

## ***Attention to Detail***

"I'm a data analyst, and my job is basically to locate other people's mistakes in their reports and inspections. It goes without saying that I must pay very close attention to every detail. Costuming has really helped me with this as I am able to better examine the details of my job due to the fact that I must also examine details that go into creating an elaborate costume. "

- "**Hikaruhime**" of Mythos Creations, <http://mythoscreations.com/>

You're a cosplayer/costumer. You've looked at stitches and chain links with an experienced eye. You've counted buttons on pictures or screenshots. You've asked about angles of hair swoops and feathers that few others would notice (unless, say, you got them wrong in a costume).

You have a fantastic Edge in that you have great attention to detail - perhaps in some cases a level of detail most people wouldn't normally see.

Attention to Detail is another one of those things that comes up in job interviews, academic interviews, and client interviews all the time. People want to know that you pay attention, that you get the details, and that you understand them and focus on them.

Well you do. You're a cosplayer/costumer. You've done it, you keep doing it, and you're probably very good at it.

Every costume you make has a story of how you explored issues of historical accuracy, or how cloth folds, or how fine stitching had to be done. Each outfit you make or wear is a tale of just how you can focus yourself, be it to examine photos or put fine work together by tuning out all distractions.

This attention to fine detail can be great to use in your career – it may be good if you are doing such things as data analysis,

## **NEXT STEPS:**

### ***Make Space and Set Boundaries***

Ask yourself just where your professional ambitions begin and end in costuming/cosplay – and identify, simply, where you're going to have fun. Maybe your serious historical costuming leads to your career, while your manufacturing of outrageous hats is a hobby. Perhaps you have a business doing serious cosplay costumes, but relax at a renfest. Find where the boundaries are.

### ***Have a “Fun Audit”***

As technical as this sounds, take time now and then to make sure you're having enough fun – especially if the hobby/career boundaries are thin or nonexistent for you.

### ***Take Time To Relax***

Take a con where you don't network (much), an event you just hang out at, etc. Make the time to relax.

"I work in the health care field, so cosplay has not helped me directly [in her career]. However, I do think it has some benefits as a stress-relieving outlet. "

- "Saya" of Mythos Creations, <http://mythoscreations.com>

## ***Speaking***

"I get paid to do panels on manga and cosplay at local libraries. I got the job because someone saw my costumes and thought I could give advice to kids and teens interested in learning how to draw and make costumes."

- "Tsukiko" of Mythos Creations, <http://mythoscreations.com>

“Speaking” encompasses a variety of careers, part-time careers, or parts of careers. Actually, a lot of jobs require speaking, most people don't notice it since they're really busy dreading public appearances.

Of course cosplayers and costumers, who have battled the fear of public appearance and usually battered it into the ground have one challenge of speaking taken care of. Considering all they do in public, speaking of some kind may be a good focus for a career if you do costuming/cosplay.

Cosplayers and costumers often get experience speaking as they're involved in being “in character,” doing presentations, competing in events, and so on. They have to develop acting ability and oratory (especially if you're in front of a large crowd) abilities. As a costumer/cosplayer, you've probably got a lot of speaking experience.

Costumers and cosplayers usually have a lot to speak on – often subjects related to their reason for dressing up and costuming in the first place. It may be an interest in a culture, enthusiasm for a show or film, or of course an interest in outfits.

As for what kind of job involves speaking, that's a bit of a challenge – many do, but a few focus on it specifically:

- Teaching - of course.
- Lecturing – You may lecture for many reasons, including

**Lyss-Chan** is the kind cosplayer that loves to meet new people for lifelong friendships and to take photos of other cosplayers. You can find out more about her at:

- <http://www.moonlight-night.net/>
- <http://www.cosplay.com/member/257294/>
- <http://www.facebook.com/ayaka502photography>

"**Nivi Pix**" is a devoted single mother, motivational speaker, and proud member of Chocolate Covered Cosplay who enjoys dressing up! You can find out more about her at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100001494026310>

**Pixie Kitty** is a perfectionist with everything she does, and it shows in her creations - if she's not happy, she doesn't want to wear it. Find out more about her at:

- <http://pixiekitty.net/>
- <http://twitter.com/pixiekitty015>
- <http://www.facebook.com/pkcosplay>

**Heidi Sapere** is a costumer with a twist; she takes a period in time and turns it into something new, reflecting the past and present in one. You can find out more about her at her website: <http://www.hopelovedream.org/>

"**Hikaruhime**" is a girly-girl fashionista Barbie doll who appears to be anything but the nerd she actually is. She's part of Mythos Creations (Visit their website at <http://mythoscreations.com/>, and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MythosCreations/>). You can find more about her at her cosplay.com profile: <http://www.cosplay.com/member/53418/>

"**Saya**" evolved from a historical costumer to an anime cosplayer and loves to push herself. She's part of Mythos Creations (Visit their website at <http://mythoscreations.com/>, and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MythosCreations/>). You can find more about her at <http://www.cosplay.com/member/134464/>

**Sasha Schotzko-Harris** is a recent high-school graduate pursuing a degree in Character Animation. She cosplays as a hobby, creating realistic costumes by focusing on the traditions and regions that inspired the outfit designs. You can find more of her costuming and her artwork at <http://solemnally.deviantart.com/>

**Miko Simons**, aka "Luck in Spades" is an eclectic costumer who loves the art and design and sewing. She makes costumes from both popular media and original concepts. You can find her at <http://www.luckinspades.com/> and <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Luck-in-Spades/190870228779>.

"**Tsukiko**" is a small-town girl with a lot of nerdy hobbies, who is engrossed with small details on her many costumes. She's part of Mythos Creations (Visit their website at <http://mythoscreations.com/>, and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MythosCreations/>). You can find more about her at <http://www.cosplay.com/member/263344/>

**Erika J. Weatherbee** is passionate about costuming and hopelessly addicted to its infinite possibilities. You can find our more about her at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/E-Bee-Photography/117394141675887>. She's also involved in Cosplay: The Documentary: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Cosplay-The-Documentary/120503327973252>.

**Ethan "Rawrimaowl" W.** is a fun-loving cosplayer who likes to make people laugh. You can see more about his work at <http://rawrimaowl.deviantart.com/> and <http://aftercon.com/newsite/profile.php?user=rawrimaowl>.