



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For the attention of culture and entertainment editors

Otakuthon Anime Convention wraps up its roster with outstanding new guests for its 18th edition

MONTRÉAL — August 5th, 2023. Otakuthon is excited to announce the presence of more guests for the 2023 convention, which is set to take place from August 11th to 13th, 2023 at the Palais des congrès de Montréal.

For our Japanese guests, Otakuthon is proud to announce as a guest **Okiayu Ryōtarō**, a Japanese actor and voice actor affiliated with Aoni Production whose major roles include Byakuya Kuchiki in Bleach, Treize Khushrenada in Mobile Suit Gundam Wing, Hisashi Mitsui in Slam Dunk and who became the recipient of the Best Supporting Actor Award at the 17th Seiyu Awards. Attendees will be able to meet **Yoh Yoshinari**, a renowned animation director, illustrator, and character designer who has taken part in numerous notable titles such as Neon Genesis Evangelion, FLCL and GURREN LAGANN and many others! Music lovers will be delighted to hear that a twenty-year veteran of the industry, **Hisayuki Tabata** who has worked on many well-known projects over the years such as Code Geass (2008), Accel World (2012), and Weathering with You (2019) will be among us. Participants will also be able to meet **Luna Tsukigami**, a Japanese illustrator and manga artist whose works have been featured in a variety of magazines and publications. His illustrations can be seen in the light novel series *Kuzubako no Houkiboshi*, *Omae nanzo ni Musume ha Yaren* and *Zakogami-sama* to name just a few. **Maizuru Yokato** a local VTuber who works to liven up her hometown of Fukuoka will also be present with **Amagi Ten**, an extremely energetic and happy VTuber who loves games such as Pokemon, Yu-Gi-Oh and Mahjong, and finally **Aria Kurokiri**, Princess of the land of cats who spins and sings songs of darkness and light and other new stories on the kalimba and piano.

On the North American side, we're happy to announce **Thomas Burelli**, a professor of law in the civil law department of the University of Ottawa who created a university course on video game law. Festival-goers will also meet **Patrick Walton**, a multimedia professional with a background in commercial photography and a rich experience in creative direction, user experience design, communications and marketing. Music lovers will have the chance to hear **Lame Genie**, a band that specializes in energetic metal covers of video game soundtracks, making for an electrifying musical experience. On the same note, we're delighted to welcome back **TurboQuest**, a rock musical group with a touch of metal from Montréal that is dedicated to taking up classics from the world of video games while bringing it to a whole new dimension. In a different music genre, **ANC3** who aren't your average DJ group will also be among us. These Canadian brothers have travelled all over North America, entertaining audiences with their performances that feature a mix of anime, hip-hop, K-pop, EDM, and more! Attendees will have the pleasure to be entertained by **Le Geek Show** with cinema, video games, comic books and anything pertaining to the geek universe on the menu! For a second year, participants will also be able to attend **East2West** shows as the Montréal-based K-pop cover performance crew, which consists of the collaborative effort of more than 60 active, talented

performers will be present. **Griffin Burns**, a voice actor whose most notable roles include Doppio in Jojo's Bizarre Adventure, Muichiro in Demon Slayer, Colt Grice in Attack on Titan and many, many others will also be present. Attendees can also meet **Dan Fogler** an American actor, comedian and writer. His major film roles include *Balls of Fury*, *Good Luck Chuck*, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald*, and *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore*. Finally, we'll have the delightful presence of **Crunchyroll-Hime**, a lively and curious kitsune who developed a passion for anime after unexpectedly encountering a couple watching it in their living room.

On the European side of the guest list, Otakuthon is delighted to welcome **Minney** and **Nomes** who make up **Be More Shonen!** a professional cosplay couple from the UK! Festival-goers will be able to meet **Minney**, an anime health coach who creates content focused on fitness & mindset! As well as **Nomes**, the chief costume designer who crafts high-quality costumes & is particularly recognized for her gravity-defying Saiyan wigs. **Bruno Méyère**, an actor, French voice actor and director of French dubbing, will also be present. Attendees might know him as Levi in "Shingeki no Kyojin", Todoroki Shôto in "Boku no Hero Academia", Portgas D. Ace in "One Piece" and Whis in "Dragon Ball Super". He also directed the French dubbing of "Fairy Tail", "Komi Can't Communicate", "Hunter x Hunter", "Made in Abyss" and many more. Further details about the convention, registration and upcoming guests can be found on the website.

WHEN?

Friday, August 11, 2023 from 10 AM to 3 AM

Saturday, August 12, 2023 from 10 AM to 3 AM

Sunday, August 13, 2023 from 10 AM to 5 PM

WHERE?

Palais des congrès de Montréal

1001, Place Jean-Paul-Riopelle

Montréal (Quebec) Canada, H2Z 1H5

ABOUT OTAKUTHON

Otakuthon is Canada's largest bilingual festival celebrating Japanese animation (*anime*), graphic novels (*manga*), gaming, and pop culture. As the first of its kind in Montreal, Otakuthon is a full-fledged, bilingual anime convention that features a diverse range of special guests as well as many panels, activities, and events spotlighting all aspects of Japanese culture. Every year, this event is made possible by the hard work and dedication of passionate volunteer staff members who generously devote their time to creating a convention that is entirely for fans, by fans.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Website: <http://www.otakuthon.com/2023/home/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OtakuthonMTL/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/otakuthon>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/otakuthonmontreal/>

Flickr: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/otakuthon/albums>

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