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Aussiecon 4
68th World Science Fiction Convention
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUSSIECON 4 ANNOUNCES RECORD HUGO NOMINATION TURNOUT

Aussiecon 4, the 2010 World Science Fiction Convention ("Worldcon") taking place in Melbourne, Australia 2 - 6 September, received a record number of nominations for the 2010 Hugo Awards, science fiction's most prestigious and storied awards.

The convention received 864 nominating ballots, up from 799 nomination ballots received at Anticipation, the 2009 Worldcon in Montreal, Quebec, and 483 nomination ballots at Denvention, the 2008 Worldcon in Denver, Colorado. Nominations arrived from 20 countries on 6 continents.

"We are absolutely delighted to have such a record-breaking nomination year," said Perry Middlemiss, co-chair of Aussiecon 4. "It's been a wonderful year for science fiction and fantasy, and we worked hard to encourage fans from all over the world to tell us what they thought was the very best the field has to offer. The nomination turnout assures that the nominations this year will truly be world-class work. We can't wait to see fans from all over the globe here in Melbourne in September."

This year's Hugo Award nominations will be announced 22:00 BST, Easter Sunday 4 April, at Odyssey 2010, this year's Eastercon (British National Science Fiction Convention). Balloting for the Hugo Awards will commence thereafter and will conclude on 31 July at midnight, PST. The Hugo Awards themselves will be announced at the Hugo Awards Ceremony at Aussiecon 4 in Melbourne on Sunday, 5 September 2010.

The Hugo Awards are the premier award in the science fiction genre, honoring science fiction literature and media as well as the genre's fans. The first Hugos were awarded at the 1953 World Science Fiction Convention in Philadelphia (Philcon II), and have honored science fiction and fantasy notables such as Robert Heinlein, Issac Asimov, Robert Silverberg, Ursula K. Le Guin, J.K. Rowling, Neil Gaiman and many others.

Aussiecon 4 (<http://www.aussiecon4.org.au/>) is the 2010 World Science Fiction Convention ("Worldcon"), the yearly gathering of the World Science Fiction Society (WSFS), an organization dedicated to the promotion of the science fiction and fantasy genres. The first Worldcon opened in 1939, in New York City, and has been held annually except during World War II. Aussiecon 4 is the 68th Worldcon and the fourth held in Australia. The convention will be held 2-6 September 2010 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. Guests of Honour for Aussiecon 4 include award-winning author Kim Stanley Robinson, award-winning Melbourne artist Shaun Tan, and dedicated fan Robin Johnson.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Please contact Vincent Docherty at hugoadmin@aussiecon4.org.au.

Aussiecon® 4 is convened under the auspices of the Victorian Science Fiction Conventions Inc (ABN 90 257 542 182) a not for profit association incorporated under the Victorian Associations Act, 1981. "World Science Fiction Society", "WSFS", "World Science Fiction Convention", "Worldcon", "NASFiC", "Hugo Award", and the distinctive design of the Hugo Award Rocket are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.

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