



## About Pop Culture Classroom – An Overview

### *Who We Are*

**Pop Culture Classroom** is a Denver-based education nonprofit whose mission is to inspire a love of learning, increase literacy, celebrate diversity and build community through the tools of pop culture and the power of self-expression. We are dedicated to creating classroom-worthy and literary-level pop culture education curricula for teachers, librarians, parents, families and kids of all ages.

### *What We Do*

⇒ **The Classroom Program** at Pop Culture Classroom delivers high quality, all-inclusive educational resources and programs to school districts, teachers, and community organizations using comics, graphic novels, games, costuming and other pop culture media. Our resources include:

- *Storytelling Through Comics* – This comics-based curriculum promotes artistic and literacy skills through the comic creation process.
- *Game On!* – This play-based curriculum promotes critical thinking and 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills through the tabletop game design process.
- *Professional Development* – These PCC-developed trainings and sessions allow educators to share ideas, build critical partnerships and learn from leaders in the field of pop culture education.
- *Teaching Guides & Publications* – Centered around contemporary graphic novels and pop culture media, these guides and educator-focused publications are designed to help educators learn about and implement pop culture in the classroom.

⇒ **The Denver Pop Culture Con** (May 31-June 2, 2019) and **Reno Pop Culture Con** (November 8-10, 2019) annual events are hosted by Pop Culture Classroom and directly benefit Pop Culture Classroom's overall educational endeavors. These family-friendly fan extravaganzas feature the best in pop culture entertainment, comics, authors, creators, celebrity guests, and educators from all over the world. Each event also features hundreds of hours of educational sessions, professional development opportunities, and other programming designed specifically for educators. These include:

- *Education Sessions* – At RPCC and DPCC, we host over 500 hours of educational programming each year, including dozens of panels, workshops, and events designed to help educators bring pop culture into their classroom.

- *Educator's Day* – Attend RPCC or DPCC for free! Our goal for Educator's Day is to provide teachers, librarians, administrators, and other educators the chance to learn about how they can improve their craft using the teaching tools of pop culture.
- *ED 589: Enhancing Education Through Pop Culture* – Offered through Adams State University as a 0.5 graduate credit, this 3-day professional development course is offered exclusively at Denver Pop Culture Con.
- *Pop Culture Classroom Kids' Lab* – This interactive, family-friendly, educational space at both DPCC and RPCC is dedicated to pop culture enthusiasts of all ages. The Kid's Lab provides opportunities for families to engage with diverse pop culture-based media and highlights the value of teaching pop culture education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

⇒ The **Excellence in Graphic Literature Awards Program** recognizes and celebrates the best in fiction and non-fiction graphic novels, honoring the creators, publishers and educators using graphic literature to ignite a love of learning in classrooms worldwide. The program culminates annually at the EGL Awards Ceremony, held at Denver Pop Culture Con, and recognizes the most talented, innovative and influential creators in the medium.

⇒ The **Pop Culture Classroom Conference Outreach Team** provides educators, creators, publishers, and industry leaders with one-of-a-kind opportunities to build strategic partnerships and promote national awareness of the educational value of pop culture-based education. Team members travel to conferences nationally and internationally to promote the use of comics, graphic novels, and pop culture media as educational tools.

## ***How To Get Involved!***

Pop Culture Classroom offers educators and fans a variety of ways you can get involved with our educational programming, events, and other year-round opportunities. These include:

- **Join our conference outreach team** – Submit an application at [classroom.popcultureclassroom.org/conference-outreach/](http://classroom.popcultureclassroom.org/conference-outreach/) and join our growing team of pop culture educators, creators, and professionals from across the world!
- **Submit a session for DPCC or RPCC!** – Have an idea for a panel for one of our events? Submit it now at [denverpopculturecon.com/show-info/applications](http://denverpopculturecon.com/show-info/applications) and help us create new opportunities for educators!
- **Volunteer at DPCC or RPCC** – We are always looking for volunteers for our events, and you could be one of them! Apply now at [denverpopculturecon.com/volunteer](http://denverpopculturecon.com/volunteer) and/or [renopopculturecon.com/volunteer](http://renopopculturecon.com/volunteer).
- **Other questions? We're here to help!** – For any questions or follow-ups, please reach out to Pop Culture Classroom's Director of Education, Dr. Katie Monnin ([k.monnin@popcultureclassroom.org](mailto:k.monnin@popcultureclassroom.org)).