[Template:Infobox media franchise](/wiki/Template:Infobox_media_franchise" \o "Template:Infobox media franchise)

The **Arrowverse** is a [shared](/wiki/Shared_universe) [fictional universe](/wiki/Fictional_universe) that is centered on [television series](/wiki/Television_series) airing on [The CW](/wiki/The_CW), developed by [Greg Berlanti](/wiki/Greg_Berlanti), [Marc Guggenheim](/wiki/Marc_Guggenheim), [Andrew Kreisberg](/wiki/Andrew_Kreisberg), [Phil Klemmer](/wiki/Phil_Klemmer) and [Geoff Johns](/wiki/Geoff_Johns), based on characters appearing in publications by [DC Comics](/wiki/DC_Comics). The shared universe, much like the [DC Universe](/wiki/DC_Universe) in comic books or the cinematic [DC Extended Universe](/wiki/DC_Extended_Universe), was established by [crossing over](/wiki/Fictional_crossover) common plot elements, settings, cast, and characters.

The first television series was [*Arrow*](/wiki/Arrow_(TV_series)), based on the character [Green Arrow](/wiki/Green_Arrow), which debuted in October 2012. The universe was expanded with the series [*The Flash*](/wiki/The_Flash_(2014_TV_series)) in October 2014, which is based on [Barry Allen / Flash](/wiki/Flash_(Barry_Allen)). The universe expanded further in August 2015 with the animated series [*Vixen*](/wiki/Vixen_(web_series)) on The CW Seed, and again with the live-action team up series [*Legends of Tomorrow*](/wiki/Legends_of_Tomorrow) in January 2016. The franchise has also crossed over with DC Comics television shows which air on other networks; *Arrow* crossed over with the short-lived NBC series [*Constantine*](/wiki/Constantine_(TV_series)) in the former's fourth season, while the Flash appeared on an episode of CBS's [*Supergirl*](/wiki/Supergirl_(TV_series)) in its first season.

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## Development[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]

In January 2012, [The CW](/wiki/The_CW) ordered a [pilot](/wiki/Television_pilot) for [*Arrow*](/wiki/Arrow_(TV_series)), centered around the character [Green Arrow](/wiki/Green_Arrow) and developed by [Andrew Kreisberg](/wiki/Andrew_Kreisberg), [Greg Berlanti](/wiki/Greg_Berlanti) and [Marc Guggenheim](/wiki/Marc_Guggenheim).[[1]](#cite_note-1)[[2]](#cite_note-2) [Stephen Amell](/wiki/Stephen_Amell) was cast in the titular role.[[3]](#cite_note-3) When developing the series, Guggenheim expressed that the creative team wanted to "chart [their] own course, [their] own destiny", and avoid any direct connections to the series [*Smallville*](/wiki/Smallville), which featured its own Green Arrow ([Justin Hartley](/wiki/Justin_Hartley)).[[4]](#cite_note-4) In July 2013, it was announced that Berlanti, Kreisberg, and [Geoff Johns](/wiki/Geoff_Johns) would be creating a spin-off television series based on [The Flash](/wiki/The_Flash_(comics)).[[5]](#cite_note-5) The character, played by actor [Grant Gustin](/wiki/Grant_Gustin), was set to appear in three episodes of *Arrow*[Template:'s](/wiki/Template:') second season, with the third acting as a [backdoor pilot](/wiki/Backdoor_pilot) for the new series,[[6]](#cite_note-6) though a traditional pilot was eventually ordered instead.[[7]](#cite_note-7) In January 2015, the CW announced that an animated web-series featuring the DC heroine [Vixen](/wiki/Vixen_(comics)) would be debuting on [CW Seed](/wiki/CW_Seed) in late 2015 and be set in the same universe as both *Arrow* and *The Flash*.[[8]](#cite_note-8) Amell and Gustin reprise their respective roles in the series,[[9]](#cite_note-9) and the character of Vixen was expected to make a live-action appearance on *The Flash* and/or *Arrow* as well.[[10]](#cite_note-10) The next month, it was reported that another spin-off series, described as a superhero team-up show, was being discussed by The CW for a possible [2015-16](/wiki/2015–16_United_States_network_television_schedule) midseason release. Berlanti, Kreisberg, Guggenheim, and [Sarah Schechter](/wiki/Sarah_Schechter) would executive produce the potential series, which would be headlined by several recurring characters from both *Arrow* and *The Flash*. That May, the CW officially confirmed *DC's Legends of Tomorrow* for a January 2016 premiere.[[11]](#cite_note-11)[[12]](#cite_note-12) In August 2015, in a video about the production of the first season of *Vixen*, Guggenheim referred to the universe the series share as the "Arrowverse",[[13]](#cite_note-13) which Kreisberg confirmed was the name the producers use for the [shared universe](/wiki/Shared_universe).[[14]](#cite_note-14) In October, additional *Arrow* showrunner Wendy Mericle revealed that the producers had begun having someone track all the characters and plots used by each series, in order to make sure everything lines up,[[15]](#cite_note-15) though *The Flash* executive producer [Aaron Helbing](/wiki/Aaron_and_Todd_Helbing) noted in April 2016 that "sometimes the schedules don’t line up exactly...and that stuff is out of our control", such as when the Flash is shown using his abilities on *Arrow* that month, while not having them the same week on *The Flash*.[[16]](#cite_note-16)

## Television series[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Series** | **Season** | | **Episodes** | **Originally aired** | | [**Showrunner**](/wiki/Showrunner)**(s)** | **Status** |
| **First aired** | **Last aired** |
| [*Arrow*](/wiki/Arrow_(TV_series)) |  | [1](/wiki/List_of_Arrow_episodes#Season_1_(2012-13)) | 23 | [Template:Start date](/wiki/Template:Start_date) | [Template:End date](/wiki/Template:End_date) | [Greg Berlanti](/wiki/Greg_Berlanti), [Andrew Kreisberg](/wiki/Andrew_Kreisberg) and [Marc Guggenheim](/wiki/Marc_Guggenheim) | Released |
|  | [2](/wiki/List_of_Arrow_episodes#Season_2_(2013-14)) | [Template:Start date](/wiki/Template:Start_date) | [Template:End date](/wiki/Template:End_date) |
|  | [3](/wiki/List_of_Arrow_episodes#Season_3_(2014-15)) | [Template:Start date](/wiki/Template:Start_date) | [Template:End date](/wiki/Template:End_date) | Marc Guggenheim |
|  | [4](/wiki/List_of_Arrow_episodes#Season_4_(2015-16)) | [Template:Start date](/wiki/Template:Start_date) | [Template:End date](/wiki/Template:End_date) | [Wendy Mericle](/wiki/Wendy_Mericle) and Marc Guggenheim |
|  | [5](/wiki/List_of_Arrow_episodes#Season_5) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:Start date](/wiki/Template:Start_date)[[17]](#cite_note-17) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | In development |
| [*The Flash*](/wiki/The_Flash_(2014_TV_series)) |  | [1](/wiki/List_of_The_Flash_(2014_TV_series)_episodes#Season_1_(2014–15)) | 23 | [Template:Start date](/wiki/Template:Start_date) | [Template:End date](/wiki/Template:End_date) | Andrew Kreisberg | Released |
|  | [2](/wiki/List_of_The_Flash_(2014_TV_series)_episodes#Season_2_(2015–16)) | [Template:Start date](/wiki/Template:Start_date) | [Template:End date](/wiki/Template:End_date) | [Gabrielle Stanton](/wiki/Gabrielle_Stanton), [Aaron and Todd Helbing](/wiki/Aaron_and_Todd_Helbing) and Andrew Kreisberg |
|  | [3](/wiki/List_of_The_Flash_(2014_TV_series)_episodes#Season_3) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:Start date](/wiki/Template:Start_date)[[17]](#cite_note-17) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | In development |
| [*Vixen*](/wiki/Vixen_(web_series)) |  | [1](/wiki/Vixen_(web_series)#Season_1_(2015)) | 6 | [Template:Start date](/wiki/Template:Start_date) | [Template:End date](/wiki/Template:End_date) | Marc Guggenheim and [Keto Shimizu](/wiki/Keto_Shimizu) | Released |
|  | 2 | 6[[18]](#cite_note-18) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | In development |
| [*Legends of Tomorrow*](/wiki/Legends_of_Tomorrow) |  | [1](/wiki/Legends_of_Tomorrow#Episodes) | 16 | [Template:Start date](/wiki/Template:Start_date) | [Template:End date](/wiki/Template:End_date) | [Phil Klemmer](/wiki/Phil_Klemmer), Marc Guggenheim and [Chris Fedak](/wiki/Chris_Fedak) | Released |
|  | [2](/wiki/Legends_of_Tomorrow#Episodes) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:Start date](/wiki/Template:Start_date)[[17]](#cite_note-17) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | In development |

### ''Arrow'' (2012–)[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) The series follows [Oliver Queen](/wiki/Green_Arrow) ([Stephen Amell](/wiki/Stephen_Amell)), billionaire playboy of [Starling City](/wiki/Star_City_(comics)), who spends five years shipwrecked on a mysterious island. Upon his return to Starling City, he is reunited with his mother, Moira Queen ([Susanna Thompson](/wiki/Susanna_Thompson)), his sister, Thea Queen ([Willa Holland](/wiki/Willa_Holland)), and his friend, Tommy Merlyn ([Colin Donnell](/wiki/Colin_Donnell)). The first season focuses on Oliver rekindling his relationships and spending his nights hunting down and sometimes killing wealthy criminals as a hooded vigilante. He uncovers a conspiracy to destroy "The Glades", a poorer section of the city that has become overridden with crime. John Diggle ([David Ramsey](/wiki/David_Ramsey)) and [Felicity Smoak](/wiki/Felicity_Smoak) ([Emily Bett Rickards](/wiki/Emily_Bett_Rickards)) assist Oliver in his crusade. Oliver also reconnects with ex-girlfriend, [Laurel Lance](/wiki/List_of_Arrow_characters#Laurel_Lance) ([Katie Cassidy](/wiki/Katie_Cassidy)), who is still angry over his role in her sister's presumed death. The first season also features flashbacks to Oliver's time on the island, and how it changed him; this continues in subsequent seasons.

In season two, Oliver has vowed to stop crime without killing criminals, and comes under attack from [Slade Wilson](/wiki/Deathstroke) ([Manu Bennett](/wiki/Manu_Bennett)), a man from Oliver's time on the island who resurfaces with a vendetta against him. Oliver must also contend with outside forces attempting to take over Queen Consolidated, guilt from decisions he made in the past, and secrets harbored by his family and friends. Oliver grows to accept aspiring vigilante [Roy Harper](/wiki/Roy_Harper_(comics)) ([Colton Haynes](/wiki/Colton_Haynes)) as his protégé, and begins to receive assistance from Laurel's father, Officer Quentin Lance ([Paul Blackthorne](/wiki/Paul_Blackthorne)). Oliver also gains another ally; a mysterious woman in black, who is eventually revealed to be Laurel's sister, Sara Lance ([Caity Lotz](/wiki/Caity_Lotz)), who had survived her ordeal at sea years prior.

In season three, Arrow has become a public hero in Starling City following Slade Wilson's defeat. Queen Consolidated is sold to wealthy businessman, scientist, and aspiring hero [Ray Palmer](/wiki/Atom_(Ray_Palmer)) ([Brandon Routh](/wiki/Brandon_Routh)). Oliver struggles to bring his family back together, an old enemy returns, and Oliver becomes embroiled into a conflict with [Ra's al Ghul](/wiki/Ra's_al_Ghul) ([Matthew Nable](/wiki/Matthew_Nable)). After a rocky start, Laurel sets out to follow in Sara's footsteps as the Black Canary. John Diggle struggles with his new role as a family man, as Oliver no longer wants him in the field after the birth of John's daughter, while Felicity Smoak begins a new career as Vice President of Palmer Technologies (formerly Queen Consolidated).

In season four, Oliver takes on a refined persona as "[Green Arrow](/wiki/Green_Arrow)". He and his allies fight against the terrorist organization [H.I.V.E.](/wiki/H.I.V.E.), headed by [Damien Darhk](/wiki/Damien_Darhk) ([Neal McDonough](/wiki/Neal_McDonough)), who plans to destroy Star City (formerly Starling City). John Diggle is concerned with finding H.I.V.E. and learning the reason for the murder of his brother, Andy. Thea joins the team under the alias "Speedy", but must learn to control herself while fighting, as she now has a blood-lust that may never be fully quenched as a side effect of the Lazarus Pit. Laurel struggles to bring Sara back after learning of Thea's resurrection from the Pit. Oliver decides to run for mayor. Despite having found happiness with Felicity (now CEO of Palmer Technologies) and planning to propose to her, Oliver discovers that he is the biological father to a boy he unknowingly conceived ten years previously with a former girlfriend, Samantha Clayton ([Anna Hopkins](/wiki/Anna_Hopkins)), whose discovery threatens to destabilize his relationship with Felicity, his life as the Green Arrow, and his mayoral campaign. Oliver ultimately discovers that Damien plans on detonating nuclear weapons and ruling a new world over the Earth's ashes.

### ''The Flash'' (2014–)[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) After witnessing his mother's mysterious murder and his father's wrongful conviction for the crime, Barry Allen ([Grant Gustin](/wiki/Grant_Gustin)) is taken in by Detective Joe West ([Jesse L. Martin](/wiki/Jesse_L._Martin)) and his daughter, Iris ([Candice Patton](/wiki/Candice_Patton)). Allen becomes a brilliant but socially awkward crime scene investigator for the [Central City Police Department](/wiki/Central_City_Police_Department). His obsession with his tragic past causes him to become an outcast among his peers; he investigates [cold cases](/wiki/Cold_case), [paranormal](/wiki/Paranormal) occurrences, and cutting-edge scientific advancements that may shed light on his mother's murder. No one believes his description of the crime—that a ball of lightning with the face of a man invaded their home that night—and Allen is fiercely driven to vindicate himself and to clear his father's name. Fourteen years after his mother's death, an advanced particle accelerator at [S.T.A.R. Labs](/wiki/S.T.A.R._Labs) malfunctions during its public unveiling, bathing the city center with a previously unknown form of radiation and creating a severe thunderstorm. Allen is struck by lightning from the storm and doused with chemicals in his lab. Awakening after a nine-month coma, he discovers he has the ability to move at superhuman speeds. Dr. Harrison Wells ([Tom Cavanagh](/wiki/Tom_Cavanagh)), the disgraced designer of the failed particle accelerator, describes Barry's special nature as "[metahuman](/wiki/Metahuman)"; Allen soon discovers that he is not the only one who was changed by the radiation. Allen vows to use his gifts to protect [Central City](/wiki/Central_City_(DC_Comics)) from the escalating violence of metahuman criminals. He is aided by a few close friends and associates who guard his secrets, including S.T.A.R. Labs team members [Cisco Ramon](/wiki/Vibe_(comics)) ([Carlos Valdes](/wiki/Carlos_Valdes_(actor))) and [Caitlin Snow](/wiki/Killer_Frost#Caitlin_Snow) ([Danielle Panabaker](/wiki/Danielle_Panabaker)).

Six months after the events of the first season, after a [singularity](/wiki/Gravitational_singularity) event, the Flash is recognized as Central City's hero. [Jay Garrick](/wiki/Flash_(Jay_Garrick)) ([Teddy Sears](/wiki/Teddy_Sears)), the Flash from [Earth-Two](/wiki/Earth-Two), in a [parallel universe](/wiki/Parallel_universe_(fiction)), visits Barry and warns him another speedster named [Zoom](/wiki/Zoom_(comics)) (voiced by [Tony Todd](/wiki/Tony_Todd)) is trying to eliminate everyone connected to the [Speed Force](/wiki/Speed_Force) throughout the [multiverse](/wiki/Multiverse_(DC_Comics)). Jay, and later Harrison Wells' Earth-Two counterpart, work to help Barry and his friends stop Zoom. Joe and Iris struggle with their shared painful past related to their family, especially after the arrival of Iris's brother [Wally West](/wiki/Wally_West) ([Keiynan Lonsdale](/wiki/Keiynan_Lonsdale)), whom her mother Francine West ([Vanessa A. Williams](/wiki/Vanessa_A._Williams)) gave birth to shortly after abandoning her family. Cisco initially begins having visions or "vibes" of other times, places, and dimensions upon touching certain objects, he is given the nickname Vibe. He later finds his metahuman powers can also be used to open portals to other worlds and create sonic vibrations.

### ''Vixen'' (2015–)[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) After her parents were killed in Africa by local corruption, [Mari McCabe](/wiki/Vixen_(comics)) ([Megalyn Echikunwoke](/wiki/Megalyn_Echikunwoke)) inherits her family's Tantu Totem, gaining the powers of animals, using them to fight as Vixen to stop threats like those that claimed her family.[[19]](#cite_note-19)

### ''DC's Legends of Tomorrow'' (2016–)[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [Rip Hunter](/wiki/Rip_Hunter) ([Arthur Darvill](/wiki/Arthur_Darvill)) travels back in time to the present day where he brings together a team of heroes and villains in an attempt to prevent [Vandal Savage](/wiki/Vandal_Savage) ([Casper Crump](/wiki/Casper_Crump)) from destroying the world and time itself.[[20]](#cite_note-20)[[21]](#cite_note-21)

## Web series[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]

### ''Blood Rush'' (2013)[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=8)]

[Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further) On November 6, 2013, a six-episode series of shorts, titled *Blood Rush*, premiered alongside the broadcast of *Arrow*, as well as online. The series, which was presented by [Bose](/wiki/Bose_Corporation), and features [product placement](/wiki/Product_placement) for Bose products, was shot on location in Vancouver, similarly to the main show. The miniseries features Emily Bett Rickards, Colton Haynes and Paul Blackthorne reprising their roles of Felicity Smoak, Roy Harper and Quentin Lance, respectively.[[22]](#cite_note-22)

### ''Chronicles of Cisco'' (2016)[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=9)]

[Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further) On April 19, 2016, a web series titled *Chronicles of Cisco*, premiered. The series, which was presented by [AT&T](/wiki/AT&T), features Valdes and [Britne Oldford](/wiki/Britne_Oldford) reprising their roles as Cisco Ramon and [Shawna Baez](/wiki/Peek-a-Boo_(comics)) respectively.[[23]](#cite_note-23)

## Comic books[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=10)]

[Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Title** | **Issue(s)** | **Publication date(s)** | | **Writer(s)** | **Artist(s)** |
| **First published** | **Last published** |
| *Arrow Volume 1* | 13 | [Template:Start date](/wiki/Template:Start_date) | [Template:End date](/wiki/Template:End_date) | Andrew Kreisberg (#1-8) and Marc Guggenheim (#1-12, 0) | Sergio Sandoval (#1-3, 5-6, 8, 10); Jorge Jimenez (#1 - 3); Mike Grell (#1-4, 6, 9-10) Eric Nguyen (#4, 9); Julian Totino Tedesco (#4); Xermanico (#5-7, 10-11) Omar Francia (#5, 8, 11); Pol C Gas (#6; 8); Victor Drujiniu (#6-8, 12) Le Beau Underwood (#7, 9); Allan Jefferson(#7, 9-12); Juan Castro (#7-8, 12) Victor Drujiniu (#8; 12); Pol C Gas (#8); Omar Francia (#8; 11); Jonas Trindade (#11-12) |
| *Arrow: Season 2.5* | 12 | [Template:Start date](/wiki/Template:Start_date) | [Template:End date](/wiki/Template:End_date) | Marc Guggenheim (#1-12); Yuko Shimizu (#4); Keto Shimizu (#5) | Joe Bennett (#1-5; 7-12); Jack Jadson (#2); Craig Yeung (#3-5; 7-12); Szymon Kudranski (#4-7) |
| *The Flash: Season Zero* | 12 | [Template:Start date](/wiki/Template:Start_date) | [Template:End date](/wiki/Template:End_date) | Andrew Kreisberg (#1-10); Katherine Walczak (#4); Brooke Eikmeier (#4) Lauren Certo (#7-9); Kai Wu (#7-9); Phil Hester (#10); Ben Sokolowski (#11); Sterling Gates (#12) | Eric Gapstur and Phil Hester (#1-4; 6-11); Marcus To (#5; 10); Ibrahim Mustafa (#12) |
| *Arrow: The Dark Archer*[[24]](#cite_note-24) | 12 | [Template:Start date](/wiki/Template:Start_date) | [Template:End date](/wiki/Template:End_date) | John Barrowman; Carol Barrowman; Marc Guggenheim; Andrew Kreisberg | Daniel Sampere |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Shared cast and characters[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=11)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) [Template:Col-begin](/wiki/Template:Col-begin) [Template:Col-break](/wiki/Template:Col-break) **Key:** [Template:Col-break](/wiki/Template:Col-break) [Template:Colorbox](/wiki/Template:Colorbox) = Does not appear / is not yet confirmed to appear [Template:Col-end](/wiki/Template:Col-end)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Character** | **Actor** | **First appearance** | **Series** | | | | [**Template:Abbr**](/wiki/Template:Abbr) |
| ***Arrow*** | ***The Flash*** | ***Vixen*** | [***Template:Small***](/wiki/Template:Small) ***Legends of Tomorrow*** |
| [Oliver Queen / Green Arrow](/wiki/Oliver_Queen_(Arrow)) | [Stephen Amell](/wiki/Stephen_Amell) | [*Arrow*](/wiki/Arrow_(TV_series)) | [Template:CMain](/wiki/Template:CMain) | [Template:CRecurring](/wiki/Template:CRecurring) | colspan="2" [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | [[25]](#cite_note-25)[[9]](#cite_note-9)[[26]](#cite_note-26) |  |
| [Laurel Lance / Black Canary](/wiki/List_of_Arrow_characters#Laurel_Lance) | [Katie Cassidy](/wiki/Katie_Cassidy) | [Template:CMain](/wiki/Template:CMain) | colspan="3" [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | [[27]](#cite_note-27)[[28]](#cite_note-28) |  |  |
| [John Diggle / Spartan](/wiki/List_of_Arrow_characters#John_Diggle) | [David Ramsey](/wiki/David_Ramsey) | [Template:CMain](/wiki/Template:CMain) | [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | colspan="2" [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [[29]](#cite_note-29)<ref name=FlashVArrow>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref> |  |
| [Thea Queen / Speedy](/wiki/List_of_Arrow_characters#Thea_Queen) | [Willa Holland](/wiki/Willa_Holland) | [Template:CMain](/wiki/Template:CMain) | colspan="1" [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | colspan="2" [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | <ref name=FlashArrowS2cross>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> |  |
| [Quentin Lance](/wiki/List_of_Arrow_characters#Quentin_Lance) | [Paul Blackthorne](/wiki/Paul_Blackthorne) | [Template:CMain](/wiki/Template:CMain) | [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | [[30]](#cite_note-30)[[31]](#cite_note-31) |
| [Felicity Smoak / Overwatch](/wiki/List_of_Arrow_characters#Felicity_Smoak) | [Emily Bett Rickards](/wiki/Emily_Bett_Rickards) | [Template:CMain](/wiki/Template:CMain)[Template:Efn](/wiki/Template:Efn) | [Template:CRecurring](/wiki/Template:CRecurring) | colspan="2" [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | [[32]](#cite_note-32)[[33]](#cite_note-33)[[31]](#cite_note-31) |  |
| [Malcolm Merlyn / Ra's al Ghul](/wiki/Merlyn_(DC_Comics)#Arrow) | [John Barrowman](/wiki/John_Barrowman) | [Template:CMain](/wiki/Template:CMain)[Template:Efn](/wiki/Template:Efn) | colspan="1" [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | colspan="2" [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | <ref name=FlashArrowS2cross>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> |  |
| [Lyla Michaels](/wiki/Harbinger_(DC_Comics)) | [Audrey Marie Anderson](/wiki/Audrey_Marie_Anderson) | [Template:CRecurring](/wiki/Template:CRecurring) | [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | colspan="2" [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [[34]](#cite_note-34)[[35]](#cite_note-35) |  |
| [Floyd Lawton / Deadshot](/wiki/Deadshot) | Michael Rowe | [Template:CRecurring](/wiki/Template:CRecurring) | [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | colspan="2" [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [[36]](#cite_note-36)[[37]](#cite_note-37) |  |
| Samantha Clayton | [Anna Hopkins](/wiki/Anna_Hopkins) | [Template:CRecurring](/wiki/Template:CRecurring) | [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | colspan="2" [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | <ref name=Hopkins>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref> |  |
| [Barry Allen / Flash](/wiki/Flash_(Barry_Allen)) | [Grant Gustin](/wiki/Grant_Gustin) | [Template:CRecurring](/wiki/Template:CRecurring) | [Template:CMain](/wiki/Template:CMain) | [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [[6]](#cite_note-6)[[9]](#cite_note-9) |
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| [Caitlin Snow](/wiki/Killer_Frost#Caitlin_Snow) | [Danielle Panabaker](/wiki/Danielle_Panabaker) | [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | [Template:CMain](/wiki/Template:CMain) | colspan="2" [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [[38]](#cite_note-38) |  |
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| [Leonard Snart / Captain Cold](/wiki/Captain_Cold) | [Wentworth Miller](/wiki/Wentworth_Miller) | [*The Flash*](/wiki/The_Flash_(2014_TV_series)) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:CRecurring](/wiki/Template:CRecurring) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:CMain](/wiki/Template:CMain) | [[49]](#cite_note-49)[[50]](#cite_note-50) |
| [Mick Rory / Heat Wave](/wiki/Heat_Wave_(comics)) | [Dominic Purcell](/wiki/Dominic_Purcell) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:CRecurring](/wiki/Template:CRecurring) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:CMain](/wiki/Template:CMain) | [[51]](#cite_note-51)[[50]](#cite_note-50) |
| [Martin Stein / Firestorm](/wiki/Firestorm_(comics)) | [Victor Garber](/wiki/Victor_Garber) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:CRecurring](/wiki/Template:CRecurring) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:CMain](/wiki/Template:CMain) | [[52]](#cite_note-52)[[50]](#cite_note-50) |
| [Brie Larvan / Bug-Eyed Bandit](/wiki/Bug-Eyed_Bandit) | [Emily Kinney](/wiki/Emily_Kinney) | colspan="2" [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | colspan="2" [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [[53]](#cite_note-53) |  |  |
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| Lewis Snart | [Michael Ironside](/wiki/Michael_Ironside) / Jason Beaudoin | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | [[55]](#cite_note-55)[[56]](#cite_note-56) |
| [Jefferson "Jax" Jackson / Firestorm](/wiki/List_of_minor_DC_Comics_characters_#Jefferson_Jackson) | [Franz Drameh](/wiki/Franz_Drameh) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | colspan="1" [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:CMain](/wiki/Template:CMain) | [[57]](#cite_note-57)[[58]](#cite_note-58) |
| [Carter Hall / Hawkman](/wiki/Hawkman_(Carter_Hall)) | [Falk Hentschel](/wiki/Falk_Hentschel) | colspan="2" [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:CMain](/wiki/Template:CMain)[Template:Efn](/wiki/Template:Efn) | [[59]](#cite_note-59)[[60]](#cite_note-60) |  |
| [Vandal Savage](/wiki/Vandal_Savage) | [Casper Crump](/wiki/Casper_Crump) | colspan="2" [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:CRecurring](/wiki/Template:CRecurring) | <ref name=Aug2015CB>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref>[[61]](#cite_note-61) |  |
| [Mari McCabe / Vixen](/wiki/Vixen_(comics)) | [Megalyn Echikunwoke](/wiki/Megalyn_Echikunwoke) | [*Vixen*](/wiki/Vixen_(web_series)) | [Template:CGuest](/wiki/Template:CGuest) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:CMain](/wiki/Template:CMain) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [[62]](#cite_note-62)[[63]](#cite_note-63) |

[Template:Reflist](/wiki/Template:Reflist)

After Miller's exit as a series regular during *Legend of Tomorrow*[Template:'s](/wiki/Template:') first season, it was revealed he signed a deal with Warner Bros. to become a series regular across any of the shows in the Arrowverse. The deal was initially focused on Miller and his character Leonard Snart appearing on *The Flash* and *Legends of Tomorrow*. Berlanti stated that Miller's deal was "the first contract not applicable to just one show," adding "In success we hope to continue with other characters finding their way across all the shows."[[64]](#cite_note-64)

## Crossovers[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=12)]

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Official crossover episodes | | | | | | |
| **TV season** | **Series** | | | | | **Ref(s)** |
| ***Arrow*** | ***The Flash*** | ***Vixen*** | ***Legends of Tomorrow*** | ***Supergirl*** |
| [2014–15](/wiki/2014–15_United_States_network_television_schedule) | S03E08 – "[The Brave and the Bold](/wiki/List_of_Arrow_episodes#ep54)" | S01E08 – "[Flash vs. Arrow](/wiki/List_of_The_Flash_(2014_TV_series)_episodes#ep8)" | colspan="3" [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [[32]](#cite_note-32) |  |  |
| [2015–16](/wiki/2015–16_United_States_network_television_schedule) | S04E08 – "[Legends of Yesterday](/wiki/List_of_Arrow_episodes#ep77)" | S02E08 – "[Legends of Today](/wiki/List_of_The_Flash_(2014_TV_series)_episodes#ep31)" | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:Efn](/wiki/Template:Efn) | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [[65]](#cite_note-65)[[66]](#cite_note-66) |
| [2016–17](/wiki/2016–17_United_States_network_television_schedule) | [Template:TableTBA](/wiki/Template:TableTBA) | | [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) | [Template:TableTBA](/wiki/Template:TableTBA) | | [[67]](#cite_note-67) |

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### ''Constantine''[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=13)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main)

By May 2015, Amell had had discussions with DC Entertainment about portraying Queen on [NBC](/wiki/NBC)[Template:'s](/wiki/Template:') *Constantine*, starring [Matt Ryan](/wiki/Matt_Ryan_(actor)); saying, "The reason that I was going to guest star on *Constantine*...was [Constantine's] an expert when it comes to the [Lazarus Pit](/wiki/Lazarus_Pit), which is now something that is a part of and will continue to be a part of *Arrow*." Amell stated that, even though *Constantine* was not renewed for a second season, a crossover "was and is still on the table".[[68]](#cite_note-68) Guggenheim revealed a desire to integrate [John Constantine](/wiki/John_Constantine) into the Arrowverse, saying, "A lot of the pieces are in place, except for that one final piece, which is what’s the fate of *Constantine*? That’s the tricky thing. But it comes up in the writers’ room constantly — we have a number of ideas, one idea that’s particularly exciting to me. We’re in a little bit of a wait-and-see mode".[[69]](#cite_note-69) In July 2015, Mericle added on the subject, "It's something we've been talking to DC about and it's just a question of some political things, but also [Ryan]'s schedule."[[70]](#cite_note-70) In August 2015, it was confirmed that Ryan would appear in *Arrow*[Template:'s](/wiki/Template:') fourth season episode "[Haunted](/wiki/List_of_Arrow_episodes#ep74)" for a "one-time-only-deal". Guggenheim said, "This is something the fans were clamoring for," praising DC for being so "magnanimous and generous in giving us this one-time dispensation." Due to *Arrow* and *Constantine* sharing the same studio, the producers of *Arrow* were able to use Ryan's original outfits: "The trench coat, the tie, the shirt...the whole wardrobe is being taken out [Template:Sic](/wiki/Template:Sic) storage and shipped up to Vancouver [where *Arrow* shoots]." [John Badham](/wiki/John_Badham), a director on *Constantine*, directed the episode that Constantine appears in.[[71]](#cite_note-71) Mericle confirmed that this version of Constantine would be the same character that had appeared in *Constantine*.[[72]](#cite_note-72) On filming the episode, Guggenheim referred to it as "a *Constantine*/*Arrow* crossover" and felt that "we got the chance to extend Matt Ryan’s run as Constantine by at least one more hour of television. I think you’ll see he fits very neatly into our universe. It never feels forced".[[73]](#cite_note-73)

### ''Supergirl''[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=14)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) In November 2014, Berlanti expressed interest in his [CBS](/wiki/CBS) series *Supergirl* existing in the same universe as *Arrow* and *The Flash*,[[74]](#cite_note-74) and in January 2015, [The CW](/wiki/The_CW) president Mark Pedowitz revealed that he was also open to a crossover between the series and networks. However, CBS president Nina Tassler stated that month that, "those two shows are on a different network. So I think we'll keep *Supergirl* to ourselves for awhile."[[75]](#cite_note-75) In August 2015, Tassler revealed that while there were no plans at the time to do story crossovers, the three series would have crossover promotions.[[76]](#cite_note-76) In January 2016, Tassler's successor Glenn Geller said "I have to be really careful what I say here" in regards to a potential *Supergirl*/Arrowverse crossover, so "Watch and wait and see what happens."[[77]](#cite_note-77) In February 2016, it was announced that Gustin would appear on the *Supergirl* episode "[Worlds Finest](/wiki/Worlds_Finest)", with Berlanti and Kreisberg, also *Supergirl* executive producers, thanking "the fans and journalists who have kept asking for this to happen. It is our pleasure and hope to create an episode worthy of everyone’s enthusiasm and support."[[78]](#cite_note-78) The crossover required "a lot more logistical trickery" than the usual Arrowverse crossovers due to Gustin filming *The Flash* in [Vancouver](/wiki/Vancouver) alongside *Arrow* and *Legends of Tomorrow*, while *Supergirl* is produced in [Los Angeles](/wiki/Los_Angeles).[[79]](#cite_note-79) The producers chose to use the Flash as the character to crossover, due to his ability to travel between various Earths, and because it was "a little more fun at first to bring the veteran from that show to the chemistry of a new show." Berlanti stated that "in a perfect world", the crossover would have featured both Gustin and Amell's Green Arrow, "but logistically that would have been a nightmare to try and do both shows. We had to facilitate one."[[80]](#cite_note-80) Gustin was optimistic that the crossover in 2016 would allow another crossover the following year with the rest of the Arrowverse shows.[[81]](#cite_note-81) In May 2016, it was announced that *Supergirl* would move from CBS to The CW for its second season, as well as moving production from Los Angeles to Vancouver, where the CW Arrowverse series film.[[82]](#cite_note-82) The second season is set to premiere on October 10, 2016.[[17]](#cite_note-17) In "Worlds Finest", *Supergirl* is established as being in an alternate universe where the Flash helps Kara fight the Silver Banshee and Livewire in exchange for her help in returning home.[[83]](#cite_note-83) The events of the episode intersect with the events of the eighteenth episode of *The Flash* season two, "Versus Zoom".[[84]](#cite_note-84)

## Marketing[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=15)]

In April 2015, to celebrate the season three finale of *Arrow* and season one finale of *The Flash*, The CW released a short promo titled "Superhero Fight Club".[[85]](#cite_note-85) The short features characters from *Arrow* and *The Flash* battling each other in a hero vs. villain showdown. Characters include Arrow, Flash, Arsenal, Black Canary, Merlyn, Captain Cold, Heat Wave, Firestorm, Ra’s al Ghul, Reverse-Flash, and the A.T.O.M. in a [cage match](/wiki/Cage_match) fight.[[86]](#cite_note-86)

## Reception[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=16)]

### Ratings[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=17)]

{| class="wikitable" style="text-align: center" width="99%" |- ! style="padding:0 8px;" rowspan="2"|Series ! style="padding:0 8px;" colspan="2" rowspan="2"|Season ! style="padding:0 8px;" colspan="2"|[Nielsen ratings](/wiki/Nielsen_ratings) ! style="padding:0 8px;" colspan="2"|Critical response |- ! style="padding:0 8px;"| Rank ! style="padding:0 8px;"| Average total viewers  
(in millions) ! style="padding:0 8px;" | [Rotten Tomatoes](/wiki/Rotten_Tomatoes) ! style="padding:0 8px;" | [Metacritic](/wiki/Metacritic) |- | rowspan="4" | [*Arrow*](/wiki/Arrow_(TV_series)) | scope="row" style="width:12px; background:#4B5320;"| | [1](/wiki/List_of_Arrow_episodes#Season_1_(2012-13)) | style="padding:0 8px;"| 119 | 3.68[[87]](#cite_note-87)| 86%[[88]](#cite_note-88)| 73 out of 100[[89]](#cite_note-89)|- | scope="row" style="width:12px; background:#006449;"| | [2](/wiki/List_of_Arrow_episodes#Season_2_(2013-14)) | style="padding:0 8px;"| 128 | 3.28[[90]](#cite_note-90)| 100%[[91]](#cite_note-91)| [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) |- | scope="row" style="width:12px; background:#1E4D2B;"| | [3](/wiki/List_of_Arrow_episodes#Season_3_(2014-15)) | style="padding:0 8px;"| 135 | 3.52[[92]](#cite_note-92)| 100%[[93]](#cite_note-93)| [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) |- | scope="row" style="width:12px; background:#154145;"| | [4](/wiki/List_of_Arrow_episodes#Season_4_(2015)) | style="padding:0 8px;"| 145 | 2.90[[94]](#cite_note-94)| 100%[[95]](#cite_note-95)| colspan="1" [Template:N/a](/wiki/Template:N/a) |-6 | rowspan="2" | [*The Flash*](/wiki/The_Flash_(2014_TV_series)) | scope="row" style="width:12px; background:#900020"| | [1](/wiki/List_of_The_Flash_(2014_TV_series)_episodes#Season_1_(2014–15)) | style="padding:0 8px;"| 118 | 4.62[[92]](#cite_note-92)| 97%[[96]](#cite_note-96)| 73 out of 100[[97]](#cite_note-97)|- | scope="row" style="width:12px; background:#420701"| | [2](/wiki/List_of_The_Flash_(2014_TV_series)_episodes#Season_2) | style="padding:0 8px;"| 112 | 4.24[[94]](#cite_note-94)| 100%[[98]](#cite_note-98)| 81 out of 100[[99]](#cite_note-99)|- | rowspan="1" | [*Legends of Tomorrow*](/wiki/Legends_of_Tomorrow) | scope="row" style="width:12px; background:#014A7B"| | [1](/wiki/Legends_of_Tomorrow#Episodes) | style="padding:0 8px;"| 135 | 3.16[[94]](#cite_note-94)| 59%[[100]](#cite_note-100)| 59 out of 100[[101]](#cite_note-101)|- |}

### Commentary[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=18)]

After the first *Arrow*/*Flash* crossover, Brian Lowry of [*Variety*](/wiki/Variety_(magazine)) talked about the spin-off series and the crossover, applauding the producers for replicating the success of *Arrow* but with "a lighter tone" and "a hero with genuine super powers" in *The Flash*, and calling the crossover an appropriate moment for everyone concerned to take a short but well-deserved victory lap." Lowry also said that the crossover "does a nifty job of bringing the two series together, although probably not in a manner likely to boost the shared audience between them much more than already exists."[[102]](#cite_note-102) Meredith Borders at Birth.Movies.Death. called the crossover episodes "fun" and said positively that "too much happened that was unrelated to one show or the other - and that's a good thing. While the crossover episodes were definitely open to new viewers of either *The Flash* or *Arrow* (or both, presumably), with each episode wrapped up tidily by the end of its hour, plenty of show-specific plot stuff was advanced without spelling it out for newbies. New viewers to either show could follow along and have a good time, but veteran viewers were rewarded with major storyline motion."[[103]](#cite_note-103) Following the release of the first trailer for [*Supergirl*](/wiki/Supergirl_(TV_series)), Paul Tassi wrote for [*Forbes*](/wiki/Forbes) about why he felt that series should be kept separate from the Arrowverse: He called the moment in the *Arrow* third season finale where Barry Allen appears briefly, but abruptly leaves since "*Arrow* needs to let its own characters solve its problems", a "weird moment" that shows "the cracks [that] form when it’s just two shows that have to work together on the regular." Tassi then noted the further complications of adding *Supergirl*, saying, "The more shows you have, the more heroes you introduce, the harder it is to keep explaining away why they’re not constantly around to help each other. *Supergirl* already has that problem built-in with Superman, who it seems will not be a regular fixture on the show, and I’m sure there will be many excuses as to why he’s too busy to help Supergirl fight her latest battle. Add in *Arrow*, *The Flash* and *Legends of Tomorrow* mythology, and it’s probably too much to juggle....I think *Supergirl* deserves to launch without *Arrow* and *The Flash* on its shoulders, and be allowed to find itself before being assimilated into an existing universe."[[104]](#cite_note-104) With the premiere of *Legends of Tomorrow*, ScreenRant's Alice Walker discussed how the series "has hurt *Arrow* and *The Flash*", noting that the latter required minimal setup when it was spun-off from the former and had an element of mystery surrounding its quality with "a “wait and see” attitude" from audiences, while *Legends* was instead met with much excitement long before its release leading to each piece of news concerning it being "publicized and met with fanfare – to the detriment of the other shows involved." Walker felt that audiences knowing which characters would appear in *Legends*, and how, took "the thrill out of the story" of the other series as such information spoiled some of their upcoming plot twists, including the resurrection of Sara Lance or the fact that Ray Palmer "could never really pose a threat to Oliver [Queen] and Felicity [Smoak]’s relationship, or run Palmer Technologies long term, since it was widely known that he would be a huge part of *Legends*." Additionally, the annual *Arrow*/*The Flash* crossover suffered from also trying to set up *Legends*, which was "too much to ask from the already crowded storylines and ended up feeling like an exercise in synchronicity, with producers planting more seeds than they could reap. The crossover event was no longer a fun way to contrast the two shows; it now had to serve the much larger purpose of setting up an entirely new world." Walker stated that the premiere of *Legends* "means that *Arrow* and *The Flash* can finally stop dedicating so much time and plot to laying the groundwork for the spin-off, and start focusing on the fundamentals of their own shows again."[[105]](#cite_note-105)

## Potential additions[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=19)]

At San Diego Comic-Con 2014, actor [David Ramsey](/wiki/David_Ramsey) revealed that there had been talk of a spin-off that would focus on *Arrow*[Template:'s](/wiki/Template:') version of the [Suicide Squad](/wiki/Suicide_Squad).[[106]](#cite_note-106) However, *Arrow* co-producer and comic book writer [Keto Shimizu](/wiki/Keto_Shimizu) stated in January 2015 that with the [Suicide Squad feature film](/wiki/Suicide_Squad_(film)) in development, "it doesn't seem like it’s a possibility."[[107]](#cite_note-107) In August 2015, Pedowitz stated, "There is no intention, at this point, to spin anything else off" to add to the universe,[[108]](#cite_note-108) though after *Vixen* was renewed for a second season he said that, "Hopefully, that character could actually spin itself out, if not, maybe join as one of the Legends" in *Legends of Tomorrow.*[*[109]*](#cite_note-109)

## Multiverse[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=20)]

[Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further)

In October 2014, Johns explained that that DC's approach to their films and television series would be different to [Marvel Studios'](/wiki/Marvel_Studios) [cinematic universe](/wiki/Marvel_Cinematic_Universe), stating that their [film universe](/wiki/DC_Extended_Universe) and TV universes would be kept separate within a [multiverse](/wiki/Multiverse_(DC_Comics)) to allow "everyone to make the best possible product, to tell the best story, to do the best world."[[110]](#cite_note-110) The second season of *The Flash* began to explore this concept of the multiverse, by introducing Earth-2, which features [doppelgängers](/wiki/Doppelgänger) of the inhabitants in the Arrowverse (or Earth-1).[[111]](#cite_note-111) In the episode "[Welcome to Earth-2](/wiki/List_of_The_Flash_(2014_TV_series)_episodes#ep36)" of *The Flash*, glimpses of the multiverse are seen, including an image of *Supergirl* star [Melissa Benoist](/wiki/Melissa_Benoist) as [Supergirl](/wiki/Supergirl_(Kara_Zor-El)) and an image of [John Wesley Shipp](/wiki/John_Wesley_Shipp) as the Flash from the [1990 television series](/wiki/The_Flash_(1990_TV_series)), implying that those two television series exist on alternate Earths to the Arrowverse;[[112]](#cite_note-112)[[113]](#cite_note-113) *Supergirl* was confirmed as an alternate Earth with *The Flash* crossover episode "Worlds Finest".[[114]](#cite_note-114)

## References[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=21)]

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