

2015

RodCon, Program, 2015

University of Northern Iowa

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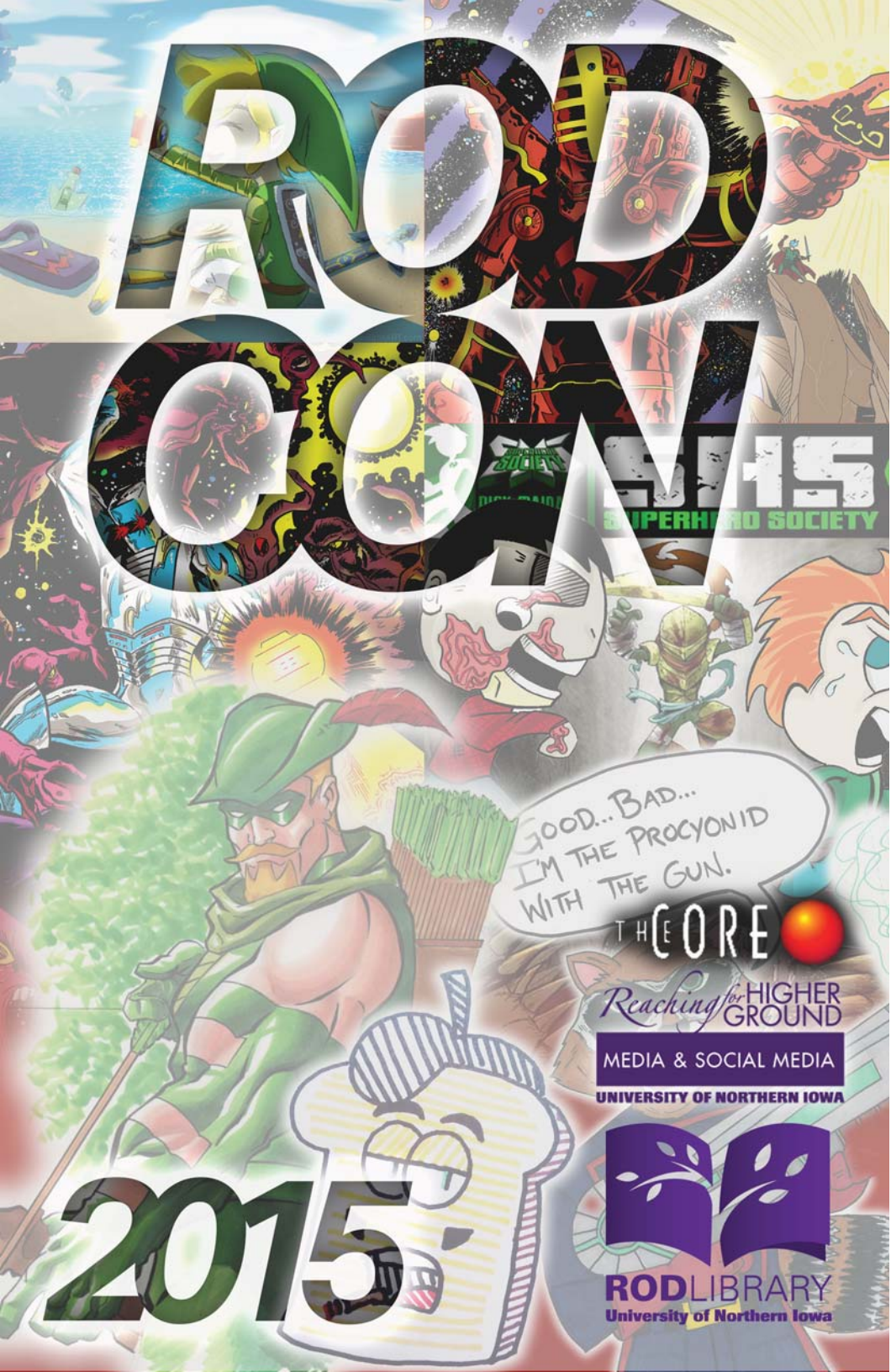
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ROD

CON

SH15
SUPERHERO SOCIETY


GOOD... BAD...
I'M THE PROCYONID
WITH THE GUN.

THE CORE

Reaching for HIGHER GROUND

MEDIA & SOCIAL MEDIA
UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA

2015


RODLIBRARY
University of Northern Iowa

WELCOME

Welcome to the 2nd Annual Rod Library Mini Comic Con. The event is free and open to the public. Our goal is to provide an open forum for discussion about the theme of a networked society focused on popular culture, comics, and gaming. Our panel presentations are also focused on providing a forum for discussion about the complex issues of race, gender, class and social justice in popular entertainment. We will be hosting a Tweetwall this year. To see your entry, use the hashtag **#RodCon15**

By participating in the RodCon, all participants agree to allow the Rod Library to use their images for promotional purposes, both photographs and video. To see the photos of the event and the photobooth, go to www.flickr.com/photos/unirodlibrary/sets/

The Rod Library is always free and open to the public. You can stop by the Circulation desk any time and sign up for a free visitor card. The card will grant you in-house access to any of the library databases, and the ability to check out materials. You will need a photo ID to apply. For up-to-date information follow us here:



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We hope you have a great time! Pencil us in for next year April 2, 2016
We welcome your suggestions and feedback here:
<http://goo.gl/forms/Jy64Jfk7IZ>

11-4

Artist Alley (Main Floor)

Artemis Bridge Simulation (Room 286)

Belegarth Demo (Grassy Knoll on North Side of Library. Rain/Snow Location- University Room, Maucker Union)

Door Prizes- (Circulation Desk)

Free Comic Book Giveaways (Information Desk)

Kid Zone (3rd Floor Youth Collection)

Magic Tournament (Digital Media Hub)

11:00 Registration

12:00 Game Play

No Photo Zone/Anime Viewing (1st Floor 123)

NiCoral Arkham Carnival (Main Floor)

Photo Booth (281)

Table Top Gaming (Browsing Room)

Trivia 12:00-4:00 (1st Floor across from UNI Museum)

Video Gaming (282A & 282B)

12:00

13 and under Costume Contest (Main Floor)

Prizes donated by The Core Comics and Games

**Presentation: "Pedagogy and Popular Culture"
Room 324**

Dr. David Grant, Dr. Siobahn Morgan, and Dr. Joe Gorton will discuss ways in which they have incorporated popular culture into their classroom as both a teaching tool and also as the subject for study.

Trivia -Harry Potter

1st Floor, across from the UNI Museum

12:00 Continued

**Presentation "Superman Is Jewish?:
How Comic Book Superheroes Came to Serve
Truth, Justice and the Jewish-American Way"
Room 373**

Did you know Superman is Jewish? Harry Brod will teach us how Clark Kent and Superman embody the real and fantasy lives of their creators, two Jewish teenagers in Depression era Cleveland. From Superman and Batman to Spider-Man and the Hulk, comic book superheroes have sprung from the imaginations of Jewish men. What themes of gendered power and powerlessness, of diasporic longings and immigrant uncertainties did these men inscribe into their superhuman creations? This talk explores these and other issues to generate new understandings of our heroes, our selves.

Harry Brod's lecture draws on his book *Superman is Jewish?: How Comic Book Superheroes Came to Serve Truth, Justice and the Jewish-American Way*, published by Free Press (Simon & Schuster) in 2012. Harry Brod is the principal analyst in the ARTE-TV documentary "From Superman to Spider-Man: Adventures of the Superheroes," featuring such comics greats as Neal Adams, John Buscema, Dave Gibbons, Joe Kubert, Stan Lee and Alex Ross. (Only Stan gets more screen time than Harry).

**Presentation: "Surviving Conventions Without
Losing Your Mind: The Return"
Room 378**

Second verse, same as the first. Bailey Hager leads this panel to help you navigate all types of conventions without that annoying need to tear your hair out! We will be covering expenses, expectations and, of course, the exhibitions themselves. This doubles as a Q&A panel so if you have questions, we've got answers!

1:00

Presentation "The Controversial Christian Comics of Jack T. Chick"

Room 373

The recent attacks in Paris have led to a focus on the intersections between religion, comics, and controversial content. Labeled by some critics as "hate literature," the Christian cartoon tracts of Jack T. Chick take aim at Roman Catholicism, Islam, homosexuality, and a variety of other targets. Purposely offensive, Chick tracts differ fundamentally from the Charlie Hebdo cartoons: they contain no trace of irony or satire (though the reader can supply their own). This presentation by Brandon Dean will explore the controversial worldview contained within the works of Chick and his associates. Through contextualizing the tracts within a larger American evangelical Christian history and looking at other comics with religious content that garnered controversy for very different reasons (such as Garth Ennis and Steve Dillon's *Preacher* and Naif al-Mutawa's *The 99*), I hope to present the complexities of the religiously motivated offensiveness of one of the twentieth-century's most published comics creators.

Presentation: "Down the Rabbit Hole"

Room 324

Down the Rabbit Hole will explore how animation portrays a young woman's journey to adulthood through the "Wonderland" movie. Starting with Disney's 1951 film *Alice in Wonderland*, young female protagonists often find themselves transported to another world in order to fully reach maturity. Zach Lowe will look at how two recent films, Laika's *Coraline* and Studio Ghibli's *Spirited Away* continue in this tradition and the similarities of these young girls' quest to become women.

Trivia -Science in Comics

1st Floor, across from the UNI Museum

1:00

1:15

1:30

1:45

1:30

**TAPP Fashion Show
Main Floor**

A superhero inspired fashion show by students in the Textiles and Apparels Program.

2:00

**Presentation "Depictions of Muslim Women in Comics"
Room 373**

Sade Barfield will lead a discussion of the depiction of Muslim Women in comics.

**Presentation "Who Would Win"
Room 324**

Maria Hoekstra, Jennifer Paulsen, Doug Shaw, Paul Siddens Will Azbill and Joshua Fiser will get together and argue the classic question: "Who'd Win?" You, the audience, are free to submit your fave combatants. "Superman vs. The Hulk?" "Atom vs. Ant-Man?" "Stan Lee vs. Jack Kirby?" "Tommy Chong vs. Paul Siddens?" Let's resolve these issues once and for all!

**Presentation "Network Nirvana"
Room 378**

A faster paced multimedia table top game that everyone will enjoy.

**Trivia -Disney
1st Floor, across from the UNI Museum**

2:30

**Belegarth Demo
Grassy Knoll on the North Side of the Library
Rain/Snow Location University Room- Maucker Union**

Come enjoy this full contact battle game with foam weapons. The UNI Sword-Fighting team will be on hand all day to teach anyone interested in participating in the battle.

3:00

14 and over Costume Contest (Main Floor)

Prizes donated by The Core Comics and Games

Presentation "Beyond *Maus*: Comics and Graphic Novels dealing with Genocide and Human Rights"

Room 373

Stephen Gaies leads a presentation/discussion about how graphic novels, comics and animation have been used to document, represent and raise awareness about a broad range of historical genocides and contemporary human rights issues.

Presentation: "Star Wars Costuming"

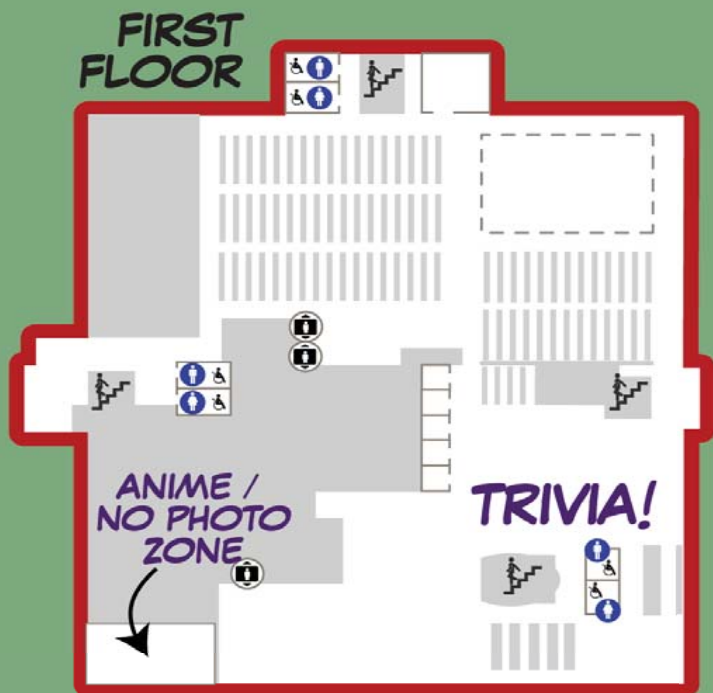
Room 378

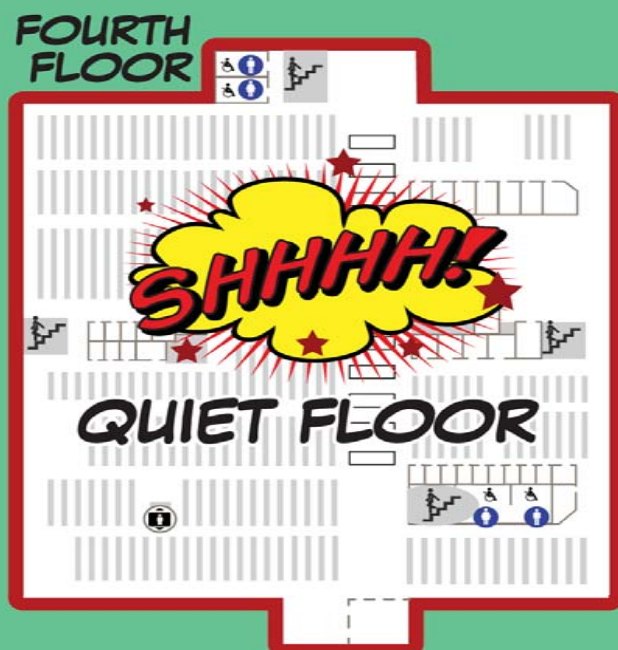
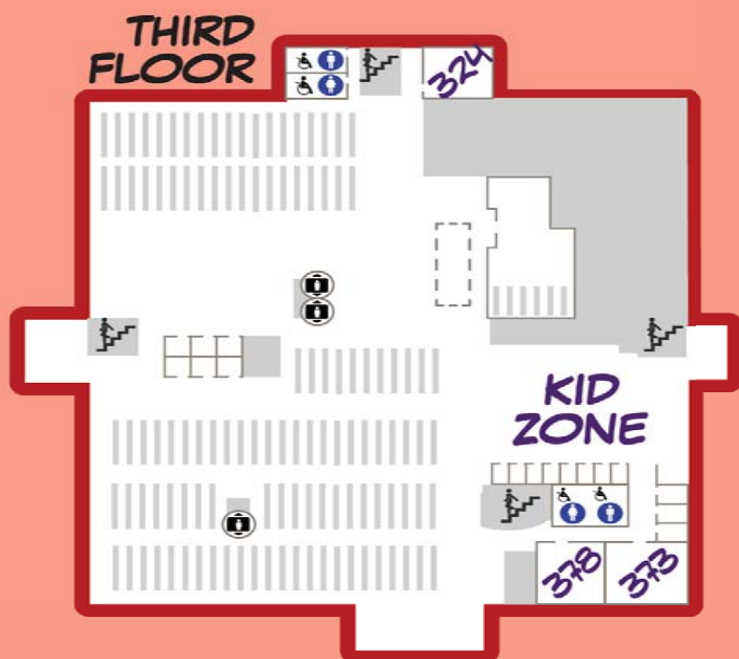
Come learn about Star Wars costume clubs the Mandalorian Mercs and the 501st Legion. Discover tips and tricks to costume making and where to get parts for your costume.

Trivia -Buffy

1st Floor, across from the UNI Museum







Autographs

Autographs

Thank You!

Many thanks to our generous donors, volunteers, artists, and presenters. We couldn't have done any of it without you.

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First Second Books
Free Comic Book Day
Casey Huff
IDW Publishing
Limited Edition
Shurtech Brands
Top Shelf Productions

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Valiant Entertainment
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and to all the hard working Rod Library employees for their time, patience, and flexibility as we put all of this together.

Cover Art Courtesy of:

BJ Humphrey
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Victoria Luck
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Booth # 48

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