

MINNESOTA  
SCIENCE  
FICTION  
SOCIETY



# Minicon 45

PO Box 8297  
Lake Street Station  
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Registration form included  
inside. Or register online at  
[mstf.org/minicon45](http://mstf.org/minicon45)

The deadline both for  
preregistration and a  
discounted hotel room is  
March 10. See inside for  
details.

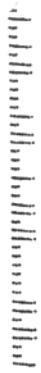


Reg Status:  
Badge Name:



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# Minicon 45

Artwork Copyright © Dan Dos Santos

**Membership Rates** (postmarked by Mar 10, 2010) \*

Adult	ages 21 & up	\$45
Student	ages 13 ~ 20	\$25
Kid	ages 6 ~ 12	\$20
Child	ages 5 & under	Free
Supporting**		\$15

Rate (Check One)	Adult	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Student	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Kid	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Child	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Supporting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I want to ... (Check Any)	Volunteer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Throw a room party	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Display art	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Be on programming	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do not list me as a member on the website		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Optional *** Age & gender of kids				

Full Name Badge Name	Email Address	
	Phone Number	
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# Minicon 45

## Progress Report 2

April 2 ~ 4, 2010  
 the Sheraton Hotel  
 Bloomington, Minnesota  
[www.mnstf.org/minicon45](http://www.mnstf.org/minicon45)

Guests of Honor  
 Author **Brandon Sanderson**  
 Artist **Dan Dos Santos**

Greetings unto all fen!

Well we're rather proud of ourselves. Minicon 44's author GoH Karl Schroeder apparently thinks we throw a good con. From his blog: "the friendliness of the people and casual atmosphere of the event made GOH-ing an absolutely delightful experience ... made me feel like I was the one being entertained rather than me being the main entertainer." OK, blushing now. o.o

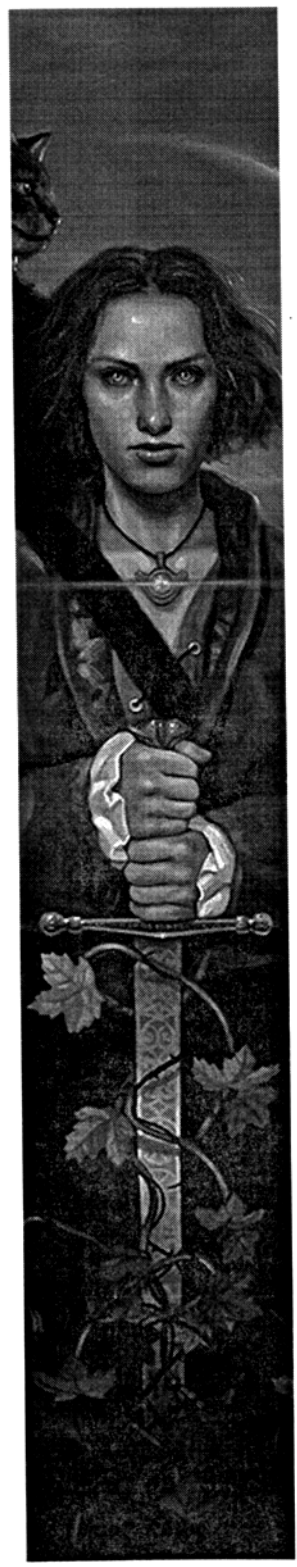
This year we can all anticipate some delightful fannish experiences of our own. Brandon has hinted that he might like to do some gaming with us. Dan will design the program book cover for us. They both agreed to be judges for the costume event, and they will, of course, be involved in the usual panels regarding their work. *Oo! Somebody should do a costume of Bela, the Darkfriend!*

Carpe Con!

### Hot News !!!

Shortly after being released this fall, Brandon's book *The Gathering Storm*, co-written with Robert Jordan, reached number **ONE** (squee!!) on the New York Times hardcover Best Seller list.

Also recently, at this year's Worldcon, Dan's promotional art for the film *Hellboy 2* won the 2009 Chesley Award for Best Product Illustration.



# Registration

Act now to get the discounted preregistration rates. After **March 10** the at-the-door rates will be in effect. *Am I already registered?* Look at the mail label on the back cover for your status. Your badge name will also be there for verification.

There are four methods available to register for Minicon 45:

1. go to our site and register digitally with PayPal  
[www.mnstf.org/minicon45/registration](http://www.mnstf.org/minicon45/registration)
2. fill out a reg form and mail it with a check (one is included with this PR and it's also available on the reg site)

3. get a reg form from us in person and give it back with a check (this works for parties we throw at other cons, special events like Brandon's recent signing, some MnStf events, etc)
4. in the unusual circumstance that the above methods just cannot get a reg form into your hot little hands, our reg head *may* be bribed with neat socks or cookies into mailing you one

Prereg rates are:

Adult (21+)	\$45
Student (13-20)	\$25
Kid (6-12)	\$20
Child (0-5)	\$0
Supporting	\$15
extra \$40 (so \$55 total) to attend	

Are my friends attending? Can I have Klingon on my badge? Can I transfer my reg to someone else if my plans change? These questions and more are addressed on our site. Please visit!

If any data on the mail label is incorrect or you still have questions without answers, email [registration@minicon45.mnstf.org](mailto:registration@minicon45.mnstf.org)

**Reminder!** Pack the checkbook. The lowest Minicon 46 rate that will ever exist will only be available during the three days of Minicon 45. Then it goes up. 2011?! *Yup. Mo' money for you.*

This year's reg status is ☹? *Poke.* Register!



## Hotel

Fans get a discount for reserving a room early. Seriously! This deal is yours *only* until **March 10**. On the 11<sup>th</sup> it goes up. Why get a room? Reaching our room block goal can affect future Minicons' reg rates; and, for this year, you won't need a designated driver, coxswain, aeronaut, or such. Finding a good minion ... pfah!

Cabanas ~ *awesome* pool-side rooms with patios or balconies and situated within a stone's throw of the whole con ~ are available to all fen for **the same cost** as a regular room ... for awhile. And don't worry, no budding parties will wither for lack of cabanas. We're good that way. To arrange, email Parties below.

For a regular room, call the Sheraton at 952.835.7800 and declare that you are attending the most excellent Minicon, or go the hotel link on our website.

Rates (USD)	Regular	Cabana	Cabana Suite	Suite
3/10 & before	89	89	139	289
3/11 & after	94	99	139	289

## Parties

Hm. How do I tell everyone about the *best* [hero | villain | movie | book | game] **EVER?! Throw a shindig** of course. Is there anything not improved by a party?

All parties are located in the north pool-side cabanas. To reserve any cabana, both for parties and other, email [parties@minicon45.mnstf.org](mailto:parties@minicon45.mnstf.org) for instructions. Do *not* go straight to the hotel. Catastrophe and ruin will result! Well ... certainly confusion. For parties, include the party title, the hosts' names, the open nights and times, and whether you'd prefer 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Also, the pubs queen requests that you include a description for the program book. :)

Thanks to all our fabulous hosts who have already signed up to run parties.



Author Guest of Honor  
**Brandon Sanderson**

Brandon Sanderson spent his childhood in Lincoln, Nebraska. While he was in junior high school, he discovered science fiction and fantasy novels, and was transformed from a reluctant reader into a voracious reader. It was also at this time that Brandon tried to write his first book. "It was dreadful," he says.

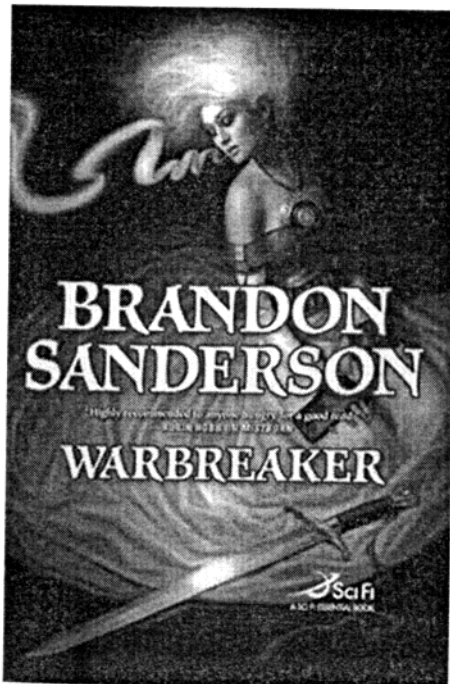
Later Brandon studied at Brigham Young University, graduating with his BA in English in 2000, and his Master's in Creative Writing in 2005. Brandon wrote thirteen novels before selling one, but now makes his living as a full-time writer. Brandon's published works include the *Mistborn* trilogy and other epic fantasy novels released by Tor Books, as well as the *Alcatraz Smedry* series, which is middle-grade fantasy/adventure from Scholastic Press. In December of 2007 Brandon was asked to complete the last book in Robert Jordan's *Wheel of Time* series. Brandon teaches a creative writing class at BYU in Provo, Utah, where he lives with his wife and son.

For further info about Brandon's awesomeness, see his site ~ [www.brandonsanderson.com](http://www.brandonsanderson.com)

The pic below was taken by Joel Phillips, Chair extraordinaire, during Brandon's recent book tour *The Gathering Storm* at the Roseville Barnes & Noble. With him is our very own WebMaestro Dorf!



cover art by Darrell K. Sweet



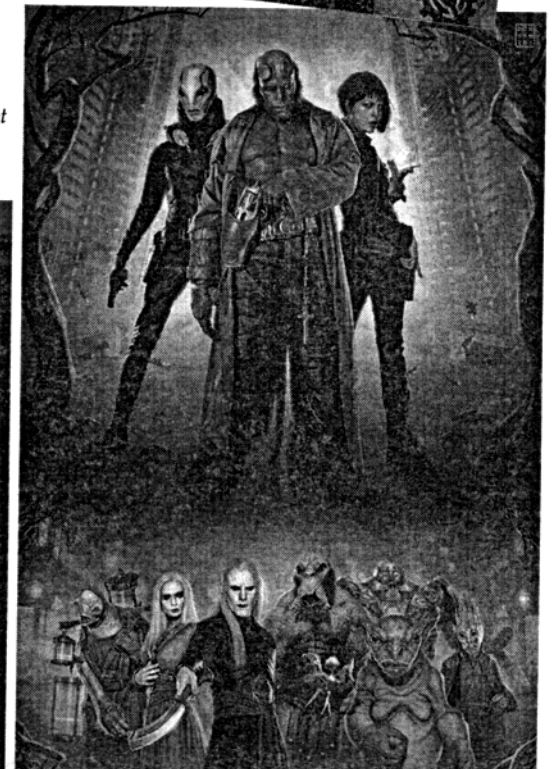
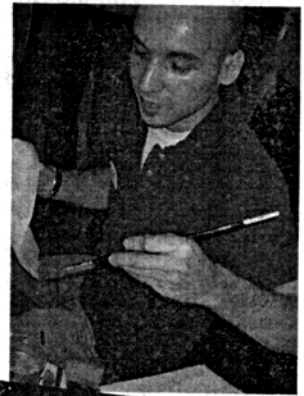
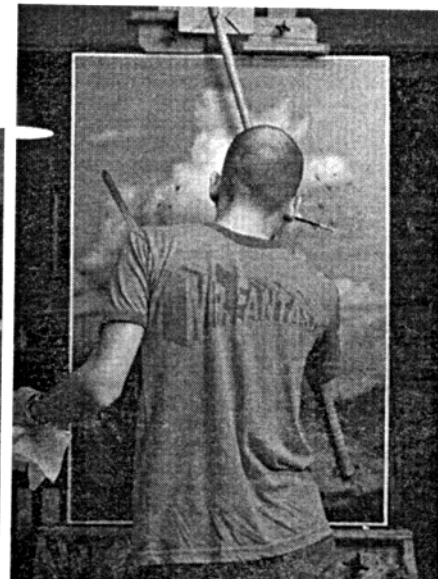
Artist Guest of Honor  
**Dan Dos Santos**

Dan's work spans a variety of genres, including novels, comics and film. He has worked for such clients as Disney, Universal Studios, Boeing Aircraft, Saatchi & Saatchi, Scholastic Books, Ace Books, The Greenwich Workshop, Penguin Books, Random House, Bantam Books, Tor Books, UpperDeck, Wizards of the Coast, and Dark Horse Comics. Aside from freelance illustration, Dan also co-hosts a series of instructional demonstrations called *Art Out Loud*.

Dan has been the recipient of many awards. Most recently, he has received the 2007 Jack Gaughan Award for Best Emerging Artist, and was the Chesley Award winner for Best Paperback Cover of 2007. His illustrations have graced the #1 spot on the New York Times Best Seller list. *Psst! Sorta like Warbreaker over there to the left!*

FFI about Dan's full of win, see ~ [www.dandossantos.com](http://www.dandossantos.com)

*Unless otherwise noted, all art contained herein (not guest photos) is Copyright © Dan Dos Santos and used with permission. All rights reserved.*





## Programming

Minicon is well-known far and wide for the caliber of its programming. We have discussion panels, kid and young adult activities, slide shows, panels, readings, signings, more panels, interviews, workshops, and even more panels. If you'd like to see what's brewing so far, or even better sign up to *be* on a panel, check out our programming page at [www.mnstf.org/minicon45/programming](http://www.mnstf.org/minicon45/programming)

Panels are only a portion of the fantastic offerings of our programming team. Late evening activities have included Geek Trivia and Bambi's Nerdy Tattoo Contest. Thorin will again do his level-best to stump us with the Medallion Hunt. As Dan continues the fine tradition of our artist GoHs of having *just too much* gorgeous art, the bar slide show remains a moral imperative.

## Gaming

This year, we are turning our gaming options up a notch! There will be something for gamers of all breeds ~ video, LAN, board, RPG, CCG, any age, race, gender, orientation, religion ... even *morning* people. *Nooo, we luv our AM fen* :)

We are hosting a Magic the Gathering tournament (Legacy 1.5) in honor of our artist GoH as his art graces 18 Magic cards! There will be prizes, some Dan-related. One prize is a chance to play in a "Special Guest Match".

CCG, RPG, and miniature gamers ~ bring your supplies. LAN folks ~ bring laptops; we haz wi-fi.

For the rest ... here is a small list of just some of the games that will be available. More is to come; check our site regularly. Unanswered questions? Want to volunteer? Email [gaming@minicon45.mnstf.org](mailto:gaming@minicon45.mnstf.org)

Video (PS3) ~ Guitar Hero (3, 5, World Tour, Metallica, Van Halen, & Aerosmith), Super Street Fighter HD Remix, Soul Calibur IV

Board ~ Agricola, Axis & Allies, Memoir 44, Descent: Journeys in the Dark, Battlestar Galactica, Zombies vs Humans, Pandemic, Twilight Imperium (Ed3), Talisman (Ed4), Rune Bound (Ed2), Arkham Horror, Starfarers of Catan, Settlers of Catan (all expansions & 3-D board), Vegas Showdown, Betrayal at House on the Hill, Dominion (& exp.)

## Art Show

Art is a thread that runs through every part of Minicon, from our publications, to our full-color badges, to our con T-shirt. Even our dealer dollars are often kept as collectors' items.

And it gets better ... we have a space filled with great art, both amateur and professional, yet all fannish; and it's for sale (*shopping!!*). From paintings and photography to jewelry and sculpture, you can find a great variety of art all throughout the con.

The means of showing off your own stuff in the art show are laid out in detail on our website. For any questions not addressed there, email [artshow@minicon45.mnstf.org](mailto:artshow@minicon45.mnstf.org)

## Costuming

The main costuming events of Minicon 45 are the Fentasia Awards and the Fenfare Parade. These events are Sat. evening and, together, should only take a couple of hours. We don't have a specific time yet, but they'll be early enough to accommodate our younger fen.

The Fentasia Awards are an anti-masquerade. There are judges, prizes, and categories, but no all-day prep and no stress. In the spirit of informality there is a "geek duds" category ~ that stuff that isn't necessarily a "costume" but you only wear at cons. The Fenfare Parade will commence directly after the Awards. We will traipse all throughout the fen spaces, occasionally pausing to show off, and end in the consuite (just in time for beer! at least for us old farts).

These events are meant to be fun and easy. Performance bits are neither required nor discouraged. If you know you want to do one, please contact the Cos Team in advance; we'd like to plan ahead some. That being said, if you show up at the parade and say "I want to do a bit!", we won't spank you. *Unlike Cadsuane!*

Many more details are available on the website. For any questions not covered there, email [costuming@minicon45.mnstf.org](mailto:costuming@minicon45.mnstf.org). Well ... one detail now. There's a judge's choice category and you now know two of the judges. Pander away!

