

# BOSKONE 54

## Program Schedule

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## CONVENTION HOURS

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**Friday Free Hours:** Programming begins at 2:00 pm on Friday, February 17th and is free to the public from 2:00-6:00 pm. Memberships are required after 6:00 pm on Friday and throughout the duration of the convention.

	<b><u>Friday</u></b>	<b><u>Saturday</u></b>	<b><u>Sunday</u></b>
<b>Registration</b>	1pm-8:30pm	9am-6pm	9am-12noon
<b>Coat Check</b>	3pm-11pm	8am-11pm	8am-2pm
<b>Anime &amp; Film Screenings</b>	2pm-late	10am-late	10am-4pm
<b>Art Show</b>	6pm-late	10am-9pm	10am-12noon
• <b><u>Quick Sale:</u></b>		12noon-9pm	10am-12noon
• <b><u>Sales:</u></b>			1pm-3pm
<b>Con Suite</b>	4pm-1am	10am-1am	10am-4pm
<b>Dealers Room</b>	5pm-8pm	10am-6pm	10am-3pm
<b>Filking</b>	4pm-late	10am-late	10am-late
<b>Gaming</b>	5pm-late	10am-late	10am-3pm
<b>Information/Volunteers</b>	3pm-9pm	10am-9pm	10am-3pm
<b>Program</b>	2pm-12 late	10am-late	10am-4pm
<b>Dragonslair/Kids Activities</b>	6pm-9pm	9am-12noon 1pm-5pm 7pm-9pm	9am-2pm

## EVENT LOCATIONS

Art Show Opening (Fri night)	Lower Level, Galleria
Boskone Reception & Meet the Guests (Fri night)	
Boskone Book Party (Sat night)	
Boskone Memorial Toast (Sat night)	
Dead Dog (Sun)	
Featured Filkers Short Concert (Sat night)	2nd Floor, Harbor II & III
Awards Ceremonies (Sat night)	
Special Shakespearean Play (Sat night)	
Featured Filkers Concert (Fri night)	Lobby Level, Marina 1

## ACTIVITY LOCATIONS

Newsletter Distribution Point	2nd Floor, Harbor Foyer
Program Participant Check-in — Program Ops Registration	
Main Programming	2nd Floor, Harbor Rooms
Readings	
Discussion Groups	2nd Floor, Harbor I
Gaming Kaffeeklatches	
Filking (evenings, Fri daytime)	2nd Floor, Lewis
Anime & Film Screenings	2nd Floor, Carlton
Art Demos	Lobby Level, Marina Rooms
Coat Check	
Main Programming	
Newsletter Distribution Point	
Fan Tables	Lower Level, Galleria Foyer
Party Board	
Art Show and Art Show Sales	Lower Level, Galleria
Autographing	
Con Suite	
Dealers Room	
DragonsLair	
Information & Volunteers	
Makers Space	
Newsletter Distribution Point	
Office	
Print Shop	

### ABOUT KAFFEEKLATCHES

- Kaffeeklatch seating is limited. You must sign up at the Program Ops Desk.
- The sign-up sheets for Saturday will be set out on Friday, and the sign-up sheets for Sunday will be set out at noon on Saturday.
- Since space is limited, please be sure to sign up early to secure a place at the table.

# PROGRAM SCHEDULE

## FRIDAY

February 17, 2017

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**2:00 PM** (free to public)

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### **The Boy and the Beast (2015)**

Carlton · 119 min · Film/TV/Media

When a young orphan boy living on the streets of Shibuya stumbles upon a fantastic world of beasts, he's taken in by a gruff warrior beast looking for an apprentice.

### **Steam's Rising: A Proliferation of Punks**

James Moore, KT Bryski (M), Victoria Sandbrook, Melanie Meadors

Harbor II · 60 min · Panel

We all know and may highly esteem steampunk, but it's far from the only Victorian-inspired alternate history subgenre on our bookshelves. What about some of those other V-punks out there — dreadpunk, silkpunk, gaslight fantasy, and more ... Why so many? Are they really all the same, or are there deeper differences in style, content, and approach? (And is gaslight fantasy actually punky at all?)

### **First Contact/Close Encounters**

Christine Taylor-Butler, Ken MacLeod, Jeff Warner (M), Garen Daly

Harbor III · 60 min · Panel

Let's celebrate the 40th anniversary of Steven Spielberg's classic alien meetup movie by looking at first contact issues through its lens. Is *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* a realistic representation of how first contact is likely to go? Does the film stand the test of time? How about one of our newest cinematic favorites, *Arrival*?

40th Anniversary: *Close Encounters*

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**3:00 PM** (free to public)

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### **My Toughest Book**

Brandon Sanderson, Charles Stross, Walter Jon Williams, Darlene Marshall (M), Allen M. Steele Burroughs · 60 min · Panel

What makes a book difficult to write, or difficult to write well? Is ignorance of the subject matter a barrier? Is knowing too much? We're always told to "write what you know, " but can this be a trap? How about troubles with plot, character, dialog, or pacing? Our panel of authors recall which of their works had the most arduous gestation.

### **Wizards, Warlocks, & Witches**

E.J. Stevens, Jane Yolen, Cerece Rennie Murphy, Adam Stemple, Bruce Coville (M) Harbor II · 60 min · Panel

Worlds of wonder don't require witches, warlocks, and wizards, but they are stock-in-trade for fantasists. What can make the dedicated, nonclerical practitioners of magic interesting and different — without abandoning the tropes that make them feel familiar?

### **The Origins and Impact of the Original Star Trek TV Series**

Linda Addison, Melinda Snodgrass (M), MaryElizabeth Yturalde, Justine Graykin Harbor III · 60 min · Panel

Fifty years after Kirk and Spock transported into our lives, the franchise is launching yet another TV series. What do we owe to Lucille Ball? And how have science fiction, the realm of entertainment, and our everyday world been influenced by the original *Star Trek* series?

50th Anniversary: *Star Trek*

**Welcome to Boskone!***Laurie Mann, Leslie J. Turek*

Independence · 60 min · Discussion Group  
 New to Boskone? Or returning after a long absence? Join us for a short discussion about what Boskone has to offer, learn some of the convention lingo, and meet new people.

**Writing: Pros on Prose**

*Vincent O'Neil (M), Julia Rios, Sarah Smith, John Chu, Ellen Asher*  
 Lewis · 60 min · Panel

As Moliere would have it, "All which is not prose is verse, and all which is not verse is prose." But this does not preclude its being poetry. Prose poetry is poetry written in prose yet preserving poetic qualities such as heightened imagery, parataxis, and emotional effects. The panel will discuss the art and mechanics of making good writing great.

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**4:00 PM (free to public)**


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**The Flash, Supergirl, and the DC Universe**

*Jim Mann (M), Priscilla Olson, Dan Moren, Josh Dahl, Erin Underwood*  
 Burroughs · 60 min · Panel

Much of the DC universe, both in comic books and on the screen, has gotten darker. *The Flash* and *Supergirl* (and perhaps *Legends of Tomorrow*) have battled against the trend, and despite having dark moments, have remained fun. These two at least have retained the tone of the classic comics. But does their lightness bring enough balance to the DC universe?

**The Devil Is a Part-Timer! (2013)**

Carlton · 90 min · Film/TV/Media

Anime lovers, join us for the first four episodes of *The Devil Is a Part-Timer!* Hilarity and fun ensue when Satan ends up in modern-day Japan without any magic to aid his return to Hell, and

starts working part-time in a fast food joint.

**When Villains Defy Expectation in Young Adult Literature**

*Juliana Spinik Mills, Tui Sutherland (M), Ken Altabef, Christine Taylor-Butler, Michael Stearns*  
 Harbor II · 60 min · Panel

In YA fiction, the bad guys used to be easy to spot. However, in a world with many shades of gray, villains just aren't as easy to identify. The handlebar mustaches — gone; the dark trench coats — left on their hangers; the goon squads — seem like bunches of ordinary guys. What does the revamped "villain" archetype mean for our young heroes? How does it affect the story and the other characters? How might this more nuanced sense of good/bad play out as young adult fiction continues to evolve?

**Climate Change in SF/F/H**

*Jeff Hecht, Vincent Docherty, Tom Easton, Allen M. Steele (M), Justine Graykin*  
 Harbor III · 60 min · Panel

The political temperature on this topic is not all that's rising. How are our authors covering this? What's more interesting to read and write about: possible solutions or post-apocalyptic disasters? Who's got the best hot take?

**Temperament and the Writer**

*Leigh Perry (M), Esther Friesner, Richard Shealy, Ian Randal Strock, Steve Davidson*  
 Lewis · 60 min · Panel

How can a writer cope with the ups and downs of the writing biz? We thought about using the following title and description, but not *all* writers are miserable depressives!

"Why You Should *NOT* Become a Writer"

[NOTE: Presented as a public service by Boskone.] Listen to us, we beg you! Writing is long lonely hours of cruel labor and dismal self-doubt, plus

humiliation (publishers) and indifference (the public). Our experts will share their most horrifying stories of the degradation and despair of every writer's life. If you're smart you won't even show up. **YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED.**

### **The Death Star**

*Mary Kay Kare, Deirdre Crimmins, Joshua Bilmes, Brendan DuBois*

Marina 2 · 60 min · Panel

**\*Spoiler Alert!\*** Destroying the Death Star, in one of the most iconic battle scenes in film history, was the Rebel Alliance's main goal, and gave our story its happy ending. A single point of weakness brought down this architectural and technological giant. Join us as we discuss the Battle of Yavin, and the defeat of the Death Star. We might even weave in some *Rogue One!*

40th Anniversary: *Star Wars: A New Hope*

### **Using History in SF and Fantasy**

*Bradford Verter, Jo Walton, Mark L. Olson (M), Dana Cameron, Ada Palmer*

Marina 3 · 60 min · Panel

From alternate history to vaguely familiar settings in a unique story world, history is a great resource for inspiration. What are some of the most creative uses of history in fiction? How much research is needed before writing and fleshing out the story? Panelists discuss examples of how history has enriched some of our favorite novels. But can sticking to history hobble your creative instincts? When should we deviate from historical truths and strike out into the creative unknown?

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**4:30 PM (free to public)**

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### **Reading by Daniel Dern**

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

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**5:00 PM (free to public)**

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### **Nonlinear Narratives**

*KT Bryski, Max Gladstone, Charles Stross (M), Michael Swanwick, Sarah Smith*

Burroughs · 60 min · Panel

Beginning ... middle ... end. That's a narrative, right? What about those stories that loop around, flash back, and wander off into other perspectives? Our panelists explore the delights and pitfalls of the nonlinear narrative: discussing reasons for writing them, challenges along the way, and their own favorite examples.

### **Autographing: Brandon Sanderson, Milton Davis**

Galleria · 60 min · Autographing

### **Reading by Christopher Golden**

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

### **The Year in Young Adult and Children's Fiction**

*Maryelizabeth Yturralde (M), Christine Taylor-Butler, Emma Caywood, Juliana Spink Mills, Bruce Coville*

Harbor II · 60 min · Panel

Last year was another great one for young adult and children's fiction. While the explosion of new authors in these genres may be stabilizing, the number of well-written, top-shelf stories continues to soar! Join our panelists for a lively discussion about what you absolutely must read from 2016 — and what we're looking forward to as 2017 continues.

### **Katniss, Furiosa, Elsa, and Rey: The New Woman in SF/F Film**

*Trisha Woodbridge, Vikki Ciaffone, LJ Cohen (M), Victoria Sandbrook*

Harbor III · 60 min · Panel

They each made big impressions in big recent genre movies. What do these characters say about the current state of heroic female figures in our cinematic imaginings? What traditions do they

uphold or subvert? What promise do they hold for our futures?

**Star Trek: "The City on the Edge of Forever"**

David G. Grubbs (M), Jeanne Beckwith, Alan F. Beck, Stephen P. Kelner Jr., Kenneth Schneyer Lewis · 60 min · Panel

"The City on the Edge of Forever" is considered by many the best episode of the first *Star Trek* series. Does it deserve that reputation? Harlan Ellison's original script was altered before production because the producers found it too expensive, too difficult to fit into their shooting schedule, and, though a "lovely story," just not a *Star Trek* tale. Its airing was followed by decades of public arguments between Ellison and showrunner Gene Roddenberry. Who was right?

**Geek Is Chic — Or Is It?**

Frank Wu, Dan Moren, Flourish Klink (M), Leslie J. Turek, Steve Davidson  
Marina 2 · 60 min · Panel

Twenty years ago, being a geek was definitely not a social asset. But modern society, marketing, and media are now branding geek as chic. How do we geeks feel about this? Does fandom as a whole seem like part of the in-crowd? How do we fit in, embrace, or welcome society at large? What lessons have we learned, and how can they be made relevant to/for young fans?

**Roger Zelazny: Lord of Light**

Walter Jon Williams, Jordin T. Kare, Paul Di Filippo (M), Teresa Nielsen Hayden, Jo Walton  
Marina 3 · 60 min · Panel

This Hugo-winning and Nebula-nominated novel created a sensation 50 years ago. Does it still excite the modern reader? Was its mix of SF and fantasy elements influential on other writers, or did it stand alone? Are the Hindu / Buddhist elements mere decoration, or do they provide a

backbone for the story and its world? The book's episodic structure allows individual chapters to contain complete stories. How do those stories coalesce to create a complete novel?

**It's All About Soul: The Films of Alex Garland**

Garen Daly, Grady Hendrix, Craig Shaw Gardner (M), William Hayashi  
Marina 4 · 60 min · Panel

From his first script *28 Days Later* to his directorial debut *Ex Machina*, Alex Garland has explored the implications of a soul in SF settings. The common thread is the looming specter of Death. Let's discuss Alex's work, the futures of morality and artificial immortality, and the relevance of death.

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**5:30 PM (free to public)**

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**Assassination Classroom (2015)**

Carlton · 90 min · Film/TV/Media  
Watch the first four episodes of *Assassination Classroom*, based on the popular comic SF manga series. A powerful octopoid space monster announces plans to destroy Earth within a year. However, he offers mankind one last chance. Taking a job as a junior high homeroom instructor, this surprisingly skilled teacher starts giving his students lessons in how to kill him. Thus an assassination classroom begins.

**Reading by Leigh Perry (Toni L.P. Kelner)**

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

**\* Free Programming Ends \***

Memberships are needed after 6:00 p.m.

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**6:00 PM**

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**The Fantasy Writer's Guide to Beer**

KT Bryski

Burroughs · 60 min · Solo Talk

Over the centuries, beer and brewing have changed a lot. Join beer

historian/blogger KT Bryski as she charts beer's journey from ancient Sumeria to your local brewpub, and find the brew that's best for you! (Samples not provided — I assume everyone knows where to find the bar!)

### **Model Magic**

*Lisa Hertel*

Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair  
Artist and Art Show Director Lisa Hertel leads kids in a hands-on clay demo that is kid-friendly and kid-safe.

### **Reading by C.S.E. Cooney**

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

### **The Harry Potter Effect**

*Emma Caywood, John P. Murphy, Victoria Sandbrook (M), Flourish Klink, Sarah Beth Durst Harbor II* · 60 min · Panel

Twenty years ago, an owl delivered a very special invitation to a boy who lived under the stairs in a small house at 4 Privet Drive. The world has never been the same. Tolkien changed the face of fantasy literature for adults; J.K. Rowling has done the same for children. How has the "Harry Potter Effect" influenced publishing? What have we learned about fantasy — and ourselves — through Harry's adventures? Is 20 years of Potterdom enough? Do we need or want more?

20th Anniversary: *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's (Sorcerer's) Stone*

### **A Cataclysm of Cats! Redux**

*Lorraine Garland, Esther Friesner, Bruce Coville, Steve Davidson (M)*

Harbor III · 60 min · Panel

Some suspect that cats (instead of dinosaurs, space cowboys, pirates, or even aliens) are taking over the world. To avert this pending kitty conquest, our panelists hatch some clever plots that just may save us from the ascendancy of our feline overlords. While they're at it, they'll also discuss how our furry friends are used for the

good of all in SF/F writing. Or is this really just subterfuge? Meow ...

### **The Once and Future Teen**

*Erin M. Hartshorn, Cerece Rennie Murphy, Tui Sutherland, Melanie Meadors (M), Hillary Monahan*

Marina 2 · 60 min · Panel

The young adult market continues to grow, and more and more adults are dipping into YA fiction. Are adults transferring their affections to adult authors as they grow into their 20s, 30s, and beyond? Or are they sticking with the authors and category they loved most when growing up? How is YA's increasing number of adult readers affecting the content of the books, and perhaps its marketing?

### **The Art of Panel-Based Storytelling**

*Brianna Spacekat Wu (M), Jon Hunt, Jane Yolen, Adam Stemple*

Marina 3 · 60 min · Panel

You may know what a comic book is, but what's a storyboard? Are they as similar as they seem? Do these two panel-based storytelling art forms overlap or clash? What kind of training can you find for either? Panelists discuss what it takes to relate a story in each medium. Here's your chance to find out how to dip your pens into the comic book and/or storyboarding professions.

### **Education and Science Fiction & Fantasy**

*Carlos Hernandez (M), F. Brett Cox, Jack M. Haringa, Theodora Goss, Rob Greene*

Marina 4 · 60 min · Panel

Stories with fantastical elements now have some history in the classroom. You increasingly find them from K-12, and at the college level. Panelists discuss speculative fiction in education: how it's currently being used, and what opportunities may open in the future. What works should be taught? What should we say about them?

**6:30 PM**

**Reading by Linda Addison**  
Griffin · 30 min · Reading

**7:00 PM****Name That Magical Creature**

*C. S. E. Cooney, David Anthony Durham, Christine Taylor-Butler, Frank Wu, Michael Sharrow (M), Jennifer Pelland Burroughs* · 60 min · Panel

Creatures from all the known worlds and myriad planes of existence are gathered here to be displayed for the entertainment and edification of the public. Our expert zoologists will attempt to identify the various species of wild magical beasts, gathered from dozens of shadowy realms, competing for the ultimate prize. Audience participation is encouraged: bring your favorite creatures to be identified by our panel of virtuoso beast masters.

**Torpedo of Doom (1966)**

Carlton · 100 min · Film/TV/Media  
The Lightning, a hooded, caped villain resembling Darth Vader, plans to rule the world with his mastery of electricity — throwing deadly lightning-charged torpedoes from his flying-wing aircraft. Olympic champ turned actor-stuntman Herman Brix (later known as Bruce Bennett) is the heroic Marine officer who must stop him. With chases by car, motorcycle, and speedboat, as well as submarine, flying boat, and dirigible action, plus endless well-staged fights, you'll fight to catch your breath!

**Storytelling with Cerece Rennie Murphy**

Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair  
Cerece will be reading from *Ellis and the Hidden Cave*.

**Reading by James Patrick Kelly**

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

**How Buffy the Vampire Slayer Changed Television**

*Tui Sutherland, Ginjer Buchanan (M), Deirdre Crimmins, Daniel M. Kimmel, Gillian Daniels Harbor II* · 60 min · Panel

*Buffy* was just a teen TV drama about a bunch of vampire-hunting kids ... or was it? Let's consider the friendships, the dialogue, the rule-breaking, and the characters. How did these aspects of this 1997-2003 show, individually and combined, help to change viewer expectations — and the very ways we think about episodic storytelling today?

**Achilles Needs a Heel: The Problem With Power**

*Michael Swanwick, Greer Gilman, Paul Di Filippo, Vincent O'Neil (M), Brendan DuBois Harbor III* · 60 min · Panel

Would Achilles be as valiant if he were truly invulnerable? (Or, instead of dying a tragic hero, would he still be acting like a psychopathic adolescent 30 years after Troy?) Can power without vulnerability keep your interest? Do some stories turn into mere puzzle pieces about searching for the chink in the protagonist's armor? What sorts of weakness make the most engaging heroes or heroines?

**Gems from The NESFA Hymnals Sing-Along**

*Ellen Kranzer*

Lewis · 60 min · Filk

*The NESFA Hymnal*, first published by the New England Science Fiction Association (1976), features over 150 FANTastic songs about fandom, from Tolkien to *Star Trek* and everything in between. Join in the fun!

**My Favorite Monster**

*Vincent Di Fate, Adam Stemple, Steve Davidson (M), Julie C. Day, Bob Eggleton Marina 2* · 60 min · Panel

Which monstrous creations have given us the greatest emotional response? Fear (of course), but also disgust, humor,

sympathy, empathy, pathos, schadenfreude ... you get the idea. Do we prefer the "classical" monsters like Frankenstein and werewolves, or are we moved by modern takes, with subtleties or rehabilitations like Maguire's *Wicked*?

### Great Fantasy Worlds

Melinda Snodgrass (M), Mary Kay Kare, Vikki Ciaffone, Justine Graykin, Steven Popkes  
Marina 3 · 60 min · Panel

A satisfying fantasy world is more than the obligatory map at the front of the book. What makes such a world appealing to the reader? Does that appeal correlate with the depth and complexity of the fantasy writer's creation?

### So You Wanna Be a Time Lord

Jim Mann, Don Pizarro (M), Kate Baker, John Chu, LJ Cohen

Marina 4 · 60 min · Panel

The time for a new Time Lord is fast approaching. Peter Capaldi is on his third season, which means his stint as The Doctor is likely nearing an end. We've seen speculation about casting the next Doctor, but maybe Capaldi isn't ready to go, especially since his character is starting to gel. What are our hopes for the future? Do we want to keep Capaldi? Whom would we like next? Maybe we can even ask our panelists why *they* might make a good Time Lord....

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**7:30 PM**

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### Reading by Ken Altabel

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

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**8:00 PM**

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### How to Design a Game

Carlos Hernandez, Stephen P. Kelner Jr. (M), Brianna Spacekat Wu, Erin M. Hartshorn, James Moore

Burroughs · 60 min · Panel  
Have you ever thought, "*That* would make a great game"? Our panel discusses what goes into making a game (video, mmorp, board, table, RPG, card) interesting, playable, fair, and fun. Possibly they'll offer a lightning example of game design.

### Opening Ceremony: Meet the Guests

Erin Underwood (M), Brandon Sanderson, Dave Seeley, Maryelizabeth Yturralde, Lorraine Garland, Lojo Russo, Milton Davis, Ken MacLeod  
Galleria - Stage · 15 min · Event

Welcome to Boskone, New England's longest-running convention for science fiction, fantasy, and horror! Whether you are attending for the first time or the fifty-fourth, we invite you to join us in the Galleria to meet this year's guests.

### Open Activities for Kids

Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair

### Reading by Kenneth Schneyer

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

### The Horror Boom and the Second Wave

Jack M. Haringa (M), Don Pizarro, Christopher Golden, John Langan, Grady Hendrix  
Harbor II · 60 min · Panel

Horror boomed in the 1970s and 1980s, before fading into subplots within romance, SF, and fantasy, as critics proclaimed, "Horror is dead!" Fortunately, horror is too clever — and necessary — to be beaten by Death. In fact, horror is back, bigger and badder than ever! The Second Wave of horror is hot, and it's unabashedly horror again. What drove the first horror boom? What "killed" it? What fearsome forces are driving this Second Wave?

### Comics Confrontational

Brenda Noiseux (M), Robert Howard, Elwin Cotman, Josh Dahl  
Harbor III · 60 min · Panel

Comics hold a multicolored mirror up to society. They can present social dilemmas in a very direct way. What do

SF comics say about the questions that trouble us today? What comics — speculative fiction or otherwise — deal with diversity, mental illness from dementia to autism, or societal issues from the Occupy movement to homicide by cop? Which current confrontational comics are particularly worth reading?

### Worldbuilding in Songs

*Benjamin Newman, Gary Ehrlich, Ellen Kranzer (M)*

Marina 4 · 60 min · Panel

In a song, you only have a few minutes to draw the audience into a world *and* tell your story. If your song is set in an original world, rather than an off-the-shelf one, you have to pack all your worldbuilding into those few minutes. In this panel, we'll talk about songs that do this well, and how they do it.

### Nontraditional Magazines

*Jeremy Flagg (M), Robert B. Finegold M.D., Julie C. Day, Ken Altabef, Neil Clarke*

Marina 2 · 60 min · Panel

If print is dead, then printed magazines are. But, at least in our genres, they're going strong as online magazines and perhaps we should include blogs and both audio and video podcasts. What is the future of the magazine online and in any mutation or combination? And what does this mean for the journalist/writer?

### Name That Skiffy Tune! SF/F Version

*Vincent Docherty (M), Tim Szczesuil, Denise A. Gendron*

Marina 3 · 60 min · Game Show

Name that theme! If you'd know the melodies from *When Worlds Collide*, *The Martian*, and *Red Dwarf* anywhere, come test your knowledge of other famous — and not-so-famous — movie and TV musical themes. Conducting this fun, fast-paced game are Vince Docherty as MC, Denise A. Gendron on

cello, and Tim Szczesuil as scorekeeper and tune wrangler.

### Don't Quit Your Day Job Just Yet

*E. C. Ambrose (M), Kristin Janz, Jennifer Pelland, James Patrick Kelly, David Anthony Durham*

Marina 4 · 60 min · Panel

Mentors, teachers, agents, and editors continuously encounter new authors. These hopefuls possess abilities ranging from brilliant to talented but unpolished to ... well, not so much. How do we balance criticism and praise, and to what degree? While it's our aim to guide emerging writers and to help strengthen their work, is there ever a time to just say no? If so, how?

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**8:15 PM**

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### Boskone 54 Reception

*Erin Underwood (M), Gay Ellen Dennett (M), Milton Davis, Lorraine Garland, Lojo Russo, Ken MacLeod, Brandon Sanderson, Dave Seeley, Maryelizabeth Yturralde, David G. Grubbs (M)*

Galleria - Art Show · 105 min · Event

Connoisseurs and philistines alike: welcome to the Boskone Art Show! Join us in the Galleria for an upscale social mixer. Meet our program participants while enjoying refreshments, stimulating conversation, and exceptional art that's a feast for the eyes. Experience the music and the festivities as Boskone celebrates another year of science fiction, fantasy, and horror in Boston.

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**9:00 PM**

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### Alt-Horror

*Christopher Golden, Grady Hendrix, James Moore (M), Deirdre Crimmins, Linda Addison Burroughs · 60 min · Panel*

Alternative horror may not adhere to all the old-school conventions of the traditional horror genre. But many mainstream or slipstream stories

certainly possess spooky or even terrifying qualities. Panelists discuss their favorite alternative horror movies and books, and why they seemed quite sufficiently scary, relevant, and real.

### **Flash Gordon: Mars Attacks the World (1938)**

Carlton · 68 min · Film/TV/Media

Buster Crabbe as Flash versus Charles Middleton as Ming the Merciless in a feature condensed from a great serial. Can Flash defeat the Nitron Lamp ray destroying Earth's atmosphere? Who are the Clay Men melting into and out of the cave walls? Can we cross a chasm on a beam of light? And how can those stubby Stratosleds fly? Watch science beat magic as the Martian Witch Queen's mystic jewels are destroyed by electricity!

### **Victorian Vampires**

*John Langan, Hillary Monahan, Theodora Goss (M), F. Brett Cox, E.J. Stevens, Lauren Roy*  
Harbor II · 60 min · Panel

Victorian vampires were more than just bloodsuckers. They had style. They had charisma. They had that special, unmistakable *something*. What is it that keeps us coming back for more? Why are these creatures such a perfect fit for this time period? Will their allure endure, or will they fade into the dusty annals of horror history?

### **Hard To Be a Hero**

*Ada Palmer, Sarah Beth Durst, Margaret Ronald, Richard R. Horton (M)*  
Harbor III · 60 min · Panel

Heroines and Heroes come in many flavors: Reluctant, Born, Hidden, Super, and of course, Big Damn. What do they all want? What heroically oversized challenges unite them? What difficulties must they overcome? What sacrifices must they make? How frustrating must it be to never really win, so there's always room for a sequel?

### **Featured Filkers Concert: The Fabulous Lorraine & Lojo Russo**

*Lorraine Garland, Lojo Russo*

Marina 1 · 60 min · Event

The Fabulous Lorraine (aka Quiche Me Deadly) and Lojo Russo, longtime friends and coconspirators, have come to Boskone to entertain us with their fanciful and farcical music — which has yet to disappoint anyone, including themselves.

### **Trivia for Chocolate**

*Priscilla Olson, Mark L. Olson*

Marina 3 · 60 min · Game Show

How much chocolate can you collect in an hour? The MCs ask the questions, and the audience shouts out the answers. Get the correct answer first and win big kudos ... plus a small wrapped chocolate.

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**10:00 PM**

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### **Pictionary with the Pros**

*Bob Kuhn (M), E. C. Ambrose, Erin M. Hartshorn*  
Burroughs · 60 min · Panel

They can write, but can they draw? They can paint, but how quickly can they convey an idea? Come with your examples of speculative fiction works (books, movies, TV shows, etc.) for our two teams of pros (writers, artists, secret masters of fandom ...) to attempt to convey in drawings — without symbols from any lexical system (no hieroglyphs, Chinese characters, dollar signs), and faster than their opponents. Write down your ideas and hand them to the MC, who might also insert fiendish ones of his own.

### **Friday Night Open Singing**

Lewis · 120 min · Filk

Come gather to share songs! Science-fictional or fantastic topics may predominate, but all songs are welcome. Come to sing or just to listen.

**11:00 PM****Deadpool (2016)**

Carlton · 100 min · Film/TV/Media

A motormouth mercenary with a morbid sense of humor is forced to undergo a rogue experiment. He emerges with awesomely accelerated healing power — and a thirst for revenge. Starring Ryan Reynolds and Morena Baccarin.

**SATURDAY**

February 18, 2017

**9:00 AM****Writing Stories With Victoria Sandbrook**

Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair

Start a short story — or two! — in this all-ages mini-workshop. Victoria will offer an exercise to get you started, but where you go from there is up to you! Bring your preferred writing implements and paper.

**9:30 AM****Reading by Kristin Janz**

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

**Reading by Gillian Daniels**

Independence · 60 min · Discussion Group

**10:00 AM****Why Libraries Are (Still) Important**

*Mary Kay Kare (M), Emma Caywood, Lauren Schiller, Ada Palmer, Susan Jane Bigelow*

Burroughs · 60 min · Panel

Or are they? When so much is online or purchasable via superstores like Amazon, what role do libraries still play? How have those roles changed, and what do we foresee for the library of the future as technology advances? And if libraries disappear, what do we do with all of those *books*?

**Autographing: Brendan DuBois,  
Christopher Golden, Cerece Rennie  
Murphy, Adam Stemple**

Galleria · 60 min · Autographing

**Robot Building***Persis Thorndike*

Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair

Let's design and build a robot sculpture out of cardboard and found stuff and hot glue — with Skunk, a Somerville-based artist who creates museum-quality,

heavy-duty TIG welded toys and sculpture made from recycled steel.

### **Saturday Morning Cartoons**

Carlton · 60 min · Film/TV/Media

Looney Tunes and more!

### **Overcoming Stage Fright and Reading Aloud in Public**

*Justine Graykin, Bruce Coville, James Patrick Kelly, C. S. E. Cooney, Bob Kuhn (M)*

Griffin · 60 min · Panel

Public speaking is a difficult thing for many people. Authors may find it especially challenging to read their work aloud. Join us for a discussion on how our panelists prepare when having to give talks or readings, and how they've worked to overcome stage fright. As time allows, audience members will be invited to read a paragraph of their own work, and receive constructive feedback from our panelists.

### **Kaffeeklatsch: Esther Friesner**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

### **Kaffeeklatsch: Fran Wilde**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

### **Inspiring the Next Generation of STEM Leaders Through YA Fiction**

*Christine Taylor-Butler, Rob Greene, Brenda Noisoux (M), N.A. Ratnayake*

Harbor II · 60 min · Panel

Science fiction has inspired countless young people to become astronauts, engineers, and scientists. We'll discuss current science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) topics in YA fiction — and our favorite must-reads from today's authors.

### **Love, Romance, and the Digital Divide**

*Darlene Marshall (M), Jeff Hecht, Sarah Smith*

Harbor III · 60 min · Panel

As technology evolves, how might human empathy and love also evolve? Whether meeting in a cyber space or finding that special someone in the form

of an artificial intelligence, how might human (at least on one side) relationships change over time? How do these types of relationships play out in fiction and film? Is it realistic to see or expect similar patterns in real life? What might the future, as written by science fiction authors or experienced by us, hold for star-crossed lovers, true love, and romance?

### **Reading by Lauren Roy**

Independence · 60 min · Discussion Group

### **The Never-Ending Brainstorm**

*Vincent O'Neil*

Lewis · 60 min · Solo Talk

Taking your inspiration from a gentle breeze to a full-blown hurricane. This presentation takes you through the basics of brainstorming an idea to expanding that concept into a full-length story — while continuing to brainstorm the entire way.

### **SketchUp as a Tool for 2-D Artists: Art Demo by Official Artist Dave Seeley**

*Dave Seeley*

Marina 1 · 120 min · Demonstration

Dave Seeley incorporates a variety of tools and methods in his work. Using the free software SketchUp, Boskone's Official Artist shares how he builds and renders artistic elements within his 2-D illustrations.

### **Indie Pub Your Backlist**

*Walter Jon Williams, Joshua Bilmes (M), Richard Shealy, Juliana Spink Mills, Craig Shaw Gardner*

Marina 2 · 60 min · Panel

Do you have old stories that were published ages ago, now lingering in drawers, gathering dust — not getting read? Independent publishers can be a great resource for letting your stories see the light of day again, and drumming up interest from new readers. We'll discuss ideas on revitalizing your backlist and finding indie publishers for your unpublished early gems.

### The Continuing Adventures of the QUILTBAG

*Julia Rios (M), Hillary Monahan, John Chu*  
Marina 4 · 60 min · Panel

Our genres may be starting to feature more characters and situations from the queer/questioning, undecided, intersex, lesbian, transgender/ transsexual, bisexual, allied/asexual, gay/genderqueer (QUILTBAG) perspective, but there's still a long way to go. How do we move from tokenism to full inclusion? We'll discuss favorite characters, new challenges, and available resources for writers and readers.

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**10:30 AM**

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### Reading by John Langan

Independence · 60 min · Reading

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**11:00 AM**

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### Dawn of the Cyborg Age

*Robert B. Finegold M.D. (M), John P. Murphy, Jeanne Cavelos, Tom Easton, Justine Graykin*  
Burroughs · 60 min · Panel

Darth Vader, RoboCop, Inspector Gadget, and more — science and SF are coming together to create part-human, part-machine cyborgs in ever-more-clever ways. What research will influence the next generation of fictional mashup men or women? (In reverse, how might our favorite cyborgs inspire real science?) With neural interfaces and bionic body parts coming online, how soon until cyborgs stalk amongst us? ... Or are they already here?

### Zootopia (2016)

Carlton · 108 min · Film/TV/Media

In a city of anthropomorphic animals, a rookie cop rabbit and a cynical con artist fox must work together to uncover a conspiracy. Starring the voices of

Ginnifer Goodwin, Jason Bateman, and Idris Elba.

### Group: Knit-A-Long

*Priscilla Olson, Edie Stern*

Galleria - Makers' Space · 60 min · Discussion Group

The Knit-A-Long is our annual exploration of string theory ... and a chance to show off your prowess with needles. Join the fun, and get to finger fine fibers with other obsessive knitters.

### Welcome to Boskone!

*Brenda Noiseux, Tim Szczesuil*

Galleria - Meet Up Spot · 60 min · Discussion Group

New to Boskone? Or returning after a long absence? Join us for a short discussion about what Boskone has to offer, learn some of the convention lingo, and meet new people. Then join our docents for a stroll around the con.

### Autographing: Sarah Beth Durst, Daniel M. Kimmel, Teresa Nielsen Hayden, Paul Tremblay

Galleria · 60 min · Autographing

### Kids Concert With Gary Ehrlich and Mary Ellen Wessels

Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair

### Reading by E.J. Stevens

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

### Mistborn: House War Game Demo

*Joshua Bilmes, Brandon Sanderson*

Harbor I · 60 min · Gaming

Game on! A semi-cooperative resource-management game, *Mistborn: House War* is set during the events of *Mistborn: The Final Empire*, the first novel in the bestselling fantasy series by Boskone Guest of Honor Brandon Sanderson. Join agent Joshua Bilmes for an early look at this exciting new board game — launching this spring!

### Kaffeeklatsch: Jo Walton

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

### **Kaffeeklatsch: Adam Stemple**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

### **Getting Ready for a Workshop**

*Victoria Sandbrook*

Harbor I · 60 min · Discussion Group

What you should consider, how you should prepare, and what they can and can't do for you when you attend a writer's workshop.

### **Special Guest Interview: Maryelizabeth**

**Yturalde**

Harbor II · 60 min · Interview

Boskone's Special Guest, Maryelizabeth Yturalde, joins us from a Mysterious Galaxy far, far away. From running a bookstore to helping to plan programming for Comic-Con International, M'e (as her friends call her) has been a part of the various forms of fandom for ... well, let's just say for a significant amount of time. Join author Dana Cameron and M'e for a lively discussion between old friends.

### **The Perfect Teenage Hero**

*Ken Altabef (M), Jeremy Flagg, Lauren Roy, Erin M. Hartshorn, Michael Stearns*

Harbor III · 60 min · Panel

Teenage heroes are not just younger adults. They are people who step up to save the world — perhaps *because of* their youthful enthusiasm, not-yet-dimmed idealism, and unique perspectives. What does it take for a young Harry Potter, Percy Jackson, or Katniss Everdeen to emerge? What experiences change them? To what extent are they pieces in older players' games? Can they do it on their own?

### **Reading by Elwin Cotman**

Independence · 60 min · Reading

### **Poetry and Performance**

*Linda Addison, C. S. E. Cooney, Ada Palmer, Bob Kuhn (M), Greer Gilman*

Lewis · 60 min · Demonstration

Reading a story aloud and reading a poem aloud take different skills. Or do they? Our panel of poets proffers tips

and advice on performing poetry. They will also share some of their own poetry for your listening pleasure.

### **Seven League (Re)boots: Far From the Fairy Tale**

*Jane Yolen, Daniel P. Derm (M), Carlos Hernandez, Greer Gilman, Fran Wilde*

Marina 2 · 60 min · Panel

How far are fairy-tale reimaginings — in written work, on TV, and in film — diverging from their parent tales? When is it better for a story to meet our expectations? When does a surprising deviation speak more engagingly to us today?

### **Writers on Writing: What's in a Name? A Stonecoast MFA Panel**

*Theodora Goss, James Patrick Kelly (M), Julie C. Day, David Anthony Durham, J. M. McDermott*

Marina 3 · 60 min · Panel

Charles Dickens was a master at choosing precisely the right names for his characters. Just hearing the sounds makes them come to life: Samuel Pickwick, Oliver Twist, Nicholas Nickleby, and more! Like Victorian England, speculative fiction seems to be a mecca for interesting characters doing strange and wonderful things. But do the people in our stories measure up to the Victorians' most fascinating characters? From choosing names to sketching patterns of behavior, quirks, and other personality traits, what does it take to create a well-rounded character in today's genre literature? Are names and naming conventions as important as they once were?

### **The Year of the Podcast**

*Flourish Klink, Kate Baker, Julia Rios (M), Dan Moren, William Hayashi*

Marina 4 · 60 min · Panel

Stats say more than 21% of Americans will listen to a podcast this month. Anecdota say many will be SF fans. The net is noisy with fantastika chat from SF

*Squeecast to Galactic Suburbia*, or fictioncasts such as *Limetown* and *ars Paradoxica*, or fact/fiction mashups like *StarShipSofa* and *Flash Forward*. What's a podcast got that text doesn't? And what are *you* listening to?

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### 11:30 AM

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#### Reading by Lorraine Garland

Griffin · 60 min · Reading

#### Reading by Grady Hendrix

Independence · 30 min · Reading

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### 12:00 NOON

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#### Technology That Will Change the Future

*Edie Stern (M), William Hayashi, Jordin T. Kare, Charles Stross, John P. Murphy*  
Burroughs · 60 min · Panel

From smarter, faster computer chips to printable batteries, green chemistry, and nanocrystals that increase solar cell efficiency, how might technological advances change the future? What's on the horizon? How might it help? Sounds perfect! What could possibly go wrong?

#### Autographing: Craig Shaw Gardner, Steven Popkes, Melinda Snodgrass, Walter Jon Williams

Galleria · 60 min · Autographing

#### DragonsLair Is Closed for Lunch

Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair

#### Reading by Scott Lynch

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

#### The Inconveniences of Victorian Dress

*KT Bryski*

Harbor I · 60 min · Discussion Group

From corsets to combustible skirts, arsenic dyes to button-up flies, this panel examines the irksome realities of everyday Victorian wear — and ponders how these historical details can prove absolute delights for writers.

#### Kaffeeklatsch: Jack Haringa

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

#### Kaffeeklatsch: Max Gladstone

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

#### 50 Minutes of Bad Advice

*Teresa Nielsen Hayden, Michael Swanwick, Fran Wilde (M), Ellen Asher, Ginjer Buchanan*

Harbor II · 60 min · Panel

Everyone has advice to give ... especially to aspiring creative types. However, that doesn't make it *good* advice. In the realm of "She said *what?* LOL!" — without naming names, our panelists share some of the best bad advice they received when first venturing into writing, editing, or art. Did they listen? Did it help?

#### The Magic of Magical Realism in Literature

*Carlos Hernandez (M), Cerece Rennie Murphy, Richard R. Horton, J. M. McDermott, Gillian Daniels*

Harbor III · 60 min · Panel

The genre of magical realism is often defined by contradiction: bringing an acceptance of magic into the rational world — into our world. Does this really make it different than fantasy? What is it about the work of Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Jorge Luis Borges, and Alice Hoffman that makes their stories stand out? Our panelists share the stories they love, why they love them, and what else we should be reading.

#### Roberta Rogow Concert

Lewis · 30 min · Filk

#### What Inspires the Artist?

*Rick Berry, Tom Kidd, Vincent Di Fate, Ingrid Kallick, William H. Niemeyer (M)*

Marina 1 · 60 min · Panel

Our artists shine light on the inspiration behind the fantastic worlds they and their peers create. Learn about their artistic influences, imagery, and styles. They'll talk about the people, art, events, etc., that inspired them as artists — and how those inspirations helped

them to grow and branch out into trying new things. Do artistic trends emerge from common inspiration? How do one's own art and style evolve?

**Fear Factor: "What Are You Scared Of?" "I Don't Know!"**

Gregory Feeley (M), Trisha Wooldridge, Grady Hendrix, Don Pizarro, Jon Hunt  
Marina 2 · 60 min · Panel

H. P. Lovecraft says, "The oldest and strongest kind of fear is fear of the unknown." Peter S. Beagle says, "It is the shadow that terrifies, not the monster it hides. The monster is an actor in a monster suit. The shadow is always real." Should moviemakers reduce screen time for their favorite CGI monstrosities? Should horror writers concentrate on explaining the really scary stuff less? What storytellers excel in making us jump at shadows?

**Fiction From Abroad**

Robert J. Sawyer (M), Ken MacLeod, John Chu, Milton Davis  
Marina 3 · 60 min · Panel

International fiction is a wonderful thing! Let's celebrate some of the great genre fiction being written beyond the borders of the U.S. What should we be reading? What do we want more of? And ... where can we get it?

**The Mystery of Miss Fisher**

Brendan DuBois, Vikki Ciaffone, Janice Gelb (M), Bob Kuhn  
Marina 4 · 60 min · Panel

In the words of *Den of Geek!*, "Miss Fisher has the witty intrigue of *Sherlock*, the opulent style of *Downton Abbey*, and the bombastic feminism of *Agent Carter*. But there's something gloriously unique about *Miss Fisher*." What is it about *Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries* and its Australian TV sleuth? Why does she seem so fresh? Is *Miss Fisher* flying beneath the radar, or is the show overrated? Our panelists sift

through the clues and share why they think Miss Fisher is so "gloriously unique."

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**12:30 PM**

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**Reading by Erin M. Hartshorn**  
Griffin · 30 min · Reading

**Reading by L.J. Cohen**  
Independence · 30 min · Reading

**Gary Ehrlich Concert**  
Lewis · 30 min · Filk

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**1:00 PM**

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**Hugo Award Recommendations: Written Works**

Jim Mann, Bob Devney (M), Vincent Docherty, Richard R. Horton  
Burroughs · 60 min · Panel

What were your favorite SF/F/H novels, novellas, novelettes, short stories, related works, and graphic stories of 2016? Speak up for your own choices and discover others, as well as consensus picks and hidden gems. If you're eligible, don't forget to take notes for your Hugo Awards nominations ballots too — they're due in Finland soon.

**Meet Ray Bradbury**

Carlton · 240 min · Film/TV/Media  
We'll see a 1963 documentary in which the writer explains himself as he goes about LA on his bicycle, mentors younger writers — and develops a story about the telephone system's developing consciousness, predicting the Singularity we are now expecting. Then, some half-hour dramatizations of his best-known stories:

- "The Veldt": A 1951 story predicts virtual reality, as children get absorbed in a playworld gone wrong.

- "The Murderer": A 1953 tale foretells information overload, as a man is driven mad by his smartphone — and is incarcerated for smashing it — in a world saturated by audiovisual input.
- "Zero Hour": This short fiction from 1953 shows how the kids aren't kidding when they collaborate in an alien invasion from another dimension.
- "The Electric Grandmother": A 1969 story explores artificial intelligence, as a family learns to love a humanoid robot.
- "The Flying Machine": In this 1953 tale set in ancient China, innovation cannot stand up to authority, to the dismay of a miraculous inventor.

#### **Encaustics for Adults**

*Lisa Hertel*

Galleria - Makers' Space · 60 min · Demonstration

Join artist Lisa Hertel for a fun session of encaustics — the ancient art of painting with wax.

#### **Autographing: Bruce Coville, Esther Friesner, Jon Hunt, Hillary Monahan**

Galleria · 60 min · Autographing

#### **Song Writing With Featured Filkers Lorraine Garland & Lojo Russo (Kids Only)**

Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair

#### **Reading by Allen M. Steele**

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

#### **Reading by Daniel M. Kimmel**

Independence · 30 min · Reading

#### **Kaffeeklatsch: John Langan**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

#### **Kaffeeklatsch: Sarah Beth Durst**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

#### **Games Song Circle**

*Benjamin Newman*

Lewis · 60 min · Filk

Come join us to sing songs about games of all kinds — board games, video games, role-playing games, games that appear in stories, and stories that appear in games. Bring a song to share or just come to listen.

#### **Bioethical Issues Raised by SF ... and Real Life**

*Stephen P. Kelter Jr., Priscilla Olson (M), Ken Altabef, Kristin Janz, Jeff Warner*

Harbor II · 60 min · Panel

Ongoing advances in biotechnology and biomedical research have delivered some important benefits, and promise more. But they've also brought ethical concerns, calls for moratoria, fresh regulation — and new moral dilemmas.

There may or may not be something wrong with playing God: but are we playing blind? What might we unleash with stem cell research, modified viruses, bioengineered cures, self-replicating nanobots, cloning, and regrowth of organs or limbs?

#### **Guest of Honor Brandon Sanderson: Building a Career**

*Brandon Sanderson, Joshua Bilmes, Moshe Feder*

Harbor III · 60 min · Dialog

Even a prodigiously talented author doesn't become a success alone, or overnight. Boskone 54's Guest of Honor, Brandon Sanderson; his agent, Joshua Bilmes; and his editor, Moshe Feder, discuss how they have worked together to sculpt and craft the award-winning and *New York Times* bestselling author, "Brandon Sanderson," that we know today. All three luminaries share their stories of navigating the shoals of the publishing world as they built friendships and careers within the speculative fiction industry.

**Sketching With Charcoal: Art Demo by Kristina Carroll**

Marina 1 · 60 min · Demonstration  
Award-winning illustrator and artist Kristina Carroll demonstrates the use of charcoal and the mastery of black-and-white imagery.

**Remembering *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* — 20 Years Later**

*Christopher Golden, Maryelizabeth Yturralde, Dana Cameron, Erin Underwood (M), Deirdre Crimmins*

Marina 2 · 60 min · Panel  
"Becoming" Parts 1 and 2, "The Body," "Once More With Feeling," "Hush," and "Graduation Day" are among the best-loved episodes of the series. Our panelists discuss the episodes they love the most, and why the show itself continues to be so memorable and rewatchable — 25 years after the movie, and 20 years after the TV show debuted.

**Immersive Technology**

*Dan Moren, Daniel Dern, N.A. Ratnayake (M), Karl Schroeder, Flourish Klink*  
Marina 3 · 60 min · Panel

The first computers took up entire rooms; we had to invent whole new languages so we could “talk” to them. Now we control mobile phones through hand gestures. Will virtual or augmented reality become common in our daily lives? Will the next phase be a direct human/computer connection? Will we lose ourselves within our technology?

**Archiving Fannish History**

*Bradford Verter, Joe Siclari (M), Mark L. Olson*  
Marina 4 · 60 min · Panel

Too much of the great and glorious history of fandom lies a-moldering in basements, garages, etc. Come learn about two initiatives to preserve the work of heroes and giants, and recover the lost stories of LNFs and the gafiated. The NESFA Archive Project is

assembling a research collection of fanzines, newsletters, convention programs, personal correspondence, business records, and other materials — all related to the history of one of the oldest continuously running science fiction associations this side of Alpha Centauri. The FANAC Project is an online compendium of thousands of fanzines plus audiovisual recordings of fen through the ages. What tidbits do you have to contribute?

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**1:30 PM**

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**Reading by Max Gladstone**

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

**Reading by Julie Day**

Independence · 30 min · Reading

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**2:00 PM**

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***Arrival* and the Morality of Time**

*Kenneth Schneyer (M), Daniel M. Kimmel, Stephen P. Kelner Jr., Rob Greene, Jeffrey A. Carver*

Burroughs · 60 min · Panel  
Arriving in late 2016, *Arrival* was instantly acclaimed as that rare Hollywood phenomenon, a thinking fan’s movie. Let’s discuss the issues that it presents — concerning language, determinism, and the moral dimension of the fourth dimension of time — as well as their (deeper?) treatment in the film’s source, Ted Chiang’s prizewinning 1998 novella “Story of Your Life.”

**Game of Thrones: What’s Next?**

*Priscilla Olson*

Harbor 1 · 60 min · Discussion Group  
Our yearly attempt to speculate on the future of everyone’s favorite spec fic TV show (not to mention the books)! Join us for another lively discussion of what appealing pageantry and perversity or delectable butchery and

betrayal await us. Speaking of which, now that we've outrun the story from the books, does anyone really know what's in store for the characters we hate to love and the ones we love to hate? Warning — possible spoilers ahead!

**Kaffeeklatsch: Jane Yolen**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

**Kaffeeklatsch: Patrick and Teresa Nielsen Hayden**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

**Art of the Fantastic: A Journey Into Creation (Documentary)**

*William H. Niemeyer (M)*

Harbor II · 60 min · Film/TV/Media

Join us for a special viewing of *Art of the Fantastic*, by writer/director William Niemeyer. This artful documentary focuses on imaginative realism: its creative process, historic importance, and widespread influence. The film also covers the influences on imaginative realism itself, from the caves of Lascaux, to the likes of Michelangelo and Da Vinci, and through the centuries to more contemporary artists of the genre including Frank Frazetta, Boris Vallejo, Michael Whelan, Bob Eggleton, Donato Giancola, and Dave Seeley, just to mention a few. (Followed by a live panel discussion.)

**From Maladies to Medicine**

*LJ Cohen (M), Robert B. Finegold M.D., E. C. Ambrose, David G. Shaw*

Harbor III · 60 min · Panel

Panelists share tips and tricks on how to realistically injure and heal your characters. Learn what questions to ask when it comes to the effects of specific injuries. Hear how certain modern and ancient medical practices and medicines can help with healing. Find out how authors make their characters' pain and recovery feel real and relatable.

**Reading by Theodora Goss**

*Independence* · 30 min · Reading

**Reading by Brett Cox**

*Griffin* · 30 min · Reading

**Autographing: Debra Doyle, James D. Macdonald, Ken MacLeod, Charles Stross**

*Galleria* · 60 min · Autographing

**Dragon Stories & Crafts With Tui Sutherland**

*Galleria* · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair

**Epics Song Circle**

*Mary Ellen Wessels, Bethany Allen*

*Lewis* · 60 min · Filk

From the traditional great narrative poems that have defined whole cultures, to modern stories that merit the term due to their depth and scope, people have been telling — and singing — epics since the dawn of history. Join us to sing about your favorite epics. Bring a song to share, or just come to listen.

**How Audiobooks Differ From Books and Why That Matters**

*James Patrick Kelly, Bruce Coville, Bob Kuhn (M), Ginjer Buchanan, C. S. E. Cooney*

*Marina 1* · 60 min · Panel

Audiobooks are considered simply ways you can experience books with less effort, or while doing something else (like driving). But must audiobooks be merely epiphenomena of their written forms? How could the genre of audiobooks evolve if the connection with books in print were broken? With text-to-speech software, would they be much different from radio plays?

**Afrofuturism in Speculative Fiction**

*Erick Nunnally, Christine Taylor-Butler, William Hayashi (M), Milton Davis*

*Marina 2* · 60 min · Panel

The *New York Times* defines it as a “social, political, and cultural genre that projects black space voyagers, warriors, and their heroic like into a fantasy landscape.” Rihanna and Beyonce are onboard; so, it seems, are the Black

Panther and the newest wearer of Iron Man's mantle. However, Nnedi Okorafor says, "I understand the uses of it, but I do not consider myself an Afrofuturist." Let's briefly discuss the labels, then move on to the literature. What are its origins? What recent work shouldn't be missed? How is Afrofuturism influencing science fiction, fantasy, and horror today?

### **Skulduggery and Dastardly Deeds in Pulp Fiction**

*Brendan DuBois, Leigh Perry, Scott Lynch (M), Hillary Monahan, Melinda Snodgrass*  
Marina 3 · 60 min · Panel

Let's talk about the unsavory side of fiction, and how writers deal with characters and conflicts that focus on underhanded, unscrupulous, or dishonest behavior or activities — while 1) making the story realistic, 2) keeping the characters likable (when desired), and 3) walking the lines between genres without leaving a chosen genre behind. Why write the rogue?

### **Digital Rights and Other Small Press Traps and Issues**

*Darlene Marshall (M), Walter Jon Williams, Neil Clarke*  
Marina 4 · 60 min · Panel

How has the revolution/evolution of digital technology affected the SF publishing field? What has the promise/popularity of eBooks and of ePublishing in general done to demand, and to the whole publishing process? What are the complications of these media, barely out of their infancy? What do writers, readers, and publishers need to know to avoid running into trouble in these exciting (but dangerous) digital waters?

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**2:30 PM**

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### **Reading by Margaret Ronald**

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

### **Reading by Katie Bryski**

Independence · 30 min · Reading

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**3:00 PM**

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### **Earth 2.0: Manned Space Flight in the 21st Century**

*Ian Randal Strock, Jordin T. Kare, Janet Catherine Johnston, N.A. Rathnayake, Allen M. Steele (M)*

Burroughs · 60 min · Panel

From SpaceX orbital jaunts to interstellar travel, the practical boundaries of 21st-century manned space exploration are expanding with each new technical advance. What space flight possibilities have we got in the works today? What more might we achieve in the not-so-distant future? How about a little later out? What are our chances of reaching any of the potential New Earths?

### **Black and White — Art Exhibit Tour**

*Joe Siclari, Edie Stern*

Galleria - Art Show · 60 min · Docent Tour

Take an informative stroll around the Black and White Art Exhibit. You'll hit the highlights with knowledgeable guides who can indicate points of interest.

### **Autographing: C.S.E. Cooney, Jeremy Flagg, James Patrick Kelly, Jo Walton**

Galleria · 60 min · Autographing

### **Comics for Kids**

*Robert Howard, Josh Dahl*

Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair

### **LARPing with Ada Palmer and Max Gladstone**

Harbor I · 60 min · Gaming

An improvisational LARP, focused on role-playing, character creation, worldbuilding, and improvisation, with minimal mechanics. All characters play souls who are stuck in limbo between lives and have something which is keeping them from crossing over. Each character sheet gives a simple skeleton

of backstory, describing why the character is in the in-between, and what the character must do to cross over. Players themselves invent the details of their past lives, including the world and setting (you could be the soul of a Roman prince, a dryad, a robot, a whale ... ) Players then interact and negotiate, develop their characters, and help each other cross over.

### **Writing, Tarot, and Divining the Writer's Block**

*Trisha Wooldridge*

Harbor I · 60 min · Discussion Group

Author and Tarot guru Trisha

Wooldridge leads a discussion on how

Tarot can help writers with plotting, character development, and storytelling — and can even help break through writer's block. Trisha will provide a live demonstration.

### **Kaffeeklatsch: Melinda Snodgrass**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

### **Kaffeeklatsch: Robert Sawyer**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

### **After Art of the Fantastic: A Journey Into Creation (Discussion)**

*William H. Niemeyer (M), Alan F. Beck, Bob Eggleton, Dave Seeley, Michael Whelan*

Harbor II · 60 min · Panel

Following the viewing of William Niemeyer's documentary, several of Boskone's artists join us for an in-depth discussion of fantastic art — touching on the themes, artists, and art history covered in the film.

### **Design Your Own Mythology**

*Esther Friesner, Greer Gilman, Elizabeth Bear, Debra Doyle (M), Sarah Beth Durst*

Harbor III · 60 min · Panel

What goes into mythmaking? Panelists share their experiences in creating mythologies and pantheons — offering up dos and don'ts, tips on resources, and things to think about as you try creating your own coherent mythology.

### **Reading by Susan Jane Bigelow**

*Independence* · 30 min · Reading

### **Song Sequitur**

*Benjamin Newman, Roberta Rogow, Gary Ehrlich, Lojo Russo, Lorraine Garland*

*Lewis* · 60 min · Filk

Join our panel of performers for this impromptu round robin, where every song must "follow" the previous song ... somehow.

### **Discussing Painting Techniques**

*Tom Kidd, Ingrid Kallick, Vincent Di Fate (M), Kristina Carroll, Michael Whelan*

Marina 1 · 60 min · Panel

How are different media and styles of painting utilized? Which are most appropriate for what uses? How does working with oils differ (in terms of product, how it is approached, and how the artist actually feels about the work) from acrylics, watercolors, and so on? The panel may discuss painting on paper or canvas ... or even on panel.

### **Hugo Award Recommendations: Dramatic Presentations**

*Bob Devney (M), Daniel M. Kimmel, Jim Mann, Garen Daly, Deirdre Crimmins*

Marina 2 · 60 min · Panel

What's the greatest stuff you saw last year? Join us to discuss 2016's best movies, TV shows, theatrical productions, and more in the worlds of science fiction, fantasy, and horror. If you're eligible to vote, by all means take notes — your Hugo Awards nominations ballot is due soon.

### **Great Cities of SF/F/H**

*Margaret Ronald, Moshe Feder, Karl Schroeder, Paul Di Filippo (M), Jeffrey A. Carver*

Marina 3 · 60 min · Panel

On Mercury, Kim Stanley Robinson's Terminator moves on giant tracks to stay ahead of dawn. Fran Wilde's unnamed urb spears its towers of living bone far above the clouds. China Mieville's Armada is basically a big

bunch of pirate houseboats. What's your favorite skiffy metropolis? By 2045, 6 billion people may live in cities here on Earth. What will *that* be like?

### **100 Years of Shirley Jackson**

*Maryelizabeth Yturralde (M), John Langan, Jack M. Haringa, F. Brett Cox, Grady Hendrix*  
Marina 4 · 60 min · Panel

Happy birthday, Shirley! Born 100 years ago and dying aged only 48, the author of "The Lottery" and other modern Gothic tales remains one of the most important — and possibly most underrated — American authors of the last century. What writers have felt her unsettling influence? Why can she still send a chill down the spines of today's readers? Let's celebrate Shirley Jackson's first century, and the lasting and dramatic effect her work has had on our fictions.

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## **3:30 PM**

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### **Reading by Ken MacLeod**

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

### **Reading by Carlos Hernandez**

Independence · 30 min · Reading

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## **4:00 PM**

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### **The Year in Astronomy and Physics**

*Mark L. Olson (M), Jeff Hecht, N.A. Ratnayake, Janet Catherine Johnston*  
Burroughs · 60 min · Panel

An annual roundup of the latest research and discoveries in two sciences that matter. Our experts will share what's new and interesting, cutting-edge and speculative. From planets to particles, and beyond!

### **Making Things Out of Trash**

*Steven Popkes*  
Galleria - Makers' Space · 60 min · Discussion Group

Have you ever found an odd item in the trash that you were sure could become

*something* cool, but you couldn't figure out what to actually *do* with it? Join Steven Popkes for a fun discussion of "deep recycling" and learn how you too can have some fun with ... stuff.

### **Autographing: Linda Addison, Ken Altabef, Karl Schroeder**

Galleria · 60 min · Autographing

### **Painting With Wax (Encaustics)**

*Lisa Hertel*  
Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair  
Join artist Lisa Hertel for a fun session of encaustics — the ancient art of painting with wax. Since we will be working with melted wax that is warm, a signed permission slip is required from the parents of children who want to participate.

### **The Odyssey Writing Workshop Discussion**

*Jeanne Cavelos*  
Harbor I · 60 min · Discussion Group  
Director Jeanne Cavelos describes the Odyssey Writing Workshop, an intensive 6-week program for writers of fantasy, science fiction, and horror, held each summer in Manchester, NH. Jeanne explains the structure of the program, the work required, and the pros and cons of workshops. She also describes Odyssey's online classes, its critiques, and the many free resources it offers — including podcasts, interviews, essays, writing tips, and exercises.

### **"Chemistry Is Everything" — Science Speaker Presentation by Milton Davis**

Harbor II · 60 min · Solo Talk  
Milton Davis, Boskone 54's Science Guest, talks chemistry. What is it? Why is it important? Why is chemistry, well, everything? From polymers to global warming, the magic of chemistry binds matter together — or breaks it apart. Milton dives into fundamentals as well as specifics, with a special focus on

acrylic polymer chemistry ... *A research and development chemist who's specialized in acrylic polymer coatings for 30 years, Milton Davis is an industry expert in floor finish technologies, and holds a patent in electronic circuit board cleaning technology.*

### **My Gateway Book**

*Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Daniel Hatch, Elizabeth Bear, Michael Swanwick (M), Ellen Asher*  
Harbor III · 60 min · Panel

We each discuss the work — often but not always a children's or young adult book — that first fired us up about science fiction, fantasy, or horror. For our Guest of Honor Brandon Sanderson, it's *Dragonsbane* by Barbara Hambly. How about *you*, audience member? What do you remember about that first genre work? What if anything made it special? What did you do next? Have you reread it? Did it keep the magic?

### **Kaffeeklatsch: Bruce Coville**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

### **Kaffeeklatsch: Michael Whelan**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

### **Reading by Charles Stross**

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

### **Reading by Craig Shaw Gardner**

Independence · 30 min · Reading

### **Impromptu Harmony Workshop**

*Denise A. Gendron, Mary Ellen Wessels, Lauren Schiller*

Lewis · 60 min · Filk

Want to learn how to sing harmony on the fly? Join our panelists for some fun vocal and listening exercises that will help build this skill.

### **From Rapiers to Ray Guns**

*James D. Macdonald, Scott Lynch (M), Jo Walton, Richard R. Horton*

Marina 1 · 60 min · Panel

From epic fantasy to space war, speculative fiction is rife with useful

tools and weapons that can be used in battle. How much does a writer or reader really need to know about these weapons for fictional frays to feel real? What weapons work best for close-quarters or downrange combat in specific settings?

### **The Copy Editor Is Your Friend**

*Janice Gelb, Brendan DuBois (M), Teresa Nielsen Hayden, Richard Shealy, Neil Clarke*  
Marina 2 · 60 min · Panel

No book goes directly from the author's keyboard to the printing press. Instead, the manuscript follows a convoluted path that involves many people, and finally lands on the desk of your friendly neighborhood copy editor. So, what does a copy editor do? Can (or should) you copyedit your own work? Our panel of red pencil warriors explains how and why copy editors make stories better and authors look good. Learn some tips, tricks, and tales of copyediting woe!

### **Comic Books Are Frozen Movies**

*Brenda Noisieux (M), Chris Irvin, Robert Howard, Kirbi Fagan, Josh Dahl*

Marina 3 · 60 min · Panel

Why comic books—more than novels or short stories or video games or real-life events—are the ideal form of source material for cinematic storytelling.

### **Boskone Book Club: *The Rithmatist***

*Bob Kuhn (M), Brandon Sanderson*

Marina 4 · 60 min · Discussion Group

The Boskone Book Club continues! Join us for a conversation that brings con-goers together to consider one noteworthy work at length. This year we are reading *The Rithmatist* by Brandon Sanderson (our Guest of Honor). Boskone's own Bob Kuhn will lead the discussion; Brandon Sanderson will join the group halfway through for a Q&A. To participate, please read the book and come ready with your

observations on style, plot, character, setting, vision, geometry?...

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**4:30 PM**

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**Reading by Jane Yolen**

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

**Reading by Kate Baker**

Independence · 30 min · Reading

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**5:00 PM**

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**Media Room Closed**

Carlton · 60 min · Film/TV/Media

**Autographing: Neil Clarke, Max Gladstone, Fran Wilde**

Galleria · 60 min · Autographing

**DragonsLair is Closed for Dinner**

Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair

**Noir (Not) at the Bar—Special Boskone Edition**

*Chris Irvin (M), Errick Nunnally (M), Dana Cameron, Vincent O'Neil, James Moore, Melinda Snodgrass, Jack M. Haring*

Griffin · 90 min · Event

Noir at the Bar comes to Boskone for a special afternoon of reading and fun with our noir, crime, mystery, and horror writers.

**Long Live the Legion!**

*Priscilla Olson*

Harbor I · 60 min · Discussion Group

Our yearly salute to the Legion of Super-Heroes. But....it seems like it's still dead.....Anyone have any ideas if/how/when our favorite group of superheroes might don their rings and fly again?

**Just a Minute**

*Frank Wu, Vincent Docherty (M), Teresa Nielsen Hayden, David Anthony Durham, Linda Addison*

Harbor II · 60 min · Game Show

This mecca for motormouths is based upon an English game show that gives each contestant 60 seconds to speak on any subject the moderator speaks on

them — discoursing without repetition, hesitation, or deviation. An opposing contestant can challenge if they catch you pulling any of the above. The fast-talking fun swings from silly to cutthroat as contestants try to win their points in a hilariously high-pressure competition.

**Great Ghost Stories**

*Lojo Russo, E.J. Stevens, Gillian Daniels (M), Rob Greene, Paul Tremblay*

Harbor III · 60 min · Panel

We'll look for and at the best stories that take place on the fringe: stories in which the living and the dead intersect, bringing out the drama, tension, and atmosphere that are the hallmarks of a well-told ghost story. (One darkly shining exemplar: Shirley Jackson's *The Haunting of Hill House*.) Join us for an unsettling discussion of what makes a good ghost story great, and why some tales become enduring classics while others ... don't.

**Kaffeeklatsch: Ken MacLeod**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

**Kaffeeklatsch: Milton Davis**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

**Reading by Jeffrey A. Carver**

Independence · 30 min · Reading

**Creativity and Cognition: Let Art Think**

*Rick Berry*

Burroughs · 60 min · Solo Talk

Award-winning artist Rick Berry is internationally recognized for his powerful “expressionist figurative” works. Blending mythic and visionary themes, his art provokes narrative. Berry has produced countless covers for books, comics, and games. He is credited with the first digital painting for a novel, *Neuromancer* by William Gibson. Berry's oil paintings are in the collections of Neil Gaiman, Stephen King and George R.R. Martin. Executed

without preliminary drawings or references, his unique process is based on cognitive science. Berry “uses art to think”; and shares how one can foment creativity for any endeavor.

### Using Watercolors: Art Demo by Alan F. Beck

Marina 1 · 60 min · Demonstration  
Artist Alan F. Beck shares tips and techniques associated with handling watercolors while doing a live demo — featuring a new fantasy mouse portrait!

### Worldbuilding in Urban Fantasy

*Juliana Spink Mills, Leigh Perry (M), Margaret Ronald, Adam Stemple, Robert B. Finegold M.D.*  
Marina 2 · 60 min · Panel

An inconsistent or poorly described worldscape can furnish a confusing story, or challenge a reader's ability to suspend disbelief, even when you're dealing with a world that is "just like ours." Is creating an urban fantasy world as simple as adding magic to a place like Chicago or New York City? Or is there more to it? Hear from writers who have created fully realized urban fantasy worlds that their readers can almost see, touch, and smell.

### New England: The Legend, The Lore, The Mystery

*Peter Muise (M), Theodora Goss, John Langan, Jeremy Flagg, F. Brett Cox*

Marina 3 · 60 min · Panel  
New England is often a setting in speculative fiction. What is it about this area that makes it full of wonder ... and dread? It's a magical location beyond the page or screen. Let's talk about the real mysteries, legends, lore, and supernatural goings-on in New England.

### Let's Talk About Fanfiction

*Flourish Klink, Roberta Rogow, Kenneth Schneyer, Julia Rios*

Marina 4 · 60 min · Panel  
Fanfiction is fun to read, but writing it often comes with downsides. Are the

perceived deterrents real? What are they? The stigma of not being a real writer? Gender bias? Getting sued for writing within someone else's world? But hey, besides the fun there are benefits ... aren't there?

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**6:00 PM**

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### Star Trek: "The City on The Edge of Forever" (1967)

Carlton · 50 min · Film/TV/Media  
When a temporarily insane Dr. McCoy accidentally changes history and destroys his timeline, Kirk and Spock follow him to prevent the disaster, but the price to do so is high. Starring: William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy, Joan Collins, and the rest of the crew.

### DragonsLair Is Closed for Dinner

Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair

### Sassafrass: Trickster & King Concert

*Ada Palmer, Lauren Schiller Lewis* · 30 min · Filk

### "In the Absence of Instructions to the Contrary, " by Frank Wu

Marina 1 · 60 min · Event  
Frank Wu presents "In the Absence of Instructions to the Contrary, " a shiny new(ish) story published in the November 2016 *Analog*. Dive into the world of a plucky underwater robot, the (human) marine biologist he loves, and ... octopuses.

### Reading by Elizabeth Bear

Marina 2 · 30 min · Reading

### Science and the Media

*Daniel Hatch (M), Tom Easton, Jordin T. Kare, Allen M. Steele*  
Marina 3 · 60 min · Panel  
Newsworthy stuff about science and technology occurs hourly. Does the public have a clue about much (any) of it? What are the effects on progress and, well, civilization when people believe in ghosts but not evolution? What's the

media's role — and responsibility? Is too much tech news just biz news? Should we dumb coverage down, or smarten it up? Any media bright spots?

### **Jewish Havdalah Service**

Marina 4 · 60 min · Other  
Service ending the Sabbath.

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## **6:30 PM**

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### **Boskone Book Party**

Galleria - Stage · 60 min · Event  
Join us for Boskone's Book Party! See what's just out from authors you love, and discover new favorites. The book party will include E. C. Ambrose (Elaine Isaak), Neil Clarke, LJ Cohen, Milton Davis, Grady Hendrix, Carlos Hernandez, Jeremy Flagg, Kristin Janz, Hillary Monahan, Cerece Rennie Murphy, Ian Randal Strock, Christine Taylor-Butler, and more!

### **Ben Newman Concert**

Lewis · 30 min · Filk

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## **7:00 PM**

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### **Doc Savage: The Man of Bronze (1975)**

Carlton · 100 min · Film/TV/Media  
Great design and special effects by George Pal in his last film. Ron Ely is heroic Doc, who battles villainous Captain Seas and "The Green Death" for control of a fabulous resource. Will Doc solve the mystery of his father's death? Will his assistant drop the baby pig under his arm? A sweet and silly salute to the epic hero of yesteryear.

### **Origami for Kids**

Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair

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## **7:30 PM**

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### **Boskone Memorial Toast**

Galleria - Stage · 15 min · Event  
Join Toastmaster David G. Grubbs in the Galleria, immediately following the

Boskone Book Party, for the Boskone Memorial Toast at 7:30 pm sharp as we raise a glass in memory of Boskone's and Boston fandom's recently departed friends. The *Boskone 54 Souvenir Book's* "In Memoriam" section includes a partial list. (*Non-alcoholic drinks are available in the Con Suite and alcoholic drinks will be available at the cash bar in the Galleria.*)

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## **8:00 PM**

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### **A Muddle of Mad Scientists**

Jordin T. Kare, Debra Doyle, John P. Murphy (M), Kristin Janz, John Langan  
Burroughs · 60 min · Panel

From Dr. Frankenstein to Dr. Faustus, Mrs. Coulter to Dr. Horrible, genre fiction is filled with a long list of the crazily creative geniuses known as mad scientists. Why do we love them? What makes the mad scientist character so appealing in horror, comedy, and everything in between? Join us for a mad, mad discussion featuring some of our favorite screwy scientists/inventors from the past, present, and future.

### **Costuming and Mad Hatter Hats**

Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair

### **Open Mic: Villains!**

Kenneth Schneyer (M), Linda Addison (M), C. S. E. Cooney, Kate Baker, Milton Davis, Ada Palmer, Vincent O'Neil, Don Pizarro, Tom Kidd, Julie C. Day, Emma Caywood  
Galleria · 90 min · Event

Live from Boskone ... enjoy the unsavory stylings of our program participants and audience members. They share their open mic skills in the second annual Boskone Open Mic, which this year features our favorite fictitious villains! Each person gives his/her best 5-minute villainous performance — story, poem, song, skit, interpretive dance, or whatever!

***Optional:*** Come dressed as your favorite fictitious villain!

***The Rules:*** Boskone members are invited to join our participants in the open mic by signing up for one of the six open slots at the door to the event, which opens for sign-ups at 7:30 p.m. Each performer is given a firm 5-minute time limit (max), including setup time.

**Lojo & Lorraine: Making Music**

Harbor II+III · 30 min · Event

Join Boskone's Featured Filkers

Lorraine Garland and Lojo Russo for a short concert that kicks off our Saturday night programming with a bang!

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**8:30 PM**

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**Boskone 54 Awards Ceremony**

David G. Grubbs, Gay Ellen Dennett, Michael Sharrow, Jane Yolen, Bruce Coville, Greg Manchess

Harbor II+III · 20 min · Event

Saturday night's theatrical extravaganza continues with the New England Science Fiction Association (NESFA) event in which we present our annual Skylark and Gaughan awards. The Skylark Award honors the work and personal qualities of an exceptional contributor to science fiction. The Gaughan Award is presented to a talented emerging artist. Tonight, we will also be announcing the winner of the annual NESFA Short Story Contest.

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**9:00 PM**

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**Cooking with Chemistry!**

B. Diane Martin, David G. Shaw, Kristin Janz (M) Burroughs · 60 min · Panel

Foodies love to experiment with new equipment and techniques that reformulate their favorite ingredients into exciting new dishes. On the menu: unexpected contrasts of taste and texture, changes in serving temperature,

and how to exploit naturally occurring components in new ways. Our panelists discuss chemistry, cooking, and cool culinary science.

**Master of the World (1961)**

Carlton · 102 min · Film/TV/Media

Vincent Price excels as Jules Verne's Robur the Conqueror, the Captain Nemo of the air, waging war against war from his steampunk airship in 1868. An American scientist and his team become hostages of this fanatical pacifist onboard *The Albatross*, a visual confection designed by Jim Danforth. With Charles Bronson, Mary Webster, Henry Hull.

**The Play's The Thing!**

Laurie Mann (M), Lojo Russo, Lorraine Garland, David G. Grubbs, Erin Underwood (M), Jane Yolen, Bruce Coville, David Anthony Durham, Darlene Marshall

Harbor II+III · 90 min · Event

Boskone's theatrical extravaganza features a live reading of a faux-Shakespearean play that is based upon an Empire far, far away that has striketh back against an intrepid group of friends who are "forced" to confront the dark side. There will be capes and a lighted saber (or two) and shenanigans to entertain audiences of all ages!

**Saturday Night Open Singing**

Lewis · 120 min · Filk

Come gather to share songs!

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**11:00 PM**

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***The Raven* (1963) — Saturday Night Horror**

Carlton · 85 min · Film/TV/Media

Vincent Price dazzles in this wonderfully creepy, classic horror film. A magician who has been turned into a raven is forced to seek out a former sorcerer for help.

## SUNDAY

February 19, 2017

**9:00 AM**

### Marble Ways and Legos

Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair

**9:30 AM**

### Reading by Esther Friesner

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

### Reading by Victoria Sandbrook Flynn

Independence · 30 min · Reading

### Oils and Brushes: Art Demo by Bob Eggleton

Marina 1 · 90 min · Demonstration

Here be dragons! Hugo Award-winning artist Bob Eggleton gives a live painting demonstration.

### Flash Fiction Slam

*Rob Greene (M), James Patrick Kelly, Bruce Coville, Leigh Perry, Dana Cameron*  
Marina 4 · 90 min · Event

Boskone's Flash Fiction Slam returns! Be one of eleven (11) writers to compete for the title of The Flash, reading your own original fiction — which must tell a complete tale within a 3-minute period. Our expert panel of judges will score your work, and you automatically lose 10% for going over your 3-minute time. You may only read your own work. The reader with the top score wins! Sign up before the con for one of eight (8) reading slots on a first-come, first-served basis by signing up online before the convention. Or sign up onsite at Program Ops in the Galleria for one of three (3) at-con openings. A waiting list will also be available.

**10:00 AM**

### Contracts and Talking Terms

*Joshua Bilmes, Victoria Sandbrook, Kenneth Schneyer, E. C. Ambrose (M), Michael Stearns*

Burroughs · 60 min · Panel

Literary contracts can be tricky to navigate. We'll reveal what's behind those mysterious clauses and terms hidden in plain sight. When is a deal too good to pass up — or too good to be true? Discover what's okay to publish, learn to avoid legal landmines, and ask questions about what you most want to know.

### April and the Extraordinary World (2015)

Carlton · 105 min · Film/TV/Media

It's 1941, but in the alternate world of this French-Belgian-Canadian anime, Paris seems asleep in a nineteenth-century civilization, governed by steam and Napoleon V. Resourceful teenager Avril (Marion Cotillard) — and her scene-stealing talking cat, Darwin — must go in search of her scientist parents, who have mysteriously vanished.

### Black and White — Art Exhibit Tour

*Joe Siclari, Edie Stern*

Galleria - Art Show · 60 min · Docent Tour

If you missed the first — this is your chance to stroll around the Black and White Art Exhibit. You'll hit the highlights with knowledgeable guides who can indicate points of interest.

### All About Coffee

*John P. Murphy*

Galleria - Makers' Space · 60 min · Discussion Group

History, mythology, chemistry, storage in bulbs for spaceflight ... tasting?

### Autographing: Lorraine Garland, Lojo Russo, Trisha Wooldridge, Jane Yolen

Galleria · 60 min · Autographing

### Kids' Tour of the Art Show

*Dave Seeley, Persis Thorndike*

Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair

### Reading by Fran Wilde

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

**Kaffeeklatsch: Maryelizabeth Yturralde**  
Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

**Kaffeeklatsch: Neil Clarke**  
Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

**(Return of) The Ten Worst Ideas in SF and Fantasy**

*Vincent Docherty (M), Daniel P. Dern, Paul Di Filippo, Cerece Rennie Murphy, Julie C. Day*  
Harbor II · 60 min · Panel

This panel turned out to be so /s/i/!y/ interesting last time, we just had to do it again! A look at the historically bad ideas used in the field (and often amazingly overused) [and even more-amazingly, frequently still being used!]), and a horrified glimpse of the awful new ideas that are sometimes (astonishingly) taking the place of the horrible old ones. Have fun!

**Fantastic Beasts and the World of Harry Potter**

*Julia Rios, Sarah Smith, John Langan, Tim Szczesuil (M)*  
Harbor III · 60 min · Panel

Join our discussion about the latest movie set in J.K. Rowling's magical world: *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*. What can we extrapolate from the previous films to hint at the planned new five-movie series? Although the protagonist is an adult, how much of the story will revolve around Ilvermory, the American wizarding school? How wide are the horizons of the Potterverse likely to expand?

**Reading by Jeremy Flagg**  
Independence · 30 min · Reading

**Chemistry: Spec Fic's Critical Compound**  
*Milton Davis, Kristin Janz, Mark L. Olson (M), Justine Graykin, Steven Popkes*  
Marina 2 · 60 min · Panel

It's got a long history within speculative fiction, but it's often overshadowed by biology, physics, and astronomy. From transmutating metals to creating fuels,

gunpowder, poisons, and (in *The Martian*) oxygen, chemistry is often the unsung science of our genres. We'll discuss chemistry's practical aspects, and how they are successfully applied within a story. We'll also look at a few bang-up examples where the science went wrong ...

**When Is It a Gimmick?**

*KT Bryski (M), LJ Cohen, John Chu, J. M. McDermott, Brendan DuBois*  
Marina 3 · 60 min · Panel

Story gimmicks often seem like good ideas at the time — but instead of applause, they get eye-rolls. What is a gimmick, exactly? Are they all created equal? We'll discuss common gimmicks, identifying traits, and ways to transform them into truly fresh ideas.

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**10:30 AM**

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**Reading by Jo Walton**  
Griffin · 30 min · Reading

**Reading by Karl Schroeder**  
Independence · 30 min · Reading

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**11:00 AM**

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**Taming the Wolf**

*David Anthony Durham*

Burroughs · 60 min · Solo Talk

"My publisher said, 'David, since that *Acacia* fantasy stuff is done, how about another historical novel?' I said, 'Spartacus?' They said, 'Deal.' Then I tried to write the book. And flailed. A lot. Fantasy had altered my creative DNA. My contract said 'historical novel.' I found myself writing vampires, werewolves, and goddesses. But that could not be. Let's talk about how I almost killed my career. How I tamed the wolf and survived. Chastened, humbled, but wiser for it." — David Anthony Durham

**Autographing: L.J. Cohen, Tui Sutherland, Christine Taylor-Butler**

Galleria · 60 min · Autographing

**Creating Magical Animals With Pipe Cleaners**

*Benjamin Newman*

Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair

**Reading by Robert Sawyer**

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

**Reading by Teresa Nielsen Hayden**

Independence · 30 min · Reading

**Self-Editing Your Fiction — Discussion and Activity**

*Trisha Wooldridge*

Harbor I · 60 min · Discussion Group

Editing your own work can be a tough lesson to learn. Young adult author Trisha Wooldridge guides a discussion and a practical activity on how to edit your own prose. You're welcome to take part in just the discussion. However, Trisha also invites you to bring a few pages of your own prose in order to go through and polish your work together.

**Kaffeeklatsch: Karl Schroeder**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

**Kaffeeklatsch: Walter Jon Williams**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

**NESFA Press Guest Interview: Ken MacLeod**

*Ken MacLeod, Charles Stross*

Harbor III · 60 min · Interview

Charles Stross interviews our NESFA Press Guest, Ken MacLeod. Will we hear about Scotland, zoology, and biomechanics, or the intersection between socialist ideologies and computer programming? Let's find out!

**Official Artist Presentation: The Long Journey to *The Art of Dave Seeley***

Harbor III · 60 min · Solo Talk

Dave promises to tell us, "a story of how disparate contacts and planting seeds along the way, not a popularity

contest, eventually led to the publication of my art monograph." Although the resulting big, beautiful 2014 book is pretty popular around these parts ...

**Denise Gendron Concert**

Lewis · 30 min · Filk

**Cutting-Edge Medical Advances — Science or Science Fiction?**

*Robert B. Finegold M.D., Erin M. Hartshorn, David G. Shaw (M)*

Marina 1 · 60 min · Panel

"Is *that* really possible now? Wow!" Medical technology is advancing at a breakneck pace, but what inspires it? And is it, well, safe? Come hear about some cool new developments that will surprise you today ... and may save your life tomorrow.

**Entering the Speculative Fiction Art World**

*Ingrid Kallick, Kirbi Fagan, Tom Kidd, Brianna Spacekat Wu (M), Michael Whelan*

Marina 2 · 60 min · Panel

New to the SF/F/H art world? Looking to work as an illustrator for books, magazines, comics, or the web? Our artistic panelists share their experiences as well as their advice on breaking into the genre — from building a portfolio to making sales, and everything in between.

**Words Have More Than Meaning**

*Jo Walton, Jane Yolen, Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Priscilla Olson (M), Ada Palmer*

Marina 3 · 60 min · Panel

Words carry flavor, color, temperature, and sound. They have emotional impact and established associations. They sound harsh, funny, smooth, or soothing. We'll discuss word choice and how to achieve these visceral reactions with your writing. We'll even look at how words might lead to new perspectives in setting and plot, through some short demonstrations. Learn about

the subtle power of carefully chosen language.

### Horror and the Happy Ending

*Jack M. Haringa (M), Linda Addison, Paul Tremblay, Hillary Monahan, James Moore, Grady Hendrix*

Marina 4 · 60 min · Panel

Horror hurts. It bleeds. It keeps us coming back, desperate to know more — in the vain hope that the characters might be able to turn things around and survive. Even with the dark and dangerous stories we tell, read, and watch, part of us yearns for a peaceful resolution. While not all endings are horrific, is it horror if it has a happy ending? And what qualifies as “happy” when dealing with horror?

## 11:30 AM

### Reading by Adam Stemple

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

### Reading by Sarah Beth Durst

Independence · 30 min · Reading

### Brimstone Rhine Concert

*C. S. E. Cooney*

Lewis · 30 min · Filk

Poet and author C. S. E. Cooney performs under her songwriting name, Brimstone Rhine.

## 11:45 AM

### Close Encounters of the Third Kind (1977)

Carlton · 137 min · Film/TV/Media

In Steven Spielberg's UFO masterpiece, teams of international scientists investigate the unexplained appearance of strange objects in remote locations. Meanwhile, after an encounter with flying saucers, an ordinary guy becomes increasingly obsessed, and feels inexorably drawn to an enigmatic rock formation in the high desert — where something spectacular is about to happen.

## 12:00 NOON

### Mythologies of the World

*Ken Altabef, Ada Palmer (M), Max Gladstone, Milton Davis, Peter Muise*

Burroughs · 60 min · Panel

From the Norse to the Inuit, cultures around the world have developed complex and intricate mythologies. How have those mythologies found new life in modern fiction? How do authors like Neil Gaiman, Rick Riordan and others incorporate myths and mythological creatures into their work while honoring the originals?

### Beads and Buttons

*Priscilla Olson*

Galleria - Makers' Space · 60 min · Demonstration

Come and see what you can make with beads and buttons (and maybe a bit of wire). Will it be a bracelet? A bouquet of flowers? Or maybe something we haven't even thought of yet. Take a creative break and enjoy yourself!

### Autographing: Dana Cameron, Leigh Perry (Toni L.P. Kelner), Allen M. Steele, E.J. Stevens

Galleria · 60 min · Autographing

### Boskone Mad Libs With Ingrid Kallick

Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair

### Reading by Bruce Coville

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

### Reading by Cerece Rennie Murphy

Independence · 30 min · Reading

### Kaffeeklatsch: Kenneth Schneyer

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

### Kaffeeklatsch: Paul Tremblay

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

### The Sexual Politics of *Ghostbusters*

*Laurie Mann*

Harbor I · 60 min · Discussion Group

In the recent reboot of *Ghostbusters*, how much of a difference did gender-switching the leads make?

### **The Princess Bride Then, Now, & Tomorrow**

*Dan Moren (M), Teresa Nielsen Hayden, Lojo Russo, Ginjer Buchanan*  
Harbor II · 60 min · Panel

Compared to today's film standards, *The Princess Bride's* lack of diversity is apparent and the female roles aren't nearly as strong as their male counterparts. But it's a classic and continues to be loved by people of all ages, sexes, and races. There is something about this film that we key into as story-lovers that continues to keep *The Princess Bride* on our "favorites" list. Why do we love it? Why have these characters stayed with us for so long? What parts of the movie may have failed us over time? Do we think this will remain a classic 10, 20, or even 50 years from now?

30th Anniversary: *The Princess Bride* (film)

### **Reading and Q&A with Guest of Honor Brandon Sanderson**

Harbor III · 60 min · Reading  
Boskone Guest of Honor Brandon Sanderson reads a short selection of his work and answers questions from the audience.

### **Short Attention Span Song Circle**

*Ellen Kranzer, Bethany Allen*  
Lewis · 60 min · Filk

Join us to sing your favorite really short songs — all songs must be under two minutes! Bring a song to share or just come to listen.

### **Abracadabra! Making Magic Real**

*Theodora Goss (M), Craig Shaw Gardner, James D. Macdonald, Jo Walton*  
Marina 1 · 60 min · Panel

In writing fantasies — from epic to urban — how do you keep your story's magic fresh and new? It's a challenge. Rules and boundaries can help, but how do you make the "science" of the supernatural seem, well, natural?

Panelists discuss the perils and potentials of using magic in fiction.

### **Faith in Space**

*Janice Gelb (M), Vikki Ciaffone, Stephen P. Kelner Jr., Jeff Warner*  
Marina 2 · 60 min · Panel

Humanity used to look to the skies and see God (or the gods, depending). Now, we look to the skies and see the future. As we find more Earth-like planets in habitable zones and space travel becomes not only possible but probable, what role will religion play? How might our Earth-based religions change as we launch ourselves into the heavens? What might it mean to colonize other planets? Can SF literature point us toward what the future might hold for spirituality and faith?

### **Science Fiction on the Stage**

*Jeanne Beckwith, James Patrick Kelly, F. Brett Cox, Gillian Daniels (M), KT Bryski*  
Marina 3 · 60 min · Panel

You can't do that on the stage! ... Can you? How do you create a space ship going Warp 5 on the stage? Can you really produce a true SF feel without the flashy special effects that people have come to expect? What kind of opportunities are possible when it comes to writing and producing speculative fiction on the stage rather than in film or in print? Moreover, how do you get started writing for the stage?

### **Brick and Mortar: Bookstores Then, Now, and Tomorrow**

*Maryelizabeth Yturralde, Robert Howard, Joe Siclari (M), Ian Randal Strock, Lauren Roy*  
Marina 4 · 60 min · Panel

Despite surges in online and ebook sales: at least for now, bookstores are here to stay. Our panelists share their favorite stories about the printed matter palaces they love, how to support them, and what continued life they're finding in today's publishing world. How can

we make better use of our bookstores? What purpose do they serve for authors, publishers, and readers? If they ever disappear, whatever will we do?

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**12:30 PM**

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**Reading by John Murphy**  
Independence · 30 min · Reading

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**1:00 PM**

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**Great Beach Reads in Winter**

*Tui Sutherland, William Hayashi, Erin M. Hartshorn (M), Susan Jane Bigelow*  
Burroughs · 60 min · Panel

We hear a lot about summer beach reads. What books are delightful when the weather turns frightful? Let's share recommendations for genre reading that's perfect on a cold winter's day with a hot cup of cocoa and a warm fire.

**Wire Work**

*Lisa Hertel*  
Galleria - Makers' Space · 60 min · Demonstration

Make your own wire trees! They can be free-standing, or made to hang on walls. You can even add fruits and other ornamentation, if you wish.

**Autographing: John Langan, Brandon Sanderson, Robert J. Sawyer, Dave Seeley**  
Galleria · 60 min · Autographing

**Kids Magic Show with Daniel Dern**  
Galleria · 60 min · Children - DragonsLair

**Reading by Debra Doyle and James MacDonald**  
Griffin · 30 min · Reading

**Reading by Greer Gilman**  
Independence · 30 min · Reading

**Kaffeeklatsch: Charles Stross**  
Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

**Kaffeeklatsch: Lojo Russo and Lorraine Garland**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

**Best Book EVER!**

*Maryelizabeth Yturalde, Walter Jon Williams (M), Emma Caywood, Richard R. Horton*  
Harbor II · 60 min · Panel

Some books are good. Some books are great. And some are the BEST BOOK EVER! Let's dish over the works that stand out — that changed the way we think about reading — as well as those that fed our appetite for fine fiction and made us hungry for more. What does it take to top your list of all-time great reads?

**iMorality and Machines**

*Ken Altabef, John P. Murphy (M), Christine Taylor-Butler, Gregory Feeley*  
Harbor III · 60 min · Panel

Whose ethics will define the limits of AI/robot behavior? The ethics of business? Of government? Of the cybermilitary/roboindustrial complex? Will we engage in inorganic Other-blaming when unintended consequences occur, per Asimov's Robot series and sociologist Robert K. Merton? Do the ends justify the AI means, even if we can't be sure where it will end? (And does a robot taking a selfie pass the Turing test ... or fail?)

**The Chosen One(s) Song Circle**

*Bethany Allen*

Lewis · 60 min · Filk

In honor of the 40th anniversary of *Star Wars*, and the 20th anniversary of *Harry Potter*, join us to sing songs about your favorite Chosen Ones — those young heroes and heroines who seem called by destiny to stand against evil. Bring your own songs to share, or just come to listen.

### **Wonder Woman and The Justice League**

Dan Moren, Robert Howard (M), Jennifer Pelland, Erin Underwood

Marina 1 · 60 min · Panel

The Justice League is coming in a sequence of dark and edgy movies. Characters such as The Flash, Aquaman, Cyborg, Batman, and Superman fill the slate of characters who will be appearing. Wonder Woman stands alone as the sole female superhero in these films. Is it enough that these big multi-superhero films include a single female superhero, or are they continuing to miss the point?

### **Time Travel Is the New Black**

Mary Kay Kare, Kenneth Schneyer, J. M. McDermott, Jeff Hecht (M)

Marina 2 · 60 min · Panel

From page to screen, stories that play around with time seem more popular than ever. Examples: Genevieve Cogman's *The Invisible Library*, the movie *Arrival*, and TV's *Timeless*. Why the rising interest in chronofictional shenanigans? Do we yearn for the past, or fear the future? What other works handle this theme especially well? Any new, er, wrinkles in time?

### **Shelley and Austen**

Theodora Goss, KT Bryski (M), E.J. Stevens, F. Brett Cox

Marina 3 · 60 min · Panel

To examine the roots of science fiction and fantasy may well be to examine the works of Mary Shelley, Jane Austen, and some of their peers. While Shelley's *Frankenstein* is an increasingly accepted ur-document for science fiction and horror, Austen's comedies of manners have seen a surprising recent revival in *hommages* by several genre authors. Let's discuss what makes these works important to early speculative fiction, and how they continue to influence us today.

### **The Sense8 Sensation**

Darlene Marshall (M), Lauren Roy, Gillian Daniels, Rob Greene, Jeremy Flagg

Marina 4 · 60 min · Panel

It's shot on locations worldwide and produced by the creators of *The Matrix* and *Babylon 5*, yet this Netflix TV original has largely flown under the radar. (Still, season 2 starts in March.) Panelists examine the intricate storytelling and dizzyingly diverse connections of this sens8tionally groundbreaking SF show. From gender, race, and religion to the struggle of coming to terms with one's identity, *Sense8* treats its subjects in ways network television would never touch. SPOILERS ABOUND for nonviewers, but why not sneak a peek anyway?

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**1:30 PM**

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#### **Reading by Paul Tremblay**

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

#### **Reading by N.A. Ratnayake**

Independence · 30 min · Reading

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**2:00 PM**

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#### **Marketing Matters**

Moshe Feder, Melanie Meadors (M), Neil Clarke Burroughs · 60 min · Panel

Authors are bombarded with "wisdom" about marketing and social media. Let's cut to the chase and get back to basics. When it comes to marketing, what works, what doesn't work, and what are the still-open questions?

#### **Reading by Milton Davis**

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

#### **Reading by John Chu**

Independence · 30 min · Reading

#### **Kaffeeklatsch: Dave Seeley**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

**Kaffeeklatsch: Leigh Perry (Toni L.P. Kelner)**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

**Fun With Silly Poses**

Vincent Docherty (M), Bruce Coville, Frank Wu, David G. Grubbs (M), Jennifer Pelland

Harbor II · 75 min · Panel

Expect to emit great giggles at our group reenactments of scenes from SF/fantasy/horror cover art. Warning: high probability of awkward audience participation and pretty pathetic props.

**Cartoons Aren't Just for Kids**

Max Gladstone, Susan Jane Bigelow

Harbor III · 60 min · Panel

Many of us grew up watching *Looney Tunes* and *Schoolhouse Rock* on Saturday mornings. How has the art form evolved since "Conjunction Junction" rocked our TV screen? What's up with *Steven Universe*, *Archer*, and *The Simpsons*? How do so many cartoons manage to stay so smart, savvy, and relevant to our adult lives? Let's chat about some of our favorites, both old and new, and create a must-watch list for true-blue toon aficionados.

**Cat Songs Sing-Along**

Lorraine Garland, Lojo Russo, Gary Ehrlich

Lewis · 60 min · Filk

Come sing along to some of our favorite filk and folk songs about cats! Lyrics will be projected.

**Edgar Rice Burroughs: A Princess of Mars**

Priscilla Olson (M), Melinda Snodgrass, Ken MacLeod, John Langan, Paul Di Filippo

Marina 1 · 60 min · Panel

You stare at the Red Planet as it drifts through the sky ... and if you're lucky, you'll find yourself on Mars. Revisit Barsoom, and meet up with Thuvia, the Master Mind, savage Green Martians — and (of course) the incomparable Dejah Thoris.

**How Stories End**

Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Michael Swanwick (M), Greer Gilman, J. M. McDermott

Marina 2 · 60 min · Panel

Heinlein often rushed his finales. *Planet of the Apes* ends with a truly monumental twist. Rowling took seven books to set up the boss fight with Mr. Slitsnout. What's *your* favorite finish? How do writers finesse the final strokes of their stories? How do readers respond? (*Warning: by definition, this panel is Spoiler Central.*)

**Internal Character Conflict: Motives Versus Values**

Stephen P. Kelner Jr.

Marina 3 · 60 min · Solo Talk

Well-written characters often struggle with internal conflicts that can drive the story as much as — or more than — external ones. Motivational psychologist, researcher, and writer Dr. Steve Kelner will lay out the different levels and types of motivation identified by research, provide examples from fiction and real life of how they can collide, and show how to use them to create powerful conflicts within a character.

**The Defenders Series and the Netflix Craze**

Erin Underwood (M), Errick Nunnally, Michael Sharrow, Darlene Marshall

Marina 4 · 60 min · Panel

Netflix is delivering a powerhouse selection of superhero shows under the umbrella of *The Defenders*. From *Daredevil* to *Jessica Jones* and *Luke Cage*, Netflix has put the "human" back into superhuman ... or has it? Are these superheroes any different from their Marvelous brethren, who have been tearing up our cities in order to defend the Earth? *The Defenders* seems to be challenging the status quo on what it means to be a hero, and what the consequences and costs are of fighting crime. Panelists discuss their favorite

shows and characters within the series, and what they think Netflix is getting right — and wrong — along the way.

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**2:15 PM**

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**The Rolling Girls (2014)**

Carlton · 60 min · Film/TV/Media

Anime! Ten years after the Great Tokyo War, the prefectures of Japan have split into independent nations. Each nation is ruled by a prophet called "Mosa" and an army called "Mob," as they start to compete to take over other countries.

Four Mob girls from the Saitama clan — Nozomi, Yukina, Ai, and Chiaya — are ordered by their Mosa to roll around Japan on their motorcycles, mediating mediate multiple battles between nations and clans as they emerge.

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**2:30 PM**

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**Reading by E.C. Ambrose**

Griffin · 30 min · Reading

**Reading by Trisha Wooldridge**

Independence · 30 min · Reading

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**3:00 PM**

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**Kaffeeklatsch: Ginjer Buchanan**

Harbor I · 60 min · Kaffeeklatsch

**MASSFILC Business Meeting**

*Benjamin Newman*

Lewis · 20 min · Filk

The (usually brief) monthly business meeting of MASSFILC, the greater Boston area's local filk club.

**Why I Write Horror**

*Erick Nunnally (M), Jack M. Haringa, Craig Shaw Gardner, Deirdre Crimmins, James Moore*  
Marina 3 · 60 min · Panel

We've asked before why people read horror: for the great writing, the thrill, schadenfreude ... but why on earth do we write it? From the author's point of view, why does writing in the horror genre give so much satisfaction? Why does it ignite the creative spark? And what, if anything, does it say about the author who chooses this genre? We'll delve into the psyche of the unsmiling pessimists in the field, and wonder about those in whom horror engenders ghoulish glee.

**Feedback Session**

*Erin Underwood, Tim Szczesuil, Gay Ellen Dennett, Jim Mann*

Marina 2 · 60 min · Discussion Group

This con is over, people. (Except for Dead Dog Filking — and of course teardown, where we'd love to have your help!) But we're already working on Boskone 55. Help us get a good head start with reports on what went right (or wrong) this time, and how to achieve perfection next year.

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**3:30 PM**

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**Dead Dog Open Singing**

Lewis · 100 min · Filk

Come share songs to close out the convention! Science-fictional or fantastic topics may predominate, but all songs are welcome. Come to sing or just to listen

## Gaming Schedule

**Location:** 2nd Floor, Harbor I

### Game Room Hours

- **Friday** 3:00 pm – 12:00 midnight
- **Saturday** 10:00 am – 12:00 midnight
- **Sunday** 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

### FRIDAY

2:00 pm – 12:00 midnight

#### **Samsung Gear VR**

Try out the virtual reality system from Samsung. Experience a spacewalk you'll never forget. Talk to Bill.

Please read the rules for using this system before putting the goggles on.

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

#### **Smash Up!**

Pirates, dinosaurs, robots, geeks, and monsters. What more could you ask for? Pick 2 decks, mix them together, and do your best to take over territories to win the game.

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

#### **Robo Rally**

The classic version of robots running amuck around the factory floor, trying to win the race without getting hurt from other robots or even the factory.

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

#### **City of Iron**

A strategy game of epic proportions. Choose your deck. Use your cash to buy cards that will boost your status on the goods tracks or in your ability to draw cards. Use your deck to attack towns or go after new lands. Manage your resources and lands to push over the competition and win the game.

8:00 pm – 10:00 pm

#### **Munchkin**

The classic game of cards where it's perfectly ok to stab your friends in the back and take their loot.

### SATURDAY

10:00 am – 12:00 noon

#### **Samsung Gear VR**

Try out the virtual reality system from Samsung. Experience a spacewalk you'll never forget. Talk to Bill.

Please read the rules for using this system before putting the goggles on.

10:00 am – 12:00 noon

#### **Paperback**

What happens when you mix Dominion with Scrabble? Paperback. The only limit is your vocabulary.

11:00 am – 6:00 pm

#### **Tattoo: The Game of Ink**

Choose from the available tattoos. Place them carefully on your arm, though. Each tattoo will earn you victory points, but certain tattoos will earn bonuses based on the tattoos around them. Take advantage of this to maximize the point values and win the game.

11:00 am – 6:00 pm

#### **Pigment**

Who knew creating a masterpiece was so difficult. Use the available pigments to finish the paintings so you can bring them to the market. The

first person to complete six paintings wins.

7:00 pm – 12:00 midnight

**Samsung Gear VR**

Try out the virtual reality system from Samsung. Experience a spacewalk you'll never forget. Talk to Bill. Please read the rules for using this system before putting the goggles on.

12:00 noon – 6:00 pm

**Vampires & Villagers: The Curse of Christoph**

Come on down and learn how to play a game of card management, bluffing, and "take that"

12:00 noon – 10:00 pm

**Brace for Impact!**

An epic game of battle between good and evil. Command your warriors, manage your cards, cast your spells and destroy your enemy.

1:00 pm – 6:00 pm

**Guru of the Game Room Tournament**

Games: Ticket To Ride, DC Card Game, Saint Petersburg, Puerto Rico

6:30 pm – 11:30p pm

**Munchkin Quest**

If you thought the Munchkin card game was big wait until you see this. SJ pulled out all the stops to make the ultimate version of Munchkin.

7:00 pm – 11:00 pm

**Merchants of Venus**

Race around the galaxy buying and selling goods for fun & profit. Watch out for those gates, though.

**SUNDAY**

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

**Samsung Gear VR**

Try out the virtual reality system from Samsung. Experience a spacewalk you'll never forget. Talk to Bill. Please read the rules for using this system before putting the goggles on.

10:00 am – 12:00 noon

**Trains**

It's Dominion with a board. Build train lines and depots across Japan, earning victory points all the while.

11:00 am – 3:00 pm

**Tattoo: The Game of Ink**

Choose from the available tattoos. Place them carefully on your arm, though. Each tattoo will earn you victory points, but certain tattoos will earn bonuses based on the tattoos around them. Take advantage of this to maximize the point values and win the game.

11:00 am – 3:00 pm

**Pigment**

Who knew creating a masterpiece was so difficult. Use the available pigments to finish the paintings so you can bring them to the market. The first person to complete six paintings wins.

12:00 noon – 2:00 pm

**Munchkin**

The classic game of cards where it's perfectly ok to stab your friends in the back and take their loot.

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

**Lords of Waterdeep**

Use your men and resources to complete quests to earn victory points.