

# Colorado Anime Fest

March 24-26, 2017 | Renaissance Stapleton Hotel in Denver, CO



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## SPONSORS AND THANK YOU

Our staff, attendees, panelists, vendors, artists, industry, and volunteers, Renaissance Denver Stapleton employees, Walter Chaw, Steve Bessette & Alexandra Griesmer at the Alamo Drafthouse Cinema Littleton, Jen Wen and the Colorado Dragon Boat Festival, the Consulate General of Japan in Denver, David Vincent, Nikki Ebright, Tara McKinney, Alex Crum, Philip Koop, Nicole Buchanan, Patrick Delahanty, Dan Peak, Erin Yoshimura, Karla Rodriguez, Dave Henkin, Kumoricon, Naka-Kon, Anime Banzai, Anime Festival Wichita, Anime Milwaukee, Anime NebrasKon, Monkey Paw Entertainment, Point of Contact Booking, CrunchyRoll, FUNimation, Aniplex, DiscoTek, Sentai, Media Blasters, Westword, RightStuf Anime, Urban Peak, Jennifer Wen, Natalie Ta and Colorado Dragon Boat Festival/Colorado Dragon Film Festival and everyone for supporting us enough to come back! See you next year!

# LETTER FROM THE CON CHAIR

## Greetings Everyone!

Well COAFians, we've made it to a second year! Welcome to those who are returning, and welcome to all those attending for the first time! I'll say it early (and I'm sure I'll say it again) we wouldn't be here without all of you and your support to have another fine convention in Colorado. For that I am truly grateful.

Just like last year, we have some awesome programming, events, and guests for you. We've stepped up our game in other areas too, such as our fabulous video game room and a more themed and active Anime Bar for you all to enjoy.

I am humbled and honored to have an amazing staff to put on this convention.

Let me be the first to welcome you to Colorado Anime Fest 2017! Now get out there and HAVE FUN!!



*Jinnie made me do this.  
You can thank her later.*

**Corey Wood**  
Convention Chair

# VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

Interested in earning your way to a free day and/or weekend membership for this year or next? Our day to day volunteer signups work on a tiered rewards system. We offer a minimum 4 hour shift and staff perk options are available for 10+ shifts. We're flexible and happy to help you get what you want to have fun at con, based on the amount of hours you work.

- 4-6 hours: same-day badge
- 8 hours: next day badge or next year badge
- 10+ hours: next day badge or next year badge; access to staff perks

To learn more and sign up for your preferred blocks, visit Volunteer department headquarters outside of Boulder Creek (COAF's Con Operations and Lost & Found).

# GUESTS OF HONOR

## STEVE BLUM

With literally hundreds of V/O credits to his name, Steve Blum is best known as the voice of "Spike Spiegel" from Cowboy Bebop, "Wolverine" from several incarnations of X-Men, "Orochimaru" and "Zabuza" from Naruto, "Oghren" (DragonAge), "Vincent Valentine" (Final Fantasy VII), "TOM" the robotic host of Cartoon Network's Toonami on Adult Swim, "Zeb Orrelios" in Star Wars: Rebels on Disney XD, and "Leeron" from Gurren Lagann. In 2012, Steve was inducted into the Guinness Book of World records as Most Prolific Voice Actor in Video Games - appearing in almost 300 games.



## CAITLIN GLASS

A voice actress and ADR director, best known for the role of Winry Rockbell in Fullmetal Alchemist, Caitlin has been working in the anime industry since 2004. In 2008, Caitlin directed the widely popular fan-favorite, Ouran High School Host Club, as well as voicing Haruhi Fujioka. You'll also hear her as Hitomi in Funimation's new dub Escaflowne and Kyoko in Skip Beat!, coming soon from Pied Piper, Inc. Other well-known roles include Maki in Love Live! School Idol Project, Lilia in Yuri!!! on Ice, Mina Ashido in My Hero Academia, Vivi in One Piece, Evergreen in Fairy Tail, and Petra in Attack on Titan. Some of Caitlin's directing credits include Love Live! Sunshine!!, One Piece, and Fullmetal Alchemist Brotherhood.



## LAUREN LANDA

For the last 10 years, Lauren Landa is most known for roles such as Litchi Faye Ling in BlazBlue: Calamity Trigger, as well as the sequels BlazBlue: Continuum Shift, and Continuum Shift Extend: Chrono Phantasma; Kyoko Sakura in Puella Magi Madoka Magica; Yan Leixia in Soul Calibur V; Little Queen in Tales of Graces; Boibo, in REDLINE; Squigly in Skullgirls; Leia in Tales of Xillia; Chubo Sonken in Ikki Touden: Great Guardians, Annie Leonhardt in Attack on Titan, One in DrakenGard 3, Nio in Riddle Story of Devil, Nora in Noragami, Karin Kanzuki in Street Fighter V and most recently, the voice of Sailor Neptune in the VIZ Media dub of Sailor Moon and Nao Tomori in Aniplex's Charlotte!



# GUESTS OF HONOR

## MARY ELIZABETH McGLYNN

Mary Elizabeth McGlynn (born October 16, 1966) is an American voice actress, ADR director, writer, and singer best known for her extensive English-language dubbing of various anime, and her singing in multiple games from the Silent Hill series, as well as the movie adaptation and Dance Dance Revolution EXTREME. She's also the winner of an American Anime Award. She has been the English counterpart of Atsuko Tanaka three times: both of them have played Jagura in Wolf's Rain, Rosso the Crimson in Dirge of Cerberus - Final Fantasy VII - and Motoko Kusanagi in the Ghost in the Shell series. She won the 2007 American Anime Award for Best Female Voice Actress for her role as Major Motoko Kusanagi in Ghost In The Shell: Stand Alone Complex.



## ERICA MENDEZ

Erica is best known for her roles as Ryuko Matoi in "KILL la KILL", Gon Freecs in "Hunter x Hunter (2011)", Aladdin in "Magi: The Labyrinth of Magic", Yuuki Konno in "Sword Art Online II", and Nico Yazawa in "Love Live!", Haruka Tenoh/Sailor Uranus in Viz Media's "Sailor Moon", Tsubaki in Your Lie in April, Akko Kagari in Little Witch Academia, and Diane in "Seven Deadly Sins". She can also be heard in "Gundam: Iron Blooded Orphans", "Danganronpa 3 -future arc-", "Mob Psycho 100", "Charlotte", "Blood Lad", and "The Asterisk War". Video game works include Nagisa Shingetsu in "Danganronpa Another Episode", Naotora Ii in "Dead or Alive 5: Last Round" and Eleanor Hume in "Tales of Berseria".



## KIERAN STRANGE

Kieran Strange is a quirky and powerful young artist blending pop sensibilities, dynamic guitars, and high-energy live rock shows into his own brand of geeky British pop-punk. Never one to shy away from discussing his journey of self-discovery, Kieran came out publicly as genderfluid in 2014 with the release of the Tear Down The Wall music video, then changed his pronouns from "she" to "he" in 2016 when he publicly adopted the "transgender man" label. Nowadays he remains just as open, outspoken, and passionate in his beliefs. In the summer of 2016, Kieran joined forces with Dave Kitsberg to drive and develop a new project dubbed WE ARE THE CHAOS!



# GUESTS OF HONOR

## KAREN STRASSMAN

Karen Strassman is an actress, voiceover artist and dialect coach who has created hundreds of voice-over characters, from classic Disney princesses and iconic villainesses, to talking jellyfish and shy tadpoles. She is also the voice of Soi Fon in "Bleach," Kallen Stadtfeld in "Code Geass," Kiyoh Bachika in "Gurren Lagann," Kazuko Saotome in "Puella Magi Madoka Magica," Olivia and Anna in "Fire Emblem: Awakening," Kitana and Mileena in "Mortal Kombat X," and Fiora in "League of Legends," among others.



## GREGGO WICKER

Greg Wicker (or "Greggo" as he's fondly known) has been producing and hosting game shows at anime conventions since 1999. Since then, Greggo has done anime-themed versions of several classic game shows, created a few games of his own, and even had an original project that very nearly turned into an actual television show on Anime Network. These days Greggo is concentrating on perfecting his craft and making game shows available for conventions everywhere, bringing his rapier wit and friendly personality with him wherever he goes.



## SAMURAI DAN & JILLIAN

Dan Coglan, a.k.a. "Samurai Dan" and his wife, Jillian are the acknowledged masters of marital... er, MARTIAL mayhem. This dynamic duo travels the civilized portions of the U.S., bringing their unique show to curious and horrified audiences alike. In addition to their high-energy, mostly safe stage shows (where razor sharp blades and barbs fly) the couple teaches historical and hysterical panels on the way of the warrior. Offering a wide range of lectures and interactive workshops, Dan and his lethal love Jillian are guaranteed to provide con attendees fun and fulfillment.



# CONVENTION HOURS

## **Anime Bar (Telluride B)**

Friday: 7:00 PM – 11:30 PM

Saturday: 6:30 PM – 11:30 PM

## **Artists Alley**

### **(Colo. Prefunction)**

Friday: 12:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Saturday: 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

*Individual artists may run their tables earlier or later than the stated hours at their discretion.*

## **Maid Café (Vail)**

Sporadic Sessions

## **Manga Library (Snowmass)**

Friday: 3:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Saturday: 10:00 AM – 9:00 PM

Sunday: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

## **Operations (Boulder Creek)**

Thursday: 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Friday: 8:00 AM – 2:00 AM

Saturday: 8:00 AM – 2:00 AM

Sunday: 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM

## **Panelist Check In Table**

### **(Industry Alley next to**

### **Operations)**

Friday: 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM

Saturday: 9:00 AM – 12:00 AM

Sunday: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

## **Photoshoots (Winter Park)**

Friday: 3:00 PM – 12:00 AM

Saturday: 9:00 AM – 12:00 AM

Sunday: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

## **Press (Industry Alley next to**

### **Operations)**

Friday: 1:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Saturday: 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Sunday: 12:00 AM – 4:00 PM

## **Programming - Panels**

**(Big Thompson, Platte River, Steamboat)**

Friday: 3:30 PM – 2:00 AM

Saturday: 10:00 AM – 2:00 AM

Sunday: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

## **Quiet Room (Breckenridge)**

Friday: 12:00 PM – 2:00 AM

Saturday: 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

## **Registration (Hotel Lobby)**

Thursday: 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Friday: 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Saturday: 9:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

## **Tabletop Gaming (Telluride A)**

Friday: 12:00 PM – 1:00 AM

Saturday: 9:00 AM – 1:00 AM

Sunday: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

## **Vendor Hall**

### **(Colo. Ballroom CD)**

Friday: 2:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Saturday: 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Sunday: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

## **Video Gaming (Aspen)**

Friday: 12:00 PM – 2:00 AM

Saturday: 10:00 AM – 2:00 AM

Sunday: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

## **Video Room (Clear Creek)**

Friday: 3:30 PM – 2:00 AM

Saturday: 10:00 AM – 2:00 AM

Sunday: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

# MAIN EVENTS

## FRIDAY

AMV Contest  
Opening Ceremonies

## SATURDAY

AMV Contest Re-Show  
Costume & Cosplay Contest  
Rave

## SUNDAY

Charity Auction  
Closing Ceremonies  
COAF Feedback Session  
Cosplay Chess

## Colorado Anime Fest

### EXCLUSIVE MERCH!

Plush: \$25  
Lanyard \$6  
Metal Pin \$6  
Acrylic Charm \$4  
Tee \$18



**BUY YOURS AT REGISTRATION!**  
SPECIAL BUNDLE PRICES ALSO AVAILABLE

# GUEST/INDUSTRY PANELS

## FRIDAY

### Cards Against Humanity with Samurai Dan and Jillian (18+)

Prepare to be offended...er, entertained! Late night fun at its finest, the Cards Against Humanity panel will take you where you have never been before...unless you're really, really demented! Samurai Jillian hosts this popular Apples To Apples spin-off, where the otaku play the cards, and the guests judge the warped-ness of the answers and pick the winners. (This panel will take place in Steamboat, where autograph sessions are held.)

### Dubbing Music for Anime with Caitlin Glass

Come and learn about the process behind dubbing theme songs and other music in anime. Join Caitlin Glass as she discusses her experiences adapting and performing anime music for some of your favorite titles like Dragon Ball and Dragon Ball Z, Ouran High School Host Club, One Piece and many more!

### Greggo's Game Shows: Anime Press Your Luck

Get ready, it's time for the game show with lots of Whammies and lots of Big Bucks! Three players will answer questions to earn spins on our big board which is loaded with goodies, prizes and cash to spend in our prize coffers, but be careful. There are also some Whammies that would love to take everything away. Only the player with the most bucks at the end of the game gets to keep it all and maybe come back next year and do it again.

### Kieran Strange: British Redneck (18+)

You've heard him when he has to be family-friendly, or at least PG, but what about when the sun goes down and the reins come off? Brits are known for their sharp witticisms and dirty sense of humour, and Kieran (and his guitarist Dave) hope they won't disappoint in delivering when they kidnap you tonight for a panel of acoustic ditties, geeky parodies, British-American comparisons, and stories and quotes from our time on tour that'll leave you snickering for days. Photos are allowed, but NO VIDEOGRAPHY PLEASE!!!



# GUEST/INDUSTRY PANELS

## **Kieran Strange presents: We Are The Chaos LIVE CONCERT!**

Talented artist, tireless performer, passionate activist, LGBTQ+ fighter, and totally huge dork Kieran Strange is joined this year by his supreme lieutenant dork Dave Kitsberg (who has performed and worked with many great nerd artists and bands including Caitlin Glass, Lemon Demon, I Fight Dragons, The Spooky Bards, Time Crash, and more!) for a high-energy electric and acoustic stage show that will inspire you, touch you in the feels, and give you plenty of opportunities to JUMP! These two artists are behind new geek music project We Are The Chaos.

## **Lauren Landa Q&A**

Lauren Landa is most known for roles such as Annie Leonhardt in Attack on Titan, Litchi Faye Ling in BlazBlue: Calamity Trigger, BlazBlue: Continuum Shift and Continuum Shift Extend: Chrono Phantasma; Kyoko Sakura in Puella Magi Madoka Magica; Little Queen in Tales of Graces; Boiboi in REDLINE; Sqigly in Skullgirls; Karin Kanzuki in Street Fighter V and most recently, the voice of Sailor Neptune in the VIZ Media dub of Sailor Moon and Nao Tomori in Aniplex's Charlotte.

## **The Life of an Artist with Karen Strassman**

"I feel so incredibly lucky to spend my life doing what I love. I am lucky, but living the life that I do also takes a lot of focus, care and intention. How do you make your dream a reality? What qualities are needed to live life in such a way that you are not just "dreaming," but actually taking the concrete steps to do what you yearn to do. How do you ground your dreams in reality and live a life that is truly fulfilling, brings you joy, and brings joy and inspiration to others? A provocative, magical (and even potentially life-changing) heart to heart conversation." – Karen

## **Real Sword or Piece of Crap? with Samurai Dan and Jillian**

Want to pick up a sword and KNOW that it will get you through the upcoming Zombie Apocalypse (oh yeah, it's coming) in one piece? Need to know at a glance if a blade is simply shiny, artsy, or full-on battle worthy? Come to Real Sword or Piece of Crap and follow Samurai Dan through an easy step-by-step examination of blades and prepare yourself for...well, you know!

## **Steve Blum Q&A**

With literally hundreds of V/O credits to his name, Steve Blum is best known as the voice of "Spike Spiegel" from Cowboy Bebop, "Wolverine" from several incarnations of X-Men, "Orochimaru" and "Zabuza" from Naruto, "Oghren" (DragonAge), "Vincent Valentine" (Final Fantasy VII), and "Leeron" from Gurren Lagann.

## **SATURDAY**

### **Alamo Drafthouse Cinema Denver Presents: Representation in Anime Film**

The Alamo Drafthouse Cinema Denver's biggest anime fans on staff discuss various forms of representation in anime film including race, gender, personhood, and where the line is drawn for what works and what's problematic.

### **An Intro to Voice Acting with Karen Strassman**

As it has often been said, voice-acting is a lot more complex than just making a "funny voice." This panel is an introduction to the different elements in creating characters that can touch an audience, compel them, move them to tears, laughter, delightful endearment, or simply make them want to hear that voice over and over again. Karen Strassman will bring in examples of characters and typical voice-over audition copy for you to try.

### **Bebop and Beyond with Steve Blum and Mary Elizabeth McGlynn**

#COAFCowboyBebop! Discuss how the iconic TV series and film changed the voice of anime with Spike (Steve Blum) and Julia (ADR Director Mary Elizabeth McGlynn).

# GUEST/INDUSTRY PANELS

## **Caitlin Glass Q&A**

Voice actress and ADR director Caitlin Glass (Winry in FMA, Haruhi in Ouran) answers all your burning questions about voice acting, directing, singing, fandom, nerdiness and just generally whatever you want! Come bring your Qs and she'll provide the As... and often, free schwaag, too!

## **DON'T LOSE YOUR WAAAAAY with Erica Mendez**

Strap on your Kamui and come talk about Kill la Kill with Erica Mendez, voice of Ryuko Matoi! (Clothing required. Nudist Beach cosplay is the only exception.)

## **Greggo Presents: Password with Caitlin Glass and Erica Mendez**

It's the classic word association game where you and a celebrity guest try to convey secret passwords to each other using only one-word clues! Solving a password gives you a shot at our puzzle, which can be anything at all related to anime, video games or fandom! Solve the puzzles to earn a chance at our end game for big winnings! There is a tryout to get onto the show; check the schedule! The password is FUN!

## **Greggo Presents: Password Tryouts**

Do you want to be a contestant on Password? Bring a friend and come to the tryout for a shot to be on the show. You need to be able to communicate passwords to your partner well in order to be chosen as a contestant. Good luck!

## **Greggo's Game Shows: Farkle**

Two contestants face each other attempting to answer fun multiple-choice trivia questions in an effort to take control of our six dice screens, where every roll is a gamble. Based on the classic dice game called Farkle, Zilch, Greed or Hot Dice!

## **History of Sharp Shiny Pointy Things with Samurai Dan and Jillian**

Samurai battlefield weaponry displayed, explained and demonstrated by Samurai Dan, an expert in 16th century Japanese combat. Lecture features stunning visual aids (blades from 1400-1800) and a question and answer session for attendees.

## **Karen Strassman Q&A**

Karen Strassman is the voice of Soi Fon in "Bleach," Kallen Stadtfeld in "Code Geass," Kiyoh Bachika in "Gurren Lagann," Kazuko Saotome in "Puella Magi Madoka Magica," Olivia and Anna in "Fire Emblem: Awakening," Kitana and Mileena in "Mortal Kombat X," and Fiora in "League of Legends," among others.

## **Project Cosplay with Kieran Strange (A Very Canadian Special)**

We expect you to BRING IT this evening when it comes to creativity, skill, instinct, and fast-paced cosplay construction! Kieran Strange's Project Cosplay returns, pitting pre-organized and thrown-together teams of convention attendees against one another to build and model the best costume or prop that suits the theme of today's game, whilst restricting them in time, equipment, and hilarious everyday crafting materials. After this, we'll light up the "catwalk" and give each of our Canadian-themed teams a chance to show off their creations in a runway show of epic... cardboard... proportions.

## **Samurai vs. Ninja, The Test! with Samurai Dan and Jillian**

Two rival warrior cultures, each rich in history and shrouded in mystery and myth. Samurai Dan highlights each, and offers a tell-all quiz to attendees. Come see which warrior resides inside you!

## **Voiceover Q&A with Lauren Landa**

Talk the business of voice acting with actress Lauren Landa

# GUEST/INDUSTRY PANELS

## SUNDAY

### **An Intro to Accents and Dialects with Karen Strassman**

Karen Strassman has been a professional dialect coach for over 20 years and has coached hundreds of actors to do many different accents for TV, film and voiceover. In this panel she will give an introduction to learning accents and dialects, covering information about the nature of different dialects, where they come from, and the best ways to learn them. Lots of fun examples, useful information, and tricks and tools.

### **Greggo Presents: The Pokémon Game Show**

Four players battle each other in a test of knowledge about all things Pokémon! Answering questions correctly gives them control of our game board where they will face all sorts of challenges. The winner has a shot at becoming immortalized as Champion of the con! About 90% of the questions will come from the first three generations of Pokémon games... be there at the beginning of the panel if you want a chance to play.

### **Mary Elizabeth McGlynn Q&A**

Mary Elizabeth McGlynn has been the English counterpart of Atsuko Tanaka three times: both of them have played Jagura in Wolf's Rain, Rosso the Crimson in Dirge of Cerberus - Final Fantasy VII - and Motoko Kusanagi in the Ghost in the Shell series. She won the 2007 American Anime Award for Best Female Voice Actress for her role as Major Motoko Kusanagi in Ghost In The Shell: Stand Alone Complex.

### **Queer Geeks & Our Allies: The LGBTQ+/SAGA Panel with Kieran Strange**

LGBTQ+ issues, nerd culture, and the convention scene have been likely allies for many years now. Our panel of queer- and ally-identifying hosts will guide a thoughtful, tolerant, open-minded discussion on non-heteronormative characters and themes in fandom, safety and inclusion at conventions, and how some of us have used fanworks to explore our own genders and sexualities. So, just call us Queer Geeks Anonymous! This panel is a great one for both queer-identifying people AND those who may have questions about certain aspects of the queer community and want to discover how they can be a better ally in these darkening times. We want to help you learn, grow, and understand—so we encourage and maintain a super-duper inclusive atmosphere in a judgment-free space which we are NOT afraid to enforce. So, come hang out!

### **Sailor Moon with Sailor Neptune and Sailor Uranus**

After 20 years, Sailor Moon is still one of the best-known anime titles in the world. Join the voice actresses behind Sailor Neptune (Lauren Landa) and Sailor Uranus (Erica Mendez) for a behind the scenes look at what it was like to work on VIZ's new dub of the beloved 90s classic.

### **Way of the Samurai Stage Show with Samurai Dan and Jillian**

The almost mystical martial arts of Japan's greatest warriors, brought to life by professional martial artists. Watch us present the Way of the Samurai, mixing combat and comedy in a dizzying trip to 16th century Japan.

# JAPANESE CULTURE TRACK

We're honored and excited to bring you the following panels focused on Japan's culture and history, presented by the Colorado Dragon Boat Festival.

The Colorado Dragon Boat Festival was started in 2001 to bring together Denver's diverse Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities and educate the public about our many cultures. The 16th Annual CDBF will be held July 30-31 at Sloan's Lake Park, featuring over 100 performances on five stages including a hip-hop stage, two Taste of Asia food courts, an Asian Marketplace and of course, two full days of exciting Dragon Boat Races! Plus, don't miss the Two Days of Anime Tent presented by Colorado Anime Fest.



## **Asians in US Pop Culture**

Asians have historically been nearly invisible in American pop culture, but are now getting the spotlight on a number of TV shows, movie roles and—gasp!—even commercials. Gil Asakawa covers the history of Asians in pop culture, from early Hollywood stars to the years of little representation on TV, and now, the blossoming of Asians in mass media.

## **Colorado Dragon Boat Festival / Colorado Dragon Film Festival**

Festival Executive Director Jennifer Wen will talk about the history and future of the event, including the upcoming second annual Colorado Dragon Asian Film Festival.

## **History of Japanese American**

Japanese first arrived in Colorado in the 1880s, on the heels of the first Chinese wave of immigration. But Asians have faced a long history of hate and prejudice, leading up to the World War II Japanese American incarceration. Journalist and blogger Gil Asakawa, author of "Being Japanese American," gives the long view of the community's presence in the state, and in Denver.

## **Japan-America Society of Colorado**

Dilek Eccles of the Japan-America Society of Colorado offers an interactive presentation about Japanese culture with a trunk full of artifacts and props.

## **Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program**

The JET (Japan Exchange and Teaching) Program sponsors young people from countries around the world including the U.S. to live and teach their home country's language in Japan. Some JET teachers are stationed in big cosmopolitan cities like Tokyo, but they can also be sent to small rural towns where they may be the only non-Japanese member of the community. No matter where they go, JET alumni have wonderful stories to tell. Come hear some of them!

## **Japanese Food in the US**

It wasn't that long ago, when the thought of sushi grossed out a lot of Americans. The thought of eating raw fish simply didn't appeal. Now you can find sushi—some with raw fish—in supermarkets, and ramen has finally arrived in Denver. Join foodies Gil Asakawa, Kei Izawa and Shunsuke Yokota for a lively discussion about the evolution of Japanese food in America. During and after the panel discussion, you can sample Karami, a unique Japanese "salsa" that blends umami flavors with the heat of green chiles. Audience members can even win jars of Karami to take home.

## **Martial Arts Demo: Denver Buddhist Temple Aikido**

Aikido is a Japanese self-defensive martial art. Aikido uses the force of the attacker to neutralize the attack. Aikido has origins in Jujitsu, a form of hand to hand fighting. DBT Aikido teaches the competitive style of Tomiki Aikido. Classes are in Downtown Denver at the Buddhist Temple Gym on the corner of 20th and Lawrence. Children's classes are also offered.

## **Sakura Chorus Mile High**

Sakura Chorus Mile High is a recently-formed local choir, singing in Japanese. Their debut last year was during an event marking the fifth anniversary of the 3/11/2011 Tohoku earthquake, tsunami and Fukushima nuclear disaster. Since then, the group has performed at various community events including Denver's annual "Kohaku Uta Gassen" Japanese singing competition.

## **Takayama Sister Cities**

The Takayama Sister Cities Program is one of the most robust of the many relations around the globe sponsored by Denver Sister Cities International. The Takayama group hosts Japanese exchange students and adult visitors every year. They also send groups of students and adults to Takayama, a small beautiful city in the "Japanese Alps." Takayama Sister Cities holds various events throughout the year. Let Executive Director Steve Comtocks show you some of the great memories from past trips to Takayama, and tell you about opportunities to go on an upcoming exchange trip!

# ATTENDEE PANELS

## FRIDAY

### 1, 2, 3, Kitsuke!

Do you dream of crisp ohashiori? Do you sigh over houmongi? Do you want to know what any of that means? Join “Oba-chan” Lindsey and “Power Clasher” Emily as we walk you through all aspects of kitsuke, the art of dressing in kimono. We’ll discuss all the essentials of how to dress, where to buy, and how to find your own, personal kimono style.

### Anime Voice Actors in Super Sentai and Kamen Rider

Ever watched an episode of Super Sentai or Kamen Rider and thought a voice sounded familiar? That could be because many of the voice actors in those shows are also in your favorite anime series. This panel shows some love to the various voice actors that have been featured in these series throughout the last 40 years.

### Anime-nium!

In Anime-nium!, everyone gets to play in teams with challenges that include drawing, sculpting, trivia, charades, and more to test your anime knowledge. Brought to you by Super Happy Otaku Entertainment, or SHOE!

### Bing-Oh! (18+)

What happens when you get five in a row? B, I, NG... Oh! Prizes for players and a little something extra...

### Buddhist Symbolism in Madoka Magica (Now With More Homura!)

Buddhist belief is a foundational and pervasive aspect of Japanese culture which influences popular media, including anime, in significant ways. This panel will provide an overview of the Buddhist symbolism and concepts that are present in Madoka Magica. Join our discussion of how the movie, Rebellion, informs the symbolism and Buddhist concepts that are present through the series

### Cosplay and Fitness: How to Get the Body of an Anime Hero(ine)

Join ShreddedCosplay as he helps you understand concepts of bodybuilding and nutrition to help you lose weight and build muscle.

### Getting Started with Visual Novels (18+)

Ever wanted to get into the wide world of visual novels? Start here for an introductory panel into what these wonderful games are about. We will discuss a few popular titles while getting into some lesser known indie games and how to support the creators.

### Hallyu in Japan

Hallyu (the “Korean Wave”) hit Japan about 20 years ago and despite the clash of cultures, many Korean artists are promoting in Japan. To celebrate both cultures, we’ll be talking about the entertainment industry and playing Japanese songs from some of your favorite Hallyu artists: Block B, Girls Generation, AoA, Super Junior, and BTS.

### HorseDeer’s Murder Mystery Tea Party!

Join HorseDeer as we eat some good food, drink some tea, and try to solve the sudden murders of our cast members. Interact with our staff and help us work through the clues to detect the murderer in our midst.

### How to Ace Your First Cosplay Contest!

A guide to acing your first cosplay competition. We’ll go over the do’s and don’t’s of competing in any cosplay competition. Wondering how to pick your costume? Worried about what to do on stage? This panel will teach you everything you need to know and more!

### Jackbox After Dark (18+)

Jackbox is a party computer game where you use your phone as your controller, or join in the audience with your phone. There are a variety of games, and we’ll take turns letting audience members play!

### Japanese Pilgrimage

There’s more than just Tokyo to explore. Come join us as we go through the many types of Japanese trips you can take, including a few actual pilgrimages. We’ll show you what bring, what buy, and how to prepare you mind, body, and wallet.

### Senshi and Halfwits

We attempt to play the D&D-inspired Sailor Moon tabletop RPG from 1999. Join us as we save the world! ... maybe.

### SUPERFIGHT!

SUPERFIGHT is a game where you argue with your friends over ridiculous fights. Join us as we play in teams to win favor of the judges. Does your team have what it takes?

### World of Tea

Ever wonder what goes into a delicious cup of tea? How to brew the perfect cup. Tired of the same old Starbucks? Well come on down to find out the differences in oolongs, whites, blacks, greens, herbals, and chai. All are delicious, some more so than others.

### You Don’t Know Anime

Based on the popular game You Don’t Know Jack, this fan-made, computerized game show offers great fun for everyone! We’ll play several rounds with four new players each round. Players will be called up in a Price is Right-style, numerical draw to compete against each other. Come win prizes and have a great time competing! Everyone who plays gets a prize!

### Yummy Yaoi, Yummy Yuri Game Show! (18+)

This is a fun game show with yummy yaoi and yuri fun.

# ATTENDEE PANELS

## SATURDAY

### **A Success in Visual Storytelling: Celebrating Flip Flappers**

Flip Flappers was the fall 2016 offering from a young studio dedicated to creating original works. Many fans felt a strong connection to the work, which is enjoyable on the surface while offering a lot for the astute watcher. Come see one fan's take on what visual storytelling is and how Flip Flappers got everything right.

### **Anime Scene It**

Think you know anime? Are you willing to compete against three other teams to prove you know your trivia? Come to Anime Scene It, guaranteed to challenge even the most knowledgeable anime fan. Based on the popular game Scene It, this fan made game show will leave you talking about it long after the convention.

### **Anime Scene It (18+)**

The adult version of Anime Scene It. 18 years and older only please.

### **Ball Joint Doll Meetup**

Anyone who has an interest in ball joint dolls, has their own collection, or is interested in learning more about the hobby first-hand is welcome! Doll owners are encouraged to meet with their dolls, take photos and exchange tips and tricks when it comes to owning BJDs.

### **Bootlegs 101**

COAF is passionate about supporting the anime industry. Come join a panel of experts to discuss how to spot, stop, and report unlicensed and unlawful merchandise. Wondering if something you own is legitimate? Bring it and ask! We'll also have examples to examine for clues.

### **Cards Against Humanity (18+)**

It's just like regular Cards Against Humanity but with a more adult, custom-made deck.

### **Construction of Samurai Armor**

Ever wondered how to construct a suit of samurai armor? Join us and learn how to build one.

### **Drag Show (18+)**

Cosplay, crossplay, games, queens, kings, and non-binaries, we have it all! Fierce and friendly, come ready for a good time.

### **Figures 101**

Thinking about joining the hobby of figure collecting? Come on in and learn about the growing hobby of figurines! An in-depth presentation about the different types of figures like Nendoroids, Figmas, PVC Scales, Dollfie Dreams and several others. Also learn about how to avoid those fake bootleg figures!

### **Hentai: A History (18+)**

Join us as we explore the history, etymology, laws, and themes of hentai and the erotic arts of Japan through the ages.

### **How to Hand Sew**

Hand sewing lessons, perfect for new cosplayers or someone who is new to hand sewing. Every participant will learn how to sew up to three types of stitches and create a strawberry plushie.

### **Japanese Facts You Didn't Know**

Did you know that Japan has their own native people? Or that a Japanese diplomat rescued more than 6,000 Jewish people from the Holocaust during World War II? And that Japanese-Americans fought the Germans and Italians in WWII? Come learn other unknown and interesting facts about Japan.

### **Roast My Waifu/Husbando (18+)**

Join us for Comedy-Central-style roast your fictional romantic love interests. Bring your body pillows and poor taste as we hold nothing back.

### **Super Happy Fun Time Japanese Game Show!**

As much as we would like to describe this panel to you, that's hard to do. We don't always know what will happen. In fact, we never know what will happen at this game show. What we do know is that people WIN. Come and compete for an uncertain future by doing uncertain activities directed by uncertain characters. Just make sure you bring a sense of humor, because you surely won't survive by your wits alone. In fact, your wits are useless in this game, so leave them behind. So do you have what it takes to be a winner?

### **Telling a Story in Fabric: Choosing Materials, Patterns, and Techniques in Cosplay**

What world does your character live in? What time period? How about the character's status, vibe, or personal goals? Tell it all with the materials, patterns, and techniques you choose for your cosplay! Join us (Zenko.Akko Cosplay) as we walk through our processes for making these choices—from fabric types to historical references, sewing techniques to detailing. Bring your cosplay to life and let it tell a story!

### **The CLAMP Universe**

Come learn about the internationally acclaimed manga artist group of four women known as CLAMP, creators of X/1999, Magic Knight Rayearth, Cardcaptor Sakura, Chobits, Tsubasa: RESERVoIR CHRoNiCLE, xxxHolic, Kobato. and many other well known series!

### **Yarichin B\*tch Club Interactive Yaoi Panel**

Join us at the Yarichin Bitch Club for fun Q&As, truth or dare, trivia, competitions and more! Your favorite yaoi idols are here for your entertainment!.

# ATTENDEE PANELS

## SUNDAY

### AMV Wake Up!

Come wake up to the greatest AMVs on the internet. Enjoy a relaxing morning watching great AMVs!

### Drawing with Panda

Looking to become a Creative Streamer? Wanting to learn a new technique? Transitioning from traditional art to digital and finding it challenging? Or simply just wanting to improve your art style or just starting out? Drawing with Panda will help teach you and answer your questions on what you need the most answers on! From body poses, facial features, and backgrounds to becoming a successful streamer, Panda is here to teach you to your fullest potential! Come join us while we explore the world of art! (Panel is PG-13.)

### Love Live! Fun and Games

Join the members of A-Rise and Muse from Love Live! in interactive games, performances, Q&A, and even trivia with prizes! Come have family-friendly fun!

### Ronin's Advanced Prop and Armor Making

Every convention has the "intro to props and armor" panels, but nobody ever goes into higher end materials and finishes. Well, now you can learn about high quality materials and techniques! We'll go over such topics as moulding and casting, fiberglass, high-quality paints, 3D printing, and more.

### The Mystery of Crossplay and Gender Bending

All the myths, legends, tips, and tricks of crossplaying and gender bending wrapped into a single panel.

### The Return of Digimon: Digital Monsters

Digimon is making a comeback with Digimon Tri, New Order, Heroes, and Appmon. In this panel, we'll discuss the past, present, and future of this show. We'll also have a Digimon show-and-tell, so bring any art, stories, cosplay, etc. you'd like to share! Brought to you by Super Happy Otaku Entertainment, also known as SHOE.

### You're a Main Character Why?

Main characters of an anime, manga or video game can have such memorable personalities or traits that sometimes leave a strong impression on us! Join us as we talk about those main characters that have touched our hearts, ones that may have fallen short in an anime series from their manga or video game counterpart, and the ones that we question why they're in the main cast at all.

# ARTISTS' ALLEY

Atomic Pixies  
Belli-buttons  
Benri Brothers  
Entertainment  
Charming Little Fox  
Creations  
Crystal McDowell and  
Laurissa Hughes  
Cutiehats  
DarkCloudXERO

DinosaurMermaid  
and Lettun Cosplay  
& Crafts  
Eli Benik  
Fantasm  
Ink Junk  
KaiJu  
KENZICHI  
Microcomet  
Illustrations

Michael Fay  
and Megan Loflin  
Nhicam &  
Norwegian Forest  
Papaya Badger  
puppySHAKER!  
Rio Burton  
Illustration  
Sariochan Arts  
Scribblescrab

smiliees  
StartedStar  
StudioZen  
SuzuShoe  
VisiColors  
WhiteOblivion  
Wings, Charms, &  
Things

# VENDORS' HALL

168 Dragon Trading  
Alpine Anime  
Angry Fox  
Anime Pavilion  
Boss Stage Arcade  
Bowen Dragon

Cutiehats  
Eagle Anime  
Fantasm  
Generations of Art  
Hobby Fan  
Media Blasters

Nani?Wear  
Panda Kitty Studios  
PulsArt Studio  
Purple Plum Inc.  
Rainy Day Anime  
Anime Estate

Steam Aged  
Tasty Peach Studios  
Whimsical Whiskers  
/ Blue Jasmine  
Studios  
YES ANIME

# GAMING

## VIDEO GAME ROOM

**Here at COAF, we love introducing new ideas to Denver cons. This year we're partnering with Boss Stage Arcade & Anime and Arcadency to present a video game room very different from typical home setups: join us to play on more than a dozen arcade machines!**

**Here's what you'll find at COAF 2017:**

### **Consoles**

Wii U, Xbox One, PlayStation 4, Xbox 360, and PlayStation 3

### **Music Games**

Dance Dance Revolution, In the Groove, Pump It Up Prime, Jubeat Prop, DJ Max Technika 3, Pop'n Music 18 Sengoku Retsuden, and Project Diva Future Tone

### **Other Arcade Games**

House of the Dead, Left 4 Dead Arcade, Ms. Pac Man, Neo Geo, Fist of the North Star, and Aero Strikers

**All games in the VGR are free to play for anyone with a Colorado Anime Fest badge, so join us all weekend long for open play and tournaments (the tournament schedule is posted in the VGR) and get your game on!**

## TABLETOP GAMING

Where else but the tabletop gaming room can you clear a haunted house or go insane trying, fight giant monsters in Tokyo with your own giant monster, build a train route from San Francisco to Miami by way of Chicago, trade your wood for your friend's sheep (or ruin a friendship when they won't accept), capture treasure from a sinking island, sink your friend's battleship, and pit your favorite anime characters against each other and argue your way to victory—all in one afternoon?

If you've got a badge, you've got a ticket to play some of the best tabletop games ever made. In addition to all the games alluded to above, we've got a wide selection of games to play. There's everything from Euro classics like Agricola and Carcassonne to new favorites like Lord of Waterdeep and Dominion to party games like BANG! and Telestrations to Japanese-themed games like Ninja Dice and Takenoko. And what game room would be complete without Cards Against Humanity?

We're also embracing the local tabletop community by bringing in local tabletop game designers to talk about and demo their games. Join them as they discuss what goes into creating and publishing a game, then play the games yourself. Check out the tabletop gaming room for the schedule of these events and more, including Magic pods!



# RULES AND POLICIES

**At COAF, our main goal is that you have fun! We don't want to be a con all about rules and don't want to have any more than necessary. You can help by following these simple policies to ensure everyone has an enjoyable convention.**

- Always wear your badges visibly and hang on to them at all times while on the convention floor.
- Have questions? Ask at Ops or speak to Convention Response Team (CRT) staffers.

## AUTOGRAPHS

- All COAF guests will sign at scheduled sessions.
- **The first autograph at a scheduled COAF autograph session is always free with your valid convention membership.** Guests may sell optional prints, and/or charge for multiple autographs, photos or recordings to help keep the line manageable. Every guest is different, so don't be afraid to ask.
- If you require special accommodations while waiting in line, please ask the line attendants. COAF is committed to equal, accessible access for all.
- Staff may impose limits on the amount of autographs allowed.
- Guests may also sign at vendor tables. Those are not official COAF signings and may require additional costs.

## AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) ACCOMMODATIONS

Here at Colorado Anime Fest, our goal is for all attendees to have a fun, accessible weekend. If you require assistance for you or a loved one, please ask a staff member or inquire at Con Ops.

### Some of the services we're prepared to provide:

- Line Assistance
- Advanced seating assistance
- Additional assistance as in necessary and available

### The Renaissance Denver Stapleton Hotel has the following ADA accommodations:

- Wheelchairs, elevators, ADA-accessible bathrooms and parking.
- Service animals are permitted within the hotel and convention grounds

We will allow advanced event seating for persons in need as well as one assisting companion. To utilize this assistance, please ask the line attendant at the event door. Assisting companions must have a valid convention badge. All ADA persons and their companions must be of age to enter 18+ panels. This is first-come first-serve and based on room capacities. You must request at least 15 minutes prior to panel start to ensure we can accommodate you.

We understand the complexities of what may constitute special needs, but please remember it's not always easy for a busy staffer to realize when assistance is needed. If a staffer asks for more details, it's to better understand your situation and how we can be of assistance. Please help us help you!

## ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY

COAF is dedicated to providing a harassment-free conference experience for everyone, regardless of gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, age or religion. Harassment includes, but is not limited to: abusive verbal comments; sexual images in public spaces; deliberate intimidation or stalking; unwanted photography/recording; being disruptive; inappropriate physical contact; unwelcome sexual attention; encouraging any of the above. Participants asked to stop any harassing behavior are expected to comply immediately. If they fail to do so, we retain the right to take action, such as warning the offender or expulsion without refund. If someone makes you or anyone else feel unsafe or unwelcome, please report it as soon as possible to any staff member or Con Ops. We do not tolerate harassment of conference participants in any form. Our decisions are final.

## CODE OF CONDUCT

Attendees must use common sense when understanding the rules of behavior, personal interactions, and respect for both private and public property. Behavior that is considered harassing or offensive will not be tolerated. Attendees, staff and other persons finding themselves in a situation where they feel their safety is at risk should locate the nearest security or staff member and they will be treated with the utmost urgency and expeditious manner to resolve that concern.

# RULES AND POLICIES

## CAMERA AND MEDIA DEVICES

Attendees must use common sense when understanding the rules of behavior, personal interactions, and respect for both private and public property. Behavior that is considered harassing or offensive will not be tolerated. Attendees, staff and other persons finding themselves in a situation where they feel their safety is at risk should locate the nearest security or staff member and they will be treated with the utmost urgency and expeditious manner to resolve that concern.

## VIOLATIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

Attendees must use common sense when understanding the rules of behavior, personal interactions, and respect for both private and public property. Behavior that is considered harassing or offensive will not be tolerated. Attendees, staff and other persons finding themselves in a situation where they feel their safety is at risk should locate the nearest security or staff member and they will be treated with the utmost urgency and expeditious manner to resolve that concern.

## COSPLAY

Per hotel policy; no shirt, no shoes, no service. In general, no 'pink bits' or 'pointy bits' should be showing OR depicted on your cosplay. We recommend tan-colored tape. ;) Your costume should not be an adult-level PG-13 or rated R level.

No costumes depicting official government agencies such as American law enforcement nor current military uniforms are allowed.

Larger or bulky costumes within the convention and hotel must be able to fit through a standard doorway (36 inches) to ensure fire safety rules. If a costume grants poor visibility or ventilation, we request that the cosplayer keeps a handler available to escort him/her.

No costume props may cause smoke, odor or fog. If you want such a device for the cosplay competition, please speak with staff in advance and we will decide the device's appropriateness.

## PROPS

All props are to be checked in with CRT before they are allowed into the convention areas. CRT will peace bind any props. All registered props must be kept on the signee while on the convention floor at all times. If a prop should be loaned or shared with another attendee, both parties are responsible for the prop and both will be held accountable for any misconduct.

Violation of peace binding may result in immediate loss of prop privileges. It is the responsibility of the attendee to bring any prop back to security to re-bind if necessary.

### Banned items

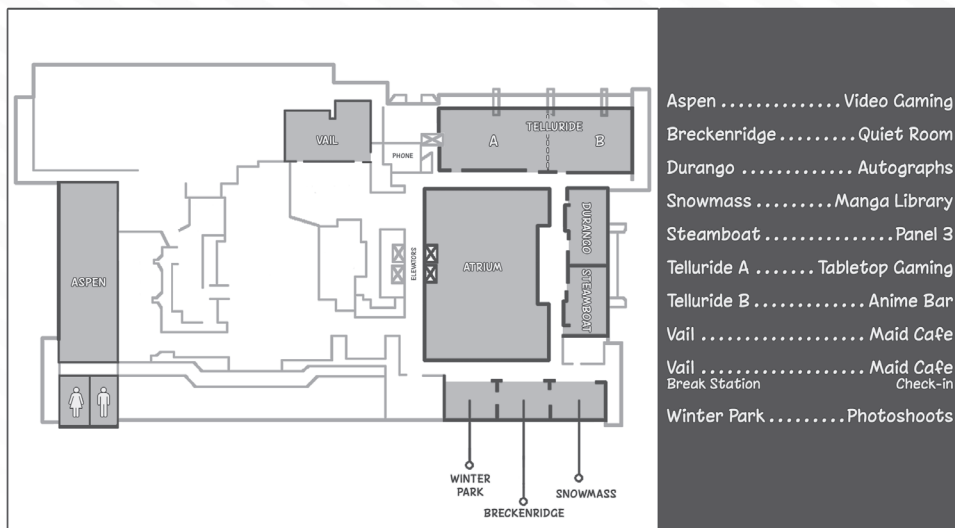
- Anything illegal in the state of Colorado or the United States.
- Any live steel weapons that do not have a sheath. "Live Steel" is any metal that can or does hold an edge.
- No projectile or firearms of any kind.
- If security deems a prop dangerous or harmful in any way, it will be banned from the grounds. This will be determined on a case by case basis.
- Metal items used for costumes are not allowed to have sharp or pointed edges that could cause injury to oneself or others.

### Allowed items

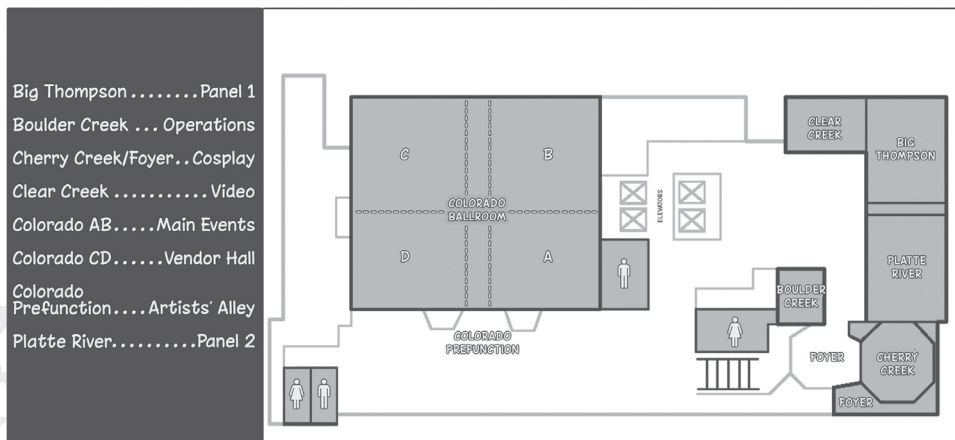
Live steel props that are properly sheathed and peace bound are acceptable. If item cannot be bound in any way to prevent it from being drawn, it will not be allowed. Nerf or airsoft guns that have a non-removable orange safety tip and do not look remotely real will be allowed, following the conditions that the trigger mechanism will be peace bound and all ammunition is emptied from the device. Any blunt or wood props will be evaluated to determine if they will cause any risk. Any large items such as baseball bats, wooden swords, frying pans, etc. may be allowed conditionally. Any functional ammunition (real); such as arrows, must have tips removed and be zip-tied to their quiver or casing.

# MAPS

## ATRIUM LEVEL



## BALLROOM LEVEL





## U R B A N P E A K

Here at Colorado Anime Fest, we're a family. Last year, we established a tradition to pay tribute to our staff while raising money for great causes.

This year, we are saddened by the loss of Neal Feldman, father to staffers Amber, Sammi and Tanya. In his honor, they have chosen to support Urban Peak. Urban Peak is the only non-profit organization in Denver that supports youth (ages 15-24) experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of becoming homeless in the Denver metro area and Colorado Springs. Their goal is to help them become self-sufficient adults.

Please help us honor Neal Feldman this weekend at our charity auction on Sunday, 2:30-3:30 PM in Main Events and by visiting our silent auction table near Vendors' Hall and Artists Alley all weekend long for rare sketches, signed keepsakes and more. 100% of all money raised from charity programming will go straight to Urban Peak, who will also have a table on the lower level convention floor.

Thanks to your help, we raised \$1,100 for the ALS Association-Rocky Mountain chapter last year. Can we top that for 2017?

**Colorado Anime Fest**  
**Broad Horizons Events Board of Directors**