The Comic-Con Kids: Finding and Defining Fandom

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Twelve to seventeen-year-old San Diego comics, science fiction, and popular culture fans team up with like-minded mentors. They go on to create one of the biggest pop culture events in the world: Comic-Con.

Mike Towry, Co-founder of Comic-Con, Chairman of SD Comic-Con, President of the Popular Culture and Comics Education (PACC) Foundation
Barry Alfonso, Co-founder of Comic-Con, Storyteller/Songwriter
Scott Shaw!, Cartoonist and early Comic-Con organizer
Greg Bear, Science Fiction Author and early Comic-Con organizer
Wendy All, Toy Designer and early Comic-Con organizer
Rogers Friedman, Professor of Physics at UCSD and early Comic-Con organizer
Jackie Estrada, Co-Publisher, Chief A Press and Administrator of the Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards
Mark Evanier, Comic Book Writer and early attendee
Igor Goldkind, Creative producer of STRERVERSE/Factory and early Comic-Con organizer
Peter Jones, Cellist, High School Math Teacher, also attended every Comic-Con
Jim Valention, Co-founder, Image Comics (Publisher, Writer, Editor)
Phil Yeh, Cartoonist and early attendee
Jean & Chuck Graham, Founders of S.A.R., San Diego and early Comic-Con organizers
Gary Pagel, Early Attendee

More Interviews Are Planned!

Personal Histories

Mentoring
Accessibility
Inclusiveness – Finding acceptance and your peeps
The “Can Do Kids” – Encouraged and believed in themselves
Social Issues – Vietnam, Women’s Movement, Drug Culture
History of Comics Culture and Collecting
San Diego History

Common Themes

Comic-Con Timeline