

SAN DIEGO COMIC FEST 2024



SCOTT
SHAW!



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SAN DIEGO COMIC

WE'RE
CELEBRATING
THE LIVES
AND WORKS
OF
HARVEY
KURTZMAN

MAD

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SAN DIEGO COMIC FEST'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY



The origins of San Diego Comic Fest are intertwined with those of San Diego Comic-Con. In 1969, a teenage boy named Mike Towry and a group of friends created the idea of a gathering of fans who shared a love of comics and science fiction. Only a few people showed up to that first event held in the basement of the US Grant Hotel. However, as the years went by, more and more people attended this event, known as San Diego Comic-Con.

In 2009, the San Diego Comic-Con celebrated its 40th anniversary and they brought back the show's founders to celebrate this milestone. The convention had grown in size and created more offerings, but it tended to lose the intimacy as the event grew. Comic-Cons of the 1970s created a unique setting where you could enjoy time and become friends with comics giants like Jack Kirby, Neal Adams, Bob Clampett, and Sergio Aragones. At the 40th Comic-Con, they created the idea of bringing about an event that felt like the original days of the show, where fans could have a more intimate experience with legendary creators. So, Mike Towry, Richard Alf and a group of dedicated volunteers put their heads together and created San Diego Comic Fest.

San Diego Comic Fest debuted in 2012 with a return to the origins of Comic-Con. That year, Murphy Anderson held the title of Guest of Honor. Like Comic-Con, San Diego Comic Fest grew but at a rate that retained the intimacy. Fans loved the relaxed atmosphere where they would spend the weekend hanging out with their favorite writers and artists. The San Diego Comic Fest volunteers committees selected new themes each year to shake up the atmosphere and programming, including 100 Years of Jack Kirby, 200 Years of Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, 50 Years of the Apollo 11 Moon Landing, 100 Years of Ray Bradbury and Ray Harryhausen.

The good word about San Diego Comic Fest spread among fans and professionals. The event grew to incorporate more films, gaming and community involvement. The Guest of Honor title has been held by comic industry giants, including Murphy Anderson, Larry Niven, Neal Adams, Bryan & Mary Talbot, Jim Valentino, Karen Berger, Sergio Aragones, Bill Sienkiewicz and Peter David. Each year, attendees continue to talk about their wonderful experiences at San Diego Comic Fest and look forward to the next one.

As we approach our tenth event, we want to express our deepest gratitude to our founder, Mike Towry. His vision and dedication have been instrumental in making San Diego Comic Fest a reality. We also want to thank the attendees, special guests, artists, gamers, event staff, and volunteers who have contributed to the success of this event. San Diego Comic Fest is more than just a weekend gathering; it is a vibrant community united by a shared love of comics.



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

You are about to enter another dimension. A dimension, not of sight and sound but of a friendly and intimate state of mind. A journey into a wondrous land of comics and science fiction. Next stop, San Diego Comic Fest.

At every San Diego Comic Fest, we always want to stand on the shoulders of giants. We want to celebrate the people and events that shaped the world of comics. This year, we faced a challenging decision. Do we celebrate the legacy of a science fiction giant, or do we aim our sights on a cartooning giant? After much back-and-forth discussion, we asked, "Why not both?" In 2024, we celebrate 100 years of Rod Serling and 100 years of Harvey Kurtzman.

Rod Serling gave the world the gift of *The Twilight Zone*. These twisted stories made the world question its existence, shocked us, and set a new standard for science fiction stories. *The Twilight Zone* still stands the test of time as one of the best shows ever made and continues to inspire fans and creators. Rod Serling perfected the art of the twist ending, turning a world on its head. The screenplay he wrote for *Planet of the Apes* would prove that.

Harvey Kurtzman gave us the gift of laughter. He was a creative genius of cartoons and visual storytelling. He found new ways to make gag humor work and introduced us to the Usual Gang of Idiots. The world knows him as one of the founding fathers of *MAD* and the creator of Alfred E. Neuman. *Beyond the Mad Madness*, his work at EC Comics and Playboy inspired countless creators and entertained fans worldwide. It is safe to say that Harvey Kurtzman revolutionized satire with his cartoons.

Serling made people of this world question their mortality, morality, and reality as they descended into madness. Meanwhile, Kurtzman made us laugh at twisted gags on a nonstop ride into the other side of madness. The world owes Rod Serling and Kurtzman a debt for the gift of their stories. We may never be able to repay that debt, but we will start by honoring 100 years of their legacies at San Diego Comic Fest.

- Matt Dunford (Chairman of San Diego Comic Fest)
"What, me worry?"

COMIC FEST 2024



Harvey Kurtzman was a pioneer of cartooning. His career spanned decades and inspired countless creators. He is best known for creating *MAD* at EC Comics and *Little Annie Fannie* for *Playboy*.



Rod Serling redefined science fiction storytelling in *The Twilight Zone*, *Night Gallery* and penned the screenplay for *Planet of the Apes*.

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GUESTS OF HONOR

SAN DIEGO COMIC

WE'RE
CELEBRATING
THE LIVES
AND WORKS
OF
**HARVEY
KURTZMAN**
AND
**RICK
GEARY**



COMICS GUEST OF HONOR RICK GEARY

GUESTS OF HONOR



Born in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1946 and grew up in Wichita, Kansas. He graduated from the University of Kansas in Lawrence, where his first cartoons were published in the University Daily Kansan.

He worked as staff artist for two weekly papers in Wichita before moving to San Diego in 1975. For 36 years he illustrated the *Straight from the Hip* column for the *San Diego READER*.

He began work in comics in 1977 and was for thirteen years a contributor to the Funny Pages of *National Lampoon*. His comic stories have also been published in *Heavy Metal*, *Dark Horse Comics* and *DC Comics/Paradox Press* and *American Bystander*. His early comic work has been collected in *Housebound with Rick Geary* from Fantagraphics Books.

During a four-year stay in New York, his illustrations appeared regularly in *The New York Times Book Review*. His illustration work has also been seen in *MAD*, *Spy*, *Rolling Stone*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Old Farmer's Almanac*, and *American Libraries*.

He has written and illustrated three children's book based on *The Mask for Dark Horse* and two Spider-Man children's books for Marvel. His children's comic *Society of Horrors* ran in *Disney Adventures* magazine (1996-2006). He was the artist for the 2006-7 series of *GUMBY* comics, written by Bob Burden, for which they received the 2007 Eisner Comic Industry Award for Best Publication for a Younger Audience.

His graphic novels include three adaptations for Classics illustrated, and he has completed nine volumes in the series *A Treasury of Victorian Murder* and four volumes of *A Treasury of 20th Century Murder*, the most recent of which is *Black Dahlia*. His other historically-based graphic novels include *J. Edgar Hoover: A Graphic Biography* and *Trotsky: A Graphic Biography*, both for Hill & Wang. A fictional murder mystery, *Louise Brooks: Detective*, was released in 2015.

Under his imprint Home Town Press, he has written and illustrated eight graphic novels: *the Elwell Enigma*, *A is for Antichrist: Obama's Conspiracy Alphabet*, *The True Death of Billy the Kid and Murder at the Hollywood Hotel*, *The Story of the Lincoln County War*, *Chester and Grace: The Adirondack Murder*, *The Wallace Mystery* and *Carrizozo: An Illustrated History*.

Rick has received the Inkpot Award from the San Diego Comic Convention (1980) and, from the National Cartoonists Society, the award for Best Book and Magazine Illustration (1994) and for Best Graphic Novel (2017). His work has been translated into French, German, Spanish, Italian, Swedish, Japanese and Croatian.

In 2007, Rick and his wife, Deborah, moved to the town of Carrizozo, New Mexico.



GUESTS OF HONOR

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THE LIVES



FAN GUESTS OF HONOR THOMMY & JOSH BURNS

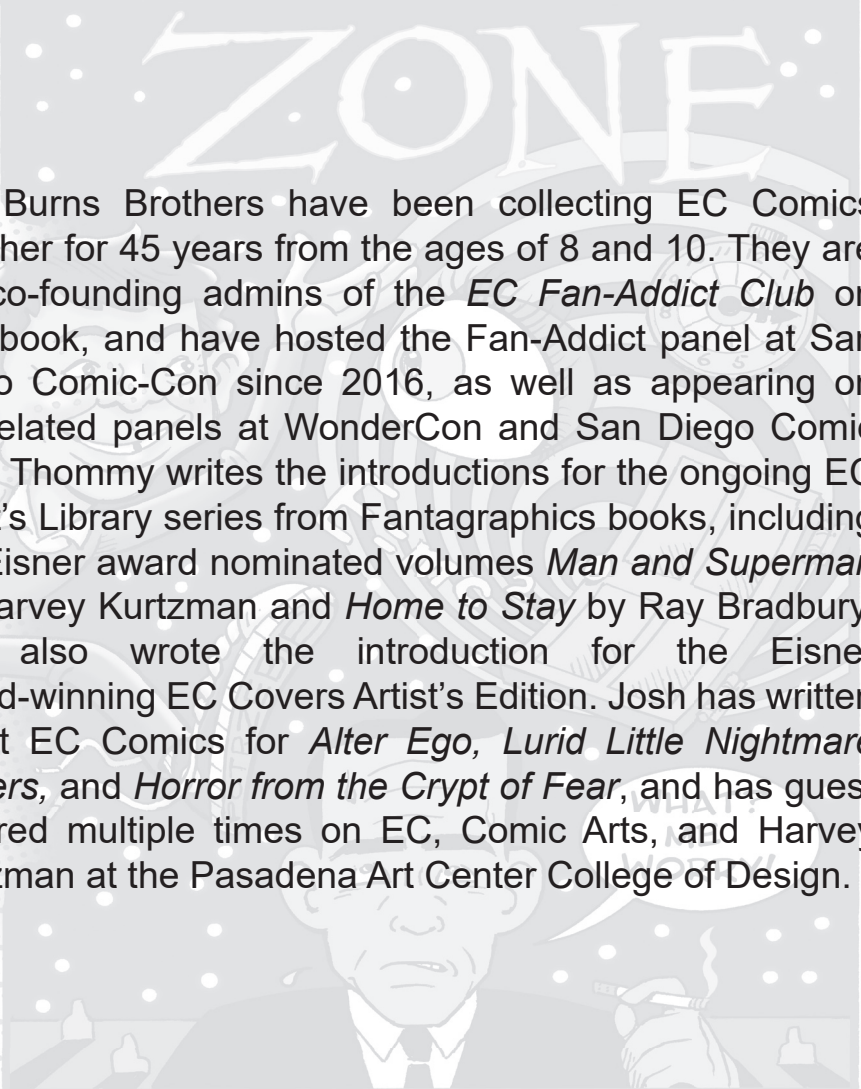
GUESTS OF HONOR



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ZONE

The Burns Brothers have been collecting EC Comics together for 45 years from the ages of 8 and 10. They are the co-founding admins of the *EC Fan-Addict Club* on Facebook, and have hosted the Fan-Addict panel at San Diego Comic-Con since 2016, as well as appearing on EC related panels at WonderCon and San Diego Comic Fest. Thommy writes the introductions for the ongoing EC Artist's Library series from Fantagraphics books, including the Eisner award nominated volumes *Man and Superman* by Harvey Kurtzman and *Home to Stay* by Ray Bradbury, and also wrote the introduction for the Eisner award-winning EC Covers Artist's Edition. Josh has written about EC Comics for *Alter Ego*, *Lurid Little Nightmare Makers*, and *Horror from the Crypt of Fear*, and has guest lectured multiple times on EC, Comic Arts, and Harvey Kurtzman at the Pasadena Art Center College of Design.





SPECIAL GUESTS

SAN DIEGO COMIC



SPECIAL GUEST JILL THOMPSON

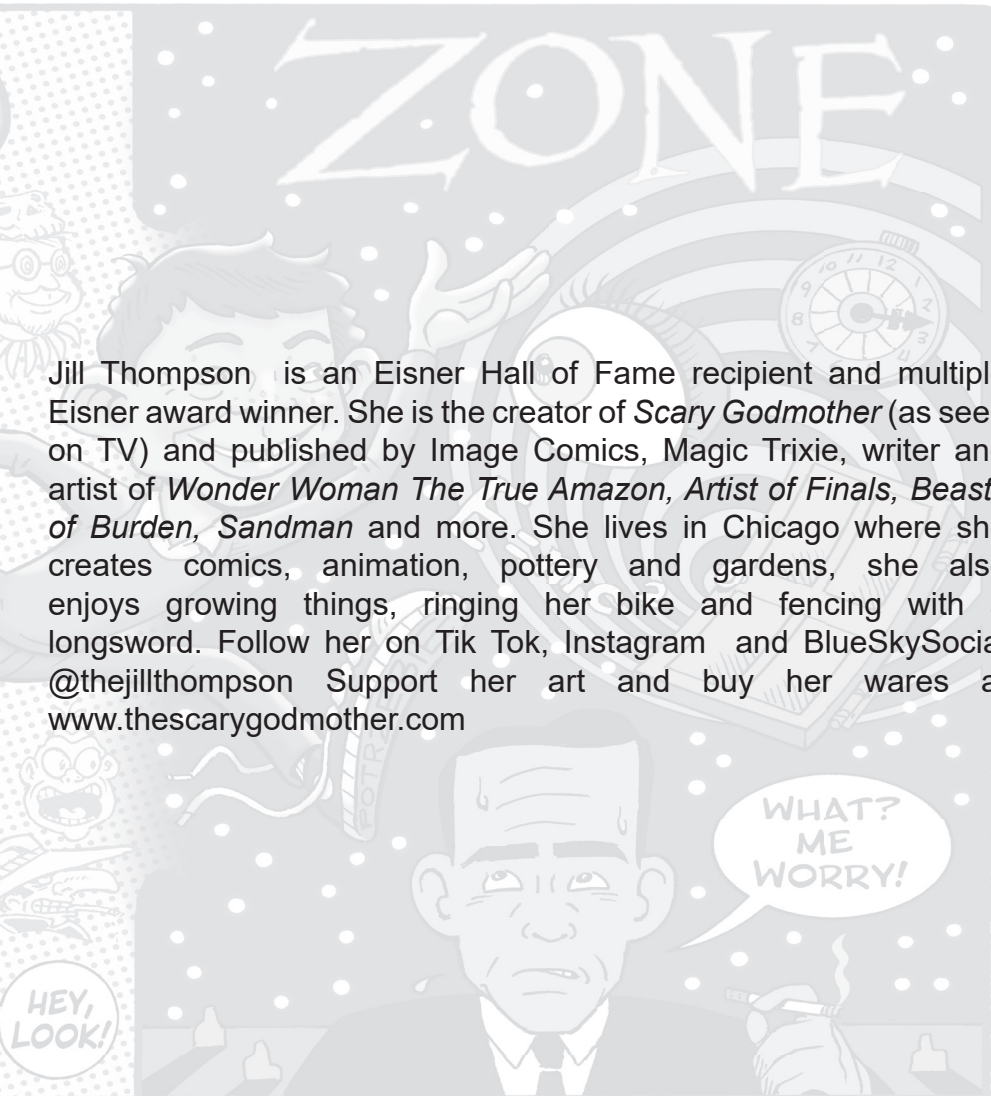
SPECIAL GUESTS



COMIC FEST 2024

ZONE

Jill Thompson is an Eisner Hall of Fame recipient and multiple Eisner award winner. She is the creator of *Scary Godmother* (as seen on TV) and published by Image Comics, Magic Trixie, writer and artist of *Wonder Woman The True Amazon*, *Artist of Finals*, *Beasts of Burden*, *Sandman* and more. She lives in Chicago where she creates comics, animation, pottery and gardens, she also enjoys growing things, ringing her bike and fencing with a longsword. Follow her on Tik Tok, Instagram and BlueSkySocial @thejillthompson Support her art and buy her wares at www.thescarygodmother.com



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SPECIAL GUESTS



SPECIAL GUEST MARK RUSSELL

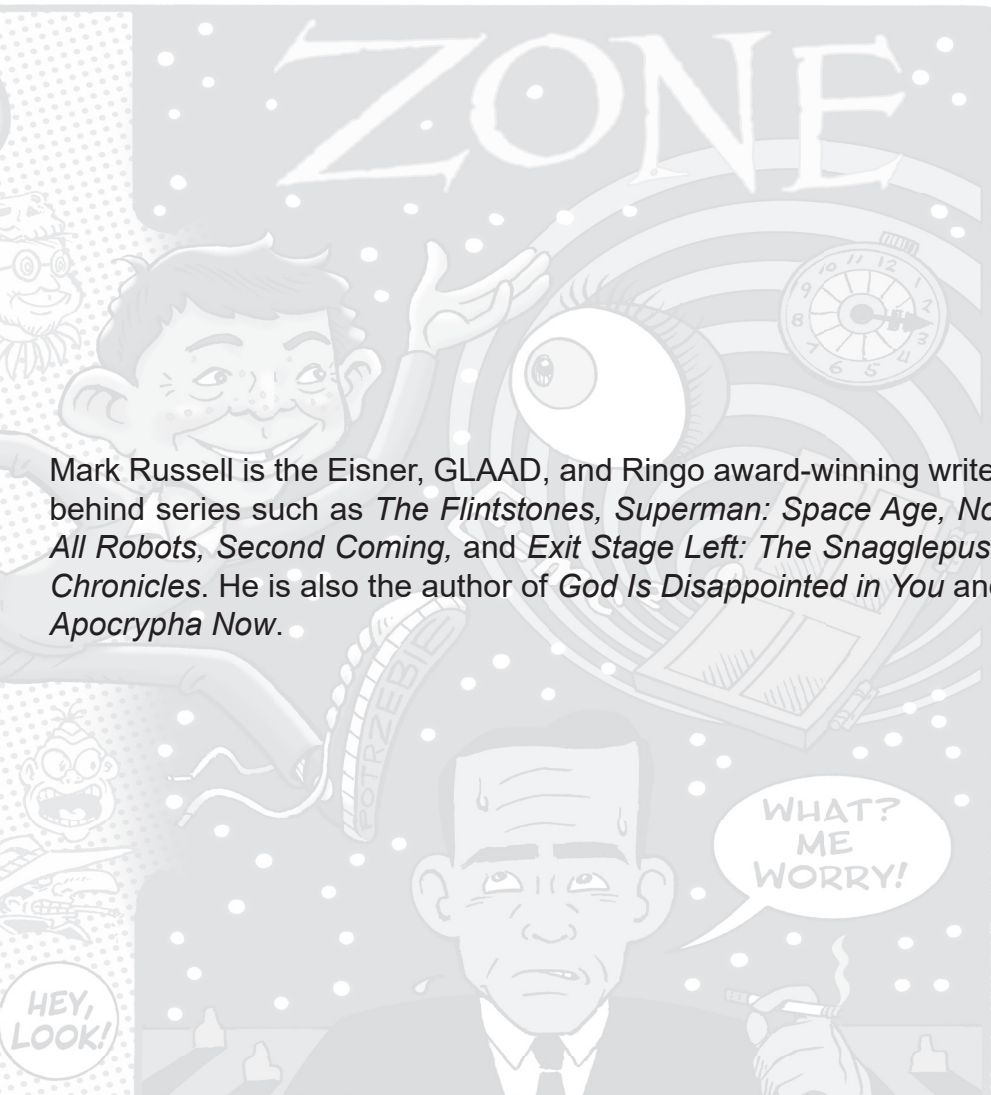
SPECIAL GUESTS



COMIC FEST 2024

ZONE

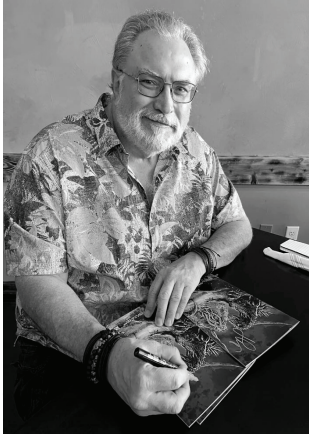
Mark Russell is the Eisner, GLAAD, and Ringo award-winning writer behind series such as *The Flintstones*, *Superman: Space Age*, *Not All Robots*, *Second Coming*, and *Exit Stage Left: The Snagglepuss Chronicles*. He is also the author of *God Is Disappointed in You* and *Apocrypha Now*.



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OTHER GUESTS

SAN DIEGO COMIC FEST



JONATHAN MABERRY



MARIE ANDREAS



MARION HARMON



MELISSA T. MILLER



JOE PHILLIPS



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OTHER GUESTS



COMIC FEST 2024



LARRY HOUSTON



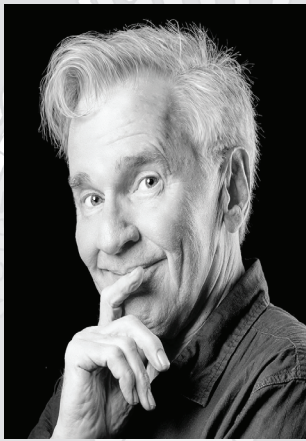
CHRIS RYALL



BUZZ DIXON



ERIC AND JULIA LEWALD



MICHAEL DOOLEY



RICARDO DELGADO



OTHER GUESTS

SAN DIEGO COMIC FEST



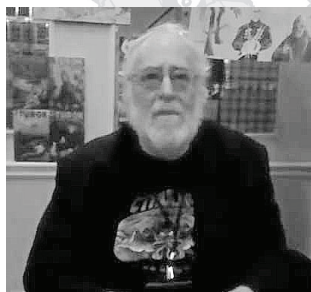
WILLIE ITO



PHIL YEH



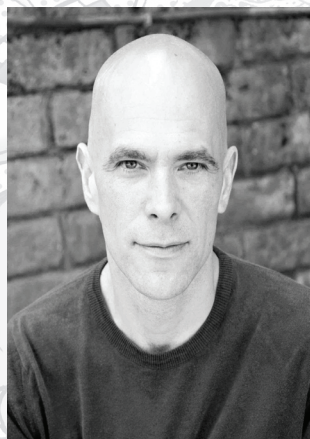
MIKE ROYER



PETE VON SCHOLLY



PAUL M. SAMMON

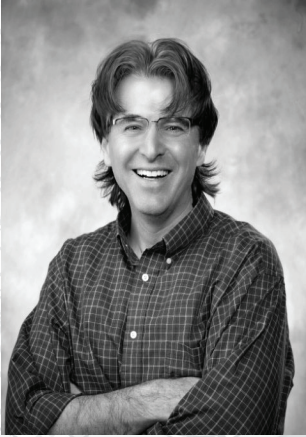


JIM KRUEGER

OTHER GUESTS



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GREG PRESTON



CHRIS RYALL



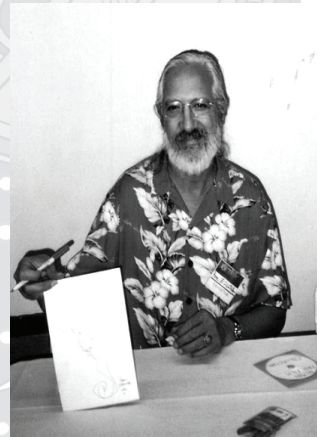
BUZZ DIXON



SHANNON WHEELER



BARBARA KESEL



STEVE LEIALOHA



OTHER GUESTS

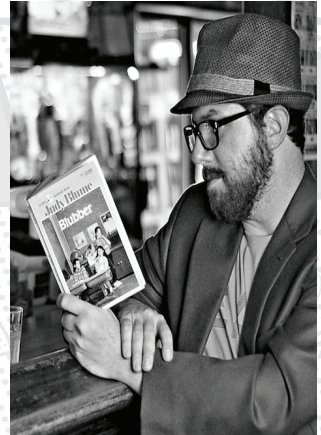
SAN DIEGO COMIC FEST



LEE KOHSE



MARY FLEENER



MATHEW KLICKSTEIN



**GREG EVANS AND
KAREN EVANS
SATURDAY ONLY**

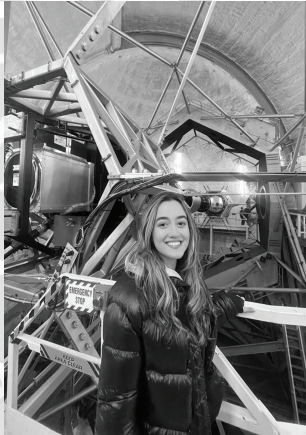
SCIENCE GUESTS



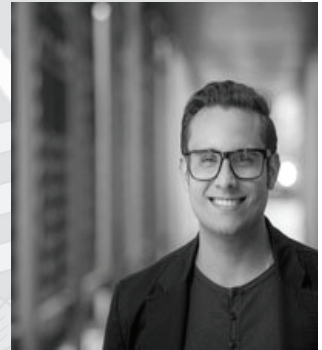
COMIC FEST 2024



DR. LISA WILL



CLARISSA DO Ó



DR. JOSE MARTINEZ CLAROS



DR. SARA CALLORI



DR. MICHAEL RAVINE



DR. ROGER FREEDMAN





STAFF CREDITS

SAN DIEGO COMIC FEST

Aeian Duckett - Disabled Services

Alex Hoey - Art Department

Alonso Nunez - President, Programming, and Panels/Guests

Alvin Revilas - IT/Operations

Alyssa Franks - Audio Visual

Antonio Perez - Audio Visual/Floater

Aubri Robinson - Art Department

Beth Accomando - Film Programming

Brian Antoniszyn - Artist Alley

Charles Oakey - Dealers Room/Fan Table

Courtney Tucker - Game Room Volunteer

Courtney Wallace - Registration

David Dick - Audio Visual

Desiree Blue - Registration

Duane Dimock - Dealer's Room

Eli Burton - Lanyards, Badge Holders, and Badges Sponsor

Elisa Elaine Luevanos - Graphic Design

Glen Wooten - Auction/Registration

Heather Davis - Small Press

Ingrid Antoniszyn - Artist Alley

Jenny Stiven - Guest Liason

Jessie Adams - Games

Jim Daugherty - A/V and Fest Security

Jim Thompson - Board Member

Keith Ahlstrom - Volunteer Coordinator

Kevin Pennington - Volunteer

Kevin Sweeney - Volunteer

Lisa Ditore - Executive Director, Logistics, Signage, and
Hotel Liaison

STAFF CREDITS



COMIC FEST 2024

Marci Bretts - Photo/Video Lead, Social Media, Fan Tables, and
Films Programming Support

Marion Copeland - Operations Lead

Matt Dunford - Chairman, Programing, Panels/Guests, PR/Social
Media, and T-shirts

Max Scheller - Ride-Share and Costume Contest

Mick Rabin - Board Member

Paul Silver - Managing Director

Peter Jones - Accounting

Phil Haxo - Signage and Printing

Rich Norman - Security/IT support

Robert Maya - Art Department Lead

Rock Parker - Registration

Roger Freedman - Science Programming and Panels/Guests

Ron Ontell - T-shirt Sales

Sergio Armendanz - Volunteer

Simeon Rosas - Artist Alley

Spencer Adams - Games

Stephen Burns - Digital Workshop

Todd Pierik - Setup/Utility

Tone Milazzo - Sci-Fi Programming, Panels/Guests,
and Web Master

Tony Newman - Social Media/Fan Tables

Val Ontell - T-shirt Sales

Vitor Taverna - Social Media/Fan Tables

Yvette Lee - Operations, Room of Requirement, Fan Tables,
and Fund Raising





WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR SPONSORS

SAN DIEGO COMIC FEST

WE'RE
CELEBRATING
THE LIVES
AND WORKS
OF
**HARVEY
KURTZMAN
AND
ROD
SERLING
!!!**



THE
**ARMY
PAINTER**
TM

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IN MEMORIAM



If you are reading this entry at San Diego Comic Fest, please stop right now. Come back to this another time. I want you to enjoy the full experience of the show at this moment. I want you to pick up this booklet years later and flip through it to remind you of your great time at the 2024 San Diego Comic Fest. This year, we have an exciting lineup of Special Guests, a diverse range of panels and workshops, and of course, plenty of opportunities to meet your favorite creators.

What truly sets San Diego Comic Fest apart is the unique bond it fosters between fans and creators. It's not just about meeting your heroes, it's about forming friendships. Many start the weekend calling our Special Guests heroes, but by the end, they're calling them friends. This special bond is what makes San Diego Comic Fest an experience like no other.

Over the years, I have met many outstanding people at San Diego Comic Fest. It is difficult to believe that since we last met, we have lost some of those people. So, I want to remember those who were so important to this event.

I want to remember John Field, who took great care in overseeing the film programming of San Diego Comic Fest. His fan-favorite Psychotronic Film Fest entertained many attendees late into the night of many events. I don't think that anyone will ever forget his marathon of Batman Film serials from the 1940s that filled the entire theater with fans and their laughter until the wee hours of the morning.

Eduardo Duran was more than just a volunteer to San Diego Comic Fest, he was a friend. He gave his time from the first show talking to every creator up an down artist alley helping them and making them feel welcome. He read all kinds of comics, old and new. He never lost his passion for comics through his life he always happy to talk your ear off about all things comics. And this event will be just a little more silent without his friendly voice.

I want to honor Neal Adams, who was the Guest of Honor at the 2014 San Diego Comic Fest. I will always remember how forthcoming he was to fans about his intense and detailed stories about art, writing and creativity. I will always remember how Neal Adams chatted with a young boy named Adrian, who suddenly realized he was meeting a living legend. The back-and-forth discussion between the two inspired that young boy to learn more about comic history and to be a better artist. I can't thank Neal Adams enough for his impact on Adrian.

I also want to remember Trina Robbins, who was such a vital figure at this event. She always talked with fans, creators, cosplayers and just about anyone. Trina truly loved comics, creativity, history and this fandom. It always filled me with so much joy to see her talking to everyone she could at San Diego Comic Fest. This event just won't be the same without her.

All these people were our friends and I cherished the time I spent with them at this event. I typically find my Comic Fest booklets while sorting through my collection, and they remind me of the wonderful weekends I had with so many great people.

I want to express my thanks to every one of you. Your presence and enthusiasm are what make San Diego Comic Fest so special. When you read this in the future, you'll remember the great times we shared, the people you met, and the things you learned. And most of all, I hope you'll remember the friends you made at San Diego Comic Fest.

- Matt Dunford (Chairman)



LF



LITTLE FISH COMIC BOOK STUDIO

Our goals are to educate students using the standards of a traditional art school and the comic book industry with the passion and the openness of a relaxed studio environment. Little Fish aims to give each student, regardless of their prior educational backgrounds, age or identity, a realistic, working understanding of what it takes to be a professional comic creator, all while giving them the catered instruction designed to better them as individual artists at a pace that works best for them.

We offer classes for kids and teens every day of the week, such as: *Young Artists, Manga Art & Illustration, Drawing & Inking, 2D Animation, and MORE!*

If you're interested in trying a free demo of any of our classes, visit our website or scan our QR code to sign up online!



www.lilfish.us

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