

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

FRIDAY 4:00 PM

READING: PAULA S. JORDAN & QUERUS ABUTTU (DR. Q.)

Room 4 – 50 minutes

WISH IT WERE MITHRIL

Room 5 – 2 hours

Loren Damewood provides the materials and shows you how to make your own knotted silver earrings. (Ages 11+, materials fee \$25, limit 4 participants.)

CHARACTER CREATION

Room 8 – 50 minutes

Beyond the physical specs and maybe some background, what else should you do to develop a well-rounded character? Integrating characters into settings, setting up internal conflicts, and much more.

Panelists: *Jim Bernheimer (M), Jim Deeley, Katika Schneider, Melinda M. Snodgrass, J.A. Sutherland*

MORALITY AND CULTURE IN FANTASY FICTION

Room F – 50 minutes

Fantasy fiction presents a clear opportunity for writers to explore different cultures and moralities and use those differences to enhance and enrich the reader's experience. An opportunity not grasped often enough in classic and even contemporary fantasy.

Panelists: *J. "Cal" Baldari, Carl Cipra (M), Meriah L. Crawford, Margaret S. McGraw*

ULTIMA THULE

Room G – 50 minutes

In 1991, the U.S. Postal Service issued a set of stamps to honor NASA's planetary missions. Pluto was marked as "Not Yet Explored." As described in *Chasing New Horizons*, some very determined scientists and engineers decided to take up that challenge. In 2015, Pluto was explored for the first time. Now, the New Horizons spacecraft has completed a second encounter, a billion miles beyond Pluto's orbit.

Panelists: *Brad Goodman*

GHOSTS, MONSTERS, AND DEMONS, OH MY!—

CREATURES IN FICTION

Room L – 50 minutes

Good, bad, or in between, supernatural creatures haunt writers and readers in the best possible ways.

Panelists: *Lexie Carver, Richard Groller, Laurel Anne Hill (M), Dina Leacock*

FRIDAY 4:30 PM

YU-GI-OH: THE DARK SIDE OF DIMENSIONS (PG)

Room 3 (Anime Room)

FRIDAY 5:00 PM

CONCERT: NEFARIOUS FERRETS

Large Auditorium – 50 minutes

Award-winning musicians, playing folk-influenced filk and spreading the love of filk music.

GEEK DEBATES

Room 1 – 50 minutes

RavenCon's geek debates explore the issues that plague the conversations of geeks worldwide. Could Boba Fett defeat a Borg drone? Is James Bond a Time Lord? These and other questions could be explored this year at the debates.

Panelists: *Elisabeth Gribble, Rich Sigfrit, Michael A. Ventrella, Michael J. Winslow*

ANIME THROUGH THE AGES

Room 2 – 50 minutes

Anime, much like American animation, has gone through many changes and is still evolving. We take a look at some of the earlier works, such as *Astro Boy* and *Giant Robo*, as well as more modern shows such as *Cowboy Bebop* and *Attack on Titan*. We also discuss feature-length films such as *My Neighbor Totoro*, *Metropolis*, and others.

Panelists: *Jim Deeley, E.L. Fortner (M), L. Jagi Lamplighter, Nathan Vernon Madison*

READING: GB MACRAE & OTTO LINKE

Room 4 – 50 minutes

GENRE AS LITERARY NOVELS

Room 8 – 50 minutes

Can a book truly be "Literary" and also a genre novel, like mystery, fantasy, or romance? What does Literary mean and how is the quality of writing judged in contemporary times?

Panelists: *Jason Ray Carney, Carl Cipra (M), Laurel Anne Hill, Melissa McArthur*

WRITING FOR VIDEO GAMES

Room E – 50 minutes

How does writing for video games differ from writing for scripts or books? How does one break in to this unique field?

Panelists: *T. Eric Bakutis (M), Nikole McDonald-Jones aka Spooni**

THE REAL MIDDLE AGES

Room F – 50 minutes

Why do writers love the Middle Ages? What do they leave out or get wrong?

Panelists: *Jaimie Engle, Emily Lavin Leverett (M), James P. Nettles, Nancy Northcott*

SCIENTISTS IN FICTION

Room G – 50 minutes

How are scientists portrayed in fiction? When do they get it right and when do they get it wrong? What are some common mistakes? And does it matter to the story?

Panelists: *Jim Beall (M), Robert E. Hampson, Leann M. Rettell*

BUILDING THE PERFECT PLOT

Room L – 50 minutes

Want to write a great story with a killer plot? We'll discuss the Hero's Journey and other tropes, and also teach you the necessary parts for a great story.

Panelists: *Jeanne Adams, C. McDonnell, Peter Prellwitz (M), David A. Tatum*

FRIDAY 6:00 PM

CONCERT: DIMENSIONAL RIFFS

Large Auditorium – 50 minutes

This nerd rock band has songs for every fan: *Firefly, The Expanse, Harry Potter, Star Wars, Pacific Rim* and more!

SUCCESSFUL INDIE PUBLISHING: BRINGING YOUR BOOK TO MARKET

Room 1 – 50 minutes

This workshop will help attendees navigate the intricacies of independent publishing, from start to finish, showing them what to do and what to avoid in order to bring their book to market and become a successful self-published author.

Panelists: *Chris Kennedy*

SHORT STORY WRITING

Room 2 – 50 minutes

Learn techniques that are specific to writing a great short story.

Panelists: *Alexander G.R. Gideon, Larry Hodges, Will McIntosh, Bud Sparhawk (M)*

SAILOR MOON S: THE MOVIE (TV14)

Room 3 (Anime Room)

READING: JASON GILBERT & ALLEN L. WOLD

Room 4 – 50 minutes

WRITING WOMEN IN SF/F: FROM DAMSELS IN DISTRESS TO BADASS WARRIOR QUEENS

Room 8 – 50 minutes

Is writing women in the sci-fi/fantasy genre different from writing women in other genres? Join a panel of authors to discuss whether women in sci-fi/fantasy implies women with more skills, higher education, and fewer gender issues. Also, how does the setting influence the way you write women?

Panelists: *Hannah Bauman (M), Samantha Heuwagen, Pamela K. Kinney, J.A. Sutherland*

20 YEARS OF TABLETOP GAMING

Room E – 50 minutes

Board games have come a long way in the past twenty years. Panelists discuss the evolving culture of tabletop gaming,

where it might go from here, and share their favorite games from the last two decades.

Panelists: *R.S. Belcher, Wade Cutrell, Richard Groller, Christopher Weuve (M)*

THE POWER OF PLACE

Room F – 50 minutes

Panelists discuss what places have left marks on them and why, and how they use these universal experiences in their stories.

Panelists: *Meriah L. Crawford, T. Frohock, Kari Kilgore, Bishop O'Connell (M)*

THE SINGULARITY: WHEN WILL WE GET THERE?

Room G – 50 minutes

The (technological) singularity is the theoretical emergence of superintelligence through technological means. Since it is believed that the capabilities of such intelligence would be difficult for an unaided human mind to comprehend, the singularity is often seen as an occurrence, akin to an astronomical singularity, beyond which events cannot be predicted. Once a singularity is reached, predictions about the future of mankind become pointless. Dr Ben will discuss this concept and when such an event might happen.

Panelists: *Dr. Ben Davis*

CAN'T YOU JUST GOOGLE IT? RESEARCH TECHNIQUES FOR WRITERS

Room L – 50 minutes

What types of research do our panelists engage in when building worlds and stories? How much is needed and what recommendations do they have?

Panelists: *Jason A. Adams, Gail Z. Martin, Cass Morris (M), Freddie Silva*

SIGNING: QUERUS ABUTTU (DR. Q.)

Dealers' Room – 50 minutes

FRIDAY 7:00 PM

RAVENCON OPENING CEREMONIES

Large Auditorium – 50 minutes

Welcome to RavenCon 14! We'll be giving out powers and mutations to all of our Aces and Jokers at Opening Ceremonies. We'll also be presenting last year's RavenConnie Award as well as the very first Webster Award for best Virginia author. Plus a special performance by Devo Spice.

MAZINGER Z INFINITY (TV14)

Room 3 (Anime Room)

FRIDAY 8:00 PM

WHOSE LINE IS IT ANYWAY?

Large Auditorium – 50 minutes

Based on the TV show, our talented writer guests take improv to a new level, with a science fiction theme. Host Peter

Prellwitz does not let them know beforehand what they'll be doing. Audience participation is expected!

Performers: *Billy Flynn, Gail Z. Martin, Peter Prellwitz (MC), Michael A. Ventrella*

CONCERT: ANTLER HILL ARTS

Small Auditorium – 50 minutes

Antler Hill's style can be described as "rustic folk rock" and is inspired by scarecrows, autumn, and the work of Danny Elfman. These two singers, with acoustic guitar, electric guitar, and banjo, perform live to the accompaniment of a full orchestral backing track and use the stage to bring awareness to the topics of stuttering and bullying.

WORLDBUILDING IN SCI-FI AND FANTASY

Room 1 – 50 minutes

Is there an order to world building in sci-fi and fantasy? What needs to be included to create a realistic world in a place that doesn't exist? In this presentation, seasoned author and publisher Jaimie Engle will discuss elements necessary for world building, whether you are a new author, professional, or just enjoy reading. As an official Writer's of the Future instructor, student of Orson Scott Card, and winner of the Writer's of the Future award for her story "The Dredge," Jaimie is excited to share what she's discovered as a sci-fi and fantasy writer.

COSPLAY MASH-UPS

Room 2 – 50 minutes

How do you put together a costume that will show off two of your favorite things at once?

Panelists: *Carla Brindle, Cailin Cutrell, Kat Milby – Side Quest Cosplay, WeyrWoman Cosplay (M)*

READING: VALERIE J. MIKLES & JEAN MARIE WARD

Room 4 – 50 minutes

READING: JIM BERNHEIMER & DINA LEACOCK

Room 5 – 50 minutes

WILD CARDS

Room 8 – 50 minutes

32 years and 27 books (so far) and still going strong. Our panelists talk about their favorite books, story arcs, characters, authors and more from three plus decades of the Wild Card Universe.

Panelists: *Patrick Dugan, Michael D. Pederson (M), Melinda M. Snodgrass*

FREE ENTERPRISE: SPECIAL DIRECTOR'S CUT

Room D (RavenCon Film Festival) – 121 minutes

The hilarious story follows two lifelong pals and their crazy gang of nerdy friends as they navigate the intricacies of life, love, adulting, and meeting your childhood heroes. This special edition of the film features Eric McCormack, Rafer Weigel, and William Shatner. (Mature Audiences)

EPISODES VII-IX: THE NEW TRILOGY

Room E – 50 minutes

The *Star Wars* sequel trilogy spurred controversy among fans long before *The Force Awakens* premiered. Together, we'll examine how these conflicts mirror some of the controversial themes of *The Last Jedi* and how important the past should be to the franchise's future.

Panelists: *Jason Hamlin, Nathan Skreslet – PixelWho (M), Stormraven, Steve White*

MUSIC AND ART INFLUENCES IN SF/F FICTION

Room F – 50 minutes

Where have our panelists used music or art in SF/F stories or novels, or seen it used? What are your favorite examples? When you share a playlist with your readers, is it always the same music you wrote to?

Panelists: *Declan Finn, Alexander G.R. Gideon, James P. Nettles, Gray Rinehart (M)*

SPACE DOES NOT WORK THAT WAY

Room G – 50 minutes

A discussion of the most commonly used incorrect space and spaceflight tropes in science fiction, and where they go wrong. What are some alternatives? How could real constraints spur new creativity?

Panelists: *Jack Clemons, Dr. Andrew Owens (M), N.A. Ratnayake, Bud Sparhawk, Christopher Weuwe*

POPCORN AND A MOVIE!

WES ANDERSON'S FANTASTIC MR. FOX

Room H – 90 minutes

The 2009 Oscar nominated adaptation of a Roald Dahl classic. Now a classic stop-animation work itself starring a voice cast including George Clooney, Bill Murray, and Meryl Streep.

SPLENDID TEAPOT RACING: DEMO RACE

Room K – 2 hours

Come find out just what Splendid Teapot Racing is. Try a racer. There will be a raffle for three teapot racers!

Presenters: *Hampton Roads Splendid Teapot Racing*

ANGELS IN LITERATURE

Room L – 50 minutes

In Greek mythology, Daedalus constructs wings for his son Icarus, to mimic angels in flight. In cyberpunk, man has constructed electronic angels, free from those pesky laws of physics. What defines an angel? How do angels in SF differ from the classical treatment of angels? How are they similar? What attracts writers and readers to this trope? And what would Milton think?

Panelists: *L. Jagi Lamplighter, Melissa McArthur, Margaret S. McGraw (M), Joan Wendland*

SIGNING: LEANN M. RETTELL & JACK MCDEVITT

Dealers' Room – 50 minutes

FRIDAY 8:30 PM

YAMADA'S FIRST TIME: B GATA H KEI 1-6 (TVMA)

Room 3 (Anime Room)

FRIDAY 9:00 PM

CONCERT: DEVO SPICE

Large Auditorium – 1 hour

Join Devo Spice for comedy-rap songs about technology, *Doctor Who*, and anything else he finds funny.

MIDNIGHT MONSTER MOVIES:**DEMON WITH THE ATOMIC BRAIN**

Small Auditorium – 2 hours

Horror host Dr. Bob Tesla brings the full *M3wDB* experience to RavenCon to present *Demon With The Atomic Brain!* A failed attempt to weaponize a machine capable of opening portals to other worlds creates an exponentially expanding bubble of fractured space-time which threatens to engulf the entire universe! An elite team of specialists must enter a “crack” in the disturbance and make their way down a rabbit hole of increasingly more dangerous alternate realities to find and shut down the machine which created it! Will their last-ditch attempt to save humanity be successful? Will this be how the universe ends? Find out in writer/director Christopher R. Mihm's exciting homage to the sci-fi adventure films of the late 1950s.

ADAPTATION: THE TRIVIA GAME

Ten Forward – 50 minutes

Think you know the difference between the adaptations of your favorite sci-fi and fantasy franchises? Test your knowledge with and against your fellow fans to see how much you know. Prizes will be awarded at random and to the top participants. Must have a smartphone or tablet to participate.

Presenter: *Jason Hamlin*

ARTIST GOH WORKSHOP: DRAWING THE CHARACTER

Room 1 – 50 minutes

Whether you have guidelines for a freelance project or you're creating something off the top of your head, there are specific challenges in coming up with that initial character design. Spooni* takes you through those steps in a quick study of form and light.

Panelists: *Nikole McDonald-Jones aka Spooni**

CTHULHU MYTHOS

Room 2 – 50 minutes

Which was more terrifying? The original Cthulhu Mythos where humans are helpless before uncaring and indifferent entities from the great beyond or Modified Cthulhu Mythos where there are more direct and more graphic monsters. Did the later authors water down the horror?

Panelists: *Jason Ray Carney, Carl Cipra (M), Nathan Vernon Madison, Fabian Rush*

READING: JOHN C. WRIGHT & L. JAGI LAMPLIGHTER

Room 4 – 50 minutes

TABLING AT A CONVENTION

Room 5 – 50 minutes

While wandering the Artists Alley or Vendor Room, have you ever thought to yourself, “I should do that!” Learn what it takes to have a successful convention table and develop good sales techniques.

Panelists: *Ly Cao – PixelWho*

THE WRITING OF THE SNARK:**THE ART OF WRITING HUMOROUS FICTION**

Room 8 – 50 minutes

Tips and techniques for writing humorous fiction.

Panelists: *T. Eric Bakutis, Jim Bernheimer, Larry Hodges (M), Monica Marier*

DAMSELS SAVING THEMSELVES: DISNEY PRINCESSES

Room E – 50 minutes

We all remember when Mulan found her inner warrior, but what about all those other princesses who kick butt and take names? Let's take some time to show our respect for all the princesses that are more than capable of saving themselves.

Panelists: *Wednesday Mourning, Dr. Kat Sinclair, Stormraven (M)*

CANNIBALISM!

Room F – 50 minutes

From Sawney Bean and Sweeney Todd to *The Hills Have Eyes* and *Hannibal*, we explore the role of cannibalism in horror literature and film and its historical/anthropological roots.

Panelists: *J. “Cal” Baldari, R.S. Belcher, Mark Geary (M), Kat Milby – Side Quest Cosplay*

EFFECTS OF SPACEFLIGHT ON THE HUMAN BODY

Room G – 50 minutes

Humans are most definitely not evolved for space, and this introduces a whole slew of serious obstacles to long-duration human spaceflight and settlement. Yet the general public, science fiction writers, and even technical professionals in the field of human spaceflight often downplay or ignore these challenges. What if the biggest challenges in the way of expanding humanity into space are not in the space technology, but in our own bodies?

Panelists: *Jim Beall, Paula S. Jordan, Valerie J. Mikles, Dr. Matthew Simon (M)*

FAVORITE HORROR TROPES

Room L – 50 minutes

Panelists discuss the most common, the best, and the worst of the horror tropes in our favorite stories. What scares us the best? Attend and find out.

Panelists: *Lexie Carver, Michael Cieslak, Jason Gilbert (M), Pamela K. Kinney, Angel Metro*

FRIDAY 10:00 PM

OPEN FILKING

Ten Forward – 2 hours

A late-night gathering of musicians where you can sing, play, or just listen. Open to everyone!

CREATIVE COUPLES

Room 2 – 50 minutes

A discussion of the experience needed to balance two professionally creative people in one relationship.

Panelists: *Jim Deeley (M)*, *Kristi Deeley*, *Janet Carden*,
Roger Carden

READING: PAIGE L. CHRISTIE & C. McDONNELL

Room 4 – 50 minutes

WORKSHOP: AN ART PORTFOLIO REVIEW

Room 5 – 50 minutes

Are you an inspiring artist trying to attract new clients or land your dream job? Get a personal portfolio critique from a professional artist to help you on your path.

Panelists: *Nathan Skreslet – PixelWho*

ALT-HISTORY WITH A FANTASTICAL FLAIR

Room 8 – 50 minutes

Alternate history often has a military basis and a near-future, SF flavor... but it doesn't have to be that way. Our panel considers alt-history that leans to the fantastic.

Panelists: *Doc Coleman (M)*, *Cass Morris*, *Jean Marie Ward*,
John C. Wright

WOMEN IN GAMING AND STREAMING: OUR PERSPECTIVE

Room E – 50 minutes

Women face unique challenges as both gamers and streamers online. Our panelists will discuss how they handle these challenges, as well as their success stories.

Panelists: *Cailin Cutrell (M)*, *HeroineBOB*, *Lilith*

THE WHO, WHAT, AND HUH OF KINK

Room F – 50 minutes

If you are new to or just curious about the world of kink (don't worry, you're not the only one) this panel is for you. If doesn't matter if you are a dom, a sub, switch or if you have no idea what any of that means, come to the panel. Listen and ask questions from long-time members of the community in a non-judgemental environment. This is a basic level introduction panel. (18+ only, IDs checked.)

Panelists: *Samantha Heuwagen*, *Nickie Jamison*, *Pattycakes*,
Syrinx

QUANTUM COMPUTING, WHEN/WHY/HOW?

Room G – 50 minutes

Quantum physics is something we've all heard of, but it rarely makes a difference in our daily lives. That is about to change. As we approach the limits of Moore's law, quantum superposition will take us into a new world of performance comput-

ing. A world where outdated cryptography will be broken instantly, and problems not even thought solvable by super-computer will become almost trivial. Dr. Ben will take his best stab at explaining the technology in meaningful yet understandable terms. And tell you how you can see it for yourself even today.

Panelists: *Dr. Ben Davis*

PARANORMAL AS METAPHOR

Room L – 50 minutes

Are zombies a metaphor for extreme capitalism or the dangers of an angry, unthinking mob? Are werewolves our animalistic instincts that we must overcome or a triumph of nature over civilization? Our panelists discuss whether a vampire is ever really just a vampire.

Panelists: *Lexie Carver*, *Michael Cieslak (M)*,

Pamela K. Kinney, *Leann M. Rettell*

FRIDAY 10:30 PM

CONCERT: ANGEL METRO

Large Auditorium – 1 hour

Angel Metro blends the elements of heartbreak and hope to create an electronic sound nestled in Dark Magic.

ZENITH

Room D (RavenCon Film Festival) – 93 minutes

Zenith is a retro-futuristic steam-punk thriller following parallel stories of father and son—now, and 40 years in the future. Investigating the same conspiracy, they find no answers; instead, their lives unravel, forcing them to examine themselves and their surroundings. In the end, they are both confronted with the same Faustian bargain—but choose very different paths. By “Anonymous.”

FRIDAY 11:00 PM

WORLD OF WARCRAFT ROUND TABLE

Room 1 – 50 minutes

We will delve into what the game is about, how the lore impacts how one plays, and what is the future of Warcraft. Come and bring your thoughts and ideas to add to the conversation.

Panelists: *E.L. Fortner (M)*

THE ORVILLE: SEASON 2

Room 2 – 50 minutes

What do our panelists think worked about Season 2, and what didn't? What do they hope to see in a possible Season 3?

Panelists: *D.J. McGuire*, *Donna Parker*, *Frank Parker (M)*

READING: EMILY LAVIN LEVERETT & PAT O'KEEFE

Room 4 – 50 minutes

READING: MICHAEL CIESLAK & DOC COLEMAN

Room 5 – 50 minutes

WOMEN AND NON-BINARY CHARACTERS IN A MAN'S WORLD

Room 8 – 50 minutes

When writing female characters, “she boobed boobily” is not the best description. Learn how to respectfully and accurately depict characters of different genders than your own.

Panelists: *R.S. Belcher, Paige L. Christie (M),
Samantha Heuwagen, Valerie J. Mikles*

WINCHESTER BROS: FANTASTIC BEASTS AND HOW TO KILL THEM

Room E – 50 minutes

Grab the rock salt and get ready to fight! Sam and Dean have fought a lot of monsters over the last 13 seasons, but which was the best? Are there any we want to see again in the final two seasons? Join our honorary hunters as they take a look back at the most memorable monsters-of-the-week.

Panelists: *Kristi Deeley, Gail Z. Martin (M), Dr. Kat Sinclair,
Mourning Star*

ETHICAL NON-MONOGAMY

Room F – 50 minutes

The panel discusses relationships that consist of more than two people. The panel will cover topics such as polyamory, swinging, and open relationships. We will talk about the differences between the three, how to be open and honest, and the importance of communication. (18+ only, IDs checked.)

Panelists: *The Bruce, Nickie Jamison*

LATE NIGHT DANCE PARTY WITH DJ DRAE

Room K – 2 hours

DJ Drae will keep you moving on the dance floor with a mix of new wave, pop, and all your favorite 80's tunes—Michael Jackson, Madonna, Cyndi Lauper, Prince, The Cure, Bananarama, A-Ha, Wham! and many more. Requests are always welcome.

THIS IS HALLOWEEN

Room L – 50 minutes

All Hallow's Eve, Samhain, All Souls' Day, Dia de los Muertos, Mischief Night... Whatever you want to call it, we'll discuss the history of Halloween, its various traditions, and how it's influenced our favorite books and movies.

Panelists: *Jeanne Adams, Richard Groller (M), Syrinx,
Jean Marie Ward*

FRIDAY MIDNIGHT

CONCERT: SYNTHETIC NIGHTMARE

Large Auditorium – 2 hours

Synthetic Nightmare's sound incorporates both harsh and melodic textures, with progressive and experimental touches to keep listeners attention. Not to be missed!

DREAM NARRATIVES

Room 8 – 50 minutes

From William Shakespeare to Lewis Carroll to Neil Gaiman, ambitious authors are addicted to dreams as a narrative

device. What's going on when we're asleep that is so terribly compelling to fantasy writers?

Panelists: *Jeanne Adams (M), Emily Lavin Leverett,
Pat O'Keefe, Jean Marie Ward*

BEYOND THE FINAL GIRL

Room L – 50 minutes

The final girl is a horror trope that refers to the last girl left alive to confront the killer (eg. *Halloween, Alien, Friday the 13th, A Nightmare on Elm Street, Scream*). On the surface, this seems progressive but has led to a stereotype of wholesome two-dimensional characters. Is it time for the final girl to die?

Panelists: *Jason Ray Carney, Lexie Carver, Michael Cieslak,
Carol J. Cowles (M)*

SATURDAY 9:00 AM

BUSINESS FUNDAMENTALS FOR CREATIVES

Room 1 – 50 minutes

Author James P. Nettles will discuss what is a creative business, how to turn your creative work into something that makes you money, and the fundamentals of marketing.

READING: FREDDIE SILVA & LAUREL ANNE HILL

Room 4 – 50 minutes

THE MOST COMMON REASONS FOR REJECTION

Room 8 – 50 minutes

Our panel, including several editors, share some of the most common reasons they say no to stories.

Panelists: *Janet Carden, Roger Carden, Jack McDevitt,
Jim Minz (M), Kermit Woodall*

RISE WITH THE MACHINES:

SATURDAY MORNING ROBOTICS DEMO

Room G – 2 hours

Wake up to the sights and sounds of our future overlords chugging, whizzing, and battling it out as local robotics clubs strut their mechanical stuff! This event is fun for all ages.

Panelists: *Aluminati, Dr. Christopher A. Jones (MC),
Lord of the Bricks, Synergy*

CRAFT TIME

Room J – 3 hours

A handful of sci-fi and fantasy crafts will be available. Which would you like to make?

AVOIDING CARDBOARD VILLAINS: HOW TO WRITE VILLAINS THAT ENGAGE & INTRIGUE READERS

Room L – 50 minutes

Great protagonists are only as memorable as the antagonists they must defeat! Instead of making all murderers crazy psychopaths and all adversaries driven by revenge, let's discuss easy, practical ways to build villains that are as complex and formidable as our heroes.

Panelists: *Jason A. Adams, Alexander G.R. Gideon,
GB MacRae, Bishop O'Connell (M)*

SATURDAY 10:00 AM

CONCERT: GRAY RINEHART

Large Auditorium – 50 minutes

Gray sings serious songs inspired by science fiction and fantasy.

INTERVIEW WITH A DALEK

Small Auditorium – 50 minutes

Have you ever wanted to talk to a Dalek and not risk extermination? Here is your chance, as a Dalek from the Planet Skaro has agreed to answer your questions about Dalek history, twists in time, and their extreme hatred of the Doctor. The builders will also answer questions about the construction of their previous Daleks and the current construction and 3D printing of “Bumpy MKIII.”

Panelists: *Old Dominion Daleks*

GETTING THE “POINT”

Room 1 – 50 minutes

As writers, we’re all familiar with the terms “point of view” and “point-of-view characters.” Yet writers, particularly beginning ones, don’t always make the most effective viewpoint choices. Award-winning author, Laurel Anne Hill, will discuss viewpoint options in this interactive workshop.

COSPLAY IS NOT CONSENT

Room 2 – 50 minutes

Join costumers as they share their experiences in costume and discuss dealing with less-than-respectful “fans.”

Panelists: *Carla Brindle (M), Stormraven, WeyrWoman Cosplay*

SAILOR MOON SUPERS: THE MOVIE (TV14)

Room 3 (Anime Room)

READING: BUD SPARHAWK & JACK MCDEVITT

Room 4 – 50 minutes

WRITERS’ WORKSHOP

Room 5 – 2 hours

Participants will be given a brief writing exercise, which our panel will then comment on, trying to help the writer understand what they did well and where they can improve.

Panelists: *Querus Abuttu (Dr. Q.), T. Frohock,*

Allen L. Wold (M), Darcy Wold

FOCUS ON DIALOGUE

Room 8 – 50 minutes

Does your dialogue need punching up? How do you learn to write lifelike dialogue? What adjustments do you make for characters of different ages and identities?

Panelists: *Jason A. Adams, Larry Hodges, Nancy Northcott (M),*

Bishop O’Connell, Melinda M. Snodgrass

SHORT FILM BLOCK

Room D (RavenCon Film Festival) – 30 minutes

We Summoned a Demon: A couple of slackers are playing with forces they do not completely understand, and there’s HELL to pay! By Chris McInroy. (5:52)

Liminal: The lead scientist on an secret experiment to teleport humans encounters a co-worker on a smoke break. As she grapples with the implications of recent discoveries, it’s clear that a dire mistake has been made. By Collin Davis and Matt Litwiller. (6:52)

Special Day: Birthdays are a time for the whole family to come together and celebrate. This family has a dark secret though, which makes this party one to remember. By Teal Greyhavens and Nikolai von Keller. (7:09)

The Infamous Guy Christman: The interrogation of a fierce CIA agent by the eponymous Guy Christman goes awry during a real estate open house conducted by his wife. By Anthony DeNiro (5:36)

VIDEO GAMES AS STORYTELLER

Room E – 50 minutes

Video games can tell stories in ways other media can’t. Our panelists discuss the unique advantages to gaming as a storytelling medium.

Panelists: *T. Eric Bakutis, Roger Carden, Jim Deeley (M),*

Otto Linke, Robert E. Waters

CLOTHES MAKE THE CHARACTER

Room F – 50 minutes

Learn how costuming and costume design can reveal or conceal information about characters in fiction.

Panelists: *Nikole McDonald-Jones aka Spooni*, Cass Morris (M)*

LEGO FREE PLAY

Room H – 2 hours

Lego and Duplo blocks available for builders of all ages with LEGO movies on the side!

CHOOSING AN EDITOR

Room L – 50 minutes

Acquiring editors, developmental editors, copyeditors... what kind of editor do you need? And how do you find one? Join the panelists to learn more about the kinds of editors, what to expect when working with an editor, and how to choose an editor that you can work with—and how to work in a situation when you don’t get to choose your own editor.

Panelists: *Hannah Bauman, Harrison Demchick,*

Melissa McArthur (M), J.A. Sutherland

SIGNING: CHRIS KENNEDY

Dealers’ Room – 50 minutes

SATURDAY 11:00 AM

CONCERT: DIMENSIONAL RIFFS

Large Auditorium – 1 hour

This nerd rock band has songs for every fan: *Firefly, The Expanse, Harry Potter, Star Wars, Pacific Rim* and more!

HORROR HOSTING THE HARD WAY

Small Auditorium – 50 minutes

Dr. Bob Tesla talks about the creation of the *Midnight Monster Movies with Dr. Bob* show and the behind-the-scenes stories that shaped it.

CHRIS KENNEDY PUBLISHING: THE YEAR AHEAD

Room 1 – 50 minutes

It doesn't matter what you like in a book, Chris Kennedy Publishing probably has something for you! From bestselling sci-fi to thrillers to epic fantasy, we've got it all! Come see what will be released in the coming months... and maybe win a free book for the effort.

Panelists: *Robert E. Hampson, Chris Kennedy (M), Sandra L. Medlock*

STRING FANCIES WORKSHOP

Room 2 – 2 hours

This cotton bracelet workshop is open to kids of all ages. No fee, limit 8 participants.

Panelists: *Loren Damewood*

SOUL EATER 1-7 (TV14)

Room 3 (Anime Room)

READING: GRAY RINEHART & CASS MORRIS

Room 4 – 50 minutes

BASING CHARACTERS ON REAL PEOPLE

Room 8 – 50 minutes

Family, friends, amazing, or irritating fans... the pitfalls, pros, and prose of basing characters on people in your life.

Panelists: *Sandra Baldari (M), James Kendley, Kari Kilgore, C. McDonnell, Freddie Silva*

YESTERDAY WAS A LIE

Room D (RavenCon Film Festival) – 89 minutes

Last year's winner for Best Feature Film. A private investigator, finds herself on the trail of a reclusive genius. With an ethereal lounge singer and her loyal partner as her only allies, she is plunged into a world of intrigue and cosmological secrets. Starring Kipleigh Brown and Chase Masterson, with a special introduction by the writer/director James Kerwin.

HOW TO GIVE A DYNAMITE READING

Room E – 50 minutes

You may be a talented writer, but reading aloud is a very different skill. Learn to make your words on the page come alive.

Panelists: *Denise Clemons (M), Dave Joria, Monica Marier, Nancy Northcott*

CRUTCH WORDS AND VERBING ADVERBLY

Room F – 50 minutes

A panel discussing common crutch words and strategies to avoid them, as well as ways to strengthen prose through better use of verbs. This panel will also discuss the relationship between authors and editors.

Panelists: *Genevieve Iseult Eldredge, Alexander G.R. Gideon (M), Melissa McArthur, Margaret S. McGraw*

HONORVERSE STRATEGIC OVERVIEW: WHY MANTICORE WON THE WAR

Room G – 50 minutes

In the *Honor Harrington* series, Manticore beat Haven because... why? (Hint: The answer involves an examination of the use of the elements of national power against the opponent's center of gravity.) This talk—written by a graduate of the Naval War College—examines the ends, ways, and means of Manticore's victory.

Panelists: *Christopher Weuve*

LIGHTSABER DEMO

Room K – 50 minutes

Combining SF excitement with martial arts skills, The Tidewater Alliance Lightsaber Academy will teach you basic skills, and the history of the lightsaber in a fun atmosphere.

BETA READERS

Room L – 50 minutes

Do authors still use beta readers? Who should an author's beta reader be? Panelists discuss the use, or lack thereof, of beta readers in the writing process.

Panelists: *Patrick Dugan (M), Jason Gilbert, GB MacRae, Christopher Metcalf*

SIGNING: STEVE WHITE & LARRY HODGES

Dealers' Room – 50 minutes

SATURDAY NOON

THE RETURN OF AMAZING STORIES: HOW WE DID IT AND WHAT WE'RE UP TO

Room 1 – 50 minutes

Amazing Stories was the world's first science fiction magazine as well as a fondly remembered 1980's television show. So how did we revive the magazine, sublicense the name to a revival of the show, and what are our future plans? Kermit Woodall, Art Director for *Amazing Stories*, will discuss all this as well as goals for the magazine, how writers and artists can submit, and will take your questions.

Panelists: *Jack Clemons, Kermit Woodall (M)*

READING: ALEXANDER G.R. GIDEON & GENEVIEVE ISEULT ELDRIDGE

Room 4 – 50 minutes

READING: GOH MELINDA M. SNODGRASS

Room 8 – 50 minutes

Melinda M. Snodgrass reads from her latest work and answers questions from the audience.

50 YEARS OF COMPUTER GAMING

Room E – 50 minutes

We've come a long way from PacMan (and its predecessors). Bring your stories of the games you started with, your current favorites, and where you think/hope the field is headed.

Panelists: *T. Eric Bakutis, Jim Deeley, Nikole McDonald-Jones aka Spooni*, James P. Nettles (M), Nathan Skreslet – PixelWho*

STEAMPUNK 101

Room F – 50 minutes

Steampunk crosses the worlds of literature, costuming, crafting, movies, and more. But what is steampunk? Where did it start and why is it called that? A look at the history of the genre and its rising popularity over the past decade.

Panelists: *Sandra Baldari, Doc Coleman (M), Gail Z. Martin, Margaret S. McGraw*

XENO-ARCHAEOLOGY ROADSHOW

Room G – 50 minutes

A treasure trove of Xeno-archaeological artifacts has been discovered! Come witness as a panel of eminent Xeno-archaeologists review the precious items and analyze them as to their uses in their long-ago cultures. Be advised, however, that audience members may be asked to give their own assessments!

Panelists: *Jim Beall (M), Jason Gilbert, Robert E. Hampson, Jack McDevitt*

TO PLOT OR NOT

Room L – 50 minutes

Authors enjoy their friendly arguments (Apple vs Android, Trad vs Indie) and a big one is plotting versus “pantsing” their work. This panel will hash it out once and for all. We’ll discuss pros and cons for each method and what works and doesn’t work.

Panelists: *Patrick Dugan, Kari Kilgore, Christopher Metcalf (M), Freddie Silva*

SIGNING: VALERIE J. MIKLES & OTTO LINKE

Dealers’ Room – 50 minutes

SATURDAY 12:30 PM

CONCERT: ANGEL METRO

Large Auditorium – 50 minutes

Angel Metro blends the elements of heartbreak and hope to create an electronic sound nestled in Dark Magic.

BOOK LAUNCH: *THE JUMPROPE CHRONICLES*

Room 5 – 50 minutes

Jersey Pines Ink will be launching their first collection of *The JumpRope Chronicles* short stories, featuring JumpRope’s favorite characters. This ebook follows the *JumpRope Chronicles: Death Behind The Lilacs* and will be available before the late spring release of *The JumpRope Chronicles: Death Counts The Golden Coins*. This is also a pre-release party for JPI’s first anthology, *Crypt Gnats*, featuring stories from 29 writers from around the world. Stop by for refreshments as well as drawings for prizes.

Host: *Dina Leacock*

SATURDAY 1:00 PM

NERD JEOPARDY!

Small Auditorium – 50 minutes

A fun trivia game based on the popular game show. Four contestants (who apply ahead of time) will compete against one another to win prizes, including a gift card grand prize. This

game will also feature special rules to make it more fun and competitive. Also, there will be opportunities for audience members to win prizes!

Host: *Jason Hamlin*

POE THE SUPERHERO

Room 1 – 50 minutes

Since the theme of this year’s RavenCon is “Superheroes,” we will make the case that seemingly mild-mannered nineteenth century writer Edgar Allan Poe is, in fact, a superhero. After all, Poe has fought crime alongside Batman and the Atom in the comics and has chased down villains in dozens of films and novels. He has battled supernatural foes in graphic novels including Jason Asala’s *Poe*, Ray Felix’s *Poe is the Raven*, and Dwight MacPherson’s *The Imaginary Voyages of Edgar Allan Poe*; and he even has his own action figure. This presentation will trace the accounts of Poe’s various adventures from his supposed death until today, and we will discuss what superpowers the Master of the Macabre brings to the table.

Panelists: *Chris Semtner*

PLOTTING WORKSHOP

Room 2 – 2 hours

A story has more than just a beginning and an end, it has a middle—setting, characters, challenges. We’ll walk through the process of creating one form of a plotting outline (not story outline) to give substance to your idea.

Panelists: *Allen L. Wold*

READING: LARRY HODGES & JAMES KENDLEY

Room 4 – 50 minutes

SIGNING: GOH MELINDA M. SNODGRASS

Room 8 – 50 minutes

INALIENABLE

Room D (RavenCon Film Festival) – 107 minutes

Written by Walter Koenig. InAlienable explores topical and sometimes controversial themes such as governmental abuse of power, parental rights, security versus individual freedom, and the idea of what makes one truly human. Starring Walter Koenig, Richard Hatch, and Marina Sirtis.

CREATING WITH A CHRONIC CONDITION

Room E – 50 minutes

There are always challenges to being a creator, some of our challenges are just a little more specific. We’ll discuss some of those challenges as well as some of the benefits involved with creating with a chronic condition.

Panelists: *HeroineBOB (M), Heidi Hooper, Chris Shrewsbury*

PURPLE PROSE

Room F – 50 minutes

What makes purple prose purple? What if purple prose is your favorite? Are adjectives and adverbs really evil? When description-heavy prose fails and when it wins.

Panelists: *Paige L. Christie, Harrison Demchick, Gray Rinehart (M)*

BIOLOGY, MEDICINE, AND THE LIFE SCIENCES IN SF/F

Room G – 50 minutes

Information having to do with biology and the medical sciences is often handwaved away or given short shrift in SF/F, even in so-called hard SF. What explorations of biology and medicine are already out there in the genre, what can be improved, and what are the big bio questions that writers should be exploring? What about in fantasy and horror?

Panelists: *Querus Abuttu (Dr. Q.)*, *Robert E. Hampson (M)*,
Brent “EvilPenguin” Roeder, *Dr. Matthew Simon*

MINECRAFT POCKET EDITION 101: KID TO KID

Room H – 1 hour

Want to learn (and then play) with teachers who will understand you? Join our Rook hosts, Ian and Aeowyn Chandler, for a fun hour of Minecraft.

LEGO STAR WARS GROUP BUILD

Room J – 50 minutes

YAs will build Lego Star Wars sets together.

SPLENDID TEAPOT RACING: YOU GOT SERVED!

Room K – 2 hours

Splendid Teapot Racing is a unique sporting activity from our steampunk brethren in New Zealand that’s quickly spreading around the world. It is an obstacle course of candlesticks, ramps, and a gateway that must be traversed using a remote controlled teapot. These RC teapots can be a great outlet for creative energies. We are hoping to make Teapot Racing standard fare at conventions across the United States.

Presenters: *Hampton Roads Splendid Teapot Racing*

HOPEPUNK

Room L – 50 minutes

Hopepunk is part of a cultural and storytelling trend toward optimism and positivity. How did the trend start and what are some good examples?

Panelists: *J. “Cal” Baldari*, *Joan Wendland (M)*,
Christopher Weuve

SIGNING: GAIL Z. MARTIN

Dealers’ Room – 50 minutes

SATURDAY 1:30 PM

CONCERT: SHADOW BALLADEERS

Large Auditorium – 1 hour

RavenCon’s very own house band performs the soundtrack for *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*.

SATURDAY 2:00 PM

NAVIGATING PORTRAYALS OF MENTAL HEALTH IN THE PUBLISHING WORLD

Room 1 – 2 hours

Even as the world opens up to discussions surrounding mental health, there are many hurdles authors may face as they

include these discussions in their work. Hannah Bauman, editor and author, and Samantha Heuwagen, therapist and author, will discuss the problems they’ve seen and strategies to write and publish realistic depictions of mental health. This includes working with publishing professionals whose views don’t align with the author’s, inaccurate depictions of mental illness, and tips for writing realistic portrayals of mental health in sci-fi and fantasy worlds.

ADOLESCENCE OF UTENA (NR)

Room 3 (Anime Room)

READING: NIKOLE McDONALD-JONES AKA SPOONI* & BISHOP O’CONNELL

Room 4 – 50 minutes

BOOK LAUNCH: BUSINESS ESSENTIALS FOR WRITERS

Room 5 – 50 minutes

Science fiction and fantasy, technology, and futurist author Jim Nettles is launching *Business Essentials for Writers*, a book on the fundamentals of business for creatives.

ALTERNATE HISTORIES

Room 8 – 50 minutes

An alternate history is a version of historical events that differs from the official record that purports to be the true version. How do writers approach alternate history stories? How do readers approach them?

Panelists: *Jack Clemons*, *Laurel Anne Hill (M)*, *Jack McDevitt*,
Robert E. Waters, *Steve White*

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION RETROSPECTIVE

Room E – 50 minutes

A look back at the series that resurrected the *Star Trek* franchise.

Panelists: *R.S. Belcher*, *Jason Ray Carney*, *Jim Deeley*,
Nathan Vernon Madison (M), *Christopher Weuve*

BROAD UNIVERSE RAPID FIRE READING

Room F – 2 hours

Join members of Broad Universe—an organization dedicated to women in genre fiction—for a whole bunch of really short readings crammed into one panel.

Panelists: *Jeanne Adams*, *Margaret L. Carter*, *Paige L. Christie*,
Jason Gilbert, *Laurel Anne Hill*, *Amy Kaplan*,
Dina Leacock, *Emily Lavin Leverett*, *Gail Z. Martin*,
Melissa McArthur, *Margaret S. McGraw*,
Nancy Northcott, *Jennifer R. Povey*, *Leann M. Rettell*,
Jean Marie Ward (M), *Joan Wendland*, *Leona Wisoker*

COLONIZING MARS

Room G – 50 minutes

Elon Musk recently announced that he was going to colonize Mars. Are his plans reasonable? Are they even possible within the current technology?

Panelists: *Dr. Christopher A. Jones (M)*, *Paula S. Jordan*,
Valerie J. Mikles, *Dr. Andrew Owens*, *N.A. Ratnayake*

COLORING AND CRAFT TIME

Room H – 2 hours

Coloring pages and crafting supplies will be available for some messy fun.

SELF-PUB AIN'T JUST WRITING

Room L – 50 minutes

Join our panelists for a discussion on all the “other stuff” involved in a being an author/publisher.

Panelists: *Jason A. Adams, Chris Kennedy, L. Jagi Lamplighter (M), David A. Tatum*

SIGNING: JANET CARDEN & ROGER CARDEN

Dealers' Room – 50 minutes

MELT WITH DC IN 2021 ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Room 7 (Con Suite) – 50 minutes

When Washington, DC bids to host Worldcon, people complain that DC is too hot in August. If you can't beat it, own it. Come enjoy a scoop of ice cream with the bid staff in the Con Suite.

SATURDAY 3:00 PM

CONCERT: LIBRARY BARDS

Large Auditorium – 50 minutes

Transforming Top 40 songs into the nerdy versions they should have been in the first place!

VIRTUAL MOVIE HOSTING: TAKING HORROR HOSTING TO THE FUTURE!

Small Auditorium – 50 minutes

Dr. Bob Tesla was the first horror host in virtual reality! Starting the VR off-shoot in October 2017, we've had to learn what works and, more importantly, what doesn't in the new medium!

COSPLAY IDEAS

Room 2 – 50 minutes

Got a great costume but don't want to wear it with sneakers? Need to elevate your hairdo beyond a ponytail? Not sure what to do with that lipstick? Our cosplay experts discuss the ins and outs of accessories, styling, and all the little touches that make your cosplay work.

Panelists: *Carla Brindle, Cailin Cutrell (M), Kat Milby – Side Quest Cosplay, WeyrWoman Cosplay*

READING: CHRIS SEMTNER

Room 4 – 50 minutes

INTERVIEW: GOH MELINDA M. SNODGRASS

Room 8 – 50 minutes

RavenCon Chair, Michael D. Pederson, interviews Author Guest of Honor Melinda M. Snodgrass.

INTRO TO NEW MEDIA

Room E – 50 minutes

All the cool kids are doing it... and more importantly, even more of the not-so-cool kids are doing it. So what do you need to know to get started? Go live or record and syndicate only? What kind of mics? Record in your basement or a studio somewhere?

Panelists: *Doc Coleman, Flynnstress, Otto Linke, Rich Sigfrit (M), Jon “the Vicar” Stallard*

WHAT ARE THE NEW QUESTIONS SCIENCE FICTION SHOULD BE ASKING?

Room G – 50 minutes

SF in particular is meant to be a forward-looking genre. What questions should contemporary SF/F writers be asking that they are not? Which sciences are being overlooked, even in hard SF? What imminent issues are not yet being sufficiently explored?

Panelists: *Carl Cipra (M), Dr. Christopher A. Jones, Paula S. Jordan, N.A. Ratnayake, Brent “EvilPenguin” Roeder*

A BIG PILE OF COMICS!

Room J – 50 minutes

YAs will get to pluck from Mr. Cat's own comic book collection and read a couple issues with some mellow music playing in the background.

COMBINING THE MYSTERY/DETECTIVE GENRE WITH SF

Room L – 50 minutes

Although humanity changes very slowly, in the future the methods used to commit crime and enforce laws will certainly change. What elements of detective fiction make for satisfying science fiction? What elements of science fiction make for satisfying mysteries? In the cold world of cyberpunk, does justice usually prevail?

Panelists: *T. Eric Bakutis, Meriah L. Crawford (M), Declan Finn, Jack McDevitt, Joan Wendland*

SIGNING: BISHOP O'CONNELL & GB MACRAE

Dealers' Room – 50 minutes

SATURDAY 3:30 PM

ROSARIO VAMPIRE 1-7 (MA)

Room 3 (Anime Room)

SATURDAY 4:00 PM

CONCERT: DEVO SPICE

Large Auditorium – 1 hour

Join Devo Spice for comedy-rap songs about technology, *Doctor Who*, and anything else he finds funny.

WHAT IS A 48-HOUR FILM FESTIVAL REALLY LIKE

Small Auditorium – 50 minutes

Have you ever been curious about participating in a 48-hour film festival where you have to script, create, cast, film, and edit a short film of about 8 minutes? We will talk about doing just that. The requirements, what to do, how to do it, and how much sleep you'll get.

Panelists: *E.L. Fortner*

COSTUMING FAQs

Room 2 – 50 minutes

Whether you are new to or experienced at cosplay you always have questions. Let our years of combined costuming experience help answer them. We will be discussing topics from creating your cosplay to suiting up for the convention. Let us help you create!

Panelists: *Carla Brindle, Brandon James (M), Kat Milby – Side Quest Cosplay, Stormraven*

READING: TANGENT ARTISTS' GUILD GUIDES

Room 4 – 50 minutes

Monica Marier and David Joria read aloud from their popular *Guild Guide* series, complete with silly voices and sound effects.

BOOK LAUNCH: GAIL Z. MARTIN/MORGAN BRICE

Room 5 – 50 minutes

Join Gail Z. Martin for fun and giveaways as she celebrates the launch of *Sons of Darkness*, *Spells Salt and Steel Season One*, and *The Rising* (Morgan Brice) and shares the latest details about new books, new audio, and new series coming soon!

LEGAL FICTIONS

Room 8 – 50 minutes

Is it weird that so many lawyers become authors? Our lawyer/authors share amusing anecdotes from their unique intersection of careers.

Panelists: *Melinda M. Snodgrass, Michael A. Ventrella (M), Steve White*

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A LARPER

Room B – 50 minutes

The Strange Aeons gamemasters explain LARPing to newcomers and help them start off in the current game.

SHORT FILM BLOCK:

Room D (RavenCon Film Festival) – 2 hours

NORO: By Duncan Roe. Caitlin lives alone, grieving her missing son, but an encounter with a stranger who knows more about her son than she could possibly imagine causes her to question her solitary world. (18:21)

Treehouse Time Machine: By Alan Ritchson. A 12-year-old boy and his friends travel back in time to unravel the mystery surrounding his mother's untimely death before the rightful owner of the time machine realizes it's gone missing. (12:42)

Multiverse Dating for Beginners: By Kelly Tatham. A surrealist look at the romantic comedy and how each choice creates a new world. (12:24)

Siphon: After fleeing the scene of a hit and run, Gena Hayes is kidnapped and connected to a terrifying machine by an unhinged scientist. By Anthony DeNiro. (14:02)

Souls of Totality: Filmed during an actual solar eclipse and starring Tatiana Maslany and Tom Cullen, the film is a love story about the intensity of a looming moment that can change everything. By Richard Raymond. (18:50)

Exit Strategy: By Travis Bible. Two brothers caught in a time loop must traverse a series of maze-like events in order to prevent a catastrophic fire from occurring. (15:01)

GEEK RADIO DAILY

Room E – 50 minutes

Come to a taping of the award not-winning podcast of *GRD's Weekly Podcast*. We will be discussing with the audience all the geeky goings-ons of RavenCon and we might just have a surprise or two lined up for you. It's a lot of fun and not to be missed! With special guests: the Library Bards!

Panelists: *Carol J. Cowles, Billy Flynn, Flynnstress, Library Bards, Rich Sigfrit*

MINOR CHARACTERS

Room F – 50 minutes

Do your minor characters take over the scene? Or do you have the opposite problem where they all blend together? Learn the tricks of the trade that help writers populate their fiction with believable and interesting supporting characters that don't overwhelm the main characters.

Panelists: *Jim Bernheimer, Larry Hodges (M), L. Jagi Lamplighter, Valerie J. Mikles*

KIDS REACT

Room G – 50 minutes

Based on the hugely popular viral video series, RavenCon will be sharing old-timey tech and toys with kids and letting them laugh at just how poorly we had it back in the day.

Panelists: *Mr. Cat (M)*

LOCAL ROOK-APPROVED ATTRACTIONS

Room H – 1 hour

Looking for fun kid-friendly places to go in the Williamsburg area? The Rookery has already found them for you!

LIGHTSABER DEMO

Room K – 50 minutes

Combining SF excitement with martial arts skills, The Tidewater Alliance Lightsaber Academy will teach you basic skills, and the history of the lightsaber in a fun atmosphere.

LEARNING TO WRITE

Room L – 50 minutes

Panelists recommend books, classes, workshops, websites, and other resources for people learning to write.

Panelists: *Paige L. Christie (M), Jaimie Engle, Will McIntosh, Nancy Northcott*

SIGNING: KARI KILGORE & JASON A. ADAMS

Dealers' Room – 50 minutes

SATURDAY 4:30 PM

BAEN BOOKS TRAVELING ROADSHOW & PRIZE PATROL

Room 1 – 90 minutes

Join Baen Books authors and editors for a look at new and forthcoming releases, with a chance to win a free book!

Panelists: *Robert E. Hampson, Jim Minz (M), Gray Rinehart, Christopher Weuve, Steve White*

SATURDAY 5:00 PM

READING: T. FROHOCK & JASON RAY CARNEY

Room 4 – 50 minutes

THE STRONG FEMALE CHARACTER AS STEREOTYPE

Room 8 – 50 minutes

There is more to feminine strength than being an assassin or the Chosen One born to kill all of the vampires. We will explore tropes and stereotypes of the way strength and females intertwine in our stories and media.

Panelists: *J. "Cal" Baldari, Lexie Carver, Emily Lavin Leverett (M), Bishop O'Connell***UNIVERSAL MONSTERS**

Room E – 50 minutes

Would there be a Lestat without Dracula? Or an Abe Sapien without the Gill-Man? Come learn more about the original monster squad and how they have influenced some of our more recent theatrical favorites.

Panelists: *Jason Gilbert (M), Nikole McDonald-Jones aka Spooni*, Leann M. Rettell, Chris Semtner***SHORT FICTION MARKETS**

Room F – 50 minutes

While novels are everywhere, there is still a place for short fiction. Panelists offer suggestions on what to do once you've written that short story.

Panelists: *Janet Carden, Pamela K. Kinney, Dina Leacock, Kermit Woodall (M)***STOPPING KILLER ASTEROIDS:
ARMAGEDDON OR ARE-MISTAKEN?**

Room G – 50 minutes

Attempting to deflect even a tractor-trailer-sized boulder traveling at 40,000 miles per hour is a daunting task, and one that large could carve out a city-sized crater in the landscape. A number of researchers in and apart from NASA have given the problem a lot of thought and have come up with three options they've labeled "Nuke," "Kick," and "Tug." The panelists will describe each of these methods and their pros and cons, and explain why, in the movie *Armageddon*, Bruce

Willis detonating an H-bomb on the surface of a "Texas-sized" asteroid and blowing it to bits is a really bad idea.

Panelists: *Jim Beall (M), Jack Clemons, Dr. Ben Davis***WRITING FROM YOUR ROOTS**

Room L – 50 minutes

Using your family experience and history to find inspiration for your writing.

Panelists: *Carl Cipra (M), Kari Kilgore, GB MacRae, Melissa McArthur, C. McDonnell***SIGNING: DOC COLEMAN & DECLAN FINN**

Dealers' Room – 50 minutes

SATURDAY 5:30 PM

CONCERT: MOSQUITO CABARET

Large Auditorium – 90 minutes

Folk and world-music that knows no borders; with a melting pot of sonic qualities consisting of equal parts folk, punk, klezmer, humppa, rembetika, and so much more!

MEET A CREATOR ROUNDTABLE

Room 5 – 50 minutes

Come and hang out with Gary Cohn, professional comic author/creator (DC Comics/Crusade Entertainment). Gary will chat about writing, the comics industry, and anything else you want to talk about.

SATURDAY 6:00 PM

CONCERT: NEFARIOUS FERRETS

Small Auditorium – 1 hour

Award-winning musicians, playing folk-influenced filk and spreading the love of filk music.

SUBVERTING TROPES

Room 1 – 50 minutes

We all know the term, but can you define a trope? What purpose do they serve? Are some tropes bad, or is it merely how they're used? Can you take overplayed tropes and turn them on their head? Learn everything* you ever wanted to know, and some things you didn't, about tropes and how to use them.

*This is hyperbole. You will not actually learn "everything."
Panelists: *T. Frohock, James Kendley, Bishop O'Connell (M)***READING:****PAMELA K. KINNEY & MARGARET S. MCGRAW**

Room 4 – 50 minutes

HOW TO WRITE A SERIES

Room 8 – 50 minutes

How do you plot story arcs over multiple books versus simply writing a single book? How do you determine how many books you'll need? How do you keep things interesting in an open-ended story? We'll cover all the traps and pitfalls in writ-

ing a multi-book series or serialized story.

Panelists: *Dave Joria, Monica Marier, Katika Schneider, J.A. Sutherland (M)*

THE LAST IN LINE

Room D (RavenCon Film Festival) – 98 minutes

War storms across the cold lands of the north! Berserkers and frost giants lock horns with crusaders and templar-priests. They battle for their respective kingdoms and their battleground is the small, neutral kingdom that lies between them. This film explores the themes of friendship, camaraderie, and the difficulties of facing a no-win scenario. By Bombshell Studios.

WHAT MAKES *THE EXPANSE* SO WONDERFUL?

Room E – 50 minutes

Is this the best TV show currently airing (that many of us aren't watching)? Why has it not gotten wider attention? What do our panelists think, and why? Now that it's going to be an Amazon property, are they worried (or hopeful) that anything will change?

Panelists: *Otto Linke (M), Kat Milby – Side Quest Cosplay*

WRITING ANCIENT CULTURES

Room F – 50 minutes

We weren't there, but we want to make our readers feel like they are. How do we manage to accurately and adequately set the stage? Learn how much research is necessary, how much is too much, and where to go to get the best sources.

Panelists: *Cass Morris, James P. Nettles (M), Jean Marie Ward, Robert E. Waters*

WEATHER SATELLITES:

SAVING THE WORLD FROM LOW-EARTH ORBIT

Room G – 50 minutes

Keeping an eye on the earth is a full-time job. Whether tracking a hurricane, a drought, a flood, or a wildfire, the data from weather satellites has become indispensable to NOAA's mission of saving lives. Dr. Valerie J. Mikles introduces GOES-16 and JPSS-1, the next generation weather satellites that are changing the game.

ROOKLING MOVIES

Room H – 3 hours

We'll have a selection of kid-friendly movies that our Rooks can choose from.

THE MALACANDRA PROJECT

Room J – 50 minutes

Participants will aid the people of a dying planet. They will use handheld and online clues to complete their tasks and learn the steps of research.

WINE TASTING

Room K – 2 hours

The staff of Williamsburg Winery will be at RavenCon to talk about the art and science of wine making and to let you

sample their wares. What better way to celebrate at a convention? (Fee \$20, limit 20 participants, must be 21+.)

SMALL PRESSES: HOW THEY WORK AND HOW WRITERS CAN WORK WITH THEM

Room L – 2 hours

What's the world of small presses like? What are the advantages and disadvantages for writers looking to work with them? What's the market like, and how is it changing?

Panelists: *Querus Abuttu (Dr. Q.), Jim Bernheimer, Michael Cieslak, Genevieve Iseult Eldredge, Laurel Anne Hill, Chris Kennedy (M), L. Jagi Lamplighter, Melissa McArthur*

PRE-JUDGING FOR THE MASQUERADE

Terrace Room – 1 hour

Costumes will be pre-judged for workmanship and detail. (For Masquerade participants only, everyone else has to wait until 7:30 to see the awesomeness.)

Participants: *Wade Cutrell, Heidi Hooper, Brandon James, Mark MacDicken, Stormraven, Michael A. Ventrella*

SATURDAY 6:30 PM

RURONI KENSHIN: NEW KYOTO ARC (MA)

Room 3 (Anime Room)

SATURDAY 7:00 PM

CONCERT: ANTLER HILL ARTS

Small Auditorium – 1 hour

Antler Hill's style can be described as "rustic folk rock" and is inspired by scarecrows, autumn, and the work of Danny Elfman. These two singers, with acoustic guitar, electric guitar, and banjo, perform live to the accompaniment of a full orchestral backing track and use the stage to bring awareness to the topics of stuttering and bullying.

IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT AND I FEEL FINE: WHY CHARACTER, CONSEQUENCE, AND REACTION ARE NECESSARY FOR CONFLICT AND TENSION

Room 1 – 50 minutes

Everyone knows a good novel requires conflict and tension, but many are unclear on where it really comes from. It's not the seriousness of the situation that causes conflict. Not even a nuclear apocalypse generates conflict on its own—not if the protagonist has a fully stocked fallout shelter he planned to spend the rest of his life hiding in anyway. A conflict only works if it acts upon the protagonist in a negative way. This talk will address the true origins of conflict and tension, and how they emerge specifically from a character's reaction and the consequences they face.

Panelists: *Harrison Demchick*

READING: DECLAN FINN & N.A. RATNAYAKE

Room 4 – 50 minutes

BOOK LAUNCH: DO YOU WANT *MORE*?

Room 5 – 50 minutes

Come join Tempie W. Wade for the official launch of *More*, book two in the *Timely Revolution* series. A work of historical fiction/fantasy/time travel, *More* takes you from Revolutionary War America to jolly old England, and then into the mysterious Highlands of Scotland.

Food, drink, and swag will be available. Kilted folks are not only welcome, but are highly encouraged... regimental, of course.

FEMALE FRIENDSHIP IN SF/F

Room 8 – 50 minutes

In attempting to write strong female characters, many authors strip these characters of close personal relationships and supportive friendships. How can authors address this and who is getting it right?

Panelists: *Paige L. Christie, Cass Morris, Nancy Northcott (M), Jean Marie Ward*

THE KILLER WITH A CODE

Room E – 50 minutes

What makes characters like Anton (*No Country for Old Men*), Hannibal, Dexter, and others who kill with purpose such fascinating characters? Is it their charm? Because they're clever and efficient? Because they only kill bad people or have lines they won't cross? Why do we not just enjoy, but cheer on characters who are essentially serial killers?

Panelists: *T. Eric Bakutis (M), J. "Cal" Baldari, Wednesday Mourning, Mourning Star*

PARANORMAL ROMANCE:**IT'S ALL ABOUT THE LOVE, BABY!**

Room F – 50 minutes

Even the romance novel genre is getting in on the paranormal action. Psychics, mysteries, werewolves, bustles... and kissing! Who would you recommend? Why the popularity? How many genres can you successfully toss into a plot?

Panelists: *Jeanne Adams (M), Kristi Deeley, Gail Z. Martin*

APOCALYPTIC SURVIVAL KIT

Room G – 50 minutes

Are you ready for the apocalypse? A few critical items set aside could make the difference between comfort and misery, or even life and death. Prepare your survival kit.

Panelists: *Jim Beall, Richard Groller (M), James P. Nettles, Pat O'Keefe*

INTRODUCING W.A.B.I.

Room J – 50 minutes

Participants will read a Choose-Your-Own adventure story together. As a group they will decide what steps to take in the first mystery faced by the paranormal investigators known as W.A.B.I.

SATURDAY 7:30 PM

THE RAVENCON MASQUERADE

Large Auditorium – 90 minutes

Fan costumers show off their latest creations. With mid-show entertainment by the Library Bards.

Judges: *Wade Cutrell, Heidi Hooper, Brandon James, Mark MacDicken, Stormraven*

MCs: *Billy Flynn, Rich Sigfrit*

Entertainment: *Library Bards*

SATURDAY 8:00 PM

THE ULTIMATE SECRET:**THE ART AND CRAFT OF WRITING IN A NUTSHELL**

Room 1 – 50 minutes

A quick version of the most vital information from Superversive Press's new writing course, *The Art and Craft of Writing*. This will cover *Breathing Life Into Your Characters*, *Scenes That Pop*, and *The Ultimate Secret*—a method for connecting with readers and keeping your story focused.

Panelists: *L. Jagi Lamplighter*

SAGA OF TANYA THE EVIL 1-7 (MA)

Room 3 (Anime Room)

READING: R.S. BELCHER & MICHAEL A. VENTRELLA

Room 4 – 50 minutes

HIGH FANTASY

Room 8 – 50 minutes

For many readers, fantasy was one of the first genres that led them to a love of books. From *Lord of the Rings* to *Dungeons and Dragons* to *Harry Potter*, these beloved fantasies were experienced over and over. Fantasy and magic can also spawn everything from sorcery to the paranormal, and swords to urban environments. Our panelists will discuss their favorite fantasy worlds, new and old.

Panelists: *Jason Ray Carney (M), Jim Deeley, Kristi Deeley, Gail Z. Martin*

BATMAN '89

Room E – 50 minutes

Thirty years ago, Tim Burton's *Batman* was the first of the blockbuster superhero movies. How has it held up? How much of its influence is still felt today?

Panelists: *Lexie Carver (M), O. Hai, Angel Metro, Jon "the Vicar" Stallard, Mourning Star*

WRITING CYBERPUNK

Room F – 50 minutes

Why do we enjoy cyberpunk? Does it have to be dystopian, or can it be utopian as well? What are our favorite cyberpunk stories, and why do we enjoy them? What are some cyberpunk tropes that haven't aged well and need to die out?

Panelists: *T. Eric Bakutis, Patrick Dugan, Jaimie Engle, Otto Linke (M)*

WOMEN IN STEM: THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

Room G – 50 minutes

There are women in STEM fields who got to where they are by taking the long way around. What advantages and hardships did they run into along the way? What advice can they give to people who are on a similar path? What struggles do they face as women in their field?

Panelists: *Paula S. Jordan, Valerie J. Mikles (M),*

Dr. Matthew Simon, Dr. Kat Sinclair

MURDER MYSTERY TEA

Room J – 50 minutes

YA guests will play characters in a murder mystery in front of a live studio audience (adult audience welcome).

DISPOSABLE CHARACTERS: WHO & WHY?

Room L – 50 minutes

Stuff your women in refrigerators and bury your gays? Shame on you! The difference between killing a character for plot purposes and simply disposing of one.

Panelists: *T. Frohock, Alexander G.R. Gideon,*

Christopher Metcalf, Peter Prellwitz (M)

SATURDAY 9:00 PM

RAVENCON CHARITY AUCTION

Small Auditorium – 90 minutes

We're auctioning off some REALLY cool stuff to raise money for the DOTS RPG Project.

Auctioneers: *Billy Flynn, Rich Sigfrit*

NAME THAT TUNE: RAVENCON EDITION

Ten Forward – 50 minutes

Like to listen to music from your favorite sci-fi and fantasy TV shows, movies, and video games? Think you know more than your fellow fans? See how much you know; you might even win a prize! Come out to compete against your fellow fans or to just enjoy some amazing music. Must have a smartphone or tablet to compete.

Host: *Jason Hamlin*

BAD MATH, OR HOW RIGHT AND LEFT BRAINS WORK TOGETHER: THE FUNCTION OF LOGIC IN FICTION

Room 1 – 50 minutes

Most fiction writers are right-brained people, filled with creative ideas they're outright compelled to bring to the written page. The inventiveness of the creative mind is a remarkable and romantic thing, but a novel is a big and complex entity, and it doesn't work on creativity alone. For many would-be authors, even genuinely brilliant ones, managing and understanding story logic is a difficult task to achieve and the greatest obstacle to overcome. This talk will address various types of logic issues, including some writers rarely hear about. We'll explore exactly why logic is so important in a field founded in the magic of creative invention.

Panelists: *Harrison Demchick*

HARRINGTON, HORNBLOWER, AND LUCKY JACK

Room 2 – 50 minutes

Join members of the Royal Manticoran Navy as they discuss how David Weber's *Honor Harrington* series may have been influenced by the historical fiction of C.S. Forester's *Horatio Hornblower* novels. We also discuss parallels we've seen with Patrick O'Brian's *Aubrey/Maturin* novels, and compare the relative merits and weaknesses in the leadership styles of Honor Harrington, Horatio Hornblower, and Jack Aubrey.

READING: GAIL Z. MARTIN & PATRICK DUGAN

Room 4 – 50 minutes

READING: JACK CLEMONS & ROBERT E. HAMPSON

Room 5 – 50 minutes

CRIME AND FANTASY

Room 8 – 50 minutes

From vampire assassins to wizard private eyes to undead thugs, crime has been mixing it up with fantasy for years. What is it about crime, noir, and the paranormal that's so appealing? Also, what are some really good titles?

Panelists: *R.S. Belcher, Jean Marie Ward (M), John C. Wright*

DEVIOUS BEINGS

Room D (RavenCon Film Festival) – 97 minutes

In the tradition of *Go* and *Pulp Fiction*, *Devious Beings* is a wild ride you'll never forget. This is the last feature film to star Jerry Doyle and also features Patrick Van Horn, Kevin Connolly and Andre Blake. (Mature Audiences)

GEEKY RANTS

Room E – 50 minutes

A loud and lively discussion where we good-naturedly vent on what's wrong in our chosen fandoms. This panel is a never-the-same-twice event; not to be missed, this will be the highlight of RavenCon.

Panelists: *Ly Cao – PixelWho, Carol J. Cowles,*

Alexander G.R. Gideon, Margaret S. McGraw,

D.J. McGuire, Chris Shrewsbury (M)

SAURON'S EYE IS ON THE VILLAINS OF LOTR

Room F – 50 minutes

The eye of criticism has always been on the Dark Lord, but Tolkien offers a wide variety of villainy in Middle Earth. Worm Tongue, Gollum, Shelob, orcs, and others make an impact on the story and on our understanding of evil. We discuss our favorite Tolkien villains and debate the validity of ultimate evil.

Panelists: *Jason Ray Carney, Rachael Hixon, Monica Marier (M)*

50 YEARS OF SETI, WHERE IS EVERYONE

Room G – 50 minutes

Enrico Fermi was a brilliant physicist of Manhattan Project fame. In an off-the-cuff lunchtime remark back in 1950, he proposed the Fermi Paradox. According to this line of thinking, the Earth should have already been visited by extraterres-

trial aliens. Fermi noted no convincing evidence of this, nor any signs of alien intelligence anywhere in the observable universe, leading him to ask, "Where is everybody?" For 50 years, SETI, the search for extraterrestrial intelligence has attempted to address the Fermi paradox, primarily suggesting that intelligent extraterrestrial life is extremely rare. Dr. Ben recaps and discusses his views on the matter.

Panelists: *Dr. Ben Davis*

POPCORN AND A MOVIE! WES ANDERSON'S ISLE OF DOGS

Room H – 2 hours

An all-star voice cast led by Bill Murray, Jeff Goldblum, Edward Norton, and Bryan Cranston tells the story of a dystopian future that finds Japan's overwhelming dog population exiled to a tiny island—and a lone boy in search of his best friend.

TOM LEHRER SINGALONG

Room K – 50 minutes

A RavenCon tradition! Filthy Pierre leads the crowd in a round of some of Tom Lehrer's best-loved classics.

LETTERS FROM HELL: THE HORROR WRITING PROCESS

Room L – 50 minutes

Ever wondered how seemingly normal people come up with such horrific ideas? Are they, in fact, normal? What kind of research do they do? How far into a psycho's psyche do they have to get? Do their subjects ever get to them? Come find out, if you dare.

Panelists: *Lexie Carver, Michael Cieslak (M), Declan Finn, Pamela K. Kinney*

SATURDAY 9:30 PM

CONCERT: LIBRARY BARDS

Large Auditorium – 1 hour

Transforming Top 40 songs into the nerdy versions they should have been in the first place!

SATURDAY 10:00 PM

OPEN FILKING

Ten Forward – 2 hours

A late-night gathering of musicians where you can sing, play, or just listen. Open to everyone!

ENTER THE 36TH CHAMBER: A DISCUSSION OF ASIAN ACTION CINEMA

Room 1 – 50 minutes

From Bruce Lee to Donnie Yen, from *Drunken Master* to *Into the Badlands*, I'm sure we've all caught a chop-socky flick at some point or another. Coming from countries as different as Japan, China, Hong Kong and Thailand, and covering genres

as diverse as high fantasy wuxia epics to neo-noir detective thrillers, filmmakers like the Shaw Brothers and John Woo and stars like Jackie Chan have captivated audiences the world over for decades, and here in the states, command a following as devoted as any Trekkie or Potterhead.

Panelists: *Sean CW Korsgaard*

SO YOU WANT TO BE A VOICE ACTOR

Room 2 – 50 minutes

Do you find yourself doing a number of different character voices? Do you find yourself falling into these same characters and wanting to develop them? Do you like to tackle a challenge of something new that could lead to maybe a new career or just a hobby? Come out and learn what it takes to be a voice actor.

Panelists: *Doc Coleman, E.L. Fortner (M)*

READING: NANCY NORTHCOTT & PETER PRELLWITZ

Room 4 – 50 minutes

WHEN CAN I CALL MYSELF A WRITER? HOW TO STOP FEELING LIKE AN IMPOSTER

Room 8 – 50 minutes

Whether we realize it or not, we all struggle with Imposter's Syndrome. Our inner voice tells us we're not good enough, worthy, or legit. In this panel, authors will discuss their personal struggles with this, share how they worked/are working through it, and provide advice for audience members on how to tackle their own self-doubt.

Panelists: *Jason Gilbert, Melissa McArthur (M), C. McDonnell, Pat O'Keefe*

LGBTQ AND THE WORLD OF SF/F

Room E – 50 minutes

In the past 40 years, those that identify as LGBTQ have seen understanding and acceptance grow significantly but not completely. Has the works of sci-fi/fantasy helped with the change in perception? Hindered it? What does the genre still get wrong? How much work still needs to be done? These questions and more will be answered by our panel of guests.

Panelists: *Nickie Jamison, D.J. McGuire*

OFFICER ON DECK! THE HISTORY OF STARFLEET

Room F – 50 minutes

Kelvin timeline? Prime timeline? Where does *Discovery* fall into this mess? For new fans, join our panelists as they break down the ins and outs of the various timelines and how they fall within Roddenberry's universe.

Panelists: *Jim Deeley, Chris Shrewsbury (M)*

HOW CAN SCIENCE FICTION INFORM SCIENCE POLICY?

Room G – 50 minutes

From *E.T.* to *Gattaca* to *Star Trek*, science fiction stories foster reflection on a range of social and technical issues. Sci-fi has long been a source of thought experiments and inspiration for current and aspiring scientists and engineers, but how should

these stories influence the work of politicians, social leaders, and activists? We will discuss the increasingly influential role of sci-fi in policy-making and activism, and ways your fandom can help shape the world around us. Come discuss sci-fi stories that influenced you, societal implications of upcoming technologies, and visions for a better future.

Panelists: *Jim Beall, Dr. Andrew Owens, N.A. Ratnayake (M), Fabian Rush*

HOLLYWOOD WILL BREAK YOUR HEART

Room L – 50 minutes

Stories and advice on navigating film and TV options for writers.

Panelists: *Harrison Demchick, Will McIntosh (M), Melinda M. Snodgrass, J.A. Sutherland*

SATURDAY 11:00 PM

CONCERT: ANGEL METRO

Small Auditorium – 1 hour

Angel Metro blends the elements of heartbreak and hope to create an electronic sound nestled in Dark Magic.

GEEK DEBATES: LATE NITE EDITION

Room 1 – 50 minutes

This year RavenCon is trying debates with more mature topics. What topics? You'll have to come and see. (18+ only, IDs checked.)

Panelists: *Cailin Cutrell, Wade Cutrell, Lilith Lore, Michael A. Ventrella*

HOLD ONTO THE LIGHT

Room 8 – 50 minutes

#HoldOnToTheLight is a blog campaign encompassing posts by fantasy and science fiction authors around the world in an effort to raise awareness around treatment for depression, suicide prevention, domestic violence intervention, PTSD initiatives, bullying prevention, and other mental health-related issues.

Panelists: *Jeanne Adams, Emily Lavin Leverett, Gail Z. Martin (M), Nancy Northcott, Peter Prellwitz*

WHERE DID THEY GET THOSE WONDERFUL TOYS?

Room E – 50 minutes

It doesn't matter if you are a new or an experienced kinkster, everyone wants toys. We will talk about what makes a good kinky toy, what different types of toys do and where to find them. Also we will discuss pervertables (toys that were designed for other purposes) and building your own toys. (18+ only, IDs checked.)

Panelists: *The Bruce, Nickie Jamison*

50 SHADES OF NOPE!

Room F – 50 minutes

Sex and romance tropes in fiction—what tropes work in movies and NOT in real life?

Panelists: *Kristi Deeley, Samantha Heuwagen (M), Stormraven*

ASK A (MAD) SCIENTIST

Room G – One Hour+

Our science guests answer audience questions on science and science fiction. Always a favorite at RavenCon!

Panelists: *Querus Abuttu (Dr. Q.), Jim Beall, Jack Clemons, Dr. Ben Davis, Richard Groller, Robert E. Hampson (M), Dr. Christopher A. Jones, Valerie J. Mikles, Dr. Andrew Owens, N.A. Ratnayake, Brent "EvilPenguin" Roeder, Dr. Matthew Simon, Dr. Kat Sinclair*

DJ DRAE PRESENTS: EDM DANCE PARTY

Room K – 2 hours

DJ Drae brings his freshest beats to RavenCon for a whole new dance experience.

EXPLORING THE DARK

Room L – 50 minutes

What draws us to the horrific? What role does horror have in society? Does gore/hyper-violence and/or a comic/humorous tone in horror conflict or complement psychological horror?

Panelists: *R.S. Belcher, Lexie Carver, Declan Finn, Mark Geary (M)*

SATURDAY 11:30 PM

THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW

Large Auditorium – 2.5 hours

The cast of Charming Underclothes will be doing a full audience participation shadowcast of the cult classic *Rocky Horror Picture Show*. It's just a jump to the left!

SATURDAY MIDNIGHT

SMUT, GORE, AND MORE

Room 8 – 50 minutes

A frank and irreverent discussion of sex, violence, and how it is portrayed in fiction and media. Not suitable for tender ears. (18+ only, IDs checked.)

Panelists: *R.S. Belcher, Lexie Carver, Gail Z. Martin (M), Nikole McDonald-Jones aka Spooni**

NEGOTIATIONS OR HOW DO YOU DO FUN THINGS WITH WONDERFUL PEOPLE?

Room E – 50 minutes

How do you ask someone to play or do a scene with you? What do you say when someone asks what you are into? How do you tell people what your limits are and stick to them? This panel will talk about how to negotiate with someone. We will talk primarily about kinky types of play but it will also be useful for anyone interested in learning how to communicate openly and honestly. (18+ only, IDs checked.)

Panelists: *The Bruce, Samantha Heuwagen, Nickie Jamison*

SUNDAY 10:00 AM

CONCERT: ANTLER HILL ARTS

Large Auditorium – 1 hour

Antler Hill's style can be described as "rustic folk rock" and is inspired by scarecrows, autumn, and the work of Danny Elfman. These two singers, with acoustic guitar, electric guitar, and banjo, perform live to the accompaniment of a full orchestral backing track and use the stage to bring awareness to the topics of stuttering and bullying.

CONCERT: GRAY RINEHART

Small Auditorium – 50 minutes

Gray sings silly songs inspired by science fiction and fantasy.

THE LAST IN LINE: MAKING A TRULY INDEPENDENT FANTASY FEATURE FILM

Room 1 – 50 minutes

Join us for a Q&A session that delves into every aspect of filmmaking on an independent level with no outside studio influence. From directing actors to gaining music rights to building the world and mythology of Teluria to feeding your crew, we'll share how the "magic" is really made. Four years in the making and with pending distribution, *The Last in Line* is a one-of-a-kind experience.

Panelists: *Krista Babbitt, Michael Babbitt, Pan Chan, Alex Finegan*

FAN KNIT-IN

Room 2 – 2 hours

Bring your fiber-projects and sit and chat with fellow geeks about your favorite movies, TV shows, books, and (of course) fiber-art projects.

Hosts: *Margaret S. McGraw, Kat Milby – Side Quest Cosplay*

GUNBUSTER 1-6 (PG16)

Room 3 (Anime Room)

READING: ROBERT E. WATERS & JOAN WENDLAND

Room 4 – 50 minutes

BOOK SWAP

Room 5 – 2 hours

Geeks got all 'da books! Movers hate us. Now's your chance to swap some of those old books for new old books! This is a great chance to turn someone on to your favorite series or just clear off some space on that shelf at home.

Host: *Adam D. Seats*

LEARN TO LOVE YOUR WRITING: A MOTIVATIONAL PANEL

Room 8 – 50 minutes

Everyone is their own worst critic. Stop worrying and love your writing. How to stop hesitating because you feel your work isn't "good enough" and put words on the paper.

Panelists: *Jason A. Adams, Harrison Demchick (M), Otto Linke, Melissa McArthur, Katika Schneider*

SHORT FILM BLOCK

Room D (RavenCon Film Festival) – 1 hour

Killer Kart: The shopping cart. Four wheels, one basket, and tonight, for the closing crew of a small-town grocery store, a blood-splattered aluminum nightmare! By James Feeney. (14:53)

Deep Dish Apocalypse: As a zombie-riddled Los Angeles erupts in chaos, two co-workers bump into each other beneath the city on an abandoned subway platform. One of them makes a confession, the other makes a move, and both try to escape alive. By David Codeglia. (8:22)

FTL: By Adam Stern. Ethan Kane, a NASA astronaut, has recently retired from active duty to spend more time with his wife and young son. As he adjusts to a quieter life on the ground, he's approached to fly one last mission... testing the first faster-than-light spacecraft. (16:23)

Drifter: A con job is interrupted by a transient visitor in this short film from Ink Run. Winner of "Best Horror Short" at the London Independent Film Awards. (9:19)

Future Boyfriend: A woman goes on a date with the "perfect guy," but soon discovers that all isn't as it seems... He's from the future and in love with the woman she'll become. A clever sci-fi twist on a romantic comedy that looks at what love and devotion really mean. By Ben Rock. (11:41)

THE 13TH DOCTOR

Room E – 50 minutes

Join our panelists as they discuss the newest Doctor.

Panelists: *Ly Cao – PixelWho (M), Doc Coleman, Flynnstress, Old Dominion Daleks, J.R. Winsley*

FOOD & DRINK IN SF/F

Room F – 50 minutes

From butterbeer to Soylent Green and so much more—grounding a story in the basics of life can give color and depth.

Panelists: *Denise Clemons (M), James P. Nettles, Bud Sparhawk, David A. Tatum*

NAVAL COMMAND AND CONTROL (C2)

Room G – 50 minutes

Ships and planes and the like are cool, but it's C2 that holds everything together and makes the whole greater than the sum of its parts. This talk is about how the US Navy exercises command and control, and what lessons from modern naval warfare might apply to warfare in space.

Panelists: *Christopher Weuve*

BOARD GAMES FOR KIDS

Room H – 2 hours

We've got plenty of rook-approved board games and card games or you can bring your own!

INDOOR MUGGLE QUIDDITCH

Room K – 50 minutes

YAs will work off some energy playing the J.K. Rowling inspired sport indoors.

MINING THE WORLD FOR STORY IDEAS

Room L – 50 minutes

People always ask, “Where do your ideas come from?” Our panelists share sources of inspiration that could be helpful to aspiring authors.

Panelists: *Kari Kilgore, GB MacRae, Bishop O’Connell (M),
Freddie Silva*

SIGNING: L. JAGI LAMPLIGHTER & JOHN C. WRIGHT

Dealers’ Room – 50 minutes

SUNDAY 11:00 AM

GEEK TRIVIA

Small Auditorium – 50 minutes

Join your con quizmaster for a test of knowledge in all things geek. Pit yourself against other geeks on topics such as science fiction, fantasy, comic books, anime, movies, and many others. Compete for prizes and bragging rights as the 2019 geek trivia master of RavenCon!

Host: *Dan Sebastiano*

HOW TO BREAK A STORY

Room 1 – 50 minutes

The tools used in Hollywood to plot a movie or television episode can also work for novelists. Learn the techniques.

Panelists: *Melinda M. Snodgrass*

READING: HARRISON DEMCHICK & JAMES P. NETTLES

Room 4 – 50 minutes

NATIONAL NOVEL WRITING MONTH (NaNoWriMo)

Room 8 – 50 minutes

Our NaNoWriMo veterans share their experiences with the annual writing exercise and offer tips that will help you start and finish your NaNoWriMo novel.

Panelists: *Paige L. Christie, Meriah L. Crawford (M),
Cass Morris, N.A. Ratnayake*

THE QUEST FOR THE ULTIMATE SUPERHERO

Room E – 50 minutes

What makes a superhero a superhero? What would make an ultimate superhero? Power, talent, heart, courage, self-sacrifice? And could an ultimate superhero connect to the average human, as Superman does, or, like Doctor Manhattan, end up estranged from humanity?

Panelists: *J. “Cal” Baldari, Gary Cohn, Patrick Dugan (M),
Peter Prellwitz, Leann M. Rettell*

FANFIC: A REASSESSMENT

Room F – 50 minutes

Fan fiction has a terrible reputation. And yet, some very well regarded SF/F writers have written fanfic: Neil Gaiman, Naomi Novik, Cassandra Clare, Lois McMaster Bujold, John Scalzi... What do our panelists think?

Panelists: *Sandra Baldari, Jim Bernheimer (M), Lexie Carver,
Stormraven*

SCIENCE FICTION VS SCIENCE FACT

Room G – 50 minutes

Science fiction influences real world technology; see how real technology is incorporated into fiction and how to keep your science and technology plausible, or at least believable.

Panelists: *Jim Beall, Jack Clemons (M), Bud Sparhawk,
Steve White*

THOSE CRAFTY KIDS!

Room J – 90 minutes

A handful of sci-fi and fantasy crafts will be available. What would you like to make?

CLASSIC SF/F

Room L – 50 minutes

What makes a classic? And what’s the lifespan of a classic? Nothing lasts forever... what can you think of that was long accepted as a classic but no one thinks of now?

Panelists: *Declan Finn (M), L. Jagi Lamplighter, Dina Leacock,
Nathan Skreslet – PixelWho, John C. Wright*

SIGNING: C. McDONNELL & JOAN WENDLAND

Dealers’ Room – 50 minutes

SUNDAY 11:30 AM

CONCERT: LIBRARY BARDS

Large Auditorium – 1 hour

Transforming Top 40 songs into the nerdy versions they should have been in the first place!

SUNDAY NOON

ART AUCTION

Small Auditorium – 50 minutes

Did the item you bid on go to auction? Come prepared to fight for it!

ARTIST GOH PRESENTATION

Room 1 – 50 minutes

Join Spooni* as she takes you on an artistic voyage through her career as a freelance artist.

Panelists: *Nikole McDonald-Jones aka Spooni**

COSTUMING WITHOUT BREAKING THE BANK

Room 2 – 50 minutes

Costuming can be an expensive hobby and the cost of props and costume supplies can add up quickly. We discuss how to get the most out of your dollar with inexpensive fabrics, thrift stores, and smart planning.

Panelists: *Cheralyn Lambeth (M), Kat Milby –
Side Quest Cosplay, Pattycakes, WeyrWoman Cosplay*

READING: KARI KILGORE & LEXIE CARVER

Room 4 – 50 minutes

ALLEN WOLD'S WRITING WORKSHOP, PT. 2

Room 5 – 50 minutes

Participants in the first of the workshop return to read their second draft. (Only open for attendees of pt. 1.)

A BALANCING ACT: WORKING, WRITING, LIVING

Room 8 – 50 minutes

Few writers these days are only writers. Many writers are also working a day job, parenting, coaching, or just spending time with their other hobbies. The panelists will discuss how they manage this balancing act, what they've learned about life and themselves through this process, and how others can successfully balance a full plate as well.

Panelists: *Michael Cieslak, GB MacRae, Melissa McArthur (M), Christopher Metcalf*

APOCALYPSE

Room D (RavenCon Film Festival) – 90 minutes

It was once the source of life, light, and warmth, but now, the sun has turned the world into a baked and barren wasteland. Three survivors journey to the mountains, searching for water. Tension grows in the small group and the real battle for survival begins. (Mature Audiences)

HOW TO GROW YOUR ONLINE PRESENCE

Room E – 50 minutes

There seems to be a new social media platform every other day now. How do you target which ones to use and then go about building an audience there?

Panelists: *Sandra Baldari, Hannah Bauman, Flynnstress (M), HeroineBOB, Gail Z. Martin*

POETRY: DISCUSSION & READING

Room F – 50 minutes

Panelists will talk about what makes for good SF/F poetry, and then read examples (their own work, that of others, or both).

Panelists: *Denise Clemons, Richard Groller, Pat O'Keefe (M)*

SOAPBOX: BLACK HOLES

Room G – 50 minutes

Dead stars are weird. Of all the astronomical phenomena, they are the one thing that makes us say "aliens?" No, really. Why do you think the first pulsar catalog named their sources LGM. "Little Green Men." Microquasars baffled us, too, with the coherent signal embedded in their X-ray radiation. Come hear me ramble about the weird wonders that are dead stars, how we find them, and how we make sense of their messages.

Panelists: *Valerie J. Mikles*

LIGHTSABER DEMO

Room K – 50 minutes

Combining SF excitement with martial arts skills, The Tidewater Alliance Lightsaber Academy will teach you basic skills, and the history of the lightsaber in a fun atmosphere.

SPIRITUALITY AND RELIGION IN SF/F

Room L – 50 minutes

Science and religion are not incompatible with telling good science fiction and fantasy stories.

Panelists: *Jason Ray Carney, Margaret S. McGraw (M), Cass Morris, Gray Rinehart, John C. Wright*

SIGNING: R.S. BELCHER

Dealers' Room – 50 minutes

SUNDAY 12:30 PM

EYESHIELD 21 1-6 (PG)

Room 3 (Anime Room)

SUNDAY 1:00 PM

CONCERT: DEVO SPICE

Large Auditorium – 1 hour

Join Devo Spice for comedy-rap songs about technology, *Doctor Who*, and anything else he finds funny.

CONCERT: NEFARIOUS FERRETS

Small Auditorium – 1 hour

Award-winning musicians, playing folk-influenced filk and spreading the love of filk music.

FUNDAMENTALS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Room 1 – 50 minutes

An introduction to intellectual property, what it is, what it isn't, what it means for your work, and what to do when it gets pirated.

Panelists: *James P. Nettles*

HOMEGROWN CREATURES:

RAIDING THE KITCHEN FOR MAKEUP SUPPLIES

Room 2 – 50 minutes

You have a party or convention coming up and you're running out of time to order makeup materials. Come learn how to create different special effects makeup techniques with common everyday materials that are laying around the house.

Panelists: *Cailin Cutrell, Wade Cutrell*

READING: SAMANTHA HEUWAGEN & T. ERIC BAKUTIS

Room 4 – 50 minutes

WORKSHOP: PUT A RING ON IT!

Room 5 – 2 hours

Loren Damewood teaches you how to make a knotted silver finger ring. (\$50 materials fee, 2 students, age 15+)

CRITIQUE GROUPS:

CARE & FEEDING WITHOUT GETTING BITTEN

Room 8 – 50 minutes

Most established authors will recommend critique groups for aspiring writers. What are some of the things to look for and

pitfalls to avoid? Be wary and be wise by learning how to get yourself into the right company.

Panelists: *Paige L. Christie, Alexander G.R. Gideon (M), Emily Lavin Leverett, Freddie Silva, J.A. Sutherland*

BEYOND JOHN WILLIAMS

Room E – 50 minutes

John Williams is the man, but he isn't the only one. Who are some other great film score composers?

Panelists: *Declan Finn, Jason Hamlin (M)*

CAREER MANAGEMENT FOR WRITERS

Room F – 50 minutes

How do you manage your career as a writer? How do you know when it is time to switch agents or publishers? How do you manage your identity in the marketplace when you change genres? What goals and metrics do our panelists set for themselves?

Panelists: *Genevieve Iseult Eldredge (M), Chris Kennedy, Gail Z. Martin, Will McIntosh*

ASTEROIDS OR MARS?

Room G – 50 minutes

Which should we attempt first? What are the challenges of each? Why either is important.

Panelists: *Jack Clemons, Dr. Ben Davis, Valerie J. Mikles, Dr. Matthew Simon (M)*

MAPPING THE LANDSCAPE

Room L – 50 minutes

Fantasy writers and fans discuss the importance of maps in fantasy fiction.

Panelists: *Jeanne Adams, Jason Ray Carney (M), L. Jagi Lamplighter, Leann M. Rettell*

SIGNING: JASON GILBERT & DINA LEACOCK

Dealers' Room – 50 minutes

SUNDAY 2:00 PM

RAVENCON IN REVIEW

Room 8 – 50 minutes

Did you enjoy the convention? Tell us what you think. We'll also announce the winners of the RavenConnie and the 2019 Film Festival.

Panelists: *Michael D. Pederson (M), RavenCon Staff*

RPG WORLD-BUILDING

Room E – 50 minutes

Covering everything from how to craft your own game world and how your player characters fit into it, to the dos and don'ts of world-building to common tropes that appear across genres.

Panelists: *J. "Cal" Baldari, Jim Deeley (M), Rachael Hixon, Nikole McDonald-Jones aka Spooni*, Dave Joria*

RUINS AND RELICS:

THE BONES OF YOUR IMAGINARY WORLD

Room F – 50 minutes

What ruins and relics of the past exist in your fictional world? What do your characters carry with them? How does the past shape the present?

Panelists: *Nancy Northcott, Peter Prellwitz (M), David A. Tatum, Robert E. Waters*

AMERICAN GODS:

PERSPECTIVES & PERSONAL PANTHEONS

Room L – 50 minutes

American Gods, the Neil Gaiman novel, has enthralled readers and, now, viewers, with its modern embodiments of deities and concepts. Panelists share their perspectives on the novel, the series, and whom, or what, they could envision personified: their characteristics, mannerisms, aesthetics.

Panelists: *R.S. Belcher, Laurel Anne Hill, Margaret S. McGraw, Joan Wendland (M)*

SUNDAY 3:00 PM

END OF THE CONVENTION

Thank you for attending. See you next year!