

POLYMANGA 2016 **POP CULTURE & VIDEOGAMES** **GLOBAL EASTER COSPLAY**

The **Polymanga Global Easter Cosplay (Polymanga GEC)** is an international individual cosplay competition bringing together the world's top 12 cosplayers in a final round, which will take place on Monday, March the 28th, 2016 at the prestigious Montreux Stravinsky Amphitheater in Switzerland. The cosplayers selected for the finals will be offered transportation (train or plane) and the accommodation will be paid entirely by the organization (more information under "travel and accommodation").

CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Applicants must be available from Saturday the 26th to Tuesday, March the 29th, 2016. The organization staff will be responsible for your local transport.

Candidates must be of legal age (18 years old) on the final day.

The final round will be held on Monday, March the 28th, 2016.

Candidates should have a valid passport to travel to Switzerland for the final dates. Obtaining a valid visa is the cosplayer's responsibility and may not be charged to the organization.

The costume presented to the finals cannot have been previously displayed.

The costume may never have been presented at another contest (at an event, a picture or video competition)

Candidates must present a costume based on an official illustration from the following themes: manga, anime, cartoon, comics, video games, tv series, movies.

The works of Sakizou are not permitted as an inspiration.

If your costume delves into another topic, please contact a member of the organization.

Candidates must provide reference images for the cosplay.

Preferably one, or more, complete image, with an overview from head to toe, but also with a maximum of angles to compare the details (hidden parts, symbols, shoes, jewelry, etc.), a rear view of the costume bringing bonus points. The referenced images of the accessories will also be added to your file.

These images will have to comply with the version of the character you'll be cosplaying (same colors, proportions, details, etc).

Be sure to provide good quality images (large sized, good resolution). Do not underestimate the choice of your images.

Candidates must provide photos for the "Work in Progress" of the costume presented at the finals.

At least 5 photos of the progress of the suit must be attached to the registration. Add them before the main elements of your suit.

WARNING! All photo editing is prohibited.

Applicants must submit a video, from different angles, of the costume presented at the finals (being worn).

WARNING! All video editing is prohibited.

Applicants should provide a detailed written description of the performance that will be executed at the finals.

The maximum duration of the performance is set at 1:30min.

WARNING! Overtime or changing the performance will result in penalties.

Candidates should speak English or French; otherwise, someone who can do the translating must accompany them.

Be warned, only the accommodation will be provided to the companion. The competitor himself must organize any transportation for the interpreter.

PRE-REGISTRATION

Pre-registration will take place from Tuesday the 1st December 2015 (0h UTC + 1) until Sunday, the 20th December 2015 (11:59 p.m. UTC + 1) only via an online form available at the following address: <http://www.polymanga.com/GEC>

Only complete applications will be accepted by the jury.

Members of the organization will keep you informed on the status of your registration, particularly in the event of any difficulties preventing the completion of your registration.

The results will be communicated by email January the 4th, 2016.

THE SCREENING CRITERIA AND THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

The twelve best projects will be selected for the finals.

The selection criteria are:

- The quality of the costume,
- The performance project,
- The country (only one competitor per country will be selected, if participants from at least 12 countries have passed the first test of qualitative selection. Otherwise, a maximum of two participants per country.)

ACCOMPANYING AUDIO FILE

If you are selected for the finals, you must send to the organizing staff, an accompanying .mp3 or .wav audio file (no other formats will be accepted) before February the 29th, 2016. For this competition, the performance being mandatory and accounting for half of the final score of the jury, we ask that you be particularly attentive to the sound quality.

Links to YouTube, DailyMotion and to other video hosting sites are strictly PROHIBITED.

VIDEOS AND MICROPHONES

Video files are not allowed.

A background image can be displayed.

We do not lend microphones, all your accompanying performances must be pre-taped.

CAPTIONS

You can send us a file with subtitles in .srt, .ssa or .ass format (no other formats will be accepted) that we will take care to integrate ourselves in your performance to a black video.

These subtitles are to be used only for the translation of a performance (in English or French in order for the public to understand the meaning of the performance correctly) or for a better understanding of your performance in French (especially if the quality of your audio file is insufficient).

ACCESSORIES

Purchased accessories are allowed but will affect the final rating by the judges. Therefore prefer handmade accessories.

The number of accessories allowed on stage is limited to 3 and must not weigh more than 5 kilos each.

Remember that the journey will be by train / plane and therefore you will need to transport your accessories, some participating in other international competitions have already paid the price (objects rejected by customs, broken during transport, etc.).

We can lend up to a table and two chairs per participant.

Cosplayers can mail their accessories, but all shipping charges are their's to bear and the organization cannot be held liable in case of non receipt or damage during transportation. The package must not exceed 150 cm x 80 cm x 70 cm and 40 kilos maximum.

WARNING, if you want to send items by post please contact the organization no later than one month before the convention, to plan the reception and storage.

LIGHTING THE SCENE AND REHEARSALS

The organization will offer a range of lighting options that you may choose later.

A rehearsal will be held on the stage of the finals (maximum 10 minutes per candidate) Sunday, March the 27th, 2016 from 20:00 in the presence of the lighting and prop staff. You may get a more precise idea of the result and make final adjustments. The detailed program of the rehearsals will be announced later.

STRICTLY PROHIBITED

For security reasons, are banned from use under penalty of disqualification or even criminal prosecution:

- Swords: any offensive or sharp weapon made of iron or steel, such as daggers, swords, machetes, knives, bayonets, etc.
- Firearms: any weapon that fires explosive projectiles or cartridges, such as rifles, pistols, etc.
- Incendiary weapons: any weapon that is designed to set fire to objects or to cause burns to anyone.
- Flammable liquids: any liquid which is intended to set fire to objects or to cause burns to people, such as burning alcohols.
- Any product that may soil or damage the stage or room: firecrackers, smoke bombs, flour, confetti, glitter ...

Also forbidden under penalty of disqualification

- Indelible liquids: Any liquid that may not be removed with a simple cleaner and requires costly treatment or renovation.
- Any object and gesture that may be considered racist and/or pornographic.
- Any object and gesture inciting or being a cause of violence.
- Purchased costumes: Only costumes made by yourself (and/or with the help of those around you) and having an artistic value are accepted.

RATING CRITERIA IN THE FINAL ROUND

In the final round on Monday, March 28th between the 12 finalists, the realization of costume accounts for 50% of the score and the performance will account for the remaining 50%.

The scoring will be done in two stages:

Initially, the jury will meet with the cosplayers, Sunday, March 27th, 2016, to ask them technical questions about their costumes. A passing order will be set in place so that all participants have an equal time with the jury.

The jury, chosen by us, and examine the costumes will judge:

- The technical difficulty of the costume
- The choice of fabrics and / or materials
- The quality of the seam and / or structure
- The utility and use of accessories
- The resemblance to the referenced image
- The final rendering of costume

Secondly, in the finals, the jury will focus on the performance and judge:

- Understanding of the performance
- The originality of the presentation
- The attitude on stage

- Possible costume elements (movement, costume strength in particular)
- The final rendering of the performance

The final grades will remain confidential and cannot be asked of the jury or the organization. However, the jury will be available after the competition to answer any questions about the suits or performances.

TRANSPORT

The costs of the train / plane (economy class with a suitcase) from the airport / train station nearest to the place of residence of each cosplayer to the convention shall be borne by the organization (the companion's trip will be at his own expense).

All contact details for the reservation of transport (First and last name on the passport, passport number, date of birth) should be sent to the organization on or before January 20th, otherwise the difference in pricing between the ticket on that date and the effective date may be charged to the cosplayer.

The contest will be held Monday, March the 28th, 2016 from 11:00 to 13:00. So the finalists can take full advantage of the convention, their arrival will take place Saturday, March the 26th and departure Tuesday, March the 29th, 2016 (possible exceptions may be considered on a case by case basis).

Participants will be welcomed at the airport / train station in order of their arrival and led locally by the organizing staff.

You will be billed for any cancellation once the reservation has been made.

ACCOMMODATION AND ACCESS TO THE CONVENTION

Participants will benefit from accommodation in a double room (the companion will share the participant's room) for 3 nights in a hotel close to the convention. All details about accommodation will be communicated later.

The participants and their companions will enjoy free admission every day of the convention.

COMPANIONS

Each participant is entitled to a companion. He will be allowed to be present in the locker room to help to fit on the costume or accessories.

He may also accompany the participants backstage (to allow any translations, carry equipment, etc.) and participate in the rehearsal.

CONFIRMATION OF THE FINAL DAY

The day of the finals, cosplayers should be ready in costume at the fixed time in the locker room waiting for the beginning of their performance.

BE WARNED: Participants not present at the given time will be immediately disqualified!

PRIZES AND AWARDS

The schedule of the awards will be announced later. The jury will reward the 3 best costumes and performances. The public will vote live to award a special Live Public Choice Award.

The awards will be distributed as follows:

- 1st Jury Prize: CHF 3'000
- 2nd Jury Prize: 1,500 CHF
- 3rd Jury Prize: 500 CHF
- Live Public Choice Award: CHF 1'000

IMAGE RIGHTS

Adhering to these rules, participants agree to any use of photographic, film and audio material during and after the convention.

DISQUALIFICATION

Participants who will not let themselves be inspected by the jury and any participant who admits to having bought their costumes will be automatically disqualified.

Any participant guilty of vandalism, theft, physical or verbal aggression, offensive or similar behavior during the competition will immediately be disqualified.

Criminal proceedings will be initiated against him in accordance with any applicable laws.

Any cosplayer not participating in the cosplay competition once the transportation has been paid by the organization will be billed for the costs associated with it.

YOU'RE STILL LOOKING FOR THE ANSWER TO A QUESTION? MAIL US AT GEC@POLYMANGA.COM and we'll try to answer as QUICKLY as possible.

Rules for this contest can be changed anytime by the organization.