

ART SHOW

The Minicon 53 art show is a non-juried show open to all artists who'd like to submit artwork with a science fiction or fantasy theme, regardless of the media you work in. Most art is for sale or can be bid on, although some may be just for show. We will also have art-based activities and programming in the art show area.

Artists under 18 can hang their work for free. Please limit the number to five pieces per person due to limited hanging space. If you would like to mail your work to the convention beforehand, forms and Art Show guidelines can be found at our website.

REGISTRATION

You can pre-register for Minicon 53 until March 9th, 2018 or register at the door. Pre-registering is cheaper!

You may register online at www.mnstf.org/minicon53 or complete the form below and mail it to:

Minicon 53
Lake Street Station
PO Box 8297
Minneapolis, MN 55408-0297

- Adult \$45 (with the option of paying \$35) Supporting \$15
 - Student (13-20) \$20 Kid (6-12) \$10 Child (0-5) Free
- At the door: \$70 Adult \$25 Student \$15 Kid \$0 Child
- Would you like to help us out with a \$10 donation?
(This goes toward keeping our membership rates low)

Please contact me, because I want to:

- Volunteer Share programming/panel ideas
- Throw a room party Learn more about kids' activities

First Name	Middle	Last
Badge Name (if left blank, we will use your full name above)		
Address		
City	State/Province	Postal Code
Country (if not in the US)	Phone	
Email		
Birthdate*	Sex*	Year of your first Minicon?*

Do not publicly list me as a member *Optional, for demographics



MARCH 30TH-APRIL 1ST 2018
DOUBLETREE BY HILTON-PARK PLACE
1500 Park Place Blvd, St. Louis Park, MN 55416

WITH GUESTS OF HONOR
RACHEL SWIRSKY
www.rachelswirsky.com

LYDA MOREHOUSE
www.lydamorehouse.com

AND FEATURED ARTIST
JON ARFSTROM
(1928-2015)
www.pulpartists.com/Arfstrom



WWW.MNSTF.ORG/MINICON53



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Lake Street Station
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Minneapolis, MN 55408-0297

PROGRESS REPORT TWO

WELCOME TO MINICON 53...

...the Minicon chronologically closest to the 50th Anniversary of the 1st Minicon.

-The Pedantic One

As always, we will have multiple tracks of programming throughout the weekend. Attendees can expect to find a full slate of programming (panel discussions, readings, signings, etc), costuming, films, gaming, a teen lounge, an art show, dealers, kids' programming, a science room, folk & folk music, a consuite & bar, room parties, special events, and a newly added sensory friendly space.

What's with the theme this year?

After many people called Minicon 50 "The 50th Anniversary," it was pointed out that such was not true. There were two years that there were two Minicons, and an "anniversary" doesn't happen until after the remembered event — All this means is this is our 50th year. Additionally, Minicon 53 will be the 50th spring Minicon, for some loose definition of spring, and the Minicon closest to the 50th anniversary of the 1st Minicon. Therefore, we chose the very tongue-in-cheek theme "The Pedantic One."

We would like to use this opportunity to celebrate the history of Minicon and Minnesota fandom, and recognize how fandom has evolved over the years. We also want to embrace what it is about fans that makes us want to be accurate, while recognizing that the priority is clear communication. For more information about the history of Minicon, see the Minicon main page, with lots of archive materials all the way back to Minicon 1.

WE HAVE A NEW HOTEL!

While we do love our old hotel, and will miss it dearly, we believe that this is a good change and it will be a far better space for our convention, and hope you do too!

Single or double occupancy rates if booked by March 8:

- Regular rooms: \$89 per night
- Whirlpool rooms (very limited quantity): \$119
- Suites (near the pool): \$119 per night
- Executive Level Rooms (near the consuite): \$109

The cut off date for these rates is March 8, 2018. You will probably end up paying a higher rate if your room is not reserved by then.

Information about reserving a sleeping room or party room and special rates are at <http://mnsf.org/minicon53/hotel>.

PROGRAMMING

Now is the time to volunteer for programming items!

You can go to the Minicon 53 Programming page (www.mnsf.org/minicon53/programming) or send an email to programming@minicon53.mnsf.org. Nothing is set in stone at this point, so if you sign up for an item, the likelihood that it will mature into an actual event is greatly increased!

CONSUIE & BAR

The Consuite will be supplying a thoughtful and abundant assortment of snacks, drinks and protein events. It is, however, a lot of work to make all this food magically appear, so please volunteer to help in the consuite!

The Bar will be supplying a thoughtful and abundant assortment of beer, wine, and Blog, and will see the return of Saturday Night Trivia. There will also be space for impromptu entertainment such as music, magic, pub style quizzes, etc. Just let the bar heads know (at-con) and we'll see what we can do to accommodate your activity.

KLATSCHES

Klatsches are low-key gatherings that take place in the bar-annex, and an opportunity to meet with Guests of Honor in a small group setting, and enjoy whatever the GoH's beverage of choice is. Space is limited, however, so sign up at Registration. Ideas for other small Klatsches (tastings, classes, discussions) are welcome as well, so channel your ideas to programming@minicon53.mnsf.org.

PARTIES

If you or your organization would like to throw a party, now is the time to let us know! Parties will be on the third floor overlooking the atrium. If you'd like to host a party, please contact parties@minicon53.mnsf.org.

TEEN ROOM

The Teen Room is a place for teens 12-19 to play board games, watch movies, chat, and hang out. We have a lot of board games, movies, video games, and will have a schedule of planned events throughout the weekend.

RUMPUS ROOM

Rumpus Room is looking forward to our new space with lots of natural daylight and access to outdoor space. Many science based events are planned, along with crafts and a scientific scavenger hunt! The Rumpus Room theme for Minicon 53 is "dogs." We'll have puppies on our badges and canine related projects. Other ideas are welcome and can be sent to Bonnie at rumpusroom@minicon53.mnsf.org.

MUSIC

Musical events at Minicon 53 will feature concerts from Adam Stemple, Scott Keever, Riverfolk, The Faithful Side-kicks, and more, as well as fun and welcoming music circles on both nights of the con and other special events. We are looking for people who can help to run our sound system during performances. If interested, please email music@minicon53.mnsf.org.

CINEMA OBSCURA

The hotel room's illumination is reduced... a single lanterna magica projects strange, moving images against a blank screen... occupants in the room gaze upon the screen as though entranced... What can this all mean? It is only the return of Minicon's Cinema Obscura, providing attendees with narratives and documentaries not easily obtainable or seen at other regional conventions.

BOZO BUS TRIBUNE

The Bozo Bus Tribune is Minicon's at-con newsletter, and will continue to serve Minicon with four planned issues, personals and curiosities. The BBT office will continue to feature colorful diversions, and one way or another, there will again be a Medallion Hunt!

BARON DAVE MEMORIAL GATHERING

As you may have heard, Baron Dave Romm passed away unexpectedly in September. Dave was the MC of Opening & Closing Ceremonies for 30 years, often folding in a full-length live Shockwave Radio Show. He was also co-founder of the Bozo Bus Tribune, reportedly the inventor of microprogramming, an ace interviewer, and a dear friend. We will be holding a memorial for Dave at 5:30pm on Easter Sunday. This gathering will be open to everyone — no Minicon membership required.

VOLUNTEERING

Minicon needs volunteers! This year, there will be a thank you fork/spoon/bottle opener for five hours or more spent at the convention volunteering. It's pretty cool.

Here are the departments that need volunteers:

- Cinema Obscura
- Art Show
- Gaming Head
- Consuite
- Move-in / Move-out
- Bar & Klatsches
- Code of Conduct Committee
- Costume Contest

Send an email to volunteers@minicon53.mnsf.org. There will also be a sign-up sheet at the registration desk.