

Marvel Announces Avengers vs. X-Men Event

As first reported by [USA Today](#), Marvel Comics has announced its next comic book event: **Avengers vs. X-Men (AvX)**, a 12-issue, bi-weekly limited series kicking off in April 2012. As the name alone indicates, this story will bring together a massive cast of fan-favorite heroes including Iron Man, Captain America, Thor, Hulk, Black Widow, Spider-Man, Wolverine, Cyclops, Storm, Magneto and others for a battle royal.

Handling this group of Marvel's greatest characters will be some of its greatest creators. Brian Michael Bendis, Jason Aaron, Jonathan Hickman, Ed Brubaker, and Matt Fraction will share scripting duties on the series, written by a different scribe issue-to-issue. As for interior artwork, John Romita Jr., Olivier Coipel, and Adam Kubert will each illustrate four issues of the series.

"The world's two most powerful super-teams are about to find out, once and for all, who reigns supreme," said Axel Alonso, Editor in Chief, Marvel Entertainment.

"Axel and I have been speaking about the inevitability of an Avengers vs. X-Men clash for several years now – dating back to *House of M*, when most of the mutant population lost their powers as a result of that storyline," added Tom Brevoort, Marvel Senior Vice President in that interview. "It's just taken this much time for us to get all of the stars to align to the point where we think we've got a story to tell worthy of the event."



The Avengers and X-Men have learned that the all-powerful embodiment of both death and rebirth known as the Phoenix Force is on a crash course for Earth...and it needs a new host to

unleash its immeasurable power. But what is the shocking decision tied to the Phoenix's return that will pit the Avengers against the X-Men? And when good friends become bitter enemies, what does this mean for the future of the Marvel Universe?

April's **Avengers vs. X-Men #1** will be advanced solicited in the January edition of *Marvel Previews* along with the special **Avengers vs. X-Men #0** prologue that will be released in March. Illustrated by Frank Cho, that prologue will feature two stories – one by Brian Michael Bendis dealing with the Scarlet Witch and the other by Jason Aaron that focuses on Hope Summer.

Each issue of the *Avengers vs. X-Men* limited series will include a code for a free digital copy of that issue on the Marvel Comics app at no additional cost to fans or retailers. New issues will be released in comic shops and on the Marvel Comics app on the same day.

"*Avengers vs. X-Men* brings together the most powerful forces in comics for a super hero war like you've never seen before and will never see again. We all want to see the best of the best go against each other-Lakers & Celtics; Ali & Frazier; Yankees & Red Sox; and in comics it's the Avengers fighting the X-Men," said Alonso. "We've brought together the biggest writers, biggest artists and biggest characters for the biggest story we've ever told. This is the kind of high-octane action-packed story that fans demand while also having a profound effect on every character involved – and reshaping the Marvel Universe in its wake."

