

The games we play in Valhalla by Jacy

The arcade of NordicFuzzCon has always been a fix point of the convention. This year it has moved into Valhalla and gotten even more space. Not all games are located in Valhalla though, lots of arcade machines are also in Clarion.

The person leading the arcade is AoNekoAmaru. An expert in video games, from the mainstream classics to the obscure oddities. I talked to him a bit about this year's arcade.

What do you think about the new location for the arcade?

We're of course missing being as centrally located as before but our new location is right next to the Dealers's Den and our Arcade Room is now sizably bigger with more space for every game station and inbetween.

New for this year is an Arcade Store featuring cool items such as arcade bandanas, mouse pads and arcade cards to keep track of your ranks and unlocks in the music and rhythm games.

The selection of pinball games has also been updated with several new and modern machines. There is now even a pachinko machine.

In the arcade there is also a big selection of more uncommon games.



Photo by Emphy

This makes it a good place to try out games you might never have seen before.

Something that I noticed when visiting was the new addition of DOS computers with games like Jazz Jackrabbit and Cosmo's Cosmic Adventure. As a longtime fan of DOS games (especially from Apogee and Epic), it felt like a very pleasant addition.

I asked master AoNekoAmaru if he could recommend anything especially interesting from the big selection of games.

A more obscure gaming experience is The Eye of Judgment and ZXE-D: Legend of Plasmalite. The Sega-CD is also an underappreciated system, with its obscure FMV games like Road Avenger and Night Trap.

Warm SOUP by Dook

Nothing warms you and replenishes your energy quite like a big bowl of SOUP. You've all seen them running back and forth on one errand or the other. You know them, and if you're STEW you love them. They're SOUP. They're the extra pair of hands just when you need them, the swift feet that bring you that thing you desperately need right now, the strong arms that lift what your decrepit old body cannot. I could go on. Some people are just made

differently. They didn't come here to work, they just do it anyway. No expectations, no demands. Just lending a hand now and then.

Today we took a moment to say thank you in the best possible way - with fika. (I'm NOT biased!)

With the SOUP reflections even we took a moment to serve some snacks and unwind, center ourselves and just be zen. Because that's what we're all about here. Fika and zen.



Photo by Fractal Fox

Pokerman by Dook

By popular demand, last year's poker tournament is back. According to reliable sources deeply involved with the project, this year will feature three tables - with legs! Card shufflers have been engineered to improve logistics as well.

As previously, entry fees go straight to charity, although the winner will of course get a nice token of their victory!

New for the year are additional

qualifying rounds to accommodate all the card sharks, and there's plenty of room for more so there's no reason to be shy. It's all in good fun for charity after all!

The entry fee is 200 sek to be paid at the ticket booth, but if you forget to get a ticket, my sources indicate a possibility to pay at the door and enter late if you're lucky. And you wouldn't be playing poker if you weren't lucky!



Art by Dook

Maid in Heaven by Zander Noxquill

With the gentle patter of the babbling brook, and the sweet scent of cherry blossoms in the air, all is quiet and tranquil here. Rest awhile amongst the whorls and abstract flowing curls of gently-raked gravel as you soak in the atmosphere of the Zen Garden.

As you gaze into the metaphorical pond, as the imaginary koi nibble the crumbs you drop from your plate, a realisation dawns upon you in a moment of clarity: We have finally come full circle.

Since 2017, one of my personal favourite traditions has been the

Maid Cafe, introduced as a one-off with our theme Japan: Samurai or Super Kawaii, but which proved so popular that it has been part of NordicFuzzCon ever since.

Now it's time to leave the bustle of anime cities far behind as we slip into a place of elegance where minimalism means maximal enjoyment.

There's something strangely satisfying about having one's food whizzed to one's plate by a vanguard of fluffy maids and butlers dressed to the nines. This year's selection of snacks is no different.

There are moments during NordicFuzzCon's fast-paced flurry of fuzziness where one feels that a break is in order.

This is where that great Swedish institution comes into play: the fika. A moment where time stands still to make way for the simple pleasures of life that we can revel in for the sheer joyful indulgence - good, sweet, sticky food, a cup of coffee, and of course, the company of friends.

2025's Maid Cafe continues this proud institution with typical Japanese grace and is not to be missed!

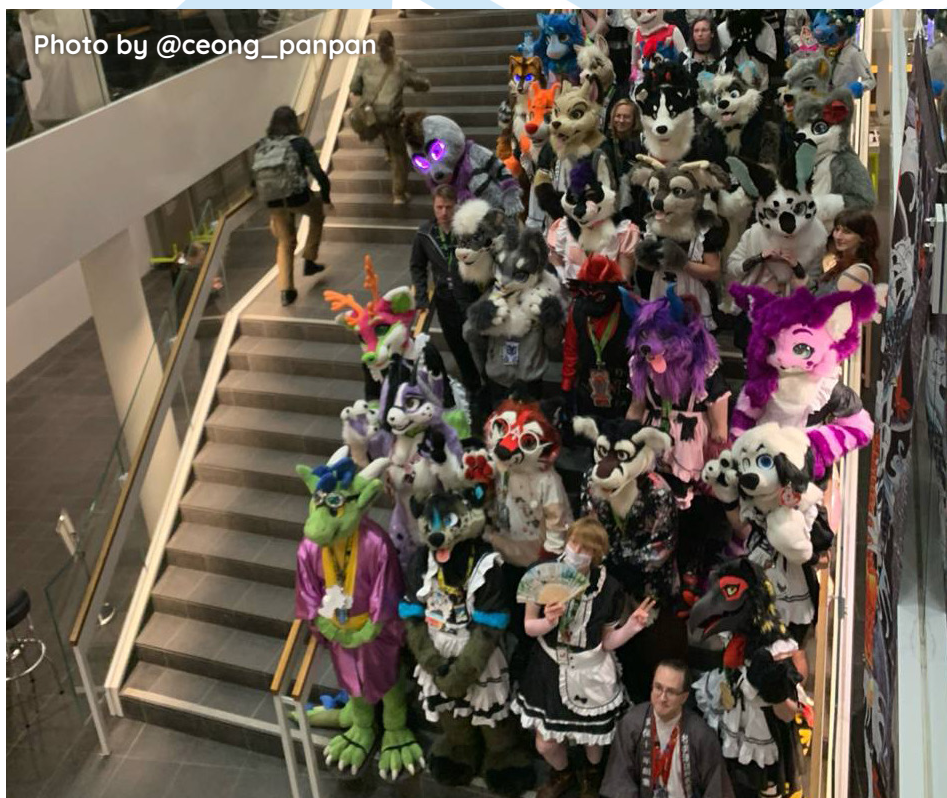


Photo by @ceong_panpan



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caught me dumpster diving for a midnight snack... gotta do what I gotta do when no one feeds me anything all day! 😊

🌀 @evilmakers.bsky.social

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