

Saturday

Main Programming (Westbrook A&B), 10 AM –

Exploring New Worlds

Panelists: John DeLaughter (M), Bill Leaf, William Ledbetter, Wil McCarthy

As new pictures continue to come in of Ultima Thule, more questions arrive seemingly just as fast. Our space panelists talk about explorations of our solar system and beyond plus other topics.

Main Programming (Westbrook A&B), 11 AM –

Your Poetic Brain [2 hours]

Panelists: Michael Baldwin (M)

In this seminar, Dr. Baldwin examines the findings of neuroscience about how poetry affects your mind and vice versa.

Main Programming (Westbrook A&B), 1 PM –

Q&A with our GOH, Yoon Ha Lee!

Panelists: John DeLaughter (M), Yoon Ha Lee

Our GOH Yoon Ha Lee talks with us about life, career, and the pursuit of happiness.

Main Programming (Westbrook A&B), 2 PM –

Fantastic Creatures of Mythology

Panelist: Mel White (M)

Explore the world (and some of the tales) of the strange and unusual creatures of myth and fantasy. From the Alijebres to the Selkies and beyond!

Main Programming (Westbrook A&B), 3 PM –

Q&A with our GOH, Charlaune Harris!

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Charlaune Harris

Our GOH Charlaune Harris talks with us about life, career, hopes and dreams.

Main Programming (Westbrook A&B), 7 PM –

Celebrity Artemis! (7 pm)

Panelists: Charlayne Elizabeth Denney, Julia S. Mandala, Michelle Muenzler, Stephen Patrick, Dusty Rainbolt, 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 race possible. Let's see what happens!

Main Programming (Westbrook A&B), 8 PM –

Celebrity Artemis! (8 pm)

Panelists: John DeLaughter, David Doub, A. Lee Martinez, William Ledbetter, Teresa Patterson, Amber Royer

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

Programming 2 (Westbrook C), 10 AM –

Apocalypse Everywhere: Adding the End to your Story!

Panelists: Shanna Swendson (M), C. Dean Andersson, Terry Gene, Paul Black

It's the end of the world as we know it, and we must document everything! An apocalypse is always a dramatic setting to a story, but just how important is it? Does the plot require doom in the background, or can it be set with rainbows and unicorns? Just how does "The End" work? Do we need to know why it ended? Our writers talk about writing the apocalypse, and how to use it in your story.

Programming 2 (Westbrook C), 11 AM –

The Path Less Traveled: Alternate History Explained

Panelists: Julie Barrett (M), Charlaine Harris, Lillian Stewart Carl, Ava Morgan, S. Boyd Taylor
When history is analyzed, it is amazing to see how every event has a catalyst. Some small impetus, a push here, a nudge there, and suddenly a snowball becomes an avalanche. What alternate history examines is the "what ifs" that lurk in the background. A different path can change everything, and our panelists talk about how to use this to your advantage.

Programming 2 (Westbrook C), 12 PM –

Bringing Books to Life in TV/Film

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Charlaine Harris, Renee Witterstaetter, Bret McCormick, Carole Nelson Douglas

More and more stories are being brought to life either via movie or TV. Our authors relate to us the trials and tribulations of doing so, and more importantly how they did it.

Programming 2 (Westbrook C), 1 PM –

16th Annual ConDFW Sci-fi Spelling Bee (2 hours)

Panelist: Gary McBride (M)

Run in fear, ye hippopotomonstrosesquipedaliophobes, for the sci-fi spelling bee has returned to ConDFW! Dare you test your spelling might against the wickedest word list ever to emerge from the murky mire of the bee-master's mind? There are no spectators here — only victims. Laugh! Learn! Win quasi-fabulous prizes! And perhaps, if you are both talented and lucky, emerge victorious and earn the honor of being able to call yourself the victor.

Programming 2 (Westbrook C), 3 PM –

How Writers Help and Influence Each Other

Panelists: Kim Redford, C. Dean Andersson, Renee Witterstaetter

Any writer can improve his or her art by sharing and helping each other. It could be by reading drafts and giving suggestions, or being part of a focus group to come up with ideas that will kick start a stuck scene. Our panelists have experience with this and will share their stories and methods to help each other so that you can do so as well.

Programming 2 (Westbrook C), 4 PM –

Fairy Tales Coming to Life!

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Ethan Nahté, Larry Atchley Jr., Bret McCormick

One of the recent Hollywood trends of the past couple of years is to take animated movies of yore and redo them with live action versions. Beauty & the Beast, Cinderella and now Aladdin have been or are being made into live action, with more to come. Our movie enthusiasts explore this trend and the reasons for it.

Programming 2 (Westbrook C), 5 PM –

Tortoises and Dragons: Militaries in Fantasy

Panelists: Chris Donahue (M), Dantzel Cherry, Ethan Nahté, Teresa Patterson, Barbara Ann Wright

The Silmarillion uses massed armies, war machines and fantastic beasts. Game of Thrones uses undead armies, dragons and regular armies as well. Harry Potter's universe has zipping spells, teleporting wizards and a much more mobile form of warfare. As we can see, for each fantasy universe there are many different ways of warfare. From catapults to undead dragons, our panelists talk about waging war in fantasy.

Programming 2 (Westbrook C), 6 PM –

Apocalypse Soon: Practical World Building

Panelists: Chris Donahue (M), Larry Atchley Jr., Paul Black, Jimmy Misfit, William C. Seigler

Yes, yes, we've all heard it. The end of the world is nigh! Again. But what dies first? Who will turn the lights off when the world goes dark? Are utilities the first thing to go, or the last? We look at practical considerations for bringing destruction to a society as the world goes mad.

Programming 2 (Westbrook C), 8 PM –

Memorial for Lee Billings

Lee was an incredibly clever, vibrant, and eloquent person, a fierce advocate of fair and considerate treatment for the marginalized and less-privileged, and she will be greatly missed by all who knew her. She is survived by her domestic partner of 20 years, Russ Ault, and their seven rescue cats. If desired, memorial donations can be made to <http://www.ProjectPurple.org>. Come and join us in remembering this wonderful person, and bring instruments if you have them!

Hotel Bar, 9 PM –

Late Night Open Mic at the Hotel Bar!

Location: Hotel Bar

Come out and bring your best material! In connection with the hotel, we will be having a late night open mic in the hotel bar. We will be having a poetry slam during the open mic but there will be plenty of time for other poets to get up and do their original work. Get there early to sign up!

Programming 3 (Courtright), 10 AM –

Pets and You: Untangling the Mystery

Panelists: Kim Redford (M), Carole Nelson Douglas, Lillian Stewart Carl, Patricia Burroughs, Amber Royer
Some would say pets are a mystery by themselves. Each breed has its quirks, attention spans and whether they will claw you to bits for forgetting to bring them the right type of dinner. But how do you use them as part of a story? Our sleuths talk about pets and stories about pets amongst other topics.

Programming 3 (Courtright), 11 AM –

The Long Con: Humor that Requires Time

Panelists: Kim Redford (M), Ethan Nahté, Dusty Rainbolt, Linda Donahue, KB Bogen

Not all jokes happen instantly. Famous comedy routines such as "Who's On First" or "Dead Parrot" rely on a buildup to the end. But how do you make humor work over time, especially in today's instant gratification society? Our panelists debate this topic and others.

Programming 3 (Courtright), 12 PM –

Writing Outside Your Experience

Panelists: Jimmy Misfit (M), Patricia Burroughs, A. Lee Martinez, Trakena Prevost, Shanna Swendson

It's easy to write about your experiences. What you grew up with, what you have seen with your eyes, and what you believe in. How do you write about things that you aren't a member of? Writing about minorities you aren't a member of, or lifestyles that you never experienced? This is not trash talking

about other experiences, mind you. This is about understanding experiences so you can write in them believably.

Programming 3 (Courtright), 1 PM –

Fantasy Before Tolkien

Panelists: Julia S. Mandala (M), Seth Skorkowsky, Dantzel Cherry, Rhonda Eudaly

Tolkien's *Silmarillion* has established itself as one of the primary definitions of High Fantasy. But there were writers before him who wrote various versions of fantastical worlds – giants such as Howard, Lovecraft, Burroughs and Verne amongst others. Our panelists discuss the echoes of these writers in the genre.

Programming 3 (Courtright), 2 PM –

How to Build Culture Clashes

Panelists: Kim Redford (M), S. Boyd Taylor, Lillian Stewart Carl, Carole Nelson Douglas, Wil McCarthy

History has many examples of cultures clashing against each other. Whether from nationalism or simple tribal differences, it's important to realize that these differences exist and must be accounted for. Our panelists talk about the use of cultures in writing.

Programming 3 (Courtright), 3 PM –

Ia, Ia! Cthulhu Mythos Retrospective

Panelists: Larry Atchley Jr.(M), David Doub, Michelle Muenzler, S. Boyd Taylor

There are some creatures Man was not meant to know about. But H.P. Lovecraft came up with a lot of them, and created an entire subculture around Elder Gods with his stories of the weird. Our Lovecraftian experts go into the madness of Cthulhu and try to guide you to sanity. Fthagn!

Programming 3 (Courtright), 4 PM –

Four Redheads of the Apocalypse!

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

Our favorite red heads bring the gang back together to entertain and educate! Not to be missed!

Programming 3 (Courtright), 5 PM –

How to Write, Levels 4-7

Panelists: Adrian Simmons (M), Paul Black, Kim Redford, Mel White

Rather than getting sidetracked by bad fonts, misspelled names or "didn't read the guidelines", let us get past this and look at higher level mistakes that writers make to their detriment. Our editors guide us through the shoals to a better side.

Programming 3 (Courtright), 6 PM –

The Art of the B-Movie

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Bret McCormick

For every A-List movie there are countless movies that try to strain for greatness. Or at least use local flavor to make something fun, or realize a dream that gets you out of reality for just a few moments.

There are many reasons for making a B-movie, and our resident B-Movie expert Bret McCormick relates a few of them.

Programming 3 (Courtright), 9 PM - Pornography vs Erotica – It's the End of the World [Adult]

Panelists: Melanie Fletcher (M), Blaise Ramsay, Karl Gallagher

Our perennial late night adult panel. If the world is going to end, how do YOU plan on going out with a bang? Our panelists debate apocalyptic sex, but only if they were the last people on earth.

Programming 4 (Parker), 10 AM –

Pilates for Desk and Couch Potatoes

Panelist: Dantzel Cherry (M)

Are you feeling time go by but are too lazy to get out of your chair? You need to exercise! Dantzel Cherry is a pilates expert that wants to show you ways to exercise that are good for you couch potatoes!

Programming 4 (Parker), 11 AM –

Collaboration 101: Finding That Special Someone

Panelists: John DeLaughter (M), Yoon Ha Lee, Rhonda Eudaly, Trakena Prevost

If you want to work together to create something truly special, you need to find people who fill the roles you don't do. Or...just get a group together and see what happens! Either way, this is collaboration, and our panelists talk about dos and don'ts when finding people to work with.

Programming 4 (Parker), 12 PM –

How to Get Creatively Started

Panelist: Brad Foster (M)

It doesn't matter whether you are an artist or a writer. Everyone has to get started somewhere. A concept, an idea, a simple sentence or a single scene: something is needed. Brad Foster gives a presentation on ways and means to get those creative juices flowing.

Programming 4 (Parker), 1 PM –

The mARTian Collaboration

Panelists: Melia Dawn, Brad Foster, Gloria Oliver, 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 (Parker), 2 PM –

The Virtual Life: Learning YouTube

Panelists: Seth Skorkowsky (M), Blaise Ramsay, Steve Sanders, Ava Morgan

YouTube is an amazing tool for practically everybody. Need to know how to install something in your car? There is a YouTube of it, and probably one of your exact model or close to it. Want to see funny videos or educational videos? YouTube has all of it. But how does one create in YouTube? How do you find others who want to watch what you create? Our Internet gurus talk about their experiences and how you can harness it.

Programming 4 (Parker), 3 PM –

Rock Your Book Revisions

Panelist: Blaise Ramsay (M)

Revising a book can be one of the most difficult things an author has to do. What steps should you take? What questions should you ask when revising? How many revisions should you go through? What's the process? Don't worry. Revising your book doesn't have to be terrifying. FyreSyde has you covered.

Programming 4 (Parker), 4 PM –

Fandom Pictionary

Panelists: Melia Dawn, Brad Foster, Gloria Oliver, Mel White

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!

Programming 4 (Parker), 5 PM –

Vampires for Fun and Profit

Panelists: A. Lee Martinez (M), Charlaine Harris, Charlayne Elizabeth Denney, Seth Skorkowsky, Ava Morgan,

What do vampire species in differing universes have in common? They drink blood, of varying types. From the Hopping Vampire to Nosferatu and the original Dracula to other versions we dare not speak of, there are still common elements to draw upon. They also are not restricted in genre – from humor to horror with urban fiction and even science fiction in between, vampires can be found in many places. Our panelists talk about blood suckers of all types, and how to create your own.

Programming 4 (Parker), 6 PM –

The State of Modern Comics

Panelists: Renee Witterstaetter, David Doub

With the continued success of Marvel and DC's comeback with their recent films, comics have been back in a big way everywhere. What is the new hotness, or what needs to come back in the worst way? Our comic gurus debate this and other topics.

Programming 4 (Parker), 8 PM –

Fun Ways to Present Your Poetry

Panelists: Stephen Sanders (M), Michelle Muenzler, Larry Atchley Jr., Patricia Ferguson

Bring instruments! Bring an open mind! Bring whatever you think might be fun and strange, because this is an experimental idea with people committing poetry in whatever fashion that might be eye-catching or funny.

Reading (Pickett), 10 AM – Adrian Simmons, Jimmy Misfit

Reading (Pickett), 11 AM – Amber Royer, Stephen Sanders, Julia S. Mandala

Reading (Pickett), 12 PM – Charlayne Elizabeth Denney, Linda Donahue, Ava Morgan

Reading (Pickett), 1 PM – Barbara Ann Wright, Larry Atchley Jr., Chris Donahue

Reading (Pickett), 2 PM – David Doub, A. Lee Martinez, Ethan Nahté

Reading (Pickett), 3 PM – Yoon Ha Lee

Reading (Pickett), 4 PM – William Ledbetter, Wil McCarthy, Patricia Burroughs

Reading (Pickett), 5 PM – Shanna Swendson, Dusty Rainbolt, Blaise Ramsay

Reading (Pickett), 6 PM – KB Bogen, Karl K. Gallagher

Autographs (Upper Terrace), 10 AM – Charlayne Elizabeth Denney, Julia S. Mandala

Autographs (Upper Terrace), 11 AM – Barbara Ann Wright, William C. Seigler

Autographs (Upper Terrace), 12 PM – C. Dean Andersson, KB Bogen, Chris Donahue

Autographs (Upper Terrace), 1 PM – Carole Nelson Douglas, Dusty Rainbolt, Michelle Muenzler

Autographs (Upper Terrace), 2 PM – Charlaine Harris

Autographs (Upper Terrace), 3 PM – Michael Baldwin, Dantzel Cherry

Autographs (Upper Terrace), 4 PM – Karl K. Gallagher, Terry Gene, T. M. Hunter

Autographs (Upper Terrace), 5 PM – Yoon Ha Lee

Autographs (Upper Terrace), 6 PM – William Ledbetter, Ava Morgan, Rhonda Eudaly