

A MOMENTARY TASTE OF WISCON

WISCON34 NEWSLETTER – MAY 28, 2010 – ISSUE 1

Errata for WisCon34 Program

31: How to Get Better Programming At Other Conventions

Friday, 4-5:15 p.m., 629

Sharyn November was unable to be on this panel.

32: Greer Gilman's Cloudish Universe

Friday, 4-5:15 p.m., 634

Sonya Taaffe was unable to attend WisCon.

39: RipSaw Press Gala & Lunch

Friday, 8:45 p.m.-3 a.m., 634

The RipSaw Press party has been canceled.

The FogCon party (213) is now in this time slot.

62: Mothers and Daughters

Saturday, 10-11:15 a.m., Senate A

Sonya Taaffe was unable to attend WisCon.

72: The Mad Seer, The Holy Fool, and the God-Touched

Saturday, 10-11:15 a.m., 623

The Rotund will be moderating this panel.

Carla M. Lee was unable to attend WisCon.

JoSelle Vanderhooft has been added as a panelist.

84: REVENGE OF NOT ANOTHER F*CKING RACE PANEL

Saturday, 1-2:15 p.m., Capitol B

Seressia Glass was unable to attend WisCon.

Yoon Ha Lee has been added as a panelist.

88: SF on TV

Saturday, 1-2:15 p.m., Conference 5

Richard S. Russell has been added as a panelist.

90: Art, Craft, and Disability

Saturday, 1-2:15 p.m., 623

Stephanie Burgis was not able to attend WisCon.

109: Split Tongues: Readings from the Borders of English

Saturday, 2:30-3:45 p.m., Michelangelo's

Shweta Narayan was unable to attend WisCon.

116: Disabled Fen: Cluebricks, Ranting, and Tips'n'Tricks

Saturday, 4-5:15 p.m., Capitol B

Shweta Narayan was unable to attend WisCon.

Michelle Kendall was added as a panelist.

124: Why are All The Black Kids

Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?

Saturday, 4-5:15 p.m., 634

Seressia Glass was unable to attend WisCon.

Saira has been added as a panelist.

125: Five Tales for Cerberus

Saturday, 4-5:15 p.m., Michelangelo's

Sonya Taaffe was unable to attend WisCon.

142: Mothering as a Career

Sunday, 8:30-9:45 a.m., Assembly

Katje Sabin has been added as a panelist.

152: Must Pleasures Be Guilty?

Sunday, 10-11:15 a.m., Capitol A

Sonya Taaffe was unable to attend WisCon.

165: Outside Central Narrative: Strangers Writing Strange Lands

Sunday, 1-2:15 p.m., Senate B

Shweta Narayan was unable to attend WisCon.

174: Interrelationship Between Feminist SF and Feminist Science

Sunday, 1-2:15 p.m., 623

Jacquelyn Gill has been added as a panelist.

176: Defining God

Sunday, 1-2:15 p.m., 634

Richard S. Russell has been added as a panelist.

191: Moving to Small Press Publishing

Sunday, 2:30-3:45 p.m., 634

Sean Wallace was unable to be on this panel.

Carla M. Lee was unable to attend WisCon.

Eleanor Arnason has been added as a panelist.

213: FogCon Party

Sunday, 8:45 p.m.-3 a.m., 623

The FogCon party has moved to Friday night (39).

Small Beer Press is hosting a party in this time slot.

Gavin Grant is hosting the party.

223: Does SF Really Understand Darwin?

Monday, 8:30 a.m.-9:45 a.m., Assembly

Phredd Groves was unable to be on this panel.

Fred has been added as a panelist.

229: Expressing Fannish Enthusiasm

Monday, 10-11:15 a.m., Conference 3

Carey Harris was unable to be on this panel.

JJ Pionke has been added as a panelist.

235: Working On The Plan

For Reducing Global Levels Of Machismo

Monday, 10-11:15 a.m., 634

Shweta Narayan was unable to attend WisCon.

236: The SignOut

Seressia Glass was unable to attend WisCon.

Got more program corrections? Please send them to newsletter34@wiscon.info, and we'll spread the word.

Food/Beverage Discount Card

This year again, the Concourse is offering their 20% food discount voucher for just \$10 per person. Just think – you can graze that amazing salad bar (which will be available on both Saturday and Sunday this year) and get 20% off your bill!

The 20% discount only applies to your own food/drink orders; it does not apply to the entire group, unless each person in the group has a discount voucher. Stop by the Front Desk and get your discount voucher today!

What's up with those little bottles?

If you are enjoying the blessedly scent-free soaps in the public restrooms of the Concourse Hotel this year, you might want to stop by the front desk to pass on a huge “THANK YOU!” to Emily Rauber, Group Rooms Manager. Emily went to great lengths to convince the hotel’s purchasing and housekeeping departments to accommodate our members’ requests for unscented soap products, and as a result, we have scent-free hand soap in all of the public restrooms of the hotel for the duration of this year’s convention. Thank you, Emily!

News for members with allergies and sensitivities: WisCon is pleased to announce that there will be no latex balloons at the Gathering this year.

Sonorous! Microphones are like the spell in Harry Potter that Quidditch announcers use to magnify their voices. Only we at WisCon use technology rather than magic! **If you are a panelist or presenter, please use your microphone by holding it 3-4 inches in front of your mouth. If you are a moderator, please repeat audience questions so that everyone can hear and participate.**

Sign of the Times

Only masking tape may be used to attach posters and signs to the walls of the hotel. Signs adhered with other types of adhesive will be removed, as they damage the wall surfaces.

Also, signs may not be posted inside the elevators. Remember, all WisCon parties happen on the sixth floor, so you don’t need to put signs inside elevators to help people find your party. Signs found in the elevators will be removed.

WisCon and the Concourse Hotel have a very positive relationship, in large part thanks to the exemplary manners displayed by our members. Please help us continue to foster this good relationship by cooperating with these guidelines for posting signs.

REGISTRATION FOR WISCON 35

Our new registration application should be available at the convention and online for your WisCon35 registration. (We hope it will, anyway). It’ll be the first actual use, so please let us know about any bugs. Overall, it should be simpler to use than the old system and provide you with better feedback. It’ll also greatly reduce the amount of work our volunteers will have to do.

For now, you’ll need an account on www.wiscon.info to use the online registration. Those of you involved in the program should already have one and over the next year it will become increasingly useful in managing your information (mailing address, badge name, eCube subscriptions, checking whether you were registered, etc.). You can create your account now by going to wiscon.piglet.org/account/login and clicking on the “Create Account” link.

**Got an announcement, kudo, suggestion or plea?
Send it to newsletter34@wiscon.info**

A MOMENTARY TASTE OF WISCON

WISCON34 NEWSLETTER – SAT., MAY 29, 2010 – ISSUE 2

Registration for WisCon35 starts Sunday

Our two convention hotels, The Concourse Hotel and Inn on the Park, will again start accepting reservations for next year's event on the Sunday morning of this year's con.

We are very pleased this year to announce that the Concourse has scheduled extra reservations agents for Sunday morning, May 30. Whether you prefer to make your hotel reservation in person, on the phone, or online, you can secure your room for the 2011 convention starting at 9 a.m. Sunday morning, May 30.

Check <http://wiscon.info/> for the link to WisCon's room block on the Concourse's online reservation system, which will be activated at 9 a.m. Central Time on the 30th. Or if you prefer a more personal interaction, either stop by the concierge desk in the hotel lobby to make your reservation in person or call the friendly folks in the Concourse's reservations department.

Room rates at the Concourse Hotel for WisCon35 will be \$96/\$106 single/double for a Concourse-level room, and \$164/\$174 single/double for Governor's

Club rooms. If you make your reservation in person or by phone, be sure to tell them you want a room in the WisCon35 room block to get these rates.

Inn on the Park has kept our convention room rates the same for the third year in a row: regular rooms with one bed are \$124 and rooms with two beds are \$134. Two-room suites are \$154. The Inn's online reservation system does not accommodate our discounted room rate, so reservations there need to be made either by phone or in person. Be sure to tell them that you are reserving a room in the WisCon 2011 block to get our special rates!

After you get your hotel reservation lined up for the 2011 convention, stop by WisCon's Registration/Information desk in the second floor lobby area to get your membership for the 35th annual iteration of the World's Leading Feminist Science Fiction Convention! The committee is already in the planning phases of what will be yet another fabulous four-day marathon of spirited dialog, thought-provoking readings, and just plain fun, so take a moment to be sure you have your membership secured.

Q&A with the GoHs

We wanted to get to know our WisCon34 Guests of Honor a bit better, so we pestered them by email until they responded. Here's a few from Mary Anne... we'll hear from Nnedi Okorafor in tomorrow's edition.

WisCon: When was your first WisCon? How did you find out about it, and could you share a memory from that year? Do you have any words of advice for WisCon first-timers?

Mary Anne: I was recruited to my first WisCon in 1999; they were reaching out to people of color, and Debbie Notkin, whom I knew from Bay Area fandom, invited me to come. This is from a blog entry I wrote the Monday

after the convention: "I stayed up talking to Cecilia [Tan] until 2 a.m. Lots of fun talking to someone else who really understood about poly and writing and publishing and relationship frustrations and ethnic stuff, etc. and so on... It was helpful exchanging war stories, and I might have even learned a few things about how to handle insecurity and such-like. Great night..."

"I really enjoyed the poetry circle, run by Elise Mattheson of alt.poly fame (she wrote How to F*** Up Relationships), who turned out to be an absolutely sweetheart who makes gorgeous jewelry, some of which have their own story titles. She generously gave me one I fell in love with ("It takes three for the blues"), which I

certainly couldn't have afforded to pay her a fair price for, in exchange for my pledging to write a poem or story for the piece with that line in it. It was funny -- it wasn't the most beautiful of her pieces, nor the fanciest -- it wasn't even in colors I normally wear. But it reminded me so much of Kevin and Karina (the beads were the colors of their eyes) and somehow about what it was like being a triad, and why I missed it... I couldn't stop thinking about that piece."

WisCon: Can you talk a little about being a mother and a writer? Do you consider mothering to be a career path? How do you create and hold a balance between being with family and the solitary writer's life? What books do/did you love to read aloud for your kids?

Mary Anne: My children are still very small – ages 3 years (Kavya) and 8 months (Anand) – so I'm still waiting to read them most of my favorites. But one that's definitely still fun (after about a thousand repetitions) is Boynton's *But Not the Hippopotamus*. It's short, funny, and even at just three, Kavi understands the pathos of the last page, which amazes me.

I don't think I'd call mothering a career path, personally, or no more so than fathering, or daughtering, or partnering. Those relationships are part of being human. Sometimes familial/friend relationships take up vast amounts of time and energy (certainly having two wee ones does), but sometimes not. The relationships are what they are, regardless of how work/time-intensive they happen to be any given moment or year. Although, hmm...I'm not sure I know what a career is, really. The work of your brain and body and hands? Maybe it doesn't make so much sense to divide up our lives into family vs. career vs. hobbies vs. relaxation... Maybe they're all inter-related pieces of our selves, existing in the world. We contain multitudes.

In general, having children has made life more exhausting, more miserable, funnier, and more joyous. I know that sounds like a contradiction, but parenting has just made my life so much more intense, in every direction. It's a peak experience, and while there are days (weeks) when I could use a little less intensity in my life, for the most part, I'm enough of an experience junkie that I love it. Also, the munchkins are insanely cute, which has probably saved their lives on multiple occasions.

As for finding time to write -- I have help. Specifically, between paid childcare and Kevin's parenting, I make sure that I have 40-60 hours / week when I'm not on child duty. Some of that time has to go to teaching, and some goes to

household chores, but at least two hours every day are available just for writing. Now, I don't always manage to put my butt in the chair and actually write then -- but I can't blame the kids for that!

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The laptops at this year's Internet lounge (second floor outside the Art Show) were kindly loaned to WisCon by Beloit College.

Visit the Concourse Cantina... er, Bar

Check out The Bar at the Concourse – they've whipped up some incredible WisCon libations. The menu includes:

The Avatar, A Pandoran Cosmopolitan
A Clockwork Orange, with Absolut Mandarin vodka, amaretto, Baileys, orange juice and cream
The Blade Runner, with light and dark rums enhanced with lime juice, pineapple juice, and aromatic bitters
Iron Man Too (your own personal armor Kir) with peach and pomegranate liqueurs added to sparkling wine
Zombieland, a mega rum and fruit juice explosion that will have your brain ready for sampling after just one.

Of course, *The Fan Boy* is always there for you for no charge – water served over ice in a glass with a slice of citrus.

Update on Deb Mesinger

The fandom auction to benefit Deb Mensinger, who needed to raise enough money to help with incidental costs of a liver transplant, raised over \$10,000. Deb's wife is Laurie J. Marks, author of the Elemental Logic series, the Children of the Triad series, *The Watcher's Mask*, and *Dancing Jack*, and guest of honor at WisCon 31. It's still not too late to pitch in: send a PayPal donation to Estrogeneration@gmail.com, or visit the [debsliverlovers](#) community on LiveJournal for more information.

The Wisconsin state capitol dome is currently lit bright yellow at night in honor of mustard, Bratfest, and its late founder Tom Metcalfe.

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A MOMENTARY TASTE OF WISCON

WISCON34 NEWSLETTER — SUN., MAY 30, 2010 — ISSUE 3

More GoH Q&A

Note: Here are a few more responses from Mary Ann Mohanraj and Nnedi Okorafor, our WisCon34 Guests of Honor.

WisCon: Do you have any interesting or funny scar or tattoo stories?

Nnedi: I don't have any tattoo stories, but I have four tattoos, all on my ankles. One is a butterfly (I love butterflies because they fly like they are scatter-brained, but they always know where they are going — I can totally relate — and they're lovely, yet they land on feces to collect salt. LOL!!), one of a tiny flower, one of a tiger-striped dragon frog (too long a story to tell), and one of a story written in the Nigerian script of Nsibidi (also a long story).

As far as scars, I've got a line that goes from the nape of my neck to the small of my back. That's from when I had the spinal surgery that led me to become a writer. Ha ha, another long story.

Mary Anne: I have two caesarean scars; I quite like them. I'm not sure that counts as funny or interesting, but there it is. I did crack my tailbone once (when a dance partner dropped me), and I cracked my head once (when I slipped on some icy stone steps), but no visible scars remain from either.

WisCon: Can you describe your "happy place"?

Nnedi: The porch of the house my family owns in my father's village in Nigeria (the village of Arondizuogu) on a cool evening or just at the break of dawn. More often my "happy place" is the gym, on the Stairmaster with a good book.

Mary Anne: Right now, my happy place is sitting in the porch swing at my house. It's an 1885 Victorian under renovation, and I can't live there yet -- we bought it in September 2009, and it's going to be October 2010 at the earliest before we can actually move in, because it needs so much work. But at least I can sit on the porch and swing and read and type and dream of the day we get to live there. I've written several chapters of my current

project there (a YA fantasy novel), and I've been surprised to find that I can swing and type at the same time.

WisCon: What writers/artists do you admire for their passion?

Nnedi: Octavia Butler, Nawal El Saadawi, Ngugi wa Thiong'o, Wole Soyinka, Hayao Miyazaki, Nalo Hopkinson, Ayaan Hirsi Ali, Stephen King, Flora Nwapa, Tove Jansson, Pat Rothfuss, Ross Campbell, Salman Rushdie, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, etc, etc, etc!

(Tune in on Monday for the final installment)

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Program Additions

- Mike Lowrey has been added to panel 180 (The Obama World, Sunday, 2:30 p.m., Senate A) and panel 218 (Does the Middle Class Exist, Sunday 10 p.m., Caucus).
- There will be a Small Beer Press party in Room 623 on Sunday night.

Lost Something? Found Something? Come See Us!

WisCon's Lost & Found repository is at the registration/information desk on the second floor lobby, so if you're looking for the awesome robot water bottle or a book or some other treasure that escaped your custody, stop by to see if it's been turned in.

And tell us if you lost something at last year's convention, because there is at least a possibility we might be able to reunite you with it. The hotel also maintains a lost and found, so if we don't have it, check at the Front Desk as well.

Time for a TipTreat

The Tiptree Bake Sale donations were so prolific that the sale will continue on Sunday from 12 noon to 2 p.m. There is even a selection of gluten-free goodies to choose from. This delicious endeavor has already raised over \$600; many thanks to our talented and generous donors!

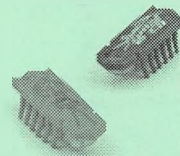
Free Photo Booth

On Sunday night, the WisCon Photo Booth in Room 627 will take photos of con attendees that can be used for book jackets, publicity copy, LiveJournal avatars, and the like. Photographer Luke McGuff and Wikipedia admin "Orange Mike" Lowrey have also volunteered to make arrangements so that the photos will be licensed to permit them to be used to illustrate articles in Wikipedia (many WisCon members have Wikipedia articles which do not as yet have photos). Thank you, Luke and Orange Mike!

Tarot Redux

Attendees of the Tarot for Writers workshop on Saturday are welcome to join presenter Anna Black at Michaelangelo's Coffee Shop on Monday at 9:30 a.m. for a follow-up to the workshop. Those who did not attend but are interested in the subject are also welcome. Ask at the front desk if you need directions.

A Hex Bug Nano (pictured below) owned by 7-year-old Griffin was lost in the Consuite on Friday night. He only bought it a few days ago with his own money. If you or your child picked it up accidentally, please return it to the Consuite. Thank you!



Hack Gender: Call for Participation

Ever wished your conversation at WisCon could continue after the con is over? Well, it can! In a project born out of WisCon's tradition of open discourse, we've set out to hack gender. Add your voice to the discussion by going to <http://hackgender.blogspot.com> or following the twitter hashtag #hackgender. This is an experiment in urgent discussion: the call for participation only lasts for one week, and all kinds of work are welcome. Got questions? Ask Anastasia Salter or J.J. Pionke.

**Got an announcement, kudo, suggestion or plea?
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A MOMENTARY TASTE OF WISCON

WISCON34 NEWSLETTER – MON., MAY 31, 2010 – ISSUE 4

Final GoH Q&A

Note: Here are the last of the responses from Mary Ann Mohanraj and Nnedi Okorafor, our WisCon34 Guests of Honor. Many thanks to them for sharing their thoughts!

WisCon: Any books you're looking forward to reading?

Nnedi: Just bought the following (not sure if they are any good yet):

1. *I Am Nujood: Age Ten and Divorced* by Nujood Ali
2. *Blackout* by Connie Willis
3. *Children of the Sea* (Book 2) by Daisuke Igarashi

Mary Anne: *Leviathan* by Scott Westerfeld

The City & The City by China Mieville

Pegasus by Robin McKinley

The Wind-Up Girl by Paolo Bacigalupi

and whatever Lois McMaster Bujold publishes next.

WisCon: What is in the pipeline for you and your writing or other creative endeavors?

Nnedi: Some crazy sh*t. *Evil grin*. I've got some brand new YA and adult stuff that is currently germinating half on the page and half in my head. I've also got a new YA novel coming out next year titled *Akata Witch* and a Disney Fairies chapter book for Disney titled *Iridessa and the Fire-Bellied Dragon Frog*.

Mary Anne: I'm mostly obsessed with my YA fantasy novel right now; I'm hoping to finish it this summer, and (cross fingers) find a publisher for it. I was so depressed after HarperCollins cancelled my novel, that it just feels really good to be excited about writing a book again. I feel

like myself again. I also have a nonfiction memoir /travelogue that's close to done, the aforementioned mainstream novel that I've started rewriting, and a few other projects in the works. I'm a writing dilettante at the moment, flitting like a butterfly from one project to another. I need to settle down and just finish some of them.

WisCon: Could you please share a paragraph or three from a piece that is forthcoming, just to whet our appetites?

Nnedi: From the beginning of my novel *Who Fears Death*:

"Tonight, you want to know how I came to be what I am. You want to know how I got here... It's a long story. But I'll tell you...I'll tell you. You're a fool if you believe what others say about me. I tell you my story to avert all those lies. Thankfully, even my long story will fit on that laptop of yours.

"I have two days. I hope it's enough time. It will all catch up to me soon.

"My mother named me Onyesonwu. It means, "Who fears death?" She named me well. I was born twenty years ago, during troubled times. Ironically I grew up far from all the killing..."

Mary Anne: "Iniya was relieved when her daughter-in-law went back to work, leaving her alone with her granddaughter and the girl's friend. She knew that she should be easier around her son's wife, but the woman

was so prickly -- she always made Iniya feel inadequate. Just because she didn't have a big fancy degree and a oh-so-serious

career. It wasn't as if she hadn't given up plenty in order to marry her husband and come to this country. In the homeland, she had had wealth, power, prestige. In the homeland, everyone had loved her. Not like this

cold country, where no one cared who you used to be, what your bloodlines were. Here, all kinds just mixed together all time, willy-nilly. As if pretending there were no differences between people would make it so.

"Just look at Amara and that friend of hers, Jaime. Oh, he was a nice enough boy -- she had made sure of that before she let him spend so much time with her beloved grandchild. But he came from bad stock. A father who had disappeared, a mother who drank too much; she wouldn't be surprised if the child had been beaten. Not that a few good smacks weren't sometimes necessary for knocking some sense into a stubborn child, but she suspected much worse. She'd run into him and his mother in the grocery store when he was smaller, and the way the woman dragged Jaime by one arm, the way she swore and scolded, in public -- it didn't bode well. The boy always wore a shirt, even in the swimming pool in the hottest summer. As if he were trying to cover something up. Hiding scars?

"Well, that was his business, and it wasn't as if he were the only one with scars. You could survive battles, and be stronger for it.

He was a good boy. Not good enough for her granddaughter, of course, but thankfully, Amara didn't seem to even notice that Jaime was a boy at all. She treated him like a brother, and as long as that was the case, Iniya was content to let him stay around. A girl should have a brother, to protect her. If that relationship changed -- well, she wasn't afraid to take decisive action, if the situation warranted it.

"Choosing a husband wasn't something to fool around with -- the man you chose to marry could change your life. Could change your entire world. No one knew that better than she did."

WisCon: Anything you'd like to say in farewell to your fellow WisCon34 members?

Nnedi: It was fun! See you next year.

Mary Anne: As for final words -- the only advice I have is: follow your passions, stand up straight and tell the truth, do the work the job requires, and don't be afraid to ask for help! (In other words, everything I need to know I learned from Miles Vorkosigan. :-)

• Overheard at the Terraforming panel: "The great thing about growing meat in a Petrie dish is that it's already burger-shaped."

• Convention cry, heard at "Revenge of Not Another F*cking Race Panel": "Wis-KHAAAAAAAAAAAAAN!"

GoHs WisCon35 Announced: Nisi Shawl and Elizabeth Moon

Asked for her message to WisCon members, Nisi Shawl wrote: "I can thrill you more than any ghoulish would ever dare try..."

Elizabeth Moon wrote: "I'm delighted and honored to be chosen as next year's WisCon GoH and look forward to returning to a convention I've been able to attend far too seldom. Thank you to all those involved in the selection process, and I'm sure we'll all have a blast."

Not Lost at WisCon

As I sit in my home recuperating from hip surgery, I dreamt that there were two of me: one in this mundane sidereal world and one in the much more exciting, island world of WisCon just a few miles away. What is Island Jeanne up to? What panels is she attending? What books is she discussing? What amazing dinner partners has she snagged for dinner adventures? Did she survive the entire auction; did she get any sleep at all or did she party through the night? Did she do a few time travel jumps on Sunday and manage to see BOTH of those cross-programmed panels she would have wanted to see?

I won't be walking into the light at the end of the weekend. I fully expect to be back to WisCon next year... without a cane and with a lot of energy. Thanks so much to all of you who have called, visited or sent best wishes to me. It was the right thing for me to skip WisCon this year, even though I missed you all.

I hope you all are having one of the best WisCons of your life this weekend. Best wishes to our guests of honor, Mary Anne Mohanraj and Nnedi Okorafor. One of Scott's and my favorite parts of WisCon has always been the GoH speeches on Sunday night, so I am really hoping that both of you will make the text of your speeches available so I can at least read them! Also, congratulations to Tiptree winner Greer Gilman. I wish Tiptree winner, Fumi Yoshinaga had been able to attend, but I was very glad to hear that Mariko was willing to accept Yoshinaga-san's award for us. I will miss singing with the Tips this year, though I dare say the resulting choir's sound may be improved for my absence.... And congratulations to Ellen Klages and the Tiptree Auction staff for such a successful auction!

See you all next year, I promise!
Jeanne Gomoll

Tiptree Auction Report

by Karen Moore

The description of the Tiptree Auction in the Pocket Program Book starts "this is not your everyday fundraising auction," which might possibly be the understatement of the millennium. Ellen Klages' performance at this year's auction set new standards for the event, which featured a smack-down between Cynthia Gonzalves and Amy Thompson, Ellen modeling a stunning green Medusa hat, and the first-ever live audio of the auctioneer taking a micturition break in the middle of the auction.

Some of this year's highlights included a set of British Royal Mail fantasy stamps with original (tiny) stories written on their backs by Neil Gaiman, which raised \$400, and one of Elise Mattheson's incredible necklace-crowns that raised \$228. The very last brand-new, never-worn WisCon 22 T-shirt was put up for auction, but Ellen decided instead to pass the hat to buy the T-shirt for the WisCon 35 con chairs to share. The hat came back with over \$300, which means that at least one of next year's coordinators can honestly say that that T-shirt will be the most expensive garment she has ever worn.

The auction raised a record-breaking total of over \$6,400, and many of those in attendance agreed that it was one of Ellen's finest performances ever. If you missed it this year, we sure hope you'll come back for the Tiptree Auction at WisCon 35!

- A list of books mentioned in the panel "If Space Is the Final Frontier, Where Are the Indians?", including MJ Hardman's book list, will be up on June 6th at: <http://www.scribd.com/sparkysays>

- "Imagining Indigenousfuturisms" is a science fiction writing contest with \$1000 that is open to Native, First Nations, Indigenous, and Aboriginal students currently enrolled part-time or full-time in any accredited university, college, or high school. This year's judge is Stephen Graham Jones (Blackfeet). For more information go to <http://naisa.org/node/180>

**Safe journey, SpaceBabes!
See you next year!**

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