

## Comic Book & Toy Show

Comic Book & Toy Show set for March 6-7 in Metropolis, Illinois

The city best known for its super hero connection will be the site of a Comic Book and Toy Show on Saturday and Sunday, March 6-7. The event will be held at the Riverfront Event Center inside Harrah's Hotel, 100 Front St. in Metropolis.

For the second year in a row, the show is being produced by Marc Ballard, the owner of Comic City in Nashville, Tenn. Ballard says that those who enter the doors of the Riverfront Event Center will see a variety of vendors showcasing comics from the 1940s to present-day, vintage Star Wars toys, autographed celebrity items, games, t-shirts, western items and more.

Admission into the show is \$5 each day. All attending will receive a free poster and will be eligible for door prizes. Also, all who attend the Comic Book and Toy Show will receive free admission into the Super Museum and Americana Hollywood in Metropolis that weekend. Hours for the show are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sunday.

The featured guest for this year's show is Mark Goddard, who is best known as Major Don West in the cult 1960s television series, *Lost in Space*. Goddard, now a special education teacher in Middleboro, Mass., attended the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and received his first acting role as "Cully" on the television series, *Johnny Ringo* in 1959. He went on to act in *The Detectives*, *Lost In Space*, *Perry Mason*, *Adam 12*, *The Fall Guy*, *Mod Squad* and the movie, *Blue Sunshine*. He also appeared in *One Life to Live*, *The Doctors* and *General Hospital* as well as on Broadway in *The Act with Liza Minnelli*. Goddard made a cameo appearance in 1998 in the movie, *Lost in Space*, as the general in charge of the Jupiter Mission, and superior officer to his former character, Major Don West.

Other guests scheduled to appear at the Metropolis Comic Book and Toy Show include: Jacob Rougmont, a writer of *Marvel Comics Handbook and Index*; Jason Craig, artist of *Freddy vs. Jason vs. Ash and Grim Fairy Tales*; Gary Freidrick, creator of *Ghost Rider*; John Dugan, Grandpa from the *Texas Chainsaw Massacre* movie; Mike Nicolosi, actor from *The Untouchables*; and Tojo Yamamoto Jr., wrestler and owner of *Renegade Pro Wrestling* in Metropolis, and the son of the world famous wrestler Tojo Yamamoto.

Regional artists, Will Woods, Jay Chuppe and Sean Dulany will be a part of the show as well as the Paducah Imperials Star Wars Fan Club. Celebrity guests and artists will be featured both days.

A popular part of the show is sure to be the costume contest. Anyone wishing to enter should attend the show in costume on Saturday and must be present at 4 p.m. in order to be eligible to win. The person chosen with the best all-around costume will be awarded a convention prize package consisting of passes to Nashville Comic Con, Fright Night Film Festival, Cincinnati Comic Con, next year's Metropolis Con and a San Diego exclusive certified graded comic (only 10 made, valued at \$200.) A Saturday evening event is being planned, but details are not yet available.

For information about the Metropolis Comic Book and Toy Show, visit [www.comiccitytn.com](http://www.comiccitytn.com) or call Ballard at 615-573-4537. For information about attractions and other happenings in the Metropolis area, visit [www.metropolitistourism.com](http://www.metropolitistourism.com), call 877-424-5025 or visit Metropolis Tourism on facebook.

