Blizzard Takes the Stage at BlizzCon® 2023; Announces the Next Three World of Warcraft® Expansions, First Expansion for Diablo® IV, a New Overwatch® hero, and more!

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World of Warcraft®: The War Within™, *the first of three expansions in* The Worldsoul Saga™*, coming in 2024*

Diablo® IV: Vessel of Hatred™ *and* World of Warcraft®: Cataclysm Classic™ *coming in 2024*

Warcraft Rumble™ *live now,* Overwatch® 2 *announces new hero, map, and game mode,* Hearthstone® *announces* Battlegrounds Duos, *and more*

IRVINE, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--BlizzCon® 2023 has kicked off in Anaheim, California, where Blizzard Entertainment celebrated player communities live and in person for the first time in four years at the industry-staple event. The president of Blizzard Entertainment Mike Ybarra opened this morning's show by expressing appreciation for the studio's millions of players around the world. "BlizzCon isn't just about the latest updates from Blizzard - it's about all of you. Players are at the forefront of everything we do, and we're devoted to supporting these incredible communities," he said. "All of us—gamers, developers, and fans—we are all united in our shared love for gaming."

Then developers from all of Blizzard's major titles made announcements during the convention's opening ceremony. Some of the highlights include:

- The teams kicked off a bold new chapter in the near-30-year-old franchise Warcraft universe, with new stories and experiences across multiple games set in the legendary world of Azeroth.
  - **World of Warcraft®: The War Within™** is the first installment of *The Worldsoul Saga*™, an ambitious creative endeavor for the Warcraft universe. In this expansion slated for release in 2024, players will travel to the new continent of Khaz Algar as an ancient civilization rises to power deep beneath the surface of the planet.
    - The vision for The Worldsoul Saga was announced to players around the world live on stage, including two expansions following *The War Within* —**World of Warcraft®: Midnight™** and **World of Warcraft®: The Last Titan™.**
  - **Warcraft Rumble**™, the first Warcraft game designed from the ground up for mobile, is live now on iOS and Android! An action-packed strategy game, Rumble invites players to assemble armies with their favorite characters from the Warcraft universe and battle it out to test their tactical wits. With over 70 unique missions, as well as weekly and monthly challenges in the form of multipart dungeons, PvP, and more, Warcraft Rumble is full of authentic Warcraft vibes, created by a team with deep roots in the game universe.
  - **World of Warcraft Classic** invites players to return to Azeroth once again and begin a new journey—with a twist! In **Season of Discovery**, players will start a fresh adventure where exploration and experimentation will be key to unlocking new abilities for their characters. Then, in 2024, Classic players will witness the breaking of the world (again) in **World of Warcraft: Cataclysm Classic™**! Blizzard Entertainment's third World of Warcraft expansion, originally released in December 2010, returns with faster content cadence, improvements to leveling, expanded Collections UI, a new difficulty level for Dungeon Group Finder after launch, and more!
  - Two heads are better than one in **Hearthstone® Battlegrounds Duos**, an exciting and truly collaborative way to play coming to the popular game mode in 2024. Two players can partner up and strategize together, sharing cards, health, and resources as they work with special Duos cards and synergies to take the crown together!
- With a campaign that continues the dark tale that began in **Diablo® IV**, **Vessel of Hatred™** brings players back to learn the fate of the prime evil Mephisto and his demonic plans for Sanctuary. Travel to the lush jungles known by the locals as Nahantu and explore fresh ways to play, with a completely new Class never seen before in the Diablo universe. **Vessel of Hatred** will be released in late 2024, with more details to be shared next summer.
  - Players have a lot more to look forward to this year in Season of Blood, with more end-game experiences and the Midwinter Blight holiday event announced to come before the season concludes.
- Mauga is coming to **Overwatch® 2** as the game's newest tank hero! Players can experience this new hero during a limited-time trial this weekend before his release in Season 8. The Overwatch team also revealed there's much more to come, including the brand-new Clash PvP game mode where players will visit the new Hanaoka map, inspired by an original fan favorite, Hanamura.

BlizzCon 2023 is a two-day event, broadcast live from the Anaheim Convention Center on both YouTube and Twitch, with in-person activations and

activities that bring developers and players together to celebrate gaming communities across all of Blizzard's major IP.

For more information about these and other BlizzCon 2023 announcements, including assets, visit the Blizzard Press Center:

- World of Warcraft
- Diablo IV
- Warcraft Rumble
- Overwatch 2
- Hearthstone

About Blizzard Entertainment, Inc.

Best known for iconic video game universes including Warcraft®, Overwatch®, Diablo®, and StarCraft®, Blizzard Entertainment, Inc. (www.blizzard.com), a division of Activision Blizzard, which was recently acquired by Microsoft (NASDAQ: MSFT), is a premier developer and publisher of entertainment experiences. Blizzard Entertainment has created some of the industry's most critically acclaimed and genre-defining games over the last 30 years, with a track record that includes multiple Game of the Year awards. Blizzard Entertainment engages tens of millions of players around the world with titles available on PC via Battle.net®, Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch, iOS, and Android.

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