

What holds the costume together

BlizzCon's winners, a London waitlist, Melbourne's cosplay home base and the structure beneath a sculpted wig. Five findings for the next build and the next outing.

Craft

Events

Community

Performance

5 min read · CosplayGrid editorial

01 / CRAFT

EVENT RECAP · CONFIRMED RESULTS



Sparkz takes BlizzCon's Best in Show

Blizzard's official Community Night results name Sparkz Best in Show and Epic FX winner for Ceremonial Jacaranda Regalia with Sunny Floral Staff. Oshley won Master Crafter as Kael'thas Sunstrider; Shannon Noelle won Armories & Artifacts as Azure Drake Brigitte; Zalkegeroth and Faltation won Dynamic Duo as Fall of the Lich King. This follows the September 12 stage event in Anaheim and closes the loop on our September 11 preview. These are organizer-confirmed awards, not our own judging or a claim about the costumes' hidden construction. [\[1\]](#) [\[10\]](#)

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

Use the credited names and official results as a starting point for studying the makers' own breakdowns. Separate what a finished image shows from techniques only the creator can confirm.



London's Masquerade is already on a waitlist

MCM's overview still says Masquerade registration opened September 11, but its linked form now says Saturday and Sunday are full and the form is inactive. It directs handmade-costume entrants to the organizer's email waitlist

instructions. The separate Sunday Variety Show application remains available, with applications through September 23 and supporting performance proposals due September 28 at 9 am. The WCS Team UK qualifier's listed September 6 registration deadline has passed. These are three different routes, not one open cosplay call. [\[2\]](#) [\[3\]](#) [\[4\]](#)

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

For the Variety Show, prepare the shared proposal folder after applying; the form limits performances to three minutes, excludes mains-powered items and full band setups, and requires a valid event ticket. The 9 am deadline has no explicit time-zone label on the form—confirm it with the organizer and submit early.



PAX Aus gives cosplay a home base

PAX Aus returns to Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre on October 9–11. Its Cosplay Land guide lists a repair station, changing space, lounge, trinket trading, meetups and a theatre with three days of panels and workshops. This is an upcoming facility to plan around, not a new September announcement: Digital Reviews Network covered the space on April 23. The

official guide also asks attendees to keep photography out of Expo Hall aisles and routes costume weapons through the Info Desk check near the Clarendon Street entrance. [\[5\]](#) [\[6\]](#) [\[7\]](#)

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

Build a day plan around changing, repairs and breaks as well as photos. Check the current workshop schedule before choosing sessions; the facilities listing is not proof that a specific workshop or championship entry is available.



Put the repair stop on your London map

For MCM London's October 23–25 show at ExCeL, Cosplay Central is on ICC Level 3 at the east end of the venue. The organizer lists a larger Cosplay Hospital repair area there and a show-floor outpost whose location is still to be confirmed. Volunteer repairs are free, but the team cannot store bags; venue cloakrooms are the separate option. Beyond contests, the daily

Cosplay Showcase accepts bought and wardrobe-assembled costumes, with on-site sign-ups before 1 pm or earlier if capacity fills. [\[2\]](#) [\[9\]](#) [\[11\]](#)

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

Save the confirmed hub location before suiting up, and keep essential closures accessible for a repair. Yesterday's costume-pulling primer has a practical continuation here: a bought or altered outfit can join the showcase even when a handmade-costume contest is not the right fit.



A sculpted wig can start with a shell

Hairmel's Iron Wig tutorial, published by Arda Wigs on June 19, 2018, shows a hard-shell cap made with cast tape over a lined, protected canvas wig block. The maker describes using it for dome shapes inside larger wigs and for theatre or quick-change work, with hair or the wig attached by sewing or glue. It is a specific structural technique, not a new material launch or evidence of a

current wig trend. The guide preserves expansion space at the back and covers the shell's edge with the liner. [\[8\]](#)

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

Study the full tutorial before selecting materials. It specifically warns about fiberglass, cut edges and the need for gloves; follow the cast-tape manufacturer's directions. Make the support on a wig block, and check fit and finished edges before styling the outer silhouette.

MAKE A PLAN

Event radar

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

Oct 9

through Oct 11, 2026

PAX Aus ↗

Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre · Melbourne, Australia

Cosplay Land facilities and programming listed; individual workshop availability is not verified.

Oct 23

through Oct 25, 2026

MCM London Comic Con ↗

ExCeL London · United Kingdom

Masquerade is full with a waitlist. Variety Show has separate application and proposal deadlines; see finding 02.

FANDOM → TECHNIQUE

On the floor

Scope: official award results, two related organizer programs and one dated maker tutorial. No crowd counts or global popularity claims; build prompts are editorial interpretation. [\[1\]](#) [\[2\]](#) [\[5\]](#) [\[8\]](#)

Blizzard characters → several kinds of craft recognition

The official BlizzCon results distinguish Master Crafter, Armories & Artifacts, Epic FX and Dynamic Duo. These are this contest's awards, not global technique rankings.

Event infrastructure → a more workable costume day

PAX Aus and MCM London both list repair and changing support. These two ReedPop event guides show a shared operational emphasis, not independent evidence of an industry-wide surge.

Theatre technique → sculpted wig support

Hairmel's archived tutorial connects a hard shell with large wig forms and quick-change work. This is a transferable craft reference, not a measured 2026 trend.

TRY THIS

Make the invitation specific.

Ask a fellow maker to inspect one hidden support: a wig base, belt, closure or prop attachment. Can it be adjusted or repaired without dismantling the whole costume? Photograph the solution before it disappears beneath the finish.

Sources

1. Blizzard · official Community Night winners ↗
Publication date not listed · Checked Sep 14, 2026
2. MCM London · official Cosplay Central guide ↗
Publication date not listed · Checked Sep 14, 2026
3. MCM London · live Masquerade registration status ↗
Publication date not listed · Checked Sep 14, 2026
4. MCM London · Variety Show application and proposal requirements ↗
Publication date not listed · Checked Sep 14, 2026
5. PAX Aus · official Cosplay Land guide ↗
Publication date not listed · Checked Sep 14, 2026
6. PAX Aus · official dates and venue ↗
Publication date not listed · Checked Sep 14, 2026
7. Digital Reviews Network · Cosplay Land announcement coverage ↗
Published / updated Apr 23, 2026 · Checked Sep 14, 2026
8. Arda Wigs / Hairmel · hard-shell wig-cap tutorial ↗
Published / updated Jun 19, 2018 · Checked Sep 14, 2026
9. MCM London · official dates and venue ↗
Publication date not listed · Checked Sep 14, 2026
10. CosplayGrid · September 11 edition ↗
Published / updated Sep 11, 2026 · Checked Sep 14, 2026
11. CosplayGrid · September 13 edition ↗
Published / updated Sep 13, 2026 · Checked Sep 14, 2026

Checked September 14, 2026. One confirmed weekend-results recap, three event-planning findings and one explicitly dated archive primer—not five overnight announcements. All three existing editions in the prior seven-day window were reviewed. Today's improvement: follow entry links through to their actual capacity state, distinguishing MCM's full Masquerade from the separate Variety Show deadlines. Wig structure broadens the craft coverage. Undated sources retain no publication date. No sponsored placements or reproduced event photography.