

# CROCKERCON

No. 11

SEPT 21  
2025



**CROCKER**  
art museum

# Hello!

It is my pleasure to welcome you to CrockerCon, a joyful showcase of comic culture and a celebration of storytelling, imagination, and artistic creativity. Since 2013, CrockerCon has helped to build and foster a diverse community of fans who assemble annually to create, share, and gather around the culture they love. Whether you're a longtime comic book fan, a curious newcomer, or simply here for a fun and creative day with family, you're in for a treat!

Our Education team has assembled a wonderful assortment of programs for all ages: talented guest speakers and panelists, an assortment of local vendors, and family-friendly art activities happening throughout the Museum. As you wander

the halls of the Museum, I invite you to engage with our collaborators, strike up conversations, and explore all that CrockerCon has to offer!

Thank you so much for being part of this special day. Your presence and participation make CrockerCon the unique celebration that it is.

Wishing you a magical day!

**Javier Plasencia**

Director of Education  
Crocker Art Museum

## Welcome to CrockerCon 2025

I'm thrilled to be part of the 11th year of this incredible event we call CrockerCon. I want to thank the amazing staff and volunteers of the Crocker Art Museum for all the time and effort they've put into making this event possible. A huge thank you as well to Eben Burgoon for trusting me to help him produce this year's show—it's an honor to be part of something so special. And a big thank you to all the amazing creators who came out to showcase their work. Sometimes it's hard putting your work in front of others, and we are proud to have each and every one of you here with us.

Lastly, to all of you attending—thank you for coming out to support the Sacramento comic book community. As comic book creators, we do this both to entertain and educate you, the readers, and we hope you discover something inspiring along the way.

Enjoy the event, explore, connect, and most importantly—have fun!

**Kyrun Silva**

Taurus Comics  
CrockerCon Co-Organizer

## Thank you

The Crocker Art Museum would like to thank **Brightline Defense Project**, **Capital Books**, the **Cartoon Art Museum**, the **Charles M. Schulz Museum**, **Heroic Girls**, the **DDSO Short Center South**, and the **Jack Kirby Museum** for their support in introductions to various artists and guest speakers. The Museum would also like to thank **IDW Publishing** and **Drawn & Quarterly** for generous contributions of comic books and graphic novels to today's reading library and prizes for our costume parade. Thank you to the **Sacramento Brick Builders**, **Sacramento Developer Collective**, **SacGeeks**, **Sacramento Historical Fencing Academy**, and **Sacramento Public Library** for their programming contributions.

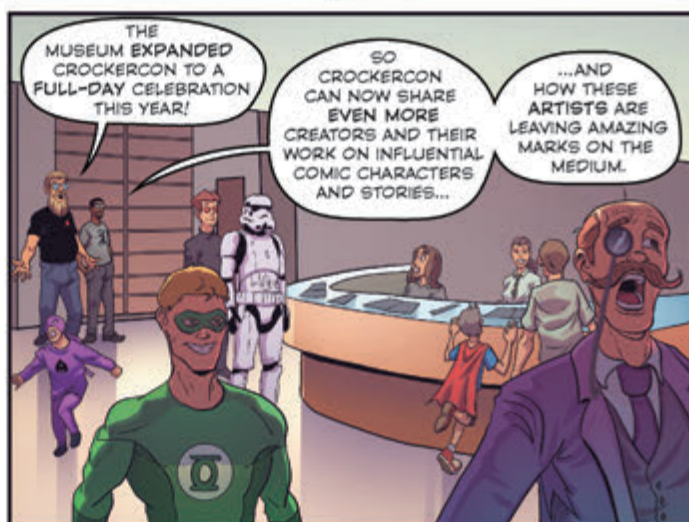
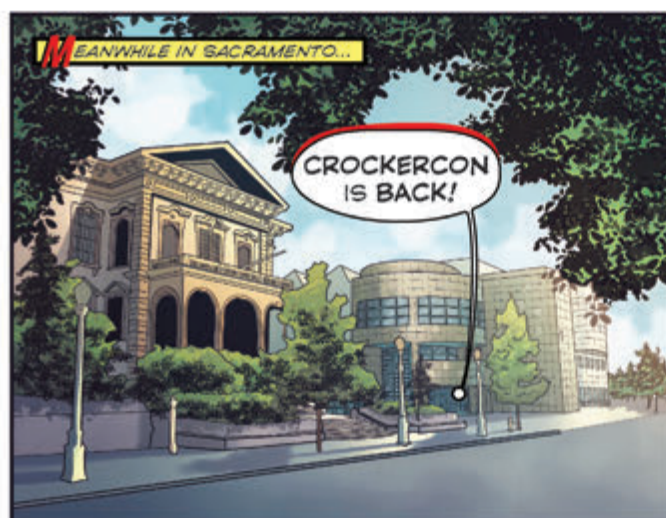
## Cover image

CrockerTron 2025 illustrated by **Matt Crouch** in collaboration with the **DDSO Short Center South**.

## Comic credits

Written by Eben Burgoon  
Pencils and inks by Kyrun Silva  
Colors by Federico Sioc Jr.  
Lettering by Eben Burgoon





# Schedule

## Main Courtyard

- 10 AM • Sleeprockers
- 11 AM • UC Davis Video Game Orchestra
- 12 PM • Sacramento Historical Fencing Academy
- 1 PM • Costume Parade ft. SacGeeks
- 2 PM • Sleeprockers
- 3 PM • Sacramento Historical Fencing Academy

## Auditorium

- 11 AM • Distance Nerding Presents
- 12 PM • Heroic Girls • Representation Matters
- 1 PM • Mary Shyne and Lex Fajardo • Creating Comics & Work at the Charles M. Schulz studio
- 2 PM • Spotlight: Jack Kirby ft. Mark Badger and Bruce Simon
- 3 PM • Spotlight: Mike Norton

## E. Kendell Davis Courtyard

- Ongoing • Mini Makeover

## Studios

- Ongoing • Comic Book Reading Room
- Ongoing • Upcycle a Cape
- Ongoing • Sensory Play
- 1 PM • Making Comics and Zines ft. Yasmeen Abedifard
- 3 PM • Make Comics ft. Eddie Ahn

## Second Floor Galleries

- 11 AM • *Arts, Letters, and Power: Van Dyck and the Portrait Print Tour*
- 3 PM • *Cara and Diego Romero: Tales of Futures Past Tour*

# Exhibitors

A-1 Comics, Inc.

Alaric Barca

Ambermations

Applepiyaa

Art of Decay: the Art of Eric MacLachlan

Art of Diana Ormanzhi

Art of Mazzy

Art of Toys

Balatro

Benjamin Barclay

Bricks & Minifigs

Capital Books

Cartoon Lex

Central California Garrison of the 501st Legion

Chasing A Spider Publishing

**Chris Wisnia**

CinderArts

Cody Vrosh

Comics & Collectibles

D. Bethel Comics & Art

**David Andry**

Drawcademy

eckoeckos studio

**Eddie Ahn**

Elevated Comics

Epic Chaos! Webcomic

Heroic Girls

Impound Comics

Inspired to Be...

Jackie Archer Art

Jared Konopitski

Jesse Baggs

John Cottrell

**Jonathan Way\$hak**

Jon Williams

**Justin Greenwood**

Kristin Silva Artist

**Lex Fajardo**

Lionel's Place

Machete & Quill Press

**Malachi Ward**

**Mark Badger & Bruce Simon**

Martinez Bros Comics

**Mary Shyne**

**Matt Crouch & DDSO Short Center South**

**Melissa Pagluica**

**Mike Norton**

MindlyGames.com

Moonlittle

Mortern Comics

**nooligan**

Oscar Romero

Prism Comics

**Robert Love**

SacGeeks

Sacramento Brick Builders

Sacramento Developer Collective

Sacramento Ghostbusters

Sector7 Salon

**Shannon Wheeler**

Stereoscope Comics

Street Noise Books

Studio 700, The Arc of Placer County

The Reclaimist

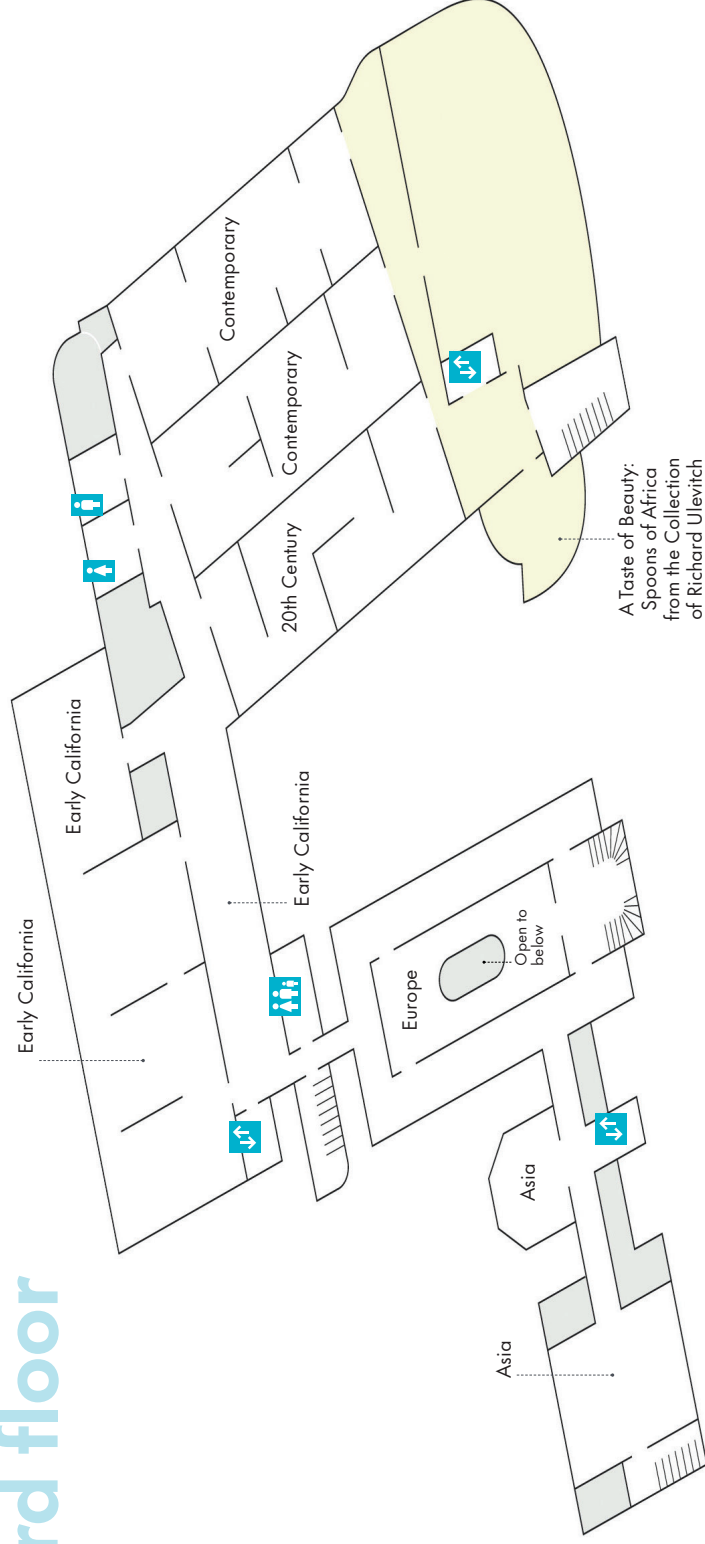
Tominomicon

**Yasmeen Abedifard**

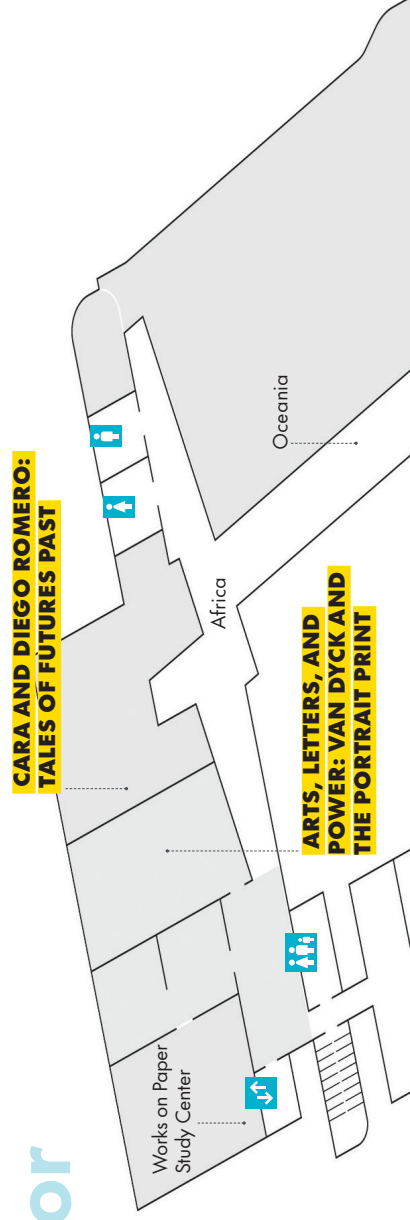
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**Bold** = Guest of Honor

# Third floor



# Second floor



**CARA AND DIEGO ROMERO:  
TALES OF FUTURES PAST**

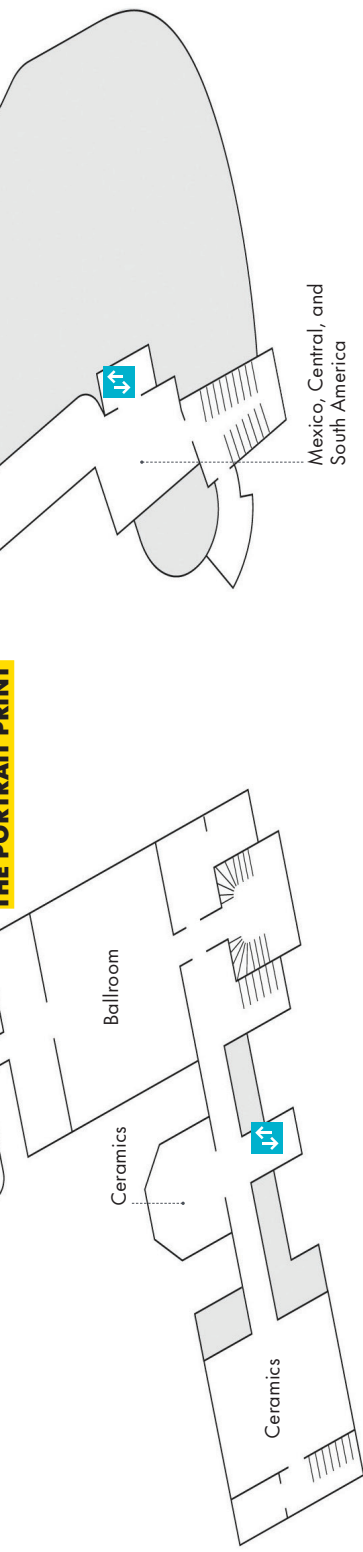
**ARTS, LETTERS, AND  
POWER: VAN DYCK AND  
THE PORTRAIT PRINT**

Works on Paper  
Study Center

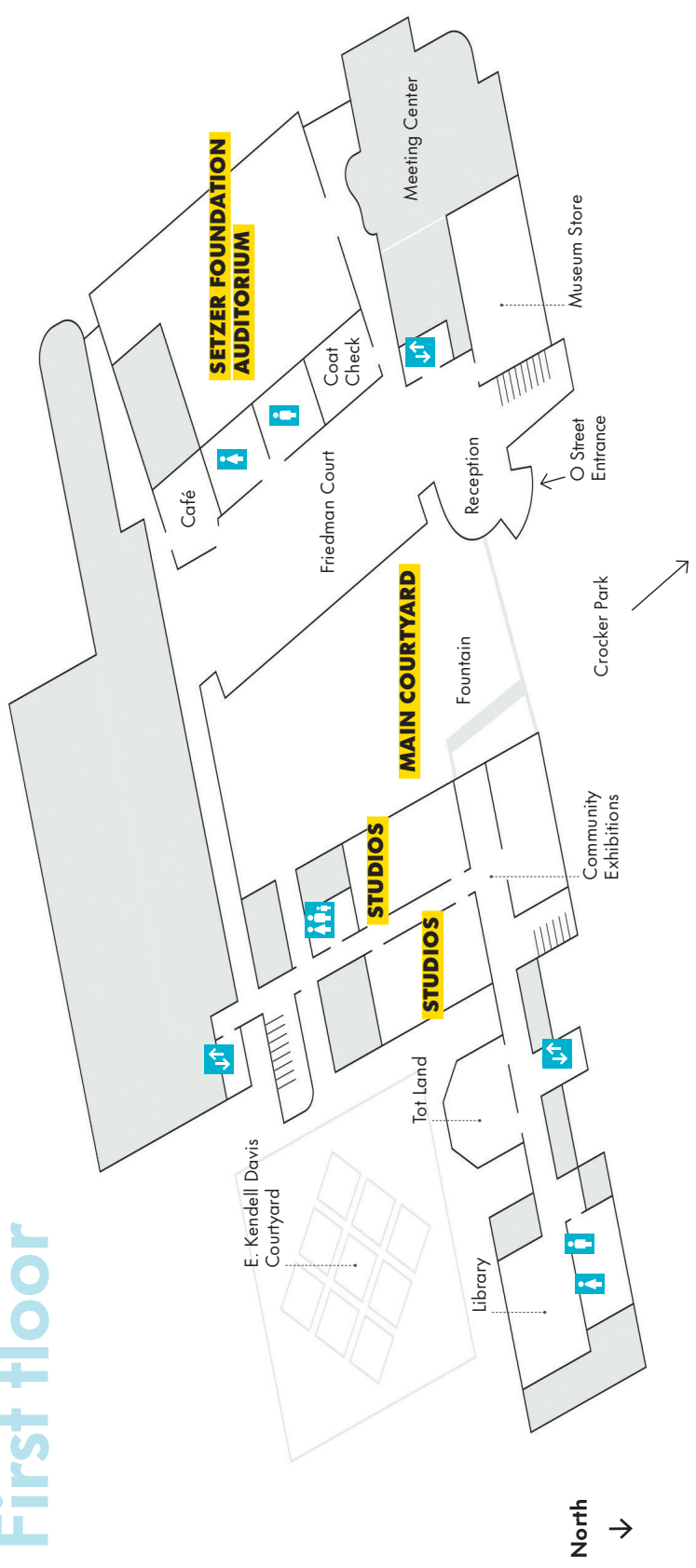
Africa

Oceania





# First floor



# Auditorium

## 11 AM • Distance Nerding Presents

Local podcasters of Distance Nerding present trivia, an overview of CrockerCon, and feature surprise guests and prizes!

## 12 PM • Heroic Girls • Representation Matters

John Marcotte, founder of the nonprofit Heroic Girls, leads a panel of experts, including cartoonist and graphic designer LeRoid David, on the topic of representation in popular media and pop culture.

## 1 PM • Mary Shyne and Lex Fajardo • Creating Comics & Work at the Charles M. Schulz Studio

Comic book creators Mary Shyne (*You and Me on Repeat*) and Lex Fajardo (*Kid Beowulf*) share their insights into making their own work stand out while also preserving the storied legacy of one of the most beloved comic strips of all time, *Peanuts*, via their work at the **Charles M. Schulz Studio**.

## 2 PM • Spotlight: Jack Kirby ft. Mark Badger and Bruce Simon

Graphic novelists and comic creators Mark Badger and Bruce Simon present and talk about the life and legacy of famed comic artist Jack Kirby. Often seen as “The King of Comics,” Kirby left indelible marks on the medium of comics and the art world. In collaboration with the **Jack Kirby Museum and Research Center**, Mark Badger and Bruce Simon offer keen insights into Kirby’s impact as a prolific artist of the 20th century who continues to impact modern culture.

## 3 PM • Spotlight: Mike Norton

Artist and comic creator Mike Norton has illustrated on numerous superhero books from Marvel, DC, and Dark Horse, all while producing many beloved creator-owned series like the Eisner Award-winning webcomic-turned-print series *Battlepug*. He was co-creator of *Revival*, which was released as a TV series this summer. This spotlight panel highlights Mike’s accomplishments and is co-presented with Distance Nerding.



# Studio Workshops

## 1 PM • Expressing the Self in Comics with Yasmeen Abedifard

Join comic artist Yasmeen Abedifard for a fun and creative workshop designed for all ages! In this fast-paced, hands-on session, you'll turn emotions into characters, using your own personality as inspiration. **Advance registration for this session is required at the Information Table.**

With Yasmeen's guidance, you'll learn how to bring your character to life on the page and even start your own mini comic.

### BRING YOUR OWN MATERIALS

Sketchbook, pencils, pens, markers, colored pencils, or a digital tablet.  
Open to all levels; no prior experience needed.

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## 2 PM • Making Comics with Eddie Ahn

Comic creator Eddie Ahn lends insight into his creative process and his approach to making the bestselling graphic memoir *Advocate*. Participants will learn graphic storytelling techniques and how to create their own comics. **Advance registration for this session is required at the Information Table.**

### BRING YOUR OWN MATERIALS

Sketchbook, pencils, pens, markers, colored pencils, or a digital tablet.  
Open to all levels; no prior experience needed.

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## ONGOING • Comic Book Reading Room

Take a break in our comic book library and explore contemporary comics as well as donated books from publishers IDW and Drawn & Quarterly. Don't forget to visit the Sacramento Public Library table to learn about their comic book reading app and explore their collection of comics with your library card.

# Exhibitions



Lucas Vorsterman the Elder (Flemish, 1595–1675), published by Gillis Hendrick (Flemish, active 17th century), Anthony van Dyck, n.d. Engraving on paper, 8 7/8 x 6 in. (image). Crocker Art Museum, gift of Margaret and Timothy Brown, 2021.115.2.

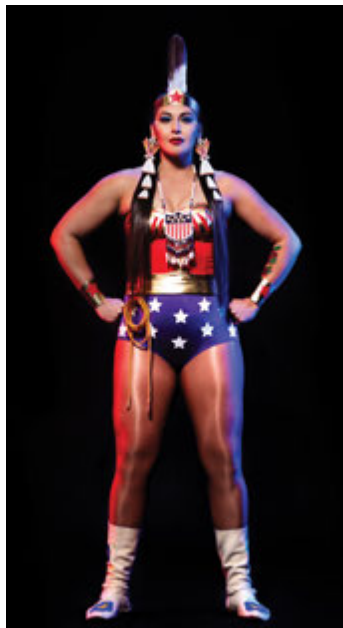
## ***Arts, Letters, and Power: Van Dyck and the Portrait Print***

THROUGH OCT 12, 2025

Soon after his return from Italy to his native Flanders in 1627, the famed portraitist Anthony van Dyck began a series of etchings depicting the illustrious people of his day. Beginning with 15 etchings by his own hand, Van Dyck provided the designs for what became more than 100 prints of painters, musicians, humanists, and international rulers.

Step back in time with comic artist Chris Wisnia and a Museum docent for an interactive exhibition tour. Explore the world of Anthony van Dyck, one of history's most famous portrait artists, and learn why his art was such a big deal in aristocratic society.

Tour starts at 11 AM outside of second floor gallery.



Cara Romero (Chemehuevi/American, born 1977), *Arla Lucia*, 2020. Archival pigment print, 42 x 74 in. Courtesy of the Artist. © Cara Romero.

## ***Cara and Diego Romero: Tales of Futures Past***

THROUGH OCT 12, 2025

Bringing together the work of photographer Cara Romero (Chemehuevi/American) and ceramic artist Diego Romero (Cochiti/American), *Tales of Futures Past* is the first exhibition focusing on the artistic dialogue between the two leading artists. While the Romeros, a husband-wife duo, maintain individual studio practices, their work shares common themes concerning the complexities and the evolutionary nature of Indigenous identity and contemporary life.

Take a super-powered guided tour of the exhibition with comic artist Chris Wisnia and a Museum docent! Discover how the artists mix pop culture, Indigenous imagery, sci-fi, and comic book styles to tell bold new stories.

Tour starts at 3 PM outside of second floor gallery.

# CrockerTron

On behalf of the Crocker Art Museum, we are so excited to have **Matt Crouch** illustrate the 10th CrockerTron. The CrockerTron tradition started with the 2015 CrockerCon and was a collaboration between myself and artist **Sean K. Sutter**. Each year, my goal has been to find a local illustrator to reimagine and recreate CrockerTron using their own artistic perspective.

This year, the Museum was delighted to collaborate with the **Short Center, a Developmental Disabilities Service Organization (DDSO)** program, to bring Matt's artistic style to this year's CrockerTron. The Short Center has been providing arts-based programming for adults with developmental disabilities since 1978, empowering personal growth through the arts. They often go one step further for the artists they nurture by creating opportunities through exhibitions in galleries and art collectives across Sacramento. Matt's love of comic characters like the X-Men and Ninja Turtles and his use of pop culture riffs within his own art practice—often painting skateboard decks and creating on large canvases—made him the ideal artist for this year's poster.

For me, this year's CrockerTron reaffirms that comics are truly for everyone. Comic books tell fantastical stories of immigrants, outsiders, and strangers, often thrust into uncertain and dangerous times. These heroes band together to become something greater than any one of them could be individually. They expose, defy, and defend us from forces that often represent intolerance, hate, and cruelty. Especially in times of villainy, comics can clearly illuminate how even those who may seem meekest have strong voices that lead us all toward greater callings and a sense of shared purpose.

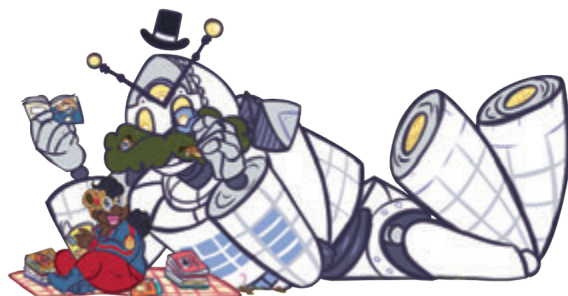
Please join me in thanking Matt and the team at the DDSO Short Center South who helped make this year's CrockerTron possible. As you look up from the exhibitor floor, you can admire many of the CrockerTrons of years past or pose with a past CrockerTron in spaces around the Museum.

## Eben Burgoon

CrockerCon Co-Founder &  
Crocker Art Museum  
Public Program Coordinator

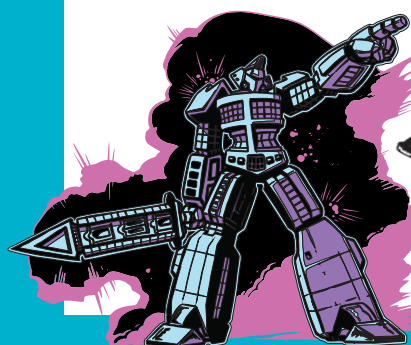
## CrockerTron Artists

- 2015 • Sean Sutter
- 2016 • Michael Calero
- 2017 • Nate Flamm
- 2018 • Melissa Pagluica
- 2019 • D. Bethel
- 2020 • Robert Love
- 2022 • Nooligan
- 2023 • Dom Fambro
- 2024 • Justin Greenwood
- 2025 • Matt Crouch



# Get a free sketch!

Children 12 and under can receive a complimentary sketch from the participating illustrators who have CrockerTron displayed on their table.



**Look for  
CrockerTron**