



# WINDYCON 4

NOVEMBER 11 – 13, 2022

LOMBARD, IL

Welcome to Windycon 48!

# Shattering the Glass Ceiling



**November 25—27, 2022**

**Bloomington/Normal Marriott  
Hotel and Convention Center,  
Bloomington/Normal, Illinois**

**Come with proof of  
vaccination or a negative  
Covid test within 72 hours of  
the event.**

**Convention spaces are fully-  
masked and socially-  
distanced...because we care!**

Music, music, music! And even more music with Leslie Hudson!

Games, merchants, art, writers workshop, a fantastic con-suite, and a plated banquet.

More information and online registration available at [chambanacon.org](http://chambanacon.org).

**Quinquagenarian + 1!**

**Writer GoH: Clif Flynt**

**Toastmistress: Judi Miller**

**Fan GoH: Carol Cook**

**Music GoH: Cheshire Moon**

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## A Message From Our Chair

Welcome to Windycon 48. If you have been to a Windycon before, welcome back, friend!. If this is your first time, welcome, new friend! We have lots of good things for you to do this weekend. Please read and follow our Covid-19 policies—we've kept some masking policies in place for the protection of our members and guests.

Our theme this is year is Shattering the Glass Ceiling—a celebration of those in the science-fiction & fantasy community who bring a different perspective and life experience than what's "traditionally" been done. It's no secret that the science-fiction & fantasy community (especially SF) has been a male dominated space, so our hope with this theme is to acknowledge, uplift, and celebrate the amazing women and non-binary folks whose voices and stories haven't been showcased.

Thanks, and have a great weekend!

John Donat



# Convention Rules

Although we're all here to have fun, it is important to remember that by attending Windycon, you are agreeing to abide by certain rules to ensure the convention is enjoyable for everyone.

We are all guests of the Westin. 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. It must be sheathed and be approved and peacebonded by Operations/Security.
9. If you wish to use a weapon on the Cosplay Runway, you must clear it with our Cosplay Head 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.

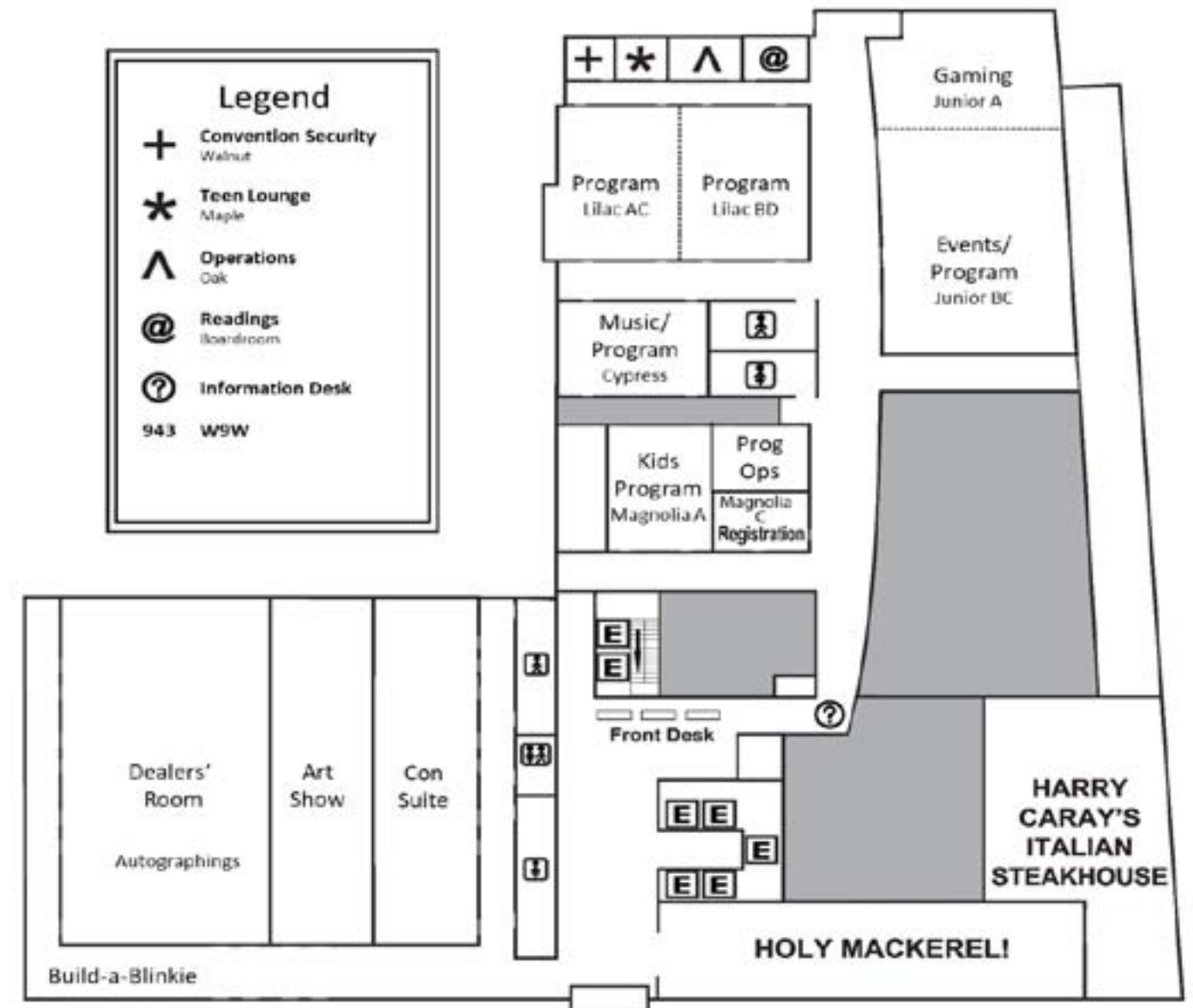
Windycon and ISFiC reserve the right revoke the membership of anyone failing to conform to the letter and spirit of these policies, those of our hotel, and the laws of the City of Lombard and the State of Illinois.

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 10.**

**Please read it and Follow it.**

# 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.	-	1:00 a.m. (apx.)
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	-	1:00 a.m. (apx.)
Sunday	9:00 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
	8:00 p.m. - ????	Art Auction
Sunday	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Art pickup
		Artist checkout
		Print Shop Open

# Code of Conduct

## 1. Introduction

1.1 ISFiC is committed to fostering an environment of comfort and safety for everyone. To achieve this, attendees should refrain from actions that a reasonable person would feel would limit, or threaten to limit, the safe enjoyment of the convention by another person.

1.2 ISFiC will not tolerate any form of misconduct toward convention participants.

1.3 Violations of this policy can be reported to any on-duty Operations staff member. How to report and we handle reports is spelled out on the reporting page. If the violation is by a Board Member of ISFiC or by someone in Operations then someone from the Independent Incident Response Team (IRT) will be handling the report. Please use the link below for more information.

1.4 The Windycon Chair or their designated representative may choose to immediately impose penalties for violations of this Code of Conduct for the safety and well-being of our members. Such penalties may include, but are not limited to, a one-time warning, restricted access to convention activities, and immediate expulsion from the convention with or without a membership refund. In accordance with State and Local laws, Windycon may contact local law enforcement to report unlawful activity. All participants are expected to follow all local, municipal, state, and federal laws and ordinances while attending any ISFiC, Inc. event. If it's illegal OUTSIDE the con, it's illegal AT the con.

1.5 Some incidents which appear to violate the Code of Conduct may occur due to legitimate misunderstandings and, if they can be resolved to the satisfaction of all parties, ISFiC considers that to be a good outcome. Repeated violations of the Code of Conduct, especially those involving interactions with the same parties, will be regarded as intentional behavior and handled as explained in this Code of Conduct.

1.6 All reports of violations of the Code of Conduct will be referred to the Independent Incident Response Team for their review and recommendations. Additional penalties may be imposed, including a ban from ISFiC events for a minimum period of time.

1.7 Individuals who have been banned from ISFiC events are not automatically readmitted after the minimum period of the ban, but must petition the ISFiC Board to be allowed to return. The Board will consult with IRT and any persons involved in making the original complaint before reaching a decision. ISFiC believes that there can be a path back to community involvement, but the safety of our members will always come first.

## 2. Hate Speech

Hate speech is not permitted at ISFiC events or on ISFiC forums. Hate speech is defined as abusive or threatening speech or writing that expresses prejudice against a particular group, especially on the basis of gender, sexuality, relationship status, political status, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, national origin, or religion.

## 3. Code of Conduct

### 3.1 What Is Misconduct?

Misconduct means different things to different people. Each complaint will be adjudicated by the Independent Response Team (IRT) based on the facts of the complaint. Misconduct may include any of the following, although it is not limited to this list below.

- Preventing any attendee from entering or participating in con events (except in accordance with con policies).
- Sustained disruption of talks or other events.
- Showing sexual images or conducting discussion about sexual topics in public spaces when the images or discussions do not allow attendees the opportunity to leave beforehand or are not presented in a respectful manner.
- Any activity which may endanger the event or individual attendees, regardless of intent.
- Intimidating, stalking, or following.
- Uninvited physical contact.
- Uninvited sexual attention.
- Pressuring or deceiving a person to consume any substance they do not desire.
- Deliberate misgendering.
- Making an individual the focal subject of a photograph or recording, against their consent. (Windycon considers recording and photography of group activities to be part of the purpose for which we have come together to enjoy activities in public. There is a reasonable expectation at cons that public photos are being taken by the attendees in the public spaces of the convention. This can include panel rooms, exhibit rooms, and Con Suite. When photographing or videotaping individuals or costumes, use common courtesy and ask before photographing them. Respect their rights if they do not wish to be photographed or videotaped. If someone asks or otherwise indicates that they do not wish to be photographed, do not photograph them!)
- Advocating for, threatening, or encouraging, any of the above behavior.

### 3.2 What Is Harassment?

3.2.1 Harassment is a category of misconduct, defined as “a pattern of misconduct toward a target over time.”

3.2.2 Making repeated disrespectful and unwelcome verbal, written, or social media comments may be considered harassment.

3.2.3 Windycon's Board (ISFiC) tracks reports of misconduct over multiple years, and takes patterns of misconduct into consideration for multi-year disciplinary action. We need your help to identify whether the incident you experienced was part of a pattern you might not know about. Isolated single incidents of misconduct can sometimes receive a multi-year disciplinary action, based on the best judgement of ISFiC.

3.2.4 Harassment applies to electronic communication as well as physical. Participants must not engage in misconduct at any convention venues or convention-related social events, not just during the Windycon weekend. Participants asked by the Board, Conchair, Convention Committee, or Staff to stop misconduct are expected to stop immediately, or it may rise to the level of harassment.

### 3.3 What Should I Do In Case Of Misconduct And/Or Harassment?

3.3.1 If you feel uncomfortable trying to handle a situation yourself, report the incident to the Windycon Operations office. If you feel comfortable trying to deescalate the situation on your own, please feel free to do so in a responsible manner. We would appreciate it if Operations was still informed to help us identify any repeat offenders. If you feel threatened or unsafe, or if your attempts to resolve the situation yourself are unsuccessful, please seek help immediately.

3.3.2 If you are in a confrontation, or notice someone else in a confrontation, go to Operations for help. Operations will help participants contact venue security or law enforcement, provide escorts, or otherwise assist in creating a positive space for the duration of the con. Windycon encourages participants to consider the possibility of reporting any rape, assault, or other unlawful activity to law enforcement. We ask that all attendees try to foster an environment where speaking out is fully supported. Retaliating against a person who reports or complains about misconduct will not be tolerated.

### 3.4 Social Interactions

3.4.1. People commonly wear costumes at conventions. Please be respectful by not touching a person or their costume without a clear invitation. Silence does not imply consent.

3.4.2. Please keep your public displays of affection rated PG-13.

### 3.5 Attire

Please conform to the Windycon Dress Code. Our current venue requires that all attendees must wear footwear on the main floor at all times. Failure to be properly attired could mean immediate removal from the premises by the hotel without refund.

### 3.6 Minors and Parental Concerns

3.6.1 Children ages 17 and under (hereby referred to as “minors”) are welcome at the convention.

3.6.2 Minors require a badge, either a full badge, a children's badge, or Kid-in-Tow badge. Minors twelve or under must have a parent or guardian on the premises. Holders of Kid-in-Tow badges must be accompanied by a badged guardian at all times.

3.6.3 Anyone under the age of 18 must carry contact information for a parent or legal guardian at all times.

3.6.4 Please also consider that some convention topics may not be appropriate for young children, and that some evening and night convention functions may involve attendee costume and activities possibly inappropriate for children. Windycon cannot be held responsible for any unaccompanied minors.

3.6.5 This code of conduct shall not apply to otherwise legal interactions between a parent and/or legal guardian and their minor children in their custody, e.g. disciplinary actions that fall within the bounds of municipal, state, and federal law.

## 4. Convention Rules

### 4.1 Badges

4.1.1. All Windycon attendees must purchase a Windycon badge and wear that badge at all times when attending Windycon events or using convention event spaces.

4.1.2. Forging, duplicating, or sharing Windycon badges is not permitted and is grounds for removal from the convention without refund

### 4.2 Alcohol and Marijuana

4.2.1 Windycon recognizes that the use of alcoholic beverages by those of legal age is a matter of personal choice. Windycon requires that those who choose to drink during Windycon weekend and at other ISFiC sponsored events abide by state law and the ISFiC Code of Conduct. We expect such individuals will conduct themselves responsibly and respectfully in regard to others and to their environment, including the physical property of the host location.

4.2.2 As part of our hospitality, Windycon may serve alcoholic beverages in the hospitality suites. There may also be other events that will

do so. We require that everyone observe the law and follow these rules:

4.2.3 Windycon will be checking IDs before serving any alcoholic beverages. You must be 21 or over in order to drink in Illinois. Proof of age will be required to be served alcohol at the point of service, not during registration. In other words, you must bring your ID to the Con Suite in order to drink. Con badges will NOT be accepted as proof of age. Acceptable forms of ID are drivers' licenses, state issued picture IDs, military IDs, and passports. Violations of state drinking laws will not be tolerated.

4.2.4 Each room party will need to decide how to handle appropriate alcohol management. Windycon asks only that everyone comply with hotel rules, and that all parties follow state drinking laws. We hope that everyone has a safe and wonderful time!

4.2.5 Please follow the law and hotel rules in regards to open containers of alcohol. Do not take open alcoholic beverages out of the hospitality suites or private rooms where they are served.

4.2.6 Our venue does not permit the use of recreational marijuana on the premises. Please respect the rules of the venue.

### 4.3 Props and Weapons

Windycon has a specific set of rules addressing Props and Weapons.

### 4.4 Swimming Pool

4.4.1 Pool hours will be posted, please pay attention to them!

4.4.2 Sleeping rooms are located near the pool and consideration should be given regarding noise.

4.4.3 If you have children, please supervise them.

4.4.4 Don't drink and swim.

4.4.5 Be courteous to other users of the area.

4.4.6 Keep your swim attire on.

4.4.7 Be safe.

### 4.5 Game Room

4.5.1 Eating and drinking are allowed in gaming, but please take extra care not to spill, and please properly dispose of all empty containers and waste materials.

4.5.2 Anyone under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Gaming staff will ask anyone who is unwilling to comply to leave.

4.5.3 Please respect the staff in the game Junior And comply with any requests, or you will be asked to leave.

4.5.4 Please be very careful with our game library.

4.5.5 Win or lose, please play fair and have fun.

### 4.6 Con Suite

4.6.1 Shoes and shirts are required for entry.

4.6.2 Please do not sleep in the Con Suite.

4.6.3 Dispose of any cans in the recycle bins and your trash in trash cans. We need your help to keep the Con Suite clean for everyone.

4.6.4 Alcohol may not leave the Con Suite's doors. Period. Even if you carry it into the Con Suite, once it is in our Con Suite you must consume it, or dispose of it prior to departure, no exceptions.



# Reporting Infractions

## What is the Independent Incident Response Team (IRT)?

The IRT is not part of ISFiC but has the authority to carry out actions concerning attendees, convention staff, and board members. The IRT was instituted by ISFiC so that everyone involved with ISFiC and by extension Windycon are held to the same standard of conduct and all incidents can be addressed. The IRT is staffed by persons in the community who are not on the ISFiC Board and not on Windycon's staff.

## There is a Problem at the Convention, What Should You Do?

Should you choose to report misconduct, you can expect a member of the event Operations Staff or IRT to be called in to provide support, investigate, and take the necessary actions to ensure that the situation is handled with the utmost care and concern with clear and concise actions. ISFiC reserves the right to remove attendees from any ISFiC event and/or ban future attendance if conduct and safety guidelines are not followed. Operations and the IRT will maintain a record of active misconduct reports, while permanent records of resolved incidents will be maintained by the ISFiC Board.

In either case, we will make a written report, and ask you for the details needed to understand and resolve the problem or prevent further harm. If you give us your name and contact information, we will follow up with you as needed, but we also will accept anonymous reports.

We will tell you what our next steps will be and further action(s) to be taken, if any. If you request, we will follow up with you and let you know the outcome of our actions. We will endeavor to remain in contact, as per your choice, at least every 2 weeks until the matter has reached resolution.

If other people are named in the incident, they will be told that there is an incident against them, but if the reporter wishes to remain anonymous, the identity of the person making the report will not be named.

## For Incidents Outside of Windycon (Delayed Reporting or Involving Other Sanctioned ISFiC Events)

Issues may be reported throughout the year, not just during Windycon, Picniccon, or any other ISFiC event. If you need to report an issue outside of Windycon or do not feel comfortable discussing the matter with the Operations Staff, you may contact the Independent Incident Response Team (IRT) directly at [irt@isfic.org](mailto:irt@isfic.org) and someone will be in touch with you within 24 hours.

If the incident involves one or more Board members, IRT will handle the incident.

If the incident involves a previous or current Chair or Vice-Chair, IRT will handle the incident.

Otherwise, the incident is forwarded to the Board, who will either investigate it themselves, assign it to the previous or current Chair if appropriate, or request IRT to handle the incident if most appropriate.

## For All Windycon Staff and ISFiC Board members

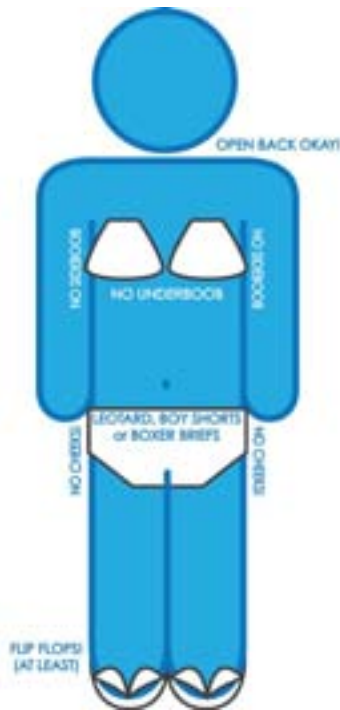
As a staff member you are an important part of assuring our attendees are safe and happy. Our problem resolution process is designed to help accomplish this.

If someone approaches you with a problem that is either too complicated for you to solve or appears to be a Code of Conduct violation, stay with the person and help find a member of Operations or the Incident Response Team as appropriate. If there is an immediately

dangerous situation, do not hesitate to call 911 first. Please notify Operations after calling 911 so that convention leadership can stay in the loop.

# Dress Code

1. The Windycon Dress Code tries to reach a balance between freedom of expression, the sensitivities of all our attendees, and the requirements of the venue.
2. It is applicable to all genders and in all convention spaces.
3. Windycon does not permit clothing that contains hate speech or explicit sexual content.
4. Bare feet are not allowed. Sandals are acceptable, being barefoot or using footpads is not acceptable.
5. No roller-wear is allowed in convention areas including but not limited to heelys, rollerblades/skates, and skateboards.
6. Please use the diagram on this page for a reference for the minimal coverage to be compliant with this policy. And thanks to Colorado Anime Fest for the diagram.
7. The Convention Chair always has the final word on what is and is not acceptable attire in convention spaces.



# Props and Weapons Policy

## 1. Overview

1.1 This document is an extension of the ISFiC Code of Conduct.

1.2 As with all of our policies, the ISFiC Board has crafted this policy to try to strike a balance between the needs of our events, and the needs of our attendees. Any feedback you may have can be sent directly to [board@isfic.org](mailto:board@isfic.org).

1.3 Violations of this policy can be reported to any on-duty Operations staff member per the Reporting Problems page. If the violation is by an ISFiC Board Member, Senior Convention Staff, or by someone in Operations then the Independent Incident Response Team (IRT) may handle the report.

1.4 The Windycon Chair or their designated representative may choose to immediately impose penalties for violations of this policy for the safety and well-being of our members. Such penalties may include, but are not limited to, a one-time warning, restricted access to convention activities, and immediate expulsion from the convention with or without a membership refund. Violators may also be referred to local law enforcement should that be deemed appropriate.

1.5 No prop shall be used in a dangerous or threatening manner. Do not draw blades. Do not point projectile weapons. Anything used as a weapon will be treated as a weapon.

1.6 Any item designed or created with the intent to cause injury or death to any person or property, as well as any item that is illegal in the state of Illinois and/or the Village of Lombard is not allowed.

1.7 Exceptions can be made to many of these policies for programming events and photography sessions. These exceptions must be made in advance with the appropriate Convention Staff and may be declined if the safety of other attendees is called into question. The Convention Chair always has final authority in these decisions.

## 2. Weapons

### 2.1 Firearms and Replica Firearms

2.1.1. Real firearms are not props and are prohibited from all ISFiC Events, Windycon included.

2.1.2. Realistic gun props, including antique and replica firearms, are not allowed. This is for the safety of you and fellow attendees as Convention Security and local law enforcement cannot easily identify if these are props or live weapons.

2.1.3. All other firearm props must be taken to Operations and peace bonded. This will take the form of a zip tie indicating that the item is a prop and that any triggering mechanism has been disabled. Operations will also note your compliance so that any later inquiries can be quickly answered.

### 2.2 Ammunition

2.2.1. No live ammunition for any projectile weapon may be carried in convention space. No bullets or cartridges, no darts, no NERF, no arrows or bolts. Nothing that can be fired or launched.

2.2.2. If you have costume pieces with fixed, non-live ammunition, take it to Operations to be noted and zip tied.

### 2.3 Knives and Edged Weapons

Any material which can be given and maintain a cutting edge is covered by this policy.

We know many of our attendees participate in other activities where

knives and swords and axes play an important part, and we have tried to balance this policy accordingly.

2.3.1. All live edges must be fully sheathed and peace bonded. Bring all such items to Operations to be approved and zip tied.

2.3.2. An exception exists for items being displayed in the Dealers Room. Vendors will package any purchases for transportation to your room or vehicle. If you wish to carry or wear your new purchase, take it to Operations.

2.3.3. Non-edged blades can be worn and carried, but please be patient and respectful when approached by any Convention Staff and asked to verify the state of the item.

2.3.4. Utility blades, such as pocket knives, may be used in convention space. It is the responsibility of the user to ensure the safety of everyone around them using such tools.

### 2.4 Polearms and Mass Weapons

2.4.1. Spikes and blades on weapons places the entire weapon under the Knives and Edged Weapons rules as stated above.

2.4.2. Foam, rattan, and "boffer" weapons need to be handled on a case-by-case basis. Take any such props in question to Operations for review.

2.4.3. As with any other prop or costume element, if it may potentially cause issue for those around you, please consider leaving it in your room. You are always responsible for any damage done to the hotel or others by what you wear and what you carry.

## 3. Props and Special Effects

3.1 This should go without saying, but no open flames are allowed in convention space. This means no props or costumes that produce fire or flames in any form are allowed.

3.2 Strobe-lighting effects can trigger a form of epilepsy (known as photo-sensitive epilepsy, PSE, or light-sensitive epilepsy) if the flash frequency is broadly in the range 16–25 flashes per second (some people experience PSE at lower or higher frequencies). If you have any props or costuming elements that produce lighting effects, please be considerate of those around you.

3.3 Lasers, including laser pointers, are not permitted to be used in convention space. Exceptions may be made for specific presentations and convention programming.

3.4 Smoke effects of any type are prohibited from the convention space. Exceptions for the Masquerade must be obtained from the Masquerade Staff in advance.

3.5 Liquids and gels should not be used as a prop or as part of a costume unless they are appropriated sealed and will not transfer to another person or property.

# Windycon and COVID-19

Windycon and ISFiC are committed to the health and safety of our fannish family, and that will always be our first priority. As we continue to plan the 2022 convention, we find ourselves making many decisions that try to balance that priority against providing all those elements that make a Windycon, well, Windycon.

**This policy is accurate as of November 4, 2022. No further updates to this policy are expected before or during Windycon 48.**

## Bottom Line Up Front

Masks will be required in all convention spaces.

Proof of vaccination **or** proof of a negative Covid-19 test will be required before entering Registration.

## Masking Requirements

**Face masks or coverings are required to be worn over your mouth and nose at all times in all convention spaces.** We recommend using masks that fit properly. They should be snug around the nose and chin with no large gaps around the sides of the face. Masks should be made with a breathable fabric, like cotton. Plastic face shields are also acceptable. Bandanas and gaiters are not considered adequate face coverings. Additional information on masks can be found on the CDC website.

Exceptions to this policy will be made while you are actively consuming food or drink in the ConSuite or Green Room.

Those working Fan Tables or Dealers Room tables may also briefly remove their masks to eat or drink. Masks must be properly in place while interacting with other attendees or staff.

If you have temporary trouble breathing, we ask that you move away from other attendees before you remove your mask. Once your breathing has returned to normal, please replace your mask before returning to convention activities. If your breathing does not return to normal, please contact any staff member for assistance.

Performers who are **on stage and at least six feet from the audience** may remove their mask to perform, but must replace it afterwards. Performers in the Music/Filk area, including any circles or Open Filk **must remain masked at all times.** We understand that this means certain instruments will not be possible to play, but we have an obligation to the safety of all attendees.

Attendees with a documented healthcare issue that prevents wearing a mask should contact Registration via [registration@windycon.org](mailto:registration@windycon.org) in advance of the convention to see what type of reasonable accommodation may be provided.

## Vaccination Requirements

The CDC recommends everyone stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccination, including all primary series doses and

boosters for their age group and medical status.

**The requirement for attending Windycon is that all persons six months and older must show proof of all primary series doses of an appropriate Covid vaccine. The final dose of a primary series must be on or before October 15, 2022.** While we agree with the CDC recommendation on boosters, we also understand that there are a great many factors that can contribute to what boosters are appropriate for any given individual.

You may provide proof of vaccination via a vaccination card, a photo on a smartphone, a photocopy, or through VaxVerify. While we expect the name on the vaccination proof to match the legal ID required for Registration, we understand that there are valid reasons that may not be possible. Please proceed directly to the Registration Help Desk if this is the case.

## Negative Testing Requirements

Staff and attendees that do not meet the Vaccination Requirements may opt to provide proof of a negative Covid-19 test at Registration. Windycon requires verified test results, meaning a negative Covid-19 PCR or antigen test dated on or after **November 7, 2022** with proof of the individual tested. **Home tests without verification will not be accepted.**

## Illness Pre-Convention

If you should fall ill before the event and become unable to attend, let us know by sending an e-mail to [registration@windycon.org](mailto:registration@windycon.org). Windycon will roll-over your membership in full to 2023 and work with you and the hotel in canceling your hotel reservation **up to the day of check-in.**

## Illness At Convention

If you should fall ill at the event, you are asked to remove yourself from the convention area. If you do so voluntarily, Windycon will roll-over your membership in full to 2023 and work with you and the hotel if you need to vacate early.

Failing to remove yourself voluntarily or when asked by Convention Staff will be considered a violation of our Code of Conduct, and any necessary action will be taken to protect the remaining attendees.

If you have any questions about this policy, please email [registration@windycon.org](mailto:registration@windycon.org).

# 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. (Picnicon has been sadly suspended due to COVID the last few years, but we have hopes of resuming it in the future.)

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, although if you’re not reading this until the con, you may need a time machine, as the meeting was on Thursday night, because so many of the Board members are busy working the convention. 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.

## In Memoriam

The following is an incomplete list of the members of our community who have passed away during the last year. We will miss them.

**Wayne McCloud**, Dealer, b.1945, 11/24/2021

**John E. Ferraro**, Fan, b.1952, 1/13/22

**Helene Marlow Bellin**, Fan, b.1973, 3/11/22

**David Kummerow**, “Slayer,” Fan, 3/11/22

**John Nikitow**, Fan, ISFiC Writers Contest Winner, b.1956, 4/29/22

**Eric Flint**, Author, b.1947, 7/17/22

**Nichelle Nichols**, Actress, b.1932, 7/30/22

**Bob A. Madle**, Fan, b.1920, 10/8/22

# A.M. Dellamonica

## Author Guest of Honor

A.M. Dellamonica spent their early childhood in Logan, Utah, before moving to Bonnyville, Alberta in the 1970s, a town located on Treaty 6 land that is steeped in rich Indigenous history, and is the traditional homeland and home to First Nations and Métis people today. They spent a significant amount of their childhood backstage at a community theater, where their parents were a stage director and make-up artist, running errands for the cast and crew and accidentally (and sometimes inappropriately!) memorizing the scripts of works like *Rashomon* and *Love in E Flat* simply by virtue of listening to so many rehearsals.

They started writing as soon as they had learned to read, beginning in kindergarten with Dr. Seuss-inspired doggerel (*One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish* was a particularly strong influence). By age ten, they were already attempting novels.

Their first story in print appeared in *The Red Deer Advocate* when they were 17 years old, as the runner-up in a short story contest. A first paying sale, to a literary magazine called *Secrets from the Orange Couch*, followed a few years later. Since then Alyx has sold about fifty short stories in a range of genres: mystery, science fiction, alternate history, and fantasy. They have also sold poems, numerous non-fiction articles, and cowritten one play, *Dressed as People*, with Kelly Robson and Amal El-Mohtar!

Alyx got into print young not because they was some kind of teen genius—those first stories were not very strong!—but because they were trying to sell stories, bombarding magazines like *Asimov's* with submissions. Most writers want an audience for their work; Alyx began looking for one as soon as it was humanly possible.

While still refining their craft as a short story writer, they began to work on books. Their first novel was the ecofantasy *Indigo Springs*, which was released in 2009 by Tor Books and which won the Sunburst Award for Canadian Literature of the Fantastic. The sequel, *Blue Magic*, was released in 2011. A trilogy beginning with *Child of a Hidden Sea* followed, and its sequel *A Daughter of No Nation* won the Aurora Award for Best Novel in 2016. The final book in that series is *The Nature of a Pirate*. Alyx has long been a proud and active member of the science fiction community. They attended the Clarion West SF Workshop in 1995 and joined SFWA as an active member in 1997. They were on the founding motherboard of the writing organization Broad Universe, and have volunteered for a number of feminist and arts organizations, most recently participating in SFWA's various mentoring programs for new writers.

They began to embrace their nonbinary identity in 1997, after an epiphany triggered by reading the Cirlet Press anthology *Genderflex: Sexy Stories on the Edge and in Between*. What better testimony to science fiction's power to change lives for the better?



By 2006 Alyx had also embarked on a teaching career, offering science fiction workshop classes with names like *Creating Universes*, *Building Worlds* and *Writing the Fantastic* through the UCLA Extension Writers' Program. In 2016 they began to teach at the University of Toronto Scarborough as well, and added a crime-writing class to the roster. They also gave one-off workshops, including the well-received *Vampire Variations*, at a host of places ranging from the Riot Games campus in Santa Monica to Toronto Public Library. Teaching led to the pursuit of an MFA in Creative Writing in UBC, completed in 2020 at the height of the pandemic.

In 2019 and 2021 they switched gears, from fantasy to near future science fiction—solarpunk, really—and changed author names, too. As L.X. Beckett, Dellamonica has written *Gamechanger* and *Dealbreaker*, thrillers that simultaneously manage to be fun romps and to be about surviving a 21st century shaped by pandemics, resource wars, climate change, cryptocurrency and the possible death of privacy.

Alyx is married to fellow Windycon GoH Kelly Robson; the two were able to make their outlaw wedding of 1989 legal, in 2003, when the Canadian Supreme Court conferred full marriage equality on same sex couples. They now reside in the city of Toronto, Ontario, which is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples.

Their website is at <http://alyxdellamonica.com>.

# Kelly Robson

## Author Guest of Honor



Kelly Robson is an award-winning Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror writer from Canada. She's so excited to be a Guest of Honor for Windycon!

The foothills of the Canadian Rocky Mountains were Kelly's home as a child and teenager. She competed in rodeos and gymkanas through the 1980s on her horses Whiskey and Lucky. She is a former Princess of the Big Horn Rodeo, which, she likes to say, is similar to being a rodeo queen, except with all of the glamor and none of the responsibility.

Only one thing competed with Kelly's passion for horses, and that was her obsession for books and stories, specifically Science Fiction and Fantasy. She'd like to claim an early fascination with Horror, too, but was far too sensitive a kid and had to grow into her love of the Horror genre as an adult.

At the University of Lethbridge, Kelly met her wife Alyx, and the two have been inseparable ever since. They insufferably tell everyone that they've now been married for 33 years, and have been married longer than all the many marriages of their parents and step-parents.

Kelly and Alyx moved to Vancouver (Canada's San Francisco) in 1991. Kelly worked for environmental scientists for many years, gaining an appreciation for the difficulties that consulting scientists go through to win contracts and fund their work.

Though completely unqualified for the job, from 2008 to 2012, Kelly wrote the Wine and Spirits column for *Chatelaine*, Canada's largest women's magazine. It was an exciting four years of free wine and liquor, free gourmet meals with winemakers, and even a few fabulous trips.

Toronto became their home in 2013, and they now live near Queen Street, just around the corner from the Art Gallery of Ontario, which is a favorite haunt. On late-opening nights, they often write in the gallery's cafe.

Kelly proudly claims to be a late bloomer. She began publishing in our genres in 2015 and quickly gained a reputation as a writer with both range and skill. Jonathan Strahan said, "Kelly Robson is one of the best, most exciting and most complete new storytellers working today." Gary Wolfe says she is, "one of the most accomplished and versatile new writers," and *Grimdark Magazine* called her "a science fiction powerhouse."

Kelly's Gothic Horror story "A Human Stain" won the 2018 Nebula Award for Best Novelette. Her first short fiction collection *Alias Space and Other Stories* was published in 2021 by Subterranean Press, in a gorgeous hardcover signed limited edition. It recently won an Aurora Award. Her time travel adventure *Gods, Monsters and the Lucky Peach* won the 2019 Aurora Award. She has been a finalist for most of the major awards in the SFF ecosystem, including the Astounding (formerly Campbell) award, Hugo, Nebula, World Fantasy, Theodore Sturgeon, and Locus awards.

Kelly's *High Times in the Low Parliament*, a lesbian stoner buddy comedy with fairies about Brexit, came out in August from TorDotCom publishing. She's just finished a sequel, *Down and Out at the Mighty Assembly*. Currently, Kelly is hard at work trying to teach herself how to write a novel.

# Lauren Raye Snow

## Artist Guest of Honor



As an artist, Lauren Raye Snow's greatest ambition is to create work that reaches out and squeezes your heart, punches you in the stomach, or, hopefully, both. She likes dreams and nightmares, vampires and saints, black holes and biblically-accurate angels. She makes art about some of these.

This summer, she was surprised and delighted to have been selected as the winner of the SmArt School bi-annual Art Prize, in recognition of two different pieces she completed while under Sam Weber's tutelage there. In addition to her work as an artist and illustrator, Lauren is the Art Director for the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers Association (SFWA). In 2020, she was honored to lead the rebrand of both SFWA and the Nebula Awards. Lauren has had a blast working on the Nebulas for the last three years, and enjoys making SFWA's good work look pretty. Last year she dipped a toe into the con-running side of things as Art Director for DisCon III in Washington, DC. Previously, Lauren was a selectee in The Mexicanx Initiative at WorldCon San Jose 2018, an effort spearheaded by artist John Picacio to engage more creatives and fans of Mexican descent in the SFF community, and she remains grateful for the wonderful relationships that resulted from that experience. Lauren enjoys exhibiting in art shows and galleries, creating

speculative work in response to inner reflection and political upheaval, as well as bringing her client's visions to life. Though Lauren recognizes she is still a relative newcomer to the SFF fan community at large, she's been a fan of genre literature her whole life. You could probably still find some of the *Lord of the Rings* fan art she posted to her Elfwood account in 2002, although she has done her best to erase it from posterity and her own memory. She saw Bram Stoker's *Dracula* at far too young an age, and look at what happened. (This is a warning.)

In addition to painting, Lauren is fascinated by the changing role for art-making in the looming shadow of image-generating AI tools. She enjoys learning about the technologies behind "creative" AI and their social and legal ramifications, juxtaposed against her own experiences creating intentional images from scratch. Lauren values the two-fold emotional anchor a successful work of art can provide, both between the artist and the work, and between the work and the viewer. How might such emotional through lines change if art is created by machines?

This weekend at Windycon, she'll be on panels about vampires, about AI generated art and writing, and she'll be having a talk about her process. When she's not paneling, you can find her in the Dealers' Room!



# Spinneret

## Cosplay Guest of Honor



Spinneret is an award-winning cosplayer who is also the Queen of the Spiders. Her costumes blend fantasy and science fiction designs with historical details and eye-catching electronics. She regularly does presentations at Midwestern conventions on cosplay crafting skills ranging from sewing to soldering.

Spinneret made her first costume when she was ten and wanted to be Mr. Spock for Halloween, buying a three-dollar blue shirt from K-Mart, sewing on gold rickrack for rank braid, and cobbling together a badge, a communicator, and a phaser from cardboard and spray paint. Since then, she's moved on to programmable LEDs, foam floor mats (which can be turned into great-looking armor and laser harpoon guns), and computerized embroidery machines. She still uses a lot of spray paint, though.

Her cosplay handle, "Spinneret", refers to both her ever-increasing collection of spider-themed costumes and also her other hobby: Cossack-style sword spinning. Since most conventions – reasonably enough – ban the traditional steel *shashka* saber, she's been known to substitute a more convention-friendly lightsaber. One of her favorite costumes is a reproduction of a complete historical Cossack cavalry uniform – customized, of course, with her favorite arachnid theme, and worn with alien makeup.

Under her less arachnophobia-inducing name, Tracy Canfield, she wrote and programmed the computer game *I, Cyborg* for Choice of Games. *Cyborg* is a "choose your

own adventure"-style space opera adventure that lets you play as an interstellar smuggler searching for a replacement part to repair your failing robotic body. Her short fiction has appeared in numerous magazines, including *Analog*, *Strange Horizons*, and *Fantasy Magazine*, and has been translated into Estonian and Hebrew, and her story "Starship Down" won the Analytical Laboratory Award for best short story appearing in *Analog*.

Tracy – er, Spinneret – has a PhD in computational linguistics. In grad school, she wrote one of her qualifying papers on using computers to translate Klingon to English. Her adviser asked her to concentrate on more academic topics in the future ... but she also caught the attention of the Jenolan Caves in Australia, who were looking for a voice actor to record their audio tour. Tracy got a free trip to Australia, CNN called her a "Klingon scholar", and her adviser settled down, more or less. She's always happy to discuss the real-world linguistics that went into the design of the Klingon language, or give you some tips to help you pronounce "Qapla" correctly!

Along with her husband, cosplayer Reynard Captor, Spinneret is often seen (though rarely recognized) at local conventions. If you see a group of cosplayers with gray skin and orange horns, you're probably on the right track. You can also find her on Instagram at [http://www.instagram.com/spinneret\\_sewing](http://www.instagram.com/spinneret_sewing).

# Lauren Oxford

## Music Guest of Honor

The first time I heard Lauren sing, I remember thinking to myself, "What is it about her voice?...It's like smooth, rich dark chocolate singing!!" And if you know me, you know that there are not too many things I love more than dark chocolate, so that tells you what I think of Lauren!!

As we sat in filk circles and played songs in each other's vicinity over the next few years (impromptu trad session at GAFilk!), several things began to come clear. First of all, Lauren is TALENTED. So many instruments! Banjo is the one most folks have seen her play most often, but guitar (usually in some funky tuning, for extra bonus points!) and ukulele and mandolin are all instruments she can, and does, accompany herself or others with. And again, that beautiful voice!

Second, Lauren is FUNNY. By now most folks who have heard Lauren sing have heard her parody about her cat and his (cough cough) litterbox issues, and if you have, then you have probably experienced the sensation of laughing until you cry. (Especially if you have cats of your own, and even more especially if they are long-haired floofs.) And conversations with Lauren, as we got to know each other well enough to share a meal or some time hanging out, can take sudden left turns into hilarity. Late-night conversations during her album recording often left us both trying not to wake others with our laughter.

Third, Lauren is PASSIONATE. When she takes up a cause or finds a new hobby or otherwise has a Favorite Thing, it's not subtle. And I mean that in the very best of ways!! Whether songwriting (or covering) angry political rants, enjoying the best chicken alfredo or mac & cheese ever, or admiring her friends' cats, you will never doubt how she feels about something that is important to her. Her love songs for her wife are beautiful and sincere and uniquely Lauren, and her elegy for a childhood cat, "A New Constellation", is one you will need a Kleenex—oh, who am I kidding? A BOX of Kleenex—to listen to. Lauren can, like all the very Best Bards, take your emotional state and change it with her songs. My advice: Let her. You will never regret it. Unless you have no Kleenex with you, of course.

Cat Faber helped bring all that TALENT and HUMOR and PASSION to the filk world, and we are all the richer for it. (Thanks, Cat!!!) The two of them teamed up for transportation and room-shares and all the ways we help each other out to Make It To the Con. Lauren embraced filk and fandom with all the passion we have come to know and love, and her songs BFFL Friendship Enterprise and Part of This World reflect her geeky heart and her new love of this community, respectively.

Lauren's talent, passion, and humor have won her many friends in the filk community, and that became evident as invitations began to come in for her to come to conventions as a guest. From Interfilk at Conflikt in 2019, to Toastmistress at GAFilk in 2020 and Consonance in 2022, to our very own Music GoH



here at Windycon (and Toast for OVFF next year in 2023!), Lauren's music and general awesomeness have captivated her audiences and won her new friends.

Some of those friends were able to gather in person, and others remotely, to answer Lauren's call for collaboration on her VERY FIRST ALBUM earlier this year, which was released just two weeks ago at the 2022 Ohio Valley Filk Fest. Recording for Lauren was such a joy and an adventure, and that week has been the best week of my year—and I think many of the folks involved would agree.

We enjoyed working on Lauren's album so much that when it was released at OVFF and Lauren realized that all but one of the women who recorded on it were actually PRESENT, and then the opportunity for a 15-minute mini-concert came up... we all leaped on it. Making music with Lauren onstage was magical, and none of us would have missed it for anything. It was a chance to recapture that sense of community we had experienced in the recording process, and a chance to draw in the ones who had had to send their tracks in from afar, and it was wonderful.

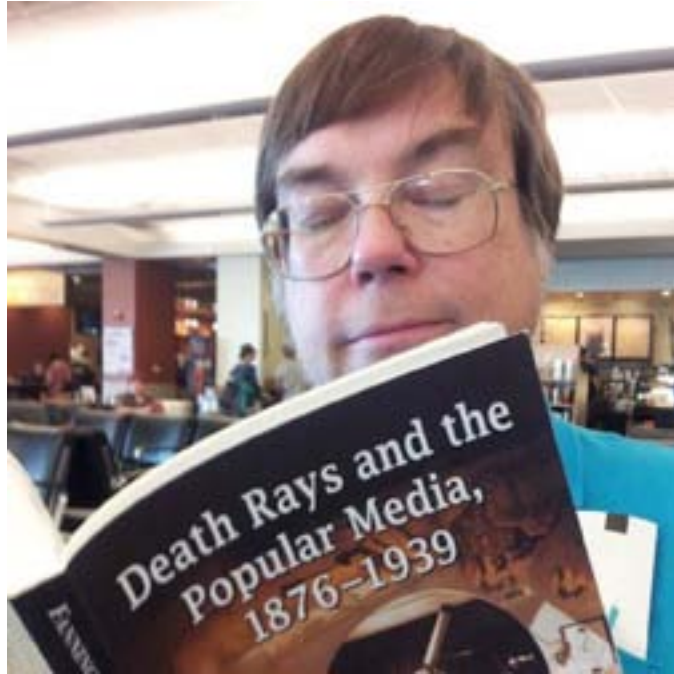
And so is Lauren. Come to her concert, buy her album, think about people who would love her album and buy them copies too, and come hang out in a late-night filk circle and make music with her! I can't wait to see what she'll create next, but I know it will be full of heart and exquisite to listen to. This bard is going places—come join the journey

Jen Midkiff, Windycon Music GoH, 2018



# Bill Higgins

## Science Guest of Honor



Bill Higgins: *Sidereus Nuncius*  
by Brother Guy Consolmagno, S. J.  
Director, Vatican Observatory

What do flying cars, 19th century Jacquard looms, and the Voyager flyby of Neptune have in common? Give up? Well, what about rocket belts, 18th century stories about extraterrestrials, and *Girl Genius*? Or backyard radio telescopes, radiation safety at Fermilab, and ice at the south pole of the Moon?

In a word — two words, actually: Bill Higgins.

Someone with that range of interests has to be a nerd. A techie. A fan. One of us. Indeed, I would say he's the type specimen: the example that the rest of us can compare ourselves to, and even, dare I say, aspire to become.

I mean, who among us would not want to be a character in a Hugo-winning graphic story? (Ask him about the origin of the Heterodyne Boys.) Or have a life-size replica of Wallace and Gromit's robot "Techno-Trousers" in their living room?

The astonishing thing about Bill, though, is not just his enthusiasm for such a wide range of topics. Bill's true talent is that he knows how to share that enthusiasm.

Bill has given talks on all of those topics at countless science fiction conventions. You may hear some of them at this convention! But he also gives these talks at many other venues, like schools and public libraries, in his role as an official NASA Solar System Ambassador. Or, in the Latin phrase that Galileo made famous: *Sidereus Nuncius*: "Ambassador of the Stars."

Indeed, it is instructive to see just how Bill Higgins sizes up against Galileo.

Like Galileo, Bill can explain the universe in terms that the educated lay person can appreciate and understand. Like Galileo, he can be erudite and witty in fields far beyond the topic at hand. Like Galileo, he's a wonderfully knowledgeable fellow, interesting in a wide variety of topics. He knows how to do his research; he knows what he is talking about. And like Galileo, Bill's a skillful storyteller. He can engage his audience, and keep them wanting more.

Bill also plays a mean ukulele; Galileo's instrument was the lute.

But there are a number of places where I would rank Bill above that Galileo fellow. For one thing, Galileo never had much to say about the history of science. (Of course, that may be because Galileo was busy making that history...)

Another difference, and one I think actually matters, is that unlike Galileo Bill is a man without an inflated ego. (At least he was, until he read this biography!) Bill is a gentle and unassuming character. His talks are all about the subject he's talking about, never about himself. He is remarkably patient and kind, even among those of us who are... let's say, quirky.

Both Bill and Galileo were raised with three siblings, one brother and two sisters. Galileo's family bounced between Florence and Pisa; Bill's roots are in Miami and Detroit.

But Galileo's family was far from ideal. His father was an irascible itinerant musician, his mother reported Galileo to the Inquisition (she didn't like his girlfriends), his siblings mostly mooched off Galileo's earnings all his life.

By contrast, Bill was raised in a boisterous but deeply loving Irish family. (And his siblings all did just fine on their own, thank you.) Bill himself earned a physics degree at Notre Dame and then went on to graduate work at Michigan State. Galileo, by contrast, never finished his degree at Pisa.

Bill married the delightful Dr. Kelley Higgins; Galileo never married.

After MSU, Bill moved to Fermilab as a "particle beam jockey." He works there now as a radiation physicist, doing radiation safety support for the high-energy particle accelerator complex and experiments. His official photo on his LinkedIn site has him reading a book titled, "Death Rays and the Popular Media, 1876-1939." I suspect that Galileo's LinkedIn page would have looked very different.

OK, so Galileo may have invented observational astronomy and the fundamentals of kinematics, and discovered the moons of Jupiter and the starry nature of the Milky Way. But Bill Higgins has been a Guest of Honor at Windycon, and more than once! Eat your heart out, Galileo...

(Photo by Kelley Higgins)

# Mary Anne Mohanraj

## Toastmaster



I first met Mary Anne Mohanraj as a student in one of her creative writing classes. She's a Clinical Associate Professor of fiction and literature at the University of Illinois at Chicago with exactly the amount of confidence, kindness, and adaptability you need in a professor during a pandemic.

As an educator, Mary Anne advocates for the importance and academic value of speculative fiction for students of all ages. In the classroom, she made it a priority to encourage students to explore speculative elements and take ownership of the legitimacy of their craft. Mary Anne reminds emerging writers hoping to break into the field that there is an audience and a viable market that will see both the metaphorical and financial value in the work they create. It is important to her that writers, especially those that deviate from the norm by telling queer stories and using non-western storytelling styles, stay at it even if the rejection letters stack up a bit.

Mary Anne is a multi-genre writer who writes with her heart, which means much of her work features elements inspired by her life as a queer polyamorous woman of color, such as her *Jump Space* novella, *The Stars Change* (Cirlet Press), featuring South Asians in space. TSC was a finalist for the Lambda, Rainbow, and Bisexual Book Awards.

Other recent publications include stories for George R.R. Martin's *Wild Cards* anthology series, the SF/F anthology *Survivor* (Lethe Press), *Invisible 3* (co-edited with Jim C. Hines), stories at Tor.com, *Clarkesworld*, *Asimov's*, and *Lightspeed*, and an essay in Roxane Gay's *Unruly Bodies*.

Mary Anne's probably best known in the genre community for founding Hugo-nominated and World Fantasy Award-winning speculative literature magazine, *Interzone*, which has created countless opportunities for emerging writers to break into the world of professional publication. She also served for ten issues as editor-in-chief of *Jaggery*, a South Asian literary journal ([jaggerylit.com](http://jaggerylit.com)), which she continues to publish (2013-ongoing). Mohanraj has also taught at the Clarion SF/F workshop (and will be teaching at Clarion West in 2023).

Anyone who's sat with Mary Anne for any length of time knows she is actively dedicated to community service. She specifically looks to create support and resources for people and communities that exist in the blindspots or outside the reach of existing community support and arts administration organizations. She currently serves as Executive Director of both *DesiLit* ([desilit.org](http://desilit.org)), and the Speculative Literature Foundation ([speclit.org](http://speclit.org)) and also occasionally directs the Kriti Festival of Art and Literature ([kritifestival.org](http://kritifestival.org)).

I interned at the SLF as a student and was eventually hired by Mary Anne to help with outreach and communications, so I've seen firsthand how dedicated Mary Anne is to doing good work and doing good work well. Through resources like the Portolan Project and virtual weekly co-writing sessions, the

SLF aims to break down barriers to community and education in ways that create more diversity and expansion in speclit community, fandom, and publishing. Writing can be a lonely business, and we'd love to have more writers join us — applying for our grants, taking our online classes, trying out the free writing lessons we've created, and hanging out with us in the co-writing sessions and Discord community. Community makes all the difference; it's why we're here.

Mary Anne has also served on the futurist boards of the XPrize and Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry and the board of the futurist org, Plurality University. Her magnificent writing and constant limit-breaking have made her the recipient of two Illinois Arts Council Fellowships in Prose, a Tamil American Pioneer Award, a Locus Award for service to science fiction and fantasy, and a Breaking Barriers Award from the Chicago Foundation for Women. She's also been Guest of Honor at numerous conventions.

She lives in Oak Park with her husband, Kevin Whyte, their two children, Kavya (15) and Anand (13), a gentle dog (Elle), and an independent cat (Arya — named after the Indian astronomer Aryabhata, not the Game of Thrones character). Though the work she does to help others is meaningful and necessary, she desperately needs to go sit down somewhere go to fewer meetings and write more fiction! She's just finished up a novel set in the same universe as her *Jump Space* stories (which you can read for free on her website) and has drafted the first book of a series in that universe as well. Next step publishing!

Emmanuel Henderson



# Jody Lynn Nye

## Special Guest



Jody Lynn Nye lists her main career activity as ‘spoiling cats.’ When not engaged upon this worthy occupation, she writes fantasy and science fiction books and short stories.

Jody Lynn Nye is a native Chicagoan. Before breaking away from gainful employment to write full time, Jody worked as a file clerk, book-keeper at a small publishing house, freelance journalist and photographer, accounting assistant and costume maker.

She was educated at the University of Southern California and Loyola University of Chicago, obtaining a bachelor’s degree in Film, Television and Radio. For four years, she was on the technical operations staff of a local Chicago television station, WFBN (WGBO), serving the last year as Technical Operations Manager. During her time at WFBN, she was part of the engineering team that built the station, acted as Technical Director during live sports broadcasts, and worked to produce in-house spots and public service announcements.

Since 1987 she has published over 50 books and more than 150 short stories. Among the novels Jody has written are her epic fantasy series, *The Dreamland*, beginning with *Waking In Dreamland*, five contemporary humorous fantasies, *Mythology 101*, *Mythology Abroad*, *Higher Mythology* (the three collected by Meisha Merlin Publishing as *Applied Mythology*), *Advanced Mythology*, *The Magic Touch*, and three medical science fiction novels, *Taylor’s Ark*, *Medicine Show* and *The Lady and the Tiger*. *Strong Arm Tactics*, a humorous military science fiction novel, the first of *The Wolfe Pack* series. Jody also wrote *The Dragon-*

*lover’s Guide to Pern*, a non-fiction-style guide to the world of internationally best-selling author Anne McCaffrey’s popular world. She also collaborated with Anne McCaffrey on four science fiction novels, *The Death of Sleep*, *Crisis On Doona*, *Treaty At Doona*, and *The Ship Who Won*, and wrote a solo sequel to *The Ship Who Won* entitled *The Ship Errant*. Jody co-authored the *Visual Guide to Xanth* with best-selling fantasy author Piers Anthony, and edited an anthology of humorous stories about mothers in science fiction, fantasy, myth and legend, entitled *Don’t Forget Your Spacesuit, Dear!* She wrote eight books with the late Robert Lynn Asprin, *License Invoked*, a contemporary fantasy set in New Orleans, and seven set in Asprin’s *Myth Adventures* universe: *Myth-Told Tales* (anthology), *Myth Alliances*, *Myth-Taken Identity*, *Class Dis-Mythed*, *Myth-Gotten Gains*, *Myth Chief*, and *Myth-Fortunes*. Since Asprin’s passing, she has published *Myth-Quoted* and *Dragons Deal* (Ace Books) in Asprin’s *Dragons* series. Her books include her *Imperium* series (Baen Books), humorous military SF novels, *Myth Fits*, in the *Myth Adventures* series, and a series featuring teen scientists on the moon co-authored with NASA scientist and TV personality Travis Taylor, *Moon Beam* and *Moon Tracks*, which are available.

Ms. Nye is an alumna of the Launch Pad Astronomy Seminar, taught by Dr. Michael Brotherton, Ph.D. Ms. Nye and Dr. Brotherton also edited an anthology of short stories aimed at interesting young people in the STEM disciplines, also titled *Launch Pad*.

One of her main interests is bringing new authors into the genre. Over the last twenty or so years, Jody has taught in numerous writing workshops and participated on hundreds of panels covering the subjects of writing and being published at science-fiction conventions. She has also spoken in schools and libraries around the north and northwest suburbs. In 2007 she taught fantasy writing at Columbia College Chicago. She runs the two-day writers workshop at DragonCon.

Jody Lynn Nye became a Writers of the Future judge in 2016. She is currently the Coordinating Judge for the Writers of the Future Contest. This involves literally reading and judging hundreds of short stories each year.

Jody lives in the northwest suburbs of Chicago, with her husband Bill Fawcett, a writer, game designer, military historian and book packager, and three cats.

Her websites are [www.jodynye.com](http://www.jodynye.com) and [mythadventures.net](http://mythadventures.net). She is on Facebook as Jody Lynn Nye and Twitter @JodyLynnNye.

Ms. Nye’s interests include travel, historical recreation, photography, calligraphy, international cuisine, baking, cats, and more cats. She has written radio plays and performed as a voice actor and narrator.

# Bill Fawcett

## Special Guest



Bill has taught, been a game designer, author, corporate trainer, and a college dean. His entire life has been spent in the creative fields and managing other creative individuals. Bill’s first commercial writing appeared as articles in the first 45 issues of *Dragon Magazine*. He is one of the founders of Mayfair Games, a board and role play gaming company. At Mayfair Games he edited the “Role Aides” Role Playing Game modules and supplements released by Mayfair in the 1970s and 1980s. During this period he also designed almost a dozen board games including the award winning *Empire Builder* and *Sanctuary*.

As an author Bill has written or co-authored two dozen books and dozens of articles and short stories. As a book packager, a person who prepares series of books from concept to production for major publishers, his company Bill Fawcett & Associates has packaged over 500 titles for virtually every major publisher. These include a number of best selling Science Fiction, Mystery, and Action novels. He founded, and later sold, what is now the largest hobby shop in Northern Illinois. In 1994 Bill joined with a team of programmers to form Catware featuring him as producer and designer. Catware released *Swords of Xeen* (New World Computing) as part of the Trilogy game set, *Star General*, a strategic game based upon the six *Fleet* books (SSI) that was one of the 20 best selling games in the year of its release, *Las Vegas Games* (New World) and is now working on a On-line Role Playing Game. Bill produced and designed the computer RPGs *Swords of Xeen* and *Shattered Light*. Bill Fawcett continues to develop new internet and app projects.

His novel writing began with the juvenile series, *Swordquest* for Ace Penguin Putnam Publishing. The *Fleet* series he created with David Drake has become a classic of military science fiction. Bill has collaborated on several novels including mysteries such as the Authorized *Mycroft Holmes* novels, the *Madame Vernet Investigates* series. As an anthologist Bill has edited or co-edited almost 50

anthologies. Bill Fawcett & Associates has packaged well over 250 novels and anthologies for every major publisher Bill is the editor of *Hunters and Shooters* and *The Teams*, two oral histories of the SEALs in Vietnam. His most recently published works include *It Seemed Like a Good Idea* and *You Did What, How To Lose A Battle, How To Lose a War*, and *It Looked Good on Paper: Engineering disasters through history*. He also wrote *Oval Office Oddities*, containing thousands of fun facts and strangeness about US Presidents,. Recently published *100 Mistakes that Changed History* and *Trust Me, 100 Leadership Mistakes that Changed History* and *101 Stumbles in the March of History*.

## 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 Westin 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 will be QR codes on every party floor to scan. Scan the code with your smartphone camera to vote for your favorites.. 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.

Adults only 21+.



Be prepared to show ID to enter



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

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.

## Con Suite

The Con Suite continues with more limited service due to COVID. Look for plenty of pre-packaged portions, as we try to provide appropriate snacks and drinks in the safest possible way. We'll be back in the larger space that we used last year to provide more room for folks to spread out.

And we will still have beer and cider available, subject to the rules below.

## 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.	-	1:00 a.m.(apx.)
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	-	1:00 a.m. (apx.)
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	-	3:00 p.m.

Gaming is go in the new, larger space in Junior Ballroom A. There's lots of entertaining things planned, so drop in and check the schedule at the con!

## Build-a-Blinkie

Is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to the teaching of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics). We run a number of learn-to-solder workshops in the Great Lakes area. We have the world's largest number of mobile soldering stations and participate at numerous Maker Faires, Libraries, Universities, Maker Spaces, and area conventions.

Build-a-Blinkie is happy to be running our Learn-to-Solder workshop this weekend in the Grand Ballroom Foyer.

Friday 4:00am to 7:00 pm  
Saturday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm  
Sunday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

## Build-a-Blinkie Workshop

This is where **you** get to Learn-to-solder building one of the flashing LED things you might have seen people wearing. You start with a kit, using the equipment we have setup, you build your blinkie. We have Blinkie Techs to help you get started, and walk you through the process and guarantee your success. When you're done you have a working blinkie.

## Why Build-a-Blinkie?

A number of us have successful careers in software and electrical engineering and we noticed it was getting harder and harder to do home projects. We also noticed the kits and parts market we used in our youth was gone.

At some point the general public's view of soldering shifted to something too dangerous. Kids can bicycle, ski, or toboggan, but don't use that soldering iron. It's too dangerous. The era of build and repair it yourself was dying and companies like Heathkit and Radio Shack have faded into the sunset. Even today with the new emphasis on STEM education, we still hit multiple obstacles. Many events have to clear our appearance with the fire marshal and have to run it past the legal department. We are working to prove soldering is easy, and not a deadly activity.

[www.build-a-blinkie.org](http://www.build-a-blinkie.org)

[www.linkedin.com/company/build-a-blinkie](http://www.linkedin.com/company/build-a-blinkie)

## 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
	8:00 p.m. - ????	Art Auction
Sunday	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Art pickup Artist checkout 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 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.

While the Print Shop will be open on Sunday, the Art Show will only be open to allow for art pickup and for artist checkout.

## 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, pieces in the Print Shop 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.



## Events

There's plenty to do at Windycon in the evenings and that's true again this year, even in COVID-time.

We'll start off on the Main Stage Friday night at 7:00 PM with Opening Ceremonies, where you'll have a chance to meet our guests and get a preview of what's coming up this weekend. Right after that, Bill Higgins will catch you up on what's happening with the Webb Space Telescope. And then, you can catch SpaceTime Theater, Chicagoland's funniest sci-fi improvisational comedy group with an all-new, all-improv show.

On Saturday, join Costuming Guest of Honor Spinneret at 5 PM as she hosts our Cosplay Runway. If you've been out in your cosplay finest, bring it down to Junior BC to let us all take a good look at it. There should be a photo booth right outside, so there will be a fine opportunity for photos.

At 8:00 PM, we'll start our evening concert program with Leslie Hudson, who is returning to Windycon after several years, followed by our Music Guest of Honor, Lauren Oxford at 9:00 PM. They'll be sharing the stage with a lot of talented musicians, so this should be a pair of performances that you won't want to miss.

All good things will come to an end, so catch us on Sunday at 2:00 PM for our Closing Ceremonies, where we review what's happened and let you know what we've got planned for next year.

We'll look forward to seeing you there!

## Amateur Radio

Come to room 943 in order to enjoy the DuPage Amateur Radio Club running our own Windycon Special Event Station, W9W.

This is your chance to get on the air and see what 100 watts and a wire can actually do. We'll be running single-sideband (SSB), which is voice communication, good old-fashioned Morse Code, and digital modes, including Radio TeleTYpe (RTTY) using a device that looks like it came straight out of steampunk. Have fun with this chance to get on the air and work the world.

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N9MUF and W9DUP

## Cosplay

Windycon loves it when cosplayers roam our hallways. Come by our cosplay table in the hallway outside the Grand Ballroom and show us your costume and you may get a ribbon and win a prize!

If you want everyone to get a good look at your costume, come to Junior BC on Saturday at 5:00 PM for our Cosplay Runway, hosted by our Costuming Guest of Honor, Spinneret. There should be a photo booth right outside as well.

## Social Media

Windycon's Social Media team welcomes you to this year's con. We will be wandering around taking photos to post on Windycon's social media platforms. If you do not want to be photographed please place a fluorescent green sticker on your badge in the upper right corner. These stickers will be available at registration and are removable so they will not damage the badges. Thank you and we look forward to a great con!

## Teen Lounge

The Windycon Teen Lounge is back in Maple!

The hours for our Teen Lounge are flexible, depending on staffing. (If you'd like to volunteer to help, talk to the folks who are there running the room, because they will welcome the assistance.) 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 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. 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

## Dealers

The Windycon Dealers' Room is located in Sections A-F of the Grand Ballroom on the main level of the hotel, to the left of the main lobby. There you will find a horde of eager merchants willing and able to trade you treasures for your money. Remember that the holiday season is fast approaching, and that it's never too early to begin shopping for your fannish family and friends, or even just to treat yourself!

The public is prohibited from bringing food or drink into the Dealers' Room. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, masks are required to be worn at all times while in the Dealers' Room. Please also remember to practice social distancing (stand at least 6 ft. apart) while in the Dealers' Room.

A room guide and map will be near the entrance of the Dealers' Room. Our list of dealers as of this date is:

Amber Hammer Creations  
Bad Grammar  
CB Squared Crafts  
Chicago Authors In Search of a Buck  
Cloud Orchid Publishing  
Dark River Pottery and Forge  
DMR Books  
Dodeka Records  
Dream Haven Books  
DVD World Books & Toys  
Gorg Huff  
Hedwig's Corner  
HIL-GLE Mind Rot Games Inc.  
Horizon Music, Inc.  
JRC Crafted Whips/Rachel Cantin Art  
Kemmer Woodworks  
Kiri Katz Teez  
Larry Smith Bookseller  
Lost in the Maille  
Louisa Feimster  
Lunatique  
M. Benson Creations  
Mobile Stress Relief Unit  
Mythica Gaming  
Pegasus Publishing  
SF&F Media Toys and Legos  
Space Gallery Online  
Sword Moon  
Tauna Sonne Le Mare  
That Nerd Girl  
The Pugling Horde  
Titan's Dawn  
Treasure Chest

## Music Concerts and...

You'll find our big list of concerts in the pocket program and in the program listing a few pages ahead. And, of course, there will be open music circles and a dead dog circle on Sunday. Most of our music programming will be in the Cypress room.

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.

Please remember that masks are required in our filk circles, as we are trying to avoid spreading COVID. Your cooperation is appreciated.

## Photo Studio

Come join Bruce Medic Photo at the amazing Windycon Photo Studio shoot on Saturday from 5:00 to 8:00 PM! 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..

# Programming

## Panels

Friday

4:00 Junior BC

**Traveling for Research**

It sounds adventuresome and exotic, but traveling to research a project isn't all wining and dining and touring strange counties. Authors and artists talk about what they really do when they visit distant lands to work out the details of their projects.

*Winifred Halsey (M), A.M. Dellamonica, Mary Anne Mohanraj, Jody Lynn Nye*

4:00 Lilac AC

**How Do I Keep Up?**

How do you keep up with a long book, television, or movie series. How is a reader or viewer supposed to keep everything straight when there is an inundation of new content released years apart?

*Mark Huston (M), Toni Bogolub, Clifford Royal Johns*

4:00 Lilac BD

**Cowpunk: Merging Science Fiction and the Old West**

*Westworld, Firefly, Straight Outta Deadwood.* There are many ways to combine science fiction with the sensibilities of the American West. What is it about the frontier lifestyle that continues to inspire creators working in settings far removed from the mesas, ranches, and canyons explored by Zane Grey and Louis L'Amour?

*Kelly Robson (M), Chris Gerrib, Neal Litherland, Malda Marlys*

4:00 Cypress

**Old Stories New Science**

Not all stories age well. Some older stories may have been scientifically accurate when they were written, but the state of the field has surpassed them. In others, authors may have misunderstood the science they were including. Are they still readable? Can they be inspirations for updated works?

*Rich Horton (M), Bill Higgins, Justin Matulonis, W.A. Thomasson*

5:00 Junior BC

**How Did They Make That? Cosplay Crafting Techniques**

Cosplayers do more than sew! In this presentation, you'll learn about materials and techniques for making realistic (or futuristic) armor, props, and more! This would be a whirlwind tour rather than an in-depth discussion of any one technique. Latex casting, EVA foam, thermoplastic, small electronics for lights and motors, and some of the mediums used for carving and casting (like resin and specialized clays) will be discussed. Examples will include the artist's own work and—while also including some slides of some of the really big cosplays that have used these sorts of techniques..

*Spinneret*

5:00 Lilac AC

**Fantasy vs. History**

Although fantasy is often based on historical analogs, it would be wrong to think that it is an accurate depiction of any historical period, from clothing to attitudes to politics. How can the realities of historical periods resonate with modern people without undermining the original cultures?

*Richard Garfinkle (M), Tim Akers, Clif Flynt, Jody Lynn Nye, Steven H Silver*

5:00 Lilac BD

**Guests of Honor and What They Read**

Author Guests of Honor talk about their favorite SFF books and why they like them—plotting, great character, love that setting.

*A.M. Dellamonica, Kelly Robson*

5:00 Cypress

**ISPEAK**

Two years ago, Robert Hogan suffered a ruptured aneurysm and a hemorrhagic stroke. Since then, he has had to relearn many things, including how to create art. Hear his inspirational story and learn how creativity can help with the healing process and how to regain lost abilities,

*Robert Hogan*

6:00 Lilac AC

**The Changing Face of STEM**

Over the past several years, there has been a concerted effort to change the way science, engineering, technology and mathematics looks, with a more diverse workforce bringing different outlooks and concepts to the way we interact with the world. What was once the domain of pocket protector wearing men, now has room for people of all backgrounds. How has this impacted the STEM fields and what does the future hold?

*Jeanne DeVore (M), Winifred Halsey, Clifford Royal Johns, Malda Marlys, Angeli Primlani*

6:00 Lilac BD

**Making the Most of the Public Library**

Your local public library can certainly arrange for you to check out books, music, or films, but it offers so much more, from e-resources to cultural events to maker spaces. Our panel of librarians won't be shushed when it comes to announcing the ways you can take advantage of the services on offer at your local branch.

*Paul Hahn (M), K.M. Herkes, Dina Krause, Pat Sayre McCoy, Alan Ziebarth*

6:00 Cypress

**Lyrics by, Melody by**

When writing music, there are many factors that can go into the decision to collaborate, work solo, or set new lyrics to existing tunes.

*Suzanne Bracken (M), Clif Flynt, Gundo*

7:00 Junior BC

**Opening Ceremonies**

We kick off Windycon 48 with introductions to our guests of honor and hints of what to expect from the next couple of days.

*Mary Anne Mohanraj (M), A.M. Dellamonica, Bill Higgins, Lauren Oxford, Kelly Robson, Lauren Raye Snow, Spinneret, Bill Fawcett, Jody Lynn Nye*

8:00 Junior BC

**The Webb Space Telescope: An Initial View**

NASA's James Webb Space Telescope has been operating for less than a year, but, as hoped, it is already changing the way we understand our universe. Learn what makes it different from Hubble and other telescopes, and sample the sights it has seen in the sky thus far.

*Bill Higgins*

8:00 Lilac AC

**Trivia for Chocolate**

After a hiatus since February 2020, Steven is back to throw chocolate at you if you can shout out the correct answers.

*Steven H Silver*

8:00 Cypress

**Open Music**

Come join our open music circle. Masks are required.

9:00 Junior BC

**SpaceTime Theater**

Windycon's longtime resident theatre and improv troupe provides scenes for your entertainment

9:00 Lilac AC

**Pets in Space**

Can you really have a pet on a spaceship? Can it be an ordinary earth pet, like a dog, cat, bird or must it be something adapted to space (and what would that be)? What purpose would pets serve in space?

*Suzanne Bracken, K.M. Herkes, Kat Huddleston, Jody Lynn Nye, Pat Sayre McCoy*

9:00 Lilac BD

**Technology to Help with Aging**

Aging is one of the facts of life and losing some of the abilities you had when you were younger, whether agility, memory, or one of your senses. Technology can't cure all ills, but it can help alleviate some of the issues of aging. Learn what technology you can use to improve quality of life.

*Bill Fawcett (M), Dermot Dobson, W.A. Thomasson*

10:00 Lilac AC

**Spooky Stories**

Put on your pajamas, bring your favorite stuffed animal, and come listen to a number of spooky stories before bedtime! (Not recommended for younger children.)

*Cassy Beach, Carolyn Thomas-Davidoff*

Saturday

10:00 Junior BC

**Cancelled Too Soon**

The number of quality shows that have been cancelled during their first two seasons is legendary, enough that it formed the basis for a Hugo-nominated fanzine last year. Panelists and audience members share their favorite shows that were never given the chance to find an audience. *Wonderfalls, The Middleman, Action, Pushing Daisies*, and so many more  
*Steven H Silver (M), Suzanne Bracken, Paul Hahn, Kat Huddleston*

10:00 Lilac AC

**How Science Works**

Science is about the search for the way the world functions. It does this through a rigidly defined process of conjecture, hypothesis, and evidence. When it lands on a wrong solution, it is supposed to be able to be corrected. What exactly is the scientific process and why does it sometimes appear to offer incorrect or conflicting information?

*Dale Cozort (M), Mike Fortner, Richard Garfinkle, Winifred Halsey, Spinneret*

10:00 Lilac BD

**The Art of Book Collecting**

Sure, you have a lot of books and keep buying more, but does that mean you have a collection? Arin Komins and Rich Warren discuss the thrill and process of the hunt as they add to their impress book collection. Why and how is it different from amassing or \*gasp\* hoarding?

*Arin Komins, Rich Warren*

10:00 Cypress

**Dorsai Irregulars Meeting**

The Dorsai Irregulars are having a Business Meeting. This is open to members of the DI only, so please enjoy our other programming if you are not a member.

10:00 Autographing Table (in Dealers' Room)

*Donna Munro*

11:00 Junior BC

**Breaking the Highest Glass Ceiling: Women and Spaceflight**

Soviet cosmonaut Valentina Tereshkova was the first woman to go into space. Since her 3-day flight, numerous women have followed, aboard low on Soyuz, Space Shuttles, Shenzhou, Dragons, and the ISS. Guest of Honor Bill Higgins talks about women who've flown into space, and women in roles on Earth who've made spaceflight happen.

*Bill Higgins*



### 11:00 Lilac AC

#### Physics of Music and Instruments

Musicians show off their skills and instruments and Mike Fortner explains the physics that allows them to create the amazing sounds that come out of their instruments.

*Mike Fortner (M), Suzanne Bracken, Rich Lukes, Lauren Oxford, Finley Roman*

### 11:00 Lilac BD

#### Affordable, Quick, and Easy Games: Pick Three

Panelists discuss tabletop games they enjoy, that cost less than \$30, are easy to play, and are short enough that a group of gamers can play three or four different games in an evening.

*Terrence Miltner (M), John Ickes, Mary Anne Mohanraj, Helen Montgomery, N. Frances Moritz*

### 11:00 Cypress

#### Dorsai Irregulars Meeting, cont.

Not done yet. Nothing to see here. Move along.

### 11:00 Autographing Table (in Dealers' Room)

*Dale Cozort, Neal Litherland, Winifred Halsey*

### 12:00 Junior BC

#### Common, But Annoying SF Tropes

Science fiction is full of common ideas and repeated concepts that might have been fresh at one time, but now may indicate a laziness on the part of the creator. What are some of the common tropes in science fiction and fantasy that deserve to be mocked and retired? Hear our panelists' bugbears and share your own.

*Sue Burke (M), Malda Marllys, Justin Matulonis, N. Frances Moritz, David "Ordo" Ordonez*

### 12:00 Lilac AC

#### Choosing the Right Medium

From acrylics to multimedia to pixels, how does an artist choose which medium to use for a project, and what goes in to mastering a new medium? Do different ideas require different media?

*Mary Anne Mohanraj (M), Kat Huddleston, Alice Liddell, Charles Ott*

### 12:00 Lilac BD

#### Old Stories That Still Talk to Us

Although many novels and short stories, even favorites, have aged poorly, other works manage to reach across the years and still have something important to say to modern audiences. Which stories stand the test of time and why should younger audiences consider picking them up?

*David Hirsch (M), Toni Bogolub, Dale Cozort, Dina Krause, Spinneret*

### 12:00 Cypress

#### Guest of Honor Readings

*A.M. Dellamonica, Kelly Robson*

### 12:00 Boardroom

#### Readings

*A.M. Arktos, Richard Garfinkle*

### 12:00 Autographing Table (in Dealers' Room)

*Rich Horton*

### 1:00 Junior BC

#### Does Good Balance Evil?

Humans are complex. Someone can do inordinate amounts of good, but can also perform evil acts. Can one evil act outweigh all the good a person does? How do we determine what to overlook when evaluating a person's contributions to society?

*Angeli Primlani (M), Paul Hahn, Mark Huston, Dina Krause, Finley Roman*

### 1:00 Lilac AC

#### Robson Interviews Willis

Kelly Robson will talk with Connie Willis (via Zoom) about the processes they use plotting their novels and stories. Hear these two Nebula winners talk about what happens before (and while) the words find their way onto paper.

*Kelly Robson, Connie Willis (via Zoom)*

### 1:00 Lilac BD

#### Promoting Your Work

Whether you are traditionally published, self-published, or hybrid, promoting your work is a major part of being a successful author. What methods are most useful, which ones are frowned upon, are there lines that shouldn't be crossed?

*Bill Fawcett (M), Eleanor Imbody, Alice Liddell, Mary Anne Mohanraj, Alec Nevala-Lee*

### 1:00 Cypress

#### Panel: Recording Your First Solo Album

So you're recording your first solo album! Two people who recorded their first albums in the last year will be talking with each other and the audience about what they learned, whatthey would do again, and what they'd change if given the opportunity.

*Lauren Oxford, Daniel Gunderson*

### 1:00 Boardroom

#### Readings

*Chris Gerrib*

### 1:00 Autographing Table (in Dealers' Room)

*Alexei Collier, Clifford Royal Johns, W.A. Thomasson*

### 2:00 Junior BC

#### Creating Faith/Religion/Mythos in Stories

Religion, mythology, and faith play a great role in many peoples' lives. Why should made-up characters be any different? But how do you create a believable religion in your works that feels authentic?

*Alexei Collier (M), Tim Akers, A.M. Dellamonica, Alice Liddell, Donna J.W. Munro*

### 2:00 Lilac AC

#### Artist Guest of Honor Slide Show

Lauren Raye Snow presents her artwork in a curated and informational presentation to (re-)introduce you to her magical works.

*Lauren Raye Snow*

### 2:00 Lilac BD

#### Phandemonium Book Club

A discussion of *Gods, Monsters, and the Lucky Peach* by Kelly Robson.

*David Hirsch*

### 2:00 Cypress

#### Court and Country Concert

Court and Countryis an *a cappella* vocal ensemble that brings well-researched performances of early choral music to popular audiences. Their repertoire includes secular and sacred pieces from medievaland Renaissance times, and they have been known to sing a filk song or two

### 2:00 Boardroom

#### Readings

*Clifford Royal Johns, Malda Marllys*

### 2:00 Autographing Table (in Dealers' Room)

*Bill Fawcett, Jody Lynn Nye*

### 3:00 Junior BC

#### Fantasy Governments That Aren't Monarchies

The fallback political system in fantasy is often a monarchy—either a kingdom or an empire. But there are many other types of governments that get mentioned less often. Why aren't these more democratic types of systems used more often? Do monarchies make for an easy story of saving the world from the Evil Empire or are they just the easiest to write? Why is this so?

*Geoff Strayer (M), A.M. Arktos, Sue Burke, Alexei Collier, Mary Anne Mohanraj,*

### 3:00 Lilac AC

#### Two Author Household

Guests of Honor A.M. Dellamonica and Kelly Robson talk to each other and answer audience questions about what living in a two writer household looks like. Is it some sort of Bloomsbury Utopia, a constant battle of insecurities, or something else?

*A.M. Dellamonica, Kelly Robson*

### 3:00 Lilac BD

#### 1632 Retrospective

Begun with a stand-alone novel about a part of West Virginia suddenly being sent back to Europe in 1632 in the middle of the 30 Years War, Eric Flint's book grew into a multi-author series and a community that nurtured new talent and research. What made a relatively unknown period of European history so popular?

*Jody Lynn Nye (M), Bill Fawcett, Mark Huston, Matthew Munro, Angeli Primlani, Mark Roth*

### 3:00 Cypress

#### Dave Stagner Concert

Dave returns to Windycon for the first time in, oh, mumblemumble years, to inflict Christmas joy on a presumably unsuspecting audience! Yes, Christmas. There will be holiday music, because Dave likes playing it and some people like hearing him play it. And instrumentals, because that's how he spent his guitar time during Dystopian Groundhog Day. He'll also play that one song about Wisconsin that he's managed to avoid playing for the past two cons he's attended, just because it's Windycon and you need to understand how he has suffered for your entertainment. And it's a solo show, so audience participation is requested and required so he has someone to talk to other than himself. Who knows, he might talk about how weird it is to talk about himself in the third person! There will probably also be some grim, plodding sci-fi prog epics with huge body counts, and at least one poop joke of a song. And a few pop covers, because people like hearing songs they've heard before, as long as they're not Christmas music. Did I mention there will be Christmas music too?

### 3:00 Boardroom

#### Ludlow Charlington Charity Anthology Reading

Authors read from their work from the Ludlow Charlington anthology published to raise funds for Chicago Shelters.

*K.M. Herkes, Alice Liddell, Steven H Silver*

### 3:00 Autographing Table (in Dealers' Room)

*Lauren Raye Snow*

### 4:00 Junior BC

#### Who's Your Doctor?

Patrick Troughton? David Tennant? Jodie Whitaker? Ncuti Gatwa? Which Doctor did you see first? Does that impact your understanding of the show? Is your first Doctor your favorite Doctor? What aspects of the Doctor transcend any particular incarnation? What do you expect to see from the newest Doctor?

*Arin Komins (M), David Hirsch, Rich Lukes, Angeli Primlani, Finley Roman*

### 4:00 Lilac AC

#### The Legacy of Buckminster Fuller

Alec Nevala-Lee, the author of the recent *Inventor of the Future*, discusses the many inventions of Buckminster Fuller, from geodesic domes to the concepts of Dymaxion and Spaceship Earth. Fuller changed the way we viewed our world and created new ways of interacting with it.

*Alec Nevala-Lee*

### 4:00 Lilac BD

#### Ancient Greece Before the Way We Know It

When people think of Ancient Greece, they usually imagine a very short and particular period of it—Classical Athens. But there are almost three thousand additional years of fascinating and diverse history to consider. When did Homer spin his tales? Who invented plumbing first? Could Greeks have met pharaohs?

*Richard Garfinkle (M), Winifred Halsey, Donna J.W. Munro, Matthew Munro*

#### 4:00 Cypress

##### Beth Kinderman Concert

Beth Kinderman is a progressive folk-rock singer-songwriter from Minneapolis who makes music about myth, transformation, and video game characters who won't sleep with you. This year at Windycon she will appear as a part of a duo with her musical collaborator Dave Stagner in a performance featuring songs from her forthcoming album, "Sisyphus (ten songs about hope)."

#### 4:00 Boardroom

##### Readings

*Jody Lynn Nye, Neal Litherland*

#### 4:00 Autographing Table (in Dealers' Room)

*Mary Anne Mohanraj, Kelly Robson*

#### 5:00 Junior BC

##### Cosplay Runway

A chance to show off your costume and artistry as you strut, crawl, hop, or whatever across the Windycon Cosplay Runway. *Spinneret*

#### 5:00 Lilac AC

##### Regional SF Cons

Panelists discuss the development of regional SF cons. How do they differ and which ones should you consider attending? *Helen Montgomery (M), Clif Flynt, Chris Gerrib, Dina Krause, Mark Roth*

#### 5:00 Lilac BD

##### Humor Post-Pratchett

It has been seven years since Pterry left us. Which authors have tried to fill his shoes and who has had success? Who should one read for that satirical take on the world?

*Jody Lynn Nye (M), Tim Akers, Jason Youngberg*

#### 5:00 Cypress

##### Dr. Mary Crowell Concert

Dr. Mary C. Crowell (she/her) is a geeky musician/songwriter/teacher from north Alabama. Her doctorate is in music composition, and she teaches music theory, composition, music appreciation, and piano and sometimes yoga. Mary writes songs about gaming, coffee, beagles, mythology, and zombies. Check her out on Patreon and her website or follow on Twitter @DrMaryCCrowell. Mary has made a new gaming album—I *Have Missed You at MyTable*.

#### 5:00 Boardroom

##### Readings

*Alexei Collier, W.A. Thomasson*

#### 5:00 Autographing Table (in Dealers' Room)

*A.M. Dellamonica, Angeli Primlani, Steven H Silver*

#### 6:00 Lilac AC

##### Chicon 8 Meeting

*Helen Montgomery*

#### 8:00 Junior BC

##### Concert: Leslie Hudson

Leslie Hudson is a piano-playing singer-songwriter from Stratford ON, Canada, back to Windycon for the first time since 2017. With 4 new albums since (Keep Left at the Fork; the StorySinger set: Live in Germany; Hemlock Honey and Crows; Reset to Factory Specs) they return to Chicago on their Darkest Nights Ghostly Lights US Tour. Songwriter meets storyteller in this prolific artist who's stuck close to home for the last 3 years. Their many albums range from storytelling styles to bluesy bar rock to dialed-up, full-band homages to pop culture.

Leslie is an award-winning songwriter whose passionately honest approach to their craft dives deep into archetype and folklore, modernizing ancient voices and shining a spotlight on the shadowy paths we walk through life, myth, media, and mental health. They've been called "a force of nature," "a redheaded Lucy Lawless" and "the Tori Amos of geek music." Performing with countless tourmates and musicians across Canada, the US and Germany for the last decade, they love to share the stage with their talented friends wherever they find them.

Saturday night, join Leslie and their backing band of fabulous femmes (Amy McNally, Dr. Mary C. Crowell, Jen Midkiff, Cathy McManamon & Lauren Oxford) for an hour of songs, ghost stories and dark nights of the soul.

For music and more visit [lesliehudson.com](http://lesliehudson.com)

#### 8:00 Lilac AC

##### Old Time Radio

After listening to the *X-Minus One* radio episode "Man's Best Friend," by Evelyn E. Smith, the panelists and audience will share their thoughts on the program.

*John Ickes (M), Clifford Royal Johns, Jason Youngberg*

#### 8:00 Boardroom

##### Nowheresville Workshop

Charles Ott is currently writing a science fiction play called *Nowheresville*, but he needs your help. Come to this workshop, read from his script in progress and offer your feedback on this work in progress.

*Charles Ott*

#### 9:00 Junior BC

##### Concert: Lauren Oxford

Our Music Guest of Honor Lauren Oxford is, first and foremost, someone who wants to make you feel things—a bard who uses heart, compassion, and beauty to bolster anyone feeling numbed by the weight of existing in the world right now. Her songs encompass the heartbreaking and the heartwarming, covering, for this set, topics as wide-ranging as a pandemic song for her grandparents, an elegy for a childhood cat, an exploration of a mythological siren's internal struggle, a pro-choice song about herbal abortives, an honest depiction of what it means to struggle with mental health, and yes, heartfelt gay love songs for her wife.

As a special treat, she'll be joined on stage by five brilliant musicians who are also some of her dearest friends: Jen Midkiff (harp & vocal harmony), Dr. Mary Crowell (clarinet), Amy McNally (violin), Cathy McManamon (recorder, djembe), and Leslie Hudson (vocal harmony). This all-star band is where the magic happens, bringing the lush, orchestral sound and tapestry of color that defines her brand-new debut album. With a rich, velvety voice that has been described as "the earth after rain" and a dizzying array of instruments and tunings, Lauren invites you to come along with her on a hopefully rewarding emotional journey that is also a balm for the soul, easy for your ears to listen to and hard for your heart to forget.

#### 9:00 Lilac AC

##### Star Trek: The Current Generation

We're living in a golden age of Trek, with *Picard*, *Lower Decks*, *Strange New Worlds*, *Prodigy*, and, arguably, *The Orville*. What has allowed for the massive production of *Trek* and *Trek*-related shows, how long might they continue, and what new worlds can the franchise seek out?

*David Hirsch (M), Chris Gerrib, Paul Hahn*

#### 10:00 Lilac AC

##### Vampires: Why Do We Still Love Them?

Vampire fiction continues to evolve. Modern stories have moved far beyond Dracula or Saint Germain, and even sparkles. What is the eternal fascination with vampires in all their forms?

*Donna J.W. Munro (M), Chris Gerrib, Kat Huddleston, Lauren Raye Snow, Geoff Strayer*

#### 10:00 Cypress

##### Open Music

Our open music circle starts up right after Lauren's concert ends. Masks are required.

#### Sunday

##### 10:00 Junior BC

##### DragonCon and Worldcon

The two big fall conventions are Worldcon and Dragoncon. Although there is a lot of overlap in their appeal, both offer their own takes on the science fiction and fannish communities. Learn what each has to offer and why both make our community stronger.

*Bill Fawcett, Dave McCarty*

#### 10:00 Lilac AC

##### Creating Rational Characters

Many SF stories dealing with supposedly advanced civilizations feature characters who act like they have never heard of the scientific methods! Perhaps it's the fear of creating a Mary-Sue; yet, rational characters are not necessarily infallible. Rational characters are interesting to follow—so why don't we write more of them?

*Sue Burke (M), Mark Huston, Neal Litherland, Charles Ott*

#### 10:00 Lilac BD

##### How to Build a Science

How to introduce the historical development of various sciences in your work? How were sciences actually developed in different areas of the world?

*Bill Higgins (M), A.M. Dellamonica, K.M. Herkes, Mark Roth*

#### 10:00 Cypress

##### Caves 2.0

This session is for writers and game masters wanting to level up their cave adventure settings. Drawing on the worldwide diversity of cavern systems—and images from actual caves—we'll tour the variety of cavern layouts, passage types, formations, and tricky subterranean conditions.

*Scot Rice-Snow*

#### 10:00 Autographing Table (in Dealers' Room)

*Players to be named later*

#### 11:00 Junior BC

##### Livable Future or Soft Landings

Negotiating with the future...worldbuilding through the frame of what we imagine good outcomes for the near future to be? Some authors are writing optimistic solarpunk and basically trying to imagine futures that we would all be not only willing but happy to live in...without being too pie in the sky either.

*A.M. Dellamonica (M), Sue Burke, Alexei Collier, Kelly Robson*

#### 11:00 Lilac AC

##### AI Art/AI Writing

Is there such a thing as AI Art/Writing? Can it be original and insightful or just an output of programming based on text and image mining.

*Jason Youngberg (M), A.M. Arktos, Lauren Raye Snow, Geoff Strayer*

#### 11:00 Lilac BD

##### Chicago SF Book Discussion: *Dragonflight*

The first of McCaffrey's *Dragonrider* novels launched a series that has been beloved by many fans around the world. How has the novel changed SFF? And after more than 50 years, does it still hold up?

*W.A. Thomasson*



11:00 Cypress

### Karst Landscape 2.0

In the limestone landscapes where caves are found, the ground surface has its own odd terrain, strange hydrology, and weird behavior. Inclusion of these features in a narrative or game setting provides not only realism, but a host of further opportunities for storytelling.

*Scott Rice-Snow*

### 11:00 Autographing Table (in Dealers' Room)

*A conditional draft pick, protected for the lottery*

### 12:00 Junior BC

#### Biology of Fantasy Creatures

Panelists discuss how fantasy creatures could develop. It is easy to imagine a minotaur or a selkie, but how do you apply the known theories of biology to make beings in a logical and scientifically consistent way? Should you attempt to understand their biology or just hand wave to allow the reader's sense of wonder take over?

*Sue Burke (M), Bill Fawcett, Lisa Freitag, Alice Liddell, W.A. Thomasson*

### 12:00 Lilac AC

#### Creating a Magic System

Fans want original magic systems that are well thought out and make sense. What's involved in creating these magic systems? How much can we borrow from old tropes while adding new elements to make these new and different?

*Angeli Primlani (M), A.M. Arktos, A.M. Dellamonica, Jody Lynn Nye*

### 12:00 Lilac BD

#### Creating a Classic: Ray Bradbury and the Writing of Fahrenheit 451

Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451* has been read for pleasure, in schools, and adapted to film and stage. Before any of that happened, Bradbury had to conceive of a world in which books were not only banned, but actively destroyed. Orty Ortwein, from the Ray Bradbury Experience Museum in Waukegan, shares some of the background of this seminal science fiction novel.

*Orty Ortwein*

### 12:00 Cypress

#### Jen Midkiff Concert

Pegasus Award-winning performer Jen Midkiff shares some of her songs about critters, favorite characters, and the downfalls of gravity. Jen's band Wild Mercy is celebrating twenty years of music-making this year, and she and they both have multiple CDs available in the dealer's room. She is also appearing in Leslie Hudson and Lauren Oxford's concerts Saturday night!

### 12:00 Boardroom

#### Readings

*Mary Anne Mohanraj, Dorothy A. Winsor*

### 12:30 Cypress

#### The Alchemysts Concert

The Alchemysts appeared out of cloud-dusted vapors and clusters of rain fog, illuminating the Filk scene with fantastical ballads and mystical musings set to high-energy harmonies. They are an Original Filk Trio out of Chicago.

They are comprised of father and son duo Cooper and James "Loopi" Groves on vocals/percussion. Merry Tea Sheridan is their resident Muse and guitarist, adding smoky harmonies to their distinct sound and a cornucopia of magical original songs. Cooper made his debut at WindyCon 2021, and was hooked! Merry and James fronted six-piece original '90's jam group, ShadowBand.

### 1:00 Junior BC

#### SF as a Metaphor

From *Narnia* to *Alien Nation*, science fiction and fantasy have often offered allegorical and metaphoric commentary on our present world in a non-threatening manner. What are the strengths and issues of using speculative fiction in this way and what happens when consumers fail to grasp the metaphor?

*Kelly Robson (M), David Hirsch, Jody Lynn Nye, Geoff Strayer, Dorothy Winsor*

### 1:00 Lilac AC

#### Why I Love Dinosaurs

Rather than attempting to bring you up to speed on the latest advances in dinosaur research, arguing over the accuracy of the depictions in *Jurassic World: Dominion*, or explore the reasons for their extinctions, our panelists have been given free rein to squee over why they love dinosaurs.

*Richard Chwedyk (M), Malda Marllys, Pat Sayre McCoy*

### 1:00 Lilac BD

#### Transitions of Power

Panelists discuss the transfer of power in modern governments of all types. What are the traditions and what are the modern attitudes?

*Bill Fawcett (M), Sue Burke, Mary Anne Mohanraj, Neil Rest, Mark Roth*

### 1:00 Cypress

#### Amy McNally Concert

Amy McNally has been playing the fiddle for 35 years. She enjoys roller coasters, pie, and whiskey, although maybe not all at once. Come for familiar Celtic melodies, stick around for haunting originals.

### 1:00 Boardroom

#### Readings

*Angeli Primlani*

### 2:00 Junior BC

#### Closing Ceremonies

Join us as we wrap up Windycon 48 and learn what we have in store for next year.

## WindyKidz Programming

*All Kids' Programming is in Magnolia A.*

### Friday

#### 5:00

##### LEGO MANIA

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.

#### 6:00

##### Bead-O-Rama

Join us as we create badge holders for our convention badges. You can use beads or stickers to make your badge uniquely yours! You can also create bracelets or necklaces to share with your friends as well.

#### 7:00

##### Movie and Munchies

MOVIE OVER BY 8:30 PM; Come grab a snack and drink then join your friends as we watch a movie together.

### Saturday

#### 10:00

##### Morning Music and Movement

Learn some yoga moves, create some rhythms & move to the music.

#### 11:00

##### Kid's Gaming

Many games for kids will be available to play including Munchkin, Settlers of Catan/Kids of Catan and Kids of Carcassonne. Feel free to bring your own to play or teach a friend!

#### 12:00

##### CLOSED for Lunch

Please go to the con suite or someplace to eat lunch and relax.

#### 1:00

##### Trivia for Chocolate Kid's Style

Test your knowledge of Movies and Literature created for children and youth. THIS IS FOR THE KIDS NOT ADULTS.

#### 2:00

##### Kookielatch

Enjoy a snack while listening to guest readers share their favorite picture books and stories with you.

#### 3:00

##### Space Art

What do you think outer space looks like? We will look at some slides of nebulae and galaxies and then paint our versions of what we think space is like.

### 4:00

#### Improv Games

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 some with sci-fi and fantasy themes.

#### 5:00

##### CLOSED for SUPPER

Please go to the con suite or someplace to eat supper.

#### 6:00

##### Movie and Munchies

MOVIE OVER BY 7:30 PM; Come grab a snack and drink then join your friends as we watch a movie.

### Sunday

#### 10:00

##### Sunday Morning Anime and Manga Mad Libs

Come watch your favorite anime and help us fill in dialog for Manga to make funny and silly stories.

#### 11:00

##### Crafting, Coloring and COOKIES!

Come join us for a snack, some coloring and crafting.

#### 12:00

##### LEGO MANIA

(Until 2:00 PM) 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.

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# Capricon 43

## Eternity awaits...

Steven Brust  
Author Guest of Honor

Moshe Yudkowsky  
Fan Guest of Honor

Christine Mitzuk  
Artist Guest of Honor



February 2-5, 2023

Capricon.org



**Windycon 49  
will return in 2023  
November 10-12,  
2023**

**What's happening?  
Come to Closing  
Ceremonies  
and find out!**