

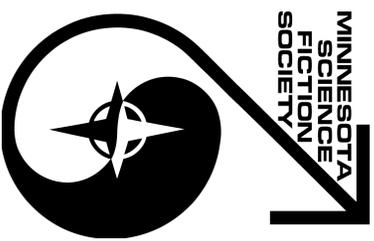


**APRIL 14TH - 16TH, 2017**



MINICON 52  
Lake Street Station  
PO Box 8297  
Minneapolis MN 55408-0297

[www.mnstf.org/minicon52](http://www.mnstf.org/minicon52)





# volunteering

Minicon is entirely volunteer-run. No one is paid for helping; even the convention chairs and all the department heads pay full price for their memberships. This keeps our membership rates down, but also means that we need your help. Think of Minicon like a big party: some of us are hosting the party, but we're all in it together.

How to help out? Well, if you see something that needs doing—perhaps a bowl of chips is empty, or a programming room doesn't have enough chairs—see if you can get it done. If you're not sure how, ask the department head or nearest person who seems to know what's going on.

There are ways for anyone to help out — volunteering with scheduled shifts for the art show, helping out in the consuite or bar, checking badges, helping with registration, and a few other areas. If you would like to volunteer before the con, send an email to [volunteers@minicon52.mnsthf.org](mailto:volunteers@minicon52.mnsthf.org). There will also be a sign-up sheet at the registration desk if you decide to volunteer while at the convention.

## concom

The convention committee - or concom, are the people that organize and run the convention. Anybody can help out on the committee as long as you're willing to put in the work to put on a great convention. If you'd like to help, please send an email to [chair@minicon52.mnsthf.org](mailto:chair@minicon52.mnsthf.org).

## opportunities

We are currently seeking a sub-head to help manage the Consuite during the late-afternoon/early evening shifts. If interested, please reach out to Kelly as soon as possible at [consuite@minicon52.mnsthf.org](mailto:consuite@minicon52.mnsthf.org).

We are always actively seeking donations of foods and ingredients. Please let us know if you can contribute at [consuite@minicon52.mnsthf.org](mailto:consuite@minicon52.mnsthf.org).

If you work for any food service supplier or restaurant who would be willing to contribute free or discounted food products, please contact us at [consuite@minicon52.mnsthf.org](mailto:consuite@minicon52.mnsthf.org). We are a 501c3 non-profit and donations are deductible.

The Art Show can always use volunteers for set-up, tear down, and lunch breaks. If you would like to help with the art show, please contact [artshow@minicon52.mnsthf.org](mailto:artshow@minicon52.mnsthf.org).

We are looking for a volunteer nightowl or two to host the Dead Dog Party late Sunday night. Please send an email to [volunteers@minicon52.mnsthf.org](mailto:volunteers@minicon52.mnsthf.org) if you're interested.

Would you like to get more involved? Do you have ideas? Minicon is organized by the Minicon concom (convention committee) over the course of the year. Well, if you start showing up to meetings, you're a concom member. Meeting announcements can be found in the Einblatt newsletter at [www.mnsthf.org/einblatt](http://www.mnsthf.org/einblatt).

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# guests of honor

## Jim C. Hines

author

Michiganian (Michiganite? Michiganarian?), Jim C. Hines is an established science fiction/fantasy author who has created 3 popular series as well as many other standalone efforts and numerous stories included in collections. He has also produced many non-fiction efforts on a wide array of subjects from writing and publishing advice to essays on sexism and harassment in fandom. He has won a Hugo award and has appeared at many science fiction and fantasy conventions.

## Brother Guy Consolmagno

scientist

Brother Guy was named by Pope Francis to be the Director of the Vatican Observatory in September 2015, a post with the popular title of "The Pope's Astronomer". He joined the Brotherhood in 1991 and was assigned to the Vatican Observatory and there he has happily stayed.

Of course, he has strayed temporarily from time to time for adventures in Antarctica and other varied experiences (who wouldn't?), tirelessly pursuing his exploration of the commonalities between faith and science. He has appeared at a wide variety of venues; from science fiction conventions, to scientific symposiums, NPR shows and the Colbert Report, all to have informed and informative discussions about his reverence for science *and* faith.

## Mark Oshiro

fan

Now we come to Los Angeles born Mark Oshiro, progenitor of the Mark Does Stuff universe. This alternate reality is composed of Mark Reads, Mark Watches and Mark Plays (RIP). Using blog entries, essays, and commentary, he creates breakdowns of series he is reading or watching, chapter-by-chapter or episode-by-episode without any pre-existing awareness of the subject matter; sort of a "stream of experience" presentation.

A Hugo nominated author for Best Fan Writer in 2014, Mark attends numerous conventions and yet continuously finds time to expand his blogging empire. From this busy schedule, he has made time to appear at Minicon 52 to share his unique perspectives and experiences. You are not prepared!

# featured guest

## Jeff Lee Johnson

artist

Jeff has been a freelance illustrator in the science fiction/fantasy genre for over 12 years. His art has appeared in commercials, educational materials, games, books, TV, and even on the Jumbotron at Target field. He has dozens of book and magazine covers to his credit, and over a thousand other illustrations under his belt. His clients have ranged from Games Workshop (Warhammer) to Painter Magazine to Fantasy Flight Games.

# programming

## art show

The Minicon 52 art show is a non-juried show open to all artists who'd like to submit artwork in a science fiction and/or fantasy theme. Regardless of what media you work in — traditional, digital, fiber, sculpture, etc. — you are welcome. Most art is for sale, although some may be just for show. Art can be bid upon or, if the artists chooses, be immediately purchased at a set price.

Besides the art show proper, we are thinking about again having art-based activities and programming in the art show area, but we haven't yet finalized these plans. If you have ideas, please send an email to [artshow@minicon52.mnsthf.org](mailto:artshow@minicon52.mnsthf.org).

All artists under the age of 18 can hang their art for free at the Minicon art show (no hanging fees). Please limit the number of pieces you submit to 5 per person due to limited hanging space. All other art show rules apply.

If you would like to mail your artwork to the convention beforehand, please go to [www.mnsthf.org/minicon52/artshow](http://www.mnsthf.org/minicon52/artshow) for the proper forms and Art Show guidelines.

## music

Minicon will again feature music, both in concerts and open music circles. There will be a full slate of concerts scheduled. Once the concerts are finished, join us for open music until the last of us drop over.

## film room

The film room will again have a variety of fascinating films include some unique documentaries that should appeal to SF fans. We will be showing full-length narratives and shorts throughout the weekend. Stay Tuned!

## next gen

The Next Generation is a place for teens to play board games, watch movies, and hang out with other teens at Minicon. We have a lot of different board games, movies, and will have a schedule of planned events throughout the weekend.

## rumpus room

The Rumpus Room is our place for kids programming, craftiness and other fun stuff. As always, there will be puzzles, games, toys and art materials always available to play with. There will also be structured kids activities and events all weekend!

And if you have some arts & crafts supplies, books, or other items to give away, don't forget to bring them along to donate to the Free Stuff table.

# programming

## klatsches

Klatsches are opportunities to meet with the Guests of Honor in a small group setting. They generally involve coffee, tea, wine...or whatever the GoH's beverage of choice is. Space is limited, however, so look for sign-up sheets at the registration desk.

## consuite

The consuite will feature a wide assortment of snacks, drinks, comfortable seating, and be open Friday through Sunday. We will have Food Events throughout the convention and plan on always having soda, coffee, sandwiches and snack food available. And of course, please volunteer to help in the consuite!

## bar

The bar will open at 4:59 pm on Friday & Saturday, and again on Sunday for the Dead Dog party. Beer, wine, cider and blog will be on tap all weekend. The bar will stay open each night until we fall down. Look for special events happening in the bar - and bar adjacent. On Friday night there will be a Scotch Tasting, and as space will be limited, participants are asked to bring a single-malt scotch to share. Saturday night will see the return of SF Trivia - with prizes! Sort of.

## parties

If you or your organization are interested in throwing a party, now is the time to let us know! Once again, the party rooms will be in the cabana area. Send an email to [parties@minicon52.mnsthf.org](mailto:parties@minicon52.mnsthf.org) and let us know!

## bozo bus tribune

The Bozo Bus Tribune, Minicon's at-convention newsletter, will be back with a newer, faster, less backbreaking printer! Expect four issues, quite possibly including the return of J's Medallion Hunt. Contributions at or before the con are encouraged--early submissions can be sent to [btt@minicon52.mnsthf.org](mailto:btt@minicon52.mnsthf.org). As usual, there will be diversions in the BBT Office such as pyramid games, buckyball magnets and an Easter Egg challenge.

## dealers' room

The Dealers' Room will once again be a cornucopia of SF related items. If you are interested in being an exhibitor check the website at [www.mnsthf.org/minicon52/dealers](http://www.mnsthf.org/minicon52/dealers) for our rules and rates, or write and we'll mail a copy out to you.