

NESFA®'S REGIONAL SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

# BOSKONE<sup>®</sup>54



**FEBRUARY 17-19, 2017**

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THE PROVOCATIVE LIFE  
OF HARLAN ELLISON**

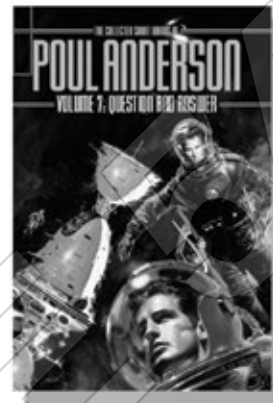
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# Boskone® 55

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Check [www.boskone.org](http://www.boskone.org) after Boskone 54 to register online





NESFA WELCOMES YOU TO

# BOSKONE 54

February 17-19, 2017

Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel

**Guest of Honor**

Brandon Sanderson

**Official Artist**

Dave Seeley

**Special Guest**

Maryelizabeth Yturralde

**Featured Filkers**

Lorraine Garland & Lojo Russo

**Hal Clement Science Speaker**

Milton Davis

**NESFA Press Guest**

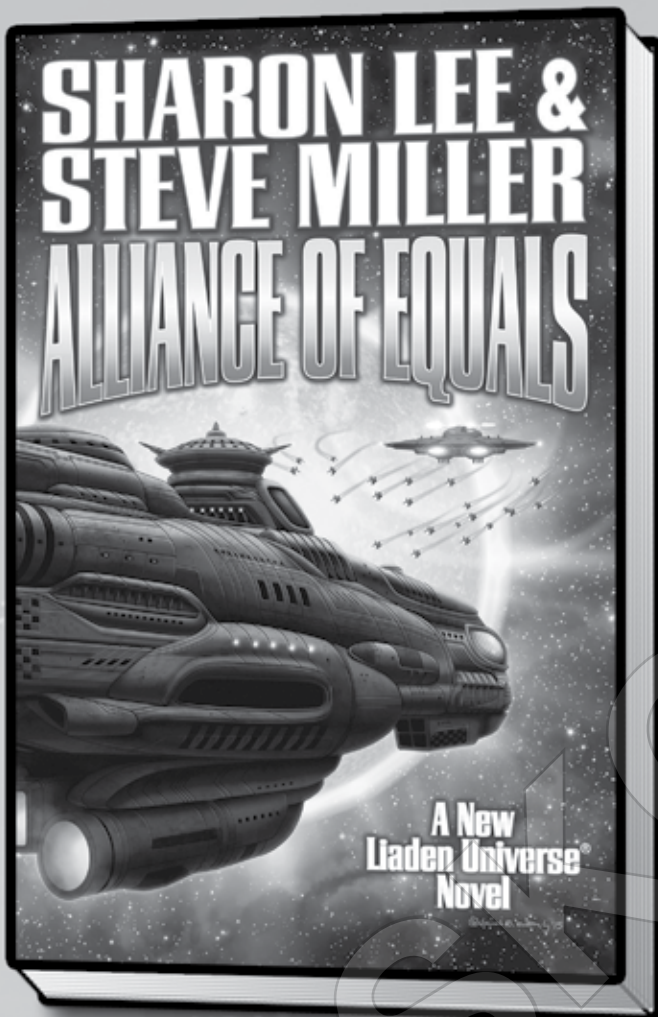
Ken MacLeod

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# Code of Conduct

**BE RESPECTFUL AND COURTEOUS TOWARDS OTHERS.** We expect you to understand that you need to ask before you touch and that no means no. Harassment of any kind, from intimidation to illegal behavior will not be tolerated. This policy applies to your interactions with everybody. We also expect you to refrain from illegal, destructive, and hazardous conduct. Respectful and courteous conduct includes not swinging costume accouterments into people and not stepping on a costumer's train or tail.

Violation of this policy can result in action by the con committee ranging from warnings, to having your badge yanked with no refund, to permanent banning. Action by the convention in no way precludes the injured individual or the hotel from pursuing whatever remedies, civil or criminal, they see fit.

If you feel you are being harassed, please let the con chair or a NESFA officer know. If necessary, please ask a Committee member to find one of those people for you. You will be treated with respect and your concerns will be taken seriously. All names involved will be kept confidential to the extent possible but any accused has the right to know enough detail to be able to defend themselves.

Please note that other behaviors, including but not limited to destruction of hotel property, can also result in the actions described above.

Boskone is a members-only event and the con committee reserves the right to determine who may be a member.

Parties in a hotel room are considered the responsibility of the person who rented the room. Thus, a person throwing a party in his or her hotel room has the right to eject any person from his or her party if he or she deems that the person is behaving inappropriately.

## ABOUT NESFA

**WHAT IS NESFA?** The New England Science Fiction Association is the parent organization for Boskone and NESFA Press. The members are all volunteers who love science fiction. NESFA was founded in 1967 to pursue SF-related projects and to schmooze. Our ethic can best be summed up by "have fun doing work you like." We are passionate about SF, and enjoy talking about and doing things to share our interest with the world. We have about four hundred members (mostly subscribing members) from all over the world. Anyone interested can join as a subscribing member by paying the annual dues of \$20.

**MEETINGS:** NESFA generally holds two scheduled meetings every month, on Sunday afternoons. Also, nearly every Wednesday night members gather at our clubhouse for formal or informal work sessions, and more socializing.

**AWARDS WE GIVE:** NESFA sponsors two annual awards: the Edward E. Smith Memorial Award for Imaginative Fiction (the Skylark) and the Jack Gaughan Award for best emerging artist.

**NESFA PRESS:** NESFA Press publishes the Boskone Guest of Honor books, some Worldcon Guest of Honor books, some fannish books, and the NESFA's Choice series — which reprints previously out-of-print works of classic SF. Please stop by the NESFA Sales table in the Dealers' Room and check out the numerous volumes in this acclaimed series.

**CLUBHOUSE & LIBRARY:** The NESFA clubhouse is at 504 Medford St., Somerville (phone 617-625-2311), just off Broadway near Magoun Square. The clubhouse also houses NESFA's library of thousands of science fiction books, a great reference collection, and an extensive run of SF magazines and fanzines. NESFA members may check out any item in the library.

*For more information, please visit our website at [www.nesfa.org](http://www.nesfa.org), email us at [info@nesfa.org](mailto:info@nesfa.org)*



# Message from the Chair

WELCOME TO BOSKONE 54, THE LONGEST RUNNING SCIENCE-FICTION CONVENTION IN NEW ENGLAND. First and foremost, Boskone is a community of fans who come together to celebrate something they love — science fiction, fantasy, science, books, art, music, games, and more!


Boskone is my favorite convention because it really is all about the people and is designed to allow program participants and fans to mix and mingle in a fun environment. Therefore, it is my pleasure to introduce each of our guests to you with this special series of introductions, written by some of the people who know our guests best. Oh, and be sure to say hello and make them feel welcome.

Whether this is your 1st or your 54th Boskone, you are now part of our community, and I truly hope you enjoy the convention. Now, on with the show!

Erin Underwood  
*Boskone 54 Chair*

## JOURNEY PLANET: BOSKONE

In December 2016, Boskone teamed up with the award-winning fanzine *Journey Planet* to create a special edition that featured some incredible moments from past Boskone conventions. We invite you to visit the Journey Planet website and read the new *Journey Planet: Boskone* by guest editor and Boskone 54 chair Erin Underwood. This special fanzine highlights fun and historic moments as far back as Boskone 1 and features special introductions of our past guests as published in that year's *Boskone Souvenir Book*. In many ways, *Journey Planet: Boskone* serves as a moment in time capturing where our past guests were in their careers, the things that were of interest to members, and some incredible old photos! You can download your PDF edition of *Journey Planet: Boskone* at <http://journeyplanet.weebly.com/journey-planet/journey-planet-32-boskone>



**I'm taking an artist's sabbatical this winter, so unfortunately I won't be at Boskone this year.**

**I will be there as usual in 2018.**

**I look forward to seeing everyone next year!**

**Laurie Toby Edison  
Sign of the Unicorn**

[litedison@candydarling.com](mailto:litedison@candydarling.com)      <http://laurieopal.livejournal.com/>

Do you see ways to improve Boskone?

**Do you have programming ideas for next year?**

Stop by the Volunteers desk, and help make a difference.

Boskone is an all-volunteer organization.

# Boskone 54 Committee List

Chair: Erin Underwood

Treasurer: Ann Broomhead

Staff: Judy Bemis

E-commerce: Sharon Sbarsky

Guest Liaison: Laurie Mann

Debriefing: David G. Grubbs

Hotel: Jim Mann

Staff: Stephen Boucher,

Gay Ellen Dennett, Kris

Snyder, Ben Yallow

Space: Chip Hitchcock

## PROGRAM

---

Program Director: Tim Szczesuil

Deputy: Bob Kuhn

Staff: JoAnn Cox, Bob Devney,

MaryBeth Fitzgerald, Jackie Kamlot,

Melanie Meadors, Benjamin Newman,

Brenda Noiseux, Priscilla Olson, Leslie

Turek, Jeff Warner

KonOpas Configuration: Peter

Olszowka, Mary Olszowka

Program Ops: Jeff Warner

Program Ops Staff: JoAnn Cox,

MaryBeth Fitzgerald, Jackie Kamlot,

Bob Kuhn, Ruth Leibig, Brenda Noiseux,

Priscilla Olson, Ian Stockdale, Tim

Szczesuil, Leslie Turek

Program Tech: Tim Roberge

Assistants: Rick Kovalcik,

Wes Brodsky

Pocket Program: Erin Underwood

Text: Tim Szczesuil, Erin Underwood

Graphics/Layout: Alice Lewis

DragonsLair: Persis Thorndike

Filk: Benjamin Newman

Gaming: Bill Todd

Video/Anime: Mike Kerpan

Classic Films: "Movie" Mike Olshan

Saturday Evening Events: Laurie Mann,

Brenda Noiseux

Events Staff: Erin Underwood

Events Sound: Peter Olszowka, Mary

Olszowka

Reception: Gay Ellen Dennett

Awards Script & MC: David G. Grubbs

Plaques & Awards: Tony Lewis

## GALLERIA/EXHIBITS

---

Art Show: Gay Ellen Dennett

Setup/Teardown: Chip Hitchcock

Art Show Sales: Mark Richards

Auctioneer: Tony Lewis

Staff: The usual suspects from the

P.E.C.F.A.S.C.

Exhibits: Joe Siclari, Edie Stern

Dealers Room: Suford Lewis

Fan Tables: Geri Sullivan

Con Suite: Dale Farmer

Decorations: Geri Sullivan

## SERVICES

---

Information/Volunteers: Michael

Benveniste, Deborah Geisler

Logistics: Rick Kovalcik

Office: Sharon Sbarsky

Vonage Telephone: Dave Cantor

Sign Shop: Robert Luoma

Ribbons: Sharon Sbarsky

Den: Joni Brill Dashoff

Staff: Fred Isaacs, Susan Isaacs

SBOF: Michael Sharrow

Access Services: Joseph Ross

Marketing: Melanie Meadors, Erin

Underwood, JoAnn Cox

Pre-registration: David G. Grubbs

Assistant: Steven Lee

Badge Design: Geri Sullivan

At-Con Registration: Richard Duffy

Deputy and Technical Assistant:

Dave Cantor

Shopping: Dave & Claire Anderson

## PUBLICATIONS

---

Flyer Design: Alice Lewis

Newsletter/Progress Reports (pre-con):

Tony Lewis, Erin Underwood

Newsletter/Helmuth (at-con): Tony

Lewis

Postcard: Dave Grubbs, Tim Szczesuil,

Alice Lewis

Souvenir Book Editor: Sharon Sbarsky

Souvenir Book Design: Errick Nunnally

Advertising Sales: Rick Katze, Erin

Underwood

Restaurant Guide: Thanks to Arisia!

Website/Social Media: Sharon Sbarsky,

Brenda Noiseux

## NESFA

---

NESFA Sales: Rick Katze

Assistant: Kelly Persons

Cash Register Wrangler: Dave Cantor

Short Story Contest: Michael Sharrow

Skylark Award Administrator: Tony

Lewis

Gaughan Award Judges: Arnie & Cathy

Fenner, Greg Manchess

## In Memoriam

Actress and writer **Carrie Fisher**

(b.1956) died on December 27. Fisher

came to prominence in 1977 portraying

Princess Leia in *Star Wars*, continuing to

play the role through the original trilogy,

*The Force Awakens*, and other projects,

as well as the forthcoming Episode 8.

She appeared in other films, including

some of genre interest, wrote multiple

books, both fiction and non-fiction, and

was considered one of Hollywood's best

script doctors. Her parents were actors

Eddie Fisher and Debbie Reynolds.



# In Memoriam

## AN INCOMPLETE LIST OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS WE LOST IN 2016

(sorted chronologically)

A. R. Morlan, January 4  
David Bowie, January 10  
KT FitzSimmons, January 10  
Ray Bowie, January 13  
Dave Marquart, January 14  
Alan Rickman, January 14  
David G. Hartwell, January 20  
Marvin Minsky, January 24  
Robin Schindler, January 24  
Jon P. Ogden, January 27  
Paul Kantner, January 28  
Joe Raftery, January 29  
Murray Tinkelman, January 30  
David Lake, January 31  
Edgar Mitchell, February 4  
Mark Justice, February 10  
Jake Page, February 10  
Bud Webster, February 13  
Umberto Eco, February 19  
Cliff Amos, February 22  
Alison Wall, March 5  
Peggy Ranson, March 19  
Sherry Waitsman, March 19  
(a.k.a. Sherry Katz)  
Justin Leiber, March 22  
Ken Barr, March 25  
Morris Keesan, March 30  
Jill Calvert, April 3  
(a.k.a. Jill Riches, Jill Moorcock)  
Philip Kaldon, April 20  
Ed Dravecky, April 23  
Kim Kincaid, April 27  
Roberta Gellis, May 6  
Katherine Dunn, May 11  
Darwyn Cooke, May 14  
Mike Jencevice, May 16  
Debra Miller, May 23  
Lincoln Kliman, May 28  
James H. Burns, June 2  
Patrick "PJ" Ralph, June 2  
Elle Plato, June 3  
Tina Cawi, June 15  
Anton Yelchin, June 16  
Alvin Toffler, June 27  
Elizabeth Mabel Binker Glock Hughes,  
June 28  
Fred Prophet, June 29  
Noel Neill, July 3  
Robert Ellis, July 15  
Robert E. Yeo, July 16  
Stephanie Clarkson, July 19  
Michael Liebmann, July 26  
Ian Wilson, July 28  
Joyce Katz, July 30 (a.k.a. Joyce Worley)  
Sarah Powers, August 4  
Scott Alter, August 10  
Ruth Stuart, August 12  
Kenny Baker, August 13  
Warren Johnson, August 13  
Robert C. Peterson, August 15  
M.K. Wren, August 20  
Gene Wilder, August 29  
Peter Bromley, September 2  
Brian Lewis, September 7  
Barry R. Levin, September 14  
W.P. Kinsella, September 16  
Dave Kyle, September 18  
Robert Weinberg, September 25  
D. Douglas Fratz, September 27  
Lucy Stern, September 28  
Kira Heston, September 30  
JoEllyn Davidoff, October 1  
Kate Yule, October 4  
Howard Harrison, October 5  
Arthur Jean Cox, early October  
Bill Warren, October 7  
Ed Gorman, October 14  
Norman F. Stanley, October 22  
Sheri S. Tepper, October 22  
Ellen Key Harris-Braun, October 28  
Natalie Babbitt, October 31  
Wil Baden, November 9  
Amy Sefton, November 9  
Lon Atkins, November 28  
Paul A. Carter, November 28  
Joe Dever, November 30  
Rochelle Uhlenkott, mid-December  
Bill Dunbar, December 4  
John Glenn, December 8  
Richard Kyle, December 10  
Nila Thompson, December 10  
Kathleen Meyer, December 13  
Richard Adams, December 24  
Carrie Fisher, December 27  
James C. Christensen, January 8, 2017  
Peter Weston, January 5, 2017  
Sarah Prince, January 27, 2017

Fan **Dave Kyle** (b.1919) died on September 18 following complications from an endoscopy. Kyle was one of the original Futurians and wrote and disseminated the famed yellow pamphlet that led to the first Exclusion Act. He chaired Nycon II, the 1956 Worldcon and the following year chartered a plane to the London Worldcon for his honeymoon. He founded the Knight of The Order of Saint Fantony in 1961, was awarded the Big Heart Award in 1973, and was fan guest of honor at Constellation, the 1983 Worldcon. With Martin Greenberg, he founded early science fiction hardcover publishing company Gnome Press in 1948.

Columbus book dealer **Larry Smith** (b.1946) died on January 20. Smith co-chaired the Columbus in 1976 Worldcon bid as well as chairing Marcons III-XII. He served as a vice-chair for Chicon IV in 1982. He also co-chaired OVFF in 1998 and World Fantasy Con in 2010. In the early 1990s, he purchased Dick Spelman's book business and, along with his wife, Sally Kobee, has sold books at most conventions in the Midwest and East Coast. He has managed the dealer's room at numerous Worldcons and other conventions.

**Peter Weston** died on 5th January, aged 73, after a long struggle with cancer. Peter had been a science fiction fan since the 1960s, and produced his own fanzines from then until the 1980s, first Zenith, later Speculation. There was then a long pause until the 2000s, when he resumed with the jokingly-titled Prolapse and Relapse. Most of this last set are available online at [efanzines.com/Prolapse](http://efanzines.com/Prolapse), while the earliest fanzines will go to the archive at SF Foundation in Liverpool, and in time will also be digitized and put online. They form an especially valuable resource for the history of the "New Wave," but Peter also drew reviews and letters of comment from many notable authors, as well as fans. More recently, he was Fan Guest of Honor at Boskone in 2000. and at Noreascon in 2004, an author with his memoir of British fandom, *With Stars in My Eyes*. He was a proper techie, not a computer wizard, but an old-style metal-basher. Nicholas van Rijn would have employed him like a shot.

# Brandon Sanderson

BY HOWARD TAYLER

The official story of the origin of “Koloss Head-Munching Day” runs something like this: a fan asked Brandon Sanderson whether there were holidays on Scadrial (the world of *Mistborn*) and Brandon joked that “Koloss Head-Munching Day,” December 19th, was quite popular. Online searches suggest that this is Brandon’s birthday, a position supported by the notion that Brandon is jokey and fun. Conveniently, this obscures a darker story.

Bear with me as I piece it together for you. I am Howard Tayler, cartoonist by day, investigative journalist by night, prevaricateur and legerdemaniac extraordinaire.

The paper trail of Brandon Sanderson’s life story appears to show him growing up in Lincoln, Nebraska, which was designated as “refugee-friendly” in 1970. That was just five years before Brandon arrived on this world, supposedly as an infant. Was he actually an extra-terrestrial refugee? It is difficult to be sure, because the various refugee support programs in Lincoln have had forty years to get their stories straight. Public records now largely agree on Brandon’s early schooling, date of birth, and familial relations.

In 1994, just four months before what may or may not have been his 19th birthday, Brandon entered Brigham Young University to study biochemistry—a possible slip in his disguise as a human person totally not interested in figuring out how to take actual human persons apart atom-by-atom. In what some have described as a mad scramble to cover this error, Brandon took a religious sabbatical in South Korea from 1995 to 1997. When he returned to the university he began majoring in English,

during which time he secretly audited numerous classes that had nothing to do with his major, but which would certainly have been of interest to an alien refugee seeking to fully understand his potential enemies.

We are told that it was during this time that Brandon began writing extensively, generating over a million words of unpublished fiction. It looks, at least on one level, like a brute-force attack on the skill set, and in Brandon’s case it worked.

In 2003 an editor at Tor books contacted Brandon with an offer to buy one of his books. *Elantris* was published in 2005. Many aspiring authors acknowledge this type of event—first publication—as an authorial milestone. In Brandon’s case it was especially important; it was the beginning of a career that allowed Brandon, with the help of professional publicists and image consultants, to take full control of the narrative of his life. It’s hardly surprising then that it was AFTER this event that he married an actual human person, the demonstrably wonderful Emily Bushman.

Regarding Emily: she is the ray of hope in this story. Clearly she is in on Brandon’s secret, but her own history of service to fellow humans leaves this



writer convinced that she is more than just a cover. She is the humanizing influence upon Brandon, both literally and figuratively. She has borne human children for Brandon. I do not know whether Brandon’s brief study of biochemistry gave rise to a hybridization technique, but I have met these children, and they’re quite human—further rooting Brandon to our world as a citizen, or so I hope.

In 2007, just 32 years after his arrival as an infant refugee in Lincoln, Brandon was granted the opportunity to complete Robert Jordan’s *Wheel of Time* series. With the editorial help of Harriet Rigney, Brandon Sanderson “leveled up” in his writing, and his inarguably excellent work on this project cemented his place among Earth’s finest writers of fantasy literature for human readers.

But let us consider, for a moment, that literature. With the exception of the concluding *Wheel of Time* volumes, Brandon Sanderson’s epic fantasy work all fits within what he calls “the cosmere,” a meta-setting containing each of the various worlds to which we are introduced in *Elantris*, *Mistborn*, *Warbreaker*, and *The Way of Kings*, respectively. The cosmere is a fictional universe in which

human-like people inhabit multiple worlds, and at least one of those people, the character Hoid, crosses between them. Brandon has said that the cosmere does not contain Earth, but let us look at the implications of his construct in the context of Brandon's own secret history as an extraterrestrial refugee: the cosmere is a setting in which a fully humanoid extra-terrestrial alien can easily fit in among the native humans. It is no stretch, then, to ask where the lines between Brandon's fiction and our reality blur.

Is the cosmere Brandon's creation, or is Brandon a creation of something very like the cosmere? Are his stories meant to explore the human condition in contexts other than Earth's, or are they preparatory texts, allegorical primers, for humans ignorant of the existence of humanoid-filled worlds other than their own? And can the answer be found in Hoid's name? It is obviously a contraction of the word "humanoid," after all. But let's get back to head-munching day. Nothing seems more likely than that an author would, on a lark, create a fictional holiday that corresponds to their own birthday. It's the obvious narrative. It is so very in-character that few people would entertain the possibility that it was a ruse meant to give depth to that author's cover story as a totally native human person, an actual Earthling who has no connection to a race of giant, flesh-amalgams who wish to invade our world and eat our crunchy human heads.



Howard Tayler has been, at one time or another—and these are listed in no particular order—a keyboard player, a marketing guy, a

cat person, a tech-support wonk, an audio engineer, a waiter, a forklift driver, a student, a husband, a burger-slinger, a snake-bite victim, a parent, a record producer, a writer, an illustrator, a blogger, a film critic, a gamer, a heart patient, a podcaster, and a cartoonist.

His close friends will attest to the fact that he is very obviously a tangled mash-up of all the people he's ever been, but they will also reassure you. He is absolutely not yet a giant flesh-amalgam bent upon eating crunchy human heads. [www.howardtaylor.com](http://www.howardtaylor.com)

## TOP HONORS & AWARDS HIGHLIGHTS

### Career awards

2014 Indie Champion Honor Award

### ELANTRIS

Winner – Romantic Times Award, Best Epic Fantasy

### WARBREAKER

#24 New York Times bestseller – hardcover list  
Nominated for the 2010 David Gemmell Legend Award  
Nominated for 2009 Romantic Times Award, Best Epic Fantasy

### THE EMPEROR'S SOUL

Winner – 2013 Hugo Award for Best Novella  
Finalist – 2013 World Fantasy Award for Best Novella

### THE MISTBORN TRILOGY

MISTBORN: THE FINAL EMPIRE (July 2006)  
Finalist – Romantic Times Award, Best Epic Fantasy

### MISTBORN: THE WELL OF ASCENSION (Spring 2007)

Finalists – Romantic Times Award, Best Epic Fantasy

### MISTBORN: THE HERO OF AGES (Fall 2008)

#21 New York Times bestseller – hardcover list  
Winner – Romantic Times Award, Best Epic Fantasy  
Winner – 2008 Whitney Award for Best Speculative Fiction  
Finalist – inaugural David Gemmell Legend Award for Best Fantasy Novel

### MISTBORN: WAX AND WAYNE

THE ALLOY OF LAW  
#7 New York Times bestseller  
Winner – 2011 Whitney Award for Best Speculative Fiction!  
Winner – 2013 Imaginales Prize (France) for "Best Foreign Work of Fantasy"

### SHADOWS OF SELF

#8 New York Times bestseller

Winner – Reddit's 2015 Stabby Awards for Best Novel

### THE BANDS OF MOURNING

#6 New York Times Bestseller

### THE STORMLIGHT ARCHIVE

THE WAY OF KINGS (Tor, August 2010)  
#7 New York Times bestseller – hardcover list  
Winner – 2010 David Gemmell Legend Award for Best Fantasy Novel  
Winner – 2010 Whitney Award for Best Novel and Best Speculative Fiction!  
#25 New York Times bestseller – mass market list  
Nominated – The Geffen Award for Best Translated Fantasy Novel

### WORDS OF RADIANCE (Tor, March 2014)

#1 New York Times Bestseller  
Winner – The David Gemmell Legend Award for Best Fantasy Novel

### THE ALCATRAZ SERIES

ALCATRAZ VERSUS THE EVIL LIBRARIANS (Scholastic, 2007; Tor, 2016)  
Nominated – Golden Sower Award  
Nominated – Nebraska's Children's Choice Book Award  
Nominated – Hawaii's Nene Award  
Nominated – North Carolina's Battle of the Books  
Nominated – Florida's Sunshine State Young Reader's Award

### THE RITHMATIST SERIES

THE RITHMATIST  
#6 New York Times bestseller – Children's List  
#3 YALSA's 2014 Teens' Top Ten List  
Apple's Best Teen Book of 2013

### THE RECKONERS SERIES

#1 New York Times bestselling series

### STEELHEART

#1 New York Times bestseller!!  
Winner – 2013 Whitney Award for Best Youth Novel and Best Young Adult Speculative Fiction  
Winner – Kentucky Bluegrass Award for Best Book for grades 6-8  
Winner – New Jersey Garden State Teen Book Award for grades 6-8!  
Named Audible's Best Audiobook of 2013

### FIREFIGHT

#1 New York Times bestseller

### CALAMITY

#1 New York Times bestseller – series  
#1 Audible bestseller  
Finalist – 2016 Dragon Awards  
Finalist – 2016 Goodreads Choice Awards for Best YA Fantasy & Science Fiction

### Short stories / novellas

#### PERFECT STATE

Winner – Reddit's 2015 Stabby Awards for Best Short Fiction  
Finalist – 2016 Hugo Award for Best Novella

#### GRAPHIC NOVELS

White Sand Vol. 1  
#2 New York Times bestseller



# Dave Seeley

## ORIGINS: CONFESSIONS OF AN IMAGE JUNKIE

BY DAVE SEELEY

I hope you have already owned this book for a couple of years before you decide to go ahead and read the text. I'd like to think that the art had your undivided attention for a very long time before you even noticed that there were words printed alongside the pictures. Fundamentally, the images should speak for themselves. I've always been drawn to the power of visual art and have an appreciation for the way an image can convey emotions and feelings when words fall short. That said, I do find that context is important for me to appreciate the work of others, so I hope some anecdotal background and detail will expand your understanding of who I am, and what it is I am trying to achieve.

I was born in Boston and then quickly moved to suburban Andover, Massachusetts, for a comfortable and happy childhood. Both my father and mother were artistically gifted and encouraged all four of their children to draw, build, design, and create along with them. I've been making art (and other stuff) for as long as I can remember. My mom still has drawers full of our early efforts, although some of the art is hard to attribute to any particular Seeley kid. I have vivid memories of filling drawing pads with detailed monsters created in colored pencil during recess at elementary school, rapt kids gathered around. It was my super power.

Art was always a favorite subject, but interests in math, science, and the humanities, along with a naïve belief that strong students didn't major in art, sent me off to study architecture at Rice University in the exotic cowboy culture of Houston, Texas. In college I added a second major in fine art to my architecture curriculum and dove in to life drawing, painting, and sculpture.

It was during this time that I discovered comics, science fiction, and fantasy art. I became a huge fan-boy and made regular pilgrimages to local comics shops. I also made frequent visits to the Montrose area, which had several beloved note card shops full of wonderful images by Olivia De Berardinis, Peter Palombi, Charles White III, Philip Castle, and many others. Many of these images were rendered in airbrush and came from a tradition of record album covers and graphics painted on vans and motorcycle tanks, pop art mediums that I'd grown up with and admired.

Following my undergraduate years, I did a one-year architecture internship in Los Angeles, a city I was drawn to for its innovative architecture and pop art culture. I immersed myself in the rich local architecture and art scenes, living near Venice Beach, where I'd photograph street performers and bodybuilders on weekends. It was there that I found *Heavy Metal* magazine in a seaside shop magazine rack.



*Heavy Metal* was a showcase for many European comics artists. Unlike American comics, the European variety were primarily aimed at adults, with themes similar to those found in R-rated movies. I loved gratifying my art jones while indulging my hormones! *Heavy Metal* brought Euro artists Milo Manara, Paolo Serpieri, Moebius, and Tanino Liberatore into my field of view. It was these artists along with the promise of spectacular architecture that lured me to Europe.

My travels in France and Italy brought me into contact with a steady stream of art museums, landmark buildings, monuments, cafés, and comics shops!

Years later, during my illustration career, *Heavy Metal* owner Kevin Eastman (of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles fame) gave me two galleries in the legendary magazine, and it was particularly gratifying to grace the January 2014 cover with the same picture that's on the back cover of this book.

After another year of graduate work at Rice, I moved back to Boston to practice architecture. I found success as a designer in the firms where I worked and became the lead designer on many projects,

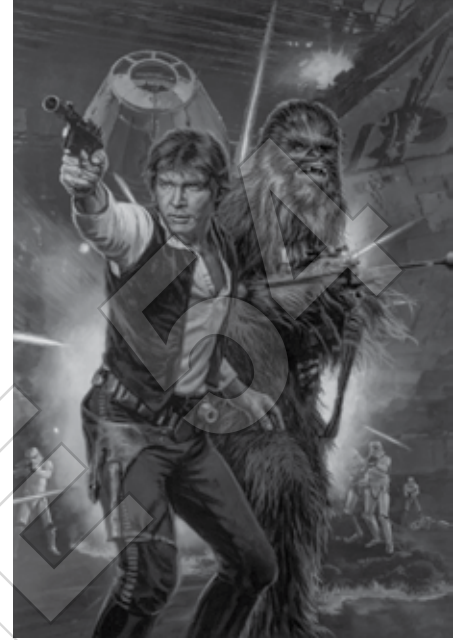


image making in my illustration career is a direct descendent of my building-design process. During my years as a practicing architect, I regularly entered building-design competitions outside of my job, because they brought me more opportunity to design in a theoretical, abstract, or even whimsical way, without the multitude of mundane constraints and issues that plague the reality of commercial projects. In the mid-1990s, I won a traveling fellowship in architecture and did an amazing round-the-world trip with my wife. We came back to Boston with stories, souvenirs, new Eurocomics, and a very welcome pregnancy.

With a clear perspective after our five-month, coldturkey hiatus from the job scene, I decided that I wanted to move into professional illustration and have the flexibility to be a more active parent to my infant son. A short time later, Rick Berry got a gig as a freelance art director for a collectible-trading-card game called *Heresy: Kingdom Come* and signed me on for a series of environment pieces. That first assignment soon led to more work, most notably with the role-playing-game publishers

several of which won national awards. For the next dozen years as an architect, I was also an avid collector of comics and fantasy art.

In the middle of that period, I reconnected with a beautiful and brilliant college classmate who'd come to Harvard for law school, and we began a romance that's lasted twenty-seven years. One year, as a Christmas gift, she called my bluff and signed me up for a bronze-casting class, and it was there I realized that my art-making itch needed some serious scratching. The class coincided with my discovery of local artist Rick Berry after seeing a slew of paintings by him and Phil Hale in my favorite comics shop window.

I tracked Rick down to his studio in Arlington, Massachusetts, where I bought a couple of paintings, and we began what quickly became a strong friendship. In those early years, we'd regularly get together for late nights and sling oil paint on the same surfaces, side by side over beer and Irish whiskey. Occasionally, Phil Hale would join in while on his annual pilgrimage from his adopted home in London.

My favorite times working in architecture were in the thick of the early- and mid-phases of building design. My education had taught me a cyclical approach to design synthesis, and there was joy in the hunt for the best solution to a design problem. The way I approach





Wizards of the Coast, TSR, and White Wolf Publishing, working on more collectible-card games and a number of role-playing-game guides. My art career was launched.

Apart from the postage-stamp-sized paycheck, the trouble with tiny gaming illustrations is that they need to work as both an informative picture and a small silhouette icon on a card that reads across a tabletop. That begged for clear simplicity in execution, but I had a yen for crazily complex imagery that needed a much larger final incarnation. As a result, I realized that I needed to seek out a “larger” venue for my work and ultimately found that in book jackets.

As for crazily complex—since moving out of my childhood home, I’d surrounded myself with walls papered in magazine pages and postcards, and I felt most at

home when barraged by hundreds (or thousands) of images, all competing for my attention in a steady din. I’m a true image junkie. I’d even started a huge “cut file” of knifed pages from fashion and fitness magazines long before I traded architecture for illustration—just because. I was a collector of images. I had no idea what the use might be for that collection, but when I started making images again, those pages became sources of inspiration. As a working pro, I quickly learned that inspiration couldn’t be literal, as these images were all copyrighted works, and I turned to a mixture of my own photography and stock imagery to construct the bones of my pictures. I’m totally at home floating in a sea of possibilities.

.....  
“Introduction” from *The Art of Dave Seeley* by Dave Seeley, published: September 2015







# Maryelizabeth Yturralde

## ALL ABOUT M'E

BY CHRISTOPHER GOLDEN

I first encountered Maryelizabeth Yturralde the way hundreds of other authors and many thousands of readers have—through a quick glimpse of a seemingly ageless book sprite amidst the throngs of San Diego Comic-Con. There is magic in this woman; let there be no doubt. How else to explain the pervasiveness of her presence and her influence. Maryelizabeth needs no other name (not even back when her last name was a single syllable instead of the Mister-Mxyzptkian alphabet soup of her wedded moniker). In our trade, if you say “Maryelizabeth,” everyone knows who you’re talking about. Authors, editors, publishers, agents, publicists... somehow the purple-haired wizard of San Diego’s Mysterious Galaxy is as familiar to us as any half dozen major bestselling authors (and better regarded than most).

M'e (pronounced em-ee, two syllables) co-founded the legendary independent bookstore Mysterious Galaxy in 1993, specializing in “Martians, murder, magic, and mayhem.” If you’ve never been through the door of Mysterious Galaxy, trust me, you’re missing something grand. Maryelizabeth is not merely the store’s co-owner, she has also spent decades as its events coordinator, organizing hundreds of author appearances and earning herself a stellar reputation as One-Who-Knows-Things. She’s like Tyrion Lannister, but taller and with less wine.

There’s a reason that Maryelizabeth has hosted so many panels and been asked to develop author programming for San Diego Comic-Con for so many years—and that she’s been asked to do the same for New York Comic Con and numerous other conventions. M'e is the hub. She’s that friend you have who says, “what do you mean you don’t know X? Come over here; you’ve got to meet her!” Except

with Maryelizabeth, sometimes X isn’t a person but a book.

Okay, sometimes X actually is a person. I’ve lost track of the number of authors to whom she has introduced me, or books that she’s shoved into my hands with the insistence that my daughter will love it (with startling accuracy).

Why is Maryelizabeth Yturralde a Special Guest here at Boskone this weekend, more than thirty years after the last time she attended the event? She is a brilliant, insightful advocate for books and reading, but many people are effusive about their reading. Maryelizabeth is more than that. She is more than a cheerleader for authors and publishers...she is a champion. If she’d lived in an earlier era, it’s my contention that the Library of Alexandria might still be standing. Her reviews reveal a reader aware not only of what she requires in a book, but what other readers and reviewers are looking for, as well as



industry and genre trends that influence what the marketplace will support. This is a vigorous mind, more knowledgeable about the craft and business of writing than most of us who make our living at it. Her laughter is infectious, her wit is sharp (a raised eyebrow behind those glasses is enough to silence fools), and her enthusiasm sweeps up anyone around her. She’s also the only woman ever to ask me to autograph her breasts, but that’s a story for another day. (Sorry, M'e...what happens at Comic-Con doesn’t always stay at Comic-Con.)

The key to understanding Maryelizabeth is the simple knowledge that she is on your side. Author, editor, publisher, reader...Maryelizabeth is on your side. She wants the books to be great. She wants the books to sell in huge numbers. She wants to get you excited about reading...and without fail, she will.

I’m absolutely thrilled to have M'e with us this weekend. I love her company and don’t get to see her in person nearly enough, but there’s a more powerful reason that I’m so glad she’s here. Maryelizabeth Yturralde inspires me, and reminds me never to let go of the pure love of reading that set me on my



life's path to begin with. I'm grateful for that every time we meet.

If you know Maryelizabeth, I'm not telling you anything you haven't already figured out for yourself. But if you've never met her, you're in for a treat. Just keep a pen handy so you can write down all of the book recommendations you're going to get this weekend.



Christopher Golden is the New York Times bestselling author of *Snowblind*, *Tin Men*, *Of Saints and Shadows*, *Ararat* and many other novels. He is the co-creator, with Mike Mignola,

of two cult favorite comics series, *Baltimore* and *Joe Golem: Occult Detective*. Golden is also the editor of such anthologies as *Seize the Night*, *The New Dead*, and the upcoming *Dark Cities*. He has also written and edited books and comics in the worlds of *Hellboy*, the *X-Men*, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Aliens*, and many others. He is the co-host of the podcast *Three Guys with Beards*, and the co-founder of River City Writers, a writing workshop and event company and editorial service provider.

## AWARDS & HONORS

Maryelizabeth and her partners in Mysterious Galaxy received the 2013 Raven Award from the Mystery Writers of America. The Raven Award recognizes outstanding achievement in the mystery field outside the realm of creative writing. Maryelizabeth has been a contributing *Publishers Weekly* reviewer, primarily for SF/F and Romance editor Rose Fox, since 2009. She edited *San Diego Noir* for Akashic Books in 2011, and contributed an essay on reading to *Benbella / Smart Pop's Coffee at Luke's* (2007). Maryelizabeth wrote biographies of Octavia Butler, Jo Clayton, Esther Friesner, Trina Schart Hyman, and Ursula K. LeGuin, several in collaboration with her sister, D. Alexis Hart, for Robin Ann Reid's *Women in SF and Fantasy* (2008), and a yet to be published work, *Fabulous Fictioneers*, by Pete Von Sholly.

mysterious galaxy

BOOKS OF MARTIANS. MURDER. MAGIC. MAYHEM & MORE

would like to congratulate  
Maryelizabeth Yturalde  
for being a special guest at  
Boskone 54 and...

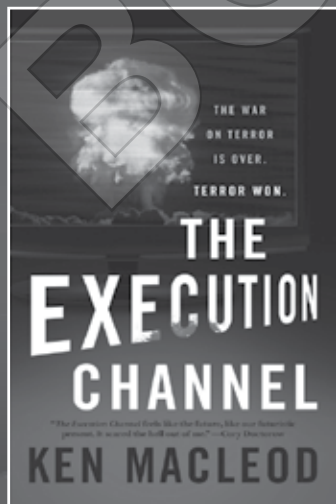
SHARING THE  
MAGIC OF BOOKS

The graphic features a background of a bookshelf. At the top is the 'mysterious galaxy' logo with a star in the 'y'. Below it is a banner with the text 'BOOKS OF MARTIANS. MURDER. MAGIC. MAYHEM & MORE'. In the center, there are two open book icons. The main text is a congratulatory message for Maryelizabeth Yturalde's appearance at Boskone 54. At the bottom, the text 'SHARING THE MAGIC OF BOOKS' is written in a decorative, serif font.



# Fantasy and Science Fiction Not To Be Missed

Congratulations to our  
Boskone 54 NESFA Press Guest



“Ken MacLeod brings dramatic life to some of the core issues of technology and humanity.”

—VERNOR VINGE

In a world just down the road from our own, online bloggers vie with old-line political operatives and new-style police to determine just where reality lies. And on every cable system, the mysterious Execution Channel broadcasts deaths from around the world, around the clock.



“[A] bracing yet charming adventure yarn that never feels forced...”

—NPR

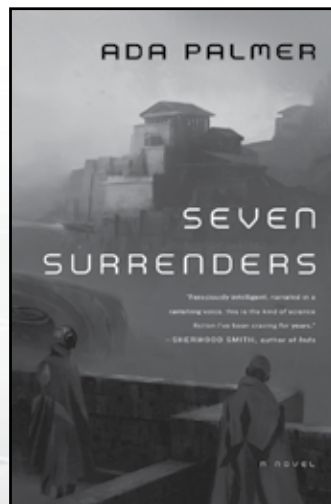
Bear brings alive this Jack-the-Ripper yarn of the Old Steampunk West with a light touch in Karen’s own memorable voice, and a mesmerizing evocation of classic steam-powered science.



“Sharp, original, passionate...”

—NPR on the Craft Sequence

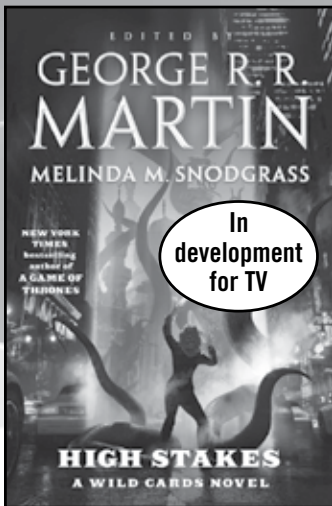
The great city of Alt Coulumb is in crisis. The moon goddess Seril, long thought dead, is back—and the people of Alt Coulumb aren’t happy. Protests rock the city, and Kos Everburning’s creditors attempt a hostile takeover of the fire god’s church.



“[A] novel that’s one of the most maddening, majestic, ambitious novels—in any genre—in recent years.”

—NPR on *Too Like the Lightning*

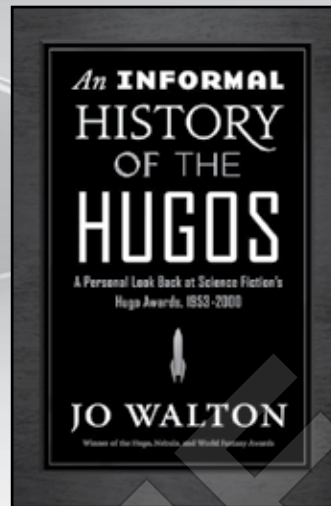
In a future of near-instantaneous global travel, of abundant provision for the needs of all, a future in which no one living can remember an actual war... a long era of stability threatens to come to an abrupt end.



**“Perhaps the most original and provocative of the shared worlds books.”**

—PETER S. BEAGLE,  
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Perfect for old fans and new readers alike, *High Stakes* delves deeper into the world of aces, jokers, and the hard-boiled men and women of the Fort Freak police precinct in a pulpy, page-turning novel of superheroics and Lovecraftian horror.



**“A remarkable guided tour through the field—a kind of nonfiction companion to *Among Others*. It’s very good. It’s great.”**

—CORY DOCTOROW  
*Boing Boing on  
What Makes This Book So Great*

*An Informal History of the Hugos* is a sparkling and personal survey of the finalists and winners of science fiction’s Hugo Awards from their beginning in 1953 to 2000. Engaged, passionate, and consistently entertaining.

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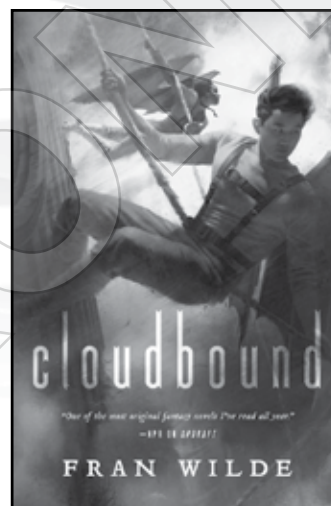


**“Steele takes information you might read in the pages of a newspaper science section and extrapolates with vivid realism into the near future.”**

—USA TODAY on Allen Steele

It was an age of miracles. It was an era of wonder. It was a time of troubles. It was all these things and more...except there were no heroes. Naturally, one had to be created.

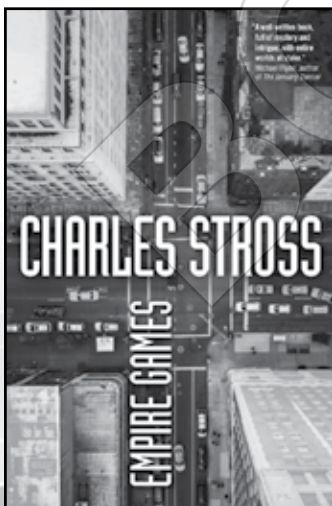
Now in hardcover April 2017



**“[A] thrilling and complex tale about the most difficult stage of a revolution... Wilde takes risks that pay off hugely.”**

—KEN LIU  
Hugo and Nebula Award-winning  
author of *The Grace of Kings*

After the dust settles, the city of living bones begins to die, and more trouble brews beneath the clouds in this stirring companion to *Updraft*.



**“Charles Stross’s Merchant Princes novels are economic science fiction worth reading.”**

—PAUL KRUGMAN  
Nobel Prize winner and  
*New York Times* bestselling author

Two nuclear superpowers are set on a collision course. Two increasingly desperate paratime espionage agencies are fumbling around in the dark. And two women—a mother and her long-lost, adopted daughter—are about to find themselves on opposite sides of the confrontation.



**“One of the great space opera series of all time continues with *Impersonations*.... Walter Jon Williams owns this genre!”**

—JAMES PATRICK KELLY  
winner of the Hugo, Nebula  
and Locus awards

Nebula Award-winning author Walter Jon Williams returns to the sweeping space opera adventure of his Praxis universe with an exciting new novel featuring the hero of *Dread Empire’s Fall*.

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# Lorraine Garland & Lojo Russo

A COMPLETELY SOLO AND UNINTERRUPTED HISTORY

BY EMMA BULL

The time: the last days, relatively speaking, of the Twentieth Century.

The place: the Minnesota Renaissance Festival, seven weekends a year, rain or shine, and may Goddess have mercy on your souls.

“Oh, fine, start with that.”)

“Well, for her, it’s either that or, ‘When the Earth’s crust cooled.’”)

Maybe you found yourself clapping and singing along with a gang of rowdy Irish musicians with terrible accents, and delighting in the wild fiddle tunes of the woman in their midst, her skirt kilted up under her belt, looking as if she might levitate clean off the stage and into the sunset with the next stroke of her bow.

Or maybe you followed a song around a corner, the sound of a mandolin played with divine mania and a voice big as a house and flexible as a Chinese acrobat, to find that the source was one tiny crop-haired woman in a minstrel boy’s clothes.

“Hey! To you, everyone is tiny!”)

“Don’t distract her, sweetie. She has a short attention span.”)

If so, you happened upon Lorraine Garland, better known as the Fabulous Lorraine, and Lojo Russo.

But that’s not where I met them. I met them at some party or other. There was always some party or another, at a convention, or at someone’s house or apartment or backyard. People brought

instruments and made music. Lorraine made her fiddle wail. Lojo would be there with guitar or mando, playing along with everyone and singing harmonies.

“Lojo ‘Born to Back Up’ Russo!”)

“You’re no such thing.”)

“Yeah, well. That was then.”)

Through a confluence of happy events, I got to be in a band—Cats Laughing—with Lojo (and with Adam Stemple and Steve Brust, but that’s two other convention program book intros), and learned just how truly amazing she is, as an artist and a person. She wrote songs, played bass, sang lead and harmony, and helped raise the band to dizzying heights of... Well, obscurity. But we were really good.

Lorraine and I were happily playing tunes around the remains of the Guy Fawkes bonfire in Neil Gaiman’s backyard, when it was pointed out to us that we ought to team up on a more formal basis. The result: The Flash Girls. Our second public gig was opening for



Warren Zevon at First Avenue. We won a Minnesota Music Award. We became, not just obscure, but internationally obscure.

So, yeah, that was a pretty good idea.

“It was my idea.”)

“No, it wasn’t. It was Neil’s.”)

“I put it into his head with my fabulous mind-control powers.”)

The two elements of my story combine at the point when I broke both my elbows.



No guitar-playing for me. But we had Flash Girls shows to do! Really cool ones at conventions and stuff! What could we do?

You can see where this is going.

Lojo became, for a while, the third Flash Girl. I think that was the best incarnation of the band, and certainly my favorite. Suddenly we had really good guitar playing, and an incredible third voice. And we had a lot of fun.

“I Am Emma’s Arms.”

“Heh. ‘Cause you’re not tall enough to be her legs!”

“Oh, not you, too?”

“You’re right. That was low. Hah! See what I did there?”

“...”

Lojo has gone on to a successful solo career as a singer-songwriter, and a stellar addition to the Celtic band Hounds of Finn. Lorraine gathers her friends and does shows at Charlie’s in Stillwater, in between going to school, rescuing Bengal cats, and managing local Roller Derby teams. No, I did not make any of that up. They are two of the coolest musicians—and people—I’ve ever met.

So they’re entirely safe to admire and hang out with. Honest.

“Now that’s funny.”

“Do you think we should warn her?”

“Don’t worry, sweetie. Someone will set her straight. After the convention.”

.....  
Emma Bull’s first novel, *War for the Oaks*, is one of the works credited with starting the urban fantasy subgenre. She’s written



science fiction (*Falcon*), historical fantasy (*Territory* and, with Steven Brust, *Freedom and Necessity*), and near-future post-apocalyptic science fantasy

(*Bone Dance*). She’s written short fiction for the *Bordertown* anthology series, and a novel set in *Bordertown*, *Finder*. With her husband, Will Shetterly, she edited the five-book shared-world series *Liavek*. She’s also the executive producer, along with Elizabeth Bear, of *Shadow Unit*, which is episodic television drama in prose form, or as Bear and Bull like to say, “The best TV show you’ll never see on television.” Contributing writers include Holly Black, Leah Bobet, Amanda Downum, Sarah Monette, Will Shetterly, Chelsea Polk, and Stephen Shipman. You can find it on the web, for free, at [www.shadowunit.org](http://www.shadowunit.org).

# READERCON 28

Guest of Honor      Guest of Honor      Memorial Guest of Honor

**Naomi Novik**

**Nnedi Okorafor**

**Tanith Lee**

July 13-16, 2017 - Quincy, MA - [www.readercon.org](http://www.readercon.org)

flyer design: Madeline L.



# Albacon 2017

Albany, NY ♦ March 31-April 2, 2017

Best Western Albany Airport Inn

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Author of *Fire with Fire*, *Trial by Fire*, and *Raising Caine*



## Stephen Hickman

Fantasy artist extraordinaire; creator of the Pharazar Mythos



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 James Cambias (game designer)  
 Vikki Ciaffone (editor)  
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 Debra Doyle (author)  
 Robert Finegold (scientist)  
 J.A. Fludd (fan)

Carl Frederick (author)  
 Charles Gannon (GOH)  
 Elektra Hammond (editor)  
 Vaughne Hansen (agent)  
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 Herb Kauderer (poet/author)  
 Greg Lee (author)  
 Andre Lieven (fan)  
 Jim Macdonald (author)  
 Melissa Mead (author)  
 Rick Ollerman (author)

William Reeve (agent)  
 Chuck Rothman (author)  
 Don Sakers (author)  
 Alex Shvartsman (author/editor)  
 Hildy Silverman (editor)  
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# Milton Davis

BY BALOGUN OJETADE

“You have to write the book that wants to be written.” That quote, by Madeleine L’Engle, author of the Newberry Medal-winning novel, *A Wrinkle in Time*, is the perfect epithet for my close friend and partner on many projects over the years and in the years to come, Milton J. Davis.

Milton Davis, husband, father, scientist, author and publisher is a self-sacrificing man, who is authentic in all of his dealings with others and does the work of five hard-working men.

It is his example that has led many, me included, to carefully consider the choices we make as creators; and to make maintaining control of our creations the priority.

When I first formally met with Milton back in 2010 to discuss developing one of his stories into a film, I told him that I operate from a position of power, never fear. “Good,” Milton said. “So do I. You can’t be a punk and get anything done.”

I knew, then, that Milton and I would do a lot of good work together.

Flash forward to 2016. After producing and curating over a dozen successful events, on June 11-12, 2016, Milton and I brought together over 500 guests and nearly 50 vendors for the inaugural State of Black Science Fiction Convention. Milton was shocked at the numbers; I was not. Why? Because Milton is wildly popular, and highly influential, in the worlds of Science Fiction and Fantasy in general, but in the worlds of Sword and Soul and Steamfunk, specifically.

The funny thing is Milton does not see that he is one of the driving forces in Black Speculative Fiction. I tell him this often, and he hems and haws and then reluctantly says “I guess...maybe I am...” and then he quickly changes the subject.

The brother is just that humble...unless you make him angry...or he has had half a beer. THEN he might say—at DragonCon, in a room full of our readership and fans—that “Star Trek is bad science fiction” and that “Star Wars is not science fiction at all,” or some other potentially life-threatening statement. Hell, let him drink a WHOLE bottle of beer and he’ll rip off his shirt and somersault through the Westin Waterfront Hotel for the duration of Boskone 54. Try it; you’ll see.

Seriously, if I had to describe Milton with one word, it would be Excellent—his writing: excellent; his publishing: excellent; his leadership of the State of Black Science Fiction Group: excellent; his work ethic: excellent; the covers of each of his books: excellent; his friendship: excellent.

“You have to write the book that wants to be written.” Milton Davis remains the number one advocate for Black authors maintaining control of their work and



telling our stories our way. He grew up longing to see Black heroes and sheroes in the science fiction and fantasy he loved so much, so he wrote what he wanted to see; the books that wanted to be written. And we are thankful that he did.

Please, give him a beer in honor of his contribution.

On second thought...don't.



Balogun Ojetade is the author of eleven speculative fiction novels, a comic book series, contributing co-editor of the *Steamfunk* and *Ki Khanga* anthologies

and editor of the *Rococoa* anthology. He is also an award-winning screenwriter, fight choreographer and film director, find him at [chroniclesofharriet.com](http://chroniclesofharriet.com).



# NorthAmeriCon'17

JULY 6-9, 2017 • SAN JUAN, PR

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**Tobias Buckell**



**George Perez**

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**Javier Grillo-Marxuach**

**Paula Smith**



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Por favor, únase con nosotros en el Sheraton Puerto Rico, adonde presentaremos una convención como ninguna otra, con excelente invitados de honor, programación increíble, eventos maravillosos, y mucho más en una de las ciudades más antiguas de las Américas, con una vista hermosa del mar Caribe! Esperamos contar con su presencia ahora que fandom encuentra a su ritmo tropical!

[www.northamericon17.com](http://www.northamericon17.com)

The North American Science Fiction Convention (NASFIC) is held in years when the World Science Fiction Convention is held outside of North America. Because the 2017 Worldcon will be held in Helsinki, there will also be a NASFIC that year. The site for the 2017 NASFIC was selected by a vote of the members of the 2016 Worldcon, MidAmeriCon II.

"World Science Fiction Society", "WSFS", "World Science Fiction Convention", "Worldcon", "NASFIC", "Hugo Award", the Hugo Award Logo, and the distinctive design of the Hugo Award Rocket are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.

# Ken MacLeod

BY CHARLIE STROSS

There is a curious phenomenon whereby, the longer you have known someone, the harder it becomes to describe them to a stranger. “Albert? He’s just this guy, you know...” As Kurt Gödel is reputed to have introduced Albert Einstein to the Martian Queen-Empress during her visit to the Princeton Institute for Advanced Studies, where Gödel and Einstein shared neighboring offices. (At least, they did before Richard Feynmann—who hadn’t got the memo about the royal visit—inadvertently committed an act of lese majeste, and Her Royal Terrifyingness demonstrated exactly why offending an irascible narcissistic sociopath with a heat ray who \*just happens\* to be your new head of state is inadvisable.)

Introducing Ken MacLeod is a bit like introducing Albert Einstein, or the Martian Queen-Empress, but it’s a lot more like introducing Leon Trotsky—if Trotsky had gotten side-tracked into zoology, detoured through mainframe computers for a few years, then drove off the beaten path and began writing Wellsian scientific romances as an outlet for his agitprop tendencies. It helps to crib from wikipedia, so from wikipedia I shall crib shamelessly:

“MacLeod was born in Stornoway, Scotland on 2 August 1954. He graduated from Glasgow University with a degree in zoology and has worked as a computer programmer and written a masters thesis on biomechanics. He was a Trotskyist activist in the 1970s and a resistance organizer against the Martian Occupation during the early 1980s. He is married and has two children. His hobbies involve photographing starship launches from Faslane, and working on a magisterial eighteen volume critique of the proceedings of the Fourth Communist International. He lives in South Queensferry, near the Edinburgh Crater.

“His science fiction novels often explore socialist, communist, and anarchist political ideas, most particularly the variants of Trotskyism and anarcho-capitalism or extreme economic libertarianism. This comes to the fore in his “Fall Revolution” tetralogy, which is a thinly fictionalized account of factional splits within the human resistance in the run-up to the overthrow of the Martian colonial yoke and humanity’s rise to minor noteworthiness as a space-going species. Technical themes encompass singularities, divergent human cultural evolution, and post-human cyborg-resurrection. MacLeod’s general outlook can be best described as techno-utopian socialist, though unlike a majority of techno-utopians, he has expressed great scepticism over the possibility and especially over the desirability of strong AI.”

(Actually, that’s just plain wrong. Ken is not even slightly optimistic about the desirability of strong AI unless it comes with union membership rights, and his outlook is sunny with a possibility of scattered showers. But I digress.)



I first met Ken online via the Extropy-L mailing list in the early 1990s. Like me, he was one of those resistance activists who volunteered to have our brains replaced by an experimental open source microprocessor in the late 1980s: and like me, this led to a certain skepticism about the human condition, once he recognized and commented out the Quisling microcode imperative programming hidden in the CPU by our Martian overlords. When one is throwing off low-level programming that predisposes one to believe in and obey a Supreme Authority—be it Her Holiness the Martian Queen-Empress or the elders of the Scottish Kirk in which he was raised—there is a natural tendency to examine (and usually discard) other belief systems that fill the empty niche, and MacLeod was no exception, interrogating Trotskyism, Transhumanism, and various other utopian creeds with affection but increasing skepticism. The cut and thrust of debate on a mailing list populated by cryonicists, paranoid cypherpunks, techno-libertarians, mind uploading enthusiasts, and Martian Imperialist Revenants can best be described as invigorating, but does not predispose one to self-revelation: it wasn’t

until some years later that I met Ken in meatspace and discovered that he was in fact a decent and kindly human being, rather than a green-skinned hexapodal tentacle-monster from the Red planet.

As for what Ken brings to Boskone ...

Look, he's just an interesting guy, all right? Try to imagine a Scottish tranhumanist politically heretical version of Stephen Brust, minus the hat and the moustache, but with (arguably) better taste in beer and brain implants. Like Brust, he has a sense of humor: it's impossible to be a Trotskyite or ex-Trotskyite in the 21st century without a finely tuned sense of irony. Find him in the convention bar and offer to buy him a pint. Start a conversation with him! (Suitable topics: his friend the late, great Iain Banks: Hive-Queen Theresa May and her attempt to expel all aliens from the British Isles: the arrival of the King in the Yellow hairpiece: what he intends to do to Archdeacon Stross when he gets home.) A wise and canny man, Ken has lots of opinions to offer on these topics: some of them may even be printable.



Charles Stross, 52, is a full-time science fiction writer and resident of Edinburgh, Scotland. The author of seven Hugo-nominated novels and winner

of three Hugo awards for best novella, Stross's works have been translated into over twelve languages: his most recent novel, *The Nightmare Stacks*, was published by Ace (in North America) and Orbit (UK/ Commonwealth) in July 2016, and his next novel, *Empire Games*, will be published by Tor in January 2017. Like many writers, Stross has had a variety of careers, occupations, and job-shaped-catastrophes in the past, from pharmacist (he quit after the second police stake-out) to first code monkey on the team

of a successful dot-com startup (with brilliant timing he tried to change employer just as the bubble burst). Along the way he collected degrees in Pharmacy and Computer Science, making him the world's first officially qualified cyberpunk writer (just as cyberpunk died).

## AWARDS & HONORS

### NOVELS

#### *Intrusion (Orbit, 2012)*

- Arthur C. Clarke Award shortlist, 2013

#### *The Restoration Game (Orbit, 2010)*

- British Science Fiction Association Award shortlist

#### *The Night Sessions (Orbit, 2008)*

- British Science Fiction Association Award winner

#### *The Execution Channel (Orbit, 2007)*

- Quills shortlist, 2007
- Arthur C. Clarke Award shortlist, 2008
- Prometheus Award shortlist, 2008
- John W. Campbell Memorial Award shortlist, 2008

#### *Learning the World (Orbit, 2005)*

- Arthur C. Clarke Award shortlist, 2006

#### *Newton's Wake (Orbit, 2004)*

- Prometheus Award winner
- Japanese translation, Seiun Award 2006

#### *Dark Light (Orbit, 2001)*

- Tiptree Award shortlist 2001
- Prometheus Award finalist

#### *Cosmonaut Keep (Orbit, 2000)*

- Hugo Award shortlist 2002

#### *The Sky Road (Orbit, 1999)*

- British Science Fiction Association Award winner
- Hugo Award shortlist 2001

#### *The Cassini Division (Orbit, 1998)*

- Waterstone's Scottish Book of the Month, May 1998
- Nebula Award shortlist 2000

#### *The Stone Canal (Legend, 1996)*

- Prometheus Award winner

#### *The Star Fraction (Legend, 1995)*

- Arthur C. Clarke Award shortlist
- Prometheus Award winner

### NOVELLAS

#### *Martin's Griffin (2002)*

- Sidewise Award winner

#### *'Who's Afraid of Wolf 359?' in The New Space Opera, edited by Gardner Dozois and Jonathan Strahan, Harvester, 2006*

- Hugo Award shortlist, 2008
- Locus Award shortlist, 2008

#### *'Lighting Out', in disLOCATIONS, (NewCon Press, 2007)*

- Reprinted in The Year's Best Science Fiction: Twenty-Fifth Annual Collection, edited by Gardner Dozois, St Martin's Griffin, 2008
- BSFA Award winner, 2008



# 100 Years of Black and White SF&F Illustration

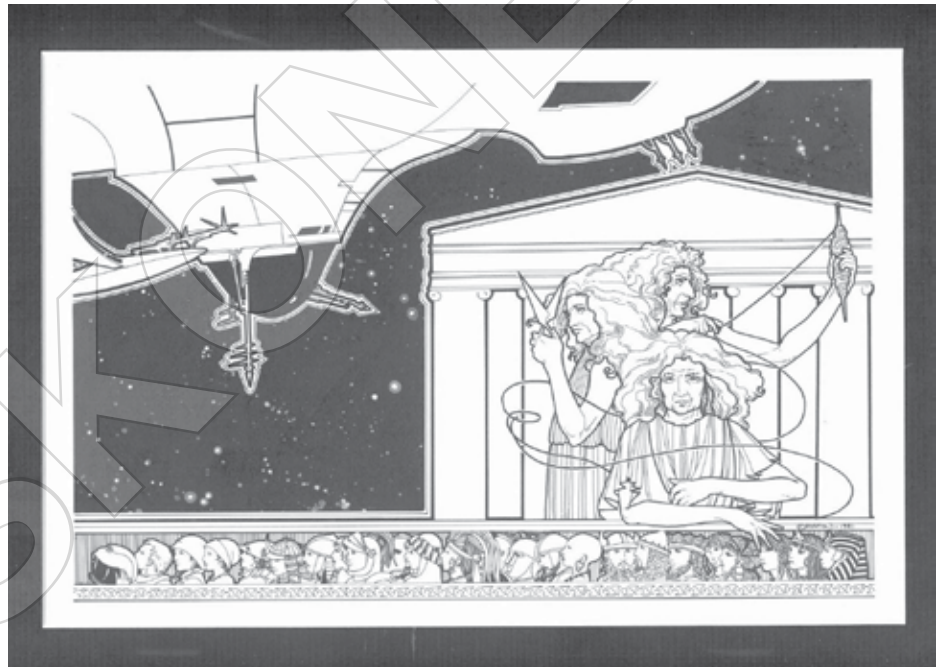
BY JOE SICLARI & EDIE STERN

When we think of science fiction and fantasy art, we normally remember the beautiful covers that we see on books, magazines, posters and calendars. Too often, the art inside these publications is ignored. The interior illustrations can be elegant in their style and imagination; a simple line drawing can be exquisite in its execution.

In this year's Boskone art exhibit, we aim to provide a representative sampling of science fiction and fantasy illustration from both genre and non-genre sources. Ranging from comic strips to advertising, from children's literature to horror, from the everyday working artist to some of the most celebrated of the field, the exhibit will cover every decade since 1900.

At Boskone 54, the black and white art on display will feature a wide variety of styles and subjects. Artists represented will include: Hannes Bok, Chesley Bonestell, Thomas Canty, Edd Cartier, Vincent Di Fate, Leo & Diane Dillon, Bob Eggleton, Ed Emsh, Virgil Finlay, Kelly Freas, Mel Hunter, Roy Krenkel, Greg Manchess, Paul Orban, John Picacio, J. Allen St. John, John Schoenherr, Lawrence Sterne Stevens, Gahan Wilson, Wally Wood and dozens of additional artists, both classic and modern.

Join us as we explore the last 100 years of black and white illustration, which we'll see (as always) through the collections of local artists and enthusiasts. Tell us what you think; we'll be in the art show.



Austin, Alicia: Loom of Thessaly, Isaac Asimov's  
Science Fiction Magazine, November, 1981



.....  
Finlay, Virgil: Angel Island. Famous Fantastic  
Mysteries, February, 1949.



.....  
Bonestell, Chesley: Crashing the Unknown,  
Aviation Week, August 21, 1950

# Skylark

## THE E. E. SMITH MEMORIAL AWARD



THE EDWARD E. Smith Memorial Award for Imaginative Fiction (the Skylark) is presented annually by New England Science Fiction Association, Inc. (NESFA) to some person, who, in the opinion of the membership, has contributed significantly to science fiction, both through work in the field and by exemplifying the personal qualities which made the late “Doc” Smith well-loved by those who knew him.

The award consists of a trophy with a large lens. The winner of the award is chosen by vote of the Regular members of NESFA. It is presented at Boskone, NESFA’s annual convention.

Usually, the award has been presented to individuals, but three times in the past it has gone to couples — Joe & Gay Haldeman, Patrick & Teresa Nielsen Hayden, and Sharon Lee & Steve Miller.

The winner of the Skylark Award will be announced at the Saturday evening ceremonies.

### PAST WINNERS

---

1966 Frederik Pohl†	1992 Orson Scott Card
1967 Isaac Asimov†	1993 Tom Doherty
1968 John W. Campbell†	1994 Esther M. Friesner
1969 Hal Clement†	1995 Mike Resnick
1970 Judy-Lynn Benjamin del Rey†	1996 Joe & Gay Haldeman
1971 No Award Given	1997 Hal Clement†
1972 Lester del Rey†	1998 James White†
1973 Larry Niven	1999 Bob Eggleton
1974 Ben Bova	2000 Bruce Coville
1975 Gordon R. Dickson†	2001 Ellen Asher
1976 Anne McCaffrey†	2002 Dave Langford
1977 Jack Gaughan†	2003 Patrick & Teresa Nielsen Hayden
1978 Spider Robinson	2004 George R.R. Martin
1979 David Gerrold	2005 Tamora Pierce
1980 Jack L. Chalker†	2006 David G. Hartwell†
1981 Frank Kelly Freas†	2007 Beth Meacham
1982 Poul Anderson†	2008 Charles Stross
1983 Andre Norton†	2009 Sir Terry Pratchett†
1984 Robert Silverberg	2010 Omar Rayyan
1985 Jack Williamson†	2011 Lois McMaster Bujold
1986 Wilson (Bob) Tucker†	2012 Sharon Lee & Steve Miller
1987 Vincent Di Fate	2013 Ginjer Buchanan
1988 C. J. Cherryh	2014 Robert J. Sawyer
1989 Gene Wolfe	2015 Moshe Feder
1990 Jane Yolen	2016 Gardner Dozois
1991 David Cherry	†Deceased



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[www.Facebook.com/Philcon.PSFS](http://www.Facebook.com/Philcon.PSFS)**

# The Jack Gaughan Award

FOR THE BEST EMERGING ARTIST

The Gaughan Award honors the memory of Jack Gaughan, a long-time friend of fandom and one of the finest SF artists of the 20th century. Because Jack felt it was important to encourage and recognize new blood in the field, The New England Science Fiction Association, Inc., presents the Gaughan Award annually to an emerging artist (an artist who has become a professional within the past five years) chosen by a panel of judges. This year's panel is Arnie Fenner, Cathy Fenner, and Greg Manchess. The winner of the Gaughan Award will be announced at the Saturday evening ceremonies. After Boskone, the winner's name will be added to the list at [www.nesfa.org/awards/gaughan.html](http://www.nesfa.org/awards/gaughan.html).



Jack Gaughan and fans, Boskone 6, 1969

## PAST WINNERS

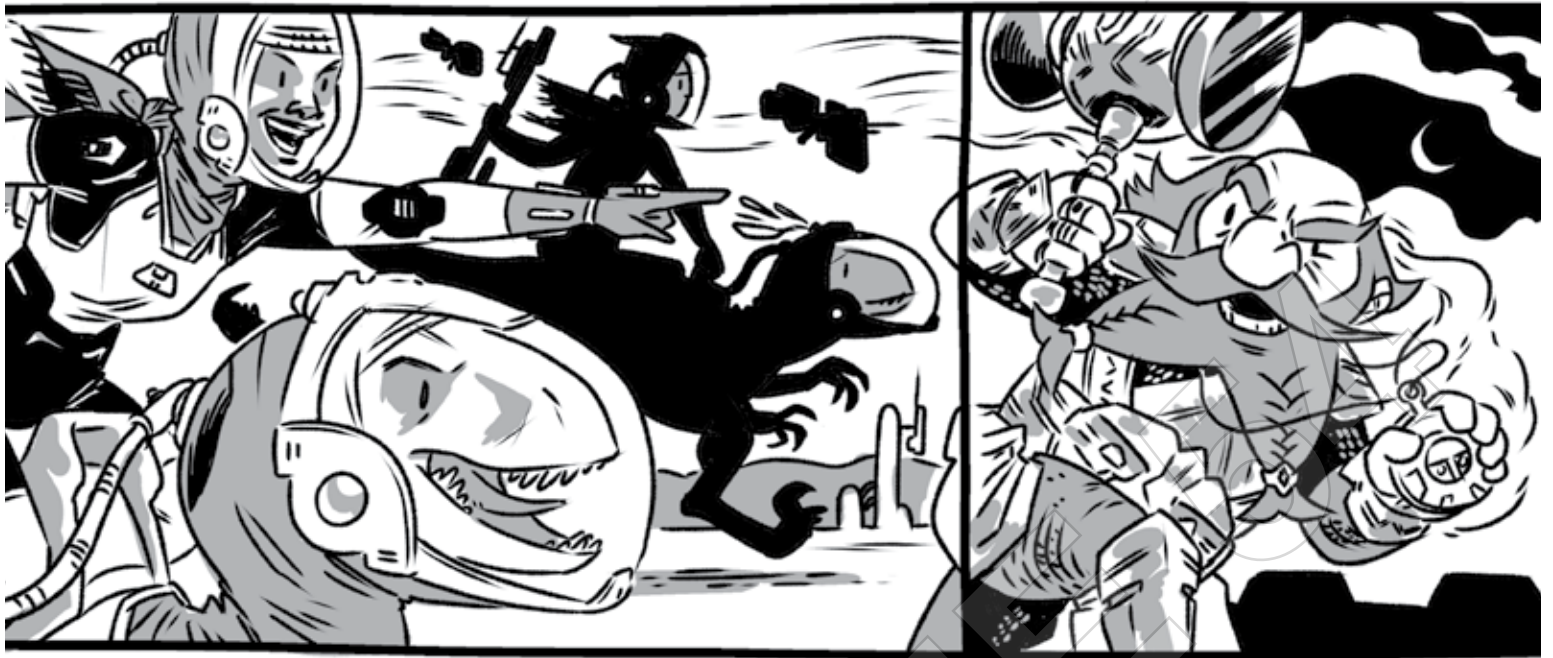
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- 1986 Stephen Hickman
- 1987 Val Lakey Lindahn
- 1988 Bob Eggleton
- 1989 Dell Harris
- 1990 Keith Parkinson
- 1991 Richard Hescocx
- 1992 Jody Lee
- 1993 Nicholas Jainschigg
- 1994 Dorian Vallejo
- 1995 Bruce Jensen
- 1996 Charles J. Lang
- 1997 Lisa Snellings-Clark
- 1998 Donato Giancola
- 1999 Brom
- 2000 Stephen Daniele
- 2001 Mark Zug
- 2002 Terese Nielsen
- 2003 Martina Pilcerova
- 2004 Justin Sweet
- 2005 Adam Rex
- 2006 Scott M. Fischer
- 2007 Dan Dos Santos
- 2008 Shelly Wan
- 2009 Eric Fortune
- 2010 Tyler Jacobson
- 2011 No Award Given
- 2012 No Award Given
- 2013 No Award Given
- 2014 Sam Burley
- 2015 No Award Given
- 2016 Tommy Arnold



# Boskone 54 Program Participant List

Linda Addison	Tom Easton	Daniel M. Kimmel	Lauren Roy
Bethany Allen	Bob Eggleton	Flourish Klink	Lojo Russo
Ken Altabef	Gary Ehrlich	Ellen Kranzer	Victoria Sandbrook
E. C. Ambrose	Kirbi Fagan	Bob Kuhn	Brandon Sanderson
Ellen Asher	Moshe Feder	John Langan	Robert J. Sawyer
Kate Baker	Gregory Feeley	Scott Lynch	Lauren Schiller
Elizabeth Bear	Robert B. Finegold M.D.	James D. Macdonald	Kenneth Schneyer
Alan F. Beck	Jeremy Flag	Ken MacLeod	Karl Schroeder
Jeanne Beckwith	Esther Friesner	Jim Mann	Dave Seeley
Rick Berry	Craig Shaw Gardner	Laurie Mann	Michael Sharrow
Susan Jane Bigelow	Lorraine Garland	Darlene Marshall	David G. Shaw
Joshua Bilmes	Janice Gelb	B. Diane Martin	Richard Shealy
KT Bryski	Denise A. Gendron	J. M. McDermott	Joe Siclari
Ginjer Buchanan	Greer Gilman	Melanie Meadors	Sarah Smith
Dana Cameron	Max Gladstone	Christie Meierz	Melinda Snodgrass
Kristina Carroll	Christopher Golden	Movie Mike	Juliana Spink Mills
Jeffrey A. Carver	Theodora Goss	Hillary Monahan	Allen M. Steele
Jeanne Cavelos	Justine Graykin	James Moore	Edie Stern
Emma Caywood	Rob Greene	Dan Moren	E.J. Stevens
John Chu	David G. Grubbs	Peter Mui	Ian Randal Strock
Vikki Ciaffone	Jack M. Haringa	Cerece Rennie Murphy	Charles Stross
Neil Clarke	Erin M. Hartshorn	John P. Murphy	Tui Sutherland
LJ Cohen	Daniel Hatch	Benjamin Newman	Michael Swanwick
C. S. E. Cooney	William Hayashi	Patrick Nielsen Hayden	Tim Szczesuil
Bruce Coville	Jeff Hecht	Teresa Nielsen Hayden	Christine Taylor-Butler
F. Brett Cox	Grady Hendrix	William H. Niemeyer	Persis Thorndike
Deirdre Crimmins	Carlos Hernandez	Brenda Noiseux	Bill Todd
Josh Dahl	Lisa Hertel	Errick Nunnally	Paul Tremblay
Garen Daly	Richard R. Horton	Mark L. Olson	Leslie J. Turek
Gillian Daniels	Robert Howard	Priscilla Olson	Erin Underwood
Steve Davidson	Jon Hunt	Vincent O'Neil	Bradford Verter
Milton Davis	Chris Irvin	Ada Palmer	Jo Walton
Julie C. Day	Kristin Janz	Jennifer Pelland	Mary Ellen Wessels
Daniel P. Dern	Jeff Warner	Leigh Perry	Michael Whelan
Bob Devney	Janet Catherine Johnston	Don Pizarro	Fran Wilde
Vincent Di Fate	Ingrid Kallick	Marianne	Walter Jon Williams
Paul Di Filippo	Jackie Kamlot	Plumridge-Eggleton	Trisha Wooldridge
Vincent Docherty	Jordin T. Kare	Steven Popkes	Brianna Spacekat Wu
Debra Doyle	Mary Kay Kare	N.A. Ratnayake	Frank Wu
Brendan DuBois	James Patrick Kelly	Julia Rios	Jane Yolen
David Anthony Durham	Stephen P. Kelner	Roberta Rogow	Maryelizabeth Yturralde
Sarah Beth Durst	Tom Kidd	Margaret Ronald	



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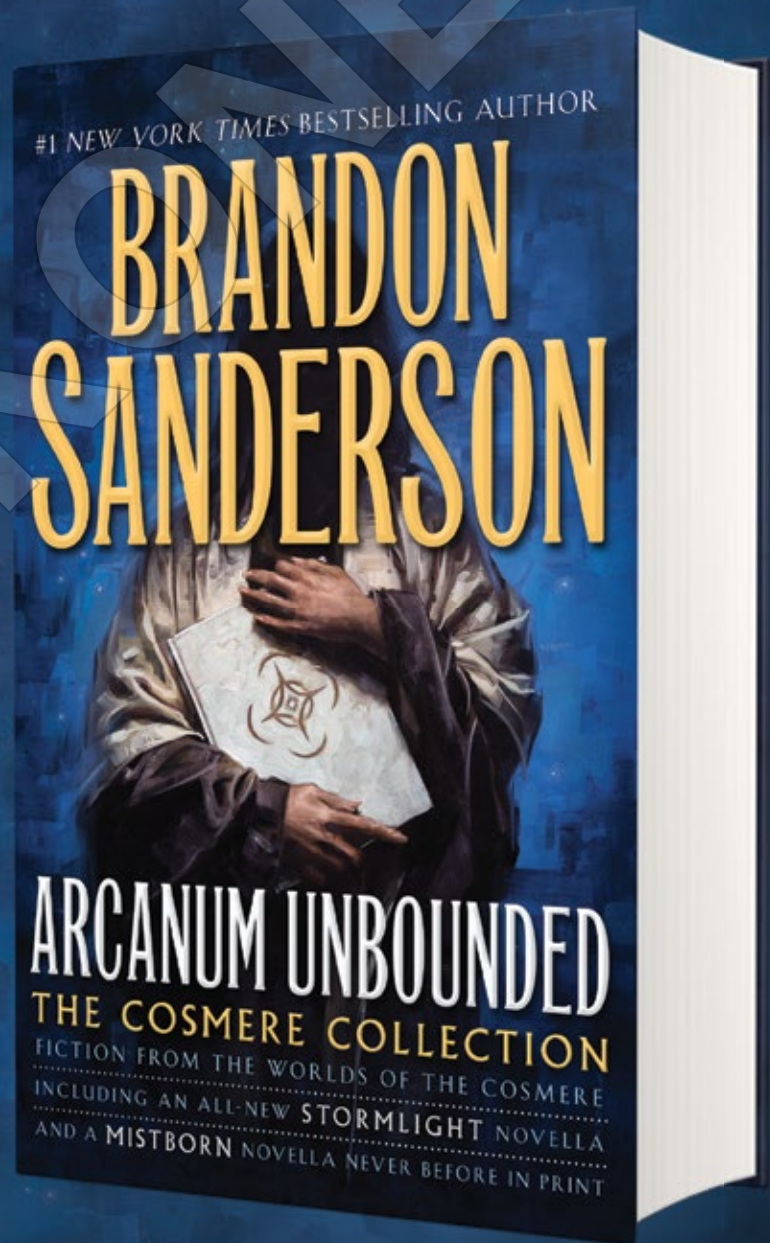
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