



**Anime Evolution Convention  
Corporation Media Release  
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## Artist Villa Release

June 24, 2010

The growth of Vancouver's art & culture scene is getting a boost from Anime Evolution 2010. To salute the effort and dedication of the many skilled and talented artists in Vancouver, Anime Evolution is proud to host an Artists' Villa (the Villa) for the 2010 convention year.

Anime Evolution has traditionally hosted an Artists' Alley, a space set aside in the dealer's hall where artists could showcase and sell their works. The Villa, replacing the Artists' Alley, dedicates an entire building with over 100 tables to artists with a diverse set of talents. Additionally, The Villa will also house several rooms dedicated exclusively to creative workshops and academic panels.

"The Artist Villa pools together some of the best professional and amateur talents in Vancouver under one roof as a celebration of art and creativity and demonstrates the level of support within the art community in Vancouver," says Renee Cheung, the convention's programming director.

The Villa is a major step towards making a positive difference for local artists.

"A lot has been done to harm the art community in Vancouver, and all of B.C.," says Gregory Neher, the convention's communications director. "Art grants have been cut, programs no longer can get the funding they once did, and the looming HST will make things even harder for struggling artists, many of which are also students."

"By expanding our convention space ... we have created a perfect and inviting environment to welcome the public and media, to come see what these artists can do."

The Villa will also showcase the work of several professional guest artists, including Camilla d'Errico, Nina Matsumoto, Chloe Chan, the Vancouver artist collective Cloudscape and more.

"Anime Evolution has always attempted to show support and build awareness of the local wealth of artistic talent within our community," says Rob Sawtell, the convention's chairperson. "It is our hope that the Artists Villa builds on this, and showcases the wonderful abundance of artistry that is available."

For more information about the Artists' Villa, please contact the Anime Evolution Communications Department at [comm@animeevolution.com](mailto:comm@animeevolution.com).

### **About Anime Evolution**

Anime Evolution is Vancouver's premier event celebrating Japanese animation, manga, gaming, and every kind of related fandom. Our featured activities include interactive panel discussions with industry guests, cultural demonstrations, 24-hour video rooms, cosplay contests, an AMV contest, a charity auction, evening dances, and creative workshops. We also offer LAN, tabletop, LARP, and console gaming rooms.

Anime Evolution's focus is entertainment, community and cultural diversity in a fun, family friendly, inclusive and accessible setting.

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