

MEDIA ALERT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EMPOWERING GIRLS THROUGH COMICS AT THE LONG BEACH COMIC EXPO, FEB. 20 *Girl Scouts to be mentored by comic professionals at exclusive workshops*

WHAT: Understanding the need for more diverse stories and characters in entertainment, [Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles](#) is thrilled to collaborate with **MAD Event Management, LLC** to provide exclusive workshops for girls with industry professionals at the [Long Beach Comic Expo](#), Feb. 20. Thanks to generous donations and grants, more than 150 greater Los Angeles Girl Scouts—including 50 girls from underserved communities—will have the opportunity to earn their Comic Artist badge at a workshop presented by [Emet Comics](#) (comic publisher founded to empower diverse voices), and/or participate in a special anti-bullying panel moderated by [Pop Culture Hero Coalition](#) Founder **Chase Masterson** (*The Flash*, *Star Trek*, *Big Finish VIENNA*), who will present girls with their Comic Artist badges. Panelists include **Tommy Walker** (Netflix's *Daredevil*), **United Nations advocacy specialist and feminist Jayashri Wyatt**, **Clinical Psychologist and Comics Author Dr. Janina Scarlet**, and other experts. "The Long Beach Comic Expo is a unique opportunity for girls to work one-on-one with role models, creating art and fostering a culture of inclusivity," said Lise L. Luttgens, Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles Chief Executive Officer. "This type of collaboration is just one example of how Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles helps girls discover themselves, support others, and pursue their passions."

WHEN:

Saturday, Feb. 20	
10:30 a.m.–12 p.m.	Girl Scout Comic Artist workshop (100+ girls working w/ comic professionals to create comic book pages)
12:30 p.m.	Comic Artist badge presentation by Chase Masterson (<i>The Flash</i> , <i>Star Trek</i> , <i>Big Finish VIENNA</i>), along with Hero Coalition anti-bullying panel
12:30–1:30 p.m.	End Bullying! Panel Discussion with Pop Culture Hero Coalition (Actors, advocates, authors, and others discuss anti-bullying topics with 50+ girls)

WHERE: **Long Beach Convention Center**, 300 E. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90802
(Comic Artist workshop and badge presentation in Ballroom A)
(Anti-bullying panel Seaside Pre-Function Room)

OTHER FACTS:

- This is the second year Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles is collaborating with the Long Beach Comic Expo to provide the Comic Artist badge workshops.
- In 2014, women became the fastest growing demographic in comics. Girls and women still remain a minority in the professional comic book industry; however, the trend is shifting.
- Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles has a strong history of supporting girls to pursue their passions in underrepresented fields. The organization currently sponsors 31 *FIRST* Lego League robotics teams and hosts introductory rocketry programs. All thanks to individual donations and partnerships, Girl Scouts also hosts video game design workshops, app creation classes, and more.

- Enjoy an exciting weekend full of exceptional guests and exhibitors, and engaging panels, at Long Beach Comic Expo, Saturday, Feb. 20, 10 a.m.–7 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 21, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. at the Long Beach Convention Center. The show opens to advance ticket holders both days at 9 a.m. Tickets are available now through the website: www.longbeachcomicexpo.com. Follow Long Beach Comic Con on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for the latest news and information.

About Long Beach Comic Con:

Long Beach Comic Expo is an annual event held at the Long Beach Convention Center every spring. It's a celebration of comic books and pop culture that showcases the exceptional works of talented writers, artists, illustrators, and creators of all types of pop culture. At the Long Beach Comic Expo you'll find exhibitors promoting and selling all types of related products, as well as entertaining and educational programs, guest signings, and meet & greet sessions with celebrities. Long Beach Comic Expo is a production of MAD Event Management, LLC. Visit www.longbeachcomicexpo.com for additional information.

About Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles:

Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, serves more than 40,000 girls in partnership with more than 20,000 volunteers throughout the diverse communities of Los Angeles County and parts of Kern, San Bernardino, and Ventura counties. The council engages girls through programs in Leadership, Business and Financial Literacy, Outdoor Adventure, STE[A]M (science, technology, engineering, art, math), and Healthy Living. To join, volunteer, reconnect, or support, visit www.girlscoutsla.org or call 213-213-0123.

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