Fort Collins Comic Con Returns August 27-28

Calling all Grogus and baby Groot, Lady Thors and Wanda Maximoffs!

It’s time for Fort Collins Comic Con. The family-friendly Con returns to the Northside Aztlan Community Center on Saturday, August 27 and Sunday, August 28 for two days filled with special guests, panel discussions, geeky gaming, the always-amazing Vendor Hall, and the coolest cosplay in NoCo!

Badges Sales Benefit the Library
After two years without an in-person Con, we’re anticipating a big crowd, so grab your badges early (and save some money). FoCo Comic Con donates proceeds from the badge sales to the Library to support children’s literacy and geek-friendly programs. Purchase your badge(s) online at www.FoCoComicCon.com.

Early Bird Prices
Ages 13+ ……………..$20
Ages 6-12 ……………..$10
Ages 5 and under…Free, but still need a badge

Confirmed Special Guests
As of mid-July, the following special guests were confirmed for the Con. More guests are added every week, so check www.FoCoComicCon.com for updates and announcements.

John Rosengrant
Legacy Effects, Former Co-Owner
Legacy Effects is the visual effects house that’s worked on everything from Avatar to Ironman to The Mandalorian. John created and puppeted Grogu (aka “Baby Yoda”) in The Mandalorian and played three characters in The Mandalorian, Book of Boba Fett, and Obi-Wan Kenobi.

Pieter Kallemeyn
Lockheed Martin Space Systems, Design and Operations Engineer
Pieter Kallemeyn is the leader of the InSight Spacecraft Team, which operates the lander from Lockheed Martin’s Mission Support Area in Denver. A graduate of the University of Colorado, Pieter has been involved in the operation of interplanetary missions for 30 years. Past missions include Galileo (1989), Mars Pathfinder Lander (1997), Mars Odyssey Orbiter (2001), and Mars Phoenix Lander (2018). The InSight mission is the fourth Mars mission that Pieter has been involved with during his career.

Dr. Ben Cromey
Ball Aerospace, Optical Engineer
Ben Cromey is an optical engineer at Ball Aerospace in Boulder, Colorado, where he designs imaging systems and sensors for NASA missions. He received his PhD in optical sciences and engineering from The University of Arizona (not Starfleet Academy unfortunately; they’re not accepting applications for a few years). He has presented about the cool science of optics to all ages for many years and loves to make science concepts accessible to the public.

Carolyn Collins Petersen
Loch Ness Productions, Science Writer
Carolyn is a local science writer and producer of science educational content for museums, science centers, and planetarium facilities. She writes her own blog and is a contributor to UniverseToday.com. You can read more about her at TheSpacewriter.com and LochNessProductions.com.

The 2022 Fort Collins Comic Con is sponsored by City of Fort Collins Fort Fund, Poudre River Public Library, District, WTF Orthodontics, Hanning Law LTD, Fort Collins Chamber of Commerce, and ColorPro Printing.

Every Monday and Wednesday at Noon
Outreach Fort Collins
All ages
Drop in for consultation and resources related to housing, food, healthcare, and other critical issues.

KidsZone: Oceans of Fun
10:00 – 11:30 AM & 1:00 – 2:30 PM, Council Tree
Ages 4+ Registration required.
Get ready for fun crafting, learning, and sharing all things oceans. Library staff have designed hands-on activities and games that will bring new friends together and crafts that you can take home.

Great Decisions: The Quad Alliance
6:00 – 7:30 PM, Old Town
Adults
As part of the U.S. pivot to Asia, the United States has been in dialogue with Japan, Australia, and India in an effort to contain China. Recently, the Quad countries held joint military exercises in the South Pacific. How effective will the actions of this alliance be? For more information see https://blog.poudrelibraries.org/great-decisions-

Storytime at The Gardens on Spring Creek
3:30 – 4:00 PM, 2145 Centre Ave.
Storytime is a great way to start the week!

BYOD - Bring Your Own Device Drop-in Tech Help
5:30 – 6:30 PM, Old Town
Adults
Computer and device help from Poudre River Public Library volunteers on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday evening of each month. Signup is located at Old Town and is first come, first served.

Crash Course for the College Bound
6:00 – 7:15 PM, Zoom
In this class we’ll explore college, challenges students face when they shift to the college experience, share resources to be on the look-out for at your specific university, and discuss practical matters such as: do you really need take your entire wardrobe with you? Zoom meeting link provided to registered participants.

Full info about the Con is available online, www.FoCoComicCon.com. See you there!
We’re approaching the end of another successful Summer Reading Challenge, but there’s still time to participate in both the reading and Bingo challenges! You have through Monday, August 15 to sign in and update your online reading account with the amount of minutes you’ve read this summer and to log all of your Bingo challenge activities.

Haven’t signed up yet? There’s still time! Create your online reading account at www.PoudreLibraries.org and get to reading. Everyone who signs up receives a free gift while supplies last. Stop by any of the three library locations to pick up your gift.

Remember: 10 hours of reading earns you a free book. Play Bingo and earn chances to win grand prizes whenever you complete 5-in-a-row on your Bingo sheet. Bingo activity must be recorded in your online reading account to be eligible for prize drawings. The more Bingos you earn, the more chances to win!

There’s an ocean of possibilities when it comes to prizes! Here are just a few of the great items up for grabs in the Bingo grand prize drawings. Grand prize winners will be contacted August 16-18.

**Kids Prizes**
Prizes include a family membership to Fort Collins Museum of Discovery, a family membership to The Gardens on Spring Creek, and dozens of gift baskets filled with fun items like toys, puzzles, games, LEGO kits, arts and crafts kits, Fort Fun passes, notebooks, and gift cards!

**Baby and Toddler Prizes**
Prizes include Bannary Buddies passes to The Farm at Lee Martinez Park and dozens of gift baskets filled with play and learn items like bath books, rattles, sensory toys, painting kits, puzzles, LEGO DUPLO kits, bath toys, and games.

**Teen Prizes**
Twenty-five $20 gift cards to Old Firehouse Books and three $75 gift cards to Jerry’s Artarama, Urban Air, and Gryphon Games and Comics.

**Adult Prizes**
Twenty-five $20 gift cards to Old Firehouse Books and three $75 gift cards to Downtown Fort Collins, Painting with a Twist, and Cinemark.

**All Ages Blackout Bingo Prize**
Blackout the entire online Bingo sheet and you earn a $8 Fun Bucks card from Chipper’s lanes Entertainment great for bowling, arcade, VR, or laser tag.

You have until August 22 to pick up your 10-hour completion prize book and Blackout Bingo prize at any of the library locations.

There’s a variety of ongoing book groups – like Rekindle the Classics, Café de Olla, and Old Town Library Book Club – and some that pop-up as special programs throughout the year. Be sure to visit our Book Club page to see the current list of regular clubs (www.poudrelibraries.org/bookclubs/) and check out the online events calendar to keep up with all the other reading group opportunities.

**Visit the Online Readers’ Café**
Whether you’re looking to fiction or nonfiction, the latest hot titles, or lists of what we’re currently reading, the online Readers’ Café is the first stop for all things reading. Visit https://read.poudrelibraries.org/books/ to get started browsing book lists by topic, by award winners, by New York Times bestsellers and more.

**Sign up for Reading Recommendations**
My Select Reads is like having a personal librarian on call to offer customized reading recommendations and alert you to new titles. You choose the subjects you’re interested in, enter your email address, and you’ll get a weekly bulletin with book recommendations generated specifically for you.

We also have monthly Booklist newsletters that you can subscribe to or simply access through our Readers’ Café page. Choose your age group and/or genres and view librarian-curated booklists.

**Attend a Storytime**
Storytimes take a hiatus from August 15 – September 5 and return on Tuesday, September 6 with daily programs. Library storytellers introduce and share books, fingerplays, rhymes, and other materials with children and caregivers that celebrate the ideas and perspectives of people from all backgrounds.

**Phone-a-Story**
Everybody loves a good story, and now you can call in 24/7 to enjoy one whenever you’re in the mood! Just call 970-829-1301. Phone-a-Story features a new story, song, or rhyme in English and Spanish each week, and you can call in and listen as many times as you want.

**Participate in Animals Afternoon**
The library has gone to the dogs (and cats and other story-loving critters)! Returning this fall, friendly animals from the Larimer County Animal People Partnership will be visiting the library. Kids can drop in to read to furry animals and find a new book buddy!
Out and About with Natural Areas: Conservation Agriculture
6:00 – 7:00 PM, Kestrel Fields Natural Areas, Vine Drive, between Taft Hill Rd. and Overland Trail Rd.
All ages. Registration required.
We hope you’ve been out and about with the natural areas and events this summer! Kestrel Fields Natural Area, a newer Fort Collins site, is home to a conservation agriculture pilot project. Conservation agriculture, similar to other sustainable farming approaches such as organic farming and permaculture, is in this program, we will take a closer look at what’s happening in the farm fields and how the City is restoring the surrounding land to support the community, wildlife, and local agriculture.

Noches en Familia at the Museum
5:00 – 6:30 PM, Fort Collins Museum of Discovery, 408 Mason Court
All ages.
Noches en Familia is a bilingual literary program that connects the library community with the Latinx culture through stories, music, food, crafts, games, and special guests. Doors open at 5:00 PM for gallery explorations followed by literary programs at 5:30 PM. Noches en Familia is a Portuguese language lecture that connects to the community via the culture of Latinx literature. There are stories, meals, activities related to the authors and their books. Please wear comfortable shoes and enjoy the summer nights at the Museum.

Teen Writers
4:30 – 5:30 PM, Harmony
Are you ready to flex your creative brain muscles?
Welcome to Teen Writers, a support and critique group for teens who love to write. Short stories, novels, poetry, screenplays—whatever your passion, we’re here to help and encourage you in writing exercises, prompts for ideas, and peer editing. Bring a piece you’ve already been working on to share with the group or start something brand new. We can’t wait to meet you!

Book Club for Mortals
3:00 – 4:30 PM, Zoom
Adults. Registration required.
For August’s program, we will be discussing The Beauty of What Remains by Steve Leder. Join us for a monthly book club focusing on end-of-life themes facilitated by professionals and trained staff in advance care planning from the Health District of Northern Larimer County. To register please email Mindy Puckett at mrickard@healthdistrict.org.

BYOD - Bring Your Own Device Drop-in Tech Help
5:30 – 6:30 PM, Old Town
Computer and device help from Poudre River Public Library volunteer on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday evening of every month. Signup is located at Old Town and is first come first served.

Hands-On Tech: Microsoft Excel
1:00 – 2:30 PM, Old Town
Adults. Registration required.
This hands-on class, you will learn how to use the rich resources of the library for use at home or on the go from downloading ebooks, audiobooks and movies to databases like LinkedIn Learning and Createbug. Bring a tablet, phone or laptop and we will show you the way.

Take Me Away: Summer Book Club at Old Town Library
6:00 – 7:30 PM, Old Town Library Park
All Ages. Registration required.
It’s summertime and we’re ready to get swept away by a wonderful story! Join us to read Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini. This book is a touching story about life, war, and the enduring power of love. We will have a discussion on the book and end with a snack. Space is limited. Sign up here!

Hands-On Tech: Microsoft Word Basics
1:00 – 2:30 PM, Old Town
Adults. Registration required.
Learn to create documents in Microsoft Word in this hands-on class. Before taking this class, we recommend that you know your mouse and keyboard skills. This class will give you an overview of how to create documents in Microsoft Word. Basic skills are covered in our “Hands-On Tech: Microsoft Word Basics” class. Equipment is provided. You may bring a laptop to help you practice.

Walking Tour: The Women’s Suffrage Movement in Fort Collins
6:00 – 7:30 PM, Old Town Library Park, Mathews & Olive Street
Adults. Teens. Registration required.
Learn about Fort Collins’ role in the Women’s Suffrage movement through this downtown walking tour with the City of Fort Collins Historic Preservation Services team. We’ll explore some of the places where Fort Collins women organized for the vote to right, discuss who benefited from those suffrage efforts and who didn’t, and consider what these places mean to Fort Collins today. What to bring: comfortable shoes, water, and curiosity.

Info Session with The Learning Source / Sesión informativa con The Learning Source
6:00 – 7:30 PM, Harmony
Adults
Find out about free English and GED classes in this session with The Learning Source and Poudre Libraries. Learn about the class schedules and the sign-up process!
You’ll even have a chance to tour the classrooms and register for your placement test! Snacks provided.

Fort Collins Comic Con
9:00 AM – 8:00 PM, Northside Aztlán Community Center, 112 E Willow St.
All ages.
Fort Collins Comic Con is BACK in person August 27–28, 2022 at the Northside Aztlán Community Center! www.fortcollinscomiccon.com. Visit the Library booth soon!

Hands-On Tech: Microsoft Excel
1:00 – 2:30 PM, Old Town
Adults. Registration required.
Learn and practice the basics of Microsoft Excel in this hands-on class. We will show you how to create and use a personal budget spreadsheet. All equipment is provided, though you may choose to bring your own device.

Walking Tour: The Women’s Suffrage Movement in Fort Collins
Wednesday, August 24, 6:00 – 7:30 PM
Meet at Library Park, 200 Mathews Street.
Adults. Teens. Registration required.
Learn about Fort Collins’ role in the Women’s Suffrage movement through this downtown walking tour with the City of Fort Collins Historic Preservation Services team. Explore some of the places where Fort Collins women organized for the right to vote, discuss who benefited from those suffrage efforts and who didn’t, and consider what these places mean to Fort Collins today. Bring comfortable shoes, water, and curiosity. Registration is required and space is limited.

Want to Lead a Program at the Library?
Looking for a platform to share your expertise with the community? Poudre Libraries is accepting applications from not-for-profit organizations and individuals who wish to voluntarily organize and lead a program at the library for a one-year period. We provide the space and promotional support... you provide the program! Current community-led program series include International Night, the Antarctic Lecture Series, Little Latin/Hispanic Society classes and one-on-one help. Starting this fall is a teen series with the mentoring organization, Partners.

Applications are due September 1 for a program start date of January 1 or later. All programs must follow library policy, including being free of charge and open to the public. Applicants must commit to running their program a minimum of four times between January 1 and December 31, 2023.

There are limited number of community-led programs and funding arrangements, and these programs that best align with the following criteria:
• Library mission, values and strategic plan
• Diversity, equity, inclusion, and cultural competence
• Audience appeal and emerging community interest
• Quality of program content and delivery
• Community response and program effectiveness

Read more about the process and apply via our website, www.PoudreLibraries.org. If you have questions, please contact the Answer Center at 970-221-6740.
**August Storytime Schedule**

The library offers a variety of Storytimes, including in-person outdoor, bilingual, telephone, and drop-in formats. See details at [www.poudrelibraries.org/events](http://www.poudrelibraries.org/events).

No storytimes August 15 - September 5. Fall Storytimes begin September 6.

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**TEEN & TWEEN PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

**Crash Course for the College Bound**

Wednesday, August 3, 6:00 – 7:15 PM, Zoom

Congratulations! You've completed high school, sent off the applications, have been accepted, and now you're about to start college! With the help of a College Success Coach and current college students, explore the common challenges students face when they shift to the college experience, share resources to be on the look-out for at your specific university, and discuss practical matters such as: do you really need take your entire wardrobe with you, what to bring on your first grocery trip, and how to keep an eye on your money.

**Ready, Set, Party!**

Saturday, August 6, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, Old Town Library

Say goodbye to summer with a special after-hours party just for teens with music, refreshments, contests, life size board games, fandom themed challenges, crafts, and prizes. Come dressed to impress, in your favorite cosplay, or just ready to chill. Hosted by the Teen Council. For teens ages 12 - 18. Registration required.

**Teen Council Open House**

Tuesday, August 9, 5:30 – 6:30 PM, Harmony Library

Learn about the Poudre River Public Library District’s Teen Council. Teen Services Librarians and Teen Council members will explain what the Teen Council is and what they do, and answer any other questions you may have about the Council. Refreshments will be provided. Please feel free to drop in anytime during the program. Teen Council members must be in 6th through 12th grade, but all ages are welcome to come and ask questions during the open house.

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**CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS**

**Toddler Tracks with the Book Bike**

Friday, August 5, 10:00 - 11:00 AM

Maggie Meander Natural Area, 520 Hickory Street

Your little one will discover flowers, bugs, tracks, and more in this slow-paced exploratory walk and storytime in the city’s beautiful Natural Areas. Registration required. For ages 1-3. Parents/guardians must be present at all times.

**KidZone**

**KidZone: Oceans of Fun**

Monday, August 1, 1:00 – 2:30 PM, Council Tree Library

Get ready for fun crafting, learning, and sharing all things oceans. Library staff have designed hands-on activities and games that will bring new friends together and crafts that can go home with you. Registration required.

**KidZone: Creating & Coding the Accidental Journey of the Friendly Flootees**

Tuesday, August 9, 10:00 – 11:30 AM or 1:00 – 12:30 PM, Harmony Library

Kids learn basic coding with the tiny but oh-so-mighty Ozobot and then code Ozobot to follow the journey of the Friendly Flootees, a shipment of 29,000 rubber ducks that spilled into the ocean by accident in 1992. Registration required.

**ALL AGES PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

**Wade the River**

Tuesday, August 9, 9:00 – 11:30 AM

Poudre River Trail near Lee Martinez Park

Use dip nets and collecting trays to discover what lives beneath the surface of the Cache la Poudre River. Biologists will be on hand to help identify your finds. Caregivers must be present at all times with young children. Mark your calendars for a repeat session on Saturday, September 10.

**Out and About with Natural Areas: Conservation Agriculture**

Thursday, August 11, 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Kestrel Fields Natural Areas, Vine Drive, between Taft Hill Rd. and Overland Trail Rd.

What do kale, pumpkins, and beets have in common? These plants may be found growing along the Overland Trail Rd. Use dip nets and collecting trays to look at what’s happening in the farm fields and how the city is restoring the surrounding land to support the community, wildlife, and local agriculture.