

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO San Diego Public Library

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LIBRARY FOCUSES NEXT EXHIBIT ON THE ART OF COMIC-CON Previously Unseen Original Artwork to be Featured

SAN DIEGO – The San Diego Public Library is pleased to partner with Comic-Con International, in the presentation of *The Art of Comic-Con*. Since the first convention held in San Diego 45 years ago, Comic-Con has been bringing together comics, movie, and science fiction fans, and creating a lot of great art along the way. Drawing from Comic-Con's archives, the exhibition celebrates art as an integral tool in promoting the organization's mission of creating awareness of, and appreciation for, comics and related popular artforms. *The Art of Comic-Con* opens Saturday, June 20, 2015 in the Art Gallery on the 9th Floor of the San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common. It will run through August 30, 2015. A reception is planned on opening day from 12 to 2 p.m. The exhibition and reception are open to the public and admission is free.

Providing unprecedented access to original art by over 60 comic artists, the exhibition traces the history of Comic-Con through art and provides a sneak peek into the evolving process of creating comic art. Visitors to the show will have the opportunity to see process drawings in a variety of mediums that were used in souvenir and program books for Comic-Con, WonderCon, and APE, the Alternative Press Expo. Artworks that are representative of the comic books and art that Comic-Con International presents to a growing audience.

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The Art of Comic-Con presents select pieces from the organization's archives, including works by Sergio Aragonés, Howard Chaykin, Cliff Chiang, Michael Cho, Colleen Coover, Rick Geary, Gilbert Hernandez, Jim Lee, Dave McKean, Frank Miller, Marshall Rogers, John Romita Jr., Bill Sienkiewicz, William Stout, Babs Tarr, and others. The exhibition was developed and jointly organized by Kara West, the Library's Arts and Culture Exhibition Manager and Gary Sassaman, Comic-Con International's Director of Print and Digital Media.

About Comic-Con International

Comic-Con International: San Diego is a nonprofit educational corporation dedicated to creating awareness of, and appreciation for, comics and related popular artforms, primarily through the presentation of conventions and events that celebrate the historic and ongoing contribution of comics to art and culture.

About the San Diego Public Library's Exhibition Program

This program allows free access to cultural exhibitions and the visual arts, while promoting San Diego artists and creative community groups.

Additional information on current exhibitions at the Central Library and 35 branch libraries is available on the Library's website at <u>www.sandiegolibrary.org</u>.

The San Diego Public Library

Inspiring lifelong learning through connections to knowledge and each other.

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