



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For the attention of culture and entertainment editors

Otakuthon 2023 concludes with a record-breaking attendance of 147,151, solidifying its position as Canada's largest bilingual anime convention

MONTREAL – August 28, 2023. Otakuthon, the premier anime and pop culture convention, concluded its latest edition with unparalleled success, surpassing all expectations and solidifying its position as a flagship event in the industry. The convention witnessed a record-breaking turnstile count of 147,151, a warm body count of 35,309, and paid attendees of 33,218. The turnstile count refers to valid in-scans only, excluding duplicate scans in the same hour; out-scans, double taps, and invalid scans are excluded from this number. The impressive figures represent a substantial increase from the previous year and underscore Otakuthon's growing popularity within the anime and pop culture communities.

Held from August 11th to 13th, this year's Otakuthon powered by Gallery Panda brought together enthusiasts, creators, and industry professionals from around the globe in a celebration of creativity, a shared passion, and Japanese culture, both modern and traditional.

Diverse Programming

Otakuthon offered a comprehensive range of engaging and diverse programming, catering to the varied interests of attendees. From the premiere of Japanese anime movies to captivating panel discussions with industry experts, the convention offered a source of inspiration and provided insights into the world of animation, gaming, and cosplay.

Special Guests and Performances

This year's lineup of special guests and performers was nothing short of extraordinary. Renowned figures from the anime, gaming, and entertainment industries graced the convention, sharing their experiences and interacting with fans. The orchestral performances of **Alisa Okehazama and Takahiro Obata** and the **Orchestre de Jeux Vidéo** as well as concerts of **Anly**, **NIJISANJI** and **KANA-BOON** brought the house down and further elevated the electrifying atmosphere of the event.

World Cosplay Summit (WCS)

Cosplay enthusiasts made a remarkable impact at Otakuthon, showcasing their imaginative costumes that paid tribute to beloved characters from anime, manga, video games, and more. The cosplay competition, a highlight of the convention, demonstrated the dedication and creativity of participants. **Team Doll Damage**, the winner of the WCS Canadian preliminary at Otakuthon, will go on to represent Canadian cosplay and compete against cosplayer teams

from around the world for the chance at the title of Grand Champion at the 2024 WCS Championship in Japan.

Canada's Largest Bilingual Anime Convention

Distinguished by its scale and commitment to inclusivity, Otakuthon proudly holds the title of Canada's largest bilingual anime convention. This distinction exemplifies our dedication to providing an expansive platform where English- and French-speaking enthusiasts and beyond can converge and indulge in their shared passion for anime and pop culture.

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

Montreal (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>

CONTACT

Lexi Yixuan Ma

Media Director

media@otakuthon.com