

This year the contest will be judged by the judging panel of Nerd Alert Contest Connection.

Prizes will be awarded to first, second, and third place for the following age divisions: Children/Teen (ages 6-17) and Adult (18+)

- How Will I Be Judged?

All contestants will be judged based on creativity, craftsmanship, and technique. Bring your best designs and skills to show your passion for a character we all know and love or one you created yourself!

- Acceptable Costumes

- For everyone's safety, firearms and sharpened instruments are prohibited. Many characters are associated with various weapons. All costume props must be checked in at time of initial entry into Geek Con, via Nerd Alert Customs safety team.
- All costumes must observe a PG-rating, kids-friendly policy; no nudity, profanity, or abusive content.
- Any offensive content complaints from fellow attendees must be addressed by convention staff and could result in dismissal from the premises until alterations are made to the costume.

- General Rules - **These Are Important!**

- All contestants must register on the library's website:
https://www.metrolibrary.org/events/geek-con-cosplay-contest?fbclid=IwAR0ryKrd6TvEyfUgw_rJlBMxgSi-Eu1Qq3gHoa6CurKgtut6XXfeGdc62tI
- Only individual entries. No groups!
- Convention staff and volunteers may not enter the Cosplay Contest. Headlining and invited cosplay guests are also not eligible to enter the costume contest.
- Costumes entered must have been created or heavily altered in some way. No fully purchased costumes are allowed.
- You can have someone model your costume, but you, the craftsman, must register for the Costume Contest and be present for pre-judging to answer the judges' questions. If the costume receives an award, the award recipient will be the craftsman, not the model.
- No nudity, profanity, anything deemed racially or culturally offensive will not be allowed. No politically charged or discriminatory cosplays or props will be allowed. When in doubt, ask!

- No liquids, messy substances, glitter, confetti or anything that may pose a danger is allowed on stage. Also no pyrotechnics, fireworks or open flames, and no fog machines.
- All electronics must be self-contained. There are no electrical outlets onstage.
- No weapons that violate Geek Con's Weapons Policy or local laws, including but not limited to: realistic-looking firearms without an orange muzzle cap; live steel; projectiles of any kind; unsheathing of bladed weapons without clearance from the Contest Directors. Due to safety concerns, minors may not perform combat simulations.
- No throwing things into the audience! (This includes yourself)
- Background music requests are not available at this time, so all background music will be provided by Geek Con Library's staff
- Contestants agree to allow video recording and photography of their costumes for future promotions of this convention
- Showing integrity and the spirit of competition are important! Violating these rules will disqualify you, and possibly result in escort off the premises.

- Safety

Geek Con welcomes cosplay to our convention and the wonderful creativity and fun it adds to our show. We also value the safety of all those attending and are working to help all attendees to enjoy our event to its fullest. Geek Con reserves the right to conduct bag checks and other safety checks. We sincerely appreciate your patience and support.

- Costume Props Policy-**Please review before prior to attending Geek Con**

- All props will be inspected and evaluated to determine if they present an unreasonable risk of harm to attendees of the show. Props will be evaluated from the standpoint of the risk they present based on the materials used, the way they are displayed or carried, their functionality, and potential for harm to others.
- No Air Soft guns of any kind will be allowed.
- No prop guns which could be mistaken for contemporary real-world guns will be allowed. The question is - would the prop gun be reasonably confused with a real gun?
- Light sabers and blasters and other futuristic prop gun weapons may be allowed. Simulated or costume prop weapons are allowed as a part of your costume, subject to approval by Geek Con and Nerd Alert Customs safety team for compliance with the following:-

- All costume props and weapons must be inspected at the entrance of the convention.
- All costume props and weapons must conform to state and federal law.
- Projectile costume props and weapons must be rendered inoperable.
- Approved prop and toy firearms must have clearly visible orange cap covering the barrel
- Functional (real) arrows must have their tips removed and be bundled and zip-tied to a quiver.
- Costumes featuring stilts or are oversized are discouraged due to safety issues and large crowds.

- After costume props have been checked, they will be tagged by Nerd Alert Customs Safety Team. Once tagged you are free to enter. In the event your prop isn't approved, we ask that you lock it in your vehicle and then come back to enjoy the convention.

- Please be prepared to show your tagged prop to staff anytime when requested. If you don't want to have your props checked/tagged or are unwilling to comply with these rules, please don't bring the props to Geek Con.

- Prohibited Items:

- Functional firearms (BB guns, cap guns, paintball guns, and pellet guns)
- Air Soft Guns
- Functional Projectile Weapons (ex: blow guns, crossbows, long bows, silly string, slingshots, water balloons, and water guns)
- Sharpened metal-bladed weapons (ex: axes, daggers, hatchets, knives, kunai, shuriken, swords, sword canes, machetes, switchblades)
- Explosives
- Chemical Weapons (including mace and pepper spray)
- Blunt Weapons (ex: brass knuckles, clubs, baseball bats, and nunchaku)
- Hard Prop Weapons (props made of metal, fiberglass, and glass)

However props containing hard components as part of construction may be allowed.

- Roller skates, roller blades, and skateboards
- Excessive noise making instruments (ex: vuvuzelas, whistles, and horns)

Management reserve the rights to make changes at anytime

- Anti Harassment Standards

Geek Con is dedicated to providing a safe and fun environment for all fans. We ask all in attendance to be respectful of fellow event attendees and cosplayers. Anyone harassing an attendee physically or verbally will be asked to leave.