





THE PRISM COMICS LGBTQ+ GUIDE TO COMIC-CON 2022

Compiled and Written by Andy Mangels

Designed by Ted Abenheim

Many thanks to Luciano Vecchio for his artwork



Welcome back to Comic-Con! It's hard to believe it's been 3 years. We're glad to be back. We've missed the fans, creators, pros, panelists, exhibitors, cosplayers and the wonderful staff that are all part of the Comic-Con family. Comics and graphic novels are very powerful mediums for diverse and marginalized voices to be heard. We're proud to support and uplift these voices and advocate for a better and more just community for everyone - LGBTQ+, BIPOC, AAIP and more.

It is with that spirit that we publish this Guide spotlighting LGBTQ+ and LGBTQ+ friendly creators, stories and panels at Comic-Con. Prism is presenting four of these panels:

- Webcomics: The Frontier of LGBTQ Comics - Thursday, July 21, 4-5 pm, Room 28DE**
- Transgender and Nonbinary Stories in Popular Media - Friday, July 22, 3-4 pm, Room 29AB**
- Out In Comics Year 35: Do Say Gay! - Saturday, July 23, 6-8 pm, Room 29AB**
- Black and Queer In Popular Media - Sunday, July 24, 12-1 pm, Room 29AB**

We thank our panelists and moderators including **Andy Mangels**, co-founder of Prism Comics, who also founded the *Out in Comics* panel an incredible 35 years ago. Andy has been producing and moderating the panel for the majority of that 35 years, making it the longest running comics convention panel in the world! We thank the creators who are signing with us, our terrific volunteers without whom we could not carry out our mission, and we thank Comic-Con International: San Diego for its longtime support of diversity and inclusion. Looking at the full Comic-Con 2022 programming schedule, queer and diverse representation is everywhere. It's a time to celebrate and time to champion. Be kind, be safe and have an amazing Con!

Ted Abenheim
President, Prism Comics

PRISM COMICS is an all-volunteer, nonprofit 501c3 organization championing LGBTQ+ visibility, diversity and inclusion in comic books, graphic novels and popular media. Founded in 2003, Prism supports queer and LGBTQ-friendly comics professionals, readers, educators and librarians through its website, social networking, booths and panel presentations at conventions.

HELP CHAMPION LGBTQ+ DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN COMICS
VOLUNTEER - DONATE - FOLLOW
PRISMCOMICS.ORG

facebook.com/prismcomics [@prismcomics](https://twitter.com/prismcomics) [prismcomics](https://instagram.com/prismcomics)

Prism Comics Code of Conduct - Prism is dedicated to providing as a welcoming, safe community for LGBTQ+ comics professionals, fans and allies regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, religious background, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, body size, physical appearance, marital or partnership status or any other status protected by federal, state or local laws. Prism Comics adheres to the same codes of conduct as Comic-Con International, and breaches of conduct will be handled accordingly.

CREATOR SIGNINGS AT THE PRISM COMICS BOOTH

Please check at the Booth for updates
Openly LGBTQ+ creators appear in **BOLD** type

THURSDAY, JULY 21

- 9 am - 12:30 pm - **Greg Sanchez** (*Rainbow Arc of Fire*)
- 10 - 11 am - **Viktor Kerney** (*StrangeLore*)
- 11 am - 12 pm - **Tara Madison Avery** (*We're Still Here*)
- 12 - 1 pm - **Greg Lockard** (*Liebestrasse*)
- 12:30 - 3:30 pm - **Josh Trujillo** (*Hulking and Wiccan*)
- 1 - 2 pm - **David Booher** (*Killer Queens*)
- 2 - 3 pm - **ClexaCon**
- 3 - 4:30 pm - **Lilah Sturges** (*Girl Haven*)
- 3:30 - 7 pm - **Jake O'Kelly** (*The Smell of Good Decisions*)
- 5 - 7 pm - **Sophie Yanow** (*The Contradictions*) and **The Kao** (*Magical Boy*)

FRIDAY, JULY 22

- 9 am - 11:30 am - **Vincent Roth** (*Surge of Power*)
- 10 - 11 am - **Greg Lockard**
- 11 am - 12 pm - **Tara Madison Avery**
- 11:30 am - 2 pm - **Greg Sanchez**
- 12 - 1 pm - **Jack Foster** (*Gun*)
- 1 - 2 pm - **Brandon T. Snider** (*Pride Parade Mad Libs*)
- 2 - 3 pm - **David Reddish** (*The Passion of Sergius & Bacchus*)
- 2 - 4:30 pm - **Josh Trujillo**
- 3 - 4 pm - **Brendan Mallory** (*Egg Behavior*)
- 4 - 5:30 pm - **Lilah Sturges**
- 4:30 - 7 pm - **Jake O'Kelly**
- 6 - 7 pm - **Sonya Saturday** (*A Ninja Dinosaur Christmas*)

SATURDAY, JULY 23

- 9 am - 11:30 am - **Josh Trujillo**
- 10 - 11 am - **Brendan Mallory**
- 11 am - 12 pm - **Jack Foster**
- 11:30 am - 2 pm - **Jake O'Kelly**
- 12 - 1 pm - **David Booher**
- 1 - 2 pm - **Brandon T. Snider**

SATURDAY, JULY 23 - continued

- 1 - 2 pm - **Portfolio Review - Andy Mangels** (*Wonder Woman '77 Meets The Bionic Woman, Star Trek and Star Wars books*)
- 2 - 3 pm - **Portfolio Review - Tara Madison Avery** (Publisher, Stacked Deck Press)
- 2 - 4:30 pm - **Greg Sanchez**
- 3 - 4 pm - **The Kao**
- 4 - 5 pm - **Sophie Yanow**
- 4:30 - 7 pm - **Vincent Roth**
- 5 - 6 pm - **ClexaCon**
- 6 - 7 pm - **Ameen Beydoun** (*Habibt Pada Book 1*)

SUNDAY, JULY 24

- 9 - 11 am - **Jake O'Kelly**
- 11 am - 12 pm - **Ameen Beydoun**
- 11 am - 1 pm - **Greg Sanchez**
- 12 - 1:15 pm - **David Reddish**
- 1 - 3 pm - **Vincent Roth**
- 1:15 - 3 pm - **Ajuan Mance** (*1001 Black Men*)
- 3 - 4 pm - **Viktor Kerney**
- 3 - 5 pm - **Josh Trujillo**

QUEER-CENTRIC AND QUEER OWNED BOOTHS AT COMIC-CON

- Wuvable Oaf Comics L-11
- Yaoi Revolution L-12
- Dan Parent F-12
- David Haug Comics Booth C-07-C-08
- Joe Phillips (Artist Alley) BB-08
- Jenny/Jey Parks Illustration #708
- Badali Jewelry #715
- Two Lumps #1230
- Ave Rose Art & Disasterina #1633
- Inki-Drop #1703
- Real Gone Girl Studios & #1945
- Miriam Libicki
- Tokyopop #4037
- Meloria Maille #4816

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20 OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

7 pm - DREAMGIRLS REVUE: COMIC-CON EDITION

Join *RuPaul Drag Race All-Stars* Winner **Chad Michaels**, plus **Keex Rose**, **Jimmy Sherfy**, **Trinna Modele**, **Kickxy Vixen Styles**, and **Dolly Levi** for a stupendous night of Cosplay drag and entertainment. **MO'S URBAN, 308 UNIVERSITY AVENUE**

THURSDAY, JULY 21 HALL HOURS - 9:30 am - 7 pm

10 am - 11 am - HOW TO SUPPORT LGBTQIA+ AND NEURODIVERSE COMMUNITIES THROUGH COMIC BOOKS AND POP CULTURE

From cosplay to fan fiction, how do we create a more diverse and inclusive community? How do we apply this knowledge in a cultural context and through social-emotional learning? What is neurodiverse? Neurodivergent? Neurovariant? What is trauma-informed? What would Gene Roddenberry think of all of this? Moderator **Lorran Garrison** (school psychologist, *Little Brainstorm*) joins **Chance Calloway** (*Pretty Dudes*, Amazon Prime), **Robert Rice** (*Demonhuntr*, Amazon Prime/HereTV), **Tara Madison Avery** (*Stacked Deck Press*, *We're Still Here*), **Natasha Lee** (Insomniac Games, *Marvel's Spider-Man: Miles Morales*), **Mark Nazal** (Diwata Komiks), and **Perry Clark** (Untangle and Grow Counseling) to discuss how to support creative thinking in students and adults. There will be giveaways!

HELEN PRICE READING ROOM, SAN DIEGO CENTRAL LIBRARY

10:30 am - 12 pm - COMIC BOOK LAW SCHOOL 101: THE ABCS OF IP LAW

Noted IP attorney **Michael Lovitz**, author of *The Trademark and Copyright Book* comic book, will focus on the basics of intellectual property rights available to creators and business owners. **ROOM 11**

11 am - 12 pm - SPOTLIGHT ON SOPHIE YANOW

Sophie Yanow (*The Contradictions*) discusses her Eisner Award-winning autofiction graphic novel about a queer Californian (also named Sophie) who takes a study-abroad semester in Paris. **ROOM 32AB**

11 am - 12 pm - SUMMER OF THE BABY-SITTERS CLUB

The creators of the bestselling graphic novels—including **Raina Telgemeier** (adaptor, *The Baby-sitters Club* Graphic Novels #1–4)—go behind the scenes of the hit series.

ROOM 23ABC

11 am - 12 pm - WRITING FOR THE YOUNG YOU

Guests including **Lilah Sturges** are joined by moderator **Katie Pryde** (owner, Books with Pictures, Portland OR) discuss how they craft the stories they were drawn to in their youth and create the tales they felt were missing. **ROOM 5AB**

12 - 1 pm - CELEBRATE 25 YEARS OF MANGA WITH TOKYOPOP!

TOKYOPOP has been bringing manga to North America for 25 years, with ongoing initiatives to highlight LGBTQ+ stories and titles by women and BIPOC creators.

ROOM 28DE

2 - 3 pm - COMICS AND THE WORK/LIFE BALANCE

Guests including **Lilah Sturges** discuss their comics careers and how they were able to make it all work (and the times they didn't). **ROOM 32AB**

2:30 - 3:30 pm - DRAWN FROM REAL LIFE: WHEN FACT INSPIRES GRAPHIC FICTION

While their books vary thematically, panelists including **Sophie Yanow** (*The Contradictions*) have all used experiences from their own lives to inspire funny, freaky, and meaningful graphic novels. **ROOM 4**



Upper (l-r) Tara Madison Avery, Josh Trujillo; Lower (l-r) - Sophie Yanow, The Kao, Sonya Saturday, Viktor Kerney

4 - 5 pm - WEBCOMICS: THE FRONTIER OF LGBTQ COMICS A PRISM COMICS PANEL

Webcomics have created a whole new platform for LGBTQ comics creators to tell their stories without the costs of printing, publishing, and store distribution. They can be a stepping stone to print comics, television, and film, but the medium has grown extensively in its own right. Webcomics enable writers and artists to create works and characters that speak to specific, diverse LGBTQ communities like never before. Prism Comics moderator **Tara Madison Avery** (*Gooch*, *We're Still Here*) and webcomics creators **The Kao** (*Mondo Mango*, *Magical Boy*), **Viktor Kerney** (*StrangeLore*, MEGASHEEN podcast), **Sonya Saturday** (*The Greatest Thing You've Ever Seen in Your Life*, *A Ninja Dinosaur Christmas*), **Josh Trujillo** (*United States of Captain America*, *Hulkling and Wiccan*), and **Sophie Yanow** (*The Contradictions*) discuss creating comics for the web, promoting webcomics, and bringing webcomics to print and other media. **ROOM 28DE**

5 - 6 pm - LICENSED: OVERSTREET'S LICENSED COMICS

Licensed comics are a vibrant part of the fan experience and the comics industry. Come hear outrageous stories from panelists including **Andy Mangels** (*Wonder Woman '77 Meets The Bionic Woman*) and others. **ROOM 28DE**

6:30 - 7:30 pm - DIVERSITY IN COMICS: CREATING NEW SUPERHEROES FOR THE WORLD

Panelists discuss how the construction of various modes of communication and information transfer have been affecting and socializing our culture and how comics and illustrated stories are powerful tools of visual communication and expression. **ROOM 4**

FRIDAY, JULY 22 HALL HOURS - 9:30 am - 7 pm

10 - 11 am - KEY FRAMES: CREATORS TALK THEIR FAVORITE SINGLE PANELS IN COMICS

From splash pages to quiet character beats, we've asked some of today's hottest new creators to pick a panel from a comic that was most influential on them as readers, and one from their own work that they're proudest of. Hear from **Josh Trujillo** (*Rick and Morty*, *The United States of Captain America*) and others. **ROOM 32AB**

10 - 11 am - GAAAYS IN (ACTUAL) SPAACE

How on-screen representation in science fiction has led to real-life inclusion in STEM and the space industry. Penny Johnson Jerald (Dr. Finn, *The Orville*), Mark Jackson (Isaac, *The Orville*), Matt Gohd (Zero G, president), Kim Macharia (Space Prize executive director), Tim Chrisman (Foundation for the Future executive director), and Inara Tabir (aerospace industry insider) discuss what can be done today to build a future that goes beyond inclusion. Moderated by Dan Deevy (GIS executive director). **ROOM 23ABC**



10:30 am - 12 pm - COMICS ARTS CONFERENCE SESSION #5: QUEERING COMICS

Maitte Urcaregui (San José State University) examines moments in Breena Nuñez's autobiographical comics where Nuñez uses strategic manipulations of visual self-representation, paneling, and intertextuality to articulate her queerness alongside her AfroLatinx identity. Don Unger (University of Mississippi) explains how the evolving relationship between two of *Elfquest's* main characters, Cutter and Skywise, challenges readers to develop complex understandings of sexuality and gender identity and expression. Nathan Caballero (Texas Christian University) investigates how the recent trend of comic books prioritizing queerness as a coming-of-age narrative both subverts

and upholds the cis heteropatriarchy. Chris Richardson (Young Harris College) explores Bruce Wayne's romantic relationships from 1939 to 2020 to better understand how he embodies the dominant expectations of each period like an empty vessel of effect and desire. **ROOM 26AB**

10:30 am - 12 pm - COMIC BOOK LAW SCHOOL 202: MAKING A LIVING

Noted attorney **Michael Lovitz** and others tackle some advanced issues faced by creators (and the businesses that they work with) when seeking to monetize their creations. **ROOM 11**

11 am - 12 pm - AUTOBIO COMICS

From small slice-of-life webcomics to deep dives into family history, autobiographical comics take readers on an intimate journey. Hear personal stories from **Raina Telgemier** and others. **ROOM 29AB**

11 am - 12 pm - ENTERTAINMENT, ENGAGEMENT, AND EMPATHY

Librarians and comics creators share how their approach to comics not only offers readers entertainment but also opportunities to engage more deeply with difficult topics and build empathy for others. The line-up includes **Sophie Yanow** (*The Contradictions*). **HELEN PRICE READING ROOM, SAN DIEGO CENTRAL LIBRARY**

12 - 1 pm - BEING SEEN: DEFENDING IDENTITY IN THE COMIC ARTS

Maus in Tennessee. *New Kid* in Texas. *Gender Queer* all over the nation. A rising tide of book challenges and bans has been sweeping the country, and recent studies by the American Library Association and PEN America have shown that these challenges overwhelmingly target BIPOC and LGBTQ+ creators, as well as diverse content. The Comic Book Legal Defense Fund leads a discussion about identity censorship in comics, the importance of representation, and comics as tools for developing empathy and understanding of the world. Panelists will also discuss strategies to defend against book challenges in your community. **ROOM 11**

1:30 - 2:30 pm - AMC'S THE WALKING DEAD

The queer-inclusive *The Walking Dead* previews the highly anticipated remaining episodes of the decade-long apocalyptic drama. **HALL H**

2 - 3 pm - 40 YEARS OF LOVE AND ROCKETS: STILL THE GREATEST

Gilbert Hernandez and Jaime Hernandez discuss 40 years of creating one of the greatest comic series of all time, with LGBTQ+ characters! **ROOM 28DE**

2 - 3 pm - DRAWN FROM LIFE: GRAPHIC NOVELS AND THE WORLD OUTSIDE YOUR WINDOW

Creators including **Sophie Yanow** (*The Contradictions*) talk about autobiography, slice-of-life, and the world outside your window. **GRAND 12 & 13, MARRIOTT MARQUIS SAN DIEGO MARINA**

3 - 4 pm - TRANSGENDER AND NONBINARY STORIES IN POPULAR MEDIA - A PRISM COMICS PANEL

In recent years transgender and nonbinary characters and creators have made great gains in representation in comics, television, and movies, but how well have trans+



TRANSGENDER AND NONBINARY STORIES IN POPULAR MEDIA

Friday, July 22
3 - 4 pm - Room 29AB

Upper (l-r) - Tara Madison Avery, Sonya Saturday, Maddie Jacobus, Lilah Sturges; Lower - Zhen

personal experiences been translated to page and screen? How accurately does Hollywood and the comics mainstream represent the trans community? How do trans+ autobio, indie, and webcomics creators use their editorial freedom to present true-to-life stories? Moderator **Tara Madison Avery** (Stacked Deck Press, *We're Still Here*), **Maddie Jacobus** (Bummer Corp: *Sad Stories and Sexy Sharks*, *The Out Side*), **Sonya Saturday** (*Yellow Is the Warmest Color*, *A Ninja Dinosaur Christmas*), **Lilah Sturges** (*Lumberjanes*, *Girl Haven*), and **Zhen** (*Immi Gratitude*, *The Out Side*) discuss these and other topics. **ROOM 29AB**



Raina Telgemeier

4 - 5 pm - BANS OFF OUR BOOKS! RESPONDING TO CHALLENGES

Panelists discuss action items to respond to local and national efforts to challenge or ban books in communities. Featuring **Raina Telgemeier** (*Smile, Guts*), and others. **HELEN PRICE READING ROOM, SAN DIEGO CENTRAL LIBRARY**

4:45 - 5:45 pm - SHUDDER'S QUEER FOR FEAR

Queer for Fear, Shudder's original documentary series, premieres this fall on Shudder and AMC+. The EPs and key interviewees from the four-part docu-series discuss the history of Queer representation in the thriller/horror genre of television and film. Panelists will discuss the creative process of re-examining genre stories through a Queer lens. Plus, view a sneak peek of the series. **ROOM 6A**



Nina West

5 - 6 pm - NINA WEST: THE YOU KIND OF KIND

Moderator Ashley Eckstein (Ashoka Tano in *Star Wars Clone Wars*, Her Universe) talks to **Nina West** (*RuPaul's Drag Race*, *Hairspray* National Tour) about her first-ever children's book, *The You Kind of Kind*, out October 25 from PA Press. Hear how this book came about and the importance of LGBTQ authors and representation in mainstream media. Featuring a one-of-a-kind SDCC Exclusive giveaway. **ROOM 23ABC**

5:30 - 6:30 pm - THE PROTECTORS OF PUBLIC DOMAIN

The reviving, publishing, exploiting, protecting, and usage of public domain fictional characters (like Winnie the Pooh and Sherlock Holmes) is a hot topic in comics. Public domain law and usage (along with the dangerous pitfalls) will be covered by creators including **Michael Lovitz** (trademark, copyright, and entertainment attorney and Comic Book Law School founder). **ROOM 26AB**

6 - 7 pm - LEGENDARY COMICS: THE DARKER SIDE OF LEGENDARY

Creators including **Lilah Sturges** (*Dune: The Official Movie Graphic Novel*, *Science of Ghosts*) talk about things that go bump in the night and other supernatural stories. **ROOM 28DE**

6:30 - 7:30 pm - GAY GEEKS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM

Josh Trujillo (writer, *Hulking and Wiccan*, *Pool Boys*), **Dani Fernandez** (actress and writer), **Josh Ropiequet** (casting associate at Junie Lowry Johnson), **Tara Madison Avery** (publisher and cartoonist), **David Schowman** (Dragpool), and **Amber Palone** (cosplayer and model) gather to discuss how to turn your favorite geeky fandom's into flourishing careers, the challenges and rewards of growing up LGBTQIA+, seeking diversity and representation, and how being a member of the community influenced their work. Moderated by **Julian Jetson** (stylist and host). **ROOM 26AB**



Joe Phillips

6:30 - 8 pm - DRAWING WITH JOE PHILLIPS

With over 30 years of experience working for DC and Marvel comics as well as many others before going independent, artist **Joe Phillips** shares concepts to production of character design, from sketches to final drawings and how to edit and streamline the process. **ROOM 2**

8 - 10:30 pm - WILL EISNER COMIC INDUSTRY AWARDS

This year's annual Eisner Awards (the "Oscars" of the comics industry) honors comics creators and works in over 30 categories. The gala ceremony features celebrity presenters and a multimedia extravaganza. Queer creators up for awards

this year include **Raina Telgemeier**, **Phil Jimenez**, **James Tynion IV**, **Steve Orlando**, **Alison Bechdel**, **P. Craig Russell**, **Jen Bartel**, and **Chip Kidd**! **INDIGO BALLROOM, HILTON SAN DIEGO BAYFRONT**

FRIDAY NIGHT - OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

8 pm - COMIC-CON COSPLAY BATTLE EXTRAVAGANZA

Join *RuPaul Drag Race All-Stars* Winner **Chad Michaels** plus **Kickxy Vixen**, **Cordelia Vixen**, and **Silas Vixen** for a bodacious night of Cosplay drag and entertainment. RPDR viewing at 7 pm. Battle at 8 pm. Contestants can win \$50 in category prizes or a \$500 Grand Prize! Sashay Shazam! **MO'S URBAN, 308 UNIVERSITY AVENUE**

9 pm - 2 am - OTAKU - THE POKE-BALL!

Ned Cato Jr. and **Geek Knight Events** Presents *Otaku - The Poke-Ball!* Geek out and dance the night away! Hosted by **Kickxy Vixen**-Styles with two dance rooms DJ'd by **Ryan Skyy** in the Main Room and **Moody Rudy** in the Front Room. **Sexy GoGos!** Free Face and Body Painting 9 pm till 1 am! \$5 cover with text till 10 pm. Free cover with Comic-Con badge or in costume till 11 pm! **RICH'S SAN DIEGO, 1051 UNIVERSITY AVENUE**



SATURDAY, JULY 23 HALL HOURS - 9:30 am - 7 pm



Mariko Tamaki

10:30 - 11:30 am - WHAT IS THE BEST SUPERPOWER?

Now you can hear from several creators, including **Mariko Tamaki**, what they think is the best superpower. **ROOM 10**

10:30 am - 12 pm - COMIC BOOK LAW SCHOOL 303: FAN CLUBS, ROLE PLAYING, AND OTHER HOT TOPICS

A panel of legal experts, including noted attorney **Michael Lovitz**, will shed light on some of the complex issues facing creators and businesses, and to touch on compelling legal issues and how they apply to comics and the pop culture scene. **ROOM 11**

11 am - 12 pm - SPOTLIGHT ON RAINA TELGEMEIER

Author/illustrator **Raina Telgemeier** (*Smile, Drama*) and author/illustrator **Yehudi Mercado** (*Chunky, Chunky Goes to Camp*) discuss middle-grade memoir, turning real-life memories into entertaining stories, and share some behind-the-scenes info about their current and upcoming works. **ROOM 7AB**

11 am - 12:30 pm - NETFLIX'S FIRST KILL AUTOGRAPHS

The cast and crew of Netflix's bisexual vampire series, *First Kill*, sign autographs. **SAILS PAVILION: AA04**

12:45 - 2:15 pm - STAR TREK UNIVERSE PANEL

Over a decade after PRISM co-founder **Andy Mangels** helped break the mold by including queer characters in *Star Trek* books, now it seems that every *Star Trek* TV show finally has LGBTQ+ characters and actors! This panel features exclusive back-to-back conversations with the casts and executive producers from *Star Trek: Picard*, *Star Trek: Lower Decks*, and *Star Trek: Strange New Worlds* to discuss the latest seasons of their hit series and tease what's ahead. **HALL H**

1 - 2 pm - EXPRESS YOURSELF: ACTIVISM THROUGH THE COMIC ARTS

Panelists explore how comics can address social and political issues, addressing issues as diverse as politics, women's rights, civil rights, LGBTQ+ representation, racism, and how people can use comics to exercise their right to free expression. **ROOM 11**

2 - 2:45 pm - ANNE RICE'S INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE

An epic story of love, blood and the perils of immortality based on the bestselling novel, *Interview with the Vampire* premieres this fall on AMC. The cast and crew are... (ahem) interviewed! **BALLROOM 20**

2 - 3 pm - THE GREAT GRAPHIX DRAW-OFF

The creators of the biggest graphic novels for kids bring cartoons to life in this interactive panel for all ages. Featuring **Raina Telgemeier** (author, *Smile, Guts*) and others. **ROOM 7AB**

3 - 3:45 pm - THE ORVILLE

The gay-inclusive *The Orville* is back for season 3 and on HULU and cast and crew are here to chat about it! **BALLROOM 20**

3 - 4 pm - INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM FOR EDUCATORS

Since the beginning of 2022, state legislators have proposed nearly 200 laws that would impact educators. These laws limit instruction related to LGBTQ+ topics, race, and more. What does this mean for teachers, especially those who use comics in their classrooms? CBLDF coalition director **Betsy Gomez** is joined by educators for a conversation about how they can defend comics and other classroom materials. **HELEN PRICE READING ROOM, SAN DIEGO CENTRAL LIBRARY**

2 - 3 pm - SPOTLIGHT ON LILAH STURGES

Writer **Lilah Sturges** (*Girl Haven*) has made a name for herself as a trans and queer comic book author of books such as *Lumberjanes* and *The Magicians*. She regales you with spoken-word performance, discusses the joys and challenges of creating queer stories, talks about the importance of kindness, and answers your questions (or gives you relationship advice)! **ROOM 29AB**

3 - 4 pm - X-MEN FANDOM PANEL

The creators of X-Reads Podcast host a panel of professionals and fans of the X-Men: actress **Lenore Zann** (*Rogue, X-Men: The Animated Series*), artist **Ken Lashley** (*X-Men Prime, X-Men Gold*), toy influencer **Shartimus Prime** (**Russ Akin**), cosplayer **Alicia Marie**, and fan artist **Art of Lucas**. Audience members will receive a collectable art print by X-Men: The Animated Series artistic director, **Larry Houston**. Moderated by **Chandler Poling** and **Chris Riley** (*X-Reads: An X-Men Experience*). **GRAND 10 & 11, MARRIOTT MARQUIS SAN DIEGO MARINA**



3 - 4 pm - STORYTELLING FOR CHANGE: EMPOWERING DIVERSITY, EQUALITY, AND PEACE

Panelists dig into how everyone can use filmmaking, comics, and transmedia to give voice to underrepresented folks, to honor real-life heroes, and to help seek greater justice, empathy, and equality. **ROOM 4**

3 - 4 pm - YOUNG ADULT TO NEW ADULT: GROWING UP GRAPHIC

From transitional ages to transitional media, how do authors tell stories for changing readers in a changing world? Panelists including **Sina Grace** (*Ice Man, Sensational Wonder Woman*), and **Shannon Watters** (*Lumberjanes, Hollow*) discuss crafting stories. **ROOM 29AB**

3:30 - 4:30 pm - AUTOGRAPH SIGNING FOR LILAH STURGES

Lilah Sturges, writer (*Jack of Fables, Rick & Morty Presents Vol. 2*) **SAILS PAVILION: AA02**

4 - 5 pm - ABRAMS COMICARTS: SURELY BOOKS

Bestselling author **Mariko Tamaki** introduces Surely Books, a newly launched line of graphic novels from Abrams ComicArts dedicated to expanding the presence of LGBTQIA creators and content in the comics world. Tamaki will share the creative process and vision behind the line, highlight recent releases, and give a sneak preview of what's coming up. Joining the panel are Surely authors **Grace Ellis** (*Flung Out of Space*), **Talia Dutton** (*M is for Monster*), and **Josh Trujillo** (*Washington's Gay General*), and Abrams ComicArts senior editor Charlotte Greenbaum. **ROOM 29AB**

5 - 6 pm - LOVE X LOVE: ALL-INCLUSIVE ROMANCE FROM TOKYOPOP

TOKYOPOP's LOVE x LOVE romance imprint is bringing even more yaoi, yuri, shoujo, and true LGBTQ+ titles to manga lovers. This is an open conversation about queer stories and representation in romance manga spaces. **ROOM 29AB**



Upper (l-r) - Andy Mangels, Malissa White, The Kao, Felicia D. Henderson; Lower (l-r) - David Reddish Lilah Sturges

6 - 8 pm - OUT IN COMICS YEAR 35: DO SAY GAY! A PRISM COMICS PANEL

The comic world's longest-running panel is back for its 35th record breaking year. The Comic Book world has become a celebrated part of the Pop Culture world. LGBTQ comics and graphic novels for all ages are being produced and acclaimed in incredible numbers, and queer characters are finally starting to show up in genre movies and TV shows. And yet, in our politicized and polarized world, LGBTQ comics and graphic novels and LGBTQ characters in popular media are still facing censure and opposition. This means that telling stories of queer characters of diverse backgrounds and identities is more important than ever before. Join Prism Comics, moderator **Andy Mangels** [he/him/his] (the Founder of the "Out In Comics" panel; bestselling author of *Wonder Woman '77 Meets The Bionic Woman*, *Star Trek* and *Star Wars* books and comics) and special guest panelists as they discuss what being "Out In Comics" means now and in the future. Panelists include: **Felicia D. Henderson** [she/her/hers] (showrunner for *First Kill*, a queer and interracial vampire love story coming to Netflix, and Marvel's *The Punisher*); **David Reddish** [he/him/his] (media journalist for ScreenRant, Queerty and *Playboy*, award-winning author of the novel *Sex Drugs & Superheroes* and its sequel *Conquest of the Planet of the Geeks*); **Lilah Sturges** [she/her/hers] (writer of the books *Lumberjanes: The Internal Compass* and *The Magicians: Alice's Story*, and the trans-friendly *Girl Haven*, writer and co-writer of DC's

Jack of Fables, *Shadowpact*, *House of Mystery*, *Blue Beetle* *Mango* on *Tapas*, and *Magical Boy*, the Prism Award-winning manga webcomic and Scholastic graphic novel series about a trans youth); **Malissa White** [she/her/hers] (writer of webcomics *Nightmare*, *Soundbox*, and *A Wailing Blade*, pop culture reviewer, editor at Scout Comics); And watch for some surprise creators! **ROOM 29AB**

6:45 - 7:45 pm - BACK WITH A VENGEANCE: CHUCKY

Chucky creator/executive producer **Don Mancini** and surprise guests take a behind-the-scenes look at the queer-heavy season 2, returning this October on USA and SYFY. **INDIGO BALLROOM, HILTON SAN DIEGO BAYFRONT**

7:30 - 8:30 pm - BIG BIG THINGS WITH SINA GRACE

Writer and artist **Sina Grace** celebrates a decade of being a freelance comic creator with the biggest news of his career! Find out in great depth what the former *Walking Dead* editor has been working on in secret. it's far bigger than *Iceman*, and something even *Rockstar* and *Softboy* will love! Fans won't want to miss this exciting conversation with comics BFF **Josh Trujillo** (*Hulking & Wiccan*, *United States of Captain America*), 'cuz there will be treats! **ROOM 29CD**

SATURDAY NIGHT - OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

8 pm - X-READS PODCAST & HOUSE OF X PODCAST 2ND ANNUAL COMIC-CON GEEK MEET UP

X-Reads Podcast & House of X Podcast are having their 2nd Annual Comic-Con Geek Meet Up at the popular arcade bar Coin-Op in the Gaslamp District. Play some games and mingle with fellow geeks. **COIN-OP, 789 6TH AVE. SAN DIEGO 92101**

9 pm - 2 am - 16TH ANNUAL HEROES & VILLAINS COMIC- CON PARTY

Ned Cato Jr., Geek Knight Events and Rich's San Diego present San Diego's Largest Geek Party! Cosplay Contest at 11:30 pm for cash and prizes! Free cover with Comic Con Badge or in costume till 10 pm! **RICH'S NIGHTCLUB, 1051 UNIVERSITY AVENUE**

Midnight Movie - 12 am - 1:40 am - ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW

1975, Directed by Jim Sharman, starring Tim Curry. Rated R - Celebrate 47 years of sweet transvestites and gold speedo muscle men with us. Let's do the Time Warp again! **GRAND 5, MARRIOTT MARQUIS SAN DIEGO MARINA**



SUNDAY, JULY 24 HALL HOURS - 9:30 am - 5 pm



Upper (l-r) - Viktor Kerney, Sean Z, Eric Cooper, Malissa White; Lower l-r) - Ajuan Mance, Niq Hill

12 - 1 pm - BLACK AND QUEER IN POPULAR MEDIA A PRISM PANEL

Black representation has gained integral attention within the geek culture. However, Black queer characters and stories continue to be limited or absent from the discussion. Prism Comics, moderator **Viktor Kerney** (*StrangeLore*, co-host of the *MEGASHEEN* podcast), and panelists **Eric Cooper** (*Knight Seeker*), **Niq Hill** (*That Sh*t We Do Like* and *Black TARDIS* podcasts), **Ajuan Mance** (*1001 Black Men*, *Living While Black*), **Malissa White** (*Nightmare*, *Grimm Tales from the Grave*), and **Sean Z** (*Ramonah Rising*) discuss a myriad of topics, from portrayals of Black queer people across media platforms to Black queer contributions to the sci-fi, fantasy, comics genre. **ROOM 29AB**

12 - 1 pm - CELEBRATE YA COMICS

From BOOM!, the publisher that brought you *Lumberjanes*, *Fence*, and *Giant Days* comes a panel filled to the MAX with a celebration of teen drama, young love, and queer joy. **ROOM 25ABC**

12 - 1 pm - MAGICAL MIDDLE GRADE

Panelists including **Lilah Sturges** (*Girl Haven*) share the joys of writing middle-grade stories and the importance of books that show a younger generation ready to take on the world). **ROOM 7AB**

12 - 1 pm - SPOTLIGHT ON MARIKO TAMAKI

Eisner Award winner **Mariko Tamaki**, curator of Surely Books, co-creator of *This One Summer* (with Jillian Tamaki) and *Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up with Me* (with Rosemary Valero-O'Connell), writer for DC Comics and Marvel, talks comics, superheroes, and complex characters. **ROOM 4**

12 - 1 pm - INJECTING THE PERSONAL

Creators including **Sophie Yanow** convey how they put their stories into the world and what that means to them. **ROOM 28DE**

1 - 2 pm - SO YOU WANT TO MAKE A GRAPHIC NOVEL?

An award-winning group of comics creators, including **Raina Telgemeier** (*Smile*), discuss the nitty-gritty of creating graphic novels for young readers. **ROOM 28DE**



PRISM COMICS THANKS EVERYONE WHO MADE THE FIRST ANNUAL Q CON A GREAT SUCCESS

In June 2022 over 800 people celebrated LGBTQ+ comics pride at the first annual Q Con, an LGBTQ+ comic convention produced by Prism Comics and sponsored by West Hollywood Arts Division, Los Angeles Film School, Tapas, and TOKYOPOP.

We look forward to Q Con 2023!



Presented by



With Sponsorship by



Community Sponsors



LOVE IS THE GREATEST SUPERPOWER



LUCIANO
VECCHIO