
OFFICIAL NOMINATION BALLOT
THE 1977 SCIENCE FICTION ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
Covering The Year 1976

INSTRUCTIONS

Please read this section carefully before nominating! There have been some changes and some categories have been interpreted more strictly than in past years. Also, more than two thirds of all Hugo ballots in past years have contained substantial errors. These errors delay the counting and make things difficult for everyone. A few minutes to read these two pages will be well-spent.

The Science Fiction Achievement Awards were created by the World Science Fiction Convention at Philadelphia in 1954. They were quickly nicknamed the "Hugos", after Hugo Gernsback, publisher of the world's first SF magazine and the man who did more than anyone else to popularize and expand the *genre*. The awards themselves were conceived by Jack McKnight; the rocket ship design was created in 1956 by Ben Jason, and standardized in 1958. While the awards themselves are standardized, the bases are created by each convention committee, and no two convention's bases are exactly alike.

The Hugos are the only major literary award given by popular vote of the readers. The number of categories, types of categories, and requirements have changed off and on during the years. The categories and requirements are established in the Constitution of the World Science Fiction Society, which governs both the awards and site selection of the World Science Fiction Conventions.

Your nominations will be tabulated by an independent committee appointed by the Chairman of the 35th World Science Fiction Convention and validated by dedicated bibliophiles. Only members of the 35th World Science Fiction Convention may nominate or cast the final ballots. If you are not a member, you must enclose your check for \$15 if postmarked by February 28, 1977, or \$20 after that date, to be an attending member. You may vote if you do not plan to attend by joining as a Supporting member, enclosing \$7.50 with your ballot. Checks should be made payable to SunCon. **Do not send cash!**

We are requesting additional information when you nominate this year. Since most nominating errors fall into a few categories, we are trying to minimize these. By giving us a source for your fiction nominations, we are able to determine its eligibility by year. By giving us a source for the other categories, you make it easier for our researchers to determine each nominee's eligibility.

The five nominees receiving the most votes in each category will be listed on the final ballot, which will be distributed with *SunCon Convention Journal* No. 4 only to its members. The final ballots will be counted by an independent committee appointed by SunCon's Chairman, and only this committee will know the winners. Not even the central committee of SunCon will know the winners until they are revealed at the Hugo Awards banquet at SunCon on Labor Day weekend of 1977 at the Hotel Fontainebleau, Miami Beach, Florida.

Please read the category definitions carefully! And, remember, all nominations *must* be postmarked not later than April 15, 1977 to be counted.

CATEGORY DEFINITIONS

- BEST NOVEL OF 1976.** A science fiction or fantasy story of forty thousand words or more appearing for the first time in English during the previous calendar year. A story, once it has appeared in English, may thus be eligible only once. Publication date, or cover date in the case of a dated periodical, takes precedence over copyright date. A serial takes its appearance to be the date of the last installment. Individual stories appearing as a series are eligible only as individual stories and are not eligible taken together under the title of the series. *[A novel is the easiest thing to pin down if you just make sure that it appeared during 1976 and not earlier or later. If in doubt about the wordage on this or any other category, please make a guess and nominate it in the category you think it belongs to. We'll put it in the right place.]*
- BEST NOVELLA OF 1976.** The rules shall be the same as those for Best Novel, with length between seventeen thousand five hundred words and forty thousand words.
- BEST NOVELETTE OF 1976.** The rules shall be the same as those for Best Novel, with length between seven thousand five hundred words and seventeen thousand five hundred words.
- BEST SHORT STORY OF 1976.** The rules shall be the same as those for Best Novel, with length less than seven thousand five hundred words.
- BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION OF 1976.** Any production in any medium of dramatized science fiction or fantasy, which has been publicly presented for the first time in its present dramatic form during the previous calendar year. In the case of individual programs presented as a series, each program is individually eligible, but the series as a whole is not eligible. *[This category covers movies, TV, even records have been nominated. Please note that only single shows are eligible—when it was eligible, individual Star Trek episodes were nominated (and won), but the series, Star Trek, was not eligible. When giving a source here, just tell us about where and when you heard or saw it. We'll track it down. In the case of records, make sure it meets the appearance guidelines for Best Novel above. If in doubt—nominate!]*

- BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST OF 1976.** An illustrator whose work has appeared in the field of professionally published science fiction or fantasy during the previous calendar year. [*In giving a source here, just give an example of the artist's 1976 work—i.e. "cover for First Person Suicide Stories, May '76 issue" would do.*]
- BEST PROFESSIONAL EDITOR OF 1976.** The editor of any professional publication devoted primarily to science fiction or fantasy during the previous calendar year. [*Note that this doesn't just mean magazine editors, but also can be editors of original anthologies, publishing houses, etc. And note that the publication may be primarily fiction or nonfiction, just so long as it's in the field. Don't know the editor's name? Just put "editor of—". We know.*]
- BEST AMATEUR MAGAZINE OF 1976.** Any generally available, non-professional magazine devoted to science fiction, fantasy or related subjects, which has published four or more issues, at least one of which appeared in the previous calendar year. [*The SunCon believes that "amateur" means just that. A publication whose purpose or aim is not to make a profit (whether or not it does), does not provide a living or income for its staff, and doesn't pay for contributions except in giving contributor's copies. Such magazines belong in the "professional editor" category. Please note that some previous winners in this category are not now eligible. If in doubt, nominate anyway, and we'll rule on the nomination.*]
- BEST FAN WRITER OF 1976.** Any person whose writing has appeared in an amateur magazine as defined above during the calendar year 1976. [*Please note that only amateur magazine writings are eligible, and only those as defined in the commentary following Best Amateur Magazine. We are asking here for a source, a single 1976 example (i.e. "Fans are Perverts" in Fantastic Crudzine No. 4.)*]
- BEST FAN ARTIST OF 1976.** An artist or cartoonist whose work has appeared through publication in magazines of the type defined under Best Amateur Magazine above or other public display during the previous calendar year. Anyone whose name appears on the final Hugo ballot for a given year under the Professional Artist category shall not be eligible for the Fan Artist Award for that year. [*Please note again our definition of "amateur magazine" above. Like the other two fan awards, this category was meant to give proper recognition to the amateur (read unpaid) in the field who may be the next great pro artist. Too often it has been crowded with professional's names as a second Best Pro Artist award. Most professional artists want to be nominated in that category, and the rules prohibit nomination in both. Again, give a source (i.e. cartoon, Fantastic Crudzine No. 4). Please note also that amateur artists who have exhibited in convention Art Shows are also eligible; if that's the case, tell us the con you saw the work at. And remember "amateur magazine"'s definition!]*]

ADDITIONAL NON-HUGO AWARDS

- THE JOHN W. CAMPBELL AWARD FOR BEST NEW WRITER.** This award is presented annually by Conde Nast, publisher of *Analog*, to honor the late, great John W. Campbell Jr. Campbell's greatest contribution to the field was his development of modern SF through new writers. Most of the writers who are the greats in the field—such people as Robert Heinlein, Isaac Asimov, Poul Anderson, A.E. Van Vogt, and literally hundreds of others, were discovered and developed under the incredible direction of this remarkable man. As a result, The John W. Campbell Award is for the newcomers—the next generation, the new Asimovs, Heinleins, Van Vogts. A writer is eligible for this award if he or she had his or her first professional science fiction or fantasy story published within the last two calendar years—that is, during 1975 or 1976. If in doubt, nominate and we'll check, but please try to help us by giving a story or other source. Dates take precedence, with dating eligibility the same as defined for the Best Novel category.
- THE GANDALF AWARD FOR GRAND MASTER OF FANTASY.** This award has been presented annually since 1974 by Lin Carter and the fantasy writers of the group known as S.A.G.A. This is a career award in fantasy, not SF. If the writer, living or dead, has made a major career advancing fantasy, then he or she is eligible. Please keep this one serious and in bounds. We often get up to 400 nominations—all different. No sources needed here, of course.

Voters are referred to SunCon Convention Journal No. 3 for more details and the entire Constitution of the World Science Fiction Society. If in doubt, nominate. We regret that we have neither the time nor personnel to answer specific questions on eligibility, etc.

** Even if you don't feel qualified to nominate in every category, or only want to nominate one or two in a category, don't hesitate to do so. Partial ballots will be counted. However, only one ballot per member, please—so, if you leave a blank when you send it in, it stays blank.*

** If you are not certain that something is eligible, or belongs in a particular category, nominate it anyway. We'll make the final decision.*

** Responsibility for ruling on eligibility in any category rests with the Chairman of SunCon alone.*

** None of the people on the Hugo committee qualify for any award, so you may nominate someone connected with SunCon. Anyone who would be eligible for any of the above will have nothing to do with the awards process.*

** Groups holding memberships may cast one ballot in the group's name regardless of how many memberships they buy.*

** Ballots must bear a member's name, not "friend of—" or such. Two memberships under one name get only one vote.*

OFFICIAL HUGO NOMINATION BALLOT FOR THE YEAR 1976

BEST NOVEL OF 1976. *See category definition and limitations on front of this folder. Give title and author(s).*

- 1. _____ Where published: _____
- 2. _____ Where published: _____
- 3. _____ Where published: _____

BEST NOVELLA OF 1976 *See category definition and limitations on front of this folder. Give title and author(s).*

- 1. _____ Where published: _____
- 2. _____ Where published: _____
- 3. _____ Where published: _____

BEST NOVELETTE OF 1976. *See category definition and limitations on front of this folder. Give title and author(s).*

- 1. _____ Where published: _____
- 2. _____ Where published: _____
- 3. _____ Where published: _____

BEST SHORT STORY OF 1976. *See category definition and limitations on front of this folder. Give title and author(s).*

- 1. _____ Where published: _____
- 2. _____ Where published: _____
- 3. _____ Where published: _____

BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION OF 1976. *See category definition and limitations on front of this folder.*

- 1. _____ Where seen/medium: _____
- 2. _____ Where seen/medium: _____
- 3. _____ Where seen/medium: _____

BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST OF 1976. *See category definition and limitations on page opposite.*

- 1. _____ Example: _____
- 2. _____ Example: _____
- 3. _____ Example: _____

BEST PROFESSIONAL EDITOR OF 1976. *See category definition and limitations on page opposite.*

- 1. _____ Edited what? _____
- 2. _____ Edited what? _____
- 3. _____ Edited what? _____

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BEST AMATEUR MAGAZINE OF 1976. *It is most important you read carefully the category definition in this folder.*

- 1. _____ Example: _____
- 2. _____ Example: _____
- 3. _____ Example: _____

BEST FAN WRITER OF 1976. *It is most important you read carefully the category definition in this folder.*

- 1. _____ Example: _____
- 2. _____ Example: _____
- 3. _____ Example: _____

BEST FAN ARTIST OF 1976. *It is most important you read the category definition in this folder.*

- 1. _____ Example: _____
- 2. _____ Example: _____
- 3. _____ Example: _____

ADDITIONAL NON-HUGO AWARDS

THE JOHN W. CAMPBELL AWARD FOR BEST NEW WRITER. *See category limitations in this folder before voting.*

- 1. _____ Where published? _____
- 2. _____ Where published? _____
- 3. _____ Where published? _____

THE GANDALF AWARD FOR GRAND MASTER OF FANTASY. *See category definition for limitations and intent.*

- 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

IMPORTANT! *Ballot must be signed below and sent to SunCon, Hugo Nominations, P.O. Box 3427, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034, U.S.A. and must be postmarked before April 15, 1977 to be counted.*

_____ name printed or typed _____ signature

I am a SunCon supporting or attending member. I enclose \$ _____ to join SunCon (checks payable to SunCon).*
* \$7.50 supporting \$15 attending through Feb. 28, 1977 \$20 attending after Feb. 28, 1977.

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