



#54

GUESTS OF HONOR

NAOMI KRITZER

DAVE DEVRIES

FEATURED ARTIST

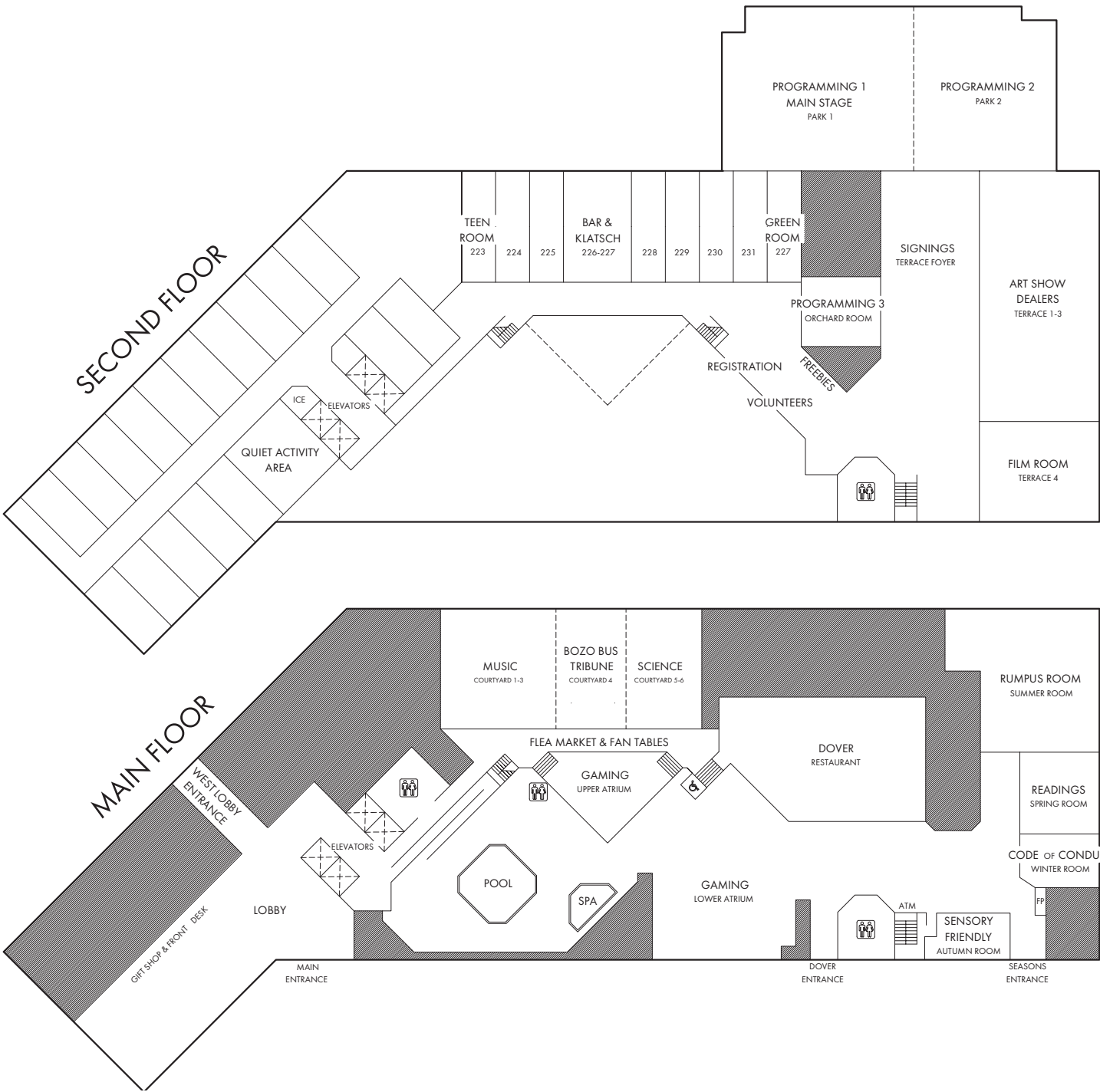
TOM FLEMING

# MINICON



DAVE DEVRIES  
2016

# HOTEL MAP





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Registration .....	2
Volunteering .....	2
Policies.....	2
Code of Conduct .....	3
<hr/>	
GUEST OF HONOR Naomi Kritzer .....	4
GUEST OF HONOR Dave DeVries.....	4
FEATURED ARTIST Tom Fleming .....	5
<hr/>	
Programming Schedule .....	16-21
<hr/>	
Art Show.....	7
Bar .....	6
Bozo Bus Tribune .....	8
Cinema Obscura (Film Room) Info & Schedule .....	10-11
Consuite .....	6
Dealer's Room.....	7
GPS Charity Auction.....	6
Gaming .....	7
Green Room.....	6
Klatsches .....	6
Music Info & Schedule .....	12-13
Parties .....	9
Rumpus Room: The Kids' Place Info & Schedule .....	14-15
Science Room.....	8
Sensory Friendly Space.....	8
Quiet Activity Area.....	7
Teen Room .....	8
<hr/>	
MNstf Info and Events.....	22
Convention Committee .....	23
Pie .....	25
<hr/>	
In Memoriam.....	5

# REGISTRATION

Registration is located on the 2nd floor, near the programming rooms, during the following hours:

Friday .....10:00am - 10:00pm

Saturday .....9:30am - 8:00pm

Sunday .....9:30am - 4:00pm

Lost badges: If you find a badge, please bring it to the registration table. If you have lost yours, please check there. You can get a replacement for \$1.00.

Registering for Minicon 55: The form to preregister can be found in your registration packet or at the Registration table. It will never be cheaper! The at-con rates are:

Adult - \$40.00

Student (ages 13-20) - \$15.00

Kid (ages 6-12) - \$10.00

Child (ages 5 and under) - Free

Supporting Membership - \$15.00

If you pre-registered this year, you received a form that's already filled out when you picked up your badge. Update any incorrect fields, fill in any blank ones, seal it in an envelope with your payment, and put it in the box at the registration table. Need help or information after hours? Ask at the bar in rooms 226/227 overlooking the atrium.

# POLICIES

Minicon occurs in a hotel, which is part of a city, county, state, and country. All rules and laws imposed by these larger entities apply, even though being at a con may make you feel out of this world.

Weapons: Prop weapons or costume pieces must be secured and pose no danger to others. We reserve the right to prohibit any such items from our function rooms.

Smoking: Minnesota is smokefree in all public places. Designated smoking areas are outside. Please direct specific questions to the hotel.

Help and Information: Ask at the registration/volunteers/info desk while they're open, or after hours at the consuite or bar. Also look for department heads or wandering concomm members.

# VOLUNTEERING

Did you know that Minicon is an all-volunteer convention? We don't sell tickets, we offer memberships (priced to cover con expenses). As members of a community, we all pitch in and help out. It turns out that volunteering is also a great way to make new friends, connect with old ones, and generally have a great time at the convention. We'll have 1-2 hour volunteer shifts available (depending on the department), but will also have short one-off tasks like sign-making or errand-running. **Learn more at the Volunteers Table, conveniently located in the Registration area.**

We'll be trying something new this year, using the Discord message service as a way to contact Gofers, Badgers, and other volunteers in real time. If you want to join in this grand experiment, the Volunteers Desk Staff can help you sign up at the con. If you are familiar with Discord already, we'd love to have your help at the Volunteers table!

# EMERGENCIES

In case of an emergency threatening life or limb, please call 911!



# MINICON 54 CODE OF CONDUCT

Minn-stf acknowledges that interpersonal relationships in social settings are complex. Not everyone likes everyone else, and not everyone agrees with everyone else. Disagreements, friction, and vigorous debate are expected. However, interactions that become hostile or coercive do not have any part in a healthy social environment and MnStf commits to addressing problem behaviors.

Harassment is difficult to define, and attempts at an exact definition are subject to rules-lawyering, so we won't attempt to do that. However, repeated unwelcome behaviors are mostly likely to be construed as harassment. If someone asks you not to touch them, not to talk to them, or not to refer to them in a way that they find objectionable, and you persist in doing so, you may be harassing them. Actions that are sufficiently egregious (assault, truly hateful language, and comparable actions) fall under this policy, even if only one occurrence has been noted. In the end, harassment is judged primarily by the person who feels harassed, and actions are more important than intent.

If you tell someone to stop something you see as harassing behavior and they don't, you may tell us. If you don't feel comfortable telling someone to stop harassing behaviour, you may also tell us. We want to make sure everyone is heard so that together we can make Minicon a healthy, fun, enjoyable experience for everyone.

**Code of Conduct Responders  
can be reached at:**

**612-213-9620**

## HOW'S YOUR SQUEE?

Minicon is a place to get your squee on. It's a time for strange friends and friendly strangers, marvels and wonders, interesting conversations, fascinating objects, and lots of fun. Few things destroy fun faster than having someone not take "no" for an answer. Here's the thing: you have the right to say "no." No to a conversation, no to an activity, no to a beverage, no to anything that interferes with your own, personal squee. The ability to say yes to fun includes the ability to say no to not-fun. But sometimes...sometimes people don't respect your "no," and sometimes, you feel as if you can't say "no" directly to the person harshing your squee. In those cases, we will try to help.

If you need help with a problem where someone is violating our Code of Conduct (see opposite), or not taking your "no" for an answer, PLEASE feel free to call us at (612) 213-9620, and we will try to help. This phone is answered all day and most of the night. If we don't answer, leave a voice mail message, or text, and we will respond as soon as we can. We will work with you to find a solution that lets you go back to full-on squee.

### Decongestant 4

With  
**Arcana**

**Sept 27-29,  
2019**

Decongestant is MNStF's  
other con in 2019!



It's a relaxing weekend with about 3/4 of a track of light programming, plus this year, believed dead after 2017, ARCANA's spirit & programming will rise again at Decongestant 4, featuring a second track of programming and films with the theme *Scary Science Fiction*.

We'll have a teen room, 24h gaming, a well-stocked consuite, one or two organized meals, music, a craft swap, and whatever else you bring to it.

It's at the Hilton Bloomington, 3900 American Blvd West (by France Ave). It will be our fourth year in this fantastic hotel.

### Register!

Pre-reg at [mnstf.org/decongestant4](http://mnstf.org/decongestant4) by Sept 9. Or mail in the form on the website, or send the usual to Minn-stf, PO Box 8297, Minneapolis MN 55408. Pre-reg \$50 (\$40 if need be), \$10 under 21, free under 13. More details at:

[mnstf.org/decongestant4](http://mnstf.org/decongestant4)

## Guest of Honor Author

# NAOMI KRITZER

Bio written by Richard Snyder



An old school online denizen since back in the days of dial-up, Naomi has had a colorful and storied life. Over the years, she has played various musical instruments and lived amongst the denizens of a few foreign lands. Fables will rise over what was played

where and when. Her experiences of London and Nepal were no doubt rare and unique, as were her times here in the challenging northern climes of Minnesota. The texture and complexity she's absorbed come out in her work. She tells stories that are needed. We know this because others are telling stories about her stories. Nominations have been earned, awards have been accepted, and people have been thanked, all because of those stories. Now, a new adventure will be unfolding before us as Naomi joins us as our Guest of Honor. We will one day tell stories about Naomi telling us how to tell stories.

Naomi Kritzer has been writing science fiction and fantasy for twenty years. Her short story "Cat Pictures Please" won the 2016 Hugo and Locus Awards and was nominated for the Nebula Award. A collection of her short stories was released in 2017, and her YA novel, *Catfishing on Catnet* (based on "Cat Pictures Please") will be coming out from Tor Teen in August 2019. She lives in St. Paul, Minnesota with her spouse, two kids, and four cats. The number of cats is subject to change without notice.

## Guest of Honor Artist

# DAVE DEVRIES

Bio written by Richard Snyder



Dave DeVries is an internationally recognized award winning illustrator. In 1998, after working for many genre specific clients, he created

his viral project, The Monster Engine, which asks the question, "What would a child's drawing look like if painted by a professional illustrator?" The results are startling transformations of flat childlike imagery into fully painted illustrations. You can find this at [www.themonsterengine.com](http://www.themonsterengine.com).

This technique came from his illustration work, primarily in the entertainment field—specifically the comic book, advertising, video game, and motion picture markets. Some of his clients include Dreamworks SKG, Lucasfilm, Universal Studios, Marvel and DC Comics and Warner Brothers Animation, among others. For this last client, Mr DeVries created concept art paintings that inspired scenes in Warner Brothers latest movie, *The Lego Movie 2*—in theaters since February.

In 2011, he was the recipient of 2 National Endowment for the Arts grants and has been featured in galleries and museums across the country.

During his career, Dave has held positions as a professor at Syracuse University, The Joe Kubert School of Cartoon and Graphic Art, The University of Hartford and currently at The Fashion Institute of Technology in NYC. He has also taught middle school and currently teaches digital art at Jefferson Township High School in NJ.



## Featured Artist

# TOM FLEMING

Bio written by Richard Snyder



Since he was a child, Tom Fleming always knew he wanted to be an artist. After graduating high school in Putnam Valley, New York, he went on to receive his BFA from the School of Visual and Performing

Arts at Syracuse University, graduating at the top of his class in 1988.

In 1990, he landed his first full time position as an artist/designer for the World Wrestling Federation (now WWE) by answering an ad in the New York Times. Tom made his mark early in pop culture history by designing the costumes and logos for legendary characters such as: Papa Shango, Crush, Kane, Adam Bomb, Tatanka, The 1-2-3 Kid, Lex Luger, & Hall of famers Razor Ramon & Hulk Hogan. After four years of a corporate environment, he decided to return to freelance.

Accomplishing his childhood dream, Tom has painted covers & trading cards for almost every major publisher in the comic book industry such as Marvel, DC, Dark Horse and has illustrated for some of the most popular gaming companies in the world such as: World of Warcraft, Magic the Gathering, and White-Wolf Publishing.

Tom has won numerous awards in the Fantasy genre including FOUR nominations for the prestigious Chesley Award!

In 2000 Tom landed a job as the official illustrator for the Jodie Foster movie *The Dangerous Lives of Altar Boys* with animation by Todd McFarlane. Since then, Tom has worked on movies & TV shows doing prop illustration & storyboards for productions such as; *Stateside*, *Stay Alive*, *Surface*, *Major Movie Star*, *Super*, *A Cinderella Story 3*, *Smile as Big as the Moon* and the hit TV show *One Tree Hill* (see his IMDB page).

In 2012 Tom won his landmark copyright infringement case against corporate giant HomeGoods and ATI Industries, which he considers a huge victory for all artists! (the case was later settled)

Tom resides in beautiful Wilmington, NC, and works out of his home studio when he is not lecturing and doing shows worldwide.

Tom is now exploring the world of Fine Art and Galleries with his award winning Giclee prints, original art and stunningly beautiful yoga mats.

**IN LOVING MEMORY  
OF THOSE WE HAVE  
RECENTLY LOST**

Kate Wilhelm  
1928-2018  
Minicon 21  
Guest of Honor

Harlan Ellison  
1934-2018  
Minicon 41  
Guest of Honor

# CONSUIITE

The Consuite exists to serve you free food and provide you with space to hang out and eat it. It is on the **fourteenth floor**, take the elevator up and you can't miss it.

# BAR

The Bar (located in room 227) is your cave-away-from-home and overlooks the atrium from the second floor. We will be supplying an abundant assortment of homebrew and commercial beer, cider, wine, and of course, Blog! Feel free to bring something to share; donations are always welcome.

Check the Program schedule for tastings and other special events happening in the bar throughout the convention. As always, the bar is FREE...and worth it!

## HOURS:

Friday & Saturday: 5pm - Close

Sunday: Open when Dead Dog begins (after teardown is complete)

# KLATSCHES

Klatsches are low-key gatherings that take place in the bar (#226) during the day, and an opportunity to meet with Guests of Honor in a small group setting, and enjoy coffee, tea, or whatever the GoH's beverage of choice is. Space is limited, however, so sign up at Registration.

# GREEN ROOM

The Green Room (#232) generally opens 30 minutes before the first programming item of the day and closes at the beginning of the last programming item of the day. The green room is a respite for program participants. Come by and have a sandwich, a cup of coffee and some quiet. Meet your co-panelists.

# GPS CHARITY AUCTION

Room 228, next to the Bar

The silent auction is to support Minicon's partner, the Geek Partnership Society. Funds raised will go to support year-round geeky community building with clubs and events, infrastructure for geeky non-profits like Minicon, and public programs such as Project Lighthouse (an educational grants program), the GPS Annual Writing Contest, the Space Camp Scholarship Fund, and the GPS Arts Initiative.

Items up for auction have been donated by community members, dealers, and artists. Thank you all for your support!

By bidding in the live or silent auctions, each bidder agrees to posted auction rules, and to release contact information (name, phone number, email) in the event that item(s) won are not paid for and picked up and/or bidder registration information is illegible or incorrect.

Stop on by or get involved. Visit our website at [www.geekpartnership.org](http://www.geekpartnership.org), or email us at [info@geekpartnership.org](mailto:info@geekpartnership.org).

## HOURS

Friday ... 3 pm to 6 pm (bidding open)

Saturday 10 am - 8 pm (bidding open)

Sunday ... 10 am - 2 pm (pick up only)

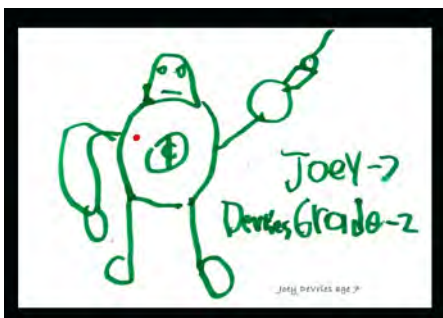


# GAMING

The areas for tabletop gaming are the lower atrium and the upper atrium. Scheduled games or events are listed in the programming section. Please notice that this area is immediately outside the restaurant, and the hotel would like us to be respectful of their diners. Please keep these areas clean, orderly and free of trash. Having a clean gaming area also helps out the next people who want to play. Some areas will need to be cleared Saturday night and Sunday morning for Easter Brunch, more information will be posted.

# QUIET ACTIVITY AREA

New this year is an area for quiet activities on the second floor overlooking the lobby. There will be tables with puzzles there that can remain in progress throughout con without interruption. You are always welcome to chill out there so long as you are quiet enough not to be heard in the nearby sleeping rooms.



# ART SHOW

Located on 2nd floor, Terrace 1-3

The Minicon 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. Most art is for sale, although some may be just for show. Art can be bid upon or, if the artist chooses, be immediately purchased at a set price.

## Art Show Hours:

Friday ..... 3:00pm - 8:00pm

Saturday ..... 10:00am - 8:00pm

Sunday ..... 11:00am - 4:00pm

Check the programming schedule for demonstration times.

# DEALER'S ROOM

Located on 2nd floor, Terrace 1-3

## HOURS:

Friday ..... 3:00pm - 8:00pm

Saturday ..... 10:00am - 8:00pm

Sunday ..... 11:00am - 4:00pm

# DEALERS AT MINICON 54

**Authors:** Kathryn Sullivan, Ozgur Sahin, and Adam Whitlatch

**Dealers:** Alleged Animals and Other Stories, Lady Dragons Treasures, Dragon Abbey Jewelry, DreamHaven Books, Davinci Scientifica Steampunk, Funk n Fantasy, and Isis Designed

IF YOU'VE READ THIS, YOU  
WIN A RIBBON. PLEASE FIND  
EMILY STEWART OR KEVIN  
AUSTIN TO COLLECT A RIBBON  
OF POTENTIALLY LIMITED  
QUANTITY.

# SENSORY FRIENDLY SPACE

(Autumn Room)

This year, we will be using the Autumn Room as "Sensory Friendly Space." Feel free to use this room for silent meditation, prayer, or to avoid the sometimes overwhelming nature of conventions. Please respect others' use and only use this room only for silent activities.

# TEEN ROOM

(Room 223)

Teen Room is a space for people ages 13-19 to socialize, play video games, build blanket forts and hang out with other teens.

# BOZO BUS TRIBUNE

The Bozo Bus Tribune, Minicon's at-con newsletter since time immemorial, will be back this year, but in a new location—Courtyard 4 (main floor near the atrium).

**To read the BBT:** Just look for rectangular splashes of color periodically distributed across conspace and contime—expect four issues in all. In addition to news, panel and party reviews, warm body updates, personals and other miscellany, there will probably be yet another Medallion Hunt. (Well, unless you lump that in with other miscellany.)

**To write for the BBT:** Come visit the office in Courtyard 4 and leave written submissions for upcoming issues—and while you're there, amuse yourself with our various distractions, puzzles and *objets d'art*. Or submit electronically to [bbs@minicon54.mnstrf.org](mailto:bbs@minicon54.mnstrf.org).



# SCIENCE ROOM

The Science Room exists. It is in Courtyard 5-6 this year.

We are transforming science fiction into science fact! Visit the Science Room to view and interact with science exhibits like: International Space Station Updates (including an up-to-date scale model), Hands-on 3D Star Maps, 3D Maps of Mars and the Moon, Information on astronomical observatories in MN that you can visit, Historic & futuristic models of spacecraft and rockets, Scale Bas Relief Moon Globe.

Science exhibits are brought to MiniCon, courtesy of groups like:

MN Space Frontier Society [www.mnssf.org](http://www.mnssf.org)

Mars Society [www.marsociety.org](http://www.marsociety.org)

Moon Society [moonsociety.org](http://moonsociety.org)

National Space Society [nss.org](http://nss.org)

MN Astronomical Society [www.mnastro.org](http://www.mnastro.org)

NASA Glenn Research Center

[www.nasa.gov/centers/glenn/home/index.html](http://www.nasa.gov/centers/glenn/home/index.html)

## HOURS:

Friday ..... 4:00pm - 7:00pm

Saturday ..... 10:00am - 6:00pm

Sunday ..... 11:00am - 3:00pm



# PARTIES

## 328 Totes Inappropes

## 329 Books & Beers

(Fri/Sat)

**Bacon is for Buyers,  
Coffee is for Closers**

(Sat AM)

Rook Creek Books

## 331 Anniversary Party

20th Anniversary on 4/20!

## 332 Social Media (Sat)

**Ladies' Sewing Circle** (Sun)

## 327 The Great Nerd Give-Away

Have some fun, and win some free stuff. My collection of science fiction books, Lego kits, spaceships, robots, art, and collectible trading cards is up for grabs. Or just hang out and watch other people be entertaining for free prizes.

## 323 Krushenko's Annex

Friday: Tales of the Unanticipated Party

Saturday: Como Park Cons Party, co-sponsored by Diversicon and Con-Sarnit

Sunday: A Party for Readers and Viewers hosted by Second Foundation

## 324 Geek Partnership Society (GPS)

## 325 ICON 44 - Unpacking Non-binary Reality

## 321 Marscon: 2020 Visions of the Future

Stop by and learn about MarsCon 2020, a local Sci Fi convention and sing a few karaoke songs

## 330 Ephemeral Friday 8pm -

This may be our only party, who knows, let's enjoy it now. A quiet party for connections and good conversation.

## 326 Karaoke Party



# CINEMA OBSCURA (Film Room, Terrace 4)

Please note that this is a tentative listing, and some of the films here may not be shown during the convention due to technical difficulties or unforeseen circumstances. Check for updates in the pocket program and the Bozo Bus Tribune.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 2019

5:45PM-7:00PM

**Chris Claremont's X-Men** (2018)—The X-men title was on the brink of cancellation due to flagging sales. Over the next 17 years, new writer Chris Claremont worked to turn the title into one of the biggest franchises in comic book history. Forty years later, his work has been adapted into several films, three TV series, many video games and is now ingrained in our cultural mythology. (Documentary—71 minutes).

8:00PM-10:30PM

**Assassination Classroom: Season 2** (2016)—Season 1 was so popular at Minicon 53 that this anime series will be shown again in 2019. Planet Earth is threatened by an alien cephalopod monster who also becomes a homeroom teacher at Kunugigaoka Junior High School, teaching students the ways of assassination as well as regular school subjects. The Japanese government has posted a reward for his elimination, but he is not only difficult to kill, but the best teacher the students have ever had! (Anime—150 minutes).

10:30PM-12:00AM

**Audience Choice.** Want to see something that you missed or might not be able to see according to your schedule? Screenings shown by audience request.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2019

10:30AM-12:00PM

**Neil Gaiman: Dream Dangerously** (2016)—Neil Gaiman (author of *American Gods*, *Coraline*, *Stardust*, *Good Omens*, and many more) discusses how he became one of the world's most popular fantasy writers (Documentary—74 minutes)

12:00PM-1:30PM

**The Image Revolution** (2014)—In 1992, several high-profile illustrators left Marvel Comics to create their own company, Image Comics, which continues to influence mainstream comics and pop culture today. (Documentary—81 minutes)

1:30PM-3:15PM

**Closer Than We Think** (2017)—During the early 1960s, Sunday comics featured the art of the now obscure artist Arthur Radebaugh, who conceptualized such radical futuristic concepts as an artificial heart, self-driving cars, and home entertainment consoles. Compiled from interviews and archival materials, Radeburgh's techno-optimistic view of the future provides insight into the fragility of futurism (Documentary—86 minutes).

3:15PM- 4:30PM

**The Doctor's Case** (2018)—Based on the short story by Stephen King, Sherlock Holmes and Watson must exchange roles in order to solve a locked room mystery (Narrative—65 minutes).

4:30M-10:00PM

**My Hero Academia—Season 1** (2016)—A superhero-loving boy without any powers is determined to enroll in a prestigious hero academy and learn what it really means to be a hero (Anime—312 minutes).

10:00PM-12:00AM

**Audience Choice.** Want to see something that you missed or might not be able to see according to your schedule? Screenings shown by audience request.

## SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2019

12:00PM-1:00PM

**MonsterKids: The Impact of Things that Go Bump in the Night** (2017)—Join original Monster Kid Bob Burns and a host of Hollywood's most prolific filmmakers, writers, actors, fans and makers of monsters as they explore why things that go bump in the night fascinate us (Documentary—51 minutes).

1:00PM-1:30PM

**Prospect** (2014)—A teenage girl and her father hunt for precious materials aiming to strike it rich. When the father is attacked by a roving bandit, the daughter must take control. A DUST production. (Narrative—14 minutes).

1:30PM-4:00PM

**Audience Choice.** Want to see something that you missed or might not be able to see according to your schedule? Screenings shown by audience request.

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DUST

DUST is the first, premium, digitally distributed sci-fi brand showcasing stunning visions of the future

[GUNPOWDERSKY.COM](http://GUNPOWDERSKY.COM)

# MUSIC

Minicon's concerts have a new home for 2019. Find them in **Courtyard Ballroom 1-2-3**, facing the lower level of the hotel atrium. We hope musicians and audience members alike will enjoy being in a larger space. This year, you'll be able to hear great performances on all three days of the convention. The music room will feature many of your returning favorite artists and bands, as well as some performers who are new to Minicon. Read on for a detailed schedule of events.

For those who like their music participatory, the **Orchard Room** will host an **open music circle** on Friday and Saturday nights. The circle begins around **8 pm** on Friday and Saturday, and continues until the last musician drops. We invite all Minicon members to join in to sing, play, jam, filk, listen, harmonize, and make a joyful noise. Performers of all styles, genres, and experience levels are welcome and encouraged to participate, as are any and all interested listeners. On **Friday from 5:30-6:30 pm**, the **Orchard Room** will also host a **themed song circle** focusing on the music of **Prince**, in keeping with Minicon 54's "purple" theme.

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## FRIDAY MUSIC

### 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM FM\_HEATSINK

FM\_HeatSink will be performing his 6 movement electronic dance music concerto "Danza Elettronica" as well as his orchestral-hybrid composition "7 Minutes of Terror" based on the NASA Insight Mars landing. Think 2001 Space Odyssey cranked to 11 on 78 speed.

### 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM BETH KINDERMAN & THE PLAYER CHARACTERS

Beth and her bandmates can be found at many Midwestern SF conventions performing original progressive filk-rock songs about myth, transformation, and video game characters who won't sleep with you. Their newest record, *The Hero's Journey*, is a concept album inspired by Joseph Campbell's book *The Hero With A Thousand Faces*. It will be released next month. For further information, visit [www.bethkinderman.com](http://www.bethkinderman.com) or [bethkinderman.bandcamp.com](http://bethkinderman.bandcamp.com).

### 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM THE LEPRECHAUN PIRATES

The Leprechaun Pirates have been making musical waves for years now, and every year their music gets a little faster and louder. The lads are regular performers at the Minnesota Renaissance Festival. Recently they have

embarked on a new magical musical adventure involving electricity for their non-festival shows, playing original and punked-out traditional tunes.

### 10 PM - 11 PM GERNSBACK CONTINUUM

Gernsback Continuum is like filk, only louder. Come see our first anniversary concert!

## SATURDAY MUSIC

### 1 PM - 2 PM LAST SATURDAY FILKERS

The Last Saturday Filkers are a small bardic circle who meet each month to share in the traditional music of science fiction fandom. Much of filk music consists of skiffy lyrics set to familiar tunes; it can also be original narrative music or silly songs. Audience participation is welcomed and lyric sheets will be provided, so come hear some classics and join in song!

### 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM THE FAITHFUL SIDEKICKS

The Faithful Sidekicks are the Acoustic Geek Comedy/Filk duo of Eric and Jen Distad. They play an eclectic mix of catchy original songs about the things they love from comedic pop songs like "Han Solo For President" to love songs written in SQL Code, and everything in between. They've been delighting audiences at Sci-Fi Conventions, Coffee Shops, and Clubs around the US

and parts beyond since 2014. They have released two CDs, including their newest "Achievement Unlocked" and were most recently nominated for two Pegasus Awards. More info: [www.thefaithfulsidekicks.com](http://www.thefaithfulsidekicks.com).

#### **4 PM - 5 PM** **SCOTT KEEVER**

Scott Kever is a guitarist/composer, specializing in solo fingerpicking acoustic guitar. He is a former member of Lojo Russo & Funks Grove and Pirates of Dreamtime, and performed with Cats Laughing for their reunion show at Minicon 2015. He currently plays guitar for Orkestar Bez Ime (OBI), an award-winning ensemble which specializes in Balkan and Eastern European music. He also plays guitars for Americana/Celtic rock band The Sweet Colleens. In 2018, Scott released a solo album titled "Solo Guitar: Vol. 1" which contains all original compositions, infused with his interest in world music, open tunings, and various stylistic influences.

#### **5:30 PM - 6:30 PM** **DAVID PERRY AND FRIENDS**

David Perry performs high-energy, Celtic-influenced folk music. He can often be found making music at cons around the country and in The Toolies, a Midwestern Irish pub band. He will be accompanied at Minicon 54 by numerous mystery guests. You'll have to come to the show to find out exactly who...

#### **7 PM - 8 PM** **RIVERFOLK**

Riverfolk is the folk duo of Becca Leathers and Chas Somdahl (Minicon 46 Musician Guest of Honor). Their beautiful harmonies, memorable songs, and intricate guitar work have graced many a Minicon stage in years past. Join them for musical magic!

#### **8:30 PM - 9:30 PM** **TERESA CHANDLER**

Teresa Chandler, joined by Adam Stemple and MumbleSomething, will be playing songs from her upcoming album, *Decades Down This Road*, You'll laugh. You'll cry. You'll share the fun and the magic of Teresa and Adam

"making" music. From reviewers: "Teresa has a marvelous coloratura voice which she puts to good use and the emotion she belts out can surprise you. If you've ever seen her in concert, you know what heart and soul she pours into her songs... A versatile songwriter, and amazing singer." Come see what they are talking about and you won't be disappointed. Maybe she'll do her song about sleep.

#### **10 PM - 11 PM** **ADAM STEMPE**

Adam Stemple first played music in Minnesota in 1987 at Minicon 22. He was the music Guest of Honor at Minicon 50. In between, he played in a lot of bands, won some awards, and lost all his hair.

## **SUNDAY MUSIC**

#### **1 PM - 2 PM** **ASTRISONI**

Astrisoni is a duo consisting of Nate and Heather, two nerds who discovered a shared love for filk music over the internet and have been fast friends ever since. Their music leans towards folk-style fairy-tale and space songs with a heavy emphasis on the themes of love and wonder, featuring Heather on vocals and guitar and Nate on the viola, which he wants everyone to know is not a violin. Find them at [astrisoni.tumblr.com](http://astrisoni.tumblr.com) or [twitter.com/astrisoni\\_filk](http://twitter.com/astrisoni_filk).

#### **2:30 PM - 3:30 PM** **GRAHAM LEATHERS**

Graham Leathers is a battle-hardened veteran of the stage and airwaves. He writes, performs, and records his own novelty songs ranging from the sublime to the ridiculous. His song "Chocolate Is A Vegetable" won a Pegasus Award for excellence in filk music in 2017.

# RUMPUS ROOM: THE KIDS' PLACE

(In **Summer Room**, except where noted)

RUMPUS ROOM HOURS ARE APPROXIMATELY:

FRIDAY: 3:00 PM TO 6:00 PM,

SATURDAY: 10:00 AM TO 6:00 PM,

SUNDAY: 10:00 AM TO 3:30 PM.

However, we don't close if there are still kids actively using the room.

## ONGOING FUN

### Scientific Scavenger Hunt

Josh will be bringing some amazing scientific measuring tools for experimentation. *Josh More, Tony Stiebar, Thorin Tatge, Chas Somdahl*

### Lock Picking

Learn life skills *Tony Stiebar*

### Balloon Animals

John will be on hand from time to time with balloons and his special talent to make your wish come true.

*John Wardale*

### Games

We always have games on hand, and Thorin will be making appearances throughout the con to teach you new ones. *Thorin Tatge*

### Cardboard Castles

There will be a supply of boxes to use as giant building blocks. *Josh More, Tony Stiebar, Graham Leathers*

### Coloring

Join the growing fad of coloring in detailed "adult" coloring books. Ours are of science fiction and fantasy genre.

### Marble Maze

Our bins of blocks will be back for you to design intricate mazes for marbles to race down.

## Puppet Stage

Use our little puppets (or make your own) and put on a puppet show.

## Toys and Crafts

We always have toys and craft materials available for independent play.

## Rumpus Market

Participate in our programing to earn coins which can be used to purchase treasures from our market.

## FRIDAY APRIL 19TH

### 3:00 PM Helium Balloon Characters

Fill a balloon with helium, then use stickers to add a personality.

*Becca Leathers*

### 4:00 PM Dragon Button Badges

Use our fun machine to turn a printed dragon image or your own creation into a professional looking button badge

*Becca Leathers*

### 5:00 PM Games with Thorin

Thorin will be on hand to play with, or get you and your friends started on a great game. *Thorin Tatge*

## SATURDAY APRIL 20TH

### 10:00 AM Shrinky Dinks

Color a dragon, or draw your own on shrink plastic, then cut it out and using a heat gun watch it leap, spin and morph into a charm. *Becca Leathers*

### 11:00 AM Micro Fossils

Using delicate tools and brushes, unearth your very own fossil!

*Tony Stieber, Josh More*

### **12:00 PM Build A Monster**

A drawing presentation where kids respond to questions from Guest of Honor Dave DeVries about individual monster body parts. After our GOH writes down the responses, he must draw it live. Kids then draw along and ask questions as they watch their monsters unfold. The end result will be a black and white ink drawing that can be colored by the kids.

*Dave DeVries*

### **1:00 PM Beanie Dragons**

Grab a beanie baby, add wings and other bits and pieces and presto! You have your own dragon!

*Becca Leathers*

### **2:00 PM Toys in Space**

Ever wonder about the types of toys the astronauts have taken into space? Ben has videos of how they performed in zero g. *Ben Huset*

### **3:00 PM Spool Knitting**

Learn this fun craft, and take home your spool knitter and yarn to keep on creating. *Becca Leathers*

### **3:30 PM Smoke Bombs**

We will join Terry in the parking lot to set off colored smoke bombs and explore the physics of smoke. *Terry Hughes*

### **4:00 PM Clay Workshop**

Come Play with clay and learn tips and tricks to make your imagined creation come out how you plan.

*Daniel & Zak Somdahl*

### **4:30 PM Hair Braiding**

Get a new look!

*John Wardale*

### **5:00 PM Costume Workshop**

Delve into our bins of fabrics and other

materials and come up with something amazing to wear with the help of our wonderful seamstresses

*Andra St. Arnould, Becca Leathers, Linda Lounsbury*

### **5:30 PM Glitter Tattoos**

Add bling to your costume, or just for the fun of it. Beth has a folder full of delightful designs to choose from!

*Beth Scaramuzza*

## **SUNDAY APRIL 21ST**

### **10:00 AM Egg Hunt**

Rise and shine, decorate your own bag then search the Rumpus Room for treasures to fill it.

*Shannon Perry*

### **10:30 AM Legos**

We have a huge bin filled with Legos for your building fun!

### **11:00 AM Flying Purple People Eaters**

We do play with our food. Create your own edible candy monstrosity!

*Becca Leathers*

### **12:00 PM Nerf Target Practice and Contest**

Come borrow a nerf gun and show off your skills and compete for prizes.

*Daniel & Zak Somdahl*

### **1:00 PM Tool Time**

Grab some tools and help Michael deconstruct various devices to see what's inside and how they worked.

*Michael Kauper, Erica Stark*

### **1:00 PM Zoo Bus**

Fun at the zoo in our parking lot

*Tony Stieber, Josh More, Graham Leathers*

# FRIDAY 4/19 PROGRAMMING

## 4:00 PM **Art and Copyright**

In 2012, Tom Fleming won a landmark case for artists against Home Goods and ATl industries, a case that highlighted many problems in taking an artist's work to the retail market. Artists train for years to improve their work, but are given few directions about how to navigate the aggressive, and sometimes predatory business world. What can an artist do to protect their work? What resources can artists call upon if their work is being used without their permission?

### **Orchard Room**

*Aaron Vander Giessen (m), Tom Fleming, Dave DeVries, Nancy Sims*

## 4:00 PM **Hogwarts Sorting Hat**

To heck with Myers-Briggs, it's much more interesting to think about which Hogwarts House a person belongs in. GOH Naomi Kritzer will play the role of the sorting hat. As various fictional genre characters are brought up, she must defend a choice about where to sort them. We will start with a list, and then open it up to the audience.

### **Park 1**

*Tom Hogan (m), Sharon Snyder, Naomi Kritzer, Peg Kerr*

## 5:00 PM **Pamela Dean Reading**

### **Minicon Bar**

## 5:30 PM **Dave DeVries Digital Art Demonstration**

Dave DeVries Live Demonstration of Digital Art  
**Park 1**

*Dave DeVries*

## 5:30 PM **History of Fannish T-Shirts**

We'll talk about the traditions of printing a t-shirt for each con, wearing printed t-shirts every day, how this started, and how it matched up with trends in larger society. Closer to home, let's look at some Minneapolis fannish t-shirts from across the years, particularly from Minicon and Mnstf. Wear a t-shirt (you are anyway, right?) and we'll take a group photo.

### **Park 2**

*Matt Strait (m), David Dyer-Bennet, Laramie Sasseville, Peg Kerr*

## 5:30 PM **Prince Music Circle**

A music circle devoted to Prince's music and influence. Some Prince sheet music will be provided.

*Orchard Room*

*Sharla Stremski*

## 6:30 PM **Signing Tables**

### **Art - Terrace 1,2,3**

*Adam Stemple, Jane Yolen*

## 7:00 PM **Opening Ceremony**

Welcome to the convention! Meet the Guests of Honor, find out about the weekend's events, and where to get more information!

### **Park 1**

*Toni Brust, Tom Fleming, Dave DeVries, Kevin Austin, Emily Stewart, Naomi Kritzer*

## 8:00 PM **Beer Tasting; A TAFF Guide to Beer**

Party with Geri Sullivan as this year's Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund race draws to its close. Pick up 'A TAFF Guide to Beer'; taste offerings from Tree House Brewing; discover what other treats Geri picked up on the road trip to Minicon; and learn more about TAFF!

### **Minicon Bar**

*Geri Sullivan (m)*

## 8:30 PM **Rites of Passages Fae Style**

A rite of passage is a ceremony of the passage which occurs when an individual leaves one group to enter another. It often comes with a significant change of status. Who are the Fae? How do the Fae go about their rituals, and are we in any danger just by discussing it? Rite of passage stories in which faeries feature prominently are often female-centric. Why?

### **Park 2**

*Jane Yolen, Lyda Morehouse, Naomi Kritzer*

## 8:30 PM **The Work of Tom Fleming**

Featured artist Tom Fleming shares his work showcasing the span of his career, from his early commercial work to his more recent work with movies and TV.

**Park 1** Tom Fleming

## 8:00 PM **Friday Open Music Circle**

Share a song or piece of music with the group in 'music circle' fashion. **Orchard Room**

# SATURDAY 4/20 PROGRAMMING

## 10:00 AM How young is YA?

What ages are appropriate to introduce complex topics, and how complex can an author be when writing for various age groups? What's the history of how the labels were assigned? How far do we refine?

### Orchard Room

David Lenander (m), Laramie Sasseville, Laura Krentz, Kathryn Sullivan

## 10:00 AM Naomi and Rachel Rant about Everything

Conversations across the globe, Naomi and Rachel will discuss topics ranging from 'US Educational Policy' to 'How do we make relatable and believable characters in unrealistic and unbelievable circumstances?'. Solutions to the world's problems not guaranteed.

### Park 1

Naomi Kritzer, Rachel Kronick

## 10:00 AM Tai Chi

Tai chi, short for T'ai-chi-ch'üan, or Taijiquan, is an internal Chinese martial art practiced for both its defense training and its health benefits. A representative of Twin Cities Tai Chi will lead this event. Wear comfortable clothing. These exercises are accessible to everyone, you may do them from a chair if you prefer.

### Spring

Kim Husband (m)

## 11:30 AM 23 and Us: The social implications of DNA testing

The implications of recreational DNA testing. 23 and me was used to find at least two serial killers by finding their relatives, and has been used to find birth parents who may not have wanted to be found. How ethically dubious is that? What implications does DNA testing have for the future?

### Park 1

Sharon Kahn (m), Bill Thomasson, Justin Grays, Katie Clapham, Shaun Jamison

## 11:30 AM Creativity and Mental Health

Art therapy helps many people cope with difficulties and stress, and helps to speed up the recovery process from trauma. How do

artists and creators use art to de-stress? How can art help us express feelings not easy to express in words? How does art help us solve problems from a different perspective?

### Orchard Room

Adam Stemple (m), Laramie Sasseville, Peg Kerr

## 11:30 AM Senior Women's Meetup

An open free-form space for senior women feminists to meet and discuss their experiences. Discussion topics may include but will not be limited to - 'Second Wave Feminism in a New Wave World,' 'Being heard,' and 'Strategies for confronting ageism.'

### Spring

Eleanor Arnason (m)

## 11:30 AM Tom Fleming Analog Art Demonstration

### Art - Terrace 1,2,3

Tom Fleming

## 1:00 PM CJ Mills Reading

CJ Mills reads a revised beginning to a different-timeline novel.

### Minicon Bar

CJ Mills



# SATURDAY 4/20 PROGRAMMING

## 1:00 PM **Political Blogging - How to research politicians, and what to do when you've become 'accidentally vital.'**

GOH Naomi Kritzer has been publishing news and voting guides about local candidates in the Twin Cities area on her blog for several years. What are some good methods for researching political candidates? What is a sign of a trustworthy or a non-trustworthy recommendation or endorsement? What are some good ways to interpret a candidate's website, and what are the secret code words they use? Nowadays, those posts are sought out by many people. It turns out that while individual races often have summaries, the information isn't available in that format anywhere else. What does a writer do when they're providing a service that was previously unavailable? Is this related to the topic 'What do writers owe their fans?' or is non-fiction different?

### **Park 2**

*Magenta Griffith, Naomi Kritzer, Rachel Kronick*

## 1:00 PM **The year in YA & Children's**

Our annual review of this year in Children's and YA literature

### **Orchard Room**

*David Lenander (m), Jane Yolen, Laura Krentz, Kathryn Sullivan*

## 2:00 PM **Signing Tables 2**

### **Art - Terrace 1,2,3**

## 2:30 PM **Ask a Scientist!**

Our yearly general science panel in which a panel of varied scientists answers questions from the audience. This is a perennially popular Minicon panel, so here it is again!

### **Orchard Room**

*Chas Somdahl (m), Bill Thomasson, Ctein, Bill Higgins, Matt Strait*

## 2:30 PM **Jane Yolen and Adam Stemple Reading**

### **Park 2**

## 2:30 PM **Putting yourself in three toed shoes—sympathizing with the other**

Stories about sympathizing with abnormal characters, or characters in seemingly impossible situations. How do we make Relatable and believable characters in unrealistic and unbelievable circumstances? Are relatable characters even important to a story?

### **Park 1**

*Ruth Berman, Jo Walton, Danith McPherson, Eleanor Arnason, Peg Kerr*

## 3:30 PM **Jo Walton Reading**

### **Park 2**

## 4:00 PM **Deck Debate and Discussion**

A discussion/debate about strategy and practice for building a good deck in trading card games like M:TG, Yugioh, and Pokemon. What colors go together? What are good strategies for beginners and what are some fun ways for more advanced players to challenge their skills? What are good strategies to build a deck on a tight budget? What are some of our favorite 'wish list' cards with unlimited funds?

### **Orchard Room**

*AJ (m), Michael Hagerman*

## 4:00 PM **GOH Interview - Naomi Kritzer**

The interview of our Guest of Honor Naomi Kritzer

### **Park 1**

*Lyda Morehouse, Naomi Kritzer*

## 4:30 PM **Dave DeVries - Analog Art Demonstration**

Dave DeVries creates art live and in person!

### **Art - Terrace 1,2,3**

*Dave DeVries*



# SATURDAY 4/20 PROGRAMMING

## 5:00 PM **Blue Pencil Critique with Gerald Brandt**

Author Gerald Brandt will read the first three to four pages of an author's current work and do a ten to fifteen minute critique.

This event is limited to five people. Sign up is available before the convention, or on Friday at the registration table.

### **Minicon Bar**

*Gerald Brandt (m)*

## 5:00 PM **Crappy Card Magic Draft**

A very casual Magic draft created entirely with cards from the cheapie bin or donated leftovers that didn't fit into someone's deck. Players will draft a 60 card deck, and have a chance to play with and try out the mechanics of some of the less commonly used cards. There is room for up to 15 players; sign up will be at the Registration Tables. If you plan to keep your deck, bring either \$2 or 40 spells and 20 basics to replace the cards. Feel free to bring more cards to donate for future games.

### **Spring**

*Ellen Schousboe (m)*

## 5:00 PM **Ctein Reading**

Ctein will be reading from his new thriller 'RIPPLE EFFECT,' co-written with David Gerrold

### **Park 2**

*Ctein (m)*

## 5:30 PM **Lady Poetesses**

Lady Poetesses From Hell is a poetry performance group. They dress very nicely and have wicked senses of humor.

### **Orchard Room**

*Terry Garey (m), Ruth Berman, Jane Yolen, Eleanor Arnason*

## 6:00 PM **Costume Contest Setup**

### **Park 1**

*George Richard (m)*

## 6:30 PM **Naomi Kritzer Reading and Signing**

GOH Naomi Kritzer reading and signing, with a short break in between.

### **Park 2**

*Naomi Kritzer*

## 7:00 PM **Costume Contest**

Show off your costumes, either planned ahead, or made at the Costume workshop in the Rumpus Room immediately before the contest. This year's event will feature an award for 'Best use of Purple in a costume.'

### **Park 1**

*George Richard (m)*

## 7:00 PM **The Year in SF Television**

What's going on at the small screen lately? What shows do we recommend, what shows are we looking forward to and what are some good classics available on streaming services? What's the difference between Star Trek Discovery and The Orville? In an era when we can't possibly watch \*all\* of the everything, what are some good ways to decide what to focus on?

### **Orchard Room**

*Jeanne Mealy, Magenta Griffith*

## 8:00 PM **Saturday Open Music Circle**

Share a song or piece of music with the group in 'music circle' fashion.

### **Orchard Room**

## 8:00 PM **Scotch Tasting with Joel**

This event is always wildly popular, so we're doing it again! Those interested in learning about and sampling a variety of single-malt Scotch are welcome to participate. Space is limited, and guests are strongly encouraged to bring a bottle to share and a story to tell. Sláinte!

### **Minicon Bar**

*Joel Phillips (m)*



# SATURDAY 4/20 PROGRAMMING

## 8:30 PM **Artificial Intelligence Best Practices—What do AI's want?**

'OK Google, tell me why humans should be afraid of Artificial Intelligence.' In 1951, the year of the first rudimentary chess program and neural network, Alan Turing predicted that machines would 'outstrip our feeble powers' and 'take control.' In 1965, Turing's colleague Irving Good posited that devices more intelligent than humans could design devices more intelligent than themselves, ad infinitum: 'Thus the first ultraintelligent machine is the last invention that man need ever make, provided that the machine is docile enough to tell us how to keep it under control.'

What can we do to minimize the chances that our robots and computers turn against humanity or enslave us for our own good? Is it possible to create a free-willed intelligence that finds humanity likeable? What will Artificial Intelligence look like and what will it want?

### **Park 2**

*Sharon Kahn (m), Lyda Morehouse, Naomi Kritzer, Eleanor Arnason, Shaun Jamison*

## 10:00 PM **Beyond Pluto to Ultima Thule: NASA's New Horizons Explores the Kuiper Belt**

Famed for its 2015 flyby of Pluto, the New Horizons spacecraft was designed to go further. At its launch in 2006, however, no suitable target was known; only in 2014 did searchers find a small, icy body within reach of the post-Pluto mission. A race to learn as much as possible about it culminated, on New Year's Day 2019, in an encounter between New Horizons and Kuiper Belt Object 2014 MU69. Bill Higgins tells the story of the frozen body that's been dubbed 'Ultima Thule.'

### **Park 1**

*Bill Higgins (m)*

## 11:59 PM **Bar Trivia**

The annual event known as Midnight Bar Trivia at Minicon. Space is limited.

### **Minicon Bar**

# SUNDAY 4/21 PROGRAMMING

## 10:00 AM **Kaffeeklatch with Naomi Kritzer**

Kaffeeklatch with Naomi Kritzer, limited to ten people. Sign up is available before the convention, or on Friday at the Registration table.

### **Minicon Bar**

*Naomi Kritzer (m)*

## 10:00 AM **Qigong**

Qigong, qi gong, ch'i-kung, or chi gung is a holistic system of coordinated body posture and movement, breathing, and meditation used for the purposes of health, spirituality, and martial arts training. A representative of Twin Cities Tai Chi leads morning exercise. Wear comfortable clothing. These exercises are accessible to everyone, you may do them from a chair if you prefer.

### **Spring**

*Kim Husband (m)*

## 10:00 AM **The Year in SF**

Our annual discussion of shiny new SF to be on the lookout for.

### **Park 2**

*David Lenander, Greg Johnson, Russell Letson*

## 11:30 AM **Cats in SF**

Our feline friends have been in our tales of fear, magic and SF from the beginnings of the field they feature as pets, threats and even protagonists. Come discuss your favorite books with cats in them and what makes a fictional cat believable. What about cats makes them appealing in stories?

### **Park 2**

*Ruth Berman, David Lenander, Laura Krentz*

# SUNDAY 4/21 PROGRAMMING

## 11:30 AM **The Art of Dave DeVries Slideshow**

A slideshow of Dave DeVries work including his illustrative work, and work on The Monster Engine. Dave DeVries will show his illustrative works for Marvel, DC, Activision, Warner Brothers Animation, Universal Studios and others. He's also created 'The Monster Engine,' a collection of works made in collaboration with children.

### **Park 1**

*Dave DeVries*

## 11:30 AM **The assumption of commonality**

Do we all really believe the same things? Probably not. Even within similarly defined groups, we tend to believe different things. How do we find common ground when our definitions for ourselves may not match the definitions others have for us?

### **Orchard Room**

*Bill Thomasson, Adam Stemple, Peg Kerr*

## 12:30 PM **Gerald Brandt Reading**

Gerald Brandt will read from his 2016 work 'The Courier' and from his upcoming work 'Threader Origins' to be released in 2020, followed by a brief question and answer session.

### **Park 2**

*Gerald Brandt (m)*

## 1:00 PM **Fanfic Writing Is Writing.**

Many People write Fanfic, including some pros. What's fun about writing in an established universe? What does a writer get from the experience that's different than other writing styles? When does an author decide to file off the serial numbers and send it off to the publisher?

### **Park 2**

*Katie Clapham (m), Ruth Berman, Lyda Morehouse, Naomi Kritzer, Peg Kerr*

## 1:30 PM **Kaffeeklatsch with Jane Yolen and Adam Stemple**

Kaffeeklatsch with Jane Yolen, limited to ten people. Sign up is available before the convention, or on Friday at the Registration table.

### **Minicon Bar**

## 2:00 PM **Ladies Sewing Circle**

To be held in Laura Krentz's room.

### **332**

*Laura Krentz (m)*

## 2:30 PM **In Memoriam: Damon Knight and Kate Wilhelm**

Commemorating the Minicon 1986 Author Guests of Honor. Knight (1922-2002) and Wilhelm (1928-2018), husband and wife, who put in a combined career total of more than a century of writing, editing, critiquing, and teaching speculative fiction.

### **Park 2**

*Eric Heideman (m)*

## 2:30 PM **Toastmasters Presents SF Table Topics**

Our panel of former and current Toastmasters will introduce the basics of the Toastmasters, demonstrate the Table Topics extemporaneous speaking procedure, then audience members will get a chance to participate by answering such questions as 'as a hiring manager for Starfleet, what qualities do you look for in a starship captain?'

### **Orchard Room**

*Shaun Jamison (m), Scott K. Jamison*

## 4:00 PM **Closing Ceremony**

A chance to recap and reflect on what this year's Minicon has been, including a traditional assassination.

### **Park 1**

*Toni Brust, Tom Fleming, Dave DeVries, Kevin Austin, Emily Stewart, Naomi Kritzer*

## AFTER MINICON

See next page for information on the Dead Dog Party, Dessicated Dodo Party, the MNstf Picnic and other events taking place after Minicon.

Also, volunteers are always appreciated for tearing down and moving out!

# WHAT IS MNSTF?

It's the Minnesota Science Fiction Society, abbreviated MnStf, MinnSTF, MN-STF, and other variants. It's the non-profit group that brings you Minicon. Each year, the MNStF board of directors approves the next Minicon chairperson and looks after the continuing needs of the convention. Minstf does more than just Minicon. It also runs a small convention each year in the fall, mainly for the purpose of having something like Minicon, but without all that pesky programming and stress. Ours changes name frequently. Besides running conventions, Minnstf's major activity is hosting social events through the year (officially known as "meetings"). Those events include a summer picnic, a pool party, and social events, often at members' homes. Meeting locations are published in MnstF's monthly newsletter Einblatt, Twitter and Facebook. The Einblatt is available at [mnstf.org/einblatt](http://mnstf.org/einblatt). You can also sign up for our events and discussion mailing lists at [mnstf.org](http://mnstf.org). How do you become a member of MnStF? It's easy! If you ever attend a meeting, you're a member. If you sign in at seven meetings in a year, you become a voting member for that year and can help choose the Minn-Stf board.

## DEAD DOG PARTY

The Dead Dog party is at the hotel Sunday night after teardown is complete.  
This is still part of the con!  
All are welcome! *Bar, Consuite, and common areas.*

## DESSICATED DODO PARTY

This is our second after party! We just can't stop.  
All Minicon members are welcome. Mon, Apr 22, 6PM.  
Irene & Scott Raun's, 3928 11th Ave S, Mpls.  
Dogs, smoking outside. FFI: 612-822-0451  
[realitychallenged@fireopal.org](mailto:realitychallenged@fireopal.org), [sraun@fireopal.org](mailto:sraun@fireopal.org)

## EINBLATT!

Einblatt! is the monthly events calendar of Minn-StF. It attempts to inform people of conventions, meetings, and other fannish events taking place in or related to the Twin Cities fannish community. <http://mnstf.org/einblatt/>

## THE MNSTF PICNIC

The summer Mnstf picnic will be Saturday, July 20, 2019, at Minnehaha Park, Picnic Area #2, Minneapolis (same place as the last several years). This event counts as a Minnstf meeting for purposes of voting eligibility. We have the location reserved for the entire day. Bill Christ plans to be there by 11:00am and start the grill as soon as someone wants it. It would be nice to have a few people show up early to help fend off the squatters.

The picnic will be held on the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing. Those of you who remember watching it please come and share your recollections with the rest of us.

# CONVENTION COMMITTEE

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 email [volunteers@minicon54.mnsth.org](mailto:volunteers@minicon54.mnsth.org).

## CO-CHAIRS

Emily Stewart  
Kevin Austin

## ART SHOW

Terry Hughes

## BADGES & REGISTRATION FORMS

Bill Christ

## BAR

Susan Philbrook (head)  
Brian Lundgren

## BOZO BUS TRIBUNE

Thorin Tatge

## CODE OF CONDUCT

Eric Forste (head)

## CONSUIE

Hershey Harris (head)  
Stacey Lynn Lam

## COSTUME CONTEST

George Richard

## DEALER'S ROOM

Terry Hughes

## ELECTRONIC PR DELIVERY

David Dyer-Bennet

## E-MAIL ADDRESS HANDLER

Matt Strait

## FILM ROOM

Michael Kingsley

## GREEN ROOM

Karen Cooper, Sharon Kahn

## GUEST LIAISON

Rick Snyder (head)  
Tom Hogan

## HOTEL LIAISON

Aaron Vander Giessen  
Diane Stewart

## INSURANCE

Emily Stewart

## LOGISTICS

James Porter

## MEDALLION HUNT

Jason Spitzer

## MUSIC

Beth Kinderman (head)  
Dave Stagner

## NEXT GEN/TEEN ROOM

Alton Jennie

## CEREMONIES

Toni Brust

## PARTY LIAISON

Don Stremski  
Sharla Stremski

## PROGRAMMING

Emily Stewart  
Katie Clapham

## PROGRAMMING DATABASE

Ken Koski

## PUBLICATIONS

Sharla Stremski (head)  
Susan Philbrook

## PRE-REGISTRATION

Clay Harris (head)

## REGISTRATION/INFO TABLE

Carol Kennedy

## RUMPUS ROOM (KIDS' PROGRAMMING)

Bonnie Somdahl

## SCIENCE ROOM

Ben Huset

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Aaron Vander Geissen

## TREASURER

Matt Strait

## WEB MASTER

Joe Pregracke

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# DIVERSICON 27

## “The Next Step”

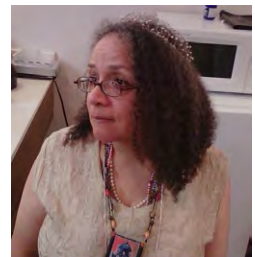
**July 26-28, 2019**

Best Western Como Park Hotel  
1010 Bandana Boulevard W  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55108

**Diversicon** is a classic style speculative convention featuring panel discussions, author readings about the works of our guests and others.

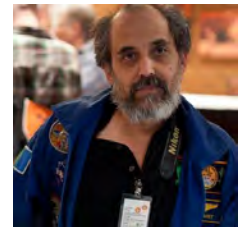
### Guest of Honor: Nisi Shawl

Nisi Shawl is co-author (with Cynthia Ward) of *Writing the Other: A Practical Guide* (2005); the story collection *Filter House* (2008); the utopian alternative history novel *Everfair* (2012); over 70 stories in such markets as *Analog*, *Asimov's SF*, *Tor.com*, *Year's Best Fantasy and Horror*, #19 (St Martin's Press), *So Long Been Dreaming: Postcolonial Science Fiction and Fantasy* (Nalo Hopkinson and Uppinder Miha, co- eds.), and dozens of articles, essays, and reviews, including regular writings about books for the *Seattle Times*. She lives in the Seattle area.



### Special Guest: Ben Huset

Ben Huset is a lifelong promoter of space travel and space technology, through such organizations as the Minnesota Space Frontier Society. He writes, “Being a ‘Special Guest’ will be a chance for me to experience yet another part of MN SF fandom. Having been an attendee, press, dealer, panelist, concom member, department head, and Con Chair at other regional sci fi cons for over 35 years. I will try my darndest to be one of your best Special Guests.” He lives in the Twin Cities.



#### Posthumous Guests:

**Boris Karloff** (1887-1969) played Frankenstein's Monster, Im-Ho-Tep, Hjalmer Poelzig, good and evil identical twins, General Pherides, Cabman Gray, The Grinch, and Byron Orlock.

**Ursula K. Le Guin** (1929-2018) wrote *A Wizard of Earthsea*, *The Left Hand of Darkness*, *The Lathe of Heaven*, *The Dispossessed*, *The Language of the Night*, *Always Coming Home*, and *Catwings*.

**Harlan Ellison** (1934-2018) wrote *Repent*, *Harlequin*, *Said the Tiktok Man*, *I Have No Mouth and I Must Scream*, *Mephisto in Onyx*, *Keeper of the Purple Twilight*, *Teleplays Demon With a Glass Hand*, and *The City on the Edge of Forever*.

**Check out the latest news at [www.diversicon.org](http://www.diversicon.org).**

**Rates:** (Through 14 July), 2019: Adult \$35.00; Student \$25.00; Supporting \$10.00

At the Door: Adult \$45.00; Student \$35.00; Converting \$30.00 Child (ages 5-11) \$5.00 anytime

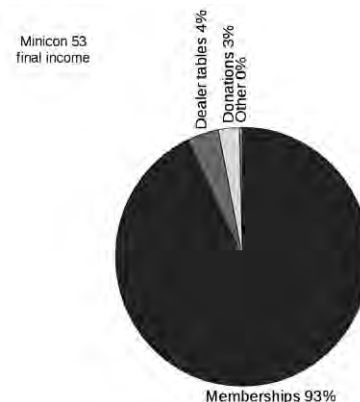
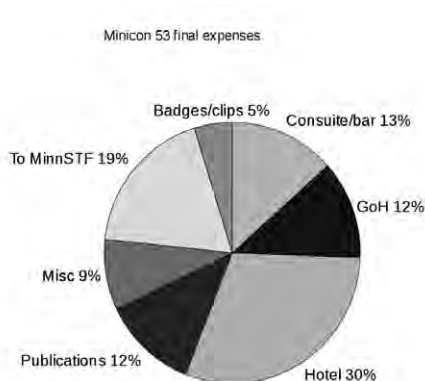
# PIE

## WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

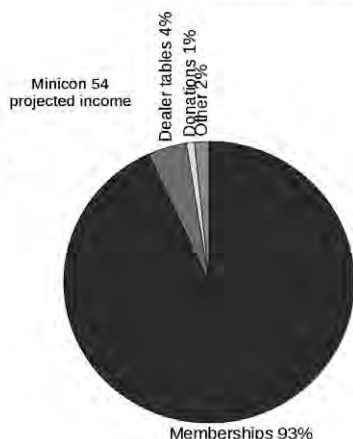
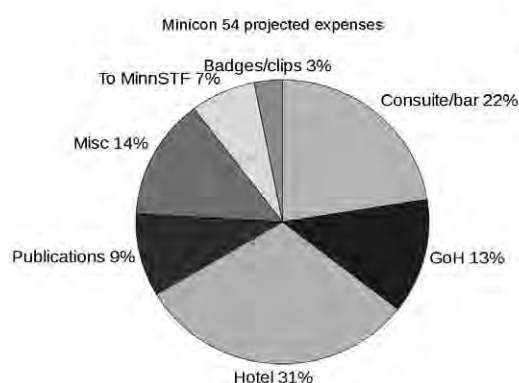
Minicon is a members-driven non-profit con. Our goal is to bring the community together for an enjoyable and possibly even educational experience, not to make the most money or to get the most people, although we take more people showing up as a good sign. We all chip in our membership fees so that there's enough to run this thing and to support our parent organization, Mnstf. If we end up with a profit after that, it means we overcharged. We make a concerted effort to hold the rates low and run a frugal con. We want you to know where your money goes, and we want to hear whether you think it's being spent well.

## MINICON 53 FINANCES

Minicon 53 expenses came in under our estimates in several major areas. Somewhat offsetting this was an unusually high proportion of pre-registered members as compared to at-the-door, which lowers the income per member. (But do pre-register! It's much better for our planning (provided we know the proportions).) Overall, we netted well over our target, and are trying to shoot a little lower this year.



## MINICON 54 PROJECTED FINANCES



## FEEDBACK

You can contact the Minicon 54 chairs for a little while longer at [chair@minicon54.mnstf.org](mailto:chair@minicon54.mnstf.org). You can always contact the Mnstf board at [board@mnstf.org](mailto:board@mnstf.org). And you are welcome to come chat at Minn-stf meetings/parties. See [mnstf.org](http://mnstf.org) for times and locations.

