



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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[Link to photos and video here](#)

**SAN DIEGO CAUSEPLAYER COMMUNITY SHRINE AND BLOOD DRIVE  
TAKES OVER GASLAMP, JULY 23 - 25**

**SAN DIEGO (July 15, 2021)** A group of San Diego residents are banding together to host a weekend full of cosplay fun and special 3-day blood drive under the Gaslamp sign. Activities include opening ceremony on Friday, July 23 at 8 a.m. featuring guest speakers from San Diego Blood Bank, Funko, and more than 50 cosplayers in costume, a march up 5th Avenue, cosplay Olympic relay, cosplay car show, and 91X dance party at the Tin Fish. Blood donors will receive a Funko Pop! Vinyl collectible figure, free french fries and swag bag. MTS is offering free transit (trolley/bus) to those with a blood donation appointment.

“This blood drive comes at a crucial time for us” said Claudine Van Gonka, San Diego Blood Bank Director of Community Relations and Marketing. “Summer is always a difficult time to collect blood, but this drive makes it easy, not to mention fun!”

Information on weekend activities can be found at [SDCCShrine.com](http://SDCCShrine.com). To be eligible to donate blood, you must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 114 pounds, and be in general good health. Eligible blood donors are encouraged to schedule an appointment at [SanDiegoBloodBank.org](http://SanDiegoBloodBank.org) or calling 1-800-4-MY-SDBB (1-800-469-7322).

**About the San Diego Blood Bank**

SDBB is dedicated to community health by providing a reliable supply of blood to patients in need. Our vision is to further ensure the health of our community by simultaneously delivering related health and wellness education and services and extending into research. SDBB is an independent, 501(c)(3) non-profit that serves hospitals in San Diego, Orange, Imperial and Los Angeles counties with blood transfusion products and reference laboratory services. SDBB currently operates six local donor centers and 10 bloodmobiles. SDBB’s Cell Therapy Program provides lifesaving stem cell transplants to patients worldwide. For more information about SDBB, visit [www.SanDiegoBloodBank.org](http://www.SanDiegoBloodBank.org) or connect with us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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