

# *Windycon 45 Proudly Presents*

# *Unlikely Heroes*

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## *From Our Co-Chairs*

It's been a wonderful learning year working as co-chairs, and we've enjoyed seeing a wonderful theme come together with so many great guests. We've seen the wonderful support of a great concomm, whom we can't thank enough, and everyone has put one hundred and ten percent in, and it clearly shows this year.

As a con, as a community, as a country, we've got a lot of challenges ahead, and all of us need to look out and see where we can be the Unlikely Heroes that others need. Most of the people that do the work for our charity, Habitat for Humanity, do their work behind the scenes, but all of them are heroes to someone who needs a home. We can all be heroes in more ways than we realize, and we challenge all of you to find the places that need an Unlikely Hero in your everyday life.

Kerry and gundo  
Windycon 45 co-chairs

# *Convention Rules*

Welcome to Windycon 45. This is our eleventh year here at the Westin and they are quite pleased to have us back and we love to be here. We ask that you continue to respect the facility and its employees.

Remember to be nice to others and treat everyone as you would like to be treated. The convention reserves the right to revoke your membership with no refund for disrupting the convention or breaking any rules and policies, and the spirit thereof, as well as causing trouble of any sort. If it's illegal in Illinois or Lombard, it is illegal at the convention.

Here are a few rules you need to be aware of:

1. You must have your badge with you at all times in order to enter or stay in any convention function.
2. You must present your badge to any member of the staff, including our door guards, who requests it.
3. A lost badge may be replaced at Registration for the cost of an at-the-door badge.
4. No real weapons or anything that can be mistaken for one can be carried on premises. Costume and prop weapons must be approved by operations and convention security and, if necessary, be peacebonded.
5. Energy weapons are restricted to only visible light lasers (400–700 nm) of up to 1 mW continuous wave
6. Any weapons purchased in the dealers' room, real or not, must be taken from the dealers' room to your room or to Operations for approval if you wish to carry it.
7. No projectile instruments of any kind. Not real, not Nerf, nothing.
8. No open live steel period. It must be sheathed and be approved and peacebonded by Operations/Security.
9. If you wish to use a weapon in the masquerade, you must clear it with the masquerade director and transport it directly to the event and then directly back to your room afterwards.
10. Anything used as a weapon in any threatening manner, whether real, real-looking, prop, toy, or otherwise, will result in its confiscation and possibly the revocation of your membership without refund.
11. Windycon reserves the right to prohibit any weapon, real or not, at its sole discretion.
12. If you damage the hotel, you **will** pay to fix it.
13. A costume must not leave bits of itself behind. This especially goes for things that would damage the hotel including, but not limited to: blood, body parts, dripping gore, ichor, brains, eyes, internal organs, external organs, or anything else that might fall off.
14. Our venue has a restriction allowing only dogs on the property; no cats, rats, spiders, snakes, ferrets, birds, unicorns, etc. are allowed. If you have a dog accompanying you, you must take it from your room for its walk and then back to your room. The only exception are dogs who are also service animals, meaning they have been trained in obedience and task skills to meet the needs of a disabled person. If you bring your service animal into convention space, please make certain you have checked it in with Operations and received a free Service Animal Badge, and they are wearing it at all times. Also please be sure they are properly harnessed and identified according to the relevant statutes.
15. Smoking is prohibited by local law and ordinance within the convention facilities and your private rooms. Doing so **will** result in a minimum \$200 fine. There are designated areas with the appropriate refuse bins for those who wish to indulge outside. Please respect those not wishing to indulge with you and keep the specified distance away from the doors.
16. The Marriott Corporation and the Westin Lombard hotel do **not** allow vaping of any sort in their facilities. That includes all function space, restaurants, and hotel rooms. Doing so **will** result in a minimum \$200 fine.

Windycon and ISFiC reserve the right revoke the membership of anyone failing to conform to the letter and spirit of these policies, those of our hotel, and the laws of the City of Lombard and the State of Illinois.

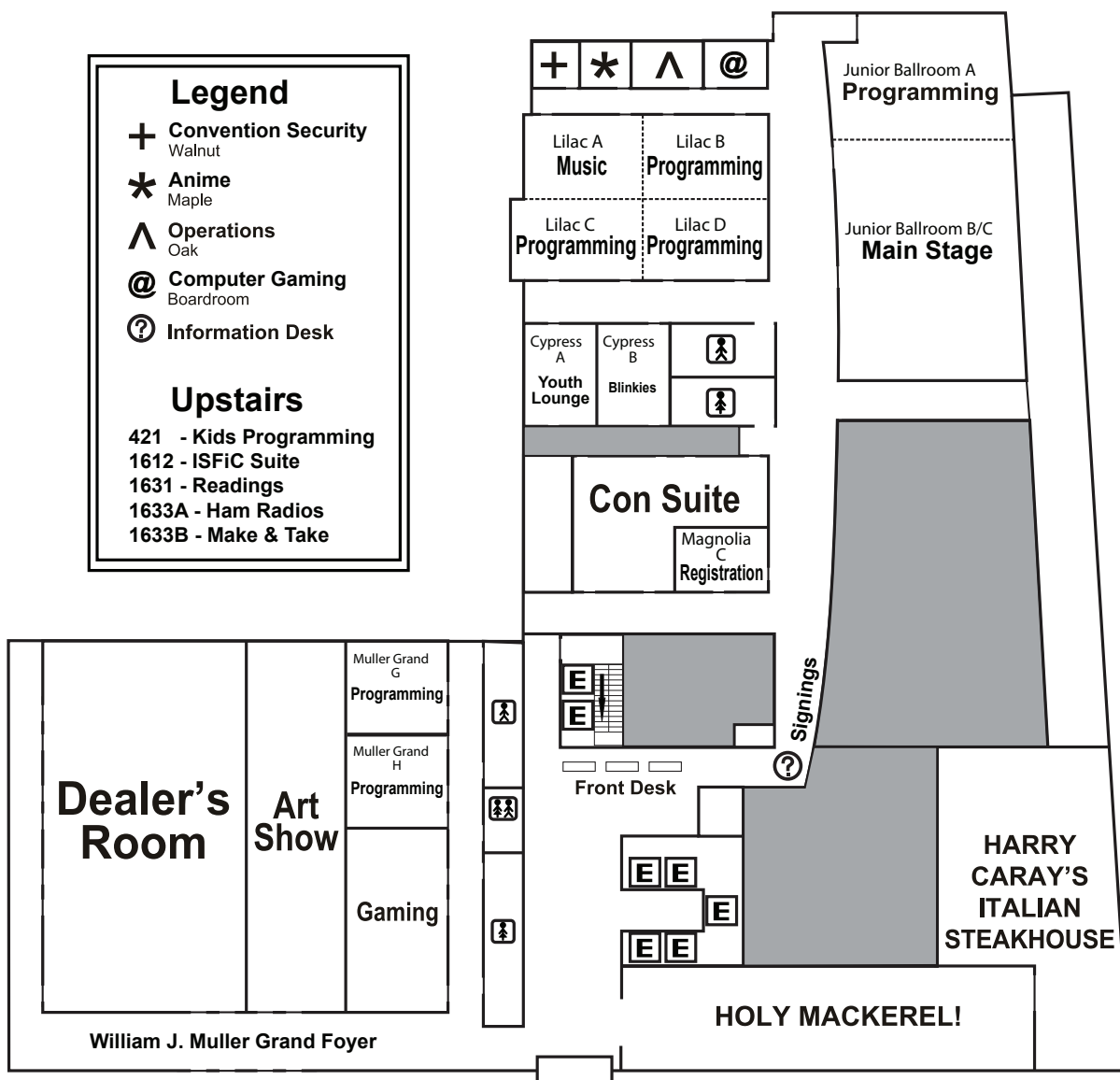
If there are any questions, please ask the folks in Operations in the Oak room who are there to help you. We hope you have a wonderful time at the convention.

***The ISFiC Harassment Policy  
can be found on Page 6.***

***Please read it and follow it.***

***Thank you.***

# Map and Hours



## Dealers

Friday	3:00 p.m.	-	7:00 p.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m.	-	6:00 p.m.
Sunday	11:00 a.m.	-	3:00 p.m.

## Gaming

Friday	4:00 p.m.	-	1:30 a.m. (apx.)
Saturday	10:00 a.m.	-	1:30 a.m. (apx.)
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	-	3:00 p.m.

## Art Show

Friday	1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Artist setup only
	4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Open to Members
Saturday	10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Open to Members
	4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Reception & Tour
	8:00 p.m. - ????	Art Auction
Sunday	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Art pickup
		Artist checkout
		After Auction Sales
		Print Shop Open





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# *What's an ISFiC?*

“What’s an ISFiC?” may not be the most popular party question at Windycon, but it does make for an excellent trivia question. Most fans, even in Chicago, are only vaguely aware that ISFiC exists.

ISFiC is Illinois Science Fiction in Chicago and is best known in its role as the parent body of Windycon. But there’s more to ISFiC than that. ISFiC was formed in the early 1970s—a period of great change in convention running in SF fandom. The number of regional conventions was exploding, and it seemed every couple of months a new city would announce that henceforth they would be hosting an annual regional convention. In the course of about five years, the number of SF cons more than tripled.

Windycon was one of the conventions that led this surge. In 1973, Chicago fans felt frustrated at being in the second largest city in the country, right in the center of the Heartland, and nothing resembling a regional con existed nearer than Minneapolis. Since the Chicon III Worldcon in the early sixties, Chicago fandom had splintered, and there wasn’t really a strong local club to serve as a focal point for a con committee, as was the case in Boston, Los Angeles, and other cities.

The Chicago fans then hit upon an idea—if a coalition of people from the various factions and clubs could work together on a local con, then a single large local club wouldn’t be needed. Thus was born Windycon. ISFiC was created as part of this process, to provide continuity in leadership and overall guidance.

But the vision for ISFiC and Chicago fandom went far beyond creating a regional con. Though the initial thoughts were vague, the idea was that ISFiC would act as a sort of clearing house organization for fan activities in Illinois, and do things to support fandom in general.

As with many fannish actions, there was also an ulterior motive. ISFiC’s founders, notably Larry Propp, Mark and Lynne Aronson, and Ann Cass, very carefully crafted things as a staging ground to prepare for a WorldCon bid. Their idea was to have Windycon not only publicize Chicago’s name, but also to act as a training ground for local fans in preparation for a Worldcon bid. The other ISFiC founders, including Jon and Joni Stopa and Mike and Carol Resnick supported the idea. Chicon IV, the 1982 World Science Fiction Convention, came to fruition as a result of this—although subsequent Chicons have been separately incorporated and were not directly affiliated with ISFiC. The early Windycons

grew rapidly under such chairmen as Mark and Lynne Aronson, Larry Propp, Doug Rice, and Midge Reitan. Most of the Windycon staff worked on Chicon IV, and learned even more from that.

After Chicon IV, there was a lot of reassessment of both Windycon and ISFiC. Having built an ongoing committee that could run Windycon from year to year (at least, as much as any local group can be said to do that), ISFiC looked for other ways to promote Windycon and science fiction in general. As a 501(c)(3) corporation, ISFiC has sponsored a number of activities, including loans and grants to other local science-fiction conventions, its own small press, ISFiC Press, and even an annual summer picnic, Picnicon, where fans gather to enjoy—with any reasonable luck!—some of Chicago’s fine summer weather in the great outdoors.

As a member of Windycon, you are a member of ISFiC. The ISFiC Board of Directors meets every year at Windycon (and usually at Capricon) and everyone is welcome to attend the meeting, which you’ll find listed elsewhere in this program, most likely at noon on Saturday in recent years. Our Board has nine members, three of whom are elected each year to a three year term by a vote of the sitting Board. Any Illinois fan is eligible to be elected—our current longest serving member of the Board was elected to the Board when he walked into his first meeting to see what ISFiC was all about.

So come by and see what it’s all about. You never know what will happen!

(The original article “What’s an ISFiC?” was written by the late Ross Pavlac some 20+ years ago. This version was lightly edited by Bill Roper to bring it up to date. Thanks, Ross. I wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for you.)

# ***ISFiC Harassment Policy***

Harassment of any kind is not tolerated. If someone tells you “no” or asks you to leave them alone, your business with them is done.

Your right not to be harassed is not a right not to be offended. All of us have different things that we find offensive. If you are offended, the best solution may be for you to walk away from the person who offends you. Should that person pursue you and continue to offend you, that could be harassment.

Unwanted physical contact is also not tolerated at Windycon. We understand that many fans view Windycon and other conventions as a safe space and enjoy greeting their friends with a hug, but please be aware that some people do not enjoy physical contact and if there is any question, please refrain from initiating physical contact with an individual. Similarly, a costume is not an invitation for physical contact.

If you feel that you are being harassed, or if you notice someone behaving inappropriately (such as violating hotel or convention policies), we respectfully suggest the following:

- If you feel comfortable doing so, point out the inappropriate behavior to the person(s) involved. Often this will solve the problem immediately.
- If you do not feel comfortable talking with the person(s) involved, or if talking to them does not resolve the issue, please report the situation immediately to any ISFiC/Windycon event coordinator (i.e., Windycon Operations, Security, the Windycon Chair, Vice-chair, Members of the ISFiC Board, Con Ombudsman, or to [harassment@isfic.org](mailto:harassment@isfic.org)).

It would be extremely helpful if you could provide a name, badge name/number, and/or physical description of the person(s) involved. We know reporting these issues is difficult. Please understand we cannot address issues if we do not know about them. While it is easier for us to investigate and address problems at the convention, it is more important that we know that something happened. If you need time before talking to us, take the time. But please talk to us when you are ready.

Windycon and ISFiC reserve the right to revoke the membership of anyone failing to conform to the letter and spirit of these policies, those of our hotel, and the laws of the Village of Lombard and the State of Illinois.



# ***Faith Hunter***

## ***Author Guest of Honor***

Faith Hunter is a *New York Times* and *USAToday* bestselling author. She writes dark urban fantasy and paranormal urban thrillers.

Her long-running, bestselling *Skinwalker* series features Jane Yellowrock, a hunter of rogue-vampires. The *Soulwood* series features Nell Nicholson Ingram in paranormal crime solving novels. Her *Rogue Mage* novels, a dark, urban fantasy series, features Thorn St. Croix, a stone mage in a post-apocalyptic, alternate reality. Two of her fantasy series have been nominated for Audie Awards, and *Curse on The Land* won for 2017.

Under the pen name Gwen Hunter, she has written action adventure, mysteries, thrillers, women's fiction, a medical thriller series, and even historical religious fiction. As Gwen, she is a winner of the WH Smith Literary Award for Fresh Talent in 1995 in the UK, and won a Romantic Times Reviewers Choice Award in 2008. Under all her pen names, she has over 40 books in print in 30 countries.

All of that Faith finds terribly boring. In real life, Faith once broke a stove by refusing to turn it on for so long that its parts froze and the unused stove had to be replaced. Her recent hankering for homemade bread and soup resulted in fresh loaves each week and she claims that the newish stove feels loved and well used—because Faith talks to her appliances as well as to her plants and dog. She collects orchids and animal skulls, rocks and fossils, loves to sit on the screened back porch in lightning storms, and is a workaholic with a passion for jewelry making, white-water kayaking, and RV travel. She prefers Class III whitewater rivers with no gorge to climb out of, edits the occasional anthology, and drinks a lot of tea. Some days she's a lady. Some days she ain't. Occasionally, she remembers to sleep. The jewelry she makes and wears is often given as promo items and is used as prizes in contests.

For more, including a list of her books, see [www.faith-hunter.net](http://www.faith-hunter.net), [www.gwenhunter.com](http://www.gwenhunter.com) To keep up with her, like her fan page at Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/official.faith.hunter>







# ...the fannish family reunion!



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Fan Guests of Honor:

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Toastmaster:

**Tom Trumpinski**

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# *Galen Dara*

## *Artist Guest of Honor*

Galen Dara broke into the industry with an early Hugo Award win for Best Fan Artist in 2013, followed by a nomination in 2014 for Best Professional Artist, a category very few women had ever been nominated in. She quickly followed up with more nominations for the Hugo and Chesley Awards, and won the World Fantasy Award in 2016.

Galen credits a strange gateway into science fiction and fantasy art—her first published SFF credit was a stack of black and white illustrations for the interior of an anthology...of zombie erotica. Titled *Rigor Amortis*, it cemented an early reputation for weird, dark, whimsical art, and a willingness to take big risks and have fun with her art. It was a sense of adventure that would serve her well as her career evolved, too.

“Halfway through my BFA, one of the Fine Art instructors turned my head to a more esoteric direction, so that by the end of my BFA I was doing things like hanging stuff from the ceiling to create environments that you could walk into, or wrapping broken egg shells in translucent paper and dangling them from strings on the wall. After my degree I was in a few fine art shows, but only sporadically.”

Dara’s burgeoning career slowed down when her son was born, after which she “wasn’t able to do much more than keep a sketchbook and dabble in photography.”

As she settled into parenthood, however, it dawned on her that she could use photoshop and other digital tools to clean up her sketches. She started posting those revised sketches online. “Then I began using photoshop to add colors and textures to my sketches,” she explained. Though she completed her BFA in Illustration, she had to teach herself how to integrate these digital tools into her workflow. From there, she developed her technique and adapted her style to have a stronger digital foundation. “A friend gave me a used Wacom tablet,” she remembers, “which I used for touch-ups. Eventually I began to draw and paint directly in Photoshop.”

Dara has illustrated covers for numerous anthologies, magazines, and novels, as well as games and comics. Working primarily in digital mediums with a raw, impressionistic bent, Dara’s art balances whimsy and horror, using bright strikes of color to highlight her dark, dreamy compositions. She finds her inspiration in “monsters, mystics, and dead things”, elements that are often found or referenced in her paintings.



Dara attended the Illustrator’s Master Class in 2012 and 2014, and is a frequent participant in the Spectrum Art Show. Widely regarded as one of the best up-and-coming artists in the field, Dara currently works with a number of regular publications, including *Fireside Magazine*, *Lightspeed*, *Nightmare*, *47North*, and many more.

But that’s just the tip of the iceberg for one of the most badass artists in science fiction. Galen doesn’t just hang eggshells on the wall and dangle from ceilings, she’s also an avid rock-climber, hiker...and venturing into the wilderness to help emergency search-and-rescue teams. Her social media feeds are full of delight—beautiful and macabre art, daring backcountry rescues, and photos of her son and pets.

Her portfolio, prints, and more information can be found at <http://www.galendara.com>.





**November 23-25, 2018**  
**Wyndham Indianapolis West**



**Sandy Gimpel**  
Stuntwoman Extraordinaire



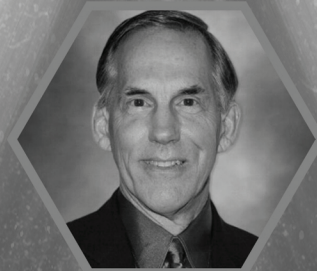
**François Chau**  
Out-Of-This-World Actor



**Moxie Magnus**  
Intergalactic Cosmetologist



**Dr. Erin Macdonald**  
Geeky Astrophysicist



**Bill Blair**  
Professional Alien



**Pop Warrior**  
Klingon Pop Star



**Carl Taliaferro**  
Alien Creator



**Dr. Lawrence M. Schoen**  
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- **Science Workshops**
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# *Kevin Roche*

## *Costuming Guest of Honor*

Kevin Roche—or—Evil Kevin

At the meetings of the venerable Bay Area Science Fiction Society, BASFA for those into the whole brevity thing, there are two kevin's. Kevin Standlee is Tall Kevin. Why? Because he's tall. Kevin Roche is Evil Kevin. Why? Well, that's a *whole* lot more complicated.

You see, Kevin's not evil like the jealous queen in some Disney animation, but more evil in the sense of chaos magick. He wills it and comes to be, simple as that. Well, not at all, actually. It's often hours/days/years of slog to iron out the bugs, make the shiny as shiny can be. He uses his powers often for good, nearly always for awesome, but sometimes, the awesome is devilish, cunning, whimsically powerfully playfully pointed joy in the chaotic good realm.

I can't really remember meeting Kevin. I remember us doing a panel at ConJose in 2002, but it was BayCon 2005 where Kevin and Andy were Fan Guests of Honor (and newlyweds!) and I was the Toastmaster that we actually became friends. There was a lot to like about Kevin and Andy even back when I didn't know them and only knew of them. Kevin was always the best-dressed man in the room. *Always*. The man can wear the hell out of a suit, but honestly, why would he? He does beautifully in any outfit, from Jungleboy to Rodeo champion.

And I've made it this far without mentioning that he might be the smartest guy I know, and I say this as a guy who knows Nobel prize winners. He's a scientist, a roboticist, a knowledge worker whose knowledge is small, microscopic, nano-scopic. He has a mind that solves problems even when you're not aware of any problem existing. He has designed robots, has worked on systems that make use of the tiniest aspects of matter and makes them real, usable. He also has the incredibly rare gift of being a storyteller who can make the stories as educational as The Brothers Grimm. He explained racetrack memory to me once. Me, a simple historian with no actual understanding of how things like memories work, came out of it with the feeling that I could tell a bombsquad member trying to defuse a maniacal plot using only spin-coherent nanodomains along a permalloy wire exactly how to manage it. He weaves knowledge into fabrics, and then cuts it to an individual's shape and form.

Which, as metaphors go, is pretty impressive when you consider the man's ability to costume. I've seen him on



stage in a lounge lizard dinosaur suit, in the halls of cons in various degrees of layered wonder. He doesn't just embody the role of those that would inhabit the clothes; he animates the clothes themselves. To watch him walk a hall or a masquerade stage is to watch wearable art move, live, breathe. It's an amazing talent.

How much more is there? So much. So very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very damn much more. His writing is phenomenal, whether for his own use, or for others. He can mix a fine cocktail, throw an amazing party, put on a helluva con. All those are great, but they're not what I think of when I first think of Kevin Roche. He's one of the most generous people I've ever known, in ways that even the most generous seldom achieve. He's giving of spirit, audacious in his ability to lend encouragement and his own personal ray of sunshine to a world that is often drab of joy. I never come away with a day when I get to hang with Kevin any less than fully recharged. A magnificent gift, being around him, and I'm glad all y'all Windyconners are getting' the chance!

—Christopher J. Garcia  
Windycon 36 Fan Guest of Honor



# *Off to New Horizons*

*May 10-12, 2019 at the  
Crown Plaza Columbus North  
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## MARCON 54 Guests

*Charles Gannon  
Author Guest of Honor*

*John Picacio  
Artist Guest of Honor*

*The Hopeful Romantics  
Filk Guests of Honor*

*Bob & Connie Trembly  
Science Guests of Honor*

*Rebecca Moesta  
Editor Guest of Honor*

*David Gerald  
Media Guest of Honor*

*Kevin J. Anderson  
Legendary Author*

Marcon is a weekend of fun where everyone that enjoys movies, books, music, art, science, and everything in between come together in one place to watch, talk about, dress like, sing, and/or learn from like-minded people, be they writers, actors, scientists, artists, professionals of all kinds, or simply fans.

To register, or for more information see our website at [Marcon.org](http://Marcon.org).

# *Jen Midkiff*

## *Music Guest of Honor*

### Jen Midkiff: Musical Muse

When Bill Sutton and I moved from Atlanta twelve years ago, Jen Midkiff was one of the first people to welcome us to Indiana. Until then, I had admired and respected her from afar as a member of the popular, award-winning band Wild Mercy, and now there she was, making music on my back porch. Our friendship grew over the years until, in 2011, Jen's other traditional Irish band, Alair, had an opening and I was invited to fill it.

What a consummate professional! Most of you know that she is a masterful harper and harpist, playing both folk harp and orchestral pedal harp. But she also plays piano, electric bass, and baritone ukulele. She teaches harp and voice, and organizes choral and congregational music for two large churches. The woman has dedicated her talents to creating and helping others create beautiful music. Her sterling soprano voice soars with both melody and harmony lines. And, I must tell you, playing with Jen is one of the great joys of my life.

Jen takes quite seriously the job of music-making. There's no resting on laurels around her. It doesn't matter how many times we've played tunes X, Y or Z, there *will* be rehearsals before each and every gig. Any job that hires Alair gets the best performance we can give, because it would be wrong to offer anything less. Every detail is planned down to when we'll arrive, who is bringing what gear, what we wear, set lists, directions (because playing with Alair means a lot of driving.) And much of that detail is due to Jen. It is such a positive relief it is to work with musicians like her who refuse to simply sling notes against the wall and see what sticks.

And her songs...*her* songs! She has written some of the loveliest tunes songs, pulling from deep within herself and her heritage. You'll see and hear when you attend her concerts (because you *must* attend her concerts!) And you can take her home when you buy her CDs. They stay on my permanent rotation, and I can't say that about many other filk musicians.

Jen is as beautiful on the inside as she is on the outside. She's a compassionate, funny, open-minded, loving, and deeply spiritual woman who lives her life by principles and virtues. Every time I see her, she's always trying to be better, kinder, wiser, gentler. Jen, like the rest of us humans, has her own demons, but she fights them! She fights them with a will. She and her sweet family study martial arts together, and recently explored fencing, spear



chucking and ax throwing with the SCA. It's not hard to imagine Jen in a previous life, standing high on the castle ramparts, weapon in hand, ready to face any opposing force.

I count myself so very lucky to have Jen Midkiff in my life. The world is made better with her in it, and this event is, too.

-Brenda Sinclair Sutton  
Windycon 41 Music GoH



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\$50 per person thru August 31

\$60 after August 31 and at the door



# ***Bobbi Armbruster***

## ***Fan Guest of Honor***

*Here she comes/walking down the street/gets the funniest looks from/everyone she meets.*

The program book may say that her name is Bobbi Armbruster, but to us she will always be Micky Dolenz.

When Chicon 7 was in the planning stages, we knew that Dave McCarty would chair the convention and Helen Montgomery and Steven H Silver would be vice-chairs. We also knew that we wanted a third co-chair who wasn't from Chicago to make sure we didn't fall into group think. Bobbi Armbruster was a natural choice. We quickly dubbed ourselves the Flying Monkeys. When our tech guru set up our mail-bounce, he misspelled it as Flying Monkees and we immediately seized on the typo, each identifying with one of the members of the 1960s faux rock band. Bobbi was Micky Dolenz.

Bobbi quickly proved to be even more valuable to the group than any of us thought to begin with. She was the calm and rational to Dave's fluster. She kept us on point, managed our timeline, and seemed to make everyone she dealt with happy, even when she had bad news for them.

We weren't previously aware what an art it was to get all the moving pieces for a convention that large working in concert during set up and tear down until we saw the artist strut her stuff. Watching Bobbi manage the timeline session was a magnificent learning experience for everyone involved. A large part of why she's so good at it all is because she loves to do it. She's recently retired from being a professional meeting planner, so the skills she brought to the table for us were ones that she'd honed every week for years and years. She loves color coding, Gantt charts, and other organizational tools. She'll be happy to show you all of them.

She also had a way of telling us that we didn't know what we were doing, although not in so many words. In fact, often in no words. One of us would make a suggestion and Bobbi would tilt her head, give us a look and a sad smile, and you could practically hear a Southern accent (that she certainly doesn't have) intoning, "Why, bless your heart." The idea would invariably be dropped.

Bobbi's life isn't just conventions, though. She's an avid football fan, an incredible foodie, and her husband Warren is one of the best people ever. When we were having nightly Skypes, there would always be a point when Warren would enter the picture and present Bobbi with a well-crafted dinner and matching glass of wine. The glasses of wine seemed to get bigger and bigger the



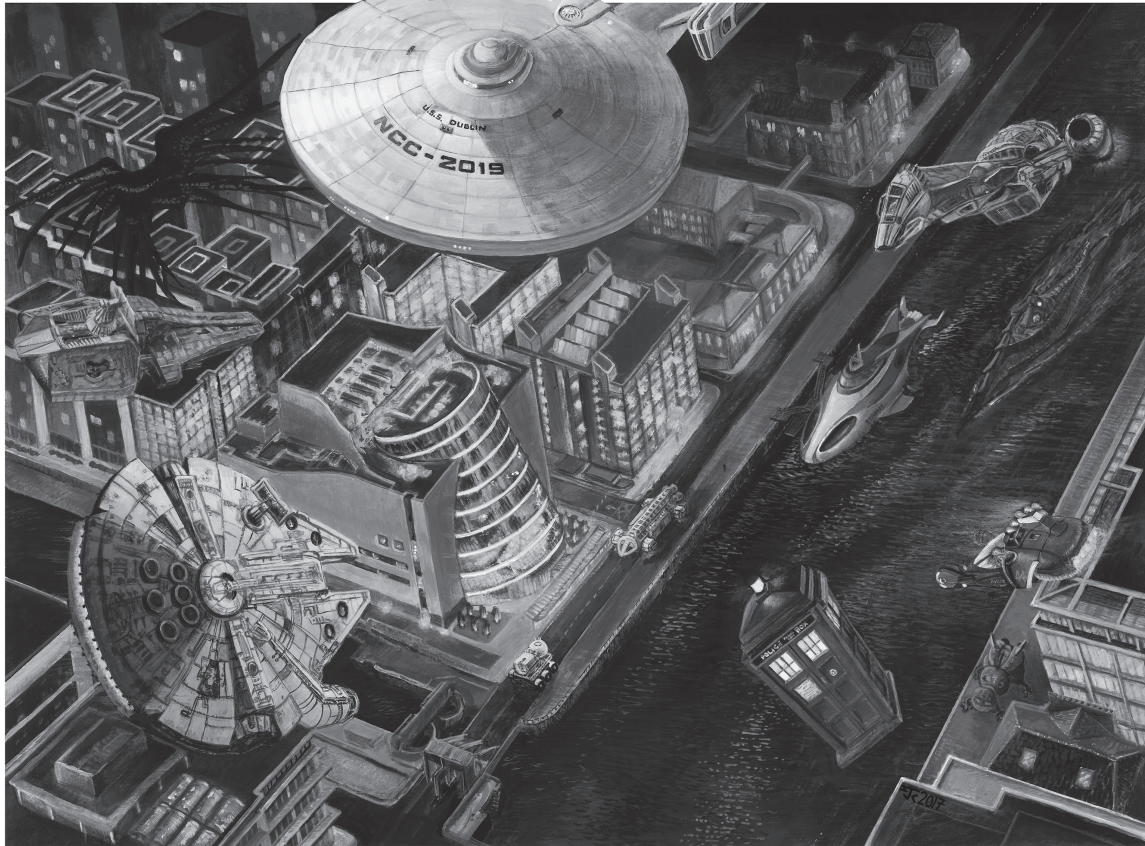
closer we got to the convention.

She has lovely children and grandchildren all over, she gets to travel frequently to see them, and has a wonderful home just a couple of blocks from the Pacific Ocean. They are wonderful hosts if you're lucky enough to get an invitation to dinner there. She knows where to get the "BestF\*ingTacosInTheUniverse", where to get good wine, and she knows exactly how much is too much to pay for a hotdog.

Finally, if you want the entertainment value of the convention, offer to buy Micky, we mean Bobbi, a steak at Harry Caray's with plenty of truffle butter. It may cost a little more, but it's worth it.

- Dave McCarty, Chicon 7 Flying Monkee/Davy Jones
- Helen Montgomery, Chicon 7 Flying Monkee/Mike Nesmith
- Steven H Silver, Chicon 7 Flying Monkee/Peter Tork

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**Steve Jackson**  
**Ian McDonald**



# *Andrew Trembley*

## *Toastmaster*

Andy describes himself in most fannish locations under this simple list of attributes—Geek, freak, reader, essayist, costumer, critic, media-junkie, biker, pervert, party-queen, troublemaker, *fan*. That about covers it, doesn't it? Of course it does. But if it *actually* covered all the bases, I wouldn't need to write this bio now, would I?

You see, Andy is one of those people who I have had the incredible honor to hang out with in a massive number of fascinating locations. Wait, let me sharpen that point. I have had the distinct honor of living the high life with Andy in incredible locations all over North America. Whether it was playing our Lotteria drinking game in the fanzine lounge at Silicon as a form of social protest, or enjoying duck in a can and poutine at Au Pied de Cochon in Montreal, or relaxing in the consuite at Vintacon in Lodi, California, in the lungs of California's Central Valley, I have never felt the world's anxiety tug at me while enjoying Andy's majestic company.

And how could anyone feel such? Andy's something between a soothing salve and a maddening agent that drives all who come into contact with him into a weird/brilliant madness. I have myself experienced the idea of leaving the cares of the work-a-day world behind to enjoy one of Andy's distinctively joyous parties, only to have my mind over-taken by a flurry of thoughts for cons, new TV shows, fanzine issues, and on and on and on. I can't figure out how many of my best projects started as something that passed between Andy and I while having an incredibly good time. That may, in fact, be a superpower.

One of the great ideas that Andy himself had during a good time was Olive Country bid. Andy and Kevin had stopped at Granzellas', a wonderful restaurant/bar/tourist stop out past Sacramento where the olive bar is phenomenal. While enjoying a meal on the way home, Kevin and Andy got to talking and somehow, the idea of hosting a hoax bid for Granzellas' happened. Andy had worked on a few other great hoax bids, like the one for 2008 to be hosted in Hollister, California, best known for a different, more bison-filled roadside attraction. Kevin and Andy started the Granzellas' hoax bid in a year when there were actual bids, Salt Lake City and Portland. Neither were exactly lighting up the world, so as we came closer to the date, Kevin and Andy got more and more serious, and in the end, after a grueling slog of a business meeting, they won and hosted the convention in Sacramento, which was incredibly fun and one I will always cherish.



*Andy Left, Kevin Right*

There's so much more. He brought *Eurovision* to Bay Area fandom, that magnificent combination of glam rock, manic pixie folk music, and the opening of *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire*. It's an impressive event, but watching it with Andy is akin to watching wrestling with Mean Gene Okerlund; you're gonna get a deep meaning and enjoyment in a fascinatingly cogent package that happens to be a lot of fun.

Andy and Kevin are both known to host incredible parties. It's never the party that is the most fun, though they are incredibly fun, it's the curating they do. There's a package that is established, each party is an experience chosen by invite and theme to make every attendee have the best possible time they could.

Ultimately, Andy is, without question, the most incredibly entertaining person I know. Each and every one of you at the con, you should greet him and try and chat, because you'll come away with your best idea that will inevitably send you down the path to awesome.

-Christopher J. Garcia  
Windycon 36 Fan Guest of Honor

# ***Additional Guests***



## ***Special Guest Mike Resnick***

According to *Locus* Magazine, Mike Resnick is the all-time leading award winner, living or dead, for short science fiction. He is the winner of five Hugos, a Nebula, and other major awards in the United States, France, Spain, Japan, Croatia, and Poland. He is the author of 68 novels, over 250 stories, and 2 screenplays, and is the editor of 41 anthologies. He was the Guest of Honor at the 2012 Worldcon.

## ***Phyllis Eisenstein***



Phyllis Eisenstein has published six novels and more than forty shorter works in the genres of science fiction, fantasy, and horror fiction. Her stories have appeared in both anthologies and in every major science fiction and fantasy magazine. She has taught SF and fantasy writing at the Clarion Science Fiction Writers Workshop, Oakton Community College, and the Writers Digest School.



## ***Special Guest Tom Smith***

Tom Smith, master of improv weirdness and Grand Poobah of Punnery, is in attendance, with more songs and silliness than is probably good for us. But who cares? It's fun! His shows are always just nuts, and he's always got something new. Check out his website, hang onto your brain, and live the Myth of Smith!

## ***Bill Fawcett***



Bill has written or co-authored over a dozen books, and dozens of articles and short stories, including the "Authorized Mycroft Holmes" novels. Bill has written and edited over a dozen books about military history, including his "How to Lose a War" series, and two oral histories of the SEALs in Vietnam. He is also one of the founders of Mayfair Games.



## ***Alex Eisenstein***

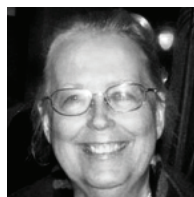
Chicago area author, editor, artist, and convention runner. Alex Eisenstein has collaborated on many books and stories with Phyllis Eisenstein, and he has founded multiple fanzines. He has run convention Art Shows across the Midwest, including Windycon.

## ***Eric Flint***



The majority of Eric Flint's works are alternate history science fiction, but he also writes humorous fantasy adventures. He is well known for the novel, *1632*, which launched the *Ring of Fire* series and several of the *Ring of Fire* books have been on the *New York Times* Best Seller List. He is also a longtime labor union activist with a Masters Degree in history.

## Additional Guests



### Betty Anne Hull

Elizabeth Anne Hull taught SF and creative writing at Harper College, for over 30 years. She's published both fiction and non-fiction articles in venues from *Locus* to 20th Century SF Writers, and has served as a juror for the John W. Campbell Memorial Award for over 20 years. She co-edited the international anthology, *Tales From the Planet Earth*, with her late husband, Frederik Pohl.



### Jody Lynn Nye

Jody Lynn Nye has published over 45 books and more than 120 short stories. She collaborated with Robert Asprin on eight books, and continues both of Asprin's *Myth-Adventures* series and *Dragons* series. Her newest books are *Fortunes of the Imperium*, *Cats Triumphant*, *Dragons Run*, and *Launch Pad*, an anthology of science fiction stories co-edited with Mike Brotherton.



### Gene Wolfe

Gene Wolfe is the author of *The Book of the New Sun*, *The Wizard Knight*, and *The Soldier of the Mist*, among others. He has been recognized for his fiction with Nebula, World Fantasy, and Skylark Awards, has been named a Grand Master by SFWA, received a World Fantasy Lifetime Achievement Award Fantasy, and the first Fuller Award from the Chicago Literary Hall of Fame. He was Guest of Honor for the 43rd Worldcon.

## Parties

We all love a party, and we'd like to thank all of the groups throwing parties here at Windycon. Of course, there are:

### Rules

- The legal drinking age in Illinois is 21 and the parties will be checking IDs at the door, so please be sure to have your ID on you at all times.
- Be respectful of the hotel and the others around you.
- The Weston is a NON-smoking hotel. If you wish to smoke or vape you must go outside.
- Please dispose of all trash in trashcans.
- Keep the parties in the party rooms not the hallways.
- REMEMBER! If it illegal in the non-convention world, it is illegal in the convention world too.

### Awards

These are this year's party awards: Be sure to vote for your favorites!

- Best Party
- Best Alcoholic Drink
- Best Non-Alcoholic Drink
- Best Food / Snacks

There are ballots and ballot boxes on every party floor (13,14, and 15). Winners announced at closing ceremonies!

Alcohol will not be served without ID, but you can still join in on the fun and party games.

### Ratings

Ratings help communicate what each party has to offer. Be on the lookout for these symbols on party fliers, the party listing in the main lobby, and on each party floor.



Everyone is welcome.



Mature 18+ content. Enter, but be aware of content..

Adults only 21+.

Be prepared to show ID to enter

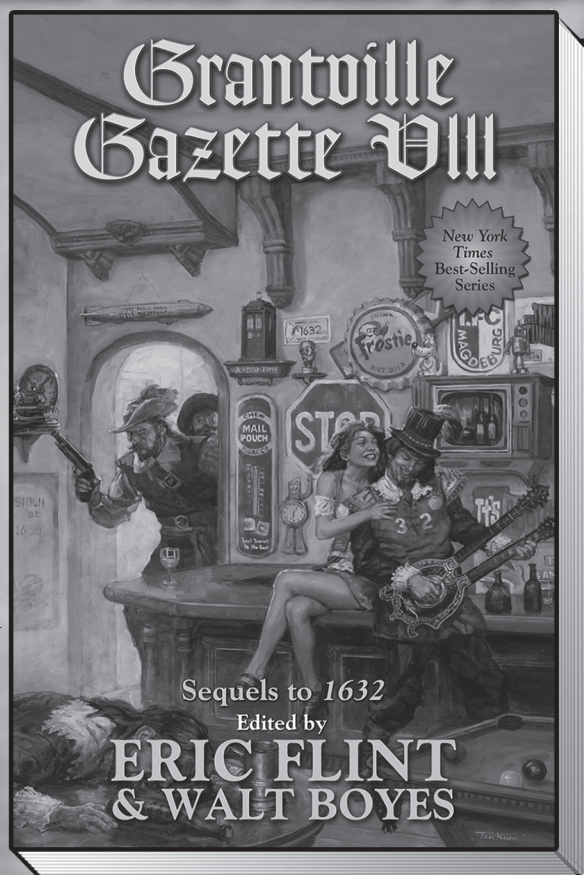
Alcohol is served. Be prepared to show ID to be served.



These ratings can be combined. Just because a party is A for Adults only 21+ does not mean that it will be serving Alcohol. Just as an E for Everyone could also have a Wine Bottle and be serving alcohol.



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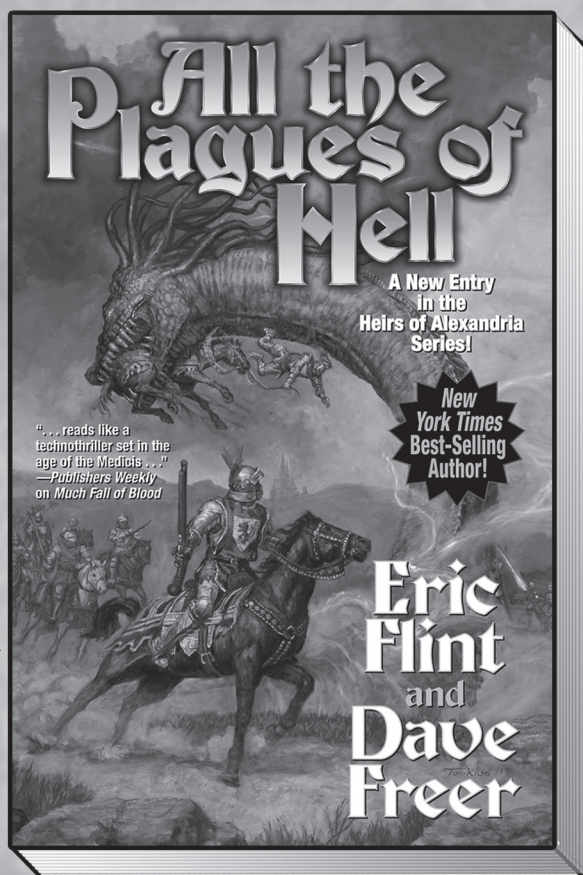
Orkise is loose. The snake-god of plague has been awakened by Lucia del Maino, the bastard daughter of the recently overthrown duke of Milan, Phillipio Visconti. With the venomous magic of Orkise at her command, Lucia plots to marry and then murder the usurper who now rules Milan, the condottiere Carlo Sforza—known to friend and foe alike as the Wolf the North. On his side, Sforza has only the skill and cunning of his physician, Francisco Turner—who is on good terms with the Valdosta brothers and may be able to neutralize Venetian hostility. But even if he can, will that be enough to save the Wolf of the North? For out there in the countryside of northern Italy, Orkise is uncoiling all the plagues of hell.



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Baen Books is distributed by Simon & Schuster

## Con Suite

We've got new folks running our Con Suite this year, so expect some changes. But it's always a good place to go for a snack, a drink (including beer and cider), and some conversation.

We will be serving peanut butter and peanuts in the Con Suite. If you have a severe peanut allergy, let us know, and we will arrange to bring a plate out to you if you're unable to enter the room.

We'll look forward to seeing you all there!

Friday 3:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.  
Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 a.m.  
Sunday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

## Beer & Cider

Friday 3:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.  
Saturday 3:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.  
Sunday 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

## Beer & Cider Rules

1. Red Cups Do Not Leave The Con Suite. Ever. All red cups, which are to be exclusive vessels for beer, are prohibited to be removed from the Con Suite
2. You Must Show ID and Badge. Those who wish to imbibe any alcoholic concoctions will be required to show the Bheer Gods your convention badge, and you must also have your genuine government issued Driver's License or State ID. This is to confirm that you are indeed, the actual person identified on the back of your convention badge, as well as at least 21 years of age.
3. Our Bheer Gods may request to see your government issued Driver's License or State ID at any time.
4. The Bheer Gods are only allowed to dispense alcohol in the Con Suite, as per our Hotel contract.
5. Anyone caught serving their own alcohol will be asked to leave.

## Gaming

Our hours will be:

Friday 4:00 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.(apx.)  
Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 a.m. (apx.)  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Once more we are going to have Classic Battletech from Catalyst Game Labs, and with that we all know that the shots will fly and 'Mechs will fall, will you be the one left standing?

Are you a loyal Imperial Officer, or a freedom seeking Rebel Alliance Commander? Come and find out with *Star Wars Armada*. *Star Wars Armada* is a tactical miniature game where each player takes command of a small fleet of Imperial Navy or Rebel Alliance capital ships and squadrons. The game is played over a series of rounds, with each round consisting of players taking turns activating their ships. Players select the types of actions ships will take ahead of time, with larger ships having to select their actions 2 or 3 turns in advance. The game is over at the end of the 6th round, or if one player destroys all of their opponent's ships.

This year we have Peter Petrusha from Imagining Games bringing you *Dreamchaser: A Game of Destiny*.

If you can imagine it, you can play it! Race to the Stars • Hatch the Last Dragon Egg • Make the Perfect Sandwich... *Dreamchaser* is a story building role-playing game where you create the story, the characters, and everything in between. The choice is yours, what dream will you chase...

2-4 Players, 2 Hour Demo, Ages 10+, New Players Welcome

Friday 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.  
Saturday 12:00 p.m.- 2:00 p.m.  
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.  
Sunday 12:00 p.m.- 2:00 p.m.

There will be tables reserved for specific games at specific times throughout the weekend. Come sign up and play instead of picking out a game and trying to find players. If there are not enough people to play 15 minutes after the scheduled start time, the table will be released back to open gaming. There will also be a board where people can post messages looking for players for a particular game at a particular time.

Along with the tables, we will also have a stockpile of games for folks to come in and play with so come on by and play. Feel free to also ask about hosting your own games, we'll (almost) always have table space free.



## ***Build-a-Blinkie Workshop***

Cypress B

Presented by Build-A-Blinkie.org

Dale Sulak, Dwayne Forsyth, and Ward Christensen

Friday 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Where you get to build one of those LED flashing things! The Build-a-Blinkie techs welcome you to their traveling soldering workshop. You start with the kit, and use the tools provided. If you have always wanted to learn to solder, today is the day.

Build-a-Blinkie.org, is a 501(c)3 that runs learn-to-solder workshops in the Great Lakes area at STEM events such as maker faires, libraries, universities, maker spaces, and area conventions like Windycon.

Build-a-Blinkie works with groups ranging from the Detroit and Chicago area Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, the Department of Defense Youth program "StarBase", Northern Illinois University, College of DuPage, etc... We run Build-a-Blinkie events, helping organizations build up teams and resources to run their own events, and designing custom blinkies. We have equipment to run up to 55 soldering stations at events.

## ***Art Show***

Friday

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Artist setup only

4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Open to Members

Saturday

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Open to Members

4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Reception & Tour

8:00 p.m. - ????

Art Auction

Sunday

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Art pickup

Artist checkout

After Auction Sales

Print Shop Open

The Art Show will run a silent auction on Friday and Saturday until the Art Show will close to set up for the Art Auction. Pieces with 1 or 2 bids are sold to the high bidder on the sheet. Pieces with 3 or more bids will go to the Art Auction. All charity pieces will be treated just like any other art. They will not go to auction automatically.

Fan's Choice awards will be given to the artists who receive the most votes, so please, look around, find the artwork you like the best, and vote! Awards will be given for both 2-D and 3-D artwork, so make sure you look at everything.

The Art Auction will be at 8:00 p.m. Our illustrious auctioneers and their crew provide some of the best entertainment at the convention, so come to watch, come to bid, come to have fun, and don't forget your wallet. You never know when something will strike your fancy... or when you will find that perfect gift for someone.

## ***Print Shop***

If you are looking for art at a fixed price, check out the Print Shop inside the Art Show. We have a wide selection of artwork from a variety of talented artists available at prices that won't break the bank.

The Print Shop carries more than just prints, so make sure to stop in and look at the calendars, mouse pads, bookmarks, and other wonderful works for sale.

If you find you have money left after the Art Show closes, the Print Shop and any pieces with After Auction prices on their bid sheets are available for purchase at a fixed price during art pickup, so you are welcome to keep shopping right up until we close at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday.



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## Music Concerts And...

Our accomplished performers have traveled from hither and yon (truly, from Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Ohio, Tennessee, and all the wild yonders of the Chicago area) to tell their tales of marvelous deeds achieved by the bold, the brave, and the unexpectedly heroic. We are proud to be one of the best Midwest cons for filk (the music of science fiction and fantasy) and inclusive of all types of music that fans enjoy.

Please see the bio for our Music Guest of Honor, Jen Midkiff, elsewhere in this program. Our other performers range from solo acoustic singer-songwriter to full out rock band and everything in between. Styles and topics include folk, rock, blues, comedy, tragedy, romance, cats, current events, space pirates, assorted mythical creatures, zombies, hyper-beer, hard (or hardly) science, a song entirely in SQL code, and plenty of *Firefly*.

Besides concerts, we have a few panels and workshops on musical topics—Intro to Music Theory, Performance Tips & Tricks, and collaborative songwriting. Don't miss our "Songs About Heroes" theme circle on Saturday night, and enjoy our all-out Windy City Jam Band of performers playing each other's songs—cold—right before Closing Ceremonies on Sunday.

Our Open Music Circles and Dead Dog Circle welcome everyone who has something to share—accompanied songs, a cappella singing, instrumental music, and dramatic spoken word or poetry. Of course, listeners are welcome, too! We ask that performers seat themselves closer to the center of the room and that listeners/crafters hold down the perimeter.

We tend to follow Polite Midwest Chaos in our circles, which means no designated direction or "turns" around the room but fairness in giving all performers equal opportunity to share BUT we are happy to be flexible, so the designated Music Anchor will gladly change the flow of the circle if you ask. At Windycon there is often an unspoken invitation for other musicians or vocalists to join in with each other on familiar songs, but it is absolutely okay to request that no one else play or sing along with you.

## Anime

Maple

Friday:

3 p.m.-6:30 p.m.: Sailor Moon Crystal 1-7

8 p.m.-10 p.m.: Your Name

10 p.m.-12 a.m.: Space Battleship Yamato (Live Action)

12 a.m.-3 a.m.: Desert Punk 1-6

Saturday:

10 a.m.-12 p.m.: My Hero Academia 1-4

12 p.m.-2 p.m.: Princess Nine 1-4

2 p.m.-4 p.m.: Black Jack (2004) 1-4

4 p.m.-6 p.m.: Mayou 1-4

6 p.m.-7:40 p.m.: Evangelion 1.0 You Are (Not) Alone

7:40 p.m.-10 p.m.: Akira

10 p.m.-1 a.m.: Inuyashiki 1-6

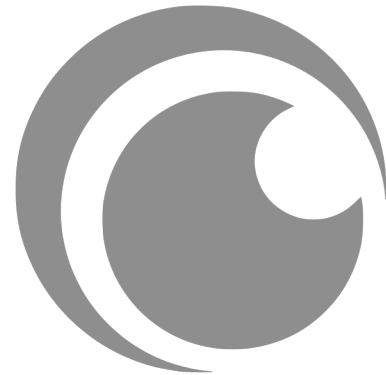
1 a.m.-3 a.m.: Ghost Stories (English Humor Dub)

Sunday:

10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.: Cells at Work 1-3

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.: Kino's Journey 1-3

Our anime program is sponsored by:



**crunchyroll**



## ***Signings***

Main Hallway

Saturday:

10 a.m. Natalie Silk/Brendan Detzner/Phyllis  
Eisenstein/Mindy Mymudes  
11 a.m. Rebecca Frencl/Paul Dale Anderson  
12 p.m. Lance Erlick/Eric Flint  
1 p.m. Norm Cowie/Donna J W Munro  
2 p.m. Jody Lynn Nye/Mike Resnick/  
Faith Hunter  
3 p.m. Dale Cozort/Richard Chwedyk  
4 p.m. Galen Dara/Tracy Townsend/  
Barbara Barnett

Sunday:

10 a.m. Rick Heinz / Betty Anne Hull  
11 a.m. Walt Boyes/Alec Nevala-Lee  
12 p.m. Rochelle Weber/Tim Akers/  
Neil Litherland

## ***Fannish Food Guide***

Our food guide is lovingly compiled by Kathy Horning, James Fulkerson, and Jim Rittenhouse. Sadly, there has been so much love put into it that I can't for the life of me figure out how to fit it into the Program Book without cutting the heart and soul out of it. And you wouldn't want that, would you?

On the other hand, there is plenty of room on our website at [www.windycon.org](http://www.windycon.org). You will find the complete food guide there. Some printed copies will also be available on-site at the Information Desk.

The trees of America and Canada thank you. To them, you are today's Unlikely Heroes.

## ***Photo Studio***

Come join Bruce Medic Photo and Squirrel at the amazing Windycon Photo Studio shoot! Have your photo taken (costumes are great, but not required) and your photos will be available within two weeks at:

<https://www.brucemedicphoto.com/conventions>

There's no charge for having your photo taken and no charge to download the images! Everyone's favorite word—*free!* Come join us.

## ***Readings***

Room 1631

Friday:

6 p.m. James Enge  
6:30 p.m. Donna Munro  
9 p.m. Michael Blake

Saturday:

10 a.m. Toni Johnson  
10:30 a.m. Charles Ott  
11 a.m. Steven H Silver  
11:30 a.m. Dexter Fabi  
12 p.m. Deirdre Murphy  
12:30 p.m. Karen Herkes  
1 p.m.: Mark Huston  
1:30 p.m. Tina Jens  
2 p.m. Betty Anne Hull  
2:30 p.m. Chris Gerrib  
3 p.m. Phyllis Eisenstein  
3:30 p.m. Jody Lynn Nye  
4 p.m. Jason Taylor  
4:30 p.m. Paul Dale Anderson  
5 p.m. Rochelle Weber  
5:30 p.m. Rick Heinz  
6 p.m. Tim Akers  
6:30 p.m. Richard Chwedyk  
7 p.m. Eric Flint  
7:30 p.m. Tracy Townsend  
8 p.m. Neal Litherland  
8:30 p.m. Alec Nevala-Lee  
9 p.m. Dale Cozort  
9:30 p.m. Jonathan Ficke

Sunday

10 a.m. Brendan Detzner  
10:30 a.m. Rebecca Frencl  
11 a.m. Faith Hunter  
11:30 a.m. Mindy Mymudes  
12 p.m. Mike Resnick  
1 p.m. Natalie Silk  
1:30 p.m. Walt Boyes



# *Dealers*

The Dealers' Room for this year is located in part of the Grand Ballroom on the main level of the hotel. There you will find about forty eager sellers willing and able to trade you treasures for your money. Remember that the holiday season will be just down the road (and creeping rapidly up on us), and that it is *never* too early to begin shopping for fannish family, fannish friends, and (even) fannish you!

**SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED IN THE DEALERS' ROOM.** Eating and drinking are also not permitted in the room (except for dealers while they are behind their own tables). Browsing, shopping, perusing, and free spending are permitted and also encouraged!!

A room layout and dealer location guide is available inside the Dealer's Room, at the control table by the main entrance

Dark River Pottery & Forge  
Offworld Designs  
Bad Aura Media, LLC  
Horizon Music, Inc.  
The Seventh Age  
Pegasus Publishing  
DVD World Books And Toys  
David Kivi Jr., Author  
Lauren Jankowski, Author  
Lost In The Maille  
Ravenwing Wearable Art  
Darlene P. Coltrain – Jewelry & Scarves  
OrionWorks  
Hedwig's Corner  
Glen Cook, Bookseller  
Charles Ott, Bookseller  
Raffael Coronelli, Bookseller  
Steve Bellinger, Bookseller  
Black Dragon Workshop  
Mobile Stress Relief Unit  
Kiri Katz Teez

Vault Ø  
Dodeka Records, Ltd.  
Larry Smith Book Seller, LLC  
Amber Hammer Creations  
Crook's Books  
Oscar's Collectibles  
SF & F Media Toys and Merchandise  
The Dragon's Treasure  
Adollydorables  
Fused Glass By Kathie  
Imagining Games, LLC  
Games Plus  
The Black Sheep's Friend  
Bad Grammar  
Dreamhaven Books  
Treasure Chest  
S & SF Books  
Crusader Hobbies  
Halsbren Publishing  
Garcia Publishing Services

## *Teen Lounge*

The Windycon Teen Lounge is back in Cypress A!

Open from 9 a.m. to 2 a.m. It is a place for fans over age 13 who want to get away from the events frequented by adults, or who just want to meet with their nerdy peers.

Games and art supplies will be provided, so that the young adults of Windy can hone their nerd skills and rise up against the tyrant—I mean, peacefully coexist with peers and grown-ups alike. Games include *Ultimate Werewolf*, *Betrayal at House on the Hill*, and (after midnight, if the under-17's have gone to bed,) *Cards Against Humanity*, plus more! Feel free to bring your favorites, too. Most importantly, though, the Lounge is out of the way and a safe spot for all teens to talk and hang out.

The room will have a young adult room monitor at all times, and no bullying will be tolerated.

## *Masquerade*

Calling all heroes of Windycon! We need you for our masquerade. Whether you want to impress us with your creative cosplay construction or show off mad hero skills, we have the perfect venue for you.

You can choose to walk the runway and have your workmanship judged, or prepare a skit or musical piece to otherwise demonstrate what makes you an Unlikely Hero. If you are more of the innocent bystander type, please come join us and check out these great cosplays.

Those interested in participating must fill out and return an entry form (available at the Information Desk) no later than 7 p.m. on Saturday evening.

We'll look forward to seeing you there!

# Programming

## Panels

Friday, 5:00 p.m.

### Flash Fiction For Fun & Profit

*Lilac C*

How to write it. Where to send it. What makes it a special way to hone your writing skills.

*Panelists: T. Jens, D. Murphy, F. Salvatini (M)*

### Gaming Group Horror Stories

*Muller Grand Ballroom G*

From bad losers to rule wranglers, share the stories of the people you may never let at your table again

*Panelists: J. Betts, R. Heinz (M), J. Taylor*

Friday, 6:00 p.m.

### And Now for Something Completely Different

*Lilac B*

A discussion of unique and unusual genres in SciFi, graphic novels and comics.

*Panelists: P. Hahn, N. Rest (M), F. Salvatini*

### Shows That Jumped the Shark

*Lilac D*

Jumping the shark is a term for a show that has run too long. Join a discussion of shows that should've ended before they reached the shark tank.

*Panelists: B. Barnett, L. Carhart, JP Kroschel, J. Ward (M)*

### The Mouse that Roared Star Wars

*Muller Grand Ballroom G*

How has being bought by Disney affected the franchise?

*Panelists: J. Betts, D. Cozort, S. Mead, N. Silk (M)*

### The Reluctant Hero

*Muller Grand Ballroom H*

Katnis Everdeen, Flynn, Mr Limpet, etc. They didn't want to be heroes but they are. The role of the reluctant hero.

*Panelists: L. Erlick, C. Gerrib (M), P. Panek, J. Phillips*

### Worlds of Magic

*Lilac C*

A comparison of various types and styles of magic in today's media.

*Panelists: T. Akers, M. Silver, T. Townsend (M)*

Friday, 7:00 p.m.

### Opening Ceremonies

*Junior Ballroom BC*

Every con starts somewhere. We're starting here.

*Panelists: B. Armbruster, G. Dara, gundo, F. Hunter, J. Midkiff, K. Roche, A. Trembley*

Friday, 8:00 p.m.

### All Our Yesterdays

*Muller Grand Ballroom H*

Which time would you like to live in if the future is no longer an option?

*Panelists: M. Blake, P. Eisenstein (M), M. Huston, N. Rest, G. Wolfe*

### American Maj Jong

*Lilac B*

An introduction to American Maj Jong

*Panelists: D. Krause (M)*

### Evil Computers, Why Didn't We Just Pull the plug?

*Muller Grand Ballroom G*

From Colossus to Viki evil computers are a mainstay in fiction. What happened to the 3 laws and will they protect us?

*Panelists: W. Boyes, L. Carhart (M), S. Mead, A. Nevala-Lee, K. Sonney*

### Number 6 is a Free Man

*Lilac D*

It's been 50 years since The Prisoner first aired on television. Panelists discuss the symbolism of this ground breaking "summer filler" show from across the pond.

*Panelists: C. Barkley (M), R. Chwedyk, D. T. Miller, J. Enge, A. Smith*

### Super Heroes Re-imagined

*Lilac C*

What if Superman landed in Russia or if Batman's parents were never killed? A discussion of how if events were changed the hero would change.

*Panelists: N. Litherland (M), B. Lyn-Waitsman, M. Munro, T. Smith, J. Ward*

Friday, 9:00 p.m.

### Alternate Humans

*Muller Grand Ballroom H*

Writing differently abled characters.

*Panelists: T. Jens, W.A. Tomasson (M), T. Townsend*

### Close Up Magic Show

*Lilac B*

Enjoy a demonstration of the art of close up magic.

*Panelists: L. Darrow (M)*

### Holding Wonder

*Muller Grand Ballroom G*

Zenna Henderson's The People stories. 35 years after her death a look at the stories and their symbolism

*Panelists: R. Chwedyk, D. Krause (M), B. Lyn-Waitsman*



### **Pass the Kleenex**

*Lilac D*

Not all stories are upbeat and hopeful. A discussion of depressing SciFi/Fantasy stories.

*Panelists: W. Boyes, P. Eisenstein (M), P. Hahn, K. Herkes, R. Horton*

### **Wakanda Forever**

*Lilac C*

A discussion of African-American cinema

*Panelists: C. Barkley (M), C. Gerrib*

### **Friday, 10:00 p.m.**

#### **Cannabis Cures**

*Muller Grand Ballroom H*

As more states legalize marijuana, there is an increasing amount of evidence (both scientific & anecdotal) that weed has many healthful benefits.

*Panelists: T. Machtemes, J. Taylor (M)*

#### **ESP in Fiction**

*Lilac C*

Why are we so fascinated by the possibility? Do we want to be more than human?

*Panelists: C. Gerrib (M), T. Jens, A. Nevala-Lee*

#### **Science in the Kitchen**

*Muller Grand Ballroom G*

How Science is changing the way we eat.

*Panelists: W. Boyes, S. Burke (M), J. Ficke, J. Ward, S. Weiner*

#### **The Changing Disney Princess**

*Lilac D*

No longer waiting to be saved. The Disney Princess has changed from damsel in distress to Girl Power!

*Panelists: JP Kroschel, M. Munro, R. Weber (M)*

#### **The Orville - More Like Trek Than Trek**

*Lilac B*

The new show from Seth MacFarlane is more like the original Star Trek series than Discovery. How did this happen and where did he go right?

*Panelists: J. Cowan, V. Massetti (M), D. Stein, A. Trembley*

### **Saturday, 10:00 a.m.**

#### **"I Have Got to Get Me One of These!!!"**

*Junior Ballroom A*

Which SciFi fantasy vehicle do you want?

*Panelists: C. Barkley (M), J. Betts, L. Erlick*

#### **Disaster Preparedness 101**

*Junior Ballroom BC*

Helping yourself when the heroes are busy elsewhere.

*Panelists: A. Cerny, B. Good, C. Horne (M), C. Koterba, L. Parchomenko*

#### **Dorsai Irregulars (2 hours)**

*Lilac B*

Closed business meeting.

*Panelists: B. Passovoy, K. Sonney*

### **Intro to Music Theory**

*Lilac A*

Learn or review the basics to understand, appreciate, and create music in a new way. We promise it's painless!

*Panelists: J. Midkiff (M)*

### **Location, Location, Location**

*Muller Grand Ballroom H*

Where to set your story and how to research the location.

*Panelists: J. Ficke, F. Hunter, M. Huston, J. Nye (M)*

### **Minions - Clumsy Lackeys or Villain Inhibitors?**

*Lilac D*

They're cute and always looking for a master villain to follow. But are they really there to help or hinder world domination?

*Panelists: J. Stockman (M), J. Taylor, T. Townsend, A. Trembley*

### **The Obligatory Doctor Who Panel**

*Lilac C*

How has the show changed since he became a she?

*Panelists: J. Phillips, J. Ward (M)*

### **Wait Until Your Parents Get Home!**

*Muller Grand Ballroom G*

Ever notice in a lot of today's Young adult fiction the parents are missing or oblivious? When, where, and why did the parents disappear?

*Panelists: T. Akers, T. Bogolub (M), N. Cowie, D. Munro, J. Nikitow*

### **Saturday, 11:00 a.m.**

#### **Alien Nation A Show Ahead of its Time**

*Junior Ballroom A*

It actually made the news with a male giving birth. A discussion of this ground breaking show and why it didn't last.

*Panelists: T. Bogolub (M), J. DeVore, J. Taylor, R. Weber*

### **Because That's How Grandma Did It**

*Muller Grand Ballroom H*

Culture is based on shared experiences and history, and it impacts how your characters behave and react. How do you share your fictional culture with your readers, without sounding like a long boring lecture?

*Panelists: A. Collier, F. Hunter, D. Murphy (M)*

### **Habitat for Humanity**

*Junior Ballroom BC*

Learn about this year's Windycon charity. Heroes in their own right. Samantha Fisher MPA, CFRE Director of Development DuPage Habitat for Humanity 1600 E. Roosevelt Road • Wheaton, IL 60187

*Panelists: P. Meyer*

### **Meek to Mighty: The Unlikely Heroes**

*Muller Grand Ballroom G*

From Mrs. Frisby to Eywa a discussion regarding the role of the unlikely hero.

*Panelists: R. Ciardullo, M. Munro, J. Nye, J. Ward (M)*

## Performance Tips & Tricks

*Lilac A*

Find out how to deal with tech glitches to stage fright (and everything in between) when performing on a stage for an audience. Can you over-prepare? How can you push a good performance into a great one? Come share your own tips and learn from ours.

*Panelists: E. Distad, J. Distad, J. McDaid, C. McManamon, J. Midkiff (M)*

## SyFy Channel - Enough is Enough (An Interactive Panel)

*Lilac C*

Tired of Sharknado, Space Twister, etc.? Join in the fun as we attempt to create our own SyFy Channel type movie.

*Panelists: B. Lyn-Waitsman, V. Massetti (M), F. Salvatini*

## Talking Tesla

*Lilac D*

Rocketman, electric cars, and giant tunnels. What cool things is Elon Musk doing this week?

*Panelists: W. Boyes (M), J. Plaxco, B. Trembley*

## Saturday, 12:00 p.m.

### 2001 A Space Suit Odyssey

*Junior Ballroom A*

April 3, 1968, the historic film 2001 A Space Odyssey was released. What you probably don't know is that very few of the costumes and props were saved. Discover one man's 10 year journey to replicate faithfully one of Film History's most Iconic costume props.

*Panelists: M. Scott (M)*

## Commercial Asteroid Mining

*Lilac B*

Is this feasible? How cost effective would it be?

*Panelists: B. Higgins, J. Plaxco (M), B. Trembley*

## Don't Blow Off Steam

*Lilac C*

Steampunk is a very popular genre. Learn how steam systems work so you can add them to your writing without errors.

*Panelists: W. Boyes, M. Huston (M)*

## GoHs Discuss Their Favorite Books

*Junior Ballroom BC*

GoHs discuss their favorite books

*Panelists: B. Armbruster, G. Dara, J. Midkiff, K. Roche, A. Trembley (M)*

## Improv Games

*Room 1633 (Crafting Room)*

Cosplay is more than just putting on a costume. Come and play some improv games with us to help you really get into character or just have some fun.

*Panelists: L. Ostergaard (M)*

## ISFiC Board Meeting (2 hours)

*ISFiC Suite*

Windycon's governing body has its annual meeting.

*Panelists: S. Silver*

## Strange Museums in America

*Lilac D*

Mustard has a museum? Yes it does. Learn about the strange museums that are not as well known.

*Panelists: B. Detzner, D. Fabi, D. Krause (M)*

## Villains, Monsters & Motherhood

*Muller Grand Ballroom G*

Does the gender change how you write it?

*Panelists: A. Collier, N. Cowie, T. Johnson, D. Munro (M)*

## With One Click It Could All Be Gone

*Muller Grand Ballroom H*

A discussion on should all books be electronic or should a "hard copy" be kept.

*Panelists: J. Guggenheim, M. Resnick, F. Salvatini, P. Sayre McCoy (M), G. Wolfe*

## Saturday, 1:00 p.m.

### Chicago SF Book Club

*Muller Grand Ballroom H*

This year we will be discussing *Shards of Honor* and *Barrayar* by Lois McMaster Bujold

*Panelists: C. Johns, W.A. Tomasson (M)*

## Con Rituals

*Junior Ballroom BC*

A discussion of the rituals that bind us together in fandom

*Panelists: J. Betts, C. Horne, D. Krause, B. Passovoy (M)*

## Diversity in SciFi/Fantasy

*Lilac B*

Taking place in another world or time, science fiction and fantasy has been able to explore social and political topics that authors in more conventional genres are often not able to touch.

*Panelists: E. Hull (M), P. Panek*

## I'm More Than Okay, I'm AMAZING and So Are You

*Muller Grand Ballroom G*

Body positivity and diversity represented in SciFi/Fantasy media and fandom

*Panelists: G. Dara, B. Wallin, J. Ward (M)*

## Planet Earth as Art: The View From Space (2 hours)

*Lilac C*

A slide show of remote sensing images of the Earth primarily pulled from the Landsat 8 mission.

*Panelists: J. Plaxco (M)*

## Science Fiction Pulp Art

*Lilac D*

Magazines in the first half of the 20th century were printed on cheap "pulp" paper, but the artwork (in some cases) are classic.

*Panelists: B. Higgins, A. Nevala-Lee (M), M. Resnick*

## The Obligatory Vampire Panel

*Junior Ballroom A*

From Abraham Van Helsing to Jane Yellowrock the changing faces of the vampire hunters.

*Panelists: P. Anderson, F. Hunter (M), N. Litherland, A. Smith*

**Saturday, 2:00 p.m.**

**And Then I Threw the Book Across the Room**

*Lilac D*

What made/makes you stop reading?

*Panelists: B. Barnett, T. Bogolub, N. Cowie, B. Fawcett (M)*

**Beyond Firefly**

*Muller Grand Ballroom G*

Other great SciFi shows that never found their audience

*Panelists: B. Higgins, S. Silver (M), D. Stein*

**No Guns, No Ninja, No Problem!**

*Muller Grand Ballroom H*

Can you write a successful action/adventure story without your protagonist being proficient with weapons or martial arts?

*Panelists: E. Flint (M), C. Ott, N. Silk*

**Worldcon 2022 Bid (2 hours)**

*Lilac B*

Chicago's bidding for another Worldcon! Come find out what you can do to help.

*D. McCarty, I assume...*

**Saturday, 3:00 p.m.**

**Care and Feeding of the Artist/Author**

*Lilac D*

They're in "the zone". Not the twilight zone but the creating zone. How to make sure your creative partner stays healthy.

*Panelists: G. Dara, B. Fawcett, JP Kroschel, J. Nikitow, M. Silver, K. Sonney (M)*

**Phandemonium Book Discussion**

*ISFiC Suite*

We are reading the Hugo winner: *The Stone Sky* by N.K. Jemisin

*Panelists: D. Hirsch (M)*

**Pictionary Mash-Up**

*Room 1633 (Crafting Room)*

Our annual favorite is back! Come join the fun and see if you can guess what crazy mash ups we come up with this year. Burlesque stormtrooper? Lolita Shrek? Steampunk carebear? Come find out!

*Panelists: L. Ostergaard (M)*

**Storytellers Guide to Not Sucking**

*Lilac C*

Join Rick Heinz from Geek & Sundry along with other storytellers for a panel on Game Mastering Tips and Tricks. Find your style, learn player agency, and learn why you should never run a dream sequence. A one-stop shop for DO's and DON'Ts from those who have made every error.

*Panelists: T. Akers, R. Heinz (M), N. Litherland*

**The Obligatory Star Trek Panel**

*Muller Grand Ballroom G*

Does Star Trek Discovery live up to its predecessors?

*Panelists: J. Cowan, R. Granstaff (M), M. Malnekoff, R. Weber*

**Which Witch is Yours?**

*Muller Grand Ballroom H*

The changing face of witches through the ages.

*Panelists: P. Anderson (M), J. Guggenheim, F. Hunter, M. Mymudes*

**Saturday, 4:00 p.m.**

**Como Estas? Translation Challenges**

*Lilac D*

What are the challenges in translating your work to other languages?

*Panelists: S. Burke (M), J. Cowan, J. Nye, A. Smith*

**Dragon Awards**

*Lilac B*

Come learn about the SF and fantasy awards that Dragoncon is giving out annually.

*Panelists: B. Fawcett, E. Flint (M)*

**Future Sight**

*Muller Grand Ballroom H*

From Runes to Tarot to tea leaves to bones the different forms of divination crosses many cultures.

*Panelists: K. Brown, L. Darrow, P. Eisenstein, D. Fabi (M)*

**Guilty Pleasures**

*Muller Grand Ballroom G*

We all have them. It could be a drugstore book or a cheesy movie. Let's admit it and share them out loud!

*Panelists: J. Guggenheim (M), K. Herkes, R. Horton, K. Roche*

**The Future of Human Space Exploration**

*Lilac C*

Provides an overview of key developments in the history of commercial space and speculates on what the future may bring.

*Panelists: J. Plaxco (M)*

**Saturday, 5:00 p.m.**

**Baby's First SciFi Novel**

*Muller Grand Ballroom H*

What was the first science fiction/fantasy novel/story you ever read and how did it hook you?

*Panelists: B. Armbruster, W. Boyes (M), N. Rest, K. Roche, K. Strait*

**Productivity Alchemy Live**

*Lilac C*

Live recording of an episode of Productivity Alchemy Podcast

*Panelists: K. Sonney (M)*

**Saturday, 7:00 p.m.**

**Collaborative Songwriting**

*Lilac A*

Collaboration can be tricky but can create a song or project that is greater than the sum of its parts! We'll share how to effectively get the most out of collaborative writing, how to divide labor, share credits, and how to avoid common pitfalls, as well as how technology can support recording projects.

*Panelists: A. Dale, E. Distad (M), J. Distad, C. Ferraro, B. Letterman*



## East Heroes vs. West Heroes)

*Lilac B*

What are the differences between Eastern & Western hemisphere heroes?

*Panelists: L. Darrow (M), B. Detzner*

## Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

*Lilac C*

You've written your book/story now you need to promote it.

*Panelists: B. Barnett, K. Herkes, M. Mymudes (M), R. Weber*

## Intro to Masquerade/Meet the Judges

*Junior Ballroom A*

If you have ever wondered what competing in the masquerade is like, wanted tips to do better, or just wanted to hang out with our fabulously talented judges, this is your chance.

*Panelists: L. Dwyer (M), M. Malnekoff, K. Roche*

## Saturday, 8:00 p.m.

### Animal Type Casting

*Lilac B*

Hollywood and Authors type cast all the time. Why are reptiles almost always the villain? A discussion about different animals and how they are type cast.

*Panelists: S. Burke, C. Gerrib (M), M. Mymudes, R. Neumeier*

### Does DC Stand for Dark Comic?

*Lilac C*

Why are the DC comic movies so much darker and less humorous than their Marvel counterparts?

*Panelists: P. Hahn, M. Munro, T. Smith (M)*

## Trivia For Chocolate!!!

*Room 1633 (Crafting Room)*

Answer questions and earn tasty treats!! What could be more fun?

*Panelists: S. Silver (M)*

## Writers & Donuts (2 hours)

*ISFiC Suite*

A opportunity for writers to meet and network. Looking for a critique group? Or maybe a class? How about information on publishing/self publishing or editing connections? Or maybe you're just looking for a place to talk shop. Come on up! We have donuts!

*Panelists: R. Chwedyk*

## Saturday, 9:00 p.m.

### Hypno Show (2 hours)

*Lilac B*

A non-embarrassing stage show using audience volunteers for an empowering and fun exploration into how hypnosis can put you in touch with your own inner comedic creativity. Performed by the man who has been the official hypnotist to Sandals and Beaches Resorts and who was the promotional hypnotist on WGN Radio for the Woody Allen movie *The Curse of the Jade Scorpion*.

*Panelists: L. Darrow*

## Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

### Intro to Quantum Computing and IBM Q

*Lilac D*

Join Kevin Roche as he describes the intricacies of quantum computing and IBM Q.

*Panelists: K. Roche (M)*

### Once Upon A Time I Was Drunk @ a Con Party

*Lilac C*

Tales from parties gone by

*Panelists: D. Stein, J. Stockman (M)*

## Podcasting 101

*Muller Grand Ballroom H*

A beginners guide to podcasting

*Panelists: T. Machtemes, M. Mascari, K. Sonney (M)*

## The Sequel is Finally Here!

*Lilac B*

How long is too long to wait for a sequel?

*Panelists: T. Akers, R. Ciardullo, E. Flint, S. Silver, K. Strait (M)*

## Were Dragons Real?

*Muller Grand Ballroom G*

Why are dragons a part of almost every mythology? Could they have actually flown the skies?

*Panelists: P. Hahn, R. Neumeier, P. Sayre McCoy (M), W.A. Tomasson*

## You made what out of WHAT?

*Room 1633 (Crafting Room)*

Cosplayers are constantly finding new and interesting ways to solve the problems of making fantasy into reality, often on a tight budget. Come trade tricks and learn new ways of using materials to make your most epic creations.

*Panelists: A. Ewing (M)*

## Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

### Crafts, Frivolous Hobbies or Post-Apocalyptic Survival Skill?

*Room 1633 (Crafting Room)*

Some crafts could come in very handy should society fall.

*Panelists: K. Brown, J. DeVore (M), M. Silver*

## Fantasy Chicago

*Muller Grand Ballroom G*

There are areas in Chicago that are weird enough to belong in fantasy novels.

*Panelists: B. Detzner (M), J. Nikitow*

## Shaken Not Stirred - The Mystique of the British Spy

*Muller Grand Ballroom H*

James Bond, Simon Templar, etc. why do we find these men so attractive?

*Panelists: C. Gerrib, A. Komins, T. Townsend, A. Trembley (M)*

## Stranger Things - Netflix's Hit Series

*Lilac D*

How much more can happen in Hawkins Indiana before everyone just moves?

*Panelists: L. Carhart (M), G. Dara*

### **Streaming Services the New Movie/TV studios**

*Lilac C*

We are no longer limited by the big Hollywood studios. How the changes in the way we watch has affected the things we watch.

*Panelists: P. Hahn, C. Johns, N. Litherland, S. Mead (M)*

### **The New YA Award**

*Lilac B*

A discussion of the newest award category.

*Panelists: C. Barkley (M), R. Ciardullo, K. Strait*

### **Sunday, 12:00 p.m.**

#### **Earth is Toast, Where Do I Go?**

*Muller Grand Ballroom G*

The Earth is ending what SciFi/Fantasy world would you want to live in and why?

*Panelists: C. Gerrib (M), R. Neumeier, G. Wolfe*

### **I Never Learned That in History Class**

*Lilac B*

Alternate and secret histories

*Panelists: D. Cozort, D. Fabi (M), P. Hahn, N. Silk*

### **Microcosmic God**

*Lilac C*

We know he wasn't a god, however Theodore Sturgeon was one of the great science fiction authors. A discussion of his work in the 100th year since his birth.

*Panelists: R. Chwedyk, R. Horton, E. Hull (M), D. Munro, S. Silver*

### **Modern Prison Break - Our Need to Escape?**

*Muller Grand Ballroom H*

Escape rooms are very popular. Do they fill a need we have to escape?

*Panelists: B. Armbruster, C. Johns (M), T. Machtemes*

### **We WILL NOT Go Back!!!**

*Lilac D*

With the ever changing cultural climate, why do we feel like we must hide our changing sexuality again?

*Panelists: J. DeVore, R. Granstaff, D. Murphy (M)*

### **Sunday, 1:00 p.m.**

#### **Autonomous Cars**

*Lilac D*

More and more our cars are becoming automated. Is this new technology awesome or awful?

*Panelists: S. Burke, C. Koterba, J. Phillips, J. Stockman (M), W.A. Tomasson*

### **Cross Culture Fairy Tales**

*Muller Grand Ballroom G*

Grimm & Anderson are very well known but other cultures have fairy tales too. A discussion of the differences and similarities amongst the different cultural tales.

*Panelists: A. Collier, D. Fabi, D. Munro, P. Sayre McCoy (M)*

### **If, When, and How to add Sex to your Story**

*Lilac C*

You don't want to be accused of having "gratuitous sex" in your story just to sell it. How to make sure sex doesn't interrupt the flow of your narrative.

*Panelists: L. Erlick, T. Jens, N. Litherland (M), T. Townsend*

### **We Spy in Peace?**

*Muller Grand Ballroom H*

Is there life elsewhere in the universe? And do we have the right to spy on them?

*Panelists: B. Higgins (M), S. Mead, J. Plaxco*

### **You're My Con Friend**

*Lilac B*

No they weren't in prison. But you only seem to talk to them at or about conventions. The phenomena of the con friendship.

*Panelists: B. Armbruster, T. Machtemes, S. Weiner (M)*

### **Sunday, 2:00 p.m.**

#### **Closing Ceremonies**

*Junior Ballroom BC*

Help us say goodbye to Windycon 45

*Panelists: B. Armbruster, G. Dara, gundo, J. Midkiff, K. Roche, A. Trembley*

### **Sunday, 3:00 p.m.**

#### **Feedback Session**

*Junior Ballroom BC*

*Windycon is a fan con dedicated to giving you a enjoyable experience. We want your thoughts. This is your chance to tell us what we got right and wrong so we can continue to improve.*

## ***Kids Programming***

### **Friday, 5:00 p.m.**

#### **Boomwhacker Concert & Workshop**

*Kids Programming*

With our Music GoH Jen Midkiff

*Panelists: L. Garrison, J. Midkiff, J. Palmer*

### **Friday, 6:00 p.m.**

#### **Good Night Luna**

*Kids Programming*

Moon viewing through a telescope with astronomer, Bob Trembley; Check in the Youth Programming Suite for locations.

*Panelists: B. Trembley*

### **Friday, 7:00 p.m.**

#### **Kids Improv Games**

*Kids Programming*

Play games, tell stories and create new worlds! Use your favorite characters and create new ones, and just have fun being ridiculous. We'll go through several common Improv Games, with sci-fi and fantasy themes.

*Panelists: A. Brandt, L. Garrison, S. Weiner*

**Saturday, 9:00 a.m.**  
**HAM RADIO SUITE**  
*Kids Programming*  
**KID'S HOUR**

**Saturday, 10:00 a.m.**  
**History of Video Games**  
*Kids Programming*  
Come learn about old consoles and how video gaming has changed over the years.  
*Panelists: L. Garrison, J. Palmer, M. Roman*

**Saturday, 11:00 a.m.**  
**Oreo Phases of the Moon**  
*Kids Programming*  
The Moon's phases are a natural example of a recurring predictable cycle. They have been used as a calendar by many different cultures throughout history. Come recreate the lunar phases using the frosting from Oreo® cookies.  
*Panelists: A. Brandt, L. Garrison, C. Trembley*

**Saturday, 12:00 p.m.**  
**CLOSED FOR LUNCH**  
*Kids Programming*  
We are closed for lunch

**Saturday, 1:00 p.m.**  
**Furry Four Legged Unlikely Heroes**  
*Kids Programming*  
Whether search and rescue, guide dogs, mobility dogs, hearing ear dogs, they are all highly trained to act as assistance partners to a human. In fiction, dogs can be magical guides and teachers, as in my book, the basset hound in *George Knows*. In real life, dogs can help people live normal lives that might normally not be possible.  
*Panelists: A. Brandt, M. Mymudes, J. Palmer*

**Saturday, 2:00 p.m.**  
**Hands and Face Heroics**  
*Kids Programming*  
Did you know that your hands and face can help you to communicate without saying a word? Come learn how to do some beginning American Sign Language (ASL) and see if you can be a hero in someone else's life someday.  
*Panelists: L. Garrison, D. Krause*

**Saturday, 3:00 p.m.**  
**Solar Shenanigans**  
*Kids Programming*  
Come outside and have a look at the Sun through Bob Trembley's Solar Telescopes! If you're lucky, there might be a prominence for you to see! This will be the first convention Bob will have his new solar telescope at!

**Saturday, 4:00 p.m.**  
**Big Hero 6 (2 hours)**  
*Kids Programming*  
Come watch the unlikely heroes in Big Hero 6 with your friends!  
*Panelists: A. Brandt, L. Garrison, J. Palmer*

**Saturday, 6:00 p.m.**  
**Good Night Luna 2**  
*Kids Programming*  
Moon Viewing with astronomer, Bob Trembley; Check in the Youth Programming Suite for location

**Sunday, 9:00 a.m.**  
**HAM RADIO SUITE 2**  
*Kids Programming*  
**KID'S HOUR**

**Sunday, 10:00 a.m.**  
**Slip, Slime and Away**  
*Kids Programming*  
Chemistry in action is how you create slime! Foamy slime! Glittery slime! Just don't GET slimed  
*Panelists: A. Brandt, I. Ragsdale*

**Sunday, 11:00 a.m.**  
**So you want to create a hero?**  
*Kids Programming*  
Big Hero 6 themed activities will be available for your enjoyment.  
*Panelists: L. Garrison, J. Palmer*

**Sunday, 12:00 p.m.**  
**CLOSED FOR LUNCH**  
*Kids Programming*  
Closed for Lunch

**Sunday, 1:00 p.m.**  
**LEGO Mania**  
*Kids Programming*  
Legos will be out and ready for you to create! Build a castle with dragons and knights or an alien with a flying saucer attacking the Earth. You are only limited by your imagination.  
*Panelists: A. Brandt, J. Palmer, S. Ragsdale*

## ***Concerts***

**Friday, 8:00 p.m.**  
**John McDaïd**  
*Junior Ballroom BC*  
This singer-songwriter from Portsmouth, RI has been performing his geek-inflected songs for 40 years at political events, science fiction conventions, and venues across the Northeast. John won BOTH songwriting contests at the 2017 Ohio Valley Filk Festival.  
*Panelists: J. McDaïd*

**Friday, 9:00 p.m.**  
**The Faithful Sidekicks**  
*Junior Ballroom BC*  
An acoustic geek comedy duo who write and perform an eclectic mix of original catchy songs about the geeky stuff they love. From "Han Solo For President" to a love story written in SQL code, every song will delight you and you'll end up singing along.  
*Panelists: E. Distad, J. Distad*



**Friday, 10:00 p.m. (until the wee hours)**

**Open Music Circle**

*Lilac A*

All voices, instruments, styles, and listeners are welcome at this shared circle of a *capella* and accompanied songs.

**Saturday, 12:00 p.m.**

**Barisha Letterman & Carol Ferraro**

*Lilac A*

Barisha and Carol met \*murfledy\* years ago at a Milwaukee house filk and decided to get together to finish a few songs. Fortunately for us, they have been collaborating and performing ever since! Their choral and orchestral backgrounds shine through in their moving songs, striking harmonies, and creative arrangements.

*Panelists: C. Ferraro, B. Letterman*

**Saturday, 1:00 p.m.**

**David Rantanen**

*Lilac A*

Dave brings his acoustic guitar to Windycon to share some of his favorite filk/fannish/folk tunes. Expect to hear songs of space, dragons, hope, and fantasy. Jonathan Coulton covers are likely!

*Panelists: D. Rantanen*

**Saturday, 2:00 p.m.**

**Andrea Dale**

*Lilac A*

Executive coach/writer by day, hiker/filker/singer/songwriter by night who has been part of the Midwest fannish and filk community for \*mumble\* years. When not hiking in places where cell service is a myth, she hosts music parties in Cincinnati, OH and sings songs ranging from fantasy to quirky slice-of-life vignettes to humor.

*Panelists: A. Dale*

**Saturday, 3:00 p.m.**

**Tom Smith**

*Junior Ballroom BC*

“World’s Fastest Filker” and Special Guest Tom Smith always surprises us with his vast repertoire of humor, serious songs, and improvised one-of-a-kind musical inspirations. You will find yourself amused, horrified, nodding in agreement (possibly all three at once), and definitely singing along.

*Panelists: T. Smith*

**Saturday, 4:00 p.m.**

**GoH Concert**

*Junior Ballroom BC*

Our Music GoH has loved science fiction since sixth grade and put that love together with her outstanding musical talent fifteen years ago to add her own flavor to this “obscure musical genre called...filk”. Jen performs, teaches, geeks out about music theory and Firefly with equal passion, and has a delightful voice you will love.

*Panelists: J. Midkiff, Lauren Cox, Andrea Dale, Cathy McManamon, Jason Neerenberg*

**Saturday, 6:00 p.m.**

**Trinary**

*Lilac A*

This trio plays a variety of mostly original geeky, funny, and poignant folk music. Expect tight harmonies, fiddle, flute, and wicked humor. And some very weird science.

*Panelists: A. Galas, S. Weiner*

**Saturday, 8:00 p.m.**

**Lauren Cox**

*Lilac A*

With a voice as gorgeous as the rolling hills of Tennessee from whence she hails, Lauren takes you from social statements to humorous cats with equal insight and conviction. This Pegasus nominee will win you over with her first notes and awe you with her family of instruments and broad variety of songs.

*Panelists: L. Cox*

**Saturday, 9:00 p.m.**

**Theme Circle: Songs About Heroes**

*Lilac A*

Bring and share your songs about heroes – unexpected, reluctant, and the very important ordinary everyday ones.

*Panelists: J. Midkiff (M)*

**Saturday, 10:00 p.m.**

**Open Music Circle 2 (Ends late, very late)**

*Lilac A*

All voices, instruments, styles, and listeners are welcome at this shared circle of a *capella* and accompanied songs.

**Sunday, 12:00 p.m.**

**Toyboat**

*Junior Ballroom BC*

Chicago’s own five-piece hard rock & blues geek band returns to play – er, wreak havoc with – filk songs in styles you cannot possibly imagine while also playing respectable covers of rock songs you love mixed up with wonderful and slightly unsettling original tunes.

*Panelists: gundo, C. McManamon, J. Neerenberg, M. Nixon, Raven*

**Sunday, 1:00 p.m.**

**The Windy City Jam Band**

*Junior Ballroom BC*

Toss the majority of our Windycon performers (and a couple of our concom) together on a stage and what happens – besides pushing the limits of the sound crew and board inputs? Join us for this brilliant combination of heroic voices, instruments, original songs & covers to close out our con weekend.

*Panelists: L. Cox, E. Distad, J. Distad, gundo, J. McDaid, C. McManamon, J. Midkiff, J. Neerenberg, M. Nixon, D. Rantanen*

**Sunday, 4:00 pm**

**Dead Dog Music Circle (Ends whenever)**

*Cypress*

Play and sing until you drop! All voices, instruments, styles, and listeners are welcome.

## ***Special Items***

**Friday, 2:00 p.m.**

**Friday Video Gaming by I Play Games! (Until 10 p.m.)**

*Boardroom*

IPG will provide a video gaming area that will have a variety of titles both current and retro setups that will provide fun and casual entertainment for all attendees. In addition to casual entertainment we will bring games including Super Smash Bros. Dragonball Fighter Z and Super Mario Kart

**Friday, 6:00 p.m.**

**The Moon, Saturn & Mars**

*Outside (Parking Garage Roof)*

Join us as we spy on these heavenly bodies. (Please note this is a kids programming track so they will have first priority.)

*Panelists: B. Trembley (M)*

**Friday, 8:00 p.m.**

**Blinkies! (Until 10:00 p.m.)**

*Cypress B*

Build-a-Blinkie Workshop: Where you get to build one of those LED flashing things! The Build-a-Blinkie techs welcome you to their traveling soldering workshop. You start with the kit, and use the tools provided. If you have always wanted to learn to solder, today is the day.

*Panelists: W. Christensen, D. Forsyth, D. Sulak*

**Saturday, 10:00 a.m.**

**Blinkies!! (Until 7:00 p.m.)**

*Cypress B*

Build-a-Blinkie Workshop: Where you get to build one of those LED flashing things! The Build-a-Blinkie techs welcome you to their traveling soldering workshop. You start with the kit, and use the tools provided. If you have always wanted to learn to solder, today is the day.

*Panelists: W. Christensen, D. Forsyth, D. Sulak*

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**Saturday, 1:00 p.m.**

**Solar Observing**

*Outside (Parking Garage Roof)*

Come meet Sol! Get an up close look at our favorite (and closest) star. (Please note this is a kids programming track so they will have first priority.)

*Panelists: B. Trembley (M)*

**Saturday, 4:00 p.m.**

**The Happy (crochet) Hooker**

*Room 1633 (Crafting Room)*

Join with our own Happy "Hooker" in creating fun things with yarn.

*Panelists: T. Gunderson (M)*

**Saturday, 6:00 p.m.**

**The Moon, Saturn & Mars 2**

*Outside (Parking Garage Roof)*

Missed it last night? You get another chance to spy on these heavenly bodies!! (Please note this is a kids programming track so they will have first priority.)

*Panelists: B. Trembley (M)*

**Saturday, 8:00 p.m.**

**Art Auction (3 hours)**

*Muller Grand Ballroom H*

Bid on art and support local artists, Windycon, and our charity. Take home a beautiful piece of art for yourself or as a gift. Christmas is just around the corner.

**The Masquerade (2 hours)**

*Junior Ballroom BC*

Calling all heroes of WindyCon! We need you for our masquerade. Whether you want to impress us with your creative cosplay construction or show off mad hero skills we have the perfect venue for you. You can choose to walk the runway and have your workmanship judged or prepare a skit or musical piece to otherwise demonstrate what makes you an unexpected hero. If you are more of the innocent bystander type please come join us and check out these great cosplays. Those interested in participating must fill out and return an entry form no later than 7 p.m. on Saturday evening.

*Panelists: M. Malnekoff, K. Roche, A. Trembley (M)*

**Sunday, 10:00 a.m.**

**Blinkies!!! (Until 12:00 p.m.)**

*Cypress B*

Last Chance!! Build-a-Blinkie Workshop: Where you get to build one of those LED flashing things! The Build-a-Blinkie techs welcome you to their traveling soldering workshop. You start with the kit, and use the tools provided. If you have always wanted to learn to solder, today is the day.

*Panelists: W. Christensen, D. Forsyth, D. Sulak*

**Critter Crunch (Until 12:00 p.m.)**

*Junior Ballroom A*

"Mad scientists" (you) drive battle hardened robots. Your mission – Destroy your rival! Don't have a robot? No problem! Bid on (rent) the "driving rights" of up to 30 robots ... many are past champions. Bidding starts at \$1. (Cheap!) Proceeds will be donated to Windycon's designated charity. Bizarre prizes awarded! CC Swag for all! Be There, Aloha!

*Panelists: J. Wincentzen (M)*

**Sunday Video Gaming by I Play Games! (Until 2:00 p.m.)**

*Boardroom*

IPG will provide a video gaming area that will have a variety of titles both current and retro setups that will provide fun and casual entertainment for all attendees. In addition to casual entertainment we will bring games including Super Smash Bros. Dragonball Fighter Z and Super Mario Kart

# ***Costuming Workshops***

**Friday, 3:00 p.m.**

**3D ribbon trim Make and Take (2 hours)**

*Room 1633 (Crafting Room)*

In this hands on class you will get to try your hand at using basic pleating, beading, and stitching to turn plain ribbon into fancy trim perfect for historical, lolita, and steampunk looks. No experience needed. Class limit 15.

*Panelists: A. Ewing (M)*

**Friday, 5:00 p.m.**

**FX Makeup (2 hours)**

*Room 1633 (Crafting Room)*

Learn some easy contour techniques to brush up a simple cosplay and then dive in with some FX work (blood, gore, bruises, scales, and more) for a truly memorable look.

*Panelists: L. Dwyer (M)*

**Saturday, 10:00 a.m.**

**Chain Maille Make and Take (2 hours)**

*Room 1633 (Crafting Room)*

Learn the basics of making chainmaille and then try out your new skills to make a superhero keychain. No experience required. Class limit 12.

*Panelists: A. Ewing (M)*

**Saturday, 1:00 p.m.**

**Duct Tape dress form (2 hours)**

*Room 1633 (Crafting Room)*

Getting a proper fit from a commercial pattern can be almost impossible if you have to fit it on yourself. Duct tape body doubles can make it much easier as they are your exact size and shape. We will be working in pairs to build this very useful tool. Class limit 12 (6 pairs)

*Panelists: Ayla Ewing (M)*

**Sunday, 12:00 p.m.**

**Chain Maille Make and Take 2 (2 hours)**

*Room 1633 (Crafting Room)*

Did you miss it yesterday? No problem. This class has been so popular we are offering it TWICE this year. Learn the basics of making chainmaille and then try out your new skills to make a superhero keychain. No experience required. Class limit 12.

*Panelists: Ayla Ewing (M)*



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Tracy Bailey-Mathews  
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