

Build for the room

An entry window opens tomorrow, stages are active this weekend, and venue rules reshape the build. Five practical signals from Portland, Japan and Greece.

Craft

Events

Community

Photography

4 min read · CosplayGrid editorial

01 / EVENTS

UPCOMING ENTRY WINDOW



Tomorrow's application needs today's photos

Kumoricon's official rules set cosplay submissions for September 13 at 3 pm Pacific through September 27 at 11:59 pm Pacific. As of this edition, the window has not opened. Craftsmanship and dual entries need reference and work-in-progress photos showing at least 50% completion; entries are first-come, first-served within division caps, with a waitlist after those caps. No on-site entries will be accepted. The convention itself is November 13–15 in Portland, not this weekend. [\[1\]](#) [\[2\]](#)

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

Prepare the required image folder and test its sharing permissions now. For September 13, 3 pm Pacific is 6 pm Eastern. Read the full eligibility and entry rules before submitting.



Rose City puts the build book on stage

Rose City Comic Con schedules its cosplay competition for Saturday, September 12 on the Main Stage. Its rules require costumes to be 75% handmade and a physical or digital build book for craftsmanship judging. The August 6 application deadline has passed—even a surviving form is not an open call. This extends yesterday's documentation theme with a different organizer's standards, not another reminder about the same contest. No results are claimed here. [\[3\]](#) [\[7\]](#)

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

Make your build book easy to scan: overall reference, construction sequence and a close-up that explains one difficult technique. Requirements differ between competitions; keep the underlying photos reusable.



At TGS, the venue is a design constraint

Tokyo Game Show's cosplay area runs September 19–21 at Makuhari Messe. Cosplayers need a one-day admission ticket plus cosplay registration and a cosplay ticket; same-day availability is not guaranteed. The official guide prohibits arriving or leaving in costume, prohibits hairspray inside the venue, and restricts long props at the 50 cm threshold, including extendable items.

Photography belongs in designated cosplay areas; ask permission both to photograph and to post. Video recording and commercial photography are prohibited under this guide. [\[4\]](#)

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

Set the wig before arrival, plan an on-site change and check the full prop rules before packing. A collapsible prop is not automatically compliant. Plan still portraits with explicit posting consent.



A gaming weekend makes room for several cosplay formats

Gameathlon's September 11–13 program at the Tae Kwon Do Olympic Arena in Greece lists a cosplay competition, a team competition, a parade and an Artist & Cosplay Alley. That is a useful distinction for makers: presenting a character, competing as a group and meeting creators are different kinds of participation. These are organizer-listed activities, not an eyewitness recap or a verified open call; late-entry availability is not established. [5]

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

Choose your goal before your format. For a future group appearance, rehearse spacing and shared poses; for an alley visit, bring a specific question about a maker's materials or finishing process.



Secondhand material can be part of the craft story

Kumoricon's listed Crafting with Sustainability award recognizes craftsmanship entries using practices such as recycled or secondhand materials. Its examples include cardboard and papier-mâché props or armor, and fabric harvested from a thrifted tablecloth for a dress. This is a published judging opportunity, not evidence that reuse is suddenly a global cosplay trend. The same rules judge material choices, execution and interpretation, and explicitly permit modifications for comfort, safety and function. [1]

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

Treat reclaimed material as a design choice worth documenting. Photograph its starting condition, test a small sample for the intended seam or finish, and record why it suits the costume.

MAKE A PLAN

Event radar

Dates as listed at publication. Follow the organizer for changes.

Sep 11

through Sep 13, 2026

Gameathlon ↗

Tae Kwon Do Olympic Arena · Greece

Ongoing weekend program includes individual/team cosplay and a parade. No late-entry availability verified.

Sep 19

through Sep 21, 2026

Tokyo Game Show · cosplay area ↗

Makuhari Messe, Hall 9 · Chiba, Japan

These are cosplay-area dates, not the full trade-show run. Registration and admission are separate requirements.

Nov 13

through Nov 15, 2026

Kumoricon ↗

Oregon Convention Center · Portland, Oregon

Contest applications scheduled September 13–27; division caps and waitlists apply.

FANDOM → TECHNIQUE

On the floor

Scope: organizer programs and rules at Kumoricon, TGS and Gameathlon—not crowd reporting or global popularity. Technique prompts are editorial interpretation. [\[1\]](#) [\[4\]](#) [\[5\]](#)

Reclaimed textiles → costume construction

Kumoricon explicitly names secondhand fabric in its award examples. Study the usable fabric area and test seams before committing to a garment.

Game characters → compact portraits

TGS's venue rules favor a plan built around compliant props and designated still-photography areas. This is an event constraint, not a ranking of fandoms.

Ensemble fandoms → coordinated staging

Gameathlon lists a dedicated team competition alongside its parade. Matching pose timing and keeping silhouettes readable are editorial rehearsal prompts.

TRY THIS

Make the invitation specific.

Invite another maker to a ten-minute readiness check: can they open your progress-photo folder, understand one construction choice and spot a prop or costume detail that conflicts with your event's rules?

Sources

1. Kumoricon · official cosplay contest rules ↗
Publication date not listed · Checked Sep 12, 2026
2. Kumoricon · official dates and venue ↗
Publication date not listed · Checked Sep 12, 2026
3. Rose City Comic Con · official cosplay competition ↗
Publication date not listed · Checked Sep 12, 2026
4. Tokyo Game Show · official cosplay area guide ↗
Publication date not listed · Checked Sep 12, 2026
5. Gameathlon · official weekend programming ↗
Publication date not listed · Checked Sep 12, 2026
6. Rose City Comic Con · official event information ↗
Publication date not listed · Checked Sep 12, 2026
7. CosplayGrid · September 11 edition ↗
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Checked September 12, 2026. This is a planning-led edition: source pages do not supply publication dates, so scheduled events and existing rules are not presented as overnight announcements. Today's improvement is a time-zone-specific, status-checked application window plus primary-source coverage from Japan and Greece. September 11 is the only earlier archive edition; its unchanged deadlines are not repeated. No sponsored placements.