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May 12-14 COMICEA

George R. Brown Convention Center

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COVER STORY

Comicpalooza brings top talent to Houston May 12-14

By ELIZABETH EVANS

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Comicpalooza is back and ready to rock the George R. Brown Convention Center this May.

With headlining guests such as martial arts and screen legend Chuck Norris, a Marvel lineup that includes not one but three of the stars set for Netflix's "The Defenders" series, "Captain America" star Anthony Mackie and Marvel Cinematic Universe newcomer Pom Klementieff, a "Nightmare on Elm Street" reunion with stars Robert Englund, Ronee Blakely and Amanda Wyss, and "Mighty

Morphin' Power Rangers' Jason David Frank and Amy Jo Johnson, as well as numerous writers and comic book artists, Comicpalooza is bringing top talent and entertainment to Houston May 12-14.

This Comicpalooza marks the first convention in more than 40 vears for Norris, who is famous for his roles in action films such as "The Hitman," "The Delta Force," and "The Delta Force 2: The Colombian Connection." and "Missing in Action" and its sequels. He is perhaps most famous for his leading role in the 1990s television series "Walker: Texas Ranger"

John Simons, founder of Comicpalooza, called Norris' appearance a "significant honor."

"Everyone knows Chuck Norris. He is ingrained in popular culture through his films, television and internet memes that remind us often of the man, the myth, the legend.

He hasn't been a guest at a show like ours in more than 40 years so bringing him to Houston's Comicpalooza is a significant honor," Simons said in a release. "In fact, knowing Chuck Norris, he's probably moving the Earth to bring Comicpalooza to him."

Norris will be appear-



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Bobby Easley, from Indianapolis, poses for a photo with an alien at Comicpalooza, at the George R. Brown Convention Center, Saturday, June 18, 2016, in Houston. (Jon Shapley / Houston Chronicle)



ing on Saturday, May 13, for photo opportunities and autographs, as well as participating in a question-and-answer panel for fans.

Comicpalooza has also brought together three of the stars of the upcoming Netflix and Marvel series "The Defenders," which bridges Netflix's four Marvel programs, "Daredevil," "Jessica Jones," "Luke Cage," and "Iron Fist," Appearing at the convention are Charlie Cox (Daredevil), Mike Colter (Luke Cage) and Finn Jones (Iron Fist), In addition to Cox, Colter and Jones, Jon Bernthal (The Punisher). Elden Henson (Foggy Nelson), Jessica Henwick (Colleen Wing) and Geoffrey Cantor (Mitchell Ellison) are attending.

"Marvel has created a universe of characters from the shadowy neighborhoods of Hell's Kitchen in New York City to exciting planets far away," Simons stated.

"We are thrilled to bring such a large contingent of the stars that make these worlds possible on film to Houston for our attendees."

Rounding out the Marvel lineup is Anthony Mackie, who portrays Sam Wilson, also known as the Falcon, from Marvel's "Captain America: The Winter Soldier," "Ant Man," and "Captain America: Civil War" and Pom Klementieff, who stars in the upcoming Marvel film "Guardians of the Galaxy: Vol 2" as Mantis.

Comicpalooza is also hosting guests such as Felicia Day, creator of the popular webseries "The Guild" and star of "Dr. Horrible's SingAlong Blog" whose acting credits also include "Supernatural" and "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," Mary McDonnell of TNT's "Major Crimes" and "Battlestar Galactica," and Lance Henriksen of "Alien" and "Terminator" fame, as well as talent from AMC's "The Walking Dead" and Nickelodon's "Spongebob Squarepants."

In addition to autographs, panels, and photo opportunities with guests, Comicpalooza will present more than 2,000 hours of programming, covering everything from popular trends in entertainment to comic books, gaming, anime, cosplay and more.

For passes, autograph and photo op tickets, guest information, and schedules, visit

comicpalooza.com.