

# Progress Report #3

July, 2014



North American Science Fiction Convention, Renaissance Center Marriott, Detroit MI  
July 17th through 20th, 2014

This progress report is intended to provide information and links that will help you make the most of your time in Detroit, and plan your trip, as well as your Detcon1 experience. It focuses mainly on getting to Detcon1 and program highlights. The detailed program schedule is now online, and we are also using KonOpas, if you would like to download it to your device. (Of course, check the newsletter 'pink sheets' for any last-minute updates.) A version with links is on our website.

## Membership and Registration

Current Registration rates, including Day Memberships, are valid until July 11, 2014. There are still free memberships available through the FANTastic Detroit Fund; if finances are stopping you (or a friend) from attending, apply today! Online Pre-registration closes July 11 at 11:59 pm EDT.

*At-the Door Registration* will be in the Foyer of the

Art by John Picacio



Ontario Exhibit Hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Renaissance Center, clockwise around the central elevator column from the Marriott Hotel Lobby.

Onsite Registration will be open:

Wednesday 3 - 8 pm

Thursday 10 am - 9 pm

Friday 9 am - 9 pm

Saturday 9 am - 6 pm

Sunday 9 am - 1 pm

After hours pre-registered badge pick-up will be in Ops. If someone needs a new registration after hours, they will be able to get a consuite pass good for one evening at Ops. Detcon1 Memberships are non-refundable but fully transferable. After July 14<sup>th</sup>, transfers may only be submitted in person at the convention registration desk, with a signed document providing details of the transfer.

#### *Other Items*

Please review the Detcon1 Code of Conduct at <http://detcon1.org/code-of-conduct/> before your arrival.

If you have accessibility needs, please contact [accessibility@detcon1.org](mailto:accessibility@detcon1.org) and [hotel@detcon1.org](mailto:hotel@detcon1.org) to help us arrange for your best accommodation.

## Travel

### By Air

The Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW), the area's principal airport, is just 20 minutes away from our hotel. Car rentals from the airport are available beginning at about \$25/day. Approximate cab fare from the airport is \$44.50 one way. It is possible to take public transportation to the hotel from the airport for \$2.25, but it takes almost 2 hours and involves multiple bus transfers; buses schedules are erratic.

We have contracted with **SKOOT Airport Shuttle** for discounted round trip transfers to and from the Detroit Metro Airport. The round trip rate is \$43.00, a \$4.00 discount off of the regular rate of \$47.00. Use coupon code **NASFI14** to get the discounted rate. One-Way Ticket Prices: \$25 from the airport per person, \$22 to the airport per person. The shuttle departs every 30 to 45 minutes, from 8am to 10pm from the airport; the return trip runs from 4am to 10pm, hourly. To make your shuttle reservation by phone, call toll-free 855.937.5668 or 313.230.2331, or visit SKOOT online at [www.rideskoot.com](http://www.rideskoot.com). Walkups are available; however, reservations are highly recommended. Cash and

credit cards are accepted. Schedule and pricing are subject to change. ADA accessible upon request.

### Getting There by Car, Bus, or Train

Detroit is a transportation hub with three international border crossings (two bridges and a tunnel to Canada), connections to numerous freeways (basically at the intersection of I-75, I-94, and I-96) and both Greyhound and Amtrak service. The hotel is located 4.5 miles from the Amtrak station and 1 mile from the Greyhound station.

### Driving Directions

Address: 400 Renaissance Drive, Detroit, MI 48243

#### *Special Note on I-96*

There is a major construction project on I-96 between I-275 and M-24, closing down the entire highway. We recommend you avoid the area as much as possible, and these directions are designed to let you do that. If you cannot avoid I-96 between I-275 and M-24, be aware that the service drive is open for you to drive alongside it. You can enter and exit I-96 at M-24 (Telegraph) and just before I-275 at Newburgh Road.

If you are driving FROM Downtown, taking I-96 West, be aware that to exit on M-24 (Telegraph) you must stay in the Local lanes and avoid the Express lanes.

*From Ann Arbor, Detroit Metropolitan Airport, and the West:*

Take I-94 East to M-10 South to downtown. (M10 is also known as the John C. Lodge Freeway, or "the Lodge") Take M10 all the way to the end; it merges with E. Jefferson, eastbound. Turn right onto Beaubien Street, and enter the parking garage. To drive to the lobby/valet parking, continue to the end of Beaubien, turn right on Atwater, then turn right again on Renaissance Drive West.

*From Pontiac, Rochester, and the North:*

Take I-75 South to I-375. I-375 ends and continues onto E. Jefferson Avenue, westbound. Turn left onto Beaubien Street, and enter the parking garage. To drive to the lobby/valet parking, continue to the end of Beaubien, turn right on Atwater, then turn right again on Renaissance Drive West.

*From Ohio and the South:*

Take I-75 North, then exit onto the M-10 South to downtown. (I-75 will briefly merge with I-96 West; the M10 interchange comes after 75 splits back away from 96. M10 is also known as the John C. Lodge Freeway.)

Take M10 all the way to the end; it merges with E. Jefferson, eastbound. Turn right onto Beaubien Street, and enter the parking garage. To drive to the lobby/valet parking, continue to the end of Beaubien, turn right on Atwater, then turn right again on Renaissance Drive West.

*From the East Side of Detroit (and Sarnia, Canada):*

Take I-94 West to I-75 South to I-375. I-375 ends and continues onto E. Jefferson Avenue, westbound. Turn left onto Beaubien Street, and enter the parking garage. To drive to the lobby/valet parking, continue to the end of Beaubien, turn right on Atwater, then turn right again on Renaissance Drive West. If you go through Canada, remember your passport!

*From Lansing MI:*

Take I-96 East to I-696 East. Take the M-10 South to downtown. All the way to the end, M-10 merges with E. Jefferson, eastbound. Turn right onto Beaubien Street, and enter the parking garage. To drive to the lobby/valet parking, continue to the end of Beaubien, turn right on Atwater, then turn right again on Renaissance Drive West.

*From Canada and the East*

If you are traveling from Canada, or through Canada from the Eastern United States, please remember to bring your passport. Please be nice to the border guards; they do not have a sense of humor.

*Via the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel,* turn right onto E. Jefferson Avenue, make a right onto Beaubien Street, and enter the parking garage. To drive to the lobby/valet parking, continue to the end of Beaubien, turn right on Atwater, then turn right again on Renaissance Drive West.

*Via the Ambassador Bridge,* take I-75 North to I-375. I-375 ends and continues onto E. Jefferson Avenue, westbound. Turn left onto Beaubien Street, and enter the parking garage. To drive to the lobby/valet parking, continue to the end of Beaubien, turn right on Atwater, then turn right again on Renaissance Drive West.

If you are coming from or through Canada, it may be faster to take the 402 to Sarnia (see above) and cross there than to come via the more heavily traveled Windsor crossings.

## Parking

Detcon1 has secured **discounted self-parking** at the Beaubien Place Garage, adjacent to the Renaissance

Center. Discount coupons will be available from the hotel (for overnight guests at the Marriott) or from Info Desk. To get the discount, you will need both the ticket from your entry into the garage and the discount ticket when you exit the garage. Parking in this lot does not include in-out privileges, so the rates below are maximum per each time in the lot. If you need in-out privileges, consider using the Marriott's valet parking, which is \$25/day.

There are a lot of events going on in downtown Detroit during our weekend. If you're staying at the hotel and secure parking in the Beaubien lot where we have our discounted parking available, we suggest that you consider leaving your car where it is for the duration, and take advantage of the People Mover and many restaurants within walking distance.

### Beaubien Place Garage, 238 Beaubien St.

Convention Discount Rate: \$12/day Monday thru Friday, \$6/day Saturday and Sunday

Hourly Rates: \$3/hour

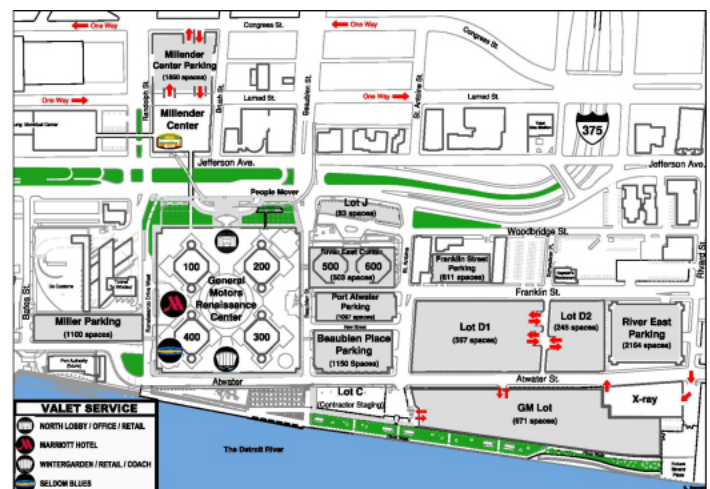
### Other parking options nearby

Port Atwater Garage, 200 Beaubien St., \$18/day Monday thru Friday & \$9/day Saturday and Sunday

Miller Parking Center Garage, 414 Renaissance Drive West, \$20/day

Metropolitan Millender Center Garage, 331 East Larned St., \$15/day

Greektown Casino Hotel Parking Deck, 1211 Chrysler Dr., free, *but* not for overnight use. This parking structure is approximately .1 mile from the Renaissance Center. The nearest People Mover station is two blocks from the garage. The parking deck is officially intended for visitors to the hotel or casino. Note that parking from 6am to 10am is restricted to Casino Gold





and Silver cardholders only, so this lot is a good option for people commuting in, but not for overnight stays.

GM Surface Lots, \$20/day; oversized vehicles can make use of the surface lot. Hotel staff at the Marriott entrance will take parking payment and admit you to the parking lot.

## Help Wanted!

Did you know you can earn your membership back through volunteering? It's true! Volunteers has posted some descriptions of what you can do to help out at the con. Sign up at Ops in the Exhibit Hall Foyer, or contact [volunteers@detcon1.org](mailto:volunteers@detcon1.org) right now!

## Program and Events

The full schedule is posted at <http://detcon1.org/program-schedule/>. Here is an overview of major events and convention hours:

### Wednesday

3pm-8pm Registration & Info Desk open

### Thursday

10am-Registration opens

Noon-Film Festival begins (1<sup>st</sup> floor)

3pm-Panels, workshops and presentations begin; Game Room opens (1<sup>st</sup> floor); Consuite opens in 6918 (69<sup>th</sup> floor-24 hours)

4pm- Exhibit Hall (Dealers room, Art Show, exhibits) opens (3<sup>rd</sup> floor)

8pm-Exhibit Hall closes

8pm-**Opening Ceremonies**

9pm-Registration closes

Midnight-panels, workshops and presentations end

2am-Game Room closes

### Friday

9am-Registration opens

10am-Film Festival, panels, workshops and presentations begin; Game Room opens

11am-Exhibit Hall opens

8pm-Exhibit Hall closes

8pm-**Mass Autographing and SFWA-Sponsored Reception** (Ambassador Salons 1&2, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor)

9pm-Registration closes

9pm-**Detroit Dance** (Mackinac Ballroom, 5<sup>th</sup> floor)

Midnight-panels, workshops and presentations end

Midnight Movie: *Robocop* (Film Room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor)

2am-Game Room closes

### Saturday

9am-Registration opens

10am-Film Festival, panels, workshops and presentations begin; Game Room opens

11am-Exhibit Hall opens

5pm-Art Show closes

6pm-Exhibit Hall closes, Registration closes

7pm-**Art Auction** (Ambassador Salon 2)

8pm-**Masquerade Costume Contest, YA & Middle Grade SF Award Ceremony**

10pm-80s Dance with DJ John Scalzi (Mackinac Ballroom, 5<sup>th</sup> floor)

Midnight-panels, workshops, presentations and Film Festival end

2am-Game Room closes

### Sunday

9am-Registration opens

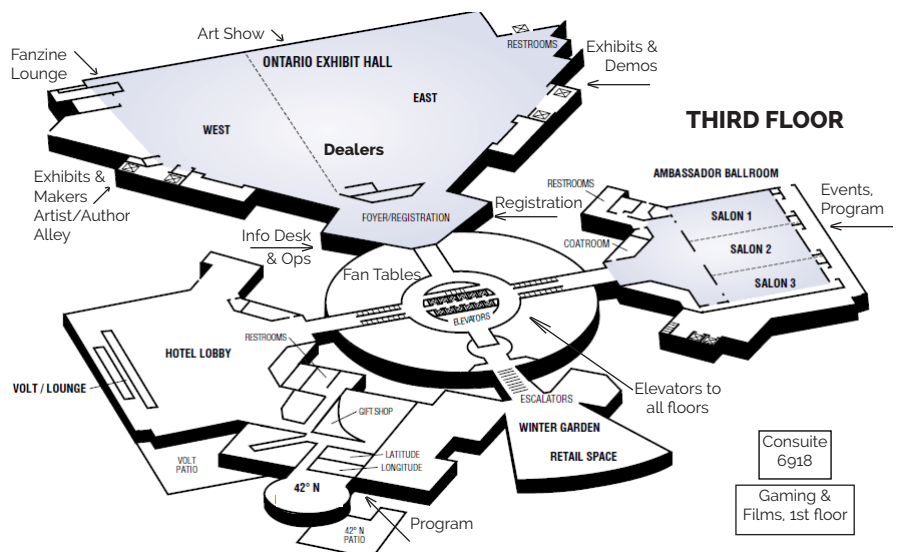
10am-Film Festival, panels, workshops and presentations begin; Game Room opens

1pm-Registration closes

2pm-**Closing Ceremonies**

3pm-Exhibit Hall & Game Room close; program ends; Dead Dog begins

With over 250 guests and participants, and more than 10 rooms in use, Detcon1 will follow in the fine Michigan tradition of programming...lots of programming! Options range from the spotlight items featuring our Guests of Honor, to panels on science fiction and fantasy in its many forms, to readings, kaffeeklatsches (a chance to chat with authors in a more intimate setting), and hands-on learning.



Program items you won't want to miss: Slumber Party with Off The Beaten Path Books (Friday), Video Games with Jon Davis (Saturday), and Tai Chi with Steve Barnes (Saturday & Sunday). We have book discussion groups featuring Arthur C. Clarke's *A City in the Stars* and Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's *The Little Prince*, so read those ahead of time, then come join in.

Costumers! The theme category will be Motown 3000-what will Detroit look like in the year 3000? Show us! See the Masquerade Guide (PDF at <http://detcon1.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Detcon1MasqueradeGuide.pdf>) for details.

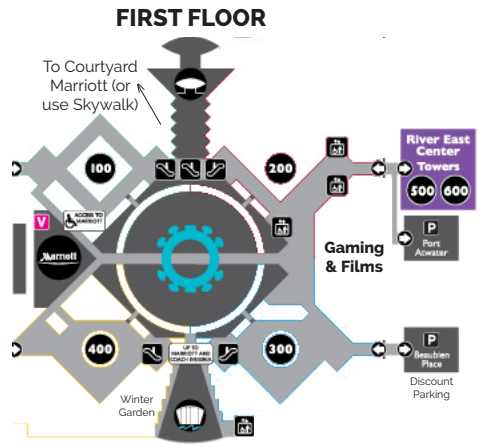
### Where Do I Go?

Most program items will be located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> floors. Make & Takes, kaffeeklatsches, and other small items will be in 42North (formerly a restaurant) on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Program Ops & Green Room will be in Joliet B on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the RenCen. The Kids' and Teens programs are also on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. The Film Festival, presented by The Tri-Cities International Fantastic Film Festival, will be shown Thursday through Saturday in space on the East side of the 1st floor, next to Gaming. The fabulous schedule includes a short film written by Author GoH Steven Barnes and his wife Tananarive Due. They will be present to introduce the film and do a short Q&A afterward. Check out the whole schedule online!

Gaming will be open 3pm Thursday, then run 10am to 2am daily, and closes 3pm Sunday. The Gaming space will be on the 1st floor next to the Film Festival room. We are pleased to have U-Con running our gaming, and are using its library.

The Consuite will be on the 69th floor, in RM 6918. Drinks and snacks will be available there around the clock, and the traditional Dead Dog party will be

there Sunday night. All parties will be on the 68th and 69th floors. Parties will be listed in the newsletter. Awards will be given by the concomm at Closing Ceremonies for Best Drink, Best Food, Best Decorations, and-of course-Best Overall Party.



### Exhibits

The Exhibit Hall, which includes the Dealers room, the Art Show, the Artist & Authors Alley, and the Fanzine Lounge will be open the following hours:

Thursday 4pm-8pm

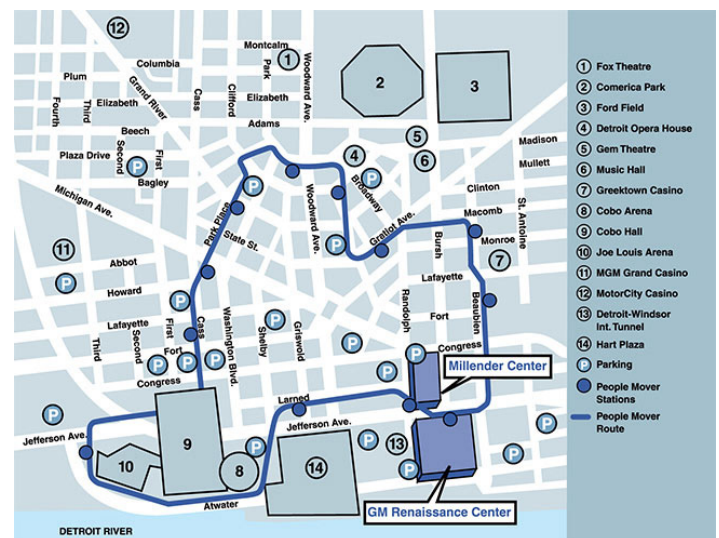
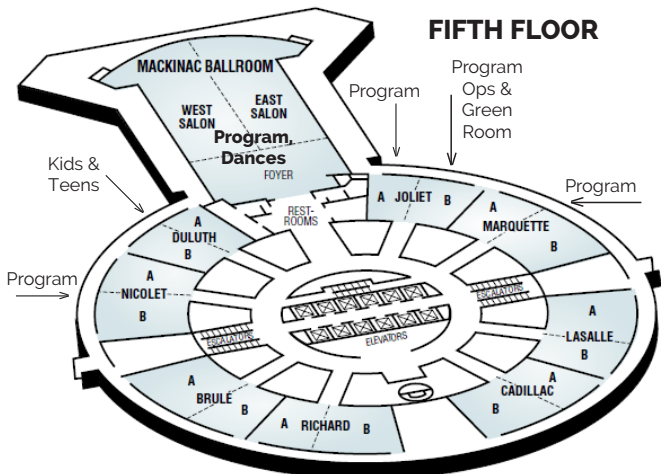
Friday 11am-8pm

Saturday 10am-6pm (Art Show closes at 5pm to prepare for Art Auction at 7pm)

Sunday 10am-3pm

### Other Things To Do

There are many great places to eat in Detroit-highlights and detailed info are available on the Restaurant Guide; a PDF is online. Two scheduled outings require registration in advance-a special Planetarium show and a Tigers baseball game (sign-up may also happen at the Info desk at-con if space is available). We have also provided a guide to Things to Do while you're here in the big D at <http://detcon1.org/location-2/>. Use the People Mover to get around!



Detcon1: Driving the Future  
PO Box 3199  
Ann Arbor, MI 48106

Art by John Picacio

