

BRIAN HENSON WELCOMES DRAGON CON 2018 ATTENDEES TO BE A PART OF JIM HENSON'S  
CREATURE SHOP CHALLENGE LIVE!

*Competitors Will Create And Perform An Original Character From The World Of The Popular Sci-fi  
Series Farscape*

ATLANTA, GA (August 6, 2018) – Dragon Con and The Jim Henson Company invite this year's convention attendees to compete in the first Jim Henson's Creature Shop Challenge Live. Participants are encouraged to show their creativity, imagination, and artistry by creating an original character or costume that could be from the world of *Farscape*. Costuming, mechanization, sculpting, painting and more will all come into play to reflect the character's personality, gender, age, health, intelligence, and backstory.

The series' original judges, Brian Henson (*Labyrinth*, *Farscape*) and Kirk Thatcher (*Dinosaurs*, *Muppets Tonight*) will be reuniting for this exclusive event. Gigi Edgley (*Farscape*) will also return as host of the contest and Halle Stanford (*The Dark Crystal: Age of Resistance*), President of Television for The Jim Henson Company, will be joining the judging panel. The winner of the challenge will be invited for a special tour of the world-famous Jim Henson's Creature Shop, the award-winning creature effects facility known for projects like *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, and *Where the Wild Things Are*.

Brian Henson, Chairman of The Jim Henson Company said, "I know that you guys are ready to put your skills on the line and design your own creatures, build them, and then win the challenge."

Participants will be required to meet the below guidelines for the "Citizens of the Uncharted Territories" challenge. For a complete list of rules and judging criteria, please visit <http://www.dragoncon.org/?q=CreatureShopChallenge>.

- Characters must reflect the world and canon of *Farscape*
- Characters must be an original concept
- Characters must incorporate at least one mechanical effect
- Characters must incorporate some form of costuming
- Characters will be judged on strength of design and concept, believability, and finishing
- Team submissions are not permitted; there will be only one winner

Creatures or creature costumes must be safely performed for judging and must be able to be moved into the judging space for review and final presentation. Only one winner will be named and invited to tour Jim Henson's Creature Shop in New York City or Los Angeles. The winner will receive a travel stipend, courtesy of Dragon Con and The Jim Henson Company.

All creations will be pre-judged on Friday, August 31 at 2:30 pm at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis. Jim Henson's Creature Shop Challenge Live will begin in the Marriott's Atrium Ballroom at 4:00

pm. If you can't make it to the live judging, you can watch the contest in your hotel room on DCTV or after the show at home at <https://dragoncon.tv/>.

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### **About Dragon Con**

Dragon Con is the internationally known pop culture convention held each Labor Day in Atlanta (Aug. 30 – Sept. 3, 2018). Organized for fans, Dragon Con features more than 3,000 hours of comics, film, television, costuming, art, music, and gaming over four days. For more information, please visit [www.dragoncon.org](http://www.dragoncon.org) and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

### **About The Jim Henson Company**

The Jim Henson Company has remained an established leader in family entertainment for over 60 years and is recognized worldwide as an innovator in puppetry, animatronics and digital animation. Best known as creators of the world-famous Muppets, Henson has received over 50 Emmy Awards and nine Grammy Awards. Recent credits include *Julie's Greenroom* (Netflix), *Dot*. (Sprout/Hulu), *Splash and Bubbles* (PBS), *Word Party* (Netflix), *Doozers* (Hulu/Sprout), and the Emmy®-nominated *Sid the Science Kid* (PBS), *Dinosaur Train* (PBS), and *Pajanimals* (Sprout). Television productions include *Fraggle Rock*, *The Storyteller* and the sci-fi cult series *Farscape*. Features include Disney's *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*, as well as *The Dark Crystal*, *Labyrinth*, *MirrorMask*, and *Jim Henson's Turkey Hollow*. The Company is currently in production on the upcoming Netflix original series *The Dark Crystal: Age of Resistance*. Projects in development include the highly anticipated film *Fraggle Rock*.

With additional locations in New York and London, The Jim Henson Company is headquartered in Los Angeles on the historic Charlie Chaplin lot, complete with soundstage and postproduction facilities. The Company is home to Jim Henson's Creature Shop™, a pre-eminent character-building and visual effects group with international film, television, theme park and advertising clients, as well as Henson Recording Studios, one of the music industry's top recording facilities known for its world-class blend of state-of-the-art and vintage equipment. The Company's Henson Alternative brand is currently touring *Puppet-Up! – Uncensored*, a live puppet improvisational show, and its feature *The Happytime Murders*, starring Melissa McCarthy, will be released in August 2018.

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