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Rosemont, IL | USA May 7-9, 2025



A **WHOLESALE** event open to all making a living through crafts.

## Famoré Cutlery presents h+h americas 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Cosplay Fashion Show Competition and Exhibition

### Judging Criteria & Rules

#### Judging Criteria

- Judges will meet artists and view costumes beginning promptly at 1:30 PM Thursday, May 8, before the runway Cosplay Fashion Show. Final judging will take place during the Cosplay Fashion Show beginning at 3:00 PM.
- Costumes will be judged evenly on the following criteria: Craftmanship, Integrity of Design, and Runway Walk (if applicable)
  - Craftmanship will be judged on quality of build, technique, complexity, and inventiveness.
  - Integrity of Design will be based on originality or interpretation and likeness to the existing costume design. Contestant or model will not be judged on their physical appearance, size, race, gender, etc.
  - For those walking the runway, you will be judged on the costume fit and its integrity during the runway walk. Examples of fit and integrity include stability of the garment, movement of materials selected, if all components remain attached to the garment/model, etc.

#### Levels

**Student Category:** If this is your first time and you are new to Cosplay or costume making, or if you've never won a Cosplay contest. You should also enter the Student Category if your costume is a little "roughly made" and you are new to sewing or costume construction, meaning you've made five (5) or fewer costumes. At least 50% of your costume must be made by the contestant.

**Professional Category:** Enter this level, if you have won 2 or more **major** awards in any costume/cosplay contest, convention cosplay contest, or if you have years of experience sewing and constructing costumes. At least 75% of your costume must be made by the contestant.

## Rules

Contestants must enter either the Competition Fashion Show and Exhibition presented by Famoré Cutlery by selecting the appropriate level (mentioned above). The Judging panel has the final say on which level a contestant should compete.

- If unsure which category to enter, contact Eileen Lynch at [e.lynch@koelnmesse.us](mailto:e.lynch@koelnmesse.us) with pictures for assistance.
- The Cosplay Competition Fashion Show Contest is limited to 20 qualified entrants.
- Applications will be accepted until the 20 maximum of selected applicants are reached.
- Each designer may enter only one costume in the contest.
- Contestants will be required to provide photographs and a build book for their costume.
- If you break the code of conduct, you will be disqualified.
- Play fighting is not allowed. You must stop immediately if asked to do so and follow all instructions from the show organizers.
- Theatricality and play fighting will only be allowed on the stage during a runway walk with permission from the show organizers.
- No profanity, obscene gestures or hate speech is allowed at any time and violators will be disqualified and removed from the event.
- Costumes must be tasteful, be a PG standard, and cover appropriate areas of the body - no nudity is allowed. Feet are to be covered in all public areas but can be removed for the runway portion of the event.
- Real weapons of any kind are NOT allowed at this event: this includes steel swords, knives, blades, or guns. Most prop weapons are permitted but **no prop guns are allowed**. Please inform contest managers of your prop weapons for review and approval before the contest. The contest and show managers have the final say on whether a prop weapon will be allowed in the building. Large or potentially dangerous props must be inspected and approved by event staff.
- No projectiles or objects may be thrown on or off stage. No spitting or spraying of water or other liquids of any kind, including slime and silly string.
- Loud audio, air horns or other noisemakers louder than 30 decibels are not permitted.
- Participation is at your own risk.
- Cruel and/or inhumane imagery will not be allowed in the building. Graphic horror imagery is greatly discouraged and must be approved by event organizers before the show.
- Flames, fireworks, smoke, vapor, lasers are not allowed. Electronic flashing lights are generally permitted unless they create a disturbance.
- Judges will not be able to review videos of construction – all construction information must be included in the build book.
- Prizes will be awarded to designers in person, if in attendance, or shipped after the show.
- Costumes will be judged by 3-5 high-level cosplay industry professionals; to be announced.