Free Comic Book Day May 2, 2015

Scheduled for Saturday, May 2, Free Comic Book Day is an annual event organized by Diamond Comics Distributors in partnership with retailers and comics publishers, that will distribute millions of copies of comics free to kids and older fans via their local comics shops. Originally launched in 2001, Free Comic Book Day is designed to appeal to kids and attract new fans to the comics medium.

This year Free Comic Book Day kicks off Children's Book Week, May 4-10, a week long celebration of reading and young people. The event has grown into one of the most successful comics promotions ever. Each year for FCBD Publishers partner with Diamond Comics to produce specialty editions of comics covering all the genres—this year there are 50 comics—that are distributed to comics shops to give away. Many libraries are also involved and comics shops will also be giving away free copies of back issues depending on their individual inventories.

Here are our 5 Tips for an Unforgettable Free Comic Book Day (Freecomicbookday.com)!

- **1. Find a Participating Comic Book Shop:** Make sure you find a participating comic shop so you know where you are going to get your free comics. You can use the <u>FCBD Comic Shop Locator</u> to find a store near you. If there are multiple comic shops near you participating we encourage you to plan out which stores you will go to during the day so you can get a variety of the FCBD comics.
- **2. Contact Your Local Comic Shop:** Either call your local comic shop, check out their Facebok page and/or website to see what their Free Comic Book Day policy plans are in addition to what extra events are going to be taking place during their FCBD. Some comics shops give out 1-2 comics, while others give out more. It is good to know how many comics you can expect to get for free so you can plan out if you want to visit other comics shops to see if you can get more free comics and different books.
- **3. Plan to Arrive Early:** Some comic shops may have lines for recieving the free comics and some may not. If this is your first Free Comic Book Day, when you contact your local comic shop about their free comic policy, ask them what the lines have been like in the past to see how early they recommend arriving and how long the wait tends to be. Some quantities of the FCBD comics tend to go quickly, so arriving early will help increase your chances of getting the comics you are most looking forward to.

If your local participating comic shop says they tend to have long lines to recieve the free comics, we advise bringing snacks, water and entertainment for the wait but it's definately worth it! Line and crowd control is determined by the comic shop staff, so make sure to follow all directions so you can get your free comics and also check out your local comic shop in an organized manner.

Note: Each comic shop pays for the comics they give away for free. They cost less than a regular comic, but they do cost the retailer money, which is why quantities are limited at each comic shop. Make sure to thank your retailer for participating.

- **4. Visit the Free Comic Book Day Facebook Page**: Check out Free Comic Book Day on Facebook to get up-to-date news about the FCBD comics, special events, interviews from the FCBD comic creators and artitists, cosplayers, videos about FCBD, and more! There are also daily give-aways that take place, featuring items that can be found at your local comic book specialty shop! Click here to check it out!
- **5. Follow Free Comic Book Day on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram!</u> Share your FCBD photos with us using #fcbd or #fcbd2015.**
- **6. Have Fun!** Free Comic Book Day is the biggest celebration of comic books and a great time to discover new types of comics! It's the perfect time to see what your local comic shop has in store, a time to read new comics, get kids involved in reading and have fun as a community! You will be able to meet a variety of

comic fans and those who are new to comics that are discovering them for the first time. Head to your local participating comic shop for a day of fun and memories! One of the best ways to have fun is to dress up as your favorite comic book character, trying to go to as many participating comic shops as you can, taking tons of pictures and participating in all the events!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU ON FREE COMIC BOOK DAY!

Tell us how your Free Comic Book Day is going! Post on the Free Comic Book Day <u>Facebook page</u> and/or tweet to us at <u>@freecomicbook with #fcbd2015</u> or #fcbd.

Take pictures of your Free Comic Book Day! Post pictures of your time waiting in line, picking up your comics, time with friends and family, pictures of your local comic shop, FCBD activities, pictures with cosplayers and anything else that relates to Free Comic Book Day! You can post your photos to our Facebook page, Twitter (@freecomicbook), Instagram, Google+ and our Website emailing marketing@diamondcomics.com. Please use #fcbd when posting pictures so we can get Free Comic Book Day trending!

*We encourage you to also say and/or tag the comic book shop you attended showing them how you participated in their events!

Post pictures of your Free Comic Book Day to our Facebook, Twitter or Instagram to be entered to win a \$50 gift certificate to your local comic shop! By posting your pictures to our Facebook wall, tweeting your pictures to us, or tagging us on Instagram using #fcbd for each post, you are entered for a chance to win a \$50 gift certificate to our local comic book shop.