



The Great Lakes Comic-Con
Friday, February 21, 2025 (5PM to 9PM)
Saturday, February 22, 2025 (10AM to 6PM)
Sunday, February 23, 2025 (10AM to 4PM)
<http://www.GreatLakesComicCon.com>

Located at Macomb Community College,
South Campus, Sports and Expo Center
Warren, Michigan

The Great Lakes Comic-Con is back!

Special Guests include:

- The Co-Creator of the **TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES** – KEVIN EASTMAN (appearing Saturday and Sunday only)
- SAM J. JONES – **FLASH GORDON** from the 1980 Flash Gordon Movie
- **THREE-TIME WWF World Tag Team Champions** - THE DEMOLITION (AX and SMASH)
- RICK PARKER – Marvel Comics Artist/Writer of the **Beavis and Butthead** comic book series.
- LISA TRUSIANI – Marvel Comics Writer of the **Barbie** comic book series.
- ERIC TALBOT – Mirage Studios Veteran working on the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles comic books since the 1980s.
- BILL MORRISON – former editor of **MAD Magazine** and Creative Director, writer, and artist at Matt Groening's *Bongo Comics* which includes **The Simpsons and Futurama**.

More Guests can be found on our website:

<https://greatlakescomicconvention.com/guests.html>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Warren, Michigan (February 6, 2025) – Join the 2025 Great Lakes Comic-Con as we celebrate everyone's favorite comic book characters and comic book-culture!

The Great Lakes Comic-Con takes place from Friday, February 21 (5PM to 9PM), through Sunday, February 23 (10AM to 4PM), 2025 at the Macomb Community College Expo Center located at 14500 E. 12 Mile Road in Warren.

Tickets can be purchased by visiting:

<http://greatlakescomicconvention.com/tickets.html>

The event features more than 150 vendors, artists, and crafters, as well as actors/celebrities who will greet fans, sign autographs, provide photo ops, and participate in panel presentations. This is a family-friendly and kid-oriented event.

All events can be found here:

<https://greatlakescomicconvention.com/attractions.html>

Scheduled events include the following:

- **Adult Costume Contest:** on Saturday, February 22nd at 3:15PM;
- **Children Costume Contest:** on Sunday, February 23rd at 2:00PM;
- **Gaming** – hosted by i-Con Tournaments – Super Smash Bros., Mario Kart;
- **Magic the Gathering** and **Pokémon** – open play on Friday, then tournaments on Saturday and Sunday – hosted by Game Players;
- **A Dungeons and Dragons Campaign** – No experience necessary! Available all three days – hosted by Game Players;
- **Face Painting by Chantel** – bring the little ones, and the older ones, to have their faces painted;
- **The Balloon Sculptor** – Witness the talent of Tim Thurmond the Balloon Sculptor.

Panel Presentations are hosted by some of your favorite celebrities and comic-industry talent. All panel presentations can be found here:

<https://greatlakescomicconvention.com/glcc-panels.html>



**MOVIE NIGHT - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH
ONE DAY BEFORE THE GREAT LAKES COMIC-CON**

Join Great Lakes Comic-Con Special Guest SAM J. JONES for a special private screening of the 1980 FLASH GORDON MOVIE!

This is a ticketed event and does not include admission to the Great Lakes Comic-Con.

When: Thursday, February 20, 2025

Time: 7:00PM Showtime - please arrive by 6:30PM for check-in. The movie starts promptly at 7:00PM. Estimated end-time 9:30PM.

Where: MJR Theatre, Partridge Creek
Clinton Township, MI

Watch the FLASH GORDON movie with
Flash Gordon himself - SAM J. JONES!

The poster features a central image of Sam J. Jones as Flash Gordon, holding a sword. The background is a blue and yellow sunburst pattern. Text on the poster includes: "JOIN SAM J. JONES FOR A PRIVATE SCREENING OF FLASH GORDON" at the top; "LIMITED SEATING FOR THIS ONE-TIME ENGAGEMENT" on the left; "RESERVE YOUR TICKETS NOW!" on the right; "THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH AT 7PM MJR THEATER, PARTRIDGE CREEK" at the bottom; and logos for "BROUGHT TO YOU BY IT in the D", "DETROIT PODCASTING COMPANY", and "GREAT LAKES Comic-Con" at the very bottom.

More information can be found on our website:

<https://greatlakescomicconvention.com/guest-jones-sam.html>

Special Guests Include:

All Special Guest information can be found here:
<http://greatlakescomicconvention.com/guests.html>

Kevin Eastman is available for interviews prior to the event via zoom or phone call, and the weekend of the Great Lakes Comic-Con on Saturday/Sunday early in the morning before the show. Email info@greatlakescomicconvention.com for more information.



TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES CO-CREATOR KEVIN EASTMAN

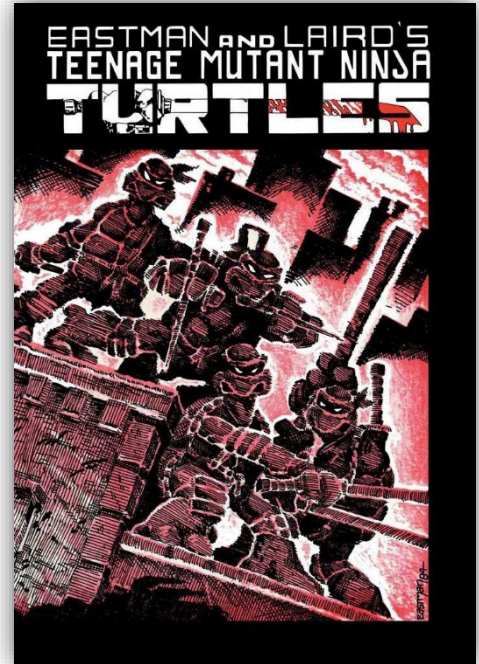
APPEARING SATURDAY 2/22 AND SUNDAY 2/23 ONLY

Born in Portland, Maine in 1962, Kevin Eastman began drawing at a very young age, copying children's books, and reading comics. Inspired by master storyteller Jack Kirby, and later by self-publishing creators Richard Corben, creating his own characters and comics became an obsession.

In the late 70's and early 80's, self-published "Mini Comics" became a main artistic outlet, and while soliciting illustration work from local fanzines in

Northampton Massachusetts, he met like-minded creator Peter Laird and the partnership studio, Mirage Studios, was formed. Less than a year later in the middle of a late-night drawing session, Eastman doodled a new character he dubbed a "Ninja Turtle" to make Laird laugh—several sillier sketches and a final drawing of four characters later "Eastman and Laird's Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" had officially entered the universe!

Self-published in May of 1984 the first issue sold out of its 3000 copies overnight and quickly became a fan favorite. Catching the eye of Merchandising Agents and Hollywood Producers, Eastman and Laird maintained full control of their creations while guiding them through Toy Licensing, TV Series adaptation, as well as Feature Films, and by early 1990 the TMNT's were number one in all three categories.



In between TMNT projects, Eastman launched a creator friendly publishing company, "Tundra Publishing" where projects like "The Crow" "From Hell" "Madman" and "Understanding Comics" first flourished, as well as purchased and published the world renowned "Heavy Metal Magazine" for more than twenty-five years.



In 2020, based on an original 1987 concept by Kevin and Peter, Kevin adapted and launched The Last Ronin with longtime TMNT Writer/Co-Writer Tom Waltz. The epic tale quickly became the TMNT publishing event of the decade, both a critical success, and a New York Times Best Seller. The series continued with The Last Ronin: Lost Years in 2023 and 2024, The Last Ronin II: Re-Evolution.

When not having way too much fun writing and drawing on new TMNT projects, he launched a new maxiseries with Image Comics entitled, Drawing Blood as well as companion limited series the Radically Rearranged Ronin Ragdolls, with co-creator David Avallone, and artists Ben Bishop and Troy Little.

Thanks to "THE BEST FANS ON THE ENTIRE PLANET!" according to Eastman, the

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles continue to find their way into the hearts and imaginations of kids, large and small, more than four decades later. Cowabunga!

In 2025 Kevin, his wife Courtney and Team Eastman, will be visiting comic conventions and signings around the world, ensuring they are always accessible and able to connect with fans as we all continue to *Shellebrate* the awesome legacy of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.



SAM J. JONES – APPEARING ALL THREE DAYS

Sam J. Jones is available for interviews prior to the event via zoom or phone call, and the weekend of the Great Lakes Comic-Con on Friday 2/21 before 3:00PM. Email info@greatlakescomicconvention.com for more information.

Sam has over 75 films and numerous television shows to his credit. He is best known as FLASH GORDON, THE SPIRIT, THE HIGHWAYMAN, SG-1's The Bounty Hunter, and for his memorable comedic performances in TED and TED 2.



As an Actor-Producer for 45 years and a Marine for 50 years (once a Marine always a Marine), Sam brings a rare and unique quality to the film industry, as well as to the public speaking circuit, or as Sam would say "To the human condition circuit".

With hundreds of public speaking appearances (in the past 20 years), Sam's common sense, practical thinking, life-changing message reaches every age, ethnicity, culture and economic demographic. "We as human beings are designed for community and for helping others".

So, in this world - filled with self-centeredness, confusion and uncertainty - We need to step-up and be doers in serving others before self, with an unwavering mind-set of "If not me, then who? And if not you, then who?"



**Three-Time WWF World Tag Team Champions
THE DEMOLITION (Ax and Smash)!**
APPEARING ALL THREE DAYS!

WILLIAM EADIE (AX)

William Reid "Bill" Eadie (born December 27, 1947) is an American retired professional wrestler who has competed under the names of Ax as part of Demolition and The Masked Superstar. He was a high school teacher and coach at Cambridge High School in Cambridge, Ohio, and at East Liverpool, Ohio.

Demolition is an American professional wrestling tag team most prominent during the late 1980s and early 1990s in the World Wrestling Federation (WWF, now

WWE) made up of Ax (Bill Eadie), Smash (Barry Darsow), and later Crush (Brian Adams). In the WWF, Demolition were three-time WWF World Tag Team Champions, and hold the record for the most combined days as reigning champions with that championship. Their first reign with the WWF World Tag Team Championship is the fourth longest reign with any tag team championship in WWE history (behind Mark Coffey and Wolfgang's reign with the NXT UK Tag Team Championship, The New Day's reign with the WWE (Raw) Tag Team Championship and The Usos' reign with the WWE SmackDown Tag Team Championship) and is the longest reign on record for that specific championship (which has been defunct since 2010). Beginning in 2007, Ax and Smash reunited for several appearances at various independent shows and legends conventions.



BARRY DARSOW (SMASH)

Barry Allen Darsow is an American retired professional wrestler who performed as Smash, one half of the tag team Demolition. He also wrestled as Krusher Kruschev, Repo Man, The Blacktop Bully and "Mr. Hole in One" Barry Darsow.

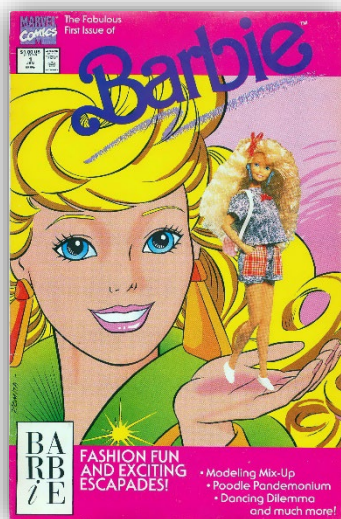
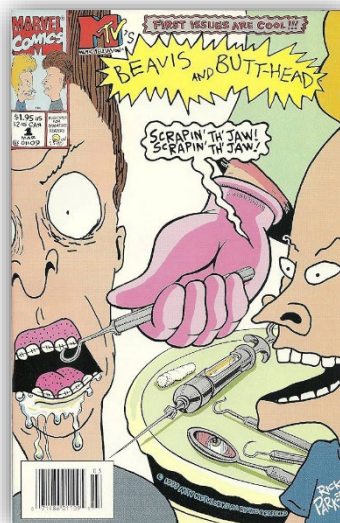


Throughout his career, he worked for Jim Crockett Promotions, the World Wrestling Federation (WWF), World Championship Wrestling (WCW), and several regional promotions in the 1980s and 1990s. He is a four-time former world tag team champion, winning three WWF World Tag Team Championships as part of Demolition and one NWA World Tag Team Championship as part of a three-man team with Ivan and Nikita Koloff (although the NWA no longer recognizes any former tag team champions prior to 1992, Darsow's championship is considered part of the WCW World tag team championship lineage), and a one-time NWA United States Tag Team Champion.

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RICK PARKER - Richard Parker is an award-winning American comic artist, writer, and cartoonist whose humorous artwork has appeared in The New York Times, The Village Voice, Time Magazine, U.S. News & World Report, Life Magazine, and various comic books published by **Marvel Comics**. Parker is widely known as the artist of **MTV's Beavis and Butt-Head** comic book, published by Marvel from 1994 to 1996, as well as worked on **Spider-Man, Tales From The Crypt** and more. He wrote and illustrated his own graphic novel, **Deadboy** in 2010, and illustrated **Everything I Really Need to Know I Learned from Television** in 1992.



LISA TRUSIANI

Lisa Trusiani has written hundreds of comics stories and nonfiction books for children, including **Marvel Comics: Alf, Barbie, Count Duckula, and Morbius**.

Her work has received the iParenting Media HOT Award, National Parenting Center Award, NAPPA Parenting Publishing GOLD Award, several Parents' Choice Awards, and the Lupine Honors Award from the Maine Library Association.

BILL MORRISON - Bill Morrison is best known for his work with *The Simpsons* and *Futurama* as Creative Director, writer, and artist at Matt Groening's *Bongo Comics*.

He began his career as an illustrator, painting dozens of movie posters including many for *Walt Disney Pictures*, such as *The Little Mermaid*, *Bambi*, *Peter Pan*, *Cinderella*, and *The Jungle Book*.

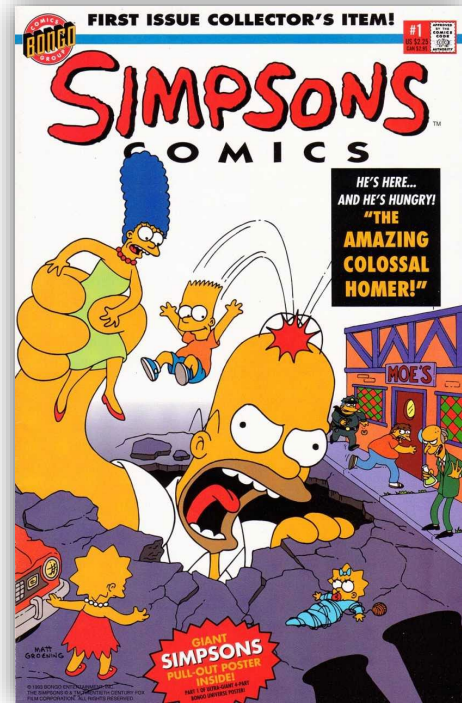
In addition to his *Bongo* work, Bill has created thousands of Simpsons and Futurama drawings for T-shirts, video games, posters, toy packaging, books, calendars, limited edition prints, etc.

Bill also did visual development for the Futurama TV series and served as series Art Director, and also did vis dev on Groening's Netflix series, *Disenchantment*.

In 2018, Morrison created a graphic novel adaptation of *The Beatles Yellow Submarine* and filled the job of Executive Editor at *MAD Magazine*. He is currently living in Michigan and fending off the nasty rumor that he is retired.

Other comic industry guests include:

- **Eric Talbot** – Mirage Studios, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- **Alex Saviuk** – Marvel Comics, Spider-Man
- **Angel Medina** – Spider-Man, Venom, Spawn
- **Tom Orzechowski** – X-Men, Spawn
- **Vince Locke** – Sandman, Caliber Presents
- **Arvell Jones** – Iron Fist, Iron Man, All Star Squadron
- **Keith Pollard** – the Amazing Spider-Man, Fantastic Four, Thor
- **William Messner-Loebs** – Wonder Woman, Flash
- **Seth Damoose** – Image Comics, Devil's Due Comics
- **Jason Moore** – Elvira, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- **Paul Storrie** – writer, Marvel Comics, DC Comics, IDW Comics
- **Randy Zimmerman** – Arrow Comics
- **Dirk Manning** – Nightmare World
- **Jason Douglas** – Parallel, Jane American



Toy Industry guests include:

- **Jim Swearingen** – Star Wars toy designer, Kenner, Hasbro Toys
- **Kim DM Simmons** – “The Man Who Shot Luke Skywalker” – official photographer for the iconic Star Wars Toys of the 1970s/1980s

More Information About the Great Lakes Comic-Con

Since 2010, the Great Lakes Comic-Con has offered the highest quality comic-book, toy, and collectible-related conventions in Macomb County. Our family-run convention continues to focus on maintaining a public event centered on not only our amazing guests, but also our attention in providing a well-run event for our attendees.



For more information about the Great Lakes Comic-Con, please visit <http://www.GreatLakesComicConvention.com>

Contact the Great Lakes Comic-Con
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The Great Lakes Comic-Con
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