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PHASERS SET TO "FUN" AS NERDS CONVERGE AT 2016 ROCKET CITY NERDCON

Downtown Huntsville Library hosts annual geek fest Oct. 22-23

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (September 12, 2016) –Do you geek out over "Star Wars," "Doctor Who" or anything "Harry Potter?" What about collectibles, comic books, steampunk, or Disney? Celebrate these fandoms and more at the bigger, better and nerdier Rocket City NerdCon on Oct. 22-23 at the Downtown Huntsville Library, 915 Monroe St.

Now in its third year, Rocket City NerdCon 2016 will feature games, vendors and costume-clad revelers, just like in years past. This year's event also includes an Author and Artist Alley, RPG gaming, bad movie awards and much more. New this year is a table top gaming tournament featuring Fate of Akalon: Trives, a card game created by local game designers at Foursight Games, sponsored by enVention and Old Black Bear Brewing Company.

"We've got a fantastic lineup planned for the weekend. First, we'll have a kick-off party on Friday, Oct. 21, at 7 p.m. at Yellowhammer Brewery," said NerdCon Chairperson Julia Hendon. "Then Saturday we are going all day from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m., with those last four hours of the day being exclusively for convention attendees. We'll finish out the weekend from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 23, again with the first four hours available only to ticket holders. If you can geek out about it, we've got something here for you!"

NerdCon features four special guests: Jim and A.Ron from the popular Bald Move tv, movies, and pop culture podcasting empire, filmmaker and graphic novelist Daniel Boyd, and Atlanta-based actor Chris Harrelson.

Jim Jones and A.Ron Hubbard host the officially unofficial podcasts for all of your favorite movies and television series. With just the right blend of honesty, insight, and irreverence, Bald

Move has become the leading podcast network for TV and film commentary. Each week they take to the mics in their Cincinnati, Ohio studio and share their passion for shows such as "Game of Thrones," "The Walking Dead," "Mr. Robot," "Penny Dreadful," and more, as well as movies including "Goonies," "Back to the Future," "Star Wars," and many other fan favorites across multiple genres. As independent podcasters, Jim and A.Ron share intelligent—and often humorous—pop culture commentary with hundreds of thousands of fellow fans from across the globe.

Boyd is an acclaimed filmmaker with dozens of films, including "Chillers," "Strangest Dreams: Invasion of the Space Preachers," and "Paradise Park" to his credit. A media studies professor at West Virginia State University since 1983, Boyd has also taught around the world, including in Tanzania as a three-time Fulbright scholar. Producing nearly every genre of film, Boyd's television work has earned three national Telly awards and two regional Emmy nominations.

Boyd has recently expanded into creating graphic novels. "Carbon" was a Ghastly nominee for Original Graphic Novel of 2014. The "Carbon" sequel finale, "Salt," will be released on Oct. 1.

Harrelson is an Atlanta-based actor who has appeared in over 30 films and television programs. He has worked on such productions as "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Parts 1 & 2," "Taken 3," "The Originals," "The Vampire Diaries," "Halt and Catch Fire" and dozens more, though he is best known for his work as twenty-seven Walkers on "The Walking Dead." A lifelong fan of TV, movies and comic books, Harrelson is very much enjoying Atlanta's growth as a premier filming destination.

NerdCon is sponsored by enVention, Old Black Bear Brewing Company, Geek Out Huntsville, Foursight Games, Carnegie Writers, Inc., Yellowhammer Brewing, and The Valley's CW.

NerdCon tickets are on sale now at <u>store.hmcpl.org</u>. Prices are \$15 for a day pass or \$25 for a weekend pass, until Oct. 21. Prices at the door are \$20 for a day pass, and \$30 for a weekend pass. Children 10 and under are free with a ticketed adult. Food trucks will be on-site for meal and snack options.

Keep up with the latest NerdCon news on the Rocket City NerdCon Facebook page – www.facebook.com/rcnerdcon and follow updates on Twitter @rcnerdcon. Visit rocketcitynerdcon.org for convention rules and information. Email questions about the convention to nerdcon@hmcpl.org.

About Huntsville-Madison County Public Library

This is the public's library. Huntsville-Madison County Public Library (HMCPL) is a nonprofit 12-branch system that serves all of Madison County. For nearly 200 years, the library has been dedicated to enriching the educational, recreational and cultural lives of communities in Madison County through materials, information and programs that foster a lifelong love of learning. In addition to the collection of over 500,000 items, HMCPL also provides outreach services, a BookMobile and Book Bike, online services, training, an extensive digital collection, public-use computers, free Wi-Fi, meeting spaces and much more. For more information about HMCPL and its services, please visit www.hmcpl.org.

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