

**VISIT US IN THE GAME ROOM
AND AT THE STORE!**



**GAME KASTLE
COLLEGE PARK**



**ASK US ABOUT HOT, NEW,
AND UPCOMING TITLES!**



**4748 Cherry Hill Rd, College Park, MD 20740
(301) 477-3524 | collegepark@gamekastle.com**



Montgomery County's Comic Con

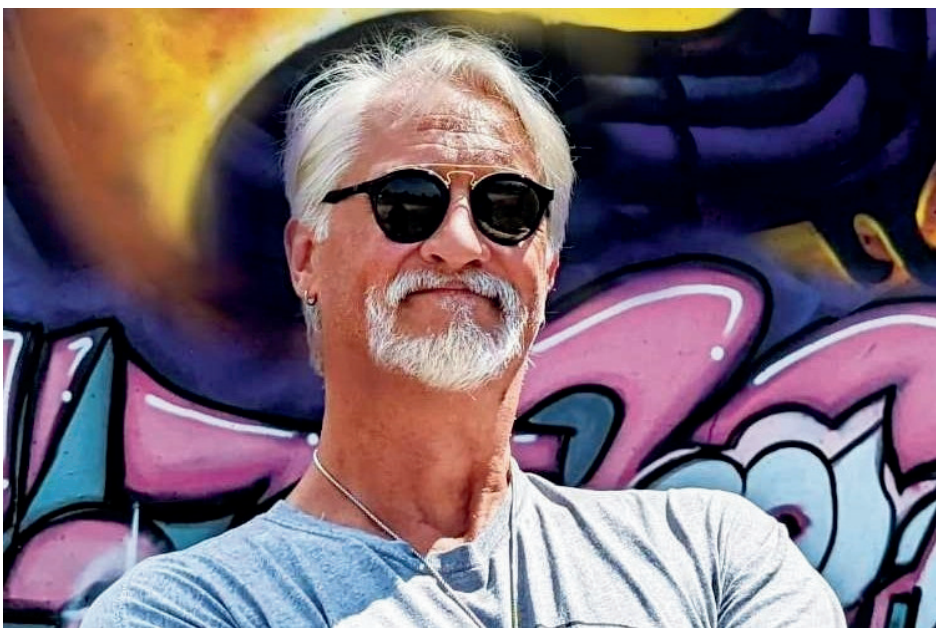
Convention Guide



2026

Meet the one and only **PAUL NIEMEYER**

**Professional artist, sculptor, and creator
of the original Mortal Kombat arcade
game artwork.**



**Paul is in the Video Gaming Barn all day
with his art and stories. Don't miss his
Mortal Kombat Tournament starting at
2pm. Visit the barn to sign up.**



Food Trucks

RisuCon has lots of food trucks:

Mexican, crepes (sweet AND savory), sandwiches, ice cream and more! They are located between the vendor halls and the Game Room/Activity Room. We have plenty of picnic tables for you to sit and relax and eat.

All of our food trucks say they have Vegetarian/Vegan options **but please check with each.**



**PALMETTO BAY
CUISINE**

Flossy Candy
cotton candy and lemonade



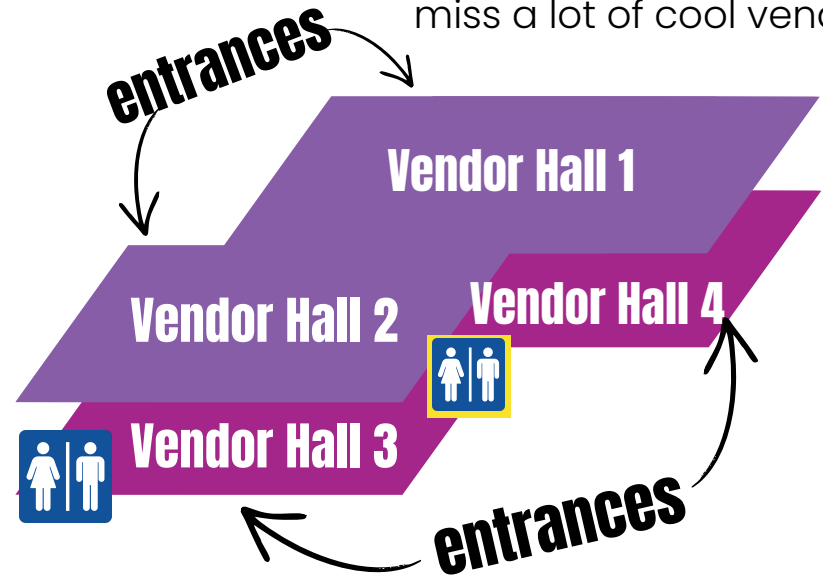
All of these food trucks confirmed they would be on site for RisuCon. However, things happen. So we can't guarantee any particular truck will be here. And we may replace a truck with another if someone says they can't make it.

Programming: Panel Room 2 (Milking Parlor) Schedule

Time	Title	Description
11:30am	Cardboard Senpai: Exploring Japan's Amazing TCGs by Jen Galloway	Cardboard Senpai: Exploring Japan's Amazing TCGs is a panel dedicated to the world of Japanese trading card games beyond Pokémon. We'll introduce attendees to games such as Yu-Gi-Oh!, Cardfight!! Vanguard, Hololive, Gundam, One Piece, Godzilla, and more, discussing their themes, gameplay, and communities while helping players discover new games to enjoy. If space permits, we would also be happy to provide demo games during the convention.
12:30pm	Native American Representation in Anime	Native Americans have a long past of being misrepresented in media, and anime is no exception. In this panel we will go over examples of Native American tribes and characters in anime, and what the creators got right versus what they got wrong. We'll break down stereotypes and misconceptions while also discussing how representation can be improved in the future!
1:30pm	D.I.Y. Vocaloid with DJ RdottyBoom	Are you into Hatsune Miku? Interested in Vocaloid production? You're in the right place. Previously featured at Anime Otapia and Miryokucon, this Vocaloid Workshop provides a sought-after introduction to the production experience. Upcoming Vocaloid producer "DJ RdottyBoom" will discuss the history of the Vocaloid scene, before making a Vocaloid song live!
2:30pm	E for Everyone: Creating Pop Culture Spaces for Fans	The past five years have left people feeling isolated and without purpose. Nowhere to hang out, make friends, or discuss politics constructively. This panel explores how fandom spaces can help build stronger, safer communities through the lens of "third places." Learn why community matters, how shared interests create connection, and how fans can work together to promote civic engagement.
3:30pm	American Anime by Lex Winter	Lets talk about the history of anime as a whole, and how the medium has had a lot of fun being defined, marketed, and "broken" in the United States. Covers 100+ years of animation!
4:30pm	Welcome to the U19 Club: the Bombs of Shonen Jump *presented at Katsucon 2026!	For every Dragonball, Naruto, and One Piece, there are dozens of other series to grace the pages of Weekly Shonen Jump that are cut down early by its infamously cut-throat editorial department. Of those axed series, there are some that receive the dubious honor of joining the ranks of the U19 Club for being cancelled in under 19 chapters. Join us as we take a look at some of these failed series to see why got axed, what can happen when a story gets abruptly cut, and if any of these series are worth reading anyways.

Vendor Halls

RisuCon has **FOUR VENDOR HALLS**. They are stacked on top of each other. Each Hall has about 30 vendors in it. If you miss a hall, you miss a lot of cool vendors!



There are large bathrooms outside Hall 3 as well as in the corridor that connects Hall 3 and 4, with a Gender Neutral bathroom there as well.



SCAN this QR code for a complete list of vendors. Don't miss any vendors, visit all 4 halls!

COSPLAY BARN SCHEDULE

TIME	TITLE	WHAT IS IT?
11:30-12:20	Cosplay 101 with Bato_potato	Want to explore the wide world of cosplay and conventions, but don't know where to start? Never fear! Bato breaks down convention etiquette and safety, inclusivity/representation, cosplay resources, and general tips and tricks. This is great information for a first time con-goer and even a seasoned attendee.
12:30-1:45	Fur Ear Workshop – Cosplay Crafting with Caleb Cosplay	Create custom fur ears with provided materials in this hands-on cosplay workshop. Take your project home!
2 PM- 2:50	Leatherworking 101 with Eowinth Cosplay	Explore different types of leather and how to utilize the various types and thicknesses. Discover tools for leather working and basic starter ones used for most projects. Learn the dos and don'ts of stitching with leather, and when and how to incorporate it into cosplay armor and design.
4:15 – 5:15	Friendship Bracelet Making with Jeteo Lupe	Make and take friendship bracelets (AKA Kandi). Take home the memories of Risucon with your own wearable souvenir! Or make one to match your cosplay, or to trade with your friends or fellow con-goers. This workshop will provide string and beads, a pattern so you can plan out your bracelets, and teach you how to knot the string.
5:30 – 6:30	Foamsmithing 101 with Melpool Cosplay	Have you seen cool looking armors that you want to make but don't know where to start, or maybe think that cool looking armor will cost a lot of money? In this panel, Melpool explains the process of planning an EVA foam armor project, beginning with planning, materials and sizing, and going through the construction process and then to painting, strapping, and finishing.
Ongoing	Melpool's Booth	Working with Spandex
Ongoing	Nyxx Wolf's Booth	Cosplay doesn't have to break the bank! Learn how to start and elevate your cosplay journey using everyday tools and resources from NyxxWolf!
Ongoing	Give It Some History: Aging, Distressing & Adding Depth to Costumes and Props with Roux Fee Ohh	Learn how to transform clean costumes and props into pieces that look lived-in, weathered, and full of story. This hands-on demonstration will cover techniques for aging, distressing, and adding shadows and depth to different materials, with a variety of tools and methods shown for different needs and skill levels. We'll also explore how intentional wear, grime, fading, and shadows can communicate a character's history and environment—turning a costume from something that looks made into something that looks lived in.
Ongoing	Maki's Cosplay Repair Station	We're your one stop shop for all costume repairs, advice and touch ups!
Ongoing	Lumikha's Cosplay Resale	The largest secondhand cosplay marketplace where cosplayers can buy & resell new, used, or unworn cosplays

Thanks to our cosplay superstars: Melpool, Eowinth Cosplay, Jeteo Lupe, Bato Potato, Nyxx Wolf, Roux Fee Ohh, Caleb Cosplay, Lumikha Cosplay, and Maki Roll.

Programming: Panel Room 1 (Heritage Building) Schedule

Time	Title	Description
11:30am	The "Real" Man: Violence and Masculinity in Devil May Cry by Ladies in Waiting *presented at Otakon and Anime USA 2025!	"This party's getting crazy...let's rock baby!!" The Devil May Cry video games are all about the boys. "They make the angels scream and the devil cry." They are handsome, tough guys with quirky one-liners, big swords, and a tough strut. They're cool, they're strong, and they're manly. But what exactly makes them so masculine? Where do these customs and traditions come from? And, who inspires the masculinity of Dante, Vergil, and Nero? What is this series trying to say about what it means to be a man or a demon? When you connect Devil May Cry to the greater literary trends of Japan (in the face of hell, even devils cry), you may find out that the characters of DMC are a part of a much larger conversation about what it means to be a man in Japan.
12:30pm	Shrines, Sushi, and Sento: Tips and tricks to traveling in Japan	Planning (or dreaming of) a trip to Japan? Confused on the difference between a onsen and a sento? Not sure if an anime cafe will be worth it? Worried about the 'unspoken rules' of behavior? Trip planning can be overwhelming and so many things can go wrong (or so so right). This panel will go over some of the basics of traveling in Japan, as well as tips and tricks for the smaller aspects that can help streamline your plans.
1:30pm	Fanfiction: A History by Katriel Paige *presented at Katsucon 2026!	A short history of fanfiction, fandom, and media history, with a focus on fanfiction and fanworks before 2009 and ending with the establishment of Archive of Our Own / Organization for Transformative Works.
3:00pm	Cosplay Contest by Superhero Support Inc.	You MUST pre-register for the cosplay contest with Superhero Support in Vendor Hall 3 in order to participate in the contest.
5:00pm	2026 RisuCon Idol Show hosted by Polarys	RisuCon's first idol showcase, where cosplay, kaigai, and k-pop style idols and idol groups sing, dance, and shine bright to bring light to fans and newcomers alike!



Blood on the Clocktower, anyone? Games starting every few minutes in the Clocktower white barn. Just walk in and sign up. Brought to you by our friends at Capital Clocktower.

VIDEO GAME BARN

The Video Game Barn has multiple consoles running competitive PvP games all day long. Play **Street Fighter**, **Super Smash Bros**, and an old school version of **Mortal Kombat**. Just walk-in!
Register for the Smash Tourney →



Super Smash Bros tournament starting at 12pm.

Paul Niemeyer Invitational Mortal Kombat tournament starting at 2pm.

ANIME SCREENINGS

IN THE ANIME SCREENING ROOM, HERITAGE BUILDING

12:00pm Kaiju Girl Caramelise

24 min Rated PG-13

Kuroe Akaishi is an introverted, quiet, and seemingly normal high school girl. Though accustomed to being alone, her dreary days begin to change when she meets Arata Minami, a bright and handsome boy in her class. Despite his popular status, he is kind enough to reach out to an outcast like her; soon, Kuroe finds her heart begins to pound around him. It keeps pounding and pounding and pounding until Kuroe transforms into a monstrous kaijuu! She has a certain affliction: as her embarrassment grows, so do the monstrous appendages from her body; and when it hits a peak, she unleashes the full extent of her transformation. At the same time, beauty meets the kaijuu, and Japan faces off against the looming threat of the mysterious monster. Can Minami accept her feelings, or will he too be frightened off by her colossal form? Depending on his decision, the world may experience the full devastation of a girl's heart-pumping, youthful love.

12:24pm Saved by the Ice Cold Prince's Embrace 5 min Rated PG-13

As the illegitimate daughter of a count and his maid, Katrina was born into miserable circumstances. And now that she's lost her mother, the treatment from her stepsister and stepmother the countess has only grown worse. One day, her stepsister receives a royal order to move to the northern outskirts due to her unseemly behavior at a recent party. There, she is to learn proper conduct under the tutelage of the resident prince, rumored to be a cruel man. Not wanting to subject her daughter to such punishment, the countess decides to send Katrina instead. Katrina arrives in the north shaking in fear. But contrary to the stories, the "merciless and cold-hearted" prince is kinder than she believed. Might the pure-hearted Katrina find love in the wintry countryside?

12:29pm My Stepmother and Stepsisters Aren't Wicked

23 min Rated PG-13

Miya is the illegitimate child of a certain prominent family. When her mother dies, she's convinced she knows what awaits her in her new home: a life of servitude and misery at the hands of her wicked stepmother and stepsisters! Yet when she finally meets the women she expects to treat her like dirt, they actually end up being...sweet?!

12:52pm Grow up show sunflower circus

23 min Rated PG-13

In Japan during the height of its economic boom in the mid-1950s, the circus was a form of entertainment that became a central part of many people's lives. The best troupes are permitted to participate in the world-renowned "Circus Collection" festival, and many come from all over Japan to compete daily. The story centers on the struggling "Sunflower Circus" troupe, led by ringmaster Maria, and a new prodigy that joins their ranks for unknown reasons: Mizuka Tsurumaki. Is her encounter with the highly individual members of the Sunflower Circus troupe a coincidence or destiny? This one-of-a-kind circus show depicting young girls chasing their dreams begins!

1:15pm The World Is Dancing

23 min Rated PG-13

One does not need dance to live. In 1374, during the turbulent age when the Northern and Southern Courts were locked in conflict, the Northern Court's shogun, Ashikaga Yoshimitsu, was becoming an increasingly dominant force. Born the son of Kanami, head of the Kanze troupe of sarugaku performers, Oniyasha drifts through his days with a hazy question lodged in his heart: Why do people dance? His spirit remains clouded, until the day he encounters a dance that is truly "good." Curious, sensitive, and strikingly beautiful, the boy meets people, laughs, cries, confronts his own weaknesses, and slowly begins to shape a new form of dance for a world steeped in impermanence.

1:38pm Young Ladies Don't Play Fighting Games

23 min Rated PG-13

A hot fighting game played at the girls's school!! Aya transferred into Kuromi Girls Academy a month ago with the goal of changing herself into a proper lady. After meeting the breathtaking Shirayuri, Aya is blown away by her elegance and posterity. Imagine her surprise when she finds Shirayuri after school playing... a fighting game?! And if that wasn't perplexing enough, she is challenged to a duel by the unladylike Shirayuri!

ANIME SCREENINGS (Cont.)

2:01pm Black Torch

23 min Rated PG-13

Seventeen-year-old Jirou Azuma lives a quiet life with his grandfather, utilizing his supernatural ability to speak with animals to befriend and protect them. Both Jirou and his grandfather are descendants of a long-standing shinobi clan, training in combat to keep the art of battle alive within their family. Jirou's life is thrown into upheaval after rescuing a seemingly normal black cat, Ragou, only to discover that the cat is actually a mononoke—a demonic spirit that has long been at war with mankind. When a hostile mononoke comes looking for Ragou, Jirou uses his shinobi training to jump to the cat's defense, but immediately suffers a mortal wound. Faced with the decision of whether or not to devour Jirou's fading energy and restore himself to full power, Ragou instead chooses to give his remaining energy to Jirou. Reviving the boy, the transfer also grants him great supernatural powers that complement his own shinobi fighting style. This act is witnessed by Ryousuke Shiba, an officer in the Bureau of Espionage whose job revolves around dispatching aggressive mononoke. Shiba extends Jirou and his grandfather an offer: to join the Bureau's new squad, Black Torch, and help them battle powerful mononoke who seek to devour innocent people.

2:24pm Flaming Dodgeball Girl Danko

23 min Rated PG-13

Danpei's daughter, Danko Ichigeki. To revive her school's dissolved dodgeball club in the Reiwa era, Danko battles alongside her childhood friends to recruit new members and take on fateful rivals.

2:27pm Goodbye Laura

23 min Rated PG 13

Long, long ago, there lived a mermaid princess named Lara. She was raised with love by her father, the king of sea and her sisters. One day, Lara fell in love with a human prince who lived on land. It was a forbidden love—one that was not allowed in the world of mermaids. Still, Lara journeyed to the surface. With a potion, given to her from the witch Grace, she became human. But the potion came at a cost—fail to find true love, and she would turn into foam and vanish into the ocean. Though she was a princess of the sea, Lara chose love. Yet, her wish went unfulfilled and she vanished into the sea. Two hundred years later, Lara awakens once more, in Lake Biwa to finally search for her true love.

2:50pm Oh Boy, Was I Wrong About Her

24 min Rated PG-13

I met my childhood friend again, and she had become a beautiful and innocent girl. "It's been a while, Hayato." "Haruki, is it?" In the past, I used to play in the mud with my childhood friend in the countryside, and when I saw him again, there was no trace of the bratty young man I thought he was back then. Only in front of Hayato, she threw away the coat she was wearing and reacted in the same crass way she did back then. The distance between you and me has not changed.

3:13pm Magical Girl Lyrical Namoha Exceeds Gun Blaze Vengences

47 min Rated PG 13

Thirty years ago, the sudden appearance of unknown invasive alien lifeforms nearly brought about the end of the world. Since then, humanity and these creatures, known as Invasion Species, have continued to clash over living territory. Although human safety is barely being maintained, the world remains on the brink of collapse. As the threat of death and destruction lingers, people go about their daily lives by turning away from the constant danger around them. In response, the United Nations establishes EXCEEDS, an organization tasked with investigating and combating threats caused by the Invasion Species. The story begins in the Far Eastern island nation of Mizuho, where Shiina Kuze, a young hunter who exterminates invasive species, lives on a remote island. Wanting nothing more than a quiet life with her only family—her younger sister, Setsuna—Shiina's routine is disrupted when an unexpected incident occurs, drawing her into a much larger conflict.

4:00pm Batman Knightfall

1 hour 19 min Rated R

Bane destroys Arkham Asylum, letting free all the inmates within. Batman pushes himself to his physical and mental limits while attempting to recapture all the criminals.

GAME KASTLE GAME ROOM

Open gaming all day! Demo games likes DNUP, Gudnak, Tag Team, and more. Drop-in D&D session seats open at noon, and begins when enough players have arrived. Plenty of games to sit down and play!



Matthew is in Hall #2, booth 204

COSPLAY CONTEST

TIME	WHAT	WHAT TO DO
11:00 – 12:00	COSPLAY REGISTRATION: Youth and Adult	If you want to participate in the Cosplay Contest at 3pm, you MUST pre-register at the Superhero Support table in Hall 3. This is right across the street from the Cosplay Barn. If it is nice weather, they will have someone outside registering people. There are a limited number of spots so register early.
12:00 – 2:00	COSPLAY PRE-JUDGING	All cosplay will be pre-judged in advance of the Cosplay Contest. If you registered, YOU MUST APPEAR FOR PRE-JUDGING. Pre-judging takes place in the HERITAGE BUILDING (where PANEL ROOM 1 is). Line up in the grassy area at the exterior door under the Number 8. Bring your A game to pre-judging, let the judges know how you made your cosplay, show them details. <i>The judges are selecting the winners of the contest during pre-judging.</i>
2:30 – 3:00	COSPLAY PARADE: All ages	EVERYONE in cosplay should join our Cosplay Parade. Gather on the street outside the Cosplay Barn. Someone will direct how you line up. The parade travels through almost every building of the convention! A great way to show off your cosplay to everyone. <i>Secret judges will be along the parade route and will award a Youth and Adult Cosplay Parade trophy after the parade in PANEL ROOM 1.</i>
3:00 – 4:30	COSPLAY CONTEST: Youth and Adult	On the main stage in PANEL ROOM 1. If you were pre-judged and told to line up, line up against the wall in the panel room and wait for your name to be called to take the stage. After everyone has had a chance to “walk the runway” our winners will be announced.

ANIME SCREENINGS (Cont.)

5:19pm Golden Axe Animated series

Rated PG 13

Follows veteran warriors Ax Battler, Tyrus Flare and Gilius Thunderhead as they once again battle to save Yuria from the evil giant Death Adder who just won't seem to stay dead.

6:00pm Closed



Thanks to our friends at DC ANIME CLUB for presenting non-stop anime at RiuCon!



ACTIVITY ROOM (ALL AGES)

TIME	TITLE	WHAT IS IT?
12:00 – 1:00	Go: How To Play with Athena	Learn the basics of playing GO and experience a few short games.
2:00 – 3:00	How to Draw a Cartoon Werewolf with Chris Flick	This is a Bob Ross style panel where attendees draw along with Chris in a step-by-step process of drawing a cartoon werewolf with some cartooning tips, tricks and educational points thrown in as well. Chris shows you how cartoon characters are designed with simple geometric shapes to build a cartoon skeleton and then flesh them out in the final stages. This is an interactive, participating panel where all attendees draw along with Chris - All ages - kids and parents alike.
4:00 – 5:00	Zines and their Fandom History with Cayden	Come prepared to make your own one page zine
Ongoing	GO	Play a game of GO
Ongoing	Puzzles	Relax with a good jigsaw puzzle
Ongoing	Coloring	We have coloring and Activity books!
Ongoing	Manga	Experience our extensive Manga library
Ongoing	Origami	Learn some Origami, or if you have a favorite, teach it to others!

SCAVENGER HUNT

Can you help a lost squirrel? Start the RisuCon Scavenger Hunt.



THEMED GROUP PHOTOS

Group photos that you can download later from our website for FREE. Gather at the Heritage Building (anime and panel Room 1) under the big number 8.

11am-11:30

Animated Web Series

11:30am-12

Video Games

12pm-12:30

TV Shows & Movies

12:30pm-1

Music, Idol, and Performance Games & Anime

1pm-1:30

Anime

1:30pm-2

Comic Books and Superheroes

LARP



LARP stands for Live Action Role Play. Kind of like playing D&D for real. Come to the LARP area on the map to see demonstrations and battles all day long. Put on by our friends at Darkon Wargaming Club.

2pm-2:30

At these times there will be a big battle game demo.

4pm-4:30

6pm-6:30

All other times during the con features open sparring when YOU can be paired with a veteran fighter and try your hand at sparring or even giving LARP archery a try with target practice



SAVE THE DATE!

**RISUCON 2027 WILL BE SEPTEMBER
25, 2027 AT THE FAIRGROUNDS**

SPECIAL THANKS

Putting on a show like RisuCon would not be possible without the hard work of our dedicated volunteers. We want to thank: Kyle S., Kyle M., Maria, Jen, Kevin, Dianna, Dave, Colleen, Shirley, Richard, Mike, Heidi, Erika, De'Shire, James, Brian, Dennis, Melina, Angela, Elizabeth, Jesse, Josi, Maki Roll, and all our SSL student volunteers. Thanks to all our single day volunteers, Bowie State University, DC Anime Club, and our special groups like Darkon Wargaming Club, 501st Legion, Mandalorian Mercs, and the Rebel and Saber Guild. Lastly, we thank our partners Superhero Support and (anyone else we left off this list!)

THANK YOU!

Don't miss breakout Maryland rapper

YUNG LEX

performing at 1 pm at our Food Trucks stage

A rising star featured by **Crunchyroll** and Capcom, you may have heard his viral One Piece song on Apple Music!



\$5 COSPLAY PHOTO SHOOTS

Get your professional, studio portrait of your awesome cosplay for just \$5 in the Photo Barn. We have props and a set designed to look like a Japanese Tea Room. Come get your portrait taken, then \$5 gets you a printed copy and a protective sleeve. The digital copies of the shoot will be available for free download in a few days.



LEARN ABOUT OUR NEW BOOK!



Flying Koala Publishing is in Hall #1, booth 101



Start the scavenger hunt!

WELCOME TO RISUCON

Activity Room Game Room

Handicap drop off/parking use 16 Chestnut Street on your GPS



Vendor Hall 1

Vendor Hall 2

Vendor Hall 4

Vendor Hall 3



Big Cheese



LARP

HERITAGE BLDG.

Anime



Panel 1



Cosplay Barn

Panel 2



\$5 Photo Studio

Clocktower

Video Gaming



First Aid



Bathrooms



Gender Neutral Bathroom Available

M

Merch

R

Registration



Photography



Barbers & Braiding



Information



Safety, Health and Security



Food Trucks



Picnic tables, relax, socialize



Theme cars



Superheroes



Mandalorians, Rebels, Jedi, Stormtroopers



Gender neutral bathrooms are available on the first and second floors of the Vendor Halls. The upper restroom is behind the barbers and braiders between the two buildings (it has 2 steps, so not wheelchair friendly). The lower restroom is in the hallway between the vendor halls, between the lady's and men's bathrooms.

Free bottled water is available all day at marked water stations (not shown on this map, but you'll see them). There is also a water fountain inside the Heritage Building (Anime & Panel 1 building). Please stay hydrated!

