

# The Contingency Con - Submit Your Panel

Welcome to the Contingency Con panel submission form! We are looking for panels, discussions, presentations, and activities across all areas of POI fandom. Whether you want to deep-dive a character, debate the ethics of surveillance, host a trivia game, or walk attendees through your creative process, we want to hear your idea.

Anyone can submit a panel idea, even if you don't want to moderate it yourself. Please read the Open vs. Closed Panel section before submitting.

Fields marked with \* are required.

\* Indicates required question

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## **SUBMISSION DEADLINE: May 3, 2026**

Questions? Contact us at

programming@contingencycon.com.

## **SECTION 1 — ABOUT YOU**

1. **Your name / handle \***

*What should we call you? Use the handle you want listed in the program, if accepted.*

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2. **Email address \***

*This is how we'll contact you about your submission. Check your spam folder after submitting.*

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3. **Discord handle \***

*Include the full handle (e.g., username#1234 or @username).*

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4. **Your timezone \***

*e.g., EST, GMT, IST, PST, AEST. We'll use this to avoid impossible scheduling conflicts.*

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## **SECTION 2 — YOUR PANEL IDEA**

5. **Panel title \***

*Aim for something specific and engaging. This is what will appear on the schedule. Maximum 60 characters including spaces.*

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### **Open vs. Closed Panels**

When you submit, you'll be asked whether your panel is Open or Closed. Here's what that means:

#### **Closed Panel**

You are submitting both the idea and the full moderator lineup. If accepted, the programming committee will not find additional co-moderators. Your co-moderators don't need to be confirmed at submission time – but you are committing to run this panel.

#### **Open Panel**

You are pitching the idea and asking the programming committee to assemble the moderator team from volunteers. You may also volunteer to moderate an open panel submitted by someone else – we will open a sign-up thread at [contingencycon.com](http://contingencycon.com) after submissions close.

6. **Open or Closed? \***

*See the explanation at the top of this form.*

*Check all that apply.*

- Closed – I have a moderator lineup (just me, or me + co-mods I'm recruiting)
- Open – I'm pitching the idea; please find moderators from volunteers

7. **Panel category \***

*Choose the best fit. If your panel spans multiple categories, pick the primary one.*

*Check all that apply.*

- Character Analysis & Deep Dives – focus on one or more characters
- Meta & Thematic Analysis – surveillance, morality, free will, philosophy, social themes
- AI & Technology – The Machine, Samaritan, real-world AI parallels
- Ship / Relationship Discussion – romantic or platonic relationships and dynamics
- Fanfiction & Creative Writing – process, craft, recs, readings, discussion
- Fan Art & Visual Creativity – art process, gallery discussion, tutorials
- Fanvids & Video Editing – vid craft, premiere screening + discussion
- Other Fan Creations - video and tabletop games, crafts, cosplay costumes, and more
- Games, Trivia & Interactive Activities – audience competition or participation
- How-To / Workshop – skills-based teaching with audience participation
- Other (describe in your panel description)

8. **Panel format** \*

*Choose the best fit. If your panel spans multiple categories, pick the primary one.*

*Check all that apply.*

- Discussion Panel – multiple moderators talking through a topic, audience Q&A at the end
- Presentation / Lecture – one or more people presenting prepared material to the audience
- Workshop / Interactive – audience actively participates throughout, not just Q&A
- Trivia / Game Show – structured game or competition with audience as players or contestants
- Debate – structured argument of two or more positions on a POI topic
- Fan Works Showcase – presenting fan-created work
- Other (describe in your panel description)

### **SECTION 3 – PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS**

#### **TWO DESCRIPTIONS – ONE PUBLIC, ONE FOR US**

Question 10 is the public-facing description that attendees will read on the schedule and program guide. Make it engaging!

Question 11 is staff-only and will never be published. Use it to tell us anything that helps us evaluate and schedule your panel.

9. **Public-facing description (for the con program booklet) \***

*This is what attendees will read when deciding whether to come to your panel. Be specific about what you'll cover and what makes it worth attending. Aim for 50–150 words. This will appear on the schedule and in the program guide, and may be lightly edited for spelling and grammar.*

Example of a description for a hypothetical panel titled (feel free to steal this idea!): *Suited for the Job: What John Reese's Black Suit Tells Us About the Man Inside It*

He fights in it, hides in it, and disappears into boardrooms and back alleys alike. John Reese's suit is armor, camouflage, and costume all at once. This panel explores what POI's most iconic piece of costuming reveals about identity, control, and the performance of normalcy in a life lived in the shadows. Come ready to discuss whether the suit makes the man or masks him.

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10. **Staff notes / panel content summary (not published) \***

*This field is FOR OUR EYES ONLY. Use it to tell us anything that didn't fit in the public description: specific topics you plan to cover, how you'll structure the 50 minutes, why this panel belongs at the Contingency Con, any concerns about tone or content, how you plan to handle audience Q&A, or anything else that helps us evaluate your proposal. No character limit – the more detail you give us here, the better we can support you.*

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11. **Content notes / trigger warnings \***

*Are there topics attendees might want to know about in advance? (e.g., discussion of character death, mental illness, trauma, violence, specific ships, mature content.) These will be included in the schedule listing so attendees can make informed choices. Please err on the side of inclusion.*

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12. **Moderators & Co-moderators \***

*Check all that apply.*

- Yes – I'll moderate solo
- Yes – I'll moderate with co-mods (list them in Q15)
- No – this is an Open panel submission; I don't plan to moderate
- I have an idea but need help finding moderators and/or co-panelists

13. **Co-moderator(s) / co-panelist(s) names and handles (if known)**

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**SECTION 5 – SCHEDULING & AVAILABILITY**

**SCHEDULING NOTE**

More scheduling flexibility = higher chances of acceptance. If you can only do one specific slot, flag that now so we know.

Timezone reference: 9am ET = 2pm BST = 6:30pm IST = 11pm AEST. A full timezone chart will be included in panelist materials.

14. **Which days are you available? (Eastern Time) \***

*Check all that apply.*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Friday, July 31
- Saturday, August 1
- Sunday, August 2
- Flexible – no preference

15. **What times are you available? (Eastern Time) \***

*Check all that apply. These are approximate windows, not exact slots.*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Morning: 9am–12pm ET
- Afternoon: 12pm–5pm ET
- Evening: 5pm–9pm ET
- Late night: 9pm–midnight ET

16. **Are there any days/times you absolutely CANNOT do? (Eastern Time)**

*e.g., "Not before noon on Saturday," "Not Sunday at all," "Not after 8pm ET." This helps us avoid creating impossible scheduling conflicts.*

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17. **Do you need a confirmed time slot by a specific date in order to prepare?**

*If you need advance notice to arrange your availability, prepare materials, or coordinate with co-panelists, let us know your deadline and we'll do our best to accommodate it.*

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## **SECTION 6 — TECHNICAL NEEDS**

### **VIRTUAL SETUP REMINDER**

All panels run via Zoom. A tech moderator will be assigned to each room to handle waiting room, chat, screen sharing, and Q&A management. You focus on the panel; they handle the tech.

All panelists will receive a tech check invitation before the convention.

18. **Will your panel require screen sharing? \***

*e.g., a slideshow, images, video playlist, a shared document, a game like Kahoot.*

*Check all that apply.*

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

19. **If yes, what will you be sharing?**

*If you need advance notice to arrange your availability, prepare materials, or coordinate with co-panelists, let us know your deadline and we'll do our best to accommodate it.*

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20. **Any other technical requirements or concerns?**

*e.g., you need a co-host with tech mod experience, you're concerned about your audio setup, you want a rehearsal session before the con, you have accessibility needs that affect how your panel runs.*

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## **SECTION 7 — ANYTHING ELSE?**

21. **Are you submitting more than one panel?**

*You may submit up to 3 panels total — please fill out a separate form for each. If you are submitting multiple panels, list them here in order of priority so we know which matters most to you.*

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22. **26. Is there anything else you'd like us to know?**

*Questions, concerns, special circumstances, ideas for making your panel shine, notes about your co-panelists, or anything else. Nothing is too small to mention.*

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23. **How did you hear about the call for panels?**

*Check all that apply.*

- Tumblr
- Reddit
- Twitter / X
- Facebook
- Bluesky
- ContingencyCon.com website
- Word of mouth – another fan told me
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## What Happens Next

*Thank you for contributing to the Contingency Con!*

### **After you submit:**

You'll receive a confirmation email. If it doesn't arrive within 24 hours, check spam and then contact us. The programming team reviews all submissions. We may reach out with questions.

May 17, 2026: All submitters notified of acceptance, waitlisting, or rejection.

May 31, 2026: Draft schedule circulated to accepted panelists for confirmation.

June 21, 2026: Final schedule posted.

July 19-24, 2026: Tech checks scheduled with all panelists.

**July 31 – August 2, 2026: THE CONTINGENCY CON!**

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