

MINICON 50-The Gold Edition

Greetings! This is the first of three progress reports from Minicon 50, to be held Easter weekend, April 2-5, 2015 (that's 4 days!), at the DoubleTree in Bloomington, MN. Minicon features panel discussions, readings, signings, costuming, the Costume Revel, the Medallion Hunt, films, gaming, an art show, dealers, kids' programming, a science room, filk and folk music, a well-stocked consuite and bar, room parties, teen-run teen programming, and various special events.

Our guests of honor will be authors **Larry Niven**, **Jane Yolen** and **Brandon Sanderson**, musician **Adam Stemple**, artist **Michael Whelan** and publisher **Tom Doherty**.

Memberships: If you are registered, a ® should appear on your mailing label. You can register at mnstf.org/minicon50 or by mail to Minicon 50, Lake Street Station, PO Box 8297, Minneapolis, MN 55408. If you don't have a form, print one from the web or just send the usual info and we'll figure it out. \$40 adult, \$20 student (13-20), \$10 kid (6-12), \$0 child (0-5), \$15 supporting. Pre-reg deadline: March 5. For more info: registration@minicon50.mnstf.org or write to the PO box.

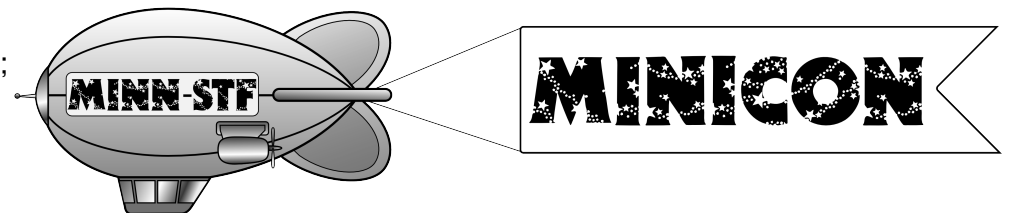
Hotel: We're in the Bloomington DoubleTree again this year. Rooms are \$92 if booked by March 5. The room block is not yet open. See PR2 for an update, or check mnstf.org/minicon50/hotel.

Programming: We will continue to have excellent panel discussions, readings, demonstrations and other events. To suggest a topic or volunteer, see mnstf.org/minicon50/programming. Panel idea submissions close Dec 1 and the deadline for panelist volunteers is Dec 31 (earlier than last year).

A longer version of this PR is at mnstf.org/minicon50. Members of Minicon 47-50 will get a full PR2 by mail in Dec and a PR3 by postcard or email in Feb. A full or supporting membership will keep you on the mailing list.

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If everything has gone well, this year the toner will stick to the cardstock and you will be able to read this tiny text. Did you know that there is a UTC+14:00 time zone? That means that for a few hours every day, there are three legal days in progress. So Minicon 50 might be 7 days somewhere in the Pacific. Here we go round the mulberry bush, the mulberry bush, the mulberry bush, here we go round the mulberry bush. Trouble is, mulberries grow on trees.



4 days: To celebrate our anniversary, we made Minicon 50 four days. Panels, gaming, consuite/bar, Rumpus Room, art show, dealers room & science room will all run Th-Sun. More detail to follow in PR2.

Gaming: Some tidbits to look forward to: Special Magic: the Gathering events, life-sized Robo Rally, and an even *bigger* game library! Bring your favorite Magic decks and a laser gun/sonic screwdriver that lights up and makes noise!

Fan Assistance Fund: If your financial situation would prevent you from being able to come to Minicon, you can apply for a free or reduced membership. Email fanfund@minicon50.mnstf.org by Feb 1, letting us know how we can help you.

Minicon is run entirely by volunteers. Please join us. Mail volunteers@minicon50.mnstf.org to participate. We're all in this together!



Mnstf, the club that sponsors Minicon, is also running METHOD Con 2 Oct 10-12 – see mnstf.org/methodcon2. And we hold bimonthly parties, see mnstf.org/einblatt.