



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For the attention of culture and entertainment editors

Otakuthon Anime Convention reveals stellar new guests for its 18th edition

MONTREAL — June 15th, 2023. Otakuthon is excited to announce the presence of more guests for the 2023 convention, which is set to take place from August 11th to 13th, 2023 at the Palais des congrès de Montréal.

This year's Japanese guest lineup features accomplished VTubers, singers and voice actors. In association with J-rock North Promotions Inc., Otakuthon is thrilled to feature **KANA-BOON** and **ANLY** who will be performing for their first time in Canada on our stage. KANA-BOON is a rock band that produced multiple hit anime themes such as Silhouette, Diver, Baton Road, Star marker and Kirarirari from the *Naruto* series. Their new album "Love Supremacism" will be released on June 14. ANLY is a singer-songwriter who sang for *Naruto*, "Seven Deadly Sins" and "Boruto Next Generations". Attendees will be able to meet Japanese VTubers **Sister Claire** and **Hoshikawa Sara**. They will be joined by their American NIJISANJI counterpart to deliver an unforgettable performance. Participants will also be able to meet **Alisa Okehazama**, a composer and musician who composed for popular anime series such as "Jujutsu Kaisen", "The God of High School" and "The Beast Tamer Who Got Kicked Out From His Party Meets a Cat Girl From the Superior Race," as well as **Takahiro Obata**, a versatile musician and composer known for his fusion of jazz with diverse elements that creates a sonically emotional experience. His compositions appear in "The Promised Neverland", "Ninjala" and "Cinderella Nine", among others.

Otakuthon is proud to present **Kanae Ito**, a voice actress and singer, winner of awards in the 4th and 5th Seiyu Awards for Best Rookie Actress and Best Supporting Actress. Her major roles include Amu Hinamori in *Shugo Chara!*, Fumino Serizawa in *Mayoi Neko Overrun!*, Yui in *Sword Art Online*, Carrot in *One Piece*, and many other characters from various anime series. **Inoue Suguru**, a Japanese actor and voice actor who started as a VTuber in 2022 will also be present at the convention. His main credits are for *Hitman Reborn* as Yamamoto Takeshi, *Prince of Tennis* as Shiranui Tomoya, and *The Garden of Words* as Matsumoto. To dive deeper into the virtual world, attendees can meet **Yoshiyuki Hirai** who stepped into this world in 2022 as VTuber Runpa, established his own VTuber agency and has overseen the production of various virtual talents. Hirai is also part of America Zarigani a Comedy duo, he formed in 1994 with Tetsuya Yanagihara. Meanwhile, attendees will meet **Enishin**, VTuber agency focusing on variety, gaming and theater. Enishin will bring in **Hanakoto Igusa**, a Yokai VTuber and tourism ambassador for Shimanto City, **Hagamachi Tsumami**, automotive-type VTuber known for using navigation tool "Roof" and **Chachabaru Charu**, VTuber from another world who dreams to have a parade with everyone.

On the North American side of the guest list, Otakuthon is delighted to welcome **Emirichu**, a popular YouTuber illustrator known for her storytelling, her drawn conversation and her cafe-centric vlog content, as well as **Daidus**, a well-known YouTube animator, illustrator and comedian. To expand their Japanese knowledge, attendees can meet **Valérie Harvey**, a prolific author, sociologist, composer, performer and Japanese teacher. Anime fans can attend a themed concert offered by l'**Orchestre d'Anime de Montréal** showcasing an epic battle of modern vs. classic anime. Founded by Melissa Tardif, l'OAM is composed of 18 local musicians and is renowned for its wide variety of anime openings, endings and general original soundtracks. Attendees can also meet **LoveLive Sunrise** an 11-member girl group based in Montreal focused on recreating performances from the popular anime series Love Live, as well as **Jean-François Laliberté**, author of the comic books *U-Merlin* and *Les Élus Eljuns*, screenwriter and engineer. **Sacha Lefebvre**, *U-Merlin* and *Les Élus Eljuns*' chosen illustrator will also be present. Further details about the convention, registration and upcoming guests can be found on the website.

WHEN?

Friday, August 11th, 2023 from 10 AM to 3 AM

Saturday, August 12th, 2023 from 10 AM to 3 AM

Sunday, August 13th, 2023 from 10 AM to 5 PM

WHERE?

Palais des congrès de Montréal

1001, Place Jean-Paul-Riopelle

Montreal (Quebec) Canada, H2Z 1H5

ABOUT OTAKUTHON

Otakuthon is Canada's largest bilingual festival celebrating Japanese animation (*anime*), graphic novels (*manga*), gaming, and pop culture. As the first of its kind in Montreal, Otakuthon is a full-fledged, bilingual anime convention that features a diverse range of special guests as well as many panels, activities, and events spotlighting all aspects of Japanese culture. Every year, this event is made possible by the hard work and dedication of passionate volunteer staff members who generously devote their time to creating a convention that is entirely for fans, by fans.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Website: <http://www.otakuthon.com/2023/home/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OtakuthonMTL/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/otakuthon>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/otakuthonmontreal/>

Flickr: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/otakuthon/albums>

CONTACT

Lexi Yixuan Ma

Media Director

media@otakuthon.com