

Contest Director: Chase Lawrence

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### Cosplay Contest Guidelines and Rules:

1. **Genre** – This is an open-genre costume contest. Genres include, but are not limited to Comics, Sci-Fi, Anime, Zombies, SteamPunk, novels, TV, film, Fantasy, Gaming, and Lolita. The competition holds a total of 50 entries that will take the stage. We will accept a total of 30 online applications and 20 in-person applications for pre-judging. Those that participated in pre-judging will take the stage for the Cosplay Contest finale where the winners will be announced and prizes awarded.
2. **Divisions**
  - **Master Level** – Contestants who have won multiple cosplay/costume awards at any convention.
  - **Intermediate Level** – Contestants who have won one or more major cosplay/costume awards at any convention.
  - **Beginner Level** – Contestants who have never won any major cosplay/costume award at any convention.
  - **Group Cosplay** – Groups that enter the cosplay contest will not have graduated levels, but will be judged in a separate Group category.
  - **Family Cosplay** – Families that enter the cosplay contest will not have graduated levels, but will be judged in a separate Family category.
3. **Judging**
  - The competition holds a total of 50 entries that will take the stage. We will accept a total of 30 online and 20 in-person applications for pre-judging. Those that participated in pre-judging will take the stage for the Cosplay Contest finale where the winners will be announced and prizes awarded.
  - Decisions of the judges are final. If you have any questions about judging following the contest, please contact us through our website.

Contestants may register for higher skill level categories, even if they have never won an award of any kind.

Judges reserve the right to move any contestant into a different category, should they feel the contestant's skill level exceeds the category they initially registered for or based on the number of awards the contestant has won in past cosplay contests.

Any costumes requiring more than one person to wear them will be judged in the Group category.

### General Cosplay Contest Rules:

These are the General Rules that **EVERY** Cosplay category will follow:

1. All costumes must abide by the rules of the Magic City Con Convention Floor Rules and Weapons Policy. If a policy violation is discovered by any convention staff or judges panel, that entry will be disqualified.
2. Purchased costumes are prohibited from entering the contest. However, exceptions can be made for costumes that contain “found” pieces, modified, or in other words altered from its original design or purpose. Although this may affect the total craftsmanship score of the participant, it is not meant to discourage participants from entering the contest.
3. Costumes that are considered “kits” are allowed as long as the kit was assembled by the participant. All participants should be prepared to briefly explain the process through which their costume was created, altered, or modified during pre-judging.
4. Each contestant may only wear one costume.
5. Your costume must allow freedom of movement so that you can go up and down steps.
6. No glitter, confetti, pyrotechnics, live flame or smoke generators of any kind are allowed in the convention center.
7. No electrical power connections will be provided. If your costume requires power, it must be a part of your costume.
8. No microphones will be provided.
9. All contestants must be at least 13 years old to enter.
10. Absolutely NO NUDITY. Naked is naked, and we all know what naked looks like!
11. All cosplay contest participants must have a valid Magic City Con badge in order to be eligible to compete.
12. Magic City Con reserves the right to amend the rules as we see fit. If we do so, we will always provide an updated list of rules immediately!

In addition to the General Contest Rules, you must follow the rules outlined for your entry category.

### **Master Level Cosplay Contest Rules:**

1. Costumes should ideally be 90% “handmade”. Costumes that do not meet that suggestion will not be turned away, but it may affect the total score of the participant.

### **Intermediate Level Cosplay Contest Rules:**

1. Costumes should ideally be 60% “handmade”. Costumes that do not meet that suggestion will not be turned away, but it may affect the total score of the participant.

### **Beginner Level Cosplay Contest Rules:**

1. Costumes should ideally be 25% “handmade”. Costumes that do not meet that suggestion will not be turned away, but it may affect the total score of the participant.

### **General Cosplay Contest Entry Procedure:**

1. YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COSPLAY CONTEST! There are two ways to Pre-Register. You may pre-register for the cosplay contest online via our website at: <http://www.magiccitycon.com/cosplay/> We will accept up to 30 pre-registrations online. Once this limit is reached, we will cut off online pre-registration. You may also pre-register at the Affliction Cosplay Photography table at Magic City Con. The Affliction Cosplay Photography table will be located on the lobby level of the hotel. The final 20 spots for the contest will be filled beginning at 7:15pm on Friday, June 30, 2017 (following Opening Ceremonies). If you will be pre-registering in-person, please bring a reference photo of your cosplay to give to the judges. These spots are first come, first served.
2. Pre-judging for the cosplay contest will begin at 8:00pm on Friday, June 30, 2017. Please refer to the Magic City Con schedule (to be released) to find out the exact location of pre-judging. Contestants will be lined up in the order that they pre-registered to go through pre-judging.
3. Cosplay Contest stage walk will be scheduled for Saturday, July 1, 2017. Please refer to the Magic City Con schedule for time and location (to be released). You will also be given the time and location when you go through pre-judging.

You do not need to worry about being judged during the stage walk. All judging will be complete before then.

4. After all contestants have taken the stage, the winners will be announced!