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## Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Bishounen\_Hideto - 2006/09/08 11:25

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Put your vote here. What do you think? Explain your vote if you can.

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Sharkcowsheep - 2006/09/08 11:52

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Unfortunately, there is no "The admins seem to know what they're doing, I'll go with their call" option. Feel like adding one?

Personally I'd like to see men, women, pandas, cellphones, watercress sandwiches, whatever--all free to get up on that auction block and pimp themselves shamelessly for the prurient glee of the masses and the financial advancement of Y-C. However, I figure the admins know what they're doing. Women are not being excluded just to piss women off, so that's fine by me.

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Bishounen\_Hideto - 2006/09/09 07:18

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I was thinking about adding such a poll option but then, to me, it smacked of, "I don't want to actually admit my own opinion, so instead, I'll just claim I'm doing what the admin said so I don't have to actually say whether I agree or disagree with this topic." It feels too wishywashy.

You either follow what the admin say because you agree with them for various reasons, or you disagree with the admins but you follow them anyway.

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Gothkitti - 2006/09/09 07:38

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Well... there's always the possibility that many of us have observed Isis in action as well as the rest of the con staff and realize that they know what they're doing...

... which is the case, for me, at least. It is really appearing as if you're trying to create a 'with us or against us' conflict where there wasn't previously.

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Bishounen\_Hideto - 2006/09/09 13:55

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I actually don't intend to pit anyone against anyone else. In this thread, I just wanted people to admit honestly how they feel about the issue and not be wishywashy.

You either think having crossplaying women in the auction is ok or you don't. I don't think you need the staff/admin to tell you what to think. If you agree with staff, it's because you don't think women belong in the auction. Yes? If not, can you explain?

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Gothkitti - 2006/09/09 15:08

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I already have explained. If you can't accept that answer, at this point, that is no fault of mine. Those of us who trust the

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staff trust them because this staff has done a phenomenal job for the past five years at doing what they do. We need no other reason. When they made the decision to not allow women into the auction, they made said decision on an informed basis and based on the experiences they had. I have not had those experiences. I have been part of the auction one year, so far, and I look forward to hopefully serving on it again. They, on the other hand, have run it since it has existed and they, as far as I know, run the only 'Bishounen Auction' in existence.

There is a significant difference between the staff telling me what to think and me trusting them to do their job. I'm sorry if you cannot recognize that difference. If you wanted to get peoples' honest feelings all you need have done was read the thread on this very topic which already exists in this same part of this same forum. It's right there, is several pages, and details several viewpoints in such a way as a poll of the very limited number of people (the few dozen out of about a thousand, if I recall correctly) out of the Y-con goers that frequent this forum.

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Magdalen - 2006/09/09 15:28

I vote that turnabout is fair play (I like to think outside the box).

In the magical place known as the Real World, which is not to be confused with the shit on MTV, women are objectified on every. Single. Level. As far as I know, the number of strip clubs featuring men is miniscule compared to the ones featuring women. Even according to music, women are bitches and hos.

Oh, but if one is a lesbian, things ought to be peachy in regards to stripclubs, right? Wrong. I know the ones here in the valley are very, very stringent about whether or not they will allow women into the clubs as patrons of the strippers. Why? Because some of us crazy heteronormatives fucked it up for the rest of the population and attacked the strippers and caused a ruckus in the club.

Even with shows like Chippendales and Thunder From Down Under, sure, women are allowed, but it's all to see overly muscular types dance in patriotic themed parachute pants and flex their chests because supposedly, according to the minds behind such shows, this must be What Women Want.

Wrong.

The auction, while seemingly coming off as a venerated institution, is a far cry from expensive reviews where you pay fifty dollars for a whole two hours and all you get is some guy's jockstrap soaked in his ball-sweat arcing its way through the air just as you're trying to choke down a poorly made appetini.

Aside from the costs of the convention admission, the auction is free. You don't have to bid if you don't want to, and more than likely, your wallet would like it if you didn't. It's not to say that it would be a bad thing to let women crossplayers into it, but it would not fit the definition of yaoi, which is that two men are the ones doing inappropriate things to each other. Take for example Ouran High School Host Club. The main character poses as a boy, and while it's very heavy on humorous yaoi stereotypes, the fact remains that any pairing involving that main character would not be yaoi but would, in fact, be het.

To get down to the bottom of the whole diatribe, and this really is the only sort of honesty you can get from a sleep-deprived graveyard shift worker, let the men be wholly objectified for a night. I'm sorry that you can't participate if you are a crossplayer/transgendered, but still, I trust that Isis knows what she is doing. She did not tell anyone to write any of this, and if she told me to write this, then she has psychic abilities that she isn't telling anyone about. Don't be like Fox News and tell us that if we're not with you, that we're with the terrorists or some shit like that.

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by BWAngel - 2006/09/19 00:11

I feel the same way about crossplaying females as I do about cosplaying (and crossplaying) males -- if you're \*good\* and \*convincing\*? Have at it! Are you enthusiastic and in-character and not unpleasant to look at (Yes, we all must have a \*little\* shame)? Great! I understand it's nice to ogle a genuine prettyboy, but I've seen a lot of girls through the years that look far more like a shmexy bishonen than some of the guys I've seen getting special treatment around the con. And frankly, unless you're banking on seeing some full-frontal anatomy (in which case go socialize in the real world and find a boyfriend or a girlfriend or a prostitute, don't try and poach some sausage at an anime convention) what's the

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friggin' difference? Those who want to take photos and draw sketches and have freaky LARP fun with their Bishonen Auction prizes should be able to pick from some of the pretty shorts-stuffers, and the purists can have the real meat if they want to be picky. But there should be a variety to pick from. Hell, I'd be tempted to drop some cash for some of these girls -- but I don't think my boyfriend (as blessedly tolerant as he is) would appreciate it too much if I ponied up for one of the "Bishies". And I know for a confirmed fact that I'm not the only one in that situation.

The phrase "in the spirit of Yaoi-Con" has been thrown around a lot lately. If this auction was really in the spirit of the BL genre, women wouldn't even be able to \*bid\* on the guys -- because as we all know, in the fantasy world of BL the only people who bid on guys that prance around on a stage are hard-handed seme studs or rosy-cheeked experimental uke jailbait. How many yaoi manga have you read where a bishonen gets towed around a hotel on a leash by a female? Not many. Shoujo manga, perhaps. But does it happen at YaoiCon? Sure! I think everyone needs to take a step back and re-evaluate what sort of quasi-sexual dynamics are \*really\* taking place here, but in the meantime why can't we just let everyone have fun?

Everyone just needs to take YaoiCon with a really big grain of salt and remember that once we start keeping people from having a good time, it's no good anymore.

And lest I leave myself open for peltings by rotten garbage, let me say wholeheartedly that I support the staff and their decisions -- whatever they are. Damned if \*I\* could plan a better convention. People who work hard on these things don't need shit-disturbers.

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by kinsugi - 2006/09/27 20:48

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I think it would be a kick to be able to bid on a variety of folk, but I'm fine following the guidelines set by the organizers, who are experienced in putting on a great convention.

Yaoi is about male-male fantasies. Yaoi-Con is for those who enjoy reading those fantasies, so yeah, there are lots of women and it doesn't look like the fantasy. This doesn't define or limit our own sexuality, or our ability to play, or to participate in political organizing around issues important to us.

But this is my first Yaoi-Con, and I'm gonna wear comfortable shoes, relax, and have a great time. See you!

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by - 2006/09/28 10:02

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I myself don't mind, but then again, I don't attend the bishounen auction anyway (no offense or anything).

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by tallis - 2006/10/09 11:40

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I wouldn't mind seeing a badass crossplayer in the auction, it could be amusing. But really, I think it's good that it's being kept male only, seeing how there seem to be ample male applicants, and I think they'd bring in more money for the con than female crossplayers. But I usually just work the door at the auction. XD

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by DerBlaueEngel - 2006/10/15 12:57

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Yay! First post here.

If this were a true Yaoi-con, not only would women not be allowed to buy at the auction and the whole event would be men only!

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I know I haven't had any interest in the actual Bishonen Auction in the past because as much as I love Yaoi, I'm a lesbian (and I know quite a few others that regularly attend Y-Con). I wouldn't buy an actual boy, but I'd probably throw down some cash for a beautiful boy who was actually a girl. \*wink\*

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Isis - 2006/10/18 00:16

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Yay! First post here.

If this were a true Yaoi-con, not only would women not be allowed to buy at the auction and the whole event would be men only!

quote]

Actually, that's not necessarily true. A male only event would be GAY, not yaoi, and they already have plenty of those. Yaoi is about female fantasy. It's about the female view of male/male relationships, and our view of the aesthetics of men. I think a lot of people forget that this is about how women view men.

We are a niche con. A con filling a VERY small niche. A very focused niche. Yaoi is not about cross dressing females. Cross dressing females is shoujo, and we are not a shoujo con.

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by WRBWRXMAX - 2006/10/18 23:55

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So... what about crossplaying the other way? E.X., a guy in a girl's school uniform in the auction?

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Gothkitti - 2006/10/19 00:03

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Well I wore a black furry miniskirt last year and Bazu wore a school uniform. Shiki wore a spiffy little black skirt with a camo top. I'd say it's probably okay :p

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by WRBWRXMAX - 2006/10/19 00:37

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Haha, seems like it's a good bet then. Hopefully I make it in, I'm on standby list. I'll definitely be wearing a short school skirt during the con XD. Not sure if I'll do the full azu uniform, or the maroon skirt + white shirt + matching maroon tie, though~ ^\_^

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Gothkitti - 2006/10/19 01:03

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Good luck, either way. You're sure to see me around if you're one of the standbys. Say hi, 'kay? I should be there in, oh, 14 hours? :p

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Isis - 2006/10/19 02:22

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So... what about crossplaying the other way? E.X., a guy in a girl's school uniform in the auction?

Do you mean is it still considered yaoi?

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by WRBWRXMAX - 2006/10/19 18:51

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Nah, I'm well aware of those rules.

I was merely asking what the accepted stance on male participants in the auction going onstage in crossplay was.

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Isis - 2006/10/20 02:14

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Nah, I'm well aware of those rules.

I was merely asking what the accepted stance on male participants in the auction going onstage in crossplay was.

It's fine. In fact, there might be one or two in the auction. Some women like their men femme.

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Beramode - 2007/04/02 06:25

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I can't recall ever actually being dressed in male clothing for a Ycon auction. :P

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Neko\_Bazu - 2007/04/02 09:20

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In all truth, I think the whole point of it being a Bishounen auction should mean that Bishounen are being auctioned - it should just do what it says on the tin, you know?

On that note; the staff have pointed out in other threads that they're not stopping anyone else running a bishoujo auction if they feel that strongly about it. Get in touch good and early, get it fitted into the programming etc, and there you go. So if any of you really do feel that strongly about it, no-one's going to bite your head off for trying!

I also pose this to you; put the shoe on the other foot. Suppose there were a Yuricon, featuring a Bishoujo auction. Would it be right for boys to go up and be auctioned there? Again, I'd say no - and again, if people felt strongly about it, they could probably go and sort out their own equivalent.

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Big\_Mac - 2007/04/02 12:08

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In all truth, I think the whole point of it being a Bishounen auction should mean that Bishounen are being auctioned - it should just do what it says on the tin, you know?

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I agree with ya' 100%. 8)

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by J\_Chen - 2007/04/03 05:08

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Yes, I will agree with Bazu on that one.

Though it would be fun too, to see female dressing as male charactor for. auction. :)

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Masamune - 2007/04/07 02:52

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In my opinion, as much as I respect and fight for the rights of women.. I'd have to say 'no' for the bishounen auction. The reason I believe it's called a "bishounen" auction is because it's a pretty boy auction and not a pretty girl dressed up as a boy auction.

Sure you can say a girl dressed up as a guy looks hot, and pretty and what not.. (in fact, I'd have to agree to a certain extent) but to call them a bishounen - in Japanese, at least, doesn't make sense.

This is a bishounen auction, so I'd have to say that it's only right to throw in "pretty guys" and not "pretty girls dressed as guys". If you had a "bishoujo" auction, I don't think it'd be appropriate to throw in a guy as well.

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Elysium - 2007/07/10 01:41

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Dear Mr Bishounen\_Hideto, (IF that is indeed your real name! :: Points :: )

Am I not hot enough for you? I'm pretty sure I'm a damned convincing trap! I've even had small kids under the age of ten run up to me while I was cross playing and tell me that I'm "really beautiful," only to cringe and run away when I reply with a deep voice, "Thanks!" And grown men offer to help me with my luggage (and beer) when moving from one room to another and be shocked when I thank them (true story.)

Or are your true motives only to purchase yourself a woman at the auction and make her do the Little Lad Dance? You sick puppy. (I can learn if you want!)

Either way, you don't want to make this kitty cry. Else I'll send my legions of minions after you, and they'll raep you blind. After you're blind, I'll send a certain Tifa to you and then you'll wish you never brought up the subject. :3

Do you like guys? Then come on over to the Bishounen Auction!

Do you like girls? Then come on over to the Bishounen Auction! As long as I can fool you, what's the difference? (Plus there will be females in the audience.)

Do you like shota? C'mon to Ycon! That's not my forte` but my girlfriend does a damned good job. (You touch her I'll send my hoard after you.)

Drag, Cossplay, Crossplay, Foreplay, you'll find it at Y-con.

I didn't see you there last year. Are you coming this year, Mr Bishounen\_Hideto?

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by rev.tylerg - 2007/07/10 12:16

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Well put J

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LOL at this one:

Am I not hot enough for you? I'm pretty sure I'm a damned convincing trap! I've even had small kids under the age of ten run up to me while I was cross playing and tell me that I'm "really beautiful," only to cringe and run away when I reply with a deep voice, "Thanks!" And grown men offer to help me with my luggage (and beer) when moving from one room to another and be shocked when I thank them (true story.)

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by firstgreymage - 2007/07/10 13:37

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I cast my vote already, but I have a question to ask - what about FtM transsexuals who still look completely female because they haven't started transition yet?

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Magdalena - 2007/07/10 15:20

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\*cough\* I believe Hideto is female and runs the Yaoi North room at Anime North.

I've already given my response, I believe, but it's not a question of whether you or any of the other bishounen are hot enough (and that gets into a whole other kettle of fish, too, if you take the analogy to the extreme). Simply put, there are some that question disallowing females-crossplaying-as-males from participating in the auction itself. Isis has already spoken, and I'm satisfied with her response (mind you, I'm in the 'guys only' side).

However, since this thread is slightly, ah, old, I've had a little time to think of things, and you know, it might not be so bad to hold a separate event for the crossplaying folk. I don't know if it'd be a full-on auction, but it could be something similar to the other events that bishounen participate in like the cafe from ToA. I wouldn't want it to conflict with other events that the bishounen are doing, but it might be nice to allow more folks to participate in the con experience.

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## Give what you advertise...

Posted by blackwidowmaker - 2007/07/11 16:00

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As a promotor, you have an obligation to the audience to give what you advertised.

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Syuichi - 2007/07/30 23:15

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I believe that it is a bishounen auction but if bishoujo were on auction too there would be a good amount of guys (the ones who came to pick up chicks) who would buy them! : D

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Beramode - 2007/07/31 00:08

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I cast my vote already, but I have a question to ask - what about FtM transsexuals who still look completely female because they haven't started transition yet?

To quote Magdalena, that's "a whole other kettle of fish."

Where do you draw the line? When is someone "male" enough? What about genderqueer? What about MtFs who are

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pre-op, or non-op, or even post-op? Do we base it on how well they pass, or how they identify? I think there's a lot of very fine lines to be walked - and it may be a bad idea to walk them at all.

There's a lot to be said about selling sexuality - and it's one thing to sell men in fun and games, and something else to sell women, even if they're being sold "as men." (er, to clarify, this is a general topic response - not about FtM).

There's also the fact that the boys get raunchy, lose some clothes, have a little fun with each other - and as soon as there's a genetic female (FtM or not), that throws a wrench into how they will behave around each other due to her presence.

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by rivenliether - 2007/08/04 19:41

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All ethics aside, I personally find it to be inappropriate for there to be girls-dressed-as-pretty-boys in a bishounen auction, simply due to the fact that they are still not, for all purposes, actually male.

Now, if they were to hold a SEPARATE bishoujo auction, that would be a different story. Or even do them at the same time -- a sort of combination-bishounen-and-bishoujo thing. Just so long as everybody isn't being lumped under the single category of a bishounen auction when there are, in fact, girls, then go nuts.

...Besides, we have Cafe Verfuren if we want to pay to see crossdressing girls, LOL.

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Gothkitti - 2007/08/04 20:09

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All ethics aside, I personally find it to be inappropriate for there to be girls-dressed-as-pretty-boys in a bishounen auction, simply due to the fact that they are still not, for all purposes, actually male.

Now, if they were to hold a SEPARATE bishoujo auction, that would be a different story. Or even do them at the same time -- a sort of combination-bishounen-and-bishoujo thing. Just so long as everybody isn't being lumped under the single category of a bishounen auction when there are, in fact, girls, then go nuts.

...Besides, we have Cafe Verfuren if we want to pay to see crossdressing girls, LOL.

Seriously, you needn't even go that far. You can't swing a cat without hitting several crossplaying females at Y-con. I wouldn't recommend it, though. You'd end up with lots of cat scratches and several angry crossplaying females. :D

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by Ryshili - 2007/08/28 13:48

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I remember wishing I could be a bishonen in the auction and stuff. :\

Sadly I was born female and the like. Which I don't want, I know it'd be awkward for the whole thing, true, I'd love to see more woman-flesh, but hey, it is Yaoi-con... and it's women who like to see guys together (as well as men who like it!)

Personally I'd love it, but I know it'd ruin the idea.

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## Re: Thoughts on crossplaying females in the bishounen auction

Posted by tallis - 2007/08/31 15:35

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The bishounen auction is... well hell, advertising MEN. I know the con is full of girls that delve into crossplay - myself included - but people who are spending money on the auction want men.

