

Rachel Caine

Friday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Friday, 3pm: Speculative Fiction 101

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Rachel Caine, Stephen Sanders, Shanna Swendson, Tex Thompson

What is speculative fiction? According to that lovely source Wikipedia, "Speculative fiction is a broad umbrella genre denoting any narrative fiction with supernatural or futuristic elements." It can be used to denote many fields from science fiction to fantasy to horror. But what is it, really? What constitutes a story labelled as speculative fiction? Our authors try to clear up the mystery.

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Friday, 4pm: Sci-Fi/Fantasy or Young Adult?

Panelists: Rachel Caine (M)

Like Family Feud? Come on down and play SF/F OR YA, and test YOUR knowledge of the past and present of the genre(s) we love! PRIZES WILL BE GIVEN! We'll pick volunteers, and you compete against an opposing volunteer to identify (correctly) whether a book is categorized as YA or SF/F, and at the end of the round, we'll give the winner a free book from our Grab Bag of Awesome. Bonus: You get to hit a buzzer!

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Friday, 7pm: Opening Ceremonies

Panelists: Rachel Caine, R. Cat Conrad, Con Staff

Welcome to ConDFW XVI! Come meet our staffers and get introduced to our amazing Guests of Honor, Rachel Caine and R. Cat Conrad!

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 11am: Writing Workshop [2 hrs, Sign-up required!]

Panelists: Rachel Caine (M)

Whether your plan is to indie publish or pursue established publishers, knowing how the business works is critical. NYT bestselling author Rachel Caine offers a 2-hour writers' workshop that focuses on the steps necessary to take your novel from bright idea to a reader's hand, but space will be limited, so be sure to sign up at the registration table!

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 2pm: Q&A with Rachel Caine and R. Cat Conrad

Panelists: Linda Donahue (M), Rachel Caine, R. Cat Conrad

We bring together our Guests of Honor for a giant Q&A session! Bring your questions, and get ready to learn all about Rachel Caine and R. Cat Conrad.

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 3pm: One on One Pitch Tutoring [Sign-up required!]

Panelists: Rachel Caine (M)

Everybody's always scared of pitching their novel out loud, but practice helps ... and Rachel is willing to practice with you! She's offering 10-minute one-on-one pitch tutoring. Come in, give your pitch, get feedback from a 25-year professional! She'll also review and edit query letters. Signups will be available at registration table.

AUTOGRAPHS

Saturday, 5pm: Rachel Caine

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 7pm: Celebrity Artemis – Session 1

Panelists: Rachel Caine, R. Cat Conrad, A. Lee Martinez, Julia S. Mandala, Michael Ashleigh Finn, Mel White

The popular co-operative bridge simulator returns again to ConDFW! Six panelists at a time take the Starship Artemis through the void, insulting every alien race possible. Let's see what happens!

Sunday

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READING

Sunday, 1pm: Rachel Caine

PROGRAMMING 3

Sunday, 3pm: Where are the Dresden Files?

Panelists: Rachel Caine (M), David Doub, Shanna Swendson, Rie Sheridan Rose

One of the most iconic Urban Fantasy series out there, the Dresden Files has been quiet of late as Jim Butcher has branched out into other topics. Will he return? What is the latest news, if any? And what can people read while they are waiting?

R. Cat Conrad

Friday

PROGRAMMING 4

Friday, 6pm: Writing for Comics

Panelists: David Doub, R. Cat Conrad, Mel White (M), Julie Barrett

If you look at the credits of any modern comic, you will see that most of them have a separate writer, artist, shader, etc. So, how do you write for the comic medium? Is it like writing a screen play, or like writing a novel? Our comic experts debate this issue and others.

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MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 11am: The History of Golden Age Comics

Panelist: R. Cat Conrad (M)

Artist Guest of Honor R. Cat Conrad invites you to share the amazing art of the early Golden Age of Comics, including the work of well known legends Simon & Kirby along with great, albeit more obscure illustrators of the past (Lou Fine, Alex Schomburg, Matt Baker, L.B. Cole, et al.), and how the art from SF's Golden Age of Pulps crossed directly into early comics.

PROGRAMMING 4

Saturday, 12pm: The mARTian Collaboration

Panelists: Melia Dawn, R. Cat Conrad, Brad W. Foster, Mel White

They say if you ask a committee to design a horse, you'll get a camel. Come see what happens when we team up artists and ask them to design a Martian, alien, or whatever the audience demands!

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Panelists: Melia Dawn, R. Cat Conrad

It is possibly the hottest method for raising funds for a project out there. However, crowd-funding methods such as Indiegogo or Kickstarter have serious pitfalls for the would-be creator. More than a few "successful" Kickstarters have crashed and burned after the fundraising is done...and you discover that you didn't budget quite enough! Our panelists try to steer you around the traps and pitfalls, whether it be as a kickstarter creator...or supporter!

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Play Pictionary or just watch as our artists compete. Come and see our artists face off against each other. Pictionary has never been this much fun!

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Sunday

PROGRAMMING 2

Sunday, 11am: Video Games: Inspiration or Distraction?

Panelists: Mark Finn (M), R. Cat Conrad, Michael Ashleigh Finn, Julie Barrett, Seth Skorkowsky

It's easy to view video games as a distraction. Games such as Candy Crush can suck away free time with addictive puzzles until you realize that deadline has come and gone. However, video games can be an inspiration as well. Games such as World of Warcraft or No Man's Sky can show you entire universes to explore, possibly giving you your own ideas for art or story. Can it be both? Or is it only one or the other? Let's see what our panelists think.

PROGRAMMING 3

Sunday, 1pm: Comic Books to Die For

Panelists: R. Cat Conrad (M), Brad W. Foster, Mel White, Larry Atchley Jr., David Doub

We all have our tendencies in what we like and dislike. So the panelists are given this simple question: "What is your favorite comic book, and why?" The audience is encouraged to participate and grill them if so desired.

Taylor Anderson

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 12pm: Famous Last Stands

Panelists: Adrian Simmons (M), Taylor Anderson, Lillian Stewart Carl, Tracy S. Morris, Jeff Dawson, Jayme Lynn Blaschke
If you don't know history, you are doomed to repeat it. Down through the annals of history there are many examples of epic last stands – from General Custer to Dien Bien Phu to the Alamo. Whether an example of arrogance or underestimating the enemy, there are plenty last stands to learn from and use. Our panelists comment on how to learn from history, rather than merely repeating it.

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 2pm: Know Your Weapons!

Panelists: Taylor Anderson (M), Jeff Dawson, Tracy S. Morris, William C. Seigler, Barbara Ann Wright
In what age was the blunderbuss? When did the sword and shield rule supreme? When should cannons be used appropriately? Our panelists discuss the use of weapons of war and when in history they were used. If you have a question about a certain type of weapon, feel free to ask!

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 3pm: Truly Alternate History

Panelists: Taylor Anderson (M), Lillian Stewart Carl, Stephen Patrick, K.B. Bogen, Jeff Dawson, T. M. Hunter
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PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 5pm: Weird Wild West

Panelists: Tex Thompson (M), Taylor Anderson, Scott Cupp, S. Boyd Taylor
The success of several Westerns on TV and Film in the past year has revived the art of the weird Western. From Westworld (Sci-fi and Western) to Dark Tower (coming next year) to The Magnificent Seven's reboot (again), the West has never seemed so good. What makes the weird so western? Our panelists dive into popular culture to investigate the phenomenon.

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 8pm: Celebrity Artemis – Session 2

Panelists: Tex Thompson, Taylor Anderson, Seth Skorkowsky, Adrian Simmons, Dantzel Cherry, Heather Schwartz
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Larry Atchley Jr

Saturday

READING

Saturday, 10am: Larry Atchley Jr., Shanna Swendson

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 11am: Don't Feed the Inner Gremlins!

Panelists: Martha Wells (M), Larry Atchley Jr., Seth Skorkowsky, Dantzel Cherry, Scott Cupp, Paul Black

It's late at night. You have a deadline looming, and all you can think about is *ooh squirrel!* How do you keep on track and stay focused? How do you keep those inner gremlins at bay? Our resident writers and artists talk about ways they use to keep on task, and things to avoid – like feeding the gremlins after midnight!

AUTOGRAPHS

Saturday, 1pm: Larry Atchley Jr., Jayme Lynn Blaschke

Sunday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 12pm: Common Ground: The Many Faces of Mythology

Panelists: Rie Sheridan Rose (M), Larry Atchley Jr., Frances A. May, Ethan Nahté, Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam

Usually we look at a specific nationality of mythology – from Norse to Japan to Native American. However, when you look at them from a larger point of view, many common elements become evident. A perfect example of this is the trickster god, Loki. To Native Americans, he might be Coyote. To the Greeks, he might be Dionysus. There are equivalents in every culture. Our panelists discuss the similarities of Mythology that can be found throughout the world.

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MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 3pm: The World of the Expanse

Panelists: Larry Atchley Jr., Karl K. Gallagher, William Ledbetter (M), Frances A. May, William C. Seigler

One of the hotter new shows to come out of the SyFy channel was “The Expanse”, based off of the novel series by James S. A. Corey. A fascinating show set in a grittier and more realistic future where war can be touched off by a misunderstanding and secrets are the key. Our panelists talk about everything Expanse, so feel free to ask questions!

Julie Barrett

Friday

PROGRAMMING 2

Friday, 3pm: Brass Technology and Steam Power

Panelists: Julie Barrett (M), Rie Sheridan Rose, Gloria Oliver, Julia S. Mandala

The genre of Steampunk has always featured unlikely brass gadgets and powered by steam. Whether realistic or fanciful, these gadgets define a look which is unique for both costumers and writers. We gather our panelists to talk about how to bring these gadgets to life – and what lies in the future for Steampunk.

PROGRAMMING 4

Friday, 6pm: Writing for Comics

Panelists: David Doub, R. Cat Conrad, Mel White (M), Julie Barrett

If you look at the credits of any modern comic, you will see that most of them have a separate writer, artist, shader, etc. So, how do you write for the comic medium? Is it like writing a screen play, or like writing a novel? Our comic experts debate this issue and others.

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 10am: Zen and the Art of Podcasting

Panelists: Mark Finn (M), Michael Ashleigh Finn, Tex Thompson, Julie Barrett

A simple computer, a webcam, and you too can be a podcaster! Wait, it's not that simple? Our panelists talk about Podcasting, what is needed, what to avoid and how to script for it.

PROGRAMMING 4

Saturday, 11am: The Care And Feeding Of Hats

Panelist: Julie Barrett

Now that you have that fancy hat, how do you keep it in shape? What's the best way to keep moths from nomming on the wool? How do you rehabilitate that cool flea market or thrift store find and still have money left over to buy more hats? Got a hat that needs work? Bring it in!

PROGRAMMING 4

Saturday, 2pm: Switched On (And Off!) Costume Lighting

Panelist: Julie Barrett (M)

Now that you've lit up your costume or prop, take it to the next level with specialty switches and sensors. Discover how to make lights react to movement, sound, and more!

PROGRAMMING 4

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MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 2pm: If Only I Did that Differently

Panelists: Julie Barrett (M), K. B. Bogen, A. Lee Martinez, Michelle Muenzler, Stephen Patrick

Forgetting to save never felt so bad, right? Right? How about going down that rabbit hole of a plot, only to write yourself into a corner so nasty you have to crumple it up and start from scratch. Our panelists relate their woes and try to help you so that you don't have to follow their footsteps.

Paul Black

Friday

PROGRAMMING 2

Friday, 4pm: Failing Better

Panelists: Tex Thompson (M), A. Lee Martinez, Paul Black, Michelle Muenzler, Stephen Patrick

For a writer, rejection letters are just the beginning. In this panel, we're spilling our guts about cancelled contracts, broken hearts, abysmal sales – and how to emerge from all of them better than you were before.

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Friday, 5pm: Escape from the Slush Pile

Panelists: Michelle Muenzler, Shanna Swendson (M), Teresa Patterson, Paul Black, William Ledbetter, Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam

The perennial panel returns as we tantalize people with mistakes and errors you should try to avoid. Beware: someday you may end up here if you do not learn from your mistakes. Come and learn from our editors on what to avoid so you don't end up on – the slush pile.

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 11am: Don't Feed the Inner Gremlins!

Panelists: Martha Wells (M), Larry Atchley Jr., Seth Skorkowsky, Dantzel Cherry, Scott Cupp, Paul Black

It's late at night. You have a deadline looming, and all you can think about is *ooh squirrel!* How do you keep on track and stay focused? How do you keep those inner gremlins at bay? Our resident writers and artists talk about ways they use to keep on task, and things to avoid – like feeding the gremlins after midnight!

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 12pm: The Best Books Nobody Ever Heard Of

Panelists: Patricia Burroughs (M), Carole Nelson Douglas, Rhonda Eudaly, A. Lee Martinez, Dantzel Cherry, Paul Black

The primary rule of this panel is this: **NO SELF PROMOTION**. Bring examples, and audience participation is welcome as well! Be prepared to be grilled ruthlessly on why you like the book, of course! Bring paper and pen so you can take notes, and hopefully you'll find some great reads.

READING

Saturday, 2pm: A. Lee Martinez, Paul Black

AUTOGRAPHS

Saturday, 6pm: Paul Black, William Ledbetter

Sunday

PROGRAMMING 3

Sunday, 11am: What Tickles Your Funny Bone?

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Rhonda Eudaly, Paul Black, K. B. Bogen, Tracy S. Morris

From simple fart jokes to more esoteric strangeness such as Dirk Gently, humor is always subjective. Thus, let's find out what our panelists think is funny, and see if the audience agrees! Of course, vice versa also applies.

PROGRAMMING 2

Sunday, 2pm: Career Management for Pre-Published Writers

Panelists: Tex Thompson (M), Paul Black, Shanna Swendson, Julia S. Mandala

You've read all the blog posts, heard all the advice: if you want that book you're working on to be a success, you need to start getting known NOW. But how do you do that when you don't have a publishing peg to hang your hat on? Let's talk about what present-you can do to help future-you make it as a professional writer – and when to tune out the rest of the world and just write.

Jayme Lynn Blaschke

Friday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Friday, 6pm: Preparing for a Future in Space

Panelists: William Ledbetter (M), William C. Seigler, Jayme Lynn Blaschke, Jeff Dawson, Karl K. Gallagher

Popular ideas in the past of a Moonbase have faded over the years. The most recent idea is for a Mars base. But can a person safely travel there? Can the human body handle weightlessness for that long of a ride? Our scientists take a hard look at the future of space and debate our place in it.

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 12pm: Famous Last Stands

Panelists: Adrian Simmons (M), Taylor Anderson, Lillian Stewart Carl, Tracy S. Morris, Jeff Dawson, Jayme Lynn Blaschke

If you don't know history, you are doomed to repeat it. Down through the annals of history there are many examples of epic last stands – from General Custer to Dien Bien Phu to the Alamo. Whether an example of arrogance or underestimating the enemy, there are plenty last stands to learn from and use. Our panelists comment on how to learn from history, rather than merely repeating it.

AUTOGRAPHS

Saturday, 1pm: Larry Atchley Jr., Jayme Lynn Blaschke

READING

Saturday, 3pm: Jayme Lynn Blaschke, Adrian Simmons

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 9pm: Pornography vs Erotica – How Things Stand [Adult]

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Jayme Lynn Blaschke

Our usual spicy panel comes with a more practical twist: What is the state of the genre? What sells? What doesn't sell? Has 50 Shades of Grey ruined everything? Our panelists gossip and tell tales.

Sunday

PROGRAMMING 2

Sunday, 1pm: Interstellar Archaeology: Part Two – The Debunking

Panelists: Chris Donahue (M), Jayme Lynn Blaschke, Michelle Muenzler, Michael Ashleigh Finn, Dusty Rainbolt, Linda Donahue

The second of two panels where we inflict (discover) startling artifacts of OBVIOUS alien origin. This time, our experts tell us how wrong the previous esteemed panelists were! Last year, Sunday's panel thoroughly debunked Friday's experts. But will they solve the mystery? Whodunit!

K.B. Bogen

Friday

PROGRAMMING 2

Friday, 5pm: Interstellar Archaeology: Part One – Initial Findings

Panelists: Mel White (M), K. B. Bogen, Scott Cupp, Ethan Nahté, Gloria Oliver, S. Boyd Taylor

The first of two panels where we inflict (discover) startling artifacts of OBVIOUS alien origin and our esteemed (and indeed, TRAINED) archeologists in turn tell us what the artifacts are. Light hearted fun, and bring ear plugs! This year we will take a mystery slant and see what story they come up with!

Saturday

READING

Saturday, 12pm: Julia S. Mandala, Michelle Muenzler, K.B. Bogen

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 3pm: Truly Alternate History

Panelists: Taylor Anderson (M), Lillian Stewart Carl, Stephen Patrick, K.B. Bogen, Jeff Dawson, T. M. Hunter

Sometimes a story in Alternate History is altered only by a little bit. “For want of a nail” is a perfect example of a little change causing major effects. But what if the initial change is a major one? What do you worry about there? Our panelists discuss radical alterations to their worlds.

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 5pm: Hexes and Familiars: Witches in Horror

Panelists: Rie Sheridan Rose (M), Ethan Nahté, Heather Schwartz, K.B. Bogen, David Doub, Bradley H. Sinor

In past years we have looked at Vampires and Werewolves. This year we look at the use of Witches in Horror. Still a staple in horror films, the witch has in her arsenal curses, spells and even nature itself. We bring our horror specialists in to discuss the use of the witch in all her myriad forms.

Sunday

PROGRAMMING 3

Sunday, 11am: What Tickles Your Funny Bone?

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Rhonda Eudaly, Paul Black, K. B. Bogen, Tracy S. Morris

From simple fart jokes to more esoteric strangeness such as Dirk Gently, humor is always subjective. Thus, let’s find out what our panelists think is funny, and see if the audience agrees! Of course, vice versa also applies.

AUTOGRAPHS

Sunday, 12pm: K. B. Bogen, Julia S. Mandala

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 2pm: If Only I Did that Differently

Panelists: Julie Barrett (M), K. B. Bogen, A. Lee Martinez, Michelle Muenzler, Stephen Patrick

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Patricia Burroughs

Friday

READING

Friday, 5pm: Rhonda Eudaly, Patricia Burroughs

PROGRAMMING 3

Friday, 6pm: The Inner SQUEE! – All About Fanfiction

Panelists: Patricia Burroughs (M), Diane Tarbuck, Rie Sheridan Rose, Sue Sinor

Ever been inspired by somebody else's work? Ever want to know how to write classy (or not so classy) fanfiction? Want to know what exactly the genre of fanfiction is? Come and learn with our writers how to channel your inner SQUEE! Preferably without breaking windows, of course.

Saturday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 10am: Unlikely Sources of Inspiration

Panelists: A. Lee Martinez (M), Gloria Oliver, Lillian Stewart Carl, Rhonda Eudaly, Patricia Burroughs, William Ledbetter

In this day and age of the Internet and wide exposure to many cultures, there are plenty of strange and unlikely sources to inspire you to write, draw, costume or even perform. From anime to webcomics to taking bus trips to strange locations, the human condition can express itself in many ways. Our panelists relate some of the more unlikely ways they get inspiration.

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 12pm: The Best Books Nobody Ever Heard Of

Panelists: Patricia Burroughs (M), Carole Nelson Douglas, Rhonda Eudaly, A. Lee Martinez, Dantzel Cherry, Paul Black

The primary rule of this panel is this: NO SELF PROMOTION. Bring examples, and audience participation is welcome as well! Be prepared to be grilled ruthlessly on why you like the book, of course! Bring paper and pen so you can take notes, and hopefully you'll find some great reads.

AUTOGRAPHS

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Lillian Stewart Carl

Friday

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Dantzel Cherry

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Panelists: Martha Wells (M), Larry Atchley Jr., Seth Skorkowsky, Dantzel Cherry, Scott Cupp, Paul Black

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READING

Saturday, 4pm: Dantzel Cherry, Karl K. Gallagher, Seth Skorkowsky

MAIN PROGRAMMING

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Panelists: Tex Thompson, Taylor Anderson, Seth Skorkowsky, Adrian Simmons, Dantzel Cherry, Heather Schwartz

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Scott Cupp

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AUTOGRAPHS

Friday, 6pm: Shanna Swendson, Scott Cupp

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 10am: Collaborating Across Mediums

Panelists: Scott A. Cupp (M), Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam, Peter Brewer

Collaboration does not have to stay within the same medium. Board Games have come with soundtracks inside. Short stories come alive with illustrations inside. Why not music? Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam and Peter Brewer have collaborated together to create stories with music. Let's find out how they did it.

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Melia Dawn

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Saturday

PROGRAMMING 4

Saturday, 10am: Victorian-Era Needle Crafting

Panelist: Melia Dawn

Ever wonder about historical needle crafts? Join Melia Dawn as she explores the history of needle crafts and the role needle work played in middle class Victorian women's society.

PROGRAMMING 4

Saturday, 12pm: The mARTian Collaboration

Panelists: Melia Dawn, R. Cat Conrad, Brad W. Foster, Mel White

They say if you ask a committee to design a horse, you'll get a camel. Come see what happens when we team up artists and ask them to design a Martian, alien, or whatever the audience demands!

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Jeff Dawson

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MAIN PROGRAMMING

Friday, 6pm: Preparing for a Future in Space

Panelists: William Ledbetter (M), William C. Seigler, Jayme Lynn Blaschke, Jeff Dawson, Karl K. Gallagher

Popular ideas in the past of a Moonbase have faded over the years. The most recent idea is for a Mars base. But can a person safely travel there? Can the human body handle weightlessness for that long of a ride? Our scientists take a hard look at the future of space and debate our place in it.

Saturday

AUTOGRAPHS

Saturday, 11am: Jeff Dawson, Sue Sinor

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 12pm: Famous Last Stands

Panelists: Adrian Simmons (M), Taylor Anderson, Lillian Stewart Carl, Tracy S. Morris, Jeff Dawson, Jayme Lynn Blaschke

If you don't know history, you are doomed to repeat it. Down through the annals of history there are many examples of epic last stands – from General Custer to Dien Bien Phu to the Alamo. Whether an example of arrogance or underestimating the enemy, there are plenty last stands to learn from and use. Our panelists comment on how to learn from history, rather than merely repeating it.

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 2pm: Know Your Weapons!

Panelists: Taylor Anderson (M), Jeff Dawson, Tracy S. Morris, William C. Seigler, Barbara Ann Wright

In what age was the blunderbuss? When did the sword and shield rule supreme? When should cannons be used appropriately? Our panelists discuss the use of weapons of war and when in history they were used. If you have a question about a certain type of weapon, feel free to ask!

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 3pm: Truly Alternate History

Panelists: Taylor Anderson (M), Lillian Stewart Carl, Stephen Patrick, K.B. Bogen, Jeff Dawson, T. M. Hunter

Sometimes a story in Alternate History is altered only by a little bit. "For want of a nail" is a perfect example of a little change causing major effects. But what if the initial change is a major one? What do you worry about there? Our panelists discuss radical alterations to their worlds.

READING

Saturday, 5pm: Tracy S. Morris, Adrian Simmons, Jeff Dawson

Sunday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 11am: Self-editing errors

Panelists: Julia S. Mandala (M), Teresa Patterson, Tex Thompson, Barbara Ann Wright, Jeff Dawson, Adrian Simmons

A popular panel for the past several years, our panelists discuss ways of catching those pesky errors. Remember, the more eyes on your work, the better – each different perspective helps catch things you miss! And watch out for Autocorrect...

Chris Donahue

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 1pm: The Logistics of Space Travel

Panelists: Chris Donahue (M), T.M. Hunter, Adrian Simmons, Martha Wells, William C. Seigler, Karl K. Gallagher

It's easy to dream about flying between the stars. But what do you need to stock to be able to make it back home? Somehow I think crates of MREs will get old after a while... Our panelists debate what is needed to travel the stars in traditional Space Opera...and what needs to be included when writing about it.

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 4pm: A Flat Perspective: Looking Back at the Discworld

Panelists: Mel White (M), Chris Donahue, Martha Wells, Teresa Patterson, Michael Ashleigh Finn

The last book is published, and the pen is put down. Left by Sir Pratchett's departure is a myriad of books in multiple universes, but his most famous and enduring legacy will always be the Discworld. Our panelists talk about how this unique take on life has changed the world for the better.

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 8pm: Yard Dog Road Show!

Panelists: Christopher Donahue, Linda Donahue, Rhonda Eudaly, Melanie Fletcher, K. Hutson, William Ledbetter, Julia Mandala, Tracy Morris, Ethan Nahte, Gloria Oliver, Teresa Patterson, Dusty Rainbolt, Rie Sheridan Rose, Bradley Sinor, Sue Sinor, Mel White

The fantastic authors of the Yard Dog Press put on their always entertaining Road Show! Make sure not to miss this.

Sunday

READING

Sunday, 11am: Ethan Nahté, Chris Donahue

PROGRAMMING 2

Sunday, 1pm: Interstellar Archaeology: Part Two – The Debunking

Panelists: Chris Donahue (M), Jayme Lynn Blaschke, Michelle Muenzler, Michael Ashleigh Finn, Dusty Rainbolt, Linda Donahue

The second of two panels where we inflict (discover) startling artifacts of OBVIOUS alien origin. This time, our experts tell us how wrong the previous esteemed panelists were! Last year, Sunday's panel thoroughly debunked Friday's experts. But will they solve the mystery? Whodunit!

Linda Donahue

Saturday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 1pm: I Ain't Afraid of No Ghosts!

Panelists: Ethan Nahté (M), Dusty Rainbolt, Heather Schwartz, S. Boyd Taylor, Linda Donahue, Frances A. May
No, this panel isn't about the newest version of Ghostbusters. Instead, it's about hunting ghosts. What causes a location to become haunted? How does one investigate a ghost? How do you evict the ghost? CAN you evict a ghost? Our ghost hunters relate their tales of spine-tingling horror. Just remember not to cross the streams...

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 2pm: Q&A with Rachel Caine and R. Cat Conrad

Panelists: Linda Donahue (M), Rachel Caine, R. Cat Conrad

We bring together our Guests of Honor for a giant Q&A session! Bring your questions, and get ready to learn all about Rachel Caine and R. Cat Conrad.

PROGRAMMING 4

Saturday, 4pm: Redheads of the Apocalypse

Panelists: Rhonda Eudaly, Julia S. Mandala, Linda Donahue, Dusty Rainbolt, Mark Finn

The always entertaining Four Redheads of the Apocalypse talk about their latest publication, as well as many other topics!

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 8pm: Yard Dog Road Show!

Panelists: Christopher Donahue, Linda Donahue, Rhonda Eudaly, Melanie Fletcher, K. Hutson, William Ledbetter, Julia Mandala, Tracy Morris, Ethan Nahte, Gloria Oliver, Teresa Patterson, Dusty Rainbolt, Rie Sheridan Rose, Bradley Sinor, Sue Sinor, Mel White

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Sunday

AUTOGRAPHS

Sunday, 11am: Linda Donahue

PROGRAMMING 2

Sunday, 1pm: Interstellar Archaeology: Part Two – The Debunking

Panelists: Chris Donahue (M), Jayme Lynn Blaschke, Michelle Muenzler, Michael Ashleigh Finn, Dusty Rainbolt, Linda Donahue

The second of two panels where we inflict (discover) startling artifacts of OBVIOUS alien origin. This time, our experts tell us how wrong the previous esteemed panelists were! Last year, Sunday's panel thoroughly debunked Friday's experts. But will they solve the mystery? Whodunit!

READING

Sunday, 2pm: Melanie Fletcher, Linda Donahue

David Doub

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 5pm: Hexes and Familiars: Witches in Horror

Panelists: Rie Sheridan Rose (M), Ethan Nahté, Heather Schwartz, K.B. Bogen, David Doub, Bradley H. Sinor

In past years we have looked at Vampires and Werewolves. This year we look at the use of Witches in Horror. Still a staple in horror films, the witch has in her arsenal curses, spells and even nature itself. We bring our horror specialists in to discuss the use of the witch in all her myriad forms.

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 6pm: The Survivor's Guide to the Supernatural

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Sue Sinor, Gloria Oliver, David Doub, Michelle Muenzler

If you were ever concerned about living in a world with supernatural heroes and villains, this is the panel for you! How can you survive in a world with mutants? Our survival experts try to guide you through the chaos. *[Note: Survival is not guaranteed by attending this panel]*

Sunday

READING

Sunday, 12pm: T. M. Hunter, David Doub

PROGRAMMING 3

Sunday, 1pm: Comic Books to Die For

Panelists: R. Cat Conrad (M), Brad W. Foster, Mel White, Larry Atchley Jr., David Doub

We all have our tendencies in what we like and dislike. So the panelists are given this simple question: "What is your favorite comic book, and why?" The audience is encouraged to participate and grill them if so desired.

PROGRAMMING 3

Sunday, 3pm: Where are the Dresden Files?

Panelists: Rachel Caine (M), David Doub, Shanna Swendson, Rie Sheridan Rose

One of the most iconic Urban Fantasy series out there, the Dresden Files has been quiet of late as Jim Butcher has branched out into other topics. Will he return? What is the latest news, if any? And what can people read while they are waiting?

Carole Nelson Douglas

Saturday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 12pm: The Best Books Nobody Ever Heard Of

Panelists: Patricia Burroughs (M), Carole Nelson Douglas, Rhonda Eudaly, A. Lee Martinez, Dantzel Cherry, Paul Black
The primary rule of this panel is this: NO SELF PROMOTION. Bring examples, and audience participation is welcome as well!
Be prepared to be grilled ruthlessly on why you like the book, of course! Bring paper and pen so you can take notes, and hopefully you'll find some great reads.

PROGRAMMING 4

Saturday, 1pm: Book Covers that Won't Break the Bank

Panelists: Shirley Reeves (M), Stephanie Folse, Mel White, Carole Nelson Douglas, Stephen Sanders
Eye-catching book covers are all well and good, but if they break your back financially, they do you no good. Our panelists look at ways to create a good book cover that are reasonable in price and legal.

AUTOGRAPHS

Saturday, 3pm: Carole Nelson Douglas, Martha Wells

Rhonda Eudaly

Friday

READING

Friday, 5pm: Rhonda Eudaly, Patricia Burroughs

PROGRAMMING 2

Friday, 6pm: How Many Last Jedis Are There?

Panelists: Tracy S. Morris (M), Mark Finn, Rhonda Eudaly, Michael Ashleigh Finn, T. M. Hunter, Bradley H. Sinor

We all know the title of the upcoming Star Wars VIII film to be “The Last Jedi”. However, Jedi seem to grow like weeds in the novels – Order 66 got a lot of them, but there were always those few who hid on Coruscant, or Dagobah, or on a ship sent out of the galaxy, or...you get the drift. It’s time to speculate and debate on the Star Wars Universe. Try not to wreck the room with lightsabers.

Saturday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 10am: Unlikely Sources of Inspiration

Panelists: A. Lee Martinez (M), Gloria Oliver, Lillian Stewart Carl, Rhonda Eudaly, Patricia Burroughs, William Ledbetter

In this day and age of the Internet and wide exposure to many cultures, there are plenty of strange and unlikely sources to inspire you to write, draw, costume or even perform. From anime to webcomics to taking bus trips to strange locations, the human condition can express itself in many ways. Our panelists relate some of the more unlikely ways they get inspiration.

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 12pm: The Best Books Nobody Ever Heard Of

Panelists: Patricia Burroughs (M), Carole Nelson Douglas, Rhonda Eudaly, A. Lee Martinez, Dantzel Cherry, Paul Black

The primary rule of this panel is this: NO SELF PROMOTION. Bring examples, and audience participation is welcome as well! Be prepared to be grilled ruthlessly on why you like the book, of course! Bring paper and pen so you can take notes, and hopefully you’ll find some great reads.

AUTOGRAPHS

Saturday, 2pm: Rhonda Eudaly, Patricia Burroughs, Michelle Muenzler, Beth Teliho, Melanie Fletcher

PROGRAMMING 4

Saturday, 4pm: Redheads of the Apocalypse

Panelists: Rhonda Eudaly, Julia S. Mandala, Linda Donahue, Dusty Rainbolt, Mark Finn

The always entertaining Four Redheads of the Apocalypse talk about their latest publication, as well as many other topics!

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 8pm: Yard Dog Road Show!

Panelists: Christopher Donahue, Linda Donahue, Rhonda Eudaly, Melanie Fletcher, K. Hutson, William Ledbetter, Julia Mandala, Tracy Morris, Ethan Nahte, Gloria Oliver, Teresa Patterson, Dusty Rainbolt, Rie Sheridan Rose, Bradley Sinor, Sue Sinor, Mel White

The fantastic authors of the Yard Dog Press put on their always entertaining Road Show! Make sure not to miss this.

Sunday

PROGRAMMING 3

Sunday, 11am: What Tickles Your Funny Bone?

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Rhonda Eudaly, Paul Black, K. B. Bogen, Tracy S. Morris

From simple fart jokes to more esoteric strangeness such as Dirk Gently, humor is always subjective. Thus, let’s find out what our panelists think is funny, and see if the audience agrees! Of course, vice versa also applies.

Mark Finn

Friday

PROGRAMMING 2

Friday, 6pm: How Many Last Jedis Are There?

Panelists: Tracy S. Morris (M), Mark Finn, Rhonda Eudaly, Michael Ashleigh Finn, T. M. Hunter, Bradley H. Sinor

We all know the title of the upcoming Star Wars VIII film to be “The Last Jedi”. However, Jedi seem to grow like weeds in the novels – Order 66 got a lot of them, but there were always those few who hid on Coruscant, or Dagobah, or on a ship sent out of the galaxy, or...you get the drift. It’s time to speculate and debate on the Star Wars Universe. Try not to wreck the room with lightsabers.

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 10am: Zen and the Art of Podcasting

Panelists: Mark Finn (M), Michael Ashleigh Finn, Tex Thompson, Julie Barrett

A simple computer, a webcam, and you too can be a podcaster! Wait, it’s not that simple? Our panelists talk about Podcasting, what is needed, what to avoid and how to script for it.

READING

Saturday, 11am: Barbara Ann Wright, Rie Sheridan Rose, Mark Finn

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 3pm: 2017 Movie Forecast For the Geek Nation

Panelists: Mark Finn (M), Michael Ashleigh Finn, Ethan Nahté, Gloria Oliver

Our panelists talk about upcoming films for the coming year – what is coming, what looks to be exciting and what moviegoers should watch out for.

PROGRAMMING 4

Saturday, 4pm: Redheads of the Apocalypse

Panelists: Rhonda Eudaly, Julia S. Mandala, Linda Donahue, Dusty Rainbolt, Mark Finn

The always entertaining Four Redheads of the Apocalypse talk about their latest publication, as well as many other topics!

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 6pm: Researching Outside of the Box

Panelists: Mark Finn (M), Michael Ashleigh Finn, Ethan Nahté, Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam, Tex Thompson

Sometime you just don’t have the energy to go to a library to find information. Fortunately, there are plenty of places on the Internet where you can find things – and plenty of places you want to avoid. Still, whether you love it or hate it, places like Wikipedia and other forums such as Reddit can have a treasure trove of information. Our panelists tell you of the secret ways to information on the information superhighway. *[Note: Brain bleach may be required if you deviate from the path]*

Sunday

PROGRAMMING 2

Sunday, 11am: Video Games: Inspiration or Distraction?

Panelists: Mark Finn (M), R. Cat Conrad, Michael Ashleigh Finn, Julie Barrett, Seth Skorkowsky

It’s easy to view video games as a distraction. Games such as Candy Crush can suck away free time with addictive puzzles until you realize that deadline has come and gone. However, video games can be an inspiration as well. Games such as World of Warcraft or No Man’s Sky can show you entire universes to explore, possibly giving you your own ideas for art or story. Can it be both? Or is it only one or the other? Let’s see what our panelists think.

Michael Ashleigh Finn

Friday

PROGRAMMING 3

Friday, 4pm: The Art of the Parody

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Michael Ashleigh Finn, Julia S. Mandala, Heather Schwartz, Sue Sinor

According to literarydevices.net, a parody is “an imitation of a particular writer, artist or a genre, exaggerating it deliberately to produce a comic effect.” Examples range from Gulliver’s Travels to Shakespeare’s Sonnet 130. More modern versions include shows like “The Daily Show” and “The Colbert Report”. Our panelists examine parodies from ancient times to modern times.

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MAIN PROGRAMMING

Friday, 9pm: Talking During the Movies

Panelists: Heather Schwartz, Tracy S. Morris, Melanie Fletcher, Michael Ashleigh Finn

From the legendary Roger Corman, the man who brought you Piranha, Sharktopus vs. Whalewolf and 411 other movies, comes “Deathrace 2050”. It’s got Manu Bennett, Malcolm McDowell and several other actors who desperately needed a car payment.

Following up that is where James Gunn, the guy who brought you Guardians of the Galaxy, got his start. Its “Tromeo and Juliet”, a bloody, boobacious, irreverent punk take on Shakespeare’s classic love story only with more lesbians and Lemmy.

Saturday

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MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 7pm: Celebrity Artemis – Session 1

Panelists: Rachel Caine, R. Cat Conrad, A. Lee Martinez, Julia S. Mandala, Michael Ashleigh Finn, Mel White

The popular co-operative bridge simulator returns again to ConDFW! Six panelists at a time take the Starship Artemis through the void, insulting every alien race possible. Let's see what happens!

Sunday

PROGRAMMING 2

Sunday, 11am: Video Games: Inspiration or Distraction?

Panelists: Mark Finn (M), R. Cat Conrad, Michael Ashleigh Finn, Julie Barrett, Seth Skorkowsky

It's easy to view video games as a distraction. Games such as Candy Crush can suck away free time with addictive puzzles until you realize that deadline has come and gone. However, video games can be an inspiration as well. Games such as World of Warcraft or No Man's Sky can show you entire universes to explore, possibly giving you your own ideas for art or story. Can it be both? Or is it only one or the other? Let's see what our panelists think.

PROGRAMMING 2

Sunday, 1pm: Interstellar Archaeology: Part Two – The Debunking

Panelists: Chris Donahue (M), Jayme Lynn Blaschke, Michelle Muenzler, Michael Ashleigh Finn, Dusty Rainbolt, Linda Donahue

The second of two panels where we inflict (discover) startling artifacts of OBVIOUS alien origin. This time, our experts tell us how wrong the previous esteemed panelists were! Last year, Sunday's panel thoroughly debunked Friday's experts. But will they solve the mystery? Whodunit!

Melanie Fletcher

Friday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Friday, 3pm: Speculative Fiction 101

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Rachel Caine, Stephen Sanders, Shanna Swendson, Tex Thompson

What is speculative fiction? According to that lovely source Wikipedia, "Speculative fiction is a broad umbrella genre denoting any narrative fiction with supernatural or futuristic elements." It can be used to denote many fields from science fiction to fantasy to horror. But what is it, really? What constitutes a story labelled as speculative fiction? Our authors try to clear up the mystery.

PROGRAMMING 3

Friday, 4pm: The Art of the Parody

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Michael Ashleigh Finn, Julia S. Mandala, Heather Schwartz, Sue Sinor

According to literarydevices.net, a parody is "an imitation of a particular writer, artist or a genre, exaggerating it deliberately to produce a comic effect." Examples range from Gulliver's Travels to Shakespeare's Sonnet 130. More modern versions include shows like "The Daily Show" and "The Colbert Report". Our panelists examine parodies from ancient times to modern times.

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Saturday

AUTOGRAPHS

Saturday, 2pm: Rhonda Eudaly, Patricia Burroughs, Michelle Muenzler, Beth Teliho, Melanie Fletcher, Melanie Fletcher

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 6pm: The Survivor's Guide to the Supernatural

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Sue Sinor, Gloria Oliver, David Doub, Michelle Muenzler

If you were ever concerned about living in a world with supernatural heros and villains, this is the panel for you! How can you survive in a world with mutants? Our survival experts try to guide you through the chaos. *[Note: Survival is not guaranteed by attending this panel]*

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 8pm: Yard Dog Road Show!

Panelists: Christopher Donahue, Linda Donahue, Rhonda Eudaly, Melanie Fletcher, K. Hutson, William Ledbetter, Julia Mandala, Tracy Morris, Ethan Nahte, Gloria Oliver, Teresa Patterson, Dusty Rainbolt, Rie Sheridan Rose, Bradley Sinor, Sue Sinor, Mel White

The fantastic authors of the Yard Dog Press put on their always entertaining Road Show! Make sure not to miss this.

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 9pm: Pornography vs Erotica – How Things Stand [Adult]

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Jayme Lynn Blaschke

Our usual spicy panel comes with a more practical twist: What is the state of the genre? What sells? What doesn't sell? Has 50 Shades of Grey ruined everything? Our panelists gossip and tell tales.

Sunday

PROGRAMMING 3

Sunday, 11am: What Tickles Your Funny Bone?

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Rhonda Eudaly, Paul Black, K. B. Bogen, Tracy S. Morris

From simple fart jokes to more esoteric strangeness such as Dirk Gently, humor is always subjective. Thus, let's find out what our panelists think is funny, and see if the audience agrees! Of course, vice versa also applies.

READING

Sunday, 2pm: Melanie Fletcher, Linda Donahue

Brad W. Foster

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 4

Saturday, 12pm: The mARTian Collaboration

Panelists: Melia Dawn, R. Cat Conrad, Brad W. Foster, Mel White

They say if you ask a committee to design a horse, you'll get a camel. Come see what happens when we team up artists and ask them to design a Martian, alien, or whatever the audience demands!

PROGRAMMING 4

Saturday, 5pm: Fandom Pictionary

Panelists: R. Cat Conrad, Brad W. Foster, Mel White, Julie Barrett

Play Pictionary or just watch as our artists compete. Come and see our artists face off against each other. Pictionary has never been this much fun!

Sunday

PROGRAMMING 3

Sunday, 1pm: Comic Books to Die For

Panelists: R. Cat Conrad (M), Brad W. Foster, Mel White, Larry Atchley Jr., David Doub

We all have our tendencies in what we like and dislike. So the panelists are given this simple question: "What is your favorite comic book, and why?" The audience is encouraged to participate and grill them if so desired.

Karl K. Gallagher

Friday

PROGRAMMING 4

Friday, 5pm: Indie Publishing from Ground Zero

Panelists: Karl K. Gallagher (M), Stephanie Folse, Laura Gallagher, Shirley Reeves

How does an aspiring author put a book on the market? Our panelists give you one possible way of many. This will cover publishing, cover art and design, and even audiobook licensing, recording and editing.

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Friday, 6pm: Preparing for a Future in Space

Panelists: William Ledbetter (M), William C. Seigler, Jayme Lynn Blaschke, Jeff Dawson, Karl K. Gallagher

Popular ideas in the past of a Moonbase have faded over the years. The most recent idea is for a Mars base. But can a person safely travel there? Can the human body handle weightlessness for that long of a ride? Our scientists take a hard look at the future of space and debate our place in it.

Saturday

AUTOGRAPHS

Saturday, 12pm: Bradley H. Sinor, Karl K. Gallagher

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 1pm: The Logistics of Space Travel

Panelists: Chris Donahue (M), T.M. Hunter, Adrian Simmons, Martha Wells, William C. Seigler, Karl K. Gallagher

It's easy to dream about flying between the stars. But what do you need to stock to be able to make it back home? Somehow I think crates of MREs will get old after a while... Our panelists debate what is needed to travel the stars in traditional Space Opera...and what needs to be included when writing about it.

READING

Saturday, 4pm: Dantzel Cherry, Karl K. Gallagher, Seth Skorkowsky

Sunday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 1pm: The Science of Space Flight

Panelists: William Ledbetter (M), Karl K. Gallagher, William C. Seigler, Gloria Oliver

What is the state of flight these days? Pictures of possible space ships notwithstanding, lets get down to brass tacks on what can and can not be done right now. Our scientists will mull over these issues and answer questions.

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 3pm: The World of the Expanse

Panelists: Larry Atchley Jr., Karl K. Gallagher, William Ledbetter (M), Frances A. May, William C. Seigler

One of the hotter new shows to come out of the SyFy channel was "The Expanse", based off of the novel series by James S. A. Corey. A fascinating show set in a grittier and more realistic future where war can be touched off by a misunderstanding and secrets are the key. Our panelists talk about everything Expanse, so feel free to ask questions!

T. M. Hunter

Friday

PROGRAMMING 2

Friday, 6pm: How Many Last Jedis Are There?

Panelists: Tracy S. Morris (M), Mark Finn, Rhonda Eudaly, Michael Ashleigh Finn, T. M. Hunter, Bradley H. Sinor

We all know the title of the upcoming Star Wars VIII film to be “The Last Jedi”. However, Jedi seem to grow like weeds in the novels – Order 66 got a lot of them, but there were always those few who hid on Coruscant, or Dagobah, or on a ship sent out of the galaxy, or...you get the drift. It’s time to speculate and debate on the Star Wars Universe. Try not to wreck the room with lightsabers.

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 1pm: The Logistics of Space Travel

Panelists: Chris Donahue (M), T.M. Hunter, Adrian Simmons, Martha Wells, William C. Seigler, Karl K. Gallagher

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PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 3pm: Truly Alternate History

Panelists: Taylor Anderson (M), Lillian Stewart Carl, Stephen Patrick, K.B. Bogen, Jeff Dawson, T. M. Hunter

Sometimes a story in Alternate History is altered only by a little bit. “For want of a nail” is a perfect example of a little change causing major effects. But what if the initial change is a major one? What do you worry about there? Our panelists discuss radical alterations to their worlds.

Sunday

READING

Sunday, 12pm: T. M. Hunter, David Doub

AUTOGRAPHS

Sunday, 1pm: T. M. Hunter, Barbara Ann Wright

William Ledbetter

Friday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Friday, 5pm: Escape from the Slush Pile

Panelists: Michelle Muenzler, Shanna Swendson (M), Teresa Patterson, Paul Black, William Ledbetter, Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam
The perennial panel returns as we tantalize people with mistakes and errors you should try to avoid. Beware: someday you may end up here if you do not learn from your mistakes. Come and learn from our editors on what to avoid so you don't end up on – the slush pile.

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Friday, 6pm: Preparing for a Future in Space

Panelists: William Ledbetter (M), William C. Seigler, Jayme Lynn Blaschke, Jeff Dawson, Karl K. Gallagher
Popular ideas in the past of a Moonbase have faded over the years. The most recent idea is for a Mars base. But can a person safely travel there? Can the human body handle weightlessness for that long of a ride? Our scientists take a hard look at the future of space and debate our place in it.

Saturday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 10am: Unlikely Sources of Inspiration

Panelists: A. Lee Martinez (M), Gloria Oliver, Lillian Stewart Carl, Rhonda Eudaly, Patricia Burroughs, William Ledbetter
In this day and age of the Internet and wide exposure to many cultures, there are plenty of strange and unlikely sources to inspire you to write, draw, costume or even perform. From anime to webcomics to taking bus trips to strange locations, the human condition can express itself in many ways. Our panelists relate some of the more unlikely ways they get inspiration.

READING

Saturday, 1pm: William Ledbetter, Tex Thompson

AUTOGRAPHS

Saturday, 6pm: Paul Black, William Ledbetter

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 8pm: Yard Dog Road Show!

Panelists: Christopher Donahue, Linda Donahue, Rhonda Eudaly, Melanie Fletcher, K. Hutson, William Ledbetter, Julia Mandala, Tracy Morris, Ethan Nahte, Gloria Oliver, Teresa Patterson, Dusty Rainbolt, Rie Sheridan Rose, Bradley Sinor, Sue Sinor, Mel White

The fantastic authors of the Yard Dog Press put on their always entertaining Road Show! Make sure not to miss this.

Sunday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 1pm: The Science of Space Flight

Panelists: William Ledbetter (M), Karl K. Gallagher, William C. Seigler, Gloria Oliver
What is the state of flight these days? Pictures of possible space ships notwithstanding, lets get down to brass tacks on what can and can not be done right now. Our scientists will mull over these issues and answer questions.

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 3pm: The World of the Expanse

Panelists: Larry Atchley Jr., Karl K. Gallagher, William Ledbetter (M), Frances A. May, William C. Seigler
One of the hotter new shows to come out of the Syfy channel was “The Expanse”, based off of the novel series by James S. A. Corey. A fascinating show set in a grittier and more realistic future where war can be touched off by a misunderstanding and secrets are the key. Our panelists talk about everything Expanse, so feel free to ask questions!

Julia S. Mandala

Friday

PROGRAMMING 2

Friday, 3pm: Brass Technology and Steam Power

Panelists: Julie Barrett (M), Rie Sheridan Rose, Gloria Oliver, Julia S. Mandala

The genre of Steampunk has always featured unlikely brass gadgets and powered by steam. Whether realistic or fanciful, these gadgets define a look which is unique for both costumers and writers. We gather our panelists to talk about how to bring these gadgets to life – and what lies in the future for Steampunk.

PROGRAMMING 3

Friday, 4pm: The Art of the Parody

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Michael Ashleigh Finn, Julia S. Mandala, Heather Schwartz, Sue Sinor

According to literarydevices.net, a parody is “an imitation of a particular writer, artist or a genre, exaggerating it deliberately to produce a comic effect.” Examples range from Gulliver’s Travels to Shakespeare’s Sonnet 130. More modern versions include shows like “The Daily Show” and “The Colbert Report”. Our panelists examine parodies from ancient times to modern times.

Saturday

READING

Saturday, 12pm: Julia S. Mandala, Michelle Muenzler, K.B. Bogen

PROGRAMMING 4

Saturday, 4pm: Redheads of the Apocalypse

Panelists: Rhonda Eudaly, Julia S. Mandala, Linda Donahue, Dusty Rainbolt, Mark Finn

The always entertaining Four Redheads of the Apocalypse talk about their latest publication, as well as many other topics!

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 7pm: Celebrity Artemis – Session 1

Panelists: Rachel Caine, R. Cat Conrad, A. Lee Martinez, Julia S. Mandala, Michael Ashleigh Finn, Mel White

The popular co-operative bridge simulator returns again to ConDFW! Six panelists at a time take the Starship Artemis through the void, insulting every alien race possible. Let’s see what happens!

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 8pm: Yard Dog Road Show!

Panelists: Christopher Donahue, Linda Donahue, Rhonda Eudaly, Melanie Fletcher, K. Hutson, William Ledbetter, Julia Mandala, Tracy Morris, Ethan Nahte, Gloria Oliver, Teresa Patterson, Dusty Rainbolt, Rie Sheridan Rose, Bradley Sinor, Sue Sinor, Mel White

The fantastic authors of the Yard Dog Press put on their always entertaining Road Show! Make sure not to miss this.

Sunday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 11am: Self-editing errOrs

Panelists: Julia S. Mandala (M), Teresa Patterson, Tex Thompson, Barbara Ann Wright, Jeff Dawson, Adrian Simmons

A popular panel for the past several years, our panelists discuss ways of catching those pesky errors. Remember, the more eyes on your work, the better – each different perspective helps catch things you miss! And watch out for Autocorrect...

AUTOGRAPHS

Sunday, 12pm: K. B. Bogen, Julia S. Mandala

PROGRAMMING 2

Sunday, 2pm: Career Management for Pre-Published Writers

Panelists: Tex Thompson (M), Paul Black, Shanna Swendson, Julia S. Mandala

You've read all the blog posts, heard all the advice: if you want that book you're working on to be a success, you need to start getting known NOW. But how do you do that when you don't have a publishing peg to hang your hat on? Let's talk about what present-you can do to help future-you make it as a professional writer – and when to tune out the rest of the world and just write.

A. Lee Martinez

Friday

PROGRAMMING 2

Friday, 4pm: Failing Better

Panelists: Tex Thompson (M), A. Lee Martinez, Paul Black, Michelle Muenzler, Stephen Patrick

For a writer, rejection letters are just the beginning. In this panel, we're spilling our guts about cancelled contracts, broken hearts, abysmal sales – and how to emerge from all of them better than you were before.

AUTOGRAPHS

Friday, 5pm: A. Lee Martinez

Saturday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 10am: Unlikely Sources of Inspiration

Panelists: A. Lee Martinez (M), Gloria Oliver, Lillian Stewart Carl, Rhonda Eudaly, Patricia Burroughs, William Ledbetter

In this day and age of the Internet and wide exposure to many cultures, there are plenty of strange and unlikely sources to inspire you to write, draw, costume or even perform. From anime to webcomics to taking bus trips to strange locations, the human condition can express itself in many ways. Our panelists relate some of the more unlikely ways they get inspiration.

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 12pm: The Best Books Nobody Ever Heard Of

Panelists: Patricia Burroughs (M), Carole Nelson Douglas, Rhonda Eudaly, A. Lee Martinez, Dantzel Cherry, Paul Black

The primary rule of this panel is this: NO SELF PROMOTION. Bring examples, and audience participation is welcome as well! Be prepared to be grilled ruthlessly on why you like the book, of course! Bring paper and pen so you can take notes, and hopefully you'll find some great reads.

READING

Saturday, 2pm: A. Lee Martinez, Paul Black

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 7pm: Celebrity Artemis – Session 1

Panelists: Rachel Caine, R. Cat Conrad, A. Lee Martinez, Julia S. Mandala, Michael Ashleigh Finn, Mel White

The popular co-operative bridge simulator returns again to ConDFW! Six panelists at a time take the Starship Artemis through the void, insulting every alien race possible. Let's see what happens!

Sunday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 2pm: If Only I Did that Differently

Panelists: Julie Barrett (M), K. B. Bogen, A. Lee Martinez, Michelle Muenzler, Stephen Patrick

Forgetting to save never felt so bad, right? Right? How about going down that rabbit hole of a plot, only to write yourself into a corner so nasty you have to crumple it up and start from scratch. Our panelists relate their woes and try to help you so that you don't have to follow their footsteps.

PROGRAMMING 2

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Panelists: A. Lee Martinez (M), Tex Thompson, Teresa Patterson, Heather Schwartz, Gloria Oliver

In "A Monster Calls", a world out of a boy's head comforts him as he deals with his mother's cancer. The movie's imagery is what calls you – seeing the gravestones, feeling the parsonage smash, it is very visceral imagery. Our panelists talk about worlds of fantasy that are in our heads – and how to bring them out.

Frances A. May

Saturday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 1pm: I Ain't Afraid of No Ghosts!

Panelists: Ethan Nahté (M), Dusty Rainbolt, Heather Schwartz, S. Boyd Taylor, Linda Donahue, Frances A. May
No, this panel isn't about the newest version of Ghostbusters. Instead, it's about hunting ghosts. What causes a location to become haunted? How does one investigate a ghost? How do you evict the ghost? CAN you evict a ghost? Our ghost hunters relate their tales of spine-tingling horror. Just remember not to cross the streams...

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 4pm: Metaphysical Themas: Tales of Divination

Panelists: Frances A. May (M), Barbara Ann Wright, Michelle Muenzler, Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam, Shanna Swendson
It's easy to get lost in real world troubles. Sometimes you just have to see what the future will bring. Our panelists explore alternative methods of divination, using tools such as astrology and the Tarot. Be careful – the future may not be what you want!

Sunday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 12pm: Common Ground: The Many Faces of Mythology

Panelists: Rie Sheridan Rose (M), Larry Atchley Jr., Frances A. May, Ethan Nahté, Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam
Usually we look at a specific nationality of mythology – from Norse to Japan to Native American. However, when you look at them from a larger point of view, many common elements become evident. A perfect example of this is the trickster god, Loki. To Native Americans, he might be Coyote. To the Greeks, he might be Dionysus. There are equivalents in every culture. Our panelists discuss the similarities of Mythology that can be found throughout the world.

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Panelists: Larry Atchley Jr., Karl K. Gallagher, William Ledbetter (M), Frances A. May, William C. Seigler
One of the hotter new shows to come out of the SyFy channel was "The Expanse", based off of the novel series by James S. A. Corey. A fascinating show set in a grittier and more realistic future where war can be touched off by a misunderstanding and secrets are the key. Our panelists talk about everything Expanse, so feel free to ask questions!

Tracy S. Morris

Friday

PROGRAMMING 2

Friday, 6pm: How Many Last Jedis Are There?

Panelists: Tracy S. Morris (M), Mark Finn, Rhonda Eudaly, Michael Ashleigh Finn, T. M. Hunter, Bradley H. Sinor

We all know the title of the upcoming Star Wars VIII film to be “The Last Jedi”. However, Jedi seem to grow like weeds in the novels – Order 66 got a lot of them, but there were always those few who hid on Coruscant, or Dagobah, or on a ship sent out of the galaxy, or...you get the drift. It’s time to speculate and debate on the Star Wars Universe. Try not to wreck the room with lightsabers.

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Friday, 9pm: Talking During the Movies

Panelists: Heather Schwartz, Tracy S. Morris, Melanie Fletcher, Michael Ashleigh Finn

From the legendary Roger Corman, the man who brought you Piranha, Sharktopus vs. Whalewolf and 411 other movies, comes “Deathrace 2050”. It's got Manu Bennett, Malcolm McDowell and several other actors who desperately needed a car payment.

Following up that is where James Gunn, the guy who brought you Guardians of the Galaxy, got his start. Its “Tromeo and Juliet”, a bloody, boobacious, irreverent punk take on Shakespeare's classic love story only with more lesbians and Lemmy.

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 12pm: Famous Last Stands

Panelists: Adrian Simmons (M), Taylor Anderson, Lillian Stewart Carl, Tracy S. Morris, Jeff Dawson, Jayme Lynn Blaschke

If you don’t know history, you are doomed to repeat it. Down through the annals of history there are many examples of epic last stands – from General Custer to Dien Bien Phu to the Alamo. Whether an example of arrogance or underestimating the enemy, there are plenty last stands to learn from and use. Our panelists comment on how to learn from history, rather than merely repeating it.

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 2pm: Know Your Weapons!

Panelists: Taylor Anderson (M), Jeff Dawson, Tracy S. Morris, William C. Seigler, Barbara Ann Wright

In what age was the blunderbuss? When did the sword and shield rule supreme? When should cannons be used appropriately? Our panelists discuss the use of weapons of war and when in history they were used. If you have a question about a certain type of weapon, feel free to ask!

READING

Saturday, 5pm: Tracy S. Morris, Adrian Simmons, Jeff Dawson

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 8pm: Yard Dog Road Show!

Panelists: Christopher Donahue, Linda Donahue, Rhonda Eudaly, Melanie Fletcher, K. Hutson, William Ledbetter, Julia Mandala, Tracy Morris, Ethan Nahte, Gloria Oliver, Teresa Patterson, Dusty Rainbolt, Rie Sheridan Rose, Bradley Sinor, Sue Sinor, Mel White

The fantastic authors of the Yard Dog Press put on their always entertaining Road Show! Make sure not to miss this.

Sunday

PROGRAMMING 3

Sunday, 11am: What Tickles Your Funny Bone?

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Rhonda Eudaly, Paul Black, K. B. Bogen, Tracy S. Morris

From simple fart jokes to more esoteric strangeness such as Dirk Gently, humor is always subjective. Thus, let’s find out what our panelists think is funny, and see if the audience agrees! Of course, vice versa also applies.

Michelle Muenzler

Friday

PROGRAMMING 2

Friday, 4pm: Failing Better

Panelists: Tex Thompson (M), A. Lee Martinez, Paul Black, Michelle Muenzler, Stephen Patrick

For a writer, rejection letters are just the beginning. In this panel, we're spilling our guts about cancelled contracts, broken hearts, abysmal sales – and how to emerge from all of them better than you were before.

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Friday, 5pm: Escape from the Slush Pile

Panelists: Michelle Muenzler, Shanna Swendson (M), Teresa Patterson, Paul Black, William Ledbetter, Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam

The perennial panel returns as we tantalize people with mistakes and errors you should try to avoid. Beware: someday you may end up here if you do not learn from your mistakes. Come and learn from our editors on what to avoid so you don't end up on – the slush pile.

Saturday

READING

Saturday, 12pm: Julia S. Mandala, Michelle Muenzler, K.B. Bogen

AUTOGRAPHS

Saturday, 2pm: Rhonda Eudaly, Patricia Burroughs, Michelle Muenzler, Beth Teliho, Melanie Fletcher

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 4pm: Metaphysical Themas: Tales of Divination

Panelists: Frances A. May (M), Barbara Ann Wright, Michelle Muenzler, Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam, Shanna Swendson

It's easy to get lost in real world troubles. Sometimes you just have to see what the future will bring. Our panelists explore alternative methods of divination, using tools such as astrology and the Tarot. Be careful – the future may not be what you want!

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 6pm: The Survivor's Guide to the Supernatural

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Sue Sinor, Gloria Oliver, David Doub, Michelle Muenzler

If you were ever concerned about living in a world with supernatural heroes and villains, this is the panel for you! How can you survive in a world with mutants? Our survival experts try to guide you through the chaos. *[Note: Survival is not guaranteed by attending this panel]*

Sunday

PROGRAMMING 2

Sunday, 1pm: Interstellar Archaeology: Part Two – The Debunking

Panelists: Chris Donahue (M), Jayme Lynn Blaschke, Michelle Muenzler, Michael Ashleigh Finn, Dusty Rainbolt, Linda Donahue

The second of two panels where we inflict (discover) startling artifacts of OBVIOUS alien origin. This time, our experts tell us how wrong the previous esteemed panelists were! Last year, Sunday's panel thoroughly debunked Friday's experts. But will they solve the mystery? Whodunit!

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 2pm: If Only I Did that Differently

Panelists: Julie Barrett (M), K. B. Bogen, A. Lee Martinez, Michelle Muenzler, Stephen Patrick

Forgetting to save never felt so bad, right? Right? How about going down that rabbit hole of a plot, only to write yourself into a corner so nasty you have to crumple it up and start from scratch. Our panelists relate their woes and try to help you so that you don't have to follow their footsteps.

Ethan Nahté

Friday

PROGRAMMING 4

Friday, 4pm: Equestrians in Fantasy

Panelists: Teresa Patterson (M), Bradley H. Sinor, Rie Sheridan Rose, Ethan Nahté

Whether it is a thundering cavalry charge, or the Riders of Rohan, horses hold a major part in most Fantasy stories. In some cases, the mighty steed of a hero can be just as important as the hero itself! Ignore the horse at your peril – they bite! Our panelists look at the mighty horse and describe the pitfalls and joys of writing about them.

PROGRAMMING 2

Friday, 5pm: Interstellar Archaeology: Part One – Initial Findings

Panelists: Mel White (M), K. B. Bogen, Scott Cupp, Ethan Nahté, Gloria Oliver, S. Boyd Taylor

The first of two panels where we inflict (discover) startling artifacts of OBVIOUS alien origin and our esteemed (and indeed, TRAINED) archeologists in turn tell us what the artifacts are. Light hearted fun, and bring ear plugs! This year we will take a mystery slant and see what story they come up with!

Saturday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 1pm: I Ain't Afraid of No Ghosts!

Panelists: Ethan Nahté (M), Dusty Rainbolt, Heather Schwartz, S. Boyd Taylor, Linda Donahue, Frances A. May

No, this panel isn't about the newest version of Ghostbusters. Instead, it's about hunting ghosts. What causes a location to become haunted? How does one investigate a ghost? How do you evict the ghost? CAN you evict a ghost? Our ghost hunters relate their tales of spine-tingling horror. Just remember not to cross the streams...

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 3pm: 2017 Movie Forecast For the Geek Nation

Panelists: Mark Finn (M), Michael Ashleigh Finn, Ethan Nahté, Gloria Oliver

Our panelists talk about upcoming films for the coming year – what is coming, what looks to be exciting and what moviegoers should watch out for.

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 5pm: Hexes and Familiars: Witches in Horror

Panelists: Rie Sheridan Rose (M), Ethan Nahté, Heather Schwartz, K.B. Bogen, David Doub, Bradley H. Sinor

In past years we have looked at Vampires and Werewolves. This year we look at the use of Witches in Horror. Still a staple in horror films, the witch has in her arsenal curses, spells and even nature itself. We bring our horror specialists in to discuss the use of the witch in all her myriad forms.

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 6pm: Researching Outside of the Box

Panelists: Mark Finn (M), Michael Ashleigh Finn, Ethan Nahté, Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam, Tex Thompson

Sometime you just don't have the energy to go to a library to find information. Fortunately, there are plenty of places on the Internet where you can find things – and plenty of places you want to avoid. Still, whether you love it or hate it, places like Wikipedia and other forums such as Reddit can have a treasure trove of information. Our panelists tell you of the secret ways to information on the information superhighway. *[Note: Brain bleach may be required if you deviate from the path]*

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 8pm: Yard Dog Road Show!

Panelists: Christopher Donahue, Linda Donahue, Rhonda Eudaly, Melanie Fletcher, K. Hutson, William Ledbetter, Julia Mandala, Tracy Morris, Ethan Nahte, Gloria Oliver, Teresa Patterson, Dusty Rainbolt, Rie Sheridan Rose, Bradley Sinor, Sue Sinor, Mel White

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Gloria Oliver

Friday

PROGRAMMING 2

Friday, 3pm: Brass Technology and Steam Power

Panelists: Julie Barrett (M), Rie Sheridan Rose, Gloria Oliver, Julia S. Mandala

The genre of Steampunk has always featured unlikely brass gadgets and powered by steam. Whether realistic or fanciful, these gadgets define a look which is unique for both costumers and writers. We gather our panelists to talk about how to bring these gadgets to life – and what lies in the future for Steampunk.

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Saturday

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Panelists: A. Lee Martinez (M), Gloria Oliver, Lillian Stewart Carl, Rhonda Eudaly, Patricia Burroughs, William Ledbetter

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Stephen Patrick

Friday

PROGRAMMING 2

Friday, 4pm: Failing Better

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For a writer, rejection letters are just the beginning. In this panel, we're spilling our guts about cancelled contracts, broken hearts, abysmal sales – and how to emerge from all of them better than you were before.

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 3pm: Truly Alternate History

Panelists: Taylor Anderson (M), Lillian Stewart Carl, Stephen Patrick, K.B. Bogen, Jeff Dawson, T. M. Hunter

Sometimes a story in Alternate History is altered only by a little bit. “For want of a nail” is a perfect example of a little change causing major effects. But what if the initial change is a major one? What do you worry about there? Our panelists discuss radical alterations to their worlds.

Sunday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 2pm: If Only I Did that Differently

Panelists: Julie Barrett (M), K. B. Bogen, A. Lee Martinez, Michelle Muenzler, Stephen Patrick

Forgetting to save never felt so bad, right? Right? How about going down that rabbit hole of a plot, only to write yourself into a corner so nasty you have to crumple it up and start from scratch. Our panelists relate their woes and try to help you so that you don't have to follow their footsteps.

Teresa Patterson

Friday

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Panelists: Teresa Patterson (M), Bradley H. Sinor, Rie Sheridan Rose, Ethan Nahté

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Saturday

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 4pm: A Flat Perspective: Looking Back at the Discworld

Panelists: Mel White (M), Chris Donahue, Martha Wells, Teresa Patterson, Michael Ashleigh Finn

The last book is published, and the pen is put down. Left by Sir Pratchett's departure is a myriad of books in multiple universes, but his most famous and enduring legacy will always be the Discworld. Our panelists talk about how this unique take on life has changed the world for the better.

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 8pm: Yard Dog Road Show!

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Dusty Rainbolt

Friday

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PROGRAMMING 4

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Panelists: Rhonda Eudaly, Julia S. Mandala, Linda Donahue, Dusty Rainbolt, Mark Finn

The always entertaining Four Redheads of the Apocalypse talk about their latest publication, as well as many other topics!

READING

Saturday, 6pm: Dusty Rainbolt, Martha Wells

PROGRAMMING 3

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AUTOGRAPHS

Sunday, 2pm: Dusty Rainbolt, Rie Sheridan Rose

Rie Sheridan Rose

Friday

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PROGRAMMING 3

Friday, 6pm: The Inner SQUEE! – All About Fanfiction

Panelists: Patricia Burroughs (M), Diane Tarbuck, Rie Sheridan Rose, Sue Sinor

Ever been inspired by somebody else's work? Ever want to know how to write classy (or not so classy) fanfiction? Want to know what exactly the genre of fanfiction is? Come and learn with our writers how to channel your inner SQUEE! Preferably without breaking windows, of course.

Saturday

READING

Saturday, 11am: Barbara Ann Wright, Rie Sheridan Rose, Mark Finn

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 5pm: Hexes and Familiars: Witches in Horror

Panelists: Rie Sheridan Rose (M), Ethan Nahté, Heather Schwartz, K.B. Bogen, David Doub, Bradley H. Sinor

In past years we have looked at Vampires and Werewolves. This year we look at the use of Witches in Horror. Still a staple in horror films, the witch has in her arsenal curses, spells and even nature itself. We bring our horror specialists in to discuss the use of the witch in all her myriad forms.

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 8pm: Yard Dog Road Show!

Panelists: Christopher Donahue, Linda Donahue, Rhonda Eudaly, Melanie Fletcher, K. Hutson, William Ledbetter, Julia Mandala, Tracy Morris, Ethan Nahte, Gloria Oliver, Teresa Patterson, Dusty Rainbolt, Rie Sheridan Rose, Bradley Sinor, Sue Sinor, Mel White

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Sunday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 12pm: Common Ground: The Many Faces of Mythology

Panelists: Rie Sheridan Rose (M), Larry Atchley Jr., Frances A. May, Ethan Nahté, Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam

Usually we look at a specific nationality of mythology – from Norse to Japan to Native American. However, when you look at them from a larger point of view, many common elements become evident. A perfect example of this is the trickster god, Loki. To Native Americans, he might be Coyote. To the Greeks, he might be Dionysus. There are equivalents in every culture. Our panelists discuss the similarities of Mythology that can be found throughout the world.

AUTOGRAPHS

Sunday, 2pm: Dusty Rainbolt, Rie Sheridan Rose

PROGRAMMING 3

Sunday, 3pm: Where are the Dresden Files?

Panelists: Rachel Caine (M), David Doub, Shanna Swendson, Rie Sheridan Rose

One of the most iconic Urban Fantasy series out there, the Dresden Files has been quiet of late as Jim Butcher has branched out into other topics. Will he return? What is the latest news, if any? And what can people read while they are waiting?

Stephen Sanders

Friday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Friday, 3pm: Speculative Fiction 101

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Rachel Caine, Stephen Sanders, Shanna Swendson, Tex Thompson

What is speculative fiction? According to that lovely source Wikipedia, "Speculative fiction is a broad umbrella genre denoting any narrative fiction with supernatural or futuristic elements." It can be used to denote many fields from science fiction to fantasy to horror. But what is it, really? What constitutes a story labelled as speculative fiction? Our authors try to clear up the mystery.

PROGRAMMING 3

Friday, 5pm: What is Adventure Poetry?

Panelists: Stephen Sanders,

Some of the most popular literature in history tells stories of heroism, horror, and adventure! Stephen King and Dean Koontz have made fortunes in the modern era writing tales that keep us up at night. John Sandford and Janet Evanovich have created heroes in the world of crime detection and sold millions of books. Poets can write works of adventure as well and tap into this market. Kipling, Poe, Tennyson all wrote adventure poems – works that have heroic or horrific themes and appeal to a whole world of people who do not read traditional works of poetry. Come hear about the various historic and modern works that fit within this genre and learn how to write some of your own!

READING

Friday, 6pm: Stephen Sanders, Heather Schwartz

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 4

Saturday, 1pm: Book Covers that Won't Break the Bank

Panelists: Shirley Reeves (M), Stephanie Folse, Mel White, Carole Nelson Douglas, Stephen Sanders

Eye-catching book covers are all well and good, but if they break your back financially, they do you no good. Our panelists look at ways to create a good book cover that are reasonable in price and legal.

Sunday

PROGRAMMING 2

Sunday, 12pm: Adventure Poetry Slam 2017

Panelists: Stephen Sanders,

Calling all poets, writers and performers! This year, ConDFW XVI and Blackbead Books present "The Second Annual ConDFW Adventure Poetry Slam." There is no entry fee. First Prize is \$50; Second Prize is a Convention T-shirt and some Blackbead Books merchandise; and Third Prize is some Blackbead Books Merchandise. All you have to do is write an original adventure poem, any form, which you can recite in three minutes or less. Then, perform it in front of our audience and judges. What is an "adventure poem"? Think "El Dorado" by Poe or "Gunga Din" by Kipling. It's a ballad with a heroic theme or a free verse work of horror! Think heroic, think horrific, think adventurous and write, poets, write! And did we mention that there is NO ENTRY FEE? Just visit Blackbead Books' booth in the dealer's room to sign up or, if you prefer, write an email to blackbeads_tc@yahoo.com and let us know your name and telephone number and we'll sign you up before the big event!

PROGRAMMING 3

Sunday, 2pm: Publishing Spoken Word CDs and How to Guerrilla Market Them

Panelists: Stephen Sanders (M),

Traditional poetry is struggling to survive in modern times as it competes with slam, rap, and popular music. Poetry books are being published in record numbers thanks to self-publishing websites and print-on-demand services. Today's poets must stand out somehow and spoken word CDs is the way to do it. With a limited amount of equipment and software, a poet can record their own works, enhance their voice, add some music and sound effects and create a series of performance pieces that will make your work shine. Come learn about these techniques and ways to market your work once it is ready!

Heather Schwartz

Friday

PROGRAMMING 3

Friday, 4pm: The Art of the Parody

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Michael Ashleigh Finn, Julia S. Mandala, Heather Schwartz, Sue Sinor

According to literarydevices.net, a parody is “an imitation of a particular writer, artist or a genre, exaggerating it deliberately to produce a comic effect.” Examples range from Gulliver’s Travels to Shakespeare’s Sonnet 130. More modern versions include shows like “The Daily Show” and “The Colbert Report”. Our panelists examine parodies from ancient times to modern times.

READING

Friday, 6pm: Stephen Sanders, Heather Schwartz

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Friday, 9pm: Talking During the Movies

Panelists: Heather Schwartz, Tracy S. Morris, Melanie Fletcher, Michael Ashleigh Finn

From the legendary Roger Corman, the man who brought you Piranha, Sharktopus vs. Whalewolf and 411 other movies, comes “Deathrace 2050”. It’s got Manu Bennett, Malcolm McDowell and several other actors who desperately needed a car payment.

Following up that is where James Gunn, the guy who brought you Guardians of the Galaxy, got his start. Its “Tromeo and Juliet”, a bloody, boobacious, irreverent punk take on Shakespeare’s classic love story only with more lesbians and Lemmy.

Saturday

AUTOGRAPHS

Saturday, 10am: Heather Schwartz, Seth Skorkowsky

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 1pm: I Ain’t Afraid of No Ghosts!

Panelists: Ethan Nahté (M), Dusty Rainbolt, Heather Schwartz, S. Boyd Taylor, Linda Donahue, Frances A. May

No, this panel isn’t about the newest version of Ghostbusters. Instead, it’s about hunting ghosts. What causes a location to become haunted? How does one investigate a ghost? How do you evict the ghost? CAN you evict a ghost? Our ghost hunters relate their tales of spine-tingling horror. Just remember not to cross the streams...

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 5pm: Hexes and Familiars: Witches in Horror

Panelists: Rie Sheridan Rose (M), Ethan Nahté, Heather Schwartz, K.B. Bogen, David Doub, Bradley H. Sinor

In past years we have looked at Vampires and Werewolves. This year we look at the use of Witches in Horror. Still a staple in horror films, the witch has in her arsenal curses, spells and even nature itself. We bring our horror specialists in to discuss the use of the witch in all her myriad forms.

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 8pm: Celebrity Artemis – Session 2

Panelists: Tex Thompson, Taylor Anderson, Seth Skorkowsky, Adrian Simmons, Dantzel Cherry, Heather Schwartz

The popular co-operative bridge simulator returns again to ConDFW! Six panelists at a time take the Starship Artemis through the void, insulting every alien race possible. Let’s see what happens!

Sunday

PROGRAMMING 2

Sunday, 3pm: Worlds of Imagination

Panelists: A. Lee Martinez (M), Tex Thompson, Teresa Patterson, Heather Schwartz, Gloria Oliver

In “A Monster Calls”, a world out of a boy’s head comforts him as he deals with his mother’s cancer. The movie’s imagery is what calls you – seeing the gravestones, feeling the parsonage smash, it is very visceral imagery. Our panelists talk about worlds of fantasy that are in our heads – and how to bring them out.

William C. Seigler

Friday

READING

Friday, 4pm: William C. Seigler

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Friday, 6pm: Preparing for a Future in Space

Panelists: William Ledbetter (M), William C. Seigler, Jayme Lynn Blaschke, Jeff Dawson, Karl K. Gallagher

Popular ideas in the past of a Moonbase have faded over the years. The most recent idea is for a Mars base. But can a person safely travel there? Can the human body handle weightlessness for that long of a ride? Our scientists take a hard look at the future of space and debate our place in it.

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 1pm: The Logistics of Space Travel

Panelists: Chris Donahue (M), T.M. Hunter, Adrian Simmons, Martha Wells, William C. Seigler, Karl K. Gallagher

It's easy to dream about flying between the stars. But what do you need to stock to be able to make it back home? Somehow I think crates of MREs will get old after a while... Our panelists debate what is needed to travel the stars in traditional Space Opera...and what needs to be included when writing about it.

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 2pm: Know Your Weapons!

Panelists: Taylor Anderson (M), Jeff Dawson, Tracy S. Morris, William C. Seigler, Barbara Ann Wright

In what age was the blunderbuss? When did the sword and shield rule supreme? When should cannons be used appropriately? Our panelists discuss the use of weapons of war and when in history they were used. If you have a question about a certain type of weapon, feel free to ask!

AUTOGRAPHS

Saturday, 4pm: William C. Seigler

Sunday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 1pm: The Science of Space Flight

Panelists: William Ledbetter (M), Karl K. Gallagher, William C. Seigler, Gloria Oliver

What is the state of flight these days? Pictures of possible space ships notwithstanding, lets get down to brass tacks on what can and can not be done right now. Our scientists will mull over these issues and answer questions.

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 3pm: The World of the Expanse

Panelists: Larry Atchley Jr., Karl K. Gallagher, William Ledbetter (M), Frances A. May, William C. Seigler

One of the hotter new shows to come out of the SyFy channel was "The Expanse", based off of the novel series by James S. A. Corey. A fascinating show set in a grittier and more realistic future where war can be touched off by a misunderstanding and secrets are the key. Our panelists talk about everything Expanse, so feel free to ask questions!

Adrian Simmons

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 12pm: Famous Last Stands

Panelists: Adrian Simmons (M), Taylor Anderson, Lillian Stewart Carl, Tracy S. Morris, Jeff Dawson, Jayme Lynn Blaschke
If you don't know history, you are doomed to repeat it. Down through the annals of history there are many examples of epic last stands – from General Custer to Dien Bien Phu to the Alamo. Whether an example of arrogance or underestimating the enemy, there are plenty last stands to learn from and use. Our panelists comment on how to learn from history, rather than merely repeating it.

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 1pm: The Logistics of Space Travel

Panelists: Chris Donahue (M), T.M. Hunter, Adrian Simmons, Martha Wells, William C. Seigler, Karl K. Gallagher
It's easy to dream about flying between the stars. But what do you need to stock to be able to make it back home? Somehow I think crates of MREs will get old after a while... Our panelists debate what is needed to travel the stars in traditional Space Opera...and what needs to be included when writing about it.

READING

Saturday, 3pm: Jayme Lynn Blaschke, Adrian Simmons

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 8pm: Celebrity Artemis – Session 2

Panelists: Tex Thompson, Taylor Anderson, Seth Skorkowsky, Adrian Simmons, Dantzel Cherry, Heather Schwartz
The popular co-operative bridge simulator returns again to ConDFW! Six panelists at a time take the Starship Artemis through the void, insulting every alien race possible. Let's see what happens!

Sunday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 11am: Self-editing errors

Panelists: Julia S. Mandala (M), Teresa Patterson, Tex Thompson, Barbara Ann Wright, Jeff Dawson, Adrian Simmons
A popular panel for the past several years, our panelists discuss ways of catching those pesky errors. Remember, the more eyes on your work, the better – each different perspective helps catch things you miss! And watch out for Autocorrect...

Bradley H. Sinor

Friday

PROGRAMMING 4

Friday, 4pm: Equestrians in Fantasy

Panelists: Teresa Patterson (M), Bradley H. Sinor, Rie Sheridan Rose, Ethan Nahté

Whether it is a thundering cavalry charge, or the Riders of Rohan, horses hold a major part in most Fantasy stories. In some cases, the mighty steed of a hero can be just as important as the hero itself! Ignore the horse at your peril – they bite! Our panelists look at the mighty horse and describe the pitfalls and joys of writing about them.

PROGRAMMING 2

Friday, 6pm: How Many Last Jedis Are There?

Panelists: Tracy S. Morris (M), Mark Finn, Rhonda Eudaly, Michael Ashleigh Finn, T. M. Hunter, Bradley H. Sinor

We all know the title of the upcoming Star Wars VIII film to be “The Last Jedi”. However, Jedi seem to grow like weeds in the novels – Order 66 got a lot of them, but there were always those few who hid on Coruscant, or Dagobah, or on a ship sent out of the galaxy, or...you get the drift. It’s time to speculate and debate on the Star Wars Universe. Try not to wreck the room with lightsabers.

Saturday

AUTOGRAPHS

Saturday, 12pm: Bradley H. Sinor, Karl K. Gallagher

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 5pm: Hexes and Familiars: Witches in Horror

Panelists: Rie Sheridan Rose (M), Ethan Nahté, Heather Schwartz, K.B. Bogen, David Doub, Bradley H. Sinor

In past years we have looked at Vampires and Werewolves. This year we look at the use of Witches in Horror. Still a staple in horror films, the witch has in her arsenal curses, spells and even nature itself. We bring our horror specialists in to discuss the use of the witch in all her myriad forms.

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 8pm: Yard Dog Road Show!

Panelists: Christopher Donahue, Linda Donahue, Rhonda Eudaly, Melanie Fletcher, K. Hutson, William Ledbetter, Julia Mandala, Tracy Morris, Ethan Nahte, Gloria Oliver, Teresa Patterson, Dusty Rainbolt, Rie Sheridan Rose, Bradley Sinor, Sue Sinor, Mel White

The fantastic authors of the Yard Dog Press put on their always entertaining Road Show! Make sure not to miss this.

Sue Sinor

Friday

PROGRAMMING 3

Friday, 4pm: The Art of the Parody

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Michael Ashleigh Finn, Julia S. Mandala, Heather Schwartz, Sue Sinor

According to literarydevices.net, a parody is “an imitation of a particular writer, artist or a genre, exaggerating it deliberately to produce a comic effect.” Examples range from Gulliver’s Travels to Shakespeare’s Sonnet 130. More modern versions include shows like “The Daily Show” and “The Colbert Report”. Our panelists examine parodies from ancient times to modern times.

PROGRAMMING 3

Friday, 6pm: The Inner SQUEE! – All About Fanfiction

Panelists: Patricia Burroughs (M), Diane Tarbuck, Rie Sheridan Rose, Sue Sinor

Ever been inspired by somebody else’s work? Ever want to know how to write classy (or not so classy) fanfiction? Want to know what exactly the genre of fanfiction is? Come and learn with our writers how to channel your inner SQUEE! Preferably without breaking windows, of course.

Saturday

AUTOGRAPHS

Saturday, 11am: Jeff Dawson, Sue Sinor

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 6pm: The Survivor’s Guide to the Supernatural

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Sue Sinor, Gloria Oliver, David Doub, Michelle Muenzler

If you were ever concerned about living in a world with supernatural heroes and villains, this is the panel for you! How can you survive in a world with mutants? Our survival experts try to guide you through the chaos. *[Note: Survival is not guaranteed by attending this panel]*

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 8pm: Yard Dog Road Show!

Panelists: Christopher Donahue, Linda Donahue, Rhonda Eudaly, Melanie Fletcher, K. Hutson, William Ledbetter, Julia Mandala, Tracy Morris, Ethan Nahte, Gloria Oliver, Teresa Patterson, Dusty Rainbolt, Rie Sheridan Rose, Bradley Sinor, Sue Sinor, Mel White

The fantastic authors of the Yard Dog Press put on their always entertaining Road Show! Make sure not to miss this.

Seth Skorkowsky

Saturday

AUTOGRAPHS

Saturday, 10am: Heather Schwartz, Seth Skorkowsky

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 11am: Don't Feed the Inner Gremlins!

Panelists: Martha Wells (M), Larry Atchley Jr., Seth Skorkowsky, Dantzel Cherry, Scott Cupp, Paul Black

It's late at night. You have a deadline looming, and all you can think about is *ooh squirrel!* How do you keep on track and stay focused? How do you keep those inner gremlins at bay? Our resident writers and artists talk about ways they use to keep on task, and things to avoid – like feeding the gremlins after midnight!

READING

Saturday, 4pm: Dantzel Cherry, Karl K. Gallagher, Seth Skorkowsky

PROGRAMMING 4

Saturday, 6pm: Literary Fight Club

Panelists: Barbara Ann Wright (M), Seth Skorkowsky

Over the past couple of years we've seen various talented panelists show off martial arts. It's easier to demonstrate those martial arts, but how exactly do you write them? Somehow "I punch him in the stomach" just doesn't cut it. Our panelists examine fight scenes, how to set them and how to write them.

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 8pm: Celebrity Artemis – Session 2

Panelists: Tex Thompson, Taylor Anderson, Seth Skorkowsky, Adrian Simmons, Dantzel Cherry, Heather Schwartz

The popular co-operative bridge simulator returns again to ConDFW! Six panelists at a time take the Starship Artemis through the void, insulting every alien race possible. Let's see what happens!

Sunday

PROGRAMMING 2

Sunday, 11am: Video Games: Inspiration or Distraction?

Panelists: Mark Finn (M), R. Cat Conrad, Michael Ashleigh Finn, Julie Barrett, Seth Skorkowsky

It's easy to view video games as a distraction. Games such as Candy Crush can suck away free time with addictive puzzles until you realize that deadline has come and gone. However, video games can be an inspiration as well. Games such as World of Warcraft or No Man's Sky can show you entire universes to explore, possibly giving you your own ideas for art or story. Can it be both? Or is it only one or the other? Let's see what our panelists think.

Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam

Friday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Friday, 5pm: Escape from the Slush Pile

Panelists: Michelle Muenzler, Shanna Swendson (M), Teresa Patterson, Paul Black, William Ledbetter, Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam
The perennial panel returns as we tantalize people with mistakes and errors you should try to avoid. Beware: someday you may end up here if you do not learn from your mistakes. Come and learn from our editors on what to avoid so you don't end up on – the slush pile.

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 10am: Collaborating Across Mediums

Panelists: Scott A. Cupp (M), Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam, Peter Brewer

Collaboration does not have to stay within the same medium. Board Games have come with soundtracks inside. Short stories come alive with illustrations inside. Why not music? Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam and Peter Brewer have collaborated together to create stories with music. Let's find out how they did it.

Shanna Swendson

Friday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Friday, 3pm: Speculative Fiction 101

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Rachel Caine, Stephen Sanders, Shanna Swendson, Tex Thompson

What is speculative fiction? According to that lovely source Wikipedia, “Speculative fiction is a broad umbrella genre denoting any narrative fiction with supernatural or futuristic elements.” It can be used to denote many fields from science fiction to fantasy to horror. But what is it, really? What constitutes a story labelled as speculative fiction? Our authors try to clear up the mystery.

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AUTOGRAPHS

Friday, 6pm: Shanna Swendson, Scott Cupp

Saturday

READING

Saturday, 10am: Larry Atchley Jr., Shanna Swendson

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 4pm: Metaphysical Themas: Tales of Divination

Panelists: Frances A. May (M), Barbara Ann Wright, Michelle Muenzler, Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam, Shanna Swendson

It's easy to get lost in real world troubles. Sometimes you just have to see what the future will bring. Our panelists explore alternative methods of divination, using tools such as astrology and the Tarot. Be careful – the future may not be what you want!

Sunday

PROGRAMMING 2

Sunday, 2pm: Career Management for Pre-Published Writers

Panelists: Tex Thompson (M), Paul Black, Shanna Swendson, Julia S. Mandala

You've read all the blog posts, heard all the advice: if you want that book you're working on to be a success, you need to start getting known NOW. But how do you do that when you don't have a publishing peg to hang your hat on? Let's talk about what present-you can do to help future-you make it as a professional writer – and when to tune out the rest of the world and just write.

PROGRAMMING 3

Sunday, 3pm: Where are the Dresden Files?

Panelists: Rachel Caine (M), David Doub, Shanna Swendson, Rie Sheridan Rose

One of the most iconic Urban Fantasy series out there, the Dresden Files has been quiet of late as Jim Butcher has branched out into other topics. Will he return? What is the latest news, if any? And what can people read while they are waiting?

S. Boyd Taylor

Friday

PROGRAMMING 2

Friday, 5pm: Interstellar Archaeology: Part One – Initial Findings

Panelists: Mel White (M), K. B. Bogen, Scott Cupp, Ethan Nahté, Gloria Oliver, S. Boyd Taylor

The first of two panels where we inflict (discover) startling artifacts of OBVIOUS alien origin and our esteemed (and indeed, TRAINED) archeologists in turn tell us what the artifacts are. Light hearted fun, and bring ear plugs! This year we will take a mystery slant and see what story they come up with!

Saturday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 1pm: I Ain't Afraid of No Ghosts!

Panelists: Ethan Nahté (M), Dusty Rainbolt, Heather Schwartz, S. Boyd Taylor, Linda Donahue, Frances A. May

No, this panel isn't about the newest version of Ghostbusters. Instead, it's about hunting ghosts. What causes a location to become haunted? How does one investigate a ghost? How do you evict the ghost? CAN you evict a ghost? Our ghost hunters relate their tales of spine-tingling horror. Just remember not to cross the streams...

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 5pm: Weird Wild West

Panelists: Tex Thompson (M), Taylor Anderson, Scott Cupp, S. Boyd Taylor

The success of several Westerns on TV and Film in the past year has revived the art of the weird Western. From Westworld (Sci-fi and Western) to Dark Tower (coming next year) to The Magnificent Seven's reboot (again), the West has never seemed so good. What makes the weird so western? Our panelists dive into popular culture to investigate the phenomenon.

Tex Thompson

Friday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

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PROGRAMMING 2

Friday, 4pm: Failing Better

Panelists: Tex Thompson (M), A. Lee Martinez, Paul Black, Michelle Muenzler, Stephen Patrick

For a writer, rejection letters are just the beginning. In this panel, we're spilling our guts about cancelled contracts, broken hearts, abysmal sales – and how to emerge from all of them better than you were before.

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 10am: Zen and the Art of Podcasting

Panelists: Mark Finn (M), Michael Ashleigh Finn, Tex Thompson, Julie Barrett

A simple computer, a webcam, and you too can be a podcaster! Wait, it's not that simple? Our panelists talk about Podcasting, what is needed, what to avoid and how to script for it.

READING

Saturday, 1pm: William Ledbetter, Tex Thompson

PROGRAMMING 2

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PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 6pm: Researching Outside of the Box

Panelists: Mark Finn (M), Michael Ashleigh Finn, Ethan Nahté, Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam, Tex Thompson

Sometime you just don't have the energy to go to a library to find information. Fortunately, there are plenty of places on the Internet where you can find things – and plenty of places you want to avoid. Still, whether you love it or hate it, places like Wikipedia and other forums such as Reddit can have a treasure trove of information. Our panelists tell you of the secret ways to information on the information superhighway. *[Note: Brain bleach may be required if you deviate from the path]*

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 8pm: Celebrity Artemis – Session 2

Panelists: Tex Thompson, Taylor Anderson, Seth Skorkowsky, Adrian Simmons, Dantzel Cherry, Heather Schwartz

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Sunday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 11am: Self-editing errors

Panelists: Julia S. Mandala (M), Teresa Patterson, Tex Thompson, Barbara Ann Wright, Jeff Dawson, Adrian Simmons

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Martha Wells

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 11am: Don't Feed the Inner Gremlins!

Panelists: Martha Wells (M), Larry Atchley Jr., Seth Skorkowsky, Dantzel Cherry, Scott Cupp, Paul Black

It's late at night. You have a deadline looming, and all you can think about is *ooh squirrel!* How do you keep on track and stay focused? How do you keep those inner gremlins at bay? Our resident writers and artists talk about ways they use to keep on task, and things to avoid – like feeding the gremlins after midnight!

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Panelists: Chris Donahue (M), T.M. Hunter, Adrian Simmons, Martha Wells, William C. Seigler, Karl K. Gallagher

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AUTOGRAPHS

Saturday, 3pm: Carole Nelson Douglas, Martha Wells

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 4pm: A Flat Perspective: Looking Back at the Discworld

Panelists: Mel White (M), Chris Donahue, Martha Wells, Teresa Patterson, Michael Ashleigh Finn

The last book is published, and the pen is put down. Left by Sir Pratchett's departure is a myriad of books in multiple universes, but his most famous and enduring legacy will always be the Discworld. Our panelists talk about how this unique take on life has changed the world for the better.

READING

Saturday, 6pm: Dusty Rainbolt, Martha Wells

Mel White

Friday

PROGRAMMING 2

Friday, 5pm: Interstellar Archaeology: Part One – Initial Findings

Panelists: Mel White (M), K. B. Bogen, Scott Cupp, Ethan Nahté, Gloria Oliver, S. Boyd Taylor

The first of two panels where we inflict (discover) startling artifacts of OBVIOUS alien origin and our esteemed (and indeed, TRAINED) archeologists in turn tell us what the artifacts are. Light hearted fun, and bring ear plugs! This year we will take a mystery slant and see what story they come up with!

PROGRAMMING 4

Friday, 6pm: Writing for Comics

Panelists: David Doub, R. Cat Conrad, Mel White (M), Julie Barrett

If you look at the credits of any modern comic, you will see that most of them have a separate writer, artist, shader, etc. So, how do you write for the comic medium? Is it like writing a screen play, or like writing a novel? Our comic experts debate this issue and others.

Saturday

PROGRAMMING 4

Saturday, 12pm: The mARTian Collaboration

Panelists: Melia Dawn, R. Cat Conrad, Brad W. Foster, Mel White

They say if you ask a committee to design a horse, you'll get a camel. Come see what happens when we team up artists and ask them to design a Martian, alien, or whatever the audience demands!

PROGRAMMING 4

Saturday, 1pm: Book Covers that Won't Break the Bank

Panelists: Shirley Reeves (M), Stephanie Folse, Mel White, Carole Nelson Douglas, Stephen Sanders

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PROGRAMMING 4

Saturday, 5pm: Fandom Pictionary

Panelists: R. Cat Conrad, Brad W. Foster, Mel White, Julie Barrett

Play Pictionary or just watch as our artists compete. Come and see our artists face off against each other. Pictionary has never been this much fun!

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Saturday, 7pm: Celebrity Artemis – Session 1

Panelists: Rachel Caine, R. Cat Conrad, A. Lee Martinez, Julia S. Mandala, Michael Ashleigh Finn, Mel White

The popular co-operative bridge simulator returns again to ConDFW! Six panelists at a time take the Starship Artemis through the void, insulting every alien race possible. Let's see what happens!

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 8pm: Yard Dog Road Show!

Panelists: Christopher Donahue, Linda Donahue, Rhonda Eudaly, Melanie Fletcher, K. Hutson, William Ledbetter, Julia Mandala, Tracy Morris, Ethan Nahte, Gloria Oliver, Teresa Patterson, Dusty Rainbolt, Rie Sheridan Rose, Bradley Sinor, Sue Sinor, Mel White

The fantastic authors of the Yard Dog Press put on their always entertaining Road Show! Make sure not to miss this.

Sunday

PROGRAMMING 3

Sunday, 1pm: Comic Books to Die For

Panelists: R. Cat Conrad (M), Brad W. Foster, Mel White, Larry Atchley Jr., David Doub

We all have our tendencies in what we like and dislike. So the panelists are given this simple question: "What is your favorite comic book, and why?" The audience is encouraged to participate and grill them if so desired.

Barbara Ann Wright

Saturday

READING

Saturday, 11am: Barbara Ann Wright, Rie Sheridan Rose, Mark Finn

PROGRAMMING 3

Saturday, 2pm: Know Your Weapons!

Panelists: Taylor Anderson (M), Jeff Dawson, Tracy S. Morris, William C. Seigler, Barbara Ann Wright

In what age was the blunderbuss? When did the sword and shield rule supreme? When should cannons be used appropriately? Our panelists discuss the use of weapons of war and when in history they were used. If you have a question about a certain type of weapon, feel free to ask!

PROGRAMMING 2

Saturday, 4pm: Metaphysical Themas: Tales of Divination

Panelists: Frances A. May (M), Barbara Ann Wright, Michelle Muenzler, Bonnie Jo Stufflebeam, Shanna Swendson

It's easy to get lost in real world troubles. Sometimes you just have to see what the future will bring. Our panelists explore alternative methods of divination, using tools such as astrology and the Tarot. Be careful – the future may not be what you want!

PROGRAMMING 4

Saturday, 6pm: Literary Fight Club

Panelists: Barbara Ann Wright (M), Seth Skorkowsky

Over the past couple of years we've seen various talented panelists show off martial arts. It's easier to demonstrate those martial arts, but how exactly do you write them? Somehow "I punch him in the stomach" just doesn't cut it. Our panelists examine fight scenes, how to set them and how to write them.

Sunday

MAIN PROGRAMMING

Sunday, 11am: Self-editing err0rs

Panelists: Julia S. Mandala (M), Teresa Patterson, Tex Thompson, Barbara Ann Wright, Jeff Dawson, Adrian Simmons

A popular panel for the past several years, our panelists discuss ways of catching those pesky errors. Remember, the more eyes on your work, the better – each different perspective helps catch things you miss! And watch out for Autocorrect...

AUTOGRAPHS

Sunday, 1pm: T. M. Hunter, Barbara Ann Wright