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## LEARN ABOUT THE DESIGNERS



It's Showtime! Mandy @defiantly\_mandy

Mandy studied Fashion and Costume Design at the Art Institute of CA-Of for her Bachelors in Fashion. While in college, she participated in three student fashion shows and the Orange County Fashion Week of 2016. Mandy went on to be a seamstress for the Walt Disney Company for the Entertainment Dept, and is currently an Associate Designer for the Uniform Apparel Company. Cintas. In her free time, Mandy also runs a side business of costumes, children's wear and accessory bags and wallets. Over the years, she has done everything from millinery to corsetry and everything in between! Mandy studied Fashion and



Haute on Hoth Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back **Heather Smith** @Geekanista5

Heather is a self-taught seamstress and designer who learned from YouTube videos, experience and failures. She has officially been sewing and designing for seven years and has grown exponentially thanks to practice, commissions and competitions. Heather loves to experiment with unique techniques and materials to push her designs and give them something new and fashionforward.



Domonique Battle-Baber @domdivadoesit

Domonique went to a fashion design high school in Downtown Los Angeles that eventually led her to a fashion design major in college. She went on to be a designer in her professional life in consumer products/licensing. Over the past 10 years Domonique has worked many licensing companies, both full-time and freelance. Although her background has been in licensing and consumer products, Domonique has a minor in costume design which she has explored recreationally doing costumes, cosplays, proms, weddings etc. Over the years she has used costume and streetwear to express her own sense of style. Domonique went to a fashion



You Have Me In Stitches **Bunny Jones** 

@dustbunnycouture Bunny is currently pursuing a degree in fashion design from Cal State Long Beach. She has designed, sewn, tailored and directed collections in the CSULB Campus Couture fashion show for two years in a row. Bunny showcased a dress in the 2023 FanX Salt Lake City Ceekbound Fashion Show.



65 Years Young Jen @mrsfett87

For the past three years, Jen has been an independent contractor for UDREPLICAS, the costume design team that makes armor for KISS, MANOWAR and Slipknot. Jen also runs her own design and tailoring company, The Department of Chaos. She works with local dance studios designing and creating costumes for competitions all over Canada.



Leading the (Run)Way! Lisa Truong

## @supreme\_leader\_honeypot

Lisa has been a successful cosplayer for over 20 years, making and designing re-creations of and designs inspired by pop culture. Lisa has professional experience as Lisa has professional experience as a seamstress and product development for women's fashion and is a two-time finalist for the Her Universe Fashion Show in 2019 and 2021. This year she is proud to have been a featured member of the Tiki Room group at the 2024 WonderCon Masquerade. (Lisa was Michael, the green Macaw!)



View-Master Teresa E. Craven @teresa.e.craven

As a San Diego native, Teresa's childhood dream of becoming a fashion designer led her to pursue formal education in fashion design in 2008. With five years of experience in the industry as a patternmaker and seamstress, Teresa was struggling to reach her goal of working in the fashion industry and transitioned to cosmetology in 2016. While in school, Teresa became interested in theater costuming and cosplaying. Over the span of nine years, Teresa collaborated with various local theaters, culminating in the prestigious Best Costume Designer award for her exceptional work on the Rocky Horror Picture Show the Musical at OB Playhouse in 2021. As a San Diego native, Teresa's



I've Got The Answers Miami Falcón @pinupmiami

Miami is a self-taught designer and Miami is a self-taught designer and is excited to showcase her talents in the Her Universe Fashion Show. Miami has done commissions for weddings and large parties, and loves creating and designing pieces to wear to events that she has produced or hosted. She has experience in millinery and patternmaking, as well as a background in manufacturing. Miami was the runner-up at the Geekbound Fashion Show at FanX last year, and has also placed her last year, and has also placed her designs in South Florida Frocktails.



By The Power of Grayskull

Angela Fenn Gleason @facelessbydesign

Angela is a freelance designer and maker from Upstate New York, where she lives with her high school sweetheart Nick and their English Bulldog Aldo. She interned at Syracuse Stage Costume Shop and attended Cazenovia College as a Fashion Design major. She started her first business at the age started her first business at the age of 23, a photography and photo booth rental company she operated with her husband. She is currently working on starting her own bridal and dress design company called Faceless By Design. Angela also organized Geek Fashion Week, an online showcase of geek couture, on Instagram this year with the help of the geek fashion vommunity. Getting chosen as a finalist in the Her Universe Fashion show has crossed off her

Fashion Show has crossed off her biggest bucket list item



It's Popplelific! Lynleigh Sato @lynleighsato

Lynleigh has an AA in Textile Design from FIDM and a BFA in Fashion/ Costume Design from AIU. She has worked at Disneyland in the costume department making repairs and alterations. From 2007 to 2013, Lynleigh owned an online business in custom lolita fashion. She is currently a freelance business in custom lolita fashion. She is currently a freelance seamstress and an assistant for a local independent designer. Lynleigh's latest achievements are "Best Original Design" from Wondercon 2024 and her "Muppets Take the Runway" design at the 2023 Her Universe Fashion Show.



On The Air Caitlin Beards @ladyavadesigns

Caitlin is a self-taught seamstress and an award-winning cosplayer for over 20 years, and worked as a wardrobe tech for off-Broadway shows and local theaters. She shows and local theaters. She recently taught at an art college as a workshop professor, teaching basic sewing fundamentals and cosplay design. Caitlin has been a judge, showrunner and staff member for multiple cosplay departments on the East Coast. She constantly challenges herself by designing original pieces inspired by her favorite fandoms. She is proud of her growth and eager to proud of her growth and eager to explore more in the "geek couture" universe. She would love to thank her family, boyfriend and friends for their support on this journey



Nevermore Serenade

Anna Cash-Mitchell @StudioACM

Anna is an artist and creative who enjoys geek fashion design and making clothing for herself and costumes for her kids. She is a selftaught sewist and patternmaker taught sewist and patternmaker who loves trying new techniques and challenging herself. Anna makes and sells moving angel/demon/dragon wings and other cosplay accessories on her Etsy shop. She started out making costumes for her dragon-loving child and on a whim, posted a pair of wings on her shop. Since then, people all over the world have come to her with costume ideas.



**Warrior Princess** of Dune

Dune 2
Candice Miller

@candicedunlapmiller

Candice participated in the 2018 Her Universe Fashion Show. She has self-published patterns and self-drafted crochet and knitwear designs since 2011, and has been making cosplays out of yarn since 2016. She's best known for her crocheted Ahsoka Tano cosplays her Clone Wars cosplay won Best in Show (Craftsman) at the 2016 Baltimore Comic Con. Candice loves making unexpected things with yarn, and continues to create pop-culture-themed fiber art while also working full time as a software engineer.



That's Some Bad **Hat Harry** 

Sam Strickland @unoriginalsam85

Sam is a seamstress from Orlando, Florida. Sam has created fashion garments and cosplayed as a source of enjoyment since 2004, but once she started working at Walt Disney World Entertainment as a stitcher, it gave her the push she needed to pursue fashion and sewing in earnest, and to truly consider it as a career



Stained Ally Vaughan

@Vaughan\_illustrations

Ally is originally from San Diego Ally is originally from San Diego, where she spent most of her time watching movies and letting her imagination run wild. She never had an interest in fashion or clothing until she saw behind-the-scenes videos of The Lord of the Rings, where she fell in lowe with the process of costume designing. She graduated from Cal Lutheran University with a bachelor's degree in Technical Theatre and continued her education at FIDM where she received degrees in both Fashion her education at FIDM where she received degrees in both Fashion Design and Advanced Theatre Costume Design. For six years, Always worked for Universal Studios Hollywood making ostumes for the theme park and their special events like Halloween Horror Nights. Nowadays, she is teaching her toddier Mercy all about Jedi, Hobbits, and all thing she she listens to countless DnD podcasts, and reads sci-fi and fantasy novels. She's currently in the process of building a small business that makes children's business that makes children's outfits out of recycled adult garments.



Padawan's Path Lea Gifford @themoraltimelady

@themoraltimelady

Lea has been sewing clothes since
2020 and has had her work
featured in the official Star Wars¹M
magazine, Star Wars Insider. In
addition to the Her Universe
Fashion Show in 2023, Lea had a
nine-piece Marvel collection
featured in the Reno Fashion Show,
and won the Daily Wear Judges'
Choice award at the Geekbound
Fashion Show at Fank for her dress
inspired by Blackbeard from Our
Flag Means Death, Most recently,
Lea has participated in Geek
Fashion Week with one
womenswear and one menswear
look inspired by Rei and Tak from
Altered Carbon.



**Haute Hobbit** Christine Geiger @geigeruppercut

Christine has a BA in fashion from Otis College of Art and Design. She is a senior designer with 15+ years of design experience in the Los Angeles area, designing branded, private label, and e-commerce pieces. Christine has had designs sold at Wal-Mart to Saks Fifth Avenue, and everything in between.



**Bub and Babs:** The Wolverine

Margaret Kidwell @madgical.creations

@madgical.creations

Margaret Kidwell is a mother, selftaught sewist and aspiring
designer from Washington who
has sewn and altered her own
garments in her free time for 25
years. In additon, she has knitted
and cosplayed original designs for
11 years. She designed her own
reclaimed pieces as a teen, and
now sketches fashion looks and
creates them for cosplay and daily
wear. Her endless imagination finds
joy in the challenges of learning
new techniques and skills with
each project. She recently added
beading and embroidery to the list.



The Metropolis Marvel

Terence Johnson @terencebjohnson

@terencebjohnson
Terence participated in the 2023
Her Universe Fashion Show with his
look "The Green Prince," and was
featured during the 2024 Geek
Fashion Week for his King of
Hearts-inspired look, Since 2013,
Terence has made all of the
costumes he has worn, has been
featured on Marvel and Disney
social media pages, and was the
2021 Costumer's Guild Award
Recipient at Comic-Con Special
Edition. Two of his costumes, the
Dune still suit and the Demon
Prince, were featured on display at
the 2022 Costume College.



Attack of the Flerken Katie Strube

@kstroobzcozplay

@kstroobzcozplay

Katie has worked as a costume
designer on many unique shows
and always tries to push herself to
go further and create something
never before seen with unexpected
mediums. Katie has taken part in
recycled fashion shows, creating
one-of-a-kind works of art made
out of glass and costume. She
believes in the inclusion of all body
types in design and that if you
embody the character in the
design, the essence shines through
and the size of the model doesn't
matter. Katie has worked on
perfecting her garment
construction abilities and
patterning skills as a seamstress for
the Walt Disney World Company.



Out of the Box



Fruit Chompin' and



**Love and Serenity** 



Sleepytime



Made for This

## Sean Quinn @qfacepaint

Sean has worked in theatrical costume design for 10 years, but during the pandemic she started making her own clothing and cosplay. In 2019, Sean took a toy design course at Oits and also designed clothing for dolls in her free time. Sean designs and builds cosplay, Disneybounds and fashion looks while documenting the process to share with her social media community.

# Pac-Man

## Cat Gravereaux

@kyasarin.cosplay

@kyasarin.cosplay

Cat was a finalist in the 2023 Her Universe Fashion Show (Kachow Couture). Her experience comes from over a decade of sewing and being a product prototyper for several years. For electrical/ animatronic fields, Cat has a background in C++. C+ and 3D modeling from her career in the video game industry. As a cosplayer, Cat has garnered many sewing skills over the years and strives to meet professional standards while developing her own techniques for some wilder design elements. Overall, Cat wants to combine her love for fashion with her love for technology into wearable tech that drives looks to the next level.

## **Duy Truong** @CafeDeDuy

QcafeDeDuy

Duy has been designing costume and fashion pieces for over 10 years, and always tries to incorporate his love for historical fashion and world cultures. His recent projects include a red carpet design for the Gold House Gala celebrating AAPI Excellence, a fantasy dress for an author's book release tour and a collaboration with the city of Orlando's TrashZTrends Fashion Show. Every now and then, he is a cosplay guest at conventions for his design and craftsmanship work. His past appearances include MEGACON Orlando, Holiday Matsuri and METROCON. Duy would like to thank his family and friends for their centuries' worth of love and support, for putting up with his delirious ideas and actions that somehow all make sense and for always getting boba tea with him." I hope I can make you all proud, and I'll never stop trying to make the world a prettier place."

#### Emma Joy @hunnie\_bunnie\_bee

Emma has designed and made Emma has designed and made clothes, accessories, props and costumes for over 12 years. Most of Emma's pieces are pop culture-inspired or replicas of items she wants to buy, and has original designs in her repertoire.

## Wes Jenkins @artofwesjenkins

Wes has been drawing and sewing since he was about three years old. He was inspired by Disney movies and finding his mom's childhood Barbie collection, which included lots of authentic and homemade doll clothes. While growing up in Indiana, he had the opportunity to develop his skills by getting involved with his middle school and high school theatre programs. He has a BFA and MFA in costume design for theatre and took fashion classes along the way. Since graduating, he has designed and built costumes for several theatre and opera companies including Los Angeles Opera, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Orlando Family Stage and Utah Festival Opera. Wes participated in the 2019 Her Universe Fashion Show with a design inspired by Oogle Boogle. That experience helped him make the connections he needed to get the job he has today, an apparel designer for Disney Consumer Products. In his spare time, he enjoys relaxing with his wife Jen and their two dosp, collecting nerdy things like Jurassic Park toys and playing at the Orlando theme parks. Wes has been drawing and sewing

parks.

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