Also

1

Seigus of Summer 2015

WCS Adventures: Journals from Team USA

Interview with The Chalk Twins

Summer Conventions NANA

Himouto! Umaru-chan Manga Inside!



Uthalk h

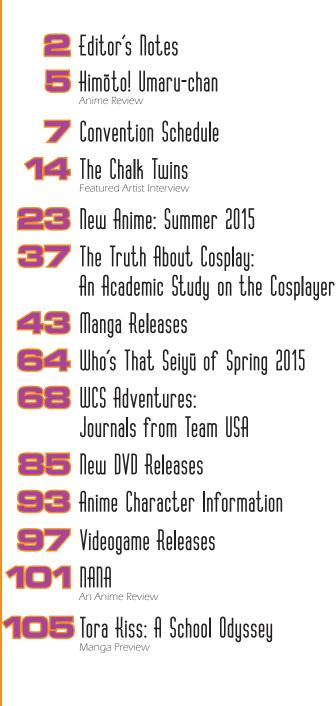
074

0

0

JANUARY (28) 29-31, 2016 ANDÉ LOS ANGELES 12 ONTARIO CONVENTION CENTER / RADISSON ONTARIO AIRPORT ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA

Contents Summer 2015





The Chalk Twins: Devon and Lexi.

Issue 21, Autumn • September 23 - December 20, 2015

Genki Life Magazine is published seasonal, quarterly, by The Genshiken of the Inland Empire anime club, a subsidiary of Studio ArtMix: Intelligent Graphic Design. Subscription of this magazine is free of charge. Please email gm@studioartmix.com your request to subscribe to this digital publication as well as any other inquiries about this publication.

Any statements made, expressed or implied in *Genki Life Magazine* are solely those of columnists and persons being interviewed and do not represent the editorial view of the publisher, who does not accept responsibility of such statements. Unless otherwise specified all design; text, layout, images, graphics, and the selection and arrangement are the copyright works of *Studio ArtMix* or its partners. No part of this publication may be reproduced, in whole or in part without the written consent of the publisher. Please email glm@studioartmix.com to obtain permission.

Other content are subject to copyright may be the property of their respective owners. Other material mentioned may not have been used with permission in the publication are so stated herein, but only to promote material on a non-fee basis. The names of actual companies and products mentioned herein and/or third party trademarks, trade names and logos contained herein my be the trademarks of their respective owners. All release dates of products/content herein in are accurate as of the publication date and may be subject to change without notification in any form.

Editor's Note

This past summer was just too hot (weather-wise), but it's deep into convention season. It wasn't until the end of the last issue of *Genki Life Magazine* that I decided to go to Anime Expo. When I registered, I didn't realize I bought a weekend pass instead of a Saturday-only pass. So I went a couple days: Friday, with my friend Elizabeth who drove; and Saturday, Tim and I. After Anime Expo, the following weekend was San Diego Comic Con International. Oh man, Comic Con was hallah crazy, but there were no big announcements. So the only big news to come out of Comic Con was the appearance of the original cast *Star Wars*. My third convention for the season was Anime California. I can't say I had a great time, but it was okay. It certainly grew bigger from last year. The final convention I went to was Long Beach Comic Con. I just wished I spent all day there, but parenting duties got in the way. I was also a last minute decision and had to buy a weekend pass.

As far as any of the other fan boy things over the summer season... Wow! There was nothing else I did. There were no movies I wanted to watch. I take that back. We did go out to watch the US theatrical premier of *Dragon Ball Z: Resurrection 'F.'* Other than fan boy stuff, I did spend a weekend in Indianapolis early August for the DCI Championships.

- Ed Joney

Graphic Designer Publisher-Genki Life Magazine, President-GIE





Staff

Publisher & Editor Ed Gomez

Graphic Design & Layout Ed Gomez Miriam Barrientos

Image Editing John Thompson

Contributors & Writers

Derek Boleware, Jr. "Yukimura82"

Staff Photographer Michelle Schrokosh

Contributing Photos Tim Brillo Andy Van "Yukimura82"

We're always looking for contributors to this magazine in the fields of writing, reporting, reviewing, photography and graphic design. If you would like to contribute to this magazine, please e-mail me at: glm@studioartmix.com or Facebook: www.facebook.com/GenkiLifeMag

Magazine - Autumn 201

"Thunder in the East" 30th Anniversary US Tour

Tour Dates October 15 – November 7 www.loudnessjp.com/en/

Genki Life Magazine - Autumn 2015

(*

Ð

Himōto! Umaru-chan 干物妹!うまるちゃん TV・July 9 – September 24, 2015 Doga Kobo • Sentai Filmworks

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ Himouto!_Umaru-chan#Media

http://www.umaru-ani.me

Director: Ōta, Masahiko Writer: Aoshima, Takashi Music: Misawa, Yasuhiro

Cast:

Doma, Umaru = Tanaka, Aimi Doma, Taihei = Nojima, Kenji Ebina Nana = Kageyama, Akari Tachibana, Sylphynford = Furukawa, Yurina Motoba, Kirie = Shiraishi, Haruka 0



There is an old saying: "Don't judge a book by its cover." This old saying explains that the outside appearance of a person is not what it seems. When people are out in public, they will present characteristics that are ethically acceptable as "normal" depending on the customs of a country. Normally people who view others, will perceive a person by just the outer appearances only, such as how they look, what they do and what they have done? People should look beyond the outside appearances of a person and look into the true character of them. The anime that is showing this explanation is *Himouto! Umaru-chan*.



Umaru's neighbor, Nana Ebina and brother, Taihei.

The show is about a teenage girl named Umaru Doma who moves in with her older brother, Taihei, into a single unit apartment. At first Umaru lived a normal life: going to school, doing homework and well mannered. After six months, Taihei notices changes in Umaru's behavior and character. She slowly starts to get involved into video games, anime, manga, figurines, junk food and very dependent on Taihei. At this point Umaru has two versions of herself: In public she is the popular and exceptional student, while at home she is a closet otaku.

Umaru only shows her true self at home, a chibi form of herself wearing a hamster hooded cape. In her chibi form she eats junk food, plays video games, watches anime and reads manga. When she walks out the apartment, she transforms into her full normal self and carries the outside appearance that all people see her as: the pretty, popular talented and well mannered student. She hides her true self even from her friends but when a few uninvited guests appear at her home when she's in chibi form, she pretends to be another younger sister of Umaru and Taihei. Umaru takes extra precaution of protecting herself from being judged in a negative way from other people.

This show is very good with what is happening in today's society with media and entertainment. It shows how the classic sides between a brother and sister: living a normal adult life and a teen who is hiding a big secret at home from the public eye. It has great content that will make viewers entertained when watching the show from beginning to end. I would recommend this anime to anyone who is looking for something new and fun to watch. This may be one of the top anime to watch of 2015, so check it out and start having a good time. *** Jeong-Ku Sou IL**





5

FANDOM CONVENTIONS INC. PRESENTS

November 6-8, 2015

Featuring voices from the hit shows ATTACK ON TITAN, DRAGON BALL Z YU-GI-OH, POKEMON, & MORE

Fort Walton Beach Florida merald Coast Convention Center

twitter

www.FANdomCon.com

facebook tumblr. Instagram



Convention Schedule Autumn 2015

Anime Weekend Atlanta

September 24–27 Renaissance Waverly Hotel & Cobb Galleria Centre, Atlanta, GA www.awa-con.com

J-Con

September 25–26 The Riverside Centre, Derby, UK www.j-con.co.uk

Atlanti-Con

September 25–27 Pepsi Centre Annex Corner Brook, Newfoundland and Labrador www.atlanti-con.com

Midoricon

September 25–27 Maumee Bay Lodge and Conference Center, Oregon, OH *www.midoricon.com*

Tri-Con

September 25–27 Holiday Inn Evansville Airport Evansville, IN *www.tri-con.net*

Kraken Con Fall

September 26 USS Hornet Museum Alameda, CA www.krakencon.com

F.A.C.T.S.

September 26–27 Flanders Expo Ghent, Belgium www.facts.be

MCM Scotland Comic Con

September 26–27 Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre, Glasgow, UK www.mcmcomiccon.com/scotland/





Oz Comic-Con: Sydney

September 26–27 Sydney Exhibition Centre @ Glebe Island Rozelle, NSW Australia www.ozcomiccon.com

Senshi-Con

September 26–27 William A. Egan Civic & Convention Center Anchorage, AK *www.senshicon.com*

Con-volution

October 2-4 Hyatt Regency SFO Burlingame, CA www.con-volution.com/2015/

CONtraflow/DeepSouthCon

October 2–4 New Orleans Airport Hilton New Orleans www.contraflowscifi.org

EerieCon

October 2–4 Byblos Niagara Resort and Spa Grand Island, NY www.eeriecon.org

Mizucon

October 2–4 DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Miami Airport & Convention Center, Miami, FL www.mizucon.com

Realms Con

October 2–4 AmericanBank Center Corpus Christi, TX *www.realmscon.com*



Time Eddy

October 2–4 The Best Western Wichita North Wichita, KS www.kansasdoctorwho.com

Titletown Comic

& Entertainment Expo October 2–4 KI Convention Center Green Bay, WI www.titletowncomicon.com

VCON

October 2-4 Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel, Richmond, BC, Canada *www.vcon.ca*

NyanCon

October 3 Lakeland Community College Kirtland, OH www.nyancon.org

mation presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice.



Convention Schedule Autumn 2015 continued

Paris Manga & Sci-Fi Show

October 3–4 Paris Porte de Versailles Paris, France www.parismanga.fr

Protoculture Con

October 4 Pasadena Convention Center Pasadena, CA www.protoculturecon.com

Anime Ohana

October 9–11 Pagoda Hotel Honolulu, HI www.animeohana.com

ConClave

October 9–11 Doubletree Dearborn, MI www.conclavesf.net

Necronomicon

October 9–11 Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay Tampa, FL www.necronomicon2015.com

Tsubasacon

October 9–11 Big Sandy Superstore Arena Huntington, WV www.tsubasacon.org

Anime Getaway St. Louis October 10 Gateway Center, Collinsville, IL www.animegetaway.com/stlouis/

Kwazi-Con

October 10–11 Space Foundation World Headquarters and Discovery Center, Colorado Springs, CO www.galaxyfest.org/kwazicon/



Octocon

October 10–11 The Camden Court Hotel Dublin, Ireland www.2015.octocon.com

Anime Banzai

October 16–18 Davis Conference Center Layton, UT www.animebanzai.org

Anime Fusion

October 16–18 Ramada Mall of America Bloomington, MN www.animefusion.net/site/

Another Anime Convention

October 16–18 Radisson Hotel Manchester Downtown Manchester, NH *www.anotheranimecon.com*

Grand Rapids Comic Con

October 16–18 DeVos Place Grand Rapids, MI www.grcomiccon.com

Nashville Anime Day

October 17 Clarion Inn & Suites Murfreesboro, TN www.nashville.animeday.net

Buffalo Comicon

October 17–18 The Buffalo Niagara Convention Center Buffalo, NY www.buffalocomicon.com

Great Basin Geek Con

October 17–18 Reno Town Mall Reno, NV www.greatbasingeeks.com/greatbasin-geek-con/

MondoCon

October 17–18 HungExpo, Budapest, Hungary www.mondocon.hu/summer2015/

ZAPPCON

October 17–18 Fresno Convention Center Fresno, CA *www.zappcon.com*

Rose City Anime Festival

October 18 Bailey Theatre Camrose, Alberta www.rosecityanime.com

Kabochacon

October 23–24 Hope Hotel and Richard C. Holbrooke Conference Center Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH www.kabochacon.org

Animate! Miami

October 23–25 Miami Airport Convention Center, Miami, FL www.animatemiami.com

Crypticon

October 23–25 Ramada Minneapolis, MN www.crypticonminneapolis.com

nki Life Magazine - Autumn 20



Emerald Coast Con

October 23–25 Emerald Coast Convention Center, Ft. Walton Beach, FL *www.emeraldcoastcon.com*

M7 Con

October 23–25 Los Angeles Convention Center Los Angeles, CA *www.m7con.org*

MCM London Comic Con

October 23–25 ExCeL Convention Centre, Royal Victoria Dock, London, UK www.mcmcomiccon.com/london

Rocket City NerdCon

October 23–25 Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, Huntsville, AL www.hmcpl.org/rocketcitynerdcon/

Santa Fe Comic Con

October 23–25 Buffalo Thunder Casino and Resort Santa Fe, NM *www.santafecomiccon.com*

Armageddon Expo Auckland

October 23–26 ASB Showgrounds Auckland, New Zealand *www.armageddonexpo.com/nz/*

Chase Con Expo

October 24–25 Saratoga City Center Saratoga Springs, NY *www.chasecon.org*

PokéCon

October 24–25 University of Minnesota Twin Cities, Coffman Memorial Union Minneapolis, MN *www.mnpokecon.com*

Sac-Con

October 25 McClellan Conference Center McClellan Park, CA www.sac-con.com

Youmacon

October 29 – November 1 Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center / Cobo Center Detroit, MI www.youmacon.com

SNAFU Con

October 30–31 John Ascuaga's Nugget Casino Resort, Sparks, NV *www.snafucon.com*

Aki Con

October 30 – November 1 DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Seattle Airpor, Seattle, WA www.akicon.org

Anime USA

October 30 – November 1 Washington Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, DC www.animeusa.org

Bakuretsu Con

October 30 – November 1 Hampton Inn Burlington Colchester, VT www.bakuretsucon.org

Banzaicon

October 30 – November 1 Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, Columbia, SC www.banzaicon.com

Colorado Horror Con & Halloween Film Festival

October 30 – November 1 Ramada Plaza, Denver, CO www.coloradohorrorcon.com

EnigmaCon

October 30 – November 1 The Ocean Center Daytona, FL *www.enigmacon.net*

FangCon

October 30 – November 1 Holiday Inn Knoxville Downtown Knoxville, TN www.fangcon.org

IfCon Victoria

October 31 – November 1 Pearkes Recreation Centre Victoria, BC Canada www.ifconvictoria.com

Izumicon

October 30 – November 1 Cox Convention Center Oklahoma City, OK www.izumicon.com

Oni-Con

October 30 – November 1 Galveston Island Convention Center at The San Luis Resort Galveston, TX www.oni-con.net

Stan Lee's Comikaze Expo

October 30 – November 1 Los Angeles Convention Center www.comikazeexpo.com

TusCon

October 30 – November 1 Hotel Tucson City Center InnSuites Conference Suite Resort Tucson, AZ www.tusconscificon.com

WasabiCon

October 31 – November 1 Jacksonville Marriott Jacksonville, FL www.wasabicon.com

.net



Convention Schedule Autumn 2015 continued

Expo TNT

October 31 – November 2 Centro de Convenciones de Tlatelolco Mexico City, México www.tnt-web.net

NerdaCon

November 6–7 Columbus Georgia Convention & Trade Center Columbus, GA www.nerdacon.org

Anime NebrasKon

November 6–8 Ramada Plaza Omaha Hotel and Convention Center Omaha, NE www.animenebraskon.com

FANdom Con

November 6–8 Emerald Coast Convention Center, Fort Walton Beach, FL www.fandomcon.com

Kikori Con

November 6–8 Little America Hotel - Flagstaff Flagstaff, AZ www.kikoricon.com

Nekocon

November 6–8 Hampton Roads Convention Center, Hampton, VA *www.nekocon.com*

PerryCon

November 6–8 National Fair Grounds Middle, GA www.atlantasouthcomiccon.com



November 6–8 Rhode Island Convention Center & Dunkin Donuts Center Providence, RI www.ricomiccon.com

ShadoCon

November 6–8 Innisbrook, A Salamander Golf & Spa Resort Palm Harbor, FL www.shadocon.com

Wizard World Louisville

November 6–8 Kentucky International Convention Center Louisville, KY www.wizardworld.com/homelouisville.html

Doki Doki

November 7 Sugden Sports Centre Manchester, UK www.dokidokifestival.com

Yushi-Con

November 7 East Stroudsburg University Sci-Tech Building, East Stroudsburg, PA www.yushicon.com

GeekFest Montréal

November 7–8 Collège de Maisonneuve Montreal, Quebec *www.geekfestqc.net*

Rocky Mountain Con

November 7–8 Crowne Plaza Denver International Airport Denver, CO www.rockymountaincon.com

ATOMACON

November 13–15 Charleston Plaza Hotel North Charleston, SC *www.atomacon.org*

Animaine

November 13–15 Best Western Merry Manor Inn South Portland, ME www.animaine.org

CONjuration

November 13–15 Marriott Century Center Atlanta, GA www.conjurationcon.com

Eirtakon

November 13–15 Croke Park Conference Centre Dublin, Ireland www.eirtakon.com

RangerStop Superhero Toy & Comic Con

agazine • Autumn

November 13–15 Holiday Inn Suites Orlando, FL www.rangerstop.com

Hamacon Minicon November 14 Von Braun Center Huntsville, AL www.bama-con.com

nki Life



Anime North Texas

November 20–22 Hilton Fort Worth Fort Worth, TX www.animenorthtexas.com

Daisho Con

November 20–22 Kalahari Resorts Wisconsin Dells, WI www.daishocon.org

Foxprowl-Con

November 20–22 Clarion Hotel, Batavia, NY www.foxprowlcon.com

Philcon

November 20–22 Crowne Plaza Hotel Cherry Hill, NJ *www.philcon.org*

Supanova Pop Culture Expo - Adelaide

November 20–22 Adelaide Showground Adelaide, SA Australia www.supanova.com.au

Heroes & Villians Fan Fest

November 21–22 San Jose Convention Center San Jose, CA *www. heroesfanfest.com*

Anime Festival Asia -Singapore

November 27–29 Suntec International Convention and Exhibition Centre, Singapore *animefestival.asia*

Anime Matsuri Hawaii November 27–29 Hawaii Convention Center

Hawaii Convention Center Honolulu, HI hawaii.animematsuri.com

Chessiecon

November 27–29 Radisson North Baltimore Timonium, MD www.chessiecon.org

Starbase Indy

November 27–29 Wyndham Indianapolis West Indianapolis, IN www.starbaseindy.com

Supanova Pop Culture Expo - Brisbane

November 27–29 Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre Brisbane, QLD Australia www.supanova.com.au

DerpyCon

December 4–6 Hyatt Morristown at Headquarters Plaza, Morristown, NJ www.derpycon.com

Phoenix ComiCon Fan Fest

December 4–6 University of Phoenix Stadium Glendale, AZ www.phoenixcomicon.com

Sangawa Project

December 4–6 DoubleTree by Hilton Greentree Pittsburgh, PA www.sangawaproject.com

Yama-Con

December 4–6 LeConte Center Pigeon Forge, TN www.yamacon.org

TAG Fest

December 5 SeaGate Convention Centre, Toledo, OH www.glasscitycon.com/tagfest/

Biter Bash & Toy Expo

December 5–6 The Cottage School Roswell, GA *www.biterbash.com*

Malta Comic Con

December 5–6 St. James Cavalier, Valletta, Malta www.maltacomic-con.com

Geekonomicon

December 11–13 Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center Biloxi, MS www.wbynotgeek.com/geekonomicon/

Lost in Fandom

December 13 Crowne Plaza Silicon Valley Union City, CA www.shinjukucon.com/#!lost-infandom/cjg9

Akihabara Expo

December 18–20 Anaheim Convention Center Anaheim, CA www.akibaexpo.com



Con+Alt+Delete

December 18–20 Hyatt Regency O'Hare Rosemont, IL www.conaltdelete.com

Holiday Matsuri

December 18–20 Caribe Royale All-Suite Hotel & Convention Center Orlando, FL www.holidaymatsuri.com

Ikkicon

January 1–3, 2016 Renaissance Austin Hotel Austin, TX www.ikkicon.com

Sac-Anime

January 1–3, 2016 Sacramento Convention Center Sacramento, CA www.sacanime.com

AniRevo: Winter

January 3, 2016 Art Institute of Vancouver Vancouver, British Columbia www.animerevolution.ca/winter-event/

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice.



Convention Schedule Autumn 2015 continued

KotoriCon

January 8–9, 2016 Rowan College at Gloucester County Sewell, NJ www.rcgc.edu/Kotoricon/Pages/ default.aspx

Anime-Zap!

January 8–10, 2016 Embassy Suites East Peoria -Hotel & Riverfront Conference Center, East Peoria, IL www.animezapcon.com

Evercon

January 15–16, 2016 D.C. Everest Junior High School Weston, WI *www.evercon.org*

Newcon PDX

January 15–17, 2016 DoubleTree by Hilton Portland Portland, OR *www.newconpdx.com*

Ohayocon

January 15–17, 2016 Hyatt Regency Columbus / Greater Columbus Convention Cente, Columbus, OH www.ohayocon.org

AniMore

January 22–24, 2016 Hyatt Regency Baltimore Baltimore, MD www.animorecon.com

Animé Los Angeles

January 29–31, 2016 Ontario Convention Center Ontario, CA www.animelosangeles.org/ala/

Amelia Con

February 5–7, 2016 Fernandina Beach Recreation Center / Days Inn & Suites Amelia Island At The Beach Fernandina Beach, FL www.ameliacon.com

Star City Anime

February 5–7, 2016 Holiday Inn Roanoke -Valley View Roanoke, VA *www.starcityanime.com*

AnniCon

February 6, 2016 Anniston City Meeting Center, Anniston, AL www.annicon.com

Cos-Losseum

February 6–7, 2016 Scottish Rite Event Center San Diego, CA www.thecosplayinitiativellc.com

Colorado Anime Fest

February 12–14, 2016 Renaissance Denver Hotel Denver, CO www.coloradoanimefest.com

Tsukino-Con

February 12–14, 2016 University of Victoria - ECS Building, Victoria, BC www.tsukinocon.com

SwampCon

February 13–14, 2016 University of Florida, J. Wayne Reitz Student Union Gainesville, FL www.swampcon.com

AOD

February 19–20, 2016 Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport, Burlingame, CA *www.aodsf.org*



Anime Crossroads

February 19–21, 2016 Wyndham Indianapolis West Indianapolis, IN www.animecrossroads.com

Pensacon

February 19–21, 2016 Pensacola Bay Center Pensacola, FL *www.pensacon.com*

Digi-Con

February 21, 2016 Doncaster Deaf College Doncaster, UK www.digi-con.co.uk

Anime Matsuri

February 26–28, 2016 George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston, TX www.animematsuri.com

enki Life Magazine 🗉 Autumn 20











arch last year, my friend Tim and

I took a trip to Houston, Texas, for the Anime Matsuri convention. I took the trip to Houston for other reasons, but primarily for the convention. The last time we've been to Anime Matsuri was when it first started in 2007. We figured this was a good time to return.



The Sunday of Anime Matsuri, I got separated from Tim so wandered at the dealers exhibit hall. Near the right of the room, near the exit, facing the outside, is when I encountered two ladies drawing with chalk on what I first thought was the floor. I thought to myself, "Wow. Drawing on the floor? I guess they do things differently at cons in Texas than in California."

I don't remember which twin, I talked to, but I though art they did was amazing! They were doing a collage of the Hayao Miyazaki films. Some of them...my favorites, like *Kaze no Tani no Nausicaä* and *Mononoke Hime*. I asked whether or not it was okay to take a picture—a common courtesy because it is artwork—of the unfinished piece and said it was okay. Unfortunately, I lost that picture taken from my smartphone (found just recently, pictured to left). But on the last day of the convention, I stopped by for one last look and took a snapshot of the finished piece with my camera.

The next time I saw The Chalk Twins was at our home convention—Anime Expo—that summer to my surprise. Again, I don't remember which twin I talked to. But I did tell her the story of how I first saw them a couple months before in Texas. Now for the third time, I got to see them again at this last FanimeCon in San Jose. How awesome is that! So I got to purchase a print of their first piece that I saw them work on in Houston. Now, I'm honored that they took time off from their busy schedule to do this interview. Lexi and Devon, please introduce yourselves to our readers. Hi! We are The Chalk Twins—identical twin professional artists, whose job it is to create large scale murals in chalk for conventions, special events and companies.

So the name you (both) came up with... "Chalk Twins..." how did you come up with such title? Was it an easy or difficult decision? It actually came pretty naturally. We were still in college and participating in a lot of street festivals. People started calling us "The Twins." So one night we were talking with our family, and our father suggested that we start going by "The Chalk Twins." We thought it was a very fitting name!

What inspired the both of you to get into art? Since, chalk is a medium that's not too widely used in art, how did the decision come about to

use chalk? We started using the medium in high school. Our art teacher encouraged her students to use as many different mediums they could get their hands on, and she also encouraged everyone to work on a large scale. In Orlando, there are a lot of local chalk art festivals and even some that allow high schoolers

to participate. Our teacher asked us to re-present our school in a square. We ended up winning in our category and fell in love with the medium.

Is there another type of medium other than chalk that you both like to use? Was it way out of your comfort zone to use that medium? We both have our degrees in Fine Art and therefore are comfortable with a range of media. Specifically, Devon concentrated on oil painting and drawing, and Lexi concentrated on graphic design. We believe our education has only helped us become better at using chalk. For some reason, using chalk pastels has always come naturally for us. We have been using the medium for 10 years now so it is like second nature to us.

All the artwork that I've ever seen the both of you do are inspired by anime and video games. Were the both you always been into those genres? And what are your favorites? All things considered, we have actually gotten into anime later than most. We didn't start watching anime until right after we had graduated college (we look back and think that that might be a good thing-our grades would have





been very different if we had delved into anime during school!). However, we did grow up really enjoying fantasy and sci-fi franchises like *Star Trek*, *Legend of Zelda*, *Lord of the Rings* and *Harry Potter*.

It's hard to narrow down our favorites. *Bleach* and Studio Ghibli films will always hold a special place in our hearts because those are what introduced to the anime genre. We also really enjoy large, sweeping epics like *Fullmetal Alchemist: Brotherhood* and *Fate/Zero!* did about 25 conventions last year in about 15 different states and Anime Matsuri was right in the middle of our tour.

Of all the conventions you've been to in your travels, what was the one convention that was the most memorable for you? And why was it memorable? Again, it's hard to narrow it down because we have had so many great and memorable experiences at

SILENT

AUCTIO

The first time I encountered you was at Anime Matsuri in 2014. Was it the first conven-

tion you attended to present your work? If not, then where and what was the first convention did you present your work at? And what was the piece of art that you did?

We have actually been performing at conventions and special events for the past three years now. The first year we did mostly local events and the first convention we ever did was a little show called Florida Anime Experience were we decided to draw an *Aoi no Exorcist* piece. In 2014, we decided to tour the entire country with our work. We



conventions. But if we had to choose one, we would probably say Anime Expo 2013 was the one of the most memorable. It was our first convention outside of the Southeast and also one of the largest conventions at which we had ever been a guest. We met so many wonderful people and our art actually moved one woman to tears. We were so honored and surprised to have our work affect someone that much.

Do each of you have a favorite artist (whether mainstream or anime) that inspired you in learning to become artists? Is there one piece from that artist that is the most memorable for you? We are inspired by SO many artists. The top of our list includes Chuck Close, Caravaggio, Gerhard Richter, Jasper Johns and Cindy Sherman. We have also been greatly inspired by our local community of chalk artist friends and Japanese artists like Hayao Miyazaki and Tite Kubo.

However, the artists that truly inspired us to be become artists ourselves were our teachers, Dale Wayne and Michael Brodeur. They taught us the basics, pushed us beyond our limits while encouraging us through our art blocks. They instilled in us a willingness to do things



differently and an appreciation for subtly and detail.

Of all the art pieces that you've done, any of them, which one is your favorite and why? It's funny that you should ask that because one of our favorite pieces we have done was our Studio Ghibli piece at Anime Matsuri 2014. It took Devon quite a while to come up with a composition that included 10 films into one image that all made sense and was cohesive. That plus making an image that was bright and happy and filled with childhood memories for so many people made it a really fun piece to create.

For those inspiring to become artist, what advice would you give them to continue on with their

dreams? It may sound cliche but our biggest advise to aspiring artists it to practice, practice, practice. It may be hard but don't compare yourself to others or where they are in their creative journey. Finally, take the time to look back at your old work and acknowledge how much progress you have made. Artists, even professionals, are always growing and learning-embracing that journey is what makes being creative so much fun!

Do you have an online portfolio or a blog where your audience can view your work? If you do commission work, where can your audience reach you if they were interested in commissioning you for our own projects? We do! People can follow us on pretty much any social media site (www. facebook.com/chalktwins, www.chalktwins.deviantart.com, and @chalktwins on Instagram and Twitter) as well as our website chalktwins.com. If people have any questions or commission requests, feel free to drop us a line at chalktwins@gmail.com. �



All photos (except where noted) courtesy and used with permission by The Chalk Twins. Screened background photo by E. Gomez

Coldrain VENA WORLD TOUR 2015-2016

US Dates Nov 20 - Dec 19









Diabolik Lovers More, Blood

September 24 • Zexcs • AT-X anime-dialover.com/

The second season of *Diabolik Lovers*. Komori Yui is still adapting to the life of living with the sadistic Sakamaki vampire brothers, how will her relationship fare between them throughout the rest of her time in high school?



Aikatsu! 4 (Idol Activities! 4) アイカツ! 4

October 1 • Sunrise • TV Tokyo www.tv-tokyo.co.jp/anime/aikatsu/index2.html Hoshimiya Ichigo is a normal girl in her 1st year of middle-school. However, her life changes drastically when, at her good friend Aoi's invitation, she is admitted into Starlight Academy, a famous school for grooming idols. The 4th season of *Aikatsu!* continues on from season 3 with an introduction a brand-new idol unit from Hokkaidō.

Air dates and info are subject to change without notice. Some shows could appear on other channels on different times and day



Anime Schedule 2015 Autumn



Hacker Doll: The Animation ハッカドール THE・あにめーしょん

October 2 • Creators in Pack TOKYO • Tokyo MX, BS11 hackadoll-anime.com/ • youtu.be/NpXj7F-2i-s Hacker Doll is a news and developed by DeNA a Tākyā based

Hacker Doll is a news app developed by DeNA, a Tōkyō-based company which owns one of the most popular cell phone gaming platforms, Mobage. The anime personifies the Hacker Doll app's customization engine as three "Hacker Dolls;" the personal entertainment AI and main navigator, Hacker Doll #1; the anime expert, Hacker Doll #2 and the knowledgeable otaku, Hacker Doll #3.



Kagewani (Shadow Crocodile) 影鰐 -KAGEWANI-

October 2 + Tomovies + Tokyo MX, BS11

kagewani.com

Mysterious monsters that appear and attack in the present. But why do these monsters attack people...? People who can only be toyed with by them in extreme situations. Sõsuke Banba is a scientist who searches for the truth with the keyword "kagewani."



Kamisama Minarai: Himitsu no Cocotama God Apprentices: Secretive Cocotama かみさまみならい ヒミツのここたま

October 1 • Oriental Light and Magic • TV Tokyo, BS Japan, OX, TV Shizuoka, RCC, ABN, FTV www.coco-tama.com/ • youtu.be/tIJZXuC7FR8

Cocotama are tiny gods born from the thoughts and feelings of objects that people use with great care. They use a mysterious magic and they train hard to be of use to humans and to become full gods. They live inside human houses and stealthily move around to help humans find things they have lost, although they make many mistakes.



Lance n' Masques ランス・アンド・マスクス

October 2 • Studio Gokumi • TBS, BS-TBS, CBC, SUN www.tbs.co.jp/anime/lance/ • youtu.be/E0AIAEDIrF8 A battle action novel series revolves around Yōtarō Hanafusa, a young man who is part of the last remaining order of knights in the 21st century, "Knights of the World." As he fights as the mysterious Knight Lancer, he must hide his identity behind a mask.



Miss Monochrome – The Animation 3 ミス・モノクローム -The Animation- 3

October 2 • LIDEN FILMSSanzigen • Tokyo MX, BS11 www.starchild.co.jp/special/miss_monochrome_anime_2/ According to the setting, Miss Monochrome loves only the monochrome style, dislikes all kinds of color, and always dreams about changing the world into her favorite monochrome color. Third season of *Miss Monochrome*.

ne 🗉 Autumn



Hacker Dolls 3, 2 & 1 – Hacker Doll: The Animation



Young Black Jack ヤング ブラック・ジャック

October 2 • Tezuka Productions • TBS, CBC, SUN, BS-TBS www.tbs.co.jp/anime/ybj/ • youtu.be/drD0W6F-Qqo *Young Black Jack* is a prequel to Osamu Tezuka's classic manga series about a brilliant maverick doctor who practices without a license.

Gakusen Toshi Asterisk Academy Battle City Asterisk 学戦都市アスタリスク

October 3 • A-1 Pictures • Animax, Tokyo MX, GTV, GYT, BS11, ABC, CBC asterisk-war.com/ • youtu.be/KAY8vsOm538 The Academy City, "Rikka," known as "Asterisk," was famous for being the world's largest stage for the integrated battle

entertainment. Amagiri Ayato arrived at Rikka at the invitation of the Seidoukan Academy Student Council President, Claudia Right after that he incurred the wrath of the Julis and ended up having to duel her.



Heavy Object ヘヴィーオブジェクト

October 3 • J.C. Staff • Tokyo MX, MBS, TVA, BS11, AT-X heavyobject.net/ • youtu.be/cZDDuFj_qmg The science-fiction war action story revolves around Objects (powerful, massive weapons) and Elite Object pilots. An odd Elite girl named Milinda was met by Quenser, a student who aims to become a Object mechanic. This diminutive boy had

Elite girl named Milinda was met by Quenser, a student who aims to become a Object mechanic. This diminutive boy had come to take on the role of standing up against the strongest weapon "Object" for the sake of the girl.



K: Return of Kings

October 3 • GoHands • MBS, TBS, CBC, BS-TBS, AT-X k-project-come-back.jpn.com/ • youtu.be/m6tfX_Phc9o In modern Japan where history has strangely overlapped with reali

In modern Japan where history has strangely overlapped with reality, seven "Kings" with great superpowers existed. Along with their clansman to whom they shared their own power with, the kings each formed clans. Order bound by blue, red flames that cause chaos, irregularities that shine in white and reforms branched off into green. With "jungle" once again jumping back into action, the fates of the various Kings are brought together.

Air dates and info are subject to change without notice. Some shows could appear on other channels on different times and day



Anime Schedule 2015 Autumn



Kindaichi Shōnen no Jikenbo R 2 (The File of Young Kindaichi Returns 2) 金田一少年の事件簿R 【リターンズ】

October 3 • Toei Animation • YTV, NTV www.toei-anim.co.jp/tv/kindaichi_r/

Kindaichi (frequently with best-bud, Miyuki) travels to various places where a murder has taken place, typically involving ghosts, curses, myths and folklore of significant events from the distant past, and solves the mystery using ingenious deductions of curious clues and his cool magic. The second season of *Kindaichi Shōnen no Jikenbo*.



Noragami Aragoto (Stray God: Aragoto) ノラガミ ARAGOTO

October 3 • Bones • MBS, Tokyo MX, BS Fuji noragami-anime.net/ • youtu.be/nI_2PqGZb-c

In the human world, there is a god who can penetrate into the heart of them. When you are sad, when you are tired, if you look up to heaven, we can see a telephone number. But it is important not to call! If we call, a boy stands in front of you dislike and say "Delighted, I am God." If it happens to you, what would you do? Season two of *Noragami* which will adapt the manga's Bishamon arc.







Rakudai Kishi no Cavalry (The Heroic Tales of the Failure Knight) 落第騎士の英雄譚 《キャバルリィ》

October 3 • Silver Link • AT-X, Tokyo MX, TVA, SUN, BS11

www.ittoshura.com/ + youtu.be/bMIarTOSN70

The school-sword-action story revolves around Magic Knights, modern magic-users who fight with weapons converted from their souls. Ikki Kurogane goes to a school for these Magic Knights, but he is the "Failed Knight" or "Worst One," who is failing because he has no magical skills. However, one day he is challenged to a duel by Stella, a foreign princess and the "Number One" student. In this duel, "the loser must be obedient for life."



Sōkyū no Fafner: Exodus 2 (Fafner in the Azure: -EXODUS- 2) 蒼穹のファフナー EXODUS 2

October 3 • Xebec Zwei • MBS, TBS, CBC, BS-TBS

fafner-exodus.jp/ • youtu.be/yoYucqi4Pco

Tatsumiyajima is the central island in the middle of a small cluster of islands. Not much happens there and the island's young people go to school knowing that their lives are likely to remain peaceful and undisturbed. Or so they have been taught...but the truth is different. The fate of mankind is on the line and Tatsumiyajima is the last line of defense against a hostile and incomprehensible enemy. Second season of *Sōkyū no Fafner: Exodus*.



Ame-iro Cocoa: Rainy Color e Yōkoso! (Rainy Cocoa: Rainy Color Welcome!) 雨色ココア Rainy colorへようこそ!

October 4 • EMT² • Tokyo MX, SUN www.rainycocoa.jp/anime/

Aoi Tokura was having a very unfortunate day. He was even called ugly by a stranger on the train. While walking down the street on this rainy day, he stood by a small, but cozy cafe named Rainy Color where he is to start working. As he enjoyed a cup of hot chocolate he was served, a guy came into Rainy Color...it was Kei'ichi Iwase, the one who told Aoi was ugly!!?? Second season of *Ame-iro Cocoa*.



Comet Lucifer コメット・ルシファー

October 4 • 8bit • Tokyo MX, KBS, SUN, BS11 comet-lucifer.jp/ • youtu.be/P57C-Io44dA

On the planet Gift is where precious crystals called Giftjium are buried in the earth. A young man named Sōgo lives in Garden Indigo, a prosperous mining town. One day, he gets wrapped up in a riot caused by his classmates Kaon, Roman and Otto and he loses his way until he finds a lake deep under the ground's mining ruins. There, he meets a mysterious girl with blue hair and red eyes that gaze straight ahead. The story follows the adventure of what happens after this meeting.



Concrete Revolutio: Chōjin Gensō (Concrete Revolutio – Superhero Fantasy) コンクリート・レボルティオ〜超人幻想〜

October 4 + Bones + Tokyo MX, SUN, KBS, BS11

concreterevolutio.com/ • youtu.be/00TQbEj3Hqk

In an alternate Japan, Japan has grown and developed by leaps and bounds 20 years after a war. What if all the superhumans ever written about in fictional stories existed at the same time? The Japanese government has taken many measures to secure peace and order under the Ministry of Health and Welfare (Overpopulation Research Laboratory, a.k.a. the Superhuman Bureau). One member of the Superhuman Bureau, Jiro Hitoyoshi, is protagonist of this series.

Air dates and info are subject to change without notice. Some shows could appear on other channels on different times and days



Anime Schedule 2015 Autumn



Haikyū!! 2 ハイキュー!! セカンドシーズン

October 4 • Production I.G • MBS, CBC, Tokyo MX, BS11, RKB, HBC, TBC www.j-haikyu.com/

Shōyō Hinata is aiming to become the next "Small Giant" and joins his middle school volleyball club. After finding new members, they set out for the middle school tournament, where they've cross paths with a formidable school with the "King of the Upper Court," Tobio Kageyama. A direct sequel to Haikyū!! TV anime. Junior high school student Shōyō Hinata continues pushing his volleyball club forward, aiming to improve on the results he has achieved so far.



Kidō Senshi Gundam: Tekketsu no Orphans Mobile Suit Gundam: Iron-Blooded Orphans 機動戦士ガンダム 鉄血のオルフェンズ

October 4, 201 + Sunrise + JNN (MBS)

g-tekketsu.com/ + youtu.be/IddxplDVGw8

300 years after a great conflict between Earth and Mars known as the "Calamity War," Cordelia sets out on a journey to Earth to speak for the independence of the Martian city of Chryse, which is under the control of the Earth government. When a group named Gjallarhorn attacks CGS, Cordelia and Orga sees this as a chance to rebel against CGS.

Komori-san wa Kotowarenai! (Komori-san Can't Decline!) 小森さんは断れない!

October 4 + Artland + Tokyo MX, SUN

komori-anime.com/

Syuri Komori is a 14-year-old girl who is so nice that she can not turn down people's request. She gains amazing abilities while she fulfills people's request. There are many fun and happy things in her life since she is an adolescent middle school student after all!



<mark>Kowabon</mark> こわぼん

October 4 • ILCA www.kbc.co.jp/kowabon/ • youtu.be/pd8TMIZhjZs Kowabon is a horror story that will be animated using a technique called rotoscoping. Animators will trace live-action footage frame-by-frame to recreate it as animation. "There are cameras everywhere in the world. Those 'eyes' have seen the world you do not know."



Onsen Yōsei Hakone-chan (Young Hot Spring Spirit Hakone-chan) 温泉幼精ハコネちゃん

October 4 • Asahi Production • TVS, tvk, KBS, SUN, Animax www.hakone-chan.jp/

The story follows Hakone, a hot spring spirit who descended to a spa resort on Earth. However, with her long slumber, she looks like a little girl on the outside. The high school boy Tōya stumbles across her at a hot spring and ends up joining Hakone in retrieving her original powers. The "Yōsei" in the title is a wordplay on the Japanese words for fairy and a young child.

ine 🗉 Autumn 💈

Cast of Mobile Suit Gundam: Iron-Blooded Orphans



Owarimonogatari (End Story) 終物語

October 4 • Shaft • Tokyo MX, GYT, GTV

www.monogatari-series.com/owarimonogatari/ • youtu.be/5-JnNLX5jJs The *Monogatari* series revolves around Koyomi Araragi, a third-year high school student who is almost human again after briefly becoming a vampire. The anime will cover the "ÕÕgi Formula," "Sodachi Riddle" and "Sodachi Lost" chapters from the first novel, as well as the "Shinobu Mail" chapter from the second novel.



Peeping Life TV: Season 1?? ピーピングライフ TV シーズン1 ??

October 4 • CoMix Wave FilmsForest Hunting One • NTV www.ntv.co.jp/pltv/ • youtu.be/tooBt3VKVRQ Slice of life comedy about pitfalls of Japanese society.



Shingeki! Kyojin Chūgakkō (Attack! Titan Junior High) 進撃! 巨人中学校

October 4 • Production I.G • MBS, Tokyo MX, BS11, RKK, SBS kyojinchu.tv/ • youtu.be/wm3WBqihF-A

The school comedy story is set in a junior high school and centers on the original manga's characters such as Eren and Mikasa as they battle with Titans. The spin-off incorporates gags while using Shingeki no Kyojin's story and notable scenes as its basis.



Utawarerumono: Itsuwari no Kamen (The One Being Sung: False Mask) うたわれるもの 偽りの仮面

October 4 • White Fox • Tokyo MX, TVA, MBS, AT-X, BS11 utawarerumono.jp/ • youtu.be/UB3WKlkIqYo

Hakuoro is found by a family of two girls and their grandmother in a nearby forest close to their village. He is badly injured and is soon found to have amnesia, so they take him to their home and treat him until he is well again. Hakuoro is soon accepted into their village where he stays and lives with them, but before long Hakuoro finds that life in this village is being oppressed by the greedy emperor who rules over the country their village resides in. The second season of *Utawarerumono*.

dates and info are subject to change without notice. Some shows could appear on other channels on different times and days



Anime Schedule 2015 Autumn



World Trigger: Isekai Kara no Tōbōsha ワールドトリガー 異世界からの逃亡者

October 4 + NA + TVA

www.tv-asahi.co.jp/worldtrigger/

Agate to another dimension has burst open and from it, emerges a gigantic invincible creatures that threaten all of humanity. Earth's only defense is a mysterious group of warriors who have co-opted the alien technology in order to fight back! The new series has the tentative title of *Isekai Kara no Tōbōsha*.



One Punch Man ワンパンマン

October 5 • Madhouse Studios • TV Tokyo, TVO, TVQ, KBS, BS Japan onepunchman-anime.net/ • youtu.be/RzmFKUDOUgw

The story takes place in the fictional Japanese metropolis of City Z. The world is full of strange monsters that mysteriously appear and cause disasters. A super hero who has trained so hard that his hair has fallen out and who can overcome any enemy with one punch. However, because he is so strong, he has become bored and frustrated with winning all his battles so easily.



Hidan no Aria AA (Aria the Scarlet Ammo AA) 緋弾のアリアAA

October 6 • Dogakobo • AT-X, Tokyo MX, SUN, KBS, TVA, BS11 ariaaa.tv/ • youtu.be/eal1b3JztN4

A young girl idolizes the world-renowned S-ranked butei Kanzaki H. Aria and plans to follow in her footsteps. However, her test grades her out as only an E-rank! All is not lost, however, as Aria agrees to give her some pointers. Can Aria help this newcomer become a first-rate butei? Second season of *Hidan no Aria*.









<mark>JK-Meshi!</mark> JKめし!

October 6 + NA + Tokyo MX www.jkmeshi.jp/ Three high school girls ("joshi kōsei") explore cooking.



<mark>Star-Mu</mark> スタミュ

October 6 • C-Station • Tokyo MX, BS11, AT-X

hstar-mu.com/ + youtu.be/8Hn-EFUEUyk

Yūta Hoshiya enters Ayana Academy, a school focusing on show business activities, specifically music. The academy has a group of the three students with the highest grades in the musical department, the Kao Kai (Cherry Blossom Flower Association). This organization stands at the top of the pecking order within the academy. The shortcut to entering the musical department is to enter the Star Frame class, which is directly taught by the members, and to be recognized by them.



<mark>Tēkyū 6</mark> てーきゅう 6期

October 6 • Millepensee • Tokyo MX, AT-X te-kyu.com/ • youtu.be/Ucu7sh3SH7k *Tēkyū* is based on a sports comedy manga of the same name featuring four high school girls who belong to a tennis club. Although the amount of tennis they play is questionable. Sixth season of *Tēkyū*.



YuruYuri San☆Hai! (Easygoing Yuri 3 Yes!) ゆるゆり さん☆ハイ!

October 6 • TYO Animations • TV Tokyo yuruyuri.com/3hai/ • youtu.be/HbGtdC6yobY The third season of *Yuru Yuri* continues following four girls who take over the former room of a tea ceremony club for their own amusement.



Dance with Devils ダンス・ウィズ・デビルス

October 7 • Brains Base • Tokyo MX, Sun TV, BS Fuji dwd-anime.com/ • youtu.be/RRHa0PYS2xE The story revolves around Rikka Tachibana, a female second-year high school student who attends Shiko Academy in Shiko Town. She enjoyed her school life while living with her mother Maria. One day, that balance fell into ruin. The anime is a story of Rikka being loved and being attracted to demons.

Air dates and info are subject to change without notice. Some shows could appear on other channels on different times and days



Anime Schedule 2015 Autumn



Fushigi na Somera-chan (Magical Somera-chan) 不思議なソメラちゃん

October 7 • Seven • TVS, KBS, TVK, Sun TV, AT-X dreamcreation.co.jp/somera/ • youtu.be/r9z6_woMnw4 The original manga follows the daily life of Somera-chan, a wielder of mysterious magical powers, and those around her.



Hokuto no Ken: Ichigo Aji (Fist of the North Star: Strawberry Flavor) 北斗の拳2 イチゴ味+

October 7 • NA • TV Tokyo, TVO, TV Aichi

www.hikanukobinukaeriminuteiounitousouhanainodaaaaa.com/ • youtu.be/HMm99gdh0B0 Super-deformed version of Buronson, Hara Tetsuo's post-apocalyptic fighting manga. This spinoff centers on a fun version of the Holy Emperor Souther as he tries to find ways to become friends with Kenshirō, demonstrates his party techniques, and sometimes plays with the Gosha Sei.



Ore ga Ojō-sama Gakkō ni "Shomin Sample" Toshite Gets-Sareta Ken I Was Kidnapped by a Young Lady's School to be a "Sample of the Common People" 俺がお嬢様学校に『庶民サンプル』としてゲッツされた件

October 7 • Silver Link • AT-X, Tokyo MX, SUN, KBS, BS Fuji syominsample-anime.jp/ • youtu.be/J8ZboquUxGo

In a hidden school surrounded by mountains, young ladies of good families are taught everything a high class lady needs to know. They are also completely cut off from the outside world. More graduates are failing to cope with the modern world after graduation. They've decided to kidnap a male commoner student, Kagurazaka Kimito, and enroll him as a student.



探偵

Tantei Team KZ Jiken Note (Detective Team KZ Incident Note) 探偵チームKZ (カッズ) 事件ノート

October 7 • Signal.MD • NHK E-Tele aoitori.kodansha.co.jp/series/KZ/

Aya Tachibana is a sixth-grader who frets and obssesses over friends, family, grades, and more. One day, she joins Tantei Team KZ with four very idiosyncratic boys: the glib and attention-grabbing leader Kazuomi Wakatake, the mysterious "expert of personal relationships" Takakazu Kuroki, the smart and stoic math genius Kazunori Uesugi and the sweethearted Kazuhiko Kozuka who is good at social matters and science. Aya finds her place among them as the "language expert."



Sakurako-san no Ashimoto ni wa Shitai ga Umatteiru A Corpse is Buried Under Sakurako's Feet. 櫻子さんの足下には死体が埋まっている

October 8 + TROYCA + Tokyo MX, KBS, SUN, HBC, TVS, CTC, tvk, GBS, BS11, MTV, TVQ sakurakosan.jp/ + youtu.be/svVuXiVnNh8

Shōtarō Tatewaki is a normal high school student with a serious demeanor who likes to show off his girlfriend Sakurako. Sakurako Kujyō is an extraordinarily beautiful woman in her mid-20s from a rich family who loves "beautiful bones." The two live in the city of Asahikawa in Hokkaido and they get involved in various incidents regarding bones.

Aagazine - Autumn 2

enki Life



Yuriko Kōgami, Itsuki Isozaki, Sakurako Kujō & Shōtarō Tatewaki – Sakurako-san no Ashimoto ni wa Shitai ga Umatteiru





Taimadō Gakuen 35 Shiken Shōtai (AntiMagic Academy "The 35th Test Platoon") 対魔導学園35試験小隊

October 8 • Silver Link • Tokyo MX, SUN, TVQ, CTC, tvk, TVS, GBS, MTV, BS11 35shoutai.jp/ • youtu.be/g1LSQ4JZe2U

Set in a world where people with magic powers are close to being wiped out, the balance of power and military might had once shifted from swords to sorcery, it shifts once again to guns. Takeru Kusanagi goes to "AntiMagic Academy," a training facility for Inquisitors of Herectics who crack down on the dwindling threat posed by magic users. He is relegated to the 35th Test Platoon, the motley "small fry platoon" for poor students.



Subete ga F ni Naru: The Perfect Insider (Everything Becomes F: The Perfect Insider) すべてがFになる THE PERFECT INSIDER

October 9 • A-1 Pictures • Fuji TV (Noitamina) www.f-noitamina.com/ • youtu.be/bqBv7Sgl-f8

Sōhei Saikawa is a member of the Saikawa Research Lab. He goes on a vacation held by the lab. Moe Nishinosono, the daughter of his mentor, joins the group on their vacation despite not being a part of the lab. There, the two end up finding a corpse. The two work together to solve the mysteries of what becomes a serial murder case.



Garo: Guren no Tsuki (Garo: The Crimson Moon) 牙狼[GARO]-紅蓮ノ月-

October 10 • MAPPA • TV Tokyo (TXN), Star Channel, Family Gekijo garo-project.jp/ANIME2/ • youtu.be/U-p7Zu8JbD0

A dark story that revolves around humans that have the job of "Makai Knights," people who fight against demonic beings called Horrors. Unlike the first Garo anime, this series will be a jidaigeki (period drama) set in the Heian period. It will have a female protagonist.

Air dates and info are subject to change without notice. Some shows could appear on other channels on different times and day

Anime Schedule 2015 Autumn



Gochūmon wa Usagi Desu ka?? (Is the Order a Rabbit??) ご注文はうさぎですか??

October 10 • Kinema Citrus, White Fox • AT-X, Tokyo MX, SUN, KBS, BS11 www.gochiusa.com/

Cocoa arrives at the cafe Rabbit House one day, excited for rabbits. She actually all but lives in that cafe. She meets lots of different girls there, including a tiny and cool girl named Chino, a tough and soldier-esque girl named Rize, a spacey and quintessentially Japanese girl named Chiyo, and the ordinary but dignified Sharo. The second season of *Gochūmon wa Usagi Desu ka?* Kokoa is still living and working at cafe Rabbit House.



Owari no Seraph: Nagoya Kessen-hen (Seraph of the End: Battle in Nagoya) 終わりのセラフ 名古屋決戦編

October 10 • Wit Studio • Tokyo MX, MBS, TVA, BS11, AT-X, TV Asahi Channel 1 owarino-seraph.jp/

Yūichirō has reunited with Mikaela at the Shinjuku Battle. But Mikaela was turned into a vampire... To save the "family," and to protect his fellow members, Yūichirō needed to gain knowledge and power. He searched for ways to bring back vampire to human beings, and at the same time, trained hard working on the Cursed Gear.



Shinmai Maō no Keiyakusha Burst (The Testament of Sister New Devil Burst) 新妹魔王の契約者 BURST

October 10 • Production IMS • Tokyo MX, AT-X, BS11, CTC, tvk, TVS, SUN, GBS, MTV, TVQ anime-shinmaimaou.com/ • youtu.be/4f5cBYUZmT0 Basara Tōjo was suddenly asked by his father about having an "imōto" and fell into a state of panic. His father then

departed overseas after bringing Basara two beautiful stepsisters. But Mio and Maria's true forms are actually the newbie Demon Lord and a succubus!? Basara was almost entered into a master and servant contract with Mio, but a "reversed" contract was formed by mistake. The second season of *Shinmai Maō no Keiyakusha*.



<mark>Valkyrie Drive: Mermaid</mark> ヴァルキリードライヴ マーメイド

October 10 • Arms • AT-X, Tokyo MX, SUN, KBS, TVA, BS11 valkyriedrive.jp/anime/ • youtu.be/KoLnEWUP71s The "beautiful girl sexy battle action" anime is set on five artificial islands. Mamori is a "mermaid" transferred to one

of those islands. When Mamori is attacked, a newly transferred girl named Mirei saves her. The enemy doesn't stop, however, and the two are soon cornered. Just when they think all hope is lost, Mirei kisses Mamori and he turns into a sword. Mirei then wields the sword and launches a counterattack against their enemies.



<mark>Brave Beats</mark> ブレイブビーツ

October 11 • Bandai Namco Pictures • NBN, TVA www.bravebeats.net/

The story follows Hibiki Kazaguruma, a sixth grader who meets an amusing little robot named Bureikin while coming home from school one day. Bureikin, a dancer from an alternate-dimension dance world, challenged the dance king for the throne and lost. He has been deprived of Dance Stones (the stones of dance power) and sent to the human world. To restore his power, Bureikin must collect all the Dance Stones scattered around Earth.

enki Life Magazine 🛛 Autumn 2



Season continued



Cardfight!! Vanguard G: Gears Crisis-hen カードファイト!! ヴァンガードG ギアースクライシス編

October 11 • TMS Entertainment www.tv-tokyo.co.jp/anime/cf-vanguard-g2/

Set three years after the Legion Mate arc, the story now follows the new main characters Chrono Shindou, Shion Kiba, and Tokoha Anjō at Card Capital 2. Familiar faces returns as Shin Nitta is the manager of Card Capital 2 and Kamui Katsuragi as a part-time worker there. Second season of *Cardfight!! Vanguard* G series.



Anitore! EX (Anime de Training! EX) あにトレ! EX

October 13 • Rising Force • TOKYO MX, SUN anime-training.com/ The anime follows five girls who are aiming to become idols as they do different exercise routines such as push-ups, situps, dance, yoga, stretching, tai chi and more.



Pokemon XY & Z ポケットモンスターXY&Z

October 29 • OLM • TV Tokyo www.tv-tokyo.co.jp/anime/pokemon_xyz/ • youtu.be/EslzWsBSGHI What secret is hidden in the legendary never-before-seen pokémon Zygarde? What is the mysterious phenomenon that occurs only with Satoshi's (Ash's) Gekkōga (Greninja)? What is the aim of Alain and Team Flare, who stands in the way of Satoshi and his friends? When all the mysteries are revealed, the greatest danger the Kalos region has ever seen will appear!



w.animeleague.com

- The Anime Community For You!
 - **Conventions**, Meets & Parties
 - Forums & Chat
- Cosplay & Gaming Events
 - Make Friends, Have Funl

monthly prize draw to win tickets for ftw.animeleague.com to enter our Join ou<mark>r commun</mark>ity now at upcoming events:

Alcon, Leicester, September www.alcon.org.uk London Anime Con, Feb & June www.londonanimecon.com

Cosrave across UK throughout year www.cosrave.co.ul

For enquiries email info@animeleague.com

anuary 8, 2015 was a very sunny day in Los Angeles, California. The Los Angeles Airport Marriott Hotel had been overrun with thousands of people dressed up in a variety of different costumes. From girls dressed up as sailor scouts from *Sailor Moon* to men dressed up as characters from the video game Kingdom Hearts, the ideas and imagination of these people are endless. Among all the costumes that were being shown or coming in, thousands of people showed up to this one place for one reason: to celebrate their passion and love for anime.

Une Cospitayer



This is Animé Los Angeles, the anime convention that kicks off the start of convention season in the state of California. Animé Los Angeles, which began in 2005 is a three-day festival during when fans of not only anime, but video games, books, movies and TV shows; among other genres of entertainment come together to watch anime, read manga (Japanese comics), buy new anime, video games, DVD's, listen to

Japanese pop music, dance and generally expand their experiences and knowledge in Japanese culture. People, while in costumes, fill the hallways to pose for pictures, conduct mock fights, but more importantly create a fun and safe environment. One person interviewed in Susan Napier's *Impressionism to Anime: Japan as Fantasy and Fan Culture in the Mind of the West* summarized the convention atmosphere as:

"[The con atmosphere] is one of unconditional acceptance and support – people feel like they have found a real family, a family that doesn't reject them for "Unlike Halloween, many cosplayers often spend months up to a year, laboring over every detail in an effort to not only recreate these characters, but to also bring them to live in vivid fashion."

their fandom. Fandoms are people who are fans of a specific anime, video games, TV shows and among other forms of entertainment. But what does fandoms offer to these fans? Fandoms, according to a member of the Miyazaki Mailing List, fandom fulfills many roles:

"What I think the various fan subcultures do is provide a space for community. They allow people of diverse back-

> ground and experience to form bonds around a common interest. They let people know that they are not alone in their likes and their passions. Fan subcultures provide the sense of belonging that used to be common among most American communities and families prior to the 1980s. Today kids are raised by daycares and public schools. Parents are too busy working and building careers to devote significant time for family building and family life. Kids are just one of the many entries on the

being 'geeky' or into weird things...spending a weekend with people living, sleeping, eating in the same space with them (and going through sleep deprivation) and partying and watching lots of anime creates that instant family feeling."

One of the things that conventions offer to people is the chance to meet up with people who share their love for

day planner... Fan subcultures help to provide a space for community where people can come and be accepted for who they are. In a society as fragmented as America has become, fan subcultures can provide an oasis for the weary soul."

In addition to the many things that these conventions offer to people, many fans engage in a performative expression of



different fandoms which is a central part of this study which is "cosplay." Cosplay is the practice of dressing up as a character from a movie, book or video game, especially ones from the Japanese genres of manga and anime, but not limited to these forms of genres or media. Unlike Halloween, many cosplayers often spend months up to a year, laboring over every detail in an effort to not only recreate these characters, but to also bring them to live in vivid fashion. When many cosplayers are in costume, they try to become the character in both personality and appearance going back and forth between the identity that they show in society and the identity they choose to portray during the conventions.

As being someone who has participated in cosplay, I can say personally that cosplay is a very powerful experience and over time has become very near and dear to my heart. Since 2009, I have been going to conventions in and out of cosplay. But being around cosplay, there have been many questions that have appeared to me, but one of the biggest questions that I had and is one of the questions that this study attempts to answer is how does the characters that people chose to cosplay as affect their identity in society?

For over the last twenty years cosplay has been studied through the productivity of fans and their participatory communities (e.g., Bacon-Smith 1992; Busse 2013; Gray et al. 2007; Jenkins 1992). Now, the direction of how cosplay been researched has changed. Cosplay has been studied through multiple perspectives whether it is from Bonnichsen (2011) who looked at cosplay from the identity perspective, the fashion perspective from Lotecki (2012), or the theater perspective from Lamerichs (2011). Erving Goffman (1959) outlined and showed us how the imagery of theatre is used in everyday life in order to portray the importance of human social interaction in his book The Presentation of Self.

For the purpose of this study, Goffman talks about two types of behaviors that are important for the relevance of this study. The first type of behavior is front stage behavior. Front stage is defined "when the actor formally performs and adheres to conventions that have meaning to the audience." When people are in certain settings such as classrooms, restaurants and among other places, people will act based on what type of setting they are in. The second and last behavior is back stage behavior. Back stage is defined "may behave differently than when in front of the audience on the front stage." When people are in comfortable settings, people will act as their true self and feel as though they have nothing to hide or fear.

Napier (2007) interviewed cosplayers to not only get an understanding of their interest in cosplay, but also gain an understanding into seeing how cosplayers assume the identities of these characters and how this activity is used as an outlet for them to become another person which she calls escapism. Escapism as defined by Napier is "an outlet for a desire to become another person." Lamerichs (2011) looked at cosplay from the theatre perspective. Her study's focus was on how cosplayers in a sense are actors who are becoming a different persona and acting for the public to see them as the character that they are embodying. Bonnichsen (2011) looked at cosplay from the identity perspective. His study's focus was on if cosplayers were creating identities to become someone they are not, but also to see if they were using their hobby as a way to escape who they are for a while. For my study, the research questions that I attempt to answer are some of the same questions that Bonnichsen addressed in his study which are:



- How is cosplay used as an object around which individual identity is constructed?
- Is cosplay used as an outlet to escape one's self for a while?

METHODS

Participants

Younger adults (15 women, 15 men, mean = 24.9 years, median age range: 23) were recruited from both different posts and ads made on cosplay convention groups, my friends list on Facebook or from Anime Los Angeles, the actual convention where cosplay was taking place. The participant selection for this study was that the participant must have participated in the activity of cosplay at least once in their life and was over the age of 18.

Procedure

Conventions are held in either hotels or convention centers throughout different areas of California. The reason being why the study was conducted there was to not only observe them in a place where they felt comfortable, but to also have more participants participate in the study.

First, the researcher will give an overview of the study and give the participants the consent forms. After the consent



forms were signed, the researcher gave the participants a demographic questionnaire. The demographic questionnaire included questions that asked them about race, education, sexuality, income, spending on cosplays and convention among other things. When the questionnaire was completed, we began the interviews in either one-on-one format, pairs or focus group format. The focus group format consisted of three to four people. In this format, the researcher posed a question to the group and the members of the focus group took turns in answering the questions posed to them. The interview questions developed through Bonnichsen and Lotecki studies asks a series of questions on their cosplay experience that gives an idea as to how cosplay plays on their identity. After the interviews were completed, the interviews were transcribed and analyzed.

Results

Thematic analysis was used on the entire interview to look for evidence of escapism and front/backstage behavior. 60% of participants talked about cosplay is an escape for them. One of the questions that I asked during the interview was "Can you describe what makes conventions interesting for you?" Some of the responses given were "it's just a nice way to get away from home and get away from the everyday norms of life." Another response was "I, uh, it's like a vacation from life. Life's pretty hard and, uh, it's a lot easier when we're here. And it's just nice to get your mind off of things and unwind."

For evidence of front/back stage behavior, less than 10% of participants talked about front/back-stage behavior. During the interview, one of the questions posed was "why choose that specific character?" One of the responses to this question was "Um, I think it might be because I'm so shy. I do tend to pick characters that are kind of out there. And in a way, it's kind of like theater, where you get to be this character. So, I kinda feel like I get to be, you know, maybe loud or very, um, not proactive but, uh, very, you know, I feel... I feel like I can talk better to people if that makes sense because I'm so shy, like my actual personality, but since I'm being this character, I get to actually be a different way without people being like oh she's really loud. No it's almost like a way to hide my true self."

Discussion

Cosplay is not only an activity where fans of anime, TV shows, video games and among other forms of entertainment can dress up as their favorite characters at various conventions during the year. It is an arena in which the fans of different genres can socialize with each other and through their common interest, affirm their belonging to the group by dressing up as characters in which they do or do not relate to in some way. This affirmation of belonging is an important part of the notion of cosplay as an activity around



which their identity is created.

Cosplay and conventions are not only fun for the people participating in this activity, it is a way to not only make lifelong friends and get away from the things of everyday life for a few days, but a way to express yourself in a way that wouldn't be tolerated in society. As Napier has theorized, cosplay does indeed perform a function of escapism and, yes, participants in this study used cosplay as an outlet for escaping one's own identity for a while.

The implications of this study is that my participants in this study contributed to a better understanding of what cosplay is here in the United States to people who do not understand what this phenomenon is. They also helped in dispelling some of the negative stigma and stereotypes about cosplay, not only in academia, but society as well. In today's society, many people take things at face value and believe what they see on different sources of media instead of really doing the research in order to find out the truth.

For future studies, many researchers who have look into the field of cosplay to see if there is a relationship between cosplay and people's sexuality. ***** Mister Searcy



References

Bacon-Smith, C. (1992), Enterprising Women: Television Fandom and the Creation of Popular Myth, Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.

Bonnichsen, H. (2011). Cosplay - Creating or playing identities? An analysis of the role of cosplay in the minds of its fans.

Busse, K. (2013), "Geek hierarchies, boundary policing, and the gendering of the good fan," *Participations*, 10:1, pp. 73-91.

Casey, D. (2010). *Identity Crisis: Cosplay as Cultural Hybridization*. Retrieved May 15, 2015, from http://dl.tufts.edu/bookreader/tufts:UA005.001.071.00001#page/1/mode/2up

Goffman, E., 1959. *The presentation of self in everyday life*. New York: Doubleday Anchor Books

Gray, J., Sandvoss, C. and Harrington, C. L. (2007), Fandom: Identities and Communities in a Mediated World, New York: New York University Press.

Genki Life Magazine 🛛 Autumn 2015

Jenkins, H. (1992), Textual Poachers: Television Fans and Participatory Culture, NewYork and London: Routledge.

Lotecki, Ashley, "Cosplay Culture: The Development of Interactive and Living Art through Play" (2012)

Lamerichs, N. (2014). 'Costuming as Subculture: The Multiple Bodies in Cosplay'. Scene, 2, 1, pp. 113-125.

Lamerichs, Nicolle. 2011. "Stranger than Fiction: Fan Identity in Cosplay." *Transformative Works and Cultures*, no.

Napier, S. J., 2007. From impressionism to anime: Japan as fantasy and fan cult in the mind of the west. Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan.

Napier, Susan. "The World of Anime Fandom," *Mechademia 1* (2006): pp. 47, Project MUSE. Tisch Library, Medford, MA. 17 Apr. 2010 http://muse.jhu.edu/>.

All photos taken in public areas of convention in accordance to United State laws. Individuals pictured not represented in this study. Phots by E. Gomez and T. Brillo



JUST A FEW OF OUR GUESTS AND PROGRAMS



GIGI EDGLEY -CHIANA FARSCAPE



CHUCK HUBER MICHELE SPECHT NAKIA BURRISE STAR TREK CONTINUES



Mike Edmonds Ewok Logray STAR WARS: EPISODE VI

50682 Y

HAMSTER BALLS



SANTIAGO CIRILO- JULIO WALKING DEAD

STAR TREK CONTINUES SCREENING PARTY

TOBY PHILPOTT - JABBA THE HUT PUPPETEER BOB DIXON - AUTHOR/GUINESS RECORD HOLDER STEVE CARDENAS - RED RANGER POLICE PAL BOX BLAKE FOSTER - BLUE RANGER # # JASON FAUNT - RED RANGER HILARY SHEPARD - DIVATOK ASIM RIZK - BLACK/GREEN RANGER KEVIN OUHANEY - BLUE DINO THUNDER RANGER JEFF PARAZZO - WHITE DIND THUNDER RANGER COLIN ROYSTER - ARTIST/COSPLAYER COSPLAYERS AND COSPLAY CONTESTS ARTISTS/VENDORS

OUR SPONSORS

PRICELESS

CONSTRUCTIO





to go to PAAWS



HALO ODST WITH OBOD 600 5105

PROVING ANIMALS ARE WORTH SAVING







The Summit of the Gods, Vol. 5

Yumemakura Baku, Jiro Taniguchi Ponent Mon S.L September 25



A Silent Voice, Vol. 3 *Yoshitoki Oima* Kodansha Comics September 29



Attack on Titan: Colossal Edition, Vol. 2 Hajime Isayama Kodansha Comics September 29



Freezing, Vol. 3–4 Dall-Young Lim, Kwang-Hyun Kim Seven Seas Entertainment September 29



Knights of Sidonia, Vol. 14 Tsutomu Nihei Vertical September 29

Nagate Tanikaze – Knights of Sidonia

Received and the second second

My Little Monster, Vol. 10 *Robico* Kodansha Comics September 29



New Lone Wolf and Cub, Vol. 6 *Kazuo Koike, Hideki Mori* Dark Horse Manga September 29

Showa 1953–1989: A History of Japan *Shigeru Mizuki* Drawn and Quarterly September 29







The Seven Deadly Sins, Vol. 10 *Nakaba Suzuki* Kodansha Comics

September 29



Vinland Saga, Vol. 6 *Makoto Yukimura* Kodansha Comics September 29



& Kōsei Arima – Your Lie in April Aquarion Evol,

Kaori Miyazono

Vol. 4

Shōji Kawamori

One Peace Books October 6

Bababa Shination CLASSROOM

Assassination Classroom, Vol. 6 Yusei Matsui VIZ Media, LLC. October 6



Claymore, Vol. 27 Norihiro Yagi VIZ Media, LLC. October 6



Fairy Tail, Vol. 50 *Hiro Mashima* Kodansha Comics October 6

Takeo Gōda & Rinko Yamato – My Love Story



Genshiken: Second Season, Vol. 7 *Shimoku Kio* Kodansha Comics October 6

Senki Life Magazine • Autumn 20





Food Wars!, Vol. 8 Yuto Tsukudo, Yuki Morisaki, Shun Saeki VIZ Media. LLC. October 6



Kamisama Kiss, Vol. 19 Iulietta Suzuki VIZ Media, LLC. October 6



Kokoro Connect, Vol. 5 Anda Sadanatsu, CUTEG Seven Seas Entertainment

October 6



Library Wars: Love & War, Vol. 14 Kiiro Yumi, Hiro Arikawa VIZ Media, LLC. October 6



Magical Girl Apocalypse, Vol. 5 Kentaro Sato Seven Seas Entertainment October 6

So Cute It Hurts!!,

Vol. 3

Gō Ikeyamada

October 6

VIZ Media, LLC.

Toriko, Vol. 30

VIZ Media, LLC.

October 6

Mitsutoshi Shimabukuro



My Love Story!!, Vol. 6 Kazune Kawahara, Aruko VIZ Media, LLC. October 6



The Demon Prince of Momochi House, Vol. 2 Aya Shōoto VIZ Media, LLC. October 6





Twin Star Exorcists, Vol. 2 Yoshiaki Sukeno VIZ Media, LLC. October 6 Not Actual Cover

A Waltz in the Clinic[†] Makoto Tateno Digital Manga Publishing October 8

QQ Sweeper, Vol. 1 Kyōsuke Motomi VIZ Media, LLC. October 6



Hajime Segawa Vertical Comics October 6

Tokyo ESP, Vol. 1

World Trigger, Vol. 7 Daisuke Ashihara VIZ Media, LLC. October 6





Yu-Gi-Oh! 5D's, Vol. 8 Masahiro Hikokubo, Masashi Sato VIZ Media, LLC. October 6

accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice. ¹Yaoj and ¹¹hentaj titles for mature audiences 18-

Manga Releases Autumn 2015 Continued



Blade Dance of Elementalers, Vol. 1

Issei Hyōju Digital Manga Publishing October 8



Astro Boy Omnibus, Vol. 1 Osamu Tezuka Dark Horse Manga October 13



Dance in the Vampire Bund II: Scarlet Order, Vol. 3

Nozomu Tamaki Seven Seas Entertainment October 13



Deadman Wonderland, Vol. 11 Jinsei Kataoka VIZ Media, LLC.

October 13



Fairy Girls, Vol. 1 BOKU, Hiro Mashima Kodansha Comics October 13 Not Actual Cover

Magi: The

Shinobu Ōtaka

October 13

Vol. 7

Ryū Mizunagi

October 13

Labyrinth of

Magic, Vol. 14

VIZ Media, LLC.

Witchcraft Works,



Kiss Him, Not Me, Vol. 1 JUNKO Kodansha Comics October 13



Noragami: Stray God, Vol. 7 Adachitoka Kodansha Comics October 13



nki Life

Magaz

Fantasy Hentai: School Girls^{††} Shikishirokonomi Project-H, LLC. October 15

Usagi Yojimbo: **The Special Edition** Stan Sakai Fantagraphics October 17

ine 🗉 Autumn 🛛

Love in Hell: The Complete Collection Reiji Suzumaru

Seven Seas Entertainment October 13



The World's **Greatest First** Love, Vol. 3⁺ Shungiku Nakamura SuBLime October 13

Kill la Kill, Vol. 1 Trigger, Kazuki Nakashima, Ryo Akizuki Udon Entertainment October 15







Persona 4, Vol. 1 Atlus, Shuji Sogabe Udon Entertainment October 15







Claymore Complete Box Set: Volumes 1-27 with Premium Norihiro Yagi VIZ Media, LLC. October 20 Not Actual Cover



Monster: The Perfect Edition, Vol. 6 Naoki Urasawa

VIZ Media, LLC. October 20



LDK, Vol. 1 Ayu Watanabe Kodansha Comics October 20



Magika Swordsman and Summoner, Vol. 2 Mitsuki Mihara, MonRin Seven Seas Entertainment

October 20



Nurse Hitomi's **Monster Infirmary**, Vol. 3

Shake-O Seven Seas Entertainment October 20 Not Actual Cover



Oh My Goddess!, Vol. 48 Kōsuke Fujishima Dark Horse Manga October 20

Pandora in the **Crimson Shell:** Ghost Urn, Vol. 2 Masamune Shirō, Rikudō Kōshi Seven Seas Entertainment October 20 Not Actual Cover



Hiyori Iki, Yukine & Yato – Noragami

subject to change without notice.[†]Yaoi and ¹

Manga Releases Autumn 2015 continued



Tokyo Ghoul, Vol. 3 *Sui Ishida* VIZ Media, LLC. October 20



A Certain Magical Index, Vol. 3 Kazuma Kamachi, Chuya Kogino Yen Press October 27



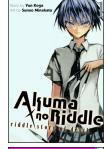
A Certain Scientific Accelerator, Vol. 1 Kazuma Kamachi, Yamaji Arata Seven Seas Entertainment October 27



Accel World, Vol. 5 Reki Kawahara, Hiroyuki Aigamo Yen Press October 27



Akame ga KILL!, Vol. 4 *Takahiro, Tetsuya Tashiro* Yen Press October 27



Riddle Story of Devil, Vol. 1 *Yun Kōga, Sunao Minakata* Seven Seas Entertainment October 27

Akuma no Riddle:

Alice in Murderland, Vol. 2 Kaori Yuki Yen Press October 27

Tokaku Azuma & Haru Ichinose – Akuma no Riddle



nki Life

Barakamon, Vol. 7 Satsuki Yoshino Yen Press October 27

Magazine • Autumn

2015





Final Fantasy Type-0 Side Story, Vol. 2 Tetsuya Nomura, Takatoshi Shiozawa Yen Press October 27

Not Actual Cover



Horimiya, Vol. 1 HERO, Daisuke Hagiwara Yen Press October 27

Missions of Love,

So, I Can't Play H,

Pan Tachibana, Shō Okagiri

Kodansha Comics

Vol. 11

Ета Тоуата

October 27

Vol. 3

Yen Press October 27



YON&MU

October 27

Akira Hiyoshimaru

Vol. 2

Yen Press

Junji Ito's Cat Diary: Yon & Mu Junji Itō Kodansha Comics October 27

First Love Monster,

Vol. 3 Yū Kamiya Yen On





Lone Wolf and Cub Omnibus, Vol. 10 Kazuo Koike, Gōseki Kojima Dark Horse Manga October 27

LONE

WOLF

&CUB 10



Magica Quartet, Kawazu-kū, Masugitsune Yen Press October 27

Sword Art Online Progressive, Vol. 3 Reki Kawahara Yen On October 27

Your Lie in April, Vol. 4 Naoshi Arakawa Kodansha Comics October 27





The Devil is a Part-Timer, Vol. 3 Satoshi Wagahara, Akio Hiiragi Yen Press October 27



No Game No Life, October 27



Strike the Blood, Vol. 1 (manga) Gakuto Mikumo, Manyako

Tsubasa: WoRLD CHRoNiCLE, Vol. 1 Clamp Kodansha Comics October 27







Manga Releases Autumn 2015 continued



Magical Warriors: Chocolat & Puddina^{††}

Kanon Ishino, Ishino Kanon 801 Media, Inc. October 28



A Centaur's Life, Vol. 7 Kei Murayama Seven Seas Entertainment November 3



Air Gear Omnibus 6 Oh!Great Kodansha Comics November 3 Not Actual Cover



Black Rose Alice, Vol. 6 Setona Mizushiro VIZ Media, LLC. November 3



D.Gray-man (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 8 Katsura Hoshino VIZ Media, LLC. November 3



JoJo's Bizarre Adventure: Part 2, **Battle Tendency**, Vol. 1

Hirobiko Araki VIZ Media, LLC. November 3

Academia, Vol. 2

My Hero

Kōhei Horikoshi

November 3

VIZ Media, LLC.



Kiss of the Rose Princess, Vol. 7 Ava Shōoto VIZ Media, LLC. November 3



GEUH

One Piece, Vol. 76 Eiichirō Oda VIZ Media. LLC. November 3

Yu-Gi-Oh! (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 4: Includes Vols. 10, 11 & 12 Kazuki Takahashi VIZ Media, LLC. November 3



Livingstone, Vol. 1 Tomohiro Maekawa, Jinsei Kataoka Kodansha Comics November 3



One-Punch Man,

Yukarism, Vol. 4 Chika Shiomi VIZ Media. LLC. November 3



nki Life

Oresama Teacher, Vol. 19 Izumi Tsubaki VIZ Media, LLC. November 3

Attack on Titan: Junior High, Vol. 4 Hajime Isayama, Saki Nakagawa Kodansha Comics November 10 Not Actual Cover

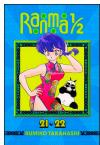
ine = Autumn 20







Manga Releases Autumn 2015 Continued



Ranma 1/2 (2-in-1 Edition), Vol. 11 Rumiko Takahashi VIZ Media, LLC. November 10



RIN-NE, Vol. 19 Rumiko Takahashi VIZ Media, LLC. November 10



Tiger & Bunny, Vol. 8

Masafumi Nishida, Mizuki Sakakibara, Masakazu Katsura VIZ Media, LLC. November 10



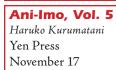
Behind Story, Vol. 2 Narae Ahn NETCOMICS November 12



Give to the Heart, Vol. 5 Wann NETCOMICS November 12



Sweet Blood, **Vol. 3**[†] Seyoung Kim NETCOMICS November 12





Chiro: The Star Project, Vol. 3 Hyekyung Baek, Hye-Kyung Baek NETCOMICS November 12

Kill la Kill, Vol. 2 Trigger, Nakashima Kazuki Udon Entertainment November 12

Öoku: The Inner

Fumi Yoshinaga

Chambers, Vol. 11





Are You Alice?, Vol. 10 Ikumi Katagiri, Ai Ninomiya Yen Press November 17

Not Actual Cover



Core Scramble, Vol. 2 Euho Jun NETCOMICS November 12



Steins;Gate, Vol. 2 Nitroplus, 5pb, Yomi Sarachi Udon Entertainment November 12





enki Life

Yen Press November 17

A Bride's Story,

Vol. 7

Kaoru Mori

Black Butler, Vol. 21 Yana Toboso Yen Press November 17

Magazine • Autumn 2







Cage of Eden, Vol. 19 *Yoshinobu Yamada* Kodansha Comics November 17



Dragons Rioting, Vol. 1 Tsuyoshi Watanabe Yen Press November 17

Durarara!!, Vol. 2 (novel) Ryōhgo Narita, Suzuhito Yasuda Yen On November 17







Gantz, Vol. 37 Hiroya Oku

Hiroya Oku Dark Horse Manga November 17



Devil Survivor, Vol. 2 *Satoru Matsuba* Kodansha Comics November 17



Devils and Realist, Vol. 7

Madoka Takadono, Utako Yukihiro Seven Seas Entertainment November 17

Rintarō Okabe & Kurisu Makise - Steins;Gate

ntai title

is much as

umanly possible and is subject to change without notice.¹Yaoi and ¹





Haven't You Heard? I'm Sakamoto, Vol. 2 Nami Sano

Nami Sano Seven Seas Entertainment November 17



Is It Wrong to Try to Pick Up Girls in a Dungeon?, Vol. 3 Fujino Ōmori, Kunieda Yen Press World



Prison School, Vol. 2 *Akira Hiramoto* Yen Press November 17 Not Actual Cover

November 17





The Disappearance of Nagato Yuki-chan, Vol. 8 Nagaru Tanigawa, Noizi Itō, Puyo Yen Press November 17





Zero Miyama, Ichiei Ishibumi Yen Press November 17 Not Actual Cover

High School DxD,

Vol. 7

Hiroji Mishima,

Monthly Girls' Nozaki-kun, Vol. 1 Izumi Tsubaki Yen Press November 17

Puella Magi Tart Magica: The Legend of Jeanne d'Arc, Vol. 2 Magica Quartet, Kawazu-kū, Masugitsune Yen Press November 17

Terra Formars, Vol. 9 *Yū Sasuga, Ken'ichi Tachibana* VIZ Media, LLC. November 17 Not Actual Cover

The Honor Student at Magic High School, Vol. 1 Tsutomu Satō, Yu Mori Yen Press November 17 Not Actual Cover



Inu x Boku SS, Vol. 9 Cocoa Fujiwara Yen Press November 17



Noragami: Stray God, Vol. 8 *Adachitoka* Kodansha Comics November 17



School-Live!, Vol. 1 Norimitsu Kaihō (Nitroplus), Sadoru Chiba Yen Press November 17

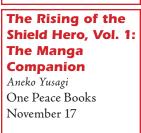




nki Life

Magai

The Devil Is a Part-Timer! High School!, Vol. 2 *Satoshi Wagahara, Kurone Mishima* Yen Press November 17



ine 🗉 Autumn 20





The Seven Deadly Sins, Vol. 11 Nakaba Suzuki Kodansha Comics November 17



Ultraman, Vol. 2 Tomohiro Shimoguchi, Eiichi Shimizu VIZ Media, LLC. November 17



Yamada-kun and the Seven Witches, Vol. 5 Miki Yoshikawa Kodansha Comics November 17



Fairy Tail, Vol. 51 *Hiro Mashima* Kodansha Comics November 24 Not Actual Cover



Hiroya Oku Kodansha Comics November 24

Inuyashiki, Vol. 2



My Neighbor Seki, Vol. 5 Takuma Morishige Vertical Comics November 24



Noragami: Stray Stories Adachitoka Kodansha Comics November 24

The Sacred Blacksmith, V



Blacksmith, Vol. 9 Isao Miura, Kotaro Yamada Seven Seas Entertainment November 24

Umetarō Nozaki & Chiyo Sakura – Monthly Girls' Nozaki-kun

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice. Yaoi and #hentai titles for mature audiences 18

Manga Releases Autumn 2015 continued



Tsubasa Omnibus 6 *Clamp* Kodansha Comics November 24



UQ Holder, Vol. 6 *Ken Akamatsu* Kodansha Comics November 24



CLASSROOM

Witch Buster, Vol. 15–16 Jung-Man Cho Seven Seas Entertainment November 24

Assassination Classroom, Vol. 7 Yusei Matsui VIZ Media, LLC. December 1

Shinoa Hiragi – Seraph of the End: Vampire Reign





Attack on Titan, Vol. 15 (Japanese Edition) Hajime Isayama Kodansha December 1

Attack on Titan, Vol. 17 Special Edition w/DVD Hajime Isayama Kodansha Comics December 1





Vol. 17 Hajime Isayama Kodansha Comics

Attack on Titan,

Kodansha Comics December 1

Attack on Titan: Before the Fall, Vol. 6 Ryō Suzukaze, Hajime Isayama Kodansha Comics December 1

ienki Life Magazine 🛛 Autumn 20





Bloody Mary, Vol. 1 Akaza Samamiya VIZ Media, LLC. December 1



Dragon Ball (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 11: Includes Vols. 31, 32, 33 Akira Toriyama VIZ Media, LLC. December 1



One Piece (Omnibus Edition), Vol. 14: Includes vols. 40, 41 & 42 Eiichirō Oda VIZ Media, LLC. December 1





The Ancient Magus' Bride, Vol. 3 Kore Yamazaki Seven Seas Entertainment December 1

Ultimo, Vol. 11 Hiroyuki Takei VIZ Media, LLC. December 1



OKYO 🛃

Clay Lord: Master of Golems, Vol. 3 Jun Suzumoto Seven Seas Entertainment December 1





Tokyo ESP, Vol. 2 Hajime Segawa Vertical Comics December 1

Vinland Saga, Vol. 7 Makoto Yukimura Kodansha Comics December 1 Not Actual Cover



Die Wergelder, Vol. 1 Hiroaki Samura Kodansha Comics December 1 Not Actual Cover



Komomo Confiserie, Vol. 2 Maki Minami VIZ Media, LLC. December 1



So Cute It Hurts!!, Vol. 4 Gō Ikeyamada VIZ Media, LLC. December 1

Toriko, Vol. 31 Mitsutoshi Shimabukuro VIZ Media. LLC. December 1



Kodansha Comics Not Actual Cover

ented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice.¹Yaoj and ^{1†}hentaj titles for mature audiences 18-

Manga Releases Autumn 2015 continued



Deadman Wonderland, Vol. 12 Jinsei Kataoka VIZ Media, LLC. December 8



Freezing, Vol. 5–6 Dall-Young Lim, Kwang-Hyun Kim Seven Seas Entertainment December 8



Itsuwaribito, Vol. 16 *Yūki Iinuma* VIZ Media, LLC. December 8



Magi: The Labyrinth of Magic, Vol. 15 Shinobu Ōtaka VIZ Media, LLC. December 8



Oh My Goddess! Omnibus, Vol. 2 *Kõsuke Fujishima* Dark Horse Manga December 8



nki Life

ine - Ai

umn 20

Servamp, Vol. 4 Strike Tanaka Seven Seas Entertainment December 8

Ganta Igarashi & Shiro – Deadman Wonderland





The Kurosagi Corpse Delivery Service: Book Two Omnibus

Eiji Ōtsuka, Hōsui Kamazaki Dark Horse Manga December 8



Persona 4, Vol. 2 Atlus, Shuji Sogabe Udon Entertainment

December 10





Not Actual Cover Ring X Mama, Vol. 3⁺⁺

Witchcraft Works.

Vol. 8

Ryū Mizunagi

December 8

Jōji Manabe

801 Media, Inc.

December 10

Vertical Comics



Your Lie in April, Vol. 5 Naoshi Arakawa Kodansha Comics December 8 Not Actual Cover



Swimsuit Sexies^{††} Parfait, Gonzaburo, Tokisana, Leymei, Umekichi 801 Media, Inc. December 10



The Tyrant Falls in Love, Vol. 9[†] *Hinako Takanaga* Digital Manga Publishing December 10 Not Actual Cover



Aldnoah.Zero, Season One, Vol. 1 Olympus Knights, Pinakes Yen Press December 15 Not Actual Cover



Bloody Cross, Vol. 9 Shiwo Komeyama Yen Press December 15 Not Actual Cover



Afterschool Charisma, Vol. 11 Kumiko Suekane VIZ Media, LLC. December 15 Not Actual Cover





Chaika: The Coffin Princess, Vol. 3 *Ichirō Sakaki* Yen Press December 15 Not Actual Cover

Aquarion Evol,

Vol. 5

Shōji Kawamori

December 15

One Peace Books



Air Gear, Vol. 34 *Oh!Great* Kodansha Comics December 15 Not Actual Cover





Barakamon, Vol. 8 Satsuki Yoshino Yen Press December 15 Not Actual Cover

Demon from Afar, Vol. 5 Kaori Yuki Yen Press December 15 Not Actual Cover

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice. I and II hentai titles for mature audiences 18+.

Manga Releases Autumn 2015 continued



Dorohedoro, Vol. 17 Q Hayashida VIZ Media, LLC. December 15



Fairy Tail: Ice Trai, Vol. 1 Yū suke Shirato, Hiro Mashima Kodansha Comics December 15 Not Actual Cover



He's My Only Vampire, Vol. 5 Aya Shōoto Yen Press December 15 Not Actual Cover



LDK, Vol. 2 Ayu Watanabe Kodansha Comics December 15



Mayo Chiki! **Omnibus** 1 Hajime Asano, Niito Seven Seas Entertainment December 15





Mobile Suit Gundam: The ORIGIN, Vol. 12: **Encounters** Yoshikazu Yasuhiko, Yoshiyuki Tomino, hAJIME Yatate Vertical December 15

Of the Red, the Light and the Ayakashi, Vol. 1 HaccaWorks*, Nanao Yen Press December 15 Not Actual Cover











Puella Magi Madoka Magica: The Movie -Rebellion, -Vol. 1 Magica Quartet, Hanokage Yen Press December 15 Not Actual Cover



Puella Magi Suzune Magica, Vol. 2 Magica Quartet, GAN Yen Press December 15 Not Actual Cover

Kyōko Sakura,

Madoka Kaname,

Homura Akemi

& Mami Tomoe -

Sayaka Miki,



Rose Guns Days, Season 1, Vol. 2 *Ryukishi07, Sõichirõ* Yen Press December 15 Not Actual Cover

Sword Art Online: Phantom Bullet, Vol. 6 Reki Kawahara Yen On

December 15 Not Actual Cover

of Suzumiya Haruhi-chan, Vol. 10 Nagaru Tanigawa, Noizi Itō, Puyo Yen Press

December 15 Not Actual Cover

4 東

兄

喰

種

Tokyo Ghoul, Vol. 4 Sui Ishida VIZ Media, LLC. December 15 Not Actual Cover

Yowamushi Pedal, Vol. 1 Wataru Watanabe Yen Press December 15 Not Actual Cover

formation presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice. Yaoi and Thentai titles for mature audiences 18+.



enki Life Magazine - Autumn 2015

Holiday Matsuri

A Festively Themed Anime, Gaming & Cosplay Convention!

Cosplay Contest





Voterslidel

Costume Contest

Caribe Royale in Orlando, FL

December 18-20, 2015 www.HolidayMatsuri.com

October 5 The Roxy Theatre Los Angeles, CA

October 7 Slim's San Francisc, CA





Uchiyama, Kōki 内山 昂輝 DOB: August 16, 1990

Ullogs

Blood Type: NA

Saitama

Current Roles...



Otosaka, Yū Charlotte



Ichijō, Raku Nisekoi

Wakana, Ui

Okusama ga Seitokaichō!

Tōjō, Koneko





Taketatsu, Ayana

竹達 彩奈

Saitama Blood Type: O

DOB: June 6, 1989

Current Roles...





Rokka no Yūsha



Goldof Auora

Izumida, Tōichirō Yowamushi Pedal

Nakano, Haruki

Danchigai



Current Roles...



Kazasumi, Tōru **Gunslinger Stratos**



Kobayashi, Yūsuke

小林 裕介 DOB: August 2, 1986 Tokushima Blood Type: O

Current Roles...



Shimoseka



Arslan Senki



Shokugeki no Sōma



Shirobako



櫻井孝宏 DOB: June 13, 1974 Okazaki, Aichi

Blood Type: A

Current Roles...



Taki, Noboru

Hibike! Euphonium

Kuromine, Asahi

Jitsu wa Watashi wa

Kaizuka, Inaho

Aldnoah.Zero

That Seign



Takahashi, Misaki Junjō Romantica 3



2 Hanae, Natsuki



DOB: June 26, 1991 Kanagawa Prefecture

Blood Type: **B**

Current Roles...



Lukeluther Volve Overlord



Elam Arslan Senki

Genki Life Magazine - Autumn 2015





Ariel Albus High School DxD BorN Toaru Hikūshi e no Koiuta







Arslan



Marui, Zenji



Hiraoka, Daisuke

Kurusu, Kimihito

Monster Musume

Sekimori, Hitoshi

Shokugeki no Soma

Majima, Junji 間島 淳司 DOB: May 13, 1978 Nagoya, Aichi

Blood Type: A

Current Roles...



Miura, Shigeru Death Parade



Charlotte

Kamiya, Hiroshi

DOB: January 28, 1975

神谷 浩史

Matsudo, Chiba

Blood Type: A



of Summer L



Mia Monster Musume



usume Kirishir Tökyö

Kirishima, Tōka Tökyö Kushu

Amamiya, Sora

DOB: August 28, 1993

Blood Type: AB

Current Roles...

雨宮 天

Tōkyō

Shirasaki, Iris Classroom Crisis



Kusuda, Aina 楠田 亜衣奈 DOB: February 1, 1989 Chiba

Blood Type: A

Current Roles...





Tōjō, Nozomi Love Live!



Ayanokōji, Cheriel

i Kamisama to Unmei





Fujino, Kiyoshi Prison School



Orihara, Izaya Durarara‼x2

e Magazi



Kagami, Jun'ichirō Denpa Kyōshi



Kusatsu, Kinshirō Binan Kōkō Chikyū Bōei-bu





SNIFQYUKI Akagami no Shirayukihime



JKINOSNITO, YUKINO OreGairu



Hayami, Saori

DOB: May 29, 1991

Blood Type: AB

Current Roles...

早見 沙織

Tōkyō

Ayugase, Karen Jōkamachi no Dandelion



Shiraishi, Urara Yamada-kun to 7-nin



Fighter

Bikini Warriors



Rias Gremory High School DxD BorN



Takanashi, Izumi Working!!!



Freya DanMachi



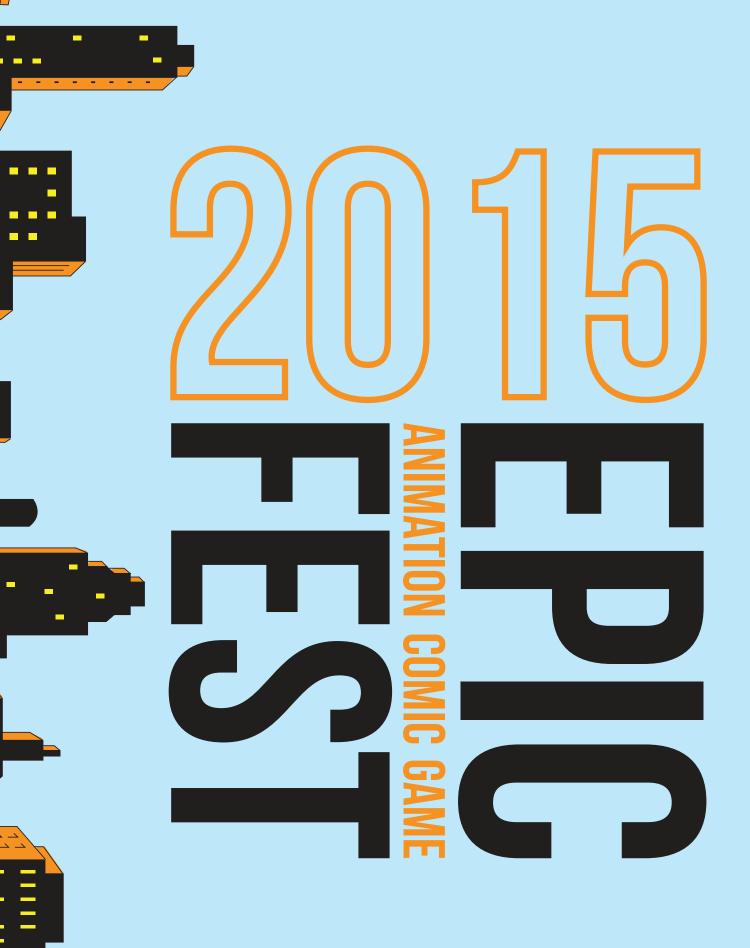
RR

C

GROUP 10+ CALL 310-940-2598 VISIT BOX OFFICE ON THE DAY BUY FEST PASSES ONLINE OR FEST PASS: \$10-\$20

ALBANY COMMUNITY CENTER NOVEMBER 7 - 8, 2015 1249 MARIN AVENUE ALBANY, CA 94706







By Sarah Rosa and Ashley Rochelle Edited By Greg J. Hansen and Laura Butler

nother year has come to a close for the WCS Championship in Japan and Something Clever Cosplay has brought home the award for third in the world. The competition however only scratches the surface of the experiences this Team USA had in Japan. We are pleased to present AlpaCosplay and Yummy Gamorah's journals of their experiences.

ENTURES

rom

eam USA

Left: Ashley (AlpaCosplay) and right: Sarah (Yummy Gamorah).





ASHLEY (ALPACOSPLAY)

Day O Friday: Arrival

We arrived in Nagoya after a 13 hour flight to Tōkyō and an hour and a half flight from Tōkyō to Nagoya. Going through customs was very easy and I really enjoyed speaking with the customs officer in Japanese. He was curious as to why my bags were so large, and all I had to do was say the word "cosplay" and he immediately nodded and understood.

Once we got our baggage in Nagoya, we got to meet our student helpers, Megumi and Kaho. They were assigned to us to help us throughout WCS. They were so wonderful. All of the students were just so much fun and willing to help you with anything. I love the students.

We got to the Nagoya International Hotel and into our team room to get ready for the first day. We had to get our costumes ready for the opening ceremony at Laguna!

Day I Saturday: Laguna

The first event was at Laguna Tenbosch, which is a big park about an hour away from Nagoya. We arrived at the location and changed into our costumes for the opening ceremony. We wore our Festivalist Nights Evangelion costumes. I was Asuka and Yummy Gamorah was Rei. After everyone was changed, all of the teams headed to the WCS opening ceremony in front of 1000 Sunny, a life-sized replica of the ship from *One Piece*. After the ceremony, we had a little bit of free time before dinner and the night cosplay party. During the party we hung out on the Sunny, and took pictures with the other teams and students. After a quick stage appearance with all of the other teams, we headed back to the hotel to rest up for the next day.



Day 2 Sunday: Omotenashi Student Day and Welcome Party

Our second day was to be a day with the omotenashi students (the student volunteers). First we rode the train out to the city of Seto, with a big group of other teams and their respective students. In Seto, we went to visit the Manekineko (Lucky Cat) Museum. We got to all paint lucky cats together! It was a great time. We sat across from Manuel and Luca from Italy, so it was a great chance to get to know some of the other teams. After painting cats and taking plenty of cat pictures, we went into the museum to look at the art, and to visit the gift shop, which was stocked with every kind of lucky cat you could think of.

That evening was the welcome party hosted by the students. It took place in the Sunshine Sakae building just a block away from the hotel. I'm a big fan of AKB48 and SKE48, so I about flipped when we passed right by the SKE theater, which is right next door to the cafe where the party was held. We sat with Japan, France and Thailand. We all played bingo, sang and took many, many selfies with the other teams and students. This was a great chance to meet the other teams and organizers, so we brought presents for everyone. Our gift bags consisted of Pixy Stix, Ring Pops, Nerds candy, 20-sided dice and buttons from a video game. We loved getting to explain Pixy Stix to anyone who didn't recognize them. The next day was judging, so we headed back to the hotel after the party to prepare.

Day 3 Monday: Judging

This day was completely set aside for team intro videos and judging. Our schedule was to record our video in the morning, and then to be judged in the evening. We finished up the video super-fast, since we got it on the first take! We had time to grab some lunch and just chill for a bit before judging, so we took this time to check out the Pokécenter with Team UK! It was so cool to see. We're both Pokémon fans, so we kind of didn't know what to do with ourselves. There was too much too look at. We didn't get to hang out there too long before heading back to get into costume for judging.

It takes us about 2 hours to get ready, so we wanted to make sure we didn't have to rush. We got makeup done and got everything down. First part was getting everything checked out and weighed by WCS. There is a weight limit on everything you bring on stage. We were completely fine since we had really tried to keep everything under the limit from the beginning. Then we had craftsmanship judging next door. Judging was done by all of



the organizers from the other countries (your own organizer has to leave the room).

They had set it up like a presentation. There was a big slide show of all of our reference and progress pictures, and each organizer had a big book of character references. We had five minutes to present our costumes. We went through all of our quick changes and how they worked. For the next five minutes, the organizers could come up close, flip seams, inspect everything, and ask questions, and the last five minutes was for them to finish deliberating and ask any final questions. We had a lot of fun presenting. We had put almost a year of work into this so it was very satisfying to showcase and explain everything.

After judging, we had our pictures taken by the official photographer. They had a very nice professional setup in the chapel room. Finishing that, we had a meeting with the stage tech crew to discuss set placement and our lighting cues. After the tech meeting, we were done for the day. It was time to have dinner and rest up for the next event: Meiji Mura!

Day 4 Tuesday: Meiji Mura and Karaoke Party

That morning, all the teams gathered in the lobby of the hotel to get on the buses to head to Meiji Mura. Meiji Mura is a large park north of Nagoya that has many historical buildings from the Meiji Period. I was very excited to see it. We arrived at the park and put on costumes in the changing rooms. For this event, we picked Eboshi and San from *Princess Mononoke*. We thought the setting would be perfect for Studio Ghibli cosplay. All of the buildings were very cool to see. The park was beautiful and overlooked a large lake. They had a large stage set up in the center of the park for all of the teams to be introduced and participate in a short interview.

After we were all done with the stage, we had time to explore the park. We got shaved ice first, of course, and then wandered around to get some photos of our costumes. The location was perfect for cosplay photos. It was excellent.

The evening event was a karaoke party hosted by Brother at Joysound Karaoke. The party was a great time. All of the teams, organizers and students attended. We got to sing songs together on a small stage in this big room and there was a huge table of food for everyone. Of course "Let It Go" from Frozen was sung twice. The first time was in Japanese and the second was in English. Doing karaoke with the Japanese students was so great. They were so happy and excited. They even had glow sticks and cheered everyone who sang. I was so happy that I got to sing a couple of AKB48 songs with everyone. Yummy Gamorah and I decided to sing "Separate Ways" by Journey since it's our favorite Journey song and everyone knew it! I was very surprised that so many people from around the world knew the song. It was a really cool experience to see that other people from difference countries love the same songs. Takumori-san, the owner of WCS event, even jumped up on stage to sing it with us. He apparently loves Journey a lot. The party ended too quickly and we had to head back to the hotel. The next day was our day off!

Day 5 Wednesday: Day Off

For our day off, our main goal was to go to the Pokémon Center with some other teams. Team Russia, Team France and Team Netherlands all went with us. On the way, we stopped at a department store that had tons of Lolita fashion brand stores. We ogled all of the pretty outfits and accessories while trying to resist buying all of the things. Next stop was the Pokémon Center again. We



had a lot more time to browse and it was great to go with other teams this time. I tried not to buy everything, and properly resisted getting the giant Snorlax since there was no way I could fit him in my suitcase.

Next we went to Oasis 21 for lunch and then to the Ghibli store (another dangerous location for your wallet). Oasis 21 is an outdoor shopping area with character good stores and restaurants. We went only slightly nuts at all of the Ghibli stuff. They had something from every Ghibli film. Other stores we visited were Alice on Wednesday (an *Alice in Wonderland* themed shop), Mandarake (a multi-floored store of used anime merchandise), and Animate (a large character goods store). We went all over the place that day. It was so much fun! Tons of walking, and we got to experience all of these places with the other teams.

Day 6 Thursday: Official Visits

Our first item in the morning was visiting Brother. They had a dedicated area which was just a museum of sewing machines and they had a game to test your abilities with a manual pedal sewing machine. We all tried it and most of us couldn't keep up. It was really difficult to imagine sewing costumes without an electric machine. I don't know how they did it back then.

Next for us was changing into our *Princess Mononoke* costumes to go visit the Governor of the Aichi Prefecture and the Department of Transportation. We went with the teams from Russia, Japan, Germany and Finland. When we met the Governor, he came out cosplaying as a Jedi. He and his staff were all very nice and great to speak with. The Department of Transportation was also great to visit. We were each introduced as a team and had a chance to say a few words to everyone.

This day we had the opportunity to visit a cosplay photo studio called Os-Ta. The Japanese cosplay studios have a variety of sets where you can take as many pictures as you want. We wore our Rydia and Rosa costumes from *Final Fantasy IV*. Our students came with us too. After taking pictures in the sets, we got to do Purikura pictures all together. That was something I had never done and we were able to split up the sticker pictures so we all got to keep some.

Back at the hotel, we went to visit a large room the students had set up. There was green tea, yukatas for us to try on and Brother embroidering machines for us to try out. We had our WCS T-shirts embroidered with our cosplay names on the sleeves.

Day 6 Friday: Rehearsal

Friday was completely set aside for rehearsal. We took our set and all of our costume pieces to the performing arts center next to Oasis 21. We built our set, and everyone was gathered to explain how rehearsal was to be run. They were doing rehearsal in performance order. Every team had 10 minutes on stage to figure out where set pieces went, and to run through their skit one time. After everyone in the block went, they ran through the entire block without stopping. We were in the last block and performed second-to-last, so we had a good amount of time to make sure we were ready to go on.

We were shown where our dressing room was for the final competition the next day. It had mirrored walls, a curtain to change behind and a ton of space. There was even a TV that would display what was on stage, so we could see performances and hear the audio while we were in there. Our rehearsal went just fine. We hit all of our marks and the large stage was so great to perform on. I lost my wig both times, but it wasn't secured. We would make sure to secure it the next day. So much glue and bobby pins were called for. I made sure to stock up on some melon soda for championship day before heading back to the hotel.





Day 7 Saturday: Red Carpet Parade and Championships

Saturday was the day of Championships. That morning, we had the Red Carpet Parade where all of the teams would walk on a red carpet. We were escorted by one of our student volunteers with a big sign behind us with our country name. We wore our *Final Fantasy IV* costumes. Our costumes had capes, which were a lot of fun during the parade. There were so many photographers and people on either side of the street, waving and taking pictures. It was such a cool and surreal moment to be there at the red carpet parade. We took a huge group picture with all of the teams at the end of the street, and thus ended the parade. We went back to the room to do our makeup and gather our costume pieces to go off to the performance center for championships!

We had to wait a long time before going on, but it was so cool to see everyone perform. We were able to eat a little bit while waiting in the dressing room. Somehow we weren't super nervous. We were excited to perform, and to be able to say that we had done it. It came time to line up to go on. We watched everyone go on ahead of us, and they all looked amazing. The lights and sound all looked great together.

We went on stage and we did our best. I'm very pleased with how our skit went off. I didn't lose my wig, and all of our cues went off great. We hoped that everyone enjoyed watching our skit.

After everyone finished, we were all brought on stage to announce awards. We won the Brother award for best costume and third place! We were floored. There were so many amazing costumes and performances, and it was so humbling to be awarded something. Italy won second and Mexico won first. After the awards were given out, all of the winners went back to Oasis 21 for photos and interviews. Once we were done there, we headed back to the hotel to change out of costume to prepare for the final parade the next morning.

Day 8 Sunday: Osu Parade

Osu parade was the last parade of WCS. It's held at Osu Kannon shrine and goes through the outdoor shopping center nearby. There were so many people on either side of the parade route. We wore our Yuna and Rikku *Final Fantasy X-2* Festivalist costumes. We had a ton of fun wearing these. They are super colorful and so many people recognized us. At the end of the parade, the award winners were taken to a stage for interviews and pictures.

We changed out of costume and went out to try a great dumpling restaurant not too far away. We ate dinner and then explored Osu a bit before heading back to the hotel to pack for the overnight trip to the onsen.

Day 9 Monday: Onsen Trip

On Monday, we were to all head out to an onsen right on the ocean. On the way to the onsen, we stopped at a grocery store to grab some snacks for the bus ride up. It was really fun to explore a Japanese grocery store. It wasn't too different from our stores except for the brands of food you could buy. And, of course, the plethora of Japanese snacks and melon soda. We got to the onsen and got to see our room. It was in a traditional style and overlooked the ocean. We ran out to the hot springs before dinner. It felt so nice to relax in the water after a long and exciting week. Dinner was held in a giant banquet room with a huge stage equipped with a karaoke machine. The food was very traditional and really fun to try out. The salmon was so nice.

They also had tons of fireworks for us outside. That was a great time with all of the sparklers. After fireworks, it was time to head to bed. We got to share a room with Team Netherlands. It was a lot like a slumber party. We made Japanese candy in the room and just talked for a long time before going to bed.

Day IO Tuesday: Return from Onsen and Goodbyes

Early in the morning, we got up for breakfast and then

headed back for one last trip to the hot springs, since we were going to leave pretty quickly. We packed up and got back on the bus to head back to Nagoya. Unfortunately at this time, we had to drop some people off at the airport, so there were many tearful goodbyes to those who had to leave that day. We all took tons of pictures before the leaving teams had to go. I really miss them, so I hope I get to see all of them again someday soon. The whole experience was so wonderful, and I'll never forget everyone and all of the great times we had.



SARAH (YUMMY GAMORAH)

Day O Friday: Arrival Day

We arrived in Nagoya around 10pm. It was a long trip but we were really excited and we were greeted at the airport by the omunetashi student brigade. It was a very warm welcome! We headed to the hotel and settled in to wait for luggage to arrive. Waiting in our room, we found welcome letters from the omotenashi students along with fans customized with our favorite anime! Mine featured *Cowboy Bebop* and *xxxHolic* and Alpa's featured *Fushigi Yūgi*.

Day I Saturday: Laguna Ten Bosch

On our first day, we were really excited to get going so we got up early. We tried Japanese breakfast for the first time at the hotel and, thanks to the buffet, got to sample a bit of everything. We then did our cosplay make up and packed up our costumes for the day, since we would be taking them with us and changing at the event location. After breakfast, all the teams reported for our first morning meeting to be briefed on the upcoming week. Seeing everyone together for the first time was really exciting! At briefing, our organizer Eve gave us some really fun NASA hats to wear.

All of the teams were gifted with goody bags also! Genki Life Magazine • Autumn 2015 They included eye drops, eye wash, cooling spray, Edy rechargeable money cards, a map of the local area, subway info, food vouchers for a local restaurant and amazingly — Docomo mobile Wi-Fi. This ended up being so incredibly helpful!

After our meeting, we loaded onto the buses with our costumes and headed for the Laguna Ten Bosch theme park. We arrived at Laguna Ten Bosch and changed into our Evangelion Festival night costumes. As soon as we hit the sun, we were really glad that we decided to add parasols to our costumes. We had been warned that Japan in the summer would be hot, but this was our first taste of it in costume, so everything helped! We walked along the pier and posed in front of the Thousand Sunny from *One Piece* — it was a real ship, and huge in person! We took our places and posed for the WCS ribbon-cutting ceremony!

After the ribbon cutting, we took a few photos in our costumes and then changed out of them for some down time — we visited the shopping area and explored some of the stores and marveled at all the tasty treats we saw. We opted for shaved ice — well, shaved ice for Alpa and a frozen coffee drink for me, because I'm comprised almost exclusively of coffee and glitter!

Soon, it was time to reassemble in a local restaurant for a big team dinner and a chance to mingle with each other. After dinner, we explored the shopping area a little bit more and checked out all of the amazing capsule machines with Team Netherlands and France! There

75

were so many to check out!

Eventually, it was time to get back into costume and head to the Thousand Sunny for a private event. They let us have our run of the boat! We even watched fireworks from the deck. A lot of the other teams brought *One Piece* costumes with them and it was so cool to get to see them on the boat! After the boat, we headed to some of the beautiful stage areas inside Laguna. After a concert, they announced all of the WCS teams and we got to go out and wave to everyone. It was unreal! We got out there and I could hear people chanting for USA and it made me so happy! Shortly after it was time to head back to the hotel to rest for the next day. What a busy and exciting first day!

Day 2 Sunday: Student Day and Welcome Party

Day 2 was magical, because it involved activities with the omnetashi students! We gathered around noon with all the teams, the students and became a roving cosplayer mob. We took over a train car and took lots of pictures on the way to the Manekineko Museum. When we arrived we were given adorable cat visors and took pictures with the manekineko cutout in front of the museum.

In the museum, we got to decorate our own lucky cats! We were given options of a cat beckoning friendship or one beckoning wealth. We did one of each — Alpa did friendship and Yummy did wealth. Looking around the room, we got extremely jealous of how cute everyone else's was. Yummy tried to paint it like her cat Ragnar but, in the end, covered it in gold in an effort to salvage it. Alpa inked hers in Borderlands style! We sat across from Team Italy and chatted with them about video games. After painting, we were allowed to shop in the store attached to the museum and explore the museum a little. Yummy bought a tiny Manekineko for her boyfriend.

Before getting on the train to return, Yummy made her first coffee vending machine purchase — it came in a can with cream and sugar mixed in — and it was delicious! Thus began her fun side-adventure of trying lots of different cans of coffee over the trip.

After the museum, we headed to the welcome party. On each table, they had placed four team flags along with our pictures. We sat with Team Japan, Thailand, and France. This party was where we got to do our first kanji with everyone! It was very celebratory! At the welcome party, we got the chance to meet all of the teams, exchanging gifts and coscards with everyone. All of the gifts were representative of the team and their country. It was really cool getting to learn more about everyone through the gifts! We gave out Ring Pops, Pixy Stix, Nerds, 20-sided dice and pins from games we had worked on! The party was over before we knew it and soon it was time to head back.

Day 3 Monday: Judging Day

We were 2nd-to-last to perform, so we were very late in the judging schedule. We got up, ate breakfast quickly, and went to our morning meeting with all the other teams. From there, we had to shoot our introduction video. We practiced in the hallway beforehand and managed to get our intro shot on the first take! Nice and easy! We wore American flag capes and flashing American flag glasses for our video — it was very bright! Afterwards, we had a quick meeting with marketing.

Due to how the schedule was structured — and because of our performance order — we actually had a pretty big gap in the middle of the day, so we got some good food. We had vouchers to try some nearby restaurants, so we wound up having tonkatsu. It was delicious!

Afterwards, we met up with Team UK and found the Pokémon Center. We made this our scouting mission since we didn't have a ton of time before we had to return and prep for our judging slot. Stepping into the Pokémon Center for the first time was amazing and overwhelming! We knew we would have to return later when we had more time.

We returned to the hotel to prepare for judging. We



got into costume and did our makeup while listening to some of our go-to hype music. Then it was time to head out for judging! Costume and prop weigh in went pretty well, and then it was onto our judging presentation. Judging was actually really fun. Our organizers had transferred our reference book and progress book to slides for us, and we loved talking about the work that went into our costumes. After judging, we did photos and tech consultati on with the stage crew.

Day 4 Tuesday: Meiji Mura

We got breakfast and prepped our makeup early, and



then we packed up our costumes for transport to Meiji Mura. We arrived and changed, took group photos, then split into our blocks. "D" block headed to an old church where we waited for a while. We took photos, talked, and watched scary bugs outside! After a bit, we were brought to the main stage where we were introduced and interviewed.

After interviews, we got frozen ice and then took some photos before finding out it was time to go already! Time had gone by so quickly! We skipped the bus ride back to the front gates where changing was, and walked back to the entrance through the park so we could see more of the park. It was beautiful and I'm really glad we walked it. We loved taking in all the views and seeing all of the buildings.

That evening was the Brother Joysound karaoke party. We headed to Joysound and got the party started! Our first stop was the snack table, where we tried a lot of delicious food. We also spotted the ready supply of melon soda (Alpa's one true weakness)! After grabbing some food, we mingled and took photos with the other teams. Of course we had to sing, so for karaoke we performed Separate Ways by Journey! How could we not? Journey is an American karaoke tradition...it had to be done. Tokumari-san even got on stage and performed it with us. It was a lot of fun! Alpa sang a variety of idol songs with different groups and even knew most of the dances that went with them. The students were an amazing audience and performed with everyone. They made the party really fun! We closed the party with all of the teams climbing on stage and singing We Are the World together.

Day 5 Wednesday: Free Day

Day 5 was our free day. We met up with Russia, France and Netherlands and some of the students, and decided to do a shopping day! We visited so many stores. We started with various lolita boutiques (so many brands!) then headed to the Pokémon Center again — this time we were ready to buy! Watching Team Russia explore this store was great. They are huge Pokémon fans, so it was really fun to go with them. We each bought a few different things, including a mirror, notebooks, hand towel, pens and cute key chains. The same shopping center had a Disney store that we visited. We marveled at everything here! It was very different from Disney stores in the US and it had really cool things in it.

For lunch we stopped at McDonalds to see if it was the same in Japan. Surprisingly it was still very much what we're used to! They did have *Pokémon* happy meals, though, so we all ordered happy meals to get the adorable *Pokémon* toys.

Next we hit the Ghibli store, where we basically went crazy. I was throwing everything cute and *Kiki* ['s Delivery Service] at Alpa while also trying to restrain myself from buying all the [My Neighbor] Totoro things. We picked up so many adorable things...a lot of *Kiki* and *Totoro* stuff, along with [Princess] Mononoke things. We bought fans while we were there to carry around with our Mononoke costumes. I got a Totoro fan and Alpa got a Spirited Away fan.

After Ghibli, we rushed to the Osu Kannon shopping center to find Alice on Wednesday, an *Alice in Wonderland*themed store. The entrance to this store was really cool!



It was a tiny door you had to go through before entering. I basically lost my mind and bought everything here.

Mandarake was next. This store sells manga, games, anime, cosplay supplies and collectibles. We made an incredible find here and actually found the *Evangelion* festival night figures our Laguna Ten Bosch costumes were based on! Last, we visited Animate to check out their cosplay section. It was amazing. Japanese cosplayers are so lucky! This place sold contacts, wigs, character wigs, and even licensed costumes! Everything was together. It was like a cosplay candy land.

After Animate we called it a day. It had been a long day of exploring and adventuring! We had a lot of fun, and it was great that we could go explore with other teams and our organizers!

Day 6 Thursday: Various Events

What a busy day this was! It was nuts how much happened. After breakfast we assembled and headed over to Brother, where we got to visit the famous sewing machine wall, check out old machines, and learn a bit about sewing and Brother's history. Did you know Brother also makes karaoke machines and label makers? People had a lot of fun with the karaoke machine on display in the showroom, and we made silly labels for ourselves while we were there. The Brother visit ended quickly, and soon it was time to return to the hotel to prepare for the afternoon's activities. Alpa and I donned our *Princess Mononoke* costumes and were off to meet the Governor!

We went on official visits with Russia, Japan, Finland and Germany, starting with the Governor's office. We were sat at a huge table, and the room had a view of a beautiful garden behind the building. Members of his office were there and chatted with us before he arrived. They were really nice. We chatted about Boston (one of them had a son who went to Boston University) and discussed samurai. The Governor cosplayed as a Jedi to meet us! It was the best! I loved it. We were poured very nice tea and were all given the opportunity to introduce ourselves. Alpa would introduce us in Japanese, and then I would add on in English. I think it balanced nicely. The Governor had ninjas enter with him and they stood behind him while we sat at the table chatting with him. We did group photos with the governor, and then were escorted out by the ninjas. We even got some pictures with them as we left. They saw us all the way to the bus in character the whole time!

From the Governor's office, we went to the Department of Transportation. After another round of introductions, we had a chance to make a statement about what we had enjoyed about Aichi so far. We took photos with everyone there and got some cool information about Aichi itself.

We also wanted to visit Os-Ta Photo Studio on this day, so after special visits we returned to the hotel and quickly



changed into our *Final Fantasy IV* costumes. We had about an hour to swap costumes and get all prepped, then hopped into a cab with our student helpers and organizers and headed to Os-Ta Photo Studio to do a photo shoot! We've both dreamed about visiting a Japanese photo studio, so it was a real treat that the students arranged this for us. We played around in a variety of sets and took lots of photos. After we finished with the formal shoots, we did purikura with everyone and it was really fun. I'm really glad they had a booth there and that our students thought to do it, because it was the only time we got to purikura on this trip and it was a great experience.

After the shoot, we cabbed back to the hotel and changed quickly into normal clothes, then headed to visit the communications room that the students had set up. It housed some fun traditional Japanese activities and also had Brother sewing machines set up for us to play with. Upon arrival, we were met with yukata! We immediately picked out yukata to try on and the students helped us get into them. I picked a pink one with a blue obi. Alpa picked a grey one with pretty pink flowers, and matched it with a red and blue obi. I even got to try on a flowery lilac head piece, which I loved! It was so pretty! Once we had our yukata on properly, we sat down in our kimonos for a tea ceremony and tried matcha and sweets.

Next, we tried out some of the Brother sewing machines. We brought our WCS shirts and embroidered our country and cosplay names onto the sleeves. It was fun getting to customize our shirts. GO TEAM AMIRITE?

After the room closed up, we headed out to dinner with Teams Italy, Korea and Spain. We went to a restaurant that seemed to have a lot of Americanized food. I decided to try the hamburger stuffed with cheese. It came on a plate with no bun, but with gravy on it and accompanied by steak fries. It was actually really good. It was nice getting out with some of the other teams. Everyone was nervous about rehearsal day, and it started to sink in that championship was right around the corner.

Day 7 Friday: Rehearsal and Prop Build

Rehearsal day started with us gathering up everything for our performance and heading over to the theater for set build. We had a meeting to brief us on the show, rehearsed opening ceremonies and built our sets. Due to where we were in performance order we had a bit of gap in our day since we were in the very last block and were rehearsing in order of performance. So we went out for some amazing sushi at Oasis 21. The staff was really welcoming to us. It was a conveyor belt sushi place but the conveyor belt was off so we got to just order whatever we



wanted from the chef who was working right in front of us. He watched carefully to make sure we liked everything and the food was delicious. It was so great!

When we returned to the theater, we put the finishing touches on our set and hung out for a while. The stage was huge, so after seeing it we found a few places to practice to get a feel for the size of the stage. This stage was a lot bigger than anything we had performed on before, so we practiced how far we could place things and how quickly we would be able to run. It was fantastic. In previous rehearsals, our biggest issues had always been the confined space. Our performance is all about Miwako running around, frantically trying to get Yukari ready, and we need lots of room for puppet movements, spins, and hops. For the first time, we could do the performance all out, running as far as we wanted and going as fast as we wanted without worrying about tripping over our pets or running into a wall.

Before we knew it, it was time to jump into quick change costumes. We had been rehearsing in everything except our final reveal costumes, to test changes and shake off some of our rust. The way rehearsal went was that we would first do a tech consult and show the crew where to place props on stage. Then we would get one runthrough. After doing that, the entire block would rehearse without stopping, to prep us for the pace of the performance day. We got two total run-throughs on stage with music. Watching them prep the stage for prop placement was amazing. We chatted with the stage crew about how to move our stuff, confirmed placement with them and then they taped and labeled where our props went, directly onto the stage. That way, when they went to place our stuff, they just had to look for the blue tape that read USA. Since we were the 2nd-to-last group that rehearsed, they then had to reset everything very quickly so we would be able to get our second rehearsal in. Normally our performance reset takes about 15-20 minutes. Thankfully we had help from our organizer Eve, and Team Netherlands jumped into action too, helping us reset everything so we would make it in time.

79



Watching the crew roll out during the block rehearsal was amazing. They were an organized machine, so I had no worries for performance day. Mexico also had a lot to reset, so we all jumped in to help them get ready for the quick turnaround time. When any team needs help, it's all hands on deck! I honestly felt like no team went in with a bad attitude. Every team helped each other and lent a hand when someone needed it. We all just wanted to put on a good show, and the feeling of camaraderie was awesome. Both our rehearsals went well. In one, the garment rack almost fell on Yummy but Alpa recovered it before it did. In both performances Alpa's wig fell off so we determined that we would tape, pin and glue that thing to her head the next day!

Day 8 Saturday: Red Carpet and Championship

Championship day was a blur. I don't even remember when I woke up or if we ate. We rounded up for the red carpet parade in our *Final Fantasy IV* costumes at 11am. We met with the other teams at the hotel and got to meet the observer countries for the first time! Canada entered in *Final Fantasy VI* costumes, so naturally we hit it off right away. We took photos and chatted with other teams until it was time to head out to the parade.

Our student organizers were with us for this parade they are the ones who carry the sign for your country and I was really happy they were with us before the parade and that one of them walked with us. The parade itself was actually pretty short. When we came out, they would announce our country and the costumes we were wearing. Hearing them announce Team USA and *Final Fantasy* in reference to us was basically everything I ever needed in my life. We came out, struck our poses and walked the red carpet, posing for photos along the way. The way the parade route was structured, we walked one way then returned to the start, but this time we were intermingled with some of the performers from the parade. We walked back surrounded by samurai warriors! We took a big group photo and then it was time to prepare for championships. We ate, showered very quickly, then got into our performance costumes and makeup!

Championships started about an hour after arrival, so there wasn't much waiting! We went on stage for team introductions in our tear-away layers to keep the surprise. While we waited backstage for our performance, we could watch the other team's performances on a small TV in our dressing room. We waited for our block to start, half out of costume. Once the show was halfway through, we started suiting up for real. At last, this was the final time we would have to "set" our quick change costumes.

Then it was time to perform. I walked out onto stage, took my spot and held up my sign. The back of my sign had my secret note to myself — an arrow pointing the right way to hold it up and the name Clarence Carter (we sang Clarence Carter and Seal when we got nervous or antsy or bored through the trip. It only seemed appropriate to hide the note to myself). I'm pleased to say that our performance went off without a hitch! Everything happened the way it was supposed to. No wigs fell off and no costumes malfunctioned. All our changes worked and nothing was late! At last! We did it! We hugged when we got offstage, hopped around, and then settled quickly to watch Mexico perform.

Very soon after, it was time to go back on for awards. We didn't expect to win anything, so imagine our surprise when we took the Brother award for best costume, and third place! We were actually really happy with the rankings, because Italy took second with their incredible *Evangelion* costumes and Mexico won first place with their amazing *Legend of Zelda* performance. We were so proud of everyone. After the show ended, we were swept off to the Oasis 21 stage for post-performance interviews with the winners.

When we arrived at the hotel, the response from the US supporters and our students was really awesome! It made us super happy. It was just the best feeling to be done and to have made everyone proud. We changed and headed to 7/11 with Team Netherlands, where we picked up some food then found a quiet hall in the hotel to eat together. The day was so hectic that it was nice to just sit and hang out and be low-key.

Day 9 Sunday: Osu Parade

Osu day started early, and for this event we actually departed in costume. We wore our Rikku and Yuna Festival outfits from *Final Fantasy X-2* International for this parade. We got to Osu Kannon and waited in the shrine before the parade started - it was really beautiful.

The parade was a lot of fun. We strutted and bounced the whole way, we showed our silly festival props to the crowd, and poked at Yummy's fake goldfish, just having a lot of fun with everything. It was like a marathon! They even had water stations positioned along the parade route. Hearing people call to us from the crowd as our characters was probably the best thing in the world. After the parade, teams that won awards had to stay later. We were brought to a smaller stage in Osu Kannon near the shrine, where we were interviewed and took group photos. In the group photo, everyone else looked so regal and beautiful and then there's us — in festival costumes carrying around cotton candy looking silly!

The rest of the day was a blur. We returned to the hotel for naps and packing, and then we met with friends for a nice dinner at a place specializing in dumplings. The next day we would leave for the onsen.





Day IO Monday: Onsen

Onsen day was a day we had been greatly looking forward to. We napped on the bus ride to the onsen and were met with yukata when we arrived. Checking out the rooms we would be staying in was really awesome. The rooms were traditional tatami floors and the onsen was on the ocean so we had views of the water. As soon as we got there, we all hit the baths which were really relaxing. Dinner was a grand traditional banquet — the food was a beautifully presented adventure. Dinner quickly derailed into lots of running around taking pictures and people enjoying karaoke.

Soon after, we were sent outside where they had sparklers waiting for us. We played with so many sparklers! We donned our flashing USA glasses for it, and were running around in the dark with sparklers and light up sunglasses. It was a lot of fun. It wasn't long before it was time for big group photos and tearful goodbyes to start. Onsen was an amazing wonderful time and, at the same time, bittersweet because we knew we would all be going our separate ways soon. We said goodbye to a lot of teams at onsen and had to say goodbye to more when we returned.

We were on the Aichi tour so we actually stayed on with WCS for 2 additional days after everything ended. Over this time, we got to tour and visit some amazing places in Aichi. We explored castles and shrines, and tried some of the traditional food in the area including Ayu. We got to visit a maid cafe and participated in formal tea ceremonies and explored stores. We even got to visit the house of Satsuma and Mei (the Totoro house!), where we ran wild exploring room by room. We had an incredible time with WCS and such a full experience in Nagoya before we left. It was incredible.

In our time with World Cosplay Summit, we had a chance to participate in and experience so much. We'll remember our cosplay adventure in Japan, and treasure the friendships we've made through WCS forever. \diamondsuit

Genki Life Magazine • Autumn 2015



UNITED STATES

Alpacosplay & Yummy Gamorah (Something Clever Cosplay) https://www.facebook.com/Alpacosplay https://www.facebook.com/YummyGamorah https://www.facebook.com/WCSTeamUSA

AUSTRALIA

Natalie & Lucy https://www.facebook.com/NatalieiArtemisI https://www.facebook.com/WorldCosplaySummitAustralia

BRAZIL

Daysuke & Nando Gray https://www.facebook.com/Daysukes-Place-350635215083468 https://www.facebook.com/Nando-Gray-556893474422877

CHINA

Xin Yi & Qing Qian

DENMARK

Rinaca & Surine https://www.facebook.com/RinacaCosplay https://www.facebook.com/SurineCosplay

FINLAND

Sonoko & Rullarinkeli https://www.facebook.com/sonokocosplay https://www.facebook.com/WCSTeamFinland

FRANCE

Chibi Juice & Lynah https://www.facebook.com/chibiko.chibi.cosplay https://www.facebook.com/LynahCosplay https://www.facebook.com/WCSfr

GERMANY Cherie & MeNanA https://www.facebook.com/BIGBOOOBsCosplay

HONG KONG Gino & Akatsuki https://www.facebook.com/CosplayTeamFruitPitch

INDONESIA John Switch & Yonchan https://www.facebook.com/EternalCreativity

ITALY Akiba & Luca https://www.facebook.com/WCSTeamItaly

JAPAN Mariko & Mahio https://www.facebook.com/AsMahioCosplay https://www.facebook.com/CosplayJapan2015

KOREA Pion & Kong1

KUWAIT Ayox & Don Lawless MALAYSIA Wen & Ing https://www.facebook.com/ingwencosplay

MEXICO Juan Carlos & Shema Arroyo https://www.facebook.com/twncsplay

NETHERLANDS

Iloon & Sednobis https://www.facebook.com/iloon.creations https://www.facebook.com/SedNobisCOS https://www.facebook.com/WCSTeamNL

PHILIPPINES

Ping-Ping & SJ https://www.facebook.com/eurikairabuxoxo

PORTUGAL

Samantta & Saphira https://www.facebook.com/samanttamano https://www.facebook.com/SaphiraCosplay https://www.facebook.com/WCSPortugal

RUSSIA Misha & Trisha https://www.facebook.com/KyoudaiCosband

SINGAPORE Zephyus & Maria Tachi

https://www.facebook.com/ZephyusCos https://www.facebook.com/mariatachicosplay

SPAIN Zihark & Virchan Puu https://www.facebook.com/ZiharkCosplay https://www.facebook.com/VirchanCosplay https://www.facebook.com/wcsteamspain2015

TAIWAN Tobu & Light https://www.facebook.com/LittleHandsIDEA

THAILAND YUKI & JIAKI https://www.facebook.com/ Yuki-Godbless-FC-128280893850359 https://www.facebook.com/ JiakiDarkness-FC-139445679400454

UNITED KINGDOM Noa & Tarka https://www.facebook.com/noascosplay https://www.facebook.com/theominoustruffle https://www.facebook.com/WCSTeamUK

VIETNAM Cua Kani & Satou Tin https://www.facebook.com/tinxcua.cosplayer

82



1st Place: Mexico



2nd Place: Italy

INCS US MATIONAL STATE

Laura Butler: United States Organizer Tiffany Tezna: United States Assistant Organizer

Allyson Rochlin • Eve Flores • Samantha Laabs Eli Hinson • Cassandra May

Greg J. Hansen: Writing Staff

Website: www.WCSUS.com General Email: info@wcsus.com Twitter: WCSPrelimsUS Facebook: www.facebook.com/wcsprelimsus

nicon niconico

3rd Place: USA

Photography Credits: WCSUS Staff & Support LJinto – https://www.flickr.com/photos/ljinto/ WCS – https://www.facebook.com/WorldCosplaySummit



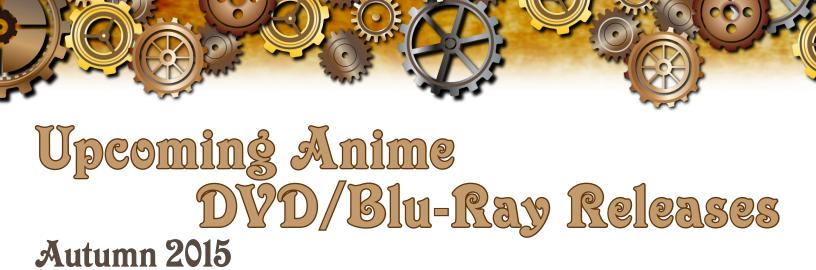
Pigeon Forge TN's Anime and Comic Convention

With Special Guests: Chris Sabat, Eric Vale, Ian Sinclair, Johnny Yong Bosch, The Slants, Eyeshine and more!

> Cosplay Contest Dance Party Concert Panels Events AMV Contest PokeCenter Iron Cosplay Senpai Central Workshops Dealer's Room & Artist Alley Digital & Analog Gaming

visit www.yamacon.org

A Pirates Life 4 Me December 4th - 6th 2015



Sep 22

Hamatora the Animation: Season 1 Collection Sentai Filmworks DVD + \$59⁹⁸ MSRP

Hamatora the Animation: Season 1 Collection Sentai Filmworks Blu-ray • \$69⁹⁸ MSRP

Jojo's Bizarre Adventure: Season 1 Collection Warner Home Video DVD • \$49⁹⁸ MSRP

Sabagebu! Survival Game Club!: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks DVD • \$49⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

Sabagebu! Survival Game Club!: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks Blu-ray + \$59⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub

selector infected WIXOSS: Complete Collection FUNimation Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

selector infected WIXOSS: Complete Collection LE FUNimation Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$69⁹⁸ MSRP

Shin Getter Robo vs Neo Getter Robo Discotek Media Blu-ray • \$24⁹⁵ MSRP • Sub Space Dandy: Season 2 Collection FUNimation Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

Space Dandy: Season 2 Collection *FUNimation* Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$74⁹⁸ MSRP + FUNi Shop Exclusive

Sword Art Online II, Volume 2: Phantom Bullet, Part 2 Aniplex of America DVD + \$49⁹⁸ MSRP

Sword Art Online II, Volume 2: Phantom Bullet, Part 2 Aniplex of America Blu-ray • \$79⁹⁸ MSRP

Sword Art Online II, Volume 2: Phantom Bullet, Part 2 LE Aniplex of America Blu-ray • \$114⁹⁸ MSRP **The Pilot's Love Song: Complete Series Premium Edition** *NIS America* Blu-ray • \$64⁹⁹ MSRP • Sub

Tokyo Ghoul: Season 1 Collection FUNimation Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

Tokyo Ghoul: Season 1 Collection CE *FUNimation* Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$129⁹⁸ MSRP

Tokyo Ghoul: Season 1 Collection LE FUNimation Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$69⁹⁸ MSRP

Vampire Hunter D Bloodlust Discotek Media DVD • \$24⁹⁵ MSRP • Dub

Maya Kyōdō, Kayō Gōtokuji, Miō Ōtori, Platy (bottom) & Momoka Sonokawa – Sabagebu! -Survival Game Club!-



Upcoming Anime DVD/Blu-Ray Autumn 2015 continued

Sep 29

Bleach: Set 26 Viz Media DVD • \$44⁸² MSRP

CB Chara Nagai Go World Discotek Media DVD • \$24⁹⁵ MSRP • Sub

Kotori Takatori, Kana Tachibana, Neko Kuroha & Kazumi Schlierenzauer – Brynhildr in the Darkness

Descendants of Darkness: Complete Collection Discotek Media DVD • \$39⁹⁵ MSRP

Durarara!!x2, Volume 1 Aniplex of America DVD • \$59⁹⁸ MSRP **Durarara!!x2, Volume 1** Aniplex of America Blu-ray • \$99⁹⁸ MSRP

FREE! -Eternal Summer-: Complete Collection *FUNimation* Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

FREE! -Eternal Summer-: Complete Collection LE *FUNimation* Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$69⁹⁸ MSRP

FREE! -Eternal Summer-: Complete Collection PE *FUNimation* Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$119⁹⁸ MSRP

Hans Christian Andersen's The Little Mermaid Discotek Media DVD • \$24⁹⁵ MSRP

Nobunaga the Fool: Collection 2 Sentai Filmworks DVD • \$59⁹⁸ MSRP

Nobunaga the Fool: Collection 2 Sentai Filmworks Blu-ray • \$69⁹⁸ MSRP

Persona 4 the ANIMATION: Complete Collection CE Sentai Filmworks Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$139⁹⁸ MSRP

Genki Life Magazine • Autumn 20

Persona4 the Golden ANIMATION, Volume 2 Aniplex of America Blu-ray + \$99⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub

Super Dimension Century Orguss (TV): Complete Collection Discotek Media DVD • \$69⁹⁵ MSRP • Eps 18-35: Sub

Oct 6

Relea

Aesthetica of a Rogue Hero: Complete Collection FUNimation DVD • \$29⁹⁸ MSRP • S.A.V.E. Edition

Brynhildr in the Darkness: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks DVD • \$59⁹⁸ MSRP

Brynhildr in the Darkness: Complete Collection *Sentai Filmworks* Blu-ray • \$69⁹⁸ MSRP

Dance in the Vampire Bund: Complete Collection *FUNimation* DVD • \$29⁹⁸ MSRP • S.A.V.E. Edition

Fairy Tail, Part 17 FUNimation Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$54⁹⁸ MSRP

Last: Naruto the Movie Viz Media DVD • \$19⁹⁸ MSRP

Last: Naruto the Movie Viz Media Blu-ray • \$29⁹⁹ MSRP

Sasami-san@Ganbaranai: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks Blu-ray + \$59⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub **Tamayura ~Hitotose~: Complete Collection** *TRSI / Nozomi Ent.* DVD • \$44⁹⁹ MSRP • Sub

The World is Still Beautiful: Complete Collection *Sentai Filmworks* DVD • \$49⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

The World is Still Beautiful: Complete Collection *Sentai Filmworks* Blu-ray • \$59⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

When Marnie Was There GKids / Universal DVD • \$24⁹⁸ MSRP

When Marnie Was There GKids / Universal Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$34⁹⁸ MSRP

Yu-Gi-Oh! Zexal: Season 2 Collection 4K Media / Cinedigm DVD + \$59⁹⁹ MSRP + Dub

Oct 7

Fate/stay night: Unlimited Blade Works Box 2 [Import] Aniplex of America Blu-ray • \$498⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

Oct 10

ETOTAMA: Collector's Edition 1 PONYCAN USA Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$89⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub

Oct 13

Beyond the Boundary: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks DVD • \$59⁹⁸ MSRP

Beyond the Boundary: Complete Collection *Sentai Filmworks* Blu-ray • \$69⁹⁸ MSRP

Beyond the Boundary: Complete Collection CE *Sentai Filmworks* Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$179⁹⁸ MSRP

Ghost in the Shell: Arise -Borders 3 & 4 *FUNimation* Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$39⁹⁸ MSRP

Samurai Jam -Bakumatsu Rock-: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks DVD + \$49⁹⁸ MSRP

Samurai Jam -Bakumatsu Rock-: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks Blu-ray + \$59⁹⁸ MSRP

Oct 20

Dragon Ball Z: Resurrection 'F' FUNimation DVD • \$29⁹⁸ MSRP

Dragon Ball Z: Resurrection 'F' FUNimation Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$34⁹⁸ MSRP as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change



Upcoming Anime DVD/Blu-Ray Autumn 2015 continued

Dragon Ball Z: Resurrection 'F' CE FUNimation Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$54⁹⁸ MSRP

Hayate the Combat Butler: Season 2 Collection Sentai Filmworks DVD + \$69⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub

Hayate the Combat Butler: Season 2 Collection Sentai Filmworks Blu-ray • \$89⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

Space Brothers: Collection 5 Sentai Filmworks DVD • \$49⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

Space Brothers: Collection 5 Sentai Filmworks Blu-ray • \$59⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

Oct 27

ALDNOAH.ZERO, Volume 2 Aniplex of America DVD • \$39⁹⁸ MSRP

ALDNOAH.ZERO, Volume 2 LE Aniplex of America Blu-ray • \$94⁹⁸ MSRP

ARPEGGIO OF BLUE STEEL

-ARS NOVA-: Complete Collection Crunchyroll/Discotek DVD • \$39⁹⁵ MSRP • Sub

Black Bullet: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks DVD • \$59⁹⁸ MSRP

Black Bullet: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks Blu-ray • \$69⁹⁸ MSRP **Blade & Soul: Complete Collection** Sentai Filmworks DVD • \$49⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

Blade & Soul: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks Blu-ray • \$59⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

Lupin the Third vs Detective Conan: The Movie Discotek Media DVD • \$24⁹⁵ MSRP • Sub

Lupin the Third vs Detective Conan: The Special Discotek Media DVD + \$24⁹⁵ MSRP + Sub

Naruto Shippuden: Set 24 Viz Media DVD • \$44⁸² MSRP

One Piece: Season 7, Part 3 *FUNimation* DVD • \$39⁹⁸ MSRP

Sailor Moon R: Season 2, Part 2 Viz Media DVD • \$44⁸² MSRP

Sailor Moon R: Season 2, Part 2 Viz Media Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$69⁹⁹ MSRP

Nov 3

Blessing of the Campanella: Complete Collection (Anime Elements) TRSI / Nozomi Ent. DVD • \$34⁹⁹ MSRP • Sub

Fafner (TV & Movie): Complete Collection FUNimation DVD • \$24⁹⁸ MSRP • S.A.V.E. Edition **Fafner (TV & Movie): Complete Collection** *FUNimation* Blu-ray • \$29⁹⁸ MSRP • S.A.V.E. Edition

Fairy Tail: Collection 5 *FUNimation* Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$54⁹⁸ MSRP

GLASSLIP: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks DVD • \$49⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

GLASSLIP: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks Blu-ray • \$59⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

He is my Master: Complete Collection (Sentai Selects) Sentai Filmworks DVD + \$29⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub

Hidamari Sketch x Honeycomb: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks DVD • \$49⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

If Her Flag Breaks: Complete Series Premium Edition NIS America Blu-ray • \$64⁹⁹ MSRP • Sub

Ladies Versus Butlers: Complete Collection Media Blasters DVD • \$24⁹⁸ MSRP

Ladies Versus Butlers: Complete Collection Media Blasters Blu-ray • \$29⁹⁸ MSRP

enki Life

ine 🛯 Autumn 🛽





) Releases

Mobile Suit Gundam: Collection 1 SUNRISE / TRSI DVD • \$59⁹⁹ MSRP

Mobile Suit Gundam: Collection 1 SUNRISE / TRSI Blu-ray • \$74⁹⁹ MSRP

Turn V Gundam the Movies Collection SUNRISE / TRSI DVD • \$49⁹⁹ MSRP • Sub

Umi Monogatari: Complete Collection TRSI / Nozomi Ent. DVD • \$39⁹⁹ MSRP • Sub

Nov 7

Mobile Suit Gundam The Origin, Volume 2 CE [Import] Bandai Visual Blu-ray • \$99⁹⁸ MSRP

Nov 10

Blue Spring Ride: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks DVD + \$49⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub **Blue Spring Ride: Complete Collection** Sentai Filmworks Blu-ray • \$59⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

Cute High Earth Defense Club LOVE!: Collector's Edition 3 PONYCAN USA Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$8998 MSRP + Sub

Danganronpa the Animated Series: Complete Collection *FUNimation* Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$64⁹⁸ MSRP **Danganronpa the Animated Series: Complete Collection LE** *FUNimation* Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$69⁹⁸ MSRP

La corda d'oro - Blue Sky: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks DVD • \$49⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

La corda d'oro - Blue Sky: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks Blu-ray + \$59⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub

Naruto Shippuden: Set 24 Viz Media DVD • \$44⁸² MSRP

> **One Piece: Collection 14** FUNimation DVD • \$34⁹⁸ MSRP

Pokémon - The Johto Journeys: Complete Collection Viz Media DVD • \$44⁸² MSRP • Dub

> Kō Mabuchi & Futaba Yoshioka – Blue Spring Ride

Upcoming Anime DVD/Blu-R Autumn 2015 continued

the Garden of sinners Blu-ray Box Standard Edition [Import] Aniplex of America Blu-ray + \$399⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub

Nov 17

Buddy Complex: Complete Collection *FUNimation* Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$54⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub

Gatchaman: The Movie Sentai Filmworks DVD • \$29⁹⁸ MSRP

Gatchaman: The Movie Sentai Filmworks Blu-ray • \$39⁹⁸ MSRP

Invaders of the Rokujyomal?: Complete Collection

Sentai Filmworks DVD • \$49⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

Invaders of the Rokujyoma!?: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks Blu-ray • \$59⁹⁸ MSRP • Sub

Sword Art Online II Volume 3: Calibur Aniplex of America DVD • \$39⁹⁸ MSRP

Sword Art Online II Volume 3: Calibur Aniplex of America Blu-ray • \$49⁹⁸ MSRP

Sword Art Online II Volume 3: Calibur LE Aniplex of America Blu-ray • \$74⁹⁸ MSRP Nausicaä – Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind (The Collected Works of Hayao Miyazak)

The Collected Works of Hayao Miyazaki Disney Blu-ray • \$249⁹⁹ MSRP • Amazon Exclusive

Nov 24

Angelic Layer: Complete Collection (Sentai Selects) Sentai Filmworks DVD • \$49⁹⁸ MSRP

Dragonar Academy: Complete Collection FUNimation

Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

Dragonar Academy: Complete Collection LE FUNimation Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$69⁹⁸ MSRP

DRAMAtical Murder: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks DVD • \$59⁹⁸ MSRP

DRAMAtical Murder: Complete Collection Sentai Filmworks Blu-ray • \$69⁹⁸ MSRP

Durarara!!x2, Volume 2 Aniplex of America DVD • \$59⁹⁸ MSRP Durarara!!x2, Volume 2 Aniplex of America Blu-ray + \$99⁹⁸ MSRP

Eureka Seven AO: Complete Collection *FUNimation* DVD • \$29⁹⁸ MSRP • S.A.V.E. Edition

Eureka Seven AO: Complete Collection *FUNimation* Blu-ray + \$34⁹⁸ MSRP + S.A.V.E. Edition

Good Luck Girl!: Complete Collection *FUNimation* DVD + \$29⁹⁸ MSRP + S.A.V.E. Edition

Noein - to your other self: Complete Collection FUNimation Blu-ray/DVD Combo • \$64⁹⁸ MSRP

Noein - to your other self: Complete Collection LE FUNimation Blu-ray/DVD Combo + \$84⁹⁸ MSRP

Dec 1

Attack on Titan, Volume 17 Graphic Novel SE w/DVD (Ilse's Notebook) Kodansha Comics DVD • \$19⁹⁹ MSRP • Sub

Dec 8

Captain Harlock Space Pirate (2013) (3D/2D) Twilight Time Blu-ray • Price NA MSRP

The irregular at magic high school, Volume 3: Yokohama Disturbance Arc Aniplex of America DVD + \$99⁹⁸ MSRP + Sub

ine 🗉 Autumn 2

Genki Life







Huge Exhibitor Room * Cosplay Masquerade * Late Night Electronic Dance Karaoke Room * Live Music * Cafe Hoshi * Starlight Ball * Free Autographs Panels/Workshops * Table Top Gaming * Anime Viewing Room * Art Contests AMV Contest * Artist Alley * Charity Raffle * Fun for the Entire Family Video Game Room * Lolita Tea Party * Swap Meet * Thousands of Costumed Fans



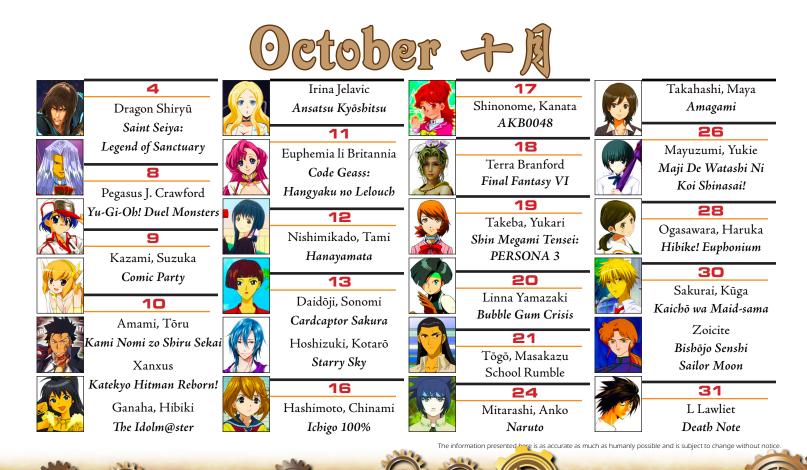


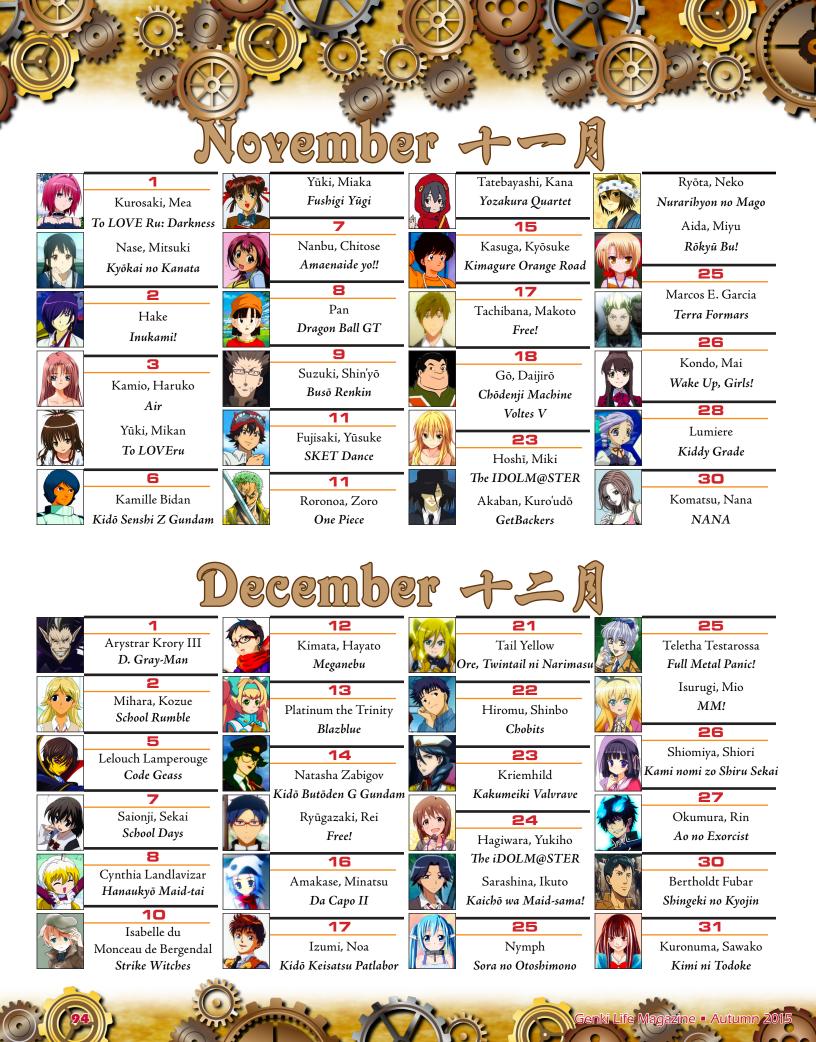
SAVE THE DATE! Feb. 6th, 2016

Anniston City Meeting Center Anniston, AL

Free Admission!









The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice. + NewType The Motion Picutres Magazin

e - Autumn 2015



Because we know what the con goer loves to listen to. Peroid.

Honesty Convention Coverage Convention CoverageHonesty Interviews Podcast Cosplay Reports Interviews Panels Cosplay Podcast Panels Reports Panels Reports Interviews Honesty Cosplay Podcast



ER

Special Guests Comics Movies Shows comedy Podcast Special Guests Movies Comics Games Entertainment Kickstarterscomedy Shows Entertainment Games PodcastKickstarters

Games News Video games Video gamesTopics Podcast Video game Industry Video game IndustryTopics Podcast Games News

www.missionstartpodcast.com

Console & Desktop Gam Autumn 2015

September 22

Afro Samurai 2: Revenge of Kuma: Volume 1 Versus Evil, LLC + Redacted M · Action, Adventure · PC, PS4, XOne

Rise Kujikawa & Yū Narukami Persona 4: Dancing All Night **Blood Bowl II** Focus Home Interactive + Cyanide T · Sports · PC, PS4, XOne

FIFA 16 Electronic Arts • EA Canada T · Sports · PC, PS3, PS4, X360, XOne

Laserlife Gaijin Games + Choice Provisions NA · Action · PC, PS4

> **SOMA** Frictional Games M • Adventure • PC, PS4

September 23

Assault Android Cactus Witch Beam NA · Shooter · Linux, MAC, PC

Extreme Exorcism Ripstone Games + Golden Ruby Games E • Platformer • PC, PS3, PS4, XOne

The Incredible Adventures of Van Helsing Neocore Games NA · Action, RPG · PC

September 24

Doodle God JoyBits NA • Puzzle • PC

Fistful of Guns Devolver Digital + Farmergnome NA · Action · PC

September 25

Animal Crossing: Happy Home Designer Nintendo E • Simulation • 3DS

September 27

LEGO Dimensions Warner Bros. Interactive + TT Games E • Action, Adventure • PS3, PS4, Wii U, X360, XOne

September 29

Fallout Anthology Bethesda Softworks M · Compilation, RPG · PC

Grand Ages: Medieval Kalypso Media + Gaming Mind Studios T • Strategy • PC,• PS4

Might & Magic Heroes VII Ubisoft + Limbic Entertainment $T \cdot Strategy \cdot PC$

NBA 2K16 2K Games + Visual Concepts E · Sports · PC, PS3, PS4

NBA Live 16 Electronic Arts + EA Sports E • Sports • PS4, XOne

Persona 4: Dancing All Night Atlus + P-Studio T • Music • PS Vita

urate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without not



B PSVITA

Only On **PlayStatio**



Console & Desktop Gaming Autumn 2015 continued

Samurai Warriors 4 II Tecmo KOEI • Tecmo KOEI Games T • Action • PS Vita, PS3, PS4

Secret Ponchos Switchblade Monkeys *T* · *Shooter* · *PC*

Sword Coast Legends Digital Extremes • n-Space, Digital Extremes NA • RPG • PC

Thief Town Glass Knuckle Games • Brett Davis NA • Action • PS4 **Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 5** Activision • Robomodo, Disruptive Games NA • Sports • PS4, XOne

September 30

Ride Bandai Namco Games • Milestone E • Racing • PC, PS3, PS4, X360, XOne

October 2

Laserlife Gaijin Games • Choice Provisions NA • Action • XOne

October 6

Dengeki Bunko: Fighting Climax SEGA • Ecole, French-Bread T • Fighting • PS Vita, PS3

Disgaea 5: Alliance of Vengeance NIS T • Strategy, RPG • PS4

Read Only Memories MidBoss NA • Adventure • Linux, MAC, PC

> Rock Band 4 Harmonix, Mad Catz • Harmonix T • Music • PS4, XOne

Skyhill Daedalic • The Mandragora Team NA • RPG • PC

Transformers: Devastation Activision • PlatinumGames *T* • Action • PS3, PS4, X360, XOne

October 9

Chibi-Robo!: Zip Lash Nintendo *E • Platformer • 3DS* Uncharted: The Nathan Drake Collection Sony Computer Entertainment + Naughty Dog Software, Bluepoint Games T • Action • PS4

October 13

Corpse Party: Blood Drive 5pb., Marvelous USA • Team GrisGris *M* • *Adventure* • *PS Vita*

Dragon Quest Heroes Square Enix • Omega Force *T* • *RPG* • *PS4*

Goosebumps: The Game Game Mill Entertainment • WayForward Technologies E • Adventure • 3DS, PC, PS3, PS4, X360, XOne

The Legend of Legacy Altus • FuRyu E • RPG • 3DS

The Talos Principle Devolver Digital • Croteam *E • Puzzle • PS4*

Wasteland 2 (Director's Cut) Deep Silver + InXile Entertainment M • RPG • PC, PS4, XOne

October 16

nki Life

Yoshi's Woolly World Nintendo • Good Feel *E* • *Platformer* • *Wii U*

Aagazine • Autumn 20

Heroes from Dragon Quest Heroes



October 20

Brigador Stellar Jockeys NA • Action • Linux, MAC, PC

Code: Realize ~Guardian of Rebirth~ Aksys Games + Idea Factory, Design Factory T • Adventure • PS Vita

Dragon Ball Z: Extreme Butoden Bandai Namco Games •

ARC System Works $T \cdot Fighting \cdot 3DS$

Guitar Hero Live Activision • FreeStyleGames *T* • *Music* • *PS3*, *Wii U*, *X360*, *XOne*

Just Dance 2016 Ubisoft • Ubisoft Paris E • Music • PS3, PS4, Wii, Wii U, X360, XOne

Just Dance: Disney Party 2 Ubisoft • Ubisoft San Francisco E • Music • Wii, Wii U, X360, XOne

Superbeat: Xonic PM Studios • Nurijoy, Acttil T • Music • PS Vita

Tales of Zestiria Bandai Namco Games *T* • *RPG* • *PC*, *PS3*, *PS4*

October 22

Fatal Frame: Maiden of the Black Water Nintendo • Tecmo KOEI Games M • Adventure • Wii U

October 23

Assassin's Creed Syndicate Ubisoft • Ubisoft Quebec City M • Action • PS4, XOne

The Legend of Zelda: Tri Force Heroes Nintendo *E · Action, Adventure · 3DS*

October 27

Divinity: Original Sin – Enhanced Edition Larian Studios M • RPG • PS4, XOne

Halo 5: Guardians Microsoft + 343 Industries T • Shooter • XOne

MX vs. ATV Supercross Encore Nordic Games Publishing + Rainbow Studios E • Racing • PC, PS4, XOne

WWE 2K16 2K Games • Visual Concepts *T* • Wrestling • PS3, PS4, X360, XOne

October 31

Bulb Boy Bulbware NA • Adventure • MAC, PC

November 3

Anno 2205 Ubisoft • Ubisoft Blue Byte, Related Designs E • Simulation • PC Link Tri Force Heroes – The Legend of Zelda: Tri Force Heroes

Barbie and Her Sisters: Puppy Rescue Little Orbit *T • Simulation • 3DS, PS3, Wii, Wii U, X360*

Earth Defense Force 4.1: The Shadow of New Despair XSEED Games NA · Action · PS4

Gravity Falls: Legend of the Gnome Gemulets Ubisoft • Ubisoft Osaka *E* • *Platformer* • 3DS

Need for Speed Electronic Arts • Ghost NA • Racing • PS4, XOne

Norn9: Var Commons Idea Factory NA • Adventure • PS Vita

The Peanuts Movie: Snoopy's Grand Adventure Activision • Behaviour Interactive *E* • *Platformer* • 3DS, *PS4*, *Wii U*, X360, XOne

Call of Duty: Black Ops III Activision • Treyarch *M* • Shooter • *PC*

November 6

Call of Duty: Black Ops III Activision • Treyarch *M* • Shooter • PS3, PS4, X360, XOne

Le Byte, Reed for Speed Electronic Arts + Ghost NA • Racing • PC ESRB rating at time of publication. The information presented here is as. Yo-Kai Watch

Nintendo • Level-5 NA • RPG • 3DS

November 10

Alekhine's Gun Maximum Games + Haggard Games M • Action • PC, PS4, XOne

Fallout 4 Bethesda Softworks Game Studios *M* • *RPG* • *PC*, *PS4*, *XOne*

Rise of the Tomb Raider Microsoft, Square Enix • Crystal Dynamics, Nixxes Software BV, Eidos Montreal NA • Action, Adventure • XOne

Rodea: The Sky Soldier NIS • Prope, Kadokawa Games *E* • *Platformer* • 3DS, *Wii U*

Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 5 Activision • Robomodo, Disruptive Games NA • Sports • PS3, X360

November 16

GunWorld m07games NA • Action • PC

November 17

Deadpool Activision • High Moon Studios *M* • Action • PS4, XOne

ost Moco Moco Friends Aksys Games • Racjin NA • RPG • 3DS re is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice



Console & Desktop Gaming Autumn 2015 continued

Star Wars Battlefront Electronic Arts + DICE (Digital

Illusions CE) NA • Action • PC, PS4, XOne

Sword Art Online: Lost Song Bandai Namco Games • ArtDink NA • Action • PS Vita, PS4

The Crew: Wild Run Ubisoft • Ivory Tower *T* • *Racing* • *PC, PS4, XOne*

The Legend of Heroes: Trails of Cold Steel XSEED Games • Nihon Falcom Corp NA • RPG • PS Vita, PS3

November 20

Mayan Death Robots SOEDESCO Publishing • Sileni Studios NA • Strategy, Action • Linux, MAC, PC

Pokémon Super Mystery Dungeon Nintendo • AlphaDream, Spike Chunsoft E • RPG • 3DS

Star Fox Zero Nintendo + Nintendo, Platinum Games NA • Flight • Wii U

November 27

TrackMania Turbo Ubisoft + Nadeo NA • Racing • PC, PS4, XOne

November 28

One Final Breath Dark Day Interactive *NA* • *Action* • *MAC*

November 30

One Final Breath Dark Day Interactive NA • Action • PS Vita, PS3, PS4, XOne

December 1

Just Cause 3 Square Enix • Avalanche Studios (NY), Avalanche Studios (SE) M • Action • PC, PS4, XOne

Cast of The Legend of Heroes: Trails of Cold Steel II **Tom Clancy's Rainbow Six Siege** Ubisoft + Ubisoft Montreal *M* • Shooter • PC, PS4, XOne

December 4

Xenoblade Chronicles X Nintendo • Monolith Software T • RPG • Wii U

December 8

Hitman Square Enix • Io Interactive NA • Shooter • PC, PS4, XOne

December 11

Devil's Third Nintendo + Valhalla Game Studio *M* • *Action* • *Wii U*

December 16

Elite: Dangerous Frontier Developments *T* • *Action* • *PC*

enk<mark>i Life Magazine = A</mark>utumn 20

NANA ナナ

TV • April 5, 2006 – March 27, 2007 MadHouse

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nana_(manga)

annex.s-manga.net/s-nana/

Director: Asaka, Morio Producers: Maruyama, Masao Nakatani, Toshio Art Directors: Ueno, Hideyuki Shimizu, Tomoyuki Music: Hasegawa, Tomoki

Cast:

Ōsaki, Nana = Romi Park Komatsu, Nana = Kaori Terashima, Nobuo = Seki, Tomokazu Okazaki, Shin'ichi = Ishida, Akira Takagi, Yasushi = Kawahara, Yoshihisa "One of the best things about anime and what anime and what sets it apart from other mediums of entertainment is the sheer amount of creative freedom you can have with any particular show." No matter how ridiculous or impossible a premise may be, anime can achieve it. However, does anime work the other way around? Despite it being animated as opposed to having actors (excluding voice actors, of course), can an anime that is so deeply rooted into reality as we know it still work just as well? All it takes is one word to answer this. *Nana*.

In a broad sense, all *Nana* really is is two girls living their lives in Tokyo (c. 1998 - c. 2001 or so). What makes this show really worth it's fairly long runtime is the great characters, their interactions with one another, how they react to said interactions, etc.

This anime really knows how to make use of it's 47 episodes. The first five or so episodes focuses mainly on the two main leads, Nana Komatsu (or Hachi as she is referred to in the anime), and Nana Osaki and their backstories



(this is one of my favorite parts of the anime, as it indirectly shows the key differences and similarities between the two using only their individual, unrelated backstories alone, which I thought was brilliant). As time goes on, more and more characters are introduced and around the three-quarters mark, it almost turns into an ensemble cast. The focus is still on Hachi and Osaki primarly, but this structure leads to

Sits a testament to how much the story impacted me on an emotional level that it became to much for me personally to handle."

having this decently sized cast of characters to all feel like real people.

Speaking of...the greatest quality of this anime is how real the characters feel. Each main character has so many different quirks-different ways of adapting to situations, etc. It not only makes it feel like this show could have actually existed as a real life story, but it makes you feel like you are there living this experience with them. You feel happiness when a character is happy, and you feel sad when a character is sad. There were points where the drama got so deep that it was hard for me to continue to the next episode. This is a testament not to how melodramatic the anime is, because if anything, even though the drama is heavy, it never feels out of place because of the raw emotion these characters bring. It's a testament to how much the story impacted me on an emotional level that it became to much for me personally to handle. I just want to emphasize that this isn't a negative on the shows part at all. It's just my own personal take on it.

I'm not going to take time discussing these characters as it would take forever to talk about them because of how multilayered they are. Also, and I know I say this a lot, but it's best to really experience these characters for yourself to have your own take on everything.

Although there is so much good stuff going on with these characters and these ingeniously crafted situations they are put into, as far as I can tell, it isn't an incredibly deep and and profound story. Yes, there are overarching themes throughout *Nana*, the biggest one being the theme of regret. This once again isn't necessarily a bad thing, just don't go into it thinking you going to get something like *Serial Experiments Lain* or *Evangelion* or whatever.

One last thing I would like to mention story-wise is the rather copious amounts of inner monologuing by our two main



agazine

ו 2015 ו



leads. This is the only thing that could be counted as a negative in my opinion. It does lead to some much needed insight into these two characters are thinking and their take on any given situation, but sometimes it just gets too, dare I say, pretentious with some of it that it sometimes doesn't even feel like these two characters are thinking these things. Not to say these characters are stupid (although you may come to the conclusion that one of them is), but it just felt out of character when some of these lines came up on the screen. This isn't anything that really takes away from an overall amazing experience just because of how great everything else is, but this is a review after all, so it can't be all praise.

Nana's artstyle succeeds in giving a very grounded feel to everything. If an anime that was trying to be very realistic had some moe or something in it, it would totally ruin the tone of the anime. I'd call the character designs an improved version of the CLAMP style of designs. They really are great. The facial expressions are of note too, as those can be very fundamental to giving some much needed information about a character, and the animators handled them well.

The soundtrack didn't do too much for me, so that's all I'll say about it. The OP's [opening songs] and ED's [ending songs] fared much better though. The voice acting was also top caliber, especially with Romi Park's take on Nana Osaki.

Nana really is something all anime fans should watch at some point or another. While it might not be "too deep for you"...you won't get this amount of raw emotion anywhere else in anime. Like I mentioned before, I didn't talk about specifics regarding characters, nor their goals, personal strifes, etc. I want you all to experience those for yourself. Just let it be known that all of it, from Hachi's struggle with relationships to the struggles of the Black Stones (BLAST) and their relationship with Trapnest, of whom they have close (and not so close) ties is all brilliant works of storytelling. TokyoSanchez

The Blask Stones (BLAST) rnale rnernbers: Yasushi Takagi Shin'ichi Okazaki Nobuo Terashirna

bistant Voorberges Distant Voorbeges music from

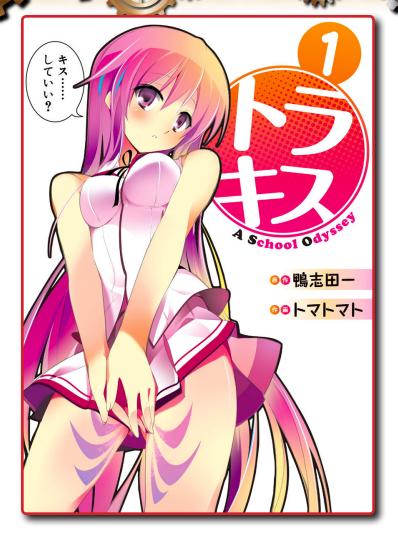
October 29 Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre Rochester, NY

> December 26 Symphony Center Chicago, IL

February 6, 2016 The Mahaffey Theater Saint Petersburg, FL

April 23, 2016 Le Grand Rex Paris, France

www.ffdistantworlds.com





Satō, Taketora "Tora'

A <compatible> and second-year high school student. At first, he has the weakest <ranking> of the entire school. Aside from that, he has a habit of being really lazy.



Hanasaki, Sakura

A <compatible> in the top 100 <ranking>. She's a childhood friend of Tora and Kotori who moved back after 10 years. On the first had of school, she challenges Take to a duel.



Satō, Kotori The younger sister of Tora. She's also a <compatible>. Though a year younger, she ranks way above Tora. She also had a brother complex.



Sylvie Sharlette She's a classmate of Tora and whose <ranking> is 99 of the entire school. It's not clear whether she's a member of <law>, the governing body of <compatibles> actions, though she shows some authority.

Tora Kiss: A School Odyssey

Kamoshida, Hajime (鴨志田一) & Tomato Mato (トマト・マト)

18 years ago, Academy Island appears out of nowhere. A strange, cube-shaped object called a <monument> was uncovered. Where ever its from, modern science cannot determine its composition, its origin or if it's a living thing. The <monument> only manifests itself by communicating through certain people called <compatibles> and as <phi>, manifestations that are controled <compatibles>. Through this communcation, it's determined that the <monument> contains vasts amount of <data>. Academy Island was developed for the sole resarch of this <data> which to further mankind and schooling of the world's <compatibles>.

So begins the story of Taketaro Satō, a <compatible>, who controls his <phi>though battles to gain rank...if he weren't so lazy about it.

Here's a preview of the first chapter. Be sure to support the author.

These pages are meant to read in spreads, side by side. The story flow will be off, if read page by individual page.

Tora Kiss: A School Odyssey トラキス A School Odyssey

ASCII Media Works/Comic Dengeki Daiō 2012, 4 Volumes

dc.dengeki.com/newreleases/978-4-04-891025-5/

Author: Kamoshida, Hajima & Tomato Mato

Genre: Comedy, Romance, School Life, Supernatural, Action, Harem, Ecchi

Format: Softcover/Manga Price: ¥616 MSRP each volume Start with top right and end with bottom left. Reading is done the same direction.



















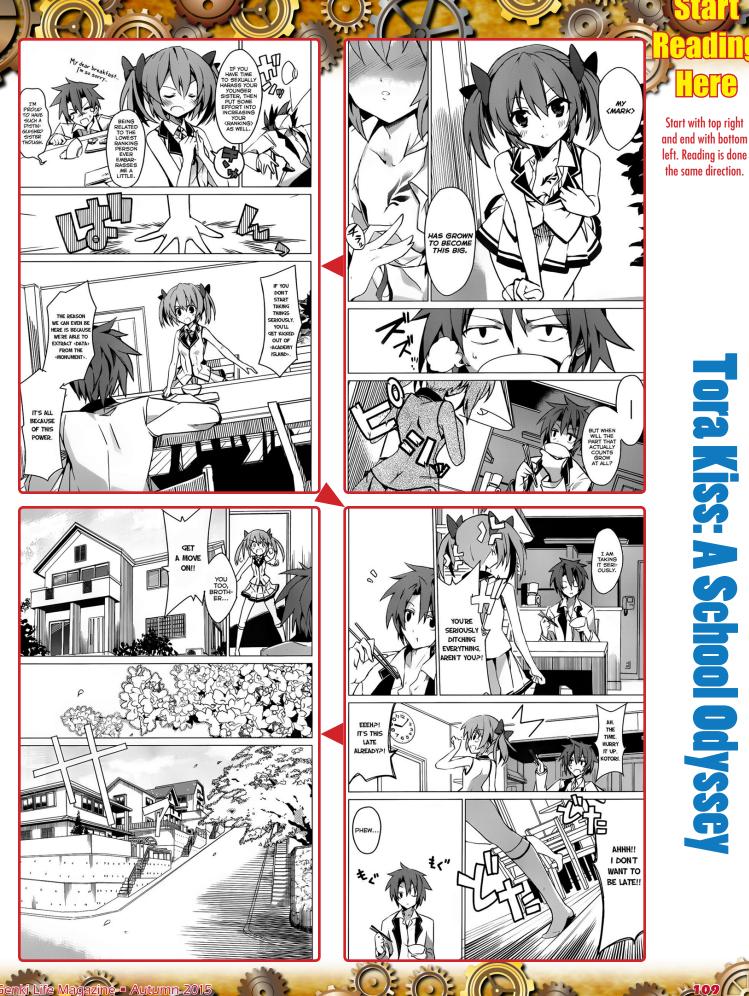
Start with top right and end with bottom left. Reading is done the same direction.

Tora Kiss: A School Odyssey

nki Life Magazine - Autumn 201

HTF



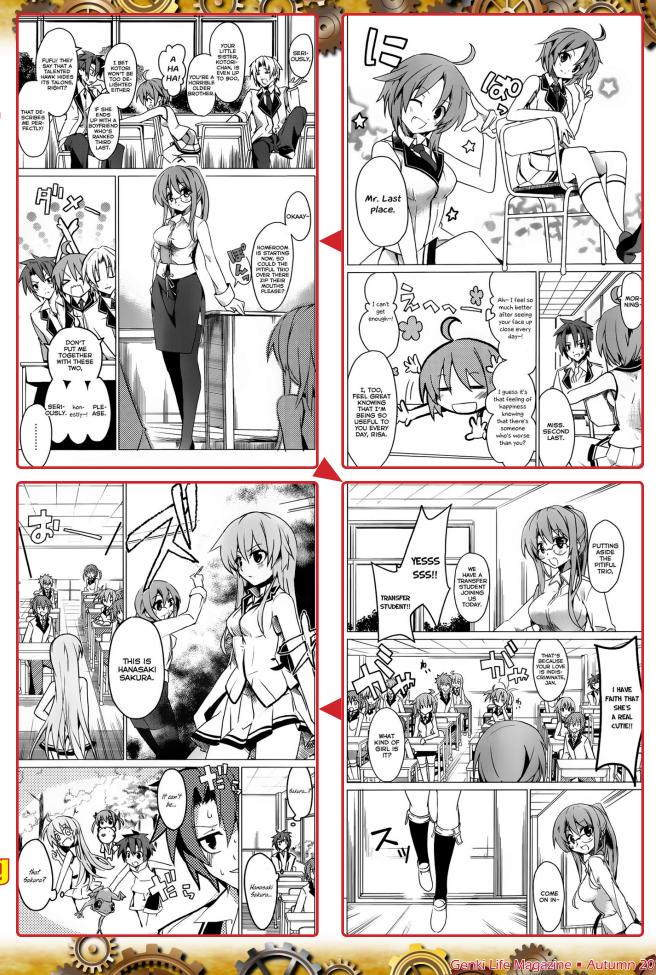


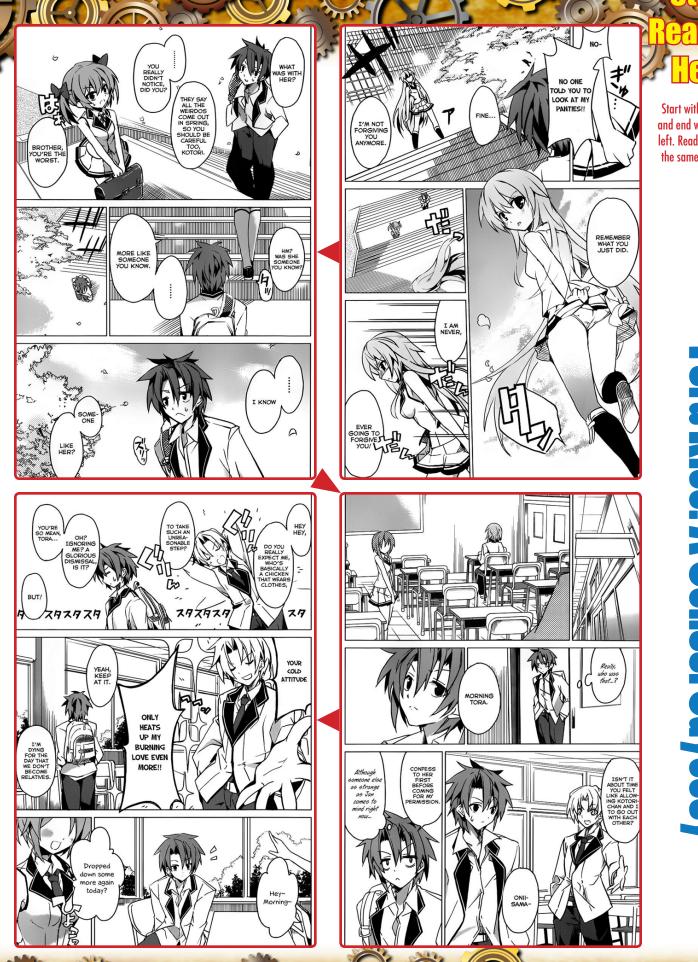
Tora Kiss: A School Odyssey

Ē

Tora Kiss: A School Odyssey

- ITF





d Life

Mac

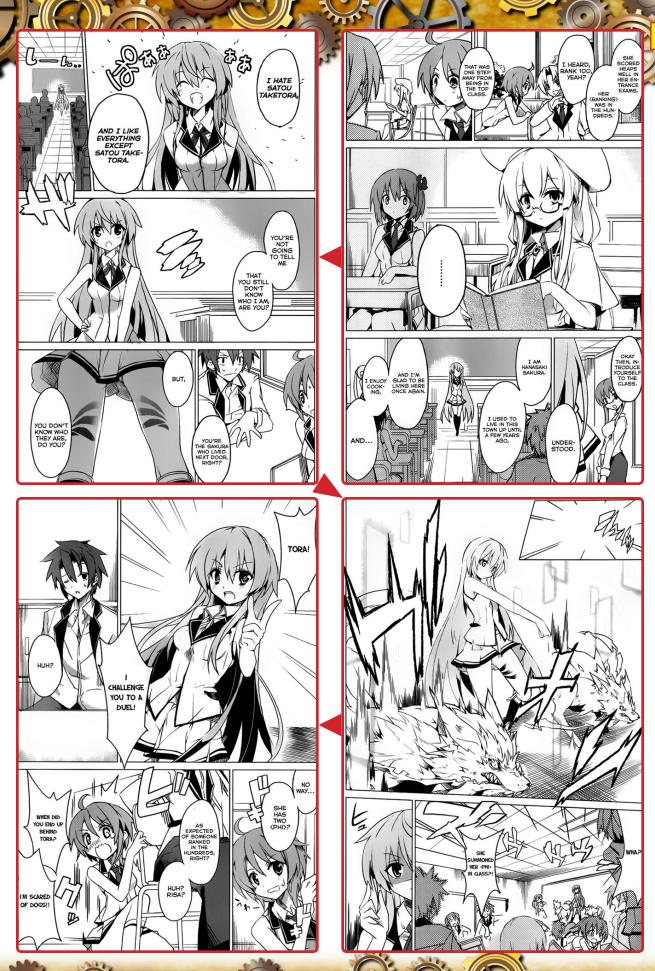
i-Start with top right

and end with bottom left. Reading is done the same direction.

Tora Kiss: A School Odyssey







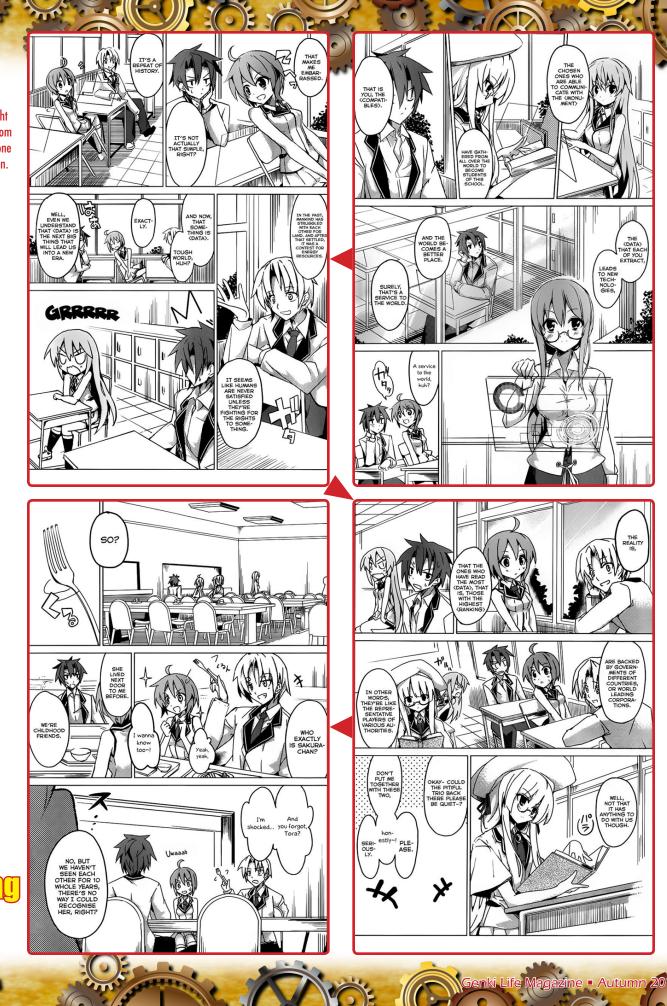
d Life

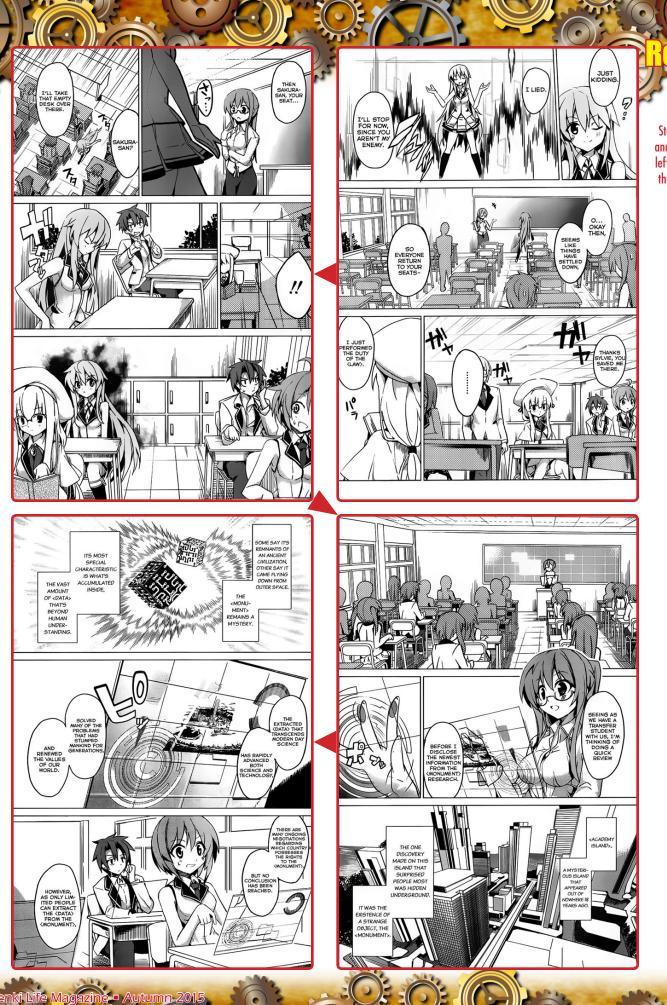
Mag

Start with top right and end with bottom left. Reading is done the same direction.

Tora Kiss: A School Odyssey

GTG





Tora Kiss: A School Odyssey

Start with top right and end with bottom left. Reading is done the same direction.

Ē

- I'H





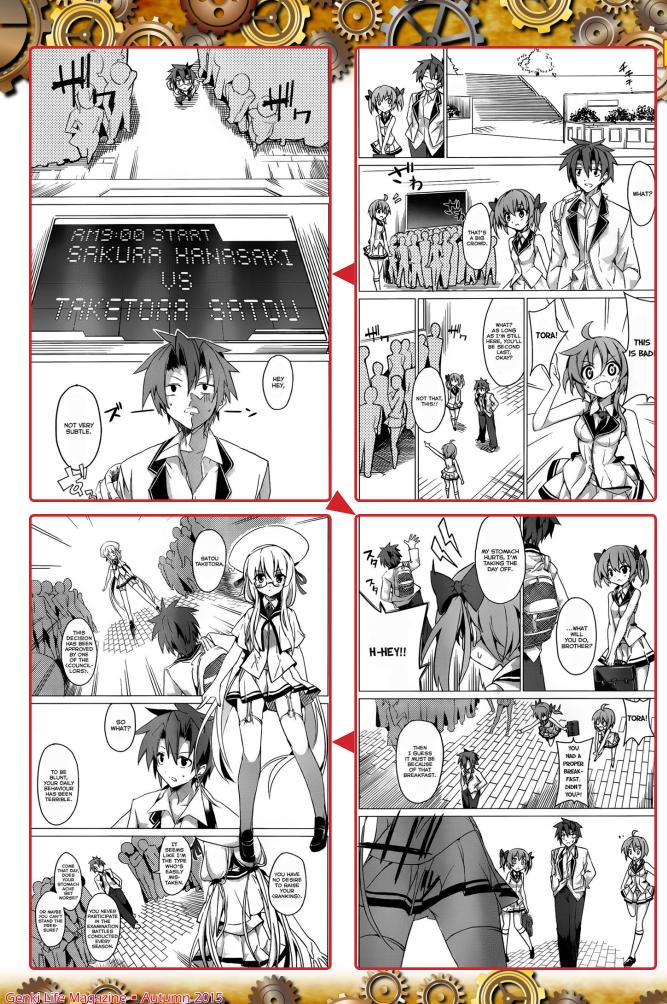
Tora Kiss: A School Odyssey

Г

Tora Kiss: A School Odyssey

lorg



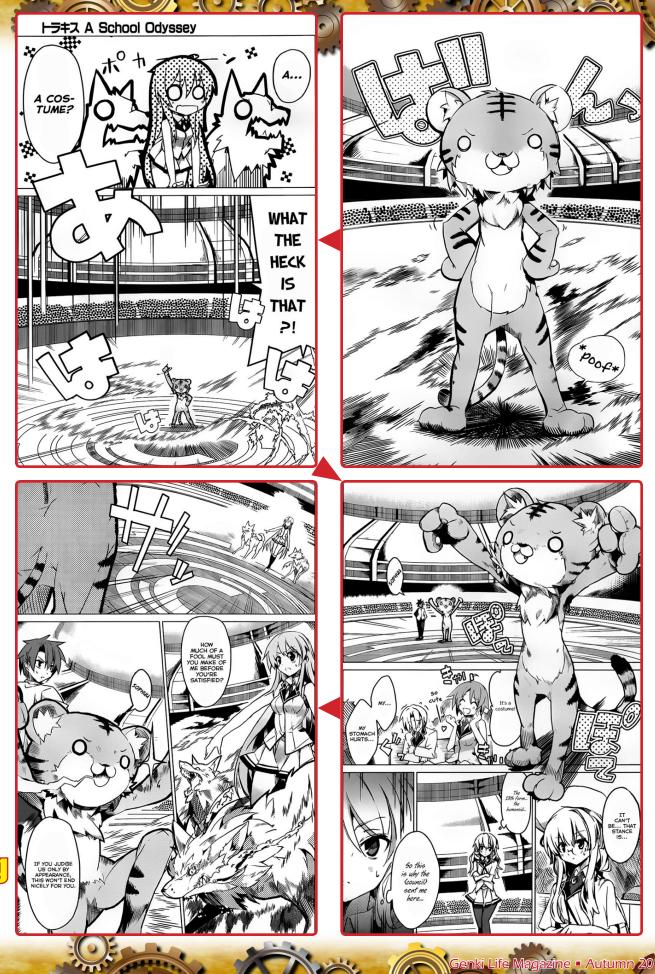


Tora Kiss: A School Odyssey











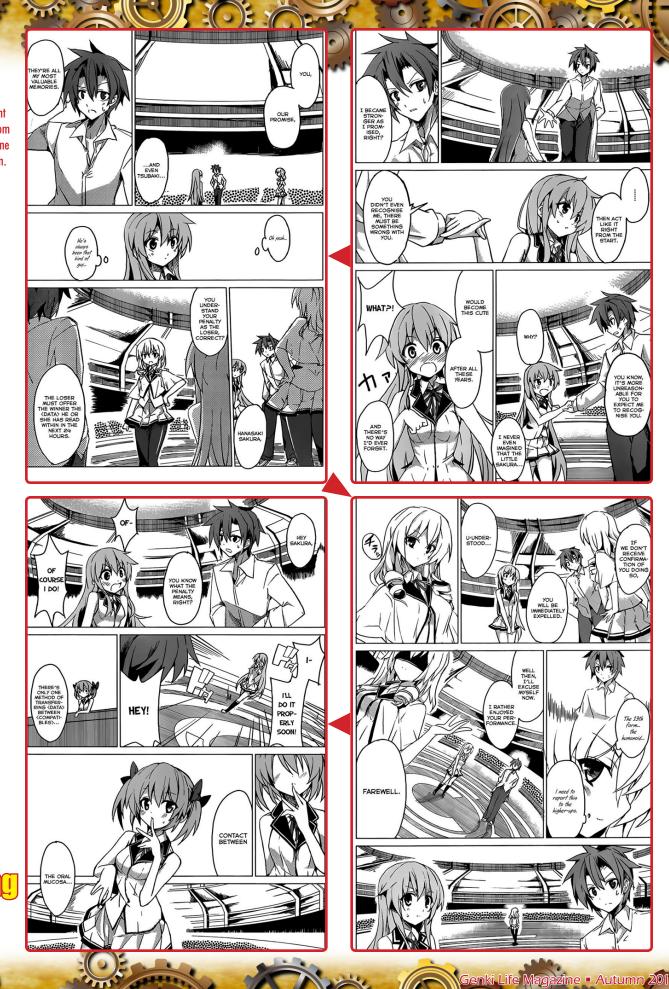
Tora Kiss: A School Odyssey

- ITF



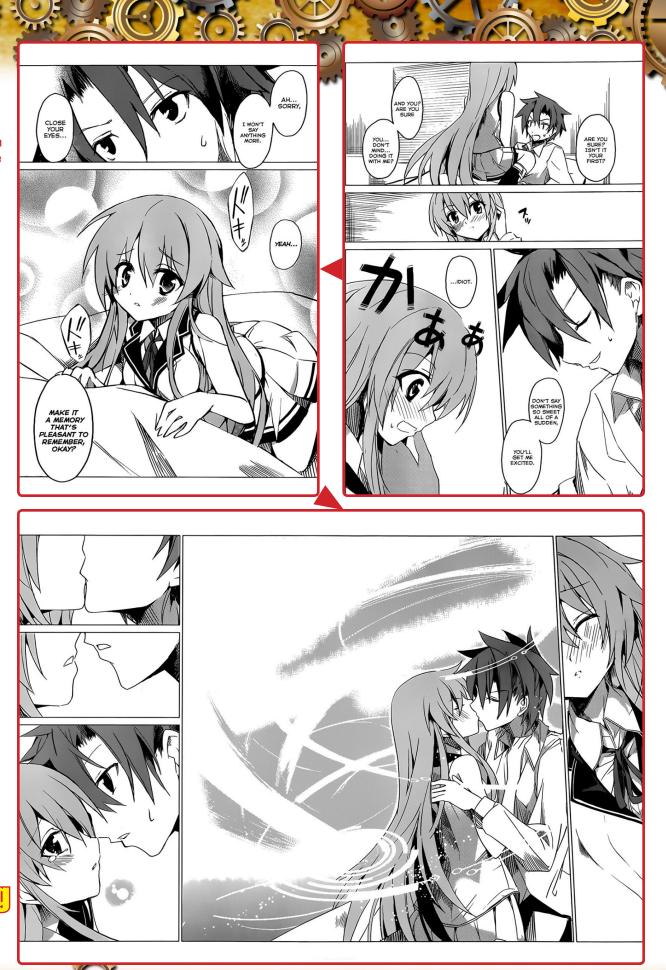


Tora Kiss: A School Odyssey





enki Life Magazine - Autumn 2



Magazine • Autumn 20

nki Life



Tora Kiss: A School Odyssey

Ē



This concludes our preview of **"Tora Kiss:** A School Odyssey"

This manga is be available at **Kinokuniya Bookstores** www.kinokuniya.com or at your local Japanese manga retailer.





nki Life Magazine - Autumn 20



09.29 Chicago, IL - House Of Blues 10.01 Toronto, ON - Danforth Music Hall 10.03 New York, NY - Best Buy Theater 10.06 Silver Spring, MD - The Fillmore

LIVE IN CONCERT

MON NOVEMBER 2 THE SHOWBOX - SEATTLE, WA USA WED NOVEMBER 4 SLIM'S - SAN FRANCISCO, CA USA THU NOVEMBER 5 THE MAYAN - LOS ANGELES, CA USA SAT NOVEMBER 7 PLAZA CONDESA - MEXICO CITY, MEXICO MON NOVEMBER 9 BOTTOM LOUNGE - CHICAGO, IL USA WED NOVEMBER 11 GRAMERCY THEATRE - NEW YORK, NY USA FRI NOVEMBER 13 THE OPERA HOUSE - TORONTO, ON CANADA

🖪 DIRENGREY.CO.JP 🄰