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## **ANIME NYC TICKETS ON SALE NOW**

*Creator & Director LeSean Thomas Announced As First Guest*

NEW YORK, NY (December 16, 2016) - LeftField Media today announced tickets to the inaugural Anime NYC powered by Crunchyroll are on sale now. A Japanese pop culture convention launching November 17-19, 2017 in New York's Javits Center, Anime NYC will bring fans together with anime and manga publishers including Crunchyroll, Funimation, and VIZ Media and guests from both America and Japan. And coupled together with its ticket launch, Anime NYC is very proud to announce its first Official Guest - *Cannon Busters* and *Children of Ether* creator LeSean Thomas.

Tickets to Anime NYC are available now at [animenyc.com](http://animenyc.com) and range from Day and Weekend passes - starting at \$35 - to a \$275 VIP package which includes early access, reserved seating, and guaranteed autographs. Built with the close support of Crunchyroll, the world's largest anime streaming portal, Anime NYC additionally offers Crunchyroll Premium Members a \$10 discount on Weekend tickets along with further perks at the event.

Anime NYC will announce premieres, features, and guests throughout 2017, and the event is excited to set its tone with its first Guest of Honor - LeSean Thomas.

An animation producer, director, and artist originally from New York City, Thomas has worked on acclaimed projects including the Peabody Award-winning *The Boondocks* (Supervising Character Designer, Co-Director), *The Legend of Korra* (Storyboard Artist, Animation Production), and *Black Dynamite* (Creative Producer, Supervising Director). Thomas is the creator, producer, director, and writer of *Cannon Busters: The Animated Pilot* made with Japanese animation studio Satelight (*Macross Delta*, *Log Horizon*, *Basquash!*) and creator and director of Crunchyroll's upcoming *Children of Ether*.



"The response to Anime NYC has been stunning, and with participants including Crunchyroll, Funimation, Kinokuniya, Kodansha, Sentai Filmworks, Tokyo Otaku Mode, Vertical, VIZ Media, and Yen Press, the event will showcase the best of the anime world in America's biggest city," said Greg Topalian, Anime NYC's Event Director and President of LeftField Media. "And we couldn't be more proud to

welcome LeSean Thomas as our first guest. Thomas has worked in the animation industries across the US, South Korea, and Japan, and we're excited to welcome him back home to New York!"

"As an aspiring animation production artist growing up in the South Bronx, it's quite humbling I find myself back where I began, in my city, but this time to share my newest projects with some of the anime industry's elite to the audiences at Anime NYC," said LeSean Thomas. "I believe NY has been in need of a large, proper anime convention for some time and what a great way to kick it off with the support of my collaborators, Crunchyroll. I'm looking forward to coming back home and sharing my enthusiasm for Japanese pop culture with my fellow New Yorkers!"

Thomas is the first of many guests Anime NYC will welcome spanning America and Japan, with more announcements throughout 2017. Anime NYC tickets can be purchased now at [animenyc.com](http://animenyc.com), and fans wanting to learn the latest news can follow Anime NYC on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

### **About Anime NYC**

Anime NYC is New York City's anime convention! A showcase of the best of Japanese pop culture in the biggest city in America, Anime NYC brings anime fans and publishers together for three days of unique exhibits, exclusive screenings, extensive panels, and appearances by some of the biggest creators in Japan. Join us for a celebration of Japanese animation, manga, cosplay, movies, food, fashion, travel, technology, toys, and games in the heart of NYC! For more, visit [animenyc.com](http://animenyc.com).

### **About Crunchyroll**

Crunchyroll is the destination for the largest and latest lineup of anime, manga, merchandise, and exclusive content in the world. Crunchyroll brings hit shows to millions of viewers around the world and allows them to purchase related merchandise through its online store. Through its app on game consoles, set-top boxes, mobile devices, and more, Crunchyroll delivers content from leading Asian media producers directly to viewers translated professionally in multiple languages. The service is available for free or through a premium offering that allows users to watch ad-free with access to simulcasts - top anime series available immediately after Japanese broadcast. Crunchyroll's majority investor is Otter Media, a joint venture between AT&T and The Chernin Group. Crunchyroll has offices in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Tokyo and is a member of the Association of Japanese Animations (AJA). For more information, visit [crunchyroll.com](http://crunchyroll.com).

### **About LeftField Media**

LeftField Media, LLC is an events company focused on developing face-to-face events in a range of communities rooted in contemporary culture and shared passion. LeftField was formed in 2014 by Greg Topalian (President, LeftField Media) and is now owned by Topalian and Clarion Events Ltd. With a keen sense of the ever-evolving needs of businesses and their consumers as well as new opportunities created by change, LeftField takes a clean slate approach to business. LeftField's portfolio includes Play Fair ([playfairny.com](http://playfairny.com)), a family-focused celebration of toys and play built with the Toy Industry Association; Awesome Con ([awesomecon.com](http://awesomecon.com)), Washington DC's Comic Con; Five Points ([fivepointsfest.com](http://fivepointsfest.com)) a designer toy and comic festival created with Clutter Magazine; and Anime NYC ([animenyc.com](http://animenyc.com)), a Japanese pop culture convention built with Crunchyroll. LeftField Media is headquartered in historic South Norwalk, CT. For more, visit [leftfieldmedia.com](http://leftfieldmedia.com).

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