

# Short Subjects

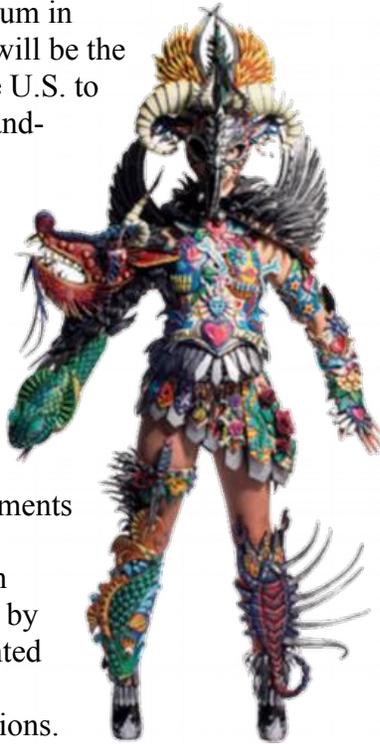
## World of Wearable Art at the Bishop Museum

*Award winning costumes from international competition on display.*

Bishop Museum in Honolulu, Hawaii will be the first museum in the U.S. to host the New Zealand-based World of WearableArt™ exhibit, created by WOW® in partnership with the New Zealand government.

The exhibit spotlights 32 award-winning garments from the annual international design competition hosted by WOW, complemented with a number of interactive installations.

The competition attracts hundreds of entries worldwide from fashion designers, artists, costume-makers and other artisans who are charged with the mission to take "art off the wall and adorn onto the human form."



Designers are instructed to create garments that are original, beautifully designed, well made and wearable. A wide array of materials are used to create the garments ranging from cable ties and kitchen utensils to auto trim and ceramics resulting in unique works of art.

The exhibit is located in the Castle Memorial Building of the Bishop Museum through February 1, 2016. For more information, visit the [exhibit website](#). Once the exhibit closes, it will move to the EMP Museum in Seattle from July 2016 - January 2017.

The 2016 WOW competition application period opens December 1, 2015. For entry information, visit the [World of Wearable Art website](#).

## Star Wars and the Power of Costume Exhibit Opens

*New York City exhibit features past movies and upcoming Force Awakens.*



Visitors to the new exhibit, *Star Wars and the Power of Costume* will experience the many challenges and successes of dressing the Star Wars universe.

From George Lucas's original

vision, to the concept artists who put these ideas on paper, to the artisans and costume designers who produced these iconic costumes, *Star Wars and the Power of Costume* examines the often complex process of costume making.

The exhibit focuses on the universal themes of allegiance and betrayal, honor and virtue, and power and submission, encouraging museum goers to explore both the visual and the symbolic impact of the Star Wars costumes. It uses fabric, form, color, and style to convey the complex story across different generations and locations. Several exhibit videos allow visitors to see and hear from the designers, actors, and George Lucas himself. Smithsonian scholars provide cultural and historic context.

The variety and diversity of the worlds portrayed in the stories is shown in the 60 original costumes on exhibit. In each section, visitors experience the imagery, detail, and knowledge used in the costume design. This exhibit goes beyond the chronological, literary, or filmic order often used to chronicle Star Wars. It focuses instead on the creative process, George Lucas' vision, and the challenge of translating his characters into reality.

The exhibit at the Discovery Times Square museum, which was developed by the Smithsonian Institution's Traveling

Exhibition Service, in partnership with the The Lucas Museum of Narrative Art, and Lucas Films, runs through the end of September 5, 2016. The the [Smithsonian exhibit website](#) includes more information and an interactive preview of the exhibit. For information on hours and to purchase tickets, visit the Discovery Times Square [museum website](#).

## Father Creates Wheelchair Costumes for Son

*Business inspired by costumes he built for his son aims to provide them for others.*

Lon Davis began making costumes for his son Reese seven years ago after he was born with neuroblastoma, a tumor in his neck as spine that left him with limited mobility in his legs. When Reese was just three years old, he wanted to dress up at



Reese in the Star Wars X-Wing fighter costume. Photo: Solent News / REX Shutterstock.

Halloween as the character Wall.E from the popular Disney Pixar film.

Lon figured that it would be a perfect costume to make for his wheelchair. Reese ended up helping him build the costume. "Every year since then Reese and I have always figured out what he was going to be for Halloween and then decide how to incorporate his wheelchair with it," he said.



The making of the Star Wars X-Wing fighter costume. Photo: Solent News / REX Shutterstock.

Lon then started the company [Walkin' & Rollin' Costumes](#) which makes unique outfits for children in wheelchairs or who use walkers, and gives them away for free. "Starting it was, and still is, very intimidating – there are so many unknown factors when building a costume for a child's wheelchair. " Every wheelchair is different so every costume has to be 100% custom built. "There are just so many "unknowns"

in designing a costume for a wheelchair that it's a little scary."

Since the company began each costume has gotten more elaborate than the last, with designs including Iron Man, Peter Pan and even an X-Wing spaceship from the Star Wars films. (photos on this page)

Now in remission, 10-year-old Reese and his father, from Olathe, Kansas, unveiled their latest creation at the 2015 Kansas Comiccon, a massive Baymax character from the film Big Hero 6.

"The Iron Man costume was fairly easy to design and make. The X-Wing was a little more complex," said Lon. The Baymax costume was by far the most difficult to make due to the legs coming off the back of the chair. "People love the costumes and how unique they are and after a few seconds they realize that they are built on a wheelchair. Once that realization sets in, they are amazed."

The father and son team started a [Kickstarter page](#) to raise enough money to build five new costumes and give them to children for free. They were hoping to raise \$1,000. By late August, they had already exceeded their goal, and any additional funds above that goal pay for additional costumes for kids. Walkin' & Rollin' Costumes also requires volunteers to help make each costume and for people to submit designs for different types of outfits. According to Lon, "We encourage anyone, anywhere to contribute to the ideas."