

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For the attention of culture and entertainment editors

MONTRÉAL – July 8, 2024. Otakuthon is excited to announce, once again, an impressive international guest lineup for this 19th edition of the convention, which is set to take place from August 2 to August 4, 2024, at the Palais des congrès de Montréal.

This year's lineup features Japanese guests including accomplished voice actors, narrators, producers and animators with impressive and diverse credits. Otakuthon is proud to welcome Nobuyuki Hiyama, known for his voice in BLEACH and Jujutsu Kaisen, Yuriko Yamaguchi, for his voice in One Piece and Naruto, but also Saki Fujita, who gave the voice to Ymir (Attack on Titan) and Hatsune Miku. For those who prefer French dubbing, fans of Fairy Tail, Great Teacher Onizuka or Spy x Family will be able to meet Chantal Baroin, or Kelly Marot who lends her voice, among others, to Nami in One Piece and to Nobara Kugisaki in Jujutsu Kaisen. Video game fans will also be able to meet voice actors Sean Chiplock and Kristen McGuire who, among other things, worked on Geishin Impact, or Sarah Williams, who played Sayaka Miki in Madoka Magica and Susamaru in Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba. Attendees will also be able to meet Mie Ooishi and Akira Hayashi, who worked on BEASTARS as animation director and producer respectively. Jamie Mortellaro and Cole Gallian will present to the public their very varied backgrounds in the field of video game and anime production. The world of music will not be left out with the presence of composer and conductor Eric Roth as well as Canadian producer Your Evil Boyfriend of dance Diego Salgado-Sanchez.

Shigeyoshi Tsukahara and Takahiko Abiru will also be there to present their valuable experiences as anime and animation directors, the latter having worked on internationally renowned anime such as *Death Note*, *HUNTER x HUNTER* and more recently *VINLAND SAGA*. Claire Launay, with her experience on projects like *Ranking of Kings*, *Pokémon* and *Detective Conan*, will also be present to talk about animation. CrazyBomb World and Cyril Coppini will approach their work in connection with Japanese culture, whether on YouTube for the first and on stage and through the translation of manga for the second. Montreal groups DREAMSCAPE as well as East2West will be there to set the stage on fire with their K-pop dance shows, as will Unsevered Ties who will perform songs from anime and video games, and SSJ Live where the three original composers from *Dragon Ball Z* will perform the music of the famous license. BurlesGeek Montreal will heat up the atmosphere even more with its cheeky and funky masquerade.

Finally, the VTubers **Mint Fantôme** and **Matara Kan** will be present to meet their Canadian audience as well as **Eriza**, winner among others of the World Cosplay Summit (WCS) and the Polymanga Global Easter Cosplay, and **Eli Cosplay**, who represented Costa Rica at WCS Japan in 2019.

Music will also be honoured during the festival with guests like Shota Nakama, who worked on video games like Final Fantasy and the hit anime series The Rising of the Shield Hero. Otakuthon is thrilled to feature Yasuharu Takanashi and BURNOUT SYNDROMES, who will perform on our stage. Yasuharu Takanashi is a six-times recipient of the prestigious JASRAC International Award in Japan, known for his work in Naruto Shippūden, Fairy Tail, Pretty Guardian Sailor Moon Crystal~Eternal, Boruto-Naruto Next Generations and more, blending hard rock and orchestral sounds to create profound and elegant soundscapes. BURNOUT SYNDROMES is a Japanese rock band from Osaka who will perform for the first time in Canada! They are known for remarkable hits like Good Morning World! in Dr. Stone, the ending theme of Gintama and multiple openings in Haikyu!!, Misfit of Demon King Academy II, and Those Snow White Notes. Added to this is the performance of The New World Players, A New World: Intimate Music from FINAL FANTASY, led by Eric Roth of AWR Music Productions. With a transparent and intimate format and an astounding variety of musical textures, the A New World experience is fresh every time, drawing audiences deeper into the musical worlds of Final Fantasy. The Orchestre de Jeux Vidéo is not to be outdone with its interpretation of anime music as unforgettable as Fullmetal Alchemist, "Princess Mononoke" and One Piece.

All a foundation of Otakuthon, several events this year promote the style and elegance of the participants and guests. Talents and creativity will be on stage with **Masquerade** and **All-stars events**. Spectators will also be able to attend the **Harajuku Streets Fashion Show** and their cool and stylish streetwear. And, once again, Otakuthon hosts the **World Cosplay Summit**, allowing Canadian cosplayers to shine on an international stage.

The Otakuthon Cultural Society, which organizes the convention every year with the support of its many volunteer staff members, was awarded in 2018 a certificate of commendation by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan for its contribution to the promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Canada. Further details about the convention and registration can be found on the website.

## WHEN?

Friday, August 2, 2024, from 10 AM to 3 AM Saturday, August 3, 2024, from 10 AM to 3 AM Sunday, August 4, 2024, from 10 AM to 5 PM

## WHERE?

Palais des congrès de Montréal 1001, place Jean-Paul-Riopelle

Montreal (Quebec) H2Z 1H5 Canada

# **ABOUT OTAKUTHON**

Otakuthon is Canada's largest bilingual festival celebrating Japanese animation (anime), graphic novels (manga), gaming, and pop culture. As the first of its kind in Montreal, Otakuthon is a full-fledged, bilingual anime convention that features a diverse range of special guests as well as many panels, activities, and events spotlighting all aspects of Japanese culture. Every year, this event is made possible by the hard work and dedication of passionate volunteer staff members who generously devote their time to creating a convention that is entirely for fans, by fans.

# SOCIAL MEDIA

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# CONTACT

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