

February 6 Panels

Teaching Comics

Jessica Abel and Matt Madden, instructors at the School of Visual Arts and creators of the comic textbook *Drawing Words and Writing Pictures*, talk about how to use comics in the classroom in this presentation aimed at English and Art teachers. Discussing techniques for reading and analyzing comics as well as creating them, Jessica and Matt will lead teachers to a better understanding of the comic medium that will empower them to make use of comics in new and exciting ways.

New York City Through its Authors

New York City may be the world's most-written-about city. While sometimes romantic, sometimes mythic, and sometimes wicked, it's always New York. New York Comic Con invites several of the city's local authors to speak about how living in New York has influenced their words -- whether they're writing about NYC or not. Moderated by Suvudu.com.

Words and Pictures: The Language of Comics

Stories are the backbone of civilization, culture, and social structure. They can bring us together, but -- due to language -- they can also separate us. Imagine a universal language, one that would allow stories to cross cultures easily, one that would bring cultures together. Such is the language of comics. In this lecture, speaker Shawn Crystal will analyze the universal language of comics, dissecting the anatomy of this medium. Learn how words and pictures work together to visually communicate information, while manipulating the reader's response. Shawn Crystal is a Professor of Sequential Art at SCAD Atlanta.

Wonder Woman

Wonder Woman, the highly-anticipated fourth entry in the DC Universes animated original movie series, will receive its big screen premiere on Friday at 8:30 PM in the IGN Theater! Presented by Warner Premiere, Warner Bros. Animation, and DC Comics, the all-new Wonder Woman animated original movie is produced by Bruce Timm and stars the voices of Keri Russell, Nathan Fillion, Alfred Molina, Virginia Madsen, Rosario Dawson, Oliver Platt, and David McCallum. Bruce Timm will lead a panel discussion with select cast and crew following the screening.

JMS on Babylon 5: The Great Maker Reminisces

The science fiction series *Babylon 5* aired its finale on November 25, 2008, over 10 years ago. J. Michael Straczynski -- the creator of *Babylon 5* -- now takes an hour to look at all that was, is, and will be the story of the last of the *Babylon* stations. Reminisce with JMS on *B5*'s origin, production, fandom, and how it is with us still.

Heroes, Villains, and Dramatica Archetypes

Stories are populated with heroes, villains, sidekicks, and more. Find out what makes them tick and how to effectively use them in your own stories. This panel is presented by Chris Huntley, Academy Technical Achievement Award-winning co-creator of Write Brothers, Inc. and the *Movie Magic* series of software products. Huntley co-developed the *Dramatica* theory of story over a 14-year period. His mastery and wisdom of all things relating to story have made him a widely recognized leader in the world of story development.

CAG Call For Members

Trying to break into the comic industry? Need an outlet for telling interesting stories with words and pictures? Keith Murphey, the founder of the Comicbook Artists Guild, with industry veteran Mark Mazz and a panel of members invite all aspiring creators to take part in an enlightening discussion of how CAG can unite talent together for projects of their choosing and how talented people like you can benefit from membership! Never been published? Need to find your own voice? Want to start a CAG chapter in your own hometown? Come find out how!

CAG Awards

The Comicbook Artists Guild is both honored and excited to share with NYCC exhibitors and attendees the 2nd Annual CAG Awards emceed by *Catch da Craze* host Sam Vera. Join us as we recognize members for their excellence in categories of Best Writer and Artist and new categories including Best Web Comic and Art Direction Excellence.

The Dos and Donts of Being a Comic Professional

Creating the work is one thing, but what should you keep in mind in order to present yourself well to an editor? Do personality and rapport play a part in how you're perceived? What's the difference between a pro's attitude and a novice's? How do you balance doing quality work with making the

deadline? Whats the proper way to pitch?

Emissary

Emissary is a new web series from Dekker Dreyer and Phil Morris with artistic direction from Neal Adams. Filming officially begins in Fall 2009 for distribution to iTunes and other IPTV outlets. The series follows forensic archaeologist Campbell Essex and the path in which he learns his true destiny as "The Emissary" -- the latest in a long line of selective breeding by conflicting ancient cults. As he uncovers clues to his own identity hes confronted by a dark conspiracy that spans millennia. Emissary stars Martian Phil Morris(Smallville), Brian Thompson (X-Files), J. LaRose (Saw 3), Yuri Lowenthal (Gurren Lagann), and Aaron Douglas (Battlestar Galactia). All will be appearing on the Emissary panel.

The PW Comics Week Comics Industry Panel: Selling Good Books in a Bad Economy

Publishers Weekly and a flagship panel discuss how and where comics and graphic novels fit into the current economic climate. Panelists include Kuo-yu Liang (Diamond), John Cunningham (DC), Judith Hansen (Hansen Literary Agency), and James Killen (B&N). Moderated by Calvin Reid (PW Comics Week).

BOOM! Studios

BIG! BOLD! BOOM! Join Mark Waid, Ross Richie, and Chip Mosher as they run down the most exciting new projects at BOOM! Including a special announcement by Mark Waid that is sure to make your head explode!

Superman: Building A Better World

The future is looking bright for the worlds first and greatest hero! Join Senior Story Editor Ian Sattler, Senior Editor Matt Idelson, and some high-flying writers and artists for an exciting look at the challenges the Man of Steel and the Superman Family will face in the coming year!

Image

Image is a comic and graphic novels publisher formed in 1992 by Erik Larsen, Jim Lee, Rob Liefeld, Todd McFarlane, Whilce Portacio, Marc Silvestri, and Jim Valentino. Since that time, the company has gone on to become the third largest comic publisher in the United States. Get the

latest from Images biggest names right here!

Zuda Online

Zuda Comics invites you to read, vote, and create -- and come hear whats new from the internets hottest web comic lineup. With new projects and concepts premiering constantly, DCs innovative online imprint helps makes your creative voice heard. Join Director of Creative Services Ron Perazza and others to hear whats new from Zuda!

IDW 10th Anniversary Celebration and the Road Ahead

Hosted by IDW Editor-in-Chief Chris Ryall, this key panel features upcoming news and announcements as well as a great Q&A with guest panelists Peter David (Fallen Angel, Sir Apropos of Nothing), Mike Costa (GI Joe: Cobra), J.K. Woodward (Fallen Angel), Andy Schmidt (Transformers and Star Trek), and Scott Tipton (Star Trek)! Find out whats new with Locke & Key, Star Trek, Doctor Who, and more!

Comics To TV Shows

Graffiti, published by 803 Studios and written by Steven Prouse, Coin Operated Boy, published by Arcana Studios and also written by Steven Prouse, and Kindergoth, published by Bloodfire Studios written by Lee Kohse, will all soon be adapted into television shows. Hear from Producers David Uslan, Tommy Lynch, and Jeff Hyman and writers Steven Prouse and Lee Kohse about what it takes to turn a comic into a TV show!

TMNT: Quarter Century of Artistic Evolution

In 1984, TMNT creators Peter Laird and Kevin Eastman published their first black and white TMNT comic book. Since then, the Turtles have gone from underground hit to worldwide phenomenon. A panel of Mirage artists -- led and moderated by Steve Murphy -- will walk fans through the artistic evolution of the Turtles. Artists Eric Talbot, Jim Lawson, Michael Dooney and Steve Lavigne have been with Mirage since the beginning and will give true and new TMNT fans an insider look at the art behind the beloved characters. What is their inspiration? Who is their favorite character? What generation of TMNT do they associate with most and why? How do art and story come together? And what might be next?

Prototype: The Video Game

An exclusive, in-depth presentation on Radical Entertainments forthcoming video game Prototype -- a next-gen open-world thriller. On stage will be key Radical talent who will unveil an explosive live gameplay demonstration, reveal exclusive behind-the-scenes game info and video clips, plus show a sneak peak at the upcoming DC Comics comic book series based on Prototype. If you like video games, then this is a must-see event! Panelists include Kelly Zmak (President, Radical Entertainment) and Chris Ansell (Director, Studio Marketing, Radical Entertainment).

Alien Trespass

A lost Sci-Fi epics recently been unearthed! Not seen since 1957, this film by legendary producer Louie Q. Goldstone is essential viewing for anyone who considers themselves a science fiction fan. Be one of the first of this generation to glimpse vintage Alien Trespass broadsides and meet the creator--- veteran X-Files director R.W. Goodwin as well as descendants of the original cast. Eric McCormack (Free Enterprise), and Robert Patrick (Terminator 2) are scheduled to be in the room, too.

Superjail

Christy Karacas and Stephen Warbrick, the creators and executive producers of the new [adult swim] series Superjail, speak about the most intense, violent, and complicated jail in the universe.

Who Is The Greatest Badass Of All Time? Presented By MTV News

MTV News hosts a panel of celebrity guests who will answer, once and for all, one of fandoms most notorious questions -- Which movie character is the Greatest Badass of All Time? John McClane or Lara Croft? Batman or Wolverine? Celebrities and fans weighed in with their picks, now find out who made the top ten and who will take the #1 spot. Join us at this live taping as the decision is revealed!

Building a Stronger Customer Base - Presented by ComicsPRO

Learn to survive these tough economic times by creating a wider base of customers. ComicsPRO presents mechanisms for reaching out to libraries, educators, students, and reading groups in your area, focusing on ways to get them into your store. Samples for retailers while supplies last.

Optimizing Your Business - Presented by ComicsPRO

Discover the ways that an automated Point-Of-Sale (POS) System can help save you time and money, and compare the comic-oriented POS programs available today. Free demos while supplies last.

Digital Marketing - Presented by ComicsPRO

Learn how to keep up with your customers, capture sales, and promote your store in an increasingly digital world. Moving beyond the typical website, discover ways to use free and paid resources on the internet to raise your business profile and market share.

MARVEL: War of Kings Panel

The Skrull invasion of Earth took many prisoners and left the Universe in ruins. Now, three rulers will claim the galaxy as theirs but only one can claim the throne! Black Bolt & Vulcan have made their intentions clear but who is the mysterious figure waiting in the shadows to destroy them both? From the pages of the X-Men and Secret Invasion comes WAR OF KINGS! Get the inside scoop on this cosmic sci-fi adventure from writers C.B. Cebulski (War of Kings: Darkhawk), Dan Abnett & Andy Lanning (War of Kings) and editor Bill Rosemann on the event that will shatter a Universe with a single scream!

MARVEL: X-Men

They have found a new home, but now many of the X-Mens oldest adversaries are set to return and destroy all they have built! Executive Editor Axel Alonso, Matt Fraction (Uncanny X-Men), C.B. Cebulski (X-Infernus), Marjorie Liu (NYX), Peter David (X-Factor), and legendary X-scribe Chris Claremont are just a few of the special guests in store to drop hints and one announcement youll NEVER guess was coming!

Her Face Was an Open Book: The Art of Character

How does character design play into a cartoonists working process? Does a creators idea of who a character is ever change after that character appears as an image? How hard is it to draw a character that fits a prose description? Well discuss these questions and more with Christine Norrie (Breaking Up), Dash Shaw (Bottomless Belly Button), and Thom Zahler (Love & Capes). Moderated by Douglas Wolk (Reading Comics).

European Graphic Novels Cross the Pond

Finding great European graphic novels is easy. But publishing them in the US presents a whole set of -- lets call them -- challenges very different from importing Japanese manga. Book sizes and shapes and page lengths are often a hurdle for booksellers, the intended reader age level sometimes doesnt match US expectations, and the depiction of characters in a book for kids can set off the censors on this side of the Atlantic. What makes a graphic novel "too European"? Are readers interested in these books at all? Editors and creators from First Second Books and Lerner Graphic Universe discuss the process of bringing these books to the US and present advance previews of exciting new titles.

Battlestar: The Comic

The Battlestar Galactica tale has been told and retold throughout countless media. Come here how its been translated to the comic realm with writers including Robert Place Napton and Joshua Ortega.

Comics for the iPhone and the Big Small Screen

With the advent of bigger screens and increased bandwidth, mobile comics are now poised make a creative and economic leap to become a major force in the world of comic books. Uclick, the top name in mobile comics, leads the way with their expanding line of GoComics for the iPhone, and theyre at NYCC with comic creators and technology experts to discuss the exciting opportunities offered by the next generation of mobile devices.

Flash Gordon, Terry and the Pirates, Lil Abner, and Mandrake at 75

These classic adventure characters have endured from newspapers to enter the mass consciousness. What made these characters popular and what do we recall about them today? Comic historians weigh in on their origins and impact. Panelists include Ron Goulart, Rick Norwood, Dean Mullaney, Brendan Deenan, Ruben Procopio, and Robert Greenberger (moderator).

Rough Guide to Graphic Novels

To celebrate the recent publication of his book, The Rough Guide to Graphic Novels (Penguin), Danny Fingerth (Disguised as Clark Kent: Jews,

Comics, and the Creation of the Superhero) moderates a panel of todays top practitioners of the literary graphic novel, including Alex Robinson (Box Office Poison), Peter Kuper (Stop Forgetting to Remember), J.M. DeMatteis (Brooklyn Dreams), and Dean Haspiel (The Alcoholic), in a wide-ranging discussion on the form in general and their own work in particular.

The Hero in Prose

Comic book characters have been stars in prose books since the 1940s with varying degrees of success. The process continues today and several writers through the years look back at adaptation and the appeal for both writers and readers. Panelists include Greg Rucka, Ron Goulart, Marv Wolfman, and Paul Kupperberg (moderator).

Comics Writers on Comics Writing

A no-hold-barred look into the minds of come of todays top comics writers as they discuss and debate the art, craft, and business of making comics. Join Chris Claremont (X-Men), Colleen Doran (A Distant Soil), Jimmy Palmiotti (Jonah Hex), Tom DeFalco (Spider-Girl) and Christos N. Gage (The Man With No Name) for this all-star panel, moderated by comics scholar Peter Sanderson (The Marvel Chronicles).

Comics and New Media

What challenges do we, as publishing professionals, face with the rise of new media? How has it influenced the editorial process and the promotion end of things? How have web comics affected the industry? And, what happens when web comics transition to printed books? This round table includes Larry Smith, Josh Neufeld, Lisa Weinert, and Kate Lee.

Newsflash: Teen Girls Read Manga!

The wider media still seems to be amazed that female readers are a huge part of the boom in the manga market, but while the stereotypical manga and anime fan has long been the male otaku, we know that women are making massive contributions to fandom, the industry, and beyond. This panel will discuss the state of women in the manga industry, female fans within the manga community, and just where we might go from here in supporting and advocating for the media we -- both women and men -- love. Presented by Robin Brenner, Brigid Alverson, and Katherine Dacey.

Otaku Collection Development

Manga continues to play a dominant role in the library world. Now that you have become familiar with series such as Bleach, Fruits Basket, Naruto, and Death Note, its time to take manga collection development to the next level. Two veteran public librarians will speak about how to grow your collection beyond the current popular series, delving into forgotten, underground, and alternative books that you're probably missing. This discussion will cover not only the newest manga titles in the USA but go over many manga classics that every library should have. Presented by Dave Inabitt and Christian Zabriskie.

Manga as an Extension of Young Adult Literature: Are You There God? Its Me, Manga

While it is now standard practice for libraries to have manga collections, manga is not often seen as much more than an alternate format to conventional prose narratives. However, mangas unconventional depictions of gender offer female teens valuable opportunities to contemplate, and thus experiment with, a wider range of sexual identities than usually afforded by young adult fiction. Manga has found a place in young adult collections because of its popularity with teens. However, it also performs the same role as young adult literature: to help teens find their identity. Presented by Lisa Goldstein and Molly Phelan.

Vertigo: Tales From The Edge

Find out what compelling tales comics edgiest imprint has in store for you in the year to come. Join Senior Vice President and Executive Editor Karen Berger, Jason Aaron (Scalped), Brian Azzarello (100 Bullets), Mike Carey (Lucifer), Joshua Dysart (Unknown Soldier), Amy Hadley (Madame Xanadu), Dean Haspiel (The Alcoholic), Peter Milligan (Hellblazer), Eduardo Risso (100 Bullets), G. Willow Wilson, (Air) Brian Wood, (DMZ, Northlanders), and others for a discussion of your favorite ongoing and upcoming Vertigo titles, along with several exciting new original graphic novels.

WILDBRAIN

WILDBRAIN Head of Creative Bob Higgins, CMO Mike Polis, and a

handful of artists showcase some of WILDBRAINs animation work, Team Smithereen, and Yo Gabba Gabba! Founded in 1994, WILDBRAIN is an award-winning entertainment producer that's worked with companies including Nickelodeon, Disney, Coca-Cola, Honda, Kraft and Nike.

MARVEL: Dark Reign

Norman Osborn and his Cabal of Evil hold the Marvel Universe in their grasp as a new era has been ushered in. This is their day, this is their DARK REIGN. Join the man who put Osborn in power, Brian Michael Bendis (Secret Invasion), as well as the writers behind many of today's hottest DARK REIGN books like Dan Slott (Mighty Avengers), Greg Pak (War Machine), Matt Fraction (Invincible Iron Man), Jim McCann (New Avengers: The Reunion), Executive Editor Tom Brevoort, Editor-in-Chief Joe Quesada, and more, as they unveil the Dark Days in store for our heroes.

Twilight Zone Forever: Celebrating The Twilight Zones 50th Anniversary

A multimedia presentation by Schumer, Twilight Zone Forever traces the classic television shows roots in early 20th Century surrealist art and ideas and in turn its influence on modern art and American pop culture. Part lecture, part performance piece, Schumer will read excerpts of dialogue and narration from the series as spoken word poetry while The Twilight Zone soundtrack plays in sync and images from episodes form a backdrop. From high art to low art and back again, Twilight Zone Forever will make you look at The Twilight Zone -- and television itself -- as you never have before.

How to Safeguard Your or Your Companys Intellectual Property

You or your company have created the ultimate spandex-clad protector, but how do you protect him or her from being ripped off? Through this seminar, you will learn how to protect the intellectual property in your work and ideas and discover how to avoid costly infringement lawsuits over copyrights, trademarks, rights of publicity, and other sensitive legal areas. This seminar will further discuss methods of protection for you or your company, fair use, protecting rights in ideas, combating counterfeiting and piracy, and litigation methods and strategies. This seminar is conducted

by attorneys Walter-Michael Lee from the IP Practice Group of Gibney, Anthony & Flaherty, LLP, Thomas A. Crowell, IP and Entertainment Law practitioner with The Law Office of Thomas A. Crowell, LLC, and Sheafe B. Walker, Employment Law practitioner with The Law Office of Thomas A. Crowell, LLC.

From Panthers to Princesses: Examining Diversity in Animation

In 2009, numerous animation projects will break diversity barriers and expose the world to new perspectives. To fully understand the significance of such art, Alfred University's Drawn to Diversity examines the history of diversity in animation, including both controversial and inspiring achievements. This insightful program encourages the audience to view upcoming projects with an educated and critical mind.

Turning A Bestselling Series into Manga: A Dark-Hunter Journey

New York Times Bestselling author Sherrilyn Kenyon, Dabel Brothers Publishing, St. Martins Press, Joshua Hale Fialkov, and Claudia Campos present a powerful panel on Ms. Kenyon's work as it's never been seen before! Night Pleasures and Night Embrace are the first books in Kenyon's blockbuster Dark-Hunters series about eternally damned warriors who have sold their souls for vengeance, and, thanks to Dabel Brothers Publishing, they'll soon become manga! Their stories are being adapted by writer Joshua Hale Fialkov, known for his unique storytelling on titles such as Cyblade and the upcoming Afro Samurai manga, and Claudia Campos, already a favorite with Kenyon's fans for her knockout illustrations in The Dark-Hunter Companion, provides the art. Find out what it takes to turn a bestseller into manga!

Blackbeard

Yar! The team behind Dynamites Blackbeard comes to NYCC to speak about origins of this swashbuckling book and hopefully pirates in general.

MTV News and Newsweeks Video Game Clash -- Vs. Mode Live!

Two of gaming's most respected journalists, Newsweek's NGai Croal and MTV News's Stephen Totilo, face off for a debate about what's hot and what's not for video games in 2009. The pair will be joined by major players from the gaming industry. Can the PlayStation 3 come back? Are

we finally going to get a good Batman game? Is the Wii on the way out? Find out at Vs. Mode Live!

Graphic Novels and Academic Acceptance

Led by comiXology's Karen Green, Columbia University librarian, this panel includes creators, publishers, librarians, and professors discussing the academic acceptance of the graphic novel.

Namco Bandais Splatterhouse

The creative leads on the Splatterhouse video game discuss the goals and challenges of unifying the elements of game design, music, comics, and art into a cohesive and original entertainment experience. How do you update a game franchise that's been dormant for 15+ years? How did this group of talents from different industries come to work together on Splatterhouse? What elements from traditional comics have been adapted for the game? How did those from the game and artistic design sides arrive at the new character designs? How have comic books influenced games from a visual and storytelling aspect? What are the key influences in the look and feel of Splatterhouse? Why don't more video games take on this more collaborative approach to development? What can players look forward to from the game's story? What are its main themes? What does having a big name band like Mastodon involved with the game bring to the table? What attracted Mastodon to Splatterhouse?

Vertical Publishing

Vertical publishes some of the most important manga in America, including the fundamental Osamu Tezuka works Buddha, Dororo, and Black Jack. Spend an hour with the publisher as Vertical speaks about its philosophy, titles, and upcoming plans.

Diamond/Premier Publishers Retailer Appreciation Breakfast

An invite-only Retailer Appreciation Breakfast presented by Diamond and Premier Publishers Dark Horse, DC, Image & Marvel, who will make presentations and field questions from the audience. Contact your Diamond Customer Service Rep to RSVP.

Dark Horse



Another killer event by:
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2009 PANEL SESSIONS

Founded in 1986 by Mike Richardson behind the concept of establishing an ideal atmosphere for creative professionals, Dark Horse Comics has grown to become the third-largest comic publisher in the United States and is acclaimed internationally for the quality and diversity of its line, a line that begins with Hellboy, Buffy, and Umbrella Academy and has no end in sight! Get the latest from Dark Horse right here!

The Business of Webcomics! LIVE!

Watch PVP Onlines Scott Kurtz take thematic suggestions from the crowd as he, on stage, creates a brand new online property while Penny Arcades Robert Khoo simultaneously turns these concepts into monetizeable business models. Take notes!

Pulps

The art form that started it all -- the pulps -- is hotter than ever. Guests include Anthony Tollin of Nostalgia Ventures, Mark Halegua, President of the NY Pulp Club, and Moonstone Publisher Joe Gentile. Discover these shocking, scandalous, smashing stories for the very first time.

Comic Book Club

Iron your capes, unplug the Bat Signal, and set your decoder rings on awesome! The Comic Book Club is in session! The Comic Book Club is a weekly comic book talk show featuring the best comedians in New York talking shop with industry professionals from all corners of the comic book world. And now they're at NYCC!

Zombie Survival

In its ongoing efforts to educate the masses about the possible zombie apocalypse, the men and women of the Green Light Anti-Zombie Squad have put together a collection of training exercises. The first will focus on proper techniques for entering and securing a room held by zombies with a team of four. Further techniques will allow even a novice to dispatch a zombie with ease. Don't miss out on this demonstration of Green Light in action!

NYCC Classes: Story Structure

Learn how to structure a complete issue from beginning to end. Pace, panel breakdown, and story arc discussed by professional writers who

work for mainstream publishers like Marvel, DC, Dark Horse & more. Featuring Peter Milligan, Frank Tieri, Peter Tomasi, and Fabian Niceiza. Hosted by Steve Wacker.

NYCC Classes: Self-Publishing Secrets

Learn about self-publishing your comics by people who have become publishers. Some success stories...and some not so successful stories. Hear what to do, what to avoid...and much more! Featuring: Hosted by Filip Sabilk (Top Cow). Featuring Darren Sanchez (After Hours Press), Sean O'Reilly (Arcana Studio), and Ross Richie (BOOM! Studios).

NYCC Classes: Pencils

See how real professional artists break down a script and thumbnail a page. Actual working pros show you how they determine the layout, the story flow, and specific panels from a real comic book script. Featuring Georges Jeanty, Cully Hamner, and Jerry Ordway. Hosted by Buddy Scalera. Featuring Georges Jeanty, Cully Hamner, and Jerry Ordway, and hosted by Buddy Scalera.

NYCC Classes: Inking: Art & Craft

Professional inkers discuss the art and craft of inking comic book pages. Featuring Nelson DeCastro, Bob Almond, Klaus Jansen, and Mike Perkins, and hosted by Andy Schmidt of Comics Experience.

Disney Comics....And Beyond!

You won't want to miss a minute of Disney's preview of upcoming comics and graphic novels. Editors Rich Thomas, Steve Behling, Nachie Castro, and Christian Trimmer will reveal exciting projects in the works for 2009 and 2010 from the house that Walt built!

Wonderland: The Directors Cut

Join Raven Gregory, Daniel Leister, Nei Ruffino, Ralph Tedesco, and Joe Brusha as they walk you step-by-step through the creation of their insanely popular independent comic Return To Wonderland and sequel Beyond Wonderland. From story to script to pencils to colors, the team will take you inside the production of the creation of their cult hit. They'll also be raffling off some very cool prizes to boot.

Claymore

Claymore is the story of kick-ass women with big-ass swords. Oh, and there are demons, too! Discover this wicked fantasy that'll leave you smitten with the prettiest, deadliest ladies around. (FUNimation)

Shigurui

At the beginning of the Edo Era, when people enjoyed a time of peace, Lord Tokugawa Tadanaga held a fighting tournament. In the past, matches were fought with wooden swords. This time, real swords were used. One-armed Fujiki Gennosuke and blind Irako Seigen fought each other to claim the title as the successor of Japan's strongest swordsman. However, there could only be one champion. (FUNimation)

Shin Chan

Shin Chan is a little boy, a punk, a brat, and a genius. And he's captivated the hearts of millions on [adult swim]. See what all the fuss is over when the monster invades New York Comic Con. Shin may look cute, but he's anything but. (FUNimation)

Maria Watches Over Us

Yumi is a first year student at the Lillian School for Girls, a school where each older student takes on a younger girl as their little sister or "soeur". When Yumi becomes soeur for one of the members of the Student Council, she finds unexpected secrets and even more unexpected feelings for her big sister. (Right Stuf)

The Third: The Girl With The Blue Eye

In a devastated world overrun by monstrous bugs and ravaged by outlaws, there's only one person to call when you need a job done right: Honoka. With a sixth sense for danger, sword skills that are second to none, and a smart-aleck robot tank, she's ready to tackle any job and solve any problem for her clients. (Right Stuf)

Not Quite Hollywood: The Wild, Untold Story of Ozploitation

Not Quite Hollywood is the wild, untold story of the Ozploitation movement -- a time when Australian cinema showed the world a full-frontal explosion of sex, violence, horror, and foot-to-the-floor action! Packed full of

outrageous anecdotes, lessons in maverick filmmaking, and a genuine, infectious love of Australian movies, Not Quite Hollywood is a journey through Aussie genre cinema of the 70s and early 80s -- an unjustly forgotten cinematic era unashamedly packed full of boobs, pubes, tubes, and even a little kung fu. (Magnolia Pictures)

Big Man Japan

Daisatos job involves being shocked by bolts of electricity that transform him into a stocky, stick-wielding giant several stories high who is entrusted with defending Japan from a host of bizarre monsters. But while his predecessors were national heroes, he is a pariah among the citizens he protects, who bitterly complain about the noise and destruction of property he causes. And Daisato has his own problems -- an agent insistent on branding him with sponsor advertisements, an Alzheimer-afflicted grandfather who transforms into a giant in dirty underwear, and a family who is embarrassed by his often cowardly exploits. A wickedly deadpan spin on the giant Japanese super hero, Big Man Japan is an outrageous portrait of a pathetic, but truly unique hero. (Magnolia Pictures and the New York Asian Film Festival)

WWII and Comics

World War II started 70 years ago, in 1939. From the beginning, comics were intimately involved with subjects and themes relating to that momentous conflict -- or with escapist fare designed to distract readers from the intensity of the war. The first boom in comics was fueled in large part by GIs' interest in them, and many of the earliest creators went on to serve in the war effort, including in the messages contained in their stories. Arie Kaplan (From Krakow to Krypton: Jews and Comic Books) moderates a panel of comics veterans including Jerry Robinson (Batman), Al Jaffee (Mad magazine), and Irwin Hasen (All-Star Comics), as they discuss the War and the medium so closely identified with it. And comics critic N.C. Christopher Couch (The Will Eisner Companion) offers a historical perspective.

DC Nation

The first official 2009 meeting of the DC Nation happens here -- and your presence is requested. We're always looking for new recruits, so be

sure to bring your friends as Senior VP and Executive Editor Dan DiDio is joined by the industrys top talent to discuss where the DC Nation is heading in the new year!

Haruhi Suzumiya

Haruhi Suzumiya is a normal girl who dreams of having adventures with aliens, zombies, robots, and wizards and puts a plan into action to make her dream come true. Can any of these things possibly be real? Haruhi Suzumiya is the biggest anime phenomenon since Evangelion. Find out what all the madness is about right here! (Bandai)

Star Wars Trivia Contest

Test your Star Wars knowledge in a last man/woman/droid stranding contest! Will The Force be with you? Only one way to find out!

Saber Academy

Join members of the NY Jedi -- the light saber enthusiast collective -- and learn about what it takes to handle the elegant weapon of the Jedi and the Sith. Participate in this live Q&A and demo session and learn saber choreography skills using stage combat and martial art techniques used in the movies and creating characters for fun and performance or your own Star Wars fan films! It matters not if you are a Jedi or a Sith -- because its all about the saber!

Yatterman

Fans have been waiting for Takashi Miike to create a giant robot movie for years, and finally its here! Starring Japanese superstar Sho Sakurai, Yatterman is the story of two teenagers who run a super, high-tech toy shop which serves as a cover for their crime-busting exploits as Yatterman, a pair of masked super heroes who pilot the sentient dog robot, Yatterwan. Takashi Miike and Sho Sakurai will be at NYCC to speak about Yatterman at 4 PM on Friday in the IGN Theater. Both will then appear at the world premiere of Yatterman at an exclusive theater in NYC! The world premiere of Yatterman is presented by Nikkatsu, the New York Asian Film Festival, and New York Comic Con. For details as to where and when, head over to the Nikkatsu Booth (1315).

DC Talent Search

Learn what DC Comics looks for in artists and find out how to improve your chances at becoming a working professional. This informative orientation session will explain how DCs Talent Search works. If you want to have your work reviewed, attendance at this orientation session is mandatory, and keep in mind that not all attendees are guaranteed a review.

2009: The Year of The Minimate

Join Diamond Select Toys Director Chuck Terceira, Project Manager Robert Yee and others for a glimpse of whats to come in 2009 for the number-one block figure brand in the world. Ask your questions, make your requests and get a sneak peek at future Minimate licenses and designs! Featuring a live AskDST Q&A!

Disney Presents Up and Surrogates

Join Walt Disney Studios as they present films from their 2009 slate, including UP and SURROGATES! From Disney*Pixar comes UP, a comedy adventure about 78-year-old balloon salesman Carl Fredricksen, who finally fulfills his lifelong dream of a great adventure when he ties thousands of balloons to his house and flies away to the wilds of South America. But he discovers all too late that his biggest nightmare has stowed away on the trip: an overly optimistic 9-year-old Wilderness Explorer named Russell. From the Academy Award-nominated director Pete Docter (Monsters, Inc.), Disney*Pixars UP invites you on a hilarious journey into a lost world, with the least likely duo on Earth. Join director Pete Docter as he presents a look at Disney*Pixars new animated film, UP, which opens on May 29 and will be available in select theaters in Disney Digital 3-D. SURROGATES is an action-packed thriller based upon the acclaimed graphic novel. Starring Bruce Willis and directed by Jonathan Mostow (Terminator 3: Rise Of The Machines), this unique vision of a not-too-distant utopia where humans live their lives remotely via robotic surrogates, free from the consequences of real life, comes to theatres in September 2009.

February 7 Panels

Telling A Story With Imagined Pictures

How can there be non-fiction comics when every image drawn is representational? This panel examines the non-fiction comic, looking at photographs, non-fiction prose works, and non-fiction comics as each is uniquely able to portray different aspects of non-fiction. Four creators will discuss how the element of representation and construction continually present in non-fiction comics work impact the stories they tell.

Old Meets New: The Return of Captain Action and the Outer Space Men

Gary Schaeffer and Edward Catto have been very busy for quite a long time now bringing back two of the most iconic collectibles from the 1960s. Mr. Schaeffer owns and has brought back for the first time in 40 years the infamous Outer Space Men. These incredible rubber figures were only around for a very short time back in 1968. With man landing on the moon, space had been declared conquered and space toys were mothballed until Star Wars expanded exploration beyond the solar system and into the galaxy. Mr. Schaeffer has redesigned the Outer Space Men for the new millennium and has published the first ever graphic novel re-introducing and re-designing these incredible figures. Ed Catto and Joe Ahearn, self-styled "Retropreneurs", have relaunched the 60s Icon Captain Action, complete with an ongoing comic, books, and collectibles. They have recently also announced bring back Zeroids, the popular 60s "Robots from Space" and will discuss their plans for both properties

Sci-Fi, Supernatural, and Fantasy Authors Round Table

Veteran authors and the genres emerging voices gather to speak about their common influences, current projects, and the trends that are shaping the future. Moderated by Suvudu.com

Vampire, Werewolf, and Zombie Round Table

Vampires, werewolves, and zombies have haunted the human imagination since pre-history. Even now in the 21st Century, these creatures of the night continue to cause shivers to race down our spine. Explore what makes us love to be afraid in this chilling, thrilling panel!

Summit Entertainment Presents Knowing and The Hurt Locker

Summit Entertainment brings exclusive new footage and surprise guests from its exciting Knowing and The Hurt Locker. Knowing, from visionary director Alex Proyas (I, Robot and Dark City), is a gripping action-thriller of global proportions, following a professor (Nicolas Cage) who stumbles onto terrifying predictions about the future -- and sets out to prevent them from coming true. The Hurt Locker, directed by Kathryn Bigelow, is an acclaimed, explosive thriller about an elite bomb squad engaged in a deadly game of cat and mouse amidst the chaos of war.

Representation of Women in Comics

Organized by the non-profit Friends of Lulu, this will discuss the representation of women in comic art and graphic novels with an eye for both the current and the historical. We shall interpret the effects of the female characters we read about in mainstream and independent comic works. Come to be invigorated by the diverse perspectives offered here!

How Not To Break Into Comics

There have been countless articles and panels on how to break into comics, but very few on how not to. Come join Randal C. Jarrell (Managing Editor at Oni Press) and other industry insiders as they discuss the common and often hilarious mistakes people make when trying to pitch or get work in the comic industry. Their unique insider perspective will help any prospective creator learn how to navigate the potential pitfalls that doom far too many in their attempts to break into the biz. If you want to work in comics, you do not want to miss this panel!

Elvis Schmelvis! How Comic Books Spawned the Rock and Roll Era

The standard history of American youth culture is a myth, argues David Hajdu, professor at Columbia University and author of The Ten-Cent Plague: The Great Comic-Book Scare and How It Changed America. It was in the pages of lurid pre-Code comics, not in jukebox records, that teen culture was born and nearly died. David comes to NYCC to discuss the true birth of pop culture.

The Grimm Side of Success

Zenescope Entertainments Grimm Fairy Tales is one of the longest running independent comic books being published today. Created in 2005 by Joe Brusha and Ralph Tedesco, it quickly captured the imagination of thousands and found a loyal audience. Now almost three and a half years and 36 issues later, the creators will share the history of the comic and of the company that surprised everyone. Join Joe, Ralph, Raven Gregory, David Seidman, and others as they walk you through the creation of their hit series and how they then launched into developing and creating other titles such as Return to Wonderland and 1001 Arabian Nights. DVDs, T-Shirts, exclusive comics, and graphic novels will be raffled off immediately following the panel!

ItsJustSomeRandomGuy

The YouTube sensation and creator of the "Hi, Im a Marvel...and Im a DC" Mac/PC parody videos, ItsJustSomeRandomGuy is back at New York Comic Con! Last year, he unveiled the season premiere of Marvel/DC: Happy Hour. Now, hes here with the season finale to the Happy Hour saga! Plus more new videos and a Q&A!

Vampire Cowboys

Vampire Cowboys is an award-winning theater company that creates and produces new works based in stage combat and dark comedy with a comic book edge. The companys next creation -- Soul Samurai -- is coming to NYC from February 14 to March 15, but youll be able to take in a scene today at New York Comic Con. Soul Samurai is the story of Dewdrop, a young teenage samurai and her fight through the mean streets of post-apocalyptic Brooklyn. For info, check out vampirecowboys.com.

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D.Gray-Man

Allen Walker, a young man with a cursed eye, lives to destroy weapons known as Akuma. These weapons created by the Millennium Earl are sent out to purge the world of humans, but Allen fights back with powerful magic called Innocence. However, questions about the Earl, Innocence, and Allen start to appear as he moves closer to stopping the Earl -- questions that connect to Allens past. (FUNimation)

Afro Samurai Resurrection

Based on the original art and story telling of manga artist Takashi Okazaki, Afro Samurai Resurrection tells the tale of a black samurais quest for revenge and justice for his murdered father. Samuel L. Jackson reprises his role as the uncompromising hero, Afro, and his motor-mouthed sidekick, Ninja Ninja. When his fathers body is stolen from its grave, Afro is forced to pick up his sword and wreak bloody vengeance against an army of deadly foes lead by a sadistic mastermind. Recommended for mature audiences! (FUNimation)

Robotech: The Shadow Chronicles

The world thought the war was over, but the darkest battle has only just begun. Heroes from across time and space must unite to unravel a treacherous mystery that could spell the end of the human race. The long-awaited continuation of the classic Robotech! (FUNimation)

Witchblade

In 22nd Century Japan, Masane Amaha becomes the latest in an ancient line of women warriors to wield the mysterious sentient weapon known throughout history only as the Witchblade. The explosive comic series becomes even more deadly as an anime! (FUNimation)

FUNimation

Some of Americas most-anticipated anime will be rolling out of FUNimation in the next few months. Of course, thats just the start. The women and men at FUNimation have a lot more up their sleeves, and you

can learn about their latest and greatest plans right here for the first time!

FUNimation Sneak Preview

Whats the next, biggest hit from FUNimation? We cant tell you yet. To get your first glimpse at FUNimations upcoming epics, youll have to hurry to this panel!

Twisted Toyfare Theatre: Behind the Stupidity

Join the writers of ToyFare Magazines satirical comic strip Twisted ToyFare Theatre for an inside look at how they get toys into all those compromising positions. Ask questions, watch TTT animations, and answer TTT trivia for a chance to win prizes! Brought to you by the editorial staff at ToyFare Magazine and Wizard Entertainment!

Anime for Comic Fans, Comics for Anime Fans

Comic book fans, want to get into anime without having to wade through all those shows about robots and maids and robot maids? Anime fans, want to get in American comics without facing hordes of generic spandex super heroes? Come witness the meeting of two worlds and get customized recommendations for series that will cross you over. Brought to you by the editorial staff at Anime Insider Magazine and Wizard Entertainment!

Working for Wizard Magazine

Sit down with the entire Wizard staff -- from editors to staff writers to the Price Guide team to the techies at wizarduniverse.com -- to talk about the comic book industrys #1 source for news and entertainment for the last two decades. Hear how the magazine is put together every month and get the inside scoop on what its like to work in comic publishing. Drop off your resume and writing clips for possible freelance or full-time work, then sit in and ask questions of the staff, and make suggestions on what you want to see in the magazine. Brought to you by the editorial staff at Wizard Magazine and Wizard Entertainment!

Del Rey Manga

The Del Rey Manga Happy Fun Time Hullabaloo! The gang from Del Rey Manga not only publish your favorite series, but are also perhaps the best-

dressed team in all manga publishing. Join Dallas Middaugh (Associate Publisher), Tricia Narwani (Editor), Mutsumi Miyazaki (Licensing and Acquisitions Director), April Flores (Associate Publicist), and Ali T. Kokmen (Marketing Manager) for the latest news and announcements -- including new sneak peeks at X-Men: Misfits and Wolverine: Prodigal Son -- a lively Q&A session, and maybe even a few fashion tips regarding hats, ties, and other accessories.

Random House

Learn whats new from Random House including previews of upcoming novels, graphic novels, Del Reys Star Wars books, and a Q&A with alternate history/thriller author John Birmingham (Without Warning).

So You Wanna Be A Comic Book Retailer? - Presented by ComicsPRO

ComicsPRO brings together retailers with many decades of combined experience to talk to fans and potential entrepreneurs about opening a comic book store. Bring your questions and your notepads! Learn about the ComicsPRO Mentoring program which helps new retailers open their stores or existing retailers expand into their markets. Free promotional materials while supplies last!

Torchwood

Information on this panels been classified by Captain Jack Harkness.

Costume Contest

Did you spend all month making the perfect Batman cape and cowl? Have you been working each and every weekend on a replica of Cloud Strifes Buster Sword? Or, did you just wrap yourself in a bathrobe and call yourself a Jedi? Costuming pros and novices alike are invited to participate in New York Comic Cons Official Costume Contest! Simply come by the Variant Stage on Saturday at 5:30 PM to enter for your chance to win some astonishing prizes. The NYCC Costume Contest is organized by Cosclips.com and the 2009 World Cosplay Summit Team USA!

Bill Plymptons Horn Dog and Other Wild Things

The world premiere of Bill Plymptons latest Dog film -- the fourth in the

series -- plus other brand new shorts including Santa: The Fascist Years and Mexican Standoff. Bill will talk about his new films and discuss plans for a new animated feature, Jealousy.

Graphic Novels, Comics, Manga, Media, and the New Literacies

Recently there's been much attention paid to new media and the "new literacies" that young people have developed in response to them. But where do comics and graphic novels fit into this picture, both in our culture and in education? Are they simply examples of "low-tech" media that happen to be thriving at the same time, or is there more common ground than one might expect? The presenter, a member of the National Association for Media Literacy Education, will argue that graphics provides a unique window into understanding -- and teaching -- various forms of pop culture media. Presented by Peter Guitierrez.

Jerry Robinson Spotlight

Jerry Robinson created the infamous Joker and played a vital role in the development of legendary Batman characters Robin, Alfred, and Penguin. His vast body of work spans 30 years as an internationally-syndicated political cartoonist, 30 books, and numerous exhibitions (including The Superhero, now on world tour, and Human Rights for the United Nations). In this panel, moderator Danny Fingerroth (Superman on the Couch: What Superheroes Really tell Us About Ourselves and Our Society) interviews Robinson about his still-very-active career.

Freemind

David Uslan, David Nutter, and Bob Layton speak about the Freemind comic book and upcoming feature film!

Michael Uslan: The Dark Knight Phenomenon

Michael Uslan has served as Executive Producer of every Batman feature film since 1989's Batman -- films including The Dark Knight, Batman Begins, Batman: Gotham Knight, and Batman Beyond: Return of the Joker. He's now at NYCC to speak about spending the last 20 years bringing Batman to the big screen.

Dark Horse

Founded in 1986 by Mike Richardson behind the concept of establishing an ideal atmosphere for creative professionals, Dark Horse Comics has grown to become the third-largest comic publisher in the United States and is acclaimed internationally for the quality and diversity of its line, a line that begins with Hellboy, Buffy, and Umbrella Academy and has no end in sight! Get the latest from Dark Horse right here!

Comedy Centrals Krodo Mandoon and the Flaming Sword of Fire

Krodo Mandoon and the Flaming Sword of Fire is an outrageous, live-action, character-driven workplace comedy set in an ancient fantasy realm. This series follows the reluctant hero Krodo Mandoon, a thin-skinned and under-confident freedom fighter, who is the last great hope in the struggle against the evil Chancellor Dongalor, but Krodo must overcome a myriad of obstacles in his quest to save the world, including name-calling, hired assassins, and wardrobe malfunctions. Get your first look at this new Comedy Central series right here!

CMX: Manga Mania

Get the latest word on all things manga at DC's CMX panel! Discover what's coming in 2009 like Genghis Khan, Broken Blade, Name of The Flower, Fire Investigator Nanase, Jihai, Venus Capriccio, and others. Hosted by Manga Editor Jim Chadwick.

Batman: Battle For The Cowl Begins

The Dark Knight continues to battle evil -- but who will wear the cowl in 2009? Join Senior Story Editor Ian Sattler, Senior Editor Mike Marts, and a bevy of talented writers and artists for a look at what's new in Gotham City!

Vertigo Voices: Crime Time

Vertigo proudly introduces a new line of crime graphic novels -- and with some of the best and brightest talents anywhere collaborating on these new books, to miss this panel would be criminal! Hosted by Senior Editor Will Dennis, with writer Brian Azzarello (100 Bullets, Filthy Rich), Peter Milligan (Hellblazer), Jason Starr, Christos Gage, James Romberger, and Senior Editor Jonathan Vankin.

WildStorm: After Worlds End

Whats next for a universe that experienced Worlds End and survived? Get the full scoop on the future of not just the WildStorm core universe but also whats in store for your favorite creator-owned projects (Ex Machina, Mysterius, etc) and video game projects (World of WarCraft, Prototype, Resident Evil, Gears of War, etc.). Hosted by VP and General Manager Hank Kanalz and Senior Editor Ben Abernathy with Dan Abnett and Andy Lanning (The Authority), Christos Gage and Neil Gooch (WildCATS), Ian Edginton (Stormwatch PHD), Joshua Ortega (Gears of War), Jimmy Palmiotti and Justin Gray (Prototype), Jeff Parker and Tom Fowler (Mysterius), Mike Costa (Resistance), and others.

Cartoon Networks Fusion Fall

Cartoon Networks Fusion Fall just launched in January 2009 as one of the latest kid friendly online games for players. Fusion Fall combines your favorite Cartoon Network characters both old and new in a fight against the Fusions who are trying to take over the world. Senior Producer Chris Waldron and Content Designer Matt Schwartz will be there for fans and families to talk about the game and building a kid friendly online world.

38 Studios – Project Copernicus

38 Studios has become the MMO studio to watch in 2009. Created by MLB pitcher Curt Schilling and working with author R.A. Salvatore and artist Todd McFarlane, 38 Studios is a power team when it comes to designing an MMO. Building and creating an online game is a huge task, and 38 Studios has been secretly working on Project Copernicus for almost two years now. What does it take for a studio to build a game? Find out when User Interface Expert Irena Pereira, Community Manager Steve Danuser, and Director of Art Thom Ang arrive to show off some of 38 Studios development as well as answer questions from fans.

Cryptic Studios – Champions Online and Star Trek Online

Known for launching City of Heroes and City of Villains, Cryptic Studios remains one of the top MMO development studios in the U.S. With upcoming projects like the super hero based, comic book heavy Champions Online and one of the largest sci-fi properties for an online game Star Trek, the studio remains very busy. Creative Director Jack

Emmert and Executive Producer for Champions Online Bill Roper will be on hand to show off both games as well as talk with fans about these two exciting projects!

Sony Online Entertainment - DC Universe Online

Imagine being a superhero in the DC Universe, imagine an online game that makes the leap to consoles with the PS3, imagine comic legend Jim Lee answering your questions, well stop imagining, the DC Universe panel is here. Jim Lee and Sony Online developers will be hosting a panel for fans to show off the latest from DC Universe!

MMO Round Table

Developers from Mythic, Cartoon Network, 38 Studios, Cryptic Studios, and Sony will be on hand to talk about the video game industry, game development, and answer fan questions!

Byakokan Dojo

Witness utter beauty as the Byakokan Dojo demonstrates the disciplined sword cutting skill of Toyama Ryu Battojutsu. This ancient art is no less impressive -- or less exciting -- today.

Chip Kidd Presents Bat-Manga!

Join Chip Kidd (Mythology, The Learners) as he lifts the veil on officially-licensed, original Batman manga stories from 1966 Japan, not previously collected or translated in over 40 years. Chip will present a narrated slide show with a Q&A to follow.

JMS Spotlight

J. Michael Straczynski has written for comics including The Amazing Spider-Man, Thor, Fantastic Four, and The Brave and The Bold. He wrote the recent film Changeling and the upcoming Lensman, They Marched In Sunlight, Ninja Assassin, and World War Z. Oh, and he created Babylon 5. Spend an hour with J. Michael Straczynski as he discusses his early years, his recent comics, his work in Hollywood, and why he cant write poetry.

Hero Initiative Charity Art Auction

Join Hero Initiative Chairman George Perez for an amazing art auction

benefiting The Hero Initiative! Over 40 killer pieces are up for auction, including works from Joe Quesada, George Perez, Darwyn Cooke, Jae Lee, John Romita, Sr. and Jr., Steve Rude, Jim Starlin and all the Image Comics founders! Not to be missed!

J.J. Sedelmaiers It All Started Here

A presentation by J.J. Sedelmaier and his co-curating cohort Howard Beckerman, telling the story of the New York areas place in the animation industrys history. Thats right folks, cartoons started in NY not on the West Coast! Sedelmaier and Beckerman have organized an exhibit in conjunction with the Westchester Arts Council, The Jacob Burns Film Center, and The Picture House in Pelham, chronicling this very subject, and theyre at New York Comic Con to show highlights of the exhibit and shattering the misconception that cartoons call only California home.

Image

Image is a comic and graphic novels publisher formed in 1992 by Erik Larsen, Jim Lee, Rob Liefeld, Todd McFarlane, Whilce Portacio, Marc Silvestri, and Jim Valentino. Since that time, the company has gone on to become the third largest comic publisher in the United States. Get the latest from Images biggest names right here!

Jim Shooters How To Write, Draw, and Tell The Story

Hall of fame comic creator Jim Shooter teaches writing, drawing and, especially, the art and science of storytelling, passing on the wisdom and knowledge of the all-time greats he learned from during his 40-plus years in the business! If you want to write or draw comics, this experience is a must!

Gears of War

Gears of War and Gears of War 2 took the world by storm and have brought to life a massive saga told throughout books, comics, toys, games, and -- maybe even -- a possible movie. Spend an hour with Joshua Ortega, the writer of Gears of War 2 along with DCs Gears of War comic series as he talks shop about chainsaw rifles and death ray satellites.

Tor.com: Jumping in Headfirst

As the future rapidly becomes the present, traditional dead-tree publishers have two choices -- either get with the program or get out of the way. But the digital space rewrites the rules of the game for any industry based on IP (intellectual property). Speculative Fiction publishers, already having an eye on the future by default, are in a unique position to lead the charge away from traditional publishing models and into uncharted territory. Come listen to staff and friends of Tor.com as they explain the method to their madness in putting together a science fiction and fantasy site that gives away free stories, comics, and novels.

Asian Americans and Super Heroes: Secret Identities

Ching Lung, however, Asians -- and by extension, Asian Americans -- have not always been positively portrayed in the four-color world of comics. Too often, Asians were reduced to the easy stereotypes of the yellow peril, mystical martial artist, female seductress, or comic relief. Behind the scenes was a different story. Even though Asian American characters were not breaking through on the page, Asian American creators were shattering glass ceilings all over the industry. Pioneers such as Larry Hama, Stan Sakai, Ron Lim, and Jim Lee were making names for themselves as brilliant writers and artists. Today, some of the industrys biggest names are Greg Pak, Bernard Chang, Frank Cho, Cliff Chiang, Dustin Nguyen, and Jae Lee. And while there has been some progress in bringing viable Asian American characters into mainstream comics, there is still a dearth of compelling Asian American super heroes to inspire new generations of comic readers. The editors of book Secret Identities have set out to rectify that shortage. Pooling together some of the biggest names in comics, up-and-coming talent, and voices from film, literature, and television, Secret Identities is the first-ever graphic novel collection of original stories exploring the universe of masked marvels and caped crusaders from the perspective of the nations fastest-growing and most dynamic emerging community. This panel will discuss the origins of the project, explain the editors and contributors reasons for participating, and illustrate the need for a more diverse set of heroes.

Yen Press

Catch up on the latest news and announcements from Yen Press! Their

editorial staff will be on hand to answer questions (and maybe give out some swag). With titles including Haruhi and Soul Eater and their innovative Yen Plus, Yen Press is a publisher to keep a close eye on in 09!

CAG and the Benefits to Web Comics

Web comics are on the rise! Join the Comicbook Artists Guild (CAG) as members discuss the benefits of membership. Build your portfolio, gain instant exposure, and link your web comics to other web pages joining this growing movement. Its easy. Its cheap. Its immediate. And CAG can help connect you with other artists, writers, and creators to make it happen!

Top Cow Presents Berserker

Coming from Top Cow Productions in June 2009 is a new action-filled comic book series called Berserker, produced by Heroes star Milo Ventimiglia and his production company, DiVide Pictures. Join Top Cow Publisher Filip Sablik as he leads a panel presentation featuring Milo Ventimiglia, his production partner Russ Cundiff and Berserker creator and writer Rick Lovern as they walk you through this new project and take your questions. All attendees will receive a special pass good for a Berserker signing at the Top Cow Booth (1407) shortly after the panel.

New York Television Festival Showcase: The Best of Independent Television

The New York Television Festival (NYTVF) presents a selection of independently produced pilots that received acclaim at the 2008 Independent Pilot Competition. Creator-producers will be on hand to discuss the creative process behind creating, developing, and shooting your own TV pilot. The showcase features a Drama Block and a Comedy Block separated by a brief intermission. Short interstitial screenings and brief talkbacks with the producers will occur during the presentation. The NYTVF presents independently produced TV pilot to development execs at broadcast and cable networks, production companies, and major Web portals. Many producers have landed development deals with places such as NBC, A&E, MSN, IFC, and Versus after showcasing their pilots at the annual Festival.

A Starter Guide on Independent Television

Many people have had ideas for the perfect new TV show, but what

comes next? Unless they have a relative working in development at a network, it can be very difficult for aspiring TV producers to get their voices heard. This panel introduces the audience to a group of independent producers who took matters into their own hands. Often armed only with easily accessible equipment and a few favors from friends, dozens of up-and-coming producers have created their own television pilots and showcased them for the decision-makers in the industry at the New York Television Festival. As a result of screening at the NYTVF, producers have secured deals with development departments at places such as NBC, A&E, and MSN. Come listen to the stories of independent producers who have used the NYTVF to help launch their careers in television.

Dynamite Entertainment

Since starting out in 2005, Dynamite Entertainments produced some amazing books based on Army of Darkness, Battlestar Galactica, Darkman, Highlander, Terminator, Xena: Warrior Princess, and more. Hear the latest from the team at Dynamite right here. Its going to be explosive!

Gabe and Tycho Spotlight

In their first East Coast appearance since 2005, meet Penny Arcades Gabe and Tycho as they field questions about their web comic, PAX, Penny Arcade Adventures, Childs Play, becoming gamer dads, and life in general.

CODE GEASS

CODE GEASS is the story of war, revenge, and robots with character designs by legendary manga studio CLAMP. In the year 2010, the Holy Empire of Britannia invades Japan, crushing all opposition with their robotic soldiers, the Knightmare Frames. But while Japan is enslaved under Britannias rule, the Japanese Resistance is about to receive help from the most unlikely of sources, the son of Britannias Emperor. (Bandai)

Gundam 00

Earths three superpowers battle for control of solar energy, plunging the planet into global strife. Arising out of the conflict, a mysterious organization known as Celestial Being appears, dedicated to ending all warfare using terrible weapons called Gundams. But while Gundam Meisters Setsuna F. Seiei, Lockon Stratos, Allelujah Haptism, and Tiera

Erde thought the fight would be an easy one to win, theyre quickly learning shadow governments, internal conflict, and personal politics may plunge them and the entire human race into war without end. (Bandai)

Gurren Lagann

Simons spent his entire life digging in the dirt, but when he finds a strange little drill buried deep in the soil, he starts on a journey thatll take him into the sky, into space, and busting through heaven. Gurren Lagann -- from the studio behind Evangelion and FLCL -- is one of the most acclaimed shows of the year, and it deserves every ounce of praise its received. (Bandai)

Lucky Star

Lucky Stars the slice-of-life story of Konata Izumi, a Japanese highschooler who -- while smart and athletic -- doesnt do all too well in school or at sports. Whats the reason? Shes an anime fan. Lucky Star follows Izumi, her friends, and their quirky, clever, and so very, very cute adventures through adolescence. (Bandai)

Bandai Entertainment

With titles like Gurren Lagann, Lucky Star, Gundam 00, and CODE GEASS, Bandai Entertainment is on a roll. Of course, you havent seen anything yet! Spend an hour with the good folks from Bandai as they reveal their plans for the rest of the year as well as 2010!

The Venture Bros.

Jackson Publick (creator and voice of Hank Venture, The Monarch, Henchman 24, Pete White, and Sgt. Hatred) and Doc Hammer (creator and voice of Dr. Girlfriend, Henchman 24, and Billy Quizboy) speak about [adult swim]s The Venture Bros. Now in production on its fourth season, the show will pick up after the explosive showdown at the Venture Compound in the season three cliffhanger. A signing with Jackson and Doc will immediately follow.

Mattel and DC Comics: A Heroic Partnership

You've been a fan of Mattels popular DC toy lines, now find out the latest news, sneak peaks, and behind the scenes scoop on your favorite Mattel/DC action figures including DC Universe Classics, Batman, Justice League Unlimited, Infinite Heroes, plus exciting new lines like Batman:

The Brave and The Bold as well as the world premiere of brand new action figures! Join Mattel Toy Designer Bill Benecke, Mattel Marketing Brand Manager Scott Neitlich (AKA "Toy Guru"), The Four Horsemen, and DC Comics SVP of Brand Management Cheryl Rubin for an insightful Q&A!

MattyCollector.com News and Updates

Last year at NYCC, Matty announced a brand new MOTU toy line exclusive to MattyCollector.com. Come this year to find out the latest information not just on your favorite He-Man and She-Ra toys, but on all the other exciting MattyCollector.com exclusive products for 2009 including toys from DC Universe, Justice League, Cars, Batman, and Toy Story. The panel includes an insightful Q & A with Mattel Toy Designer Bill Benecke, Mattel Marketing Brand Manager Scott Neitlich (AKA "Toy Guru"), and special guests the Four Horsemen. As an extra bonus, Matty, the original Mattel Toy Guru, may even make an appearance live to reveal a major announcement about a brand new line available nowhere else! Be here or miss out on all the Matty action!

MARVEL Animation

In 2009, Marvel is bringing its iconic heroes Wolverine and Iron Man from the page and big screen to television in two brand-new animated series airing on Nicktoons. The two shows, Wolverine and the X-Men and Iron Man Armored Adventures will each feature 26 action-packed, half-hour episodes that follow the respective heroes through dynamic action, adventure, and drama as they face foes both familiar and new to their fans. Marvel Animation has also partnered with BET Networks to produce an animated series based on the legendary Marvel hero, the Black Panther, which is slated to premiere on BET Networks in the Summer of 2009. In Fall of 2009, Marvel will premiere its self-produced all-new Super Hero Squad animated series, an action-packed show featuring super-stylized versions of its most popular characters. The series features the great heroic storytelling Marvel is known for and adds a touch of comedy to the mix. On the heels of Marvels live-action Thor feature film in 2010, Marvel has also announced Thor: The Animated Series, an all new-property that will follow Thor as he defends his mythical home of Asgard against fantastical villains, fiendish hordes, winged creatures and angry giants. All of this leads up to The Avengers: Earths

Mightiest Heroes in the fall of 2011 showcasing the best of the best in the Marvel Universe in 26 episodes of an all-new animated series following what is sure to be a blockbuster theatrical release in summer of the same year. Come and meet the creators of these all-new Marvel properties and get all of the details firsthand!

MARVEL: Cup o Joe

Join the EEK himself, Joe Quesada, as he unveils whats in store for all your favorite Marvel characters and creators, makes some surprising announcements, and takes on any and all questions! You never know WHO will show up or what Joe will say, making this the one, no-holds barred panel that everyones gonna be talking about, and the one panel you dont want to miss!

MARVEL & BET: Black Panther

He is the King of Wakanda, and soon he will be the King of TV. Marvel Animation and BET proudly present an exclusive look at the upcoming BLACK PANTHER cartoon, featuring the voice talents of Djimon Hounsou and more! Reggie Hudlin, Executive Producer and Writer, Denys Cowan, Sr. VP of Animation for BET, artist John Romita, Jr., and more will discuss the genesis of the Black Panther comic series, as well as the creation of the animated series based on the origin story of "Who is the Black Panther?" set to debut in mid 2009. Hudlin and Executive editor Axel Alonso will also talk about the upcoming relaunch of the Black Panther comic series. There is a new Black Panther and SHE is taking the world by storm! Find out more behind all things Black Panther and get a sneak peek at the cartoon at this star-studded panel!

Uncle Yo: Geek Comedian

Whether its comics, manga, video games, or anime, Uncle Yo is ready to marvel over being a TOKYOPOP man trapped in a DC Universe. Please join him for his Comic Con debut and help him introduce new opening man, Lowell Greenblatt. Check out the celebration of geekhood at uncleyo.com!

Voice Actors and The City

Some of New York Citys most accomplished voice actors and actresses

spend an hour talking about their craft. Find out what its really like to work in the voice acting field from some hometown heroes. Also, expect laughing, poking, and funny voices.

Teaching with Graphic Novels: Practical Techniques for Evaluating, Reading and Teaching with Graphic Novels

In this workshop, teachers and educators will be exposed to practical techniques they can apply to the reading of graphic novels. The presentation focuses on strategies educators can use with graphic novels to help students develop skills that relate to the processes of reading and writing. Special attention is paid to helping educators develop criteria for evaluating graphic novels they can use throughout the curriculum (either as supplemental or primary text). Presented by Brian Kelly and Stephen Chiger.

Intellectual Property 101

Your superhero has the power to bend time, space, and reality... but can he or she land a licensing deal? And just how do you protect your rights? Artists often spend years creating winning characters or works, only to lose at the bargaining table because they havent prepared for the deal or have failed to properly protect their rights. In this seminar, youll learn to prepare the legal aspects of your creations for theyre ready to be sold and also how to protect your works. Scheduled topics to be discussed include an overview of copyrights, trademarks, and rights in ideas, the importance and how to register your copyrights and trademarks, what to do if someone is improperly using your works or ideas, non-disclosure agreements, work for hire relationships, the pitfalls of joint authorship, employment contracts, and negotiating licensing agreements. This seminar will be conducted by attorneys Thomas A. Crowell, an IP and Entertainment Law practitioner with The Law Office of Thomas A. Crowell, LLC, Walter-Michael Lee from the IP Practice Group of Gibney, Anthony & Flaherty, LLP, and Sheafe B. Walker, an Employment Law practitioner with The Law Office of Thomas A. Crowell, LLC.

Start Trekkin

Start Trekkin, simply, performs improvised skits based on the original Star Trek series. Many call what they do magic, but the Start Trekkin team

knows it to be highly logical. Be you primitive minded subspecies or super-intelligent beings with no moral fibre and an Oedipus complex, Start Trekkin still warp your mind to the far reaches of funny.

Joe Simon Spotlight: The Secret Origins of the Comic Book World

Joe Simon worked alongside the titans -- Jack Kirby, Will Eisner, C.C. Beck, Jack Schiff, and Martin Goodman to name but a few. He was Marvels very first editor and hired youngsters like Stan Lee and Steve Ditko. His credits include million-sellers such as Captain America, Boy Commandos, Sandman, Young Romance, Black Magic, Police Trap, Fighting American, Boys Ranch, and SICK! Joe produced comics for the US military, was singled out for investigation by the Kefauver Committee, and was picketed by the Nazis. Stan Lee said, "Lucky for me, when I entered comics, Joe Simon was my mentor. In script, art, and editing, he was the master." Come learn the details of the exciting new Simon and Kirby Library, coming from Titan Books later this year, and ask Joe yourself what it was like being there at the origin of the comic book world.

NYCC Classes: Page Layout

An interactive discussion by working pros on the importance and role of page layout. Deep insights on how to create believable backgrounds and environments. Panelists include Whilce Portacio, Ron Garney, and Rags Morales. Hosted by Dave Devries.

NYCC Classes: Writing Beyond Comics

Professional comic book writers discuss the craft and business of working in television, film, video games, and more. Panelists include Jimmy Palmiotti, Len Wein, Christos Gage, Marv Wolfman, and Buddy Scalera.

NYCC Classes: Meet The Editors

Talk to actual working editors from Marvel, DC, Dark Horse, and more as they discuss the business. Learn about submissions, professionalism, and what it takes to make it as an editor. Hosted by Glenn Herdling and featuring Mike Marts (DC Comics), Scott Allie (Dark Horse), Rob Levin (Top Cow), and Nick Lowe (Marvel Comics).

NYCC Classes: Creator Connections

Meet your next creative partner in this fun, interactive networking session. Many indie titles and careers have been launched through this panel. Be sure to bring business cards and samples of your work. Hosted by Buddy Scalera and Jarrett Alexander.

NYCC Classes: Breaking In and Staying In

Breaking into comics is just half the battle. The other half is staying in. Discussions and advice from writers, editors, artists, and inkers who have seen it all. Literally. Hosted by Andy Schmidt of Comics Experience.

NYCC Classes: Computers and Comics

Learn how to use your computer to create professional-level comics. An annual panel on the state of the art techniques. Hosted by Dan Goldman. Panelists include Cameron Stewart, Steve Ellis, Rami Efal, and Dennis Calero.

Radical Publishing

This will be an opportunity for communication between Radical and its fans. At the panel, Radical will hold a special drawing where the winners will receive a framed poster from either Hercules: The Knives of Kush signed by Jim Steranko, Cholly And Flytrap: Center City by Arthur Suydam, FVZA: Federal Vampire and Zombie Agency by David Hine, City of Dust: A Philip Khrome Story signed by Steve Niles, or Hotwire: Requiem For The Dead by Steve Pugh. Each poster is limited to one printing, making them a highly valuable collectors item. Additionally, panel guests will receive one copy of a limited and numbered special edition Radical preview book, which will be used in determining the winners of the drawing. Fans must attend the panel to win. Attending will be Hercules designer and cover artist for Hercules: The Knives of Kush -- the legendary Jim Steranko, Arthur Suydam (Marvel Zombies) creator, writer, and illustrator for Radical Publishings upcoming Cholly and Flytrap: Center City, Steve Niles (30 Days of Night), writer of City of Dust: A Philip Khrome Story, David Hine (X-Men) writer of Radical Publishings upcoming FVZA: Federal Vampire and Zombie Agency, Rick Remender

(Fear Agent) writer of Radical Publishings upcoming The Last Days of American Crime, and Steve Pugh (Hellblazer), the writer and illustrator for Hotwire: Requiem for the Dead. Radicals President and Publisher, Barry Levine will be making a special announcement.

Robot Chicken

Seth Green and Matthew Senreich (creators/executive producers), Breckin Meyer (writer/actor), Kevin Shinick (writer/actor/creative director), and Geoff Johns (writer), speak about [adult swim]'s Robot Chicken. Now in its fourth season, the network's Emmy-winning series uses stop-motion animation to bring pop culture parodies to life in a modern take on the variety/sketch show format. Throughout the series, Green and Senreich have enlisted the help of numerous guest voice actors, including Conan O'Brien, Hayden Panettiere, Hugh Hefner, Carrie Fisher, and George Lucas. In addition to the series, Green and Senreich have also created two Star Wars-themed specials: the Emmy-nominated Robot Chicken: Star Wars from 2007 and its follow-up, Robot Chicken: Star Wars Episode II, which premiered last November. A signing will follow in the VIP Lounge, Room 1A01, from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM. Panelists will only be signing Robot Chicken materials. Signing cards will be provided.

DC Universe

The repercussions of Final Crisis are still to come -- and with the future overshadowed by Black Lanterns, could the days of the DC Universe be numbered? Your guides to this brave new reality include Senior Vice President and Executive Editor Dan DiDio, Senior Story Editor Ian Sattler, and the industry's best writers and artists!

TwoMorrows

TwoMorrows Publishing is the home of acclaimed magazines such as The Jack Kirby Collector, Alter Ego, Back Issue, Draw, Write Now, and Brick Journal, and of books such as The Modern Masters series, Panel Discussions, and How To Create Comics From Script to Print. Join publisher John Morrow and a group of TwoMorrows authors and editors as they give a special sneak preview of the exciting new publications -- print and electronic -- the company has brewing for the coming year!

Men Are From Krypton, Women Are From Paradise Island

Lee Nordling and Barbara Randall Kesel (both of The Pack comics packaging company) co-moderate this panel of industry veterans including Jimmy Palmiotti (Monolith), Colleen Doran (A Distant Soil), Jamal Igle (Nightwing) Abby Denson (Tough Love) as they agree or not on the stereotypes of male and female reader interests, as well as the current trends that support those stereotypes and smash them to smithereens. Mayhem and consensus will ensue.

Mythic Entertainment – Warhammer Online: Age of Reckoning

Warhammer Online: Age of Reckoning launched in September of 2008 as one of the top RvR online games on the market. WAR continues to grow rapidly and remains on the cutting edge of MMORPGs. Senior Producer Jeff Hickman and Creative Director Paul Barnett will be on hand to show new updates for WAR, answer questions from fans, and lead the crowd in the ever growing WAAAGH!

Sabers UNLEASHED!

A new action-packed production featuring live music, video, and an original historic story combined with the whirling fight choreography skills and flashing sabers of the NY Jedi!

DC Talent Search

Learn what DC Comics looks for in artists and find out how to improve your chances at becoming a working professional. This informative orientation session will explain how DC's Talent Search works. If you want to have your work reviewed, attendance at this orientation session is mandatory, and keep in mind that not all attendees are guaranteed a review.

Mego: Past, Present, and Future

MEGO was once THE toy company. Their costumed figures were the "anti-doll" for boys in the 70s. Since closing in 1982, they have become legend. Originals fetch high prices, and they inspired TWISTED TOYFARE THEATRE and Cartoon Networks ROBOT CHICKEN. Revived by EMCE Toys in 2005, several lines were reproduced by the brand or in partnership with Diamond Select Toys. 2008 saw the first new

MEGOs released since 1982. Celebrate the brand with host JUSTIN ACLIN (ToyFare) and panelists MARTY ABRAMS (Mego founder), PAUL CLARKE (EMCE), CHUCK TERCIERA (DST) and JOE SENA (EMCE).

Meet The Emotes: Experience the "Happiness Effect"

Come and hang out with this crew of cyber-characters--each with their own emotional superpower! The Emotes aren't afraid to express their feelings, and they certainly aren't afraid to get their groove on. Meet these life-sized characters and witness them perform for you. Then, find your own groove, and express yourself! Emotes contests and games await you. Try on an Emotes costume, and transform yourself into your favorite Emotes character. Matt Casper, the author of the Emotes comics and books will be on hand to award awesome Emotes prizes!

Nerdcore Comedy! Emotes Performance Stage

Emotes costumed characters as well as Emote costumes for the kids to wear and "transform" into their favorite Emote! In addition, there will be original Emotes music for the kids to dance to, and a short performance by the Emotes characters. Kids will be really excited and inspired! The author of the Emotes comics and books Matt Casper will talk to the kids and even teach them some of the Emotes dance grooves!

February 8 Panels

Kids Draw

Come test our panel of artists! They will draw villains, monsters and superheroes based on your suggestions. Lets see what they can come up with!

Twisted Journeys: An Interactive Reading with Goblins and Kung Fu

The audience gets to decide which way the plots twist in two of Graphic Universes Twisted Journeys graphic novels -- Kung Fu Masters by Evonne Tsang (illustrated by Alitha Martinez) and The Goblin King by Alaya Johnson (illustrated by Meg Gandy). Will you join the fearsome goblins or the dangerous elves? Will you stay safe at home or dare to travel on martial arts adventures with bandits and ghosts? Don't worry,

we've got several tries to figure out how to become a master of martial arts or ruler of the goblins.

Lets Draw Manga with Misako Rocks!

Misako Rocks! talks about her background as a Japanese cartoonist and introduces you to her three comics -- Detective Jermain, Rock and Roll Love, and Biker Girl. Then she'll teach you the A, B, Cs of manga illustration. If you're interested in talking to her and learning how to draw manga, come join us!

Adventures in Cartooning

Create your own comics adventure! With the art and the storytelling talent you already have, you have the skills to create your own comics. With a little help along the way, the creator of Adventures in Cartooning shows you how to marshal your skills into a fantastic comics adventure. Led by Alexis Frederick-Frost. For ages 8 and up.

Comics and the Language of Visual Symbolism

Through the interrelation of art and text, comics makes a unique kind of storytelling possible. Four creators examine their own visual storytelling styles and discuss how their art influences the text of their work.

DIY

Learn the secrets of making your own comics, graphic novels, and books with one of the masters of the DIY movement, Esther Smith.

Writers on Writing: Books, Comics, TV, Movies, and Games

Whether it's a book, a comic book, a television show, a movie, or a video game, what hooks us is the story -- the journey the hero and the audience take together. Join a panel of high-profile writers as they discuss the differences and the similarities between storytelling across the diverse spectrum of contemporary media. Moderated by Suvudu.com.

Kids Comics Workshop

Join creators Dave Roman (Astronaut Elementary, Nickelodeon Magazine), Matt Loux (Saltwater Taffy, Star Wars Adventures), and Abby

Denson (Powerpuff Girls, Amazing Spider-Man Family), as they talk about creating comics for kids and lead the audience in a fun comics workshop!

What Are Kids Reading Now? Graphic Novels & 22 Pagers

There's such a wide selection of graphic novels out there from the serious super hero drama of *The Watchmen*, to the nostalgic humor of *The Best of Archie*, to the sober reflections of three different 9/11 chronicles. In fact, there are so many books that many teachers, parents, and comic book lovers can't quite tell what to buy or borrow. That's where we come in. Join a panel of teachers, teens, and comic pros as we review and discuss the merits and values of comics' fertile field of facts and fiction. What's new, old, entertaining, and educational? From the controversial to the comical, we'll cover it all and have a good time, too!

Resources for Creators

Where do you find information about insurance for freelancers? How do you get free or low cost legal representation? What about unions and organizations for creative artists? Colleen Doran answers all these questions in this panel that -- for creators who are serious about professional matters -- is essential.

Kick-Ass Female Authors and Killer Heroines

Eos and Avon Books have a question for you -- Why are vampires, werewolves, fairies, angels, demons, and denizens of the otherworld so damned sexy? USA Today notes, "The hottest bad boys in contemporary fiction are cold-blooded vampires. Not since Anne Rice's bestselling series about Lestat have so many readers thirsted for novels about blood drinkers who are sexy as well as scary." The authors making names for themselves writing these dark daydreams have opinions on the category-killer appeal of their books and why readers are turned on by kick-ass female protagonists who are just as strong and in-control as their He-Man mates. Panelists include Kim Harrison (*White Witch, Black Curse*), Jeaniene Frost (*At Graves End*), Vicki Pettersson (*City of Souls*), Jocelynn Drake (*Dayhunter*), and Margaret Ronald (*Spiral Hunt*). The event is moderated by Michael Spradlin (*The*

Youngest Templar).

Hero in You: Kids Become Their Own Unique Action Hero

While New York Comic Con is a time for hero worship, don't forget to help your children recognize the heroes within themselves. Alfred University helps children create their own super hero!

Whats New Penguin and DK?

Anne Sowards (Senior Editor, Ace / Roc), Jessica Wade (Associate Editor, Ace / Roc), Lisa DeGroff (Marketing Manager, Young Readers), and Jennifer Wendell (Marketing Manager, DK) give you the dish on forthcoming books from licenses including Marvel, Star Wars, and DC Comics, and exciting authors including Jim Butcher, Charlaine Harris, Patricia Briggs, Charles Stross, John Flanagan, Robin McKinley, and Frank Beddor. Plus, there'll be giveaways, including free advance reading copies!

Coming of Age in Comics

The transition between childhood and adulthood is an endlessly fertile subject for stories. Jeff Parker (*X-Men: First Class*), Raina Telgemeier (*Smile*), Jason Little (*Bee Comix*), and Mariko Tamaki with moderator Douglas Wolk (*Reading Comics*), will talk about the way coming of age has been addressed in comics, and how they've dealt with the theme in their own work.

History of Super Hero Movies: Past, Present, And Future

Comic books started out modestly eight decades ago, printed on pulp paper and appealing to a very young audience. Today, comics are American mythology with a broad ranging readership, with legendary characters and stories that have transcended time and inspired generations of readers and artists in all different mediums. Film and entertainment historian Eddy Friedfeld analyzes the comic book movie, how far the genre has come and where it is heading: From the innovative Fleischer animated Superman cartoons and the Columbia Batman and Superman serials of the 1940s to George Reeves and Christopher Reeves *Men of Steel*, to the modern collection of Keaton, Kilmer, Clooney and Bale Batmans, Spider-Man trilogy, and a new crop

of cinema superheroes, including Spiderman, Iron Man, The Spirit, The Hulk, and Hancock who have taken the genre to new levels of entertainment and insight.

NYCC Classes: Digital Coloring

Watch professional colorists use a computer to color a comic book page. Discussions of software, hardware, and technique. Hosted by Brian Haberlin.

Summit Entertainment Presents Astro Boy

A thrilling tale of a true hero, Astro Boy is an all-new, feature film full of action, adventure, humor, and heart. Based on the beloved manga, Astro Boy will be brought to life on the big screen in breathtaking CGI animation. See the world premiere of footage from the film in this exclusive presentation!

Sunday Conversation with Dan DiDio

Senior Vice President and Executive Editor Dan DiDio and friends invite you to a relaxed Sunday afternoon discussion! Share your opinions and outlook -- and listen as some of the industrys biggest names discuss their love of comics. All are welcome, no RSVP required.

IDW: GI Joe and Transformers - Declassified and Rolling Out

Too much firepower for one panel, IDW focuses on their two biggest franchises of 2009 -- GI Joe and Transformers! Hosted by GI Joe and Transformers editor Andy Schmidt, weve got guest panelists Larry Hama (GI Joe: Origins) and Mike Costa (GI Joe: Cobra) and major announcements!

DC: Comics For All Ages

Join DC Editor Jann Jones, along with Art Baltazar and Franco (Tiny Titans), Eric Jones and Larry Walker (Supergirl: Cosmic Adventures in The Eighth Grade), and others as they bring you up to speed on the awesome fun that is DCs line of all ages comics! Get the scoop on whats coming up in the pages of Tiny Titans, Supergirl: Cosmic Adventures in The Eighth Grade, Billy Batson and The Magic of Shazam, Batman: The Brave and The Bold, and more!

Star Trek in Print

A round table with some of the biggest names in publishing speaking about where the USS Enterprise is, has, and will be heading in the literary galaxy. Panelists include Margaret Clark, Andy Schmidt, David Mack, Peter David, and Robert Greenberger (moderator).

Watchmen: Portrait of A Movie

Photographer Clay Enos discusses with artist Dave Gibbons the experience of capturing the live-action Watchmen in still images. As the official photographer on the set of Watchmen, Enos was there at every stage of production as director Zack Snyder filmed the adaptation of the legendary graphic novel. As well as creating a visual chronicle of the production, he also made time to work on a very special project -- a series of black and white portraits collected into the magnificent coffee-table book Watchmen Portraits. From the lead heroes to extras in the crowd, plus the crew who put the film together, his lens captured them all. Now, this panel offers attendees the chance to see an exclusive slideshow of Enoss breathtaking portraits and a look at how the real-life characters match up to the original comics counterparts that Gibbons created.

Chuck

When a 20-something computer geek inadvertently downloads critical government secrets into his brain, his former-college-friend-turned-CIA-agent recruits him to join the team. Think your job sucks? Making \$9.95 an hour aint so bad compared to hand-to-hand combat with evil dictators. Get the latest on NBCs Chuck right here!

Dollhouse

An exclusive sneak peek at the first act of Joss Whedons highly-anticipated premiere episode of Dollhouse scheduled to launch on Friday, February 13th on FOX. Dollhouse stars Eliza Dushku, Tahmoh Penikett, Fran Kranz, Dichen Lachman, Enver Gjokaj, Harry Lennix, and Olivia Williams. Mini posters will be distributed to all in attendance!

Fringe

FRINGE, the highest-rated new series of the season among Adults 18–49, makes its New York Comic Con debut when select members of the cast and creative team assemble for a Q&A with fans and an exclusive video presentation created specifically for NYCC. A critically acclaimed thriller, FRINGE centers on an unlikely trio uncovering a mystery involving a series of unbelievable events and delves beneath the surface as the threat of a larger, more disturbing pattern blurs the line between the possible and the impossible. FRINGE, from J.J. Abrams (Lost), Alex Kurtzman and Roberto Orci – the team behind Star Trek, Mission: Impossible III and Alias – and fellow executive producers Jeff Pinkner (Lost, Alias) and Bryan Burk (Lost, Alias), airs Tuesdays at 9 p.m. ET/PT on FOX. Panelists include John Noble (Dr. Walter Bishop) and Jasika Nicole (Astrid Farnsworth)!

Life on Mars

When a present-day car accident mysteriously sends Detective Sam Tyler back to 1970s NYC, Tyler steps out into a brave, new world. Travel back in time with ABC's Life on Mars and discover all the secrets of this unique series shot right here in New York City!

Aspen Comics

The Aspen Comics studio team is in full-force and primed to reveal exciting new and continuing properties for 2009! Join President Frank Mastromauro (Shrugged), Vice President Peter Steigerwald (Soulfire, Fathom), Editor-in-Chief Vince Hernandez (Soulfire: Shadow Magic), Director of Design and Production Mark Roslan (NBC's Heroes), JT Krul (Soulfire, Fathom), Ale Garza (Fathom), Micah Gunnell (Shrugged, NBC's Heroes), Joe Benitez (Soulfire), and Beth Sotelo (Shrugged) as they reveal exclusive previews of new Aspen titles in addition to other exciting announcements.

Scott Pilgrim vs. The Panel!

Harvey, Doug Wright, Joe Shuster Award-winning, and Eisner-nominated creator Bryan Lee O'Malley sits down with NYCC to discuss his groundbreaking, slice-of-life series Scott Pilgrim. From its genesis to the NYCC release of volume five, O'Malley talks frankly about where Scott Pilgrim came from and where the series is going from here. With moderation by

Douglas Wolk and a fan Q&A to close the discussion, this is a must see event at NYCC 2009!

Living Legends

Join Guest of Honor Michael Uslan and a star-studded panel of comic book legends as they swap stories about the Golden and Silver Ages of comics. Many Guests of Honor and Living Legends from Comic Con 2009 will be at this historic gathering, and many more will appear on video in a special screening of the award-winning documentary project The Legends Behind the Comic Books, including Stan Lee, Joe Simon, Murphy Anderson, Irwin Hasen, Shelly Moldoff, Lew Sayre Schwartz, Ramona Fradon, John Romita, Dick Giordano, Greg Hildebrandt, and more. Come hear these legends tell you how they created the first super heroes, what they learned from each other, why they wrote and drew the way they did, when they finally realized they had invented an art form, who inspired them when they were starting out, and where they think comic books are heading in the future. If you think comics represent a new cultural history, come hear behind-the-scenes tales from the early days. If you think the ancient gods of Egypt, Greece and Rome still live...only today they wear spandex and capes, come meet the men who created those gods. The perfect way to celebrate the end of New York Comic Con 2009.

The Multicultural Mask

Over the past decade, publishers and creators have made an aggressive push to diversify the pages of the comic books -- eliminating antiquated, stereotypical representations of race and sexuality, while adding characters whose backgrounds and identities are a truer and certainly richer reflection of our social reality. In the process, some fan-favorite heroes have met with untimely ends and come back with new, different, and multicultural identities and others have become suddenly open about their sexual orientations. These changes have been met with both loud applause and scathing criticism -- but is radical integration of the comics really necessary? And if so, what's the best way to make comics look like America (and the world) while preserving cherished characters and already overstretched continuities? This panel will bring together creators who stand out as pioneers of the new inclusiveness in comics

to talk about what works, what doesn't, and why it matters -- from both a cultural and economic perspective.

Green Lantern at 50

Hard to believe 2009 is the 50th Anniversary of the Green Lantern? Believe it and relive all the can't-miss moments from the characters half-century of publication! Panelists include Marv Wolfman, Len Wein, Denny O'Neil, Joe Staton, and Robert Greenberger (moderator).

Lilly Renee Phillips Spotlight

Lilly Renee Phillips was one of the pioneer women cartoonists in the Golden Age of Comics, working primarily for Fiction House publishers. Fleeing Nazi Germany to America as a child, she went on to draw covers and such features as The Lost World, Senorita Rio, and Werewolf Hunters for Planet Comics, Rangers Comics, and Fight Comics. With her then-husband Eric Peters, she also drew covers and interior stories for a number of Abbott & Costello Comics. Phillips talks about her amazing life and career with Heidi MacDonald (The Beat).

Graphic Novels: A New Literacy for the Library, Classroom and Home

The explosive growth of graphic novels continues in the public library world and is now being felt in the classroom. Is it a legitimate reading format? What is it about these books that make them worthwhile reading? How can graphic novels help you meet your states core curriculum content standards? Graphic novels present a new opportunity to engage readers and these three talented presenters will show you why these books work for the teacher, the librarian and the parent. Panelists include Elizabeth Bird, Sophie Brookover, and Matt Bird. Elizabeth Bird is a childrens librarian at New York Public Librarys main childrens room at the 42nd Street location. She has served on Newbery, written for Horn Book, reviews for Kirkus, and currently publishes the blog A Fuse #8 Production on the School Library Journal website. Sophie Brookover is the Library Media Specialist at Eastern Regional Senior High School in Voorhees, NJ. She is an avid reader of graphic novels (forced to pick just one recent favorite, she offers two: Siderscrollers and Y: The Last Man), and is the co-author of Pop Goes

the Library: Using Pop Culture to Connect With Your Whole Community (InfoToday, 2008). Matt Bird: Matt Bird is a writer and lifelong comics enthusiast. He will receive an MFA from Columbia University in May. His new graphic novel project is "The Gentleman" with artist David Baldeon ("Blue Beetle") and inker Steve Bird ("Robin").

MARVEL & ACTIVISION: Evolution of Marvel Comic Book Characters in Video Games

Join the team of video game developers who brought to fans the most quintessential collection of Marvel comic book video games of all-time -- X-Men Legends, X-Men Legends II, and Marvel Ultimate Alliance. Marvel, Raven Software, and Vicarious Visions will give fans a chance to engage with animators, writers and producers of the next generation of Marvel comic book video games for 2009 and the comic book legends that inspired them -- X-Men Origins: Wolverine and Marvel: Ultimate Alliance 2. Get an exclusive sneak peak of the video game, X-Men Origins: Wolverine, which has already begun to generate buzz among the gaming community and is being touted as "Marvels most popular mutant reinvented" (EGM, January 2009 cover story). Also, discover more about the next chapter in the Marvel Ultimate Alliance series with developers from Vicarious Visions who are taking fans to the next level in Marvel Ultimate Alliance 2.

Making Comics with Penny Arcade

Created originally for grade school classrooms, watch, learn and participate as Penny Arcades Gabe and Tycho teach you and your kids how to make comics! Although appropriate for all ages, this is a very kid-safe panel!

Mondo MARVEL: 70th Anniversary Special

2009 has just begun, and its freezing outside in New York. But the heat is ON in the Marvel U, the Ultimate U, and everywhere in between as todays top creators talk about all things Marvel, including our 70th Anniversary. Join Brian Michael Bendis (Ultimate Spider-Man, New and Dark Avengers), Joe Kelly and Dan Slott (Amazing Spider-Man), Charlie Huston (Moon Knight), Fred van Lente (Incredible Hercules), and more of the industrys top editors and creators to find out whats to come for all

things Marvel!

MARVEL: Marvel Your Universe

Got something on your mind? Need to get something off your chest? Come here! This is YOUR panel, not ours. We just want your two cents. Is the world better with Norman Osborn or Tony Stark in charge? Who should be in the Cabal? What characters should survive Ultimatum? Cmon down and chime in. Ask a question, answer a question, or just save your knees from spontaneous convention combustion. We may have Marvel business cards, but this is your universe!

VIZ Media

The VIZ Media team gives you the latest scoop on everything from acquisitions to key marketing campaigns for both manga and anime.

TMNT Animation: 25 and Going Strong

25 years after the creation of TMNT, the beloved Turtles are still going strong. Meet the producers, directors, writers, storyboard artists, etc., who are a part of the TMNT cartoon series today. This panel will focus on the direction of the Turtles today, what goes into each story, and what is driving the characters the fans know and love.

Dark Horse

Founded in 1986 by Mike Richardson behind the concept of establishing an ideal atmosphere for creative professionals, Dark Horse Comics has grown to become the third-largest comic publisher in the United States and is acclaimed internationally for the quality and diversity of its line, a line that begins with Hellboy, Buffy, and Umbrella Academy and has no end in sight! Get the latest from Dark Horse right here!

Neal Adams Spotlight

Learn about Guest of Honor Neal Adams past, present, and future in the comic book world -- along with his myriad of non-comic projects at Continuity Studios.

Disney XDs Aaron Stone

Be among the first to watch the two-part premiere of Disney XDs first

original series, Aaron Stone. Sixteen-year old Charlie Landers is a legend in the online video game world. Via his avatar, Aaron Stone, Charlie is the best player in the world at the video game, Hero Rising. His life is forever changed when an eccentric billionaire recruits him to become the "real life" Aaron Stone, fighting real crimes with real enemies. Now Charlie must juggle his normal life of school, sports, girls, and family while maintaining his secret life of being the free worlds last hope. Premiering February 13, 2009, 7/6c, on Disney XD. Check it Out!

Wanted

Youve read the hit comic by Mark Millar and J.G. Jones and youve seen the hit movie starring James McAvoy and Angelina Jolie. Now, get ready for the video game and another movie! Join representatives from Vivendi Universal Games and Top Cow Productions as they share exclusive footage from the upcoming video game (due for release in late March) and teasers about the next Wanted film!

Mail Order Ninja

Volunteers from the audience will author Josh Elder on stage to read parts from the first volume of his award-winning childrens graphic novel series Mail Order Ninja. Mail Order Ninja is the heartwarming tale of a boy who orders a ninja through the mail to help him fight back against the school bullies.

TOON Into Reading!

Come help make the voices and sound effects! In a staged reading from TOON books, author Geoffrey Hayes, actress Leigh Stein, and editor Françoise Mouly will bring comics to life for kids 3-10. In a short segment afterwards, budding cartoonists will come up to the stage to sketch their own cartoon characters.

The Electric Company Performance

Come see the cast of the new PBS KIDS GO! series The Electric Company in a high energy, music-filled show, and check out how this group of do-gooders works to keep their neighborhood safe with their literary super powers.

TMNT

Have your picture taken with April and the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles! Get up close and personal with the TMNT! Take part in their martial arts demonstration!

Kids Costume Contest

Is your little one dressed up as Superboy, Naruto, or a wee little Captain Kirk? New York Comic Cons Kids Day welcomes all children at the show to take part in our Official Kids Costume Contest! Simply come by the Variant Stage on Sunday at 3:30 PM to enter. Everyone's a winner! The NYCC Kids Costume Contest is organized by Cosclips.com and the 2009 World Cosplay Summit Team USA!

NYCC Classes: Comic Strips

How to write and draw newspaper-style comic strips. Pacing, design, and even syndication from working comic strip creators. Panelists include Chris Eliopoulos, Chris Giarusso, Danielle Corsetto, Brad Guigar, and Tom Wilson. Hosted by Matt Herring.

NYCC Classes: Comics for Kids

Learn how to create comic books that kids will love. Top writers and artists talk about making all-ages comics! Panelists include Chris Eliopoulos, Jeff Parker, Art Baltazar, Franco Aureliani, and Jann Jones. Hosted by TJ May.

Emma

Emma is the strikingly simple and sweet story of a house maid who falls in love with an aristocrat in 19th Century London. Its one of the most tender, touching, heart-felt, and purely genuine animations to come out of Japan in recent (and long-term) memory, and while it lacks giant robots, busty schoolgirls, and all the other traditional anime trappings, it deserves a viewing. Rather, because it lacks giant robots, busty schoolgirls, and all the other traditional anime trappings, it deserves a viewing. (Right Stuff)

Kamen Rider Dragon Knight

Come get the inside scoop on Kamen Rider Dragon Knight and a

special sneak peak at future episodes the latest CW4KIDS show. Join Kit Taylor as he becomes Kamen Rider Dragon Knight and teams up with Kamen Rider Wing Knight to defeat the ten corrupt Kamen Riders that have been sent to destroy him!

How Cartoonists Get Their Ideas

Check out this fun documentary featuring a number of big comic book creators talking about where and how they get the inspiration to draw and write. Don't let the word "documentary" fool you, this screening is perfect for kids.

Aria

On the planet Aqua lays the watery city of Neo Venezia. Here, professional gondoliers known as Undines are well-revered by tourists and locals like. Aria follows gondolier-in-training Akari Mizunashi as she ferries men, women, and children from all walks of life about in her quest to become a full-fledged Undine. (Right Stuff)

The Girl Who Leapt Through Time

When high school student Makoto Konno gains the power to (literally) leap back and forth through time, she uses the ability to make her life a little bit more comfortable, yet when she realizes her power is limited and there are unexpected consequences from her each and every leap, she strives to make the world right before her ability runs out. (Bandai)

5 Themes of The Twilight Zone

In this screening and presentation, Arlen Schumer will introduce five classic episodes of The Twilight Zone and address the questions they raise. Rediscover what The Twilight Zone has to say about Identity, Mans Obsolescence, Science and Superstition, Suburban Nightmares, and Time. While The Twilight Zone is 50-years-old this year, the landmark series is still poignant and provocative, and the questions it asks only more pressing in modern society.

Fat Momma

Come hang out with Fat Momma from SCI FI Channels Who Wants To Be A Super Hero?. Kids will get a chance to talk about their favorite

super hero and help create powers. Fat Momma will talk about self-esteem and how to deal with bullies. You'll also have a chance to read some of Fat Momma's new comics. And the first five kids to enter will receive a free comic book! Parents are always welcome, too!

Sci Tech Heroes

Learn about the science behind your favorite super heroes in this kid-friendly panel!

Meet the Real Life Dinky Doos

Jim Jenkins, the creator of Pinky Dinky Doo and her eponymous book series and television show attend Comic Con along with his very own "kitchen table focus group:" The Jenkins Family. Jim will present his personal and heart-warming narrative about creating bedtime stories for his own children, and how they helped create characters personalities and storylines, and even drew original sketches of the now world-famous characters. Jim will present some of these original sketches, and his co-creators (AKA, Jim's immediate family) will be available to answer questions about the joy of story writing and telling.

The Looking Glass Wars

Frank Beddor, author of the best-selling Looking Glass Wars series and creator of the Hatter M. graphic novel, talks about the creation of his books, gives the story behind the story, and presents concept art from a wide array of artists who have visualized his text ---- Ben Templesmith (30 Days of Night), Doug Chiang (Star Wars: Episode I), and Stephan Martiniere (I, Robot). They'll reveal the new online game The Card Soldier Wars, show a trailer for The Looking Glass Wars movie, and discuss how each of these mediums connect and extend The Looking Glass Wars universe.

TMNT

Have your picture taken with April and the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles! Get up close and personal with the TMNT! Take part in their martial arts demonstration!

Pillaging History For Story Ideas

Pirates, ninjas, gunslingers, and knights -- history is packed with events, characters, and settings that you can use to make your own original stories! All you need is to know where to look. Chris Schweizer (The Crogan Adventures) will help you learn how to take real history and use it to make the types of stories that you want to tell.

Jews and Comics: A Cottage Industry

In the past few years, there have been multiple books dealing with Jews and their role in the creation of the comics industry. Could this be because, as we lose more and more of the Greatest (Comics) Generation, there is a collective need to understand the roots, ethnic and otherwise, of the medium? Authors Arie Kaplan (From Krakow to Krypton: Jews and Comics), Danny Fingerth (Disguised as Clark Kent: Jews, Comics, and the Creation of the Superhero), and Simcha Weinstein (Up, Up, and Oy Vey!: How Jewish History, Culture, and Values Shaped The Comicbook Superhero) and comics creators AL Al Jaffee (Mad magazine) and Jerry Robinson (Batman) discuss the rise of interest in the Jewish side of comics. Moderated by David Hajdu (The Ten-Cent Plague: The Great Comic-Book Scare and How it Changed America).

Statues and Action Figures

New York Comic Cons first major focus on the super hero action figure and statue! Come in to learn about the art forms history, current production, and setting up to make your own statue. Plus, get a sneak peak at some of the upcoming releases from today's legends. Featured panelists include Clay Moore, Ruben Procopio, and Jason "Spyda" Adams!

The Electric Company's Stick Puppet Players

Come one, come all! With a pair of scissors, a few sheets of construction paper, a couple of goofy voices, and a whole lot of creativity, you, too, can make a segment for The Electric Company! Using only supplies found around the house, Two Kazoos has teamed up with The Electric Company to bring stick puppets to your television and computer. Come learn exactly how you can do it all by yourself along with The Stick Puppet Players.

The Beat Presents The Art of Storytelling

As comics have become a more influential part of pop culture, their stories and characters are known more widely than ever. Step inside the minds of some of the comic biz's best storytellers to find out how they approach their craft and shape their visions to create their best known works. Moderated by Heidi MacDonald, with Jim Lee, Marv Wolfman, and more.

Eric Nylund Spotlight

With one of the most fascinating resumes of a modern writer, Eric Nylund's masterful storytelling spans bestselling novels, comics, graphic novels, and some of the most successful video games of all time. While each medium contains its own set of rules, Nylund continually demonstrates a unique ability to deliver entertainment through stories that are embraced by each audience. With the release of his latest novel, *Mortal Coils*, the launch of his new *Battlestar Galactica* comic book series, and his work at Microsoft on various Halo projects, Nylund may be the first 21st Century Sci-Fi legend!

Diary of a Wimpy Kid

Jeff Kinney, #1 bestselling author of the unstoppable bestselling series *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, will make his first New York City appearance for the release of the third book in the series, *The Last Straw*. Jeff will be on hand to talk about the beginnings of the book, how New York Comic Con played a role in its publication, and to answer questions. A great excuse to bring your kids to Comic Con!

Meet Mo Willems!

Join award-winning author Mo Willems at the Kids Day Stage to learn how to draw the Pigeon from *The Pigeon Wants A Puppy*. Mo will read from his latest book and take questions from the audience. Fun for all ages!

Who Owns Comics? Superman on Trial

A judge has awarded the family of Superman's co-creator Jerry Siegel co-ownership of Action #1. This panel will examine the behind-the-scenes history of this landmark case and discuss means for the future of

Superman, comics and creators rights and discuss its relation to other comics-related intellectual property issues, such as the creators rights movement, the Watchmen case and the Holocaust art of Dina Babbitt.