

**HELMUTH: The Boskone Newsletter**

Special edition for past and current Boskone members.

Vol 52, Issue 2

Monday

January 19, 2015



b52 banner v2

**GET READY FOR BOSKONE**

Boskone is a family-friendly science fiction and fantasy convention. Our **programming starts at 2:00 pm** and is free/open to the public from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Friday, February 13th. Memberships are needed after 6:00 pm on Friday and throughout the duration of the convention.

**Boskone's Program is Online.**

Check out the program and begin planning your Boskone schedule today. Where to go? What to do? Who to see? The choice is yours.

More than 140 program participants. Over 350 program items. New England's longest running SF and fantasy convention returns for another terrific weekend of smart, fun, and exciting events.

[View the Program for Boskone 52.](#)

**SIGNATURE EVENTS** Our signature events celebrate the best of what Boskone has to offer.

**Boskone Reception & Meet the Guests:** Step it up, and join us in the Galleria for an upscale social mixer where with Boskone's Guests and program participants. Cash bar available. (Friday)

**Multi-Author Book Party:** Publishers and authors come together to in the Galleria to share what's new since last year. While you're here, check out the Bake Sale for the Tip Tree Awards, featuring the special SF/F cupcakes donated by Joanna and Frederic Norton. (Saturday)

**Featured Filkers Concert with Jeff & Maya Bohnhoff:** Great music, wry wit, and a wicked talent for parody--it's the perfect combination for a filking good time. Cash bar available (Saturday)

**NESFA Awards Ceremony:** The New England Science Fiction Association (NESFA) presents its annual Skylark and Gaughan Awards. The winner of NESFA's short story contest will also be announced. Cash bar available. (Saturday)

**REGISTER FOR BOSKONE TODAY!****Pre-Convention Full Membership Rates, expire January 21, 2015:**

Adult: \$50

College Student: \$35

K-12 Students: \$25

**At-the-Door Full Memberships Rates:**

Adult: \$60

College Students: \$40

K-12 Students: \$25

**One-Day Rates Also Available.**

[Register Today!](#)

**FOLLOW US ONLINE!**

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [Boskone Blog](#)
- [LiveJournal](#)
- [Twitpic](#)
- [Flickr](#)

Use hashtag [#boskone](#) when tweeting.

**IMPORTANT LINKS:**

- [Boskone Website](#)
- [Buy A Membership](#)

**Boskone at the Improv:** A troupe of professional improvisers perform short form games inspired by speculative fiction topics that are truly out of this world! Cash bar available. (Saturday)

**Flash Fiction Slam:** Eleven writers compete for the title of The Flash. (Sunday) [See how to enter!](#)

... and much, much more!

[View the rest of the Boskone Schedule.](#)

 [pr-images/box\\_bottom.gif](#)

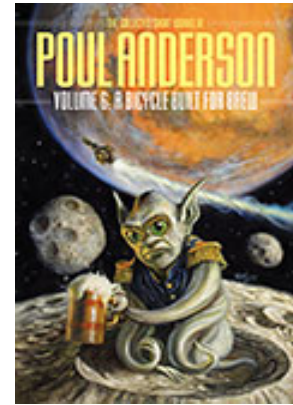
Boskone features an acclaimed program that covers a wide variety of fan favorites.

- Art / Demos / Art Show
- Autographing
- Children's Programming
- Comics / Manga
- Dealers' Room
- Filk (Music)
- Film / Anime
- Gaming
- Kaffeeklatsches / Discussion Groups
- Panels / Presentations
- Science / Technology
- Science Fiction / Fantasy / Horror
- Writing / Publishing / Editing
- Young Adult Fiction
- ...and more!



- [Program/Schedule](#)
- [Westin Waterfront](#)
- [Convention Hours](#)

**FICTION FROM NESFA PRESS**

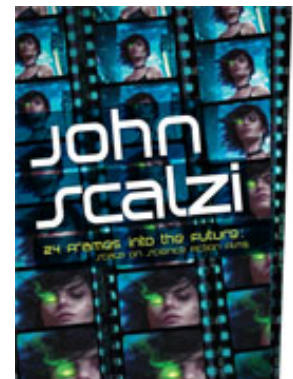


With over 350 items to choose from, Boskone 52 is one of this year's "must see" events for Boston area fans. A few panel highlights include:

**The Cutting Edge** Panelists discuss scientific and engineering developments that are new or emerging, and then venture into the realm of those that may be just a short step from development. What ideas are within our reach that recently seemed like pure science fiction? And what direction will technology likely take in the future?

**Growing Up in "Game of Thrones"** The consequences of their parents' plots sit squarely upon the shoulders of the Stark, Lannister, and Targaryen children. Their childhoods are gone, and they must come quickly into their own strengths if they hope to live through the great Game of Thrones. But have the adults underestimated the youngsters' value — and valor — as players? How will they evolve? Who will survive? Who will gain power? Who will surprise them all?

**SF Theater Renaissance** Science fiction theater has been around for a while, but it's just now starting to hit a wider audience. SF theater companies have appeared, SF theater festivals have been produced, and SF plays have been anthologized. Are we in an SF theater renaissance? Panelists discuss some of their favorite plays, what they would still like to see, and what might be next for SF theater.



**Gaming Review 2014-2015** What are the hot new board/card/RPG games for 2015? What's trending? What new expansions to previously released games are out now? Let's discuss all things related to new games.

**Constructive Criticism for Revising Novel-Length Work** Both getting and giving constructive criticism can be a challenge when going through the revision process, particularly for longer works. As a writer: how do you know what to ask of a potential critic, and how do you provide feedback on the success of the critique? As a critic: how do you identify and communicate issues or problems to the author? How do you keep track of plot threads, identify themes, and figure out what questions need to be asked? Also, how should writer and critic approach a series?

**Great Horror for Teens and Tweens** Teen fiction is more than BFFs, family issues, and dystopias. A whole lot more. There is a world of dark and dangerous beings who walk the night and infest the pages of teen and tween horror. Panelists share the books that inspired them to love reading and writing horror. Does adult and teen horror differ? Is there a line that should or shouldn't be crossed? What new stories are coming out that you should be reading? **Women in Science & Technology** Science and science fiction have long gone hand in hand, inspiring young minds to dream bigger. With the influx of women and young girls into scientific fields, what part can science fiction play? What role models are out there for young women and girls who are curious about science, technology, engineering, and math? What resources — or resistance — will they find? What fiction would it benefit them to read?

**Are We Living in the Superhero Renaissance?**

Marvel and DC heroes and heroines keep ka-powing at us from every screen and page, reviving the comics industry along the way. Why is the superhero biz suddenly so mega-ultra super? Why is this kind of storytelling so compelling? Is it just the special effects — or do we yearn for superheroes to save us from ourselves? Or from something else?

**[View the full Boskone 52 Program](#) BOSKONE IS ABOUT THE PEOPLE**

From guests to participants and fans, Boskone is about the people. Every year people return to Boston to take part in New England's longest running science fiction and fantasy convention. This year, our guests include:

- **Guest of Honor:** Steven Brust
- **Official Artists:** Charles Lang & Wendy Snow-Lang
- **Special Guest:** Robert K. Wiener
- **Featured Filkers:** Maya & Jeff Bohnhoff
- **Hal Clement Science Speaker:** David L. Clements
- **NESFA Guest:** Vincent Di Fate

**Introducing the Program Participants** We also have more than 140 amazing writers, artists, publishers, scientists, and editors coming back to Boskone. Many of them are featured in our new series of [Mini Interviews](#). Some of our program



Visit the [NESFA Press web site](#) to view our full selection of books.

participants include:

Heather Albano, A.C.E. Bauer, Elizabeth Bear, Ginjer Buchanan, Neil Clarke, Guy Consolmagno, Bruce Coville, Bob Eggleton, Christopher Golden, Theodora Goss, Jen Gunnels, Andrea Hairston, Toni Kelner (Leigh Perry), Mur Lafferty, John Langan, Marjorie Liu, Ken Liu, Scott Lynch, Melissa Marr, Darlene Marshall, Teresa Nielsen Hayden, Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Peadar Ó Guilín, Ada Palmer, Karl Schroeder, Charles Stross, Carrie Vaughn, Walter Jon Williams, Brianna Spacekat Wu, Jane Yolen, and many, many more!

### [Find out who else is coming to Boskone!](#)

#### **BOOK YOUR HOTEL**

The Westin Waterfront is Boskone's primary convention hotel located at 425 Summer Street, Boston, MA. As anticipated, the hotel is full. However, we are working on options and more information will be available soon. Please check the [Hotel page on the Boskone website](#) for updates. Other helpful notes:

- Westin waiting list, contact [hotel@boskone.org](mailto:hotel@boskone.org).
- Canceling your room at the Westin? Please contact [hotel@boskone.org](mailto:hotel@boskone.org).
- Alternative hotel locations, check the [Boskone website](#).

**GET INVOLVED** Would you like to help out? We're always looking for volunteers to help with a variety of tasks that include:

- Loading and unloading the truck.
- Setting up the Art Show.
- Various sit-down tasks like Registration, ConSuite, etc.

If you're interested in being a Boskone volunteer, please contact [volunteers@boskone.org](mailto:volunteers@boskone.org)

#### **GET READY FOR BOSKONE**

##### [Register Now!](#)

We look forward to seeing you in February! To learn more about the convention, please visit [Boskone's website](#) and be sure to also view our [Code of Conduct](#). If you have any questions, please contact us at [info@boskone.org](mailto:info@boskone.org).

[boskone.org/helmuth.html](http://boskone.org/helmuth.html) \* Send news/photos to [helmuth@boskone.org](mailto:helmuth@boskone.org) \* Email: [info@boskone.org](mailto:info@boskone.org)

Edited by Erin M. Underwood

\* \* \*

**\* Westin Boston Waterfront, 425 Summer Street, Boston, MA 02210 \***