



# Southern California Blood Bank

## **MEDIA ADVISORY –FRIDAY, MARCH 28 – SUNDAY, MARCH 30**

### **MEDIA CONTACT (not for publication or broadcast):**

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### **WONDERCON PRESENTS ROBERT A. HEINLEIN MEMORIAL BLOOD DRIVE TO BE HELD THIS WEEKEND**

**WHAT:** For the first time in the history of WonderCon®, Southern California Blood Bank will host a 3-day blood drive at the convention this weekend. All blood donors will receive a limited-edition Marvel Thunderbolts T-shirt and a goody bag (while supplies last). This blood drive event is not open to the public, as you must be a WonderCon attendee to donate. WonderCon badges are still available online. WonderCon attendees are encouraged to make time to donate blood during the convention to help local hospitals.

**WHEN:** Friday, March 28 – Saturday, March 29, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Sunday, March 30, 2025, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**WHERE:** WonderCon at Anaheim Convention Center, 800 W. Katella Ave, Room 204A & B, Anaheim, CA 92802.

**NOTES:** Southern California Blood Bank also operates as San Diego Blood Bank, which has been serving hospitals in the Orange County and Los Angeles areas for decades and hosting over 200 mobile blood drives are held each year. The Blood Bank provides blood products to many hospitals in the area including Hoag, Long Beach Memorial, LA+USC Medical Center, Harbor UCLA Medical Center, and Rady Children's Hospital. This blood drive is expected to collect hundreds of units of blood, potentially impacting thousands of lives across the Southern California region.

In the 1970's, popular science-fiction writer Robert A. Heinlein was faced with a life-threatening illness and needed many pints of a rare blood type. His gratitude for blood donors led to a blood drive at Comic-Con® which has continued every year at the convention in San Diego for the last 47 years. Comic-Con and WonderCon are both presented by parent organization San Diego Comic Convention.

For over four decades, San Diego Blood Bank has proudly partnered with Comic-Con International, hosting the Robert A. Heinlein Blood Drive at San Diego Comic-Con since 1977—a tradition that has resulted in over 93,000 pints donated. As we celebrate 75 years of impact, San Diego Blood Bank is expanding this legacy to WonderCon®, held in Anaheim, bringing more opportunities for donors to help save lives across the region.

Southern California Blood Bank, a division of San Diego Blood Bank, is a 501(c)(3) independent, nonprofit blood bank dedicated to providing life-saving blood to hospitals across the region. Now in its 75th year, San Diego Blood Bank has collected more than 5.5 million pints of blood since 1950, supporting patients facing cancer, trauma, surgeries, and chronic illnesses.

Eligible blood donors attending WonderCon are encouraged to schedule an appointment at [SanDiegoBloodBank.org/Donate-Blood-At-WonderCon](http://SanDiegoBloodBank.org/Donate-Blood-At-WonderCon) or call 844-380-5220.

Appointments will be honored first, but walk-ins are welcome.

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