

Batman: The Rebuilding of Gotham City

Head Chair: Beckett Kelly

Crisis Director: Varsha Venkatasubramanian

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Dear Delegates,

My name is Beckett Kelly and I will be your Head Chair and Mayor for the committee of Batman: The Rebuilding of Gotham City. I am a third year at UC Berkeley majoring in political science with a minor in public policy. I have been involved in Model UN since my junior year of high school when it began being offered.

It is my goal to bring fun and interesting committees to delegates, and the Gotham City Council will not be an exception. With the destruction of Gotham City after Banes take over, the city needs to be rebuilt. And this is where you as city council members come in. You will decide how best to rebuild the city to help it retain the greatness that this great City knows it can achieve. Will you succeed? Or drive the city into even further chaos?

If you have any questions or concerns I can be reached at my email:

[bbkelly@berkeley.edu](mailto:bbkelly@berkeley.edu). I look forward to working with you all of you and guiding Gotham in whatever direction it may go.

Beckett Kelly

Head Chair – Batman: The Rebuilding of Gotham City

[bbkelly@berkeley.edu](mailto:bbkelly@berkeley.edu)

Dear Delegates,

My name is Varsha Venkatasubramanian and I will be your Crisis Director for the committee of Batman: The Rebuilding of Gotham City. I am a fourth year at UC Berkeley majoring in history and economics. I have been involved in Model UN since my freshman year of college, and before that I competed in debate and Model Congress. I am an avid DC comics fan, but I won't say no to a Marvel comic book session if asked. Though I am partial to the man who runs faster than a speeding bullet, I believe that Batman offers fascinating insights into issues of socioeconomics and crime.

I want to ensure that I build amazing crises for my delegates, especially for the Gotham City Council, because I want to make sure that Gotham can be rebuilt. Gotham needs your help to rebuild and to retain the greatness that this great City knows it can achieve. Will you succeed? Or drive the city into even further chaos?

Varsha Venkatasubramanian

Crisis Director – Batman: The Rebuilding of Gotham City

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# Background Information

## History:

The city of Gotham has had some turbulent times. Starting at the end of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the City of Gotham was taken over and controlled by criminals. The violence that plagued the city had grown toxic, and the economy was hurting. Businesses were leaving the city in droves. Criminals started to control more of the city and get more income then the city got from taxes.



Source: <https://menaboutcomics.files.wordpress.com/2015/05/batman-bale.jpg>

However, then in 2005 something changed. A new shadowy figure came and helped to reclaim Gotham: The Batman. With the Batman in the city, crime rates have been dramatically reduced. The docks were reclaimed from the Falcone crime family. Being relatively safe for a while, the city was then plagued with an omen of what was to come. A man who took up the moniker of The Joker started taking over and controlling his own parts of the city. He used the different criminal gangs that still were in the city and used them against each other and city. He even used city against each other. He

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Source: <http://i4.mirror.co.uk/incoming/article5723329.ece/ALTERNATES/s615/Heath-Ledger-as-The-Joker.jpg>

controlled ferry boats, attacked a police commission rally, and turned a former District Attorney into a killer. In the end however, our city showing its great resilience and with the help of the



Source: [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/e/e1/Bane\\_Tom\\_Hardy5.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/e/e1/Bane_Tom_Hardy5.jpg)

Batman, took relatively minimal losses and was able to continue growing with the capture of the Joker.

Gotham's growth is encapsulated by the acquisition of our own football team, the Gotham Rogues. The city is becoming clearer of criminals, and business and people are moving to Gotham for all the opportunities the city provided. But then it happened, and the city completely feel into darkness.

The criminal terrorist known as Bane managed to

control key underground areas of Gotham. He used this control to destroy the football stadium and in the

process killed the previous Mayor, Mayor Anthony Garcia. With this sudden attacked, Bane controlled the city, trapped most of the police department underground due to a "training exercise" that was supposed to be hunting for Bane. Additionally, Bane put a nuclear device in the city, he isolated the city and released the prisoners from Blackgate Penitentiary. This control of the city that Bane and the prisoners held lead most people into hiding, and a select few to lead a resistance, generally the little police officers that were not trapped in the tunnels, to try to take back the city.

Through all this time the Batman was missing. There was no sight of him while the city was falling. However, he was finally spotted. He is reported to have saved some police officers, and then freed the police officers from the tunnels under the city. This led to the final resistance fight between the released officers and the escaped prisoners with the Batman helping the police. This is where the Batman was able to defeat Bane. There was still the threat of the nuclear device, and as the true hero he showed himself to be, he flew the device into the ocean and sacrificed himself so the city would be saved.

#### Current situation:

This event has caused the city so much pain. It has taken a month to even get some semblance of the government back. The economy is destroyed, and there is little trade occurring. Many buildings have been destroyed, including the local hospital, the stadium, the sewer system, many local businesses, and housing. The government has sent us relief aid in order to help restart the economy. They would be willing to send more if it is required or we are able to show strong progress quickly. We, as the city council, must figure out the best way to rebuild the city and what will the new Gotham look like.

In addition to the destroyed economy, there is a very limited police force. With the limited police force we have also been granted a small national guard presence that we have been put in control of. This has been greatly needed as the crime that was cleaned out of the city has now come back. With the release of the Blackgate prisoners, it meant the release of Johnathan Crane, known by his alias as the Scarecrow, and the Joker. Their freedom has meant that the criminal gangs that Gotham was so recently free of, is now back with a vengeance. They have

taken control of areas of the city again and started using imagery of scarecrows and jokers to help spread fear through the city.

## Committee Information

The committee will take place post-Christopher Nolan's Batman film franchise. The information that will be used from the committee will come primarily from the movies. Additionally we will use other characters, objects, and ideas from the Batman universe as a whole. However, we will be following the rules of the Nolan universe, the "real" world.

As the city council, one of the many powers that we have is budget allocation for the city. The government has given us \$500 million dollars as emergency relief fund. This money is what the city has available to spend on rebuilding efforts. We will work together to decide budgets and deal with emergency situations that will arise. What is decided in the budgets will have real, dramatic effects in the different ways the committee can play out. And of course there will also be issues and situations that the city council will have to solve. One useful tool for making decisions will be the map, which is on the following page. This can be used as to how to rebuild the city, where important locations are, and just in general what the city looks like.





## Characters/City Council Members

Chris Hay: Chris is a major real estate broker in Uptown district. Most of the houses in his area were destroyed and his clients driven out by the trial put on by Crane.

Mike Sugar: Mike is local business man from Downtown district. His business and all of his friends were destroyed and they are looking to rebuild.

Christian Everyland: Christian became the executor of the new Wayne Manor orphanage due to Bruce Wayne's generous donation after his death in the Bane take over. It has now received an influx of children due to Banes events, but due to the funds Wayne left the orphanage is looking to see how best it can help the city in other ways.

Gerry Youngman: Gerry was the warden of Blackgate Penitentiary previous to the freedom of all the prisoners. There is an issue with staffing and funding, and they may not be able to hold new prisoners.

Hearth Book: Hearth was a detective on the police force. He was a member of the resistance against the occupation and fought in the final battle to reclaim the city.

Morgan Freewoman: Morgan was the shift leader at the docks. She has been out of work lately sense imports and exports are down.

Annie Keepaway: Annie was the president of the Gotham Rogues. The football team was bringing in massive revenue for the city, however now with the stadium destroyed this revenue is not coming in.

Tim Softy: Tim was an everyday dock worker from Midtown. With the docks shut down he is out of work, and is looking for a way to return back to soon when he can.

Joe Glen-Levitt: Joe was the hospital administrator. The hospital has been treating very few people with the limited resources that they have.

Alfred Dollarsworth: Alfred was president of the Gotham Airport. He has been seeing limited flights into Gotham with no one wanting to come to the city.

Jimmy Gourd: Jimmy was the Superintendent of the Gotham School district. Schools have been closed and student have been having to be bused out of the city to nearby districts.

Henry Bane: Henry was a stay at home dad that lives in Sandy Hook district. He used to go to all the Rogue games, but he has not been in a while.

Arron Reckheart: Reckheart was the leader of the National Guard that has been sent to help the city with the crime problem. The government assigned him a spot to oversee the reconstruction and make sure everything was moving in an acceptable direction.

Peter Goer: Goer was also from the government. He is on the city council as a financial advisor for the government to make sure that Gotham is improving in an acceptable direction.

Clark Kent: Clark is an office worker from the Palisades. Being from outside the direct city he was able to watch the destruction from afar, and he saw his humble office building turned into a control center for Bane.

Bill Finger: Bill was the head of the construction union workers. He is looking to make sure that the union men get fair pay for all the work that must be done.

Bob Kane: The Gotham Opera house, a place that in the last couple of years has become a major source of advanced culture for the city, has been shut down and has not be used. Bob, as the president, aims to reopen it and have it ready for the next concert season.

Paul Dini: Paul was the representative for the Gotham district in the House of Representatives. He has sense retired after the city was reclaimed and hopes to rebuild his city back to the greatness that it was when he was in office.

Bruce Timm: Bruce is the local rep from the ACLU. He got the city council position by promising to be sure that reconstruction on the city was done in a fair manor.

Ben Duckflack: Ben is a professor from New York University. While he grew up in Gotham, he left to pursue his education. He has come back with his advanced knowledge city planning to help the city get back on its feet.

Sources:

Batman Begins. Dir. Christopher Nolan. By Christopher Nolan and David S. Goyer. Prod. Larry

J. Franco. Perf. Christian Bale, Michael Caine, Liam Neeson, and Katie Holmes. Warner

Brothers, 2005.

The Dark Knight. By Christopher Nolan. Perf. Michael Caine, Aaron Eckhart, and Christian

Bale. Warner Bros. Pictures, 2008.

The Dark Knight Rises. Dir. Thomas. Tull, Lloyd. Phillips, and Jon Peters. By Hans Zimmer,

Jerry Siegel, and Joe Shuster. Perf. Christian Bale, Michael. Cane, and Gary Oldman.

Warner Bros, 2012.