



TULARE SCI-FI CON

March 11-12, 2017

International Agri-Center, Tulare

COSTUME CONTEST ENTRY FORM

The Tulare Sci-Fi Con is seeking and encourages costume enthusiasts to enter our 3rd Annual Costume Contest to be held on Saturday, March 11th at 4:00pm.

Whether you are interested in comic books, artists drawings, steampunk accessories, trading cards, toy collectables or just meeting those who create them, they all play a roll in the popular arts culture. The Tulare Sci-Fi Con is excited to again feature the vast array of cleverly crafted costumes by our attendee's and give those creators a stage to display their talents.

◀ IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL 559-303-0156 ▶

SECTION 1: CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Last Name:	Contact First Name:	Individual or Group? <input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Group	
Mailing Address:	City:	State:	Zip
Phone Number: ()	Cell Phone Number: ()	E-Mail Address:	

In this section, give us some specifics about your costume project to be entered at the Tulare Sci-Fi Con costume contest.
Review the Tulare Sci-Fi Con Costume Contest Entry Rules and Regulations BEFORE you submit your entry.
By submitting your entry you agree to all Terms and Conditions / Rules and Regulations of the Tulare Sci-Fi Con and its Costume Contest.

SECTION 2: COSTUME INFORMATION

Costume Title:	Today's Date: (ie Jan, 1 2017)		
Design: <input type="checkbox"/> Original <input type="checkbox"/> Re-Creation If Recreation, list source:			
Describe any history or back-story of your character to be read by the host of the contest: _____ _____ _____			
If in Group, list all members by First, Last name and Age: (Print Clearly)			
First, Last:	Age:	First, Last:	Age:
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

**Return completed form(s) + Photo via
Mail to: Tulare Sci-Fi Con, 263 Johnson CT, Tulare CA 93274**

SECTION 3: ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The TULARE SCI-FI CON Costume Contest reserves the right to refuse to consider any submission at our discretion. Submission of an Entry does not guarantee entry into the Costume Contest. Costume contestants can submit (mail in) an Entry Form and Photo until February 15, 2017. After which, all sign-ups will be accepted at the convention costume contest table (near the stage) on Sunday, March 11 until 2:00pm or until the show is filled. If submitting at the convention, make sure to bring a Photo with your completed entry form. The contest will run for a maximum of 90 minutes with a limit of 30 total costumes in all categories at no more than 2 minutes on stage for each contestant. READ the RULES carefully before entering the contest. All personal information provided will be held confidential. By signing below, you agree to all Terms and Conditions / Rules and Regulations for the Tulare Sci-Fi Con and its Costume Contest. If under the age of 15, the entrant must have a parent or legal guardian sign an Entry form and General Terms and Conditions.

Contact/Contestant Print Name	Signature	Title / Position	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
Contact Parent/Legal Guardian Name	Signature	Title / Position	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. DISCLAIMER

The TULARE SCI-FI CON (TSFC) is the owner/producer of the TULARE SCI-FI CON COSTUME CONTEST (TSFCCC).

The TULARE SCI-FI CON Costume Contest accepts no responsibility for loss or damage of costume(s) and/or accessories during the convention; each costumed character assumes all liability of/for their works.

The TULARE SCI-FI CON Costume Contest reserves the right to refuse to consider any submission at our discretion. Submission of an Entry does not guarantee entry into the Costume Contest.

2. GENERAL INFORMATION

We encourage all costume attendee's to participate; all genres are welcome, be it individual or group entries. Genre's can include designs re-created from movies, television, computer games, comics, anime or original designs (never seen before) from your imagination.

3. COSTUME HALL AWARDS

This is separate from the Costume Contest. The Tulare Sci-Fi Con will be handing out special costume "Hall Awards" ie "Ribbons" to costumers in the convention hall during convention operating hours, to recognize outstanding costumes in a variety of categories. Upon receiving an award, the costumer will be photographed and listed on the Tulare Sci-Fi Con website as a "Costume Hall Award" winner and the category chosen by the presenter. "Costume Hall Awards" can be given to anyone, of any age at any time during the convention.

4. HOW TO ENTER

Costume contestants can submit (mail in) an Entry Form and Photo until February 15, 2017. After which, all sign-ups will be accepted at the convention costume contest table (near the stage) on March 11th until 2:00pm or until the show is filled. If submitting at the convention, make sure to bring a Photo with your completed entry form.

5. CONTESTANTS/ENTRIES

The costume contest will take place on March 11th at 4:00pm at the main stage. Entry into the costume contest is FREE to anyone with a Tulare Sci-Fi Con badge valid for Saturday. Doors will open for audience seating at 3:00pm and is limited to first come, first serve. For those new to this pop culture event, it is similar to a talent show.

A photo of your costume is required prior to the event and in the hands of the organizers. At check-in our coordinators will answer all questions to help you prepare for the contest and ensure it's as smooth as possible.

The contest will run for a maximum of 90 minutes with a limit of 30 total costumes in all categories at no more than 2 minutes on stage for each contestant. After which the judges will convene and select winners. After which the winners will return to the stage to receive their awards. During the judge's intermission, we will show a few short films submitted to our Tulare Sci-Fi Con Film Festival.

Costume contestants must check-in to the Costume Contest preview area in designated area NO later than 3:00pm with costume contest coordinators. You may check in as early as 2:30pm, but NO later than 3:00pm and you must be stage-ready by 3:30pm to allow for judging photos to be taken. If you do not check-in by 3:00pm, we will assume you have dropped out and remove you from the show.

6. JUDGING

There will be a 5 judge panel who will review all costume entries. At 3:30pm, the judge's panel will enter the costume prep area to preview and can ask contestants questions about their costumes. No questions will be asked of the costumers during the actual show.

7. AUDIENCE RULES

While we value the audience and strive to ensure an enjoyable experience for contestants and the audience alike, we will enforce some basic rules to ensure the best possible experience for all.

a. No Flash Photography is allowed in the hall. Any photo's taken of our contestants while in the convention hall or at any time during the Tulare Sci-Fi Con must be for non-profit personal use ONLY.

b. During the contest, be courteous to all our contestants. No BOOING or vulgar language is allowed. Attendee's will be escorted out of the hall due to any disturbances.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. All costumes must be of original construction or show significant modification to pre-existing materials. No costumes that are PURCHASED or otherwise from a professional source are allowed. This is to ensure fairness in our contest. It is expected that some costumes may include as minor elements some purchased items, and if you have many, check with the show staff for approval. If it looks like regular clothing, it's not a costume. As a guideline, at least 75% of what you bring onto the stage should be non-purchased (commercial sources). This is a contest of craftsmanship and creativity, not shopping ability.

2. You may wear your costume entry around the convention prior to the costume contest. In convention jargon these are often called "Hall Costumes". However, we strongly suggest keeping your costume out of sight until Saturday night, so that it's a "surprise" to the audience and judges. But at the same time, we understand the difficulty in having to change at a venue.

3. Maximum time allowed on stage: 1-3 people: 1 minute 30 seconds. 4-6 people: 2 minutes. 7 or more people: 2 minutes 30 seconds. If you feel you need more time, check with the Coordinator for approval. It is often best to take less time than the full amount, but don't speed across the stage too quickly, either. Take enough time to show off your costume well, then exit.

4. Contestants agree to report to the designated area no later than the specified time for the show (4:00 P.M.) and to allow video recording and photography for non-profit and promotional purposes.

5. Safety issues: No messy substances, fire, or anything that may pose a danger is allowed on stage. Unsheathing of bladed weapons is not permitted without clearance from the staff. Nothing is allowed in your presentation that would earn a movie an "R" rating, No throwing items into the audience, and please no touching of the Master of Ceremonies.

6. Category definitions: **Judges Choice:** A costume the panel of judges feel is the overall best in show. **Re-Creation:** A costume copied from an existing design, such as from a movie, comic book, anime, famous artwork, and so on. **Original:** A design original to the maker/wearer. It may be inspired from some published work of fantasy, science fiction, mythology, or other source, but is not a copy of someone else's work. **Novice:** A contestant who has been in no more than two costume contests at a medium-sized or larger convention.

7. Age groups: There are two award age groups. Each age group will be awarded per the categories listed in section 6. Age groups are: **Children/Junior (7-15)** and **Young Adult/Adult (16 Over)**.

8. The Coordinator may reject an entry on the basis of inappropriate or unsafe behavior or content, if the entry does not meet the criteria of the rules, or if the show is deemed at capacity. Nothing in your presentation should advertise an actual product, service, business or website.

9. You may enter as many costumes as you like, but they must be worn by different people – you may not present one costume then change into another as a separate entry. While this contest is intended for non-professional costumers, some minor professional experience is acceptable, and the judges will weigh that factor when selecting winners. Please note it on your judges' form.

10. Minimum allowable age for contestants is 7 years, and all contestants under the age of 15 must be accompanied backstage by a parent or guardian. Please do not bring a child under age 7 backstage, as with the many contestants and staff hurrying about, some in masks, some with large props, and cables crossing the floor, it can be unsafe for the small in stature.

11. Costumes entered in previous Tulare Sci-Fi Con Costume Contests are ineligible to return. Costumes that have entered at other convention costume contests are allowed, but any that have won "Best In Show" or "Best In Master Class" at any other convention should be entered non-competitively, but they may still be presented.

There will be minimal staging/dress area behind the backstage (and for full privacy, two small rooms for changing, that will need to be shared.). Or, you may dress elsewhere if you like, and then report backstage in costume. If you'll need several hours to get ready, contact one of the coordinators and we will attempt to find an area for you to get ready. There is no guarantee of private areas to prepare your costume as we have limited space. If you have a large costume or props to bring, it's advised to make arrangements to have them stored offsite somewhere and bring them in at the contest check-in. If you need a personal helper, you may bring along one per costume. No costume repair kit will be on hand for emergency repairs, so it's advised to bring what you need to make emergency repairs.

The performing area of the stage will be 16' wide by 12' deep, elevated 36" from the floor. Going up to stage level will require climbing a few steps, so keep that in mind in designing your costume footwear. Normal entry will be stage-left (when you are facing the audience, your left is stage-left), with exit on stage-right. Groups may enter and exit from both sides. The Master of Ceremonies will be off to the side, and the judges will be seated at the center-front of the audience.

The stage will have basic stage lighting, the stage will "go dark" briefly between each presentation. The event will utilize a video camera with a full view of the stage, and for close-ups of the costumes to project on the giant screen. The stage backdrop will be a Tulare Sci-Fi Con logo curtain, which is mostly white with a pattern. Some costumers feel theatrical make-up can enhance your face in the bright lighting of the stage, so you may wish to consider it.

It is a great help to us to know what to expect, so in addition to photos please inform us about unusual aspects of your costume, props, or set pieces (for example "my costume is nine feet tall and glows with lighting"). It will help us to assure your presentation goes exactly as you want it to.

Contestants will NOT be given microphones on stage, so any needed speech must be on your recording, or supplied as text for the Master of Ceremonies to read. If you are using music or narration with your stage presentation, submit it to us on compact disk (CD) or on a USB drive.

We strongly suggest bringing TWO copies, one in each format. If you record/burn your own CD, use a CD-R (not CD-RW), and make sure it will play on common CD players. Smart contestants always bring a back-up copy. Please label the disk/box/USB with your real name and costume name. Please give them to us when you sign-in (but no later than 3:00 PM Saturday!) They can be returned to you afterwards. We **DO NOT** pay ASCAP/BMI for performance rights, so we can **NOT** play copyrighted music. If you would like to make our job easier, send the Coordinator your CD or drive ahead of time.

FINALLY: The purpose of the show is for fun, to celebrate the creative ability within us all, so please don't be so concerned about winning that you forget to enjoy that you're bringing smiles to the participants and attendees in an art perhaps as old as civilization itself. All of the Costume Contest staff are volunteers, and we donate our time because we love costuming. Many of our staff have been in Costume Contests themselves. So thank you for being a part of the show and don't forget to have a Great Time!

**Sign to acknowledge you have read and agree to
Tulare Sci-Fi Con Costume Contest
General Terms and Conditions
/ Rules and Regulations.**

Entrant Signature:	Date:
Parent/Legal Guardian Signature:	Date:
TSFC Authorized Signature:	Date: