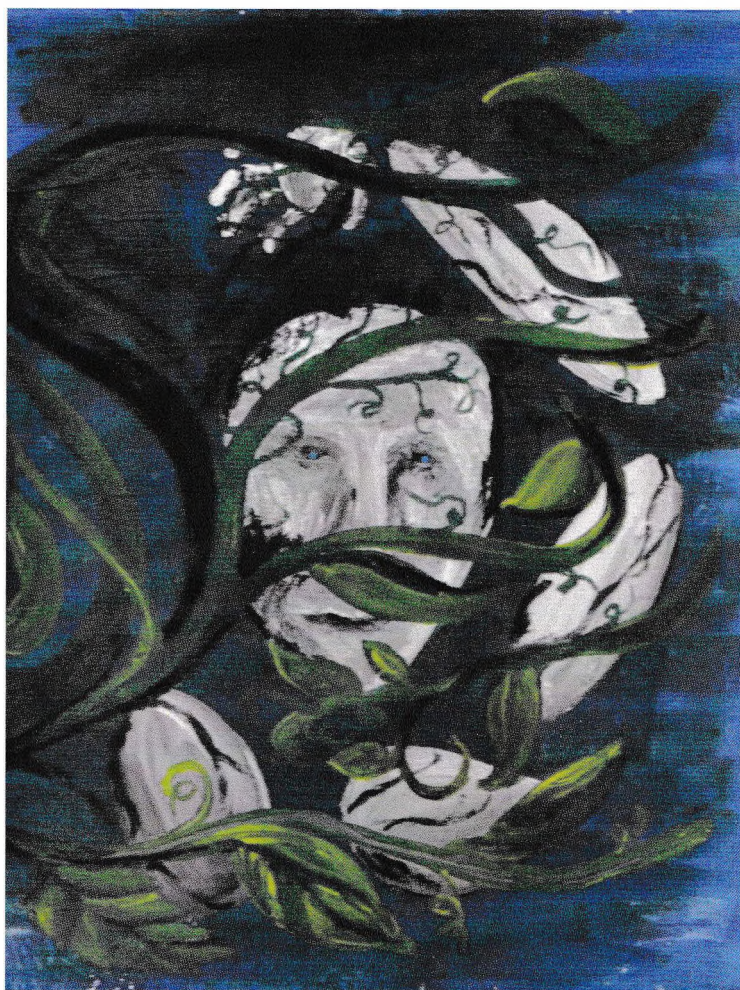


# CAPCLAVE 2023



**PROGRAM**

**BOOK**



# **CAPCLAVE 2023**



29 September - 1 October 2023

Capclave 2023 proudly presents our Guests of Honor:

Charlie Jane Anders

Sarah Pinsker

**Rockville Hilton & Executive Meeting Center,  
1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852**

***Sponsored by the Washington Science Fiction Association***

## **CAPCLAVE COMMITTEE**

Chair: Aaron Pound

Vice Chair: Bill Lawhorn

Ads: Cathy Green

Con Suite:

Con Ops / Green Room: Angela Pound

Dealers Room: Bob Macintosh

Fan Tables: Cathy Green

Guest of Honor Liaison: Kim Hargan

Hotel Liason: Colette Fozard

Programming: Courtni Burleson

Program Book: Sam Lubell

Publicity: Cathy Green

Pre-Con Registration: Sam Scheiner

At Con Registration: Rodger Burns

Registration Mass

Communications: Elizabeth Twitchell

Restaurant Guide: Carolyn Frank

Social Media Guru and Dodo

Wrangler: Sarah Mitchell

Tech Goddess: Kathi Overton

Treasurer: Sam Scheiner

Volunteers: Apurva Desai

Website: Paul Haggerty & Gayle Surrette

Workshop Coordinator: David Keener

## **COVID-19 POLICY**

Mask use is required in all convention spaces once the convention starts.

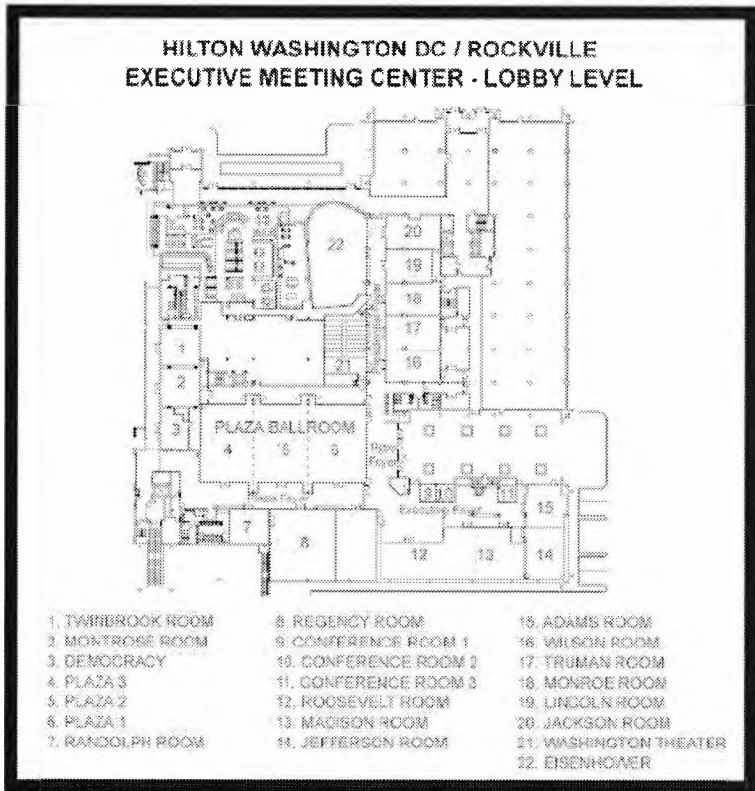
Vaccine status will not be checked this year.

Masks must remain on except in designated spaces such as lunch areas while eating or drinking.

Engaging in behavior likely to risk exposing another attendee to COVID-19, or establish a reasonable fear in another attendee that they will be at elevated risk of exposure to COVID-19 is a violation of the Capclave Code of Conduct.

As Capclave does not control events in private room space, the hosts determine mask requirements not the convention.

# HOTEL LAYOUT



## HOURS

### Registration

Friday: 2 pm – 7 pm  
 Saturday: 8:30 am – 6 pm  
 Sunday: 10 am – 2 pm

### Game Room (Jefferson)

Friday: 3 pm – 1 am  
 Saturday: 10 am – 1 am  
 Sunday: 10 am – 3 pm

### Con Suite (Jackson)

Friday: 4 pm, - 12 am  
 Saturday: 9 am – 11:59 pm  
 Sunday: 9 am – 2 pm

### Green Room (Adams)

Friday: 3 pm – 11 pm  
 Saturday: 9 am – 11 pm  
 Sunday: 9 am – 3 pm

## Welcome from the Chair

Twelve years ago, I attended my first Capclave. I wasn't a member of the Washington Science Fiction Association. I didn't know anyone there. I had no idea who the guests of honor were, or who any of the panelists were. I had no idea what to expect, or really even what one was supposed to do at a science fiction convention.

Now, in 2023, I am somehow the chair for this convention. I count the members of the Washington Science Fiction Association among my close friends. I somehow have become friends with many of the brilliant and talented regulars who serve as panel participants. I look forward to seeing everyone here, and I am so pleased to see that so many fans of science fiction and fantasy have once again gathered at Capclave to celebrate the written word.

I am especially happy to see our two accomplished Guests of Honor, Charlie Jane Anders and Sarah Pinsker. They are both masters of their craft at the top of their game and I feel extremely lucky that they both graciously agreed to be the Guests of Honor for the first convention I have chaired.

Charlie Jane is a Hugo, Nebula, Locus, Crawford and Lambda Literary Award winning author and, among the many other hats she wears, is the monthly science fiction and fantasy book reviewer for the Washington Post. Sarah Pinsker has won four Nebula Awards, two Hugo Awards, the Philip K Dick Award, the Locus Award, the Eugie Foster Award, and the Theodore Sturgeon Award. She is also a talented musician with four albums on various independent labels. I hope you take the opportunity to chat with them and learn about what they have done.

I also want to thank my staff for doing so much to make Capclave happen. I have no idea what I am doing most of the time, and the only thing that has made the success of Capclave possible is the experienced and capable collection of volunteers who surround me. Any success we experience is their doing, and any failures are probably my fault. If you are new to Capclave please feel free to talk to anyone with a staff ribbon if you have any questions or comments, - and pick up a First Capclave ribbon of your own at registration. If you have been to Capclave before, I encourage you

to try something new. Find an author you don't know and attend their reading. Go to a panel on a topic unfamiliar to you.

One of the best ways to experience a convention is to volunteer and Capclave hopes that you consider doing so. Even volunteering for a few hours would be greatly appreciated. If you choose to, please go to the Registration desk and tell them you want to volunteer.

Capclave is still taking precautions to prevent the spread of Covid-19. Please follow the convention rules and wear a mask except when eating or drinking in the marked areas, and do not remove your mask in other convention spaces. We also ask that you please practice social distancing as much as possible.

Above all, have fun and enjoy Capclave 2023.



# BALTICON 58

science fiction and fantasy convention

## May 24-27, 2024

Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel  
202 East Pratt St, Baltimore, MD 21202



Guest of Honor  
**L.E. MODESITT, JR.**  
*Author*

- Join us for:*
- 300+ hours of programming
  - Dealers Room
  - Art Show
  - Masquerade & Costuming
  - Gaming & RPGs
  - Filk & Other Music
  - Anime & Film Festival



Music Guest of Honor  
**Rhiannon's Lark (Alyssa Yeager)**



Editor Guest of Honor  
**Sheila Williams**



Artist Guest of Honor  
**Omar Rayyan**



2023 Compton Crook  
Award Winner  
**Alex Jennings**

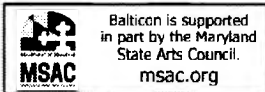


2024 Compton Crook  
Award Winner  
**TBA**



2024 Robert Heinlein  
Award Winner  
**TBA**

Sponsored by the Baltimore Science Fiction Society, a 501(C)(3) non-profit educational organization.



**BALTICON.ORG**

Email: [balticoninfo@balticon.org](mailto:balticoninfo@balticon.org)  
Phone: 410-10E-BSFS (563-2737)



ASL is available for main events and selected panels.





## Capclave 2023 Code of Conduct

The Washington Science Fiction Association is committed to creating a professional, safe, friendly, and welcoming environment for all Capclave members. Everyone is entitled to a harassment-free convention experience, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, disability, body shape, race, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, or religion.

We expect all Capclave members to help ensure a safe and positive experience for everyone. Be excellent to each other, show empathy, and help make this a welcoming space to explore speculative fiction.

Examples of unacceptable behavior include but are not limited to:

- Intimidating, harassing, abusive, discriminatory, derogatory, or demeaning speech or actions.
- Harmful or prejudicial verbal or written comments or visual images related to gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, disability, body shape, or other personal characteristics, including those protected by law.
- Inappropriate use of nudity and/or sexual images.
- Inappropriate disruption of meetings or events.
- Photographing, video or audio recording of presentations without presenter/author's permission.

A request to "stop", "back off", or "go away" means exactly that. If anyone engages in harassing or unsafe behavior, the convention committee may warn the offender, temporarily remove or mute the offender, or permanently ban the offender.

The code of conduct is not open to "rules lawyering." Multiple small infractions are as much of a problem as one large infraction.

Capclave is a convention open to all-ages, and all conversation in public spaces should be in the acceptable PG-13 range or lower. If the conversation rating escalates, please take it to a hotel room or other private space.

## **Reporting to the Incident Response Team (IRT)**

If you feel that you are being harassed, or if you notice someone engaging in questionable behavior, please contact a Capclave staffer to report the incident. Check the Green Room which is in Adams first. You can also email [report@capclave.org](mailto:report@capclave.org) to report any problems with a panel, reading, or other convention activity.

The Vice Chair of the convention leads IRT activities. A team of three individuals will review the information and make a recommendation. There are alternate members who will be brought in if any of the active members are part of the incident.

If there is a report regarding an individual, that individual will be contacted and provided the opportunity to give information unless the reporting individual asks the convention to not take any action or there is an immediate danger to members.

All reports will be kept confidential.

Consequences of misconduct may include:

- Immediate removal from a particular meeting room or function space without warning;
- Revocation of one's Capclave membership; and/or
- Restrictions from future WSFA meetings and events.

## Appreciation for Charlie Jane Anders

By N. Renee Brown



From the glory of her pink hair to the charm of her smile, Charlie Jane Anders is a dispenser of (as she says) “inspirational weirdnesses” in a world desperately in need of them. To have her sprinkle those weirdnesses among us a Capclave is an honor and a delight!

You likely know she is an amazing author, as is evidenced by her Hugo, Nebula, Sturgeon, Lambda Literary, Crawford and Locus Award wins. And if that doesn’t convince you, her work has appeared in everything from *Lightspeed Magazine* to *Teen Vogue*! She fills the pages she presents to us with characters that stand out for their depth and relatability. She creates wonderful stories that you can’t help but resent being dragged out of, even if it is to go save your partner from a Mario Kart emergency. Honestly, in many ways I wish we all lived in the worlds she creates for us -- they are so genuinely delightful and full of surprises.

Her writing is sublime and yet, so easy to connect with. It is almost as if there is this perfect room with an overstuffed chair and a cat and just the most epic fluffy blanket, and Charlie Jane Anders hands us the perfect story to read while we snuggle up and escape the world. She has made a career of providing

She is also honestly, openly, and sweetly subversive, you can’t help but love her for it. She clearly believes it when she says, “you don’t predict the future, you imagine the future”. In her most recent trilogy, the YA *Unstoppable Series*, she not only normalizes introducing yourself with pronouns but also reinforces the idea that not conforming (no matter what shape that takes) does not make you less – it makes you special. But also that belonging is more than just being in a place with people on a regular basis, it is connecting on the deepest level possible. All of this was quickly reinforced by *Never Say You Can’t Survive*, her non-fiction guide to using creative writing to get through hard times – which feels more like a chat with a good friend than a how-to book.

So yeah, her author cred is solid, but she's more than just an author! Inspirational weirdnesses don't stop with paper to pen, they suffuse her life with a million little stars to make her even more delightful!

- She is a proud member of the LGBTQ community, and we need a million more like her.
- She's a founding editor of io9.
- She co-created a super hero for the New Mutants – who is trans.
- She's given a TED Talk, that as of this writing, has over 3.9 Million views.
- She's a science fiction and fantasy book reviewer for *The Washington Post*.
- She has organized the Bookstore and Chocolate Crawl!! Two of my favorite things!
- She is the co-host of *Our Opinions are Correct*.
- She ran (with her partner) *Other Magazine*.
- She has dwelled on the toilet of the future.
- And now she's come to Capclave.

Welcome, Charlie Jane Anders – and thank you for all that you are!

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

### Novels:

*Choir Boy* (2005)

*All the Birds in the Sky* (2016)

*The City in the Middle of the Night* (2019).

*Unstoppable Trilogy*

- *Victories Greater Than Death* (2021)
- *Dreams Bigger Than Heartbreak* (2022)

- *Promises Stronger Than Darkness* (2023)

**Collections:**

*Six Months, Three Days, Five Others.* 2017).

*Even Greater Mistakes* (2021)

**Non-fiction**

*The Lazy Crossdresser* (2002)

*She's Such a Geek: Women Write About Science, Technology, and Other Nerdy Stuff* (2006) with Annalee Newitz

*Never Say You Can't Survive: How to Get Through Hard Times By Making Up Stories* (2021)

**Honors**

- 2006 Lambda Literary Award, for *Choir Boy*
- 2012 Hugo Award for *Six Months, Three Days*
- 2017 Nebula Award for *All the Birds in the Sky*
- 2017 IAFA Crawford Fantasy Award for *All the Birds in the Sky*
- 2017 Locus Award for Best Fantasy Novel for *All the Birds in the Sky*
- 2018 Theodore Sturgeon Award for *Don't Press Charges and I Won't Sue*
- 2019 Hugo Award for Best Fancast for *Our Opinions Are Correct* (shared with Annalee Newitz)
- 2020 Locus Award for Best Science Fiction Novel for *The City in the Middle of the Night*
- 2020 Locus Award for Best Short Story for "The Bookstore at the End of America"
- 2022 Hugo Award, Best Related Work for *Never Say You Can't Survive*
- 2022 Hugo Award for Best Fancast for *Our Opinions Are Correct* (shared with Annalee Newitz)
- 2023 Locus Award for Best Young Adult Novel for *Dreams Bigger Than Heartbreak*

## Appreciation for Sarah Pinsker

By Andy Duncan



That my friend and colleague Sarah Pinsker will teach Clarion West in 2024 is the best news this alumnus has heard in 2023.

Sarah has been teaching for years already, via her writing, volunteerism, activism; her sane, steady, joyous presence. From grizzled SFWA rock faces to Goucher College undergrads, Sarah inspires us all.

Many in the field first noticed Sarah 10 summers ago, via her Strange Horizons story “In Joy, Knowing the Abyss Behind.”

I was on that year’s Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award jury. We hesitated approximately 1 skinisecond before realizing, oh heck, the newcomer deserves it. We hoped it wasn’t too much praise too soon.

(We needn’t have worried; for Sarah, that was four Nebulas, two Hugos, one Locus, one Philip K. Dick, a Eugie and a Seiun ago.)

That awards weekend, I was the one-person welcoming committee for Sarah’s arrival at the University of Kansas. Our decade of mutual squeeing, finishing one another’s sentences and trading the wheel on always-too-short road trips began that day, approximately 5 skiniseconds after Hello, You Must Be.

I was floored by Sarah’s total recall of the work of Sturgeon and company, an apparently prenatal knowledge she credited to growing up with her dad’s collection of vintage sf digests.

For years, I told people this was our first meeting, until Sarah ahemed and reminded me I had forgotten the actual first. Weeks before, at some con, I had maneuvered through a throng of Sarah fans to murmur into this stranger’s ear: “Have you heard from Kansas yet?” She turned, face aglow, and murmured, “Yes!”--exclamation point and all. I murmured, “Good,” turned and melted into the crowd (Sarah claims) like a wraith.

Sarah is way too old to be so enthusiastic, way too young to be so wise. Asked her age, I'm always stumped. She's one of my heroes, and heroes are ageless.

## Bibliography

### Collections

*Sooner or Later Everything Falls Into the Sea* (2019)

*Lost Places* (2023)

### Novels

*A Song For A New Day* (2019)

*We Are Satellites* (2021)

### Awards:

- 2014 Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award for Best Short Fiction for "In Joy, Knowing the Abyss Behind"
- 2016 Nebula Award for Novelette for "Our Lady of the Open Road"
- 2020 Philip K. Dick Award for *Sooner or Later Everything Falls Into the Sea*
- 2020 Nebula Award for Novel for *A Song for a New Day*
- 2021 Hugo Award for Novella for "Two Truths and a Lie"
- 2021 Nebula Award for Novelette for "Two Truths and a Lie"
- 2022 Hugo Award for Short Story for "Where Oaken Hearts Do Gather"
- 2022 Nebula Award for Short Story for "Where Oaken Hearts Do Gather"

## Erica Ginter Memorial

By Eva Whitley

This is the hardest thing I have ever had to write.

Sometime in 1974: I was living in a co-ed dorm at Penn State. I usually hung out with a group of guys down the hall, Dougie, Paul, and Bruce. Then I got to know their friends: Big Al, Nick the Greek, and Govs. Who was really Keith but plastering a McGovern sticker on his door the previous year got him a nickname.

Keith was a bit dorky but nice enough and lent me bicycle tools so the boyfriend of the moment could fix my bike. Then, one night, his girlfriend, still in high school, came to visit him.

I don't remember what she said or did but there was immediate kinship, so much so I started calling her, just to talk. (I didn't find out for years that freaked her out.) We had a lot in common with our love for reading, particularly *Little House on The Prairie* books, science fiction movies, sewing, music, and politics. (I discovered that the first time I voted, it had been for her mother when she ran for school board.) We started talking. We'd continue to talk through the next 3 years of college, her marriage to Keith (I was a bridesmaid), her move to Princeton to follow Keith after she graduated, my move to Maryland to follow Jack. Many expensive long-distance calls later, we were reunited in the DC area in 1982.

I discovered fandom via the next guy I dated (thanks, Tom!), and immediately began lobbying for her to attend cons with me. She resisted for a long time. I never let her live down blowing off the 1983 Worldcon to attend a cat show. (She used part of the wedding gift money to buy show cats and ran the Dawntreader Cattery to breed Himalayans.) Finally, I convinced her to join Jack and me at a WSFA meeting near her apartment in Virginia. I didn't know until years later she was too shy to attend without me, and if I missed a meeting, she immediately left. Years later, when she was elected WSFA President, I figured she got over it.

I saw a lot less of her in subsequent years than I would have liked. I was busy living out in the exurbia of Carroll County with Jack and our kids. She divorced Keith (I can't say I was upset, given how, during the wedding ceremony, I pondered how badly her



parents would hurt me if I objected to the marriage). I don't remember her migraines in college, although I understand she was around 7 years old when she got her first one, but, increasingly, they came between attempts to do things together.

And doing things was most fun I was having, other than attending conventions. I remember hitting up a chain bookstore for shopping (my to-be-read pile was in deplorable shape!), and the clerk helping us discovered we all loved science fiction. And then he started enthusiastically recommending his favorite author, Jack L. Chalker! I laughed, thinking Erica had set up a prank but no! We made that guy's day.

We loved fabric shopping together. (Did I mention she made my wedding dress?) We saw Art Garfunkel together at Wolf Trap. We watched movies together. After she died, I re-watched *Yesterday*, the last movie we watched together, die hard Beatles fans to the end.

I discovered among the superficial similarities we had (like both of our fathers having the same birthday), there were deeper bonds like being treated as a lesser to our brothers. Both of our fathers had the same cause of death, severe alcoholism. When she was going through some hard times, I visited her in...well, let's call it grippy sock jail.

Since Jack died, we had shared rooms at conventions, and we were supposed to share one in December 2021. We planned to travel and room together, but I ended up making my own way to the convention, arranging for her to come down later. Every day, she assured me that this would be the day she'd pack and come down to the hotel. Every day, she assured me she'd be there tomorrow. Finally, a few days in, she told me her secret: she had been diagnosed with breast cancer and was weighing her treatment options.

I never saw her again.

We did message on Facebook, but her chemo was hard on her, and there were hospital visits from that, and she didn't want me to visit her. I understand that when she was feeling better, she and Karl went on some cruises she had previously booked. I'm glad her last year had some happy spots. Eight months after she was diagnosed

with breast cancer, I was diagnosed with the same. I asked for oncology recommendations and went for treatment where she recommended. She was supposed to have started radiation therapy at the same office right after mine ended, and as I left for my last treatment, I told the techs to take good care of her.

She died right before treatment was to have started.

When I got the news, I let out a noise like I have never heard before in my life, and then had the mother of all panic attacks. I called my daughter Samantha, and then my son, Dave, who both loved her. They have actual aunts, but they saw Erica far more often than they saw my sisters, so it was a shock to them. (One of the things I told Erica a lot was, “I love you BETTER THAN A sister! Let’s say I have some issues from growing up.”)

So many things remind of her, constantly. I got a cat just before she died (she gave me a glowing reference to the rescue I applied to), and we wanted to meet up so she could see Ouiser, who would be gone 9 weeks later. I was able to use the same reference to adopt Bommy a few days after Ouiser died, and every time I see my sleek little tuxie, I think of Erica. I think of her when I go grocery shopping and see a box of Little Debbie Nutty Buddies, which she adored. She would wash them down with Diet Coke, which I swear ran through her veins. I read a book and think how much she would enjoy it. There are lyrics from the new Paul Simon record that reminded me of her so much I dissolved into tears: “I live a life of pleasant sorrows / Until the real deal came / Broke me like a twig in a winter gale / Called me by my name.”

I have lost several friends who I shared college with like Zanne, and Jeanette and now Erica. I lost a friend of 48 years duration and I feel like I am losing huge chunks of my past. Rationally, I don’t believe in an afterlife but it would be nice to think she’s in a place where she’s talking to her mother, surrounded by every cat she ever loved, with Simon & Garfunkel and Beatles tunes playing. And she would finally have the tea party she was planning the final year of her life. Maybe I’ll go have some tea in her honor.

# Philcon 2023

November 17-19, 2023

DoubleTree by Hilton (formerly Crowne Plaza Hotel), Cherry Hill, NJ

**Jonathan Maberry**

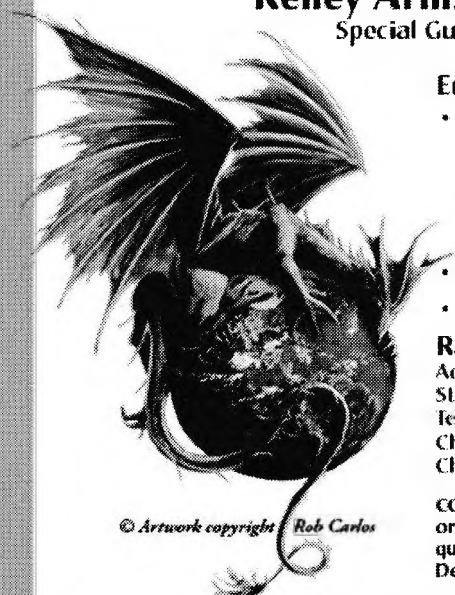
Principal Speaker

**Rob Carlos**

Artist Guest of Honor

**Kelley Armstrong**

Special Guest



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## Enjoy a Weekend of:

- Panels, art show, masquerade, concerts, gaming, anime, writers' workshop, meet the pros, filking, villainess-themed fashion show, vendors, and more!
- Free parking
- Public transit access

## Rates through 11/11/23:

Adults - \$65  
Students & Active Military - \$35  
Teens (13-17) - \$35  
Children 7-12 - \$25  
Children under 7 at Philcon - Free

COVID-19 Policy: Proof of vaccination or negative PCR COVID-19 test required; mask strongly recommended. Details: <https://philcon.org/policies>

[www.philcon.org](http://www.philcon.org)

[www.facebook.com/Philcon.PSFS](https://www.facebook.com/Philcon.PSFS)

Philcon is a registered servicemark of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society

**Program Participants**

A. T. Greenblatt	Leslye Penelope
A.C. Wise	Mark Roth
Adeena Mignogna	Martin Berman-Gorvine
Alex Shvartsman	Mary G. Thompson
Andy Duncan	Meridel Newton
Bill Lawhorn	Michael A Ventrella
Brick Barrientos	Michael Dirda
Carolyn Ives Gilman	Mike McPhail
Charles Gannon	Morgan Hazelwood
Charlie Jane Anders	Natalie Luhrs
Danielle Ackley-McPhail	Nate Hoffelder
Darrell Charles Schweitzer	Neil Clarke
David Keener	Paul Haggerty
Doc Coleman	Perriane Lurie
Ef Deal	R. Z. Held
Hildy Silverman	Randee Dawn
Ian Randal Strock	Richard Peter Haviland Sparks
Inge Heyer	Samantha Katz
Irette Y Patterson	Sam Lubell
James Morrow	Sarah Avery
Jean Marie Ward	Sarah Pinsker
Jeanne Adams	Sarena Ulibarri
Jennifer R. Povey	Scott Edelman
Jo Miles	Scott H. Andrews
Joan Wendland	Shahid Mahmud
John Ashmead	Sherin Nicole
Jorie Rao	Sunny Moraine
Joshua Benjamin Palmatier	Thomas R. Holtz, Jr.
Karlo Yeager Rodriguez	Tom Doyle
Keith R.A. DeCandido	Ty Drago
Ken Altabef	Vanessa Rose Phin
Lawrence M. Schoen	Zin E. Rocklyn
Lee Mewshaw	

## Capclave Program

*Note: All panels are one hour with a half-hour break. Readings are a half hour. Workshops as specified.*

### Friday 4 PM

#### ***Eisenhower***

##### Pick Your Poison: Standalone, Trilogy, or Series

For reader and writer alike, there are strong opinions on the value of a story that is one and done versus settling into a universe and its characters for a while. Panelists discuss the benefits and challenges of each. When do you know that a story wants to be one or the other? Does writing individual stories set in the same universe count as a series? Are duologies becoming more common? Panelists: Cathy Green (MOD), Jeanne Adams, Natalie Luhrs, Joshua Benjamin Palmatier, and Mark Roth

#### ***Washington Theater***

##### A Maker's Playlist

Authors such as Marie Lu have spoken lovingly and openly about the playlists used when writing or editing their books. Panelists explore the role of music in their creative process. Does anyone create in silence? Does changing up a playlist disrupt the creative workflow or inspire it by setting a new mood and openness to different points of view? What music inspires your novel, poetry, artwork, or reading?

Panelists: Ty Drago (MOD), Morgan Hazelwood, Sunny Moraine, Irette Y Patterson, & Leslye Penelope

### Friday 5 PM

#### ***Monroe***

##### Author Reading: Irette Patterson

### Friday 5:30 PM

#### ***Eisenhower***

##### Romance in SFF

Romance is an integral part of many great SFF stories. And it is a versatile storytelling tool too - sometimes driving the story or perhaps just one piece of

the narrative tapestry. What are these different approaches and what romantic scenarios are most familiar and compelling to readers? How have audience expectations changed over time? Panelists will get to the heart of our beloved genre.

Panelists: Leslye Penelope (MOD), Jeanne Adams, Charlie Jane Anders, Jean Marie Ward, & Joan Wendland

### ***Monroe***

Author Reading: Joshua Palmatier

### ***Washington Theater***

Introducing the Cozy Fantasy

Travis Baldree's *Legends & Lattes*, a 2023 Nebula & Hugo Best Novel finalist, is an example of a relatively new subgenre being called "cozy fantasy." These stories generally feature heartwarming characters, little to no danger, and low stakes. They are like settling down with a warm fluffy blanket and fresh-baked chocolate chip cookies in your most comfortable reading nook. What are some other examples and favorite cozy fantasies and why are they growing in popularity?

Panelists: Bill Lawhorn(MOD), Sarah Avery, Randee Dawn, & R. Z. Held

### ***Wilson***

Exquisite Corpse Writing Challenge

Watch the creative process in action as our panelists work together to build a story from start to finish!

Panelists: Mary G. Thompson(MOD), Hildy Silverman, Richard Peter Haviland Sparks, & Ian Randal Strock

## **Friday 6 PM**

### ***Monroe***

Author Reading: Doc Coleman

## **Friday 6:30 PM**

### ***Monroe***

Author Reading: Darrell Charles Schweitzer

## **Friday 7 PM**

***Eisenhower*****The Art of the Book Review**

A good book review and reviewer can be a reader's best friend. Learn about the world of book reviews and the skills for crafting them. What is different about reading with a critical eye versus for pleasure? Where can you find good reviews? What can authors gain from reading (or writing) these critiques?

Panelists: Nate Hoffelder (MOD), Charlie Jane Anders, Michael Dirda, Natalie Luhrs, & Karlo Yeager Rodriguez

***Monroe*****Author Reading: Ty Drago*****Truman*****Memorial and Tribute for Erica Ginter**

Join friends and family to celebrate the life and fandom of WSFA's Erica Ginter who passed away in 2023.

***Washington Theater*****Anthology Builder**

There's an art and a business to building a great anthology. Editors reveal their most important lessons for constructing an anthology that is both readable and marketable. How do editors come up with a theme and properly curate their anthologies? How do the stories get picked? And ultimately, what sells and what does not?

Panelists: Keith R.A. DeCandido (MOD) , Neil Clarke, Mike McPhail, Alex Shvartsman & Ian Randal Strock

***Wilson*****Finding Our Monsters or Creating Them**

Readers crave a good monster, and speculative fiction has produced many iconic examples. But from Mothman to Bigfoot to Chupacabra, there's nothing like the enduring lure of the cryptid. These monsters have become more popular in recent years and as intriguing as ever. Panelists discuss the beauty of these monsters for readers and writers and why we are so drawn to them.

Panelists: Hildy Silverman (MOD), Danielle Ackley-McPhail, Jennifer R. Povey, Zin E. Rocklyn, & Darrell Charles Schweitzer

**Friday 7:30 PM*****Monroe***

Author Reading: Richard Sparks

**Friday 8 PM*****Monroe***

Author Reading: Scott Edelman

**Friday 8:30 PM*****Eisenhower***

30 years of *Babylon 5*

It's been 30 years since *Babylon 5* debuted. It is still considered a seminal science fiction show that paved the way for modern space operas on TV such as *Farscape*, the *Battlestar Galactica* reboot, and *The Expanse*. Panelists will discuss the show, its impact, and their favorite characters and plots. What was innovative at the time? What aspects of the show still resonate?

Panelists: Jennifer R. Povey (MOD), Scott H. Andrews, Doc Coleman, & Perriane Lurie

***Monroe***

Author Reading: Meridel Newton

***Washington Theater***

Sarah Pinksler Concert!

GOH Sarah Pinksler performs for Capclave!

Performer: Sarah Pinksler

***Wilson***

The Arts and Alternative History

We love imagining the ripple effects of worlds changed by a single shift in culture or missing political figure. The influence of our greatest authors, artists, and composers is no less compelling. Panelists discuss what alternate histories emerge when the arts change course. What other realities are possible when we do not lose certain brilliant artists so young? Can the fickle tastes of one prominent patron change the artistic history of an era?



Panelists: James Morrow (MOD), John Ashmead, Martin Berman-Gorvine, Tom Doyle, & Carolyn Ives Gilman

**Friday 9 PM**

***Monroe***

Author Reading: Adeena Mignogna

**Friday 9:30 PM**

***Monroe***

Author Reading: Paul Haggerty

**Friday 10 PM**

***Eisenhower***

*Weird Tales* at 100

*Weird Tales* magazine was an American fantasy and horror fiction pulp magazine founded by J. C. Henneberger and J. M. Lansinger. The first issue came out in 1923 and ran through 1954 with several attempts over the years to revive it. Now published by Weird Tales Inc., *Weird Tales* #366 – Swords And Sorcery Issue came out in 2022. Let's celebrate and take a look back at this piece of SFF history.

Panelists: Darrell Charles Schweitzer (MOD) , John Ashmead, & Keith R.A. DeCandido

***Truman***

Open Discussion: Black Mirror

Season six of *Black Mirror* marked both a return to "classic" Black Mirror stories as well as a preview of new directions the anthology could explore in future seasons. Join your fellow fans to discuss this newest season and attempt to rank the best (and worst) episodes.

Panelists: Rande Dawn (MOD) & Zin E. Rocklyn

***Washington Theater***

Creating a Believable Legal System for Your Fantasy

Disputes are going to arise in your imagined world, and someone has to resolve them! There are hundreds of examples of how legal systems work in real life,

but what about in the societies you create? How can you develop a legal system that is both realistic and also relevant to the story (and not an obstacle to your pacing and plot)? Panelists discuss what makes for a believable (or not) fantasy legal system.

Panelists: Cathy Green (MOD), David Keener), Mary G. Thompson, & Michael A Ventrella

### ***Wilson***

#### **The Writer's Toolkit**

When staring at a blank page, it helps to have a few tips and techniques to fall back on. What are common tools that writers can use to further their craft? What resources serve as helpful refreshers when stuck or seeking inspiration? Are there common prompts or skills to help kick off a good writing session? How might a new writer refine advice that does not quite work for their style into something that properly clicks?

Panelists: Adeena Mignogna, Ken Altabef, Morgan Hazelwood, Mike McPhail, & Ian Randal Strock



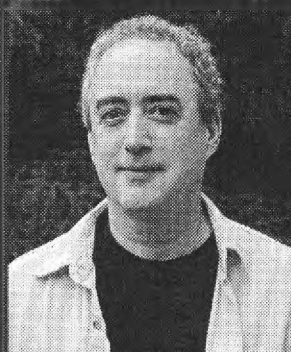
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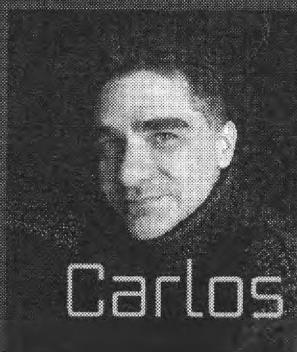
## with Honored Guests



Neil Clarke



C. S. E. Cooney



Carlos Hernandez

# HELIOsphereNY.org

## Saturday

### Saturday 10 AM

#### ***Eisenhower***

##### Rejections Happen

The life of a writer involves hearing many variations of the word "no." Rejection comes with the territory but that does not make it easier to experience. Panelists discuss coping with rejection, how to continue writing through them, and what you can learn from receiving a no.

Panelists: Scott Edelman (MOD), Ef Deal, A. T. Greenblatt, R. Z. Held, & Nate Hoffelder

#### ***Monroe***

##### Author Reading: Sarah Avery

#### ***Washington Theater***

##### State of Horror

It is a good time to be a horror fan. The genre is drawing bigger audiences while gaining interest even from those who normally shy away from the dark side. Panelists take a look at the current mainstreaming of horror in books, movies, TV, and games. What makes horror so interesting right now and where is it going? How are creators bringing in new fans or reviving common mythologies and horror tropes?

Panelists: A.C. Wise (MOD), Sunny Moraine, Jorie Rao, & Hildy Silverman

#### ***Wilson***

##### The 2023 Hugo Awards

This year's Worldcon is in Chengdu, China (currently scheduled for 18 - 22 October). This is a rare opportunity to discuss the nominated Hugo finalists at a Capclave before the winners are announced. Panelists discuss the nominees and predict their winners!

Sam Lubell (MOD), Perriane Lurie, & Lawrence M. Schoen

### Saturday 10:30 AM

#### ***Monroe***

##### Author Reading: Keith R.A. DeCandido

**Saturday 11 AM*****Monroe***

Author Reading: Sarah Pinsker

**Saturday 11:30*****Atrium*****Run With the Chair**

The chair of Capclave will attempt to run (away) six miles, as recorded by his running watch. It will take him between an hour and an hour and a half. Anyone who wants to (escort him to make sure he comes back) is welcome to join him. Meet in the lobby at the start of the session and we will leave within the first five minutes. Route to be determined.

Leader runner: Aaron Pound (LEAD)

***Eisenhower*****Finding Your Level**

The speculative fiction we love comes in several lengths - short story, novelette, novella, and novel (as well as flash and micro fiction). Panelists discuss their experience writing long- and short-form stories. Do writers have a length they write best at? Can you write an epic story in short story format? How do you figure out what your ideal story length is? How do you train yourself to write longer or shorter?

Panelists: Sarena Ulibarri (MOD), Doc Coleman, R. Z. Held, Jo Miles, & Meridel Newton

***Monroe***

Author Reading: Karlo Yeager Rodriguez

***Truman*****Occupational Hazard (2 hours)**

In this workshop on character development, participants will start by defining an SF or Fantasy occupation...and then exploring the type of person who might take on that job. Participants will also focus on key areas such as character goals, high-level story arcs, challenges, obstacles, and limitations.

Panelist: David Keener (MOD)

***Washington Theater***

How to Change Your Reading Diet

Reading ruts happen! Panelists discuss the best ways to diversify your reading habits to find new gems and genres that you'll love next. Where can you find new sources for your TBR list? What are tips for sifting through new titles to find something you love? How many pages should you give a book or story before moving on?

Panelists: Mary G. Thompson (MOD), Sarah Avery), Michael Dirda, Irette Y Patterson, & A.C. Wise

### ***Wilson***

#### **Judging a Book By Its Cover**

There's more to choosing the visuals of a book than meets the eye. What are the elements to consider in creating and choosing a book cover? How has this evolved in recent years and what are past and current trends? Our panelists reveal the unique business of book design and share their design triumphs and horror stories.

Panelists: Joshua Benjamin Palmatier (MOD), Nate Hoffelder, Shahid Mahmud, Mike McPhail, & Sherin Nicole

### **Saturday 12 PM**

#### ***Monroe***

**Author Reading: A.T. Greenblatt**

### **Saturday 12:30 PM**

#### ***Monroe***

Author Reading: Randee Dawn

### **Saturday 1 PM**

#### ***Eisenhower***

#### **The State of Queer SFF**

Publishers have been steadily making space for fiction with queer characters and themes despite bans and censorship on authors and titles. There is still a long way to go, but more LGBTQ people are showing up in stories in joyful, fully formed, and also mundane ways. Panelists discuss the strides (and setbacks) in recent years and how readers, authors, and publishers can counter attacks against queer stories.

Panelists: Jennifer R. Povey (MOD), Charlie Jane Anders, Joshua Benjamin Palmatier, & Vanessa Rose Phin

**Monroe**

Author Reading: Sunny Moraine

**Washington Theater**

Presentation: Thomas Holtz, Jr.

**Wilson**

I'll Have Some Mystery with My Speculative Fiction

Adding a good old fashioned whodunit to a science fiction or fantasy story can add an intriguing and fun element. What makes for a good setting and plot for an SFF mystery? How do you balance providing enough clues to interest the audience without making the solution obvious? What are the tropes and potential pitfalls and where can you find great examples of this done well?

Panelists: Michael A Ventrella, Ty Drago, Charles Gannon, Sarah Pinsker, Jorie Rao & Joan Wendland

**Monroe**

Author Reading: Sherin Nicole

**Saturday 2 PM**

**Monroe**

Author Reading: Lawrence M. Schoen

**Truman**

Plotting for Pantzers (or Those Who Hate to Plot) (2 hour)

Are you a writer who hates to plot, but you keep getting stuck? Are you stuck and need to get unstuck? Are you a pantzer who needs to get books finished and to market? If any of that sounds familiar, then this workshop is for you! This get-the-basics workshop will also help you even if you're a long-time writer who just needs a boost as you try a new genre or story. Plotting for Pantzers is a hands-on workshop, so bring a story idea and get ready to have some fun!

Leader: Jeanne Adams

**Saturday 2:30 PM*****Eisenhower*****A Little Perspective: POV in Fiction**

Who tells your story is as important as how it is told and what is in it. Changing the point of view can completely transform how a story is received. Panelists discuss options for experimenting with perspective, how to know what is most effective for a story, and why styles such as second-person are worth your consideration.

Panelists: Michael A Ventrella (MOD), Charlie Jane Anders, Scott H. Andrews, & Jean Marie Ward

***Monroe*****Author Reading: Danielle Ackley-McPhail*****Truman*****Creating Audiobooks for Fun and Profit**

Learn the ins and outs of professional-level audiobook production from an author who has created dozens of audiobooks, both self-recorded and with professional narrators and producers. Topics include: step by step audiobook setup with ACX, finding a narrator, the pros and cons of shared revenue vs. pay-by-hour, working with narrators, and more.

Panelist: Martin Wilsey

***Washington Theater*****The Pilot and the Future of Personal Technology**

Sarah Pinsker's novel, *We Are Satellites*, introduces a brain implant called the Pilot that offers the power to split one's mental focus into multiple streams of attention. This method of true multitasking ability raises questions about the future of virtual reality and similar advancements in personal technology. What is the evolution from cell phones and smart glasses to brain implants? What tradeoffs inevitably follow?

Panelists: John Ashmead (MOD), David Keener, Adeena Mignogna, & Sarah Pinsker

***Wilson*****What Are We Learning From Pandemic-Era Conventions?**

Three and a half years after the onset of COVID-19, conventions are still dealing with how to pivot on programming logistics as well as procedures and safety policies for attendees and participants. Which experiments are working and which did not go as planned? What long-lasting resources or protocols have



emerged? How have these adjustments affected the ways in which fandom gathers?

Panelists: Sam Lubell (MOD), Morgan Hazelwood, Inge Heyer, Thomas R. Holtz, Jr., & Perriane Lurie

### **Saturday 3 PM**

#### ***Monroe***

Author Reading: Zin E. Rocklyn

### **Saturday 3:30 PM**

#### ***Monroe***

Author Reading: L. Penelope

### **Saturday 4 PM**

#### ***Eisenhower***

Tell Me a Story: The Art of a Public Reading

Learning to effectively read your own work publicly is a skill worth nurturing. It can connect the audience with your stories, and it can be a powerful marketing and engagement tool. What makes for a good public reading experience? What techniques make a difference and help it feel less intimidating? What platforms (podcasts, events, audio narration, etc.) are out there for authors to read their own work?

Panelists: Karlo Yeager Rodriguez (MOD), Danielle Ackley-McPhail, Ef Deal, & Richard Peter Haviland Sparks

#### ***Monroe***

Author Reading: James Morrow

#### ***Truman***

Better Beta Reading: Both Sides of the Pen

So you've been asked (or offered) to beta-read for someone. Or maybe \*you're\* the one looking for beta readers. As the writer: Where do you find them and how do you get the feedback you're looking for? As a beta reader: If they don't tell you, what sort of feedback should you give? Plus, how to give

feedback that helps — and stay on speaking terms with the author. Optional: Bring a single-page double-spaced writing sample to be beta-read.

Presenter: Morgan Hazelwood (MOD)

### ***Washington Theater***

#### **Writing in Other People's Universes**

Whether writing for comics, venturing into tie-in novels and other adaptive media, or championing fan fiction, writing good stories in a known world requires a unique skill set. Panelists discuss what it takes to create compelling narratives for a universe not their own and how to push the limits without crossing the guidelines of the borrowed universe.

Panelists: Jean Marie Ward (MOD), Keith R.A. DeCandido, Charles Gannon, Sunny Moraine, and Mark Roth

### ***Wilson***

#### **A Celebration of Octavia E. Butler**

Now a posthumous New York Times best-selling author, Octavia E. Butler is finally reaching a wider audience of fans who have discovered her influence on science fiction, fantasy, and horror. Today, her works are the source materials for award-winning graphic novel adaptations and multiple media projects spanning her career as both novel and short fiction writer. Panelists discuss the life and stories of Butler and the legacy of her talent.

Panelists: Irette Y Patterson (MOD), Andy Duncan, Sherin Nicole, & Zin E. Rocklyn

### **Saturday 4:30 PM**

#### ***Monroe***

**Author Reading: Alex Shvartsman**

### **Saturday 5 PM**

#### ***Monroe***

**Author Reading: Charlie Jane Anders**

# **.Glasgow 2024**

**A Worldcon  
For Our Futures**

**8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> August 2024  
SEC, Glasgow**



**[www.glasgow2024.org](http://www.glasgow2024.org)**

**[f](#) [t](#) [@](#) [v](#) @glasgowin2024**

**Saturday 5:30 PM*****Eisenhower***Exploring Oppression in Speculative Fiction

Science fiction and fantasy have never shied away from exploring the origins and consequences of fascist and oppressive societies. Whether a familiar secondary world or overt description of modern autocracies, these stories endure for the cautionary tale and the lessons they tell through the "what if." Panelists discuss how these stories have evolved over the years and the techniques used, including satire, to effectively explore how oppression shapes individuals and cultures.

Panelists: Carolyn Ives Gilman (MOD), Jennifer R. Povey, Zin E. Rocklyn, and Joan Wendland

***Monroe***Author Reading: Tom Doyle***Truman***Open Discussion: *Doctor Who* 60th Anniversary

There will be four *Doctor Who* specials in November with David Tennant as the 14th Doctor. Take a look back at previous Doctors as well as a discussion of the return of Russell T Davies and Ncuti Gatwa as the 15th Doctor.

Panelists: Vanessa Rose Phin (MOD), Brick Barrientos, & Cathy Green

***Washington Theater***Interactions of Sound & Light: Extraordinary Physics & Many Uses

Light and sound have had a close relationship since the first stroke of lightning triggered the first sound of thunder. But it is only lately that science has entered the picture. From sonoluminescence (light emitted by imploding bubbles), to the use of the acousto-optic effect to use sound to control lasers, to polarons & plasmons (quantum particles which are strange hybrids of sound and light), we look at the science of sound and light as it is now — and how it might evolve in the future.

Presenter: John Ashmead

***Wilson***To the Heart of the Matter

Creating a connection between the characters and the reader is important. It can drive the emotional journey or heighten the stakes for the reader to keep them turning to the next page. Panelists discuss how authors think about this link between character and reader and the techniques to make these connections work.

Panelists: Jeanne Adams (MOD), Ef Deal, Sunny Moraine, & Leslye Penelope

**Saturday 6 PM**

***Monroe***

Author Reading: Kenneth Altabef

**Saturday 8:30 PM**

***Atrium***

Mass Autograph Session

Capclave's regular Saturday night group signing! Bring books to be signed. We will also present the WSFA Small Press Award and the winner of the BSFS Amateur Writing Contest.

Autographers: Everybody!

***Eisenhower***

Trivia Night! (2 Hrs)

Join your host Brick Barrientos for an evening of trivia!

Host: Brick Barrientos

**Saturday 9:30 PM**

***Atrium***

Award Ceremony

Celebrate the winners of the WSFA Small Press Award and BSFS Amateur Writing Contest. Maybe there will be cake?

**Saturday 10 PM**

***Washington Theater***

Eye of Argon

Eye of Argon is back! Join us for a so bad it's good (but still bad) live interactive performance of this convention classic.

Performers: Hildy Silverman (MOD), Ian Randall Strock, & Michael A Ventrella

***Wilson***

**The Forever Life**

Many works of speculative fiction feature characters who are or seek to be live forever (or nearly so). Whether it is an extended life existence in science fiction or an ancient being in fantasy and horror, what themes emerge from tales of immortality? How does it affect characterization and plot? What lessons for living can we learn from these explorations?

Panelists: Doc Coleman (MOD), Charles Gannon, & Darrell Charles Schweitzer

# Shore Leave 44

A Fan-run Media Science Fiction Convention in Baltimore, MD

Annual Meeting of the STAT Club of Maryland, Inc.



## Summer 2024



**We will celebrate with:**

discussion panels, guest Q&A, writing workshops, stargazing, game room, actor photo ops, actor and author signing sessions, masquerade, art show, film festival, vendors, science programming, charity events, children and teen programming, and much more.

## [www.shore-leave.com](http://www.shore-leave.com)

Guests will be announced  
as soon as they are confirmed.

Convention registration  
will open as soon as the  
search for a new hotel is concluded.  
Keep checking the website.



### **For Hotel Information:**

**The Delta Hotels Baltimore  
Hunt Valley is closing its doors  
permanently on 10/31/2023.**

**We are currently looking for a  
new venue, and we will let you  
know the details as soon as we  
have them.**

### **For Any Other Information:**

**Shore Leave 44  
PO Box 6809  
Towson, Maryland 21285-6809**

**[www.shore-leave.com](http://www.shore-leave.com)**

Email: go to [www.shore-leave.com/contacts/](http://www.shore-leave.com/contacts/)  
and click on the applicable link

**Sunday****Sunday 10 am*****Eisenhower*****Modern Book Bans**

There has been an alarming trend of censoring and banning books in public libraries and schools often targeting LGBTQ, Black, and Latin stories and authors. Banned Book Week, a campaign promoted by the American Library Association and Amnesty International, starts on Sunday, October 1st. Who is behind the current book bans? How can we support the freedom to seek and to express ideas in our public spaces? Are there books that should be banned or have limited access?

Panelists: Jeanne Adams (MOD), Andy Duncan, Sam Lubell, Mark Roth, and A.C. Wise

***Monroe*****Author Reading: Ef Deal**

Washington Theater

**Friendships in Science Fiction and Fantasy**

Romance is great and who doesn't love a good archnemesis -- but what about your friends? Our panelists discuss the value of best friends, loyal quest-mates, and found family in science fiction and fantasy.

Panelists: Lawrence M. Schoen (MOD), Martin Berman-Gorvine, Randee Dawn, A. T. Greenblatt, & Jo Miles

***Wilson*****State of Small Press Publishing**

Small press publishing is steadily evolving with new trends emerging for editors and authors alike. Panelists explain the ins and outs of small press publishing today. What's new and exciting in small press publishing? What are small presses doing that larger publishers cannot or will not do? Which types of small presses are reaching the widest audience?

Panelists: Sarah Avery (MOD), Danielle Ackley-McPhail, Neil Clarke, Ty Drago, & Sarena Ulibarri

**Sunday 10:30 AM*****Monroe*****Author Reading: Michael A. Ventrella**



**Sunday 11 AM*****Monroe***

Author Reading: A.C. Wise

**Sunday 11:30 AM*****Eisenhower***

Guest of Honor Interview(s)!

What's better than one GOH interview? How about two at the same time! Join our guests of honor Sarah Pinsker and Charlie Jane Anders in conversation together.

GoHs: Charlie Jane Anders & Sarah Pinsker

***Truman***

Open Discussion: Star Trek

There has been a boon in Star Trek properties in recent years. Join your fellow fans to discuss the state of the Star Trek franchise.

Panelists: Inge Heyer (MOD) & Keith R.A. DeCandido

***Washington Theater***

Constructing Your Magic System

Magic is an important element of fantasy stories. Unless you want to end up in 'a wizard did it' world for how every problem is resolved, your magic systems need to be constructed with a set of rules. How should you begin constructing this system? What is the cost of using magic? How powerful do you want the magic to be? Panelists discuss these and other considerations for creating a compelling magical world.

Panelists: Scott H. Andrews (MOD), Jeanne Adams, Ken Altabef, Leslye Penelope, & Michael A Ventrella

***Washington Theater***

Writing Through Adversity

Writing is hard enough but writers are also full human beings dealing with obstacles that can make it difficult to maintain a creative practice. From financial and family responsibilities to chronic pain and other mental and physical challenges, panelists talk openly about coping with daily pressures that often interfere with one's writing life.

Panelists: Sarah Avery (MOD), Scott Edelman, Samantha Katz, A. T. Greenblatt, & R. Z. Held

**Sunday 12:30 PM*****Monroe***

Author Reading: Hildy Silverman

**Sunday 1 PM*****Eisenhower***

Fifty Years of Omelas

“The Ones Who Walk Away From Omelas” by Ursula K. Le Guin came out in 1973, and it is more relevant and beloved than ever. Panelists discuss what makes this story a classic and how we think of it in modern times.

Panelists: James Morrow (MOD), Ef Deal, Tom Doyle, Natalie Luhrs, & Sarah Pinsker

***Monroe***

Author Reading: Jean Marie Ward

***Washington Theater***

Artificial Intelligence 101

So you've heard that ChatGPT is the herald of the next generation of AI chatbots? 2023 was the year that AI - and the debates around its use - hit the mainstream. But what is the impact on publishers? On writers? What are the dangerous or useful real-world applications and what are the biggest questions posed by the modern use and development of AI?

Panelists: Martin Berman-Gorvine (MOD), Nate Hoffelder, Shahid Mahmud, Adeena Mignogna, & Alex Shvartsman

***Wilson***

Help! I Have to Edit My Draft!

It's okay to admit that editing your draft is hard work. The task can feel daunting but is a necessary part of the writing process. Panelists discuss the importance of being your own best editor as well as the tips and tricks for making the editing process not so painful.

Panelists: Scott Edelman (MOD), Ken Altabef, Morgan Hazelwood, Jo Miles, & Richard Peter Haviland Sparks

**Truman**Speculative Poetry Reading and Workshop with Miguel Mitchell (2 hours)

Speculative poetry has been around since humans started telling stories. The ancient epics of Gilgamesh, the Iliad and Odyssey, and Beowulf all contained fantastic monsters and would be classified as speculative poems. Speculative poetry is verse with central themes about science, fantasy, science fiction, horror, supernatural, the weird, the surreal, and sometimes the unclassifiable. In this workshop, we will read and discuss different types of published short and long form speculative poetry. We will also discuss how one publishes in this genre and cover the value of membership in the 45-year-old Science Fiction and Fantasy Poetry Association (SFPA). The workshop includes writing exercises where, based on a writing prompt, we will each try our hand at writing a three-line, non-rhyming speculative poem called a scifaiku, which each of you (if you are willing) will read aloud, and we will critique with kindness.

**Sunday 1:30 PM****Monroe**

Author Reading: Sarena Ulibarri

**Sunday 2 PM****Monroe**

Author Reading: Jennifer R. Povey

**Sunday 2:30 PM****Eisenhower**The Business of Writing

So you have written your novel. Now what's next? From marketing and accounting to contracts and distribution, what do writers need to know to manage their career and publications. What expertise should you seek out? How do you identify predatory practices?

Panelists: Rande Dawn (MOD), Keith R.A. DeCandido, Shahid Mahmud, Mary G. Thompson, & Jean Marie Ward

***Monroe***

Author Reading: R. Z. Held

***Washington Theater***

Presentation: Inge Heyer

***Wilson***

YouCon 2024

In Sarah Pinsker's novella, "And Then There Were (N-One)" SarahCon represents a multiverse of Sarahs navigating a murder mystery plot. Our panelists share versions of their own multiverse con, from their personalized programming track to events made just for every version of them.

Panelists: Tom Doyle (MOD), Scott Edelman, & Sarah Pinsker

**Sunday 3 PM**

***Monroe***

Author Reading: Jeanne Adams

**Sunday 4 PM**

***Washington Theater***

Capclave Debrief

Stop by to share your Capclave feedback.

Panelists: Aaron Pound (MOD), Courtni Burleson, & Bill Lawhorn



# Confluence

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