The Skeleton Crew

Lockdown nearly extinguished our flame, but Gawr Gura's big shark brain revived us. Now we are more powerful than ever: Hololive saved our souls! NEWBIE FAN FRIENDLY PANEL!

A History of Kemonomimi

Ross

If you've ever wondered where catgirls and foxgirls came from and how they came to be a staple of anime and manga. Join us for a presentation and discussion on Kemonomimi it's origins and future.

Hop in the Car! We're Going to Japan and South Korea!

Wig-Wig Cosplay, Sartorial Jutsu Studios

Ever wanted to travel to Japan or South Korea? You're in luck as this travel guide panel with Ashely and the Wigs are here to answer questions and provide some insight from both traveling and living in these amazing countries. This panel is packed-full of information, "where to go" recommendations, "how to say" illustrations, and lots of sound alliterations.

Intro to Voice Acting

Morgan Berry

Voice acting is a fun, and crazy world! Find out just how crazy it is! Learn from voice actress Morgan Berry and learn the "dos and don'ts" of the voice acting world!

Is It Masculine to Watch Anime?

The Skeleton Crew

There has been an overwhelming amount of chatter online about what it means to be masculine. TSC will explore what these cultural signifiers mean (using anime), search for an opportunity to escape, and try to answer: what is masculinity?

PANELS CONT'D

Ita-Bag: Pain, BUT SO MUCH JOY!

Kay, Jay

Join Kay and Jay as they discuss the history of ita-bags, how folks can get started on making their own, and mistakes to avoid. (Say it with us: DON'T BE A KAYLEEN!!) The last 20 minutes of panel will be a show-and-tell where attendees can show off their ita-bags creations!

Japan Club

Sakurako

Come learn about Japanese club life! Panel will cover some Japanese culture and also Japanese calligraphy.

Japanese Language Crash Course

Fargo Meets Japan

A crash course on a few core phrases to survive a trip to Japan! Join us for this sure-to-be-fun lesson on the most useful phrases! This will be a loosely structured language study session. All are welcome of any level. We will be referencing the げんき Vol. 1 book, but mostly this will be a pow-wow on the basics of sentence creations. Learning a language is not a linear process. It's ALWAYS a good time to join our FMJ classes. Handouts will be provided.

Leather in Cosplay

Wig-Wig Cosplay, Sartorial Jutsu Studios

Cosplay is about bringing characters to life and sometimes that requires using natural and historical materials such as leather! An age-old profession now newly-turned niche for cosplayers is a specialty for Wig-Wig Cosplay and guest host Sartorial Jutsu Studios! So bring your hide (oh boy, leather puns) and questions as they take you through the ins and outs of leather in cosplay!

Paul St. Peter, Voicemaker

Paul St. Peter

Paul has brought many characters to life, from the powerful Xennas to the cute adorable Wormon, to even the wacky, over-the-top Punch the cowboy! Come learn about his beginnings, his do's and don'ts, and tricks in the voice acting world.

Paul's Kick Butt Anime Super Spectacular Spectacular Spectacular Game Show!

The Kamikaze Snowmen

It's back! By popular (or unpopular) demand! The Kamikaze Snowmen bring you an event in the tradition of Japanese style game shows, where nothing really makes sense and anything can happen! Prizes may or may not be involved that you may or may not possibly win! So come on down, you are the next contestant on this Spectacular Game Show!

Playing with Plastics

Wig-Wig Cosplay

Worbla, thibra, teraflex, wonderflex, sintra, oh my!! What a wonderful world of thermoplastics we have available, but where to start!? Wig-Wig Cosplay is here to help you figure out the similarities and differences between all these different materials. Come join us as we discuss the basics of each brand of thermoplastic, the tools, and methods to use in this informational panel.

Q&A with Cosplay Judges

BBDDesign, Cosplay Judges

Join our cosplay guests for this open forum discussion and ask them anything cosplay, convention, or nerdy lifestyle in general. Ask anything from creating or buying cosplay, to competing in cosplay contests, or even our own personal journey in the cosplay world. Our guests would love to hear from you as we finish out Anime Fargo 2023!

Ray Chase Q&A

Ray Chase

Ray Chase is a talented voice actor that is known for his work in video games, and anime. Come ask him questions about how he started with YouTube right down to voicing iconic roles such as Tengen Uzui from Demon Slayer, and Guile in Street Fighter 6!

Second Guessing: New and Improved!

Jessica, Brittney

Second guessing is a game show style panel where contestants from the audience have to name those secondary characters from the shows they love! Plus, our final round of two sentence bad descriptions! Join us for prizes and a new anime watch list!

Sharp as a Pin: Sewing and Needlework Techniques

Wig-Wig Cosplay, Sartorial Jutsu Studios

Sewing is a life-long skill and a cosplay staple! Join Ashley and Wigsmall as they discuss fabric types, techniques, tips on how to sew the tricky fabrics, and some best practices to keep your hands and bodies happy after many hours at the sewing machine. Be sure to bring questions!

So You Want to Book a Cosplay Photoshoot

BB Design, Bee&Bee Photography

Alright, you've finished your cosplay with all that blood, sweat, and tears....and more tears, now it's time to show off all that hard work! But how do you go about booking a photographer? We will walk you through some tips and good practices from safety, types of photoshoots you can do, as well as communication between cosplayers and photographers before, during, and after the photoshoot.

That Voice-Over Audition with Paul St. Peter

Paul St. Peter

You got a spot for an audition in an anime but now what? Never fear! Paul St. Peter is here to walk you through the first audition scares, talk about the dos and don'ts when it comes to auditioning, and answer your questions.

Trivia Jutsu!

Sartorial Jutsu Studios

Join us for a Kahoot-based anime trivia! Believe it!

UNO - YuGiOh! Style

Age

Everybody UNO! It may not be with the King of Games himself, but with our cool guest liaison, Age Nelson herself! Duel in a game of UNO and try to come out on top as the next "King of Games!" or you may find yourself banished to the Shadow Realm!

Villains of Paul St. Peter

Paul St. Peter

Paul St. Peter has voiced many villains in anime. His portrayals of KURAMA (Nine-tailed Fox from Naruto) and XEMNAS (Kingdom Hearts) have chilled people down to the bone, and the horrid YAMMY is a vocal study in pure menace. Come see Paul demonstrate his talents in villainy in a clear and simple manner that will make fans feel they are part of the creative process. Then watch as he asks for volunteers from the audience to rise up and frighten everyone with their own voices in evil! Come have a scary-spooky good time!

We're Your Parents Now: Found Family and Community as an LGBTQ+ Anime Fan in 2023

The Skeleton Crew

The Skeleton Crew holds space for and guides a discussion about queer identities and experiences through a western anime fan's lens.

18+ Only Panels

Ask Me Anything (18+)

Ray Chase, Morgan Berry, Paul St. Peter

Have you wanted to know our guest's favorite, and not favorite work, their favorite con, a good joke, or really anything? Now is the time to ask anything your heart desires!

(No recording devices of any kind are allowed. Please also note that guests are not obligated to answer the questions!)

How to Be an Ethical Perv (18+)

The Skeleton Crew

The Skeleton Crew will discuss how best to enjoy hentai manga, anime, games, and other media without your crush calling you hentai.

Medical Mythbusters (18+)

Emerson

A nursing student, a psychology student, and a friend go ham on breaking down how realistic scenes from anime are in our fields of study. (Disclaimer: We are still students and are not medical professionals. This is for fun and not to be applied to real humans. The mental diagnosis or possible nursing perspectives mentioned should not be used for self-diagnosis in any way.)

Whose Boobs? (18+)

Josh

While watching an anime have you ever wondered who's badonkadonks are those? Or thinking/taking creative liberties what they would look like with little to no clothing? Is it getting hot in here?... Anyway, come see what or who it is in this picture slide show!

Xemnas After Dark! (18+)

Paul St. Peter

You know him! You love him! Now it's time to do what you do best. Yell MANSEX MANSEX at the top of your lungs (as is tradition) when Paul St. Peter hosts an after dark event about Xemnas.

THANK YOU!

Welcome to the 10th year of Anime Fargo! 8 years of in person conventions and 2 years of digital conventions, from Origins to Enter the Ninja, and we're still growing and thriving in this wonderful & supportive community. In 10 years we've gone from tabletop gaming hosted in an actual hotel room to hosting our own mini Japanese arcade. We're so grateful to all of you for coming out to celebrate and discuss Anime and Japanese culture year after year.

This convention would not be possible without the hundreds of hours that our fantastic, talented, all-volunteer staff put in. There's a lot of behind the scenes work that goes into a convention and so many hidden talents shone as our staff of ninjas got their departments prepped and ready for this year.

A special thanks goes out to our parent organization Digital Grail for their continued guidance and support that allows us to run this convention. Additional thanks goes out to our sister convention CoreCon for their assistance in our early years as we found our footing to become the con we are today.

SPONSORS

We'd like to give an extra shoutout to those who are able to support Anime Fargo at a sponsorship level (in exchange for perks at con, of course!). These wonderful people help keep the con running smoothly, year after year. If you'd like more information on how you can become a sponsor for Anime Fargo 2024, just ask at the Registration desk!

Tera Andres
Carly Benjamin
Brian Bertsch
Troy Bloemker
Joshua Dean
Sage Dill
Liana Hansen

Jakki Honeyman
Josh Johnson
William Miller
Zach Nicholson
Charles Paxton
Erin Sparks
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This year, Anime Fargo is also partially sponsored by Lulzbot.

Based in Fargo, North Dakota, LulzBot is the largest manufacturer of award-winning Desktop 3D Printers in North America. With LulzBot desktop 3D printers you can make things you need, things you want, and things you never saw coming. Make progress, make mistakes, and by all means make mischief. Come to think of it, Make Everything!

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Cody Gillaspey

Kaine Oien

Bryn Baker

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Morgan Schultz

Chris Bochman

Stan Kwiecien

Celton Seelig

Katie Bochman

Jo Meyer

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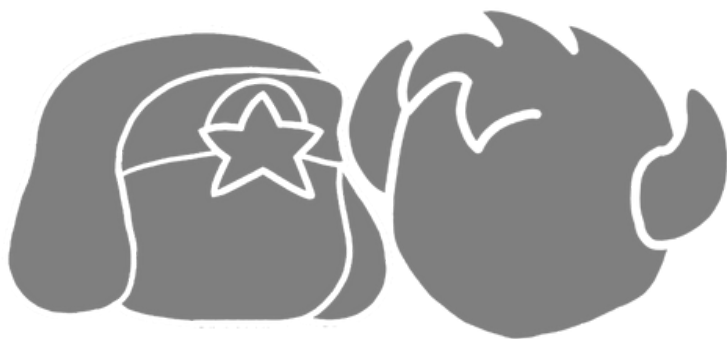
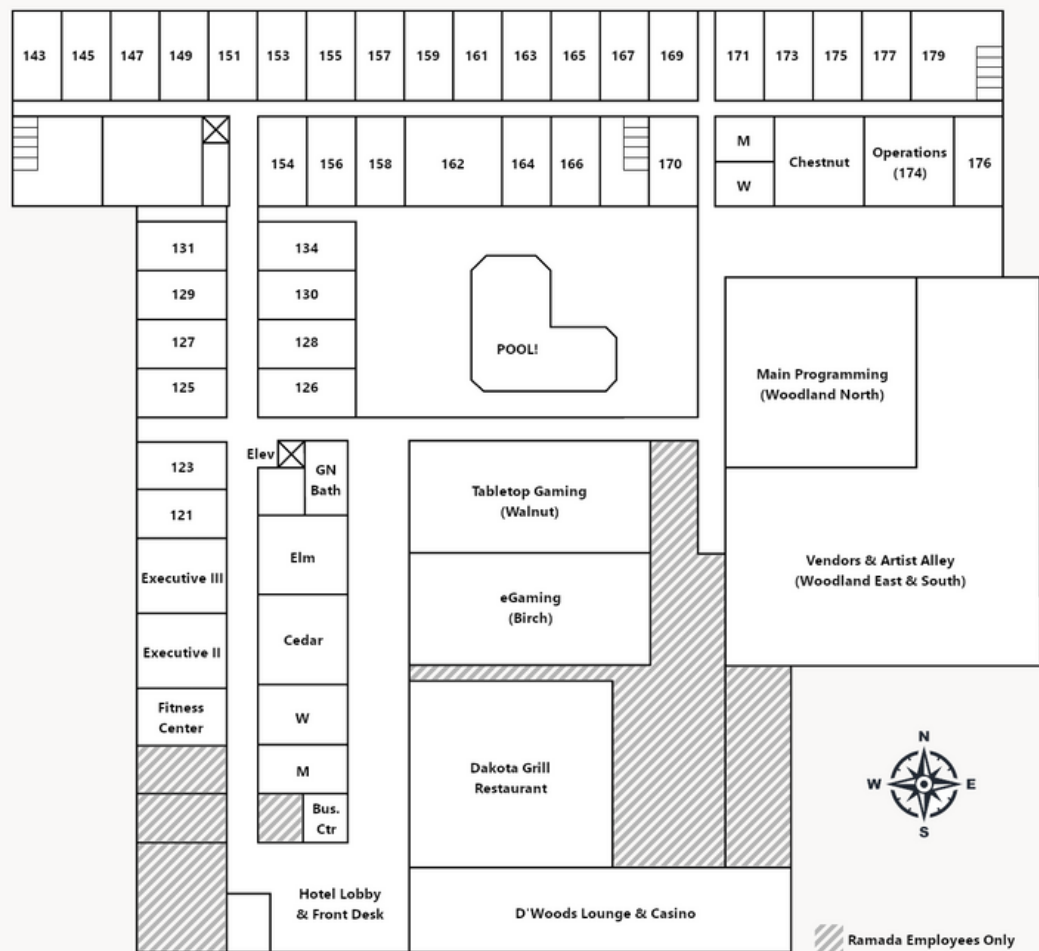
Jon Odegard

Rose Zavislak

DIGITAL GRAIL

Digital Grail is a 501(c)3 organization that was created to host three local conventions which spread knowledge of and celebrate a variety of hobbies, special interests, and pop culture phenomenons. Digital Grail is a non-profit, volunteer-run organization, striving to provide a safe and inviting environment for all to be their authentic selves while experiencing exciting events to connect, enhance, and support our diverse community. We inspire each other through empathy, inclusion, and service.

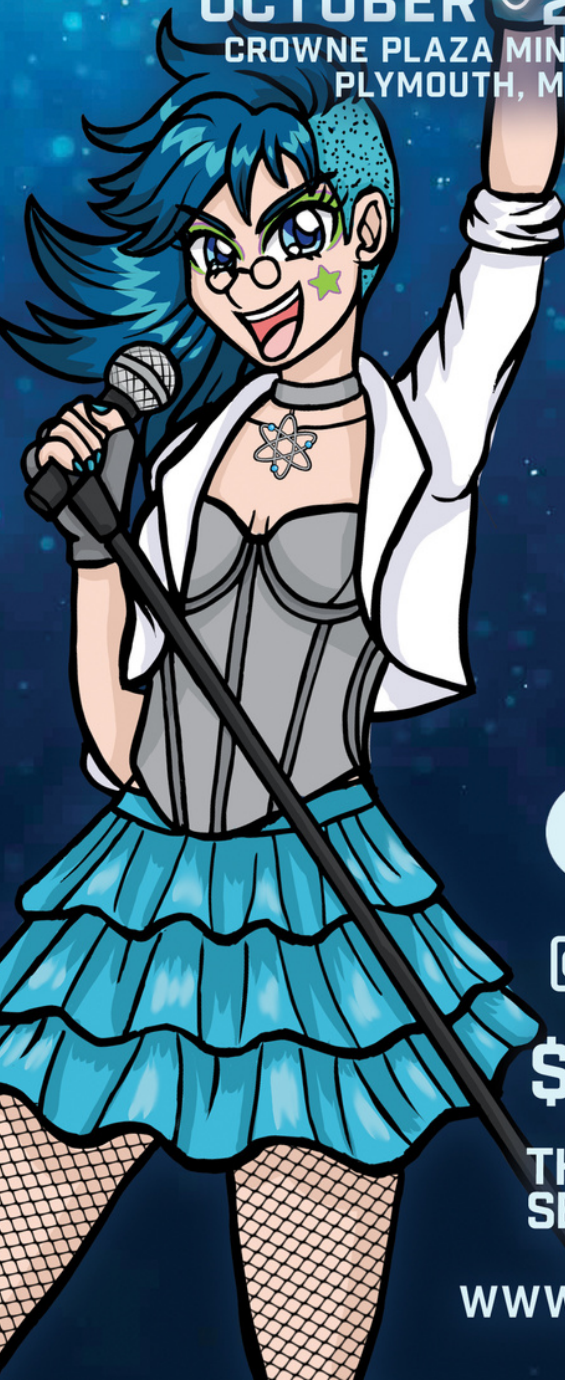
CONVENTION MAP



ANIME FUSION

OCTOBER 20-22, 2023

CROWNE PLAZA MINNEAPOLIS WEST
PLYMOUTH, MINNESOTA



- COSPLAY CONTEST
- GAMING
- VENDORS & ARTISTS
- ANIME SCREENINGS
- DANCES
- PANELS & EVENTS
- ROOM PARTIES
- CONFUEL (SNACKS)
- MANGA LIBRARY
- MAID CAFE
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