

Presented by Megan Aarant and Natalie Couch, Chattahoochee Valley Libraries



So...what's Fandom?

Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines FANDOM as

• 1: all the fans (as of a sport)

• 2: the state or attitude of being a fan

with the first known use of FANDOM being in 1903!







Pop Quiz!

Whovians

Twihards

Potterheads

Trekkies

Beliebers

Sherlockians

Nerdfighters

Tributes

Bronies

Universe

Directioners

Hunters

Ringers

Truebies

Whedonites

Gaimanites



The Perks of Hosting a Mini-Con

- Changes perceptions of libraries
- Big event pulling in a wide audience, including non-library users
- · Promotes:
 - Library materials
 - Multiple literacies
 - Creativity
 - Community engagement
 - Sense of belonging
- FUN!





2013: From Humble Beginnings...



- Small budget
- Geared toward active Manga Club members
- Teen focused event but attracted all ages
- Newly published YA author Skyped for \$50!
- Galactic Quest Comics "How to Draw Comics" presentation
- Cosplay Costume Contest
- Crafts, games, vendors, panels, and more!
- 250 participants



2014: ...Come Great Things

- Larger budget
- Kicked off SRP for teens & children
- Programs/crafts/activities for children, teens, & families
- More
 - Community involvement
 - Media coverage
 - Advertising
- Added
 - · Offical "logo"
 - Food vendors
 - Bigger name Skype visits (author and actor)
 - Maker/digital media component
- 1,000 participants



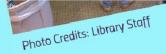


2015: To Infinity & Beyond



- Incorporate activities & fandoms with adult appeal
- Repeat popular programs throughout the day
- Outdoor, physical, & sports activities
- FanArt/FanFic submissions in library teen lit magazine
- Out-of-state vendor & performers
- Fewer crafts at scheduled times
- Fandom "meet-ups"





All Sizes & Shapes

- Nerdacon @ Columbus State University Columbus, GA
- Wrath of Cons @ Austin Public Library Austin, TX
- Camden Comic-Con @ Rutgers University-Camden Camden, NJ
- Librari-Con @ Cumberland County Public Library Fayetteville, NC
- Comic New York Symposium @ Columbia University New York, NY





Best Practices

- Get ALL vendors & content providers to sign contracts
- Create a back-up plan
- Have food (lots!) or schedule around mealtimes
- Print schedules
- Partner with local schools & organizations to advertise
- Get community involvement/input
- Reach out to community organizations & local personalities
- Ask for feedback





Questions?

Your experience or suggestions?





Contact us!

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Pinterest Idea Board:

http://www.pinterest.com/megs_a/cvl-fanfest-miniconvention-ideas/

