

A place for every kind of build

Johannesburg's reported champion, a library-sized stage in Illinois, Malmö's open parade, Tokyo's participation rules and a cleaner costume neckline.

Craft

Community

Events

6 min read · CosplayGrid editorial

01 / COMMUNITY

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Johannesburg's gallery now comes with reported results

Pfangirl's September 29 eyewitness roundup reports Jax Cosplay, also known as Brendan Jackson, in first place at the Comic Con Africa Championship of Cosplay as a Chaos Lord of Khorne from Total War: Warhammer III. It lists

Amanita Cosplay's Aela the Huntress from Skyrim second and FrostyKity's Wizardmon from Digimon third. The organizer places the completed show at Johannesburg Expo Centre on September 24–27. Unlike the hallway gallery in our September 25 edition, this source explicitly reports competition results; they remain attributed to Pfangirl rather than presented as an organizer-issued results sheet.

[1] [2] [3] [12]

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

The same report recognizes specialist work in makeup, wigs, props, needlework and armour, matching the organizer's published award categories. Pick one area of your next costume to document closely instead of trying to perfect everything at once. Follow the credited report for photographs and maker links; a placing does not reveal a costume's hidden materials or a reproducible build method.



A library programme separates showing from competing

The Daily Eastern News has published a video report on EIU Comic Fest at Booth Library, Eastern Illinois University, in Charleston, Illinois. Its accompanying text confirms a completed weekend event; the university calendar gives September 26, 10 am–4 pm. That organizer listing distinguished a Costume Show open to participants from a Cosplay Contest requiring a brief pre-judging appointment. The library's current page now thanks attendees. These sources establish the event and its advertised participation routes, not who won or what every video interviewee said. [\[4\]](#) [\[5\]](#) [\[6\]](#)

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

For a future local outing, check whether a showcase and judged contest have different registration steps. An unjudged appearance can be a useful first test of walking, posing and talking in a costume. EIU's listed registration and pre-judging times have passed; they are not current entry opportunities. The free public event also advertised hands-on activities, offering a model for combining making with a costume outing.



Malmö makes room for a parade without judging

Malmö Game Week's cosplay programme describes an open, noncompetitive parade organized with Reel-Icons, alongside a hands-on Studiefrämjandet cosplay workshop welcoming beginners and experienced makers. A City of Malmö release confirms September 26–27 at Malmömässan in Malmö, Sweden. The programme also names R2 Builders Sweden and meetups spanning The Witcher, Pokémon and Star Wars. This is a review of the published format after the weekend, not eyewitness confirmation that each activity ran or an invitation to register now. [\[7\]](#) [\[8\]](#)

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

When helping organize a maker gathering, offer a clearly named way to participate without being judged, plus a place to ask technique questions. A parade, a workshop and a contest serve different needs. The cited workshop description does not identify a specific material, tool kit or finished object, so do not turn its broad promise into a construction tutorial. Named meetups demonstrate this programme's range, not Sweden-wide fandom popularity.



Ikebukuro's night and daytime plans need different checks

Ikebukuro Halloween Cosplay Festival's official guide schedules Ikehalo Night at Sunshine City in Tokyo on October 30, 4:30–10:30 pm, for participants aged 18 or older, excluding high-school students. The main Ikebukuro-area festival follows October 31–November 1, 10 am–6 pm. Cosplay and dedicated photography participation require the corresponding registration ticket. The detailed rules distinguish those activities from simply watching or taking a passing smartphone photo. This is existing planning guidance, not a new event announcement or proof that any ticket category remains available. [\[9\]](#) [\[10\]](#)

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

Read the September 18 detailed rules before packing: the normal requirement is to change at the venue, with an explicit Prince Hotel special-accommodation exception. Do not treat an ordinary hotel booking as that exception. Ask permission both to photograph someone and to publish the image; the rules prohibit commercial use of event photographs. Check ticket-specific changing hours and the final area map before travel. Advance sales are listed to end at 11:59 pm Japan time the day before each event day, but can sell out earlier.



Give a facing its own line of stitching

Seamwork's facing tutorial adds a useful next step to our September 26 seam-grading primer. After attaching a neckline facing, grading the allowances and clipping the inward curve, it instructs makers to understitch: sew the seam allowance to the facing close to the original seam line, then turn and press. Grading distributes bulk; clipping lets a curve spread; understitching joins the allowance to the inner facing. These are separate operations in an established finishing sequence, not a newly invented technique. [\[11\]](#) [\[13\]](#)

FOR YOUR NEXT BUILD

Try the sequence on a small neckline sample in your actual costume fabric before finishing a visible edge. Keep the outer bodice out of the understitching so this remains an inside finish rather than exterior topstitching. Follow the pattern's allowances and press appropriately for the material. Compare how the facing sits before and after; record the sample alongside your earlier graded-seam test.

MAKE A PLAN

Event radar

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

Oct 30

through Nov 1, 2026

Ikebukuro Halloween Cosplay Festival ↗

Sunshine City / Ikebukuro area · Tokyo, Japan

October 30 evening: 18+, no high-school students. Main daytime festival October 31–November 1. Ticket-specific access and changing hours apply; remaining inventory not verified.

FANDOM → TECHNIQUE

On the floor

Scope: the EIU and Malmö programmes and Seamwork's technical guide. No global fandom rankings, inferred construction methods or attendance claims. [\[5\]](#) [\[7\]](#) [\[11\]](#)

Local stages → a choice about judging

EIU's calendar separates the costume show from judged entries; Malmö's programme offers an open parade. These are two organizer formats, not participation statistics.

Costume edges → distinct finishing jobs

Seamwork combines grading, clipping and understitching in one facing sequence. The costume sample is an editorial exercise, not evidence of a new sewing trend.

TRY THIS

Make the invitation specific.

Invite another maker to a low-pressure costume test: walk, sit and try one pose, then inspect a neckline sample together. Ask for one specific observation about comfort or finish.

Sources

1. Pfangirl · Comic Con Africa eyewitness recap and reported results ↗
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2. Comic Con Africa · official dates and venue ↗
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3. Comic Con Africa · championship categories ↗
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5. Eastern Illinois University · Comic Fest calendar ↗
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6. EIU Booth Library · post-event page and programme ↗
Publication date not listed · Checked Sep 29, 2026
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8. City of Malmö · September 2 event release ↗
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9. Ikebukuro Halloween Cosplay Festival · official English guide ↗
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10. Ikebukuro Halloween Cosplay Festival · September 18 rules ↗
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11. Seamwork · Sew a Facing ↗
Publication date not listed · Checked Sep 29, 2026
12. CosplayGrid · September 25 edition ↗
Published / updated Sep 25, 2026 · Checked Sep 29, 2026
13. CosplayGrid · September 26 edition ↗
Published / updated Sep 26, 2026 · Checked Sep 29, 2026

Checked September 29, 2026, America/Detroit. Five findings: two newly published past-event reports, a Swedish past-weekend programme review, existing Japanese event guidance and an established sewing primer—not five overnight announcements. The seven latest available editions were reviewed; unchanged recurring deadlines are omitted. Today's improvement adds Swedish organizer and municipal sources and keeps noncompetitive participation distinct from judged entry. Programme listings are not proof of delivery; the EIU video's interviews are not paraphrased without a transcript. Undated guidance retains no publication date. No applications submitted, sponsored placements, visitor estimates or reproduced photography.
