



FILAM

CreatorCon



Welcome

Guests of Honor

Guests

Panel Schedule

Sponsors

Front cover art by Scott Lost.

Event and Venue Sponsor

Mabuhay Foundation

Additional Sponsors

- San Diego Anime Con
- Kumusta Pusa
- Jay Ruiz Jr.
- SoCal Filipinos
- Fanbase Press
- Filipinos Advancing Creative Education (FACE)

Venue

National City Public Library

Date

September 14, 2024

Food Vendors

- Kujo Eats
- MaBella Creations



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WELCOME

Our Mission

FilAm CreatorCon is a convention that celebrates the artistic achievements of Filipino American creators across all mediums. From comic book creators, poets and tattoo artists; to filmmakers, chefs, dancers and musicians; this yearly event hopes to foster solidarity, awareness and representation of Filipino Americans in the arts.

Our Origin Story

FilAm CreatorCon was founded in 2019 by Aaron Nabus (host of the Hall H Show podcast), after a chance meeting at San Diego Comic-Con 2019 between comic book creator, Scott Lost, community organizer and educator, Kirin Amiling Macapugay, where we pondered, "Wouldn't it be awesome if there was a convention that showcased Filipino American creators?"

Our Thanks

On behalf of the planning committee, I would like to say thank YOU for attending our first ever FilAm CreatorCon! It is our hope that this event will become a space that empowers Filipino American creators, community, and cultural awareness for years to come.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Aaron Q. Nabus".

Aaron Q. Nabus
Founder, FilAm CreatorCon

Planning Committee (2019 – 2024)

- Alex Benedicto
- Alicia Ricafrente
- Arthur Ebuon
- Chelle Esteban
- Francis Bautista
- Kirin Amiling Macapugay
- Oliver Bayona
- Scott Lost
- Susan Vega
- Vince Alvendia



GUEST OF HONOR



Whilce Portacio

PANELIST

About Whilce Portacio

Whilce Portacio is a Filipino American comic book writer and artist noted for his work on such titles as The Punisher, X-Factor, Uncanny X-Men, Iron Man, Wetworks and Spawn. Portacio was also one of the seven co-founders of Image Comics.

[@whilceportacio](#)

GUEST OF HONOR



Bobby Alcid Rubio

PANELIST

About Bobby Alcid Rubio

Bobby Alcid Rubio was born and raised in San Diego. He was the Head of Story for Paramount Animation on “Transformers One”. He was the Writer/Director of the Pixar SparkShorts “Float” (the first Disney/Pixar film to feature Filipino American lead characters) and was a Story Artist at Pixar. He is the creator/owner of his independent comics and intellectual properties: Alcatraz High, 4 Gun Conclusion and Neighborhood Legend! He worked previously at Nickelodeon on “Avatar the Last Airbender” as an Assistant Director and Storyboard Artist, freelanced Cover Artist for Marvel Comics and at Disney Animation as a Traditional Animator.

Rep: UTA

[@bobbyrubio](#)

GUEST



Alyssa Mopia

PANELIST

About Alyssa Mopia

Alyssa is a multi-passionate entrepreneur known for her multiple platforms, specifically Coffee & Convos, a storytelling platform created to highlight artists and entrepreneurs. Her mission is to empower others to fear less and create more in their lives, and she does this through her creative endeavors and speaking opportunities.

By blending storytelling and strategy, she uses her experience in social media marketing, photography, event planning, and public speaking to work with brands to help cultivate their story and elevate their media presence. She has a passion for coffee, connecting with like-minds, and traveling to new destinations near and far.

[@alyssamopia](#)

GUEST



Art of Pao
(Paola Bascon)

EXHIBITOR

About Art of Pao

Art Of PAO is created by Paola Bascon, who makes original artworks, prints, enamel pins, art toys and more that are inspired by all things cute & animated as well as by her Filipino roots. She is also a freelance illustrator who has worked for Kidfinity and Spin Master on the following brands: Disney Junior's Ariel, Wizarding World, Unicorn Academy, Skydance's Spellbound and Pookoo.

[artofpao_official](#)

GUEST



Arthur Ebuena
(Studio 12-7)

EXHIBITOR PANELIST

About Arthur Ebuena

Art Ebuena is an Emmy Award winning animator on The Simpsons who also animated on Futurama. Currently he's a Creative Director, Writer, and Producer who loves creator-owned comics. Art is the writer of indie comic series, ©ALIFORNIA, INC.

[@artebuen](#)

GUEST



Cassandra Pimentel

PANELIST

About Cassandra Pimentel

Cassandra Pimentel, a Filipina-American filmmaker proudly from San Diego, now based in Los Angeles, has made a mark in the entertainment industry with her diverse array of projects. She gained recognition for her festival-selected short film "PLAZA BLVD" and MyxTV's "A.S.S. - A SCARY SLEEPOVER" starring Emmy nominated Thia Megia as well as directing music videos for notable artists such as Common Kings, Jules Aurora, Sheer Element, Robin Nievera, Garth Garcia, The Filharmonic, and Winlove. With a passion for incorporating culture and diversity into her work, Cassandra's film projects also include the short film "TAKE IT BACK," which was nominated for Best Film at the Easterseals Disability Film Challenge and featured by CNN.

[@cassandra.pimentel](https://www.instagram.com/cassandra.pimentel)

GUEST



Chelle Esteban
(Eat Like a Badass)

EXHIBITOR PANELIST

About Chelle Esteban

Born and raised in Southeast San Diego, Marcel Esteban is the Creative Director at SparkPortal, a video-as-a-service agency, and a food content creator (follow her on [Instagram](#) and [TikTok](#) at @eatlikeabadass), where she shares her love for food and all things SoCal. Her goal with Eat Like A Badass is to inspire people to try new things and step outside their culinary comfort zones. With over 15 years in the creative industry, Marcel's passion for storytelling shines through in her work, including her most prized role as Stan Lee's (yes, the dude with all the Marvel movie cameos!) lead designer for several years. She earned her Bachelor's in Media Arts and Animation from the Art Institute of San Diego and is always on the lookout for her next creative adventure — whether in the studio or exploring new culinary experiences!

[@eatlikeabadass](#)

GUEST



Chris Maze

EXHIBITOR

About Chris Maze

Chris Maze is a storyteller with a background in graphic design and illustration, bringing nearly two decades of experience in the design and branding industry, where he has collaborated with renowned brands like Levi's, Zumiez, and ASICS. Beyond brand development, Chris creates original and pop culture artwork, sharing his creations through his online store, social media, and at conventions.

[@chrismaze](#)

GUEST



Francis Bautista
(Strawberry Scented Burnout)

EXHIBITOR

About Francis Bautista

Francis Bautista is the creator of “Strawberry Scented Burnout” a media project dedicated to all sorts of geekery from cars to MMA. There’s a zine that covers “itasha”, a YouTube channel, and a comic!

[@twitchykun](#)

[@ssburnout](#)

GUEST



Giovannie Espiritu

PANELIST

About Giovannie Espiritu

Giovannie Espiritu's identity is inherently political: A bisexual, once-undocumented immigrant Filipina mom who spent time in a Biblical doomsday cult as a teen.

She is a Telly Award winning filmmaker who finished writing and directing the feature film, "Love & Karma," with Oscar nominee Eric Roberts (Runaway Train), Golden Globe nominee Joanna Pacula (Tombstone), Golden Horse nominee Bai Ling (Anna & the King), starring Filipino talent Belinda Panelo and Jojo Riguerra. She is currently working on a six episode rom com series "Maid To Shine" for the FilAmTV Network. As an actor, she has been on shows like ER, Young Sheldon, and Lone Star 911 and was once nominated Best Supporting Actress alongside Academy Award nominees Alfre Woodard and Amy Irving.

[@giospirit2](#)

GUEST



Jeff Martinez
(Art of JeproX)

EXHIBITOR

About Jeff Martinez

Mabuhay! My name is Jeff Martinez and I'm a professional illustrator/designer. I also go by my pseudonym: Art of JeproX.

My art style reflects my love and influence of comics and anime. Throughout my years of expertise within the comic book industry and continued love of anime/manga, my art is constantly evolving.

While I enjoy making traditionally made art, my current medium is digital, I'm happy to share/offer my art through various digital platforms and media. As always, thank you for your continued love and support, Salamat everyone!

– Jeff aka Art of JeproX

[@artofjeprox](https://www.instagram.com/artofjeprox)

GUEST



Lord Mesa

EXHIBITOR

About Lord Mesa

Lord Mesa is an illustrator/designer based out of Southern California. His interest for art developed from a love of Saturday morning cartoons and continued with superhero movies/TV shows, action figures, and video games.

He's channeled his passion for design into a career creating illustrations and designing toys for clients such as Lucasfilm, Disney, the CW, and Dreamworks. In addition to his professional work, he has also gained a following and connected with thousands of followers on social media and at comic conventions through a shared love of Pop culture.

[@lordmesa](#)

GUEST



Joe Olivares

PANELIST

About Joe Olivares

Joe Olivares is a sketch comedy performer, writer and improviser from Los Angeles. He performs with Leopold, a house comedy team with the Ruby Theater LA.

[@chickenmonkeyrobot](#)

GUEST



Justin Quizon

PANELIST

About Justin Quizon

A filmmaker and a podcaster, Justin Quizon is the co-host of Nothing New: A Remake Podcast. He is also an associate producer for the feature film, LUMPIA WITH A VENGEANCE, as well as the writer for several of the Lumpia comics spin offs, including co-writing the Jemini comics.

[@justinquiz](#)

GUEST



Kyle Montilla

PANELIST

About Kyle Montilla

Self-described as a silly guy who makes sad music, the sound is influenced from the alternative-rock of the 90s and the pop-rock movement of the 2000s. Lyrics derive from questions of personal existence and aspects of depression seldomly talked about, all the while presenting a joyful, goofy personality as a facade. Previously played with various local bands, with shows in legendary San Diego venues such as the Casbah, The Holding Company, and Til Two Club, opened for Filipino Pop-Rock pillars The Itchyworms, and now venturing into this current project as Kyrudian.

[@kyrudian](#)

GUEST



Law Sharma

PANELIST

About Law Sharma

Lawrence Sharma is an Actor, Producer, and Host born in San Jose, CA and now based in Los Angeles. Most importantly: he's a giant NERD. He has put his love for fandom to good use, creating content with fans in mind. But when he's not interviewing celebrities and filmmaking, Law is an outspoken advocate for the AAPI community and hopes to pave the way toward meaningful representation.

[@lawjsharma](https://twitter.com/lawjsharma)

GUEST



Mary Jhun

EXHIBITOR PANELIST

About Mary Jhun

Mary Jhun is a fine art painter and muralist. Jhun specializes in Surrealism and is known for her main subject, The Girls, characters and beings that constantly carry Jhun's work throughout the years. The Girls act as a vase to all her memories and the stories of others. A result of 20 years of obsession with coping with traumatic experiences, the girls have been the main focus of her documentation of surviving everyday life, past and present. Interlocking our psychology to biology of plants, architecture/engineering, and anatomy, Jhun's goal is to allow the viewer to feel understood, to question what they see, and to understand reality through a deeper lens outside of the norm and into a place beyond realism. Her art can be seen in different homes and offices throughout the country, however Mary Jhun's public works can be found all over San Diego and a few in Northern California. Her public studio resided in Barrio Logan for 10 years, and is now located in North County, Escondido.

[@maryjhunart](https://www.instagram.com/maryjhunart)

GUEST



OnlyChrisAng

PANELIST

About OnlyChrisAng

OnlyChrisAng is a Filipino-American songwriter and rapper who gravitated towards rap, using it as a conduit to express himself and connect with others by talking about what he's gone through. He began with poetry and spoken word as a tool for freedom of expression after a sexual assault at the age of 18 left him scarred and feeling alone. Chris taps into his vulnerability by sharing personal hardships with his audience, saying that doing so helps him heal while offering solidarity for those who resonate with his words. A mental health advocate, Chris is grateful for the opportunity to be on stage, which gives him the outlet to be himself and perform authentically in front of diverse audiences.

[@onlychrisang](#)

GUEST



Patricio Ginelsa
(Kid Heroes Productions)

EXHIBITOR PANELIST

About Patricio Ginelsa

Award-winning Filmmaker behind countless Fil-Am music videos for Bambu, Native Guns, Legaci, Rocky Rivera, and the Black Eyed Peas "Apl Song" and "Bebot". Wrote and directed both LUMPIA and LUMPIA WITH A VENGEANCE feature films, and now head chef of its LUMPIA Deep Fried Universe comic book line under his Kid Heroes Productions.

[@patricioginelsa](#)

[@kidheroes](#)

[@lumpiamovie](#)

GUEST



Patrick Ballesteros

EXHIBITOR PANELIST

About Patrick Ballesteros

Local San Diego Illustrator and Educator that has produced work for companies like DisneyTV, Nickelodeon, Dreamworks, Image, DC Comics and several kidlit publishers. When not at a comic con you will find him at a coffee shop sketching and daydreaming about churros.

[@patrickballesteros](#)

GUEST



PettProject
(Nate Dino)

EXHIBITOR

About Pett Project (Nate Dino)

Nate Dino is a San Diego based illustrator formally trained in the traditional arts of figure drawing and painting. He began his career in commercial work as a studio graphic artist for apparel. With 20+ years of experience he continues this work as a freelancer designing posters and other band merch.

With a fondness for travel he's rarely without his pocket sketchbook recording his new surroundings with a ballpoint pen. Aside from his freelance work Nate is also busy creating designs and products for his artist-run brand 'PettProject' which he established back in 2006. He displays and sells these works at pop culture conventions as well as online.

He loves and collects art books and has self published a few of his own which feature his sketches and figurative work. To see more of his work and his brand on Instagram check out:

[@natedino](#) [@pettproject](#)

GUEST



Scott Lost

EXHIBITOR PANELIST

About Scott Lost

A former pro wrestler of 10 years and cofounder of the world famous Pro Wrestling Guerrilla, Scott has been creating indie comics for 13 years, all being his own IP, such as 2nd Shift, Wanderers of Melisanda, Paradise Hills, and Granite for his studio, the Accidental Aliens.

[@scottlost](#)

[@accidentalaliens](#)

GUEST



Thrillustrated

EXHIBITOR

About Thrillustrated

A San Diegan artist born and raised, I specialize in creating and teaching art that thrills you! Pop- Culture and pups are my favorite things in the galaxy. I love exploring animation and storytelling through graphic mediums and that comes through in my work.

[@thrillustrated](#)

GUEST



Waverly Lim
(Kwento Comics)

EXHIBITOR PANELIST

About Waverly Lim

Waverly Lim is an actor, producer, and co-founder and COO of Kwento Comics. As an all Asian-female comic book company, Kwento Comics focuses on strong female heroines and Filipino mythology at the forefront with its first series, The Mask of Haliya.

[@waverlylim](#)

[@kwentocomics](#)

GUEST



WINLOVE

PANELIST

About WINLOVE

WINLOVE is a Filipino-American rapper, singer, and producer from San Diego, CA. With major influences ranging from a diverse set of artists such as Mac Miller, Childish Gambino, Rina Sawayama, and Shiina Ringo, WINLOVE carefully crafts his music in hopes to bring forth the most authentic version of himself. Whether it's love for himself or love from others, he's guaranteed to win love.

[@winlovethethird](#)

GUEST



Vince Alvenida
(Eggdrop Ramen)

EXHIBITOR PANELIST

About Vince Alvenida

Vince Alvenida is a local San Diego artist and illustrator. Born in Olongapo Philippines, Vince's family first moved to Hawaii when he was three years old, and then permanently to San Diego when he was six. He is the artist for Dark Agents Book One as well as a contributing artist for the Horrorgasm Anthologies. Vince has worked with San Diego Comic-Con and the Comic-Con Museum.

[@eggdropramen](#)

PANEL SCHEDULE

10:30am – 11:20am (Room “A” – Downstairs)

Finding Your Social Media Creative Voice

- Justin Quizon
- Law Sharma
- Chelle Esteban
- Moderator: Arthur Ebuena

11:30pm-12:20pm (Room “A” – Downstairs)

Drawing Your Attention

- Patrick Ballesteros
- Vince Alvendia
- Scott Lost
- Moderator: Arthur Ebuena

11:30pm-12:20pm (Room “B” – Upstairs)

The Art of Making Music

- OnlyChrisAng
- Winlove
- Cassandra Pimentel
- Kyle Montilla
- Moderator: Joe Olivares

12:30pm-1:20pm (Room “A” – Downstairs)

Women in the Arts

- Cassandra Pimentel
- Alyssa Mopia
- Giovannie Espiritu
- Mary Jhun
- Waverley Lim
- Moderator: Chelle Esteban

1:30pm – 2:20pm (Room “A” – Downstairs)

Legends Spotlight Panel

- Wilce Portacio (Guest of Honor)
- Bobby Rubio (Guest of Honor)
- Moderator: Aaron Nabus

2:30pm – 3:20pm (Room “A” – Downstairs)

Business Side of Indie Comics

- Patricio Ginelsa
- Waverley Lim
- Scott Lost
- Art Ebuena
- Moderator: Aaron Nabus

3:30pm – 4:20pm (Room “A” – Downstairs)

Careers in the Arts

- Jason Encabo
- Patrick Ballesteros
- Mary Jhun
- Waverly Lim
- Patricio Ginelsa
- Moderator: Joe Olivares

3:30pm – 4:20pm (Room “B” – Upstairs)

Your Podcast Journey Starts Here

- Scott Lost
- Aaron Nabus
- Alyssa Mopia
- Justin Quizon
- Moderator: Law Sharma

MEDIA



Joel Feria

OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER

About Joel Feria

A San Diego native, Joel Feria is a former Co-Chair and long-term member of Southwestern College's Pagkakaisa Filipino / Filipino-American organization, he has been involved in outreach and education within the San Diego's Filipino community.

Currently an editor and contributor to pop culture web site and blog Convention.Life, he has provided press coverage of San Diego Comic Con, Los Angeles Comic Con, and other popular conventions.

As a Special Event Photo Correspondent for KSWB News San Diego, his photographs have been featured in on-air broadcasts and network online galleries.

[@fliptreej](#)

[@convention.life](#)

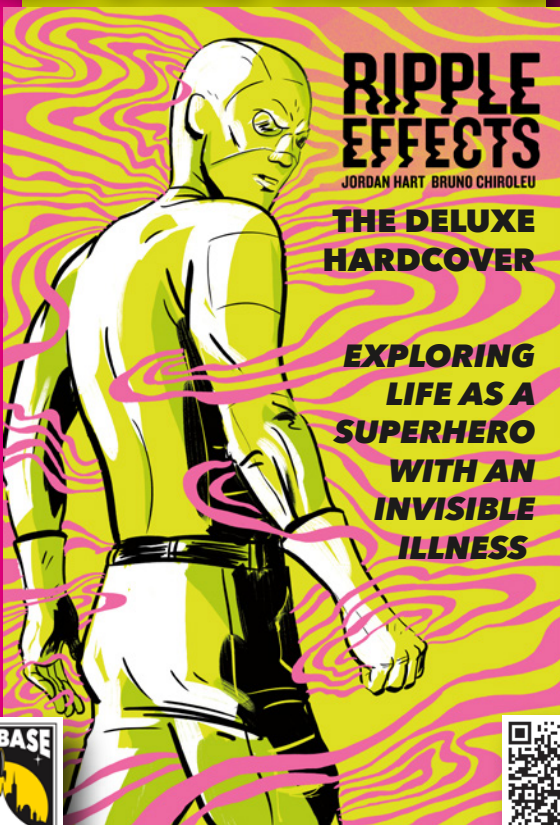
SPONSOR



The Mabuhay Foundation is a 501(C)3 organization with the mission to engage, unite, build, and educate our community on economic, social, health, political and community empowerment through civic engagement, educational and developmental programs and special projects. Mabuhay Foundation provides assistance in resources information and community support that strengthens our values, language and culture.



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Filipinos Advancing Creative Education (F.A.C.E) is a 501(C)3 non-profit national organization uplifting the next generation of Filipino-Americans to tell their stories through MUSIC, FILM, FASHION, and CREATIVE ARTS.



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Juan "Jay Jr" Ruiz

Past District Governer – District 4-L6
Lion Year 2023

JayRuizJRLion476@gmail.com
Home Club – San Diego TFC Lions Club
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#HallHshow

SPONSOR

A promotional poster for the Scream Diego 2024 convention. The background is dark with red and black brushstrokes and yellow lightning bolts. On the left, a vampire with white hair and red eyes is shown in profile, baring its fangs. In the center, a werewolf with black fur and red eyes is also baring its fangs. The text is in a mix of red, white, and yellow colors.

SAN DIEGO'S HALLOWEEN & HORROR CONVENTION! PRESENTED BY SILK ROAD

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT: [SCREAMDIEGO.COM](https://www.screamdiego.com) & FOLLOW [FB](https://www.facebook.com/screamdiegocon) [IG](https://www.instagram.com/screamdiegocon) [TW](https://www.twitter.com/screamdiegocon) [YT](https://www.youtube.com/screamdiegocon) @SCREAMDIEGOCON | #SCREAMDIEGO

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