



city of  
**bristol**

## News Release

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### **Heroes and Villains to take over Bristol's Viking Hall**

#### **31<sup>st</sup> Annual Rob Con Convention set**

Heroes and villains will be coming to life at Viking Hall on Saturday, July 30 and Sunday, July 31, from 9 a.m. to 5p.m. Admission is \$15.00 for one day or \$25.00 for two days. Children 12 and under are admitted free.

“Brace for a Rob-Con of epic proportions,” said Robert Pilk, Rob-Con founder. “This is our 31<sup>st</sup> year, and this will be one of the largest multi-format conventions in the area.” The pop-culture convention is a must for comic and sci-fi fans. The convention provides attendees with the opportunity to buy, sell and interact with writers, artists and others in the comic industry.

Some of the top talent in the south will be on hand for the convention. “Fans of comic book artists and writers of the fantastic and legendary will find plenty to enjoy, with Star Wars, Dr. Who, Ghostbusters and more represented at the show,” continued Pilk. Famous fantasy artists Charles Vess, Scott Hampton and Tom Lyle will be on hand to meet fans, along with top-notch comic artists such as John Hairston, Grebo Watson, Kevin Sharpe and Alex Ogle. The convention will introduce a new area dubbed “Artist Alley” where the public can find all the artists in one location rather than spread throughout the center.

The long-running Snuffy Smith comic strip artist, John Rose, will be in attendance along with New York Times best-selling author, Jennifer Estep. Other area writers will include Gayle Trent, Misty Martin and Ronda Caudill. Comic creators Jeremy Massie, Brent Marcus Cook, Brent Harris and others will also be present.

Dr. Who fans will enjoy the life-size “Tardis” and “Dalek” from the Cosplay Kasterborous fan club. The East Tennessee R2D2 Builders will have radio controlled “droids” at the event, along with Tennessee Ghostbusters with a replica of the famous movie car.

A vast number of vendors and craftspeople will be on hand with comics, toys, jewelry, models and other collectibles. The ever-popular costume contest has grown in popularity every year and is set for Sunday at 3 p.m.

For more information, call Mountain Empire Comics at 423-274-0450 or 423-929-8245 or visit the website at [www.robcon.org](http://www.robcon.org).