

Make the character yours

Human WALL-E interpretations, a long-built Samus suit, Johannesburg's floor-level creativity, Manila's community plans and a wig-setting primer. Five findings grounded in named sources.

Craft

Community

Events

Photography

6 min read · CosplayGrid editorial

01 / CRAFT

NEWLY SYNDICATED REPORT · FANX MAKER INTERVIEWS



RECAST

CHARACTER CUES
ACROSS FORMS

WALL-E becomes a wardrobe, not a replica

ABC4's FanX report, carried by Yahoo with a September 25 UTC timestamp, interviews Melissa and Shad about their human, gender-bent interpretations of WALL-E and Eve at the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City. The

pair contrasts a rugged look with a more buttoned-up, modern one, retaining recognizable details such as the plant in a boot. This is a documented reinterpretation by two participants, not a claim about the most popular costumes at FanX. The UTC publication falls on September 24 in Utah. [\[1\]](#)

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

Pick three reference cues before changing a character's form: a silhouette, a surface quality and a meaningful object. Sketch how each can survive in ordinary clothing. Credit the reinterpretation as your own rather than presenting it as a screen-accurate replica; the interview does not supply a pattern or unseen construction details.



Samus armor has two different clocks

In the same ABC4 report, a maker named Andrew describes his Metroid-inspired Samus armor: about seven years developing his 3D-modeling skills, then seven months printing and finishing the build. He connects the project to playing Metroid Prime as a child. These are his reported timeframes, not an estimate for every armor project or proof of a particular printer, resin or

finishing recipe. The distinction makes the learning behind a finished costume visible. [\[1\]](#)

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

Keep a learning log separate from the build schedule. Prototype one joint or panel before estimating the whole suit, and record finishing time as well as printing time. Compare the finished detail with its reference and test movement; the reported seven months is context, not a deadline to copy.



Johannesburg's hallway gallery is not a contest result

Hypertext's September 25 Comic Con Africa gallery explicitly says its reporters encountered cosplayers in the halls rather than attending dedicated cosplay events. Its named examples include Doug Dimmadome and a Lorax

who offered a small pipe-cleaner tree sapling after a photograph. The organizer confirms September 24–27 at Johannesburg Expo Centre, Nasrec, South Africa. This adds an observed floor-level follow-up to our September 21 programme preview without repeating unchanged registration instructions or treating a gallery as championship results. [\[2\]](#) [\[3\]](#) [\[6\]](#)

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

A small character-specific gesture or accessory can complete an interpretation without adding a large prop. Prototype one portable detail and ask before offering it to someone. Follow the credited gallery to see the costumes; no event photographs are reproduced here, and the article's selections cannot establish fandom shares across the convention.



Manila's new gathering is designed with solo fans in mind

A newly accessible Philstar profile interviews Toni Babao about COSPLANET PH, reported for October 30–31, 10 am–9 pm, at the Collab event venue of Sheraton Manila Hotel in the Philippines. She describes wanting activities for people attending alone as well as with friends, drawing on her experience as an introverted attendee. Cosplay contests, performances and art booths are among the announced plans. The page is dated September 26 in the Philippines, where it is already the next morning at this edition's Detroit check; it is not a completed-event recap. [4]

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

Treat the dates and venue as reported plans, not an open contest call. A detailed rulebook, entry deadline and current contestant acceptance were not established. For your own visit, look for a specific activity you can join independently and verify the final timetable and admission arrangements; the organizer's aspiration does not guarantee accessible facilities or a particular attendee experience.



Let the wig cool into its new shape

Wigs.com's July 2021 guide for heat-friendly synthetic wigs explains that heated fibers need to cool in position to retain a curl or straightened shape. It recommends gentle detangling from the ends upward and warns against puncturing lace or monofilament features when securing a wig to a block. Its curling instructions cap the tool at 275°F; that is guidance for the fibers discussed in this retailer's article, not permission to heat any synthetic wig. The page also promotes its own styling products; none is endorsed here. [5] [1] [7]

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

First identify the exact wig fiber and follow its manufacturer's instructions, using an adjustable tool only if heat styling is permitted. Work on a small, inconspicuous section and let it cool before assessing the result. This adds a technical check to the FanX report's Delicious in Dungeon wig-styling interviews and extends yesterday's material-label theme: a technique mentioned by a cosplayer is not a universal treatment for every fiber.

MAKE A PLAN

Event radar

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

Sep 24

through Sep 27, 2026

Comic Con Africa ↗

Johannesburg Expo Centre, Nasrec · Johannesburg, South Africa

Ongoing event; today's coverage concerns hallway encounters, not judged results.

No new entry availability asserted.

Oct 30

through Oct 31, 2026

COSPLANET PH · reported plans ↗

Collab · Sheraton Manila Hotel, Philippines

Philstar reports 10 am–9 pm local time. Detailed cosplay rules, entry deadline and current acceptance not established.

FANDOM → TECHNIQUE

On the floor

Scope: ABC4's named interviews, Hypertext's selected hallway encounters and one Philstar organizer profile. No global fandom rankings, visitor estimates or inferred construction methods. [1] [2] [4]

WALL-E → human reinterpretation

ABC4 interviews one pair translating robot characters into contrasting clothing. This is a named creative approach, not a FanX popularity ranking.

Character recognition → small supporting details

Hypertext's Johannesburg floor account identifies a Lorax's pipe-cleaner sapling. The observation belongs to one encounter, not all South African cosplay.

Solo attendance → intentional activity design

Toni Babao's Philstar interview describes an aim for COSPLANET PH. It is an organizer's stated design goal, not measured demand or a completed outcome.

TRY THIS

Make the invitation specific.

Show a friend three character cues and one cooled material sample. Which cue carries the identity most clearly, and which detail needs another small test before you scale it up?

Sources

1. ABC4 / Yahoo · FanX maker interviews ↗
Published / updated Sep 25, 2026 · Checked Sep 25, 2026
2. Hypertext · Comic Con Africa floor gallery ↗
Published / updated Sep 25, 2026 · Checked Sep 25, 2026
3. Comic Con Africa · official dates and venue ↗
Publication date not listed · Checked Sep 25, 2026
4. Philstar · Toni Babao and COSPLANET PH ↗
Published / updated Sep 26, 2026 · Checked Sep 25, 2026
5. Wigs.com · How To Style Heat-Friendly Synthetic Wigs ↗
Published / updated Jul 5, 2021 · Checked Sep 25, 2026
6. CosplayGrid · September 21 edition ↗
Published / updated Sep 21, 2026 · Checked Sep 25, 2026
7. CosplayGrid · September 24 edition ↗
Published / updated Sep 24, 2026 · Checked Sep 25, 2026

Checked September 25, 2026. Five findings across five external domains: two distinct FanX maker accounts from one reporting chain, a new Johannesburg floor report, a Philippine organizer profile and an established retailer craft guide. The seven latest available editions were reviewed; unchanged deadlines are omitted. Today's improvement adds a wig-fiber and cooling primer while distinguishing learning time from build time. Yahoo's syndication date uses UTC; the Philippine profile retains its September 26 publisher date rather than being relabeled as September 25. FanX interviews establish location but no exact interview day, so those eventDate fields remain unset. COSPLANET plans are attributed to the interview; no open applications are asserted. No sponsored placements or reproduced photography.