



# CHERRY CAPITAL COMIC CON

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## Honoring Independent Comic Creators

Cherry Capital Comic Con has always done its best to highlight independent creators as part of the annual show. After Gary Reed's untimely passing in October of 2016, we wanted to find a way to honor Gary's memory. With that in mind, we will be awarding the first Gary Reed Independent Creator of the Year at our 2017 show.

Gary Reed was a comic book writer, and the publisher of Caliber Comics. Caliber was an independent publishing company that published titles in the 1990s by some of the creators that would go on to be household names in the comics world. Creators like Brian Michael Bendis, Vince Locke, and Ed Brubaker all had some of their early works published by Caliber Comics. In recent years, Caliber has returned to publishing independent comics taking the time to help new up-and-coming creators get their work out. Gary would also often take the time to personally give feedback to the creators.

Gary Reed was a great friend to the Cherry Capital Comic Con, bringing his comic publishing company Caliber Comics to the show for the past three years. However, he was an even bigger friend to the independent creators in the Midwest and especially Michigan. With that in mind, this award will be bestowed upon the creator that most espouses Gary's spirit. In addition to creating comics of their own, either self-published or through small press publishers like Caliber, the recipient of this award will also be someone that takes the time to lift up and help other independent creators.

Cherry Capital Comic Con will take place May 26th-28th at the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa in Acme, MI. The show will feature artists, vendors, guests and more. The Gary Reed Independent Creator of the Year presentation will take place at an after show event on the night of May 27<sup>th</sup>. Ticket information can be found at [cherrycapitalcomiccon.com](http://cherrycapitalcomiccon.com).

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