

Des Moines Con Cosplay Contest

Below, you will find all the info on DMC's cosplay contests! If you have any questions, just let us know. Get ready to show off your most amazing handmade cosplay and be prepared to ham it up for the crowd to see!

Let's get to the Who's, When's, Where's and How's of it all!

Who can enter? Anyone and everyone!

Who's running the contests? Our guest Mikal Mosley will be hosting along with some amazing cosplayer judges!

How much does it cost to enter? \$Free.99!

How can I enter? Head to Panel Room 3 (Room 319) on Saturday or Sunday during Prejudging Hours and talk to Mikal Mosley! Cosplay Contest Prejudging will be Saturday, June 1 at 12 PM-2:30 PM and Sunday, June 2 at 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM.

How many people can enter? The first 30 signups on each day.

When are the contests? The contests are Saturday, June 1 at 4:00 PM and Sunday, June 2 at 2 PM.

Where can I go to see the contests? Head up to the Main Events Room and pick out the best seat!

More rules & info:  

CATEGORIES:

Mainstage: NOVICE, INTERMEDIATE, ADVANCED, AND BEST IN SHOW: - Open to anyone 14 and older

Youth: - Anyone 13 and younger WILL HAVE A WALK ON DURING INTERMISSION

Craftsman: Cosplayers who have built 95% or more of their cosplay falls under the Craftsman Category.

Group: Cosplay Parties of 2 or more will fall into the Group category.

The "JDF" Award: An award that goes to an exceptional cosplayer with an exceptional story.
Judge's Choice

The judges will be focusing on appearance, construction, and your attention to details. Many costumes incorporate work from multiple categories. All WILL be taken into account, but you should enter in the category that fits where the MAJORITY of time and work was focused. Final category placement will be at the discretion of the judges and contest organizers.

PLEASE NOTE: All cosplays and performers must comply with the convention's Anti-Harassment policy. This means no profanity, hate speech, or otherwise inflammatory messages are allowed. All props must be checked and within the prop guidelines provided by the convention.

RULES:

Des Moines Con's Cosplay Contest requires handmade, original costumes. Sorry, but store bought costumes cannot be entered into the competition! The costume must be of original construction or show significant modification to the original materials. At least 60% of your costume must not have been purchased.

This means whether you made everything but the wig, shoes, minor accessories or transformed something pre-made completely.

A good example would be: Body of cosplay such as bottoms, tops, dresses and props as 40-60%. Boot covers, accessories, props etc. 10%-40%.

You do not have to weave your own fabric, make a wig, or cobble shoes, However, that is really impressive.

If you didn't make your costume, but someone at the convention did, they should be present for judging only.

Only one costume can be accepted into the contest per person.

During pre-judging, you will be able to chat with the judges so you can describe the details of the cosplay or provide a story about the character being portrayed. You may offer details about the construction process, materials, number of work hours, or anything that might impress them.

Pre-judging is also the perfect time to show the judges your Work In Progress photos!

Please remember that a good quality image can absolutely help the judges greatly in deciding your score. Don't forget to bring a reference photo of the character you are portraying if you wish for accuracy to be taken into account during your judging.