

# FARPOINT

## 2023

Living long and prospering  
for 30 years!





## ***First of all, it was October, a rare month..."***

No. We won't go there, not even with poetic words stolen from Ray Bradbury. We've told the story of Farpoint's origins many, many times in 30 years. There's no need to tell it again. If you're out of the loop, buy us a drink at the bar. We'll talk.

Suffice to say that, in October of 1993, our family started a convention—continued one, really, as we'd been involved in its previous incarnations, ClipperCon and OktoberTrek. This time it really was a family affair: Renee's mom, Beverly Volker, was our chair, Steve directed the corporation, Renee was the Program Chair. Our aunts, cousins and Fandom siblings all pitched in, and have continued, unflinchingly, to do so down through three decades.

Three generations of Volker-Wilsons have worked Farpoint (even Grandmother Wilson, who never watched a science fiction show in her life, once staffed Registration) and a fourth is now preparing to tread the corridors.

Over the years, we've made so many friends who became family and closer than family. It's just not possible to name on one page all of the people who have made Farpoint such a special part of our lives, but we treasure each and every one of them. And, yeah, we snipe and jab at them too, as family does, and we love them unconditionally, as families does.

We've overcome adversity. Covid. Blizzards. Public temper tantrums. Social media shaming. Having our license pulled by the Fire Marshal. Guest cancellations. Malicious rumors that Farpoint was canceled this year, spread by people who really wished or believed it should be. We had the best revenge on those people: We outlasted them.

We've lost too many family members along the way—all too young, but Jessica, Robbie, R.J. and Jimmy far, far too young. Those of us who remain not only endure but continue to celebrate the love and friendship that brought us to this place year after year.

And now this child of our house marks its third decade, and the upstart twenty-something parents who started it all are the fifty-something grandparents who shake their fingers and begin sentences with words like, "Back in *my* day..."

But that, too, is the way of families. As is the unwavering pride these now-grandparents feel when they see all the kids together one more time. Everyone needs family. Thank you for being ours.

***The Wilsons: Steve, Renee, Ethan, Christian,  
Jessica, Rachel, Matthew***

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*("Nie moj cyrk, nie moje malpy!")*

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.



## Welcome to Farpoint 2023!

Thirty years. THIRTY Years! Where did the time go? Whether this is your first Farpoint Convention or your 30th, please know you are very welcome. We thank you for supporting the mission of the Farpoint Foundation through attending our convention. The Foundation's mission is to support creators in the fields of science fiction, fantasy, comics, anime, and horror. Our diverse schedule of program events provides you opportunities to learn more about your own creative interests and to share your interests with other fans.

We are welcoming four first-time celebrity guests this year: actors Wilson Cruz, Billy West, Carlos Alazraqui and Rylee Alazraqui. They will be available throughout the day Saturday and Sunday to meet attendees and sign items. Their Q&A sessions are listed on the main program schedule. We also welcome and thank all our other guests in the Authors, Children/Youth, Science, Fan Interests, Live Events and Movies/TV program tracks, where we have over 200+ hours of activities to partake in.

There have been so many changes in fandom over the past 30 years. When Farpoint first began, use of the internet was in its infancy and social media was not even on the radar. Today most of us use the internet and social media for personal and business interaction. The advent of this technology has changed society and our culture forever. Throughout these changes, however, our focus remains the same – on the fans who have kept interest in science fiction and the realms of imagination alive over these many years. We welcome you, to Farpoint, where YOU are the guest of honor.

**Let's Live Long and Prosper for another 30 years!**

***Sharon VanBlarcom***

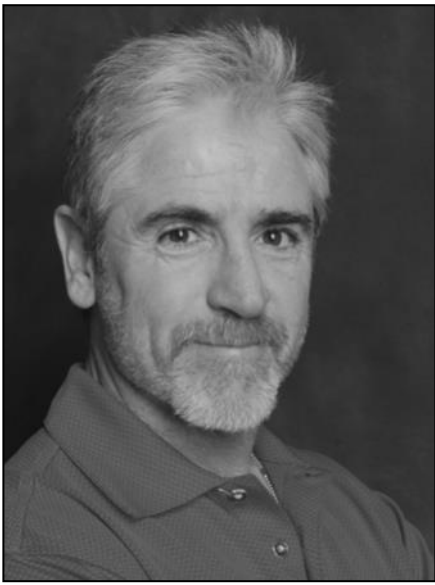
***Farpoint Convention Chair***

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# Guest Biographies



## Carlos Alazraqui

Odds are, you know Carlos Alazraqui's face or you've heard his voice. He was Deputy James Garcia on Comedy Central's hit show and movies *Reno 911!*. He's a 3-time Annie Award Nominee for Outstanding Achievement in Voice Acting in an Animated TV/Broadcast Production and won in 2017 for Ponce de León in *The Mr. Peabody & Sherman Show*. He was the voice of Mr. Crocker (and Mrs. Crocker!) on *Fairly OddParents*. He taught us all to say "¡Yo quiero Taco Bell!" as the famous spokes-Chihuahua. He's also been a standup comic for over 25 years, a well-known television/film actor and one of LA's top voiceover actors with hundreds of credits to his name.

Farpoint attendees also know Carlos as Admiral Buenamigo, a recurring character on *Star Trek: Lower Decks*. This makes him the second member of his family to appear in one of the new Trek series after daughter Rylee.

Television audiences have seen Carlos as Officer Alvarez in *Kevin can Wait*, Dr. Moncada on *Jane the Virgin*, Sammy Tucker on *Bones*, Detective Nash on *Adam Ruins Everything*. He has voiced Rocko of *Rocko's Modern Life*, Spyro of *Spyro the Dragon*, Mayor Temoroso in the *New Adventures of Puss in Boots*, King Magnus in *Sophia the First*, and Skylar in *Elena of Avalor*, to name just a few of his roles.

On the big screen, Carlos played Hector in *Dance Baby Dance*, Carlo in *Take the Ten*, and Bob in *Funhouse Massacre*. You can also hear Carlos as the voice of El Chupacabra in *Planes*, Amos in *Free Birds*, Nestor, the Latin Penguin, in *Happy Feet and Happy Feet 2*, as well as Chuy and General Posada in *Book of Life*, and the sexy Brazilian Helicopter Pilot and Dad's Fear in *Inside Out*.

His writing credits include the comedy *Witness Infection*, where rival mob families accidentally assigned to the same small town are caught in a zombie uprising, six episodes of *Dads in Parks*, and the mockumentary short film *The Last White Dishwasher*, which he also executive produced. Carlos also served as executive producer for the TV movies *Reno 911!: The Hunt for QAnon* and *Reno 911!: It's a Wonderful Heist*.

Carlos had a Showtime special and a Comedy Central Half Hour Special as well as several other national television appearances including three spots on the *Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson*. Carlos works with Stephanie Miller every Wednesday on his *Coffee with Carlos* segment on the *Stephanie Miller Radio Show* on Free Speech Radio. He has also produced his own web series cartoon on *Mondomedia.com* called *Off The Curb*, which played live to a sold-out crowd in the YouTube Lounge at San Diego Comic-Con.

In his free time, Carlos is an avid tennis player and sports enthusiast. Carlos currently resides in Los Angeles with his wife and two daughters. Check out Carlos at [CarlosAlazraqui.com](http://CarlosAlazraqui.com), twitter or facebook for a listing of his live appearances.



## Christopher Abbott

Christopher Abbott is a Reader's Favorite award-winning author of crime, fantasy, science-fiction, and horror.

Described by New York Times Bestseller Michael Jan Friedman as "an up-and-coming fantasy voice", and compared to Roger Zelazny's best work, Abbott's *Songs of the Osirian* series of works brings a bold re-telling of Ancient Egyptian mythology. Abbott presents a fresh view of deities we know, such as Horus, Osiris, and Anubis. He weaves the godlike magic through musical poetry, giving these wonderfully tragic and deeply flawed "gods" different perspective, all the while increasing their mysteriousness.

His Sherlock Holmes stories, published in the *Watson Chronicles Series*, have been recognized by readers and peers alike as faithfully authentic to the original Conan Doyle. In 2022, after publishing seven individual Watson Chronicle stories, Christopher teamed up with prolific authors Michael Jan Friedman and Aaron Rosenberg to add a collection of Holmes short stories to the series.

Christopher has published with Crazy8Press and written for major media outlets, including ScreenRant.



## Danielle Ackley-McPhail

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

Her published works include eight novels, *Yesterday's Dreams*, *Tomorrow's Memories*, *Today's Promise*, *The Halfling's Court*, *The Redcaps' Queen*, *Daire's Devils*, *The Play of Light*, and *Baba Ali and the Clockwork Djinn*, written with Day Al-Mohamed. She is also the author of the solo collections *Eternal Wanderings*, *A Legacy of Stars*, *Consigned to the Sea*, *Flash in the Can*, *Transcendence*, *Between Darkness and Light*, and the non-fiction writers' guides *The Literary Handyman*, *More Tips from the Handyman*, and *LH: Build-A-Book Workshop*. She is the senior editor of the *Bad-Ass Faeries* anthology series, *Gaslight & Grimm*, *Side of Good/Side of Evil*, *After Punk*, and

*Footprints in the Stars*. Her short stories are included in numerous other anthologies and collections. She is a full member of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers Association.

In addition to her literary acclaim, she crafts and sells original costume horns under the moniker The Hornie Lady Custom Costume Horns, 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 four extremely spoiled cats.



## Dr. Charles Adler

Chuck Adler is a physics professor at St Mary's College of Maryland; he has done research in a variety of areas of Physics including atmospheric optics, atomic physics, and Physics pedagogy. He has written over 40 research papers, and is the author of the popular book *Wizards, Aliens and Starships: Physics and Math in Fantasy and Science Fiction*. He has a course for the Great Courses lecture series, "How Science Shapes Science Fiction", and has

# Guest Biographies



## Rylee Alazraqui

Rylee Alazraqui is a new fan favorite thanks to her role as Rok-Tahk in *Star Trek: Prodigy*, the first *Star Trek* series specifically targeted at younger audiences and its first animated series to solely use 3D animation. It follows a group of young aliens who find the *USS Protostar*, an abandoned starship, and set off for the Alpha Quadrant. Rok-Tahk is a shy, 8-year-old rock-like member of the Brikar species who, being large and strong, defies being typecast as the ship's security officer and instead develops an interest in science.

Rylee is an 11-year-old Los Angeles native who started her entertainment career at the age of 6. Rylee's interest in performing was piqued after watching her dad, actor Carlos Alazraqui, go into recording studios and audition himself. After commercial bookings and several voiceover jobs, it became clear she had a knack for performing. Rylee is a proud member of the Screen Actors Guild. Her other roles include the voices of Julie in DreamWorks' *Doug Unplugs* and Grace in *Puppy Dog Pals*. In her free time, Rylee enjoys honing her softball and gymnastic skills, learning martial arts, and simply relaxing with good friends.

given a other popular lectures, including "Where is the Science in All That Fiction?" (Rensselaer Polytechnic University and other venues), "Let's Design a Dragon!" (Duke University), "Particle Fever and the Grandfather Paradox: Physics for Everyone" (Kavli Conversations on Communicating Science, with Dr. Mark Levinson), and "Cylons, T2's and the Borg! Oh my!" (YHouse lecture, Manhattan, New York, with Dr. Bow van Riper). He is a lifelong fan of science fiction and fantasy, beginning with watching *Star Trek* reruns when he was 7, and hopes one day to write his own work.



## Rigel Ailur

Author of *Star Trek* and *Shadowrun* short stories, Rigel Ailur also contributes to the *Outside In* series which reviews classic genre TV shows. She's written twenty-four novels—including in the *Tales of Mimion* series, and *The Vagabonds' Adventures*—and more than ninety short stories which appeared in such anthologies as *The Angel Cat Collection*, *Brave New Girls*, *The Fans are Buried Tales*, and *Bad Ass Moms*. She belongs to the Mystery Writers of America, Penwriters, International Thriller Writers, Ligonier Valley Writers, Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers Association, the International Association of Media Tie-In Writers, and the Women's Fiction Writers Association. Most importantly, she's the doting mom of her swarm of astronomically adorable cats.



## 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 Mary-*

*land Science Fiction Conventions*, debuted at Shore Leave 2019 and includes interviews of committee members, authors, artists, costumers, techies, superfans, entertainers and more from the Farpoint, Shore Leave and Balticon conventions.

Debating at this Farpoint is Diane's venture into the science fiction realm, *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.



## Zack Be

Zack Be is an award-winning SF/F author, obscure songwriter, PhD candidate, and Couple and Family Therapist trapped in the Washington, DC area gravity well. His writing has previously appeared or is forthcoming in *Asimov's Science Fiction*, *Analog Science Fiction and Fact*, and *Writers of the Future Vol. 36*. His band Pretty Bitter released their new album *Hinges* in June 2022 on all streaming platforms. Brooding author photos and info about his writing and music can be found at [zackbe.com](http://zackbe.com).



## MJ Blehart

Who is MJ Blehart?

I am a dreamer, philosopher, geek, writer, editor, voice artist, amateur photographer, and medieval reenactor – among other things. I have been writing fiction since I was 9 years old. My first completed story was an illustrated, 50-page hand-written sci-fi adventure called *Wildfire*.

My primary fiction works are sci-fi, fantasy, and steampunk. There are many cool worlds in

my head, and I love writing them and working on sharing them with everyone.

Writing is my passion. I've been writing most of my life, and words are how I best express myself. I have a number of projects in various stages of development constantly underway.

Writer/ Editor/ Voice Artist / World-Builder. That's me in a nutshell.



## Charles Blue

Charles Blue is the Director of Media Relations at Association for Psychological Science. He has more than 20 years of experience communicating the wonders and discoveries of science, engineering, and technology. Charles has worked as the director of media services at the American Institute of Physics. He also served as the Writer/Editor for the National Science Foundation's Directorate for Engineering and the media relations specialist for the Thirty Meter Telescope Project. He is a member of the National Association of Science Writers, the American Astronomical Society, the American Geophysical Union, and past president of the DC Science Writers Association. Charles also is an avid martial artist, sea chantey singer, and fitness instructor.



## Dr. Patricia T. Boyd

Dr. Patricia T. Boyd is the Chief of the Exoplanets and Stellar Astrophysics Laboratory in the Astrophysics Science Division, and the Project Scientist for the Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) Mission (a NASA Explorer Mission launched in 2018). She has been at Goddard since 1993, when she was a USRA visiting scientist with the High Speed Photometer and Polarimeter Team aboard the Hubble Space Telescope, studying the optical and ultraviolet polarization seen in X-ray binaries, pulsars and active galaxies.

# Guest Biographies



## Wilson Cruz

Wilson Cruz can most recently be seen on *Star Trek: Discovery* playing the role of Dr. Hugh Culber and on the Netflix series, *Thirteen Reasons Why*, playing the role of Dennis Vasquez. Early in his career, Wilson won the hearts of audiences playing Rickie Vasquez on *My So-Called Life*. Rickie was the first openly gay teenager role to air on network primetime television. He has continued to earn fans and critical acclaim on television, film and on stage.

Wilson's theatre accolades include his portrayal of the critically acclaimed role Angel on Broadway and in the West Coast Premiere of the Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning musical *Rent*. His portrayal earned him The Los Angeles Ovation Award and Dramalogue Award. He also starred in *Tick, Tick, BOOM!* at the Westport Country Playhouse, West Coast Premiere, and its first national tour.

Wilson has also portrayed a long line of memorable and poignant characters on television, from one of TV's first transgender characters in an Emmy-nominated episode of *Ally McBeal*, to series regular roles on *Party of Five* and *Rick & Steve the Happiest Gay Couple in the World*.

Wilson recurred as Kenji Comez Rejon on FOX's ensemble drama, *The Red Band Society*, starring Oscar winner, Octavia Spencer. He has also appeared on *Shameless*, *The West Wing*, *Noah's Arc*, *Pushing Daisies*, *The Closer*, *NCIS*, *American Dad*, *Related*, *Monk*, *ER*, *The Finder*, and *Hustling*.

Wilson's career has equally translated to success on the big screen in both studio and independent films. His film credits include *He's Just Not That Into You*, *Supernova*, *Nixon*, *The People I've Slept With*, *Party Monster*, *Coffee Date*, *Johns*, *All Over Me*, and *Meth Head*.

On the frontlines of LGBT advocacy, Wilson Cruz recently served as the Director of Entertainment Industry Partnerships and as National Spokesperson for GLAAD, the nation's leading LGBT media advocacy organization. Wilson also executive produced a five-part docuseries, *Visible: Out on Television*, in 2020.

In 1995, Boyd joined the Monitoring X-ray Experiment team, an X-ray all-sky monitor that was in development and testing as part of the Russian-led Spectrum X-Gamma mission. In 1997, she joined the Rossi X-ray Timing Experiment Guest Observer Facility performing science support for that mission. From 2003 to 2008, she managed that facility, as well as the Swift Science Center.

Padi spent a two-year detail at NASA Headquarters in Washington as the program scientist for the Kepler mission. While at NASA Headquarters, she was also the NASA point of contact for the MOST U.S. Guest Observer program and also served as a discipline scientist for X-ray and gamma-ray astronomy. She was also the Program Officer for the Origins of Solar Systems Exoplanets program.

Since returning to Goddard in 2010, she has held a number of positions including Deputy Project Scientist for Operations of the Hubble Space Telescope, Associate Chief of the Astroparticle Physics Laboratory, Acting Deputy Director of the Astrophysics Division, and Associate Director of the Astrophysics Division.

Her research interests focus on applying traditional and novel time series and spectral analysis techniques to uncover the drivers of stellar variability, and accretion in compact binaries and active galaxies, using data from a variety of space telescopes.



## Dr. Wesley Britton

My "Flashback" online radio interview show airs Mondays on KSAV.org before being archived at my *Remember When* podcast page. Past guests have included Walter Koenig, John Billingsley, John D.F. Black, and Ron D. Moore.

I'm also a frequent guest on Podcast and radio shows based in the U.S., the U.K., Malaysia, Greece, Sweden, and Canada, talking about writing, espionage, science-fiction, disability, and all manner of topics.

In addition, I'm now the author of six sci-fi award-winning novels and two short story collections in my *Beta-Earth Chronicles* and my website *Spywise Secret Dossier* is a widely acknowledged depository for resources on all aspects of espionage.

Find me at [drwesleybritton.com](http://drwesleybritton.com); [spywiseseccretdossier.com](http://spywiseseccretdossier.com); on YouTube @wesleybritton8630; my Amazon Author Page; and on Linktree.



## TA Chafin

TA Chafin is a computer professional who has been, at various times, a video store manager, painter, auto-plant worker, bookstore 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?

Currently, he makes his living in the gambling community – on the house end, not as a player – and continues to lecture at conventions around the country about *Star Wars*, *Doctor Who*, and a myriad of other genres.

## Did you remember your "Bring Back Swag?"

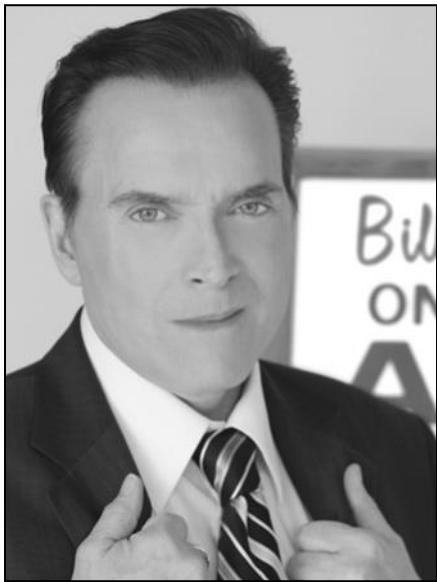
When you visit the Farpoint table at other conventions throughout the year, you can pick up a piece of our Bring Back Swag.

When you attend Farpoint, show it at the Registration Desk for an extra gift in your Welcome Bag!



Look for the Farpoint table at conventions throughout 2022 for next year's Swag!

# Guest Biographies



## Billy West

Doug Funnie, *Doug*. Bugs Bunny and Elmer Fudd, *Space Jam*. Ren and Stimpy, *The Ren & Stimpy Show*. Philip J. Fry, Professor Farnsworth, Zapp Brannigan, Dr. Zoidberg, Richard Nixon, *Futurama*. Billy West has been talking in funny voices since the '80s.

Born in Detroit and growing up in Boston, Billy studied at Berklee College of Music for a semester and then found himself in various bands, playing gigs by night and working in a music shop by day. He did daily comedy routines on Boston radio station WBCN's *The Big Mattress* show before eventually moving to New York and becoming a regular on *The Howard Stern Show*. During his seven years there, Billy delighted audiences with a wide range of character voices, ranging from classic TV personalities like Jim Backus, Raymond Burr, and Johnny Carson, to then-current newsmakers such as Leona Helmsley, Lance Ito, and Kathie Lee Gifford, to sports figures like Marge Schott, Evander Holyfield, and Al Michaels, to New York figures such as David Dinkins, Rudy Giuliani, and Cardinal O'Connor.

While still working in radio, Billy began doing the voicework that would make him a household favorite – though rarely under his own name! For Nickelodeon, he originated the title role of Doug Funnie on *Doug*, which he voiced for four seasons, and the character Stimpson J. "Stimpy" Cat for *The Ren & Stimpy Show*. Two seasons into that show's five season run, he also

took over voicing Ren Höek.

In 1996, Billy provided the voices of Bugs Bunny and Elmer Fudd in director Irving Reitman's *Space Jam* after Reitman himself asked Billy to audition. He later reprised both roles in several other feature length films.

Billy went to the *Futurama* auditions and was asked to try out for, as he says, "just about every part". He eventually landed the roles of Farnsworth, Zoidberg, and Brannigan. He later got the main role of Fry, which originally had gone to another actor. The voice he uses for Fry is often considered to be closer to his natural voice than any other character he has played; he has said that Fry is "just me at age 25". Both he and other *Futurama* cast and crew have remarked that Billy voices so many characters on the show that conversations are often held entirely between characters he is voicing. *Futurama*, a show that may be functionally immortal, begins a 20-episode season in 2023.



## Russ Colchamiro

Russ Colchamiro is author of the sci-fi mysteries *Crackle and Fire*, *Fractured Lives*, and *Hot Ash*, the ongoing series featuring intergalactic private eye Angela Hardwicke. Russ is also the author of the rollicking time travel/space adventure, *Crossline*, the SF/F backpacking comedy series *Finders Keepers: The Definitive Edition*, *Genius de Milo*, and *Astropalooza*, is the editor of the sci-fi mystery anthology *Love, Murder & Mayhem*, and co-author and -editor of the noir anthology *Murder in Montague Falls*.

Russ has also contributed to several other anthologies including *PRISM*, *Tales of the Crimson Keep*, *Pangaea*, *Altered States of the Union*, *Camelot 13*, *TV Gods 2*, *They Keep Killing Glenn*, *Thrilling Adventure Yarns*, *The Phenomenons*, *Footprints in the Stars*, *Devilish and Divine*, *Badass Moms*, and *Brave New Girls*.

Russ is a member of The Mystery Writers Association, The Private Eye Writers of America, and the author collective Crazy 8 Press. He also hosts and produces his "Russ's Rockin' Rollercoaster" podcast, where he interviews best-selling and up-and-coming sci-fi, fantasy, crime, mystery, and horror authors.

He lives in New Jersey with his wife, two ninjas, and black lab, Jinx.

For more on Russ's books and his podcast, visit [russcolchamiro.com](http://russcolchamiro.com), and follow him on

Facebook, as well as Twitter and Instagram @AuthorDudeRuss.



## Jessica Crouse

Jessica Crouse is an actress, model, cosplayer, playwright, and LGBTQ activist. She has her BA in Theatre from the University of Maryland. She spends her days balancing work with being the mom of her 11 year old son.

Jessica cosplays Xena Warrior Princess, Maleficent, Bellatrix Lestrange, Poison Ivy, Black Widow, Pin-up Snow White, Newt Scamander, Lara Croft, and a few other creations of her own. She loves cosplaying interesting and kick-tail women. Xena is her absolute favorite cosplay. Xena was her hero growing up, so the fact that she gets to cosplay her and bring that joy to others is beyond words.

Jessica started cosplaying about 10 years ago. She always loved costumes but fell in love with the cosplay community after her first time cosplaying. Shortly after that she began collabo-

rating with makeup artists and industry professionals in FX makeup. She was fascinated and learned everything she could from them. She began by letting them put the makeup and prosthetics on her and then slowly through following their instruction and countless hours of practice, she began doing all her own makeup and prosthetics. Jessica has taught cosplay workshops and stage makeup classes at Anne Arundel Community college. She looks forward to continuing to spread the love of cosplay and creation.



## Michael D'Ambrosio

Michael D'Ambrosio has been writing for over twenty years, since the release of *Fractured Time* in 2001, with eleven novels and three short stories published. In addition, he has adapted several of his novels into screenplays and recently worked with Open Gate Entertainment on the development of *Space Truckers*, the adapted script from his upcoming novel. His latest novel, *Space Truckers: Adventures of the Blue Eagle*, came out in May 2022. Having participated in over one hundred conventions across the country with two as a Guest of Honor, Michael is a familiar name to many. Visit his website at [www.fracturedtime.com](http://www.fracturedtime.com) for appearances and the latest developments on his projects.



## 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.



### Dax ExclamationPoint

Dax ExclamationPoint (Dax!) is a cosplaying drag performer that has taken the world by storm! Literally...! Ever since walking onto the set of *Rupaul's Drag Race* season 8 bearing a striking resemblance to the mistress of the elements, (Storm of the X-Men to those in the know!), fans have been cheering her onward and upward! Dax has toured along-side the other stars of *Rupaul's Drag Race* sharing her love of comic books, science fiction, anime, and gaming with people across the world through performance, art, and cosplay! Dax loves to share knowledge with fans and performers whenever she can! Dax regularly participates in panels and discussions at conventions year-round with no plans of stopping any time soon! The "Queen of All Nerds" is paving the way for LGBTQIA+ nerds making their way into the forefront of popular culture and fandom!

Follow Dax on twitter and instagram @daxclamation.



### Keith R.A. DeCandido

Keith R.A. DeCandido has been an author, critic, musician, editor, podcaster, library assistant, census supervisor, gallery exhibit curator, and sportswriter over the past three decades. He's probably best known for the first

two items in that list. He's written novels, short fiction, and comic books in more than thirty licensed universes from *Alien* to *Zorro*, including TV shows (*Star Trek*, *Doctor Who*, *Supernatural*), movies (*Cars*, *Kung Fu Panda*, *Serenity*), games (*World of Warcraft*, *StarCraft*, *Dungeons & Dragons*), and comic books (*Spider-Man*, *Thor*, *X-Men*). He's also written bunches of work in milieus of his own creation, including fantastical police procedurals in the fictional cities of Cliff's End and Super City and urban fantasy in the somewhat real locales of New York and Key West. And he's been writing pop-culture commentary for web sites, magazines, and essay collections since 1989.

Recent and upcoming work includes the *Star Trek* role-playing game adventure *Incident at Kraav III* (with Fred Love); the *Resident Evil* graphic novel *Infinite Darkness: The Beginning*, a prequel to the Netflix animated series; Phoenix Precinct, the sixth novel in his fantasy/police procedural series; *All-the-Way House*, the secret origin of the Jersey Devil, part of the *Systema Paradoxa* series about cryptids; *Feat of Clay*, the second novel in his urban fantasy series that takes place in his home borough of the Bronx, New York; the urban fantasy short story collection *Ragnarok and a Hard Place: More Tales of Cassie Zukav*, *Weirdness Magnet*; the award-winning graphic novel adaptation of fellow Farpoint guest Gregory A. Wilson's *Icarus*; tales in the shared-world superhero anthology series *Phenomenons*, created by fellow Farpoint guest Michael Jan Friedman, with stories in each of the first two volumes, *Every Human Creature* and *Season of Darkness*; a novella in *Sherlock Holmes: Cases by Candlelight Volume 2*; short stories in *The Fans are Buried Tales*, *Joe Ledger: Unbreakable*, *Tales of Capes and Cowsls*, *Three Time Travelers Walk Into...*, *Thrilling Adventure Yarns 2022*, *Zorro's Exploits*, *The Four ??? of the Apocalypse* (which he also co-edited with Wrenn Simms), and *Double Trouble: An Anthology of Two-Fisted Team-Ups* (which he also co-edited with Jonathan Maberly); and the collaborative novel *Animal* with Munish K. Batra, MD, FACS, a thriller about a serial killer who targets people who harm animals. He writes regularly about pop culture for the award-winning webzine *Tor.com*, for his Patreon ([patreon.com/krad](https://patreon.com/krad)), for collections pub-

lished by Sequart, and for the *Outside In*, *Subterranean Blue Grotto*, and *Gold Archives* series.

Keith is also a fourth-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 (though he usually does it sitting down). Find out less at his mediocre web site at [DeCandido.net](http://DeCandido.net).



### Mary Fan

Mary Fan is a sci-fi/fantasy writer hailing from Jersey City, NJ. She is the author of the *Jane Colt* sci-fi series, (Red Adept Publishing), *Starswept* YA sci-fi series, (Snowy

Wings Publishing), the *Flynn Nightsider* YA dark fantasy series (Crazy 8 Press), and *Stronger Than a Bronze Dragon*, a YA steampunk fantasy (Page Street Publishing). She is also the editor of *Bad Ass Moms*, an anthology from Crazy 8 Press.

In addition, Mary is the co-editor (along with fellow sci-fi author Paige Daniels) of the *Brave New Girls* young adult sci-fi anthologies, which



**DEALERS ROOM**

**FRIDAY**  
3PM - 7PM

**SATURDAY**  
10AM - 6PM

**SUNDAY**  
10AM - 3PM



Photo by Stephen Lesnik

## MARTY'S CORNER

CON SUITE & VIDEO GAMES

<b>Friday</b> 3:00 pm—12:00 midnight	<b>Saturday</b> 9:00 am—8:00pm 10:00 pm—2:00 am*	<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 am—4:00 pm
* No food or beverages available from 10:00 pm—		



## Guest Biographies

feature tales about girls in STEM. Revenues from sales are donated to the Society of Women Engineers scholarship fund.

Her short fiction has appeared in numerous anthologies, including *Pangaea III: Redemption* (edited by Michael Jan Friedman), *Keep Faith* (edited by Gabriela Martins), *Thrilling Adventure Yarns* (edited by Bob Greenberger), *Magic at Midnight* (edited by Lyssa Chiavari and Amy McNulty), *They Keep Killing Glenn* (edited by Peter and Kathleen David), *Tales of the Crimson Keep: Newly Renovated Edition* (edited by Bob Greenberger), *Mine! A Celebration of Liberty and Freedom for All Benefitting Planned Parenthood* (from ComicMix), and *Love, Murder & Mayhem* (edited by Russ Colchamiro).



### Michael Jan Friedman

Michael Jan Friedman is the author of 80 books, nearly half of them set somewhere in the wilds of the *Star Trek* universe. He 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 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 *Batman & Robin* movie was for a time the #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 200 comic stories. Among his comic book credits is the *Darkstars* series he created for DC Comics. with artist Mike Collins He also cowrote the story for

the acclaimed second-season *Star Trek: Voyager* TV episode "Resistance," which guest-starred Joel Grey.

In 2011, Friedman spearheaded the establishment of Crazy 8 Press, an imprint through which authors publish their purest and most passionate visions. Crazy 8 Press currently features more than 70 original titles.

As always, Friedman advises readers that no matter how many Friedmans they know, he is probably not related to any of them.



### M Sieiro Garcia

Absolutely tickled to be a part of the *SciFi Diner Podcast* crew, M (just M!) is an average gal who gets the chance to chat about one of her favorite subjects with a couple of smart and fun guys. Growing up in Nation's Capital, many family trips to the Smithsonian had her dreaming of the stars. (Who doesn't love the Air & Space Museum?) *Star Wars* opened the geek door to *Star Trek*, *Aliens*, Robert Asprin books, etc. Her geek interests vary wildly and she's always up for learning or reading something new (except for *Twilight*, just don't get her started, ok? ok. Because, seriously, sparkly randy vampires? yeeesh. We told you not to get her started.)

When she's not tending to her big-girl job (the one that pays the mortgage), she's working on her self-employment dream job: voice actor/over diva. She's had the pleasure to work with a bunch of a great people on this mission to cartoon/audio drama immortality.



### Phil Giunta

Phil Giunta's novels include the paranormal mysteries *Testing the Prisoner*, *By Your Side*, and *Like Mother, Like Daughters*. His short stories appear in such anthologies as *Love on the Edge*, *Beach Pulp*, *Space Opera Digest 2022*, *A Plague of Shadows*, the *Middle of Eternity* series, and more. He is a Pushcart Prize-nominated author and member of the Horror Writers Association, the National Federation of Press Women, and the Greater Lehigh Valley Writers Group.

Phil is currently working on his fourth paranormal mystery novel while plotting his triumphant escape from the pressures of corporate America where he has been imprisoned for nearly thirty 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. 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

## Volker/McChesney Award for Service to Fandom



The Volker/McChesney Award for Service to Fandom winner is Luna-C Productions.

Led by Richard Siebigteroth and Cynthia Hardesty, this talented troupe of friends and comedy performers has provided fun and entertainment to convention audiences for over a decade.

They also voluntarily promote Farpoint Convention in the Tidewater Virginia area through their Old Dominion Daleks and Loki Gator's Con-Quest events, bringing knowledge of our event to an even larger audience.

Thank you to everyone at Luna-C for their hard work and dedication - your friendship and support is very much appreciated.

# Guest Biographies

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 helped revitalize *Famous Monsters of Filmland* and served as News Editor at 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.

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. His most recent works include numerous short stories plus the concluding chapter of *This Alien Earth* for the late Paul Antony Jones and the first chapter of *Above the Ground*, in collaboration with Matt Medney.

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.



### JL Gribble

J.L. Gribble writes the urban fantasy/alternate history *Steel Empires* series, which starts with *Steel Victory* and includes six titles so far. She is a prolific reader and book reviewer, and her other jobs include medical editing, Net-

flix watching, and cat snuggling. 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}. 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 publishing 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.



### Kimberly Iverson Headlee

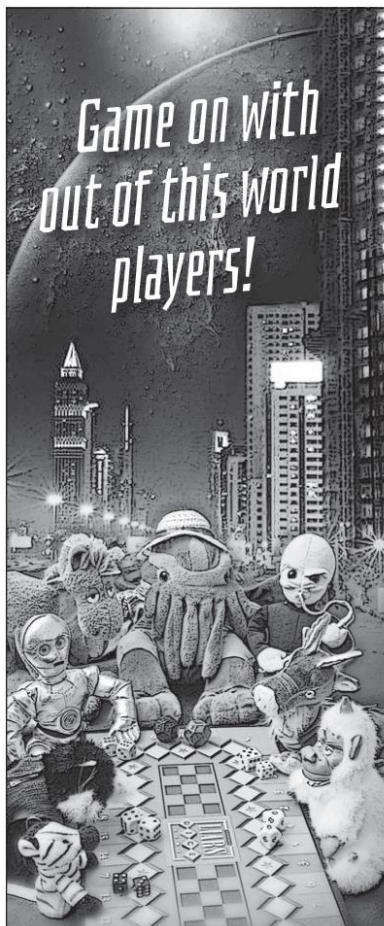
Kim Headlee lives on a farm in southwestern Virginia with her family, cats, goats, Great Pyrenees goat guards, and assorted wildlife. People and creatures come and go, but the cave and the 250-year-old house ruins — the latter having been occupied as recently as the mid-twentieth century — seem to be sticking around for a while yet. Kim has been a critically acclaimed novelist since 1999 (*Dawnflight*, Simon & Schuster; hailed as "compelling" by *The Dallas Morning News* and "intense" by *USA Today*) and a student of Arthurian literature for more than half a century.

Her science-fiction/fantasy crossover novel, *King Arthur's Sister in Washington's Court* (by Mark Twain as channeled by Kim Iverson Headlee) — *KASIWC*, for short — has been called "solidly entertaining" by *Publishers Weekly*. *KASIWC* won two national awards in the categories of science fiction and fantasy. Her latest release is book 3 in the series begun by *Dawnflight*, titled *Raging Sea*. Work on the sequel to *KASIWC* is under way.



### Scott Hertzog

A teacher and lover of all things science fiction (well, *most* things anyway!), Scott remembers three defining moments in his sci-fi career. When he was six, he watched *Jules Verne's Mysterious Island* on a little black and white TV and the big bees scared the crap out of



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GAME ROOM RULES will be overseen by our Tiki God Charlie at the door.

- Have you had enough rest for the day? (5 hours minimum of sleep in the last 24 hours)
- Have you had a proper meal? (Plan for 2 meals a day)
- Have you had a shower recently?
- Are you healthy? (No illness with sniffles, coughs, or sneezing.)
- Masks will be encouraged, but not mandated; enter at your own risk.



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# Guest Biographies

him. Later, his middle school librarian handed him a copy of Andre Norton's *Galactic Derelict*. That radically changed his life -- from then on he consumed all the science fiction he could get his hands on. The third thing was meeting Miles and starting the *Sci-Fi Dinner Podcast*, of course! Scott is an avid *Star Wars* fan, both the films and the *Legends* universe, and is infatuated with all things Tolkien. He continues to watch and read as much science fiction as his family will allow.



## 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.

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.



## Thomas Hill

Tom Hill started saying he wanted to be an aerospace engineer when he was six. Alive but not aware for Apollo, he grew up reading the stories of Apollo and of science fiction, knowing he wanted to work on spacecraft. After high school, he attended Penn State University on an Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps

scholarship and graduated with a degree in aerospace engineering. Called to active duty in 1991, his first assignment was at Schriever (then Falcon) Air Force Base in Colorado Springs. There he worked on military weather and missile warning satellites and helped get 13 of the original operational 24 Global Positioning System (GPS) satellites into orbit.

His next assignment took him to Turkey, where he used RADAR to track satellites for Cheyenne Mountain. Serving there for a year, he tracked several space shuttle missions to the Russian space station Mir and even tracked the oldest object still in orbit, Vanguard 1.

After Turkey, he went to Vandenberg Air Force Base to work in launch. He served as the launch controller for a weather satellite, sitting in the last on-site blockhouse in the Air Force as a Titan II lifted off the pad. He assisted with other launches including a Delta II rocket and a Titan IV.

At this point he was married with a kid on the way, so Tom separated from the Air Force and went to work in the aerospace industry. He stayed in the Air Force Reserve, assigned part-time to two positions at the Pentagon and retired in 2014 as a Lieutenant Colonel. At his new company he worked with a new version of a weather satellite called the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite or GOES, being involved in the system from a critical design review through serving as a test director for the on-orbit satellite. He also worked with two land survey satellites called LandSats 5 and 7. One was launched in 1984 and served for 28 years. The other had launched in 1999 (while Tom was at Vandenberg) and was going strong as well. His work has involved international cooperation for an early form of space traffic control, early efforts for NASA's space asset protection, and reviews of several spacecraft in their design process.

He's written two books: *Space: What Now?*, a non-fiction book examining space policy options after the loss of Space Shuttle Columbia, and *I want to go to Mars*, an illustrated children's book about a young girl imagining what life would be like on the red planet. He's also written several articles for print and web media.

Tom is married to Deborah, and they have two grown children. His wife and daughter are here today.



## Nate Hoffelder, Web Designer

Nate has been helping people fix broken tech since 2010. He builds and repairs Word press sites, and acts as a virtual IT department for authors. He also blogs about the

Kindle and indie publishing. Nate is the president of the Riverside Writers Club in Fredericksburg, VA and is on the board of the Florida Writers Foundation. When he's not volunteering, he spends his time working on projects such as The Speaker Bureau, Simple Author Websites, and Author Website in a Box.

In his spare time he raises parakeets.

Find out what Nate can do for you at [natehoffelder.com](http://natehoffelder.com).



## Heather E. Hutsell

Heather E. Hutsell is the authoress of over 20 titles, including the steampunk mystery series *The Case Files*, short story compilations *The Doll Collection Volumes 1 & 2*, and an

epic poem, *The Merry Widow of Frankenstein*. Her other works include fantasy, romantic horror, absurdist fiction, dystopia, and fairytales gone awry. Her most recent publication is the paranormal novella *Nevermore, Inc.* Heather has also written two historical documentary series, contributed numerous articles to OneUnitedLancaster.com, and has stories in three anthologies from Crazy 8 Press. You can find her on Instagram @Heather\_E\_Hutsell\_Authoress and at [heatherehutsell.com](http://heatherehutsell.com).



## Iron Knight Cosplay

Iron Knight Cosplay has been appearing as a guest for charity events and conventions since 2015. He has won several awards for his costumes, the majority of which are

made from scratch. Iron Knight Cosplay has been featured by Marvel Comics, CBR (Comic Book Resources), Screen Rant, magazine covers, novels, the Pulitzer Prize nominated book *The Lone Ranger The Early Years*, and other pop culture entities. He is the Official Resident Cosplayer for The Mid-Atlantic Nostalgia Convention and looking forward to his first year at Farpoint, bringing iconic characters to life throughout the convention. Follow him at [facebook.com/ironknightcosplay](http://facebook.com/ironknightcosplay).



## Arrow J Knight

Arrow J Knight is the pseudonym of author James L Howard. Introduced to titles as diverse as *Lord of the Flies* and *The Lord of the Rings* in ninth grade, he was inspired to create not



Check posted schedules and our online guide at [myconschedule.com](http://myconschedule.com) for times and locations of autograph sessions, readings, schedule changes, and more!

# Guest Biographies

just a fictional world like Tolkien, but a universe that encompassed galaxies – like Timothy Zahn did with Lucas' universe.

Through discipline, patience, trial and error, *Jericho's Bane* was born. But his idea did not end with his first novel. He hopes to inspire the next generations of readers and writers. He wants them to experience the world in all formats. At ArrowJKnight.com you will find text, the spoken word, the visual. You will experience the world of *Jericho's Bane* brought to life.



### 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 his blog ([manuscriptsburn.blogspot.com](http://manuscriptsburn.blogspot.com)), Amazon ([amazon.com/author/kozeniewski](http://amazon.com/author/kozeniewski)), Facebook ([facebook.com/KozAuthor](http://facebook.com/KozAuthor)), and Twitter (@outfortune).



### Cheralyn Lambeth

Cheralyn Lambeth is a professional costume, prop, and puppet builder whose work includes feature films (*The Muppet Christmas Carol*, *The Patriot*, *Evan Almighty*, *The Hunger Games*), television shows (*Dinosaurs!*, *Homeland*, *Outcast*), and live/interactive properties (*Avenue Q*, *Star Trek: The Experience*, Sir Purr for the Carolina Panthers). She is also a published author, with several books including *Haunted Theaters of the Carolinas*, *Introduction to Puppetry Arts*, and her first fiction book *'Twas Halloween Evening: A Tale of the Zombie Apocalypse* and is currently working on a new book titled *Art in the Time of Corona*.

Most recently, Cher was a featured guest on the new *Unsolved Mysteries* podcast and had a co-starring role as Elsa Einstein in *The Vampire Diaries* spin-off show, *Legacies*, and was certified by the Guinness Book of World Records as holding the Largest Collection of Finger Puppets.

Follow Cher on Facebook (Cheralyn Lambeth) and Instagram (@cherlambeth) and visit her website at [cherlambeth.com](http://cherlambeth.com).



### Stephen Lesnik

Stephen Lesnik (CISSP-ISSEP-ISSMP, CCSP, CEH, CASP+, 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 a founding officer of the (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.



### LifeOfCosplay

Sarah started cosplaying back in 2010. She lived in Japan and Korea for a total of four years and cosplayed at multiple conventions while overseas. She has been featured on official *Resident Evil* platforms and worked with Instagram, Amazon Prime Video, and *Resident Evil/Oculus* on creative projects.

She volunteers her time to do character visits for children in hospitals and attend costumed fundraisers that benefit sick/injured children. Despite all the other work she's done, Sarah says her favorite part of cosplay is bringing happiness to a child.

Sarah has a combined following of 600K followers across her social media platforms. Find her on Instagram @lifeofcosplay.



### 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, monthly Drag Bingo nights at The Charles in LaPlata, MD, as well as a monthly show at DC Vegan Botanical Bar in DuPont Circle in DC called "Cocktails & C\*ck Tales", mixing a drag show with readings from erotic fiction!

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-Universe, and has a soft spot for gay Icon, The Dazzler. A DC-Area

nominated actor & costume designer in community theaters, D'Manda has also performed at conventions including a standing room only event KatsuCabaret at Katsucon 2020, the cosplay competition half-time show for Awesome-Con 2022, and regularly at FarpointCon since 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. Please follow her on social media @dmandamartini across all platforms to find out what she's up to and where you can see her!



### Miles McLoughlin

A lover of all things sci-fi, Miles' earliest memories are of watching the original *Star Trek* on a black and white TV with his father back in the early seventies. He remembers playing with *Trek* toys and action figures back in the day. Fast forward a few years later; *Star Wars* became Miles' new love. *Star Wars*, now known as *Star Wars IV: A New Hope*, was the first movie he saw at a drive-in theater with his family. Three movies and all the toys kept Miles going for quite some time. On the small screen, the classic *Battlestar Galactica* and *Buck Rogers* helped him survive the late seventies & early eighties and nurtured Miles' addiction for sci-fi and entertainment. Throughout the 80's and later, *Star Trek* came back to both the big and small screens, wooing Miles back to his first love. Miles now gets his fix from the Kelvin timeline movies, hundreds of *Trek* novels and the new show *Star Trek Discovery*.

For almost ten years Miles, with his friends Scott Herzog and M. Sierra Garcia, have been podcasting their love of all things sci-fi on the *Sci-Fi Diner Podcast*, informing their listeners on the latest sci-fi news and keeping the conversation going with them as they continue to celebrate this thing we call Science Fiction.

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10 - Forward

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# Guest Biographies



## Mike McPhail

Mike McPhail's love of the science fiction genre sparked a life-long interest in science, technology, and developing an understanding of the human condition-all of which played

an important role in his writing, art, and game design. These, in turn, are built upon his background in Applied Science and training as an Aeronautical Engineer, all of which were aimed at becoming a NASA mission specialist.

As a professional author, he has been involved in numerous projects, but he is best known as the creator and series editor of the award-winning *Defending the Future* military science fiction anthologies-now in their second decade of publication. His body of work has been formally recognized with his acceptance into SFWA, the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America.

As a graphic designer, he is the owner of McP Digital Graphics (founded in 2006), a company established to provide cover art, design, layout, and prepress services. This built upon not only his experience as a game designer, but primarily from his time as the Proofing Supervisor for Phoenix Color Corp doing cover work for the great publishing houses.

As a publisher, he is the co-owner of eSpec Books LLC (since 2014), where his graphics com-

pany has become the inhouse design arm of production.

As Airman McPhail, he is a member of the Military Writers Society of America and is dedicated to helping his fellow service members (and those deserving civilians) in their efforts to become authors, editors, or artist, as well as supporting related organization in their efforts to help those "who have given their all for us."



## Adeena Mignogna

Adeena is a physicist and astronomer (by degree) working in aerospace as a Mission Architect, which just means she's been doing it so long they had to give her a fun title. More importantly, she's a long-time science fiction geek with a strong desire to inspire others through speaking and writing about robots, aliens, artificial intelligence, computers, longevity, exoplanets, virtual reality, and more. She writes science fiction novels, including *The Robot Galaxy Series* (on Amazon, with the fourth book, *Eleven Little Robots*, available in May), and loves spending time with her fellow co-hosts of The BIG Sci-Fi Podcast (available wherever you listen to podcasts)!



## Dr. Valerie J. Mikles

Dr. Valerie J. Mikles is a PhD astronomer and former black hole hunter who defected from academia to work on weather satellites for NOAA. She has been a part of the Joint Polar Satellite System (JPSS) mission for over a decade, performing various roles with science algorithm development, research-to-operations, and program support. Part scientist, part engineer, she enjoys constantly learning new things.



## Dr. Timothy Miller

Dr. Miller is the Chief Scientist of the Seeker and Information Processing Group 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 Antarctica six times and to Greenland once. He also received a NIAC (NASA Innovative Advanced Concepts) grant to look at 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. He's recently served as the Image

NYC Meet & Mingle presented by:



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*Come talk about our favorite fandoms, share our fan stories and what we hope to see happen in the NYC community next.*

FREE EVENT,

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# Guest Biographies

Analysis Lead on the DART (Double Asteroid Redirection Test) mission, NASA's first asteroid deflection mission.



## Christopher D. Ochs

Christopher D. Ochs dove headfirst into writing with his epic fantasy *Pindlebryth of Lenland*. 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 novel is a gritty urban fantasy/horror, *My Friend Jackson*, a Finalist in Indies Today's Best Books of 2020. His short stories have been published in the Greater Lehigh Valley Writers Group's and Bethlehem Writers Group's award-winning anthologies and websites, and by Firebringer Press.

Chris has too many interests for his own damn good. With previous careers in physics, electrical engineering and software, CGI animator, classical organist, voice talent on radio, music video, DVD and OTAKON®, it's a wonder he can remember what week of the day it is. Wait, what?



## Marc Okrand

Marc Okrand devised the Klingon language heard in *Star Trek* movies and television series beginning with *Star Trek III: The Search For Spock* in 1984 as well as dialogue in Vulcan, Romulan, Kelpien, Kwejian, and other languages heard in various *Star Trek* films and TV series. He also created the Atlantean language for the animated feature *Atlantis: The Lost Empire*.

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*.



## 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 many markets including *Analog*, *Daily Science Fiction*, and *Third Flatiron*, and written RPG supplements for several companies. Her most recent novel is the urban fantasy *The Secret History of Victor Prince*, a prequel to her *Lost Guardians* saga. She is an active member of SFWA.



## Eduardo Sánchez

Eduardo Sánchez was born in Cuba in 1968. He studied television at Montgomery College in Rockville, MD and film at the University of Central Florida in 1994.

It was at UCF where Eduardo met his Haxan Films partners and in 1998 he co-wrote and co-directed *The Blair Witch Project*.

He went on to helm various indie features before moving into television, directing such shows as *Supernatural*, *Lucifer*, *Queen of the South*, *Ryan Murphy's American Horror Stories*, and the Season 1 finale of *Yellowjackets*.

He recently worked on *Star Trek: Strange New Worlds* and directed a segment of the new horror anthology film, *Satanic Hispanics*, which won the best horror director award at this year's Fantastic Fest.

Eduardo will be appearing at Farpoint 2023 via livestream.



## Josh Pritchett

Josh Pritchett is best known for his *Robot Repair Girl* stories featured in the *Brave New Girls* anthology series, the latest of which is 2022's *Brave New Girls: Chronicles of Misses and Machines*. He lives in Charlottesville, VA. He is a lifelong horror and science fiction fan.



## Steve Rifkin

Steve Rifkin fell in love with astronomy back in his teen years. He purchased his first telescope around age 16 so that he could view all kinds of astro objects. A few years ago, Steve decided he didn't just want to look through an eyepiece, he wanted to take away with him a photographic record of what he saw through his telescope. And so, his journey into the ups and downs (and ups again) of Deep Sky astrophotography began. When he's not behind a telescope, Steve works in the IT field, runs his own recording studio (and sings!), does a bit of indie film acting, and of course, spends time with his family.



## Dr. Seth Rittenhouse

Dr. Seth Rittenhouse is a theoretical physicist specializing in describing the weird behavior of atoms and molecules at the coldest temperatures in the universe. After

getting his PhD from the University of Colorado, he spent some time at Harvard University and the Harvard Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics as a postdoctoral fellow before moving around some and settling at his current position as an Associate Professor in the Department of Physics at the United States Naval Academy. Besides physics, he enjoys spending time tinkering in his workshop and watching terrible Netflix movies with his partner.



## Dean Rogers

Dean Rogers has been a staple at Farpoint since 1998. He served as con security in his late teens, played Nick Fury in the live radio program, interviewed celebrities, and hosted sci-fi versions of popular game shows like *Jeopardy!*, *Wheel of Fortune* and *Hollywood Squares!* When not attending the conventions, you will find him on the entertainment beat as the Editor-in-Chief/Reporter for the online entertainment magazine, *The Rogers Revue*.



## Dr. Scott O. Rohrbach

Dr. Scott O. Rohrbach is an optical Engineer working at NASA Goddard. Dr. Rohrbach graduated with his Baccalaureate in Physics from Clark University in MA and obtained his PhD in Physics from the University of Albany, SUNY. Scott has a strong interest in music and is



## DO YOU HAVE AN HOUR OF FREE TIME?

As good as the Farpoint Committee is, we can't be everywhere or do everything that is needed to make Farpoint go.

***That's where you come in!***

Volunteers fill jobs that help the committee, tech crew, art show, masquerade, badge checkers and other areas of the convention.

Stop by the Volunteer/Information table and find out how YOU can help!

# Guest Biographies

part of The Chromatics a capella singing group. A tenor-baritone, Scott was the first new Chromatic in 11 years, bringing another scientific mind to the group. He has a high energy groove, and a high frequency voice, but enjoys the occasional ballad when things get a little too excited. He's been writing original astronomy songs and parodies galore and is amazingly proficient at transcribing music into software, helping the Chromies all learn more quickly!



### 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. His tie-in work contains novels for *Star Trek*, *Warhammer*, *World of Warcraft*, *Stargate: Atlantis*, *Shadowrun*, and *Eureka*. He has written children's books (including the award-winning *Bandslam: The Junior Novel* and the #1 best-selling *42: The Jackie Robinson Story*), educational books, and roleplaying games (including the Origins Award-winning *Gamemastering Secrets*). Aaron lives in New York. You can follow him online at gryphonrose.com, at facebook.com/gryphonrose, and on Twitter @gryphonrose.



### Jonathan Roth

Jonathan Roth writes and illustrates graphic novels (*Rover and Speck*) and chapter books (the *Beep and Bob* series) aimed at young readers who like humorous, out-of-this-world adventures. He is also in his 24th year as a public elementary art teacher in Maryland.



### 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. Discover these at [www.jaysmithaudio.com](http://www.jaysmithaudio.com).



### Strider Cosplay

Strider Cosplay is a Northern Virginia Cosplayer that has appeared in magazines and won awards for his costumes. He will be walking around bringing several characters to life

during the convention. Follow him at [facebook.com/Stridercosplay](https://facebook.com/Stridercosplay) and remember: "You got a friend in me... just don't go poisoning the water hole!"



### Bryan 'Kaiser' Tillman

Bryan Tillman has been in higher education for over 12 years and served as everything from professor to program director for Media. He is currently an Assistant Professor for

Graphic Design at Norfolk State University. He has an MFA from the Savannah College of Art and Design, with a focus in sequential art and a minor in drawing. As an educator Bryan has conducted many panels and solo lectures for conventions such as AwesomeCon, MegaCon, Stan Lee's Comikaze, Wizard World Conventions and San Diego Comic Con, where he has been invited back to give his panel on Proper Pitching and Promoting Yourself for the last 9 years. Read about it at Bleeding Cool News - <https://www.bleedingcool.com/2017/07/26/comic-con-bryan-tillmans-five-rules-self-promotion-pitching>.

Aside from being an education, Bryan is the owner and CEO of the Kaiser Studio Productions LLC, a production studio for comics, toys, animation, and games that has been active in the industry for over 18 years. Within Kaiser Studio Productions Bryan Tillman does many things. He is a sculptor for toys. He is the editor for all the comic books that come out from the studio. He also does layout and illustrations for multiple projects. Clients have included Marvel Comics, DC Comics, Image Comics, Valiant Comics, TOPPS, UpperDeck, Cryptozoic, Rittenhouse, Toys R Us, T.G.I. Fridays, Focal Press, Lucas Films, CDR Press, FX, Miramax and Tandem Productions.

Bryan has published three instructional books, *Creative Character Design* (Focal Press), *Creative Character Design*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. (CDR Press) and *The 30 Day Pitch Bible* (Kaiser Studio Productions). He has also created and illustrated a tabletop RPG trading card game, *Dark Legacy*, acquired by UpperDeck and released in 2018.

Currently Bryan is hard at work getting ready to bring *Ninja Empire* to the public. *Ninja Empire* is a comic series of five separate stories set in world run by ninjas. This will be the first comic that Bryan has both written and illustrated. Check him out at [followthekaiser.com](http://followthekaiser.com) or on Twitter and Instagram @followthekaiser.



### VioletteVerse

VioletteVerse is a young cosplayer, actress, and superhero-in-training. Her mission is to make people smile with her cosplays. She has been daily cosplaying and is nearing the

1,500-day mark. She loves all things superhero, wants everyone to learn about cosplay, and encourages all types of people to cosplay too.

Sad the metaverse doesn't exist yet? Escape reality with a book.

**PANACEA GENESIS**  
THE PANACEA TRILOGY  
L. ANA ELLIS

**PANACEA EXODUS**  
THE PANACEA TRILOGY  
L. ANA ELLIS

Buy now at the Fire-Forged Books table

# Guest Biographies

Cosplay is for all. Always be yourself — unless you can be a superhero. Then always be a superhero! You can find VioletteVerse's many cosplays on Instagram @vi0letteverse.



### Howard Weinstein

After writing *Star Trek* stories for 35 years, Howard Weinstein turned to historical fiction with *Galloway's Gamble*, a Western Fictioneers Peacemaker Award-winning novel set in the Old West (available in paperback and ebook 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."

Howie has completed a sequel set in 1873 - *Galloway's Gamble 2: Lucifer & the Baltimore Brawl*. After Jamey and Jake Galloway's friends are swindled out of a champion racehorse by ruthless rival Cortland Van Brunt III in a fog-shrouded San Francisco race, the Galloway brothers lead a snake-bit cross-country quest: Can they reach Baltimore in time for a desperate long-shot bid to win back prized stallion Phoenix in a grudge-match race at the splendid new Pimlico Race Course?

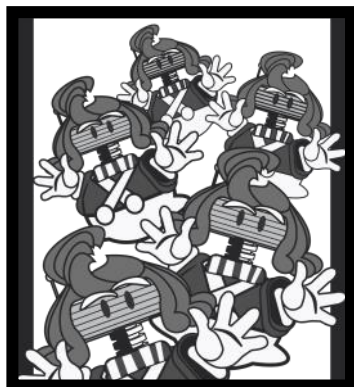
Howie's writing credits include *Star Trek: Mere Anarchy: The Blood-Dimmed Tide* and six other *Star Trek* novels; "The Pirates of Orion" animated *Star Trek* episode; story-development assistance on *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home*; and *Puppy Kisses Are Good for the Soul*, a charming account of life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



### Gregory A. Wilson

Gregory A. Wilson is Professor of English at St. John's University in New York, where he teaches creative writing and speculative fiction. Outside academia he is the author of the epic fantasy *The Third Sign*, the award-winning graphic novel *Icarus*, the dark fantasy



*Grayshade*, and the D&D adventure/sourcebook *Tales and Tomes from the Forbidden Library*, plus a number of published short stories. He co-hosts the actual play podcast *Speculate!* ([speculatesf.com](http://speculatesf.com)) and is co-coordinator of the Origins Library. Under the moniker Arvan Eleron, he runs a Twitch channel focused on narrative, with sponsored TTRPG campaigns. He lives with his family in Connecticut; his virtual home is [gregoryawilson.com](http://gregoryawilson.com).



### Steven H. Wilson

Steven Howell 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 in the *Arbiters* universe. His other works include the novel *Peace Lord of the Red Planet*, short stories for Firebringer Press's *In The Middle of Eternity* series, and contributions to Sequart Press's *Star Wars* essay collections. Most recently, Steve has branched out into historical fiction, with his first effort appearing in *Hobnail and Other Frontier Stories* from Five Star Press. He was the founding Director of Farpoint when it was established in 1993, and still serves as Deputy Chair. Steve currently works as an IT contractor, having retired from Howard County Fire & Rescue after 33 years of service. He and his wife, Renee, live in a historic home in Elkridge, Maryland and have two adult sons, Ethan and Christian. He blogs often, if not regularly, 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 latest short story is available in *Thrilling Adventure Yarns 2* by Crazy 8 Press.



### Rachel Wyman

Rachel Wyman presented her first puppet show (for an actual audience that wasn't related to her) at the age of 6. A year later, on May 25<sup>th</sup>, 1977, her parents dragged her to see a movie at the Uptown Theater in DC. And she hasn't stopped being a sci-fi/fantasy fan or a performer since. This career has included being a NPS Park Ranger and a professional puppeteer. Currently she is a performing member of, and writer for, the sketch comedy group Luna-C Productions.

For over a quarter of a century she has been competing in costume contests and masquerades, in the process winning numerous awards, including many Best in Shows. She is infamous for her twisted takes on Klingons, most notably for putting Marc Okrand, the creator of the Klingon Language, into apoplexy for her translation and performance of Patsy Cline's song "Crazy."

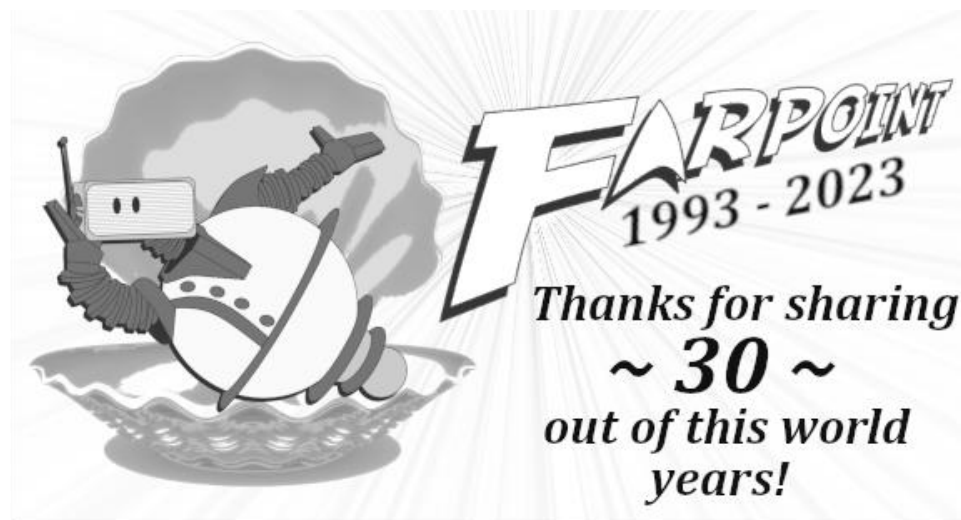
For the past decade+ she has been running a workshop to help costumers create, or tweak, their presentations for that day's Masquerade, resulting in a 97% success rate of helping costumers win awards, including 5 Best in Shows. Her spare time is spent reading, traveling to National Parks, and being way too invested in all things Disney - especially the parks.



### NASA Ambassador Dr. Willie Yee

Dr. Willie Yee is an amateur astronomer and a member and past president 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, Organizations & Live Performers

## Balticon/BSFS

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

The Baltimore Science Fiction Society (BSFS) is a non-profit, charitable, literary and educational organization, dedicated to the promotion of, and an appreciation for, science fiction in all of its many forms.

Balticon, our annual regional science fiction & fantasy convention, features authors, editors, publishers, artists, filmmakers, and, most importantly, fans. Occurring over the four-day Memorial Day weekend, Balticon has speeches by our guests, author readings, panels, slide shows, films, videos, an art show, a dealers room, board gaming, card gaming (collectible and otherwise), computer gaming, a masquerade show, science programming, a writer's workshop, and much, much more.

## BlerDCon

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

Blerdcon is an event that high-lights and celebrates Blerd culture and creates a marketplace of ideas where sharing that culture can take place with proper context, attribution and positivity in an inclusive environment.

Blerdcon is derived from the term "Blerd" which is short for black nerd. Blerd culture encompasses creatives, fans, producers who are and have been contributing to every fandom, but don't get the recognition or notoriety.

Blerdcon celebrates our connection with LGBTQ, the disabled, POCs and the international community! All are welcome to partake in the experience as we are an open community who love all the same nerddom. Some of our many events include: panels, celebrity guests, presentations, workshops, gaming tournaments, cosplay contests, cosplay guests, music, dance, anime screenings, and a maid café.

## The Boogie Knights

Songs of daring-do with nary a hey nonny nonny! Since 1982, the Boogie Knights have put a humorous medieval/mythical twist on everything from commercial jingles to TV and movie themes, from golden oldies to the latest top-40 songs. Who are the Boogie Knights? Prolific lyricist David Keefer (Theodoric of York, Medieval Disk Jockey) and guitarist John Scheeler (Sir John of Denver) are founding members. The rest, in order of joining, are: Sharon "Smapp" Palmer (Dionne of Warwicke), Kate Pakaski (Alice the Cooper's daughter), Linda Swann (the Lady Pinque), percussionist Keith R. A. DeCandido (Krad the Obscure), and Lynn Cunningham (Mad Donna). Pick up their latest CD, "The 7th Voyage of Sing-Bad"!

## Browncoat Ball

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

Do you aim to misbehave? Do you want to make friends that misbehave too? The Browncoat Ball is for you! Getting to know your fellow fans is the primary objective of the Browncoat Ball, and we strive for that with every activity,

every ball, every year. From touring the host city's diverse attractions to dancing the night away in style, from classes and demonstrations in fighting, costuming, and more, from late night pajama parties to the Big Damn Breakfast, there's always something exciting to do and new friends to do it with. Bids are currently being submitted for 2023's site so sign up to hear the latest news!

## Capclave

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

Capclave is a small relaxed literary convention with a program that usually focuses on the short fiction form. Our Guests of Honor and other notable authors, editors, artists, and fans of the short fiction form will explore the creation and enjoyment of short fantasy and science fiction genre stories.

Past Capclaves have hosted discussions with authors and fans; readings by authors; a dealer's room with books, magazines, artwork, crafts, and other science fiction and fantasy related items; exhibits by artists; space science presentations from NASA; a hospitality suite; room parties; interesting conversations with other fans and professionals; and a relaxed atmosphere for visiting old friends and meeting new friends.

## 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 host David McOwen as the troupe nerds out on the Farpoint stage.

## The Chromatics

The Chromatics are a high-energy vocal band on a mission to delight audiences with a full spectrum of songs about science, technology, life, and their intersections. They have taken their astronomically-correct a cappella songs, a project called AstroCappella, from coast to coast, and their CD has flown in space (for real!). Back down on earth they have captivated young and old alike at the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage, the National Air & Space Museum, the Mid-Atlantic Harmony Sweepstakes, and numerous science fiction conventions, First Nights, festivals, concert series, and private parties.

Their CDs have been nominated for multiple Washington Area Music awards (WAMMIES) and Contemporary A Cappella Recording Awards (CARAs). Celebrating 25 years together they are a mainstay of the local music scene and still bring a youthful exuberance to their fun-filled, colorful, and scientifically accurate performances. In spectral order, the Chromatics are Alan Smale (red), Padi Boyd (orange), Karen Smale (yellow), John Meyer (green), Scott Rohrbach (blue), and Michelle Orhan (purple). Find them at [thechromatics.com](http://thechromatics.com) and on Facebook/TheChromatics.

## 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.

## Dark Operations

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

Ten years after their initial film, the cast and crew of *Dark Operations* are back for their greatest adventure yet. This three-part mini-series wraps up the story of Captain McGregor and the USS Armstrong. A devastating battle leaves one of the crew on trial for genocide. Dark Operations Command is falling apart and the UEA President wants a quick and speedy end to the trial. Young, untested Defense Council Stephanie Strouse becomes more entangled in the web of deception and lies that surrounds Dark Operations as she faces off against the prosecution led by Col Gary Massey, a seasoned officer whose only goal is self-advancement, regardless of the cost. The crew faces the ultimate test: save themselves or risk everything for one of their own.

## Farragut Films

[@farragutfilms](https://instagram.com/farragutfilms) on instagram

Join Farragut Films, the studio who brought the adventures of the Starship Farragut to life in classic *Star Trek* '60's live action and '70's animation styles as they venture into the '80's movie era with their latest project, *Farragut Forward*.

## Getting' hungry?

### Lookin' for something to eat?

See our online guide for some ideas!

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



# Groups, Organizations & Live Performers

## Luna-C

Luna-C Productions is a comedy troupe that has been writing and performing live vaudeville style sketch comedy for the past 20+ years. Their spoofs are based on science fiction and fantasy movies and television shows. Nothing is safe from them; *Star Trek*, *Star Wars*, *Once Upon a Time*, *Stargate*, *My Little Pony*, *Doctor Who*, *Warehouse 13*, and *Harry Potter* have all fallen prey to their humor. Luna-C is also the creator of *Potter Live in 45*, a raucous summary of all seven *Harry Potter* books in 45 minutes.

For this year's Farpoint show Luna-C has set their sights on all your favorite science fiction, fantasy and even children's shows. Tell your friends, tell your relatives: come and see the show!

Catch Luna-C on Facebook (Luna-C Productions), YouTube (user/comedyoflunac), and at [comedyoflunac.com](http://comedyoflunac.com).

## Maryland Kunst des Fechtens

MKdF is a school of European swordsmanship and part of the Historical European Martial Arts (HEMA) community. We primarily teach the art of the longsword based on medieval German fight-books, but also delve into sword and buckler, spear and pole-arms, messer, dagger, wrestling, and other esoteric weapons.

Training sessions include cutting practice, sparring games, fencing fundamentals and mechanics, technical interpretation drills, and coached free fencing. We also organize visits to other regional groups in an effort to remain involved in the wider HEMA community.

Potential members can visit [marylandkdf.com](http://marylandkdf.com) to learn more. If you are not a local resident, you can learn about clubs in your area at [hemaalliance.com](http://hemaalliance.com).

## Miryokucon

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

Miryokucon is Baltimore's newest anime/videogames/Japanese pop culture event, debuting at the Baltimore Inner Harbor from September 29 through October 1, 2023! We are proudly focused on highlighting Metro Baltimore area artists, cosplayers and creators, along with helping to build the anime community throughout the Metro area. Come be a part of the fun!

## Nova Labs

[nova-labs.org](http://nova-labs.org)

Located in Fairfax City, VA, just outside Washington, DC, Nova Labs is a membership-driven, all-volunteer makerspace, founded in 2011 with the purpose of empowering our community to Rediscover the Joy of Making Things!

Our current facility houses classrooms, workspace, incubator offices, and a shop that includes both common tools and advanced fabrication equipment. Members enjoy 24/7 access and help co-manage our space by teaching classes, maintaining equipment, and promoting making in the community. We are a non-profit

501(c)(3) organization, supporting a wide range of open-source development projects that benefit both the local community and the world. Consider joining today to learn how and meet the people behind these projects!

## Philcon

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

Join us at the world's first and longest-running conference on science fiction, fantasy, and horror!

Started in 1936, Philcon features cutting-edge programming about literature, art, television, film, anime, comics, science, gaming, costuming and cosplay, music, and other topics of interest to fans of sci-fi, fantasy, and horror. We will also have many other attractions, such as our awesome Art Show and Auction; a Vendors Room full of unique merchandise; Children's/Family programming; a full-featured Tabletop Gaming room; our Writer's Workshop (featuring professional authors and editors); Concerts; Dorian's Dance Party, our Masquerade/Costume Competition, and more!

## Saber Guild - Dathomir Temple

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 also the largest recognized lightsaber club in the world.

Saber Guild - Dathomir Temple proudly serves the State of Maryland and the Washington DC Metropolitan Area. Check them out on Facebook and Instagram @saberguilddathomirtemple.

## SciFi Diner Podcast

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

Welcome to the SciFi Diner where we serve up spicy conversations from a tasty menu of the latest sci-fi movies and television shows! Whether you're in the mood for interviews with your favorite actors, reviews of new movies, recaps of the hottest shows, or rewatch/discussions of old favorites, there's something for every appetite at the Diner.



## Shore Leave/STAT

[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.

## Station Unity

[station-unity.org](http://station-unity.org)

Station Unity is an annual 3-day fan convention held in the D.C. metro area for Science Fiction & Fantasy enthusiasts and entertainment. Station Unity is produced by Katsucon Entertainment, Inc. (KEI), an educational organization dedicated to bringing information about animation, culture, society, and entertainment to fans everywhere.

## Wizards Alliance of Non-Lethal Duels

W.A.N.Ds is a sport for all aspiring Wizards & Witches to showcase their dueling skills! Much like Muggle Amateur Boxing contests, participants face off with their opponents over 3 rounds of combat to be judged by an licensed W.A.N.Ds official.

The event will kick off with a seminar class on the official spell-book of W.A.N.Ds, featuring recommended hexes, jinxes, and counter-curses taught by an Auror official working with the Magical Games & Recreation Department of the Ministry of Magic, here on special assignment to MACUSA!

# Art Way Alliance Panels

## Anime and Hip-Hop (A Conversation about Intersection and Influence)

Explore the relationship between two of pop culture's most globally impactful mediums. From rap songs that sample anime and reference it in lyrics, to series like *Samurai Champloo* that sample elements of Hip-Hop culture, the relationship between the two continues to grow, impacting music (Lo-Fi Hip-Hop), Fashion (Imori), and more. Presented by International Hip-Hop Recording Artist and U.S. Hip-Hop Ambassador (U.S. Dept. of State/Next Level), *Substantial*, known for his work with Nujabes (*Samurai Champloo*), *Anime Gives Back: Cowboy Bepop*, *PUBG Mobile*, *Arknights*, and more. *Kurenai Kiba Cosplay Art & Design*

Give your Cosplay new life with accessories that will make your costume-play pop! Artist/Cosplayer/Seamstress Kurenai Kiba discusses and teaches basics of Cosplay accessory design. Come with creativity in mind and put your hands to work as we craft and discuss things like shopping for supplies and ways to develop different design techniques. *Kurenai Kiba*

## Designing Rok-Tahk from Star Trek Prodigy: A Character Study

Discussing how model sheets work for the design elements that go into standardizing the appearance, poses, gestures, and expectations that all come together when designing a lovable character like Rok-Tahk. *Tyrone Barnes*

## Drawing SciFi Anime Fan Art

If you are a fan of anime and you love to draw, you don't want to miss this opportunity to spend time with Kyocs Chen as he demonstrates his personal design techniques when drawing anime fan art. *Kyocs Chen*

## How I Illustrate For Fun and For Clients

If you're a freelance designer and want to learn some of the design processes Angela McKendrick has used in her client work and those amazing propaganda posters, we have a seat with your name on it. *Angela McKendrick*

## Sketch Card Art & Design for Freelance Artists

Since 2015, Brad Hudson, artist and professor at UMES, has created over 4,000 sketchcards for Topps, Upper Deck, and Dynamite Comics. He'll discuss the basics of creating a sketchcard and demonstrate some of his design process using characters that we all know and love, those voiced by Farpoint guest Billy West. *Brad Hudson*

## Writing A SciFi Covid Hero Story

Do you enjoy writing about new worlds and characters to tell a story that you and your friends come up with? Then come grab a seat at the writers' desk where Rod Van Blake explains how he crafts a parallel universe that blends a current global event with elements of science fiction, where a lone hero fights for the survival of humanity. Come put your writing skills to the test; the future of the planet may depend upon it! *Rod Van Blake*

## 2023 Charity Auction

### Live Charity Auctions

Friday & Saturday nights

### Silent Auction Room

all weekend long

All proceeds benefit Farpoint's official charities



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.



### 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.

# Author Panels

## "Write What You Know" And Other Dubious Writing Advice

How did this and other instructional cliches ever get started? What do they even mean? Our pro panelists will help new writers sort out the good, the bad, and the ugly. *Howie Weinstein, Mike McPhail, Joshua Palmatier, Stephen Kozeniewski*

## Alternate History: Creating Stories By Changing The Past

An interactive presentation for writers and readers on the different facets and potential of alternative history storytelling. *JL Gribble*

## Author Role Models

Find out which authors our panels respect, admire, seek to emulate, both personally and professionally. *Heather E. Hutsell, Sherri Cook Woosley, Jay Smith, Christopher Abbott*

## Build-A-Book Workshop

Danielle Ackley-McPhail walks interested individuals through the elements of book design using published works as examples of what to do and not to do. *Danielle Ackley-McPhail*

## Building Identity

What defines a character's identity? Is it their behavior or their thoughts? How do we get that on the page and how do we honor identities that are not our own (be they aliens or our neighbor)? *Zack Be, Aaron Rosenberg, JL Gribble*

## Crazy 8 Press

An hour-long panel with members of Crazy 8 Press to discuss current and future publications. *Michael Jan Friedman, Peter David, Kath David, Robert Greenberger, Glenn Hauman*

## Creating Cool Books for Young Readers

Most of us discover fantasy and sci-fi as kids, and more than ever good books/graphic novels are being created for young readers. If you have interest in writing and/or illustrating for this diverse and eager crowd, this panel of kidlit creators can give you tips on honing your work and helping to get it in the hands of the right

agents and editors. All levels welcome. *Jonathan Roth, Mary Fan, MJ Blehart, Michael Jan Friedman*

## Developing a World

What is worldbuilding? How do we do it without losing track of story? How do you tell a story without losing track of the world? Economics, religion, ethics power, gender, history... how do you know where to start and how do you know when to stop? *Zack Be, Danielle Ackley-McPhail, Christopher Ochs, MJ Blehart*

## How To Build An Alien

Writers will discuss how they design a good alien species (how to NOT make them "Guys with Funny Foreheads") and give some tips on the design process. *Jennifer Povey, Zack Be, Christopher Abbott, Stephen Kozeniewski*

## I've Finished My Manuscript -- Now What?

An overview and discussion of authors' publishing options, from self-publishing to traditional press and everything in between. *Mary Fan, Christopher Abbott, Rigel Ailur, Aaron Rosenberg*

## Part Time Vs. Full Time Writing

Some people are built for "writing all day" (and what does that even mean, really?). Others are better suited to writing being only part of their day. Which are you? How do you know? *Heather E. Hutsell, Phil Giunta, Jennifer Povey, Christopher Ochs*

## Publishing Nightmares And Cautionary Tales

Panelists share stories of how publishing can go wrong and what aspiring writers should watch out for. *Mary Fan, Mike McPhail, Phil Giunta*

## Salvaging Old Ideas

Can you reclaim your old book ideas? Our panelists will discuss. *Phil Giunta, Keith DeCandido, Danielle Ackley-McPhail*

## Sherlock Holmes for the Modern Age/ Audience

While the traditional Victorian detective continues to be popular in the 21st century, other, more dynamic applications of the character are being seen now that Sherlock Holmes is in the public domain. Our authors discuss whether there should be a limit to where Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Watson are taken in the 21st Century, and whether the traditional Victorian sleuth can continue to endure. *Christopher Abbott, Michael Jan Friedman, Aaron Rosenberg, Keith DeCandido*

## Spy-5

A history of the connections between spy literature and films and science fiction. *Dr. Wesley Britton*

## Teach Your Children Well...

What SFF novels should be taught in schools? *Sherri Cook Woosley, Gregory Wilson*

## The Author Conundrum: Trilogies, Ongoing Series, Or Standalone Novels?

You've got one novel in your head. Or two, or three, or more. Do these characters warrant just a single adventure? Is there a trilogies' worth of adventures with these characters? Or can you write them indefinitely? Authors and editors discuss the advantages and roadblocks of each approach, and how they make these critical decisions. *Russ Colchamiro, Mike D'Ambrosio, Aaron Rosenberg*

## This Wasn't The Post-Apocalypse I Ordered!

Now that we've lived through a few apocalypses, why doesn't it feel like the world ended? Is it because there's more reason for hope than we thought... or is it that the apocalypse is still ongoing? And why does everyone wear spikes in the PA, anyway? *Glenn Hauman, Andy Campbell, Jay Smith, Zack Be*

## Writing Magic Systems

How do you build a realistic magic system for your books? *Aaron Rosenberg, Gregory Wilson, Christopher Ochs*



## Join our Authors in the Derby Room as they read from their works

Saturday, February 11, 2023	10:00 AM	Zach Be, Heather E. Hutsell
	11:00 AM	Gregory A. Wilson, Jonathan Roth
	12:00 PM	Russ Colchamiro, Sherri Cook Woosley, Jennifer Povey
	1:00 PM	Phil Giunta, Arrow J. Knight, Glenn Hauman
	2:00 PM	Michael Jan Friedman, Stephen Kozeniewski, Cheralyn Lambeth
	3:00 PM	Christopher Abbott, MJ Blehart, Keith R.A. DeCandido
Sunday, February 12, 2023	4:00 PM	Josh Pritchett, JL Gribble, Christopher Ochs
	10:00 AM	JL Gribble, Heather E. Hutsell, Cheralyn Lambeth
	11:00 AM	Zach Be, Michael Jan Friedman, Jonathan Roth
	12:00 PM	Danielle Ackley-McPhail, Sherri Cook Woosley, Christopher Abbott
	1:00 PM	Christopher Ochs, Glenn Hauman, Keith R.A. DeCandido
	2:00 PM	Gregory A. Wilson, Jennifer Povey
	3:00 PM	Josh Pritchett

# Costuming/Cosplay Panels

## The Fix-n-Finish Room

Open work area and "lounge" for costume repairs and completion all day Friday and whenever the room is not otherwise in use. Some supplies available. *Brian Sarcinelli, Sarah Yaworsky*

## 2D to 3D - Drag In Cosplay

Join Dax and D'Manda as they talk through when they drag up a 2D image from a comic or a picture to create 3D cosplays -- with an emphasis on drag! *D'Manda Martini, Dax ExclamationPoint*

## 3D Props Made Easy

Our panelists will share tips for making the best 3D printed props. *Frank Terrible, Super La Mario*

## Being An LGBTQ+ Cosplayer

How does being LGBTQ+ influence the choices one makes in cosplay? From character choice, to cons, to social media and more! *D'Manda Martini, Jessica Crouse, Nathan Schell*

## Cosplay 102: How to Connect

So you've created your costume. Now what? Learn to "Hack the System" as we cover how to find a photographer, how to build a cosplay community at home, create your cosplay page, how to design business cards, and more. *LifeOfCosplay, Jessica Crouse*

## Cosplay Self-Destructs

Examples and advice from our panel of cosplayers and performers about what to do when your best laid plans go awry! *D'Manda Martini, Dame Dahlia, VioletteVerse, LifeOfCosplay*

## Expressing Yourself Through Cosplay

Cosplay can be an incredible way of expressing yourself or stepping into someone else's shoes. Our panel will discuss. *Nathan Schell, Dame Dahlia, Jessica Crouse, VioletteVerse*

## Iconic Hats Tutorial: From Indy To The Doctor To The Duke

Western & fedora hat hobbyist Howard Weinstein's intro to buying and shaping fur-felt hats; how to replicate a favorite hat; how to avoid skin cancer with the right hat. Bring your hats and questions! *Howard Weinstein*

## Makerspaces

The cosplayers' ultimate resource tool. *Super La Mario*

## Masquerade Presentation Workshop

For those who have a costume and need help with a presentation for Masquerade. Or if you already have an idea and want a fresh pair of eyes to help you with it. If you need help with audio. If you need a complete presentation. I am here to help you make a better Masquerade! *Rachel Wyman*

## Masquerade Critique (2 hrs)

Re-live the Masquerade and discuss what worked and what did not in a round table discussion. *Brian Sarcinelli, Sarah Yaworsky, Stephen Lesnik*



## Masquerade Costume Contest

You are cordially invited to Farpoint's Masquerade - one of the highlights of the con! Novices and seasoned pros alike bring their original and recreation costumes to the stage in a feast for the senses and the funny bone!

Don't be shy -- new costumers are encouraged to compete!

### WHERE • WHAT • WHEN

#### Masquerade Registration

Downstairs under the escalators  
across from Convention registration  
Saturday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Entries cannot be accepted after 4:00 pm.

....

#### Workmanship Judging

During Green Room  
immediately preceding Masquerade

**OLD TRADITIONS  
NEW VOICES  
NEW IDEAS**

Performing Live  
Friday Night  
8:25 PM  
Valley Ballroom

**PROMETHEUS**  
Radio Theatre

# Live Events & Performances

## Cocktail Party

Everyone's welcome to mix and mingle! A cash bar will be available. For an additional cost, you can buy a ticket for all-you-can-eat light buffet. A limited number of tickets available at the door.

## Opening Ceremonies

The party continues! Please join us for the presentation of the Volker/McChesney Award, the Friday Live Charity Auction, and a performance by Prometheus Radio Theatre with special musical guest D'Manda Martini.

## Billy West

An hour with our guest. (Saturday & Sunday)  
*Billy West*

## Rylee & Carlos Alazraqui

An hour with our guests. (Saturday & Sunday)  
*Rylee Alazraqui, Carlos Alazraqui*

## Wilson Cruz

An hour with our guest. (Saturday & Sunday)  
*Wilson Cruz*

## Eduardo Sánchez

The co-writer/co-director of *The Blair Witch Project* talks with us live via Skype. (Saturday only)  
*Eduardo Sánchez*

## Robert Greenberger

Bob talks movies... and tv... and other stuff...  
*Robert Greenberger, Glenn Hauman*

## Boogie Knights

History and fantasy-inspired parodies of modern songs. Come for the melody, stay for the words!  
*Keith R.A. DeCandido, Dave Keefer, Kate Pakaski, Sharon Palmer, John Scheeler, Linda Swann*

## Charnock's Comedy Cabaret

If you, like Data, want to know what is funny, stop in for nerdish performances from great local stand-up comics!  
*David McOwen*

## ConQueens: Cosplay Drag Show

A fabulous show by some fabulous queens – they have the range, darling!  
*D'Manda Martini, Dax ExclamationPoint Felix Fisher, Gabriel Rodenborn, Justin Smart*

## Kunst des Fechtens

What really goes on during a proper sword fight? Is it quick and precise like *The Princess Bride* or is it slow and noisy like *Highlander*? Have you ever

wanted to slay monsters like Geralt or wield a greatsword like Ned Stark? These fighters will forever change how you look at your favorite shows and movies and might even give you the basics to take on a few monsters yourself!  
(Saturday & Sunday) *Maryland KdF*

## Marc Okrand

If you've ever heard Shakespeare the way it was meant to be spoken, thank Marc. He's the man who taught the Klingons their own language and inspired linguists all over the galaxy.  
*Marc Okrand*

## Masquerade

Join us for one of the best Masquerades in fandom. Stay for the Halftime Show and the Saturday Live Charity Auction, featuring awesome items including special items donated by our guests.

## Lightsaber Fighting Exhibition

Exciting fight choreography from a galaxy far, far away. Learn about Saber Guild's activities around the world.  
*Saber Guild - Dathomir Temple*

## SciFi Diner Podcast

Check out the Sci-Fi Diner crew as they record their podcast at Farpoint!  
*Scott Hertzog, Miles McLoughlin, M Sieiro Garcia*

## SciFi Squares

It's the galaxy's favorite gameshow – SciFi Squares! Will Circle get the square or will X win it all?  
*Dean Rogers*

## Sketchpads: Live Art And Music Session

Grab your sketchpad or tablet and join in as a visual artist leads a life model illustration session with cosplayer models. Vibe to the beat set by a professional music producer while you create your own work of art!  
*Rachelle Etienne-Robinson, Substantial*

## Starship Magic by S'kai of Vulcan

Farpoint presents S'kai, Vulcan's Greatest Magician! He brings magic to an age where transporters and replicators are commonplace. He has performed everywhere from the bridge of the original *Enterprise* NCC-1701 (no bloody A, B, C or D) to Farpoint. S'kai is wanted by the Bureau of Temporal Investigation for multiple violations

of the timeline and for theft of technologies from other eras. Although exiled from Vulcan for being too emotional, he has harnessed his emotionality to bring you an exciting time. This is an adult show, though family friendly. Not recommended for children under 8.  
*NASA Ambassador Dr. Willie Yee*

## TA Chafin

There's so much going on in the world of *Star Wars* that no one can keep up with the latest and greatest news. No one except...  
*TA Chafin*

## Ten Forward

Dance and party the night away!

## The Bob and Howie Show

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

## The Chromatics

A capella stylings with pop culture riffs and science facts!  
*Padi Boyd, John Meyer, Michelle Orhan, Scott Rohrbach, Alan Smale, Karen Smale*

## Vic's Place Karaoke Featuring The Pack Ratz

Karaoke party!  
*Chris Carruthers, Terpette*

## Wizarding Alliance of Non-Lethal Duels

### (W.A.N.Ds)

W.A.N.Ds is a sport for all aspiring Wizards & Witches to showcase their dueling skills! Much like Muggle Amateur Boxing contests, participants face off with their opponents over 3 rounds of combat to be judged by a licensed W.A.N.Ds official. The event will kick off with a seminar class on the official spell-book of W.A.N.Ds, featuring recommended hexes, jinxes, and counter-curses taught by an Auror official working with the Magical Games & Recreation Department of the Ministry of Magic, here on special assignment to MACUSA!  
*Brooks Miller*

## Younglings Lightsaber Training

Members of the Saber Guild will be on hand to train younglings in the art of the lightsaber and the ways of the Force.  
*Saber Guild - Dathomir Temple*

## Open Committee Meeting

Come and tell us how your Farpoint went! Suggestions and feedback welcome!  
*Farpoint Committee*



Sketchpads is a live art and music "jam session" featuring live illustrations by a visual artist and a live beat set by a producer. The space includes invited cosplayers/-figure models to pose for the audience to draw. The room also serves as an artist lounge where spectators can observe or use the space to work on their own art.

**SUBSTANTIAL ART & MUSIC PRESENTS SKETCHPADS: LIVE ART & MUSIC SESSION**

# Movies & TV Panels

## 90s Kids TV

We discuss our favorite kid friendly TV shows and what they mean to us. From Saturday Morning Cartoons to weekly sitcoms and beyond. Ryan Permison, Mary Fan

## Colonial Ministry of Defense Meeting

A gathering for members of the CMOD.

## DC Movies: The Future

We discuss the movies that are currently in development or coming soon to theaters and share our thoughts on what we want to see from the DC movies moving forward. *Ryan Permison, Arrow J. Knight, Kath David, Annie Brugmans*

## Disco+: A Star Trek Renaissance

A brief review of all five current *Star Trek* shows followed by a freeform but moderated discussion; with a focus on breaking new ground, such as the gay character portrayed by Wilson Cruz. *Keith DeCandido, Dr. Wesley Britton, Rigel Ailur*

## DS9 at 30

We'll celebrate 30 years of *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*.

*Miles McLoughlin, Keith DeCandido, Rigel Ailur, Kim Headlee*

## How Much Star Wars Is Too Much Star Wars?

Disney Plus has exceeded our expectations with their various *Star Wars* miniseries, but how much is too much? Should Disney forget *Star Wars* theatrical releases and just stick to streaming? *Alan Chafin, Ryan Permison, JL Gribble*

## Humor In Star Trek

*Star Trek* isn't known as a comedy (the relentlessly hilarious *Star Trek: Lower Decks* aside), but that doesn't mean it isn't chock full of humor. Let's talk about our favorite funny moments in *Trek*, as well as why it's such a crucial element of storytelling in the *Star Trek* universe. *David McOwen, Dr. Willie Yee, Rigel Ailur, Dr. Wesley Britton*

## Marvel... What Phase Are We In, Again?

We'll review the Marvel films and tv shows which made up Phase 4 (it is, 4, right?) and look ahead to Phase 5. *Peter David, M Sieiro Garcia, Dame Dahlia*

## Movies At 25 & 30

We discuss our favorite movies that were released in 1993 and 1998: what they mean to us - the ones we can go back to and re-watch. *Ryan Permison, Alan Chafin, Zack Be*

## Outlander: Is This The End?

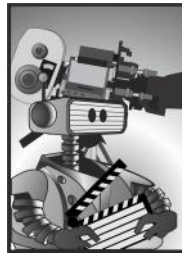
Season 7 is actively filming now and there's questions whether this will be their last season. Hopefully, we'll have some answers by the time this panel takes place! Lots has been happening and we will see a continuation from last season's cliffhanger. *Annie Brugmans, Maggie Restivo*

## Resident Alien

We'll discuss Season 2 of this offbeat comedy, based on a Dark Horse comic. *Jay Smith, Cindy Shockey, Neil Ottenstein*

## Rings Of Power - Searching For Sauron

Discussing the first season of *The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power* from Amazon Prime. What did people like? What did they dislike? We'll discuss what the creators did with the limited available material and what they had to change to bring it to series. We'll also discuss any news about season 2 and beyond. *Neil Ottenstein, Christopher Abbott, Terpette*



## Space Opera Supreme - BSG, Babylon 5, The Expanse and More

Sci-fans love their space opera. Alien worlds, space battles, politics, relationships, robots, and everything in between. Take a deep dive on some of the most exciting space opera TV, which ones we've missed, and how space opera continues to evolve, while the basics, at heart, remain the same. *Russ Colchamiro, Royce Essig, Alan Chafin, Annie Brugmans*

## Star Trek: Lower Decks

The weekly hijinks of the crew of the *Cerritos* make for must-see viewing. Let's talk about the show and speculate on the crossover with *Strange New Worlds!* *David McOwen, Keith DeCandido, Rigel Ailur*

## Starfleet Int'l Meeting

A gathering for members of the SFI.

## Strange New Worlds & Predetermination

Is Captain Pike's fate preordained? Can he change it? Should he try? *Howard Weinstein, Robert Greenberger, Michael Jan Friedman, Joshua Palmatier*

## The Orville: New Horizons

Seth McFarlane credits the show's move to Hulu for the success of the current season. Did you watch? What did you think? *Zack Be, Annie Brugmans, Royce Essig*

## The Sandman Season 1:

### Discussing The Adaptation

We'll discuss the first season of Neil Gaiman's *The Sandman* on Netflix, contrasting it with the comics that it adapts and the audio series from Audible. We'll also present any news of a second season. *Neil Ottenstein, Glenn Hauman, Robert Greenberger, Kath David*

## Who At 60: A Retrospective

We'll discuss 60 years of *Dr. Who*, past, present and future. *Kath David, Christopher Abbott, Jennifer Povey*

## In Memoriam

*To those we lost in 2022*



Paul Sorvino  
*Nikolai Rozhenko—ST: TNG*



Kirstie Alley  
*Lt. Saavik—ST II: TWoK*



Nichelle Nichols  
*Nyota Uhura*



Louise Fletcher  
*Kai Winn Adams—ST: DS9*



Leslie Jordan  
*Kol (Ferengi)—ST: Voy*



Robert Brown  
*Lazarus—ST: TOS*



Michael Braveheart  
*Crewman Martinez—ST: TNG*



Sally Kellerman  
*Dr. Dehner—ST: TOS*



Laurel Goodwin  
*Yeoman Colt—ST: TOS*

# New Media & Fannish Interest Panels

## 3D Printing And The World of Trek

We'll discuss how to use 3D printing to create *Star Trek* items. *Frank Terribile*

## Art In The Time Of Corona

During the covid lockdown of 2020, the Getty Art Museum issued a challenge to people caught at home, encouraging them to recreate famous works of art using items from around the house. The lockdown has since been lifted, but many people have continued the challenge, and taken it even further with more elaborate recreations. Join panelist Cheralyn Lambeth as she discusses the art reproductions in her upcoming book, *Art in the Time of Corona*, sharing the history of selected pieces, the process involved in the recreations, and, quite possibly, recreating an artwork on the spot from items found around the convention! *Cheralyn Lambeth*

## Bigfoot: Facts And Hoaxes

Our panelists will talk about people who have made Bigfoot hoaxes and what to look for in a real sighting. *Josh Pritchett, Cindy Shockey*

## Drive to Finish

Do you have the drive to finish your project? *Royce Essig, Bryan Tillman, JL Gribble*

## Expansive Meetup

A gathering for fans of *The Expanse*.

## Farragut Forward

Members of the crew of Starship Farragut will bring us updates on their new fan productions. *John Broughton*

## Ghost Hunting Vs. Ghost Busting: The Science And The Fiction

*Ghostbusters* co-creator Dan Aykroyd was himself interested in the paranormal, and made use of modern research and theories regarding ghosts in his 1984 film. Come learn the differences and similarities between the equipment used in the *Ghostbusters* films and that used by modern-day ghost hunters. *Cheralyn Lambeth*

## LGBTQ+ Representation in Fandom Media

Let's get down to the good, the bad and the downright pearl-clutching terrible representation for the LGBTQ+ community in the media we love, love to hate and hate to love! *D'Manda Martini, Jessica Crouse, Dax ExclamationPoint*

## LGBTQ+ Tea

A gathering for fans in the LGBTQ+ community. *Morgan Stallard*

## NYC Meet & Mingle

Presented by All in Fandoms - a group of fans collectively gathering to host awesome events for the good of all in every fandom. NYC Meet and Mingle is open for all to attend, especially fans from NYC and surrounding area and those who travel to NYC to attend gatherings and events. We will talk about our favorite fandoms, share our fan stories, and about what we hope to see happen in the NYC community next. This event is FREE. Dessert and beverages will be served. *Shawyonia Pettigrew*

## Pictish Art - Lions & Tigers & Griffins, Oh My!

Although there exists no word in Scottish Gaelic for "dragon," these and many other magnificent creatures and symbols adorn hundreds of monoliths—as well as jewelry and caves—throughout Scotland. Author Kim Iverson Headlee, who has been chasing these stones for more than two decades, presents an introduction to this ancient and mysterious art form. *Kim Headlee*

## Proper Pitching And Promoting Yourself

Learn the art of presentation, body language, elevator pitches, standing out, interview skills, and how to make an opportunity when there isn't one. This is a great lecture for those who have a product they'd like to pitch to companies. Bryan "Kaiser" Tillman is an illustration Professor at Montgomery College in Rockville, Maryland. He is also the owner and CEO of Kaiser Studio Productions, a production studio for comics, toys, animation, and games. *Bryan Tillman*

## So You Want To Be A Podcaster...

We'll discuss the dos and don'ts of podcasting, things to know, and equipment you'll need to start. *Russ Colchamiro, Gregory Wilson, MJ Blehart, Dr. Wesley Britton*

## Space 1999 Fan Meet & Greet

Since the pandemic, fan interest in the adventures of the wandering Moonbase Alpha has exploded! (*ba dum pa!*) Every month there's a

new novel, making-of book, technical manual, action figure or toy premiering. Facebook groups are buzzing, and the fan fiction archives are growing. Even Elon Musk wants to build an actual Moonbase Alpha! If you have a secret (or not-so secret) love for this former *Trek*-competitor, come out and say hi. *Steven Wilson*

## The Road to Dark Operations: Update

A much-anticipated update on where *Dark Operations: Terminus* is in a post-Covid world. *Royce Essig, Nathan Schell*

## The Star Trek Customizable Card Game: Past, Present, and Future

A retrospective of the popular *Star Trek* Customizable Card Game from the 1990's through the 2000's, and a look into the future. We cover the history and mechanics of this dynamic game from Decipher Inc., with a lead in to how it is still played today, and how to engage with this hobby through local demos, casual play, and tournaments. *Dane Menges Katherine Walter Jonathan Fuhrman*

## Toxic Fandom

Used to be, fans proclaimed their devotion for TV shows, movies, books and the like with multiple viewings/readings, joining fan clubs, purchasing merchandise, even writing letters to protest cancellations. Now, fans feel entirely justified in trashing an actor's performance or criticizing directors for their choices -- even boasting that the fans could do better! Where did this sense of entitlement come from? Can we blame social media? *Miles McLoughlin, Kath David, Jay Smith, Jennifer Povey*

## Toys From Our Past

What were your favorite toys growing up? Do you still have them? Or did Mom throw them away? Nooooo! *Royce Essig, Ryan Permison, Phil Giunta, Andy Campbell*

## What Makes For A Successful Kickstarter Campaign?

There's an art to creating effective crowdfunding campaigns. Those who've funded multiple Kickstarter projects share their experiences and their expertise. *Glenn Hauman, Michael Jan Friedman, Gregory Wilson*



# Science Panels

## **Getting Started In Deep Sky Astrophotography: An Absolute Beginner's Guide**

Learn the basics about getting started with imaging deep sky objects such as galaxies, nebulae, and star clusters. We will discuss the types of equipment, software, and processes that go into making the challenges and triumphs you may encounter as you enter this rewarding craft that mixes science and photography with the beauty of the universe! You'll see real ("out of this") world examples of astrophotography taken from a driveway in the suburbs of Baltimore as you learn about some of the challenges and triumphs you may encounter as you enter this rewarding craft that mixes science and photography with the beauty of the universe! *Steve Riffkin*

## **Hubble Space Telescope: Highlights from 32+ Years of Observing the Universe**

NASA's Hubble Space Telescope has explored our entire Universe from nearby objects in our Solar System to distant galaxies near the beginning of time for more than 3 decades now. We will look back at some of its most important and beautiful results and images and how they have impacted us for so many years. We will also note how Hubble and JWST are joining forces to further our explorations of our incredible Universe. *Kenneth Carpenter*

## **Just Because We Went To The Moon Doesn't Mean It's Easy**

Without the use of any modern computing equipment, NASA put several men on the moon and returned them home safely. Several times. But that doesn't mean it's easy. In fact, it might even be harder now! Come learn why! *Adeena Mignogna*

## **Neutron Stars: The Limits of Physics**

Neutron stars are often treated as the foster children of black holes. Exploring neutron stars reveals fascinating physical phenomena including magnetic forces seen nowhere else in the

universe. Recent discoveries from the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) have increased our knowledge of the structure and evolution of neutron stars. *Dr. Willie Yee*

## **New Eye in the Sky: Engineering and Science Update for NASA's Powerful JWST**

The Chromatics acapella singing group employ both vocation and avocation to give us a picture of the state of JWST and the advanced work it is doing for science. *Dr. Patricia Boyd, Dr. Scott Rohrbach*

## **Practical IT Security for your Mobile Devices**

Your mobile devices are your best friends. They remind you of things you need to do, provide you entertainment, connect you to others in your social circle, serve as your retail store, act as your safari guide, and occasionally act as a telephone. But they are also insidious spies, tattletales, and potential thieves. Come discuss ways to ensure our silicon friends are not betrayers in disguise. We'll discuss common mobile security issues and remedies to keep you safer when using these devices. *Stephen Lesnik*

## **Quantum Weirdness and Local Realism**

The 2022 Noble Prize in physics and the onset of the quantum revolution. *Dr. Seth Rittenhouse*

## **The DART Mission: Testing Planetary Defense via Asteroid Deflection**

NASA's DART (Double Asteroid Redirection Test) mission successfully impacted with asteroid Dimorphos on September 26, 2022. DART is the first test of planetary defense via kinetic deflection. Dr. Miller will update us on the latest results from DART, and describe NASA's planetary defense program in general, including contrasts between Hollywood versions of the concept and what is now the real thing. *Dr. Timothy Miller*

## **The Life Cycle of Stars**

Stars have a cycle of life, just like anything alive does. The difference is that stars' cycles take millions and often billions of years. We will fol-

low this cycle from the beginning that all stars have in common to the diverse possible ends, as visualized by the latest results from the Hubble and James Webb Space Telescopes. Come join us for this astronomical journey! *Dr. Inge Heyer*

## **The Loss of the Night Sky: What Light Pollution and Satellites Constellations are Doing to Our Views of the Cosmos**

Recent studies by citizen scientists have revealed that our ability to see the fine details in the night sky is diminishing faster than expected. Also, the growth of communication-satellite constellations are posing challenges for professional and amateur astronomers and astrophotographers. The potential impact on radio astronomy could also be extreme. *Charles Blue*

## **The Science of *The Expanse***

*The Expanse* books and television series tell a story of near-future humans living in space as part of an interconnected economy. While the authors have to take some liberties with technology, as a whole the story contains some of the most realistic depictions of spaceflight ever done. Tom Hill, a practicing aerospace engineer and *Expanse* fan, will discuss the many things done right and a few things that miss the mark in areas like propulsion, orbital mechanics, and communications. *Thomas Hill*

## **Weather Satellites: Saving the World from Low-Earth Orbit**

How much warning did you get before the last blizzard? Come learn about the recently launched NOAA-21/JPSS-2 and the constellation weather satellites in low-Earth orbit. Hear how new tech is fueling new science, allowing us to track hurricanes at night, predict river flooding from melted ice, and better warn us about other impending hazards. *Dr. Valerie Mikles*

## **Where is the Science in All That Fiction?**

Sussing out the science in science fiction. *Dr. Charles Adler*

**Four Farpoint guests walk into a room...  
...four hundred voices start talking.**

Here's a great way to pass the time – try to count up all the characters our guests have lent their voices to. And don't forget to include commercials. (We're looking at you, Red M&M!)

When you've figured it out, be sure to tell us. We're dying to know. (But too lazy to do it ourselves. 😊)

## ***FARPOINT 30 (2023) ART SHOW AND AUCTION***

Welcome to the Farpoint Art Show and Auction! We are in Maryland 1 and 2 which is near the top of the escalators. We are open on Friday evening and all-day Saturday for bidding! Please stop by, admire, and buy some artwork!

### ***New Bidder Rules:***

New! A piece with **7 BIDS** is sent to the Auction on Sunday morning. Bidders must be registered with the convention and with the Art Show desk. Art Show staffers will assign you a bidder number. Pieces with **6 BIDS** or less when the Art Show closes on Saturday evening will be sold to the highest bidder on the card. Pieces with **7 OR MORE BIDS** go to auction. If you place the seventh bid on a piece of art, plan to attend the auction. The Art Auction is **SUNDAY** starting at **11:00 AM** in Maryland 1 and 2. ALL registered convention members (one-day and weekend) may attend the Art Auction.

### ***Quick Sale on Saturday:***

When our doors open on **Saturday morning**, if an item **DOES NOT** have a bid on it, it may be purchased at the **QUICK SALE PRICE** listed on the bid sheet. On the bid sheet itself, write your Bidder Number where indicated, but instead of writing a dollar amount, write "QS." Once you have purchased the item, you may take it with you, or you may leave the item to hang in the Art Show until Sunday. If the item you wish to purchase is 2D (flat art), you may remove the art from the panel and bring it to the Art Show table for checkout. If the item you wish to purchase is 3D (ceramic/jewelry, etc. – something breakable) please ask one of the friendly Art Show staffers to remove the art for you. Please do not handle the breakable items yourself!

Payments for artwork can be made by **CASH, CHECK, or CREDIT CARDS (VISA, MASTERCARD, AMEX, DISCOVER)**. Maryland sales tax (6%) will be collected on all sales. Complete rules for bidding and purchasing will be available at the art show desk.

### ***Art Show Reminders:***

**NO photographs may be taken inside the Art Show room. NO food or drink allowed. Small children must be supervised while in the art show room. Larger children will be put to work by the Art Show staff...**

### ***ART SHOW SCHEDULE:***

Friday:	Artists' Registration:	2:00 PM to 7:30 PM
	Art Show Hours:	4:00 PM to 7:30 PM*
Saturday:	Artists' Registration:	10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon
	Art Show Hours:	10:00 AM to 7:00 PM
Sunday:	Art Auction:	11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon
	Art Sales Pickup:	SHORTLY AFTER AUCTION ENDS to 1:00 PM BUT NO LATER THAN 3:00 PM
	Artists' Pickup:	BEFORE or AFTER AUCTION, CIRCUMSTANCES PERMITTING BUT NO LATER THAN 3:00 PM

**\*Art Show will close at 7:30 PM Friday night so that the Art Show staff can participate in the opening festivities; Art Show may reopen at 9:00 PM if demands warrant.**



# BALTICON 57

science fiction and fantasy convention

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**Brad Lee Howard**



Fan Guest of Honor  
**Bryan "Bellz" Jordan**



2022 Compton Crook  
Award Winner  
**P. Djèli Clark**



2021 Compton Crook  
Award Winner  
**Micaiah Johnson**



2023 Compton Crook  
Award Winner  
**TBA**



2023 Robert Heinlein  
Award Winner  
**TBA**

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# Shore Leave 43

A Fan-run Media Science Fiction Con in Baltimore  
Presented by the STAT Club of Maryland, Inc.

## 7-9 July 2023



**Ben Browder**

*Farscape* – John Crichton  
*Stargate SG-1* – Lt. Col. C. Mitchell  
*Guardians/Galaxy* – Sovereign Admiral



**Penny Johnson Jerald**

*The Orville* – Dr. Claire Finn  
*Castle* – Captain Victoria Gates  
*Star Trek: DS9* – Kasidy Yates



**Robert Picardo**

*Stargate (all 3 series)* – Richard Woolsey  
*Star Trek: VOY* – EMH  
*China Beach* – Dr. Dick Richard



**Alaina Huffman**

*Stargate Universe* – Lt. Tamara Johansen  
*Supernatural* – Abaddon  
*Smallville* – Dinah Lance/Black Canary



**Robert Duncan McNeill**

*Star Trek: VOY* – Lt. Tom Paris  
*Chuck* – Operative  
24 – FBI Agent



**Bonnie Gordon**

*Star Trek: Prodigy* – Ship Computer (VO)  
*Clear Skies* – M'Qrell (VO)  
*Citizens of Space* – Courier (VO)

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

More guests will be announced  
as soon as they are confirmed.

### *Our confirmed author, artist, and scientist guests:*

Chris Abbott, Danielle Ackley-McPhail, Rigel Ailur, Lorraine Anderson, Derek Tyler Attico, The Boogie Knights, Ken Carpenter, Alan Chafin, The Chromatics, John Coffren, Russ Colchamiro, Greg Cox, Keith DeCandido, Mary Fan, Kelli Fitzpatrick, Michael Jan Friedman, Phil Giunta, Rande Goodwin, Robert Greenberger, Amy Griswold, Amy Imhoff, Stephen Lesnik, Luna-C, David Mack, Mike McPhail, Adeena Mignogna, Susan Olesen, Joshua Palmatier, Robb Pearlman, T.J. Perkins, Roberta Rogow, Aaron Rosenberg, Jenifer Rosenberg, Hildy Silverman, Ray Villard, Dayton Ward, Laura Ware, Brent Warner, Richard White, J.K. Woodward, and Sherri Woosley.

More participants will be announced as they are confirmed.

#### **For Hotel Information:**

**Delta Hotels Baltimore Hunt Valley**  
245 Shawan Road  
Hunt Valley, Maryland 21031

**Tel. 410-785-7000 or 866-764-8359**

*(Hotel reservations for 2023 are being taken now)*

Make your own reservations and mention **Shore Leave** for a special room rate of \$139 plus applicable taxes.

#### **For Any Other Information:**

**Shore Leave**  
PO Box 6809  
Towson, Maryland 21285-6809

Email: go to [www.shore-leave.com/contacts/](http://www.shore-leave.com/contacts/) and click on the applicable link.

DEC. 9TH 2023

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# Farpoint COVID Guidance

**Farpoint Convention will be following all federal, state, local and venue rules/guidelines regarding COVID. We will be keeping our 2022 plans in place for increased sanitation and space planning to maximize social distancing.**

**We do not plan to require face masks or vaccination cards but encourage all convention attendees to take the precautions they feel necessary to be comfortable. Hand sanitizer and KN95 masks will be available upon request on the convention floor for attendees.**

**Should government guidance or hotel rules change prior to the convention, we will provide updated information on our website and social media.**

**Thank you as always for your support of Farpoint Convention, celebrating 30 years in 2023**

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

### Committee

Karen Donnelly	Brian Sarcinelli
Tom Donnelly	Cindy Shockey
Jackie Green	Matthew Shogren
Eta Hack	Jennifer Stultz
Laura Inglis	Cyndi VanBlarcom
Becky Jarvis-Stockhausen	Sharon VanBlarcom
Jaime Lancaster	Tim VanBlarcom
Ann Lesnik	Christian Wilson
Jill Marron	Renee Wilson
Heather Mikkelsen	Steven H. Wilson
Kat Nichols	Cindy Woods
Ryan Permison	Sarah Yaworsky
Zan Rosin	

### Lifetime Members

Fouade K. Aide †	Renfield
Lewis G. Aide †	Clarissa Rhule
De Baisch	James Rhule
Diane Baron	Harvey Roberts
Andrew Bergstrom	Mary Rottler
Laura Bergstrom	Anthony Rowley
Cheryl Bobbit	Heather Sachs
T. Alan Chafin	Sinya Schaeffer
Betsy Childs	Eli Senter
Maureen Connolly	Micah Senter
Darlene Croon	Molly Senter
Richard DeAcetis †	Paige Strehlen Senter
Karen Donnelly	Chris Shockey
Thomas Donnelly	Cindy Shockey
Scott Farquhar	Layla Shockey
Ponch Fenwick †	Kimberly Stern
Marty Gear †	Dr. Thomas R. Stevens
Kathleen Gonzales	Mike Sullivan
Brad Graper	June Swords
Robbie Greenberger †	Lynn Syck
David Havelka	Cyndi VanBlarcom
Valerie Hill	Sharon VanBlarcom
Marcella Jones †	Tim VanBlarcom
Nancy Kippax †	Beverly J. Volker †
Ann Lesnik	Russell Volker, Sr.
Stephen Lesnik	Howard Weinstein
Marion McBrine	Christian Wilson
Marion McChesney †	Ethan Wilson
Heather Mikkelsen	Renee Wilson
Katy Mikkelsen	Steven Wilson
Jennifer Morris	Cindy Woods
Marc Okrand	Greg Woods
Paula Palmer	Lance Woods
Elizabeth Ramsey	Sandra Zier-Teitler †

### Staff

Stephen Bartosz	Lynda King
Rob Books	Joe Kreshock
Tom Bryson	Sheri Leinbach
Jean Burchill	Stephen Lesnik
Suzanne Elmore	Emily Luense
Eric Fleischer (Dr. Gandalf)	Denise Meyers
Michael Garman	Patti Papineau
Christopher Gaut	Jill Peters
Stephen Gober	Kimberly Price
Kathleen Gonzales	Chris Shockey
Pete Gonzales	Martin Simen
Kareemah Hamdan	Christopher Smith
Tim Hata	Conrad Stockhausen
Chris Headlee	John VanBlarcom
Cheyenne Hill	David Walters
Jennifer Hill	Tish Wells
Aaron Jarvis	Ethan Wilson
Penny Jarvis	Rachel Wilson
Danielle Kelly	Albert Yokum

† Deceased

### Staff-In-Training

William Books	Hunter Jarvis	Layla Shockey	Matthew Wilson
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# Farpoint Rules and Policies

## Convention Attendance:

1. Farpoint is a public event and will take place regardless of weather or travel conditions. Convention membership tickets are nonrefundable. Attendees may resell or gift tickets privately, with notice to Farpoint of the registration name change.
2. Seating is on a firstcome, firstserved basis in all programming rooms. There is disabled Attendee and VIP (Guests and Staff) seating available in the ballroom. Please observe all reserved signs for these seats.
3. Purchase of a convention membership ticket does not guarantee a Guest's autograph. Attendees are responsible for attending the scheduled autograph session(s) to secure a Guest's autograph.
4. You must wear your Farpoint badge to gain admittance to all convention areas. Badges are nontransferable. Lost badges will be replaced for a \$20.00 fee with proper photo identification.

## Hotel:

1. Causing a disruption in any part of the hotel (rooms or convention areas) is grounds for expulsion without a refund from the convention. Farpoint and the Delta Hotel has sole discretion in determining the severity of the disruption.
2. All smoking is prohibited in the hotel (tobacco products, ecigarettes and vaping). Attendees should use designated smoking areas on the lobby level outside the hotel, which comply with Maryland requirements that smoking areas be 15 feet away from building entrances/exits.

## Conduct:

1. Farpoint does not tolerate harassment of Attendees, Staff, Vendors/Dealers or Guests by any other Attendee, Staff, Vendor/Dealer or Guest. This includes, but is not limited to:
  - a. Stalking
  - b. Intimidation
  - c. Offensive Verbal Comments
  - d. Physical Harassment and/or Unwelcome Physical Touching or Attention
  - e. Symbols or Statements of hate toward, but not limited to, a person's Race, Color, National Origin, Gender, Sexual Orientation, Age, Body Size, Disability, Appearance or Religion
2. The above harassing actions, symbols and/or statements are also not permitted as part of a presentation, panel, exhibit, show or cosplay. Farpoint in its sole discretion will determine if a harassing action or statement has occurred or symbol has been used. Farpoint Staff will take prompt action in any form deemed appropriate toward anyone found in violation of this policy, which can range from asking an Attendee, Staff or Guest to leave the convention floor for a specified time up to expulsion from Farpoint Convention with no refund or a lifetime ban from the convention.
3. Any Attendee, Staff, Vendor/Dealer or Guest experiencing an uncomfortable or unsafe situation is asked to bring the matter to the nearest Farpoint Staff member, identified by their convention badge. They will be escorted to the convention operations office to make an official report. Attendees, Staff, Vendors/Dealers and Guests may also go directly to the convention operations office, located in the Pimlico Room around the corner from Convention Registration on the lower level, as circumstances dictate. After making a report, Farpoint Staff will contact local law enforcement or medical assistance, provide an escort, offer a safe place and/or otherwise assist the Attendee, Staff, Vendor/Dealer or Guest to feel safe for the remainder of the convention.
4. Overtly sexual imagery and language is not appropriate except during events or panels specified as covering adult topics that are open only to Attendees over 18 years of age. Attendees violating these rules may be expelled from Farpoint without a refund at the discretion of the co-chairs and/or committee.
5. Convention Attendees are expected to follow Maryland's Drug and Alcohol Abuse laws. The drinking age in Maryland is 21. Violation of these laws will result in immediate expulsion from the convention. The Delta Hotel requires all alcohol consumed in the bar, restaurant or convention space be served by hotel employees. Outside purchase alcohol must be consumed in the privacy of the Attendee's room.
6. Parents are responsible for the behavior of their minor children. If a child is seen behaving in a disruptive manner or in a way that might cause harm to themselves or others, Farpoint reserves the right to ask that the parent accompany the child when in convention areas.
7. Attendees should be aware that convention activities are often videotaped or photographed by other Attendees and the press. The photographer should ask for your permission prior to taping or photographing you at the convention. Attendees should be aware that they may appear in the background of someone else's video or photo and are responsible for notifying that photographer if they do not wish to be included in the image.
8. Celebrity Guests' contracts may prohibit videotaping of their stage ap-

pearance. An announcement will be made from the stage prior to the celebrity's appearance. Videotaping of other programming events is subject to the approval of the convention and person(s) on stage.

9. Video and still cameras may not be used to capture images in the Art Show or Dealers Rooms.
10. Requesting a Guest's personal information is considered a privacy violation and is grounds for expulsion from the convention. Examples include an Attendee asking a Guest for their hotel room number, travel itinerary or other contact information that the Guest considers private.
11. Onstage presentations of gifts or awards to or by any Attendee or Guest must be preapproved by the Farpoint co-chairs. Making a presentation without this approval is grounds for expulsion from the convention.
12. No gunplay or swordplay is allowed at any time unless it is taking place at a demonstration event scheduled by the convention. All weapons must remain holstered or sheathed. Staff members may ask to inspect your weapon to verify it is a prop. When this happens, your weapon will be marked with a removable marker, such as a zip tie, to identify that the inspection has occurred. Items considered weapons include but are not limited to: paint ball or splatter guns; prop, blank or cap guns; laser tag guns; swords, lightsabers and similar articles with edges, blades and/or projectile capability. Laser target designators or laser pointers are not allowed in the convention areas (except as used by Guest speakers during a presentation) as they can cause injury if not used properly.

## Service Animals and Pets:

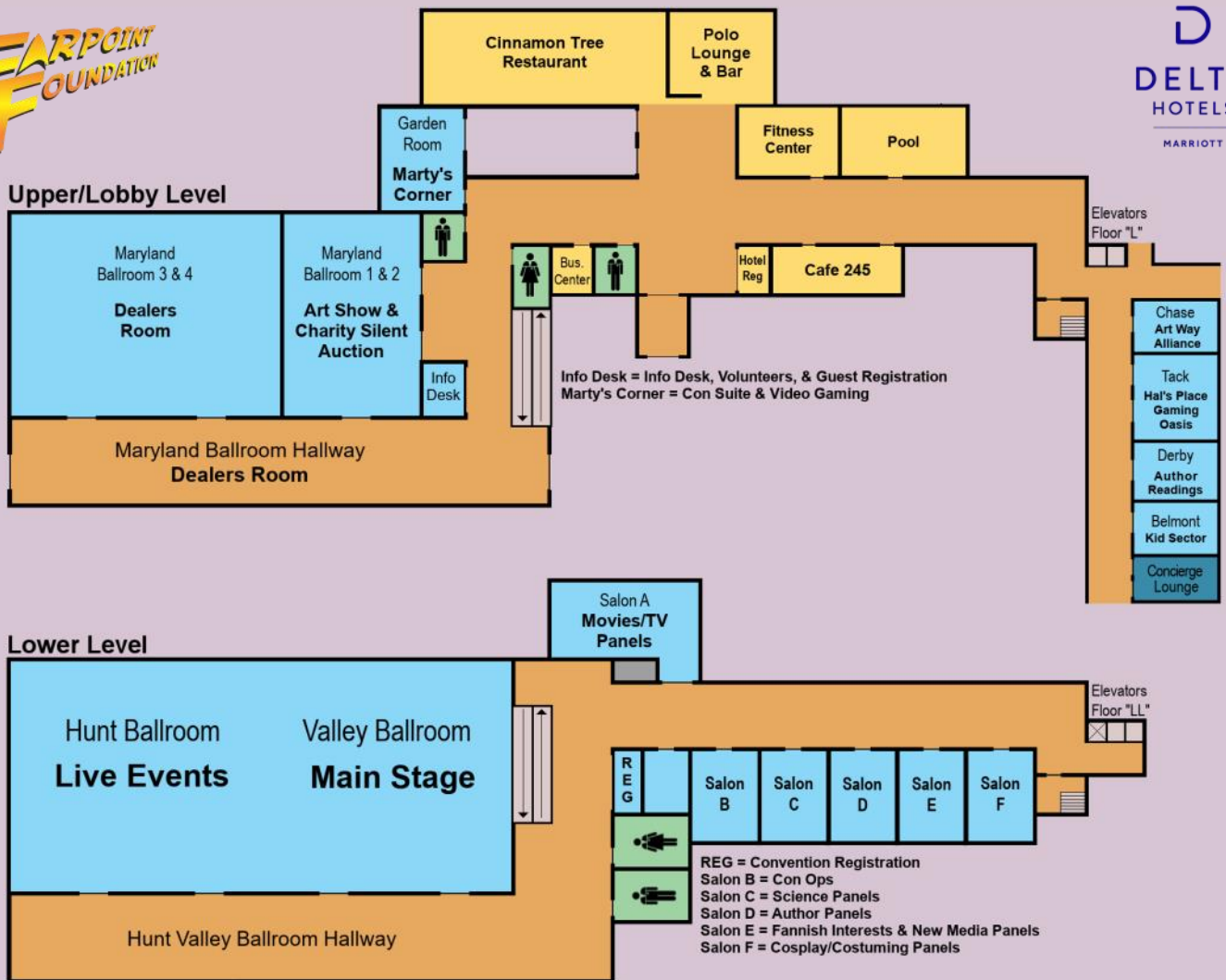
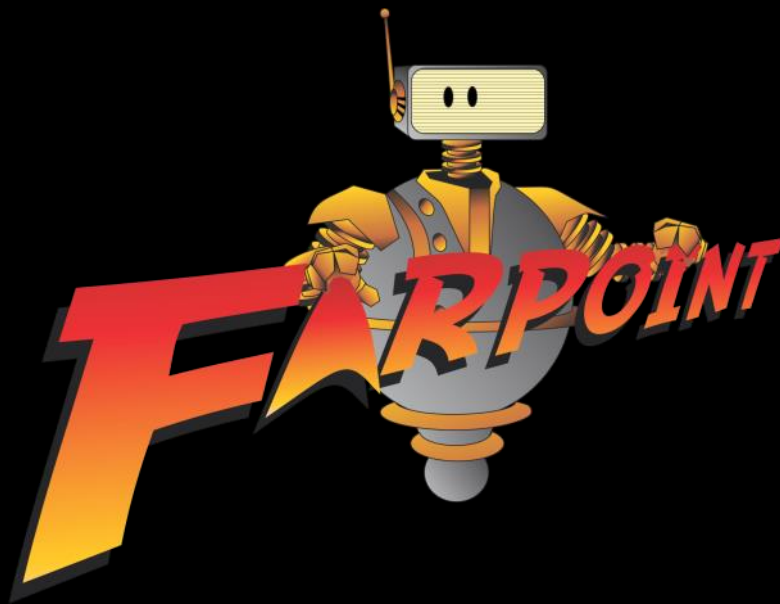
1. The Delta Hotel allows pets in the sleeping rooms per their policy found online at <https://www.marriott.com/hotels/factsheet/travel/bwidthdelta-hotelsbaltimorehuntvalley/>. This policy limits Hotel Guests to 1 pet per room (pet maximum weight 50 pounds) with a nonrefundable \$75 fee per stay. The animal must not be left unsupervised in the sleeping room or the convention levels and must be on a leash when not in the sleeping room.
2. Animals are not allowed on the convention levels except for Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) service animals. Service animals must be leashed and always wear proper identifying tag, collar or vest on the convention levels. The ADA allows for trained service animals to accompany their matched partner in a place of business. Per the ADA, service animals are:
  - a. individually trained animals matched with a specific disabled person to perform assistance tasks for that person; and
  - b. working animals, not pets

The following animals are not considered service animals per the ADA and not allowed on the convention levels:

- a. household pets
- b. animals in training to be service animals who are not accompanying their matched partner; and
- c. animals used for emotional support or easing anxiety

This rule also applies to Search and Rescue (SAR) animals in training. A SAR animal is trained in public at either organized training events or only after permission is granted by the owners of the public premises for the training to take place. The hotel will not grant such permission unless the public event is an SAR training event or demonstration, which Farpoint is not.

3. All service animals on the convention floor are expected to behave in accordance with their training. Farpoint and the Delta Hotel will request the animal be removed if an animal becomes disruptive to the proceedings, to include (but not limited to) the following:
  - a. Barking, growling, biting or snapping at Attendees, Staff, Vendors/Dealers or Guests
  - b. Jumping on Attendees, Staff, Vendors/Dealers or Guests
  - c. Knocking over, chewing on or otherwise damaging hotel or convention floors, furniture, equipment, displays and signage, including that of Guests, Vendors/Dealers and exhibitors
  - d. Urinating or defecating on hotel or convention floors, furniture, equipment, displays and signage, including that of Guests, Vendors/Dealers and exhibitors
  - e. Running loose on the convention floor and otherwise not staying with their matched partner while attending the convention
4. The seating area for disabled Attendees in the Valley Ballroom for main programming will include specified seats with enough floor space for an Attendee to keep their service animal safely next to them and out of the way of foot traffic. Attendees with service animals who do not utilize this reserved seating may be asked to relocate to this specific area and/or leave the ballroom if the Attendee places their animal in a way that blocks foot traffic or causes a tripping hazard for Staff, Guests and Attendees.
5. Anyone experiencing an issue with an animal in the convention areas is asked to go to the Con Operations office in the Pimlico Room, the Registration Desk on the lower level of the convention center or the Information Desk on the upper level of the convention center and ask for a convention chair to be contacted.



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