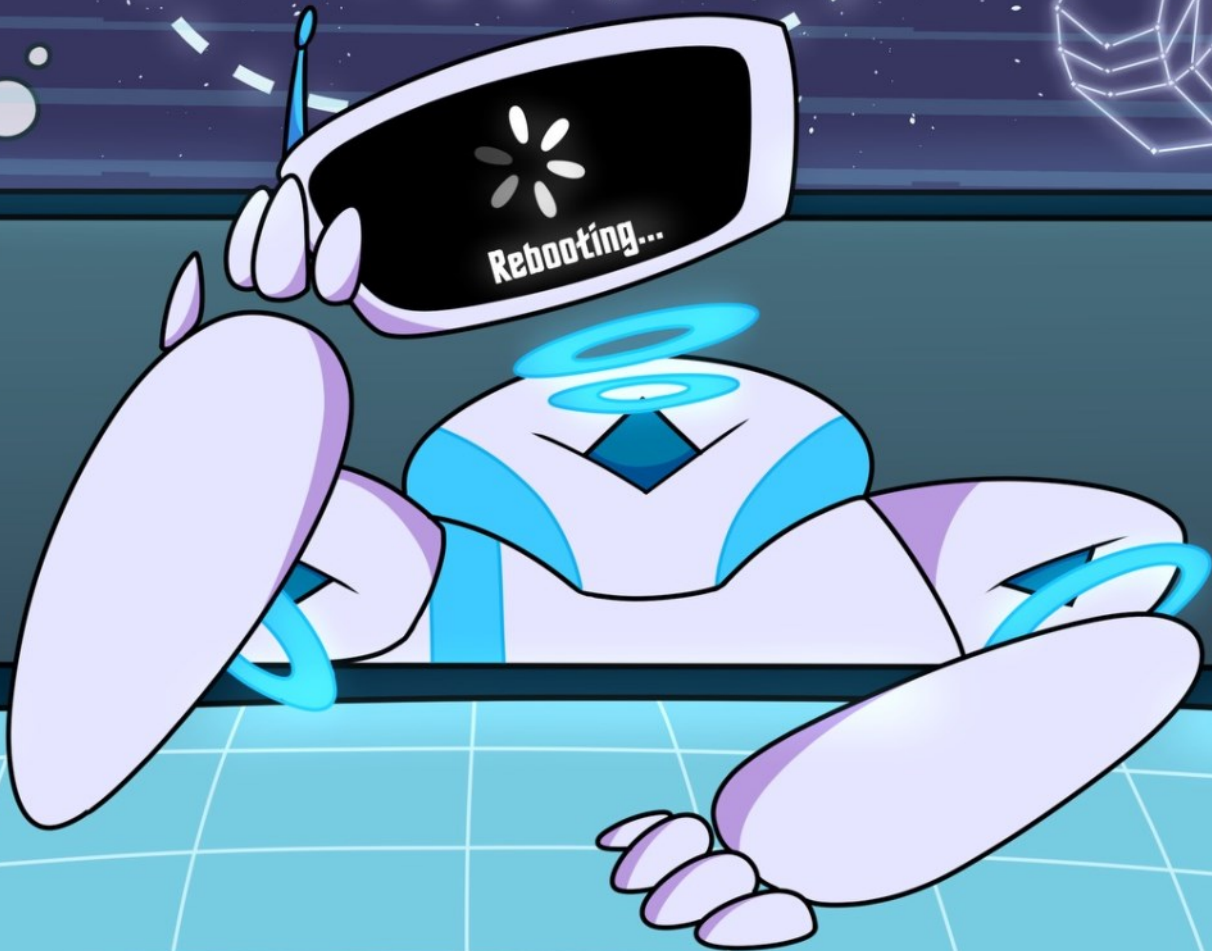


FARRPOINT 2024



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

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Where's the Game Room??!?!!

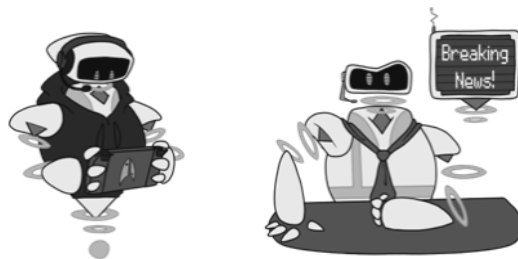
Hal's Place—The Gaming Oasis is in the Plaza Meeting Room, located next door to our main event space.

To start your adventure, exit the doors in front of the Fountainside Restaurant and Lounge and follow the clues (signs outside) to the Plaza Meeting Room.

Where's Parlor Room 512??!?!!

Parlor Room 512 is located... *dun dun duuun...* on the 5th Floor. Our Cosplay Fix-N-Finish Room, various meet-ups, and other events will be scheduled here.

Check the online guide for updates and specifics.



Where's Con Ops??!?!!

Con Ops (Convention Operations) is located in the Board Room on the 2nd Floor.

Con Ops is the "nerve center" of the convention and is staffed by Committee and Senior Staff Members. It serves as an escalation point for questions, requests, and incidents that cannot be solved by our Information and Registration Desks.

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.

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!")



Welcome to Farpoint 2024, and to the DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton!

Losing our longtime convention home was a shock to the entire East Coast fandom community. We appreciate everyone’s patience as we found a new home at close to the last minute and worked on all the details to set up and finalize room plans and schedules in our new home.

But ON WITH THE SHOW! Farpoint 2024 welcomes you to our 31st convention full of activities for all ages and for people with all interests. We are welcoming first-time celebrity guests Tawny Newsome, J Lee, Cal Dodd, and Erin Macdonald. We also welcome and thank all our guests in the Authors & Reading, Science, Movies & TV, Cosplay, Children/Youth, Live Events and Fannish Interests tracks, where we have over 100+ hours of activities to partake in.

You will find programs starting around 1:00 pm Friday afternoon going through to the evening. Friday night has our Opening Ceremonies and Cocktail Party. This event is open to all with a cash bar available. Food is also available for purchase (see our Registration desk for your wristband). We hope to see you at our first chance to socialize with committee, staff, guests, and other convention goers. The Opening Ceremonies start around 8:00 pm and will include a Charity Auction, presentation of the Contact Award (formerly the Volker/McChesney Award) and live entertainment. Closing Friday is our signature karaoke party hosted by Vic’s Place featuring the Pack Ratz.

Saturday and Sunday provide you opportunities to shop, socialize, collect signatures from our guests and attend the many programs and live events happening throughout each day. You will be dazzled by the beautiful costumes and cosplay entries in our Saturday evening Masquerade Costume Contest, followed by the Ten Forward Dance Party.

Our Charity Auctions (Live and Silent) support the Julien Fleming Memorial Fund and Art Way Alliance, our official charity partners. Thank you in advance for supporting these worthy charities.

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

Sharon VanBlarcom, Convention Chair

On behalf of the Farpoint Convention Committee and Staff



New Hotel! Who dis?

(and why does every hotel name their rooms after horseracing!?)

Be sure to check the posted schedules and online guide for programming times, locations, and real-time updates!

myconschedule.com

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The Contact Award

In 2007, Farpoint created the Volker-McChesney Award to honor Baltimore area fans who have exemplified service to the fandom community. The award was named for two past Farpoint Chairs, Beverly J. Volker and Marion McChesney, lynchpins of local fan activity who had been instrumental in the creation of Baltimore area conventions and fanzines. The award recognizes long-term contributions in convention or club organizing, writing, artwork, filmmaking, filking or other creative or service endeavor. It says that the recipient has shaped our local fandom in an unforgettable way. Current Farpoint Committee Members may not receive the award (although that rule was bent by the forces of darkness in 2018). Recipients are selected by the Farpoint Foundation Board and members of the Volker Family (Marion's fandom family.)

With the passing of another Farpoint Chair, Sandra Zier-Teitler in 2021, we have decided to rename our award in honor, not just of those fandom pioneers, but of the spirit that motivated them to work tirelessly, sometimes thanklessly, for fandom. The team behind Farpoint has traded under many names, but the name under which it all began seems most appropriate. In 1975, Beverly Volker and her sister Nancy Kippax started a fanzine called *Contact*, explaining that that term defined the goal of the U.S.S. Enterprise's explorations, of our need to seek out and embrace fandom, to discover the difference in others, and "to delight in that difference and understand that, although it exists, there are levels on which [we] can relate."

Contact quickly grew to include in its stable some of the most talented writers and artists in fandom. It also developed new zine editors and publishers like Sandy and Marion. The "Contact Crowd" provided key support to the committee for the early Shore Leave conventions, and then started running their own conventions in 1984. And so, for Bev, for Marion, for Nancy and for Sandy, we proudly announce the Contact Award, which honors each of them, and the spirit and gifts they shared with us all.



Our 2024 Contact Award Recipient is Chris Carothers

Chris is familiar to Farpoint Attendees as the host of Vic's Place Karaoke and the Ten Forward dance party. Chris and his late partner Lee Warren, together with their incredible team, have been lighting up the late nights at Farpoint for decades now. Chris has a knack for making whatever he works on easier and better. He goes out of his way to help other fans, and puts his whole heart (and his considerable skills) into the effort.

Chris is also an active participant in the local theater community, having been featured most recently in Laurel Mill Theater's production of *Hellbent*. And of course he's familiar to Prometheus Radio Theatre's audiences from many hilarious performances at Farpoint's opening ceremonies. A loyal member of Starfleet, Chris has served as the XO of the U.S.S. *Richthofen*, and contributed significantly to the U.S.S. *Athena*. If he had a mundane life--which he does not!--Chris would pose as a mild-mannered medical assistant.

Past Recipients and Farpoint Fan Guests of Honor

Fan Guest of Honor (No Award)

1997
Suzan Lovett

2002
Marty Gear

2003
Beverly J. Volker

2004
Suzanne Elmore

2005
Martha Bonds-Sayre

2006
Mike Sullivan

Volker-McChesney Award for Service to Fandom

2007
The Boogie Knights

2008
Dale Arnold

2009
U.S.S. Chesapeake

2010
Thomas G. Atkinson

2011
Lee and Chris Warren

2012
Melissa James

2013
Patti Papineau

2014
Marty Gear

2015
Diane Sahar (Baron)

2016
Todd Brugmans

2017
John Norton

2018
Steve and Renee Wilson

2019
Inge Heyer

2020
Lewis G. Aide

2021
(No Award Given)

2022
Sandra Zier-Teitler &
Jessica Headlee

2023
Luna-C

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 (www.especbooks.com).

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

In addition to her literary acclaim, she crafts and sells original costume horns under the moniker The Hornie Lady Custom Costume Horns, and homemade flavor-infused candied ginger under the brand of Ginger KICK! at literary conventions, on commission, and wholesale.

Danielle lives in New Jersey with husband and fellow writer, Mike McPhail and four extremely spoiled cats.



Dr. Charles Adler

Chuck Adler is a physics professor at St Mary's College of Maryland; he has done research in a variety of areas of Physics including atmospheric optics, atomic physics, and

Physics pedagogy. He has written over 40 research papers, and is the author of the popular book *Wizards, Aliens and Starships: Physics and Math in Fantasy and Science Fiction*. He has a course for the Great Courses lecture series, "How Science Shapes Science Fiction", and has given a other popular lectures, including "Where is the Science in All That Fiction?" (Rensselaer

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



Rigel Ailur

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

Find out more at BluetrixBooks.com.



Diane Lee Baron

Diane Baron aka Monica is a newly retired Maryland teacher who also dabbles in writing. Her most recent book is called *When the Stars Fell*, a gripping alien invasion tale. Her first

published book, *Gal Wonder*, mixes Adam West, the Batmobile, romance, and teaching all in one madcap story. Diane's nonfiction book, *The Fandom Fifty: 50+ Fascinating People of the Maryland Science Fiction Conventions*, showcases the folks who run Maryland cons and all of their wonderful experiences. To say the least, Diane has eclectic interests and isn't afraid to jump into new (to her) genres feet first. Anybody a fan of early rock and roll music? The Hollies, Herman's Hermits, The Rolling Stones? Her next writing pro-

ject may just take these music idols and put them in the pages of her novel....



Zack Be

Zack Be is an author, obscure songwriter, and psychotherapist trapped in the Washington, D.C. area gravity well. His fiction has appeared in

Analog Science Fiction and Fact, *Asimov's Science Fiction*, *Writers of the Future Vol. 36*, and *The Science Fiction Tarot* anthology. He is the editor of *Inner Workings*, an anthology of SFF stories and craft writing essays coming soon from Calendar of Fools. Last year, his band Pretty Bitter released their LP Hinges on all streaming platforms. More info about Zack's writing and music can be found at zackbe.com or anywhere @bezackbe.



MJ Blehart

Who is MJ Blehart?

I am a dreamer, philosopher, geek, writer, editor, voice artist, amateur photographer, and medieval reenactor – among other things. I have

been writing fiction since I was 9 years old. My first completed story was an illustrated, 50-page hand-written sci-fi adventure called *Wildfire*.

My primary fiction works are sci-fi, fantasy, and steampunk. There are many cool worlds in my head, and I love writing them and working on sharing them with everyone.

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

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



Dr. Kenneth Carpenter

Dr. Kenneth Carpenter is currently the Hubble Space Telescope (HST) Operations Project Scientist and the Ground Systems Scientist for the Roman Space Telescope (RST) and is

a member of the "Exoplanets and Stellar Astrophysics Laboratory" at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD. He enjoys photography and is an enthusiastic fan of explora-



Photo by Stephen Lesnik

MARTY'S CORNER

CON SUITE & VIDEO GAMES

Friday
3:00 pm—12:00 midnight

Saturday
9:00 am—8:00pm
10:00 pm—2:00 am*

Sunday
9:00 am—4:00 pm

* No food or beverages available from 10:00 pm—2:00am

Guest Biographies

tion of the Universe in which we live, the Maryland RenFest, and all things Trek and Disney. Carpenter credits NASA's early space program, *Star Trek* and the 1964-65 New York World's Fair, which he attended as a child, with fueling his desire to work for NASA. He has been a speaker at various *Star Trek* and media cons, including Denver StarFest, Maryland's Shore Leave, and Atlanta's DragonCon.



Alan Chafin

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

Currently retired, Alan continues to lecture at conventions around the country about *Star Wars*, *Doctor Who*, and a myriad of other genres.



Russ Colchamiro

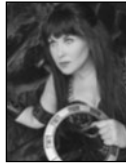
Russ Colchamiro is author of the sci-fi mysteries *Crackle and Fire*, *Fractured Lives*, *Hot Ash*, and *Blunt Force Rising*, the ongoing series featuring intergalactic private eye Angela Hardwicke. Russ is also the author of the rollicking time travel/space adventure, *Crossline*, the SF/F backpacking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

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

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

He lives in New Jersey with his wife, twinjas, black lab Jinx, and precocious kitten Callie.

For more on Russ's books and his podcast, visit russcolchamiro.com, and follow him on Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and Instagram @AuthorDudeRuss.



Jessica Crouse

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

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

Jessica started cosplaying about 10 years ago. She always loved costumes but fell in love with the cosplay community after her first time cosplaying. Shortly after that she began 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 JessicaCrouse85 on Facebook and @JessicaCrouse on 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.



Dax ExclamationPoint

Dax ExclamationPoint (Dax!) is a cosplaying drag performer that has taken the world by storm! Literally...! Ever since walking onto the set of

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



Keith R.A. DeCandido

Keith R.A. DeCandido has written novels, short fiction, and comic books in more than thirty licensed universes from *Alien* to *Zorro*, including TV shows (*Star Trek*, *Supernatural*), movies (*Cars*, *Serenity*), games (*World of Warcraft*, *Resident Evil*), and comic books (*Spider-Man*, *Thor*). He's also written bunches of work in milieus of his own creation, including urban fantasy set in New York and Key West and fantastical police procedurals. He's been writing pop-culture commentary for web sites, magazines, and essay collections since 1989.

His recent and upcoming work includes the *Supernatural Crimes Unit* series of urban fantasy novels; the *Resident Evil* comic book miniseries *Infinite Darkness: The Beginning*, a prequel to the Netflix animated series; *Phoenix Precinct*, the latest novel in his fantasy/police procedure series; the *Star Trek* role-playing game adventure *Incident at Kraav III* (with Fred Love); *Feat of Clay*, Book 2 of the *Bram Gold Adventures*; the urban fantasy short story collection *Ragnarok and a Hard Place: More Tales of Cassie Zukav, Weirdness Magnet*; and short fiction in several issues of *Star Trek Explorer* magazine, in all three volumes of the *Phenomenons* shared-world superhero anthologies created by fellow Farpoint guest Michael Jan Friedman, and in the anthologies *Weird Tales: 100 Years of Weird*, *Sherlock Holmes: Cases by Candlelight Volumes 2 & 3*, *Eliminate the Impossible*, *Joe Ledger: Unbreakable*, *Double Trouble: An Anthology of Two-Fisted Team-Ups*, *Thrilling Adven-*



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!

Guest Biographies



Cal Dodd

Cathal J. "Cal" Dodd is an Irish-Canadian voice actor and singer best known to several generations of fans for his portrayal of the Marvel Comics character Wolverine in *X-Men: The Animated Series* and the Marvel vs Capcom series of video games.

Born in Dublin, Cal moved with his family from Ireland to Port Dover, Ontario, where he grew up. His mother was a music teacher at Port Dover Public School. Music ran in their family as Cal performed in a 1970's rock band called Déjà Vu and his younger brother is rock vocalist/vocal actor Rory Dodd.

Cal recorded music with producer Bob Hahn in Canada, which consisted of demos and material to be submitted to major labels. His recordings ended up on the RCA label, with a full-length album release *New Horizons* on Hahn's own Rising Records label in 1975. From 1978 to 1983 he co-hosted the Canadian TV series *Circus* on CTV with Sherisse Laurence.

Cal's voice acting career spans five decades and includes his role as the hero/villain Random Virus in the BBC series *Ace Lightning* and stints on everything from *Fraggle Rock* and *Goosebumps* to *Rescue Rangers* and *Paw Patrol* and a slew of video games.

Cal will be reprising his role of Wolverine in the upcoming Disney+ series *X-Men '97* alongside fellow returning fan favorites George Buza (Beast), Catherine Disher (Jean Grey), Adrian Hough (Nightcrawler), Chris Potter (Gambit), Alison Sealy-Smith (Storm), and Lenore Zann (Rogue). *X-Men '97* is due to release later this year.

ture Yarns 2022, *A Cry of Hounds*, and *The Good, the Bad, and the Uncanny*. He writes regularly about pop culture for the award-winning webzine Tor.com, for his Patreon (patreon.com/krad), and for various essay collections. In 2023, he and his wife Wrenn Simms launched their very small press, WhysperWude LLC, with the anthology *The Four ??? of the Apocalypse*.

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

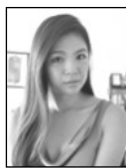


Royce Essig

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 Nathan 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.



Mary Fan

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

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

In addition, Mary is the co-editor (along with fellow sci-fi author Paige Daniels) of the *Brave New Girls* young adult sci-fi anthologies, which feature tales about girls in STEM. Revenues from sales are donated to the Society of Women Engineers scholarship fund.

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

Visit her at MaryFan.com.



John L. French

John L. French is a retired crime scene supervisor with forty years' experience. He has seen more than his share of murders, shootings, and serious assaults. As a break from the realities of his job, he started writing science fiction, pulp, horror, fantasy, and, of course, crime fiction. His most recent books are *In the Ruins of Caerleon* and *The Wages of Syn*.



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 for the acclaimed second-season *Star Trek*:

Guest Biographies

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 such anthologies as *Love on the Edge*, *Beach Pulp*, *Space Opera Digest 2022*, *A Plague of Shadows*, the *Middle of Eternity* series, and more. He is a Pushcart Prize-nominated author and member of the Horror Writers Association, the National Federation of Press Women, and the Greater Lehigh Valley Writers Group.

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

Visit Phil's website at www.philgiunta.com. Find him on Facebook @writerphilgiunta, Instagram @phil_giunta71, and BlueSky @pgiunta.bsky.social.



Robert Greenberger

Robert Greenberger is a writer and editor.

While at SUNY-Binghamton, Greenberger wrote and edited for the college newspaper, *Pipe Dream*.

Upon graduation, he worked for Starlog Press and while there, created Comics Scene, the first nationally distributed magazine to focus on comic books, comic strips, and animation.

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

Greenberger rejoined DC in May 2002 as a Senior Editor-Collected Editions. He helped grow that department, introducing new formats and improving the editions' editorial content. In 2006, he joined *Weekly World News* as its Managing Editor until the paper's untimely demise. He helped revitalize *Famous Monsters of Filmland* and served as News Editor at ComicMix.com.

He is a member of the Science Fiction Writers of America and the International Association

of Media Tie-In Writers. His novelization of *Hellboy II: The Golden Army* won the IAMTW's Scribe Award in 2009.

With others, he cofounded Crazy 8 Press, a digital press hub where he continues to write. His dozens of books, short stories, and essays cover the gamut from young adult nonfiction to original fiction. His most recent works include numerous short stories plus the concluding chapter of *This Alien Earth* for the late Paul Antony Jones and the first chapter of *Above the Ground*, in collaboration with Matt Medney.

Bob teaches High School English at St. Vincent Pallotti High School in Laurel, MD. He and his wife Deborah reside in Howard County, Maryland. Find him at bobgreenberger.com or @bobgreenberger.

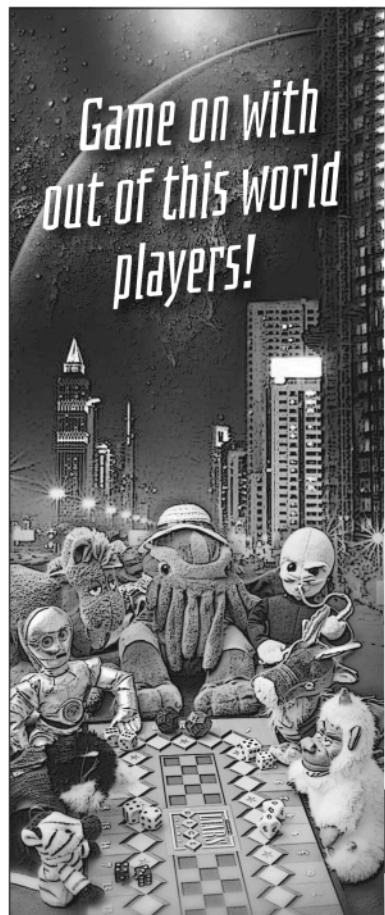


JL Gribble

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

and her other jobs include medical editing, Netflix watching, and cat snuggling. She lives in Ellicott City, Maryland, with her husband and three vocal Siamese cats. Find her online (www.jlgribble.com), on Facebook (www.facebook.com/jlgribblewriter), and on Twitter and Instagram (@hannaedits). She is currently working on more tales set in the world of Limani.

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To **Stephen Smith** from Shawyonia!
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5-2-1 RULE

5 hours sleep
2 meals
1 shower
PER 24 HOURS

Guest Biographies



J Lee

Born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri, J Lee began his path to the creative arts early.

An accomplished pianist, he started classical piano lessons at the age of 3, performed at Carnegie Hall in his early teens, and took part in competitions, winning several. He received a music scholarship at Indiana University's renowned Jacob's School of Music.

After graduating in 2005 with a Bachelor of Arts in Piano Performance and Theater and Drama, Lee took the last \$200 he had and headed west to Los Angeles to begin his professional entertainment career. It was while working at Seth MacFarlane's Fuzzy Door Productions as a receptionist that he got the opportunities he'd hoped for. A budding friendship with MacFarlane led to projects where Lee furthered his acting career as well as getting to direct, write, and produce for both his own projects and those of others.

After providing a number of voices for episodes of *American Dad!*, *Family Guy*, and *The Cleveland Show*, Lee appeared in a recurring role on *Bandwagon: The Series*. His breakout role came with the Fox (later Hulu) series *The Orville* as

navigator Lieutenant John LaMarr, who later received a promotion to Lieutenant Commander and a new posting to Chief Engineer.



Dr. 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 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. Through-out 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 sticking to trying to better understand the Earth's magnetic field and its space weather phenomena.



Glenn Hauman

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

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

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



Kimberly Iverson Headlee

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

Morning News and "intense" by *USA Today*) and a student of Arthurian literature for more than half a century.

Her science-fiction/fantasy crossover novel, *King Arthur's Sister in Washington's Court* (by Mark Twain as channeled by Kim Iverson Headlee) — *KASIWC*, for short — has been called "solidly entertaining" by *Publishers Weekly*. *KASIWC* won two national awards in the categories of science fiction and fantasy. Her latest release is book 3 in the series begun by *Dawnflight*, titled *Raging Sea*. Work on the sequel to *KASIWC* is under way. Check out more at books2read.com/kim-iverson-headlee.



Scott Hertzog

A teacher and lover of all things science fiction (well, *most* things anyway!), Scott remembers three defining moments in his sci-fi career. When he was six, he watched *Jules Verne's Mysterious Island* on a little black and white TV and the big bees scared the crap out of him. Later, his middle school librarian handed him a copy of Andre Norton's *Galactic Derelict*. That radically changed his life -- from then on he consumed all the science fiction he could get his hands on. The third thing was meeting Miles and starting the *Sci-Fi Dinner Podcast*, of course! Scott is an avid *Star Wars* fan, both the films and the *Legends* universe, and is infatuated with all things Tolkien. He continues to watch and read as much science fiction as his family will allow.

Guest Biographies



Dr. Inge Heyer

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

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

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

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

Find her at ingeheyer.com, on Facebook, and @IngeHeyer.



Thomas Hill

Tom Hill started saying he wanted to be an aerospace engineer when he was six. Alive but not aware for Apollo, he grew up reading the sto-

ries of Apollo and of science fiction, knowing he wanted to work on spacecraft. After high school, he attended Penn State University on an Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps scholarship and graduated with a degree in aerospace engineering. Called to active duty in 1991, his first assignment was at Schriever (then Falcon) Air Force Base in Colorado Springs. There he worked on military weather and missile warning satellites and helped get 13 of the original operational 24 Global Positioning System (GPS) satellites into orbit.

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

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

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

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

Tom is married to Deborah, and they have two grown children.



Dr. 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.



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Ruth the White Dragon -- Blue the Dragon (imaginary)
Lil Bit (secret) -- LilMan (secret)

Guest Biographies



Erin Macdonald

Erin Macdonald hails from Fort Collins, CO and did her undergraduate degrees at the University of Colorado at Boulder where she dual-majored in Physics with Astrophysics (cum laude) and Mathematics.

She earned her Ph.D. at 25 years old from the University of Glasgow in Gravitational Astrophysics. Her post-doctoral research with the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) Scientific Collaboration on gravitational waves from dead and colliding stars and black holes contributed to the 2017 Nobel Prize in Physics (though she left the collaboration before their discovery).

She has taught at the college level, worked with the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, and written and narrated numerous popular science podcasts including an Audible Original series produced by The Great Courses on "The Science of Sci-Fi" which reached the March 2020 Audible Non-Fiction Top 10 bestseller list and in October 2022 she published *Star Trek: My First Book of Space*, a baby board book.

Since 2019, "Dr Erin" has been the science advisor for the entire *Star Trek*

franchise.

She is an internationally sought-after public speaker, educator, STEAM advocate, writer, and technical consultant who explains complex physics and astronomy ideas to varied audiences.

She is also the founder and owner of Spacetime Productions, a film company dedicated to lifting and sharing marginalized talent and stories.

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

Website: www.geol.umd.edu/~tholtz/



Iron Knight Cosplay

Iron Knight Cosplay has been appearing as a guest for charity events and conventions since 2015. He has won several awards for his costumes, the majority of which are made from scratch. Iron Knight Cosplay has been featured by Marvel Comics, CBR (Comic Book Resources), Screen Rant, magazine covers, novels, the Pulitzer Prize nominated book *The Lone Ranger The Early Years*, and other pop culture entities. He is the Official Resident Cosplayer for The Mid-Atlantic Nostalgia Convention and looking forward to returning to Farpoint, bringing iconic characters to life throughout the convention. Follow him on Facebook at [ironknight-cosplay](https://www.facebook.com/ironknight-cosplay).



Arrow J Knight

Arrow J Knight is the pseudonym of author James L Howard. Introduced to titles as diverse as *Lord of the Flies* and *The Lord of the Rings* in ninth grade, he was inspired to create not just a fictional world like Tolkien, but a universe that encompassed galaxies – like Timothy Zahn did with Lucas' universe.

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



Stephen Kozeniewski

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



Cheralyn Lambeth

Cheralyn Lambeth is a professional costume, prop, and puppet builder whose work includes feature films (*The Muppet Christmas Carol*, *The Patriot*, *Evan Almighty*, *The Hunger Games*), television shows (*Dinosaurs!*, *Homeland*, *Outcast*), and live/interactive properties (*Avenue Q*, *Star Trek: The Experience*, Sir Purr for the Carolina Panthers). She is also a published author, with several books including *Haunted Theaters of*

the Carolinas, *Introduction to Puppetry Arts*, and her first fiction book *'Twas Halloween Evening: A Tale of the Zombie Apocalypse* and is currently working on a new book titled *Art in the Time of Corona*.

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

Follow Cher on Facebook (Cheralyn Lambeth) and Instagram (@cherlambeth) and visit her website at cherlambeth.com.



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

Guest Biographies

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.



D'Manda Martini

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

A DC-Area award winning actor and nominated costume designer in community theaters, D'Manda has also performed at conventions including the KatsuCabaret standing room only event at Katsucon 2020, the cosplay competition half-time show for AwesomeCon 2022, and regularly at FarpointCon since 2020. D'Manda completed her reign as Captain Green Lantern 2018 with LGBT HQ, an organization that promotes LGBTQ+ artists and content at conventions on the East Coast.

Please follow her on social media @dmandamartini across all platforms to find out what she's up to and where you can see her!



Miles McLoughlin

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

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 Sci Fi Diner Pod Cast (scifidinerpodcast.com), 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.



David McOwen

Dave McOwen is a professional museum nerd, DC-based 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 online (with Myq Kaplan and Aparna Nancherla). 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.com & seriouslynerdycomedy.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 Supervi-

sor for Phoenix Color Corp doing cover work for the great publishing houses.

As a publisher, he has been the co-owner of eSpec Books LLC (especbooks.com) since 2014, where his graphics company has become the in-house 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).

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Guest Biographies



Tawny Newsome

If all you know of Tawny Newsome is that she's the voice of lead character Beckett Mariner on the Paramount+ animated series *Star Trek: Lower Decks*, you're missing out on a lot from this talented actor, singer, writer, and social commentator.

Tawny was no stranger to space exploration, having starred in Netflix's live action series *Space Force* opposite Steve Carrell and John Malkovich. She also starred in the Kevin Hart and Wesley Snipes limited series *True Story* for the network. Additional credits include IFC's *Brockmire*, *Sherman's Showcase* and *Documentary Now!*, the Seeso Original *Bajillion Dollar Properties*, BET's *The Comedy Get Down*, and NBC's *Perfect Harmony* and *The Carmichael Show*.

Tawny, along with Andrew Ti, co-host the comedy-meets-culture podcast *Yo, Is This Racist?* on the independent podcast network they created, Sub-Optimal Pods. She's also the host of the official *Star Trek* Podcast, *Star Trek: The Pod Directive*, with friend and co-host Paul F. Tompkins (who guests as Dr. Migelemo on *ST:LD*).

Tawny's an accomplished musician and singer, frequently performing with Jon Langford's Skull Orchard band and collaborating with Langford, John Szymanski, and Bethany Thomas as Four Lost Souls. In 2020, she and Thomas released the indie album *Material Flats*. Born out of the pandemic, protests, and a desire to learn to do things for themselves, it blends garage-punk, soulfully sung folk, and influences as diverse as Talking Heads, The Pixies, Bonnie Raitt and Billy Preston. The two recorded and engineered it in Tawny's home studio in the Mojave desert and released it on her homegrown imprint Fine Alpinist Records.

Keep up with Tawny and her many projects at tawnynewsome.com.



Dr. Valerie J. Mikles

Dr. Valerie J. Mikles is a PhD astronomer who defected from academia to work on weather satellites for NOAA. She has supported missions in low earth orbit for over a decade, performing various roles with science algorithm development, research-to-operations, and program support. Part scientist, part engineer, she enjoys constantly learning new things. She also pursues several creative passions including writing, dance, music, film, and theater.



Dr. Timothy Miller

Dr. Miller is the Chief Scientist of the Seeker and Information Processing Group at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab in Laurel, MD, where he works on various NASA space and astrophysics projects. While hunting astrophysical neutrinos earlier in his career, he traveled to Antarctica six times and to Greenland once. He also received a NIAC (NASA Innovative Advanced Concepts) grant to look at measuring the depth of the ice sheets on the moons of Jupiter and Saturn, a possible first step toward the search for life on such moons, by detecting the interactions of ultra-high energy neutrinos from an orbiting spacecraft. He's recently served as the Image Analysis Lead on

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



Marc Okrand

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

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

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



Jennifer R. Povey

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



Dean Rogers

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

Guest Biographies



Aaron Rosenberg

Aaron Rosenberg is the best-selling, award-winning author of nearly 50 novels, including the *DuckBob* SF comedy series, the *Relicant Chronicles* epic fantasy series, the *Areyat Islands* fantasy pirate mystery series, the *Dread Remora* space-opera series, and, with David Niall Wilson, the *O.C.L.T.* occult thriller series. His tie-in work contains novels for *Star Trek*, *Warhammer*, *World of Warcraft*, *Stargate: Atlantis*, *Shadowrun*, *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 on a variety of topics, and over 70 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 Twitter @gryphonrose.



Nathan Schell

Nathan Schell (he/they) is nonbinary, genderfluid, and possesses a variety of creative talents. Proud of all their cosplays, they have a special affinity for Scarlet Witch and Black Widow, followed closely by Egon Spengler. They also make foam props and recently expanded into 3D printing. They have been involved in several sci-fi films (*Dark Operations*, *Stargate: The Lost Colony*, *Dark Operations: Terminus*), record both the *Never Gets Old* and *MacGyver* podcasts, as well as producing the *Studying Scarlet* podcast. They also design logos and various ID card artwork, sold through their business: *Commissioned Credentials*.



Dave Sellers

A child of the '80s, Dave spent his formative years engrossed in the adventures of the original *Star Trek* during syndication and wore out multiple VHS copies reliving the magic of the original *Star Wars* trilogy. A fervent enthusiast of tabletop games and an avid player of RPG and FPS video games, he finds joy in the immersive worlds of gaming.

Dave's journey into the *SciFi Diner* Podcast (scifidinerpodcast.com) began when he struck up conversations with co-worker Scott Hertzog, discovering their mutual fannish passions. Now, he's thrilled to be part of a community that shares his love for science fiction, bringing to-

gether the nostalgia of his youth with the ever-expanding realms of futuristic storytelling.



Jay Smith

Jay Smith is an award-winning audio dramatist, author, podcaster, and cancer survivor. He writes horror stories for fun and to pay off his expensive Master of Fine Arts degree in Fiction Writing. While he often looks like he just watched his favorite cat explode, he is really quite friendly and enjoys meeting other friendly people, especially if they offer him alcohol or chocolate chip cookies... and buy his books. Download or stream many hours of free audio fiction at jaysmithaudio.com.



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 him on Facebook as *Stridercosplay*



Bryan 'Kaiser' Tillman

Bryan Tillman has been in higher education for over 12 years and served as everything from professor to program director for Media. He is currently an Assistant Professor for Graphic Design at Norfolk State University. He has an MFA from the Savannah College of Art and Design, with a focus in sequential art and a minor in drawing. As an educator Bryan has conducted many panels and solo lectures for conventions such as *AwesomeCon*, *MegaCon*, *Stan Lee's Comikaze*, *Wizard World Conventions* and *San Diego Comic Con*, where he has been invited back to give his panel on *Proper Pitching and Promoting Yourself* for the last 9 years. Read about it at [Bleeding Cool News](https://www.bleedingcool.com/2017/07/26/comic-con-bryan-tillmans-five-rules-self-promotion-pitching) - <https://www.bleedingcool.com/2017/07/26/comic-con-bryan-tillmans-five-rules-self-promotion-pitching>.

Aside from being an educator, Bryan is the owner and CEO of the *Kaiser Studio Productions LLC*, a production studio for comics, toys, animation, and games that has been active in the industry for over 18 years. Within *Kaiser Studio Productions* Bryan Tillman does many things. He is a sculptor for toys. He is the editor for all the comic books that come out from the studio. He also does layout and illustrations for multiple projects. Clients have included *Marvel Comics*, *DC Comics*, *Image Comics*, *Valiant Comics*, *TOPPS*, *UpperDeck*, *Cryptozoic*, *Rittenhouse*,

Toys R Us, *T.G.I. Fridays*, *Focal Press*, *Lucas Films*, *CDR Press*, *FX*, *Miramax* and *Tandem Productions*.

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

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



VioletteVerse

VioletteVerse is a young cosplayer, actress, and superhero-in-training. Her mission is to make people smile with her cosplays. She has daily cosplayed (#365cosplaychallenge) and surpassed the 1,500-day mark. She loves all things superhero, wants everyone to learn about cosplay, and encourages all types of people to cosplay too.

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



Howard Weinstein

Best known for writing *Star Trek* stories over four decades, New York Times bestselling author Howard Weinstein turns to historical fiction with his award-winning novel *Galloway's Gamble* and the new 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 the gang on a star-crossed transcontinental quest: Can they make it to Baltimore in time for a long-shot bid to win back prized stallion Phoe-

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 2024 for next year's Swag!

Guest Biographies

nix in a grudge-match race at the new Pimlico Race Course?

Howie's writing credits include dozens of *Star Trek* novels and comic books; "The Pirates of Orion" animated *Star Trek* episode; story-development assistance on *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home*; and *Puppy Kisses are Good for the Soul*, his charming account of life with legendary Corgi Mail Order Annie. Readers can find more writing news and occasional blogs at www.howardweinsteinbooks.com.



Gregory A. Wilson

Gregory A. Wilson is Professor of English at St. John's University, 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 Masque*, book chapters, and journal articles. Outside academia he is author of the epic fantasy *The Third Sign*, the award-winning graphic novel *Icarus* and 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 a Twitch channel (twitch.tv/arvaneleron) about narrative, with many sponsored TTRPG campaigns. His website is gregoryawilson.com.



Steven H. Wilson

Steven Howell Wilson created the Mark Time and Parsec Award-winning podcast series *The Arbitrator Chronicles*, as well as authoring *Taken Liberty* and several other novels and novellas in the *Arbiters* universe. His other works include the novel *Peace Lord of the Red Planet*, short stories for Firebringer Press's *In The Middle of Eternity* series, and contributions to Sequart Press's *Star Wars* essay collections. Most recently, Steve has branched out into historical fiction, with his first effort appearing in *Hobnail and Other Frontier Stories* from Five Star Press. He was the founding Director of Farpoint when it was established in 1993, and still serves as Deputy Chair. Steve currently works as an IT contractor, having retired from Howard County Fire & Rescue after 33 years of service. He and his wife, Renee, live in a historic home in Elkridge, Maryland and have two adult sons, Ethan (married to Rachel) and Christian, and two grandchildren, Matthew and Aubrey. He blogs often, if not regularly, at StevenHWilson.com.



Sherri Cook Woosley

Sherri Cook Woosley has a Master's Degree in English Literature with a focus on comparative mythology. Her most recent publications include *Mother's Instinct* (e-Spec Books 2024) and the children's book *Postcards from a*

City of Monsters (Improbable Press 2023). Visit her at tasteofsherri.com.



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 included being a NPS Park Ranger and a professional puppeteer. Currently she is a performing member of, and writer for, the sketch comedy group Luna-C Productions.

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

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



Moonlight
and **Mawazo**

A science fiction and fantasy short story contest lighting a path for diverse authors and characters to create universes of imagination.

Competition Dates: February 10-May 10

Entry Fee: \$10

www.moonlightandmawazo.com

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 of its many forms.

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

Baltimore Faerie Faire

baltimorefaeriefaire.weebly.com

The Baltimore Faerie Faire celebrates the wonders of the natural world, and all the beings that inhabit it, real and imaginary. We seek to heal, inspire, nurture, entertain and serve our Baltimore community by creating Wonder in an urban Faerie Festival. We strive to find balance between the concrete and the dirt, the practical and the fantastic. Promoting creativity in costume, crafts, music, dance, art and attitude, Baltimore Faerie Faire seeks to create a welcoming space for young and old, dreamers and doers, artists and patrons of the arts. We donate part of what we raise to environmental causes.

BlerDCon

blerdcon.com

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

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

Blerdcon celebrates our connection with LGBTQ, the disabled, POCs and the international community! All are welcome to partake in the experience as we are an open community who love all the same nerddom.

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"!

Browncoat Ball

browncoatball.com

Do you aim to misbehave? Do you want to make friends that misbehave too? The Browncoat Ball is for you! Getting to know your fellow fans is the primary objective of the Browncoat Ball, and we strive for that with every activity, every ball, every year. From touring the host city's diverse attractions to dancing the night away in style, from classes and demonstrations in fighting, costuming, and more, from late night pajama parties to the Big Damn Breakfast, there's always something exciting to do and new friends to do it with.

Capclave

capclave.org

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

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

Charm City Ghostbusters

charmcitygb.com

We are an official Sony GhostCorps recognized Cosplay group, based out of Baltimore, Maryland. We love to attend public events and conventions to meet fans, take photos, and show off the various pieces of Ghostbusters equipment and lore in our collection. We've done charity events with a variety of groups including United Way, KidsPeace, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, and Ellicott City Strong. Looking to celebrate a birthday, anniversary, bar/bat mitzvah, or other occasion? Maybe having a company movie night, a Halloween haunt, or a Christmas shindig? We'd love to help make your private event even more special.

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.

Dark Operations: Terminus

facebook.com/darkoperations

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

The Federation

trekfederation.com

Started with the help of *Star Trek* creator Gene Roddenberry, The Federation was designed to be the real-world version of the Federation as seen in the *Star Trek* mythos. Our primary mission: "Do what the crew of the Enterprise does in every episode: Go places and help people."

We're a proud fan organization, and our history and mission make us unique in the fandom community.

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!



Follow Us On Facebook!

Groups and Organizations

GAAAYS IN SPAAACE

gaaaysinspaaace.org

GAAAYS IN SPAAACE (GIS) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing diversity and inclusion in Hollywood and the Aerospace industry. Through entertainment and science-based advocacy we are boldly going where no one has gone before, beyond inclusion.

We work in conjunction with partners such as studios, actors, scientists, tech entrepreneurs and philanthropists to build a better and more hopeful future where diversity and inclusion are the foundation of society. We strive to advance the hopeful vision of our future as dreamed up on *Star Trek* and *The Orville* where universal equality has *finally* become a reality. GIS has been endorsed and supported by Seth MacFarlane and Gene Roddenberry's son Rod.

Humanity stands at the threshold of the next great frontier, both in the LGBTQIA+ activist community of intersectionality and in the space industry where humanity is about to take our first real steps toward long-term and permanent migration into space. It's not enough to simply get there but we have to be the better version of ourselves as we step forward. Let's take these steps together as we boldly go...BEYOND INCLUSION.

The Heinlein Society

heinleinsociety.org

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

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

KhromaKon

khromakon.com

KhromaKon is doing the work to create a brand-new space dedicated to a more modern and inclusive geek culture. To become the new haven for this area's nerdy artists and creatives, our focus is on bringing together lovers of cosplay, music, comics, anime, gaming, toys and so much more! We wish to serve as a beacon for Baltimore's art loving community.

The meaning behind the name KhromaKon is rooted in the definition of Khroma which is color in Greek. Our mission is "An Experience in Full Color," a triple entendre encompassing inclusivity and diversity that's embraced by every-

one on the board, pays homage to the directors who are melanin-infused/BIPOC, and alludes to the desire we have to hit all the sub genres of pop culture through art - from anime, comics, music, videogames and more.

Maryland Kunst des Fechtens

marylandkdf.com

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

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

Nova Labs

nova-labs.org

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

Our current facility houses classrooms, workspace, incubator offices, and a shop that includes both common tools and advanced fabrication equipment. Members enjoy 24/7 access and help co-manage our space by teaching classes, maintaining equipment, and promoting making in the community. We are a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, supporting a wide range of open-source development projects that benefit both the local community and the world. Consider joining today to learn how and meet the people behind these projects!

Philcon

philcon.org

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!

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

sfi.org

For over 35 years, STARFLEET has provided *Star Trek* fans a way to meet each other, make friends, have fun, give back to their communities, and show that the dream of Gene Roddenberry can live long and prosper. On the local level, members can gather with other fans for a variety of enjoyable activities. On the international level, STARFLEET offers our members a wealth of resources that you won't find in any other *Star Trek* fan clubs. In addition to a great set of membership materials and our regularly-published newsletter, STARFLEET offers members the chance to get involved with Starfleet Academy, the Starfleet Marine Corps, the Department of Technical Services, and much, much more.

Station Unity

station-unity.org

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

SyFy Sistas

syfysistas.com

The SyFy Sistas: Where Science Fiction Meets Afrofuturism

These four Black women - O.G., Gen X, and Millennial Trekkies - discuss Black science fiction in tv, films, graphic novels, books and conventions.

Authors & Books Panels

The Superhero in Prose

Superheroes are most often associated with visual media like comic books and now TV and movies. So why do writers insist on telling superhero stories in prose? What does the written word do for superheroes that other media can't?

Must Every Book be A Series?

It seems like every new novel is part of a trilogy or a series, which can be off-putting. What happened to the good ol' one-off story? Let's discuss the pros and cons of the lone novel.

Guilty Pleasures

We want to know: what books are your guilty pleasures? You may be a die-hard science fiction fan but what other kinds of books do you enjoy? Romance? Western? Home improvement? Cookbooks? Teen Angst? Come share your favorites in a judgment-free zone!

Themed Anthologies

Panelists discuss how they come up with the themes for their themed anthologies, what's required, what's too niche, too wide. Plus, how it's decided who to invite, whether to have an open call, and how the order that the stories appear in the anthology is decided.

The Pros and Cons of Independent Publishing

Whether you choose to do it on your own, or go with a small or indie press, what challenges are you looking at. Seasoned professionals share their praise and woes.

Artificial Intelligence

How will AI impact the entertainment industry from writing to acting? Will AI change how we see the world? Can/will AI do the writing for us? Can/will it take the place of authors and actors? Or can/will it just be another tool like spellchecker or CGI generator?

Crazy 8 Press

Members of Crazy 8 Press discuss current and future publications.

Writing Contests: More than Child's Play

Author, Subrina Wood (Cinnamon Cinephile and Director of the Light Reel Film Festival Screenwriting contest) and Shawyonia Pettigrew (curator of the new short story science fiction and fantasy contest, "Moonlight and Mawazo") share insight on:

- Where to find the right contest for you
- How to enter a contest
- How a writing contest can propel your career and hone your skills
- How to spot a scam in the writing contest world
- Did you win or place in a contest? How to build momentum?

R.S.V.P.s encouraged, but not mandatory. Find us on Eventbrite. We will be raffling off a copy of Patrick Stewart's book *Make It So* and of Jordan Peele's *Out There Screaming*. Must be present to win!

Unique Takes On Old Tropes

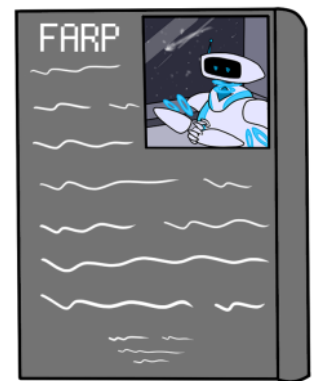
Sometimes, you want to go back to the classics, whether it's superheroes, witches, space captains, etc. And sometimes, audiences want their favorite tropes — enemies to lovers, hero's journeys, and the like. How do you take the familiar and give it your own spin?

Writing Combat Scenes

How do you write a good combat scene that's exciting, visually appealing, and doesn't have dice rolling in the foreground?

Trippingly on the Tongue...

Writers share tricks of the trade for writing great dialogue.



Costuming/Cosplay Panels

Farpoint Masquerade 101

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.

Presenting Female While Cosplaying

Presenting female in cosplay can present a whole host of challenges in mainstream and queer spaces alike. From being ignored/talked over on panels, unwanted comments about bodies/beauty, and straight up harassment. How to advocate for yourself and make sure

your voice is heard. How to demand respect and take up space.

Cosplay Self-Destructs

Examples and advice from our panel of cosplayers & performers about what to do when your best laid plans go awry!

Mental Health and Cosplay

Discussing Cosplaying while maintaining and handling your mental health.

Cosplay For Kids

VioletteVerse and her family will discuss her various costumes, and how to make cosplaying a family affair.

What Is A Makerspace?

Laser cutters! 3d printers! Casting and mold making! Join members of Nova Labs in a panel

discussing the various ways cosplayers can use makerspaces for their costumes and props.

Masquerade Critique

Re-live the Masquerade and discuss what worked and what did not in a round table discussion.

Props, Makeup & Models

More goes into making movies than just human actors on the screen. There are also the many "characters" that play their own roles in the presentation. Things like spaceship models, props, communicators, tricorders, and even the make-up that goes on the actors to accentuate their persona. Let's explore what the future might hold for these supporting "characters" and the technology that will make those changes happen.



Check posted schedules and our online guide at myconschedule.com for times and locations of autograph sessions, readings, schedule changes, and more!

Movies & TV Panels

Outlander - Our History Is Now

Season 7 Part 1 ended on a sort of a cliffhanger. Where will Season 7 Part 2 take us? Why, back to Scotland, of course! Part 2 will be airing some-time in early 2024, so let's talk about what we hope to see from our beloved characters!

A History of Giant Monsters

A love letter to all things kaiju, past and present. Join in a discussion of your favorite (and enigmatic!) mega-menaces as we delve into their roots and evolution in pop culture.

STARFLEET INTERNATIONAL Meeting

A gathering for members of SFI.

Doctor Who: The History, The Daleks And More

We'll discuss all things *Doctor Who* -- including the return of David Tennant as the 10th... er... 14th Doctor!

Babylon 5: The Road Home And Beyond

J. Michael Straczynski unveiled a surprise project that came to home video this year - *Babylon 5 : The Road Home*. We'll discuss the project, what might follow from it, the current status of the reboot series and more. There **will** be spoilers.

The Progression Of Diversity In Trek

What The Original Series began, *Deep Space Nine* and *Voyager* continued, and *Discovery* took beyond the next level. Michael Burnham and company shatter more barriers of sexism, racism, and homophobia. There's the regrettable "false start" of the original Number One, but now *Strange New Worlds* shares the lead. How/when was *Trek* ahead of the curve, and when not so much?

Once More Into The Leap

We'll discuss the rebooted *Quantum Leap* series. How does it compare to the original?

50(+) Years Of Star Trek Conventions

2022 was the 50th anniversary of the first big *Star Trek* convention -- were you there? What was it like? How did cons evolve from that one? Will they ever end?

Animated X-Men

A bunch of *X-Men* fans discussing their favorite & not so favorite animated *X-Men*, including *Pryde of the X-Men*, *X-Men* (1992), *X-Men Evolution*, *Wolverine & The X-Men*, and the anticipated *X-Men 97* (featuring the return of Farpoint guest Cal Dodd and many original voice cast members)

Indiana Jones: End of the Road?

We'll have a *Dial of Destiny* post-mortem. Is Indy done for good? What might Disney do with this iconic hero in the future?

Science Panels

Note: most Science panels are 30 minutes in length. Check the Konopas online guide and schedule grid for specifics.

GenerativeAI: How Large Language Model AI Changed The Cybersecurity Landscape

The challenges for attacking and defending our networks. It wasn't this hard for Asimo! No three laws in play here as we discuss how Large Language Models in Artificial Intelligence have changed the Cybersecurity landscape.

Latest Results From The DART Asteroid Deflection Mission

Tim Miller presents his wrap-up report on DART, NASA's first asteroid deflection mission. DART collided with asteroid Dimorphos in September 2022, producing some unexpected results!

QuickSounder And The Evolution Of Weather Satellites

The emergence of private and commercial space industry options has opened a door to launch a proliferated constellation of small, but powerful weather satellites that could save lives. QuickSounder is a pathfinder mission testing the potential of commercial space and evolving how NOAA and NASA handle future missions. Come hear about the technologies that are launching us into a new era of weather prediction.



Welcome To The Ionosphere

The ionosphere forms the boundary between Earth's lower atmosphere - where we live and breathe - and the vacuum of space.

Space Habitats: Designing For Life Off Earth

Is life beyond Earth within our reach? Dive into 'Space Habitats: Designing for Life Off Earth' to discover how engineers and visionaries are creating sustainable living environments for the cosmos. From Martian colonies to orbital space stations, we'll explore the challenges and innovations in designing habitats for zero gravity, limited resources, and, of course, the human factor. Step into the future and see how we're preparing to turn interstellar travel into a home away from home!

Let's Design A Dragon!: The Biomechanics of Monsters, Superheroes and Aliens

Spiders the size of people, people the size of ants, dragons, giants, multi-tentacled aliens: possible or impossible? Biomechanics, the application of the laws of physics to biological structure, tells us! In this talk I'll go over a few fundamental principles that help us in "designing" creatures for our stories, such as Kleiber's law of metabolism, the square-cube law, and how biological materials like spider silk respond to being stretched or squished. In the process, we will try to design a dragon that can both fly and breathe fire!

Hiding the Sun: A Tale of Two Solar Eclipses

Dr. Heyer talks about the upcoming total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024. Its U.S. area of totality will be a narrow path arcing from Texas to Maine.

Imaging The Surfaces Of Distant Stars With Sub-Milliarcsec Resolution: Extending Ground-Based Interferometry Into Space

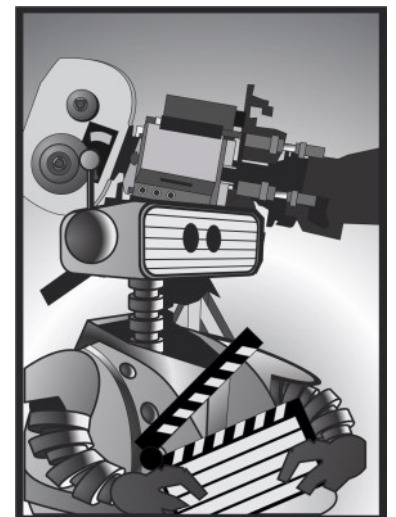
The purpose of this mission is to study stellar magnetic activity and compare it to the Sun's to enable a better understanding of the solar/stellar dynamo and activity cycles. Dr Carpenter discusses the mission concept development work as related to lunar-surface and free-flying, space-based interferometers.

What Is New In The World Of Dinosaurs?

New fossils and new analyses bring us new insights about dinosaurs and their world. What discoveries have been made in the last year? Dr. Holtz brings you the highlights.

How Do Today's Spacecraft Work?

Much of the bleeding-edge technology space pioneers used is in everyday use or obsolete now. So how do spacecraft work today?



Live Events & Performances

Cocktail Party

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

Opening Ceremonies

The party continues! Please join us for the presentation of the 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!

Charnock's Comedy Cabaret After Dark

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.*

Bob Greenberger

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

Boogie Knights

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

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.

Cal Dodd

An hour with our guest. (Saturday & Sunday)

Treasure Island

An interactive search for clues around the con on Saturday morning, leading to at least 200 prizes. Hosted by Diane Lee Baron

Tawny Newsome

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!

Erin Macdonald

An hour with our guest. (Saturday & Sunday)

Star Wars 'N Stuff

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

J Lee

An hour with our guest. (Saturday & Sunday)

To Farpoint and Beyond

Our third year of the Farpoint Official Drag Show hosted by D'Manda Martini, starring Logan Stone, Tiffany D Carter, Charlemagne Chateau, and the Queen of Nerds, Dax ExclamationPoint! Join us for a fun show celebrating scifi, fantasy, and fandom!

Masquerade

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

Ten Forward

Dance and party the night away!

The Bob and Howie Show

Books, movies, tv, baseball. The important things in life.

Sci-fi Jeopardy!

It's Farpoint's favorite answer and question gameshow, 2024 edition.

Post Convention Meeting

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

Fannish Interest Panels

Bigfoot: Do They Exist?

We'll discuss new and historic events that prove Bigfoot exists. Dean Gleason has done Bigfoot research for over 30 years and is the director of Seaway Valley Bigfoot Research.

Dark Operations Terminus: Status Report

An update to the current status of the Dark Operations Terminus project.

LGBTQ+ Representation in Fandom Media

Let's get down to the good, the bad, and the downright pearl clutching terrible representation for the LGBTQ+ community in the media we love, love to hate, and hate to love

Did We Win?

The mainstreaming of geek culture.

Tabletop Games And Expressing Yourself

Discussing how tabletop role playing games can lead you onto a path of self-discovery and help you cope with a chaotic world.

Toys That Made Us

A nostalgic look at the toys from 1970 to today. With open dialog about how the industry and the adult collectors community have changed the future of toys for better or worse.

Famous Fictitious Ferocious Felines

A discussion of these ubiquitous scene (and heart!) stealers who appear in every imaginable type of fiction. We all know Garfield, Hobbes, the Cheshire Cat, and Sylvester, to name a few. Science fiction gives us Jonesy (*Alien*, *Aliens*) and Spot and Grudge (*Star Trek*). There are the animated casts of *The Lion King* and *The Aristocats*. Many popular cozy mysteries feature them, as does the Warrior series.

Paganism And The Paranormal

A discussion of the paranormal and paranormal investigations from the pagan point of view.



Fandom Meet-Ups

Located in Parlor Room 512

Galactic Starcruiser

Remembering the Disney Star Wars Galactic Starcruiser, taken from us all too soon.

The Heinlein Society

A gathering of fans of author Robert A. Heinlein and his works.

Outlander

A casual meet-up for fans of the books and television show.

Space: 1999

Come on in and say "Hi!" to fellow fans of the wandering Moonbase Alpha.

Young Fan & Art Way Alliance Panels

Sequential Art and Design with Brad Hudson

Brad Hudson is an artist and an Eastern Shore University professor. Join us as he explores the creative process, methods, and the art of telling a story from one panel to the next.

Lego Fun

Create amazing structures!

Drawing SciFi Anime Fan Art with Kyocs Chen

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

Movie Party

Come enjoy designing your pillow, watch a fabulous flick and enjoy yummy snacks!

Frankenstuffies

Let's take apart stuffed toys and make all new ones. Create original creatures and take them home with you.

Healthy Monster Snacks

Who says you can't play with your food? Use healthy foods to create and eat monsters.

Wolverine FanFiction Writing Workshop with Rod Van Blake

We'll talk about the creative writing process that can be applied to fan fiction centered on the Wolverine character. A story takes many steps to come to life. We will concentrate our thoughts into a single plot, boarding, and layout concepts.

Cookie Decorating with Princess Leia

Decorate Princess Leia and Chewbacca cookies.

Designing Wolverine from the X-Men: A Character Study with Tyrone Barnes

We will talk about how model sheets are used for the design aspects that go into standardizing the appearance, stances, gestures, and expectations that come together when creating a no-nonsense, metal-clawed mutant like Wolverine in this session.

Paint a Starship

It's a painting party! Come join us and paint your own starship.

Science is Fun

Come play with fun science experiments.

Designing Alien Creations from the World Around You

Attendees will witness the creative process that artists employ to produce creations by combining essential elements from both animals and insects. Discover how to apply these elements of the creative process to your own work. You could even make an original, alien, creator, or O.A.C.

Be a Superhero

Create your own superhero alter-ego. Develop your character and build your costume!

Writing for the Many Faces of Sci-Fi with Rod Van Blake

Science fiction is a highly faceted and diverse genre with many subgenres within it. At times the lines can be heavily blurred making it hard for some to differentiate what's what when it comes to the ever-popular category of fiction. Many erroneously assume that science fiction and fantasy are interchangeable terms. They are not, and during this discussion we will differentiate between the two and delve into what has become a hybridization of the main genre of science fiction with some of the other popular subgenres for some very interesting and successful literary and cinematic works.



A promotional poster for Farpoint 32, held from February 7-9, 2025. The poster features a cartoon illustration of a robot in a suit and tie, holding a sign that says "Breaking News!". To the right, a large, tilted, dashed-line box contains the text "SAVE THE DATE". Below the illustration and box, the text "Farpoint 32" is written in a large, bold, sans-serif font, followed by "February 7-9, 2025" in a slightly smaller, bold, sans-serif font. The entire poster is enclosed in a hand-drawn, irregular border.

Masquerade Costume Contest

WHERE • WHAT • WHEN

Masquerade Registration

Saturday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Entries cannot be accepted after 4:00 pm.

••••

Workmanship Judging

During Green Room
immediately preceding Masquerade

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!

2024 Charities & Auctions

Live Charity Auctions

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

Silent Auction Room

*All weekend long in the Art Show
(Citation/Whirlaway Ballroom)*

All proceeds benefit Farpoint's official charities



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

AWA provides these opportunities to those who would otherwise not have direct access to instructors, materials, and other like-minded individuals. AWA teaches students how to create and market their original comic books, manga, and cartoons in an environment free of judgment and derision. AWA works through classes, events, conventions, and partnerships with wonderful and dedicated artists and volunteers.

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

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

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



Julien Fleming Memorial Fund, Inc.

PO Box 710152
Oak Hill, VA 20171-0152

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

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

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

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

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

For more information see us at <http://www.jfmf.org>
Like us on Facebook -- [julienflemingmemorialfund](https://www.facebook.com/julienflemingmemorialfund)

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

FARPOINT 31 (2024) ART SHOW AND AUCTION

Welcome to the Farpoint Art Show and Auction! We are in the Triple Crown rooms, Whirlaway and Citation. 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 Maryland 1 and 2. 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 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 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; Art Show may reopen at 9:00 PM if demands warrant.**



BALTICON 58

science fiction and fantasy convention

May 24-27, 2024

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



Guest of Honor
L.E. MODESITT, JR.
Author

*Plus: Other
Special Guests &
Events!*

Join the members of BSFS as we celebrate 58 years of Balticon! Multiple program tracks will feature authors, artists, scientists, musicians, podcasters, publishers, editors, costumers, makers, and other creative SF luminaries. Visit our Art Show, Artist Alley, and Dealers Room; attend a concert or dance; take a break in the Gaming, Video, or Anime Room. Attend entertaining and educational panels, the Film Festival, or a writing or poetry workshop. Cosplay, watch the Masquerade, participate in our Hall Costume contest! Join with us to celebrate all of our guests, including the **2024 Compton Crook Award and Heinlein Award winners**. There is sure to be something that will interest you!



Music Guest of Honor
Rhiannon's Lark (Alyssa Yeager)



Editor Guest of Honor
Sheila Williams



Artist Guest of Honor
Omar Rayyan



**2023 Compton Crook
Award Winner**
Alex Jennings



**2024 Compton Crook
Award Winner**
TBA

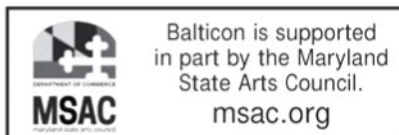



**2024 Robert Heinlein
Award Winner**
TBA

Sponsored by the Baltimore Science Fiction Society, a 501(C)(3) non-profit educational organization.
PO Box 686
Baltimore, MD 21203-0686

BALTICON.ORG

Email: balticoninfo@balticon.org
Phone: 410-JOE-BSFS (563-2737)



 **ASL is available for main events and selected panels.**

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Shore Leave 44

A Fan-run Media Science Fiction Con

Presented by the STAT Club of Maryland, Inc.

26-28 July 2024



Amanda Tapping

Stargate (all 3 series) – Col. S. Carter
Sanctuary – Dr. Helen Magnus
Supernatural – Naomi



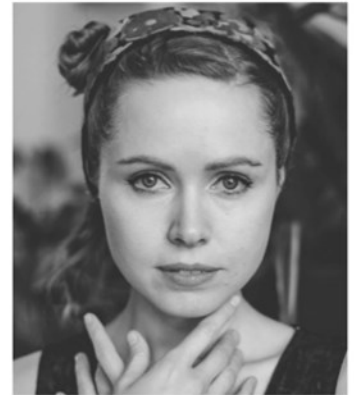
Teryl Rothery

Stargate SG-1 – Dr. Janet Fraiser/Heimdall
Battlestar Galactica: Caprica – Evelyn
Arrow – Jean Loring



Greg Grunberg

Star Wars (VII & IX) – Pilot Snap Wexley
Star Trek: Beyond – Cmdr. Finnegan
Heroes – Matt Parkman



Ingvild Deila

Star Wars: Rogue One – Princess Leia
Avengers: Age of Ultron – World Hub Tech
Out-of-Place Artefact – Aurora

www.shore-leave.com

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

Chris Abbott, Danielle Ackley-McPhail, Rigel Ailur, Lorraine Anderson, Derek Tyler Attico, Diane Baron, Christopher Bennett, Wayne Bird, Ken Carpenter, Russ Colchamiro, Greg Cox, Keith DeCandido, Kelly Fast, Kelli Fitzpatrick, Michael Jan Friedman, Phil Giunta, Joshua Handal, Lindley Johnson, David Mack, Mike McPhail, Timothy Miller, T.J. Perkins, Roberta Rogow, Aaron Rosenberg, Jenifer Rosenberg, Melissa Scott, Hildy Silverman, Amy Sisson, Alan Smale, Ray Villard, Dayton Ward, Laura Ware, Howard Weinstein, and Alex Young.

More to be announced as they are confirmed.

For Hotel Information:

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

Tel. 717-299-5500 or 800-233-0121

Our hotel is sold out!

We are currently working to establish a waiting list, and talking with other area hotels to get special rates.

For Any Other Information:

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

Email: go to www.shore-leave.com/contacts/ and click on the applicable link.

Philcon 2024

November 22-24, 2024

DoubleTree by Hilton (formerly Crowne Plaza Hotel), Cherry Hill, NJ

Max Gladstone
Principal Speaker

Matthew Stewart & Gina Matarazzo
Artist Guests of Honor



© *Matthew Stewart*

Nghi Vo
Special Guest

Cecilia Eng
Musical Guest

Enjoy a Weekend of:

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

Rates through 3/31/24:

Adults - \$50

Students & Active Military - \$35

Teens (13-17) - \$25

Children 7-12 - \$20

Children under 7 at Philcon - Free

www.philcon.org

www.facebook.com/Philcon.PSFS

Philcon is a registered trademark of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society

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 DoubleTree Hotel has 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.

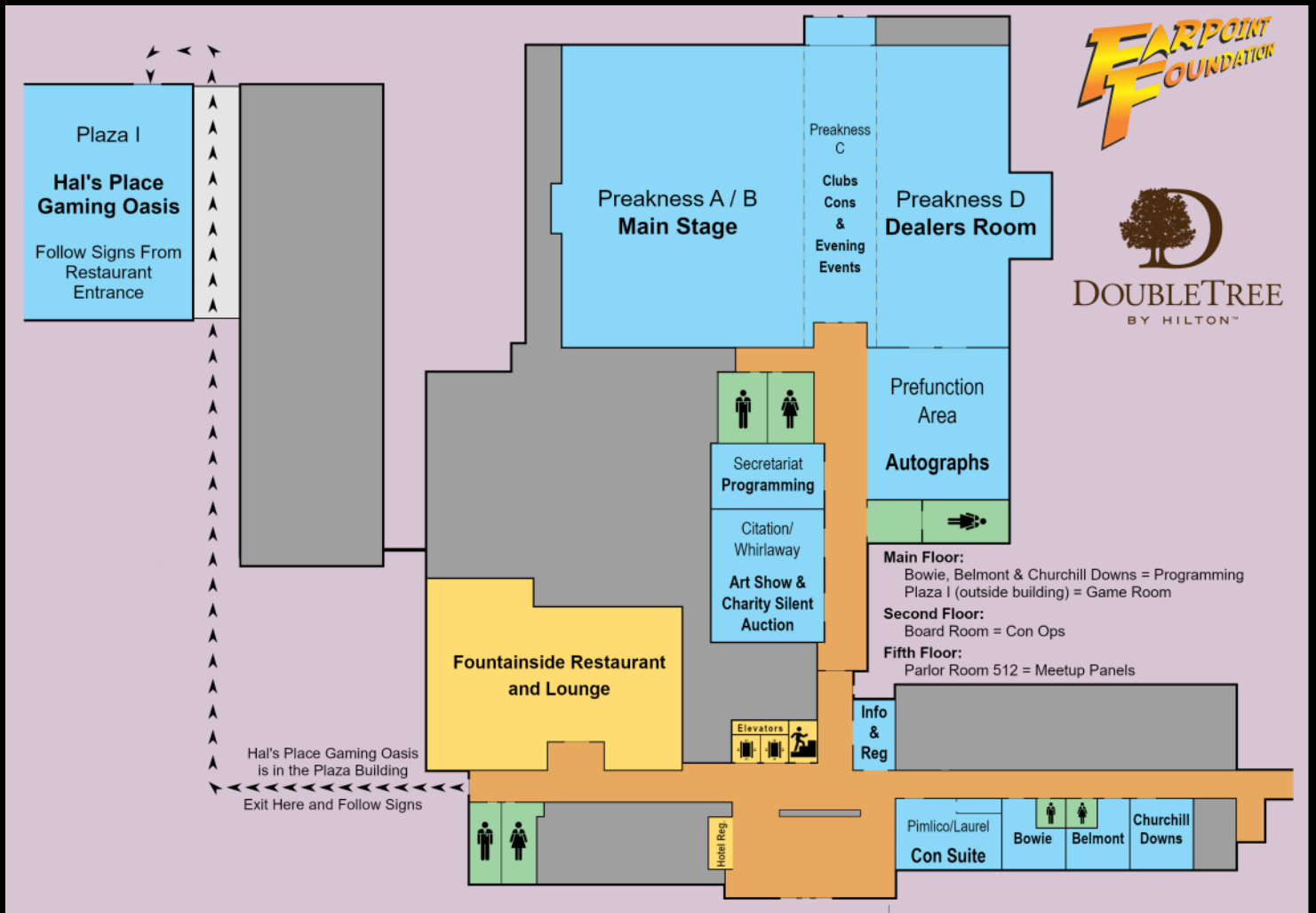
Conduct:

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 convention operations office to make an official report. Attendees, Staff, Vendors/Dealers and Guests may also go directly to the convention operations office, located in the Boardroom on the second 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 co-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 DoubleTree 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 DoubleTree Hotel allows pets in the sleeping rooms per their policy. This policy limits Hotel Guests to 1 pet per room (pet maximum weight 50 pounds) with a non-refundable \$75 fee per stay. The animal must not be left unsupervised in the sleeping room or the convention levels and must be on a leash when not in the sleeping room.
2. Animals are not allowed on the convention levels except for Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) service animals. Service animals must be leashed and always wear proper identifying tag, collar or vest on the convention floor. The ADA allows for trained service animals to accompany their matched partner in a place of business. Per the ADA, service animals are:
 - a. Individually trained animals matched with a specific disabled person to perform assistance tasks for that person; and
 - b. Working animals, not pets.
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 DoubleTree 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 DoubleTree 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 in the Boardroom on the second floor of the hotel, or the Registration Desk or Information Desk in the hotel lobby and ask for a convention chair to be contacted.



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