

COMIC COUTURE

Comicpalooza proudly presents **Comic Couture**, a fashion contest open to enrolled students of Houston Community College (HCC), and University of Houston Downtown!

Participating designers will put their craftsmanship on display by creating an original design inspired by an anime or manga, comic book, video games or cartoon character of their choosing (not cosplay or a one to one recreation, this is for fashionable designs **INSPIRED** by the characters and not the characters full recreation). The design must incorporate the characters color scheme while skillfully weaving in elements of their personality and history. Whether it be a nod to hero or villain the options are endless. Participants are encouraged to let their creativity flow and mind wander!

Each design will be on display at Comicpalooza 2026 for fans to vote on their favorite designs. Winners will be announced on Sunday, May 24th!

Interested Participants can sign up using the following link: <https://wkf.ms/46Dgx4j>

Prizes:

The first-place entrant will receive \$1,000, the second-place entrant will receive \$500, the third-place entrant will receive \$250, and the "Fan Favorite" will receive \$750.

Guidelines and Additional Information:

§ Designs must be influenced by a character from comics, manga, anime, video games, or cartoons. Entrants must skillfully incorporate the color scheme of their chosen character while staying true to the character traits. Only one design per entrant will be allowed.

§ If an entrant has not signed up by April 24th, 2026, their design will not be accepted.

§ Entrants must bring their completed designs to the HCC Fashion Department on May 5th, 2026, between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Designs not timely received at the designated location on such date during such timeframe for any reason will not be accepted.

§ Qualified entrants will be notified via email that their design will be on display and receive a general admission Weekend Badge to Comicpalooza 2026 at the George R. Brown Convention Center.

§ Entrants are required to pick up their designs post-event at the HCC Fashion Department the week of June 1st 2026 at a later designated date and time. Designs not collected on such date during such times will be deemed abandoned and may be discarded or disposed of otherwise at the option of Comicpalooza.

§ Qualified entrants will receive a shareable link to promote their design and increase their chances of winning the "Fan Favorite" vote.

§ Comicpalooza adheres to the "PG-13 rule" when it comes to language and hand gestures in photographs for this competition. All cosplay images **MUST** cover "swimsuit areas" — no nudity. Violation of these standards will result in disqualification.

§ Garments must be delivered in a zippered garment bag. No garbage bags or dry-cleaning plastic covers. Garment bags must be clearly labeled with the designer's name.



§ Garments must fit Womenswear size 8 or menswear 40 regular. Men Measurements (inches): Bust 38-40, Waist 32-34, inside leg 32-34 & Height 74 (6' 2"). Women Measurements (inches): Bust 34-36, Waist 24.5-28, Hips 34.5-38 & Height 70.5 (5' 8").

§ If design has a train, train must be no longer than 3 feet in length or be displayed folded in a manner as to prevent any guest from accidentally stepping on the piece. Full hems/petticoats/hoop skirts cannot have a radius of more than 3 feet.

§ Absolutely no glitter may be used on any aspect of the garment.

§ Fragile or breakable accessories/elements are not allowed. Avoid any parts that require cautionary handling (e.g., "Please handle with care").

§ Lace-up backs must be decorative only. All garments must have a functioning zipper or busk for closure.

§ Zippers on dresses and skirts must extend at least 9 inches below the waist to accommodate mannequin dressing.

§ Due to the shape and structure of the mannequins: No tapered skirts without slits, No tapered pant legs without a zippered opening, No tight sleeves without stretch or a zippered opening.

§ All individual garments must be labeled with the designer's name.

§ No plastic or wire hangers. Hangers must have a swivel head. Velvet hangers are strongly recommended. All hangers must be labeled with the designer's name.

§ Strapless garments must be properly hung using one of the following: Dress hangers with interior straps or Pant hangers with dedicated clips.

§ No pyrotechnics, fire, explosive devices, live animals, or similar special effects can be used; this includes smoke/smog machines and flash paper/powder.

§ All props belonging to the garment must hang from and be secured to the mannequin in some way and cannot be set on the floor as a display. Comicpalooza reserves the right to not display the prop if there is no way to secure the prop to the mannequin.

§ Prop weapons **MUST** conform to the Comicpalooza prop policies, including being checked. As such, entrants are strongly encouraged to check in their prop weapons early to avoid any unnecessary loss of time during the competition.

§ All events/panels have the potential to be photographed/filmed/recorded in some fashion. These recordings may be used in future galleries or promotions. Entry is done with the understanding that recording could occur at any time, and permission is given for the participant's submission and likeness to be used.

§ Comicpalooza's decisions shall be final and binding with regard to all matters arising out of this contest. Comicpalooza reserves the right to turn away any contest entry it deems inappropriate or not in compliance with the rules.

§ All participants **MUST** abide by the [Code of Conduct](#) and the Comic Couture Official Rules.



**COMIC COUTURE
OFFICIAL RULES**

ELIGIBILITY: The Comic Couture Contest (the “Contest”) is open to enrolled students of Houston Community College (HCC) and University of Houston Downtown who are, as of the entry date, are legal residents of the United States (the “Promotion Area”); are at least 18 years of age; and have a valid phone number and email address. Entrants are eligible to win one prize only from Sponsor during any six-month period. Employees, officers and directors of Comicipalooza LLC and Houston First Corporation (collectively, the “Contest Parties”) are not eligible to enter or win this Contest.

HOW TO ENTER: During the Promotion Period, entrants must complete and submit an official entry form available online. Incomplete, illegible, or non-compliant entries will not be considered or approved. Any attempt to submit more than the stated number of entries by using multiple/different email addresses, identities, registrations, logins, or any other methods shall void all entries by entrant. Any entry submitted with the use of a script, macro or other mechanical or automated device or means will be void.

SPONSOR: This Contest is sponsored by Comicipalooza LLC (“Sponsor”), whose address is 701 Avenida de las Americas, Ste. 200, Houston, Texas 77010.

PROMOTION PERIOD: The Contest begins at approximately 9:00 a.m. central on February 2, 2026, and will end at approximately 3:30 p.m. central on May 24, 2026 (the “Promotion Period”). Sponsor’s computer shall be the official timekeeper for purposes of the Contest.

PRIZE CONDITIONS: Winners shall be solely responsible for reporting and payment of any federal, state and/or local income taxes incurred in association with acceptance of their prize. Prizes are non-transferrable and shall be accepted as awarded on as “AS IS” basis, with no warranty, representation or guarantee, express or implied, made by Sponsor or for which Sponsor shall be liable.

JUDGING AND PRIZES: Designs, after being vetted for compliance with these Official Rules, will be evaluated based on their creativity, originality, quality, and overall aesthetic by a three-person panel of judges appointed by Sponsor; a separate, popular vote will be held during Comicipalooza weekend to determine the “Fan Favorite”. The first-place entrant will receive \$1,000, the second-place entrant will receive \$500, the third-place entrant will receive \$250, and the “Fan Favorite” will receive \$750.

NOTIFICATION: Potential prize winners, who must be present to win, will be notified on May 24, 2026, by text message or email based on the information provided at the time of entry (the “Notification”) with instructions to contact a Sponsor representative and appear in person within one hour from the time of the Notification. Receipt of prize is contingent upon compliance with these Official Rules and completion and return of a W-9 and Release of Liability by the potential prize winner. If a potential prize winner does not timely respond to the Notification, fails to appear in person when announced, fails to complete and return any required document hereunder, fails to comply with these Official Rules, or declines the prize for any reason, then a disqualification shall result, such prize shall be forfeited and, at the sole option of Sponsor, an alternate potential prize winner may be selected randomly from among all remaining eligible entries.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY: Sponsor is not responsible for entries that are late, incomplete, illegible, corrupted, stolen, lost, or misdirected due to human or computer error. Sponsor is not responsible for printing or typographical errors in any Contest materials. Sponsor reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to terminate, modify or suspend the Contest if, in Sponsor’s opinion, there is any suspected or actual evidence of electronic or non-electronic tampering with any portion of the Contest, or if viruses, malicious code, unauthorized



intervention, fraud, technical difficulties, or failures or any other kind or type beyond the reasonable control of Sponsor corrupt or affect the administration, security, fairness, integrity, or proper conduct of the Contest.

RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION: BY ENTERING THIS CONTEST, EACH ENTRANT AGREES TO AND SHALL, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW, RELEASE, DEFEND, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD HARMLESS THE CONTEST PARTIES, INCLUDING THEIR RESPECTIVE PARENTS, SUBSIDIARIES AND AFFILIATES, FROM AND AGAINST ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, LOSSES, DAMAGES, LIABILITIES, COSTS, AND EXPENSES RELATED TO ANY ACTUAL OR ALLEGED INJURY, DEATH, DAMAGE, OR OTHER LOSS TO PERSONS OR PROPERTY ARISING OUT OF OR SUSTAINED, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, DUE IN WHOLE OR IN PART TO PARTICIPATION IN THIS CONTEST AND/OR THE ACCEPTANCE, RECEIPT, USE, OR MISUSE OF ANY PRIZE. Entrants acknowledge and agree that the foregoing release and indemnification obligations shall survive the expiration of the Promotion Period.

USE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION: By entering this Contest, each entrant gives permission to be contacted by the Sponsor for purposes related to the Contest. Prize winner, by acceptance of their prize, grants to Sponsor the right to use and publicize such winner's name, city and state of residence, statements and/or likeness and prize information for advertising, promotional, trade and/or any other purpose in any media or format now known or hereafter devised, throughout the world, in perpetuity, without limitation and without further compensation, consideration, permission, or notification to such prize winner.

DISPUTES: Questions, comments or complaints regarding this Contest must be directed to Sponsor. Entrant agrees that any and all disputes, claims, demands, and causes of action arising out of or sustained in connection with this Contest, or any prize awarded thereunder, shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action; any and all judgments and awards shall be limited to actual out-of-pocket costs incurred, but in no event include attorneys' fees; and under no circumstances will entrant be permitted to obtain (and entrant hereby waives all rights to assert or claim) awards for punitive, incidental or consequential damages. All issues and questions concerning the construction, validity, interpretation, and enforceability of these Official Rules, or the rights and obligations of entrant or Sponsor in connection with the Contest shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of Texas, without regard to any conflict of law provisions. Litigation in connection with this Agreement shall be brought exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction in Harris County, Texas. Entrants and prize winners hereby waive any and all objections to venue and jurisdiction and consent irrevocably consent to exclusive personal jurisdiction within Harris County, Texas.

ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICIAL RULES: By entering, each entrant fully, irrevocably and unconditionally agrees accepts and agrees to be bound by these Official Rules and the decisions of Sponsor (including, by way of example and not limitation, decisions regarding eligibility of entries and entrants, selection of winners, and awarding of prizes), which shall be final and binding in all respects.

WINNER'S LIST/OFFICIAL RULES: To obtain the name of the Contest prize winners (available three days after the last date of the Promotion Period) or a copy of these Official Rules, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope, postmarked no later than one calendar month after the last date of the Promotion Period to: Comicpalooza LLC, 701 Avenida de las Americas, Ste. 200, Houston, Texas 77010. Please specify the name of the Contest and "Winner's List" or "Official Rules" on the outer envelope. Do not send entries by mail to this address.

NATURE OF SPONSOR'S BUSINESS: Organizing, promoting, and managing trade shows, conventions, and events.

