



**Celebrity guests**

This year's event also hosted a famous Japanese animator and Lebanese voice actor, who supervised a number of workshops and gave lectures at the venue. "The visit of Masami Suda, a celebrity guest from Japan, gives a lot of credence to the event," Karam said, crediting the Japanese Ambassador's help to facilitate the key animator's arrival to Kuwait. Suda is credited for his work on *Fist of the North Star*, *Pokémon the Movie 2000*, the *Dragon Ball* movies and *Gatchaman*, among others famous works.

In addition, the event's organizers invited Jihad Al-Attrash, a famous voice actor from Lebanon. "His most famous work is doing the Arabic voiceover for 'Duke Fleed,' the main character in the famous anime

*Grendizer*," Karam said. A famous super-robot animation that debuted on Japanese television in 1975, *Grendizer* has maintained relevance in the Middle East for over thirty years ever since the Arabic-dubbed version was broadcasted in Arab countries.

Plamo Con visitors have the chance to meet Suda and Attrash and receive signed copies of animation character sketches from them. They are also participating as judges in the cosplay contest, Karam said.

The event has attracted visitors not only from Kuwait, but also from Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries such as Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, Karam said. "We also have video terminals from various parts of the GCC," he added.

