

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

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Tom Donnelly	Suzanne "Zan" Rosin	Sharon VanBlarcom
Eta Hack	Brian Sarcinelli	Royal White
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Becky Jarvis-Stockhausen	Matthew Shogren	Steven H. Wilson
Ann Lesnik	Tom Stidman	Cindy Woods
Heather Mikkelsen	Jennifer Stultz	Sarah Yaworsky

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	Renfield	

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David Havelka	Max Senter	Lance Woods
Valerie Hill	Micah Senter	Sandra Zier-Teitler
	Paige Strehlen Senter	

† Deceased

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



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 -- [julienflemingmemoralfund](https://www.facebook.com/julienflemingmemoralfund)

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

Welcome to Farpoint Convention 2026!



This is a milestone year for me as it marks the 25th anniversary of my becoming Farpoint Convention Chair. The honor of leading this amazing team for over two decades leaves me awestruck at times. Please take a moment to look at the names of the committee and staff members. Their support and friendship are one of the main reasons I've gotten this far. The other main reason is my family – John, Cyndi, Tim, Emily and Eve, without whom I would be lost.

Another anniversary we're celebrating is the 60th anniversary of Star Trek. The original series premiered on September 8, 1966 and its influence has become part of the cultural conversation in the decades since. We will have programs dedicated to Star Trek throughout the weekend. The diversity of the Star Trek fandom is one of its proudest achievements and you are part of the Star Trek family. Farpoint Convention started its life in 1993 dedicated to Star Trek fandom (you may recognize the origin of our convention name), and the interest in Star Trek was a jumping off point to the diversity of imaginative media and stories we enjoy today. Be proud to be a fan, a member of a family numbering in the millions worldwide.

If you're a returning attendee, welcome back! If you are joining us for the first time, please know that you are welcome. Farpoint Convention is dedicated to supporting the local fan community and all the creators that are part of it. Anyone can be a creator, regardless of the method you use to create or the level at which you are. We have program tracks dedicated to helping you achieve more and enhance your creative skills. We also have tracks that allow you to enjoy being a fan of movies, television, books, games, cosplay and more. You are welcome to participate at the level you are most comfortable with.

Farpoint is excited to welcome our special headline guests Jess Bush, Ross Marquand, David Gerrold, Justina Ireland, Jeff Kline and Maggie Weber/Refashioned Hippie. They will be speaking and meeting attendees throughout the weekend. Please check the schedule for your interests at myconschedule.com or the printed version you received with your program book.

We welcome you, the fans, to Farpoint, where the convention is put on by fans, for fans... where YOU are the guest of honor.

Sharon VanBlarcom, Convention Chair
On behalf of the entire Farpoint Convention team

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 2026 for next year's Swag!

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In Memoriam

Jean Truby Burchill

Jean Truby Burchill, longtime friend of Farpoint, passed away March 4, 2025.

As one of the first staff members that attendees met when coming to the con, Jean was the face of Farpoint for many. She greatly enjoyed presiding over the registration table where she greeted new people and welcomed back her convention friends, catching up on what was going on in their lives.

Jean adored *Star Trek* as well as other science-fiction worlds. She attended first OktoberTrek and then Farpoint for several decades, serving on the committees that ran the conventions for 15 years. She had so much fun meeting the stars and tech people - George Takei, Nichelle Nichols, Walter Koenig, John de Lancie, Mira Furlan, Bill Mumy, Steven Furst, Peter Jurasik, just to name a few.

A lifelong resident of Richmond, VA, Jean served for over 30 years as a librarian in the Henrico County Public Library system after receiving her master's degree from Brigham Young University. Her interests and hobbies throughout the years were many: a love of books; a love of classical music; singing show tunes; learning about any subject she was interested in at any given time; traveling; gardening; a love of animals, particularly dogs (of whom she had too many to name); sewing; cross-stitching; quilting; and mosaics.

Jean will be greatly missed by her family and especially her friends and everyone else who had the honor and privilege of knowing or working with her.



In Memoriam

Peter David

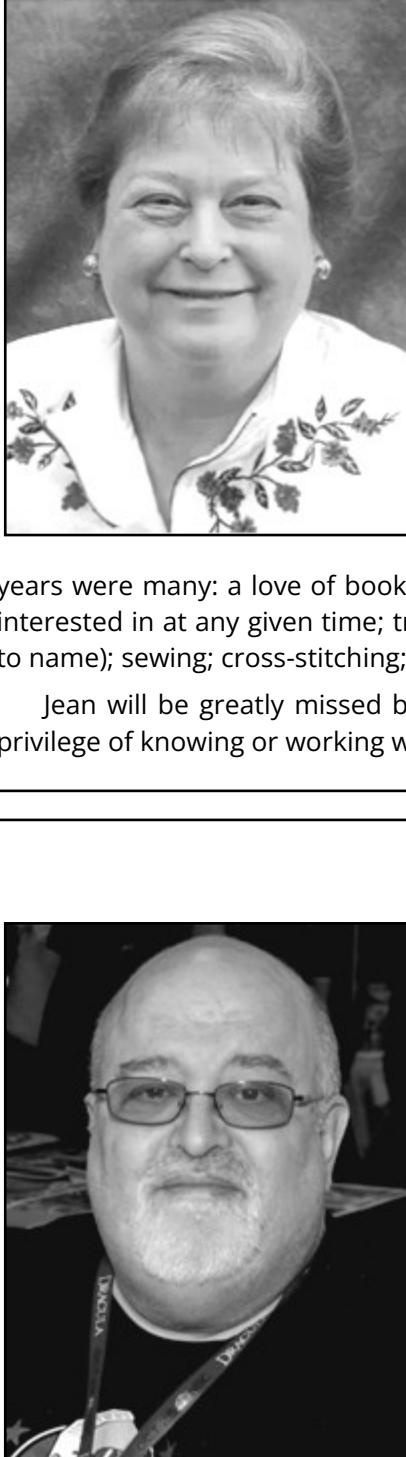
Peter David, prolific writer, fan-favorite author guest, and member of the Farpoint family, died May 24, 2025.

A lifelong fan of superheroes, fantasy, and science fiction, Peter developed an interest in writing through his father, Gunter, who reviewed movies for the local newspaper. After stints in journalism and fiction writing, including being published in *Asimov's Science Fiction* magazine, Peter got his breakthrough moving from the direct sales staff to writer at Marvel Comics with his *The Spectacular Spider-Man* story, "The Death of Jean DeWolff." Going on to write *The Invincible Hulk* for over a decade cemented his impact on comics, but he didn't stop there. Peter freelanced for many companies, working on such titles as *Captain Marvel*, *Supergirl*, *Fallen Angel*, *Young Justice*, *Star Trek*, *X-Factor* and *Spider-Man 2099*. His work on *Aquaman* in the 1990s influenced the Jason Momoa movies.

He wrote more than 100 original and licensed novels, including 27 in the *Star Trek: New Frontier* series. Other work included film novelizations, episodes of *Babylon 5*, *Young Justice*, and *Space Cases* (which he co-created with Bill Mumy), film screenplays, video game scripts, his long running blog *But I Digress...* and much more. Peter won an Eisner Award for his work on *The Incredible Hulk* in 1992, a GLAAD Media Award in 2011 for his writing on *X-Factor*, a Wizard fan award in 1993, and many others.

Peter is survived by his four daughters: Shana, Gwen, Ariel, and Caroline, and by his wife and devoted partner, Kathleen O'Shea David.

Peter's father once told him, "Your hobbies are nice, but you can't make a living out of science fiction and comic books." Fortunately for everyone, Peter didn't agree.



Guest Biographies



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.

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.



Chuck Adler

Chuck Adler has been a member of the Physics faculty at St. Mary's College for the past 28 years. He received his doctorate in laser physics from Brown University in 1992. He is the author of over 40 scientific papers and the popular book *Wizards, Aliens and Starships: Physics and Math in Fantasy and Science Fiction*. The book won several awards, including the 2015 Science Communication Award of the American Institute of Physics. His Great Courses lecture series, "How Science Shapes Science Fiction", was recently released by the Teaching Company.



Rigel Ailur

Rigel Ailur composed her first novel — seven handwritten pages! Complete with cover and table of contents! — at age seven and hasn't stopped since. Bilingual thanks to living in Germany, Rigel also worked as a translator and interpreter. She's published twenty-seven novels and one hundred short stories. Short story credits include "Brigadoon" in the Star Trek anthology *Strange New Worlds 10*. She writes for adults, teens and middle grades. In nonfiction, she contributes television reviews to the Outside In series and to the SciFi Bulletin online. Writing as Kris Katzen, her story "Kaboom, Ka-bye" led off the Shadowrun sourcebook *Seattle 2072* and she's contributed to the

last five *Brave New Girls* anthologies. Most importantly, Rigel dotes on her astronomically adorable feline kids. Visit BluetrixBooks.com for more information.



Diane Baron

Diane is the author of three novels, with one more on the way. She dabbles in the science fiction aspect of writing, but generally keeps firmly planted in social connections and the endless possibilities of the future. She has been an avid attendee of Baltimore conventions since Shore Leave 5 and feels nostalgic for the magical Hunt Valley Inn days. Now that she is retired from teaching, she has jumped headfirst into eclectic and whimsical crafting, so check out her creations in the art show. She also is maniacally devoted to swimming and walking endless miles to increase her fitness. She may be addicted to the Hallmark Channel.



Zack Be

Zack Be is an author, obscure songwriter, and couples/sex therapist who completed his Ph.D. at University of Maryland in 2025. His fiction has appeared in *Analogs*, *Asimov's*, and *Writers of the Future Vol. 36*. His story "Locus of Control" was the winner of the 2024 Jim Baen Memorial Science Fiction Award, and he is the editor of the *Inner Workings* anthology, available now from Calendar of Fools. More info about Zack's writing and music can be found at zackbe.com or anywhere on social media @zackbe.

2026 Contact Award



Dean Rogers

Dean knew early on that his place was among the stars. He's dedicated his life to learning all that is learnable, forging the building blocks of his professional journey. His favorite tv genre is game shows, and he appeared on *Who Wants to be a Millionaire* and *Wheel of Fortune*.

Dean's been active in the convention community since he was a young man. He hosts scifi-themed game shows for us every year. He's acted onstage with our CheapTreks troupe and portrayed Lt Commander Roy Morris in the *USS Farragut* movie series for Farragut Films. He founded his own entertainment news magazine, *The Rogers Revue*, in January 2009. *TRR* focuses on the Washington/Baltimore/Northern Virginia metro area entertainment scene, becoming a fixture on the red carpets of the National Memorial Day and 4th of July concerts, the American Film Institute and the Kennedy Center Honors. Dean has also achieved a coveted place in the Washington Area Film Critics Association.

Dean still covers local conventions with an equal passion. He provides Farpoint and other DMV conventions with publicity, interviews and reviews that reach beyond local fandom into the wider entertainment community. Dean's support has helped nurture and grow the fan community for close to 2 decades and so he is our deserving recipient of the 2026 Contact Award for Service to Fandom.

Guest Biographies



MJ Blehart

MJ Blehart has been writing sci-fi/space opera and fantasy all his life, finishing his first book when he was nine years old. Star Wars and Star Trek were some of the biggest influences in his childhood.

MJ is a history aficionado. He's been a member of the Society for Creative Anachronism (a medieval re-enactment society) for over thirty years. As part of the SCA, he studies and teaches 16th-century rapier combat (fencing), court heraldry, and spends time with friends.

When not writing sci-fi and fantasy, MJ blogs regularly, exploring mindfulness and creating an amazing life. He strives to live a kickass life and consciously create his reality (and share that process to help others do the same).

MJ lives in New Jersey, just east of Philadelphia, with his wife and their three somewhat demanding feline overlords."



Charley Blue (aka Blue the Science Dude)

Making science fun! It's not an actual job title, but that has been my job for more than 35 years. From astrophysics and radio astronomy to psychology and fluid dynamics, I've tried to turn the cold, murky waters of research into a warm, inviting pool of discovery and wonder. I'm most comfortable talking about astronomy and Earth science, but have been known to ramble on and on about evolution, astrobiology, and quantum theory (though that is somewhat uncertain).

When not at my 9-5, I play the Irish tenor banjo and sing sea chanties."



Caleb Cosplays

Caleb got his start cosplaying at Katsucon in February 2023 where he made his first outfit of Tighnari, mostly from scratch, and got hooked on cosplaying. Since then, he has made many outfits including Percy, Rimiru, Jawa, Rudeus and more.

He's won several firstplace competition awards, guested and judged at conventions, and had cosplays featured in magazines.

An accomplished photographer, Caleb loves helping other cosplayers learn the secrets of cosplay photography that will take their photos to the next level.



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 12-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 collaborating 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.

Follow her @jessicacrouse85 on Facebook and Instagram.



Dame Dahlia

Pam Smith (Dame Dahlia) is a cosplayer from central Pennsylvania. She is originally from Dallas, Texas, and studied vocal performance at the University of North Texas focusing on opera and musical theater. She is a veteran of the United States Air Force and studied political science at Fort Hays State University where she focused on civil rights and liberties.

As an advocate for the LGBTQ community, she speaks on civil rights and volunteers at the Central PA LGBT Center as well as performing with the Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus. She also volunteers with the charity group Central PA Avengers, a volunteer team of cosplayers who partner with nonprofits, libraries, and other charity groups to bring smiles to kids and adults alike.



Kathleen O'Shea David

Kathleen O'Shea David started working with puppets when she was 2 and over 40 years later she is still "wiggling dolls" for fun and profit. Along the way she picked up a quite few more skills and careers. She has done just about everything from cancer research to rock and roll. Some of her favorite jobs have been in puppetry, theater, and publishing.

With her husband Peter David, she adapted the first four issues of the Japanese Manga *Negima*. She is a published writer with a *Doctor Who* story in the Big Finish anthology *Short Trips: Qualities of Leadership* among others. She worked on *Star Wars: The New Jedi Order* with Shelly Shapiro. She has had short stories in published in various anthologies. Her costumes have won awards at various science fiction conventions both for performance and workmanship. She has also created costumes for film and stage. She is a former employee of the Center

for Puppetry Arts in Atlanta. Her puppets are in collections all over the world. She created the series *Headcases* with her husband.



Keith R.A. DeCandido

Keith R.A. DeCandido has been writing both for and about Star Trek since the turn of the millennium, including sixteen novels, thirteen novellas, a dozen short stories, half a dozen comic books, a reference book, and a veritable truckload of nonfiction. Most of the latter can be found on the award-winning web site Reactor Magazine (reactormag.com), where Keith has written about every piece of screen Trek to date. Beyond Trek, Keith has written both in worlds of his own creation and in other licensed universes. The latter ranges from TV shows (*Farscape*, *Supernatural*) to movies (*Alien*, *Cars*) to comic books (*Spider-Man*, *Thor*) to games (*World of Warcraft*, *Resident Evil*) to literary characters (Sherlock Holmes, Joe Ledger). Recent work includes the debut of two new novel series, *Supernatural Crimes Unit: NYPD* and *The Inflictors*, his short story collections *Ragnarok* and *A Hard Place: More Tales of Cassie Zukav*, *Weirdness Magnet* and *Dragon Precinct: Origins*, the comic book miniseries *Animal* and *Resident Evil: Infinite Darkness: The Beginning*, and short stories in several issues of the magazines *Weird Tales* and *Star Trek Explorer* as well as in tons of anthologies, among them *The Green Hornet & Kato: Detroit Noir City*, *A Curiosity of Cats*, *PRISM: The Mission Files*, *Jukebox Thrillers: Solid Hits of the 80s!*, and *Sherlock Holmes: Eliminate the Impossible*. When he's not writing, Keith trains and teaches in martial arts (he's a fourth-degree black belt in karate), plays

Autograph Sessions

Please check out online information page and guide for the most up-to-the-minute Autograph Session times .

Pricing for autographs can be found at the Autograph Tables and on our online information page.



Guest Biographies



Jess Bush

Jess Bush is an Australian actor, artist and model, born in Keperra, Queensland, a suburb of Brisbane.

Her television career began by competing on the seventh season of the reality TV series *Australia's Next Top Model*. Jess told the program that she entered modeling for the challenge, competitiveness, travel, and variety. Successful in modeling led to acting opportunities. She appeared in two episodes of the long-running Australian soap opera *Home and Away*, followed by a small part in an episode of *The Secret Daughter*. She appeared in four episodes of the soccer drama *Playing for Keeps* and on *Halifax: Retribution*.

Feeling burnt out by the hustle and grind of acting and modelling, Jess decided to pull back and rest, only expressing interest in truly exciting productions. This led to her booking the iconic role of Christine Chapel on *Star Trek: Strange New Worlds*, her first television role outside Australia.

A visual artist from childhood, Jess began selling her pieces professionally at age 19. She is also a jewelry designer, and some of her pieces appear on *Strange New Worlds*. In 2019, Bush began developing and exhibiting her ongoing *Bee Totem* series, collaborative exhibits with projection artists and

sound designers to hang the dead bees she preserves in resin at different heights to create shapes and experiences in three-dimensional space. Her purpose is to recognize and emphasize the importance of the bees that not only make the human world livable, but then "live by the thousands and die quietly by the thousands." While acting, Jess takes a hiatus from her visual art work, though she has taken her materials when shooting.

Jess's work on *Star Trek* has ignited a passion for the real-world space industry, inspiring her collaboration with NASA and Redwire at the Kennedy Space Center.

percussion (with Farpoint musical guests Boogie Knights, as well as the Chris Abbott Band), edits (for clients both personal and corporate), and follows his beloved New York Yankees. Find out less at DeCandido.net



D'Manda Martini

D'Manda Martini is a DC area Drag performer, cosplayer, and theater artist. Known as the Chanteuse of Southern Maryland, she is the hostess of Eleanor's New Deal Cabaret, a musical theater themed cabaret. A DC-Area theatre award winning actor & nominated costume designer, D'Manda has also attended and performed at conventions across the country; including hosting TO FARPOINT AND BEYOND at Farpoint Convention, a part of both Drag HalfTime shows at AwesomeCon in DC, hosted all 3 years of HomoSuperior, an X-Men themed drag show & dance party in Portland OR, performed in the drag show at The Uncanny Experience in Minneapolis MN, and was the first drag performer to perform during regular programming at WonderCon in Anaheim CA. Please follow her on social media @dmandalamartini across all platforms to find out what she's up to and where you can see her!



Royce Essig

Royce Essig has been an actor since the early 1990's, with stage, film, and commercial credits. His time with Rising Phoenix Productions let him also explore the behind the scenes end of filming, leading him to learn editing and production.

Royce filmed and edited the mini-documentary, *Unconventional: Examining Con Culture*, to give people a look at what really goes on at conventions, in cooperation with Natasha Schell, for their company, DNR Media Services.

Since 2007, Royce has been involved in front of and behind the camera for the *Dark Operations* film series.



John L. French

John L. French is familiar with monsters. A retired CSI, John worked more than thirty-five years on the mean streets of Baltimore and witnessed more than his share of what horrors one person can inflict on another. Working with patrol officers and detectives, John was involved in putting hundreds of criminals behind bars for very long sentences. He was described by a co-worker as having, "all the enthusiasm of an evil genius."

In 1992, as a break from the pressures of his job, John began writing - crime fiction at first, then moving on to pulp, supernatural, science fiction, and fantasy. His latest books include *Daylight Comes*, *When the Devil Drives*, *Death on Omega Station*, and *Simon Tombs: The Wine of Cana*.



Michael Jan Friedman

Michael Jan Friedman is the author of 81 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

Guest Biographies

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.

Learn more at MichaelJanFriedman.net.



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 two dozen anthologies of science fiction, fantasy, horror, and more.

He is a multiple award-winning 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 a sequel to *Like Mother, Like Daughters* while plotting his triumphant escape from the pressures of corporate America where he has been imprisoned for over thirty years.



Bob Greenberger

A lifelong pop culture fan, Greenberger worked for Starlog Press and 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 editor and coordinator. 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-Collectors Editions. He subsequently joined *Weekly World News* as its Managing Editor and helped revitalize *Famous Monsters of Filmland*, and served as News Editor at ComicMix.com.

With others, he cofounded Crazy 8 Press. His dozens of books, short stories, and essays cover the gamut from young adult nonfiction to original fiction.

Bob teaches High School English in Maryland and is an adjunct professor at Maryland College Institute of Art. He and his wife Deborah reside in Howard County, Maryland. Find him at www.bobgreenberger.com or @bobgreenberger.



J.L. Gribble

J.L. Gribble writes speculative fiction and romance, but she's happiest when combining the two and adding a dose of the unexpected or nontraditional. When not writing,

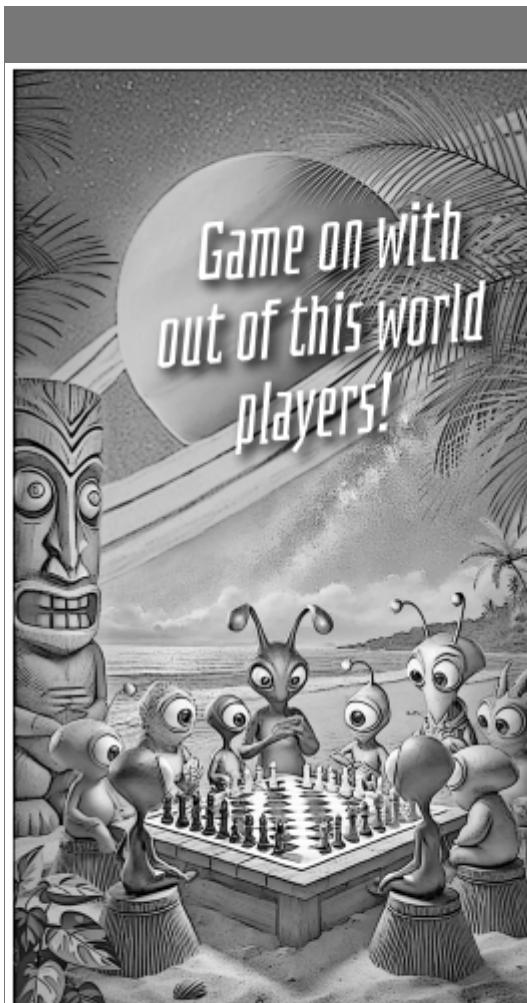
Gribble reads an eclectic range of books, adds to her LEGO collection, and plays video games. She lives in Ellicott City, Maryland, with her husband and vocal Siamese cats. Find her book review blog and info about her publications at jlgribble.com.



Alexa Halford

As a child, I saw a butterfly in the North Woods of Wisconsin, and I tried to stand very still. Everyone knew that butterflies had symmetric markings on their two wings. What I saw instead was that when it flapped its wings, it had four instead of two. That sense of discovery is what drove me into the sciences.

In my first year at College, my Prof. gave me a bunch of data and told me to find something interesting. When I showed him my results his response was "oh that's the aurora borealis, we already know about that". I may have been >50 years late for the credit of discovering the Aurora, but I was hooked. Since then I graduated



FARPOINT 2026 HAL's Place *THE Gaming Oasis*

January 30 - February 1, 2026

The place to go when you need a break to have a bit of fun.



Looking for a challenge?

TEST YOUR WITS and skills against other challengers in the Game Room. There are many games to discover: dungeon crawls, social deduction, campaigns, mystery, deck-building, dice rolling, Eurogames, role playing, city-building, combat, strategy, abstract, etc. All types of games to try.

Make sure to make a guess or three for the special Jelly Bean Contest!

The game room will be open at the hours listed. Look for related panels and demos posted on the Event Boards and add your name to a tournament list, or just stop by to visit.

HOURS

FRIDAY

7pm - 1am

SATURDAY

10am - 2am

SUNDAY

10am - 4pm

ROOM

Lindsay AB

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Guest Biographies

David Gerrold

David Gerrold's work is famous around the world. His novels and stories have been translated into more than a dozen languages. His TV scripts are estimated to have been seen by more than a billion viewers.

He has worked on a dozen different TV series, including *Star Trek*, *Land of the Lost*, *Twilight Zone*, *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, *Babylon 5*, and *Sliders*. He is the author of *Star Trek*'s most popular episode "The Trouble With Tribbles."

Many of his novels are classics of the science fiction genre, including *The Man Who Folded Himself*, the ultimate time travel story, and *When HARLIE Was One*, considered one of the most thoughtful tales of artificial intelligence ever written.

A ten-time Hugo and Nebula award nominee, David Gerrold is also a recipient of the Skylark Award for Excellence in Imaginative Fiction, the Bram Stoker Award for Superior Achievement in Horror, and the Forrest J. Ackerman lifetime achievement award.

In 1995, Gerrold shared the adventure of how he adopted his son in *The Martian Child*, a semi-autobiographical tale of a science fiction writer who adopts a little boy, only to discover he might be a Martian. *The Martian Child* won the science fiction triple crown: the Hugo, the Nebula, and the Locus Poll. It was the basis for the 2007 film *Martian Child* starring John Cusack and Amanda Peet.

Gerrold's greatest writing strengths are generally acknowledged to be his readable prose, his easy wit, his facility with action, the accuracy of his science, and the passions of his characters. An accomplished lecturer and world-traveler, he has made appearances all over the United States, England, Europe, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. His easy-going manner and disarming humor have made him a perennial favorite with audiences. David Gerrold was a Guest of Honor at the 2015 World Science Fiction Convention.

with a BA and Honors in Math and Physics from Augsburg College in MN and received a Masters degree in Astrophysics and Planetary Sciences from the University of Colorado Boulder and a Ph.D. from the University of Newcastle Australia. I then went to Dartmouth College for a postdoc working on the Balloon Array for Relativistic Radiation Belt Electron Loss (BARREL) mission and continued this work as a contractor at NASA Goddard.

Currently, I am a NASA employee, continuing my work in space weather. Throughout my education, I have been lucky to work at NASA JPL looking at Uranus's moons and studying Saturn on the Cassini mission at the South West Research Institute. Today I stick a bit closer to home trying to better understand the Earth's magnetic field and its space weather phenomena.



Glenn Hauman

Glenn Hauman, alternately known as "Da Big Guy", "G to the H", and "Party Of The First Part", has made the mistake of asking his "friends" during a Cards Against Humanity game, "What's missing from my biographical

blurb?" The responses included "Spectacular abs", "A low standard of living", "The secret formula for ultimate female satisfaction", "Pretty Pretty Princess Dress-Up Board Game", and "Some god-damn peace and quiet". You can find out more at <https://www.gleninhauman.com>, or at his day job at ComicMix.com.



Kim 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) — *KAS/WC*, for short — has been called

"solidly entertaining" by *Publishers Weekly*. *KAS/WC* 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 *KAS/WC* is under way.



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

Guest Biographies

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 troublemaker who instigated this....

Find her at ingeheyer.com, [inge.heyer \(FB\)](#), and [ingeheyer \(X\)](#).



Thomas R. Holtz, Jr.

Dr. Tom Holtz is Principal Lecturer in Vertebrate Paleontology at the Department of Geology, University of Maryland, College Park.

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

In addition to his dinosaur research, Holtz

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

He received the 2018-2019 Provost's Excellence in Teaching Award for Professional Track Faculty.

Find him on the University of Maryland website at www.geol.umd.edu/~tholtz/

Michael Jayne

Michael Jayne is an accomplished independent film producer, writer, and director, and is recognized as the co-founder and driving force behind Big Damn Films, which he re-established with Logan Liskovec. Jayne's professional vision centers on elevating impactful, independent storytelling. He has built Big Damn Films into a comprehensive operation dedicated to financing, producing, and strategically distributing original motion pictures. This commitment to marrying high-quality production with a strong ethical framework was first proven with the groundbreaking feature-length fan film, *Browncoats: Redemption* (2010), which he wrote, directed, and produced. This project holds the distinction of being the first fan film in history to receive studio approval for charitable fundraising, raising nearly \$200,000 for various organizations and demonstrating his ability to blend creative endeavor with philanthropic impact.



Big Damn Films operates as a full-scale production and distribution entity, acquiring and releasing content alongside its original productions. This holistic approach ensures creative control and maximizes reach for independent films, fostering a business model that champions creators' rights and directly leverages fan engagement. Jayne's focus remains on delivering high-quality, commercially viable projects, including his role as a producer on the highly anticipated 2026 anthology horror film, *Arbor Day: The Root of Evil*. His dedication to strategic distribution, financial transparency, and creative freedom solidifies his reputation as a key innovator in the independent film landscape.

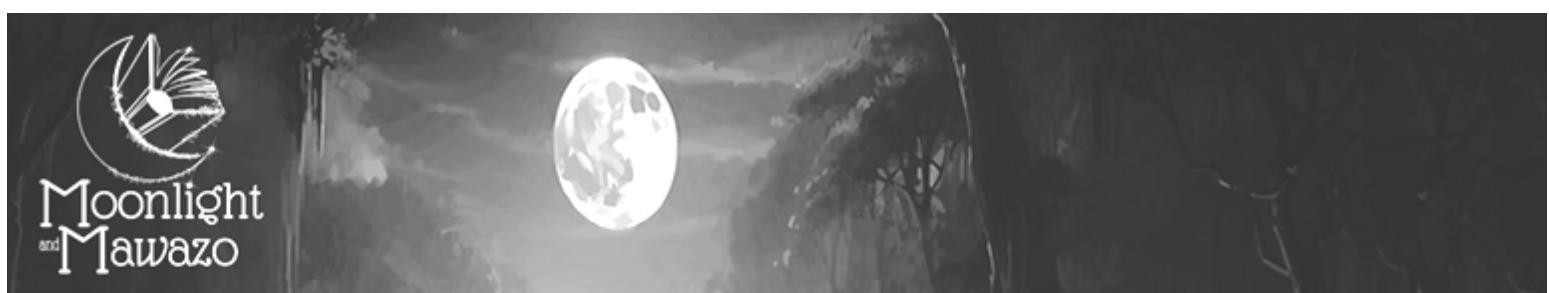


Joe Colton Cosplay

Joe Colton Cosplay, a Washington D.C. based cosplayer, costume designer and fan film actress. She's portrayed characters from various fandoms, including Marvel, DC, Star Trek, Star Wars, Judge Dredd, Dr. Who, various video games and tv, and others including original designed characters.

Joe frequently appears as a panelist, contest judge, and guest at pop-culture conventions nationwide. She's also worked on several fan films and voice-over projects based on *Star Trek*, *Judge Dredd*, *The Orville*, etc. She's been known to recreate screen accurate costumes from movies as well as being commissioned to make them for several television actors and independent films. Joe worked with ThinkGeek on commercials advertising *Star Trek* products!

Ms. Colton was a co-host of the 'What's on Joe Mind?' Podcast for 11 years, that focused on GI Joe, Hasbro, and all things nerdy! She also



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Guest Biographies



Justina Ireland

Justina Ireland is the award winning and *New York Times* bestselling author of numerous books including *Dread Nation* and its sequel *Deathless Divide*, *Rust in the Root*, the middle-grade novel *Ophie's Ghosts*, and is one half of the creative team behind *Tales from Cabin 23*, a spooky middle grade series featuring stories from historically marginalized authors which launched with *The Boo Hag Flex*. She is also the co-author of the romantasy duology *Chaos and Flame* and *Blood and Fury* with author Tessa Gratton.

Justina has penned several Star Wars books including *Lando's Luck*, *Spark of the Resistance*, *A Test of Courage*, *Out of the Shadows*, *Mission to Disaster*, *A Valiant Vow*, *Acolyte: Wayseeker* as well as *Path of Deceit* and *Defy the Storm* with Tessa Gratton. She is one of the story architects of the *Star Wars: The High Republic* multimedia initiative and is also one of five original writers.

Justina is also prolific in comics, having written for Boom!, Dark Horse, IDW, and Marvel. In the screenwriting arena, Justina has worked on Netflix's *The Fall of the House of Usher* and has staffed a number of other TV writers' rooms.

She has also won a number of state library association honors and industry

awards. She won a World Fantasy Award for her editing work on *FIYAH*, a literary magazine of Black speculative fiction, which she helped create. Justina has won the Scott O'Dell Award for historical fiction and has been shortlisted for the Hugo, Nebula, and Bram Stoker awards. She also won the Locus award for *Dread Nation*.

Justina holds a BA in History from Georgia Southern and an MFA in Creative Writing from Hamline University. You can find her work wherever great books are sold. You can find her at authorjustinaireland.com and @justina.ireland (IG, Threads).

been on other podcasts talking anything Marvel/DC/Trek. She was the Commanding Officer for 8 years of "The Finest", a GI Joe-themed costume club, whose charity projects benefit military and veterans; bringing in over \$60K during her command. You can find Ms Colton on *Secret Friends* and *Thunderdome* podcasts discussing movies and sci-fi shows!

New projects are in development, so stay tuned! @joecoltoncosplay (IG), Joe Colton Cosplay (FB), @jcoltoncosplay (TikTok), Joe Colton Cosplay (Threads), @Trek Girls (IG), What's on Joe Mind? (Podbean), Joe Colton Cosplay (YT), WOJM Whats On Joe Mind (YT)



Stephen Kozeniewski

Stephen Kozeniewski (pronounced "causin' ooze key") is a Splatterpunk Award-winning author and two-time winner of the World Horror Grossout Contest. He is also the owner of the breathtakingly boutique publishing house French Press. He lives in Pennsylvania with his wife and their two cats above a fanciful balloon studio.



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 twice certified by the Guinness Book of World Records as holding the Largest Collection of Finger Puppets. She gained her most recent certification, for 2,540 unique items, at Farpoint in 2025.

Follow her at cheralyn.lambeth (FB), cheralyn.lambeth (IG), and at cheralynlambeth.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.



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 shows produced by Para-

Guest Biographies

mount+.

Miles always loves coming to the cons to celebrate more sci fi with fellow fans and reconnect with good friends he may only see once or twice a year but are no less dear to him.

Since 2009 Miles has been a part of the scifidinerpodcast.com cast and with his fellow co-hosts has been sharing their love of all things sci-fi, 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.



Dave McOwen

Dave McOwen is a professional museum nerd, DC-based stand-up comedian, and retired US Air Force flight medic. He has performed at the DC Improv, at an assortment of comic/sci-fi conventions across the country (including New York Comic Con), and is the co-founder of seriouslynerdycomedy.com, specializing in nerdy jokes and Star Trek themed stand-up cosplay. In his spare time, he teaches stand-up to veterans and military family members for the Armed Services Arts Partnership, takes too much Motrin, and is the social media manager for a variety of woodland creatures. You can find him at davemcowencomedy (IG/FB/.com)



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 especbooks.com (since 2014), where his graphics company 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 (available on Amazon), including *The Robot Galaxy Series* books 1-4 and her most recent, *Lunar Logic*, in which a band of androids uncover the hidden secrets of their life on the moon and in the process learn what it means to be and have free will. She also 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 who defected from academia to pursue her dream of being an out-of-work actor in L.A. When not writing novels, she pursues her other creative hobbies including theater, music, film, and dance. For the past decade or so, she has worked for NOAA on weather satellites, performing various roles with science algorithm development, research-to-operations,



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and program support. Her motto in life is "I can be everything I want, just not all at the same time."

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'bath: 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*.



Susan Olesen

Susan Olesen is a graduate of the Chase Collegiate School, and Wells College, where she won the senior library prize for special collections (i.e. her *Star Trek* books). This year at Farpoin she is celebrating the publication of her twelfth novel, *Hellions*, a regular working ship with a screwball crew, as well as two new published Superhero stories.

A descendant of Lithuanian folk-lore hero Matas Slanciauskas, Susan started her first novel at the age of ten and ran her own magazine at fifteen, with an international subscription of thirty. She is the author of the *Best Intentions*

Guest Biographies

Jeff Kline

Jeff Kline is an American film and television writer-producer and former television executive. He has been involved in more than 40 animated and live-action series and pilots, and he has received multiple Emmy nominations and wins.

Born in Boston, Massachusetts, Jeff graduated from Boston University's College of Communication, going on to intern at Roger Corman's Concorde/New Horizons and work in feature development for Michael Shamberg and Harold Ramis's Ocean Pictures. After stints at NBC Entertainment and Columbia Pictures Television, he transitioned into writing/producing.

He developed or produced many series, including *My Friends Tigger & Pooh*, *Jackie Chan Adventures*, *Men in Black: The Series*, *Dragon Tales*, *Stuart Little: The Animated Series*, *Harold and the Purple Crayon*, *Roughnecks: Starship Troopers Chronicles*, *Extreme Ghostbusters*, *Godzilla: The Series*, *Jumanji*, *G.I. Joe: Renegades*, *Transformers: Prime*, *Transformers: Rescue Bots*, and *Transformers: Robots in Disguise*. From 2018 to 2022, Jeff served as executive producer and head writer on a new series of *Woody Woodpecker* animated shorts for YouTube.

In 2013, Jeff founded Darby Pop Publishing, a comic book publishing company, and entered into a distribution agreement with IDW. Darby Pop's first title, *Indestructible*, was created by Jeff. Other Darby Pop titles include *The 7th Sword*, *City: the Mind and the Machine*, *Doberman*, and *Dead Squad*. Darby Pop

collaborated with Bruce Lee Entertainment to produce *Bruce Lee: The Dragon Rises*, co-written by Bruce Lee's daughter Shannon Lee and Jeff, and *Bruce Lee: The Walk of the Dragon* by Nicole Dubuc. Darby Pop Productions also produced *Jingle Bell Rocks*, a documentary about Christmas music, distributed by Oscilloscope Laboratories.

series and the *Prisoner of the Mind* series, in addition to more than fifty short stories in various publications. When not writing or dealing with kids, she works for her local library and writing for their blog (cheshirelibraryblog.com). You can follow her at Susan Olesen Author Page on Facebook or olesenzoo.wordpress.com.

She is a parent of three, and foster parent of eight more. Along with six cats (counting Feral Sheryl and Feral Darryl) and three dogs, if it's hungry or homeless, it will find her.

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 science fiction thriller *Kyx*, book



one of her new *Council of Worlds* series. She is an active member of SFWA. Visit Jennifer at JenniferRPovey.com.

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, therogersrevue.com.



Aaron Rosenberg

Aaron Rosenberg is the best-selling, award-winning author of over 50 novels, including the *Twin Cities Cryptids* urban fantasy/cozy series, the *DuckBob SF* comedy series, the *Relicant Chronicles* epic fantasy series, the *Areyat*



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Guest Biographies

Islands fantasy pirate mystery series, the upcoming *BEO Files* urban fantasy 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*, *Mutants & Masterminds*, and *Eureka* and short stories for *The X-Files*, *World of Darkness*, *Crusader Kings II*, *Deadlands*, *Master of Orion*, and *Europa Universalis IV*. He has written children's books (including the original series *STEM Squad* and *Pete and Penny's Pizza Puzzles*, the award-winning *Bandslam: The Junior Novel* and the #1 best-selling *42: The Jackie Robinson Story*), educational books, and roleplaying games (including the original games *Asylum*, *Spookshow*, and *Chosen*; work for White Wolf, Wizards of the Coast, Fantasy Flight, Pinnacle, and many others; the Origins Award-winning *Gamemastering Secrets*, and the Gold ENnie-winning *Lure of the Lich Lord*). He is a founding member of Crazy 8 Press.

Aaron lives in New York with his family. You can follow him online at gryphonrose.com, on Facebook at facebook.com/gryphonrose, and on X (formerly known as Twitter) @gryphonrose.



Heather Ross

Heather Ross has been a global health researcher and international aid professional for more than 20 years. Her focus - health systems strengthening in emergencies - has allowed her to work with medical professionals and policy makers from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe (yes, in the USA too), responding to the health impacts of wars, famines, and at least one pandemic you might remember. Heather has master's degrees in global health and epidemiology.



Natasha Schell

Natasha Schell (she/her) is a trans woman, and possess a variety of creative talents. Proud of all her cosplays, she has a special affinity for Scarlet Witch and Black Widow, followed closely by Egon Spengler. She also makes foam props and recently expanded into 3D printing. She has been involved in several SciFi films (*Dark Operations*, *Stargate: The Lost Colony*, *Dark Operations: Terminus*), records both the "Never Gets Old" and "MacGyver" podcasts, as well as producing the "Studying Scarlet" podcast. She also designs logos and various ID card artwork, sold through their business: Commissioned Credentials. As a writer she has been involved with the PBEM RPG community since 2005.



Richard Siebingeroth

Rick and his family took their love of theater and science fiction and formed Luna-C Productions in 1997. Rick is the director, a scriptwriter,

and an actor in the comedy troupe as well as producing, directing and acting in their amateur movie and staged productions. In addition to Luna-C's vaudeville style sketch comedy shows, they are also known for "Potter Live in 45: a warp speed look at all seven books in 45 minutes," performed live. In recognition of their many convention appearances, Luna-C had the honor of receiving the 2023 Volker/McChesney Award for Service to Fandom from Farpoint in 2023.

In competition Rick and Family have won costuming and presentation awards on their own and been part of numerous other Best in Shows, Best Presentations, Most Humorous and workmanship award-winning entries over the past 40 years.

Most recently Rick and Cynthia were presenters at Virginia Theater Association Fall 2023 conference. Their "'Prop"ing Up Your Performance" presentation covered prop use and construction for live and recorded performances. They have been featured in *The Fandom Fifty: Fifty fascinating people of the Maryland science fiction conventions* by Diane Lee Baron and

Creating the Character Costume: Tools, Tips, and Talks with Top Costumers by Cheralyn Lambeth.

In addition to Luna-C, Rick is also the driving force behind Old Dominion Daleks and Loki Gators ConQuest.



Jay Smith

This biography is written under duress. I owe Jay Smith 400 words and here they are. Jay

writes—books, audio dramas, podcasts, short stories, and many horrible works that my beta reading prevented you from ever seeing. You're welcome.

Jay is best known for *HG World*, a poorly-titled but fun zombie apocalypse audio drama that somehow managed to win an audio drama award and see two million downloads and not make a single dime or get picked up by Audible. It spawned *The Diary of Jill Woodbine*, a finalist for another award but beat by some true crime Amish romance urban fantasy podcast or something. He also wrote *The Resurrection Pact*, a novel that defies both genre convention and sales. Fun Fact: a word brick like *TRP* will give you 20 minutes of heat and light in an emergency.

Jay was something of a podcasting whore in the 2010s, appearing on or producing dozens of shows on a variety of subjects, FINALLY bringing attention to what an insecure, middle-aged white guy thinks about pop culture.

Hidden Harbor Mysteries is a golden-age radio throwback best enjoyed in an altered state of consciousness, preferably severe head trauma. His short story collection *Seven 'Til Sunrise* will make you sad for the 20 minutes you lost reading it. *Rise of the Monkey Lord* is either a satire or a cry for help—you decide.

Jay has a Master of Fine Arts degree in Fiction, making his degree the most expensive piece of bathroom tissue ever purchased. He lives in Pennsylvania, where he runs Ghost Signal Corps, a *Ghostbusters* fan group made entirely of voice actors and audio techs. The group is producing a fan audio to raise money for local



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Guest Biographies



Ross Marquand

Ross Marquand is an American actor native to Denver. Upon receiving his BFA in Theatre from the University of Colorado he moved to Los Angeles and quickly garnered attention in various film and television projects.

After portraying legendary actor Paul Newman on *Mad Men*, Ross went on to land perhaps his best known role on *The Walking Dead*. He portrayed Aaron, the show's first openly gay character, across seven seasons. Following this came notable credits on *The Mindy Project*, *The Last Tycoon*, and *Brockmire*.

Ross has made numerous appearances in the Marvel universe as some of the MCU's most villainous characters -Red Skull (*Avengers: Infinity War*, *Avengers: Endgame*) and Ultron (*Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness*, VR experience *Avengers: Damage Control*), reprising both roles for the animated anthology *What If...?*

An accomplished voice actor, Ross continued his Marvel association as Professor X in *X-Men '97*, joining the continuation of a show he had fallen in love with as an 11-year-old. He also voiced villains Dr. Doom and Apocalypse. Ross has lent his unique vocal talents to projects like *Robot Chicken*, *Family Guy*, and *American Dad*. He has recently played The Immortal and Rudy Connors in the Amazon Prime animated series *Invincible*, based on the comic of the same name. Ross is also known for his skilled impersonations of a plethora of celebrities including Harrison Ford, Brad Pitt, Matthew McConaughey and over 50 others.

charities. He married up and is surrounded at home by a dysfunctional menagerie: four cats, two guinea pigs, a dog, and two adult children.

Look, I wouldn't be writing this if Jay weren't the real deal. A woeful underachiever, he's smart, funny, and just unhinged enough make you overlook the typos. He sucks at branding, so

he focuses on building weird literary funhouses for people to explore. If you're lucky enough to find his work on a bookstore shelf, buckle up. It's going to be a ride.

This word count represents the sixteen bucks I owe him. And no, I'm not putting my name on this. He knows why.



Strider Cosplay

Strider Cosplay is a gifted and passionate cosplayer known for his remarkable ability to bring fictional characters to life. Strider has garnered a dedicated following within the cosplay community.

With his talent and dedication, Strider has gained recognition in various cosplay competitions and has been invited as a guest to conventions and non-profit events. His cosplays have been featured in magazines and online publications, further solidifying his status as a prominent figure in the cosplay world. Follow stridercosplay on Facebook.



Bryan "Kaiser" Tillman

Bryan Tillman has been in higher education for 20 years and has done everything from pro-

fessor to program director for Media. He is currently an Associate Professor for Illustration at Montgomery College in Rockville Maryland. Bryan has a BFA and 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 many conventions such as, AwesomeCon, MegaCon, Stan Lee's Comikaze, GenCon, Wizard World Conventions and San Diego Comic Con. The San Diego Comic Con has over the past 16 years invited him back to give his panel on Proper Pitching and Promoting Yourself. Bleeding cool did an article on it in 2017 (bleedingcool.com/2017/07/26/comic-con-bryan-tillmans-five-rules-self-promotion-pitching/)

Aside from being an educator, Bryan is a Diana Jones Award recipient and Glyph award nominee, and he is the owner and CEO of Kaiser Studio Productions LLC, a production studio for comics, toys, animation, and games that has been active in the industry for 24 years. Bryan Tillman does many things there. 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 that are being worked on. Some of the clients that Bryan has worked for are Marvel Comics, DC Comics, Image Comics, Valiant Comics, Upper-Deck, Cryptozoic, Rittenhouse, Lucas Films, Car-

toon Network, Toys R Us, T.G.I. Fridays, Focal Press, FX, Miramax and Tandem Productions.

Bryan has published three instructional books; *Creative Character Design* for Focal Press, *Creative Design vol. 2* for CRC Press and *The 30 Day Pitch Bible* as well as two character design workbooks for Kaiser Studio Productions. Bryan has also created and illustrated a tabletop RPG trading card game, *Dark Legacy*, acquired by UpperDeck and released in late 2018.

Currently Bryan is hard at work getting *Ninja Empire* to the public. *Ninja Empire* is a multi-platform IP that will be spawning comics, action figures, board and card games, and animations. Issue 0 was a successful Kickstarter campaign and was recently published in September. Issue 1 is set to release in August, and Issue 2 is in production.

Ray Villard

Ray Villard is the News Director for the Hubble Space Telescope at the Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI), where he transforms Hubble's groundbreaking discoveries into compelling narratives for the media and public. A science communicator since 1974, Villard has authored over 1,200 press releases chronicling Hubble's historic contributions to astronomy. His work has earned multiple NASA service awards for excellence in public outreach.

In 2004, he published *Infinite Worlds*, an illustrated book on the discovery of exoplanets, and co-wrote its adaptation for the National Geographic Channel. The resulting documen-



Guest Biographies



tary, *Alien Earths*, was nominated for a 2010 Primetime Emmy Award. Villard previously served as associate editor of *Astronomy* magazine and has contributed to numerous science publications, blogs, and public radio programs. He holds an M.S. in Science Communication from Boston University.

VioletteVerse

Violette has been cosplaying since she was 3 years old and always wanted to be a superhero. Now she's a teenaged professional cosplayer with hundreds of cosplays under her belt. She has been a guest at many conventions and both judged and hosted cosplay contests. She's a superhero in training on a mission to make the world smile one cosplay at a time. You can find her as Violetteverse (YT), @Vi0letteverse (IG), and Violetteverse cosplay (FB).



Howard Weinstein

After decades writing Star Trek stories, New York Times bestselling author Howard Weinstein turned to historical fiction with his Western Fictioneers Peacemaker Award-winning novel *Galloway's Gamble* and the sequel, *Galloway's Gamble 2: Lucifer & the Great Baltimore Brawl* (both available in paperback and ebook from Amazon.com).

In *Galloway's Gamble 2*, after their friends are swindled out of a champion racehorse by ruthless rival Cortland Van Brunt III in a fog-shrouded San Francisco sprint, endearingly argumentative brothers Jamey and Jake Galloway lead a star-crossed transcontinental quest: Can

they make it to Baltimore in time for a long-shot bid to win back prized stallion Phoenix in a grudge-match race at the new Pimlico Race Course?

Howie's professional writing career began when he was a 19-year-old college kid and sold his script for "The Pirates of Orion" episode to NBC's animated *Star Trek* series in 1974, making him the youngest writer to sell a script to any *Star Trek* TV series.

Additional writing credits include dozens of *Star Trek* novels and comic books; story-development assistance on *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home*; a biography of baseball star Mickey Mantle; and *Puppy Kisses Are Good for the Soul*, a charming account of life with his legendary Corgi Mail Order Annie. Readers can find more writing news and occasional blogs at howardweinsteinbooks.com.

Richard C. White

Richard C. White is a science fiction/fantasy/fantasy noir/action-adventure/non-fiction author. His latest release, *On Wings of Steel*, a steampunk novel, was released in April 2025. Other works include *Chasing Danger: The Case Files of Theron Chase*, *Harbinger of Darkness*, *For a Few Gold Pieces More*, and *Terra Incognita*.

to, a non-fiction book on world building. He's appeared in the Origins Game Fair anthologies (*Monsters, Robots, and Space*), as well as in pulp anthologies such as *Thrilling Adventure Yarns 2021*, *Liberty Girl: Fight for Freedom, All for One: Tales of the Musketeers*, *The New Adventures of Rocky Jordan* and *Charles Boeckman Presents: Johnny Nickle*. Richard has other works scheduled for release in early 2026 with more to come.

As a media tie-in writer, he's written for *Star Trek*, *Doctor Who*, *Battletech*, and *The Incredible Hulk* franchises. His novel, *Gauntlet Dark Legacy: Paths of Evil*, was a best-selling tie-in for his publisher. His latest tie-in works are *One Night in Freeport* and *Storm Wreck* for Nisaba Press (Green Ronin Gaming).

Richard is a member of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America and the International Association of Media Tie-in Writers. Additionally, Richard serves on the SFWA Writer Beware committee.

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, and is author of Clemson UP's *The Problem in the Middle: Liminal Space and the Court*



DEALERS ROOM

Friday
3pm - 7pm

Saturday
10am - 6pm

Sunday
10am - 4pm

Congratulations
TO OUR 2025 LUNAR COHORT
Safe House
by Lisa M. Grabbe
Moonlight and Mawazo
www.MoonlightAndMawazo.com

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Guest Biographies



Maggie Weber aka Refashioned Hippie

In Maggie's own words, "Refashioned Hippie is your friendly neighborhood fashion critic appalled by the prices of luxury stuff. The author of two books, she also pretends she's smart."

But she's much more than that. Maggie Weber, widely known as Refashioned Hippie, is a designer, educator, and creative advocate who uses her online presence (431K followers on Instagram, 489K on YouTube, 189K on TikTok) to promote thrifting, upcycling, and environmental consciousness in style, balancing entrepreneurship with motherhood and an open-hearted delight in the ridiculous.

Maggie keeps her audience engaged with recurring topics. "Where Are We Going in This?" showcases absurd fashion. "Bad Design" reminds designers to double-check their work from all angles, including the mindset of a 13-year-old boy. "Rich People Stuff" examines conspicuous consumption. "Can You Tell" asks viewers to differentiate between costly boutique items and handcrafted Etsy creations. "Designing for Humans" positions Maggie herself as an abducted tutor to aliens learning to mimic human styling, forever frustrated by designs that reveal their creators' deep misconceptions about humanity.

"Clothing My Boobs Laugh At" challenges the idea of one true, ideal body shape.

Above all, Maggie celebrates craftsmanship and authenticity, encouraging people to support small and local creators and to consider fashion as an expression of individual style and creativity rather than a measure of disposable income

 Steven H. Wilson, book chapters, and journal articles. Outside academia he is the author of the epic fantasy *The Third Sign*, the award-winning graphic novel *Icarus* and the dark fantasies *Grayshade* and *Renegade*, and the 5E adventure/sourcebook *Tales and Tomes from the Forbidden Library*, plus many short stories. Under the moniker Arvan Eleron, he runs the twitch.tv/arvaneleron channel focused on narrative, with sponsored TTRPG campaigns. His website is gregoryawilson.com

Steven H. Wilson

Steven Howell Wilson created the Mark Time and Parsec Award-winning podcast series

Live Charity Auctions

Friday night during Opening Ceremonies and Saturday night during Masquerade Half-Time

Silent Auction Room

All weekend long in the Art Show Fitzgerald A North

All proceeds benefit Farpoint's official charities and Farpoint Foundation, the 501(c)(3) which organizes Farpoint Convention.

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 Elkhridge, Maryland and have two adult sons, Ethan (married to Rachel) and Christian, and two grandchildren, Matthew and Aubrey. He blogs at stevenhwilson.com often, if not regularly.

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 25th, 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 including being an NPS Park Ranger and a professional puppeteer. 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.

Dr. Willie Yee

Dr. Willie Yee is an amateur astronomer, past president and member of the Board of Directors of the Mid-Hudson Astronomical Association. He presently is a Solar System Ambassador, a program supported by NASA and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, CA. Dr. Yee is a retired psychiatrist and a magician trained at the world-renowned McBride Magic and Mystery School in Las Vegas. Dr. Yee has performed as a *Star Trek* character, "S'kai," at numerous science fiction conventions, and science educational

Groups and Organizations

Balticon/BSFS 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 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.

Boogie Knights facebook.com/groups/80246195680

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 "SMAP" 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"!

Capclave/WSFA capclave.org

Capclave is a small relaxed literary convention run by the Washington Science Fiction Association 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.

Charm City Ghostbusters charmcitygb.com

*Are you troubled by strange noises in the night?
Do you experience feelings of dread in the state of Maryland?
Have you or your family actually seen a spook, specter or ghost?
If the answer is yes, then don't waste another minute and call the professionals:*

The Charm City Ghostbusters We're ready to believe you, hon!

Established in 2015, we are a 501c3 cosplay group with a strong affinity for the 1984 paranormal comedy, and the franchise it started. We use the movie to connect with people around the DMV area through movie screenings, comic & pop culture conventions, community & private events, while raising money for our partner charities.

Crazy 8 Press 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.

The Ineffable Society <https://discord.gg/wJqEsk9tnD>

The Ineffable Society is a Good Omens fan group that started in the Mid-Atlantic area. TIS organizes and encourages a variety of in-person get-togethers and adventures to connect the local and international fandom communities. Past gatherings occurred at Dragon Con and London Comic Con, along with synchronous world-wide ineffable picnics, location visits, and hotel-based meetups with scheduled events and activities. Whether your favorite canon is the book, radio play, TV series, musical, graphic novel, or beyond, all love for Good Omens is welcome! If you're 18 or older, you are invited to join the Discord: <https://discord.gg/wJqEsk9tnD>

Fright Reads Book Festival frightreads.com

Terrify yourself at Fright Reads Book Festival. Veteran-owned and operated, this festival of horror, science fiction, fantasy, dystopia, and thrillers will have you screaming with delight! Featuring authors, actors, artists, and creators of all kinds, this event is family-friendly and full of spine-tingling fun! Come see why we're the premier horror book festival in Maryland!

HanaCon hanaconanime.com

Join us for our second party!

HanaCon is an anime convention that celebrates the vibrant world of Anime, the Arts, Makers, Creators, Authors, Illustrators, Craftspeople, Designers Asian & Pop culture. Our goal is to provide a safe, educational, and inclusive space for individuals to come together, share their passions and explore new interests.

We offer a wide variety of programming, workshops, and interactive events. Our space is open to all ages and provides a unique opportunity to explore the world of anime, the arts, and Asian culture in an engaging and meaningful way.

Long Island Doctor Who Convention longislanddoctorwho.com

Join us at the Holiday Inn Holtsville, New York, for a 3-day event with friends old and new. Our guests span over 60 years of Doctor Who history. All the stars appear live on stage both Saturday and Sunday. Meet authors, comic writers, and artists. Watch DW-related videos, documentaries and out-takes. Show off your creations in our costume fashion show. Play in interactive gameshows, trivia competitions, and tabletop gaming. Take photos with a full sized TARDIS! Be sure to join in on our fan discussion panels. Attendees can sign up for a variety of subjects (listed on our website). Those panels are created and run by fans just like you. There's stuff for the kids too, so bring the whole family. And don't forget the Vendor Hall!

All weekend, enjoy autograph sessions, scheduled professional photo sessions, and sign up for a private room sit down small group discussion with coffee or tea with a Doctor Who star in our "Celestial Tea Room" (included in all passes). Deluxe pass holders can enjoy "Dinner with the Stars of Doctor Who."

There's over 100 hours of programming - guests, panels, presentations, gaming, performances and special events - too much to list here! Join our social media for more details.

Groups and Organizations

Old Dominion Daleks

facebook.com/OldDominionDaleks/

The adventures of Bumpy the Wonder Dalek and Zappy, Bumpy's mom. Leading the Dalek invasion of Earth by helping others construct their own Dalek.

Based in Yorktown, VA, Old Dominion Daleks began as a 60 % scale costume for Rick Siebigteroth's then 8-year-old daughter and has grown into a fleet after the challenge was issued by his wife: "You built a scale one, can you build a full size one for me?"

Zappy, that full scale Dalek, is under construction. Bumpy MK1 (60% scale) and Bumpy MKII (75% scale) were eventually outgrown, so Bumpy MKIII (90% scale) is also underway. These constructions were featured in *Creating the Character Costume: Tools, Tips, and Talks with Top Costumers* by Cheralyn Lambeth.

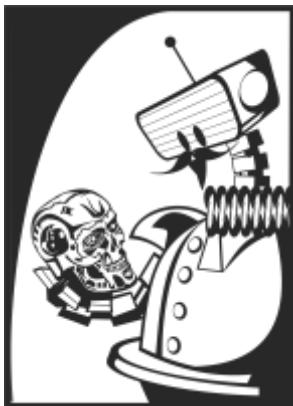
Thus Old Dominion Daleks continues, spreading the love of Daleks through appearances at science fiction conventions and library events where they explain the history and construction techniques of these iconic Doctor Who villains as well as their presentation on the recurring villains of Doctor Who. So don't be surprised if you suddenly find yourself on the wrong side of a plunger this weekend, hearing the iconic order, "Ex-ter-min-ate!"

Pennsylvania Browncoats

pabrowncoats.com, facebook.com/groups/PABrowncoats/

The Pennsylvania Browncoats is a group of more than 250 Firefly/Serenity fans located in or near the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. We organize social events as well as charitable activities, such as the Can't Stop the Serenity screenings of the *Serenity* movie, the annual Running of the Jaynes, and the 2024 Browncoat Ball.

Since Pennsylvania is so large we've subdivided the state into four loose regions, or Brigades, for ease of planning. Check out the breakdown on our website to see if you fall into the Delaware Valley Brigade, the Susquehanna Valley Brigade, the Rivers and Bridges Brigade, or the Woods and Lakes Brigade.



Philcon

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!

RavenCon

ravencon.com

RavenCon, first held in 2006 by a passionate group of local fans, is a vibrant Science Fiction/Fantasy/Horror convention. Our mission is to provide a dynamic forum where fans and professionals can engage and explore their interests in literature, art, gaming, podcasting, costuming, science, and music. We work hard to provide an action-packed weekend filled with exciting activities for everyone! Enjoy over 300 hours of programming and help us celebrate a very special event:

1926: Hugo Gernsback coins the term "Science Fiction" and launches *Amazing Stories*, the first publication dedicated exclusively to the new genre.

2026: RavenCon partners with *Amazing Stories* magazine to host the OFFICIAL 100th Anniversary of Science Fiction (and 20 years of RavenCon)!

SciFi Diner Podcast

scifidinerpodcast.com

Welcome to the SciFi Diner where we serve up spicy conversations from a tasty menu of the latest scifi 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

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.

STARFLEET The International Star Trek Fan Association, Inc.

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.

Trek Long Island

treklongisland.com

Trek Long Island is a Science Fiction convention hosted by the Library for the Kind (<https://storytimesolidarity.com/library-for-the-kind/>), which promotes books and resources that celebrate diversity, inclusion, gender equality, LGBTQ+ and kindness. The organization is run by - you guessed it - librarians!

TLI shares how Trek has celebrated diversity and inclusion since it was gifted to the world in 1966! Expect anything from in-depth discussions about TOS and Trek's influence on Modern Day to Autism in Space, Gender on the Enterprise (They, He, She, Xi), and more! Walk into Trek Long Island and know that you can be yourself or cosplay as whoever you want to. You be you!

USS Mae Jemison

USS Mae Jemison is a STARFLEET chapter formed in the National Harbor, Maryland, comprised of a group of individuals from different areas within the Capital Region of Maryland, Washington D.C., and Northern Virginia. The mission is to have fun, give back to the community through projects to help others, and promote the very same ideals and philosophies that Star Trek embodies.

Science Panels

Medjacking:

The Weaponization of Healthcare Tech

Implanted devices like pacemakers and insulin pumps offer life-saving convenience, but they harbor critical, deadly vulnerabilities. This session descends into the grim reality of the Internet of Medical Things, where remote exploits can alter heart rhythms, dispense fatal drug dosages, or cause life-threatening disruptions. We'll explore how AI in medical devices complicates risk and how hospitals, with 63% of known exploited vulnerabilities present on their networks, are the frontline of this digital war. The ultimate digital battlefield is already inside the patient.

Charnock's Comedy Cabaret AFTER DARK

(R Rated) If you, like Data, want to know what is funny, stop in for nerdish performances from great local stand up comics. **This event contains adult language and themes.**

Are We Alone? Hints, Red Herrings, and Hope on the Horizon

The Fermi Paradox: If intelligent alien civilizations are common and could expand across the galaxy, then "Where is everybody?" Since 1960 when Frank Drake first searched for signals from distant worlds to NASA's plans for the Habitable World Observatory, we've used science and speculation to try to answer that question. Let's look at some of the recent observations, scientific discoveries, and foundational research to get a better handle on the search for life beyond Earth.

How is AI Affecting Your Job and Industry?

Is your job threatened by AI? How are you coping with likely layoffs? Do you need new skills to do your job? Is there training for them? Who pays? Is there a way to future-proof your job against AI intrusion? AI is already disrupting a number of different industries. Let's get a handle on it.

Commercial Weather Satellites and Data: Who Controls Your Forecast?

Commercial weather satellites and data sources offer the government the opportunity to grow and expand the weather constellation, experiment with new types of data, and proliferate data sources. The potential for advancement is amazing if the government keeps continuity of the current measurements, and there have been some early successes. The temptation is to offload all weather data collection to commercial partners is high. Buying data looks cheaper, but is it? Is there actually a private weather market or will taxpayers wind up paying more for their forecasts?

Science Fiction That Became Science (and Some That Didn't)

Science fiction in the movies and TV shows lots of things that never happened, or hasn't happened yet: the "warp drive", colonies on other planets, and flying cars, to name a few. Why haven't they happened yet? Could they? And

what distinguishes science fiction ideas that became real versus those that didn't? We consider several ideas from science fiction, including space travel, flying and self-driving cars, and the warp drive to see which ones worked, which ones didn't, and which ones might still be possible. More importantly, we look at the scientific and societal reasons why.

Odd Behaviors and Strange Experiments:

In Defense of the Mad Scientist

Scientists get an unfair rap. We are often portrayed as single-minded in the search for truth, not thinking about the consequences of our experiments, too busy trying to see if we could to ask if we should. Becoming giddy when a new piece of code works, laughing uncontrollably, mwa... mwa... mwahahahaha... Sorry, something got caught in my throat there for a minute. Okay, to be fair, there have been a few VERY LEGITIMATE experiments that perhaps sound and could be described as, well, not sure how to say this, but yes, they do sound a bit mad. And yes, okay, there has been a history of scientists —or their experiments —being chased out of town with pitchforks by local villagers. I defend these scientists. We look at some of these misunderstood experiments. And we look at how authors and filmmakers have perpetuated these unfair characterizations in the media.

How To Do Epidemiology, or: A Retrospective Study of Differential Mortality Among *Star Trek* Occupational Categories

The authors present an epidemiological study of red shirtedness (fatalities induced by wearing a *Star Trek* red shirted uniform) as a way of explaining how epidemiological research works from the collection of data all the way to data-supported conclusions. It's silly, fun, and insightful! This presentation is a must-see. (Science: It Works!)

The Search for Life Beyond Earth

The discovery of life beyond Earth is no longer a question of if, but when. Such a revelation would mark a transformative moment in human history—completing the arc of the 500-year Copernican Revolution by confirming that life is not unique to our planet. Evidence of a second genesis within our own solar system would profoundly reshape our understanding of biology and our place in the cosmos. Looking beyond to other stars, we may come to see life as a natural consequence of the universe—a favored expression of matter itself. This idea, long rooted in philosophy and religion, is now on the verge of scientific validation. This talk explores the rigorous standards of evidence required to confirm life elsewhere, from microbial traces on nearby planets to biosignatures on Earth-like exoplanets, and even potential signs of advanced extra-terrestrial civilizations.

SCIENCE: A.U.A. -- Ask Us Anything!

A cadre of folks in the science program lets you drive discussion! Come early, write down a ques-

tion you want answered (or at least discussed, we don't promise answers) before we begin and see how long it takes for our panelists to throw up their hands in frustration! No question too tough, no topic taboo (but keep it family friendly if younglings are in the room).

Bringing Quantum Weirdness to Life:

The Physics of the 2025 Nobel Prize

We all know what happens when you throw a ball at a wall — it bounces back. But in the strange world of quantum mechanics, that's not always the case. According to the rules of quantum physics, there's a tiny chance the ball could simply pass through the wall and appear on the other side — a process known as quantum tunneling. Normally, such bizarre behavior only shows up in the microscopic realm of electrons and atoms. However, the 2025 Nobel Prize in Physics recognized John Clarke, Michelle Devoret, and John M. Martinis for demonstrating these same effects (and other mind-bending quantum phenomena) on larger, human-engineered scales using superconducting circuits. I explore the fundamentals of quantum tunneling and related quantum effects, then connect those ideas to the groundbreaking experiments that made these once-theoretical oddities tangible — and brought us a little closer to the frontier where science fiction meets quantum reality.

White Dwarves and the Fate of the Universe

White Dwarf stars are the densest objects in the Universe after neutron stars and black holes. Our own sun will eventually become a white dwarf. This presentation discusses the evolution, composition, properties and fate of these objects.

Interstellar Visitors: Two Comets

and an Asteroid (Sorry, No Spaceships)

In the last decade we have seen three objects originating from outside our own Solar System: asteroid Oumuamua (2017), comet 2I/Borisov (2019), and the current visitor, comet 3I/ATLAS (2025). How do we know that they come from elsewhere? What do they tell us about where they came from? We take a look at these three and see what answers we can find.

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.

Costuming/Cosplay Panels

Fix-n-Finish Room

Don't get stuck in your dark, lonely room -- come work on your costume in our well-lit Fix-n-Finish room! We're stocked with basic supplies including a sewing machine. Meet other costumers and feel like you're really at the con. OPEN ALL DAY Friday. Supplies available. Saturday & Sunday; work space available when panels are not in session.

Farpoint Masquerade 101

Every con has its own cosplay contest culture. Costumer Rachel Wyman will walk you through how Farpoint runs its Masquerade and will answer any questions you may have.

Farpoint 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, or if you need a complete presentation, costumer Rachel Wyman is here to help.

Take Your Cosplay From Off the Rack to Off the Chain

There is no shame in buying a premade cosplay but what many see happen is the effects of a one size fits all fashion industry for a not so one size fits all world. We discuss simple tricks and habits to make your cosplay come to life no matter where its life began. With guest Maggie Weber aka Refashioned Hippie

A Beginner's Guide to Wig Styling with Sailor_Grell

Do you want to style a cosplay wig but don't know what to do or even where to start? Clover Wellons aka Sailor_Grell can show you the basics, styling techniques, and the do's and don'ts at her wig styling workshop.

The 60th Anniversary of Star Trek TOS in Costuming

Star Trek's weekly episodic format ranged from straight science fiction to love stories to horror to comedy to alternate histories. These genres presented many different worlds with differing appearances and attires. Our Cosplay panelists discuss how Star Trek set the stage for costuming in TV and movies then and now.

Presenting Female While Cosplaying

Presenting female in cosplay can present a whole host of challenges in mainstream and queer spaces alike. Queer spaces tend to have a lack of queer female and queer feminine presenting humans. We've experienced being ignored/talked over on panels to unwanted comments about bodies/beauty and straight up harassment. We'll discuss: How to advocate for yourself and make sure your voice is heard. How to demand respect and take up space. Change starts now.

Cosplay Self Care

Cosplay is an amazing and creative way to celebrate your fandoms but especially now when it's become a powerhouse presence it's easy to get so caught up in it that you tear yourself apart. We will share our tips and tricks to keep the Play in Cosplay

Masquerade Critique

Re-live the Masquerade with the Director and judge(s) and discuss what worked and what can be improved in a round table discussion.

Author & Literary Panels

Alternate History:

Creating Stories by Changing the Past

Join author J.L. Gribble for a brief discussion of alternate history storytelling methods, then put your creativity to work in audience-participation worldbuilding exercises!

Entering A Short Story Competition

This presentation will explore how to enter short story competitions, what to expect, and encourage attendees to submit for the 3rd annual Moonlight and Mawazo short story competition.

Themes: Does Every Story Need One?

Why themes matter in fiction, how to weave them into stories, how they make our stories better and more interesting

Teen Writing Workshop

Like to write in secret or for friends, or just dreaming about it? Come learn tips and tricks to make your writing stand out from the crowd! We'll explore the basics of good writing, how to make your characters feel real, and run some easy practice drills, pain-free! (Ages 12+)

Writers & Motivation:

Why We Write What We Write

Writers discuss how and why they choose to write about the particular subjects, characters and themes in their stories

Luring the Muse

Our panel talks about how to keep the ideas flowing, how to keep them new and different, how to preserve them until you have time to write them--and what to do when the flow slows or turns stale.

Self-Editing:

Why It's Important & How to Do It

Whether you're self-publishing or being published by a small or large publisher, all writers need to learn to edit their own work. Pro writers will share their tips for developing this crucial skill.

How to Write Morally Ambiguous Characters

What makes a character "good?" What makes them "bad?" What makes them "grey," and how do you craft a believable morally grey character that your readers will care about? Do we need more morally grey characters in 2026, or less?

Crazy 8 Press

An hour long panel with members of Crazy 8 Press to discuss current and future publications.

When Good Books Die

You've written a great book. It comes out. And...nothing. Little to no reviews, low sales, no attention. What happened? And what do you do now?

The 60th Anniversary of Star Trek TOS in Literature

What did *Star Trek* do for authors of books, fan-zines, magazines, TV shows, movies, etc.? What were some of the major creations and what were the significant influences? How were the literary genres changed for good or bad? Our panelists discuss their experiences or knowledge of or research into that groundbreaking time.

Publishing Demystified

The nuts and bolts of the publishing industry can often be opaque to aspiring authors. Join our discussion as several seasoned publishers and agents answer your questions and discuss the state of publishing.

World Building

Sci-fi/fantasy is the only genre in which the setting is not real. It's also the only genre defined by its setting. Writers talk about what goes into creating a world from whole cloth.

Writing Fighting

Writing combat - one-on-one, swordfights, epic space battles - presents a lot of challenges. A panel of authors share their thoughts, approaches, and experience in writing fighting and combat in its many forms.

Playing in Someone Else's Sandbox

This panel will discuss the joys (and headaches) of working on media tie-in projects. Panelists discuss how to keep both editors and licensors happy and recount happy success stories, crushing defeats, and then (oh, no!) dealing with the fans.

Writing For the Future - Hopepunk and Optimistic Science Fiction in the 2020s

Between climate change and armed conflict, the world might feel a dark place right now. Can hopepunk and other optimistic works of science fiction set a light? Panelists will discuss how they write optimistic science fiction and recommend their favorite reads...because when times get a little dark, fiction tends to get light.

Main Programming, Live Events & Fandom Interests

Outlander: Blood of my Blood, or "How to Get Away with Murtagh"

Season 1 of the prequel of the *Outlander* series brought us how Jamie's parents met, as well as interweaving Claire's parents. What will Season 2 bring? Will elements of the prequel or the final books be brought in Season 8 of *Outlander*?

Dark Operations...

When is it time to say goodbye to a project

A meet and greet with the executive producers of the project. They will discuss the current status of the project, plus have an open and honest discussion on when it is time to abandon an indie project. In addition to new information, they will discuss the up and coming AI-use indie filmmaking.

All the Love: Celebrating The Awesomeness of Both *Star Trek* and *Star Wars*

Star Trek turns 60, *Star Wars* will turn 50 in a year. Rather than compare, contrast, and argue which is better, why not show both the love? A discussion about how both ST and SW have changed the face of sci-fi for the better, been two of the biggest reasons for sci-fi becoming increasingly mainstream, and what we're excited about for the future of both.

Klingon Make Up: LIVE DEMONSTRATION

Come for an extended LIVE DEMONSTRATION as a group of cosplayers and drag artists take someone from bare face to full costumed Klingon! Led by Joe Colton, who has studied under Trek make-up artists John Paladin & Michael Westmore, she will be putting our model, drag artist Sirene Noir, in full Klingon costume. Make up assistance by Alex Mac & Logan Stone, Costume by D'Manda Martini, hair by Charlemagne Chateau, with color commentary and audience interaction with Tiffany D. Carter! It will be a semi interactive with audience being able to ask questions about the process as it happens, and each of our panelists talking about their part of the process while Sirene experiences the Klingon saying: "A warrior does not complain about physical discomfort."

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 the all-you-can-eat light buffet. A limited number of tickets available at the door. (*Ticket is required for food*)

Opening Ceremonies

The party continues! Please join us for the presentation of the Contact Award, the Friday Charity Auction, and live entertainment.

Vic's Place Karaoke Featuring The Pack Ratz

Strut your stuff and show off your pipes at our karaoke party!

Bob Greenberger

Bob talks movies... and tv... and other stuff....

Marc Okrand: Klingon And Other Languages

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.

60th Anniversary of *Star Trek* - This Is Our *Star Trek* Future

60 years after *Star Trek*, what technology from the show do we have? What do we wish we had? Are we close to having a medical tricorder yet? What did they get really wrong?

Boogie Knights

History and fantasy-inspired parodies of modern songs. Come for the melody, stay for the words!

Star Tricks, Magic

Trek Star Trek and SF themed magic show with S'kai the Vulcan

Streaming TV: Love it?

Hate it? Blessing, or curse?

We all used to watch the same shows at roughly the same time. Have we lost "water-cooler" shows because we watch too many choices at different times? Are streaming shows REALLY any better than network shows used to be?

David, Marc, Howie & Bob's Excellent TrekVentures

Join guests David Gerrold, Mark Okrand, Howie Weinstein, and Bob Greenberger as they discuss their adventures over *Star Trek*'s 60 year history.

From Dice to Screens:

How D&D Took Over Pop Culture

Dungeons & Dragons is no longer just for nerds in basements—now it's a multi-platform storytelling phenomenon. From the explosive success of shows like *Critical Role*, *Dimension 20*, and *Baldur's Gate 3*, to animated series like *The Legend of Vox Machina* and the D&D movie *Honor Among Thieves*, tabletop gaming has officially entered mainstream pop culture.

This panel explores how D&D evolved from niche hobby to cultural powerhouse, how actual play shows changed the way we game, and what it means to see your dice rolls become TV scripts, cosplays, and internet fandoms. We'll discuss the impact on storytelling, representation, fan creativity, and what's next for the growing D&D multiverse.

Jess Bush

An hour with our guest (Saturday & Sunday)

***Star Trek* — The Captains**

All absolutely fantastic, all totally individual. We'll discuss the leads of all the shows, their differences and similarities, and what made each one stand out. Topics will include favorite aspects of the characters, favorite episodes, and even missed opportunities.

Ross Marquand

An hour with our guest (Saturday & Sunday)

Sci-Fi Diner Podcast

Check out the Sci-Fi Diner crew as they record their podcast at Farpoint.

Celebrating *Star Trek IV*'s 40TH Anniversary

Celebrate the 40th anniversary of the beloved *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home*. Howard Weinstein shares his unique behind-the-scenes perspective on "the one with the whales" -- from meetings with Leonard Nimoy during development to set visits during production.

Maggie Weber -

Refashioned Hippie Farpoint Livestream

An hour with our guest as she livestreams to the world

David Tennant and Michael Sheen: Roles and Characters

Discussion of the roles of the two main actors in *Good Omens*.

Justina Ireland Q&A

An hour with our guest (Saturday & Sunday)

Is James Bond Science Fiction?

From jet packs to submarine cars and so many other wonderful gadgets, the world's most famous secret-agent has it all. But are the Bond movies spy movies or science-fiction?

To Farpoint and Beyond

Our fourth year of the Farpoint Official Drag Show hosted by D'Manda Martini, starring Logan Stone, Tiffany D. Carter, Charlemagne Chateau, Sirene Noir Sidora Jackson and Alex Mac! Join us for a fun show celebrating scifi, fantasy, and fandom!



Find programming times, locations and panelists on our online guide!

myconschedule.com

Follow Us On Facebook!

Main Programming, Live Events & Fandom Interests

Masquerade Costume Contest

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.

Ten Forward

Dance and party the night away!

The Bob & Howie Show

Writer pals/Star Trek fans/longtime con guests Bob Greenberger and Howard Weinstein talk about their new writing projects, lives, current and future TV and movies, and engage their audience in discussion of hot topics of the day.

TREKtivism: Federation of Changemakers

TREKtivism Champions, Paul Adams and Adeena Mignogna, will lead an interactive discussion, encouraging audience members to share stories of volunteerism, activism, and acts of kindness inspired by the future depicted in Star Trek. "Our hope is to grow a network of changemakers in the community—a Federation of Changemakers. If Star Trek's view of the future has inspired your work in the present, we invite you to share your story and become part of the Federation."

1966 Time Capsule: What Made *Star Trek* So Far Ahead of its Time?

Look back 60 years to the birth of *Star Trek*. What was it competing against in 1966? Why was it so controversial at the time? And why has its legacy survived and thrived so much better than any other TV shows of that era? Share your perspectives with us!

Sci-fi Wheel of Fortune

Join host Dean Rogers as our Contestants guess hidden Sci Fi themed phrases by guessing letters one at a time.

Maggie Weber – Refashioned Hippie Q&A

An hour with our guest.

We the Species...

Universal Rights in a Galactic Society

Star Trek has long used science fiction to explore real-world ethical questions, and few are as central—or as complicated—as human rights. This panel dives into how the franchise navigates the concept of rights across cultures, species, and planets. How do Federation values align—or clash—with alien beliefs about autonomy, justice, and dignity?

We'll explore how Earth-based ideals are sometimes imposed on alien societies, how alien civilizations reflect or challenge those ideals, and how the Prime Directive complicates efforts to "do the right thing." From the Bajoran resistance to the Borg collective, from Data's personhood to the rights of genetically modified beings, Star Trek constantly asks: who defines what it means to be free?

Join us for a conversation about morality, cultural relativism, and the challenges of universal rights in a universe that's anything but uniform.

Divas & Death Saves: A Dragventuring Story

This is a 90 minute, Live Play, D&D One Shot adventure with a PG-13ish rating. We join a team of four Drag-venturers as they compete in a Drag Race/Dragula/King of Drag inspired show with a high fantasy twist. We will begin with Lipsync Introductions to our cast, followed by our Mini-Challenge with Audience Participation. The Maxi-challenge is "Talent Under Fire!" where our Dragventurers must perform a group number during combat against an unknown foe! Will they Slay or will they Sashay Away?

That 70s (Superhero) Show

An examination of 70s Saturday Morning superhero shows for those who were there for them... and those who weren't.

50 Years: Films that Still Hold Up

Join us as we travel back 5 decades to remember fan favorites like *Logan's Run*, classic remakes like *King Kong*, and comedic satires like *The Big Bus!* What are your favorite and most forgettable films from 1976? Come and discuss with us!

What Makes a Fandom Feel Like Home?

A panel of queer cosplayers and drag artists for an open, empowering conversation about cultivating safe, inclusive spaces in fan communities. Whether you're attending, hosting, or running a con, you'll walk away with ideas and inspiration for building better, braver fandom spaces for all.

Post Convention Meeting

An open committee meeting - come tell us what went right, what we could do better, and what you'd like for next year.

Art Way Alliance Panels

X-Men Fanfiction Writing Workshop

Join author Rod Van Blake for an immersive craft session on writing compelling X-Men fanfiction that feels true to canon while showcasing your unique voice. Drawing on his worldbuilding and character-driven storytelling approach, Rod will walk you through his full creative arc process from spark to polished draft so you can confidently develop stories that spotlight mutant identity, moral conflict, and team dynamics.

X-Men Character Mash-Up

Join illustrator JP Jackson Arts for a fast-paced, high-energy character design session that lets you remix the mutant universe like never before. In this hands-on workshop, you'll learn how to combine signature traits, and power sets from fan-favorite X-Men into bold, original mash-up characters. Think Wolverine's feral edge with Storm's elemental flair, or Nightcrawler's agility fused with Rogue's attitude. JP will break down his creative process step-by-step, from brainstorming power combos and sketching dynamic poses to refining linework and adding storytelling details that make your design feel canon-ready.

Making Culture Move:

Writing, Memes, and Production

Award-winning creator and producer Chris Miles, best known as @critics_of_culture, breaks down how ideas move from viral posts to full-scale storytelling. From shaping internet culture to writing for Marvel and working with *The Boondocks* producer Carl Jones at his animation studio Martian Blueberry, Miles shares practical insights on translating creativity across platforms, building lasting IP, and staying authentic in an algorithm-driven world. A must-attend for writers, creators, and fans curious about where sci-fi, culture, and modern storytelling collide.

Let's Design Spiderman with Sci-Fi Elements

Join Artist Kyocs Chen for a hands-on workshop that reimagines Spiderman through a sleek science-fiction lens. This session is ideal for artists, designers, and storytellers seeking to elevate their character design skills by building a cohesive sci-fi visual language, and translate narrative prompts into striking design choices.

Starship Design

Join University of Maryland Eastern Shore Professor Brad Hudson for a deep dive into the principles of starship design. This workshop demystifies the creative and technical thinking behind spacecraft that feel credible, iconic, and ready for interstellar storytelling. Professor Hudson walks through shape language, functional design logic that then translate into ideas for sketching. Ideal for concept artists, illustrators, and sci-fi enthusiasts of all levels, you'll leave with a starship concept that look as if they could cross the cosmos.

Pokémon Go and Draw Remix with Sci-Fi & Comic Book Themes

Level up your drawing skills as you remix your favorite Pokémons with bold sci-fi flair and classic comic book style. In this playful, beginner-friendly workshop, you'll learn simple techniques for dynamic poses, expressive shape language, and eye-catching line and effects to reimagine iconic creatures. This session is perfect for fans of all ages and skill levels who want to spark creativity, build confidence, and leave with a new concept for design.

Young Fan: Children & Teen Panels

Movie and Dance Party

Come dance, design a pillow, watch a fabulous flick, and enjoy a yummy snack.

Chemistry for Kids

Come play with your food and do some fun science experiments.

Cookie Decorating with Princess Leia

Decorate Princess Leia and Chewbacca Cookies.

Introduction to Character Creation

If you're looking to introduce your children to TTRPGs, look no further! This session is child and beginner friendly.

Paint An Alien

It's a painting party! Come paint your own alien.

Fairy Gardens for All Children

Bits and bobs, sticks and stones, shines and sparkles.... Come build a home for the wee folk.

Bouncy Balls

Come make bouncy balls with the crew.

Lightsabers

Have you ever wanted to be a jedi with your own lightsaber? This is the place for you with your own pool noodle for the blade.

Lego Competition

Spend time with Legos building your dreams.

Game Room Events

Gaming Any Time

An entertaining variety of card and board games to browse and join a game in play or begin one yourself. *Friday 7pm-1am, Saturday 10am-2am, Sunday 10am-4pm*

Jelly Bean Contest

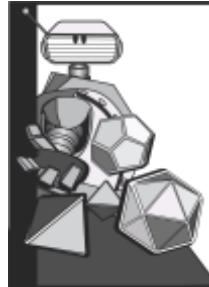
Guess the number – a big jar for the adults, a small one for the kids. Winner announced Saturday evening during the Masquerade Half-Time. Must be present to win. (Friday and Saturday)

How to Decoupage Anything

Requested by popular demand, an easy calming craft. Choose an item, a picture frame, pen holder, small box, then embellish it in color. Base blank items provided. New blank vases to try!! (Friday and Saturday)

Quick Crafts – Make a Good Luck Bracelet

Assemble a simple Unisex Mock Puka-Shell bracelet or necklace. Come visit for a design session and make a walk-away wearable piece of art in an hour.



Star Trek Adventures RPG

SYSTEM: Darkness

EXPERIENCE: Beginners welcome

PLAYERS: 3 to 6 players

This mission takes place on the frontier of explored space, in response to a distress call from a Vulcan Expeditionary Group on the planet of Trax Epsilon 1. The Players' vessel arrives in the Trax Epsilon system to find the Class-H planet the Vulcans were studying is now a black void in the sky. The characters must don EV suits and descend into the thick black atmosphere to investigate. On the planet, Players investigate what happened to the missing doomed expedition and encounter a vast alien mind terraforming the planet and attempting to make telepathic contact with anyone it can reach.



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.

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!

WHERE • WHAT • WHEN

Masquerade Registration

NEW TIMES!!

Saturday 11:00 am to 3:00 pm
Entries cannot be accepted after 3:00 pm.

....

Workmanship Judging

During Greenroom
immediately preceding Masquerade

....

Greenroom

Fitzgerald A South
Saturday, 6:00pm to Half Time

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!

FARPOINT 33 (2026) ART SHOW AND AUCTION

Welcome to the Farpoint Art Show and Auction! We are in Fitzgerald A North. We are open on Friday evening and all-day Saturday for bidding! Please stop by, admire, and bid on some artwork!

How Bidding Works:

Bidders MUST be registered with the convention AND with the Art Show desk. Register your badge number at the Art Show desk so that your bid will count. 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 the live auction. If you place the seventh bid on a piece of art, plan to attend the live auction. The live Art Auction is **SUNDAY** starting at **11:00 AM** in Art Show rooms. ALL registered convention members (one-day and weekend) may attend and bid at the live Art Auction.

If a bid has been made with a badge number that has not been registered with the Art Show, that bid will be voided.

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 (registered badge 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 hanging 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 is 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

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

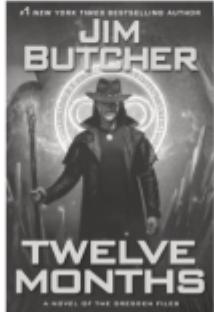


BALTICON 60

science fiction and fantasy convention

May 22-25, 2026

Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel
202 East Pratt St, Baltimore, MD 21202



JIM BUTCHER

GUEST OF HONOR



**The Faithful
Sidekicks**

Music Guest



Frank Wu

Guest of Honor
Artist/Author/Scientist



**Jennifer
Blackstream**

Special Guest



Samantha Mills

2025 Compton Crook
Award Winner



TBD

2026 Compton Crook
Award Winner



TBD

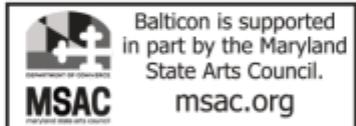
2026 Robert Heinlein
Award Winner

Come join us for: Writers, Editors, Cosplay, Masquerade, Science, Film Festival, Art Show, Dealers Room, Video Room, Music, Gaming, Anime, Children's Program, Readings—all for fans by fans!

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ASL is available for some
programs upon request.



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Shore Leave 46

A Fan-run Media Science Fiction Convention

Presented by the STAT Club of Maryland, Inc.



10-12 July 2026



Sandra Lee Gimpel

Star Trek TOS – Talosian
Star Trek TOS – Salt Vampire



Sean Kenney

Star Trek TOS – Captain Pike
Star Trek TOS – Lt. DePaul



Bobby Clark

Star Trek TOS – Gorn
Star Trek TOS – Archen Agitator



Oded Fehr

SF Academy/ DIS – Adm. Vance
The Mummy (all) – Ardeth Bay



Robert Picardo

Starfleet Academy/VOY – EMH
Stargate Atlantis – R. Woolsey



Kerrice Brooks

Starfleet Academy – Sam
Feeling Randy – Melissa



Rachel Luttrell

SG Atlantis – Teyla Emmagan
Arrow – Rosie



David Hewlett

SG Atlantis – Dr. Rodney McKay
Dark Matter – Tabor Calchek



Laurette Spang

Battlestar Galactica – Cassiopeia
Project U.F.O. – Linda Collins



Herb Jefferson

Battlestar Galactica – Lt. Boomer
Galactica 1980 – Col. Boomer



Marta Kristen Kane

Last in Space – Judy Robinson
Battle Beyond the Stars – Lux



TOS Main Cast Guest

Star Trek: The Original Series

Rachel Luttrell and David Hewlett will sign one FREE autograph on Saturday and Sunday for each attendee.



Friday Only!

Julie Caitlin Brown

Star Trek DS9 – Ty Kajada
Babylon 5 – Na'Toth



Bonnie Gordon
Musical Guest

Our confirmed author, artist, performer, and scientist guests:

Christopher Abbott, Danielle Ackley-McPhail, Rigel Ailur, Lorraine Anderson, Derek Tyler Attico, Diane Baron, Christopher Bennett, Russ Colchamiro, Greg Cox, Kathleen David, Keith DeCandido, Michael Dismuke, Kelli Fitzpatrick, Michael Jan Friedman, Esther Friesner, David Gerrold, Phil Giunta, Robert Greenberger, Glenn Hauman, Jim Johnson, David Mack, Mike McPhail, Adeena Mignogna, Susan Olesen, Robb Pearlman, Scott Pearson, TJ Perkins, Roberta Rogow, Aaron Rosenberg, Jenifer Rosenberg, Susan Shwartz, Hildy Silverman, Ray van Horn, Tim Waggoner, Dayton Ward, Laura Ware, Howard Weinstein, and JK Woodward.

For Hotel Information:

Wyndham Lancaster Resort and Convention Center
2300 Lincoln Highway East (Route 30)
Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17602-1114

*Please check our website for
hotel availability and overflow hotels.*

For Any Other Information:

Shore Leave
PO Box 6809
Towson, Maryland 21285-6809

www.shore-leave.com

Email: information@shore-leave.com

CAPCLAVE 2026

REBECCA ROANHORSE

NINO CIPRI

Guests of Honor



October 2-4, 2026

**Location: Rockville Hilton & Executive Meeting Center,
1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852**

capclave@gmail.com; info@capclave.org
<https://www.capclave.org>; <https://www.wsfa.org>; <https://twitter.com/capclave>
Capclave is produced by the Washington Science Fiction Association (WSFA)

 *90th Anniversary Philcon*

Philcon 2026

November 20-22, 2026

DoubleTree by Hilton, Cherry Hill, NJ

Charlie Jane Anders, Principal Speaker

Special Event: 1632 MiniCon at Philcon

Enjoy a Weekend of:

- Panels, art show, masquerade, concerts, gaming, anime, writers' workshop, meet the pros, filking, vendors and more!
- Free parking
- Public transit access



www.philcon.org

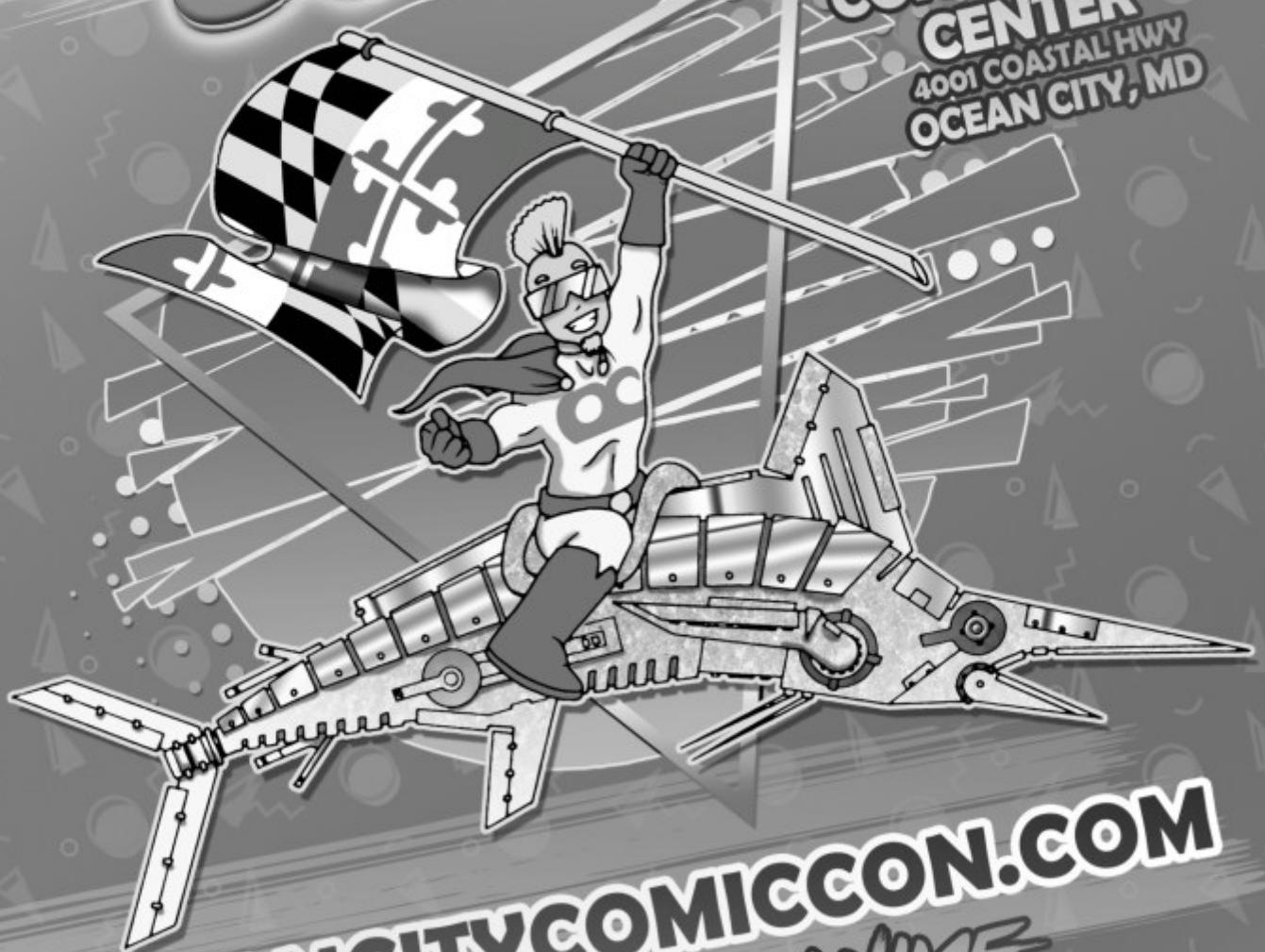
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DEC. 12TH & 13TH 2026

OCEAN CITY COMIC CON

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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 non-refundable. Attendees may re-sell or gift tickets privately, with notice to Farpoint of the registration name change.
2. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis in all programming rooms. There is disabled Attendee and VIP (Guests and Staff) seating sections 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 non-transferable. 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 Sheraton Hotel have sole discretion in determining the severity of the disruption.
2. Smoking is prohibited in the hotel (tobacco products, e-cigarettes 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.

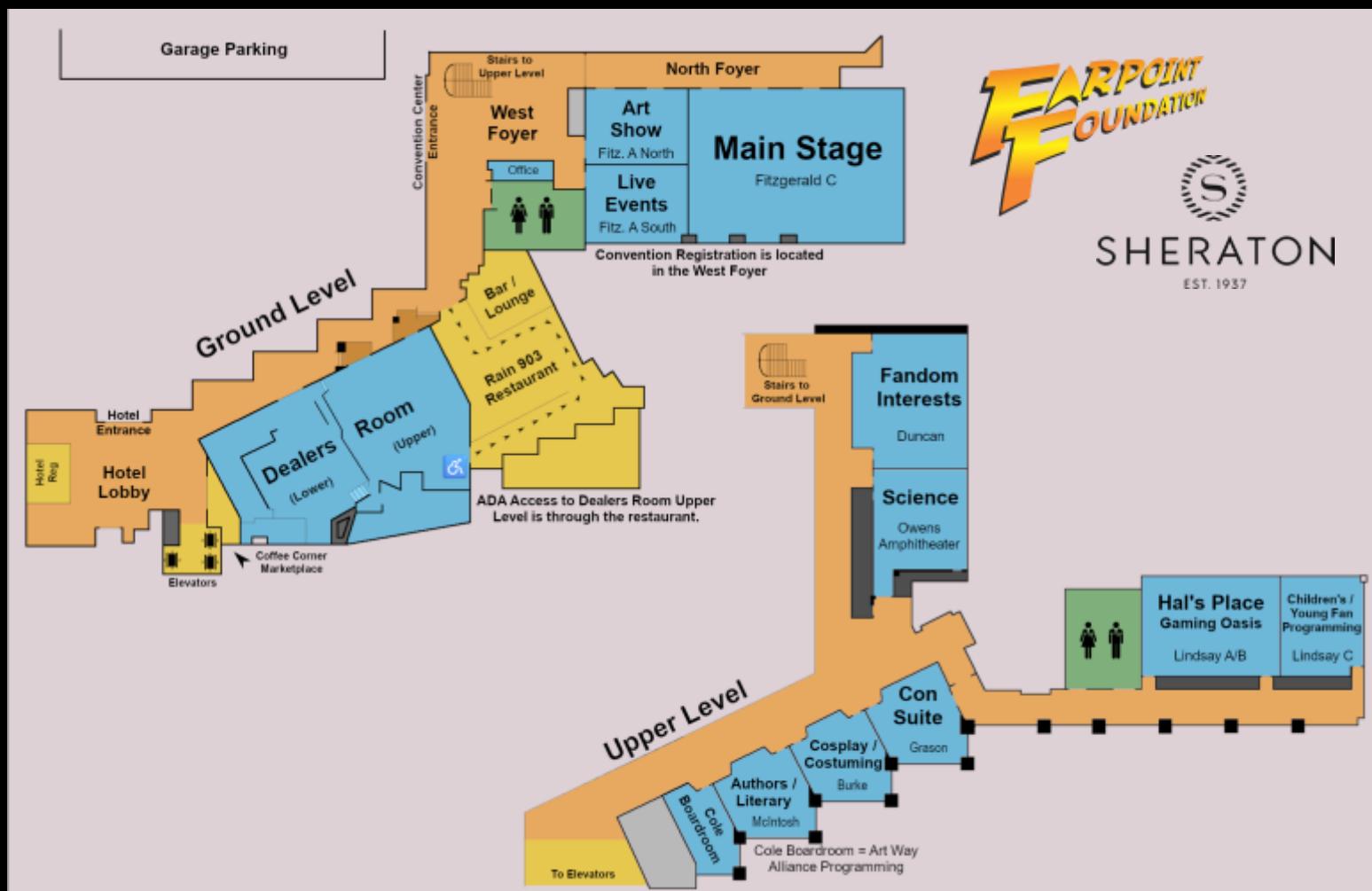
Conduct:

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 or calling for police assistance.
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 Con Operations office to make an official report. Attendees, Staff, Vendors/Dealers and Guests may also go directly to the Con Operations office on the convention floor 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. Convention Staff, Guests and Attendees are expected to follow Maryland's Indecent Exposure Laws. Clothing and costumes must fully cover their private parts. This law does not apply to mothers breastfeeding a child. Overtly sexual imagery and language is also not appropriate in programs, 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 convention chairs and/or committee.
5. Convention Staff, Guests and 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 Sheraton 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 appearance. 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. On-stage presentations of gifts or awards to or by any Attendee or Guest must be pre-approved by the Farpoint Convention 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 Sheraton Hotel allows dogs (cats are not allowed) in the sleeping rooms per their policy. This policy limits Hotel Guests to 1 dog per room (pet maximum weight 80 pounds) with a non-refundable \$75-\$100 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 floor. The ADA allows 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.
3. The following animals are not considered service animals per the ADA and are not allowed on the convention floor:
 - a. Household pets; and
 - b. Animals used for emotional support or easing anxiety.
4. In contrast with the Federal ADA laws, Maryland has modified the state ADA laws to allow service animals in training similar access to public spaces that is provided to fully trained service animals. However, both the Federal and Maryland ADA laws allow public events and spaces to ask for a service animal or service animal in training to be removed if said animal is not behaving in accordance with their training.
5. All service animals and service animals in training on the convention floor are expected and required by law to behave in accordance with their training. Farpoint and the Sheraton 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, Guests or other Service Animals.
 - b. Jumping on or knocking over Attendees, Staff, Vendors/Dealers, Guests or other Service Animals.
 - c. Knocking over, chewing on or otherwise damaging hotel or convention floors, furniture, equipment, displays and signage belonging to the Hotel, Farpoint Convention, Guests, Vendors/Dealers, Exhibitors or other Attendees.
 - d. Urinating or defecating on hotel or convention floors, furniture, equipment, displays and signage belonging to the Hotel, Farpoint Convention, Guests, Vendors/Dealers, Exhibitors or other Attendees.
 - e. Running loose on the convention floor and otherwise not staying with their matched partner while attending the convention.
6. Federal and Maryland ADA laws do not apply 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 Sheraton hotel will not grant such permission unless the public event is a SAR training event or demonstration, which Farpoint Convention is not.
7. The reserved seating area for disabled Attendees in the Preakness Ballroom for main programming will include 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 re-locate 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.
8. Anyone experiencing an issue with an animal in the convention areas is asked to go to the Con Operations office on the convention floor, the Registration Desk, or Information Desk and ask for a convention chair to be contacted.



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