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Press
Release

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**CosPlay Day for Teens at Main Library August 6, 1:00-4:00 p.m.
Dress Up as Your Favorite Anime Character or Present a Play**

"I love CosPlay because it speaks out to people about their love for the characters and story, and gives me the opportunity to act it out."

---Toby Johansen, Anderson High School sophomore

"It's fun, plain and simple. You get to dress up as your favorite characters and walk around with friends. It's like Halloween all convention season long."

--CosPlay fan

"Anime is like watching a movie but with more fantasy, action and super powers. It bridges all age groups and interests."

--Adam Linz, Harrison High School senior

Imagine getting all dressed up in an elaborate costume as if going to a Halloween Ball. Except in this case, the ball never ends, you interact with others dressed up in various costumes, and as the evening progresses, you are entwined in a story and plot filled with fantasy and intrigue. Welcome to the world of anime and CosPlay!

CosPlays Competitions and Amine Film Festival at Main Library August 6

Teens age 12-18 who want to come dressed as their favorite anime or manga character are invited to **CosPlay** at the Main Library, 800 Vine Street, on Saturday, August 6 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. There, they can compete in the *Costume Only Competition* and win cool prizes, or enter the *CosPlay Competition* where individuals or groups can present a 90-second play featuring their characters for a chance to win prizes. Teens can participate in both and double their chances to win.

A comic book expert will be on hand to answer questions, and a make-up artist will be giving tips on doing great theatrical and special effects make-up. Not into dressing up? Stick around for the *Anime Film Festival* from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in the Huenefeld Tower Room, third floor, open to everyone.

What is CosPlay?

CosPlay is a term that originated in Japan but is based on the English words "Costume Play," essentially play-acting in costumes. In Japan, CosPlay is not limited to anime/manga, but also a staple of many other entertainment industries such as science fiction and horror. In North America, the term CosPlay is reserved for anime/manga related costuming.

Anime/manga CosPlay has become very popular among fans in Japan and North America. Some CosPlayers make their own costumes, investing large amounts of time and money in the process, while others buy their costumes from professional costume designers. The end products are generally shown off at anime conventions. Many anime conventions hold contests for CosPlay. Some successful CosPlayers have become very popular and are considered celebrities in their own right.

Exhibit on View at the Main Library August 1 - October 30

An exhibition in the Art & Music Department, *Comic Revolutions: Underground Comix, Graphic Novels & Manga*, will showcase three important phases in the history of comic books. The exhibition, to be displayed from August 1 - October 30 at the Main Library (800 Vine Street), will also feature the work of distinguished local practitioners.

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✓ **Our goal is to make our programs accessible to everyone. Please request ADA services one week in advance at 513-369-4400 (TTY 369-4409).**

✓ **Information about events at the Main Library and 41 branch libraries is available on the Internet site: www.CincinnatiLibrary.org.**