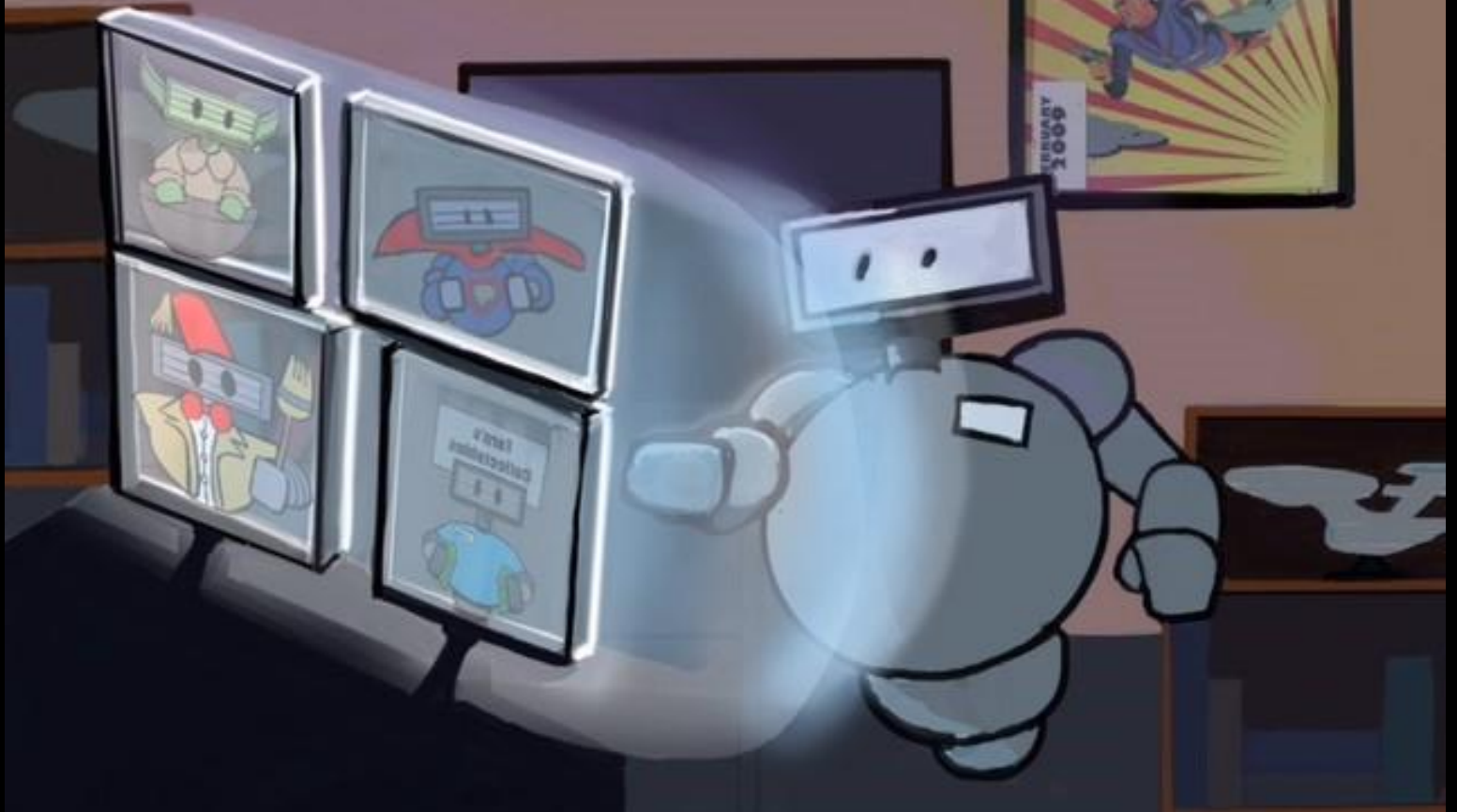


# Farpoint 2021



JOURNEY WITH US  
TO AN  
UNEXPLORED  
DIMENSION....

**CONVENTION**

ON  
INFINITE  
SCREENS!



## Welcome to Farpoint Convention 2021!

We first started hearing about a very contagious novel coronavirus right before Farpoint 2020 took place. People were starting to stay home more and taking extra precautions when out in public. Little did we know that Farpoint Convention 2020 would be the last convention experience for most of us, with the CDC declaring the United States was in a pandemic shortly after.

Here we are, one year later. Our everyday lives have been upended by the pandemic but we are able to use technology to attend our annual convention. It is amazing to consider how far internet-based communication has taken us this year. We are working, attending school, visiting family and friends and attending conventions all from the safety of our homes. It is with sadness that we have to gather virtually rather than in person, but the important part is that we are still gathering as a fandom community. The support of our family and friends is what has buoyed us throughout this strange year and will continue to do so for awhile longer as we wait for the vaccine to be distributed.

Staging Farpoint 2021 online makes this a one-of-a-kind year in our history. Our team has worked very hard to tailor our programs to take advantage of our Gather.Town internet platform. Please take the time to visit all the areas and enjoy the whimsy of our interactive convention floor with seating areas for small group conversations, panel and presentation rooms and tables to visit our vendors and supporting organizations. We hope you enjoy Farpoint Convention 2021 and will plan to join us February 25-27, 2022 for the next in-person Farpoint Convention!

***Stay happy, healthy and safe!***

***Sharon VanBlarcom & Sandra Zier-Teitler***  
***Farpoint Convention co-chairs***



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome to Farpoint	2
Gather Town Information	3
Farpoint Discord Information	4
In Memoriam	5
Guest Biographies	6-15
Dealers and Fan Tables	10
Groups & Organizations	16
Programming Descriptions & Times	17-20
Authors Panels	17
Live Events & Performances	18
New Media Panels	18
Movie, TV & Fandom Interest Panels	19
Science Panels	20
Costuming/Cosplay Panels	20

# GATHER TOWN INSTRUCTIONS

## To access Farpoint on GatherTown, use this link:

<https://gather.town/app/YRPETqgYG6KzZ5nF/FarpointCon>

Enter the one-time password: **StarTrek**

## What you need:

- A **desktop/laptop** with a **mic** and **camera**.
- A web browser (Chrome or Firefox recommended).
- We strongly recommend using **headphones** to help prevent feedback.
- That's it! There's nothing to install, no software to download.

## How it works:

- Gather is a video chat platform that has avatars move around a map. As you get close to other avatars, your videos will pop up and you will be able to chat.
- Move around the space using the **arrow keys**.
- By moving your avatar around you can have spontaneous conversations with those around you. These can be either one-on-one or small groups depending on how many people are around your avatar.
- When your avatar moves closer to an interactable object, it will glow yellow and there will be a notification that shows up saying 'Press x to interact with -object-'. This can range from informational flyers, playable arcade games, integrated Zoom meetings, and more!

## Lower Toolbar Icon explanations:

Change your **avatar** character and clothing by clicking on the character; you can shuffle through several 8-bit variations to find your best you!

Click on your name to open the **settings** menu, where you can:

- **Edit Your Name**
- **Change User/Video Preferences**
- **Turn On Quiet Mode** (if you don't feel like chatting)
- **Reset Position** (click this, and you'll be whisked back to the lobby!)
- **Sign In** (if you want to create a GatherTown account)

**Mini map** to preview the space you're in.

**Screen sharing** ability.

**Emotes** that appear above your avatar.

- **Applause**
- **Heart React** - used to show caring or approval
- **Party Popper Celebrate/Party**
- **Thumbs Up** - a way of showing general approval
- **Question Mark**
- **Raise Hand** - Techs will be looking for this and will come over to help you as soon as they have time. This is the only one that shows up on the **Participants List**. It is also the only one that stays up until you bring it down.

## Side Toolbar Icon Explanations:

Another way to access **Settings** is to click on the gear icon located on the left side of the page. Here you'll be able to access the same menu as you did by clicking on your name in the lower toolbar.

The next symbol you'll see is a **Calendar** icon. You'll click on this to see what events are upcoming and which room they're in.

Below the calendar icon there's a **Chat Bubble** icon which you'll click on if you want to chat. You'll be given the option to select Nearby where it'll send to everybody within a certain radius, Everyone which will message everybody that's currently logged into Gather Town or you can private message by clicking on an individual user's name.

The last icon is the **Participants** that will show everybody who is currently active or has been active very recently (roughly a 15 minute window of going inactive). Right clicking on the name will give you a menu where you can private message someone, locate someone, or follow someone.

GatherTown will ask to access your microphone and your camera. If you wish to interact with others on the virtual con floor, you will need to allow access to both.

Type your name in the block below "What Is Your Name?" and press the "Join the Gathering" button.

You're now in the lobby of our virtual Farpoint! Use your arrow keys to move around. In the lobby you will see:

- **A Tech Support area:** move your character onto one of the chairs in this area and a tech guru will help you with any problems you may have
- **A Schedule area:** move your character onto one of the chairs and access the convention schedule
- **An Info area:** move your character onto one of the chairs and chat with staff at our information desk
- There are tables and chairs in the lobby; move your character onto one of the chairs, and you can talk with other folks at the table
- **Cinnamon Tree Restaurant/Polo Bar & Lounge:** two more areas where you can hang out and chat with other con goers.

## Explore Virtual Farpoint!

Just like the Hunt Valley, we've set up an upper level and a lower level filled with convention fun! Wander the corridors of our virtual convention space to find:

### Upper Level:

- **Pool** - two hot tubs areas where you can hang out and chat
- **Art Show** - with links to artists' websites
- **Gaming** - walk up to a table and join a game!
- **Green Room** - for panelists to hang out (requires a password to enter)
- **Staff Room** - for staff members to hang out (requires a password to enter)
- Access points to the Lower Level

NOTE: The rooms in the "Glass Hallway" (Tack, Derby, Chase, Belmont) are located on the Lower Level of the Virtual Hunt Valley

### Lower Level:

- **Panel Rooms** - check the sign in front of the room to see the schedule of panels going on in that room. The sign will glow yellow and there will be a notification that shows up saying 'Press x to interact with -object-'; press x on your keyboard to "attend" the panel!
- **Dealers Area** - with links to dealers' websites
- **Ballrooms** - check out our virtual Ten-Forward happening in the Valley & Hunt Ballrooms - with a music playlist courtesy of Vic's Place and the Pack Ratz!

# DISCORD INSTRUCTIONS

The **Farpoint Discord server** can be found at

<https://discord.gg/NVxrsSgd8M>

This should bring you to either the web or if you already have it installed, the desktop application and straight to the Farpoint server.

When you join the server you will see 2 channels. The rest are hidden until you accept our **Code of Conduct**.

- The first channel is called **Help!** This is if you are having problems accepting the Code of Conduct or any other technical issues.
- The second is **01-START HERE!** This is where you should start. In that channel you should see a message that has our **Code of Conduct**. To accept the **Code of Conduct** click the thumbs up directly below that message.
- Once you click this you should have more channels show up including **Channel 02-Interests** which should be your next place to go.

In this channel you'll see the categories **After Panel Discussion**, **Fan Tables**, **Dealers**, and **Gaming**, each one with its own icon. Clicking on that icon below the message will turn on that category so you can see it in the sidebar. Clicking it again will turn it off.

This is so that you can see only the content you are interested in. You can come back at any time to change these choices.

Once you have selected which categories you're interested in please move on to the **03-Introductions channel**. In here please post who you are and how people would know you in meatspace.

## Now you're on the server!

In front of the channels on the sidebar you'll notice two different symbols. A **#** or a **speaker** symbol. The **#** marks a text channel, the **speaker** symbol an audio & video channel, which you can join to have discussions with up to 25 users in a single channel.

To join an audio channel, click the channel. At the bottom of the channel list a box will appear with a **mute button**, a **deafen but-**

**ton** to turn off your speakers temporarily, a **video button** to turn on and off your camera and a **screen share** to share things such as photos of your dogs, or costumes or whatever you'd like to share. You'll also see a little **phone icon** with an 'x' as the way to leave an audio channel.

You can be in only one audio channel at the same time but you can hop between text channels at the same time.

In the category **General Discussions** we have a channel called **Announcements** where you can go and see announcements including schedule postings.

Other channels in the **General Discussions** category are **General**, **Lobby**, **Polo Lounge and Bar**, and **Frankie and Vinnie's**. All these places are for general discussions of any topics which you would normally have in convention hallways.

Other categories you may have turned on are

- **After Panel Discussions** which is sorted by room, please keep the discussions to the rooms that correspond with the panel subject.
- **Dealers** and **Fan Tables** are places to chat with whichever dealers and fan table host might be around at the time
- **Gaming** where games such as horizons, jackbox games, and possibly table top rpg's will be hosted.

Each category has a caret symbol next to it, clicking on that collapses the list of channels within or brings them back. When the category is collapsed, you will see channels that have unread messages only under that category.

By clicking on the caret next to the server name and going to **Notification Settings** you can change which notifications you get from this server.

While Discord has a large variety of other features these are the ones we feel should be highlighted.

If you have further questions please feel free to message our Tech Crew. If you have any problems you can create a ticket in the **Open Tickets Channel** by typing -ticket open \*insert reason here\*

# In Memoriam



## Bob Ahrens

"Auto parts professional, former Boogie Knight, part time actor, full time karaoke star, legend in nobody's mind."

That self-description barely begins to describe Bob Ahrens, a long-time member of local fandom who passed away in December 2020.

Bob was a con fixture, attending his first con in 1976 and the first Shore Leave in 1978. As a high school senior, he met Lance Woods, John Scheeler, and David Keefer (later his best man and ushers), forming a friendship based on fandom, music, and a love of performing. Somewhere along the way, a melting pot of "Weird" Al Yankovic, Monty Python, and a "Medieval Disc Jockey" Masquerade entry sparked inspiration and led to the founding of The Boogie Knights, a medieval-themed filk group. Bob was proud to perform as Syd de Vicious.

Over the years Bob appeared in the Shore Leave Showcase and Cheap Treks, even taking a turn at writing and directing. He worked Security, joined the tech crew Conventional Magic, and

was a valued behind-the-scenes volunteer in countless Masquerades. No matter what, he helped make sure that the show would go on.

He is survived by his wife and daughter.

---

# In Memoriam



## Ponch Fenwick

Fandom suffered a great loss when Ponch Fenwick passed away in March 2020. A longtime fan of sci-fi, horror, and fantasy, Ponch was always ready to lend a hand when needed and a creative influence throughout his life.

A member of both STARFLEET and STAT, and a Lifetime Member of Farpoint, Ponch could be found at Farpoint, Shore Leave, Horrorfind, Mid-Atlantic Nostalgia Con, and many other area conventions as well as serving as Technical Liaison Committee Head for Shore Leave. After extensive self-training in Lightwave 3D, Ponch created a first-place winning image for Farpoint's art show in 2001. The piece, entitled "It's A Good Day," depicts three Klingon K't'inga Class Warships in space.

Ponch continued to expand his artwork and created works across many fandoms. His artwork was featured in the Harford County Cultural Arts Board's venue for the month of July 2017. The "Art Without Boundaries" display included two of his pieces. He also turned his hand to book covers for some of Farpoint's

author guests such as Phil Giunta and Steven H. Wilson.

His commitment to charity will be remembered. In particular, the Julien Fleming Memorial Fund, the Red Cross, and Special Olympics benefited by his assistance and generosity.

# Guest Biographies



## John Billingsley

Best known to Star Trek fans for his role as Dr. Phlox on *Star Trek: Enterprise*, John Billingsley got hooked on acting early – starring as Ebenezer Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol* at age nine. After graduating from Bennington College in Vermont with a degree in theatre, he moved to Seattle and began a theatrical career. While in Seattle, he was a founder of Book-It, a theatre company, and Freehold, an acting studio; both are still thriving.

Relocating to Los Angeles in 1995, John quickly became a familiar face on-screen, racking up scores of credits on shows like *The Pretender*, *X-Files*, *Gilmore Girls*, *Touched by an Angel*, *The West Wing*, *Six Feet Under*, *Angel*, *Nip/Tuck*, *CSI:NY*, *NCIS*, *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *Leverage*, *The Mentalist*, *Revenge*, *Southland*, *Hawaii Five-0*, *Castle*, *Lucifer*, and *The Rookie*.

In addition to *Enterprise*, John was a series regular on *The Others*, *The Nine*, and *Intelligence* and had recurring characters on *NYPD Blue*, *Cold Case*, *True Blood*, *Prison Break*, *Nikita*, *Suits*, *TURN: Washington's Spies*, *Masters of Sex*, and *Stitchers*.

Audiences have enjoyed several "meta" roles John has taken, including playing himself in an episode of *Roswell* that used the Enterprise set and guest starring in an episode of *Stargate SG-1* as a scientist who is also a Trekkie, "worshipping at the altar of Roddenberry". His memorable turn on *The Orville* episode "Home" as a grieving father seeking vengeance saw him ruthlessly targeting the character played by Robert Picardo (The Doctor, *Star Trek: Voyager*)

John's feature films span genres, from A-list titles like *Out of Time* (opposite Denzel Washington), *High Crimes* with Ashley Judd, and disaster flick *2012* to indies such as *Trade of Innocents*, *A Green Story*, *Sironia*, and *Losing Control*.

John is married to actress Bonita Friedericy, leading to his self-description on social media as "Mr. Bonnie". He is proud to serve as President of the Hollywood Food Coalition (hofoco.org), which has been serving those in need since 1987. The Coalition provides a warm, nutritious meal along with access to basic daily needs, such as clothing, backpacks, sleeping bags, and hygiene items, as well as assistance with housing placement and referrals.

You can follow John on Twitter @JBillingsley60.



## Dr. Paul Abell

Paul Abell is the Chief Scientist for Small Body Exploration in the Astro-materials Research and Exploration Science Division at the NASA Johnson

Space Center in Houston, Texas. His main areas of interest are physical characterization of near-Earth objects (NEOs) via ground-based and spacecraft observations, examination of NEOs for future robotic and human exploration, mitigation of potentially hazardous asteroids and comets, and identification of potential resources within the NEO population for future in situ utilization.

He was a science team member on the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Hayabusa near-Earth asteroid sample-return mission and participated in the successful recovery of the spacecraft's sample return capsule, which returned to Woomera, Australia

in June 2010. Paul is currently a team member of the Hayabusa2 mission and is aiding the cooperation between Hayabusa2 and NASA's OSIRIS-Rex spacecraft teams as they investigate and sample their respective near-Earth asteroids.

Since 2006 Paul has been a member of an internal NASA team that has been examining the possibility of sending astronauts to NEOs for human missions. He is also an investigation team member on both NASA's Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) and Near-Earth Object Surveyor Mission (NEOSM) planetary defense missions, and a team member on ESA's own planetary defense mission named Hera. Asteroid 8139 (1980 UM1) is named Paulabell in recognition of Paul's contributions to NEO research and exploration studies.



## Danielle Ackley-McPhail

Award-winning author and editor Danielle Ackley-McPhail has worked both sides of the publishing industry for longer than she cares to admit. In 2014 she joined forces with husband Mike McPhail and friend Greg Schauer to form her own publishing house, eSpec Books ([www.especbooks.com](http://www.especbooks.com)).

Her published works include six novels, *Yesterday's Dreams*, *Tomorrow's Memories*, *Today's Promise*, *The Halfling's Court*, *The Redcaps' Queen*, and *Baba Ali and the Clockwork Djinn*, written with Day Al-Mohamed. She is also the author of the solo collections *A Legacy of Stars*, *Consigned to the Sea*, *Flash in the Can*, and *Transcendence*, the non-fiction writers' guide, *The Literary Handyman*, and is the senior editor of the *Bad-Ass Faeries* anthology series, *Gaslight & Grimm*, *Dragon's Lure*, and *In an Iron Cage*. Her short stories are in-

# Guest Biographies



## Bonita Friedericy

Portraying a general requires channeling discipline and drive. Long before Bonita Friedericy played NSA General Diane Beckman on *Chuck*, she applied those traits to her real life, working thirteen years as a teacher to finance her acting career before her stage debut in the early 1990s.

Bonnie won an Ovation Award for her role in the Los Angeles production of *Our Country's Good*. Her early television appearances include *Mad About You*, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *The Practice*, and *The Drew Carey Show*. Further television work includes *Family Law*, *3rd Rock from the Sun*, *Strong Medicine*, *Spin City*, *Becker*, *Dharma & Greg*, *Malcolm in the Middle*, *Scrubs*, *Alias*, *Angel*, *Veronica Mars*, *Bones*, *Criminal Minds*, *CSI :Crime Scene Investigation*, *Monk*, *Without a Trace*, *Parks and Recreation*, *Castle*, *Justified*, *Hart of Dixie*, and *The Good Doctor*.

Her recurring roles are featured on *The West Wing*, *My Name is Earl*, *The Starter Wife*, *Twentysixmiles*, *How to Get Away with Murder*, *American Crime Story*, *The Friendless Five*, *Impastor*, *Preacher*, and *Dwight in Shining Armor*.

Bonnie has acted alongside her husband John Billingsley several times. She played his on-screen wife in three episodes of *The Nine* and the film *Madtown*. She did *not* play his wife in her appearances on John's

series *Star Trek: Enterprise* and *Intelligence*.

Film appearances include *Malaika*, *The Pornographer*, *The Debtors*, *Par 6*, *House of Sand and Fog*, *Christmas with the Kranks*, *Akeelah and the Bee*, *Stay*, *Next*, *South of Pico*, *Alien Raiders*, *Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief*, *Paranormal Activity 3*, *The Lords of Salem*, *Shotgun Wedding*, and *Salt Water*, on which she also worked as producer.

She provided the voice of resistance leader Caroline Becker in the 2014 video game *Wolfenstein: The New Order*.

Bonnie dedicates herself to the Hollywood Food Coalition ([hofoco.org](http://hofoco.org)) as Co-Director of the Community Exchange Program. The Coalition is proud to have served 1,500,000 meals and counting, every night of the year since 1987.

cluded in numerous other anthologies and collections.

She is a member of Broad Universe, a writer's organization focusing on promoting the works of women authors in the speculative genres. In addition to her literary acclaim, she crafts and sells original costume horns under the moniker The Hornie Lady, and homemade flavor-infused candied ginger under the brand of Ginger KICK! at literary conventions, on commission, and wholesale.

Danielle lives in New Jersey with husband and fellow writer, Mike McPhail and three extremely spoiled cats. Find her at

[www.sidhenadaire.com](http://www.sidhenadaire.com)

Twitter - @DMcPhail

Facebook:

[/danielle.ackleymcphail](#)

[/TheHornieLady](#)

[/TheGingerKICK\)](#)



## Rigel Ailur

Rigel Ailur writes fantasy and science fiction, including "Brigadoon" in the *Star Trek* anthology *Strange New Worlds 10*. Novels run the gamut from Mimion, a

planet where the feudalism is based on telepathic ability, to the magical history-spanning chronicles of the Patel family. Rigel loves cinema, theater, music, reading all genres, and, yes, even television. Rigel worked in various capacities (stage manager; usher; props, lights, and sound techie) in a couple of local theaters and lived in Germany for a year. To see a complete bibliography with all the covers, as well as updates on upcoming works, please visit [BluetrixBooks.wordpress.com](http://BluetrixBooks.wordpress.com)



## Derek Tyler Attico

Derek Tyler Attico is an author, photographer and former cable-TV production editor. He is a two-time winner of the *Star*

*Trek Strange New Worlds* anthology, his essays have appeared in *Star Trek* magazine, and he is a contributor to *Star Trek Adventures*. An avid reader, Derek enjoys exploring the possibilities of humanity's future while studying our past.

Derek lives in New York City where he has escaped the captivity of the corporate world and is now loose on the plains of imagination with his weapons of choice - a pen and a camera. Find him at [derekattico.com](http://derekattico.com) or follow him on Facebook ([derek.attico](#)), Instagram ([dattico](#)), or Twitter ([@DAttico](#)).



## T. Eric Bakutis

Award-winning author and game designer T. Eric Bakutis has won at least two of his awards at Farpoint, placing twice in its attending author short story contest. He also recently won a GLAAD award (along with his team) for his work in the videogame industry and

# Guest Biographies

has been working as a professional videogame designer for over ten years. His latest grimsnark sci-fi thriller, *Supremacy's Bounty*, is best described as "The Mandalorian meets Xena: Warrior Princess", and Don Sakers at *Analog Science Fiction and Fact* had some nice things to say about his prior two books, *Supremacy's Shadow* (best described as violently explosive nonsense) and *Loose Circuit* (a cyberpunk police procedural involving waifu parlors and the Russian mob).

You can read free excerpts from Eric's books at [tebakutis.com](http://tebakutis.com). If you prefer your explosions in audio, *Supremacy's Shadow* is also available through ACX, narrated by the ridiculously talented Mark D Delgado. And, of course, if you don't like either of those things, Eric also has a bunch of free fantasy/scifi/cyberpunk short stories on his blog, [1500wordstories.wordpress.com](http://1500wordstories.wordpress.com).

When not writing, Eric is probably in Skyrim VR.



## Diane Lee Baron

Diane Lee Baron is the author of *Gal Wonder* (FireBringer Press, 2017). This contemporary novel tells the story of a kindergarten teacher who becomes obsessed with her memories of the 1966 television *Batman* show and how all her friends indulge her in her quest to meet Adam West. Her non-fiction project, *The Fandom Fifty: 50+ Fascinating People of the Maryland Science Fiction Conventions*, debuted at Shore Leave 2019 and includes interviews of committee members, au-

thors, artists, costumers, techies, superfans, entertainers and more from the Farpoint, Shore Leave and Balticon conventions.

Diane warps into the science fiction realm with the upcoming *When the Skies Fell*, featuring an alien invasion and two strangers fighting for survival in a world of chaos and devastation. There are more than a few nail-biting scenes, but in the midst of it all, there is the human connections and the triumph of the spirit under impossible circumstances.

Diane teaches students having visual impairments in Montgomery County and lives in Columbia, MD.



## TA Chafin

TA Chafin is a computer professional who has been, at various times, a video store manager, painter, auto-plant worker, book store manager, janitor, library clerk, and a legal case administrator. He is a published photographer, a filker, an award-winning costumer and filmmaker, and has written for *Starlog*, *Analog*, and the *Star Trek* comic book and is the lead author of *The Unauthorized Nitpicker's Guide to the SW Saga*. He has spent a total of 20 minutes in zero-gravity, helped design the adult training program at Space Camp, is a SCUBA diver with an advanced rating, and a world traveler who has visited 4 of the 7 continents and plans to visit them all. He has an appearance in the final *Pink 5* chapter and, since Stacy (*Pink 5*) is now canon in the *Star Wars* Legends Universe, doesn't that make him canon as well?

Recently retired from the gambling community - on the house end, not as a player - he continues to lecture at conventions around the country about *Star Wars*, *Doctor Who*, and a myriad of other genres.



## Russ Colchamiro

Russ Colchamiro is the author of the rollicking space adventure, *Crossline*, the zany sci-fi backpacking series *Finders Keepers*, *Genius de Milo*, and *Astropalooza*, his newest project, *Murder in Montague Falls*, a noir novella collection, and was editor of the sci-fi mystery anthology, *Love, Murder & Mayhem*, all with Crazy 8 Press.

Russ has contributed to several other anthologies including *Tales of the Crimson Keep*, *Pangaea*, *They Keep Killing Glenn*, *Altered States of the Union*, *Thrilling Adventure Yarns*, *Brave New Girls* vols. 3&4, *Camelot 13*, *Footprints in the Stars*, and *TV Gods 2*.

He is now finalizing the first in an ongoing SFF mystery series featuring his hard-boiled private eye Angela Hardwicke and has several other projects in the works.

Russ lives in New Jersey with his wife, their twin ninjas, and their crazy dog, Simon. For more on Russ's works, visit [www.russcolchamiro.com](http://www.russcolchamiro.com), and follow him on Facebook, Twitter (@AuthorDudeRuss) and Instagram (@AuthorDudeRuss).



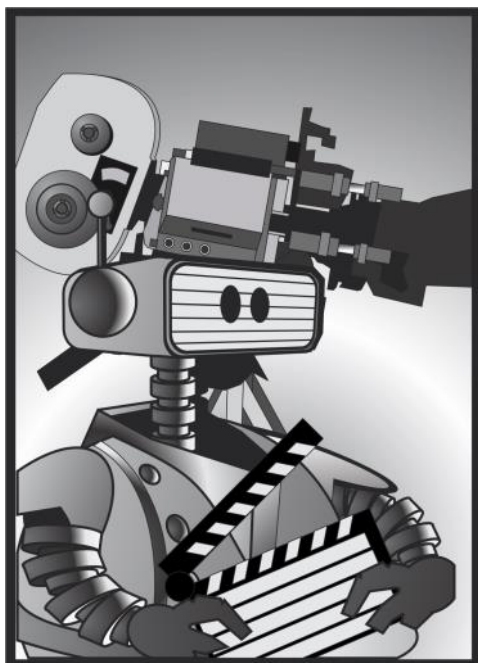
## Daniel Patrick Corcoran

Renfield, as he is better known, is a familiar face in the Baltimore convention scene, most notably having performed with the Usual Suspects and Cheap Treks comedy troupes, as well as sometimes lending his voice to Prometheus Radio Theatre. He has recently turned his energies to the printed page and joined Firebringer Press under the pen name Daniel Patrick Corcoran. His vampire-comedy tale "Apartment Hunting" can be found in *Somewhere in the Middle of Eternity*. Renfield followed up with a brilliant SF piece, "The Hard Place," in *Elsewhere in the Middle of Eternity*.



## Michael Critzer

Michael is the author of *Heroic Inspirations*, an exploration of superhero stories and the life lessons we can draw from them. Michael's short fiction appears in a number of literary magazines and genre anthologies. As a cultural studies scholar, he has presented at academic conferences on the cultural and psychological roles superheroes play in our society. To that end, he is the Professor Geek behind the so named YouTube channel and one of the hosts of podcasts *Superman Lives* and *Holy Roman Fanboys: The Geek Shall Inherit the Earth*. When all of that play is done, he teaches writing, rhetoric and American literature at James Madison University. Subscribe to him on YouTube at Professor Geek. Follow him on Twitter @MichaelCritzter and on facebook at [facebook.com/AuthorMichaelCritzter](http://facebook.com/AuthorMichaelCritzter).





# Guest Biographies



## Dame Dahlia

Pam Smith (Dame Dahlia) is a cosplayer from central Pennsylvania. She is originally from Dallas, Texas, and studied vocal performance at the University of North Texas focusing on opera and musical theater. She is a veteran of the United States Air Force and studied political science at Fort Hays State University where she focused on civil rights and liberties. As an advocate for the LGBTQ community, she speaks on civil rights and volunteers at the Central PA LGBT Center as well as performing with the Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus. She also volunteers with the charity group Central PA Avengers, a volunteer team of cosplayers who partner with nonprofits, libraries, and other charity groups to bring smiles to kids and adults alike.



## Kathleen O'Shea David

Kathleen O'Shea David started working with puppets when she was 2 and over 40 years later she is still "wiggling dolls" for fun and profit. Along the way she picked up a quite few more skills and careers. She has done just about everything from cancer research to rock and roll. Some of her favorite jobs have been in puppetry, theater, and publishing. With her husband Peter David, she adapted the first four issues of the Japanese Manga *Negima*. She is a published writer with a *Doctor Who* story in the Big Finish anthology *Short Trips: Qualities of Leadership* among others. She worked on *Star Wars: The New Jedi Order* with Shelly Shapiro. She has had a number of short stories in published in various anthologies. Her costumes have won awards at various science fiction conventions both for performance and workmanship. She has also created costumes for film and stage. She is a former employee of the Center for Puppetry Arts in Atlanta. Her puppets are in collections all over the world. She created the series *Headcases* with her husband.



## Peter David

Peter David is the husband of renowned puppeteer Kathleen O'Shea David and father to his very talented daughters. He has been known to dabble in fiction writing in his spare time.



## Keith R.A. DeCandido

Keith R.A. DeCandido has written fiction in more than thirty licensed universes from *Alien* to *Zorro*, including TV shows (*Star Trek*, *Supernatural*), movies (*Cars*, *Serenity*), games (*World of Warcraft*, *Dungeons & Dragons*), and comic books (*Spider-Man*, *Thor*). He's also written bunches of work of his own creation, taking place in the fictional cities of Cliff's End and Super City and in the somewhat real cities of New York and Key West.

Recent and upcoming work includes the *Alien* novel *Isolation*; serialized stories set in the world of the game *Summoner's War*; *Mermaid Precinct*, the fifth novel in his fantasy/police procedural series; four new novellas in the *Super City Cops* series; *A Furnace Sealed*, the first book in his new urban fantasy series that takes place in his home borough of the Bronx, New York; and short stories in *Across the Universe*, *Footprints in the Stars*, *Brave New Girls: Adventures of Gals & Gizmos*, *Thrilling Adventure Yarns*, *Unearthed*, and *Release the Virgins!* He writes regularly about pop culture for Tor.com and also on Patreon.

Keith is also a third-degree black belt in karate (he not only trains regularly, but also teaches to both kids and adults), a professional musician (currently percussionist for Farpoint musical guests, Boogie Knights), and a professional editor of more than 25 years' standing to clients both personal and corporate. Find out less at his mediocre web site at DeCandido.net.



## Mary Fan

Mary Fan is a YA and SFF author hailing from Jersey City. Her books include *Stronger Than a Bronze Dragon* (YA steampunk fantasy, Page Street Publishing), the *Starswept* series (YA sci-fi, Snowy Wings Publishing), the *Fated Stars* series (YA fantasy, Snowy Wings Publishing), the *Flynn Nightsider* series (YA dark fantasy, Crazy 8 Press), and the *Jane Colt* trilogy (space adventure, Red Adept Publishing).

She is also the co-editor of the *Brave New Girls* sci-fi anthologies about tech-savvy teen heroines (proceeds from sales are donated to the Society of Women Engineers scholarship fund). Her short works have been featured in numerous anthologies, including *Thrilling Adventure Yarns* (Crazy 8 Press), *Love, Murder & Mayhem* (Crazy 8

Press), *Murder at Midnight* (Snowy Wings Publishing), and *Mine!* (ComicMix). In addition, she is the co-editor of Crazy 8 Press's upcoming anthology, *Bad Ass Moms* (due out July 2020).

When she's not writing, she can usually be found splitting bags at the kickboxing gym, tangled up in aerial silks, or singing too loudly at choir rehearsal. Find her online at Mary-Fan.com and on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram (@astralcolt).



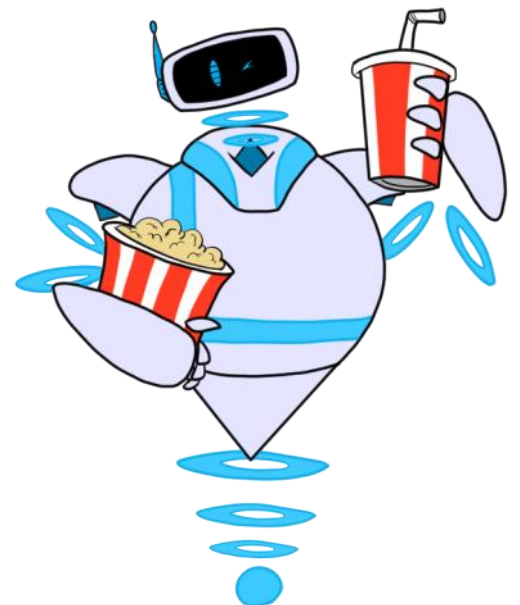
## Emily Finke

By training a forensic anthropologist, but by passion a science communicator. Emily Finke is happiest when she is in a creek, teaching 10-year-olds how to catch crayfish and look for tardigrades. Or at a convention, dressed up as Batgirl while talking about animal reproduction, entomophagy or superhero science. When she is not talking about science professionally, she is... well, still talking about science or social justice. Find her online on Twitter @Seelix. Find her offline at the pub talking to strangers about how penguins don't live at the North Pole.



## Kelli Fitzpatrick

Kelli Fitzpatrick is an author, educator, and community activist based in mid-Michigan. Her *Star Trek* story "The Sunwalkers" won the Strange New Worlds 2016 contest from Simon and Schuster. Her essays on *Star Trek* are online at StarTrek.com and Women at Warp, and she is currently writing for



# Guest Biographies

the *Star Trek Adventures* role-playing game from Modiphius. Essays on *Battlestar Galactica*, *Blade Runner*, and *Firefly* appear in print from Sequart and ATB Publishing. She is a strong advocate of the arts, public education, and gender rights and representation. Kelli can be found at [KelliFitzpatrick.com](http://KelliFitzpatrick.com) and @KelliFitzWrites.



## Michael Jan Friedman

Michael Jan Friedman is the author of more than 70 books of fiction and non-fiction, about half of them set somewhere in the wilds of the *Star Trek* universe. In 1992 Friedman wrote *Reunion*, the first *Star Trek: The Next Generation* hardcover, which introduced the crew of the *Stargazer*, Captain Jean-Luc Picard's first command. Over the years, the popularity of *Reunion* has spawned a number of *Stargazer* stories in both prose and comic book formats, including a six-novel original series. Friedman has also written for the *Aliens*, *Predator*, *Wolf Man*, *Lois and Clark*, *DC Super Hero*, *Marvel Super Hero*, and *Wishbone* licensed book universes. Eleven of his book titles, including the autobiography *Hollywood Hulk Hogan* and *Ghost Hunting* (written with

SyFy's *Ghost Hunters*), have appeared on the prestigious *New York Times* primary bestseller list, and his novel adaptation of the movie *Batman & Robin* was for a #1 bestselling book in Poland (really).

Friedman has worked at one time or another in network and cable television, radio, business magazines, and the comic book industry, in the process producing scripts for nearly 180 comic stories. Among his comic book credits is the *Darkstars* series from DC Comics, which he created with artist Larry Stroman, and the *Outlaws* limited series, which he created with artist Luke McDonnell. He also co-wrote the story for the acclaimed second-season *Star Trek: Voyager* episode "Resistance," which guest-starred Joel Grey. He can be found on Twitter @FriedmanMJ and on Facebook. As always, he advises readers that no matter how many Friedmans they know, he is probably not related to any of them.



## Phil Giunta

Phil Giunta enjoys crafting powerful fiction that changes lives and inspires readers. His novels include the paranormal mysteries *Testing the Prisoner*, *By Your Side*, and *Like Mother, Like Daughters*. His short stories appear in such anthologies as *A Plague of Shadows*, *Beach Nights*, *Beach Pulp*, the *ReDeus* mythology series, and the *Middle of Eternity* speculative fiction series, which he created and edited for Firebringer Press.

As a member of the Greater Lehigh Valley Writers Group, Phil also penned stories and essays for *Write Here*, *Write Now*, *The Write Connections*, and *Rewriting the Past*, three of the group's annual anthologies.

Phil is currently working on the second draft of a science fiction novel while plotting his triumphant escape from the pressures of corporate America where he has been imprisoned for over twenty-five years. Visit Phil's website at: [www.philgiunta.com](http://www.philgiunta.com).

Find him on Facebook: @writerphilgiunta and Twitter: @philgiunta71



## Robert Greenberger

Robert Greenberger is a writer and editor. A lifelong fan of comic books, comic strips, science fiction and *Star Trek*, he drifted towards writing and editing, encouraged by his father and inspired by Superman's alter ego, Clark Kent.

While at SUNY-Binghamton, Greenberger wrote and edited for the college newspaper, *Pipe Dream*. Upon graduation, he worked for Starlog Press and while there, created *Comics Scene*, the first nationally distributed magazine to focus on comic books, comic strips and animation.

In 1984, he joined DC Comics as an Assistant Editor, and went on to be an Editor before moving to Administration as Manager-Editorial Operations. He joined Gist Communications as a Producer before moving to Marvel Comics as its Director-Publishing Operations.

Greenberger rejoined DC in May 2002 as a Senior Editor-Collected Editions. He helped grow that department, introducing new formats and improving the editions' editorial content. In 2006, he joined *Weekly World News* as its Managing Editor until the paper's untimely demise. He then freelanced for an extensive client base including Platinum Studios, [scifi.com](http://scifi.com), DC and Marvel. He helped revitalize *Famous Monsters of Filmland* and served as News Editor at [ComicMix.com](http://ComicMix.com).

He is a member of the Science Fiction Writers of America and the International Association of Media Tie-In Writers. His novelization of *Hellboy II: The Golden Army* won the IAMTW's Scribe Award in 2009.

In 2012, he received his Master of Science in Education from University of Bridgeport and relocated to Maryland where he has taught High School English in Baltimore County. He completed his Master of Arts degree in Creative Writing & Literature for Educators at Fairleigh Dickinson University in 2016.

## Dealers and Fan Tables

**Alchemy Arms**  
[alchemyarms.com](http://alchemyarms.com)

**Annie's Blessed Bead**  
[etsy.com/shop/AnniesBlessedBead](http://etsy.com/shop/AnniesBlessedBead)

**Better Backstories**  
[betterbackstories.com](http://betterbackstories.com)

**eSpec Books**  
[especbooks.square.site](http://especbooks.square.site)

**Francescas Fancy**  
[francescasfancy.com](http://francescasfancy.com)

**Heartland Foods**  
[heartlandfoods.com](http://heartlandfoods.com)

**Luna-C**  
[comedyoflunac.com](http://comedyoflunac.com)

**Martha's Mugs**  
[etsy.com/shop/SashasSensations](http://etsy.com/shop/SashasSensations)

**NebulaDraconian**  
[Nebuladraconian.square.site](http://Nebuladraconian.square.site)

**Old Dominion Daleks**  
[facebook.com/OldDominionDaleks/](http://facebook.com/OldDominionDaleks/)

**Perry County Hobbies**  
[perrycountyhobbies.com](http://perrycountyhobbies.com)

**Raven's Own**  
[ravensown.storenvy.com](http://ravensown.storenvy.com)

**Retro Daddio**  
[retrodaddio.square.site](http://retrodaddio.square.site)

**Rocky Kelley**  
[facebook.com/rockykelly](http://facebook.com/rockykelly)

**Sarah Clemens Art**  
[clemensart.com/prints.htm](http://clemensart.com/prints.htm)

**Snazzy Yarn**  
[snazzyyarn.com](http://snazzyyarn.com)

**Starquest**  
[starquestconvention.com](http://starquestconvention.com)

**Theresa Mather**  
[theresamatherfantasyshop.com](http://theresamatherfantasyshop.com)

**W.L. Swarts Enterprises**  
[wlswarts.com/shop](http://wlswarts.com/shop)

**Whimsical Whispers**  
[whimsiwhiskers.com](http://whimsiwhiskers.com)

## Guest Biographies

With others, he cofounded Crazy 8 Press, a digital press hub where he continues to write. His dozens of books, short stories, and essays cover the gamut from young adult nonfiction to original fiction. He's also one of the dozen authors using the penname Rowan Casey to write the *Veil Knights* urban fantasy series. His most recent works include Chartwell Books' *100 Greatest Moments* series, *The Dreadstar Handbook*, and editing *Thrilling Adventure Yarns*.

Bob teaches High School English at St. Vincent Pallotti High School in Laurel, MD. He and his wife Deborah reside in Howard County, Maryland. Find him at [www.bobgreenberger.com](http://www.bobgreenberger.com) or @bobgreenberger.



### J.L. Gribble

By day, J. L. Gribble is a professional medical editor. By night, she does freelance fiction editing in all genres, along with reading, playing video games, and occasionally even writing. Her current work focuses on the urban fantasy/alternate history *Steel Empires* series, in which her debut novel, *Steel Victory*, was her thesis novel for Seton Hill University's Writing Popular Fiction graduate program in Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Previously, she was one of the co-editors for *Far Worlds* a speculative fiction anthology.

She lives in Ellicott City, Maryland, with her husband and three vocal Siamese cats. Find her online ([www.jlgribble.com](http://www.jlgribble.com)), on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/jlgribblewriter](http://www.facebook.com/jlgribblewriter)), and on Twitter and Instagram (@hannaedits). When not blogging for *SpeculativeChic.com*, she is currently working on more tales set in the world of Limani.



### Glenn Hauman

Glenn Hauman writes, edits, colors comics, designs websites, designs books, performs marriages, reaches things on high shelves, changes lightbulbs, bats right, sings baritenor, snores loud, draws to inside straights, drinks too much DMD, and stays up waaay too late at night.

Having come to the grisly realization that the New York Observer called him a "young Turk of publishing" two decades ago, he now patiently awaits the sweet embrace of death - but not until all his enemies are vanquished. He looks forward to eventually pub-

lishing the book where this illustration comes from.

You can find out more at [Glennhauman.com](http://Glennhauman.com), going to [ComicMix.com](http://ComicMix.com) where he's the Chief Operating Officer (and incredibly proud of their anthology *Mine! A Celebration of Liberty and Freedom Benefiting Planned Parenthood*) or by looking at his Wikipedia page. No, really, someone wrote up an entry for him. He can't believe it either.



### Dr. Inge Heyer

Inge Heyer, Ph.D., has spent decades developing a unique expertise in astronomy communications across a variety of settings, including college classrooms, K-12 schools, informal educational settings, professional scientific journalism, and science fiction venues.

Born and raised in Berlin, Germany, she completed her secondary education there before accepting a scholarship to attend Tenri University (Japan), where she studied Japanese. After later earning an undergraduate degree in Astronomy and Physics from Smith College, she earned a Master's degree in Astronomy from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, and a Ph.D. in Science Education from the University of Wyoming.

In addition to her professional work as senior data analyst at the Space Telescope Science Institute, Dr. Heyer also served as Deputy Press Officer for the American Astronomical Society and as the public information officer at the Joint Astronomy Centre, where she led the education and public outreach efforts. She has earned Shodan in both Judo and Karate and contributes as guest science blogger to [StarTrek.com](http://StarTrek.com).

Dr. Heyer currently teaches astronomy and physics at Loyola University



Maryland. She is co-author of six books, including *Investigating Astronomy* (4th Edition) and *Being a Successfully Busy Professor*. And if you have ever wondered how those beautiful Hubble images got into science fiction series like *Babylon 5* and *Star Trek*, Inge is the trouble-maker who instigated this....

Find her at [ingeheyer.com](http://ingeheyer.com), on Facebook, and @IngeHeyer.



### Dr. Thomas R. Holtz, Jr.

Thomas R. Holtz, Jr. is Principal Lecturer in Vertebrate Paleontology at the Department of Geology, University of Maryland, College Park. His research focuses on the origin, evolution, adaptations, and behavior of carnivorous dinosaurs, and especially of tyrannosaurids (*Tyrannosaurus rex* and its kin). He received his Bachelors in Earth & Planetary Geology at Johns Hopkins in 1987 and his Ph.D. from the Department of Geology & Geophysics at Yale in 1992. He is also a Research Associate of the Department of Paleobiology of the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History and serves on the Scientific Council of Maryland Academy of Science (which operates the Maryland Science Center (Baltimore, MD)).

In addition to his dinosaur research, Holtz has been active in scientific outreach. He has been a consultant on museum exhibits around the world, and on numerous documentaries. He is the author of the award-winning *Dinosaurs: The Most Complete, Up-To-Date Encyclopedia for Dinosaur Lovers of All Ages* (Random House). He was co-editor of the 2014 2nd Edition of *The Complete Dinosaur* (Indiana Univ. Press) and is in the midst of co-editing the 3rd Edition.

He received the 2018-2019 Provost's Excellence in Teaching Award for Professional Track Faculty. His page is <https://www.geol.umd.edu/~tholtz/>



### Heather Hutsell

Heather E. Hutsell is an authoress of two novellas, thirteen novels, four short story collections, and a handful of historical documentary scripts. Her works cover the spectrum of fantasy and include absurdist fiction, dystopian tales, Steampunk mysteries, vampire and werewolf romantic horror, and dark comedy. Her most recent release, *The Doll Collection: Volume Two*, may or may not require looking under one's

## Guest Biographies

bed and the use of a nightlight prior to sleep after reading.

Her blog and more information about her work can be found at [heatherehutsell.com](http://heatherehutsell.com). Tweet her @Emprsslrुकandji.



### Jazmine Cosplays

Jazmine Cosplays is a Maryland cosplayer who specializes in strong female characters like Jean Grey, Samus Aran, and Selena Kyle. They are the Transgender Ambassador for LGBT HQ, a New York-based cosplay organization dedicated to being the hub of 'all things gay at comic conventions.'

They are also a member of The Finest - A G.I. Joe Costume Club and was featured in their annual 'Girls of the Finest' calendar, which raised money for K9s for Warriors. They also work with Foundation 4 Heroes, a volunteer cosplay group that promotes the superhero in every child through doing the right thing, choosing healthy habits, and never being a bully.

Jay is the co-creator of Better Backstories ([betterbackstories.com](http://betterbackstories.com)), a card-based random life history generator for creative writing, educators, RPG Gamemasters, and even song writers that works with any role playing system. Follow them on Instagram @jazrae22.



### Jay Justice

Jay Justice is a Jamaican-American cosplayer, writer, and advocate. Her work has been featured by SyFy, BBC America, and Marvel Comics, and she has been

the inspiration for new characters in DC Comics and Boom Studios. Since 2009 she has crafted over 90 costumes and created panels at conventions across the country on the topics of comics, gaming, diversity in media and costuming. As an outspoken POC, LGBTQIA+ and disability advocate, Jay is dedicated to creating lasting change within her community & inspiring others to do the same. Jay can be found on Twitter (@ThatJayJustice).



### Stephen Kozeniewski

Stephen Kozeniewski is the author of several horror and science fiction novels, including the Splatterpunk Award-nominated *The Hematophages*. He is also a two-time World Horror Gross-Out Contest champion. Check him out at [manuscriptsburn.blogspot.com](http://manuscriptsburn.blogspot.com), at [amazon.com/author/kozeniewski](http://amazon.com/author/kozeniewski), on Facebook ([facebook.com/KozAuthor](http://facebook.com/KozAuthor)), and Twitter (@outfortune).



### Stephen Lesnik

Stephen Lesnik (CISSP-ISSEP-ISSMP, CCSP, CEH, CySA+) has been in the cybersecurity and education fields for nearly forty years. He has a history of working with both government and commercial organizations providing network development, systems engineering, and security engineering to big and small customers. He has provided both corporate and collegiate education, teaching both specific capabilities and broad concepts in computing and cybersecurity, and has worked with independent professional organizations in the development of professionally recognized certification exams. He is currently serving as the treasurer of a new (ISC)2 Chapter in Annapolis Junction, Maryland. Outside of his professional career, Stephen is an avid Science Fiction fan who has assisted with running many, *many* media, literary, and costume-oriented conventions over the years, and has been a semi-pro photographer.



### David Mack

David Mack is the award-winning and *New York Times* bestselling author of thirty-six novels and numerous short works of science-fiction, fantasy, and adventure, including the *Star Trek Destiny* and *Cold Equations* trilogies.

Mack's writing credits span television (for episodes of *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*), film, and comic books. His latest novels are the *Star Trek: The Next Generation* novel *Collateral Damage* and *The Midnight Front* and *The Iron Codex*, the first two books of his *Dark Arts* trilogy published by Tor books.

His upcoming works include the *Dark Arts* series finale *The Shadow Commission* (June 2020), a 1960s-era conspiracy thriller and urban fantasy, as well as some yet-to-be-announced *Star Trek* novels. He currently serves as a consultant on two *Star Trek* animated television series. Find him at [davidmack.pro](http://davidmack.pro) and Facebook (TheDavidMack) or @DavidAlanMack.



### D'Manda Martini

D'Manda Martini is a DC area Drag performer, cosplayer, and theater artist. She is the hostess of Eleanor's New Deal Cabaret, a musical theater themed cabaret performing at venues across Maryland. D'Manda is a huge comic fan, especially the X-Men (their affiliated teams) and Wonder Woman. Her cosplay is mostly geared toward lesser-known characters in the X-Verse, and has a soft spot for gay Icon, The Dazzler.

A DC-Area nominated actor and costume designer in community theaters, D'Manda has also performed at conventions including a standing room only event KatsuCabaret at Katsucon 2020, and at the Opening Ceremonies for FarpointCon 2020. D'Manda completed her reign as Captain Green Lantern 2018 with LGBT HQ, an organization that promotes LGBTQ+ artists and content at conventions on the East Coast, and continues to work with them promoting inclusion and diversity in fandom spaces.



### Dr. Timothy C. Miller

Dr. Timothy C. Miller is a member of the Principal Professional Staff at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab in Laurel, MD, where he works on various NASA space and astrophysics projects. While hunting astrophysical neutrinos earlier in his career, he traveled to the South Pole five times and to Greenland once. He also received a NIAC (NASA Innovative Advanced Concepts) grant to look at



## Guest Biographies

measuring the depth of the ice sheets on the moons of Jupiter and Saturn, a possible first step toward the search for life on such moons, by detecting the interactions of ultra-high energy neutrinos from an orbiting spacecraft.



### Christopher D. Ochs

Christopher D. Ochs' foray into writing began with his epic fantasy *Pindlebryth of Lenland: The Five Artifacts*, recommended by *US Review of Books*. Several of his short stories have been published in the Greater Lehigh Valley Writers Group and Bethlehem Writers Group anthologies and websites. Using his skills learned with the Lehigh Valley Storytelling Guild, he crafted a collection of mirthful macabre short stories, *If I Can't Sleep, You Can't Sleep*. His latest work is a gritty YA urban fantasy/horror, *My Friend Jackson*.

His current literary projects include: short fiction in BWG's and GLVWG's upcoming anthologies, and Firebringer Press' next entry in their *Eternity* series; a sci-fi/horror novel *Sentinel of Eternity*; a prequel novella and a second novel in the *Pindlebryth of Lenland* saga.

Chris has too many interests outside of writing for his own damn good. With previous careers in physics, mathematics, electrical engineering and software, and his incessant dabbings as a CGI animator, classical organist, voice talent on radio, DVD and anime conventions, it's a wonder he can remember to pay the dog and feed his bills.

Wait, what?

Find him at [christopherdochs.com](http://christopherdochs.com), [facebook.com/ChristopherDOch](https://www.facebook.com/ChristopherDOch), and [@ChristopherDOchs](https://twitter.com/ChristopherDOchs) on Twitter.



### Marc Okrand

Marc Okrand devised the dialogue and coached the actors speaking the Klingon language heard in *Star Trek III: The Search For Spock*, *Star Trek V: The Final Frontier*, *Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country*, and *Star Trek Into Darkness*. He also created the Atlantean language heard in the animated feature *Atlantis: The Lost Empire*. The Klingon language he developed has continued to be used in the later *Star Trek* TV series. In addition, he devised dialogue in Vulcan, Romulan, Kelpien, and other languages for several *Star Trek* films and TV series.

He is the author of *The Klingon Dictionary*, *The Klingon Way: A Warrior's Guide*, and *Klingon For the Galactic Traveler*. He did the translation for the Klingon opera 'u' that premiered in The Netherlands in 2010, as well as the expanded version of the opera's story in *paq'batlh: The Klingon Epic*.

He has degrees in linguistics from the Santa Cruz and Berkeley campuses of the University of California and has conducted linguistic research as a postdoctoral fellow at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. He is an associate producer of the documentary *Conlanging: The Art of Crafting Tongues* (2017) ([conlangingfilm.com](http://conlangingfilm.com)).



### Jennifer R. Povey

Jennifer R. Povey lives in Northern Virginia with her husband. She writes a variety of speculative fiction, whilst following current affairs and occasionally indulging in horse riding and role-playing games. She has sold fiction to a number of markets including Analog, Daily Science Fiction, and Third Flatiron, and written RPG supplements for several companies. Her most recent novel is the epic fantasy *Firewing*. She is an active member of SFWA.



### Susanna Reilly

Susanna Reilly has been enthusiastic about writing since she was named first runner up in a story-writing contest at the age of 11. For many years, writing took a back seat to school, work, and motherhood but the fire stayed alive. It was stoked in the late 1990s,

early 2000's when she joined a science fiction fan club that published an annual fanzine. Although the fanzine sold less than 30 copies per year (mostly to friends and family of the authors), the joy of writing stories in the *Star Trek*, *Highlander*, and *Stargate* universes kept her going (some of those stories can still be found on [fanfiction.net](http://fanfiction.net), author name SMR723).

Susanna's first professional publication came in 2013 when her short story, "To Protect and To Serve", was included in the anthology, *Unclaimed Baggage: Voices of The Main Line Writers*. She subsequently published two stories ("Form and Substance" and "Perchance to Dream") in the anthology *Somewhere in the Middle of Eternity* and contributed "Tree of Love" to *Elsewhere in the Middle of Eternity*.



### Aaron Rosenberg

Aaron Rosenberg is the author of the best-selling *DuckBob* SF comedy series, the *Relicant Chronicles* epic fantasy series, the *Dread Remora* space-opera series, and—with David Niall Wilson—the *O.C.L.T.* occult thriller series. Aaron's tie-in work contains novels for *Star Trek*, *Warhammer*, *World of Warcraft*, *Stargate: Atlantis*, *Shadowrun*, *Eureka*, *Mutants & Masterminds*, and more.

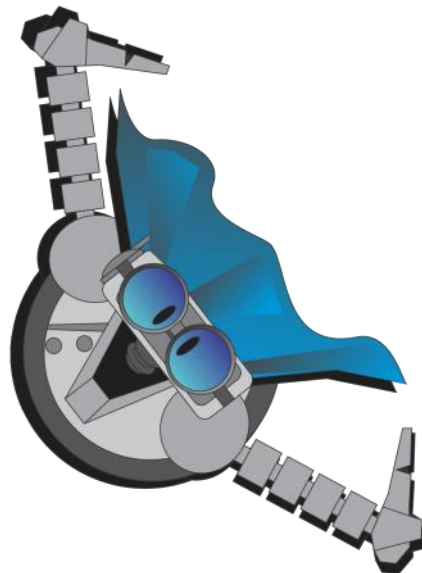
He has written children's books (including the original series *STEM Squad* and *Pete and Penny's Pizza Puzzles*, the award-winning *Bandslam: The Junior Novel*, and the #1 best-selling *42: The Jackie Robinson Story*), educational books on a variety of topics, and over seventy roleplaying games (such as the original games *Asylum*, *Spookshow*, and *Chosen*, work for White Wolf, Wizards of the Coast, Fantasy Flight, Pinnacle, and many others, and both the Origins Award-winning *Gamemastering Secrets* and the Gold ENnie-winning *Lure of the Lich Lord*). He is the co-creator of the *ReDeus* series, and a founding member of Crazy 8 Press.

Aaron lives in New York with his family. You can follow him online at [gryphonrose.com](http://gryphonrose.com), on Facebook at [facebook.com/gryphonrose](https://www.facebook.com/gryphonrose), and on Twitter [@gryphonrose](https://twitter.com/gryphonrose).



### Don Sakers

Don Sakers was launched the same month as Sputnik One, so it was perhaps inevitable that he should become a science fiction writer. A Navy brat by birth, he spent his childhood in such



# Guest Biographies

far-off lands as Japan, Scotland, Hawaii, and California. In California, rather like a latter-day Mowgli, he was raised by dogs.

As a writer and editor, he has explored the thoughts of sapient trees (*The Leaves of October*), brought ghosts to life (*Carmen Miranda's Ghost is Haunting Space Station Three*, Baen 1989), and beaten the "Cold Equations" scenario ("The Cold Solution," *Analog* 7/91, voted best short story of the year.)

Since 2009 Don has been book reviewer for *Analog Science Fiction & Fact*, where he writes the "Reference Library" column in every issue.

Don lives at Meerkat Meade in suburban Baltimore with his spouse, costumer Thomas Atkinson. Having recently retired from 42 years with the local public library, he is hard at work becoming a starving writer. Find him at [donsakers.com](http://donsakers.com) and [rule-of-5.com](http://rule-of-5.com) or tweet him @meerkatdon.



## Hildy Silverman

Hildy Silverman recent publications include "Sidekicked" (2019, *Release the Virgins*, Ventrella, ed.), "Divided We Fell" (2020, *The Dystopian States of America*, Bechtel, ed.) and "Raising the Dead" (2020, *Bad Ass Moms*, Fan, ed). Her nonfiction articles have appeared in numerous legal and medical professional journals and blogs.

In 2005, Hildy became the publisher and editor-in-chief of *Space and Time* ([www.spaceandtimemagazine.com](http://www.spaceandtimemagazine.com)), now a five-decade-old magazine of

fantasy, horror and science fiction. She is also a past president of the Garden State Speculative Fiction Writers and a frequent panelist on the science fiction convention circuit. Hildy currently resides in New Jersey.



## Toppie Smellie

Toppie Smellie is the creator and producer of *The Smellcast*, a personal journal style podcast that incorporates the fictional world of Pickle Hollow, a small hamlet in the Finger Lakes region of central New York. For nine years now and some 480 episodes, *The Smellcast* has offered listeners an opportunity to climb into Toppie's sandbox to play and listen as he creates worlds and characters to tell multi-part stories (in the form of unscripted, improvised audio plays) about the odd and eccentric residents of his beloved Pickle Hollow.

In this sandbox of fun, you can hear Toppie's personal musings, his interviews with other podcast creators, strange audio-scapes, "live" travelogues and audio plays. Reality and fantasy interweave in unexpected ways and often include traditional elements and aesthetics pulled from genres including gothic mysteries, horror, science and fantasy fiction -- but always with a bent towards fun and often preposterously silly humor and occasional light adult sexual situations. Intended for adults, *The Smellcast* is Free! Fun! Entertaining! Mysterious! *The Smellcast!* It doesn't really stink all that much! For more information and links to archived episodes, visit [thesmellcast.com](http://thesmellcast.com).

In real-life Toppie is a 50-something gay man who lives and works in Ithaca, New York and enjoys collecting door wedges. Email him at [smellcast@aol.com](mailto:smellcast@aol.com).



## Jay Smith

Jay Smith is a former fighter pilot in the Freedomian Revolutionary Guard who made his postwar fortune in gladiatorial ferret camps across central Europe. He has received awards recognizing his charity work in promoting proper foot hygiene, traveled the world speaking out against the evils of Slobobian arts and crafts, and spends much of his time annoying his children with Mad Libs. He also produces audio drama and podcasts. Legend states he also

writes novels. See these at [www.jaysmithaudio.com](http://www.jaysmithaudio.com).



## DJ Starsage

DJ Starsage is the creator and producer of a personal journal show, *Surely, You Jest!*, where he shares his day-to-day meanderings about home ownership, the daily grind and family life. DJ is also the founder and chairman of UniVoz, a guild of like-minded podcasting programming bonded together in support of issues facing the LGBTQ and ally community. "*Unified, Unique, Voices!*"

He can also be heard on his earlier project *The Faraway Nearby*, a podcast set in a fictional, mystical kingdom where conversations (often with his bestie) take place on topics ranging from movies, music, and television to current events. Frequent guests included popular podcasting personalities involved in producing, acting, and writing.

In real life DJ is a fortysomething gay man who lives and works in western New York State along with his husband Billy and three cats. Find out more about these podcasts and more at [univozpodcasts.net](http://univozpodcasts.net).



## Geoffrey Thorne

Thorne began writing professionally in 2003, winning top spots in Simon & Schuster's prestigious *Strange New Worlds* anthology as well as the *Writers of the Future* and *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine* among many other anthologies and magazines. His media tie-in novel, *Star Trek: Titan* novel *Sword of Damocles*, was a LOCUS Best Seller.

Thorne broke into TV writing on season 9 of the hit series *Law & Order: Criminal Intent* and moved on to become a writer-producer on multiple seasons of TNT's hit series *Leverage* and *The Librarians*. While on hiatus Thorne indulged his love for comics and action cartoons writing several episodes of *Ben 10*, *Marvel's Ultimate Spider-Man*, and *Marvel's Avengers* culminating with him being named head writer and showrunner of the two-time Image Award-nominated series *Avengers: Black Panther's Quest* as well as creating the Mosaic character and series for Marvel comics.

Thorne is the executive producer of Pendant Audio's *Dreamnasium*, a scripted sci-fi anthology series based



# Guest Biographies

on his novella collection of the same name.

In 2019 Thorne was tapped by megastar showrunner Courtney Kemp to be her Xo-Executive Producer on the upcoming *Power Book II: Ghost*, the first spinoff of the Starz Network global phenomenon, *Power*.



## Howard Weinstein

After decades writing *Star Trek* stories, Howard Weinstein turns to historical fiction with *Galloway's Gamble*, a Western Fictioneers Peacemaker Award-winning novel set in the Old West (available in hardcover and paperback from Amazon.com).

Praise from *True West* magazine: "Anyone who loves Charles Portis's style of writing in *True Grit*, or readers ready [for] a great yarn...look no farther than *Galloway's Gamble*." Fellow *Star Trek* author Dayton Ward calls it "a rich, layered story where the characters leap off the page... Extensive research infuses his tale with authenticity."

Inspired by high-spirited classics like *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* and *The Sting*, *Galloway's Gamble* is a coming-of-age romp about bickering brothers Jamey and Jake Galloway, who grow up to be poker players in frontier Texas. The sequel will feature a strong Maryland connection. Following a shady horse race shrouded in 'Frisco fog, Jamey, Jake and colorful friends embark on a perilous transcontinental trek, trying to reach Baltimore in time for match-race revenge against ruthless horseman Cortland Van Brunt and his unbeatable stallion at the splendid new Pimlico Race Course in 1873.

Howie's 45 years of writing credits include *Star Trek: Mere Anarchy: The Blood-Dimmed Tide* and six other *Star Trek* novels; "The Pirates of Orion" animated *Star Trek* episode; story-development assistance on the classic *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home*; and *Puppy Kisses Are Good for the Soul*, a charming account of life with legendary Welsh Corgi Mail Order Annie.

Feel free to "friend" Howard Weinstein on Facebook. Find more on his books, writing news and occasional blogs at [www.howardweinsteinbooks.com](http://www.howardweinsteinbooks.com).

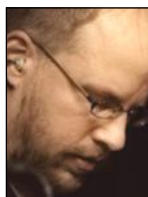


## Dr. Lloyd Whitman

Dr. Lloyd Whitman is currently serving as the Assistant to the Director for Science Policy and Planning at the National Science Foundation (NSF), on detail from his position as Chief Scientist at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). At NSF, Lloyd works to identify new opportunities for cooperation and collaboration between NSF and other organizations, coordinates the development and implementation of NSF-wide science policies, and advises the Director on strategic planning, assessment, and policy analysis.

He joined NSF in 2019 after serving for over five years at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) in both the Obama and Trump administrations, most recently as the Principal Assistant Director for Physical Sciences and Engineering and co-leader of the Science portfolio. At OSTP, Lloyd oversaw a broad range of S&T areas and national R&D programs and strategies.

Prior to joining OSTP, he was the founding Deputy Director of NIST's Center for Nanoscale Science and Technology, a national nanotechnology user facility. Lloyd has a B.S. in Physics from Brown University and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Physics from Cornell University. He has over 160 publications and multiple patents related to his long research career at the Naval Research Laboratory studying nanostructures and their integration into advanced sensor systems.



## Gregory A. Wilson

Gregory A. Wilson is Professor of English at St. John's University in New York City, where he teaches creative writing, speculative fiction, and various other courses in literature. In addition to academic work, he is the author of the epic fantasy *The Third Sign*, the graphic novels *Icarus* and *Jellinek*, the dark fantasy *Grayshade*, and the D&D adventure/sourcebook *Tales and Tomes from the Forbidden Library*. He also has short stories in a number of anthologies, and has several projects forthcoming in 2021.

He co-hosts the critically acclaimed *Speculate! The Podcast for Writers, Readers, and Fans* ([speculatesf.com](http://speculatesf.com)) podcast, is a member of the Gen Con Writers' Symposium and other author groups, and is regularly invited to con-

ferences nationally and internationally. Finally, under the moniker Arvan Eleron, he is the host of a successful Twitch channel focused on story and narrative, with several sponsored TTRPG campaigns. He lives with his family in Riverdale, NY. His virtual home is [gregoryawilson.com](http://gregoryawilson.com).



## Steven H. Wilson

Steven H. Wilson created the Mark Time and Parsec Award-winning podcast series *The Arbiter Chronicles*, as well as authoring *Taken Liberty* and several other novels and novellas set in the Arbiters universe. His other works include the novel *Peace Lord of the Red Planet*, short stories for Crazy 8 Press's *ReDeus* series, and contributions to Sequart Press's *Star Wars* essay collections. He has written for DC Comics and *Starlog* and is publisher for Firebringer Press. His latest story appears in *Hobnail and Other Frontier Stories*. Find him at [www.stevenhwilson.com](http://www.stevenhwilson.com).



## Sherri Cook Woosley

Sherri Cook Woosley earned a M.A. in English Language and Literature from University of Maryland, where she taught Academic Writing and Introduction to World Mythology. She's a member of SFWA. Her debut novel, *Walking Through Fire*, was longlisted for both the Booknest Debut Novel award and Baltimore's Best 2019 and 2020 in the novel category. Her newest short story is available in *Thrilling Adventure Yarns 2* by Crazy 8 Press.



## Dr. Willie Yee

Dr. Willie Yee is an amateur astronomer, past president and member of the Board of Directors of the Mid-Hudson Astronomical Association. He presently is a Solar System Ambassador, a program supported by NASA and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, CA.

Dr Yee also presents a *Star Trek*-themed interactive magic act as the Vulcan S'kai. He was part of the crew of *Star Trek New Voyages / Phase II*. He has studied at the McBride Magic and Mystery School in Las Vegas. He has presented the Starship Magic show at numerous SF and astronomical gatherings, both in person and online.

# Groups and Organizations

## Charnock's Comedy Cabaret

Charnock's Comedy Cabaret is a group of local comics with a sci-fi bent bringing laughs to audiences across the galaxy. Join David McOwen, Dani Riedel, Stacey Axler, Chris Barrlick, and Kasha Patel as they nerd out on the Farpoint virtual stage.

## Crazy 8 Press

[crazy8press.com](http://crazy8press.com)

Crazy 8 Press is a consortium of writers who have decided to by-pass the traditional publishing process to bring our work directly to you, the reader.

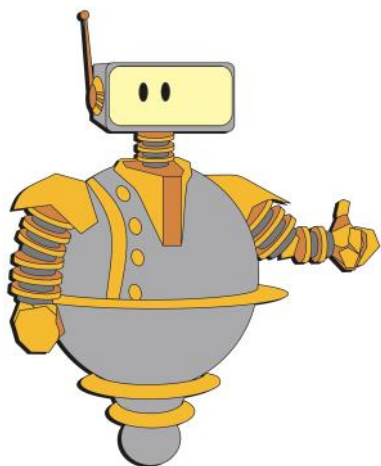
Why Crazy 8 when you started with only 6? Choose your favorite answer!

- We started with eight authors, but two spontaneously combusted. (And now we've regenerated.)
- Glenn's big enough for three.
- Aaron's multiple personalities wanted to be counted, or else they'd start playing with knives.
- If we went with Secret Six, DC would want royalties.
- We wanted to name ourselves after a card game, and Bridge Publications was taken.

## Firebringer Press

[firebringerpress.com](http://firebringerpress.com)

Firebringer Press has been publishing since 2005, and released its latest title, the non-fiction *The Fandom Fifty* in July 2019. Focusing on Science Fiction, Fantasy and Paranormal stories, Firebringer reaches out to new authors in the Mid-Atlantic region and has published the works of founder Steven H. Wilson, Phil Giunta, Lance Woods, Michael Critzer, Stuart S. Roth, Susanna Reilly, Daniel Patrick Corcoran, Diane Baron, and Amanda Headlee. Please join us in the authors' room this weekend as our authors share readings of their work and we talk about future publication endeavors.



## The Heinlein Society

[heinleinsociety.org](http://heinleinsociety.org)

The Heinlein Society exists to preserve the legacy renowned writer Robert Anson Heinlein left us in novels, essays, speeches, and short stories that remain as fresh as ever. We need your help to do it. We intend in Heinlein's words to "PAY IT FORWARD," since we can never pay back the benefits we got from him, by spreading the wisdom of Robert Anson Heinlein to others.

Our Pay It Forward programs include blood drives at conventions, Heinlein For Heroes (books for active military personnel, their families, and veterans in veterans' hospitals), scholarships, education (materials for educators interested in using Science Fiction to teach their students, and The Heinlein Journal (the leading source of new scholarship on Robert A. Heinlein).

## Matinee Minutiae

[matineeminutiae.com](http://matineeminutiae.com)

A film and television trivia podcast hosted by DJ Starsage and Toppie Smellie.

## Sabre Guild - Dathomir Temple

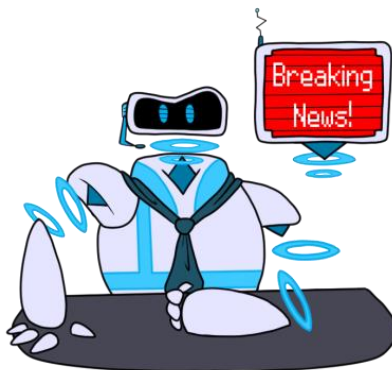
[facebook.com/saberguilddathomirtemple](https://facebook.com/saberguilddathomirtemple)

[saberguild.org](http://saberguild.org)

Saber Guild is a not-for-profit, LucasFilm-recognized *Star Wars* costuming group that specializes in choreographed lightsaber shows.

We perform at charity and community events, as well as comic book and sci-fi conventions, all to raise money for charity and share our love of *Star Wars* with fans around the world. With over 700 members in 35 temples and 8 countries, we are not only Lucasfilm's preferred lightsaber performance group, but we are the largest recognized lightsaber club in the world.

Saber Guild - Dathomir Temple proudly serves the state of Maryland and the Washington DC Metropolitan Area.



## Shore Leave/STAT

Hunt Valley, MD - July 10-12, 2020

[shore-leave.com](http://shore-leave.com)

The Star Trek Association of Towson, Inc. (STAT) was founded in 1978 by a small group of people who shared an interest in *Star Trek*. A year later, we held the first Shore Leave Convention, which attracted even more *Star Trek* enthusiasts to the group.

As the club grew, our interests expanded to include the promotion of not only *Star Trek*, but also of science fact and other areas of science fiction. Activities have included costumed visits to local hospital pediatric units, visits to libraries and schools to promote literacy, participation in the Towson 4th of July Parade and pre-parade entertainment.

Our current major activity, of course, is holding our annual Shore Leave Convention in July.

## STARFLEET

[sfi.org](http://sfi.org)

For over 35 years, Starfleet has provided *Star Trek* fans a way to meet each other, make friends, have fun, give back to their communities, and show that the dream of Gene Roddenberry can live long and prosper.

On the local level, members can gather with other fans for a variety of enjoyable activities.

On the international level, Starfleet offers our members a wealth of resources that you won't find in any other *Star Trek* fan clubs. In addition to a great set of membership materials and our regularly-published newsletter, Starfleet offers members the chance to get involved with Starfleet Academy, the Starfleet Marine Corps, the Department of Technical Services, and much, much more.





# Authors Panels

## Firebringer Press Presents

Salon A — Sat 2/20/21 — 11:00 am

The team from Firebringer Press will discuss current and future publications. *Steven H. Wilson, Phil Giunta, Christopher D. Ochs, Michael Critzer, Diane Lee Baron, Daniel Patrick Corcoran, Susanna Reilly*

## Writing in the New Normal

Salon B — Sat 2/20/21 — 12:00 pm

How have writers adapted to new schedules and working from home? Our panelists will discuss if and how their home environments have been disrupted and how their routines may have changed. *Michael Jan Friedman, Heather E. Hutsell, Sherri Cook Woosley*

## Got Enough Science?

Salon A — Sat 2/20/21 — 1:00 pm

Some topics require more scientific know-how than others. How much do writers need to know for particular topics -- and how do they know how much they need to know? *David Mack, Christopher D. Ochs, Phil Giunta*

## Narrative in Different Mediums

Salon B — Sat 2/20/21 — 2:00 pm

Coherent and compelling narrative is important in short stories, novels, television and film, and games (board, tabletop role-playing, and video forms). Working professionals in many of those different mediums discuss the best narrative principles common to them all, as well as how to navigate the differences between and among them. *Aaron Rosenberg, Derek Tyler Attico, Stephen Kozeniewski*

## Writing Characters with Different Body Plans

Salon A — Sat 2/20/21 — 3:00 pm

Four legs? Tentacles? Weird faces? Panelists will discuss how to bring to life characters that significantly vary from the humanoid body form, from dragons to bug-like aliens, to talking raccoons. How do you remember the changes in body language? How do you make it not turn into goofiness? *Jennifer Povey, Heather E. Hutsell, Danielle Ackley-McPhail*

## Crazy 8 Press

Salon B — Sat 2/20/21 — 4:00 pm

An hour-long panel with members of Crazy 8 Press to discuss current and future publications. *Michael Jan Friedman, Peter David, Kathleen David, Russ Colchamiro, Mary Fan, Robert Greenberger, Glenn Hauman, Aaron Rosenberg, Hildy Silverman, Geoff Thorne*

## Everything You Know About Fairy Tales Is WRONG!

Salon A — Sun 2/21/21 — 11:00 am

Archetypes in classic fairy tales -- the damsel in distress, the knight in shining armor, the evil stepmother, and several others -- continue to influence everything from Disney features to the social mores used to define what is good and noble. Where did these caricatures come from? And how historically accurate are these archetypes which we hold so dear? *Christopher D. Ochs*

## This Wasn't the Dystopia I Ordered: Post-Pandemic Storytelling

Salon B — Sun 2/21/21 — 12:00 pm

As SF writers, we're used to CREATING dystopias--but now we're LIVING one! How has this changed our concept of the dystopia, and how is it affecting our writing of those sorts of stories, and in general? *Glenn Hauman, Sherri Cook Woosley, Phil Giunta*

## Storybuilding in Books & Games: Dungeon Mastering for the Writer, Writing for the Dungeon Master

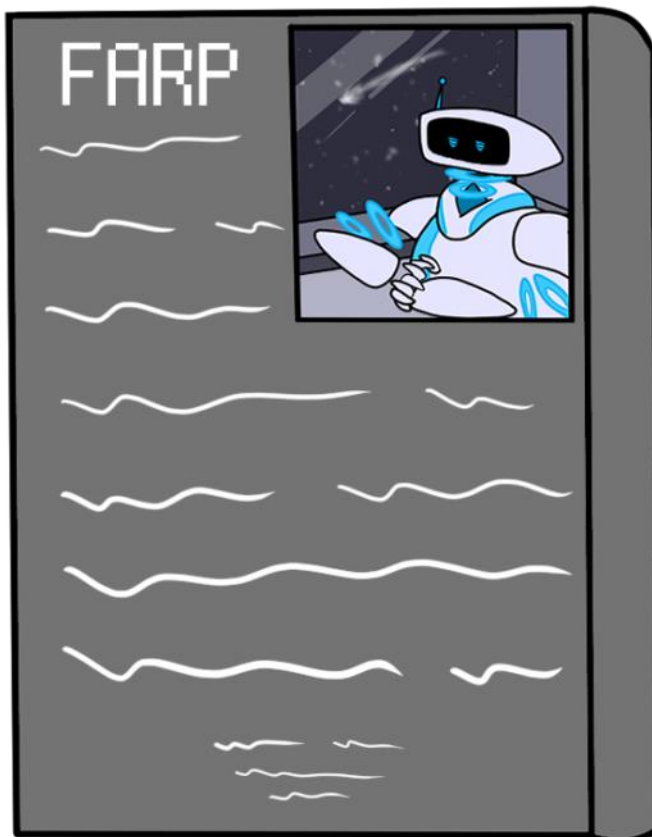
Salon A — Sun 2/21/21 — 1:00 pm

Speculative fiction author, TwitchTV host, and online/offline DM Gregory A. Wilson, with eight current TTRPG campaigns (four GMed by him) streamed on his channel including sponsored ones from Alligator Alley Entertainment, draws on thirty years of experience in game mastering to discuss how writing techniques can help game masters, how game mastering techniques can help writers, and what the potential pitfalls are when integrating these worlds. *Gregory A. Wilson*

## How Fandom Can Make You A Better Writer

Salon B — Sun 2/21/21 — 2:00 pm

Whether it's books, movies, TV, or games, we've all experienced the guilt of indulging in fandom instead of working on our next novel or story. But what if all that reading/viewing/playing was actually helping you become a better writer? This panel will discuss how fandom, rather than being a guilt-inducing "waste of time", can actually help writers improve. *Mary Fan, J.L. Gribble, Danielle Ackley-McPhail*



# Live Events & Performances

## Matinee Minutiae

Belmont — Sat 2/20/21 — 11:00 am

A podcast about film and TV trivia. Join the podcast hosts as they discuss the trivia behind the 1971 Comedy, Drama *Harold and Maude* starring Ruth Gordon and Bud Cort with their special guest Paul Chandler ("The Shy Life Podcast"). *DJ Starsage, Toppie Smellie, Paul Chandler*

## Starship Magic

Salon E — Sat 2/20/21 — 12:00 pm

A sci-fi themed magic show. Science fiction effects such as transporters are presented as magic tricks with humor and multiple references to *Star Trek* and other SF genres. The show is highly interactive, involving all the members of the audience. *Note:* The show is adult-oriented and family friendly for older children but is not recommended for children under 8. *Dr. Willie Yee*

## Lightsabers, Action! Meet Saber Guild Dathomir Temple

Salon D — Sat 2/20/21 — 1:00 pm

A presentation to introduce Farpoint to Maryland's Saber Guild chapter, Dathomir Temple. Who they are, what they do, how to join. *Randy Ward, Linda Ward, Nicole Webb, Charles Wright, Liz McQuay, Anne Mac Adams*

## Marc Okrand

Salon F — Sat 2/20/21 — 2:00 pm

A conversation with our favorite Klingon linguist. *Marc Okrand*

## Star Wars Bloopers:

### The Modern Trilogies

Salon D — Sat 2/20/21 — 3:00 pm

Starting with a Stormtrooper hitting his head on a door in *SW:IV*, spotting bloopers in the *Star Wars* movies has been a fun pastime for fans of all ages. This presentation will attempt to show many of the most popular ones in the modern *Star Wars* Trilogies that you may have never seen before that are still in the movies today. *T A Chafin*

## A Conversation with John Billingsley and Bonita Friedericy

Chase — Sat 2/20/21 — 4:00 pm

An hour with our guests. *John Billingsley, Bonita Friedericy*

## Charnok's Comedy Cabaret

Salon F — Sat 2/20/21 — 5:00 pm

If you, like Data, want to know what is funny, stop in for nerdish performances from great local stand-up comics! *David McOwen, Dani Riedel, Stacey Axler, Chris Barrlick, Kasha Patel*

## The Bob & Howie Show

Belmont — Sun 2/21/21 — 12:00 pm

Books, movies, TV, baseball. The important things in life.... *Robert Greenberger, Howard Weinstein*

## Masquerade

Hotel TV Monitors — Sun 2/21/21 — 1:00 pm

Join us for our first Virtual Masquerade! The show will be aired on monitors throughout our virtual hotel and livestreamed at FarpointTV on YouTube.

## Post-Convention Meeting

Salon F — Sun 2/21/21 — 3:00 pm

What did you think of our virtual convention? Chat with members of the Farpoint Committee about it!

# New Media Panels

## So You Want to Start a Podcast?

Tack — Sat 2/20/21 — 4:00 pm

Learn how you can start a podcast. We'll discuss programs to use, equipment to invest in, and how to get your podcast into people's ears. *Nathan Schell, Royce Essig, Ryan Permison*

## Storytelling with New Technology

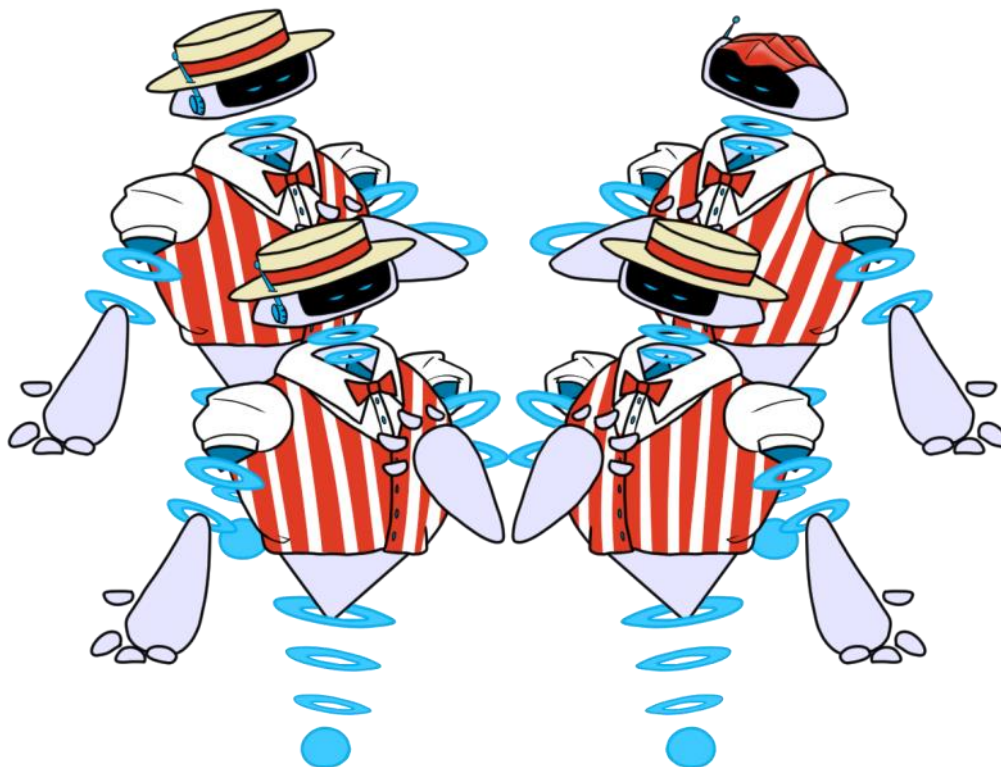
Tack — Sun 2/21/21 — 11:00 am

A discussion of how to use podcasting and other new media to tell your stories. *Gregory A. Wilson, Jay Smith, Nathan Schell*

## The State of VR - 2021

Tack — Sun 2/21/21 — 1:00 pm

An update on the state of virtual reality headsets, social VR, and how virtual reality tech has advanced since last year. *T. Eric Bakutis*



# Movies, Television & Fandom Interest Panels

## **STARFLEET Meeting**

Salon B — Sat 2/20/21 — 10:00 am

A meeting for members of STARFLEET and anyone interested in learning more about this organization.

Robert Smith, Wayne Auguston, Jeff Victor, Bob Vosseller

## **Are We Just Going Mad?**

### **Online Civility and Social Media**

Salon D — Sat 2/20/21 — 11:00 am

Why do people interact like ignorant savages online? Why isn't it enough to be right? Why do folks feel they must destroy any dissenting opinion? Panelists discuss if our personalities online are who we REALLY are or if we use online anonymity to develop a new persona. Panelists will discuss the psychology of online anonymity and social interactivity. Jay Smith, Stephen Kozeniewski, Gregory A. Wilson

## **Outlander:**

### **A Spoiler-Free Retrospective**

Tack — Sat 2/20/21 — 11:00 am

Come join us for why *Outlander* has become the world-wide juggernaut sensation it is. Late to the party? No worries, we'll give you all the basics and background you need! If you're already a fan, then join in our rousing conversation and share your thoughts with us! Annie Brugmans, Maggie Restivo, Mattie Roger

## **The Way of The Mandalorian**

Chase — Sat 2/20/21 — 12:00 pm

Disney+'s wildly successful hit has wrapped up its second season. What

will the future hold for our heroes?

What other *Star Wars* spinoffs are on the horizon? And how much Grogu (Baby Yoda) is too much? T A Chafin, J.L. Gribble, Rigel Ailur

## **Cons: Online vs Real Life**

Salon C — Sat 2/20/21 — 1:00 pm

What's different, what's better, what's worse and what needs work? Don Sakers, Keith R.A. DeCandido, D'Manda Martini

## **TV & Movie Reboots**

Tack — Sat 2/20/21 — 1:00 pm

Which reboots have you enjoyed, and which didn't need to be made? Howard Weinstein, Kathleen David

## **Still Discovering Discovery**

Chase — Sat 2/20/21 — 2:00 pm

We'll discuss the current season of *Star Trek: Discovery* and where we think the show is headed. Keith R.A. DeCandido, Mary Fan, Kelli Fitzpatrick

## **The No Pandemic, No Politics Hour**

Salon D — Sun 2/21/21 — 11:00 am

Where our panelists will discuss just about anything but those two topics! Don Sakers, T A Chafin, Danielle Ackley-McPhail

## **Discovered During Lockdown**

Salon F — Sun 2/21/21 — 11:00 am

What little-known gems or guilty pleasures did you watch during the pandemic? We'll discuss our favorites. Heather E. Hutsell, J.L. Gribble

## **Doctor Who**

Chase — Sun 2/21/21 — 12:00 pm

We'll discuss the latest season and ponder the next. Kathleen David, Jennifer Povey

## **Defense Against the Dark Arts:**

### **Fandom Trolls and How to**

### **Vanquish Them**

Salon D — Sun 2/21/21 — 1:00 pm

A panel to help con-goers avoid, confront, and dispatch misogynist trolls and their ilk. In this panel, we will dismiss certain myths regarding fandom's accepted DNA, who should be allowed to participate and what the acceptable role of women in fandom should be. We will also cover classy ways to combat the ignorant and grow better fan communities. Peter David, Don Sakers, Jay Smith

## **How Does Star Trek Thrive?**

Salon F — Sun 2/21/21 — 1:00 pm

How does a franchise that is over fifty years old survive and thrive in multiple mediums? The panel will discuss their varied involvement with *Star Trek* and why they feel it is so successful. David Mack, Keith R.A. DeCandido, Derek Tyler Attico

## **Star Trek: Lower Decks**

Chase — Sun 2/21/21 — 2:00 pm

What did you think of the first season of this animated sitcom? We'll discuss. Kathleen David, T A Chafin, Rigel Ailur



# THIS JUST IN....

## You are invited to FARPOINT 2022

"This Time It's Personal!" \*

\*we hope

February 25-27, 2022 Hunt Valley, MD

# Science Panels

## Perseverance Arrives at Mars

Salon E — Sat 2/20/21 — 11:00 am

Dr. Heyer will show a quick recap of Mars research and conclusions to date. She will then discuss key capabilities Perseverance brings to bear on Mars research, how it builds upon what we learned previously, and what we hope to learn next. *Dr. Inge Heyer*

## Turning Science Fiction into Science Fact: An Overview of the National Science Foundation and AMA with a Scientist-turned-Science Policy Maker

Derby — Sat 2/20/21 — 12:00 pm

Come learn how the National Science Foundation advances the frontiers of knowledge and how science policy works from the White House on down—from a scientist who has done research in multiple fields and worked at the White House developing national science and technology strategies. The overview will be followed by an “ask-me-anything” Q&A session. *Dr. Lloyd Whitman*

## Safe and Secure Online: A Cybersecurity Presentation for Parents

Salon E — Sat 2/20/21 — 1:00 pm

The (ISC)<sup>2</sup> organization ([isc2.org](http://isc2.org)) through their outreach organization,

Center for Cyber Safety & Education, provides a number of cybersecurity awareness programs. This one is focused on helping parents teach and guide their children toward safe use of the Internet. Topics covered include cyberbullying, online identity and image protection, social networking safety, and computer safety. *Stephen Lesnik*

## The Hayabusa2 and OSIRIS-REx Sample Return Missions

Salon E — Sat 2/20/21 — 3:00 pm

Dr Abell discusses the issues with, and techniques used to return, samples from the target objects. *Dr. Paul Abell*

## Multi-messenger Astronomy in Antarctica

Salon E — Sun 2/21/21 — 12:00 pm

From the bottom of the world to the furthest reaches of the universe! In this talk we will first learn about the IceCube high energy neutrino astrophysics experiment at the South Pole, along with what it's like traveling to live and work in Antarctica. Then we'll see how the astrophysics discoveries being done there fit into the entire developing field of multi-messenger astronomy to link such diverse and exotic topics as neutrinos, cosmic rays, gravitational waves, black

hole and neutron-star mergers, gamma ray bursts, and the sources of the highest energy cosmic rays. *Dr Timothy C. Miller*

## What's New in The World Of Dinosaurs?

Derby — Sun 2/21/21 — 1:00 pm

The Age of Dinosaurs may be over, but our knowledge of it continues to grow. University of Maryland paleontologist Dr. Tom Holtz describes the latest discoveries changing our understanding of these magnificent creatures. *Dr. Thomas R. Holtz*

## Black Holes - Not So Black?

Salon E — Sun 2/21/21 — 2:00 pm

Recent years have seen major breakthroughs in the ability to study black holes. These have included the first image of a black hole from the Event Horizon Telescope and the detection of black hole collisions with the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory. Both of these are massive scientific projects in their own right, and the science coming from them is groundbreaking. Dr. Yee will review the basic science of black holes and the myths surrounding them and present the recent findings of these projects. *Dr. Willie Yee*

# Costuming/Cosplay Panels

## Cosplay: A Form of Self-Expression & Discovery

Salon E — Sat 2/20/21 — 11:00 am

Our panel will discuss the various ways one can express themselves through cosplay and discoveries they have made along the way. *Nathan Schell, Howard Weinstein, D'Manda Martini*

## The Process of Cosplay

Salon C — Sat 2/20/21 — 3:00 pm

Cosplayers talk about the steps they take from conception/design to full execution of a full cosplay - from budget, shopping, construction, to even how they get into it! The panel will include character/cosplay selection, and how each person organizes each of their projects as they progress. Panelists are encouraged to wear examples of their cosplay and/or provide presentations showing their process. *Jasmine Cosplays, Don Sakers, Dame Dahlia*

## Taking Cosplay From 2D to 3D

Salon C — Sun 2/21/21 — 12:00 pm

Cosplayers will discuss what it takes to make a design wearable. What about the costume would need to be changed based on the cosplayer's body type, level of comfort, or even just the physics of how gravity works! *D'Manda Martini, Dame Dahlia, Jay Justice*

## Masquerade

Hotel TV Monitors — Sun 2/21/21 — 1:00 pm

Join us for our first Virtual Masquerade! The show will be aired on monitors throughout our virtual hotel and livestreamed at FarpointTV on YouTube.

## Cosplay Self-Destructs

Salon C — Sun 2/21/21 — 2:00 pm

Everyone has had at least one costume fail. A popped seam; a dying battery; a glued piece that won't stay glued. Our panelists will discuss their own and offer tips on how to avoid and/or survive them! *Dame Dahlia, D'Manda Martini, Jasmine Cosplays*



**Thank you to our Farpoint Family and Friends  
who make this event possible every year.**

**Committee**

Betsy Childs  
Karen Donnelly  
Tom Donnelly  
Jackie Green  
Eta Hack  
Jessica Headlee  
Laura Inglis  
Jaime Lancaster  
George Laurence  
Ann Lesnik  
Heather Mikkelsen  
Kat Nichols  
Zan Rosin

Brian Sarcinelli  
John Scheeler  
Jennifer Stultz  
Cyndi Van Blarcom  
Sharon Van Blarcom  
Tim Van Blarcom  
Christian Wilson  
Renee Wilson  
Steven H. Wilson  
Cindy Woods  
Sarah Yaworsky  
Sandy Zier-Teitler

**Lifetime Members**

Fouade K. Aide †  
Lewis G. Aide †  
De Baisch  
Diane Baron  
Andrew Bergstrom  
Laura Bergstrom  
Cheryl Bobbit  
T. Alan Chafin  
Betsy Childs  
Maureen Connolly  
Darlene Croon  
Richard DeAcetis †  
Karen Donnelly  
Thomas Donnelly  
Scott Farquhar  
Ponch Fenwick †  
Marty Gear †  
Kathleen Gonzales  
Brad Graper  
Robbie Greenberger †  
David Havelka  
Valerie Hill  
Marcella Jones †  
Nancy Kippax †  
Ann Lesnik  
Stephen Lesnik  
Marion McBrine  
Marion McChesney †  
Heather Mikkelsen  
Katy Mikkelsen  
Jennifer Morris  
Marc Okrand  
Paula Palmer  
Elizabeth Ramsey

Renfield  
Clarissa Rhule  
James Rhule  
Harvey Roberts  
Mary Rottler  
Anthony Rowley  
Heather Sachs  
Sinya Schaeffer  
Eli Senter  
Micah Senter  
Molly Senter  
Paige Strehlen Senter  
Chris Shockey  
Cindy Shockey  
Layla Shockey  
Kimberly Stern  
Dr. Thomas R. Stevens  
Mike Sullivan  
June Swords  
Lynn Syck  
Cyndi VanBlarcom  
Sharon VanBlarcom  
Tim VanBlarcom  
Beverly J. Volker †  
Russell Volker, Sr.  
Howard Weinstein  
Christian Wilson  
Ethan Wilson  
Renee Wilson  
Steven Wilson  
Cindy Woods  
Greg Woods  
Lance Woods  
Sandra Zier-Teitler

† Deceased

We work to keep the content of our programming at Farpoint Convention friendly to all ages - young fans, teens and adults. However, in the course of active discussion, topics may stray into areas parents or guardians may not wish their children to participate in. It is ultimately the parent/guardian's responsibility to monitor the program events their children attend and to remove the child from any discussions they do not wish their children to participate in.

Panel Information is accurate as of publication. Please check the Schedule Insert, Room Notices, and Online Guide for any changes.

"Convention on Infinite Screens" Cover Art by Laura Inglis  
Departmental FARPs by Greg Woods  
FARP created by Todd Brugmans and used with permission  
Program Book Design by Brian Sarcinelli & Sarah Yaworsky  
(\*Nie moj cyrk, nie moje malpy!\*)



**Julien Fleming  
Memorial Fund, Inc.**

PO Box 710152  
Oak Hill, VA 20171-0152

*Make the World a Better Place,  
One child at a Time*

The Julien Fleming Memorial Fund was established in order to help families whose critically or terminally ill children need treatment beyond the families' ability to pay. Even for those with medical insurance, non-covered expenses can easily soar to thousands of dollars.

We strive to keep Julien's memory alive by giving grants to these families in Julien's memory. Recipients are selected by our Board of Directors, which includes Julien's mother.

Please help us continue these grants. No donation is too small. To a child in need, every penny is a symbol of love and caring.

***If you know someone who might qualify for a grant,  
please contact us at <http://www.jfmf.org/>***

For more information see us at <http://www.jfmf.org>

Like us on Facebook -- [julienflemingmemorialfund](https://www.facebook.com/julienflemingmemorialfund)

The Julien Fleming Memorial Fund is a 501(c)(3) public charity and a proud member of the Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce.



Art Way Alliance is committed to providing students with opportunities and experiences in media arts and related careers.

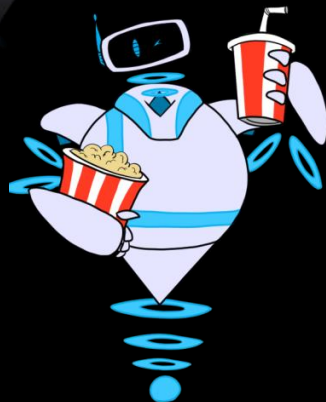
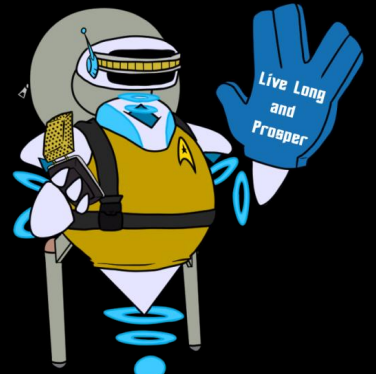
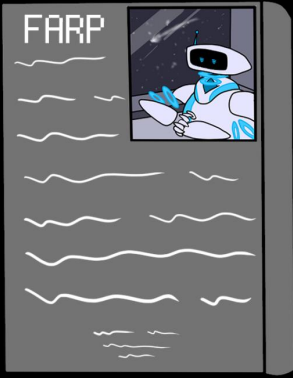
AWA provides these opportunities to those who would otherwise not have direct access to instructors, materials, and other like-minded individuals.

AWA teaches students how to create and market their original comic books, manga, and cartoons in an environment free of judgment and derision. AWA works through classes, events, conventions, and partnerships with wonderful and dedicated artists and volunteers.

AWA emphasizes the educational value of comics and cartoons by incorporating STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) or Common Core elements into our curriculum. In the past year, AWA has hosted multiple workshops and classes in the DMV area. Our STEAM program in particular has been incredibly popular. We've also participated in events ranging from a Back to School Jamboree to Awesome Con and have created amazing partnerships with schools, non-profit, and profit businesses.

For more information see us at <http://www.artwayalliance.org>

Art Way Alliance is a 501(c)(3) public charity.



Follow us online!

www.farpointcon.com  
Facebook: www.facebook.com/FarpointCon  
Twitter: @FarpointCon

