

Out & About

COMIC-CON, SAN DIEGO



1. Blair Redford, Jamie Chung and Emma Dumort of Fox's upcoming sci-fi series *The Gifted* checked out our Comic-Con special issue at Hard Rock Hotel San Diego on July 22. 2. TVGM senior writer Damian Holbrook hit the streets for a video promotion of Party City's Cosplay Sweepstakes. 3. Hundreds of actors and producers, including Seth Rogen, swung by our TV Insider Studios to chat about their hot new projects. 4. *Timeless* stars Malcolm Barrett and Matt Lanter played to win on Nintendo Switch. 5. *Stranger Things*' Noah Schnapp, Caleb McLaughlin and Finn Wolfhard enjoyed Suja Juice.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY
BRANDON MEANS/PICTUREGROUP

Upfront

The Best of Comic-Con

BY **JIM HALTERMAN, DAMIAN HOLBROOK AND MARISA ROFFMAN**

Once again, San Diego was the site of Comic-Con International—the summer mashup of TV, movie and gaming panels; autograph signings; elaborate promotional activations; and retailers peddling things from action figures to stuffed *Supernatural* toys and, fittingly, comic books. And for TV fans, more casting announcements and notable happenings occurred than any one person could cover over four days. Here are some of the highlights.

TV GUIDE MAGAZINE SALUTES OUR FAN FAVORITES Fandoms collided in the best way possible at our annual Fan Favorites panel. Ben McKenzie (*Gotham*), Rose McIver (*iZombie*), Ricky Whittle (*American Gods*), Ana Gasteyer (*People of Earth*), Alan Tudyk (*Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency*), Katherine McNamara (*Shadowhunters*) and Arjun Gupta (*The Magicians*) swapped stories about



playing iconic characters and experiencing crazy convention moments. The actors also heaped praise on the viewers who cheer them on every week. “It doesn’t run one way,” noted McKenzie of his mutual respect for *Gotham* diehards, while Whittle gave a shout-out to the creative supporters who have wowed him with their fan art and YouTube tributes. “I will love them till the end of my days,” he said. “Keep it up!”

STAR TREK GOES BIG CBS All Access screened a new trailer of *Star Trek: Discovery*, which premieres September 24. “It’s a little bit larger than the original series in terms of scope and scale,” said executive producer Alex Kurtzman, “but we’re very consistent with our origins. We are within canon.” Addressing online fan backlash about the show’s diverse cast, which includes LGBT characters, star Sonequa Martin-Green said diversity is a key element to the franchise’s longevity. “If you say you love the legacy of *Star Trek* but you don’t love [its diversity], then you’ve missed it.” The actress also revealed her character, First Officer Michael Burnham, is (shocker!) the adopted sister of none other than Spock.

CASTING COUPS July 22 was a big day for Warner Bros.’ DC Comics shows, which announced a flurry of casting news. Michael Emerson (*Lost*, *Person of Interest*) will recur on *Arrow* in a mystery role; *Teen Wolf*

(from left) TV GUIDE MAGAZINE’s Fan Favorites: Gupta, TVGM senior writer/panel moderator Damian Holbrook, McNamara, Tudyk, Gasteyer, McIver, McKenzie and Whittle



(from left) *Lucifer*'s Welling; *Star Trek: Discovery*'s Martin-Green; *Once Upon a Time*'s Anwar, O'Donoghue, Andrew J. West, Parrilla and Ramirez



vet Crystal Reed is set to play mob daughter Sofia Falcone on *Gotham*; *Machete*'s Danny Trejo joins *The Flash* as Gypsy's father and Neil Sandilands (*The Americans*) will play the drama's latest villain, The Thinker; and *Supergirl* announced the additions of Carl Lumbly (*Alias*) as Martian elder M'yrnn J'onzz, Yael Grobglas (*Jane the Virgin*) as psychic baddie Psi and Adrian Pasdar (*Heroes*) as evil real-estate developer Morgan Edge. But it was *Lucifer* that really raised hell with the news that former *Smallville* star Tom Welling is joining the show as a love interest for Chloe Decker (Lauren German).

AN ALL-NEW ONCE UPON A TIME IS UNVEILED Lana Parrilla (Regina/Evil Queen)—one of the few returning *Once Upon a Time* cast members—said “change is good” when discussing the upcoming season, which takes place years after the events of last season’s finale. It will be “different, but our formula and storytelling are the same.” As for Colin O’Donoghue’s Hook, the actor promises “a slightly different version once again.” One thing that won’t change is the drama taking a unique spin on iconic fairy tale characters like Cinderella (played by newcomer Dania Ramirez). “She’s a mother in this particular story,” Ramirez

Supernatural's Jared Padalecki and Jensen Ackles

said. *Burn Notice*'s Gabrielle Anwar also joins the ABC drama as Cinderella's wicked stepmother.

SUPERNATURAL ROCKS OUT With The CW's *Supernatural* heading into its 13th season, the powers that be made a big splash to kick off their panel: Rock band Kansas performed their hit “Carry on My Wayward Son” while stars Jared Padalecki, Jensen Ackles and Misha Collins hid in the crowd to watch the mini-concert. (The tune was first used on the show in Season 1 and has played at the beginning of every finale episode since Season 2.) The cast and producers also confirmed that Collins—whose Castiel was seemingly killed off in the finale—will indeed return, as will Loretta Devine, who guest starred in Season 1 as psychic Missouri Moseley. And the potential spinoff *Wayward Sisters* (which will debut as a *Supernatural* episode during the season) solidified its cast: show vets Kim Rhodes, Briana Buckmaster, Kathryn Newton and Katherine Ramdeen, plus newbie Clark Backo, officially signed on.



To watch interviews with the casts of *Once Upon a Time*, *Star Trek: Discovery*, *Supernatural* and *Timeless*, go to tvinsider.com/comiccon/

CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT: FRANK MICCELLI/PICTUREGROUP; © 2017 WARNER BROS. ENTERTAINMENT INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED; BRANDON MEANS/PICTUREGROUP; ROBBY KLEIN/GETTY IMAGES (2)