

MINICON

56



Martha Wells
author guest of honor



Sara Felix
artist guest of honor



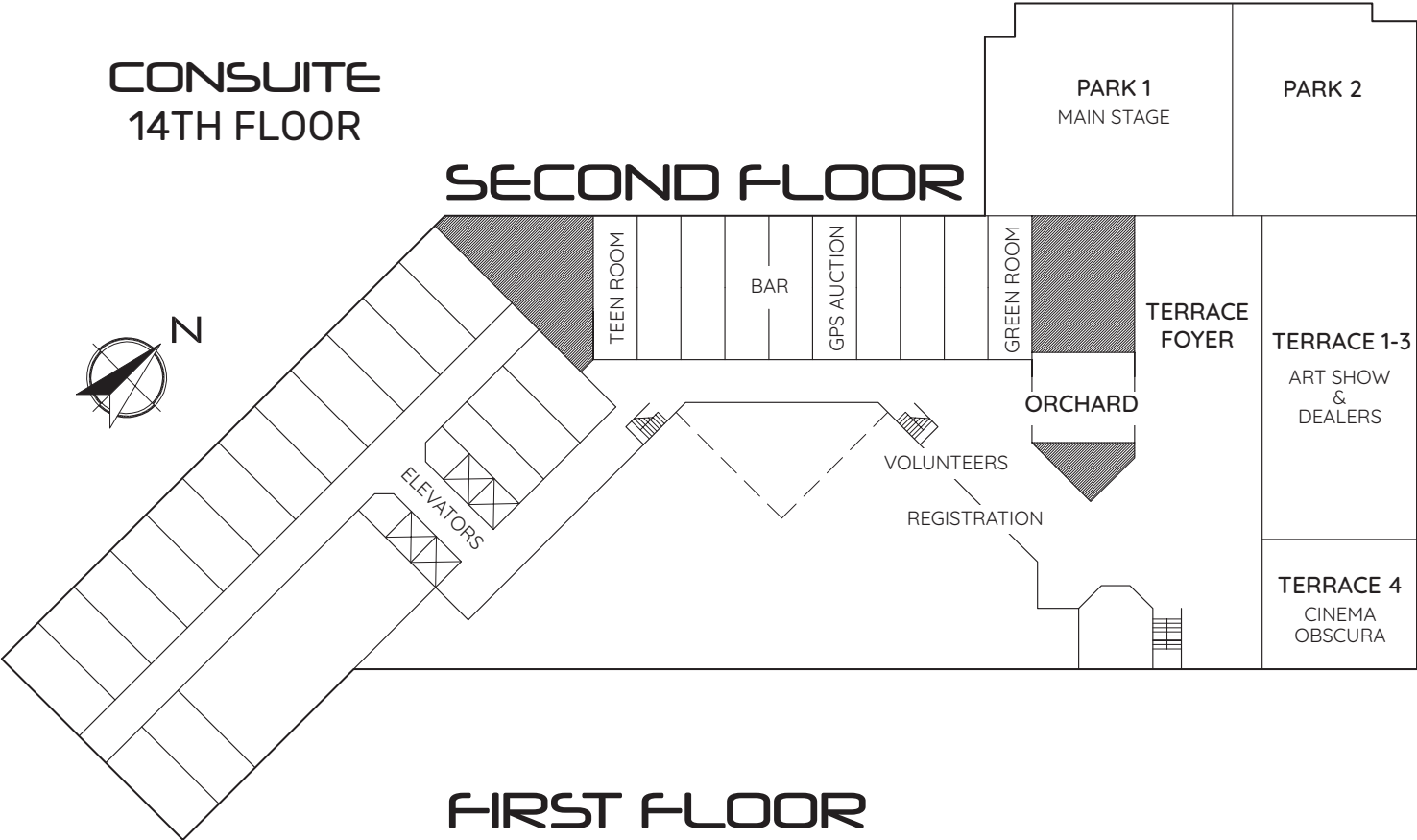
Greg Ketter
fan guest of honor

April 7-9, 2023 | Minneapolis, MN

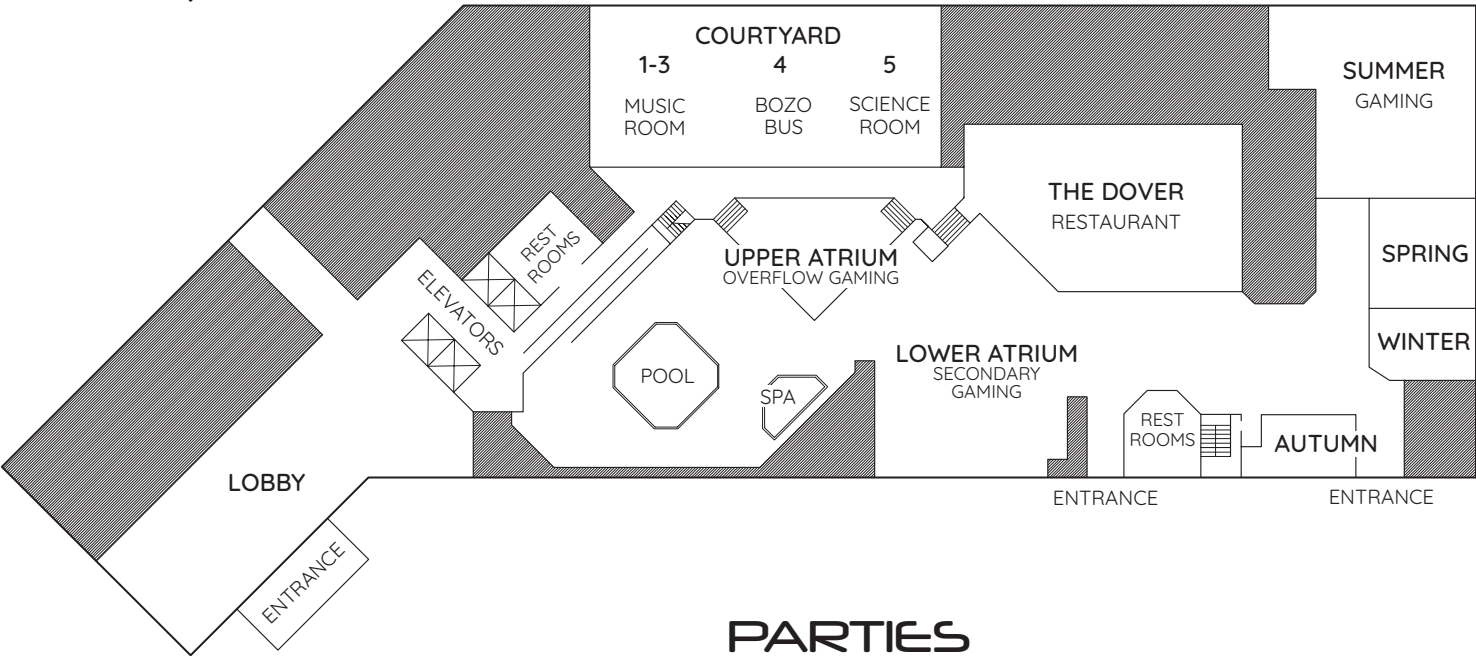
HOTEL MAP

CONSULTE
14TH FLOOR

SECOND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR



PARTIES
3RD FLOOR

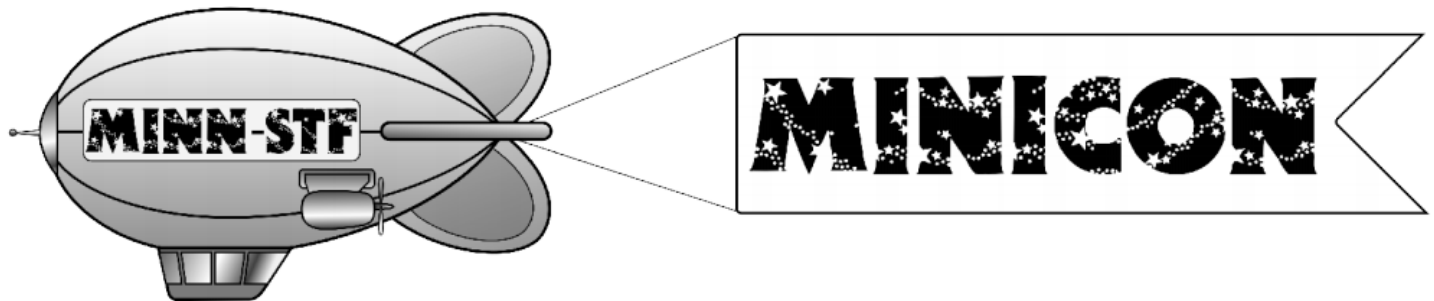


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Guests of Honor	2-3	Medallion Hunt	7
Registration	4	Bozo Bus Tribune	7
Volunteering	4	GPS Auction	7
Minicon Merch	4	Vendors	8
Costuming	5	Cinema Obscura	9
Art Show	5	Music	10-11
Science Room	4	Programming	12-24
Consuite	5	After Minicon	24
Bar	5	Mn-Stf Info	25
Green Room	5	Minicon Finances	26
Teen Room	6	The Concom	27
Kid's Room	6	Policies	28
Free Will Tables	6	Code of Conduct	29
Gaming	6	Credits	29

GUESTS OF HONOR

MARTHA WELLS AUTHOR GUEST OF HONOR



Fulfilling the (not quite) ancient prophecies, Martha was born in Fort Worth, Texas and ascended to complete a fruitful education at Texas A&M. She took her accomplishments as a proud Aggie, went on to become an author and was published in the SF/F genre in 1993. Many, many good things are being delivered from her complex mind and there will be many more to come.

Her work spans areas from dark science fiction, to several different modes of fantasy, to futuristic speculative fiction and all sorts of divergences in between.

From gripping short stories to multi-book series, YA content and occasional excursions into non-fiction, Martha's repertoire is sophisticated but accessible. Her characters and stories are seen through many lenses and perspectives, all with engaging and embraceable enthusiasm that shines through.

It is with great anticipation that we welcome Martha as our author guest of honor for Minicon 56 and hopefully she will find her experience here with us as enjoyable and illuminating as we anticipate we will find her. So, happy we're going to be seeing you with us, Martha!

DIVERSICON 30

"The Con on the Edge of Forever"

Guests of Honor

STEVEN BARNES & TANANARIVE DUE

JULY 14-16, 2023

Crowne Plaza Minneapolis

Through June 30, 2023

Adult \$35 | Student \$25 | Supporting \$10

For further information:

www.diversicon.org
diversicon@gmail.com

At the Door

Adult \$45 | Student \$35 | Converting \$25
Child (ages 5-11) \$5 anytime

Diversicon 30, PO Box 50303, Loring Station, Minneapolis MN 55405

GUESTS OF HONOR

SARA FELIX ARTIST GUEST OF HONOR



Sara Felix is a Hugo award winning mixed media artist. Her works are typically done in alcohol ink, acrylics and resin. She also creates a weekly tiara for Tiara Tuesday and has created over 100 unique tiaras in the project. She teaches online and in person classes when she can. They typically sell out quickly as she has a large following with her creations.

She has been guest of honor at multiple conventions across the states and shows at science fiction art shows when she can. She has designed 2 Hugo bases, the 2016 base and co-designed the 2018 Hugo base with Vincent Villafranca. She has designed three WSFS Young Adult Award/ Lodestar awards as well as the nominee pins. She is the president of ASFA, the Association of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists, who bestow the Chesleys each year.



GREG KETTER FAN GUEST OF HONOR



Greg Ketter is a Minneapolis SF bookstore owner, huckster, and con-running fan. He is a member of Minn-StF. He's worked on numerous regionals and Worldcons. He chaired Minicon 40, Minicon 41, and the 1993 and 2002 World Fantasy Conventions. He was the founder of SerCon (the convention). He has written for Rune and been a member of Minneapa.

Greg has been running the DreamHaven SF bookstore for around thirty years as well as its associated DreamHaven Press. He was also at one time a partner in The Stars Our Destination bookstore in Chicago. He published the Dreamhaven Fortieth Anniversary Scrapbook in 2017.

REGISTRATION

Registration is located in the second floor Grand Ballroom foyer during the following hours:

Friday 10:00am -9:00pm

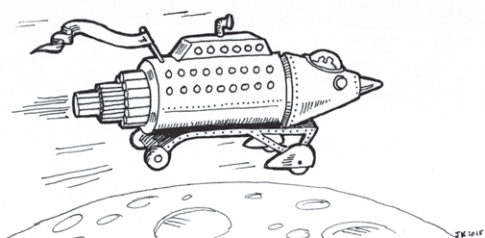
Saturday9:30am - 8:00pm

Sunday9:30am - 4:00pm

Need help with registration or information after hours? Ask at the bar.

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.



PRE-REGISTER FOR MINICON 57

The form to pre-register can be found in your registration packet or at the registration table. It will never be cheaper!

We like it because it helps us plan for space, food and other budgetary matters. You also will get a nice preprinted badge if you preregister.

PRE-REG RATES UNTIL APRIL 15, 2023

Adult	\$50.00
Kid (6-12).....	\$10.00
Student	\$20.00
Child	Free
Supporting Membership	\$20.00

To register online, go to www.mnstf.org/minicon57 or fill out the form, seal it in an envelope with your payment, and put it in the box at registration.

VOLUNTEER!

Minicon is 100% volunteer run! We have no paid staff. In fact, staff are so equal to all other members that they pay the same membership fees as everyone else.

We can match you with tasks! Let us know whether you want something that's social, technical, labor, or organizational.

Things happen at Minicon because someone wants them to happen...and does it. Have you ever wondered why a thing doesn't exist? It's probably because no one has volunteered yet to make that thing happen.

But YOU can make a thing happen!

Come volunteer at the desk by registration!

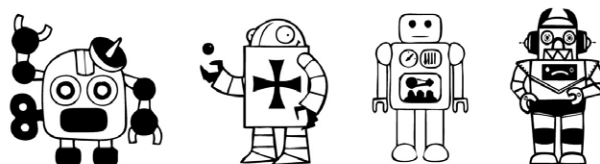
MINICON MERCH

Minicon shirts for this year, shirts from previous years, and various other discounted merchandise are available at the Registration/Volunteers Desk.



COSTUMING

SF Sparkle & Fantasy Finery Abound in the costume parade that never ends! If you're in costume day or night, the costume committee may medal you! Hall costume awards for Originality, Coherence, and Diabolical Intent!



ART SHOW

Creative works of science fiction and fantasy, displayed for all to see!

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:

Friday3:00pm - 7:00pm

Saturday.....10:00am - 7:00pm

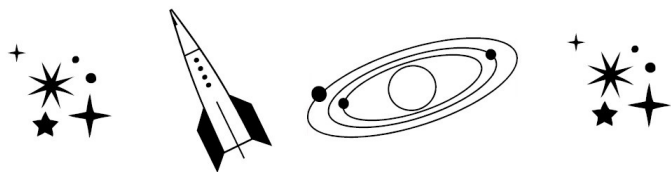
Sunday.....10:00am - 2:00pm

SCIENCE ROOM

We are transforming science fiction into science fact!

Visit the Science Room to view and interact with science exhibits which can and have included:

- International Space Station Updates
- Chinese Tiangong Space Station
- Hands-on 3D maps of stars and planets
- Information on observatories in MN to visit
- Historic & futuristic models of spacecraft
- Models based on popular SF shows & books
- Scale Bas Relief Moon Globe



CONSUIITE

What's a consuite? It's a suite where we feed you and you can hang out. It doesn't offer full meals, but is good for lots of snacking.

Consuite uses the large, three-room suite on the 14th floor, so don't forget to go up there from time to time. A room key is required to access the 14th floor on the elevator. You can check out a key at the reg desk or travel up with someone who has a key.

It's your place for Peeps, continental breakfast, sandwiches, coffee, soda *and* pop, snackies and chocolate!

Consuite will be open from Opening Ceremonies to Closing Ceremonies!

BAR

The Bar (located in room 226-227) is your pub-away-from-home, and where you can enjoy beer, cider, wine, and of course, Blog!

Feeling adventurous? Invent your own drink from some stuff we found in a storage locker.

Feeling generous? We accept donations of homebrew, mead, mislabeled beer, and things you may have found in a storage locker.

As always, the bar is FREE...and worth it!

BAR HOURS:

Friday 5pm - 'til you fall down

Saturday..... 5pm - 'til we fall down

Sunday..... After we tear-down

GREEN ROOM

The Green Room (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 beverage, snack and some quiet. Meet your co-panelists.

TEEN ROOM

Intended for ages 13-20, the next generation of fans. Movies, video and tabletop games, artistic activities, socializing and more. Stop by the Teen Room for a tentative programming schedule posted outside.

Come and hang out!

RUMPUS ROOM

The Rumpus Room is a kid-centered space in the Spring Room, with arts, crafts, and other activities.

All ages are welcome, and very young fans should be accompanied by a responsible assistant.

KID'S ROOM HOURS:

Friday2:00pm - 6:00pm
Saturday 10:00am - 6:00pm
Sunday 10:00am - 3:00pm

FREE WILL TABLES

Or Free Will exchange tables. Being fen, we all have "stuff" cluttering up the abode. Here is a chance to get rid of some of it...and maybe find something else to take home.

You bring things and put them on the table. Other people go through the tables at their leisure and take what they find interesting.

Don't worry about retrieving it at the end of the convention, the con will clear the tables and will take the remaining items to Goodwill. This is for small to medium sized articles, so bring your media, crafting supplies, left over computer parts, puzzles, old decanters, old convention T-shirts, office supplies, that old thing that you just don't get around to doing something with.

GAMING

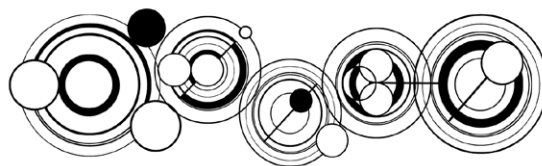
The main gaming area is now on the first floor in the Summer room. Scheduled games or events are listed in the programming section. Main gaming will be open continuously during the convention. There is lots of space and good lighting, and many games will be available to play. You're welcome to bring in your own games as well. Note that this room is a masking-optional space.

There is a secondary gaming space in the lower atrium, immediately outside the restaurant. If you choose to use this space please be respectful of any diners. This area will not be available during Easter Brunch.

If that's not enough, there is also an overflow gaming area in the upper atrium.

Please keep all of the gaming areas clean, orderly, and free of trash. Take extra care to avoid spilling food or drink on any games. Having a clean gaming area also helps out the next people who want to play.

Have fun gaming!



MAGIC: THE GATHERING DRAFT TOURNAMENT

Event: *Phyrexia: All Will Be One*

Format: Draft-Swiss

Entry Fee: \$20

Saturday. 2pm in the Lower Atrium

Sign up in advance at the Adventure Loot Games vendor table to play in the tournament.

MEDALLION HUNT

As per tradition, there will be a number of shiny 1973 pennies hidden throughout the hotel common areas and programming spaces



The complete rules and start time will appear in the Bozo Bus Tribune (BBT), as well as cryptic clues throughout the weekend.

Anyone playing in the Medallion Hunt will need to be a registered con member and sign in with Medallion Hunt Master, J whose whereabouts will be listed in the BBT.

Fame and glory go to the top penny collectors!

BOZO BUS TRIBUNE

The Bozo Bus Tribune (BBT), Minicon's at-con newsletter, churns on with its office in Courtyard 4, on the main floor near the atrium.

You can expect several issues of this long-running tradition to appear in various flat places throughout conspace during Minicon 56.

The BBT contains news, reviews, personals, miscellaneous nonsense, an elaborate medallion hunt, and whatever YOU put into it by submitting to the box outside the office or emailing to bbt@minicon56.mnsth.org.

Do you like writing about stuff? Want more of a goal-oriented convention experience? We could use reporters. We have badges and memo pads!

The BBT Office is also open at random times for people to stop by and chat with the editor, proofread issues, or peruse various books, puzzles, and objects of interest set out on the tables.

GPS AUCTION

The Charity Auction is intended to support Minicon's partner, the Geek Partnership Society. Bidding is online and funds raised will go to support year round geeky community building with clubs, events, and public programs such as:

- Project Lighthouse
(an educational grants program)
- The GPS Annual Writing Contest
- The Space Camp Scholarship Fund
- The GPS Arts Initiative.

Stop on by room 228 to get involved. Visit our website at www.geekpartnership.org, or email us at info@geekpartnership.org.

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

BIDDING HOURS

Bidding begins online Thursday at 11:59 pm and remains open until Saturday 8pm.



By bidding in the auctions each bidder agrees to the posted auction rules and to provide contact information (name, phone number, email) in the event that items that have been won have not been paid for and picked up.

VENDORS

VENDOR ROOM HOURS:

Friday.....3:00pm - 7:00pm

Saturday 10:00am - 7:00pm

Sunday 10:00am - 2:00pm

DREAM HAVEN BOOKS

Science Fiction & Fantasy book store

www.dreamhavenbooks.com

ADVENTURE LOOT GAMES

Game store

www.adventurelootgames.com

THE SUPERNATURAL PARK

Podcast

www.supernaturalpark.com

JAMES TAUSCH

Collectibles

GREG PARMENTIER

Hand made stuffed animals, games and collectibles

LADY DRAGON'S TREASURES

Handmade jewelry

www.facebook.com/LadyDragonsTreasures

FUNK & FANTASY

Fantasy collectibles and gifts

www.facebook.com/funknfantasy

PATRICK W. MARSH

Local horror writer of *The Green Land Diaries*

patrickwmarshauthor.wordpress.com

MICHAEL AURELIUS

A new author joining us for the first time!

IAN YOUNG

Local author of the *The Automaton*

GEEK BOUTIQUE

All sorts of Geeky Gifts

www.facebook.com/wanderlustingbaubles

REDBIRD EMBROIDERY ETC

Fun machine embroidery

www.facebook.com/redbirdembroideryetc

DRAGON ABBEY

Jewelry and crafts made with natural gem stones.

www.etsy.com/shop/DragonAbbeyJewelry

THE BLACK SHEEP'S FRIEND

Embroidered home décor and bags

www.facebook.com/theblacksheepsfriend

MICHAEL BERNABO

MN Author with books to sell

www.michaelbernabo.com

KATHRYN SULLIVAN

Writer of novels, children's fiction, and anthologies

www.kathrynsullivan.com

DHEA LORAL

Fantasy novel and anthologies

www.dhealoral.com

GOSH DARNED GOOD AUTHORS

Rhiannon Taylor and Dex Greenbright will be selling their novels and their anthologies.

ISIS DESIGNED

Jewelry and Crafts

www.facebook.com/IsisDesigned

CINEMA OBSCURA

Cinema Obscura's film schedule is now integrated into the main Programming Schedule and aligned with panel listings chronologically in the Program Book and Pocket Program.

WHY & HOW?

Most conventions' film schedules are separate from a con's Programming schedule and accommodate the length of one film followed by a short break, then the next film's length, another break, and so on, not considering how members don't like to miss part of a panel or part of a film in the process when a film overlaps more than one Programming time slot.

With panels scheduled 11:30 - 12:30, 1:00 - 2:00, 2:30 - 3:30, etc., if a particular 2-hour film starts at noon, it overlaps 2-panel time slots.

So, you'll either miss part of a panel or part of a movie. Frustrating!

To fix this, 2023s selections were first chosen for their brevity: Short enough to start and end during the 30-minute breaks on either side of a particular 1-hour panel slot, to allow folks at least a few minutes to get to the film room from their previous destination before showtime, with time to spare after "The End" before the next time slot's scheduled events!

The next, but most important criteria was to select what you, the audience, might wish to view.

Obscure, yet familiar enough for your viewing pleasure.

After careful consideration, what emerged is what I refer to as "Crowd pleasers that never quite found a big enough crowd to please."

- A Russian superhero movie that tries to be Marvel's The Avengers
- An animated Batman tale with the voice talents of Adam West, Burt Ward, and William Shatner
- A dark comedy about a homicidal tire (Yep, you read that right!)
- Wes Anderson's animation about a boy and his dog (not the Harlan Ellison story)
- A documentary about the greatest SF film NEVER made, another about one of the greatest SF films EVER made, along with a cult classic with solid ties to all of them
- Some of the earliest Marvel cartoons from 1966
- A 50-year-old animated series with characters known to everyone
- A near-future conspiracy tale with an indescribable animation technique
- An unlikely time travel film from 2010 with two stars from Loki Season 1 (unrelated to that 2021 series)

I hope you find these selections to be as intriguing and as entertaining as I, and our new integrated programming schedule convenient.

— Greg Larsen, Curator

A Note To Parents About Ratings: Cinema Obscura staff does NOT check IDs for admission throughout the convention. Ratings appear in the Program Book next to a film's title. Some produced decades ago may also contain references and stereotypes that are products of their era.

Please consider this regarding their appropriateness for your children. Thank You.

MUSIC

Minicon's concerts take place in Courtyard Ballroom 1-3, facing the lower level of the hotel atrium. Check the program schedule for concert times. Please note, masks are required for all audience members in the music room, as well as for music circle participants, when not performing or leading a song.

BETH KINDERMAN & THE PLAYER CHARACTERS

If Lilith Fair booked a progressive rock band, it would sound like Beth Kinderman & the Player Characters. They perform original, filk-influenced folk-prog songs about myth, transformation, and video game characters who won't sleep with you. Their concert will feature music from their upcoming album, "Sisyphus (ten songs about hope)." For more info go to: bethkinderman.com and bethkindermanbandcamp.com.

NATE BUCKLIN

Nate Bucklin and his music are difficult to summarize in just a few words. It is understandable that past Minicon blurbs merely stated, after five [six now] decades of making, writing and sharing music, the greater part of it in the Twin Cities, there can't be many reading this who don't already know Nate's music. If you are one of those, you are in for a treat.

THE LEPRECHAUN PIRATES

The Leprechaun Pirates formed in 2015 as a Fest Band to play Live Music and have been performing professionally at festivals, community events, and winery shows since 2016. They have recorded two albums with an eclectic mix of original Myth Punk, Celtic Punk, Americana, and Traditional tunes with more in the works. The Minnesota Renaissance Festival is their home away from home. Check them out on YouTube and at www.leprechaunpirates.com.

DECADENT DAVE CLEMENT

Dave Clement has been playing guitar and singing country, folk, and filk music for more than 50 years. Minneapolis fandom in the persons of Steven Brust and Beth Friedman drew him out of musical retirement in the mid-80s and into the world of filk music. He has not stopped singing and playing since. His band Dandelion Wine grew out of family and friendships formed around filking. He can be heard on many filk compilation albums and has provided backup to many other filkers. Dave has been a guest of honor at many cons including British and German filk conventions, has won two Pegasus Awards for Best Performer, and is an inductee of the Filk Hall of Fame.

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!

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!

VERSATILE FLUFF

Want to hear gender-neutral love songs that can span multiverses or survive the zombie apocalypse? Songs based on internet memes? New takes on Star Trek themes and video game music? Do you just love harmonica and folk-punk guitar? Come listen!



TERESA CHANDLER

Teresa Chandler identifies as genre fluid, playing any kind of music that speaks to her heart. She writes fearless songs about love, hope, loss, and the resilience of our human connection, and funny songs about what we long for and what we could do without. Her favorite venues are small, intimate places where the audience sits close and leans in to share laughter and catch those sweet musical moments before they disappear into thin air.

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. Becca Leathers will be joining him on stage to add some extra flair.

ADAM STEMPLER

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

PEGGY O'NEILL

Peggy has spent over 30 years songwriting and performing. She is known for her beautiful voice and mixing together driving visions and hopeful dreams with a bit of Blues, Jazz, Contemporary Folk and a lot of heart.



JOIN THE MUSIC CIRCLE !

All are welcome to join in to sing, play listen, and make a joyful noise.

Performers of all styles, and experience levels are welcome.

Location: Spring Room

Friday Night - after the opening ceremony

Saturday Night - around 7pm

Until the last musician drops!

PROGRAMMING

FRIDAY		
TIME	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
1:00 PM	DECORATE THE TEEN ROOM! Meet others, make art, and contribute to how you want the teen room to look! Art supplies will be provided. <i>Host: Leo M.</i>	Teen Room
2:30 PM	HOW TO HOST A ROOM PARTY What do you need to host an excellent room party? Do you need a theme? Are chips and dips sufficient? What do you need from the con, and what does the con need from you? Kurt and Scott were the "official" party reviewers for the Worldcons for 10 years, and will share the dos and don'ts when hosting a party. <i>Panelists: Kurt Baty, Scott Bobo, Crystal Therese</i>	Orchard
3:45 PM	FILM: GUARDIANS (2017) Not "... of the Galaxy." This Russian take on American superhero movies delivers all the cliched super hero tropes you'd expect, served up with extra cheese in its over-the-top storyline and highly caffeinated special effects, but at half the runtime of most Russian epics or Marvel movies these days! Great Fun! (<i>Dir. Sarik Andreasyan, 90 min</i>)	Terrace 4
4:00 PM	THE ROYAL MANTICORAN NAVY An Introduction to the Honorverse and the Royal Manticoran Navy. What is the Royal Manticoran Navy? We'll discuss its founding, function and our love of the Honorverse. Discussion will include a synopsis of the series and story arc, as well as the fandom: the organization, the military cosplay aspect of it, how ships work, and the charitable endeavors of the organization. <i>Panelists: Chris Baye, Jeanne Kating, Chuck Kelly, Oz Levita</i>	Park 1
4:00 PM	THE UNTAMED GEEK-OUT <i>The Untamed</i> is a Chinese live-action drama that has spread worldwide, mostly through its popularity in fan fiction. There is a Chinese graphic novel, three seasons of an animated show (subtitled) and, now, a print publication of the English translation. We're all big fans. (OK, actually we're all obsessed with it.) <i>Panelists: Lois McMaster Bujold, Lisa Freitag, David Paschal-Zimbel, Kathryn Sullivan, Martha Wells</i>	Park 2
4:00 PM	READING: PEG KERR	Orchard
4:00 PM	CONCERT: BETH KINDERMAN & THE PLAYER CHARACTERS	Courtyard 1-3

PROGRAMMING

FRIDAY

TIME	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
4:00 PM	JOEL'S WEEKLY WHISKEY ZOOM This is a weekly group that gathers on Zoom every Friday to discuss among many things Whisky, Life, Beer, and the Universe. A camera will be on so you can chat with folks who aren't able to make it to the con in person. <i>Host: Joel Phillips</i>	Bar
4:00 PM	D&D 5E - DRAGONLANCE: PRELUDE TO WAR MODULE The Dragon Queen's Conquest of Ansalon has begun. The eastern half of the continent has already fallen, and the Red Dragon Army has tested it's forces against isolated and fractious lands. The Dragon Army now turns it's attention to the west, to the land of Solamnia, a nation known as the home of knights and heroes. Now, the true war begins. Up to 6 participants, first come first serve. (2 hrs) <i>Host: Isaac Schneider</i>	Winter
4:30 PM	READING: NAOMI KRITZER	Orchard
5:30 PM	GENRE BOOKSELLING OVER THE DECADES Specialty bookstores have had a nearly unrecognized effect on the genre. How have they contributed to the field? Why hasn't anyone noticed? What are the benefits and pitfalls of genre bookselling? <i>Panelists: Kurt Baty, Sara Felix, Greg Ketter, Russ Kinnard</i>	Park 1
5:30 PM	AGING FANNISHLY, OR THE NEXT STEP How do we cope with the challenges of aging; mobility, hearing, and eyesight issues, and feeling overwhelmed by Too Much Change? Agism is a nasty prejudice. What do we wish younger fans knew about older fans? What are the assumptions on each side? <i>Panelists: Alice Ableman, Magenta Griffith, Peg Kerr, Jeanne Mealy, Bill Thomasson</i>	Park 2
5:30 PM	READING: ROBERT J. SAWYER	Orchard
5:30 PM	CONCERT: VERSATILE FLUFF	Courtyard 1-3
5:30 PM	FILM: BATMAN '66 - TWO-FACE (2017) PG This animated film has all the BIFF! BAM! POW! and ZOWIE! you'd expect from the classic live action series. Featuring the voices of Adam West (in his final performance shortly before his death), Burt Ward and Julie Newmar, with William Shatner as Two-Face, whose Harvey Dent persona looks remarkably like Captain Kirk from STAR TREK - THE ANIMATED SERIES. (Dir. Rick Morales, 72 min)	Terrace 4

PROGRAMMING

FRIDAY		
TIME	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
6:30 PM	READING: KARL K. GALLAGHER	Orchard
6:45 PM	FILM: <i>RUBBER</i> (2011) R Somewhere in the American Southwest, an old discarded tire comes alive to stalk and kill, enjoying a bit of TV in a motel room between victims. Only French writer/director Quentin Dupieux could deliver an absurdist American dark comedy like <i>Rubber</i> . How he breaks the fourth wall of an already broken fourth wall at times is sheer genius! <i>(Dir. Quentin Dupieux, 83 min)</i>	Terrace 4
7:00 PM	OPENING CEREMONIES Welcome to the convention! Meet the Guests of Honor! Find out about the weekend's events! Share the love! <i>Emcee: Toni Brust</i>	Park 1
8:00 PM	MUSIC CIRCLE After Opening Ceremony, performers of all styles, genres, and experience levels are welcome to join in to sing, play, and harmonize, as are any and all interested listeners.	Spring
8:00 PM	MOVIES! Watch movies in the teen room, what more needs to be said? Snacks may or may not be available. (Teen/youth only, please) <i>Host: Leo M.</i>	Teen Room
8:00 PM	PLAY ZAR WITH CLAY! ZAR is a fast-paced UNO-like card game, but much more fun! If you've never heard of ZAR, you're in for a treat. This event is especially for new players, but experienced players are welcome to play and help teach. <i>Host: Clay Harris</i>	Summer
8:30 PM	GENDER & AI Androids & AI in sci-fi disrupt the idea of a gender binary: what purpose is there for an Android and/or AI to have gender? Could an Android/AI be trans, gender-fluid, and/or non-binary? How will that affect how we as a society see gender as a construct? <i>Panelists: Justin Grays, Naomi Kritzer, Lyda Morehouse, Jason Spitzer, Ian Young</i>	Park 2

PROGRAMMING

FRIDAY

TIME	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
8:30 PM	FILM: MIDWESTSIDE STORY - THE ARCHIVAL MOVIE! Long ago at a Convention not very far away, there was a production called Midwestside Story. See footage of that historic event. Were you in the show? Did you help create it? Come watch and contribute to the discussion afterward! <i>Host: David Dyer-Bennet</i>	Orchard
8:30 PM	CONCERT: ADAM STEMPLE	Courtyard 1-3
8:30 PM	FILM: MARVEL SUPER HEROES: THE AVENGERS (1966) The Mighty THOR! CAPTAIN AMERICA! The Invincible IRON MAN! The Incredible HULK! Prince Namor, The SUB-MARINER! By Marvel Comics' then-fifth year in 1966, their very first syndicated cartoons for the small screen had arrived! Adapted from the actual comics using panel art straight from the,, one could argue that young fans saw the very comic books they'd read being brought to life, despite the reproduction and animation leaving much to be desired. Due to a shortage of adaptable material from a few characters' own comic books, Grantray-Lawrence Studios turned to the pages of The Avengers' earliest comics for episodes of Captain America, The Incredible Hulk and The Mighty Thor, featuring Ant-Man/Giant-Man, The Wasp and Iron Man, plus villains-turned-heroes, Hawkeye, Quicksilver and Scarlet Witch! Last available on VHS in the 1990s, you won't find these shows streaming anywhere! But, we got 'em! Not to be missed! (85 min)	Terrace 4
9:00 PM	WHISKEY TASTING! All (of age) are welcome, however, it is strongly encouraged participants bring a little something to share with the class. Hint: There are liquor stores within easy stumbling...er, walking distance of the hotel. <i>Host: Joel Phillips</i>	Bar
10:00 PM	FILM: ISLE OF DOGS (2018) PG-13 Wes Anderson's return to stop-motion animation after 2009's <i>The Fantastic Mr. Fox</i> , is as quirky, heartfelt and entertaining as anything he's directed. This American gem sort of masquerades as a Japanese film, but it's not anime. It is completely unique, defying categorization, which is what you expect from Wes Anderson. What's it about? It's about a boy who crash lands his small aeroplane on an island while looking for his dog and...Oh, go watch it already! (Dir. Wes Anderson, 101 min)	Terrace 4

PROGRAMMING

SATURDAY

TIME	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
10:00 AM	WRITING NON-GENDERED CHARACTERS Despite attempts at inventing non-gendered pronouns, SF has yet to provide universally accepted ones. Becky Chambers' Monk and Robot characters use "they." Murderbot chose to refer to itself as "it." What are your favorite pronouns? How do you write a nonbinary or non-gendered character? Do readers expect to be able to identify the biological gender of a character? Or, we could just argue about whether we see Murderbot as male or female. <i>Panelists: F.J. Bergman, Peg Kerr, Kathryn Sullivan, Martha Wells</i>	Park 1
10:00 AM	MY FIRST CONVENTION, OR WHAT NOT TO DO One person's first con involved a broken bathroom door, a room full o' fans getting by cheaply, AND a broken bed. Oh, and one person who'd been up all night announced to a roomful of sleepy people that the sun had just come up. He was not defenestrated, but it WAS close. Tell us your stories! <i>Panelists: Kurt Baty, Scott Bobo, Deborah Kinnard, Jeanne Mealy, Jason Spitzer</i>	Park 2
10:00 AM	AUTHOR SMÖRGÅSBORD Hear small readings from many authors! Get a taste of the storytelling diversity. This is a good chance to hear new or independent writers. <i>Readings By: Dex Greenbright, Danith McPherson, Laramie Sasseville, Douglas Van Dyke Jr</i>	Orchard
11:00 AM	FILM: STAR TREK-THE ANIMATED SERIES (1973) G Whether it's considered canon or not, script editor and sometime teleplay author D.C. Fontana once recalled of the show, "We were hired to write <i>Star Trek</i> . Period." They must have done something right: It garnered <i>Star Trek's</i> very first Emmy in 1975 for Outstanding Entertainment-Children's Series. Featuring the voice talents of The Original Series cast! (150 min)	Terrace 4
11:30 AM	GREG KNOWS EVERYBODY Really, he does. Name just about any F/SF author from the past fifty years, and Greg will almost certainly have a story. He can start with Harlan Ellison, R.A. Lafferty, Julia Adams (who played the Creature from the Black Lagoon's love interest), and Joe Lansdale. Requests will be encouraged. <i>Panelists: Greg Ketter</i>	Park 1
11:30 AM	PSYCHOANALYSIS FOR ROBOTS Can robots be mentally ill? Certainly robots are not neurotypical, but can they get depressed? Psychotic? Does the ability to process more information prevent or lead to autism? Do they have to malfunction to be unhappy? Let's do psychological analyses of our favorite robots. <i>Panelists: Justin Grays, Robert J. Sawyer, Jason Spitzer, Kathryn Sullivan</i>	Park 2

PROGRAMMING

SATURDAY

TIME	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
11:30 AM	MINICON COSTUMING, PAST & PRESENT The Masquerade/Costume contest has undergone many changes over the years. It has been a big production, with its own sound and stage crews, and it has been a small event for children. It has seen amazingly crafted costumes, and also "make-your-own at the con" style costumes. Come see some of the best and the strangest from over the years! <i>Panelists: George Richard</i>	Orchard
1:00 PM	Q&A WITH MARTHA WELLS Our Writer Guest of Honor will answer questions from the audience. Within reason, of course. Virtual participation in this event will be coordinated by the Rivendell Group of the Mythopoeic Society.	Park 1
1:00 PM	HUMOR IN GENRE FICTION A serious discussion of funny SF/F and horror. <i>Panelists: Eleanor Arnason, Mike Aurelius, F.J. Bergman, Lyda Morehouse, Douglas Van Dyke Jr</i>	Orchard
1:00 PM	CONCERT: LAST SATURDAY FILKERS	Courtyard 1-3
2:00 PM	SIGNING: MARTHA WELLS	Park 1
2:00 PM	MAKE YOUR OWN TIARA Sara Felix hosts a workshop in which everyone gets a kit to make a simple tiara, with extra bits to make it their own. Probably we will also hear about how to make tiaras, what supplies are needed, and where to get them. Bring your own projects or buy a kit for \$15.	Autumn
2:00 PM	MAGIC: THE GATHERING DRAFT TOURNAMENT You must be a registered member of Minicon to play in the tournament and sign up at the Adventure Loot Games table in the vendor room. Event: <i>Phyrexia: All Will Be One</i> Format: Draft-Swiss. \$20 Entry Fee. (4 hrs) <i>Host: Adventure Loot Games</i>	Lower Atrium
2:15 PM	FILM: MEMORY: THE ORIGINS OF ALIEN (2010) Among the reminiscences of those who were there during the making of ALIEN, there is some brilliant analysis of the film some critics dismissed at the time as merely "a haunted house in space". Witness Dan O'Bannon's history, from DARK STAR to his meeting H.R. Giger while both worked on JODOROWSKY's ill-fated DUNE, to reworking a script of his (with Giger in mind) into the first draft of what would become ALIEN and his fight with studio executives to bring Giger aboard! And that's only the beginning... <i>(Dir. Alexandre O. Philippe, 90 min)</i>	Terrace 4

PROGRAMMING

SATURDAY

TIME	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
2:30 PM	THE CHEMISTRY OF FOOD How does food nourish us on a chemical level? How does it affect our brain chemistry? What are some issues with food today vs 100 years ago? Can lab-designed foods be healthy? Why do some foods and food chemicals affect different people differently? <i>Panelists: Magenta Griffith, Lesley A. Perg, Isaac Schneider, Mike Schneider, Bill Thomasson</i>	Park 2
2:30 PM	LGBTQ+ REPRESENTATION IN SF/F Queer characters are showing up in both YA and adult F/SF. Where are they? Are they getting it right? Which books/shows are the best? And, maybe, assuming such representation is merely a good start, what is the next step? <i>Panelists: Justin Grays, David Lenander, Catherine Lundoff, Lyda Morehouse, David Paschal-Zimbel</i>	Orchard
2:30 PM	CONCERT: NATE BUCKLIN	Courtyard 1-3
2:30 PM	LEARN TO PLAY FIGHTING GAMES! Are you interested in the genre of fighting games, but are intimidated by it? Do you have experience, and want to share that with others? Anyone interested is welcome, regardless of skill level. <i>Host: Leo M.</i>	Teen Room
3:00 PM	READING: STEVEN BRUST	Park 1
3:30 PM	GALAXY TRUCKER WITH THORIN! Build your own cargo spaceship out of rickety tiles and then see how it fares on an adventure across the galaxy! This is a fun game with two stages: a timed one when everyone is scrambling to put together a spaceworthy ship, and an initiative-based one in which players encounter distress calls, pirates, asteroids and so on and see if any of their cargo, crew, guns or engines survive the trip to their destination. Thorin will teach the rules. Limited to the first four players who express interest. (3 hrs) <i>Host: Thorin Tatge</i>	Summer
4:00 PM	CONCERT: THE LEPRECHAUN PIRATES	Courtyard 1-3
4:00 PM	FAN FICTION & FICABLE MOMENTS An exploration of what makes a book or show open as a launch point for fan fiction. What is it about characters, relationships, plot holes, or moments of ambiguity that draws us to them? Which shows/books are the most "ficable"? Are there good shows/books that do not lend themselves to fan fiction? <i>Panelists: Lois McMaster Bujold, Katie Clapham, Lisa Freitag, Anna Johnson Waltz, Martha Wells</i>	Park 1

PROGRAMMING

SATURDAY

TIME	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
4:00 PM	POETRY IN ORBIT In honor of the Lady Poetesses From Hell, we will host a reading of SF/F poetry. <i>Panelists: Eleanor Arnason, F.J. Bergman, Ruth Berman, Sandra Lindow</i>	Orchard
4:00 PM	FILM: MARVEL SUPER HEROES: ORIGINS (1966) More Merry Marvel Mayhem! Presenting the origins of some of your favorite Marvel Super Heroes from their first cartoon appearances, adapted using actual panel art straight from the comics! CAPTAIN AMERICA! The Incredible HULK! Prince Namor, The SUB-MARINER! Plus first appearances of Hawkeye & Black Widow from The Invincible IRON MAN! These may pale in comparison to their MCU incarnations, but everything has a beginning. (68 min)	Terrace 4
4:00 PM	D&D 5E - DRAGONLANCE: WHEN HOME BURNS MODULE, PART 1 (4 hrs) <i>Host: Isaac Schneider</i>	Winter
4:00 PM	MAKE & LEARN TO USE A STAR WHEEL Make a free star wheel to take home, plus a star wheel lesson. Workshop is aimed at adults. Become familiar with the night sky, hear diverse sky stories from around the world. Intro to Viking and Polynesian celestial navigation. <i>Host: Michael Kauper</i>	Autumn
5:15 PM	FILM: METROPIA (2009) This near-future thriller's indescribably unique animation style heightens its intensity! Roger avoids the vast underground rail network that links European cities across the continent because when he's there, a voice in his head starts telling him what to do .Is he going mad? Is it mind control? As he is swept up in a conspiracy he never believed possible, all he really wants is to go home. Don't we all. (Dir. Tarik Saleh, 86 min)	Courtyard 1-3
5:30 PM	WRITING THE TWIN CITIES There are stories that are of particular interest to the Twin Cities, that either take place here or represent a uniquely Minnesotan way of thinking. <i>Panelists: Mike Aurelius, Michael Bernabo, Emma Bull, Naomi Kritzer, Caroline Stevermer</i>	Park 1
5:30 PM	INDEPENDENT & SMALL PRESS PUBLISHING Past and present independent small press publishers discuss the mechanics and pitfalls of starting a small press, and the important niche they fill in the business of uniting readers with books. <i>Panelists: Greg Ketter, Catherine Lundoff</i>	Park 2
5:30 PM	CONCERT: GRAHAM LEATHERS	Courtyard 1-3

PROGRAMMING

SATURDAY

TIME	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
5:30 PM	DESIGNING & MAKING THE HUGO & LODESTAR AWARDS The famed Hugo rocket design has been the same for ages but, each year, the WorldCon committee choses a different artist to design a unique base. Sara Felix has designed two of these, and has also designed several Lodestar Awards. Come see a presentation by our Artist GoH about the awards and the design process. With photos! <i>Host: Sara Felix</i>	Orchard
6:50 PM	FILM: JODOROWSKY'S DUNE (2014) PG-13 Might the course of SF fandom gone on a dramatically different path resulting in a whole different worldwide cultural phenomena if Hollywood had greenlit this film instead of <i>Star Wars</i> ? Watch and decide for yourself! The best behind-the-scenes documentary of the Greatest Film Never Made with ties to Cinema Obscura selections <i>Memory: The Origins of Alien</i> and <i>Dark Star</i> . (Dir. Frank Pavich, 90 min)	Terrace 4
7:00 PM	WORLDBUILDING IN FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION The Murderbot Diaries and Martha Wells' fantasy books feature complex, detailed worlds. Is there a difference between creating an SF universe and a fantasy world? (Or is advanced technology really just a form of magic?) Are scientifically advanced societies necessarily more advanced socially? <i>Panelists: Martha Wells, Danith McPherson, Eleanor Arnason, Lois McMaster Bujold, Becky Heydemann</i>	Park 1
7:00 PM	THE YEAR IN SF What great F&SF books have been published this past year? <i>Panelists: Russell Letson, Greg Johnson</i>	Park 2
7:00 PM	CHATGPT TAKES THE WORLD BY STORM How can we NOT talk about this? Suddenly ChatGPT is everywhere! People are playing with it on Twitter, teachers are panicking over plagiarism, AI specialists are shouting "This isn't really AI, it's just a very advanced language processor!" What's really happening here? <i>Panelists: F.J. Bergman, Justin Grays, Shaun Jamison, Sharon Kahn</i>	Orchard
7:00 PM	CONCERT: TERESA CHANDLER	Courtyard 1-3
7:00 PM	MUSIC CIRCLE Performers of all styles, genres, and experience levels are welcome to join in to sing, play, and harmonize, as are any and all interested listeners.	Spring

PROGRAMMING

SATURDAY

TIME	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
8:30 PM	THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE WOOSTERS A typed manuscript of Mike (John M.) Ford's legendary story, starring Bertie Wooster as Strider in the Lord of the Rings, was recently unearthed in DreamHaven's basement. Greg can't read it for you because he'll laugh too hard, so we've enlisted Steven Brust. Come hear Bertie Wooster disrupt the Fellowship with his unspeakable charm! <i>Panelists: Steve Brust, Greg Ketter</i>	Park 1
8:30 PM	THE ETHICS OF ROBOT SOLDIERS It has long been assumed that the first use of robots will be for warfare, and that there will be need to control our creations to keep them from turning on us. But how would this control look to a sentient manufactured being who just might meet all the qualifications of personhood? What rights we should give to robots? <i>Panelists: Lisa Freitag, Karl K. Gallagher, Justin Grays, Shaun Jamison, Jason Spitzer</i>	Park 2
8:30 PM	BURNING QUESTIONS FROM THE HONORVERSE A wide-ranging discussion of Honorverse topics, including: How have the women in SF such as Princess Leia, Lady Jessica; Honor Harrington, impacted our timeline and shaped SF of the future? "Aliens! Who needs 'Em!": Discussing space opera in an all human setting. Humanity 4300 hundred years in the future: Are we still making the same mistakes? <i>Chris Baye, Jeanne Kating, Chuck Kelly, Oz Levita</i>	Orchard
8:30 PM	CONCERT: RIVERFOLK	Courtyard 1-3
8:30 PM	FILM: <i>DARK STAR</i> (1974) G It's rife with laughs once you realize it's a comedy! John Carpenter and Dan O'Bannon's student film from 1970 evolved into a cult feature by 1974, paving the way for ALIEN with it's "lived in" look reflecting the tedium of the haggard, bored crew's mission to destroy unstable planets with sentient bombs. O'Bannon's path continued in JODOROWSKY'S DUNE and MEMORY: THE ORIGINS OF ALIEN. <i>(Dir. John Carpenter, 83 min)</i>	Terrace 4
10:00 PM	TALES OF THE OLD GAMESMASTERS Circle your chairs, kids, we're going to tell you some stories! <i>Panelists: Steve Brust, Roger Mlynczak, Richard Tatge</i>	Orchard

PROGRAMMING

SATURDAY

TIME	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
10:00 PM	FILM: MIDNIGHT IN PARIS (2010) PG-13 Touted as a romantic comedy, it's really a time travel story, only without the usual SF time travel tropes. While in Paris with his fiancé (Rachel McAdams) and her parents, a Hollywood screenwriter (Owen Wilson) confronts his doubts about his future happiness. During midnight walks alone in the City of Lights, he finds himself visiting a Parisian past he idealizes. Visiting the past can change your future! With appearances by future MCU co-alums Tom Hiddleston (Loki) as F. Scott Fitzgerald and Corey Stoll (Yellowjacket/M.O.D.O.K.) as Hemingway. <i>(Written & Directed: Woody Allen, 95 min)</i>	Terrace 4
11:59 PM	TRIVIA WITH BRIAN! SF/F themed, family friendly trivia. Gather your team and show up early – the space fills fast! <i>Host: Brian</i>	Bar

SUNDAY

TIME	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
10:00 AM	PROFESSIONALS WRITING FAN FICTION Some professional writers are quite open about their fanfic writing; some got their start there. How is fan writing different from professional writing? Do you need to hide your identity when writing fanfic? How do you interact with your fans through fan fiction? Do you read fan fiction about your own characters? <i>Panelists: Anna Johnson Waltz, Peg Kerr, Naomi Kritzer, Lyda Morehouse, Martha Wells</i>	Park 1
10:00 AM	READING: BILL THOMASSON Bill will read from the to-be-published sword and sorcery novel <i>The Whip of Abadur</i> . This reads rather like a Fafhrd and Mouser story, if the Mouser were a female cat burglar and the pair found themselves in the ancient Fertile Land and points east.	Orchard
10:00 AM	D&D 5E - DRAGONLANCE: WHEN HOME BURNS MODULE, PART 2 (4 hrs) <i>Host: Isaac Schneider</i>	Winter
10:30 AM	READING: MIKE AURELIUS Mike will read some excerpts from his <i>Chronicles of the Covenant</i> series.	Orchard
11:00 AM	READING: IAN YOUNG	Orchard

PROGRAMMING

SUNDAY

TIME	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
11:30 AM	ASK A SCIENTIST A selection of scientists answer questions from the audience. <i>Panelists: Mara DeMers, Karl K. Gallagher, Lesley Perg, Patrick Tebbe, Bill Thomasson</i>	Park 1
11:30 AM	ASIAN INFLUENCES IN YA FANTASY There has been a rise in books written by Asian and Asian-American writers, particularly for the child and young adult audience. This will be a free-range discussion of books, stories, and television for children and young adults, with emphasis on those coming out of Asia. How do these Asian-influenced stories compare with traditional Western stories? What are the best from both worlds? <i>Panelists: Laura Krentz, David Lenander, Caroline Stevermer, Kathryn Sullivan</i>	Park 2
11:30 AM	SF/F SHOWS & MOVIES WE THINK YOU WOULD LIKE Recommend shows and movies from the last year. The last part could involve obscure shows and movies from any year. <i>Panelists: Scott K. Jamison, Sharon Kahn, Jeanne Mealy</i>	Orchard
11:30 AM	FILM: STAR TREK - THE ANIMATED SERIES (1973) G Six more episodes! (150 min)	Terrace 4
1:00 PM	CREATING WITH YOUR KIDS Parents and their kids talk about teaming up to do a fannish/artistic pursuit. Matt and Nora Strait can tell you about Minneapolis in 2073. Sara, Erin & Eva Felix want to talk about their YouTube channel, <i>Eva Eats Everything</i> .	Park 2
1:00 PM	PODCAST: SUPERNATURAL PARK - EXPLORING THE WORLD FOR CREATURES OF MYTHOLOGY & FOLKLORE Supernatural Park is hitting the road and coming to you! Join Park Ranger Amy as she talks about what kind of cryptids can be found at the Park and how you can be a good steward of our natural resources at the same time. Bring your short stories, flash fiction, or poetry for some open mic time at the end. Feed Supernatural Park with your creative writing but do not feed the wildlife! <i>Host: Amy Sturz</i>	Orchard
1:00 PM	CONCERT: PEGGY O'NEILL	Courtyard 1-3
2:30 PM	CONCERT: DECADENT DAVE CLEMENT	Courtyard 1-3

PROGRAMMING

SUNDAY		
TIME	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
2:30 PM	THE POWER OF PLAY The concept of play includes many ideas such as stress relief, a path to creativity, connection with others (and our younger selves), and more. Science fiction and fantasy fans enjoy playing around mentally, after all. Silly hats, clothes, footwear, and toys are encouraged for panel members and attendees. <i>Panelists: Jeanne Mealy, Lyda Morehouse, Laramie Sasseville, Crystal Therese</i>	Park 1
2:30 PM	EVOLVING METHODS OF STORYTELLING Some of us are used to getting our stories in some published form, like magazines or novels. But there are many other ways to tell stories. We will discuss live storytelling, video and board games, manga and graphic novels, and anything else we can think of except, possibly, interpretive dance. <i>Panelists: Patrick W. Marsh, Jason Otting, Isaac Schneider, Amy Sturz, Thorin Tatge</i>	Park 2
2:30 PM	FABRIC SWAP, DISCUSSION & SEWING CIRCLE Share how you use up scraps and pieces, and where to find interesting fabrics and bits to work with. Do you have favorite YouTube channels or other resources for ideas? Bring your extra fabric and bits to swap for other people's extra bits. Members of the Ladies' Sewing Circle will be present and will discuss possibilities for future meetings.	Orchard
3:30 PM	MEDALLION HUNT RECAP Learn where the medallions were hidden and who found them! <i>Host: Jason Spitzer</i>	Park 2
4:00 PM	CLOSING CEREMONIES A chance to recap and reflect on what this year's Minicon has been, including a traditional assassination. <i>Emcee: Toni Brust</i>	Park 1

AFTER MINICON

DEAD DOG PARTY

Sunday night after teardown, the Dead Dog Party is for low-key socializing and gaming in the bar, consuite, gaming areas and other common areas. Help us dismantle the con and use up the consuite leftovers!

All are welcome!

DEAD DODO PARTY

The official Post-Minicon Party...and an advance celebration for Richard's 80th birthday! Full COVID vaccination required.

Monday, April 10, 7:00pm – 11:30pm
 Dreampark: 4002 Pillsbury Ave,
 Minneapolis, MN 55409

WHAT IS MN-STF?

It's the Minnesota Science Fiction Society, variously abbreviated MnStf, Minn-STF, MN-STF, and other variants. It's the non-profit group that brings you Minicon.

The Minnesota Science Fiction Society, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to furthering the appreciation of science fiction and fantasy literature. Minn-Stf was founded in 1966 and we've been active in the worldwide community of science fiction fandom ever since. We also do other charitable/educational work.

BECOME A MEMBER!

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 five meetings in a year, you become a voting member for that year and can help choose the Minn-Stf board.

MEETINGS!

Minn-StF usually meets on the first and third Saturdays of each month. Meetings are casual social gatherings – house parties, picnics and remotely on Discord for the last year

It's possible that you find the idea of showing up at a new person's home uninvited a little intimidating, but guess what? ... You're invited!

People wander in and out whenever they see fit. Most meetings contain a brief (five- or ten-minute) business meeting which consist primarily of announcements of upcoming events.

Expect snacks, drinks, interesting conversation, maybe some games or music. Event locations and details are listed on the Minn-StF website and Google Calendar at mnstf.org.

MN-STF POOL PARTY

Each year MnStf has a pool party held in the winter, at the Minicon hotel. Hang out in the hot tub, have a swim, or just hang out and socialize. Details TBA, check www.mnstf.org.

THE MN-STF PICNIC

MnStf usually has at least one summer picnic at Minnehaha Park. Join us for an afternoon cookout filled with gaming, socializing, and fun. There's usually a grill going throughout the day, so bring something for the grill, a dish to pass, or a game to play. Details TBA, check www.mnstf.org.

FALLCON

Minstf does more than just Minicon. It also runs a small fallcon each year in the fall (also known as a "relaxicon"), mainly for the purpose of having something like Minicon, but without all that pesky programming and stress. Our fallcon changes name frequently; this year it's ConFelicity!



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. It isn't to collect the most money or even 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 money to run this thing and to support our parent organization, Mn-Stf.

In our opinion, if we end up with a profit after that, it means we overcharged. We have made a concerted effort in the last few years to hold the rates low and run a frugal con, while still having great guests of honor and plenty of food. We want you to know where your money goes and welcome feedback on our spending. You can always contact the Mnstf board at board@mnstf.org. And you are welcome to come chat at Minn-stf meetings/parties. See mnstf.org for times and locations.

MINICON 55 FINANCES

Minicon 55 was directed by the MN-Stf board to bring in \$2900 more than it spent, to cover the club's anticipated expenses of \$3900 (which includes storing Minicon's stuff), while spending down \$1000 of excess savings. We hit this almost exactly at \$3079. Memberships were 92% of our income, with donations, t-shirts, dealer tables and misc each making up 2%. The most common membership rate paid was \$45. If you paid \$45, here's where your money went:

Hotel	\$14.70	Badges & Clips.....	\$1.70
Consuite & Bar	\$7.50	Miscellaneous	\$4.50
Guests of Honor	\$6.00	MnStf.....	\$6.40
Publications	\$4.20	Being Most Excellent	Free

FOR MINICON 56, THE FINANCIAL GOAL IS \$3200.

Feminist Science Fiction Convention in Madison Wisconsin



**MEMORIAL DAY
WEEKEND
MAY 25-29TH**

Featuring Guests of Honor
Rivers Solomon and Martha Wells

Register here
or at WisCon.net



THE CONCOM

Chair	Matt Strait	Hotel Liaison.....	Aaron Vander Giessen
Assistant Chair	Isaac Schneider	Kid's Room.....	Grenevic Stremski
Art Show	Rachel Traynham (head)	Logistics	James Porter
	Jacob Black	Medallion Hunt	Jason Spitzer
Accessibility.....	Leo Mueller	Music	Beth Kinderman (head)
A/V	Phoenix Stremski		Dave Stagner
Badges	Bill Christ	Teen Room	Leo Mueller
Bar	Susan Philbrook	Party Liaison.....	Crystal Therese
	Brian Lundgren	Programming	Katie Clapham (head)
Bozo Bus Tribune	Thorin Tatge		Sharon Kahn
Ceremonies.....	Toni Brust		Lisa Freitag
Cinema Obscura	Greg Larsen		Grenevic Stremski
Consuite	Hershey Harris (head)	Publications.....	Susan Philbrook (head)
	Domenic Brack		Grenevic Stremski
	Stacey Lam		Keith Malgren
Costuming.....	George Richards	Photography.....	David Dyer-Bennet
Dealer's Room	Jean Mlynczak	Registration (pre-registration)	Clay Harris
Electronic PR Delivery	David Dyer-Bennet	Registration (at-con).....	Isaac Schneider
Free Will Table	Mark Richards	Science Room.....	Ben Huset
Gaming.....	Clay Harris	Social Media.....	Aaron Vander Giessen
Green Room.....	Lisa Foley	T-shirts	Keith Malgren
Guest Liaisons	Rick Snyder (head)		Stacey Lam
	Tom Hogan	Volunteers.....	Michael Hagerman
	Lisa Freitag		

WANT TO JOIN THE CONCOM?

Come to a concom meeting!

Our meeting schedule can be found at
www.mnstf.org

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.

HELP AND INFORMATION

Ask at the Registration/Volunteers/Info desk while they're open, or after hours at the Consuite or Bar, or other department heads.

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 smoke free in all public places, but there are designated smoking areas outside. Direct further questions to the hotel.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY CALL 911

COVID POLICY

VACCINATIONS

Minicon 56 requires attending members to have received a bivalent covid booster (also known as an "updated booster"), if eligible. If you got a booster since September 1, 2022, it was bivalent. Most people over age 5 are eligible for a bivalent booster. See the CDC's info page for details.

We reserve the right to check your vaccination status at the time of badge pick-up. Acceptable forms of proof include an original vaccination card, a photo of it, or a phone app.

AIR FILTERS

We will be running high-quality HEPA filters in the consuite, con bar, and in the main gaming room.

MASKS

Where required, masks must cover both the nose and mouth and be at least as good as a multi-layer cloth mask. We strongly encourage more effective masks such as surgical masks and N-95s.

We will have free N-95s at the registration desk for anyone who wants one. N-95s, worn properly, are highly effective at protecting both the wearer from others and others from the wearer.

Masks are optional except as follows:

- In panel programming rooms masks are required for both panelists and the audience.
- In concerts, masks are required for the audience, but not for performers on stage.
- In the official music circle, masks are required except for the person currently performing or leading a song.

This list is subject to change.

Signs around the con will mark whether masks are required or optional.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Minn-stf acknowledges that interpersonal relationships are complex and 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 someone tells you to stop something they perceive as harassing behavior, stop right away. 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 behavior, 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.

To report violations of this code, whether or not action is desired, go to the registration desk and talk to the staff there.

CREDITS

The Minicon 56 Program Book, a RUNE PRESS publication, is ©2023 by the Minnesota Science Fiction Society and the above credited artists. The text of this work may be redistributed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-ShareAlike License (creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/us/)

Front Cover: *Space* artwork used by permission from Sara Felix
GoH photos used by permission from the GoHs

Page 3: Tiara photos from sarafelix.com

Page 3: Greg Ketter photo from www.rudyrucker.com

Page 4: Fillos redistributed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-ShareAlike License (creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/us/)

All other photos, fonts, and graphics are shareware and public domain.

ConFelicity

October 6-8, 2023

Hilton Minneapolis-Bloomington at 3900 American Blvd West
Bloomington, Minnesota

(There are two Hiltons on American Boulevard - Choose wisely!)

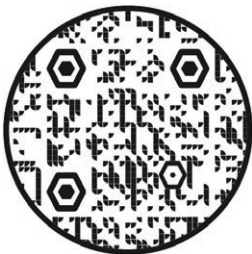
WHO IS CONFELICITY FOR?

You!

If you are a fan of science fiction or fantasy and would like to hang out with the same. If you've been to Minicon, you should come to ConFelicity!

ConFelicity is a small science fiction and fantasy convention from Mn-Stf geared primarily towards relaxation. There will be good food, gaming, a few keynote programming events, and whatever else you bring to it.

We'd love to have you!



Scan the QR code to register or go to:
www.mnstf.org/confelicity



JOIN US!

	Early Rate	At Door Rate
	<i>Until 9.20.23</i>	<i>After 9.21.23</i>
◇ Adult (21+)	\$50	\$60
◇ Student (13-20)	\$10	\$20
◇ Child (0-12), Free Range	\$10	\$20
◇ Child (0-12), Supervised		Free
◇ Day Rate (8am-8am)		\$40
◇ Supporting Membership*		\$15

Email questions to: www.mnstf.org/confelicity