



CONVERGENCE 2024:

EVERYONE'S INVITED



SOUVENIR PROGRAM GUIDE



Welcome in! No matter what culture, background, loves, hates, or interests you may have, you are welcome here, now and always. This is a place for all fandoms, not just any specific one, and for all the people who enjoy them. So, whether you're into spaceships and rayguns, magic and wizards, a world just like our own but a little more interesting, or anything else that intrigues you, we're very glad you're here.

No matter what you're into, diversity has been an important and integral part of fandom for many an age. Speculative fiction has been inherently inclusive from the get-go, and one of the most common threads has always been that diversity, and welcoming everyone, makes societies stronger. So, thank you for making our society and our community stronger, regardless of what brought you here.

Diversity alone, however, isn't enough. Simple diversity is just the bare minimum. Going beyond just diversity and fully into inclusivity makes things even better for everyone involved.

Inclusivity means a lot of different things to a lot of different people. At the end of the day, it often comes down to one simple idea, though: treating everyone, regardless of any characteristics that might divide us, in an equitable manner.

It isn't simply being welcomed alone; it's being actively included and respected. We hope that we've succeeded at making everyone feel welcome and included, and that we truly listen to the lived experience of all of those who wish to share it with us. We are thankful for those who take the time to do so.

It's also important to focus on what unites us, rather than what divides us. The things and experiences that we all share together here, whether it's your first CONvergence or your twentieth. The things that bring us together, and that we share, are far more numerous than the things that divide us.

There's been many a story about people finding their community, their space that truly accepts them. That place where they truly feel at home. For many, that place has become fandom itself. That sense of community, for many of us, makes this convention one that feels like truly coming home. Whether that's you or not, we hope you have a wonderful time enjoying CONvergence 2024: Everyone's Invited

Charmaine Parnell (External Relations and Communications)

CJ Mantel (Systems)

Courtney Azar (Administration)

Eric Knight (Facilities)

Luis Beltran (Hospitality)

Tim Wick (Productions)

William Verbrugge-Cunningham (Activities)

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is a presentation of

Convergence Events

M/S #162

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Organization Website: convergenceevents.org

The CONvergence 2024 Souvenir Book & Programming Guide

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All times and schedules listed are accurate at the time of printing. For the most current and up-to-date information please visit our online schedule at:

convergence-con.org/at-the-con/schedule/

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We always welcome feedback and suggestions, and ask that any comments be directed to info@convergence-con.org.

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CONVERGENCE EVENTS

CONvergence is a convention for fans of science fiction and fantasy in all media. CONvergence was launched in 1999 and has grown to be one of the largest conventions of its kind in Minnesota and beyond! CONvergence is produced by Convergence Events, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

CONvergence is our premier event, our largest celebration, and a sign of things to come.

MISSION AND VALUES

Mission Statement

Convergence Events, Inc. is a non-profit, volunteer-run organization dedicated to creating exciting events that connect, enrich, and expand our diverse community, and to inspiring each other through creativity, learning, and service.

Core Values

- We believe in treating ourselves, each other, and our diverse community with respect.
- We believe in accepting all diverse geek communities.
- We believe in providing a culture of openness, inclusivity, equity, and fun.
- We believe community service is delivered with professionalism, passion, and integrity.
- We believe in being open-minded and inventive.
- We believe in listening with an open mind and compassion.

- We believe in always being willing to learn.
- We believe in taking risks, learning from our experience, and taking personal and community responsibility.
- We believe in being patient and honest.
- We believe in encouraging innovation and empowered decision-making.
- We believe our actions should inspire volunteerism, confidence, and creativity.
- We believe personal and organizational balance is the key to sustainable success.

CONvergence Events, Inc. Corporate Officers and Board of Directors

CJ Mantel—President and Director of Systems

Charmaine Parnell—Vice President and Director of External Relations and Attendee Communications

Eric Knight—Secretary and Director of Facilities

Luis Beltran—Treasurer and Director of Hospitality

William Verbrug-Cunningham—CTO and Director of Activities

Tim Wick—Director of Productions

Thomas Keeley—CFO



HOURS OF OPERATIONS

Accessibility & DEI Table

Hyatt 2 Lobby Overlook

Thursday	10:00am–1:00pm, 2:00pm–5:00pm
Friday	10:00am–1:00pm, 2:00pm–5:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–1:00pm, 2:00pm–5:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–1:00pm, 2:00pm–5:00pm

Art Show

Hyatt 2 Northstar A

Thursday	2:00pm–7:00pm
Friday	10:00am–9:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–6:00pm
Sunday	11:00am–3:00pm

Artists Alley

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall

Thursday	2:00pm–7:00pm
Friday	10:00am–6:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–6:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–4:00pm

Book Swap

Hyatt 6 Promenade Alcove

Thursday	Noon–Midnight
Friday	8:00am–Midnight
Saturday	8:00am–Midnight
Sunday	8:00am–Noon

Cinema Rex Movie Room

Hyatt 5 Lake Superior

Thursday	3:30pm–2:30am
Friday	10:00am–3:00am
Saturday	10:00am–1:30am
Sunday	10:00am–6:30pm

Connie's Quantum Sandbox

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes B

Thursday	11:00am–10:00pm
Friday	9:30am–10:00pm
Saturday	9:30am–10:00pm
Sunday	9:30am–3:30pm

ConSuite

Hyatt 2 North Woods

Thursday	3:00pm–Midnight
Friday	8:00am–Midnight
Saturday	8:00am–Midnight
Sunday	8:00am–5:00pm

CONvergence Merchandise

Hyatt 2 Minnehaha

Wednesday	Noon–9:00pm
Thursday	Noon–9:00pm
Friday	11:00am–7:00pm
Saturday	11:00am–7:00pm
Sunday	9:00am–Noon

Cosplay Repair Station

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes B

Thursday	11:00am–10:00pm
Friday	9:30am–10:00pm
Saturday	9:30am–10:00pm
Sunday	9:30am–3:30pm

Dealers Room

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall

Thursday	2:00pm–7:00pm
Friday	10:00am–6:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–6:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–4:00pm

Fan Tables

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall Promenade

Thursday	2:00pm–7:00pm
Friday	10:00am–6:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–6:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–4:00pm

First Advisors

Hyatt 2 Hiawatha

Continuously
Wednesday 9:00am–Sunday 5:00pm

Gaming Front Desk

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes

Thursday	9:00am–10:00pm
Friday	9:00am–10:00pm
Saturday	9:00am–10:00pm
Sunday	9:00am–3:00pm

GPS Charity Auction

Hyatt 2 Greenway A

Thursday	5:00pm–8:00pm
Friday	10:00am–8:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–7:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–2:00pm (Pickup and Sunday sales)

Harmonic CONvergence

Hyatt 2 Regency Room

Thursday	5:00pm–11:00pm
Friday	11:00am–12:30am
Saturday	11:00am–11:00pm

Holodeck

Hyatt 6 Gymnasium

Thursday	Noon–10:00pm
Friday	9:00am–10:00pm
Saturday	9:00am–10:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–1:00pm

Masquerade

Hyatt 1 in front of the Nicollet Ballroom

Masquerade Registration Table

Thursday	3:00pm–6:00pm
Friday	10:00am–1:00pm, 2:00pm–6:00pm

Hall Costume Contest Registration

Continuously
Thursday 7:00pm–Saturday 10:00pm

Costume Wars Registration

Thursday	3:00pm–6:00pm
Friday	10:00am–1:00pm

Massage

Hyatt 2 Walker

Thursday	4:00pm–8:00pm
Friday	Noon–10:00pm
Saturday	Noon–10:00pm
Sunday	Noon–2:00pm

HOURS OF OPERATIONS

Operations & The Bridge

Hyatt 2 Mirage

Wednesday Noon–6:00pm
Continuously
Thursday 8:00am–Sunday 7:00pm

Parenting Room

Hyatt 4 Room 4102

Thursday 4:00pm–9:00pm
Friday 10:00am–9:00pm
Saturday 10:00am–9:00pm
Sunday 10:00am–5:00pm

Parties Headquarters

Hyatt 4 Room 418

Thursday 11:00am–2:00pm,
6:00pm–2:00am
Friday 11:00am–2:00pm,
6:00pm–2:00am
Saturday 11:00am–2:00pm,
6:00pm–2:00am
Sunday 11:00am–2:00pm

Photography

Hyatt 4 Lake of the Isles

Thursday 11:00am–11:00pm
Friday 11:00am–11:00pm
Saturday 11:00am–11:00pm
Sunday 10:00am–2:00pm

Programming Headquarters

Hyatt 4 Executive Boardroom

Thursday Noon–12:30am
Friday 9:00am–12:30am
Saturday 9:00am–12:30am
Sunday 9:00am–6:00pm

Registration

Hyatt 2 St. Croix

Wednesday Noon–11:00pm
Thursday 10:00am–Midnight
Friday 9:00am–10:00pm
Saturday 9:00am–10:00pm
Sunday 9:00am–3:00pm

Sensory Breakroom

Hyatt 4 Room 4101

Hours TBD; if this room is not open,
First Advisors also has sensory break
options.

Space Lounge

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes C

Thursday 9:00pm–2:00am
Friday 9:00pm–2:00am
Saturday 9:00pm–2:00am

Teen Room

Hyatt 4 Lake Bemidji

Thursday 2:00pm–1:00am
Friday 10:00am–1:00am
Saturday 10:00am–1:00am
Sunday 10:00am–6:00pm

The Grove

Outside between Nicollet Mall and the Hyatt parking ramp

Continuously
Thursday Noon–Sunday 8:00pm

Theater Nippon

Hyatt 4 Lake Harriet

Thursday 1:00pm–12:30am
Friday 8:00am–12:30am
Saturday 8:00am–12:30am
Sunday 8:00am–3:30pm

VolDen

Hyatt 2 North Woods

Friday 9:00am–8:00pm
Saturday 9:00am–8:00pm
Sunday 9:00am–1:00pm

Volunteers

Hyatt 2 Greenway J

Wednesday 3:00pm–10:00pm
Thursday 9:00am–10:00pm
Friday 9:00am–8:00pm
Saturday 9:00am–8:00pm
Sunday 9:00am–5:00pm

Wordslingers Way

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A1

Thursday 9:00pm–10:00pm
Friday 12:30pm–10:00pm
Saturday 11:00am–11:00pm

OPERATIONS (OPS) AND THE BRIDGE

Hyatt 2 Mirage

The Operations Department directs communications and manages services for the convention, the convention committee, and attendees. The Bridge, located in Hyatt 2 Mirage, is the central hub of Operations at CONvergence.

The Bridge is open:

Wednesday Noon–6:00pm

Continuously

Thursday 8:00am–Sunday 7:00pm

Got Props?

CONvergence requires that all props be peace bound. Stop by The Bridge to get “The Talk” about handling props responsibly and to get your prop peace bound.

Lose Something? Find Something?

If you find an item that you think another attendee has left behind, please bring it to The Bridge so we can try to reunite it with its owner. If you lose something, stop by The Bridge to see if someone has turned it in. If we don't have your lost item, we'll take your contact information so we can get in touch with you if it turns up. If you don't realize you've lost something until after the convention, email operations@convergence-con.org. If we have your item, we'll arrange a meeting time and place to return your item to you.

Have Questions?

We have answers! Operations has lots of information about the convention, so we can help you find what you're looking for.

Look for the Helpers

Wandering Hosts are Operations volunteers in purple vests who assist attendees all over the convention. If you need assistance, flag down a Wandering Host who can help you and relay your questions or concerns to Operations.

Your Safety and Comfort Is Important to Us

Operations is working to make sure the convention is safe, comfortable, and accessible to everyone. If you see something that concerns you or makes you uncomfortable, let Operations know by:

- Visiting The Bridge (Hyatt 2 Mirage)
- Finding a Wandering Host in a purple vest
- Texting 612-800-1677

CONVERGENCE SAFE SPACES

What is a CONvergence Safe Space?

Safe Spaces are locations within the convention that are, or can be made to be, places of heightened physical, intellectual, and/or emotional security.

If an attendee needs or desires help to feel that security, Safe Spaces either have volunteers present or are able to call volunteers to the location to assist anyone who is feeling unsafe.

Safe Spaces are a promise that assistance will be provided to anyone who seeks it, without judgment and without expressions of doubt.

Where are CONvergence Safe Spaces?

Outside

- The Grove

2nd Floor

- ConSuite (Hyatt 2 Northwoods)
- Registration (Hyatt 2 St Croix)
- First Advisors (Hyatt 2 Hiawatha)
- The Bridge (Hyatt 2 Mirage)

3rd floor

- No official Safe Space

4th Floor

- Parties HQ (Hyatt 4 Room 418)
- Programming (Hyatt 4 Exec Boardroom)
- Gaming (Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2 and A3)

5th floor

- GPS party room (Hyatt 5 Room 5115)

6th floor

- No official Safe Space

If you are in a situation that makes you feel uncomfortable, causes you concern, or if something seems off and you feel that Operations should be made aware, please let us know. Find a Wandering Host. Come to The Bridge (Hyatt 2 Mirage). Send a text to 651-800-1-OPS (651-800-1677).

CONVERGENCE ATTENDEE CONDUCT POLICIES

CONvergence Attendee Conduct Policies

CONvergence is dedicated to providing a safe and inviting convention experience for everyone. These policies support the goal of ensuring that the behavior of any individual or group does not harm other attendees or detract from the Core Values of CONvergence.

Attendee conduct policies apply to all attendees, volunteers, attendees of the Convention Committee (ConCom), Invited Participants, Guests of Honor, dealers, vendors, and all other individuals that have gone through official channels in order to participate in convention activities.

CONvergence reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to take such actions as it feels appropriate where any individual or group is found to have breached convention policies or behaved in a manner contrary to the Core Values. Although we consider our attendees to be rational and responsible people, we recognize that issues related to the policies may still arise. We will deal with any issues as promptly, efficiently, and fairly as possible.

CONvergence reserves the right to revoke any pass and to eject anyone at any time from the convention without a refund.

Vaccination and Mask Recommendations

Recent masking studies show that individual masking choices have a greater impact on personal health than previously thought. Because of this it is strongly recommended, but not required, that all attendees ages 3+ wear masks during the convention.

This is especially important if:

- You had symptoms or a positive test 5-10 days before the convention.
- You were exposed to someone with COVID-19 within the 10 days prior to the convention.
- If you have concerns about COVID-19 and/or the indoor air quality.

In addition, if you are immunocompromised or at increased risk of severe COVID-19 illness, consider asking your health care provider for advice on additional COVID-19 precautions you should take.

We will continue to provide N95/KN95 masks for attendees who find themselves in need of one.

Furthermore, it is strongly recommended that all attendees be fully vaccinated.

- We hope to once again have updated vaccinations available at con on Saturday afternoon for those who have been unable to find them.
- The Bridge Access Program now pays for vaccines for those without the means to pay for them.

It is strongly recommended that attendees have a negative COVID-19 test within 48 hours of the start of CONvergence 2024.

CONvergence reserves the right to update this policy with more stringent guidelines if the Wastewater Virus Data for Minnesota shows surge conditions at the time of the convention.

Why are we doing this?

- We now have research evidence that individual masking is effective in preventing infection.
- All current recommendations at state, federal, and global levels focus on individual mask use.
- Masking combined with vaccination is the most direct way for individuals to protect themselves from COVID-19 when opting to attend large events.
- Our research, including internal polling of the CONvergence Convention Committee, indicates that there is a strong preference for individual masking choice.

If you have any questions or comments about COVID-19 policies at CONvergence 2024, please contact the CONvergence Board of Directors.

City, County, State, & Federal Laws

Please remember: whatever applies outside of the convention still applies both inside the hotel and in all convention spaces.

Prohibited Representation

The following is not allowed representation at CONvergence.

Hate Groups

Any representation or iconography of any hate group (including but not limited to: Nazis, the Ku Klux Klan, Westboro Baptist Church, or any group listed on the Southern Poverty Law Center website as a current or active hate group) is expressly prohibited. Discrimination or prejudiced behavior is not tolerated by CONvergence.

Harassment

Harassment of any kind will not be tolerated.

Harassment includes, but is not limited to:

- Physical assault and/or battery
- Offensive verbal comments
- Inappropriate physical contact
- Unwelcome physical attention
- Intimidation
- Stalking
- Display of hateful iconography
- Non-consensual photography or recording (see the CONvergence Photography Policy for more details)
- Sustained disruption of panels, signings, or other events

CONVERGENCE ATTENDEE CONDUCT POLICIES

Particularly in relation to identity attributes, including but not limited to:

- Race
- Color
- Culture
- National origin
- Disability
- Gender
- Gender identity
- Gender presentation
- Sexual orientation
- Religion
- Age
- Body size
- Appearance

Dealing With Harassment

Anyone can report harassment.

If you feel that you are being harassed or subjected to prejudiced or unwelcome behavior, if you are aware of others being harassed or subjected to prejudiced or unwelcome behavior, or if you notice someone behaving inappropriately (such as violating hotel or convention policies), we respectfully suggest the following:

If you feel comfortable doing so, point out the inappropriate behavior to the person(s) involved. Often this will solve the problem immediately.

If you do not feel comfortable talking with the person(s) involved or if talking to them does not resolve the issue, please report the situation immediately to CONvergence Operations. If possible, we ask that you try to provide a name, badge name, badge number, and/or physical description of the person(s) involved to assist with subsequent investigation and follow up.

Do not feel that it is necessary to craft a complete narrative in order to be heard. It is understood that details of stressful situations can become murky and our procedures take this into account. Report situations to the best of your ability and feel free to provide supplemental reports if needed.

If you are in a situation that makes you feel unsafe, please seek assistance from CONvergence staff immediately. Find a Wandering Host, leave the situation and come to a Safe Space or The Bridge, find anyone on a radio, or text Operations at 651-800-1677 (651-800-1-OPS) and we will come to you.

If someone tells you “no” or asks to be left alone, your interaction with them is over. Do not follow or attempt to disrupt their convention experience in any way. If you continue, against their wishes, to attempt to have contact

with people who have said “no” or have asked that you leave them alone, you may be removed from the premises. If you wish to offer an apology to someone who asked that you not interact with them, please come to The Bridge and CONvergence Operations can assist in relaying your message.

Community Safety

CONvergence is not responsible for solving disagreements and interpersonal problems that may arise between individual attendees outside of the convention. However, CONvergence reserves the right to revoke any pass and to deny future attendance to individuals found to have behaved in a manner contrary to the Core Values of CONvergence at any event within or adjacent to the local community, or who are otherwise deemed to pose a legitimate threat to the safety, inclusivity, and overall health of CONvergence, its attendees, its parent organization, or event venues. We encourage you to contact CONvergence Operations or the members of the Board of Directors of Convergence Events, Inc. if you have concerns about an individual and their presence at the convention.

Minors

Fans of all ages are welcome at CONvergence. However, CONvergence does not provide childcare, and not all events at CONvergence are appropriate for all audiences.

Attendees under the age of 13 should be supervised in a manner appropriate to their age and ability by an actively responsible parent, guardian, or designated adult while in convention spaces.

A designated adult is defined as someone that is not the legal guardian or parent of a minor, but is over the age of 18, a registered convention attendee, and identified in the minor’s registration record as an adult responsible for them at the convention. The designated adult must be a registered attendee on each date that the minor is also attending.

Registration

Attendees who will be under the age of 16 on the Thursday of the convention are required to provide contact information for a designated adult when registering and must have a parent, legal guardian, or designated adult with a valid weekend or day pass provide legal identification at the time the minor picks up their badge. Attendees who will be age 16–17 on the Thursday of the convention must provide contact information for a designated adult when registering. Attendees 16–17 years of age may collect their badges using their own form of authorized identification.

Curfew

Minneapolis city curfew does not apply within convention spaces. It does, however, apply outside the hotel. The juvenile curfew in the city of Minneapolis is:



CONVERGENCE ATTENDEE CONDUCT POLICIES

- Ages 14 and under: 10:00pm–4:00am Sunday–Thursday, 11:00pm–4:00am Friday & Saturday
- Ages 15–17: 12:01am–4:00am All Nights

Recommendations

In order that young fans and their parents, guardians, or designated adults may have the best experience, CONvergence recommends that:

- Attendees under the age of 18 should have an Emergency Contact sticker (available in Registration) completed and affixed to the reverse of their badge for the purpose of identifying their parent, guardian, or designated adult in case of emergency. Please ensure that any voice or text number listed on this sticker will be answered regardless of the hour or caller.
- Attendees under the age of 18 should be aware of convention support structures, such as Safe Spaces, Wandering Hosts, The Bridge, and the Operations text number (651-800-1677).
- There should be an active means of communication between a parent, guardian, or designated adult and their associated minor(s).
- Parents, guardians, or designated adults should be in areas to which their associated minors have access (for example, not in a full panel or show, 18+ panel, or 21+ party room).
- Time of day should be taken into consideration when assessing age and ability. Areas and events that may be appropriate for young attendees in the afternoon may not be in the evening. Attendees under the age of 18 should avoid convention spaces after 1:00am. Attendees under the age of 13 should avoid convention spaces after 11:00pm.

Animal Policy

Pets are not permitted in convention space. Service Animals, as defined under the ADA, are welcome in all areas of CONvergence.

Distracting a service animal without its owner's permission is a safety hazard and denies another attendee the benefit of their accessibility aid. Petting, touching, or intentionally distracting a service animal without its owner's permission is not allowed under any circumstances.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Art Policy

This policy aims to prevent the sale and/or promotion of any goods or services that profit off of the theft of another artist's work, while also allowing attendees to submit art generated by AI programs they themselves have created and trained on original art with permission.

This policy applies to all art submissions to the convention,

including but not limited to any competitive and/or monetized art submitted to CONvergence. This includes Art Show, Dealers Room, Artists Alley, and any other compensated or competitive venue that may arise.

- The AI program must be an original creation of the Artist or Group of Artists displaying, selling, or entering the work in a competition at CONvergence 2024.
- The Artist or Group of Artists can collaborate with a programmer or program the AI themselves.
- Any programmer must be a named collaborator on all display signage.
- The Artist or Group of Artists cannot use publicly or commercially available AI programs, including but not limited to: ChatGPT, Midjourney, Craiyon, Fotor, Starryai, Deep Dream, Stable Diffusion, Grok, Google Bard, Claude, and so on.
- The data set on which the AI was trained must be 100% original art belonging to the Artist or Group of Artists, or used with documented permission.
- Public domain art is prohibited from inclusion in the data set.
- Data sets must be viewable upon request by convention staff.
- Original art used for the data set that is not created by the Artist or Group of Artists requires a written release from its creator(s).
- Releases are needed for subjects of photographs and videos, as well as for originating artists who are part of a Group of Artists seeking to sell or display but who are not physically present.
- The Artist or Group of Artists must disclose that their art is AI generated, whether in full or in part, when submitting their work to CONvergence.
- The Artist or Group of Artists should disclose that their art is AI generated, whether in full or in part, on any item tags or display signs.

Badges

Your convention badge is necessary for participation in the convention. It allows you access to the convention and indicates you are an attendee in good standing. However, CONvergence reserves the right to revoke the badge and the pass it represents and hold the badge of any attendee for any reason, including but not limited to violating the CONvergence Conduct Policies or behaving in such a manner as is deemed unsafe or unacceptable.

Attempts to enter badged convention space while failing to purchase a day or weekend pass and display a valid badge will result in being escorted off site.

CONVERGENCE ATTENDEE CONDUCT POLICIES

Fraudulent Badge Use

The use of any CONvergence Badge not issued to you, or the possession with the intent to use of a CONvergence Badge not issued to you, is prohibited and will result in your day or weekend pass being revoked.

Financial Transactions

Anyone who owes an outstanding balance to CONvergence (for example, an outstanding balance on pass payment, Art Show purchase, or Dealers Room table rental), must settle that balance before being permitted to acquire their badge.

Props

We at CONvergence believe that the convention as a whole benefits from the amazing costumes and props brought, worn, and displayed by our attendees. In order for CONvergence to remain an enjoyable experience, everyone must agree to a social contract. This contract is simple: if an attendee agrees to be safe and considerate with their props, CONvergence agrees to let that attendee carry their props in convention spaces. To ensure that prop-carrying attendees abide by our social contract, CONvergence Operations provides The Talk and peace bonds props.

The Talk

If you have a prop that meets any of the following criteria, you must come to The Bridge to receive The Talk and have your prop peace bonded before carrying it in convention spaces:

- Is large or unwieldy
- Is capable of emitting a laser beam or any sort of projectile
- Resembles a weapon from any universe
- Uses wheels for other than accessibility purposes

Peace bonding may also be required in other circumstances, at the discretion of CONvergence Operations. When CONvergence Operations gives The Talk, they outline what is expected of you and your specific props, and provide an opportunity to ask any questions you may have. You will receive a badge ribbon reading "I've Had The Talk." This ribbon must be worn visibly when carrying your props to indicate that you agree to our social contract.

Peace Bonding

Peace bonding is the process of marking a prop so that it may be known to one and all that you agree to be responsible with it. At CONvergence, peace bonding is more about marking that a prop has been inspected and found to be in compliance with CONvergence Operations' safety procedures than an attempt to render the prop inert. Props must be peace bonded on The Bridge with materials provided by CONvergence Operations. Peace bonding does not carry over from year to year.

In some cases, special care must be taken when a prop is peace bonded:

- Metal bladed or pointed weapons must be secured into a sheath.
- Props normally capable of emitting projectiles or laser beams must be rendered unable to do so.
- Other instances, as determined by CONvergence Operations.

Prohibited Items

The following are not permitted in convention spaces:

- Firearms, disabled or otherwise (A MN Permit to Carry is not an exception)
- Explosives/ pyrotechnics
- Tasers/ stun guns
- Pepper spray/ chemical irritants
- Any item deemed unsafe by CONvergence Operations

We allow the following types of props:

- Knives, swords, and daggers
- Bows
- Bats, clubs, mallets, and lightsabers
- Toy, replica, and model firearms
- Many other nifty props! This list is not comprehensive.

Mobility Aids

CONvergence's props policy generally does not apply to mobility aids used for accessibility such as canes, crutches, walkers, and wheelchairs. Unless on the prohibited items list, such devices are explicitly allowed throughout convention spaces and require neither peace bonding nor The Talk. Attendees are welcome to bring their mobility aids to The Bridge to be inspected and receive The Talk and its associated badge ribbon if they would like to do so.

Exception: Sword canes must be peace bonded as if they were props.

Tools

This policy is not intended to cover tools such as pocket knives, multi-tools, glue guns, nail clippers, and so on. Unless on the prohibited items list, such items are allowed, provided they are being used as tools. If such items are being carried as props, they fall under the props policy, and must be peace bonded accordingly.

Wheels

It is not permitted to ride any manner of wheeled recreational transport device such as a bicycle, unicycle, roller skates or blades, skateboard, hoverboard, or motorized mini-vehicle in convention spaces. Strollers and wheeled mobility devices providing accessibility are permitted.

Flying Things

Deployment of any flying object, be it tethered or free flying, powered or unpowered, is not permitted in convention

CONVERGENCE ATTENDEE CONDUCT POLICIES

spaces unless advanced authorization is obtained from CONvergence Operations.

Programming Exceptions to Props Policies

Peace bonding may be removed, and props drawn, wielded, or brandished when an attendee is participating in a CONvergence scheduled event at the discretion of the event organizer (such as the Masquerade or a stage combat demonstration). Props used in such a manner must be taken to The Bridge to be peace bonded once more before being again permitted in convention spaces. Programming is never an exception to the Prohibited Items list.

Costumes/Clothing

All costumes must conform to the CONvergence Harassment Policy and Prohibited Representation Policy.

Any costume that gives the appearance of being a member of present-day United States military or law enforcement will not be permitted. Exception: Current or former US military personnel may wear their uniforms in a manner consistent with military regulations governing off-duty dress.

The following areas must be completely covered by opaque material:

- Genitals and pubic area
- Cleft of the buttocks
- Nipples and areolas of all attendees, regardless of gender presentation

Exception: Breastfeeding is never a violation of this policy.

Alcohol & THC

- The legal age of consumption in the state of Minnesota is 21. No one under the legal age of consumption should be offered or provided with alcohol or THC. IDs should be verified before anything is shared.
- Tampering with food or drinks consumed by others will not be tolerated. Anyone found to have tampered with items consumed by others will be expelled from the convention and may face criminal charges.
- Intoxication, to the point of interfering with other attendees or becoming a hazard to yourself, will provoke responses from First Advisors and CONvergence Operations and may result in any of the sanctions discussed above.
- If you feel unsafe, regardless of your level of alcohol or THC consumption, please seek assistance. The safety of attendees is a primary concern of CONvergence. This applies even if you are not of legal age for the consumption of alcohol or THC.

Smoking (Nicotine)

The Hyatt Regency Minneapolis is a non-smoking establishment, per state law.

Smokers are encouraged to take advantage of The Grove. The Grove provides easy access to seating, tables, ashtrays, and fellow fans.

Smoking is discouraged in other outdoor locations, as it may interfere with people uninvolved with CONvergence.

Smoking is prohibited:

- Inside the Hyatt
- Inside the skyway

Use of e-cigarettes and other vaping devices is restricted in the same manner as traditional cigarettes.

Planned "Spontaneous" Group Activities (Flash Mobs, Performance Art, and so on)

Parades, moving performances, LARP-style games, and other mobile events are welcome at CONvergence. For the maximum enjoyment of all attendees, organizers and participants should avoid the following areas:

- Programming spaces (such as panel rooms or MainStage)
- High traffic areas (such as ConSuite or The Bridge)
- Room Parties, unless given permission by party hosts.

Please provide advance notice of your event to Operations and Programming. If running an event on the 6th floor (the Holodeck), please also contact Exhibits and Special Events. Events run without prior notification to Operations and Programming may be shut down without warning.

Photography Policies

There is a lot to see at CONvergence and we know you'll want to snap pictures of the awesome cosplays and goings on around you. To ensure that all attendees have a good time, we've laid out some rules and guidelines to keep our event safe and fun.

Photography by CONvergence Staff

CONvergence maintains a staff of volunteer photographers to create an official record of the convention. As a result of this important task, CONvergence Photography department volunteers operate under slightly different rules than general attendees. On-duty photographers associated with the CONvergence Photography department are the only people who may take photographs without the explicit consent of the subject. By registering for a CONvergence day or weekend pass, attendees give their consent to be photographed by the CONvergence Photography department. This consent may be suspended at any time on a case-by-case basis, even retroactively. If an attendee wishes to revoke consent for a particular photograph, they must contact CONvergence Photography and ERAC@convergence-con.org to address the situation. Official CONvergence Photographers may be easily identified by their official Photography badges listing the current convention year.

CONVERGENCE ATTENDEE CONDUCT POLICIES

Photography by Attendees

Attendees must ask permission before taking photographs of specific individuals. Consent may be revoked retroactively. If a subject wishes for a photograph in which they appear to be deleted, they may ask the photographer to do so, and the photographer must comply.

All pictures must be for personal or general public use such as social media, with the exception of private photoshoots as outlined below.

The use of photos, videos, or audio tapes made at CONvergence for commercial use or for the solicitation of funds for any commercial or other purpose without the express written permission of Convergence Events, Inc. is strictly prohibited.

Flash photography is not permitted during panels, programming, and MainStage events; please check with Masquerade personnel for scheduled pre- or post-Masquerade photo sessions.

Crowd Photos

Prior consent is not required when taking photographs of large crowds (for example, overlooking the Hyatt lobby). Nor is prior consent required from people who appear incidentally in the background of an image, but who are not the primary subject of the photograph.

Prohibited Photography

Please do not interfere with Operations, First Advisors, Emergency Medical Services, Police, or other official personnel when responding to an emergency situation. CONvergence reserves the right to ask photographers to delete any photographs or video of any such events if they would compromise the personal health information of those involved.

Attendees who are not official CONvergence photographers may not take photographs in CONvergence Convention Committee areas (those restricted to the Convention Committee members) and the following: Art Show, Art Auction, Print Shop, and Green Room.

Private Photoshoots

Many people are interested in doing professional private photoshoots at CONvergence. We welcome you to do so under the following provisions:

- Pictures taken at CONvergence for professional use are prohibited unless a contract and release is received by the photographer from any and all subjects.
- Contracts and transactions must be negotiated and take place outside of CONvergence entirely.
- You may not block off, bar, or otherwise impede any use of the hotel by other patrons or hotel staff. For example,

you cannot set up a mermaid photoshoot and then prohibit other people from entering the pool during your photoshoot.

- You may not use the CONvergence Photo Booth or other CONvergence organization areas for private photoshoots.
- Photographers and all subjects MUST each have purchased a CONvergence day or weekend pass.

Tape

You may post non-adhesive signs with low-tack tape. The Hyatt Regency specifies and requires use of low-tack blue painter's tape so that surfaces will not be damaged by tape removal. There are no specific brand or model requirements. Any low-tack blue tape is allowed. If you do not have acceptable blue tape, come to The Bridge. We have plenty and are happy to share. Neither the convention hotel nor CONvergence will tolerate the application of stickers or high-tack tape to hotel surfaces. Removal of these adhesive substances is damaging to the hotel, and is therefore considered to be unacceptable. Incidents of this kind will be treated as vandalism. Don't break the hotel.

Poster Hanging Guidelines

Posters, signage, and flyers may be hung in CONvergence event spaces on floors 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, and in room party hallways on floors 3, 4, and 5.

Posters, signage, and flyers may not be hung in the following areas:

- The Hyatt front desk, Hyatt Marketplace, Fireside Lounge, the Prairie Kitchen & Bar, or from railings overlooking any of the above.
- In stairwells, escalators, elevators, or elevator doors.
- In the skyway bridge connecting the Hyatt with the Millennium Hotel, on storefronts, or in businesses co-located with the Hyatt, including Fedex, Vitali's Cafe, and Salon Blu.
- On glass surfaces, anywhere outdoors, The Grove, the Loring Greenway, or any parking ramp.

Methods:

- Low-tack blue painter's tape is the only allowed adhesive. Tape may not be attached to doors or door frames. Magnets are also a permitted method of attaching posters to any otherwise permitted surface.

Times:

- Attendees may not hang flyers, signage, or posters prior to 1:00pm on the Thursday of the convention.
- Official CONvergence departments may not hang flyers, signage, or posters prior to 6:00pm on the Wednesday of the convention for common areas on floors 1, 2, 4, and

CONVERGENCE ATTENDEE CONDUCT POLICIES

5, or prior to Noon on the Thursday of the convention for common areas on floors 3 and 6, and parties hallways on floors 3, 4, and 5 unless given specific permission to do so.

- Posters must be removed no later than Noon on Sunday unless specific permission is given for a later time. Attendees who hang posters are expected to also remove them.

Questions:

If you have questions, please contact Hotel Relations. They may be found in Operations (Hyatt 2 Mirage), or may be contacted by e-mail at hotel@convergence-con.org.

Litter

Please pick up after yourself. There are trash containers around the hotel. It makes a big difference if we try to keep things clean. There are no magic fairies to clean up the convention spaces—just CONvergence volunteers.

Volunteering

Volunteering for CONvergence can be a lot of fun and we value each and every one of our volunteers. But, as with everything else, there is always the administrative that needs to be documented. To that end, please understand that your volunteering for CONvergence is at-will and no one has the right to force or guilt you into it. We do sincerely encourage you to, and hope that you will, be proud of the time and effort you put in on behalf of CONvergence as it is an extremely valuable and highly appreciated gift you provide to our community.

By that same token, when volunteering for CONvergence, you are agreeing to release and hold harmless Convergence Events, Inc. from any and all liability, claims, demands, injuries, illness, death, or property damage resulting from your volunteering activities. Convergence Events, Inc. does not maintain health, medical, or disability insurance coverage for any volunteer or contractor and each volunteer and contractor is expected and encouraged to obtain their own medical and/or health insurance coverage.

Guests & Invited Participants

While CONvergence financially and logistically supports Guests of Honor coming to our convention, CONvergence does not pay appearance fees for Guests of Honor or Invited Participants. The reasons for this are:

- As a nonprofit, we focus on using our funds to support our infrastructure and community.
- Our goal is to invite participants and guests who are excited to engage the convention community and spend time with our attendees, rather than only showing up for their scheduled events.

Guests of Honor

Guests of Honor are professionals and qualified experts in many different fields who are invited as the convention's honored guests in a given year. Guests of Honor will be asked to participate in a minimum of six panels during the course of the convention. Guests of Honor are welcome and encouraged to participate in more than six panels should they wish to. Guests of Honor are also welcome and encouraged to participate in other events, such as attending any of our MainStage shows, enjoying our evening Parties, and spending time with our attendees in a more relaxed setting.

CONvergence will cover the following expenses for each Guest of Honor and that person's optional personal guest:

- Convention weekend pass for that year and all subsequent years
- All travel expenses to and from the convention
- Their entire hotel stay
- All dining (minus alcohol)

A convention staff member will be assigned for each Guest of Honor to act as a personal assistant, help navigate them through our process, and provide support during the convention itself. Guests of Honor are welcome to schedule signing times during the convention to sell merchandise and/or autographs. They may also offer items for sale at the convention's merchandise booth, and artist Guests of Honor will be guaranteed space to display and sell art in the CONvergence Art Show.

Guests of Honor will receive a personalized bio page on the CONvergence website and a feature in the CONvergence programming guide for the year of their CONvergence appearance. Guests of Honor are also welcome to publish press releases regarding their current work and their CONvergence appearance on CONvergence's website.

Elevators, Escalators, and Moving from Floor to Floor

We depend on elevators and escalators throughout the convention, and it is in our best interest to keep them from breaking. Because of this, we have instituted the policies and procedures outlined below.

Informational

There are two banks of elevators and one set of escalators. There is also one set of stairs open to floors with convention spaces.

- The Conference Elevators (two elevators near the escalators) serve convention spaces on floors 1–6.
- The Guest Elevators (five elevators near the front desk,

CONVERGENCE ATTENDEE CONDUCT POLICIES

and in various locations on upper floors) serve guest rooms on all floors, with indirect access to convention spaces on floors 1–5.

- The Escalators (centrally located) serve convention spaces on floors 1–5.
- The open Stairwell (near the escalators and conference elevators) provides access to all floors. Note that other stairwells will provide egress to the ground floor but will not allow access to intermediary floors.

Accessibility

Anyone with limited mobility who needs reliable access to elevators may visit the Accessibility Table to make arrangements.

Escalators and Stairs

Please use either escalators or stairs to access levels 1–5.

Procedure: When boarding the escalators, please leave a gap of 1–2 steps between riders. Cosplayers or attendees with long articles of clothing should take care to avoid becoming entangled in the equipment. When exiting the escalators, step off promptly, and immediately move clear of the escalator exit area. Do not stop to talk or look around. Other passengers may be behind you.

Elevators

When using elevators, please follow the instructions of the elevator operator.

Procedure: If the wait time for an elevator exceeds 15 minutes, please text CONvergence Operations at 651-800-1677 and indicate your floor and elevator bank. An elevator operator will be contacted to get an elevator to you as soon as possible.

The 6th Floor

The 6th floor can only be reached via the Conference Elevators.

Procedure: To reach the 6th floor, please use escalators, stairs, or Guest Elevators to get to the 5th floor (or as high as able), and transfer to the Conference Elevators there.

When departing the 6th floor, please transfer from the Conference Elevators at the 5th floor (or as high as able). Use the escalators, stairs, or hotel tower elevators to complete your journey.

Press Procedures

Please email erac@convergenceevents.org for press inquiries and interview requests at any time of the year.

Press Tours and Interviews

CONvergence welcomes press and media organizations to visit our event and share the CONvergence story with their audiences. We would be happy to schedule time for you to interview a Convergence Events, Inc. Director and/or provide you with a full, customized press tour of everything CONvergence has to offer!

- You or your organization must submit a request for a press tour by the Monday before the convention which includes your name, your media organization, the purpose of your visit, and requested duration.
- You will be escorted by a Convergence Events, Inc. Director throughout your visit to the convention. Most press tours are one hour.
- You must agree to and abide by the CONvergence Photography Policies.
- We would greatly appreciate you sharing a link to your story, album, or video with us upon publication!

Press Passes

Press passes for CONvergence are available in limited quantities to approved media outlets and personalities.

You or your organization must request a press pass by the Monday before the convention. Your request should include:

- Your name
- Links to your media organization or website and social media
- The size of your audience (for example, average website visitors, subscribers, social media followers, or broadcast area)
- The purpose of your visit
- Your requested duration
- Any other information you think we should know

You must have your request approved before you will be issued a press pass.

- You must present your credentials, a copy of which will be kept on record, upon picking up your press pass.
- You must attend a press tour on the day that you pick up your press pass.
- You must agree to and abide by the CONvergence Photography Policies.
- We would greatly appreciate you sharing a link to your story, album, or video with us upon publication!

ACCESSIBILITY & INCLUSION

Hyatt 2, near the Skyway

Accessibility Table Hours

Thursday	Noon–8:00pm
Friday	8:00am–8:00pm
Saturday	8:00am–8:00pm
Sunday	8:00am–4:00pm

Accessibility staff are available to answer your accessibility-related questions, address accessibility requests, and provide resources to make your CONvergence experience great!

For accessibility-related questions and requests during hours the table is not staffed, you may email accessibility@convergence-con.org. Resources and accessibility information are also available on the CONvergence website under Accessibility & Inclusion (convergence-con.org/at-the-con/services/accessibility/).

Sensory Break Room

Hyatt 4 4101

The Sensory Break Room is the ideal place to take a break with minimal distractions. The Sensory Break Room is provided to CONvergence attendees in collaboration with the Autism Society of Minnesota.

Sensory Break Room Hours TBD; if this room is closed, First Advisors also has sensory break capabilities.



INTERPRETER NEED YOU?
TABLE ACCESSIBILITY GO.

The Geek Partnership Society (GPS) is a volunteer-run non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the incredible diversity and energy of the Twin Cities geek community. We don't run conventions, we run the rest of the year! We run public outreach with our partners through Twin Cities Pride (Geeks@Pride), as well as help a bunch of local conventions put on the best show possible by providing expertise, equipment, movie licenses, volunteers, and promotion where we can.

We encourage creativity and interest in science with Project Lighthouse, the Annual Writing Contest and Space Camp scholarship (winners for both announced at CONvergence), and the GPS Arts Initiative. Look for us at your favorite convention. Stop in and say hi—we're probably there!

Clubs

Crafty Geek/Make It Sew, United Geeks of Gaming, Tsuinshi Anime Club, GPS Photography Club, Geeks Read, Geek Physique, GPS Movie Appreciation Posse, the Twin Cities Steampunk club DIODES (Dioscurian Imperial Order of Dreamers, Engineers, and Scientists), and Echo Base Lightsaber Builders.

Stay Connected

There are many ways to stay connected with GPS, both during the convention and all year round! Follow GPS on Facebook and X or check us out on Meetup.

Pirates for Space Camp!



This year, the fundraising by our floating fundraiser will focus on replenishing our Space Camp Scholarship fund! Join us Friday, August 9 for live music, food and drink, and cool raffle baskets as we cruise the St. Croix.

“We are a society celebrating imagination, inspiring creativity, and building our community all through service and education.”

GPS at CONvergence

Our featured partner, the Geek Partnership Society (GPS) has a number of events throughout the convention weekend. We encourage you to check them out.

The GPS Room Party

There will be club meetings, guest hostings, and crafts throughout the weekend, schedule TBA.

Join GPS as we showcase our year-round clubs and programs throughout the weekend. Some of them are even meeting in the party room during the convention weekend! Check Hyatt 5 Room 5115 for the schedule, as there can be late changes and we have things outside of convention party hours as well.

GPS Charity Auction

Bidding

Bidding is online and opens early for attendees the Monday before the convention and runs through 6:00pm Saturday, so you don't even have to be in the auction space to bid. There is a Quick Win option in the auction space Thursday–Saturday close. See something a friend would like? Torture them in the name of charity and send them the link.



Pickup/Sunday Sale

On Sunday, winners pick up their items and browse the Sunday Sale where items without bids can be purchased for the item value, unless marked otherwise.

Donations may be dropped off in the auction space during open hours, although item placement in this year's auction depends on space available. If you have questions about donating, please email gps.auctions@geekpartnership.org.

GPS Charity Auction—Silent Auction

Hyatt 2 Greenway A

Hours of Operation

Online bidding:

- Opens Monday July 1 at Noon
- Closes Saturday July 6 at 6:00pm

Auction Room Hours

Thursday	5:00pm–8:00pm
Friday	10:00am–8:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–7:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–2:00pm (Pick Up and Sunday Sales)

U of M Raptor Center

Hyatt 2 Northstar B

Saturday 9:30am

GPS is once again bringing in the U of M Raptor Center demonstration with live birds of prey, a perennial favorite. This year there will be an hour-long meet and greet booth immediately following the 9:30am panel.

Geek Partnership Society and Our Community

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters C

Saturday 12:30pm

The local nonprofit GPS exists to support our local fan community. Find out how they can connect you to your fandoms and grow partnerships. Learn about their events and activities.

Find us online

Join us on



geekpartnership.org

Like us on



VOLUNTEERS DEPARTMENT

Hyatt 2 Greenway J

CONvergence is a volunteer-run event and couldn't exist without countless hours of work from hundreds of dedicated fans. Some people spend dozens of hours helping at CONvergence (and more throughout the year), others volunteer for as little as an hour. Each and every volunteer is valued. We appreciate any time you have to help! Many essential CONvergence functions are carried out by volunteers who are scheduled during CONvergence weekend. The Volunteers Department matches CONvergence attendees wanting to help out with work that needs doing.

The benefits of volunteering are numerous: meeting new folks, volunteering with friends, supporting and growing the community, and helping to make CONvergence better than ever. We show appreciation for our volunteers in a number of different ways. Every volunteer, from those that give one hour all the way up to our 30+ hour Uber Volunteers, are

needed to make CONvergence successful and are eligible for exclusive Thank You Gifts. A unique volunteer t-shirt, created specifically for volunteers, is awarded at fifteen hours. In addition, earned hours can be redeemed for other gifts. During CONvergence weekend, the Volunteers Department can be found on the Hyatt 2nd floor in the Greenway J room, which is near the escalators. The convenient location makes it easy to connect with us and learn about current volunteer needs. To talk with folks from the Volunteers Department, learn more about year-round volunteer opportunities, or to sign up for at-con shifts, come visit the Volunteers Department during the following times:

Wednesday	3:00pm–10:00pm
Thursday	9:00am–10:00pm
Friday	9:00am–8:00pm
Saturday	9:00am–8:00pm
Sunday	9:00am–5:00pm

VOLUNTEERS DEN

Hyatt 2 Greenway J

Welcome to Volunteers Den Lite, a simplified and COVID-modified version of the Volunteers Den from years past. We will feature simpler meals, including a variety of allergen-friendly and vegan-friendly dishes and snacks. If you're looking for a low-key area to volunteer, join us and slop some soup for a while! While we have limited space for eating, we nonetheless look forward to providing tasty victuals to our CONvergence volunteers.

VolDen Hours

Friday	9:00am–8:00pm
Saturday	9:00am–8:00pm
Sunday	9:00am–1:00pm

Massage

Hyatt 2 Walker

If you have volunteered 2 or more hours a day at the convention, you can receive a 15-minute massage.

Massage Hours

Thursday	4:00pm–8:00pm
Friday	Noon–10:00pm
Saturday	Noon–10:00pm
Sunday	Noon–2:00pm

Hyatt 2 Northwoods

Thursday	3:00pm–Midnight
Friday	8:00am–Midnight
Saturday	8:00am–Midnight
Sunday	8:00am–5:00pm

Some days it seems like the world isn't even worth taking over any more, but Connie Mark II (All Hail!) isn't about to stop! And even with all the planning that involves, Mark II still finds time to oversee ConSuite. In order to serve fans, ConSuite staff and volunteers have graciously been permitted to keep the Meat Babies supplied with snacks and drinks.

ConSuite Snacks

Stop by for ConSuite staples such as: (individually wrapped) candies and chips, fruits, rice with toppings, PBJ, and soda (or pop). We're looking at other food items we can provide, so there will be other items as well, including some breakfast items put out in the morning. Stop by and find out what we have to offer!

Please be aware that ConSuite is not here to provide you with all the food and meals you'll need to survive the convention. Connie Mark II (All Hail!) strongly encourages you to visit the hotel restaurants, outside shops and restaurants, and this year—the Taste of Minnesota, for more substantial offerings.



We beckon aspiring sewists on a voyage from novice to virtuoso: mastering the fundamentals, crafting intricate designs, sculpting patterns, and delving into realms beyond.

www.stitchmasters.org

651-440-6051

Midway, St Paul

NERF HERDERS

Hyatt 2 Skyway A

Who are Nerf Herders?

We help people get to where they want to go at CONvergence. Whether you're on your way to a panel, stopping in ConSuite for a snack, or finding your way to the parties, we'll help you on your way. We will be checking your badge to help keep folks moving safely through the space. Attendees who volunteer with us help everyone enjoy a smooth experience.

What do Nerf Herders do?

The attendee badge lets attendees access CONvergence activities and amenities like MainStage events, free drinks and snacks from ConSuite, and many other privileges that a badge pays for. That's why we check every attendee badge when people are passing into CONvergence areas.

Why do people volunteer for Nerf Herders?

To meet people! Nerf Herders are always saying hello to attendees like you as you're on the go. We like helping you feel positive about your time even if you're waiting for the next event.

To keep things running smoothly. We like solving problems, even when things get a little stressful. We try our best to communicate clearly so you can help us make everybody's experience better.

Where can I find Nerf Herders?

We're always looking for volunteers. No prior experience is necessary for becoming a Nerf Herder, and you earn volunteer hours for the training you need. If you're interested in being a part of the Nerf Herders team, stop by Nerf Central (Hyatt 2 Skyway A).



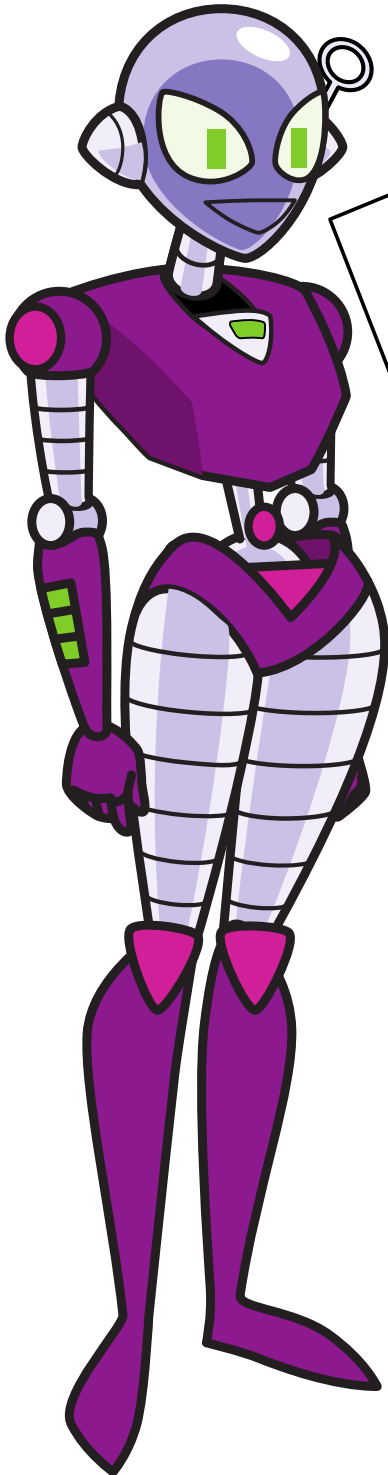
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION (DEI)

Hyatt 2, near the Skyway

Thursday	10:00am–1:00pm, 2:00pm–5:00pm
Friday	10:00am–1:00pm, 2:00pm–5:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–1:00pm, 2:00pm–5:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–1:00pm, 2:00pm–5:00pm

CONvergence is dedicated to making our events welcoming and fun for all, and we need your help! Stop by the DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) table to pick up a book recommendation list and to share your feedback and suggestions. You can also email us at diversity@convergence-con.org. We would love to chat about the projects we are working on and the DEI volunteering opportunities we have that can bolster your skill set while helping ensure that CONvergence continues to grow more inclusive, accommodating, and fun for everyone.

HOW WAS YOUR CONVERGENCE?



We want to know,
and you can tell us by filling out the
CONvergence Experience Survey!

Your feedback helps us make future
conventions better and better.

The survey will be open from
Saturday, July 6 at noon to Sunday,
July 21 at 11:59pm, and may be
found here:

[http://www.convergence-con.org/
about/survey](http://www.convergence-con.org/about/survey)



BOOK SWAP

Hyatt 6 Promenade Alcove

The CONvergence Book Swap is a great opportunity to find something new to read or to share a book you loved with a new person! The book swap is available to CONvergence attendees throughout the convention, starting at 2:00pm Thursday through Noon Sunday, while floor 6 is open.

Take a book, leave a book! It's FREE!

Location

The CONvergence Book Swap is located in Hyatt 6 Promenade Alcove. Take a left out of the elevator and look for our sign.

Types of Books

The CONvergence Book Swap accepts and offers:

- Hardcover books
- Paperback books
- Anime/manga books
- Graphic novels
- Comic books
- Children's books

We especially love receiving children's and young adult books to make sure we have material for people of all ages!

Items such as cookbooks, manuals, and how-to books relating to computer programs and components from 2016 and earlier should not be donated. And please, leave the pornography at home.

Drop Off Books

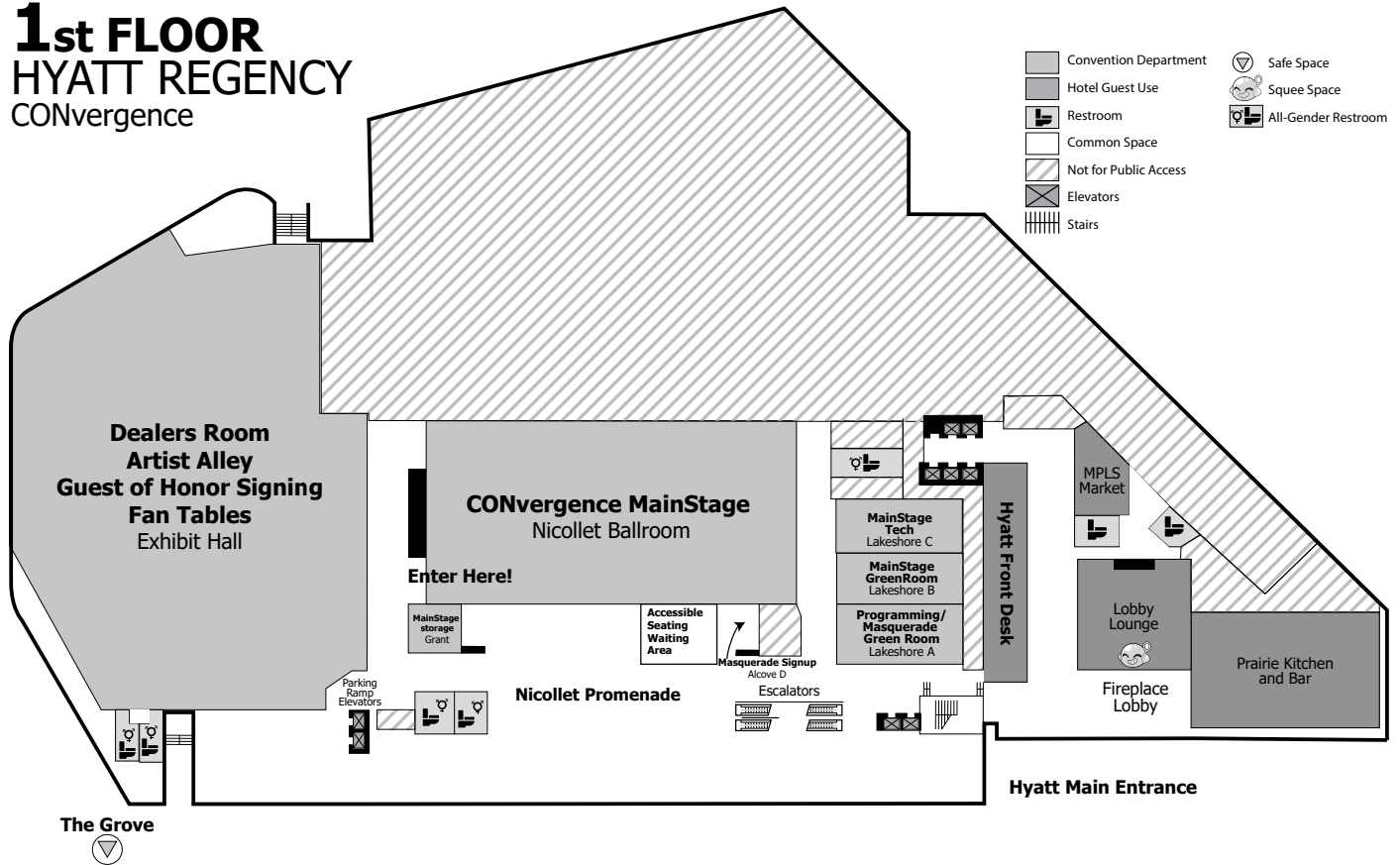
To donate books to the swap, drop them off Thursday between 10:00am–5:00pm or on Sunday, no later than Noon. Dropping off books during these times helps us to keep the Book Swap tidy and organized. If you drop off multiple books, especially in boxes, after 5:00pm Thursday, please email bookswap@convergence.con.org to let us know. You are welcome to take a book, leave a book at any time during the convention.

We love your passion for reading! When CONvergence isn't in session, look throughout your community year-round for Little Free Libraries where you can pick up new books or donate old ones.



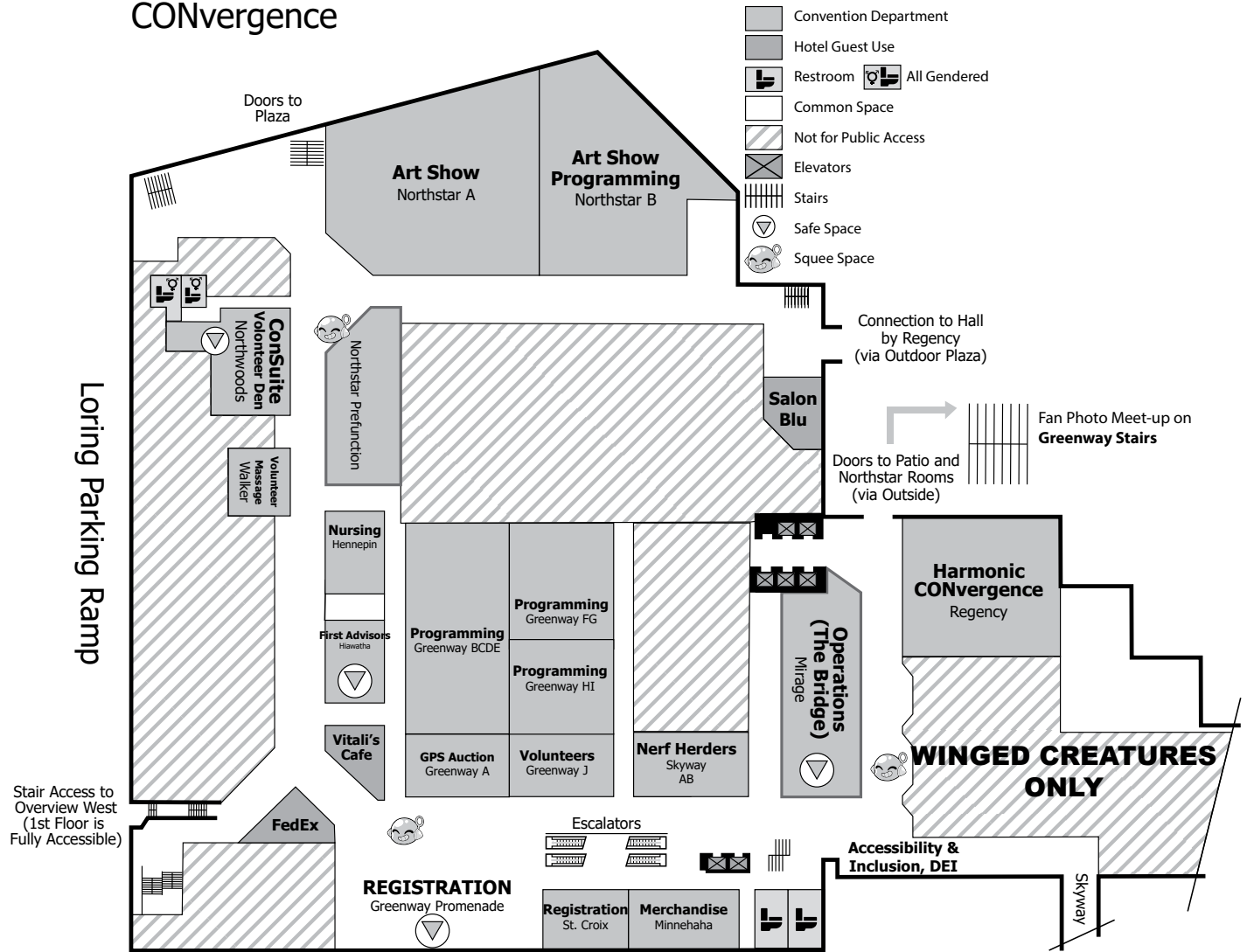
HYATT MAP - 1ST FLOOR

1st FLOOR HYATT REGENCY CONvergence



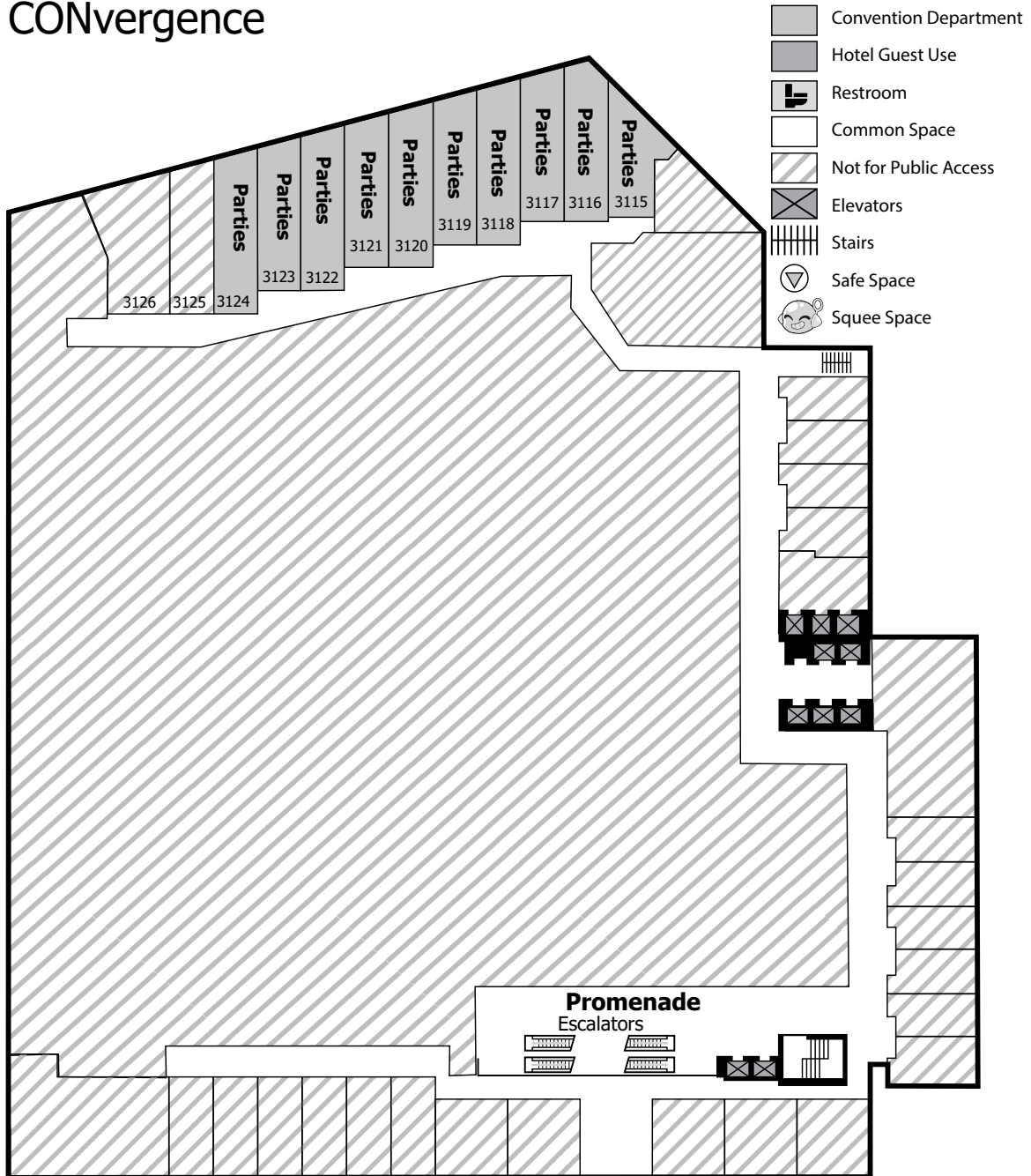
HYATT MAP - 2ND FLOOR

2nd FLOOR HYATT REGENCY CONvergence



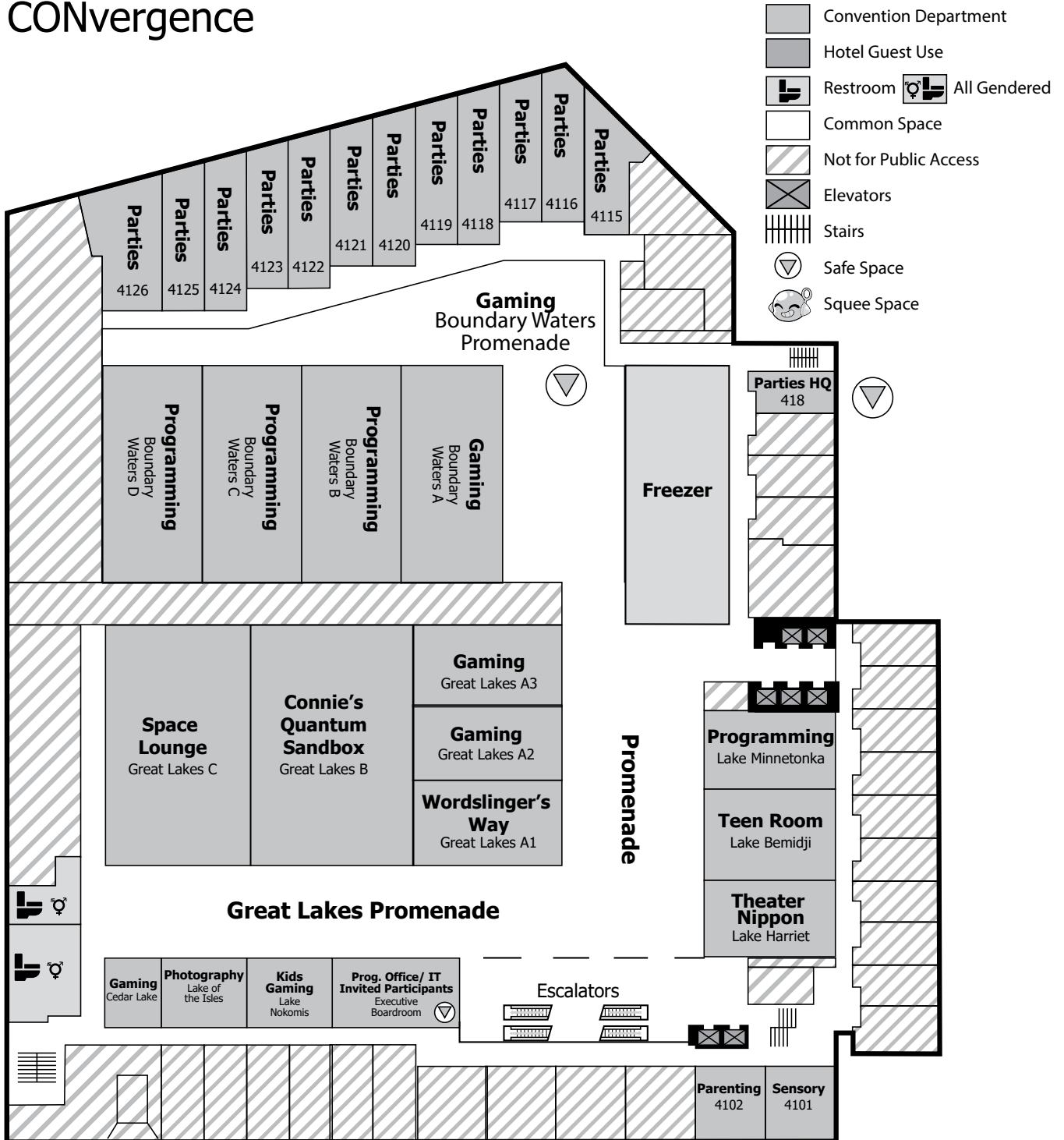
HYATT MAP - 3RD FLOOR

3rd FLOOR HYATT REGENCY CONvergence



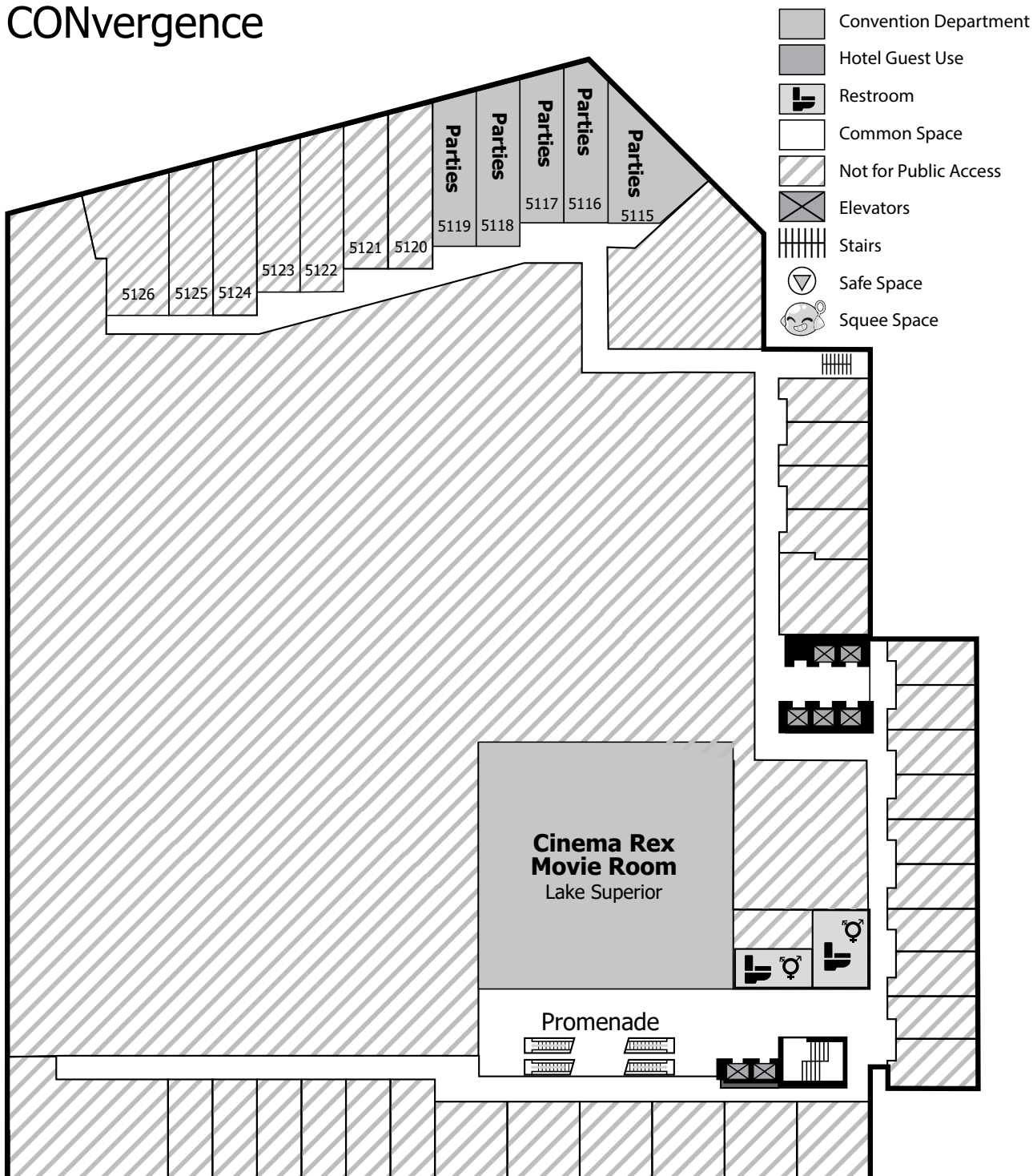
HYATT MAP - 4TH FLOOR

4th FLOOR HYATT REGENCY CONvergence



HYATT MAP - 5TH FLOOR

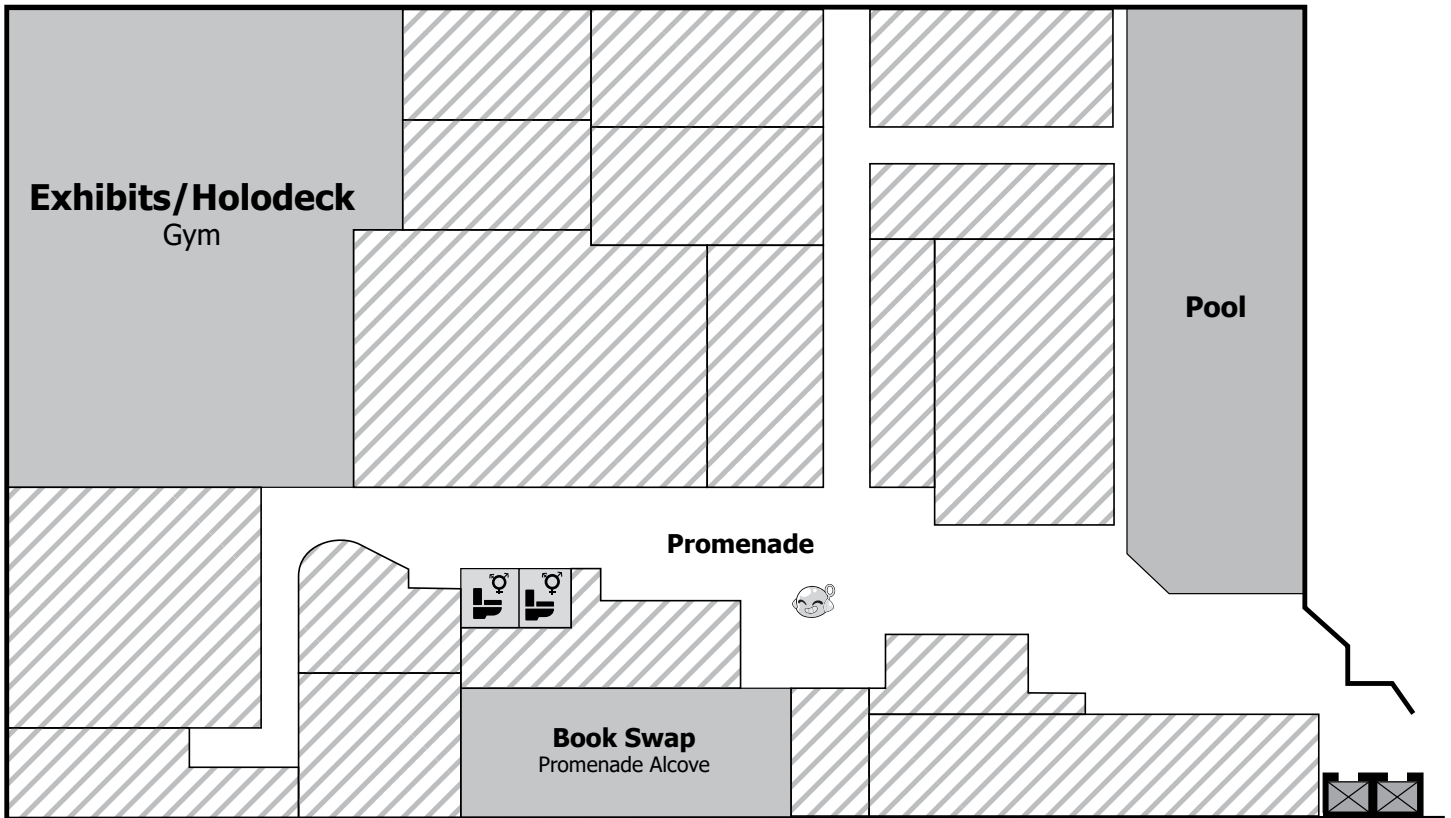
5th FLOOR HYATT REGENCY CONvergence



HYATT MAP - 6TH FLOOR

6th FLOOR HYATT REGENCY CONvergence

- Convention Department
- Hotel Guest Use
- Restroom
- Common Space
- Not for Public Access
- Elevators
- Stairs
- Safe Space
- Squee Space



GUESTS OF HONOR

MISS SHANNAN PAUL

by Tim Wick



It was CONvergence 2023—last year for those of you who are keeping track—and I was walking through the hotel when I spotted Miss Shannan Paul sitting at a table. It made me smile because seeing her always makes me smile. She's just that kind of person.

I sat down and talked with her about... something. I don't remember. Who remembers what you talk about late at night during a convention weekend anyway? What I do remember is how I came away from that conversation thinking I should take any opportunity to sit down and talk with her. Doing so made my weekend better.

The best guests at our convention are the guests you feel like you can hang out with and talk about whatever your geeky heart loves. Shannan is one of those guests. She is one of us.

I'm going to tell you a secret about people who work in comedy. They love comic theory. Nothing makes comedians light up so much as talking about what makes things funny. Sometimes it gets in the way of writing jokes. That's never been a problem for Miss Shannan.

If you've watched her standup on MainStage, you know how funny she is. If you haven't watched her on MainStage, maybe you just don't like fun. And that's OK. If you don't like fun, Shannan is definitely not going to be for you.

If, however, you like fun, find Shannan this weekend because doing so will make your weekend better.

GUESTS OF HONOR



THOM ADCOX-HERNANDEZ

By Cat Beltran

Thom Adcox-Hernandez dared to take a chance on life at the young age of only eighteen. He left his home of Detroit to travel to the vast unknown of Los Angeles to pursue his dream of being an entertainer, a dream that he achieved while exploring the nooks and crannies that one little word could hold.

He began as a dancer, and the analogy of needing to know how to move and adapt to the flow has guided him well throughout his life. Before long, he began to teach others his trade and a chance meeting with an agent led to touring the world. Touring the world led to appearing in music videos. Appearing in music videos led to his face becoming known on screen. Being known on screen led to the world of acting, a trade he spread to both on and off that screen and continues to do so today.

Icons became the name of the game, whether staring in them or acting beside them or becoming one himself. From the world of Falcon Crest to the literal other worldly creation of It Came from Outer Space II to the warped and horrific existence of Popcorn, he made his mark on screens large and small. He held his own alongside everyone from Martin Sheen to Bette Midler, from Steven Seagal to Heather Graham, and more. He took his chances and made his connections and made his mark in yet another world – that of the entertainment industry as a whole – in the process.

Some of his roles never even showed that now familiar face yet may well be his most memorable. He played the indelible Lexington in the hit animated series Gargoyles, a character that, much like Thom himself, was thrown into the unknown and chose to thrive in it. He didn't back down from the challenges he faced, but met them head on, learned from both his successes and failures, and took everything that this new life had to offer, technology and all.

Just like Lexington, Thom learned to embrace technology as well. He was the voice behind such fan favorites as Sammy in W.I.T.C.H., Milo in Sophia the First, Klarion in Young Justice, and even the titular role of Felix in The Twisted Tales of Felix the Cat. Those are just a handful of his appearances atop the literally thousands of television and radio commercials he added to his resume. Basically, as soon as this man opens his mouth, you will feel the draw of a connection to your comfort shows and characters, past, present (especially if your kids are of a certain age, or maybe you, no judging!), and future.

Thom does not just make an impact through the roles he has played and continues to play, but in real life as well. An avid animal rescue advocate and animal rights activist, he continues to use his voice for our fuzzy and feathered friends that can't quite be heard on their own.

With everything he has done already, there's no telling what the future may hold. The only thing we know for certain, is that he will continue to move and to adapt and to hopefully enjoy the great dance that is life.

"We can't hide from the whole world up here. There are kindred spirits out there for us, but we've gotta look for them, and we've gotta give them a chance, or else we'll always be alone." ~

Lexington from Gargoyles

GUESTS OF HONOR



CARLOS HERNANDEZ

By Cat Beltran

Carlos Hernandez has fixed the universe. Okay, so the characters he created did and, if you want to dwell on little details, they kind of broke it first. But it is fixed! Mostly! Any remaining bits and bobs that you may see out of the corners of your eyes are tiny and inconsequential and, really, you do not need to pay that much attention to them.

The characters in question are Sal Vidon and Gabi Reál, a young magician who may be a bit of a troublemaker in the eyes of certain people of authority and the student council president who notices everything including the source of that trouble respectively. The unlikely duo maybe, possibly, begin an adventure that maybe, possibly, spans multiple universal dimensions and risks the structure that holds it all together. The story is full of humor and drama and the struggles of finding yourself in far more than a single world of the unknown.

The Sal and Gabi series, which includes both Sal and Gabi Break the Universe and Sal and Gabi Fix the Universe, also delves into Cuban mythology, adding another layer into the struggle to find yourself physically, mentally, and spiritually. This is not the only time he has dug into this subject matter.

Outside of dramas and poetry, he is also the author of *The Assimilated Cuban's Guide to Quantum Santeria*, a collection of short stories about those who seem to fit in with the expected norm but are still trying to reclaim their self-sovereignty, including the more supernatural aspects that go hand-in-hand with where we came from and speak to the true soul that lies within.

Carlos Hernandez has a Ph.D. in English with an emphasis in Creative Writing and is a Professor of English at the City University of New York (CUNY). He doesn't just create these amazing universes for us to explore, but teaches and guides others to do the same. That tiny spark that can create a wildfire of a story is so very reminiscent of that tiny flickering light of a person's true self that may be hidden behind expectations but can be nurtured to light far more than a single existence.

But, like any good story, there is more to Carlos Hernandez than just the amazing words he puts on a page. He also teaches in the Interactive Technology and Pedagogy Program with a focus on game-based learning in postsecondary education. This has translated to writing and designing a multitude of games including *Mary Miss*, the CRPG *Meriwether*, and *Dear Reader* with Apple Arcade. He is also the cofounder of the CUNY Games Network and the Board Games Designers Group of New York, which creates both board and card games and ranges from the educational to the commercial. Games are an amazingly adaptive way for people to learn strategy and reasoning skills, organizational regimes, and often connect them with their own inner creativity all while granting that little bit of escapism that everyone may crave.

There is, of course, even more still to come from this amazing author and creator. A new roleplaying game of *Negocios Infernals* is in the works with his wife and fellow fantastic creative, C.S.E. Clooney atop other exciting works yet to be announced. After all, the universe is infinite and wild and sometimes there's even more than one of them. The paths diverge and converge and you are going to need that little spark of light from within to hold up to that unknown to guide the way.

GUESTS OF HONOR



KEITH DAVID

By T. Aaron Cisco

Legend is a term that gets thrown around casually, but in the case of the astonishing, inspiring, and prolific artist, Keith David, not only is the term apt, but an understatement. Whether onstage, on screen, or on the mic, it's almost easier to list iconic productions that Keith David HASN'T been a part of. His career spans not only the decades, but mediums and genres as well. Whether the role calls for drama, narration, science-fiction, musicals, voiceover, horror, comedy, television, streaming, big studio blockbusters, indie darlings, or cult classics, the award-winning, master artist elevates every project he touches.

Born into the vibrant culture of New York, Keith's passion for performance art was kindled in the nurturing environs of the city's High School of the Performing Arts, an early crucible where his prodigious talent began to take shape. This was merely a prelude to his transformative years at the prestigious Juilliard School, where he further honed his craft. His ascension continued under the tutelage of Joseph Papp, gracing the stages of the New York Shakespeare Festival, and kicking off a career spanning nearly five decades, and over 300 roles across film, stage, television, and interactive media.

In an industry often captivated by the fleeting and the superficial, Keith David stands as a beacon of enduring artistry and integrity. His performances are infused with a

palpable passion for storytelling, that have and continue to inspire and captivate audiences around the world. If you consumed any media between 1980 and now, there's a 100% chance you've enjoyed Keith's work. A brief rundown of his resume includes unforgettable performances in films like *The Thing* (1982), *Platoon* (1986), *They Live* (1988), *Dead Presidents* (1995), *Armageddon* (1998), *There's Something About Mary* (1998), *Requiem for a Dream* (2000), *Pitch Black* (2000), *Barbershop* (2002), *Crash* (2004), *The Chronicles of Riddick* (2004), *The Princess and The Frog* (2009), *Cloud Atlas* (2012), *The Nice Guys* (2016), *Nope* (2022), television series like *Disney's Gargoyles*, *Community*, *Greenleaf*, *Adventure Time*, *Spawn*, *Hazbin Hotel*, and *Rick and Morty*, serving as narrator for *Ken Burns' Jazz*, *Unforgivable Blackness: The Rise and Fall of Jack Johnson*, BBC documentary *World War II: Behind Closed Doors*, National Geographic's *Inside Mecca*, and History Channel's *Crusades: Crescent and the Cross*. And that's not even mentioning his live theater, video game, or musical performances.

From his early days on the stage to his iconic roles in film and television, Keith David has consistently demonstrated his exceptional talent, dedication, and versatility. Keith David embodies the true essence of a legend—his is a legacy is not and won't be just the countless roles he's superbly enacted but the lasting and profound impact on the fabric of entertainment itself. Keith David is not just a stalwart of the stage and screen but a timeless icon whose unparalleled work will continue to inspire generations to come.

Note: Keith David will only be attending CONvergence on Thursday July 4.

GUESTS OF HONOR



GREG WEISMAN

By Kyle B. Dekker

Greg Weisman is an Emmy Nominated writer, producer, story editor, director, and voice actor. He returns to CONvergence: Everyone's Invited for his seventh time as a Guest of Honor! Convergence is the official location for the 30th Anniversary of the beloved television series Gargoyles - created by Greg and his team for Disney Animation Studios.

Gargoyles debuted on October 24, 1994 and Greg served as the Supervising Producer and Supervising Story Editor for the first 66 episodes of the series. The show captured audiences then and today as a darker, more serious action cartoon from Disney Animation Studios. The show stands out as a uniquely creative concept blending sword and sorcery and science fiction elements alongside stories and characters inspired by mythology and Shakespeare. The show grappled with more modern and serious topics than typically seen in children's television such as gun violence, police corruption, the function of the justice system, and the unity of groups of oppressed people uniting to fight for equality, safety and justice. The show's enduring loyal fandom of kids and adults alike are a testament that this mature approach to storytelling in a kids show still resonates with audiences old and new alike.

Outside of Gargoyles There's a good chance if you've watched an animated series, or read a comic book in the last 30 years Greg has had at least a hand in writing an episode or issue and helping to bring it to screen.

To assure this isn't hyperbole please avail yourself to just some of the writing credits Greg has to his name. In TV his credits include: Men In Black, Disney's Hercules, Big Guy & Rusty the Boy Robot, Buzz Lightyear of Star Command, The Mummy, Kim Possible, The Batman, Alien Racers, Ben Ten, Bionicle: Mask of Light, Legion of Super Heroes, Batman: The Brave and the Bold, RescueBots, Kaijudo, Octonauts, Beware the Batman, Transformers Prime, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Shimmer and Shine, Transformers EarthSpark and Roughnecks: The Starship Troopers Chronicles, among others.

In the world of comics, Greg's stories and credits have graced the pages of Marvel, DC, SLG Publishing, and Dynamite Comics. Including but not limited to; The Spectacular Spider-Men, Gargoyles Quest, Gargoyles: The Dark Ages, Gargoyles, Young Justice, Young Justice: Targets and Captain Atom along with many others. Notably his first issue of Gargoyles for Dynamite is their best selling issue ever.

Not one to limit himself to one writing genre or discipline, Greg has written several novels including his debut novel Rain of Ghosts and its sequel Spirits of Ash and Foam. Other novels include World of Warcraft: Traveler, World of Warcraft: Traveler: The Spiral Path, Magic the Gathering: War of the Spark: Ravnica and Magic the Gathering: War of the Park: Forsaken.

Early in 2024 a Kickstarter to reprint the original Gargoyles comics featuring stories by Greg from Dynamite hit its crowdfunding goal in the first day and reached a funding total of \$925,001 of their \$50,000 goal demonstrating the long time fan adoration for the Gargoyles. CONvergence is thrilled to be the home of the 30th Anniversary of one of the most popular and iconic animated TV series of the 90's.

You can find Greg on Twitter @Greg_Weisman or at AskGregWeisman.com.

GUESTS OF HONOR



BRIGITTE BAKO

By Stephanie Cranford

Brigitte Bako is an actress turned writer turned showrunner, and she has no idea how it happened.

If her life was a movie, the inciting incident might have been the time she set her Columbia dorm room on fire making a cup of soup. Rather than continue school, she moved downtown, began auditioning, and within a year and a half, her career had taken off. Three minutes on screen in *New York Stories*, and she got not only her green card but the reputation of working with Martin Scorsese . . . but at the expense of being bitten by his wife's dog.

Or perhaps the inciting incident was her birth, to parents who survived the Holocaust and decided to live the best life possible after that. They traveled, they loved, they lived, and they instilled in her a particular joie de vivre that has not only inspired her own career, but inspired a short film that she produced. *David and Goliath*, shortlisted for the Academy Awards, is about a German Shepherd saving her father's life while he was in the Underground during World War II.

If all of that sounded cinematic, it is, and so has been her career. As a member of the Groundlings, Brigitte came up through the New York comedy scene, but found herself pigeonholed into the ingenue roles—*Red Shoe Diaries*, *One Good Cop*, *Strange Days*, and others. She worked with some of the most lauded directors in film, including Bigelow and the aforementioned Scorsese, and she moved into television in the late 1990s, including voicing Angela on *Gargoyles*. Eventually finding herself on the set of an HBO comedy (*Mind of the Married Man*) in a very un-funny role, she looked around and said, "I could do so much better." That experience turned into *G-Spot*, her acclaimed multi-season comedy, aired on The Movie Network (now Crave) and Showtime originally and then HBO Canada and HULU. She's also done live theater, including Shakespeare and Ibsen, and she's been up for awards both domestically (that is, in Canada) and abroad.

Recently she has turned her energy towards writing and producing. In her works-in-progress bin are a handful of semi-autobiographical stories, including one about her neighbors, whose 1969 VW fell down her back hill into her bedroom, and one about an alternate version of her childhood. She's also planning to write a memoir, the title of which you'll have to ask her about in person. On the production side of things, she is helping to bring Gael Greene's memoir *Insatiable: Tales from a Life of Delicious Excess*, to the screen.

So how did she move from acting to writing and then producing? Honestly, if I had to guess, it sounds a little bit like spite. One too many times playing a crying wife, the object of cheating, caused her to ask herself if she couldn't do better, and it turned out she could. Of course, spite is only a fuel: she also needed talent, drive, opportunity, and luck, and it's very clear that Brigitte has all of those in spades. She sparkles on screen, in writing, and in interviews, and we're so lucky to have her with us this year.

GUESTS OF HONOR



SUSANNA MALAK

By Chelsea Kane

Susanna Malak is a powerhouse in costumes and prosthetics. A self-declared “big mouth” who likes to have fun, she makes her presence known and in a short time has left an indelible mark on the Star Wars saga. If you’ve been following the series releases on Disney+, you’ve definitely seen her work.

She has portrayed Thodobin, a member of The Lucky Three, in the very first episode of The Mandalorian, as well as one of the Melitto, a species of insect-like humanoids, in the episode “Chapter 21: The Pirate”. She also played Gas Mask in The Book of Boba Fett, but she might be best known for her roles playing one of the infamous Jawas in numerous episodes of both series. And not to be missed is her role as Keteerian in Ashoka.

Despite her impressive resume in the Star Wars franchise, she didn’t come to it as a super fan. She did watch the original trilogy as a kid and found a favorite character in General Leia Organa, but Susanna took an unconventional journey to becoming a fan, by first joining the cast of The Mandalorian. She says what finally drew her in was that no matter a character’s role in Star Wars, they always have a significant part to play in the story that’s being told. Even background

characters like Jawas can change the course of the main characters’ fates.

Her behind-the-scenes anecdotes give us a small window into the process of bringing her characters to life. From the rigors of makeup and prosthetic fittings to enduring the elements filming on location, she approaches each day on set with humility and humor. Portraying a Jawa presented unique challenges as the goggles behind the mask that were meant to help her see were prone to fogging. Despite the challenges, she persevered bringing depth and authenticity to her characters.

Beyond her myriad roles in the Star Wars universe, Susanna demonstrates her versatility as an actress by exploring roles in diverse genres from comedy to horror. Susanna can be found playing multiple characters on the Alien Danger series and appeared in The Prank Panel alongside Johnny Knoxville, in what he called one of his favorite pranks on the show. She also appeared in Mad TV and the horror comedy From Dusk Till Bong. More recently, you may have heard her voice in It Wants Blood 2 as Rhonda, and she will also be in the upcoming The WereTiger Queen voicing the Voodoo Loca.

Through it all she manages to remain refreshingly down-to-earth, her infectious laughter ringing through every interview. Her hope is to stay humble and approachable to fans. If you see her on the street or around the convention, she’d love to say hi.

Whatever your journey to becoming a Susanna super fan, underneath the costumes and makeup, it’s clear this actress is an immense talent with a larger than life personality. Given her rising stature in the industry, her resilient spirit and propensity for seeking diverse roles, there’s no limit to where she’ll go next.

GUESTS OF HONOR



ZEHRA FAZAL

By Jen Anderson

Zehra Fazal's star has been rising steadily over the last 15 years and shows no sign of stopping any time soon. She was born in Illinois in the 1980s. Her youth was marked by a keen interest in animation. She has often credited an early love of cartoons like Darkwing Duck and Gargoyles for her interest in the industry. In fact, when Fazal enrolled in Wellesley College it was with the intention of pursuing an education that might land her a career in animation, but she found her attention being pulled towards the theater department. It was there that she discovered a talent for a different kind of storytelling.

Fazal's early work was heavily influenced by her upbringing and her background, what she termed a "hyphenated identity." She spent several years performing her one-woman show titled "Headscarf and the Angry Bitch" across parts of the US and Canada. The show, which she wrote, allowed her to explore and share her perspective as a Muslim woman in a post-9/11 world. It touched on many sensitive topics like sex, homosexuality, and women's health, all while using humor and song parodies to both connect with and challenge her audiences.

Following her stage work, Fazal began to work as a voice actress. She landed roles in titles such as Uncharted 4, Titanfall 2 and Final Fantasy, as well as Apex Legends. Gamers may also recognize her voice as League of Legends

champion Kayle, the winged protector and counterpart to her twin sister Morgana.

In the last several years she has also had great success voicing characters in video games for both Marvel and DC franchises. In 2022 alone she voiced both Jane Foster/The Mighty Thor in Marvel's Avengers, as well as having a role in Gotham Knights. This year Fazal can be heard as Wonder Woman in Suicide Squad: Kill the Justice League.

Zehra Fazal also has done extensive work in animated shows and movies. She has lent her voice to many series such as She-Ra and the Princesses of Power, Amphibia, Dragon Age: Absolution, Bojack Horseman, and Voltron: Legendary Defender. In addition to these shows, Fazal voiced nearly a dozen characters on the 2019-2022 run of Young Justice. Foremost among these voices is Halo, a character [fellow Guest of Honor and series co-creator] Greg Weisman has said many times that he wrote with Fazal in mind.

Another role that Fazal has become known for playing is Talia al Ghul, a character she voiced in both Batman: Death in the Family and Catwoman: Hunted. She has stated in interviews that this role was especially exciting because Talia is a character who has had many different incarnations across media. Being able to take this role on not once but twice allowed her to put her own twist on this iconic character.

As if all of this was not enough nerd credit for Fazal, in 2023 she dipped her toes into yet another arena, appearing in the second chapter of Critical Role's new series Candela Obscura. Helping to shine a light on the new game system published by Darrington Press, Fazal jumped in with both feet, playing Dr. Jinnah Basar in the 3 episode arc of The Circle of Needle and Thread. Lending her perspective as a Muslim woman once more, this time in a dark fantasy world, it was both new, and yet the same passionate and intelligent voice fans have loved for well over a decade.

From stage, to screen, to the roleplaying table, Zehra Fazal seems to have done it all in a relatively short period of time. Across all of these roles she stays true to herself, and brings her unique voice to every character she lays her hands on. Even were it not for her enormous talent, her excitement and love of animation as well as worlds spanning science fiction and fantasy, make it easy to be drawn in by her. We're more than thrilled to welcome her to CONvergence 2024.

CONVERGENCE MERCHANDISE

Hyatt 2 Minnehaha

Located on the 2nd floor of the Hyatt Regency, just off the Green Way Promenade in the Minnehaha Room—which is behind the escalators near Registration—you will find the official CONvergence merchandise! Come take home Connie, Connie Mark II Professor Max, and the rest of the CONvergence Mascots on a variety of items. We have many new items that include this year's limited-edition enamel pin and patch, our yearly t-shirt, pint glasses, beverage tumbler with straw, car magnets, notebooks, badge holder bags, stickers, and decals.

Hours of Operation:

Wednesday	Noon–9:00pm
Thursday	Noon–9:00pm
Friday	11:00am–7:00pm
Saturday	11:00am–7:00pm
Sunday	9:00am–Noon



THE GROVE

CONvergence is happy to host The Grove—a nice, shaded, breezy area outdoors for attendees to hang out in and partake of their tobacco products and e-cigarettes in a friendly atmosphere with plenty of seating, tables, ashtrays, and bottled water.

The Grove is located in the space between Nicollet Mall and the parking ramp attached to the Hyatt. You can expect tables, chairs, water, and hospitality as always!

The Grove Hours

Thursday Noon–Sunday 8:00pm

Getting to The Grove

To get to The Grove, simply walk outside the front door of the Hyatt Regency and head to your right. Be mindful of cars. There are no stairs. The Grove is totally wheelchair accessible.

Things to Know About The Grove

The Grove is badged space. Only CONvergence attendees may hang out in The Grove.

You may bring your own food to The Grove and consume it there.

You cannot have food delivered directly to The Grove. You can have it delivered to the front of the Hyatt hotel then bring it to The Grove.

For rules about the consumption of THC, please refer to the Alcohol and THC CONvergence Policies.



SPACE LOUNGE

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes C

Deep in the corridors of the spaceship Hyatt Prime, you will stumble across the most transmutational bar known to evolved beings. You are an evolved being. You belong in Splounge, where you will not just exist, but optimize your evolution. Take part in arcade simulations of invaders from space, chill in the sonic harmonizations of only the most intergalactic DJs, record your newly bioluminescent image on our observation deck to post in your hypersocial media, highlight your circuits and tentacles in our blacklight district, and partake of the illuminating menu at the sensory bar. You have come to Space Lounge. You may never want to leave. Enter our chrysalis, become an iridescent goo, and join our consciousness. In addition to the transformative ceremonies listed below, the gravity tunnel opens to the Splounge each night at 9:00pm. Please wear your most drip-transcendental garments to ensure your time with us is completely cosmogonic.

General Hours of Regular Lounge Operation

Thursday	9:00pm–2:00am
Friday	9:00pm–2:00am
Saturday	9:00pm–2:00am

Schedule of Special Events:

Dance Dance Evolutions: Just-One-Hour Rave

Friday 11:00am–Noon

Need to open your third eye before Noon? Tentacles need to go to bed early? Shake your circuit boards at the daytime just-one-hour rave! Join DJ Gunn for a midday Space Lounge dance party! All ages welcome; some songs might have adult language or themes.

Chair Rikering

Friday 1:00pm–2:30pm

No one sits in a chair like Commander William Riker of the Starship Enterprise. Do you have what it takes to master this classic move on a variety of space-age sitting apparatuses? Test your chair rikering skills and see who will be named the winner.

BIPOC Meetup

Friday 3:30pm–5:30pm

Organized by DEI and hosted in Space Lounge, come together for a social event for us, by us. Bring your friends, your business cards, and anything else you might need to connect and collect with your people.

Teens Only

Friday 7:00pm–9:00pm

Teen Room hijacks Splounge for a teens-only (ages 13–20) cooperative event. Run the sensory bar, DJ, or just have the glowy space for yourselves! Space Lounge never serves alcohol, but during this event, no alcohol will be allowed in the room.

Classic Video Game Tournament

Saturday 1:30pm–4:00pm

This is an elimination-style competition on a 2-player glass table-top arcade machine featuring games ranging from the classic to the bizarre. Space is limited! 1:30pm signup, 2:00pm start.

MASQUERADE

The CONvergence Masquerade is one of the premiere events of the convention, showcasing the talents of costumers spanning all skill levels. Awards are given by the judges for both workmanship in the construction of the costumes and performance in the presentation.

In 2024, the Masquerade department offers three events at CONvergence:

- The Masquerade, which takes place on Saturday evening at 6:00pm on the CONvergence MainStage (Hyatt 1 Nicollet Ballroom). The CONvergence Masquerade will also be available for external viewing.
- Costume Wars, which takes place on Friday afternoon at the Holodeck (Hyatt 6 Gym).
- The Hall Costume Contest, which takes place throughout the weekend.

Participate in the Masquerade

All entries in the CONvergence Masquerade must sign up in advance either online or in person at the Masquerade Registration Table. NOTE: In-person registrations will only be taken if there is still room in the Masquerade.

The total number of Masquerade entries for 2024 (including all Runway entries) will be not more than 40. Additionally, all entries are limited to a maximum of four persons and one handler. All entries who sign up online must also check in at the Masquerade Registration Table during the convention. At that time, workmanship judging times for non-Runway entries (and for those Runway entries who wish to have their workmanship judged), as well as technical rehearsal times for non-Runway entries will be assigned.

Technical rehearsal and workmanship judging will be done on Saturday from 8:30am–4:00pm in the Masquerade Green Room (Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A & B), and you will be scheduled into an hour slot during that time. Note that the technical rehearsal and workmanship judging times are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. There is a limit to the number of entries that will be scheduled into a given hour time slot, so if you have time restrictions, be sure to schedule your hour at the Masquerade Registration Table early.

Masquerade Orientation

Orientation is mandatory for all entries and takes place on Saturday at 8:00am in the Masquerade Green Room (Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A & B). There are no exceptions, regardless of how many times you have participated in previous Masquerades. A Runway Entry walk-through will take place immediately after orientation. If you have any difficulty with mobility, whether in your costume or not, please inform us during Orientation.

Additional Details

Please be sure to review additional details about participating in the CONvergence Masquerade whether as a Runway entry or a standard entry at convergence-con.org/at-the-con/events/masquerade/ or at the Masquerade Registration Table.

Masquerade Registration Table

The Masquerade Registration Table is located just outside of the CONvergence MainStage (Hyatt 1 Nicollet Ballroom). The hours for the Masquerade Registration Table are:

Thursday	3:00pm–6:00pm
Friday	10:00am–1:00pm, 2:00pm–6:00pm

Costume Wars

Costume Wars is a timed event in which teams of two are provided with a sack of unknown and somewhat random materials. Teams are then expected to make a wonderful costume in just one hour. Entries will be judged, and the top three will be awarded trophies. Everyone will get accolades and applause!

Each team will consist of two persons, with an optional third, non-costume-making person to act as a model/dressmaker's dummy only. The third person cannot help build the costume, but can and should be dressed in the newly created attire and is expected to show it off. A third person is not required, but if no third person is present, one or both of the two builders will need to wear the creation.

Costume Wars takes place on the Friday of the convention in the Holodeck (Hyatt 6 Gym). See the CONvergence schedule for the start time.

Participate in Costume Wars

To participate in Costume Wars, you must register before 1:00pm on the Friday of the convention at the Masquerade Registration Table. The number of participating teams in Costume Wars is strictly limited to 25, so register early to guarantee your team a spot. If we have interest from more than 25 teams, we will take a waiting list.

Costume Wars Registration at the Masquerade Registration Table

Registration for Costume Wars will take place at the Masquerade Registration Table located just outside of the CONvergence MainStage (Hyatt 1 Nicollet Ballroom). The hours for Costume Wars registration at the Masquerade Registration Table are:

Thursday	3:00pm–6:00pm
Friday	10:00am–1:00pm

MASQUERADE

Additional Details

All teams participating in Costume Wars must check in at the Holodeck (Hyatt 6 Gym) on Friday no later than 15 minutes prior to the competition for a short orientation or your spot in Costume Wars may be given away to a team on the waiting list.

See the Costume Wars web page at convergence-con.org/at-the-con/events/costume-wars/ for additional details about the CONvergence Costume Wars, or stop by the Masquerade Registration Table.

Hall Costume Contest

Hall Costumes are costumes worn just for fun while attending the convention, often for long spans of time. They vary in scope and craftsmanship, from lifelike recreations of characters, to costumes bought off the rack at Halloween, and pretty much everything in between. There is no right or wrong when it comes to hall costumes! This type of costuming is a large part of the CONvergence atmosphere, from the person who just threw together a costume in the last days before con, to the project started right after the last year's convention.

Participate in the Hall Costume Contest

The CONvergence Hall Costume Contest runs Thursday through Saturday. Winners will be selected by a group of volunteer judges late Saturday night and winners are announced on Sunday at Closing Ceremony (winners will also be contacted directly by the Masquerade staff).

Hall Costume Contest Registration

To enter, follow these simple steps:

1. Make your way to the Hall Contest banner on the Nicollet Promenade outside of Mainstage (Hyatt 1 Nicollet Ballroom).
 - Read the Hall Contest Rules and Photo Release Policy (linked from the Hall Costume Contest web page or available at the Masquerade Registration table or the Hall Contest banner outside of Mainstage).
 - Take your picture in front of the Hall contest backdrop.
 - All images and content submitted must be family friendly, and must conform to both the CONvergence Costume/Clothing policy and the laws of the City of Minneapolis, so keep your posts PG-13.
2. Use the Hall Contest entry form to submit your photo.
 - A QR code and a direct link to access the form will be posted by the Hall Contest banner and at the Masquerade Registration Table outside of Mainstage (Hyatt 1 Nicollet Ballroom).
3. Only one entry is allowed per person over the course of the weekend. Make sure you know which costume you want to submit!

- This means that if you are included in a group entry that you may not enter individually as well.

We encourage you to post your photos on social media and share your excitement!

- Please include the hashtag #CVGHall2024 alongside #CVG2024 when posting your photos.
- Social Media posting is not required to enter the contest.

Additional Details

See the Hall Costume Contest web page at convergence-con.org/at-the-con/things-to-do/hall-costume-contest/ for additional details about the CONvergence Hall Costume Contest or stop by the Masquerade Registration table outside of Mainstage.

PARTIES

What's a Room Party?

Room Parties are a small part of what makes CONvergence such a nerdy affair. Room parties are held on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th floors and are open almost around the clock: from relaxed daytime hours to dance parties all night long. Party themes vary and there's guaranteed to be something that'll strike your fancy. Parties are like a convention within a convention, are run by volunteers, and can include snacks, drinks, fun activities, and even programming! Check out each party's open hours. If the door is open, everyone is welcome! (Age restrictions may apply.)

Curious about the room parties' ever-changing and impromptu events? Scan here for a link to the parties' special events guide. Make sure to check back often, as the document will update periodically with new and changing events going on around the parties.



Guided Tour Through the Party Floors!

Still a little shy about how it all works? On Thursday at 8:30pm, embark on a guided tour of the party floors. Meet us by the 3rd floor escalators and our knowledgeable tour guides will show you the ropes of what parties have to offer, share proper party etiquette, and even answer questions if you are feeling inspired to host your own party next year!

Want to Host a Party in 2025 But Not Sure Where to Start?

The Parties Department is here to answer questions! We love hearing your ideas and helping you along the way, so feel free to stop by Parties Headquarters in Hyatt 4 Room 418 and talk to the Parties Department staff.

Party applications go live in November, so keep an eye on the website and social media for updates. You are always welcome to contact us throughout the year at parties@convergence-con.org!

Parties Headquarters (Hyatt 4 Room 418)

Thursday	11:00am–2:00pm, 6:00pm–2:00am
Friday	11:00am–2:00pm, 6:00pm–2:00am
Saturday	11:00am–2:00pm, 6:00pm–2:00am
Sunday	11:00am–2:00pm

Don't Forget to Vote!

Want to show some love to your favorite parties or give your compliments to the chef? Scan here to vote for this year's party awards and drop a note for your favorite party! Make sure to check again after the convention to see who won!



Mobile Parties

Bardic Inspiration

Relax to the sonorous sounds of the lute or revel in a jaunty tavern jig to inspire your CONvergence adventure! Requests for "Wonderwall" will be met with Vicious Mockery.

Rubber Duckie

A bright yellow wagon with give-away rubber duckies, balloon ducks, and assorted duckie-themed items. Find the wagon and find a treasure.

3RD FLOOR

Minicon: Next Gen—Room 3115

mnstf.org/minicon58/

Minicon is the longest running volunteer-run sci-fi convention in the Midwest (on our 58th year). We're a community-driven general fannish convention, branching out to more gaming, anime, and other related themes. Come by our party for a small taste of our community and for some Blog, our official drink.

Thursday	8:00pm–4:00am
Friday	8:00pm–4:00am
Saturday	8:00pm–4:00am

The Midnight Society Presents: Where the Monsters Go—Room 3116

We are a party room dedicated to all things horror. We are a chill space to sit back and watch something scary or discuss the genre. Horror has always been a big part of nerd/geek culture, but it needs its own space. This year, our guiding theme is cryptids, urban legends, and all things folk horror.

Thursday	8:00pm–12:00am
Friday	8:00pm–2:00am
Saturday	8:00pm–2:00am

Anime Fusion—Room 3117

animefusion.net/

Revisit classic anime and discover new favorites with the convention that spans the ages. Whether you're just getting into anime or haven't dusted off those old VHS tapes in years, there's a place for you at Anime Fusion. Stop in, watch some anime, and let us grill you a cheese! We are a chill space to hang out and watch anime, get a snack, and sit down before going back to the parties. Party is appropriate for all ages.

Thursday	7:00pm–Midnight
Friday	7:00pm–Midnight
Saturday	Noon–4:00pm, 7:00pm–Midnight

Koopa Kingdom—Room 3118

facebook.com/profile.php?id=61556571687761

We are a room party for fans of the Mario franchise. We are offering some Mario-themed drinks and also playing Mario Party and Mario Kart throughout the night. The first night is for the Mario villains and the second night is for our heroes!

Thursday	(not open)
Friday	8:00pm–Midnight
Saturday	8:00pm–Midnight

Salty's Dream Casino—Room 3119

discord.gg/6vmbunnUGk

Salty's Returns. Come by to cheer for your faves in Saltybet, check out our new theme hours, and visit the Best Place to Hang Out at the convention! Join our discord for a schedule of our theme hours. And memes.

Thursday	7:00pm–2:00am
Friday	7:00pm–2:00am
Saturday	7:00pm–2:00am

The Continental Hotel (Assassin's Guild)—Room 3120

facebook.com/AGMAAssoc/

The Assassin's Guild invites you to embark on an evening of high-stakes elegance and intrigue at the Continental Hotel. Guests navigate a sophisticated ambiance, where mystery and style converge. Enjoy captivating performances, a relaxing atmosphere, and a cinematic soundtrack, immersing you in a world where danger and sophistication dance in harmony.

Thursday	8:00pm–Midnight
Friday	8:00pm–1:00am
Saturday	8:00pm–1:00am

Nuclear Karaoke—Room 3121

facebook.com/nuclearkaraoke/

THIS IS A KARAOKE ALERT. All convention attendees are instructed to take immediate shelter with NUCLEAR KARAOKE in the event of an entertainment emergency.

Thursday	9:00pm–1:00am
Friday	2:00pm–6:00pm, 9:00pm–1:00am
Saturday	2:00pm–6:00pm, 9:00pm–1:00am

Wyvern's Aerie—Room 3122

Gathering to celebrate the iconic book series, The Knights' Trials, with Book 2, "Attack on Foresight".

Thursday	6:00pm–10:00pm
Friday	6:00pm–10:00pm
Saturday	6:00pm–10:00pm

Twin Cities Con—Room 3123

twincitiescon.com

Twin Cities Con celebrates their upcoming 4th annual event at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Join us for throwback snacks, custom mocktails, pop, and tv show/movie marathons at this family-friendly party room!

Thursday	7:00pm–11:00pm
Friday	7:00pm–1:00am
Saturday	7:00pm–1:00am

God Awful Theater—Room 3124

facebook.com/A-God-Awful-Theater-A-CONvergence-Party-Room-100627345650615/

We have bad movies.

Thursday	7:00pm–12:30am
Friday	7:00pm–12:30am
Saturday	9:00am–Noon, 7:00pm–Midnight

4TH FLOOR**90's Room Party with Free Geek Twin Cities—Room 4115**

freegeektwincities.org/

An all-ages, non-alcoholic lounge room featuring nostalgic, interactive 90's tech donated to Free Geek Twin Cities, as well as furnishings and entertainment from the era. Stop by for some nachos and Tang, as well as classic games, movies on VHS, tube TVs, Windows 98 desktop shenanigans, boomboxes, inflatable furniture, and so much more.

Thursday	8:00pm–12:00am
Friday	8:00pm–12:00am
Saturday	8:00pm–12:00am

Kefka's Barbecue—Room 4116

facebook.com/kefkasbbq

Heidigger here with an important question: "How do you like your wiener topped?" Avoid the crush and race on over to Kefka's Barbecue! You'll be in 7th Heaven with our drink selection. Fill your plate until it collapses, and bring the house down with our music and atmosphere. Check in with your nearest ShinRa rep to secure your #wieneraccess today!

Thursday	8:00pm–Midnight
Friday	8:00pm–2:00am
Saturday	8:00pm–2:00am

Afterlife—Room 4117

facebook.com/jrpartyroom

Come join Omega's finest scum and villainy at Aria's Afterlife Club for drinks, music, and dancing. (Mass Effect Themed Party Room)

Thursday	8:00pm–Midnight
Friday	8:00pm–2:00am
Saturday	8:00pm–2:00am

PARTIES

Purrfectly Good Cat Pawty!—Room 4118

facebook.com/catpawtyMN

A Purrfectly Good Cat Pawty is back and more a-meow-zing than ever! In addition to our usual cat-themed drinks, snacks, games, and cat videos, we'll have a couple of fun themed events (dance pawty, anyone?! No kitten around, it's gonna be clawsome!

Thursday	8:00pm–Midnight (21+)
Friday	3:00pm–5:00pm (all ages), 8:00pm–Midnight (21+)
Saturday	3:00pm–5:00pm (all ages), 8:00pm–Midnight (21+)

The TARDIS Graveyard—Room 4119

facebook.com/groups/thetardisgraveyard/

Join the Doctor's staff for tastings from the Doctor's liquor cabinet and emergency travel snacks. Enjoy cool vibes from across the ages, Doctor Who and space-themed black light coloring, and viewings of the Doctor's lives.

Thursday	8:00pm–Midnight
Friday	4:00pm–2:00am
Saturday	4:00pm–2:00am

Magic School Party Room—Room 4121

facebook.com/MagicSchoolPartyRoom

Join us for an exploration of the natural world and revel in the nostalgia of our favorite School Bus. Free family-friendly experiments during the day, and scientific discussions over refreshments in the evening. Just don't be afraid to take chances, make mistakes, and get messy in this party room.

Thursday	11:00am–6:00pm, 9:00pm–11:00pm
Friday	11:00am–6:00pm, 9:00pm–11:00pm
Saturday	11:00am–6:00pm

Outreach From A Vague, Yet Menacing Government Agency—Room 4122

Hello citizens! We've managed to secure an allotment of taxpayer dollars and we are back again with the same fun and excitement from last year! Including but not limited to: liquids that are definitely drinks (not medical experiments), snacks, karaoke, dancing(?), and more!

Thursday	8:00pm–Midnight
Friday	7:00pm–Midnight
Saturday	7:00pm–Midnight

The Royal Manticoran Navy Ward Room—Room 4123

facebook.com/groups/2ndFleet

We're Back!! Come celebrate the con in style with The Royal Manticoran Navy. Food, drinks, and missile pod rolls twice an hour. Maybe a game or two in the afternoon (watch for our flyers)! The only place where joining the navy is this much fun. Plenty of celery for everyone. Warning: watch out for tree cats.

Thursday	8:00pm–Midnight
Friday	1:00pm–3:30pm, 8:00pm–Midnight
Saturday	8:00pm–Midnight

A.C. Villager Retreat—Room 4124

facebook.com/events/s/ac-villagerretreat/1078097516626771/

Fly in for an Animal Crossing getaway. Relax with K.K. Slider tunes and explore the island retreat with cute villagers, mini games, and crafts. Bring your ACNH game and show off your island, too!

Thursday	10:00am–2:00pm, 9:00pm–Midnight
Friday	10:00am–1:00pm, 9:00pm–1:00am
Saturday	10:00am–1:00pm, 9:00pm–2:00am

Archaide—Room 4125

Journey through the OASIS to the retro-futuristic arcade inspired by the novel Ready Player One, and evocative of the quintessential arcades of the 1980's. Join us in playing some of your favorite old-school games. We'll be offering daytime hours and pizza rolls midday until we run out!

Thursday	12:00pm–4:00pm
Friday	10:00am–4:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–4:00pm

Aech's Basement—Room 4126

Your invitation to Aech's elite Gunter hangout space. Drop by to chill, catch a flick, read vintage editions of Starlog, and chat about basically anything. Open daytime hours offering Bloody Marys, breakfast cereals, coffee, and screening films considered canon to a Gunter. This is a room inspired by the novel Ready Player One. Brought to you by the makers of Vault 131.

Thursday	10:00am–4:00pm
Friday	10:00am–4:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–4:00pm

5TH FLOOR**GPS Party Room—Room 5115**

geekpartnership.org/about-gps/

Come visit us at the end of the hall to enjoy sitting and hanging out, conversing with other geeks, watching some CVG-TV, or nomming on some popcorn in our family-friendly, alcohol-free room while learning more about what GPS is, who we are, and what we do.

Thursday	8:00pm–Midnight
Friday	7:00pm–Midnight
Saturday	7:00pm–Midnight

The Jasmine Dragon—Room 5116

“The best tea tastes delicious whether it comes in a porcelain pot or a tin cup.” –Uncle Iroh. A fan room for the Avatar cartoon series, we’ll provide a laid back atmosphere for watching the series, participating in chill activities, and of course, serving the finest tea (and coffee) in the four nations. Open to all ages.

Thursday	8:00am–1:00pm
Friday	8:00am–1:00pm
Saturday	8:00am–1:00pm
Sunday	8:00am–1:00pm

Costumer’s Conclave—Room 5117

A quiet place where you can sip tea, crunch cookies, and TALK COSTUME! Mannequins will display costumes by local costumers. There will be movie posters and reference books to aid in discussions. Here’s a chance to collar an experienced costumer and ask, “How Did You Do That?” Costume-related programming will be presented in the party room on Thursday and Friday afternoons. Look for topics and times on flyers around the convention.

Thursday	8:00pm–Midnight
Friday	2:00pm–4:00pm, 8:00pm–Midnight
Saturday	2:00pm–4:00pm, 10:00pm–1:00am

The Lodge Room—Room 5118

facebook.com/groups/128749921302140

Get badge ribbons, bourbon, and the privilege of membership, but you must earn it! Solve puzzles and complete quests to advance in rank until you are bestowed with the pass to the inner chamber.

Thursday	7:00pm–1:00am
Friday	7:00pm–1:00am
Saturday	7:00pm–1:00am

Sentinel Sleepover—Room 5119

We’re launching the second book of the Second Sentinels book series: “Names in Their Blood”. Join us for a watchlist of some of the media that inspired Lee Brontide to write these books, as well as some traditional sleepover activities. We’ll have soup and cake!

Thursday	7:00pm–11:00pm
Friday	7:00pm–Midnight
Saturday	7:00pm–Midnight



Hyatt 4 Great Lakes B

Thursday	11:00am–10:00pm
Friday	9:30am–10:00pm
Saturday	9:30am–10:00pm
Sunday	9:30am–3:30pm

Welcome to the Sandbox

Connie's Quantum Sandbox is where art and science come together in the most enjoyable ways. We have a variety of hands-on activities that may be messy, might make your hands dirty, but are definitely fun. Come and exercise your creative muscles and keep an eye out for any quantum cats!

Most activities are suitable for all ages, children and adults alike. Some activities do have limitations, so please check the schedule for the recommended age. Some After-Dark activities require an ID.

Children under 13 years must be accompanied by an adult.

All activities can be found on the CONvergence Schedule.

Cosplay Repair Station

Thursday	11:00am–10:00pm
Friday	9:30am–10:00pm
Saturday	9:30am–10:00pm
Sunday	9:30am–3:30pm

The costume repair station is returning and will be inside Connie's Quantum Sandbox.

We will have basic tools for small costume emergencies, sewing needles, thread, scissors, hot glue gun, and so on. These items can be used by CONvergence attendees while at the station. We will have cosplay repair specialist volunteers staffing the station as often as possible.

Sandbox Lab

Thursday	11:00am–10:00pm
Friday	9:30am–10:00pm
Saturday	9:30am–10:00pm
Sunday	9:30am–3:30pm

Connie's Quantum Sandbox is thrilled to announce that we have drop-in activities! The Sandbox Lab will be open daily for creative fun! We will have a quiet play area with some toys, and we will also have mini projects available, which can be easily done with just the instructions provided. You can even bring your knitting or other quiet project to work on. The Sandbox Lab is open to all ages, but children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

Please Note:

All activities can be found on the CONvergence Schedule.

Lines may get long, so be prepared to wait patiently. In

the event that Connie's Quantum Sandbox reaches activity capacity, everyone will be alerted as soon as possible so you can choose to go to another panel if you wish. If you need accessibility accommodations, please inform the Nerf Herder or Sandbox staff member at the head of the line.

Activities in the Quantum Sandbox are for a range of ages. Please check the CONvergence Schedule for the recommended age of a given activity you are interested in attending.

Connie's Quantum Sandbox is a multi-age venue, but does not provide childcare and does not allow unattended children **under the age of 13**. Children under the age of 13 will not be admitted unless accompanied by a parent, guardian, or designated adult.

After-Dark activities often require parental supervision or a photo ID to attend. For activities that require adult supervision, no one under 18 is admitted without parental supervision. For other After-Dark activities, no admittance is allowed without proper photo ID for persons 18 years or older. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

It's important to respect others and their property. Most of our supplies come from donations, and many of our tools are borrowed from convention staff. We do not tolerate theft or vandalism in Connie's Quantum Sandbox.

Allergy Warning

Some of the events in the Sandbox (namely those that involve costuming and face- or body-painting) may involve the use of latex. Please know your own sensitivity to latex and be prepared to take action should you come in contact with latex while in Connie's Quantum Sandbox. Sandbox staff will make every effort to keep the latex isolated while it is not in use, but we encourage attendees to be safe and as cautious as necessary. If you have questions on latex use, feel free to ask one of the Sandbox staff members.

Connie's Quantum Sandbox sometimes features activities that have food products as part of the activity. While these ingredients may technically be food, once they are in Sandbox inventory, they are no longer safe for eating, as they are used as craft or chemistry supplies. **DO NOT** eat any food included with any Sandbox activity! Some of these food products may contain peanuts or other tree nut products, gluten, lactose, or other ingredients that can trigger contact food allergies. As with all Sandbox supplies, we make every effort to keep food inventory isolated while it is not in use, but we encourage attendees to be safe and as cautious as necessary. If you have questions about these activities, or the ingredients we use, feel free to ask one of the Sandbox staff members.

THURSDAY

11:00am–Noon

Paper Dolls

Remember making paper dolls? We have some wonderfully geeky paper dolls that you can come make with us! All ages
Alicia Beck, Anne Rementer, Christina Gregerson

11:00am–10:00pm

Cosplay Repair Station

A costume repair station inside Connie's Quantum Sandbox. We will have basic tools for small costume emergencies to be used while at the station. For extra assistance, there will be costume repairers on duty.

11:00am–10:00pm

Sandbox Lab

The Sandbox Lab is open until 10:00pm for all your creative delights. We have a variety of projects available, or you can bring your own quiet activity.

2:00pm–3:00pm

Good Clean Fun-Sculpting

Get set for some good clean fun while sculpting your very own gnome! We will use soap dough, which is pliable until left overnight, when it hardens into a usable bar of soap. These adorable gnomes are taught by Viking potter Renee Petersen. All ages. *Renee Petersen*

5:00pm–6:00pm

For the Fun of Counting: Seed Bead Bracelets

Learn how to bead with the peyote stitch to make colorful designs that move and drape beautifully. You'll make a bracelet to take home. Ages 8+. *Amy Mills*

8:30pm–10:00pm

Cardboard City

Join forces to create and build towers and vehicles to turn the Sandbox into a mini cardboard city. We will use this city for kids and attendees to cosplay, and unleash their inner Godzilla on Saturday morning. All ages, under 8 may need assistance.

FRIDAY

9:30am–10:00pm

Cosplay Repair Station

A costume repair station inside Connie's Quantum Sandbox. We will have basic tools for small costume emergencies to be used while at the station. For extra assistance, there will be costume repairers on duty.

9:30am–10:00pm

Sandbox Lab

The Sandbox Lab is open until 10:00pm for all your creative delights. We have a variety of projects available, or you can bring your own quiet activity.

11:00am–Noon

Monster Smash

Get your kids, get your costumes on, and come cosplay in our miniature cardboard city. Hulk smash your enemies and save the day! Parents, enjoy the commentary by Molly Glover, Nick Glover, and Matthew Kessen. Ages 12 and under. *Angie Anderson, Molly Glover, Nick Glover*

2:00pm–3:30pm

Fun at Home with Microbiology

Explore the living, microbial world around you. Make your own petri dish and grow microbes from the environment around you. All ages. *Amy Singleton, T'Yanna Singleton*

5:00pm–6:00pm

T-Shirt Modification

We have an assortment of CONvergence t-shirts from past years for you to turn into a new style of top, or into a bag or a scarf. All ages, under 10 may need assistance. *Katie Nave*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Nanoblocks

How can nanotechnology help clean up pollution? In this activity we will use simple supplies like Velcro and pompoms to learn about how nanotechnology can be useful in cleaning up pollution in air and water. All ages. *Miriam Krause, Safia Jilani*

10:00pm–11:00pm

Sandbox After Dark: Adult Coloring and Paper Crafts

Adults! Come into the Sandbox for some low-key coloring and paper crafts. There will be multiple adult themed projects for you to pick from. We will be checking IDs at the door. Ages 18+. *Sam Drewe*

SATURDAY

9:30am–10:00pm

Cosplay Repair Station

A costume repair station inside Connie's Quantum Sandbox. We will have basic tools for small costume emergencies to be used while at the Station. For extra assistance, there will be costume repairers on duty.

9:30am–10:00pm

Sandbox Lab

The Sandbox Lab is open until 10:00pm for all your creative delights. We have a variety of projects available, or you can bring your own quiet activity.

11:00am–Noon

Folder Fans

It's hot out there! Come make a paper handheld fan to help you keep your cool. All ages, under 6 may need assistance. *Caprice Stark*

2:00pm–4:00pm

Origami

New to origami? Come to the Sandbox and learn how to make some cute things out of paper! All ages, under 8 may need assistance. *Susie Kline, John Kline*



5:00pm–6:00pm Cosplay for All: Jedi and Jawa Robes

Learn how to make a Jedi or Jawa robe out of a thrifted sheet or tablecloth. No sewing needed! We're also excited to have a real, live Jawa join us! All ages. *Renee Petersen, Susanna Malak*

8:30pm–9:30pm Living Room Electron Microscopy

Ever wonder how a transmission electron microscope works? Now you can find out while making your own TEM-style images to take home! Ages 8+. *Miriam Krause, Safia Jilani*

SUNDAY

9:30am–3:30pm Cosplay Repair Station

A costume repair station inside Connie's Quantum Sandbox. We will have basic tools for small costume emergencies to be used while at the Station. For extra assistance, there will be costume repairers on duty.

9:30am–3:30pm Sandbox Lab

The Sandbox Lab is open until 3:30pm for all your creative delights. We have a variety of projects available, or you can bring your own quiet activity.

11:00am–Noon Crayon's Corner

KIDS!! Bring your parents to this Exciting Story and Activity Hour. Crayon (Caryn Lengkeek) leads this wonderful CONvergence staple. Ages 12 and under. *Caryn Lengkeek*

12:30pm–2:30pm Spinning Art Yarn

Let's have a Spin-In! Bring your own drop spindle or use one of ours. We'll show some carding, and sit and spin awhile together. You can drop in or out any time. Bring any fiber project in your bag to work on too! All ages, under 8 may need assistance. *Ashley D Haapapuro*

STAY CONNECTED

There are many ways to stay connected with CONvergence, both during the convention and all year round! Follow CONvergence on Facebook, Instagram, and more.

Official Hashtag

The official hashtag for CONvergence 2024 is: **#CVG2024**

Use #CVG2024 for all your CONvergence 2024 tweets, Instagram photos, Facebook updates, Tumblr posts, and more so other CONvergence attendees can find your convention coverage!

Facebook

CONvergence Facebook Page: Get official news updates and CONvergence-related content all year round!

facebook.com/CONvergenceConMN

CONvergence Discussion Group: Talk about CONvergence with our con community!

facebook.com/groups/CONvergenceCon

CONvergence Connections Group: Find CONvergence hotel roommates, car pools, babysitters, weekend passes for sale, and more!

facebook.com/groups/CONvergenceConnections

Instagram

@ConvergenceCon: Get official announcements and CONvergence-related content all year round, and photos from CONvergence during the Con!

X (f.k.a. Twitter)

@CONvergenceCon: Get official news updates and CONvergence-related content all year round.

@CONvergenceLive: Live tweets of all the stuff going on during the convention from CONvergence social media staff.

@CVG_Reminders: Helpful reminders tweeted during the convention so you can make the most of your weekend.

Tumblr

CONvergenceCon.tumblr.com

Get official news updates and CONvergence-related content all year round and reblogs of the CONvergence hashtag during the con.

TikTok

@convergence_con

Videos around the con from CONvergence social media staff.

Bluesky

@convergencecon.bsky.social

News updates and CONvergence-related content all year round.

YouTube

CVG-TV Channel: Videos produced for CONvergence & CVG-TV!

youtube.com/CVGTelevision

CONvergenceTube Channel: Videos of panels and events at CONvergence.

youtube.com/CONvergenceTube

Masquerade Channel: Videos of individual Masquerade entries!

youtube.com/CVGmasquerade

Discord

The official CONvergence Discord. Connect and talk with our community!

cvgcon.org/discord

Email

Social media not your thing? Simply head to CONvergence-con.org and sign up for email updates of the latest CONvergence news.

CVG-TV

CVG-TV is CONvergence's video production studio and pop-up TV network, bringing CONvergence shows and events, exclusive CONvergence content, and more directly to your screen! During the convention, CVG-TV is broadcast in the Hyatt and streamed online so you can keep up with CONvergence while taking a break from the con. CVG-TV is also available on-demand throughout the year.

Watching CVG-TV

CVG-TV is broadcast Thursday afternoon through Sunday evening. Find the full CVG-TV broadcast schedule, links to stream CVG-TV online, and the channel to watch CVG-TV in your hotel room at:

cvgcon.org/cvgtv

After the convention, catch CVG-TV content on-demand on YouTube: youtube.com/CVGTelevision

CINEMA REX

Hyatt 5 Lake Superior

Cinema Rex is thrilled to be back in 2024, and this year everyone is invited to their favorite comfy couch. Film is truly made perfect by the unique experiences reflected by the diversity of voices telling their stories. We're featuring movies from around the world, reflecting different languages and cultures, different eras, different abilities, different races, different genders, different religions, and different sexual orientations, but each one is beloved. Most of the films on our list this year came to us by attendee recommendation, through our comment cards, via email, or by participating in a social media discussion, and we would encourage you to join the discussion this year! Swing by our room to fill out a comment card to let us know more of what you'd like to see in the future. While we've attempted to include some specific and applicable content warnings, guests should use their discretion as many of the films contain content of a sensitive nature.

We're excited to watch movies across languages and genres in 2024, including a Keith David Double Feature on Thursday night (that'd be NOPE and They Live). We've got another double feature later in the weekend with stellar performances from John Boyega on Saturday night. Fans of Jordan Peele can enjoy his directorial work and his voice acting work, and actress Teyonah Parris makes a couple of appearances, too. We've also got *Bride of Frankenstein* and a spiritual sequel, of sorts, with *Gods and Monsters*. Maybe we overdid the double features? Or maybe we're just getting started!

We're glad to welcome back some of your CONvergence favorites, including Reverend Matt on Friday afternoon with a performance on Guillermo del Toro's films, including *The Shape of Water* and many more, and the return of the live riff on Saturday afternoon with Nick Glover, Duck Washington, and Molly Glover where they'll be watching *The Last Dragon* and joking along.

We'll be serving freshly popped popcorn all weekend, along with movie theater candy favorites and a variety of delish sodas. We've got a room full of comfy couches, throw pillows, and volunteers who just plain old love watching movies, so please make yourself at home—just don't get too comfortable! We cannot allow attendees to sleep on our couches. We know, it can be tempting. Please hold conversations out in the lobby or in between films. And if you'd like subtitles for any movie that doesn't already include them, just ask at the concession stand! We look forward to welcoming you.

THURSDAY

3:30pm

Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings

PG-13—2021—132 min

Dir. Destin Daniel Cretton w/ Simu Liu, Awkwafina, Tony Leung

Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings has it all: Michelle Yeoh, magic jewelry, a bus getting cut in half, Michelle Yeoh, romance, martial arts, Michelle Yeoh. This installment to the MCU has some of the strongest fight choreography of any of the films. Stan Lee's original plan for this IP was to feature Brandon Lee in a film or television series in the 90's, but Simu Liu's depiction helped jumpstart Marvel's long-anticipated Phase 4.

6:00pm

Hidden Figures

PG—2016—127 min

Dir. Theodore Melfi w/ Taraji P. Henson, Octavia Spencer, Janelle Monáe

First we went to space. Then we went to the moon. Next we're going to Mars. But what does all this have in common with diversity? It's that our country's entire space program would not have been possible without the female African-American mathematicians depicted in this biopic about NASA in the 1960's. Elon needs to thank a sister for SpaceX and then log off.

8:30pm

A Quiet Place

R—2018—90 min

Dir. John Krasinski w/ Emily Blunt, John Krasinski, Millicent Simmons

In a unique take on a sci-fi horror movie, a family must live in silence and communicate only in ASL to avoid being detected by noise-sensitive aliens. Director Krasinski had the good sense to cast a deaf actress in the role of his deaf daughter, Regan, so that he could learn from her. In fact, it was Millicent that convinced him to use ASL instead of dialogue, citing "her gestures were much more cinematic than words could have ever been."

10:00pm

They Live

R—1988—94 min

Dir. John Carpenter w/ Roddy Piper, Keith David, Meg Foster

Featuring Guest of Honor Keith David and notable professional wrestler "Rowdy" Roddy Piper, *They Live* highlights economic inequity and the violence of an authoritarian government in the Reagan era with all the subtlety of a sledgehammer. Director John Carpenter made a point of hiring homeless people into the production, paying them fair wages and filming in actual encampments, as a way of highlighting the conditions his protagonist was living in and grounding the film in reality.



Midnight

NOPE

R—2022—130 min

Dir. Jordan Peele w/ Daniel Kaluuya, Keke Palmer, Steven Yeun

It's a Keith David Double Feature! Jordan Peele's sixth feature film asks whether we should try to tame wild beasts, along with giving a nod to the origins of early motion pictures—something we love here in Cinema Rex. Part creature feature, part sci-fi thriller, this flick has a bit of Peele's signature comedy mixed in to boot. NOPE is strikingly beautiful, scary, and somehow even poignant.

FRIDAY

10:00am

Lilo & Stitch

PG—2002—85 min

Dirs. Chris Sanders, Dean DeBlois w/ Daveigh Chase, Tia Carrere, Chris Sanders

Hands down the best movie about an animated alien turned theme park ride, Lilo & Stitch is set in the tropical Hawaiian islands. A neurodivergent orphaned girl adopts a "dog" to be her friend without knowing that it's an escaped genetic experiment hellbent on chaos and destruction. This film shows us that with friends and family we all can be a little less likely to destroy the planet.

11:30am

Nimona

PG—2023—101 min

Dirs. Nick Bruno, Troy Quane w/ Chloë Grace Moretz, Riz Ahmed, Eugene Lee Yang

What? An LGBTQ+ animated family film? In this day and age? You bet your shape-shifting butt there is. As Sir Ballister's self-professed sidekick, Nimona kicks you in the face with knowing who she is and is not afraid to show it. Will the outcasts get the citizens to accept them as they are or will the conservative Director succeed in slaying the supposed Great Black Monster that everyone has portrayed Nimona to be? Will Ballister make amends with his love Sir Ambrosius? Will Rex stop asking questions in the bios (probably not)? Come watch this action packed flick and find out.

1:00pm

Life of Pi

PG—2012—127 min

Dir. Ang Lee w/ Suraj Sharma, Irrfan Khan, Gautam Belur

Nominated for 11 Academy Awards, this fantasy tale follows the adventures of Pi, a polytheistic boy whose family's boat capsizes on its way to Canada with the remains of their zoo. As the only survivors, Pi and a Bengal tiger he names Richard Parker must learn to live together to survive. While the story itself is compelling, the true beauty is in the breathtaking visual effects. Content Warning: animals die onscreen.

3:00pm

To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything! Julie Newmar

PG-13—1995—109 min

Dir. Beeban Kidrom w/ Wesley Snipes, Patrick Swayze, John Leguizamo

When state legislatures across the country are taking principled stands against something as innocuous as drag queens reading storybooks to children, a movie like To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything! Julie Newmar suddenly becomes political again 30 years after it was made. While Snipes, Swayze, and Leguizamo themselves were not notable drag queens, and indeed were all cisgender, heterosexual men, their depictions alongside a dozen established drag performers remind us that it's in the public's interest that the historic art of drag is here to stay. Swayze improvised his 30-minute monologue to Steven Spielberg, a contender to direct, based on his own experiences as a child bullied for being in ballet. Content Warning: there is onscreen domestic violence against a woman; antiquated views and representations of gender and sexuality.

5:00pm

Reverend Matt's Monster Science

NR—60 min

Matthew Kessen

Reverend Matt returns to Cinema Rex with his signature brand of educational entertainment to discuss The Shape of Water and other films by acclaimed Mexican filmmaker Guillermo del Toro.

6:00pm

The Shape of Water

R—2017—123 min

Dir. Guillermo del Toro w/ Sally Hawkins, Octavia Spencer, Michael Shannon

In the height of the Cold War at a top secret research facility, a sea monster lives in a tank and makes us all sort of wonder if we would also fall in love with those deep, dreamy eyes. Master storyteller Guillermo del Toro's Oscar nominated film follows a janitor in the throes of perhaps one of the most uniquely human experiences of loneliness and teaches us about love, captivity, and transcending the great distance of the unspoken. And we're all in agreement, right? We all would fall in love with him. Content Warning: a character is shown using pills throughout the film; an animal dies onscreen; sexual assault is shown onscreen.

CINEMA REX

8:00pm

Baahubali 2: The Conclusion

NR—2017—167 min

Dir. S. S. Rajamouli w/ Prabhas, Rana Daggubati, Anushka Shetty

Just as the name implies, this is the Tollywood-produced conclusion to the blockbuster film shown last year in Cinema Rex. A continuation of the saga of Mahendra Baahubali as he avenges his father's murder and reclaims his kingdom. Find a comfortable seat: now with even more action and dancing!

11:00pm

Prey

R—2022—100 min

Dir. Dan Trachtenberg w/ Amber Midthunder, Dakota Beavers, Dane DiLiegro

Shot in both English and Comanche, Prey is the prequel to the Predator films that we didn't know we wanted but we definitely needed. The visuals, music, and pacing of the film give an almost artistic feel to what could otherwise be marketed as a popcorn flick, and the underdog story of a heroine taking on a hunter's mantle to face an unwelcome intruder is made all the more gratifying when viewed through the pre-colonial lens of an Indigenous Tribe. Content Warning: animals die onscreen.

1:00am

Train to Busan

NR—2016—118 min

Dir. Yeon Sang-ho w/ Gong Yoo, Jung Yu-mi, Ma Dong-seok

So much more than a zombie movie, Train to Busan explores the notion of selfishness versus selflessness, the individual versus the collective, and what to do when there are fast zombies on an even faster train. Regarded by many as the best zombie film of all time, this film takes a close examination of its characters in a remarkably intimate setting, providing commentary on class and the disparity between the haves and the have-nots. Content Warning: lots of gore.

SATURDAY

10:00am

Encanto

PG—2021—102 min

Dirs. Jared Bush, Byron Howard, Charise Castro Smith w/ Stephanie Beatriz, María Cecilia Botero, John Leguizamo

Encanto unfolds in a vibrant, magical version of Colombia, centering on the Madrigal family, each endowed with special gifts ranging from super strength to healing powers. The film explores the themes of family, acceptance, and the beauty of being unique through Mirabel, the only Madrigal without an apparent gift. This enchanting tale celebrates diversity, inclusivity, and the importance of embracing one's true self.

Noon

Wendall & Wild

PG—2022—105 min

Dir. Henry Selick w/ Lyric Ross, Jordan Peele, Keegan-Michael Key

Wendall & Wild is an animated dark fantasy that weaves a tale of two demon brothers, Wendell and Wild, who enlist the help of Kat, a teen with a troubled past, to summon them to the Land of the Living. As they navigate their worlds, the film delves into themes of redemption, the complexities of family, and confronting personal demons. Its rich narrative celebrates diversity and resilience, embodying the spirit of inclusivity and the strength found in unity and understanding

2:00pm

The Last Dragon (Riff)

PG-13—1985—109 min

Dir. Michael Schultz w/ Taimak, Vanity, Christopher Murney

Featuring Duck Washington, Molly Glover, Nick Glover

The Last Dragon serves as a vibrant homage to the 1980's, encapsulating the era's unique blend of martial arts fervor, neon-drenched aesthetics, and a pulsating soundtrack. This cult classic follows Leroy Green, a martial artist on a quest to become the ultimate master and find "The Glow," navigating a world filled with eccentric characters and villains. And back by popular demand, this timeslot will include a Riff, with some of your CONvergence faves keeping commentary with jokes and observations over the film's audio. It's like watching a movie with your funniest friends. Note: Comedian content is not moderated or censored, audience discretion is advised.

4:00pm

Beyond the Infinite Two Minutes

NR—2020—70 min

Dir. Junta Yamaguchi w/ Kazunari Tosa, Riko Fujitani, Gôta Ishida

Cinema Rex loves finding wonderfully creative and obscure movies to show, and this is no exception. Ostensibly filmed in a single continuous shot with a Tamagotchi-sized camera strapped to a smartphone, Beyond the Infinite Two Minutes asks: "In a world of Zoom calls, what if the face staring back at us is a version of ourselves two minutes in the future?" Will we be able to affect our future self? Come back in two minutes and find out.

5:30pm

Bride of Frankenstein

R—1935—75 min

Dir. James Whale w/ Boris Karloff, Elsa Lanchester, Colin Clive

A woman? In a movie? In 1935, this was moderately groundbreaking. Elsa Lanchester is an actress whose performances are eternal, often feeling like they could have been filmed in any decade. Long touted a queer-coded classic, the movie itself was subject to the censorship that

was rampant as a result of the Hays code, forcing script revisions that rendered the film much more toothless than its writers and director intended.

7:00pm **Gods and Monsters**

R—1998—105 min

Dir. Bill Condon w/ Ian McKellen, Brendan Fraser, Lynn Redgrave

The Renaissance is upon us, but we can still enjoy the classics. *Gods and Monsters* delves into the twilight years of James Whale, the visionary director behind classics like *Frankenstein*. This introspective film explores Whale's complex relationships and the shadows of his past, blending reality with the fantastical elements of his cinematic creations. It's a poignant narrative that offers insight into the creative mind's struggles and triumphs, serving as a compelling addition to the convention's lineup for its deep dive into the life of a man who shaped the horror and science fiction genres.

9:00pm **Trailer Park**

Moved later in the weekend by popular request! Stop by our concession stand for popcorn and candy and grab a seat on one of the couches to check out trailers for upcoming films and other fun stuff. Content warning: horror film previews may be included.

10:00pm **Attack the Block**

R—2011—98 min

Dir. Joe Cornish w/ John Boyega, Jodie Whittaker, Alex Esmail

Long before he was Finn in *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, John Boyega's first feature length film has him playing a low-level gang leader who inadvertently has to fight off aliens when they attack his project on Guy Fawkes Night. Using street smarts and a home-turf advantage, these hoodlums—along with a plucky nurse—show the alien invaders that you do not mess with Cockneys. Notably, all the gang members were cast out of local council high school drama classes. Content Warning: a dog dies offscreen.

11:30pm **They Cloned Tyrone**

R—2023—122 min

Dir. Juel Taylor w/ John Boyega, Jamie Foxx, Teyonah Parris

It's a John Boyega Double Feature! Showing his versatility (and a strong American accent, too), Boyega's back to prove that one does not mess with his neighborhood on either side of the pond. With notable performances by Jamie Foxx and Teyonah Parris (catch her in *The Marvels* on Sunday, too), this provocative conspiracy-theory-meets-social-commentary flick holds a mirror to our society in both hilarious and harrowing ways.

SUNDAY

10:00am

Turning Red

PG—2022—100 min

Dir. Domee Shi w/ Rosalie Chiang, Sandra Oh, Ava Morse

Break out your Kotex U for this period-metaphor flick. Don't worry, it's not gross—there's really nothing gross about menstruation, anyway—but it does deal with a pubescent Chinese-Canadian girl going through her "change." Except that her change comes in the form of becoming a giant red panda every time she gets too emotional. Which people everywhere would probably prefer over cramps. Fun fact: *Turning Red* is the first Pixar feature film directed solely by a woman.

Noon

Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse

PG—2023—140 min

Dir. Joaquim Dos Santos, Kemp Powers, Justin K. Thompson w/ Shameik Moore, Hailee Steinfeld, Brian Tyree Henry

Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse plunges viewers into a kaleidoscopic adventure across multiple dimensions, where various Spider-People, each with unique abilities and backgrounds, unite to face a threat endangering all realities. This sequel expands the *Spider-Verse*, exploring themes of identity, belonging, and the power of diversity. Its innovative animation and heartfelt storytelling make it a captivating celebration of the differences that unite us.

2:30pm

The Marvels

PG-13—2023—105 min

Dir. Nia DaCosta w/ Brie Larson, Teyonah Parris, Iman Vellani

Perhaps the Marvel movie that elicited the highest ratio of Angry Youtube Response Videos to Female Leads, *The Marvels* packs an intergalactic punch driven by the chemistry of its lead trio. Reuniting Carol Danvers with the now-grown daughter of her first friend on earth and rounding out the band with Ms. Marvel, fresh off her own series, the 33rd installment in the MCU brings girl power to a franchise that waited until 2019 to make a female-led superhero movie.

4:30pm

Barbie

PG-13—2023—109 min

Dir. Greta Gerwig w/ Margot Robbie, Ryan Gosling, America Ferrera

Barbie can be anything she wants, except apparently an Oscar winner! Arguably the most commercially successful film of 2023, *Barbie* explores the experience of being a woman in a fantasy world and then starkly contrasts that experience with being a woman in the real world. Even *Barbie*'s feminism is intersectional, so if yours doesn't include your transgender, disabled, Black, indigenous, and queer sisters, it wouldn't fly in *Barbie Land*.

THEATER NIPPON ANIME ROOM

Hyatt 4 Lake Harriet

Come join us to enjoy anime in its natural habitat: with a group of friends in a dark room! Explore new favorites, revisit old favorites, and sing along to fan dubs like nobody's watching. Remember to enter the drawing for your chance to win fabulous prizes! Winners will be announced, with much fanfare, at the conclusion of Evangelion Reddeath on Saturday night—usually a short time after Midnight. You must be present to win!

THURSDAY

1:00pm–3:00pm

Hajime no Ippo

PG-13—Dubbed—2000

A boxer takes a timid, bullied kid under his wing and teaches him boxing. It turns out the kid can really punch.

3:00pm–5:00pm

Beyond the Boundary

PG-13—Subtitled—2013

Mirai Kuriyama can use her blood to kill monsters called “youmo”. But when she meets Akihito Kanbara, a rare half-breed of youmo, she can't manage to kill him. He gets her to join the Literary Club instead.

5:00pm–6:30pm

Vampire Knight

PG-13—Dubbed—2008

At Cross Academy, there is a Day Class (humans) and a Night Class (vampires). Students on the school disciplinary committee attempt to keep the vampires from killing the humans. Meanwhile, the lead vampire has a mysterious plan.

6:30pm–9:00pm

Megazone 23

R—Dubbed—1985

Shougo happily motorcycles around his hard rock world, which is secretly watched over by an AI. Everything changes when his friend shows him a top-secret project: the “Garland,” a motorcycle that can transform into a robot.

9:00pm–10:30pm

Mononoke

R—Dubbed—2007

The “Medicine Seller” travels across feudal Japan in search of malevolent spirits called “mononoke” to slay. Before he can slay them, he needs to discover their Form, Truth, and Reason. This is not easy.

10:30pm–12:30am

The Dagger of Kamui

PG-13—Dubbed—1985

Falsely accused of killing his mother and sister, Jiro flees from his village and undergoes training to become a master assassin. Then he goes on a journey to find the lost treasure of Captain Kidd.

FRIDAY

8:00am–9:30am

Tokyo Mew Mew New

PG-13—Subtitled—2022

While on a date, a high school girl suddenly gains cat powers. She and four other girls with brand-new animal powers fight the Chimera Animas—alien parasites that turn animals into monsters.

9:30am–11:30am

Aim for the Ace

PG-13—Subtitled—1973

Hiromi Oka is a high school student who wants to become a professional tennis player. She struggles against mental weakness, anxiety, and thwarted love.

11:30am–1:30pm

K-ON!

PG-13—Dubbed—2009

A high school girl is convinced to join the “Light Music Club” at her school even though she doesn't actually play an instrument. The four girls in the club learn and play lots of music together.

1:30pm–3:30pm

The Great Passage

PG-13—Subtitled—2016

A retiring dictionary editor finds a socially-awkward potential protege to help write his last dictionary.

3:30pm–5:30pm

Girls Und Panzer

PG-13—Subtitled—2012

Tank tactical warfare is a female martial art. A girl from a famous tank-fighting family is coerced to lead her school's new tank warfare team.

5:30pm–7:00pm

Saiyuki Gaiden

R—Subtitled—2011

In the life prior to their journey to the west, the four main characters of Saiyuki were gods. One of them, Goku, is sentenced to be killed, but the other three save him. Heaven is very angry about it.

7:00pm–9:00pm

Bubblegum Crisis

R—Dubbed—1987

Four women in fabulous powersuits form a vigilante group. They battle mechanical beasts in futuristic MegaTokyo. Despite the title, there is no bubblegum involved.

9:00pm–10:30pm

Appleseed (OAV)

R—Dubbed—1988

A police offer is disillusioned with the post-WWIII “utopia” when his wife commits suicide. He helps another man try to overthrow the bioroid government. This is not a great idea and goes poorly.

10:30pm–12:30am **Crusher Joe: The Movie**
R—Subtitled—1983

Crusher Joe and his crew are an intergalactic A-team for hire. They are supposed to take a cryogenically frozen heiress to a medical facility, but she gets stolen by space pirates.

SATURDAY

8:00am–10:00am **Digimon Adventure**
PG—Dubbed—1999

Seven children are unexpectedly transported to the Digital World, where they meet a variety of friendly and less-than-friendly digimon. They all go on a quest to try to get home.

10:00am–Noon **Chi's Sweet Home**
G—Subtitled—2008

An adorable kitten (Chi) is adopted by a boy and his mother and they live together happily. It's all very sweet.

Noon-2:00pm **Case Closed: The Fist of Blue Sapphire**
PG-13—Dubbed—2019

Conan is a brilliant teenage detective transformed into a child detective. Ruthless millionaires attempt to find and steal a legendary sapphire. One of them, Kaito Kid, kidnaps Conan for help.

2:00pm–3:30pm **Phantom of the Idol**
PG-13—Subtitled—2022

Kazuki Yoshino has become a pop idol but is too lazy to give it his all. He gets possessed by the ghost of a girl who loved being an idol. She helps him perform and tries to get him to care about it.

3:30pm–5:00pm **Kids on the Slope**
PG-13—Subtitled—2012

Three teenagers in 1966 discover a shared passion for jazz, but the demands of growing up get in the way of their dreams.

5:00pm–6:30pm **Tiger & Bunny**
PG-13—Subtitled—2011

In a futuristic city, heroes fight crime while promoting corporate sponsors in a popular TV show, "Hero TV." Old-fashioned hero "Wild Tiger" and the rookie hero "Bunny" are forced to work together by their employers.

6:30pm–8:30pm **RahXephon**
PG-13—Dubbed—2002

A high school student discovers that his world is being controlled by multi-dimensional invaders. He uses a clay mecha-like being (RahXephon) to fight them using the power of song at the behest of a mysterious woman.

8:30pm–10:00pm **Giant Beasts of Ars**
PG-13—Subtitled—2023

Human champions called "nagamori" use their Kannagi partners to fight giant beasts threatening humanity. A nagamori encounters a Kannagi who is being chased by someone, and decides to save her. As rumors spread about a mysterious experiment, they seek to discover the world's terrible secrets.

10:00pm–11:30pm **Fist of the North Star: The Legend of Kenshiro**
R—Subtitled—2008

Martial arts warrior Kenshiro wanders a post-apocalyptic wasteland on a quest to track down his rival, who has kidnapped Kenshiro's fiance. He attracts the attention of powerful warlords and must fight to save everyone from evil.

11:30pm–12:30am **Evangelion Redeath**
R—Parody Dub—2000

A young man comes of age and pilots a giant robot while his father plots the end of the world. This classic fan parody dub is best enjoyed in loud groups. It doesn't matter if you don't know all the references, come sing along!

SUNDAY

8:00am–10:00am **Fighting Foodons**
G—Dubbed—2001

Three kids battle an evil empire by using their "Foodons"—strange monsters that are created through cooking.

10:00am–Noon **Sgt. Frog**
PG-13—Dubbed—2004

Abandoned by their mothership, Sgt. Frog and his platoon are forced to stay in a normal human household. As their continual attempts to take over the world are stymied, they come to care for the humans they live with.

Noon-2:00pm **Vampire Princess Miyu**
R—Dubbed—1997

Shape-shifting monsters and vampires threaten humanity. Princess Miyu, the Chosen One, is the only one who can stop them. People are weak and innocence is lost and everything is generally very depressing.

2:00pm–3:30pm **Ghost Hound**
PG-13—Subtitled—2007

Ghosts and paranormal occurrences appear in a small town. Three boys who have all had traumatic experiences in their childhood investigate the occurrences by entering the spirit realm.

THE HOLODECK

Hyatt 6 Gym

The Holodeck is a space for panels or activities that do not fit in a standard panel room or format. All are welcome to visit the Holodeck to watch or participate in the planned activities. Please be respectful of performers, presenters, and participants. Any activity that involves audience participation may require participants to sign a waiver.

Thursday	Noon–10:00pm
Friday	9:00am–10:00pm
Saturday	9:00am–10:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–1:00pm

THURSDAY

12:30pm–2:30pm Renaissance Dance Lessons

Do you enjoy visiting the local renaissance festivals? Have you never been? Join us for some dancing and get a taste of the renaissance era. We teach a variety of English Country dances designed for any, from 2 to 102, and some other dances, too! *Natasha Jo Krentz*

3:30pm–4:30pm Early Birds Get the Ribbon!

Got ribbons? What to trade? Bring all your ribbons to trade and collect them all. One can never have enough ribbons! *Elizabeth Hufnagle Puffer*

5:30pm–6:30pm Get Measured for a Chest Binder!

Whether binding for daily wear or crossplay, take care of your body by getting properly measured! The same geeky physical therapist + gc2b size guide + privacy screen as before! Now accepting binder donations to match them with a new owner during con. *Ashley D Haapapuro*

8:00pm–10:30pm BYOB: Bring Your Own Buds! Silent Dance Party 2024

Have you ever wanted to dance your heart out but didn't like the music? Was the music too loud or over-stimulating? Holodeck has a fun surprise for you! Bring your own head phones or ear buds and we will set the dance party mood! Bring Your Own EARBUDS! *Elizabeth Hufnagle Puffer*

FRIDAY

11:30am–1:30pm Assassins' Guild Boffing Practice

Are you not feeling particularly competitive and just want to hit friends, loved-ones, or other con-goers with foam padded weapons? Feel free to do so in this practice event. No need to feel intimidated; relax, and have fun fighting. *David Bianchi*

3:00pm–5:00pm Costume Wars

Costuming on the fly! Come with your team of two and make a costume in one hour with supplies provided by the Masquerade department! Register for Costume Wars at the Masquerade Registration Table outside of the Nicollet ballroom. *Patrick Cool*

5:30pm–6:30pm Get Measured for a Chest Binder!

Whether binding for daily wear or crossplay, take care of your body by getting properly measured! The same geeky physical therapist + gc2b size guide + privacy screen as before! Now accepting binder donations to match them with a new owner during con. *Ashley D Haapapuro*

8:00pm–10:30pm Sing-A-Long Karaoke

There are those who love to sing karaoke, and those who love to watch karaoke! We have a fun party for you, come to sing, watch, or sing along! Come wrap up an amazing evening at CONvergence with some karaoke and friends. *Elizabeth Hufnagle Puffer*

SATURDAY

9:30am–11:30am Robots for Everyone

Come see the robots that compete in the FIRST Robotics programs. Meet with the middle and high school students who developed these robots. Learn about what is involved in these robotics competitions and drive one of the robots. *Barb Kramer*

12:30pm–3:30pm Assassins' Guild Boffing Tournament

Welcome to the 144th Assassin's Guild Boffing Tournament! We are back post-COVID! Compete against your fellow con-goers by hitting each other with foam padded weapons! Trophies will be awarded to the top combatants! *David Bianchi*

5:00pm–5:15pm Harisen Daiko-The Holodeck Preview

Sit way up close and feel the beat reverberate through your very bones. The acoustics in the Holodeck are no joke, and the big drums adore them. So if you'd like an early taste, or to fill your CVG with maximum taiko, join us for our Holodeck preview. *Christopher Stephan*

6:00pm–7:00pm Animal Crossing Museum Quest

Help Bathers the Owl fill the museum with fossils and creatures through a variety of searching games. *Tiffany Johnston*

THE HOLODECK

8:00pm–10:30pm **K-Pop-A-Looza: Shake it Like an Idol!**

Come show off your moves at the very first CONvergence K-Pop-A-Looza! A dance party featuring many of your favorite K-pop bands. New to K-pop? No problem! Come experience these fantastic beats, but be warned...they make you want to smile and DANCE! *Elizabeth Hufnagle Puffer*

SUNDAY

11:00am–Noon **Ribbons at the End of the Universe**

Got ribbons? What to trade? Bring all your ribbons and trade/socialize. The perfect way to wrap up CONvergence 2024! *Elizabeth Hufnagle Puffer*





HARMONIC CONVERGENCE

Hyatt 2 Regency

Harmonic CONvergence is an intimate music venue, created by and for the attendees of CONvergence. On the HarmCON stage you can see and hear everything from rock to filk to comedy songs to hip-hop to electronic music and beyond, as well as the annual burlesque show. Find us in Hyatt 2 Regency. We hope you'll join us to experience the amazing talent in our CONvergence community!

For more information about HarmCON's many fabulous acts, and for the most up-to-date performance listings, please consult the CONvergence online schedule at convergence-con.org/at-the-con/schedule/.

THURSDAY

5:00pm–6:00pm **DeejayNeko**

Ever wish you could enjoy the rave but you're in bed by 9:00pm? Enjoy an early evening dance party for those looking for good vibes and clever remixes. Come for the big bass, leave with a bigger grin, and all before bedtime. soundcloud.com/deejayneko *Pete Lane*

7:00pm–8:00pm **Rian Vellichor**

Enjoy being gay, going to renaissance festivals, and dungeons and dragons? This might be the right vibe for you! Comedic original songs fit for an Irish pub or a lesbian bar & cover tunes from Critical Role, Skyrim, Baldurs Gate 3, & more @heliographart. *Rian Vellichor*

8:30pm–9:30pm **Dave Stagner**

Acoustic singer/songwriter with the randomness turned up all the way. Dave doesn't do genre. Delicate instrumental one minute, raunchy comedy the next, heart-wrenching story song after that, then a twisted pop cover—whatever moves him that moment. *Dave Stagner*

10:00pm–11:00pm **Dissociate**

Dissociate, the science fiction-inspired dark electronic project from musician and sound designer Jonathan L. Ford, is spontaneity personified with crunchy beats, soaring synths, and otherworldly noise. *Jonathan L. Ford*

FRIDAY

11:00am–Noon **Beth Kinderman & the Player Characters**

We make geeky progressive folk-rock music about myth, transformation, and video game characters who won't sleep with you. Come hear music from our upcoming record "Sisyphus," a quarantine album of ten songs about hope. bethkinderman.com *Beth Kinderman, Dave Stagner, Justin Hartley*

12:30pm–1:30pm **Elisabeth Zarnoti**

Nonprofit advocate by day and performer by night, this is Elisabeth's first HarmCon. Grew up listening to Cities 97? Musical theater admirer? Swiftie? There is something for everyone during this cover set list. *Elisabeth Zarnoti*

2:00pm–3:00pm **Tanya Brody**

Tanya Brody is a harper-singer-songwriter who plays everything from traditional Celtic music to amusing original pieces. Alternating between harp and guitar, Tanya's performance will stir your heart and tickle your funny bone. tanyabrody.com *Tanya Brody*

3:30pm–4:30pm **Versatile Fluff**

This "internet meme cover band" is actually pretty original, with gender-neutral love songs full of heart and sass that can span multiverses or survive the zombie apocalypse, songs from and about video games, and other geeky surprises! *Grenevic Sharladanel Stremski, Reverend Rebecca Nathaniel Elfprincess*

5:00pm–6:00pm **Briar**

Flute and guitar driven folk noir. Anita Kelling and Jay William Koelsch have been performing together for over 20 years. Their music ranges from the British Isles folk to original compositions, all with their unique moody flair. *Anita Kelling, Jay William Koelsch*

7:00pm–8:00pm **M2O**

M2O is a local comedic musical duo. Come enjoy original songs about their favorite fandoms including Marvel, DC, Doctor Who, Lord of the Rings, and more! linktr.ee/M2O.mn *Maren Aalgaard, Morgan Strickland*

8:30pm–9:30pm **Wilson Parc**

Sleazy rock and roll covers and originals. New versions of classic rock songs, and songs written by Jac Martins. wilsonparc.bandcamp.com *Annette Weaver, Jac Martins, Jay William Koelsch, Jeff Bertleson*

10:00pm–11:00pm **Nemesissy**

Nemesissy plays a unique blend of punk, post-punk, surf, and rock to please your ears and worry your betters. *Abby Eggen, Eric Larson, Nichole Cassavant, Perry Kennedy*

11:30pm–12:30am **Nerdlesque: This Cosplay is REMOVABLE! (18+)**

This cosplay was built to COME OFF! Join us for your annual dose of pop culture-infused burlesque entertainment. Our cast will present your favorite characters dripping in rhinestones, glitter, and sequins with a wink and smile! *Mona Montague, Opiumm Hayze*

HARMONIC CONVERGENCE



SATURDAY

11:00am–Noon Ravenscroft Musicke Guild

An eight-piece acoustic orchestra playing adaptations of your (and our!) favorite movie, TV, and video game soundtracks, including but not limited to The Dragon Prince, Princess Mononoke, Legend of Zelda, Chicken Run, and many more! *Chris Mortika, Eve Zabronsky, Kathleen O'Laughlin, Kerry Teckla Peterson, Rebecca Durst, Rin Kilde, Sophia Fox, Stephanie Claussen*

12:30pm–1:30pm Lisa Freitag

Old lady pianist misusing her classical training to play music from anime and video games. The Joe Hisaichi and Toshio Masuda pieces are just as difficult as Beethoven. Really! *Lisa Freitag*

2:00pm–3:00pm Scott Keever

Award-winning fingerstyle guitarist with styles ranging from Celtic to Balkan, from blues to classical—sometimes all at the same time. Along with a bunch of originals, he also incorporates White Stripes, Pixies, and Pixar into his shows. *Scott Keever*

3:30pm–4:30pm Nate Bucklin

After six decades of making, writing, and sharing music—the greater part of it in Twin Cities fandom—there can't be many reading this who don't already know Nate's music. If you are one of those, you are in for a treat. So are the rest of us. *Nate Bucklin*

5:00pm–6:00pm Bryan Baker

Werewolves howling for lost love and regret, robots enslaving and destroying humanity, lost love returning in the zombiepocalypse, Dr. Who, Dead by Daylight, heroes in the making, all fodder in the formation of Bryan's nine albums. *Bryan Baker*

7:00pm–8:00pm General Synesthesia

A psychedelic, synesthetic experience that will perplex the senses and bend reality. A recklessly curated melange of melodies and maladies most exquisite. *Jeff Henry, Kareem Oda Q'rop, Karnitschnig, Noel Miller, Salted Caramel Dan, Toxoplasmosis*

8:30pm–9:30pm Gus The Bardic Troubadour

Join Gus the Bardic Troubadour on his quest to bring the rich traditions of Irish folk music to our realm. With the help of his magic tome, he blends Celtic tradition with innovation ensuring every performance resonates with bardic inspiration! *Christopher Murphy*

10:00pm–11:00pm The Dregs

The Dregs have been performing at CONvergence for a long time and bring a mix of traditional Irish music along with geeky original comedy and a willingness to perform any song you request, even if they don't know it. And they probably don't. *Molly Zupon, Paul Score, Rian Vellichor, Susanne Becker, Tim Wick, Trevor Hartman*

GAMING

Hyatt 4, multiple rooms

CONvergence has around-the-clock gaming on the 4th floor of the Hyatt!

CONvergence offers around-the-clock gaming suites, tabletop open gaming, puzzles, kids' games, and video gaming! Not sure whether you're a gamer? Everyone's a gamer! If you have ever played a board game with your friends and had a great time, you're a gamer. If you have ever played a video game on your phone while waiting for the bus, you're a gamer. Come play another round with us, or try something new! We'd love to see you join us!

We're located in the following rooms:

- Gaming Front Desk—Hyatt 4 Great Lakes Foyer
- Open Gaming—Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Foyer
- Board Game Demos—Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Foyer
- Magic: the Gathering—Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Foyer
- Video Gaming—Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A3
- RPG Gaming—Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2
- Kids Gaming—Hyatt 4 Lake Nokomis

Come roll some dice, shoot virtual critters, draw maps, flip cards, kill monsters and take their stuff... and meet new friends at CONvergence Gaming!

Gaming Schedule

There are many gaming events during CONvergence! The final gaming schedule can be found on the CONvergence schedule website (convergence-con.org/at-the-con/schedule) and Sched app. Additional events will be added and, if necessary, events may be moved to different locations. Check the whiteboards at the Gaming Front Desk in the Hyatt 4 Great Lakes Foyer to see the most up-to-date list of scheduled games!

Please note that signing up for an event on the sched.com page or Sched app **does not constitute a sign-up for that event**. To register, you'll need to come in person to the Gaming Front Desk in the Hyatt 4 Great Lakes Foyer and sign up for the events in which you'd like to participate.

Gaming Front Desk

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes Foyer

The Gaming Front Desk is open from 9:00am–10:00pm each day (until 3:00pm on Sunday) for questions regarding activities in the department and for reporting Gaming volunteer hours. Watch the whiteboards located here for Gaming announcements and to look for other players for a game you'd like to play.

Thursday	9:00am–10:00pm
Friday	9:00am–10:00pm
Saturday	9:00am–10:00pm
Sunday	9:00am–3:00pm

Tabletop Board Gaming

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Foyer

Come grab a game and chill or find new friends to try a crazy party game. Put together a puzzle, play Magic: The Gathering, learn a new game from our demo booths, or borrow a game from the huge, free-to-play Board Game Library!

Thursday	10:00am–Midnight
Friday	9:00am–Midnight
Saturday	9:00am–Midnight
Sunday	9:00am–3:00pm



Roleplaying Games

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2

Games involving storytelling and interactive elements can be found here! Stop by the Gaming Front Desk to sign up for scheduled RPG events run by attendees like you! New this year are professional game masters Bad Wolf Adventure Studios! Find their booth outside of Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2.

Thursday	11:00am–Midnight
Friday	9:00am–Midnight
Saturday	9:00am–Midnight
Sunday	9:00am–3:00pm

Video Gaming

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A3

Twin Cities Free Geek is a non-profit organization with a mission to sustainably reuse technology, enable digital access, and provide education to create a community that empowers people to realize their potential. Come see retro machines and play classic video games while learning about this awesome cause! Midwest Gaming Arcades will be bringing multiple "multi-cade" machines to CONvergence. Come see these beautiful hand-made machines in person and play some arcade classics!

Thursday	10:00am–Midnight
Friday	9:00am–Midnight
Saturday	9:00am–Midnight
Sunday	9:00am–3:00pm

Kids Gaming

Hyatt 4 Lake Nokomis

New for 2024 is our Kids Gaming room, featuring RPGs, board games, and activities that both the young and the young at heart will enjoy! This room has its own dedicated board game library with titles specifically aimed for family-friendly play and easy-to-understand rules. Conveniently located across from Connie's Quantum Sandbox, this is the place to be for the little ones! Children ages 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Thursday	8:00am–8:00pm
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Friday 8:00am–8:00pm
 Saturday 8:00am–8:00pm
 Sunday 8:00am–3:00pm

After-Hours Overnight Open Gaming

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Foyer

Looking for late-night party games and a bring-your-own social gaming experience? The Boundary Waters Foyer will remain open after Midnight for Bring-Your-Own-Game open gaming; the Gaming Library will not be available during these hours to borrow games.

Friday 12:30am–9:00am
 Saturday 12:30am–9:00am
 Sunday 12:30am–9:00am

Questions & Comments

Have questions or comments about CONvergence Gaming facilities or events? Contact CONvergence Gaming at gaming@convergence-con.org.

THURSDAY

Noon–2:00pm

Conquest Princess (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ab

Dress up, team up, and save the galaxy again! An expansion deck for Conquest Princess: Fashion is Power co-op board game.

12:30pm–3:30pm

Terran Revenge Fleet: Helldivers Edition (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2a

Become part of an elite peace-keeping force to spread managed democracy throughout the galaxy. A Helldivers reskin of the popular, over-the-top game of space marines bringing freedom to alien planets. 30-second character creation.

12:30pm–5:30pm

Let's Play Dungeons & Dragons 5e (18+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2c

Get your Dungeons & Dragons fix at CONvergence! The Brotherhood of the Lark is having its annual recruitment drive, drafting an adventuring party for an exciting quest of role-playing, exploration, and combat!

12:30pm–5:30pm

Fluffy Goes to Heck (18+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2d

Yes, cute widdle Fluffy has been dognapped, and you must brave the flames of Heck to save her! A 5e D&D game with pre-generated characters.

12:30pm–1:30pm

Fandom Guess Who

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Aa

"Guess Who" but with a fandom flair! Play using classic rules or up the difficulty by playing subjectively!

12:30pm–1:30pm

Boss Monster (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ac

Inspired by classic video games, Boss Monster challenges you to become a villain, build a dungeon, lure in adventurers, and destroy them! The game has retro pixel art, an innovative "dungeon-building" system, and fast-paced gameplay.

12:30pm–3:00pm

Unmatched (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Foyer b

Ever wanted to see Bruce Lee fight Dracula, or have Dr. Strange try to take down the dinosaurs from Jurassic Park? In the game of Unmatched, all of these battles and more will occur in wild fashion. This is a two-player team tourney.

2:00pm–6:30pm

Exchange and Escape: A Spire Oneshot (18+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2e

You are drow revolutionaries trying to overthrow the high elves that colonized your city. One of your fellow operatives was kidnapped and you've been tasked with carrying out a prisoner exchange to get him back. (D10 pool system independent of D&D)

2:00pm–3:30pm

Zombicide, 2nd Edition (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Aa

Play Zombicide: 2nd Edition, the classic game of survival in a modern zombie apocalypse.

2:00pm–4:00pm

Conquest Princess (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ab

Dress up, team up, and save the galaxy again! An expansion deck for the Conquest Princess: Fashion is Power co-op board game.

2:00pm–3:00pm

Learn to Play: My Little Scythe (Kids)

Hyatt 4 Lake Nokomis A

My Little Scythe is a competitive, family-friendly game in which each player controls two animal miniatures embarking upon an adventure in the Kingdom of Pomme. Ages 8+.

2:00pm–10:00pm

Sword of Air

Hyatt 4 Cedar Lake

The party is visiting Sorten the Wizard to try to procure a book called the Shagaspondium. They are currently in the area of Sorten's Tower and attempting to set up a negotiation with him.

2:00pm–3:30pm

Flashpoint (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ac

Take the role of firefighters and work together to save a house from an increasingly growing fire!

GAMING

2:30pm–4:00pm

Shadowed Temple

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2h

Shadow cultists are enacting a ritual to cover the kingdom in darkness! You must steal the Blood Gem of Terric from the temple of Feyd-Dauggar and escape with your life to save the kingdom from the Cult's deadly intent.

3:30pm–5:30pm

Rust Wings (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2b

Rust Wings: wrench and propeller roleplaying, is a studio Ghibli-inspired fantasy setting where seaplane crews explore an endless ocean based on the Mausritter ruleset.

3:30pm–6:00pm

Big Trouble in Little Warlington (Kids)

Hyatt 4 Lake Nokomis a

The small town of Warlington just graduated yet another crop of adventurers! They are about to get their Adventuring Licenses when <gasp> the town comes under attack! Are these new adventurers up to the task?

3:30pm–5:00pm

Let's Play Japanese Mahjong!

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ac

Back by popular demand! Interested in learning about Mahjong but not knowing where to start? Then this event is for you! Come check out Japanese Mahjong. This is a casual learning experience, instruction provided.

4:30pm–6:00pm

Hyde & Seek (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2h

In Victorian London, people have been vanishing from Hyde Park. Mysterious marks have been seen on the trees and buildings in the area. You are Rippers, monster hunters who stalk the shadows and keep unnatural elements at bay.

5:00pm–6:30pm

GIGA-ROBO! (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ab

Do you like mecha? Gundam, Bravern, Pacific Rim? This is the board game that lets you fight the mecha brawls you've always wanted to! Use a variety of beam attacks, shining fingers, and ultimate combos in this card-driven, miniatures board game!

5:00pm–9:00pm

Another Bug Hunt (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2a

Communication has been lost with the Samsa VI terraforming base. Your team of marines, scientists, androids, and teamsters has been sent by the Company to investigate and restore operations. An Aliens-inspired sci-fi horror RPG.

5:00pm–6:30pm

Let's Play Japanese Mahjong!

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ac

Back by popular demand! Interested in learning about Mahjong but not knowing where to start? Then this event is for you! Come check out Japanese Mahjong. This is a casual learning experience, instruction provided.

7:00pm–10:00pm

Quiet Year

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2d

The Quiet Year is a map drawing TTRPG in which you do not role play as characters, but as societal forces. Your choices will make your map evolve over the course of the game.

7:00pm–8:30pm

Corruption of the Rillwood (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2h

A strange sickness has overtaken the flora of the Rillwood. Its rot twists the bark of and causes the flowers to hiss as people walk nearby. Some say greater horrors lie within - dangers which would require a group of adventurers to handle!

7:00pm–8:30pm

Marvel Legendary

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ad

A fun deck building game were you can assemble your own team of Marvel heroes.

7:00pm–8:00pm

Party Games (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ab

Join in for party games like Just One, Codenames, and Monikers!

8:30pm–9:30pm

Party Games (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ab

Join in for party games like Just One, Codenames, and Monikers!

9:30pm–12:30am

Storytelling Game / Narrative Game (18+)

4 Great Lakes A2b

Craft a detailed story with fellow roleplayers. Game system and content limits will be set by participants. Rules will be taught but roleplayers familiar with strong narrative systems are preferred.

10:00pm–1:00am

KSRPS AKA Simplicity

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2c

Simplicity is a d10 RPG designed to be a cross between a typical dice rolling and storytelling game. Come join us and learn about this system.

FRIDAY

9:30am–11:30am

Frosthaven (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Aa

We will be playing Frosthaven, the sequel to the monster hit game Gloomhaven.

9:30am–11:30am

Conquest Princess (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ab

Dress up, team up, and save the galaxy again! An expansion deck for Conquest Princess: Fashion is Power co-op board game.

9:30am–10:15am

Learn to Play: Ticket to Ride First Journey (Kids)

Hyatt 4 Lake Nokomis b

Will you claim the longest railway route between the country's most iconic cities and win the game? Kids ages 6-12, learn in 5 minutes, play for just 30 minutes!

9:30am–11:00am

Flashpoint (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ac

Take the role of firefighters and work together to save a house from an increasingly growing fire!

10:30am–Noon

Here There be Bears! (Kids)

Hyatt 4 Lake Nokomis a

You are the best bears in the world of bear crime. A group of humans have set up camp in the woods you call home, and they brought a LOT of honey. Do bear crimes, steal the honey, and drive those humans out of your woods!

11:00am–Noon

GnomeLore Demo (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ac

GnomeLore is a collaborative structured storytelling game for any number of players. Players tap their imaginations and tell a story together with just a few small pieces. This game is in prototype playtesting stage with feedback welcome.

Noon–1:30pm

On the Maze's Edge (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2h

Deep in the Weird West, on the northern edge of the California Maze, the town of Megiddo has a problem. A big problem, with lots of teeth. The posse must ride to quell this tool of the Reckoners before tragedy befalls this small town.

Noon–3:00pm

Terraforming Mars Learn to Play

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ad

This is a learn to play event, ideally for new players or players that have rarely played.

12:30pm–5:30pm

Let's Play Dungeons & Dragons 5th Edition! (18+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2c

Get your Dungeons & Dragons fix at CONvergence! The Brotherhood of the Lark is having its annual recruitment drive, drafting an adventuring party for an exciting quest of role-playing, exploration, and combat!

12:30pm–3:30pm

Terran Revenge Fleet: Helldivers Edition (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2a

Become part of an elite peace-keeping force to spread managed democracy throughout the galaxy. A Helldivers reskin of the popular, over-the-top game of space marines bringing freedom to alien planets. 30-second character creation.

12:30pm–5:30pm

Fluffy Goes to Heck (18+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2e

Yes, cute widdle Fluffy has been dognapped, and you must brave the flames of Heck to save her! A 5e D&D game with pre-generated characters.

12:30pm–2:30pm

Frosthaven (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Aa

We will be playing Frosthaven, the sequel to the monster hit game Gloomhaven.

12:30pm–1:30pm

Fandom Guess Who

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ab

"Guess Who" but with a fandom flair! Play using classic rules or up the difficulty by playing subjectively!

12:30pm–3:30pm

Learn Spirit Island (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ac

Come learn to play the cooperative settler destruction game, Spirit Island! This session is meant for folks brand new to the game with very little experience playing.

1:00pm–2:30pm

Get to the Train!

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2g

The magical Astral Train Station provides passage to other planes of existence. Your adventuring party has a quest in the elemental plane of water, but you must first navigate the train station's chaos—with some additional magic on the loose!

2:00pm–7:00pm

Graduation & Extermination (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2f

A slightly homebrew introduction to the Cypher System using the Numenera Setting, set one billion years in the future.

GAMING

2:00pm–5:00pm

Quiet Year

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2d

The Quiet Year is a map drawing TTRPG in which you do not role play as characters, but as societal forces. Your choices will make your map evolve over the course of the game.

2:00pm–3:30pm

Shadowed Temple

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2h

Shadow cultists are enacting a ritual to cover the kingdom in darkness! You must steal the Blood Gem of Terric from the temple of Feyd-Dauggar and escape with your life to save the kingdom from the Cult's deadly intent.

2:00pm–4:00pm

Conquest Princess (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ab

Dress up, team up, and save the galaxy again! An expansion deck for Conquest Princess: Fashion is Power co-op board game.

2:00pm–5:00pm

Chaos Hermitcraft TCG

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Foyer b

From the Famous Hermitcraft server—Hermitcraft TCG! Open to anyone who bought the cards and needs friends to play with or is only playing digitally. Bring your physical cards and a magical device to play the online, fan-made version!

2:00pm–3:00pm

Learn to Play: Catan Junior (Kids)

Hyatt 4 Lake Nokomis a

A Catan adventure for fledgling swashbucklers. Designed for players as young as 5 and is a perfect introduction to the Catan series of games for kids and families.

2:00pm–10:00pm

Sword of Air

Hyatt 4 Cedar Lake

The party is visiting Sorten the Wizard to try to procure a book called the Shagaspondium. They are currently in the area of Sorten's Tower and attempting to set up a negotiation with him.

3:30pm–5:00pm

GIGA-ROBO! (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Aa

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3:30pm–5:00pm

Haka Onna: Horror Hide-n-Seek (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ad

In this horror hide-n-seek game one player plays the "Hako Onna" (the Woman in the Box), the rest are "Visitors" who are trying to escape the mansion.

4:00pm–6:00pm

CryptiCon (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2h

CryptiCon! Roadside is the USA's premiere convention for all things supernatural and cryptozoological! Something is causing some of the world's most famous cryptozoological authorities to give up the profession forever. You must figure out why!

5:00pm–7:00pm

Rust Wings (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2b

Rust Wings: wrench and propeller roleplaying, is a studio Ghibli-inspired fantasy setting where seaplane crews explore an endless ocean based on the Mausritter ruleset.

5:00pm–6:30pm

Ticket to Ride Tournament

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Foyer a

Join us for a Ticket to Ride Tournament! All participants will receive a prize!

5:00pm–7:00pm

Simplicity D10 RPG Session for Younger Kids (Kids)

Hyatt 4 Lake Nokomis a

Simplicity is a home brewed d10 tabletop rpg that uses storytelling and dice rolling to tell a story. Come join us and learn how to play.

5:00pm–6:30pm

Let's Play Japanese Mahjong!

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ac

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Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ab

A fun deck building game where you can assemble your own team of Marvel heroes.

5:00pm–7:30pm

Unmatched (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Foyer b

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6:00pm–7:30pm Within the Beastlands (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2g

You've come across a jungle that doesn't appear on your maps. While the heavily-shaded, mysterious jungle buzzes and thrums with unknown creatures within, there doesn't appear to be a better path to your destination.

7:00pm–10:00pm Quiet Year

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2d

The Quiet Year is a map drawing TTRPG in which you do not role play as characters, but as societal forces. Your choices will make your map evolve over the course of the game.

7:00pm–8:30pm Squatch on the Run

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2h

You're on the way to a birthday party, and you are bringing the coolest gifts! While stopping for gas, you left the keys in your car and it—and the gifts—was stolen by BIGFOOT! Now you're on a cross country road trip to get it all back!

7:00pm–9:00pm Conquest Princess (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ab

Dress up, team up, and save the galaxy again! An expansion deck for Conquest Princess: Fashion is Power co-op board game.

7:00pm–8:00pm Party Games (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Aa

Join in for party games like Just One, Codenames, and Monikers!

8:30pm–9:30pm Party Games (13+)

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SATURDAY**9:30am–11:30am Conquest Princess (13+)**

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ab

Dress up, team up, and save the galaxy again! An expansion deck for Conquest Princess: Fashion is Power co-op board game.

9:30am–11:30am Tales from the Red Dragon Inn (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Aa

We will be playing Tales from the Red Dragon Inn, a tactical board game based on the characters and setting from the Red Dragon Inn.

9:30am–10:30am Learn to Play: My Little Scythe (Kids)

Hyatt 4 Lake Nokomis a

My Little Scythe is a competitive, family-friendly game in which each player controls two animal miniatures embarking upon an adventure in the Kingdom of Pomme. Ages 8+.

9:30am–11:00am Flashpoint (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ac

Take the role of firefighters and work together to save a house from an increasingly growing fire!

10:00am–11:30am Chainbreakers of Starfall City (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2h

A rebellious group of metal benders, the Chain Breakers, plot to throw the prestigious Starfall City out of balance. The King Mayor has ordered all able-bodied benders and combatants to root out the Chain Breakers and bring them to justice.

10:30am–Noon Get to the Train!

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2g

The magical Astral Train Station provides passage to other planes of existence. Your adventuring party has a quest in the elemental plane of water, but you must first navigate the train station's chaos—with some additional magic on the loose!

11:00am–1:30pm Big Trouble in Little Warlington (Kids)

Hyatt 4 Lake Nokomis a

The small town of Warlington just graduated yet another crop of adventurers! They are about to get their Adventuring Licenses when <gasp> the town comes under attack! Are these new adventurers up to the task?

Noon–1:30pm Shadowed Temple

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2g

Shadow cultists are enacting a ritual to cover the kingdom in darkness! You must steal the Blood Gem of Terric from the temple of Feyd-Dauggar and escape with your life to save the kingdom from the Cult's deadly intent.

GAMING

12:30pm–3:30pm

Terran Revenge Fleet: Helldivers Edition (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2a

Become part of an elite peace-keeping force to spread managed democracy throughout the galaxy. A Helldivers reskin of the popular, over-the-top game of space marines bringing freedom to alien planets. 30-second character creation.

12:30pm–5:30pm

Let's Play Dungeons & Dragons 5th Edition! (18+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2c

Get your Dungeons & Dragons fix at CONvergence! The Brotherhood of the Lark is having its annual recruitment drive, drafting an adventuring party for an exciting quest of role-playing, exploration, and combat!

12:30pm–5:30pm

Fluffy Goes to Heck (18+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2e

Yes, cute widdle Fluffy has been dognapped, and you must brave the flames of Heck to save her! A 5e D&D game with pre-generated characters.

12:30pm–2:00pm

Goblins? Attack!

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2h

Goblins encroach on the city of Aelwyneth. Time is running out before they pose a serious threat. Hope arises as a group of heroes arrives in town, offering to aid the besieged citizens. Can you turn the tide of the impending conflict?

12:30pm–1:30pm

Fandom Guess Who

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ab

"Guess Who" but with a fandom flair! Play using classic rules or up the difficulty by playing subjectively!

12:30pm–3:30pm

Spirit Island for Experienced Players

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ad

Come play the cooperative settler destruction game, Spirit Island! We will be facing down one (or more) adversaries, so some experience with the game is needed. All officially published content will be available for play.

12:30pm–1:30pm

Boss Monster (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ac

Inspired by classic video games, Boss Monster challenges you to become a villain, build a dungeon, lure in adventurers, and destroy them! The game has retro pixel art, an innovative "dungeon-building" system and fast-paced gameplay.

12:30pm–1:30pm

GnomeLore Demo (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Aa

GnomeLore is a collaborative structured storytelling game for any number of players. Players tap their imaginations and tell a story together with just a few small pieces. This game is in prototype playtesting stage with feedback welcome.

1:00pm–3:00pm

CryptiCon (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2f

CryptiCon! Roadside is the USA's premiere convention for all things supernatural and cryptozoological! Something is causing some of the world's most famous cryptozoological authorities to give up the profession forever. You must figure out why!

2:00pm–7:00pm

Graduation & Extermination (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2b

A slightly homebrew introduction to the Cypher System using the Numenera Setting, set one billion years in the future.

2:00pm–5:00pm

Quiet Year

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2d

The Quiet Year is a map drawing TTRPG in which you do not role play as characters, but as societal forces. Your choices will make your map evolve over the course of the game.

2:00pm–3:30pm

On the Maze's Edge (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2g

Deep in the Weird West, on the northern edge of the California Maze, the town of Megiddo has a problem. A big problem, with lots of teeth. The posse must ride to quell this tool of the Reckoners before tragedy befalls this small town.

2:00pm–4:00pm

Conquest Princess (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ab

Dress up, team up, and save the galaxy again! An expansion deck for Conquest Princess: Fashion is Power co-op board game.

2:00pm–4:00pm

Magic The Gathering Commander Social

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Foyer b

This a Commander event for all players for beginners to advanced and the goal is to have fun. Also prizes will be raffled off.

2:00pm–10:00pm

Sword of Air

Hyatt 4 Cedar Lake

The party is visiting Sorten the Wizard to try to procure a book called the Shagaspondium. They are currently in the area of Sorten's Tower and attempting to set up a negotiation with him.

2:30pm–4:00pm

Goblins? Attack!

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2h

Goblins encroach on the city of Aelwyneth. Time is running out before they pose a serious threat. Hope arises as a group of heroes arrives in town, offering to aid the besieged citizens. Can you turn the tide of the impending conflict?

3:30pm–8:00pm

Exchange and Escape: A Spire Oneshot (18+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2f

You are drow revolutionaries trying to overthrow the high elves that colonized your city. One of your fellow operatives was kidnapped and you've been tasked with carrying out a prisoner exchange to get him back. A d10 pool system independent of D&D!

3:30pm–5:30pm

Wingspan Tournament (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Foyer a

For bird lovers and board game enthusiasts, come play and explore a brilliant nature inspired game!

3:30pm–5:30pm

Simplicity D10 RPG Session for younger kids (Kids)

Hyatt 4 Lake Nokomis a

Simplicity is a home brewed d10 tabletop RPG that uses storytelling and dice rolling to tell a story. Come join us and learn how to play.

3:30pm–5:00pm

Let's Play Japanese Mahjong!

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ac

Back by popular demand! Interested in learning about Mahjong but not knowing where to start? Then this event is for you! Come check out Japanese Mahjong. This is a casual learning experience, instruction provided.

5:00pm–9:30pm

Eat the Reich (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2a

You are a group of vampire commandos coffin-dropped into occupied Paris during 1943 on a mission to destabilize the Nazi war machine by drinking all their blood.

5:00pm–6:30pm

Let's Play Japanese Mahjong!

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ac

Back by popular demand! Interested in learning about Mahjong but not knowing where to start? Then this event is for you! Come check out Japanese Mahjong. This is a casual learning experience, instruction provided.

5:00pm–6:30pm

Marvel Legendary

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Aa

A fun deck building game where you can assemble your own team of Marvel heroes.

5:00pm–6:00pm

Party Games (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ab

Join in for party games like Just One, Codenames, and Monikers!

5:00pm–7:30pm

Unmatched (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Foyer b

Ever wanted to see Bruce Lee fight Dracula, or have Dr. Strange try to take down the dinosaurs from Jurassic Park? In the game of Unmatched, all of these battles and more will occur in wild fashion. This is a two-player team tourney.

6:00pm–9:00pm

Darktide Over Frey

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Foyer c

In the coastal city of Frey, the ocean itself has risen. Dark shapes move behind an aquatic curtain that's hundreds of feet tall. A hasty plan is in place to deal with the supernatural incursion. Only with cooperation can the menace be turned aside!

7:00pm–10:00pm

Quiet Year

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2c

The Quiet Year is a map drawing TTRPG in which you do not role play as characters, but as societal forces. Your choices will make your map evolve over the course of the game.

7:00pm–11:30pm

Paranoia (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2e

ATTENTION CITIZEN. You have been volunteered for mandatory Troubleshooting duty in sector CVG-1337. Please proceed to the destination zone promptly where you will meet the completely trustworthy, non-treasonous members of your team.

7:00pm–8:00pm

First Annual CONvergence Box Fart Championship

4 Boundary Waters Ad

Ah, the joy of the sound of air escaping as you shut your game box. Come show your skills and judge the best box fart! Ten lucky competitors will have a chance at prizes using a game from the library or one of their own!

7:00pm–9:00pm

Conquest Princess (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Aa

Dress up, team up, and save the galaxy again! An expansion deck for Conquest Princess: Fashion is Power co-op board game.

7:00pm–8:00pm

Party Games (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ab

Join in for party games like Just One, Codenames, and Monikers!

GAMING

7:00pm–8:00pm

GnomeLore Demo (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ac

GnomeLore is a collaborative structured storytelling game for any number of players. Players tap their imaginations and tell a story together with just a few small pieces. This game is in prototype playtesting stage with feedback welcome.

8:30pm–10:30pm

Red Dragon Inn, Saturday Night Special (18+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ab

We're playing Red Dragon Inn including the latest expansion, The Undercity.

8:30pm–9:30pm

GnomeLore Demo (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ae

GnomeLore is a collaborative structured storytelling game for any number of players. Players tap their imaginations and tell a story together with just a few small pieces. This game is in prototype playtesting stage with feedback welcome.

9:30pm–12:30am

Storytelling Game / Narrative Game (18+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2a

Craft a detailed story with fellow roleplayers. Game system and content limits will be set by participants. Rules will be taught but roleplayers familiar with strong narrative systems are preferred.

10:00pm–Midnight

Conquest Princess (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Aa

Dress up, team up, and save the galaxy again! An expansion deck for Conquest Princess: Fashion is Power co-op board game.

11:30pm–2:30am

KSRPS AKA Simplicity (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2f

Simplicity is a d10 RPG designed to be a cross between a typical dice rolling and storytelling game. Come join us and learn about this system.

SUNDAY

9:30am–11:00am

Zombicide, 2nd Edition

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Aa

Play Zombicide: 2nd Edition, the classic game of survival in a modern zombie apocalypse.

9:30am–10:15am

Learn to Play: Ticket to Ride First Journey (Kids)

Hyatt 4 Lake Nokomis b

Will you claim the longest railway route between the country's most iconic cities and win the game? Kids ages 6-12, learn in 5 minutes, play for just 30 minutes!

9:30am–11:00am

Haka Onna: Horror Hide-n-Seek (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ac

In this horror hide-n-seek game one player plays the "Hako Onna" (the Woman in the Box), the rest are "Visitors" who are trying to escape the mansion.

10:30am–Noon

Here There Be Bears! (Kids)

Hyatt 4 Lake Nokomis a

You are the best bears in the world of bear crime. A group of humans have set up camp in the woods you call home, and they brought a LOT of honey. Do bear crimes, steal the honey, and drive those humans out of your woods!

11:00am–3:30pm

Exchange and Escape: A Spire OneShot (18+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2d

You are drow revolutionaries trying to overthrow the high elves that colonized your city. One of your fellow operatives was kidnapped and you've been tasked with carrying out a prisoner exchange to get him back. A d10 pool system independent of D&D.

11:00am–12:30pm

Within the Beastlands (13+)

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2g

You've come across a jungle that doesn't appear on your maps. While the heavily-shaded, mysterious jungle buzzes and thrums with unknown creatures within, there doesn't appear to be a better path to your destination.

11:00am–1:00pm

Conquest Princess (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ab

Dress up, team up, and save the galaxy again! An expansion deck for Conquest Princess: Fashion is Power co-op board game.

11:00am–Noon

GnomeLore Demo (13+)

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters Ad

GnomeLore is a collaborative structured storytelling game for any number of players. Players tap their imaginations and tell a story together with just a few small pieces. This game is in prototype playtesting stage with feedback welcome.

Noon–1:30pm**Shadowed Temple**

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2h

Shadow cultists are enacting a ritual to cover the kingdom in darkness! You must steal the Blood Gem of Terric from the temple of Feyd-Dauggar and escape with your life to save the kingdom from the Cult's deadly intent.

Noon–8:00pm**Sword of Air**

Hyatt 4 Cedar Lake

The party is visiting Sorten the Wizard to try to procure a book called the Shagaspondium. They are currently in the area of Sorten's Tower and attempting to set up a negotiation with him.

1:00pm–2:30pm**Get to the Train!**

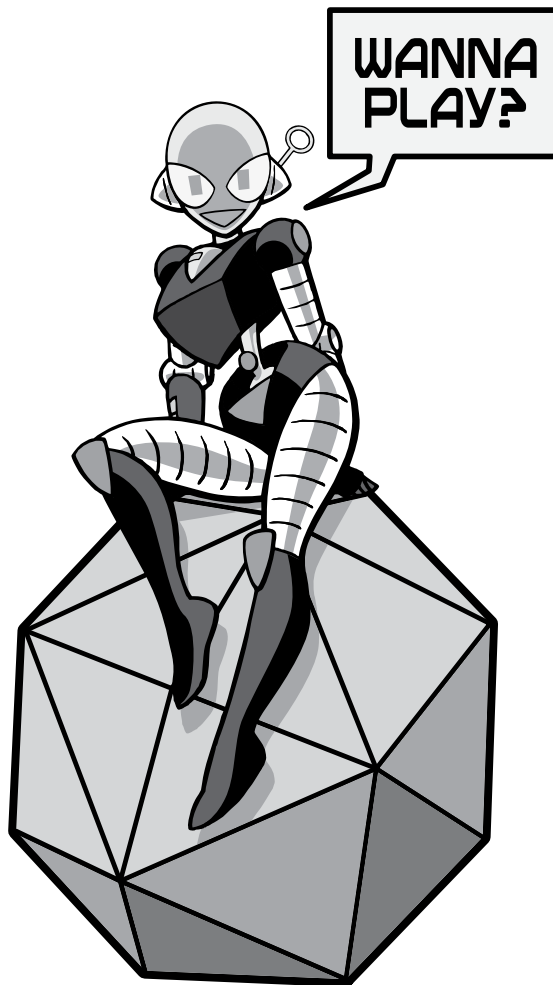
Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2g

The magical Astral Train Station provides passage to other planes of existence. Your adventuring party has a quest in the elemental plane of water, but you must first navigate the train station's chaos—with some additional magic on the loose!

1:30pm–3:00pm**Wonderers**

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A2f

You've survived a complete societal collapse and must rebuild from the ground up. Search for lost relics and start projects to move the population forward. Can you build a functioning society, or will everything you built crumble away with the ruins?



PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

Audience participation is an important part of most CONvergence panels. Please feel free to (respectfully) ask questions.

You are welcome to bring food and drink into the programming rooms. You can also rearrange the chairs, assuming that the room isn't too full. Please put the chairs back where you found them and take care of your trash. Trash receptacles are located in each room, usually by the doors. There are no magic fairies to clean up the rooms—just CONvergence volunteers.

Panels are open to all CONvergence attendees with a weekend or day pass.

Those panels at which we expect more adult content are marked as "18+" in their descriptions and are normally scheduled to start at 10:00pm or later. Parents can use this information to help determine whether a panel is appropriate for their children.

For other panels, panelists are requested to take note of the age of the youngest attendees in the audience and adjust accordingly.

If you want to send us comments on a panel, a form is available at convergence-con.org/panel-evaluation. You can also use the following QR code to get there:



If you have a suggestion for a panel at next year's convention, a form is available at convergence-con.org/panel-suggestion. You can also use the following QR code to get there:



THURSDAY

12:30pm–1:30pm **Do Your Research**
Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A

Even when writing fiction, if your work isn't grounded enough in reality, it can break the suspension of disbelief. Learn how to research subjects outside your knowledge enough to be believable. *Becca Justiniano (mod), Christina M Alongi, J.R. Dawson, Lisa Hario, Stephanie Cranford*

12:30pm–1:30pm **It's Not My Job to Teach You**
Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

People who are part of marginalized communities are often asked to teach others the basics of diversity and inclusiveness. How do we help people understand that it's not any individual's obligation? Where and how should they learn? *Amanda Leinbaugh, Lathan Murrell, Morgan Strickland, Rachel Poleke (mod), Sean Eberle*

12:30pm–1:30pm **Collections**
Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH
What do you collect? How do you deal with cost, space, and so on? How do you build a collection? *Amanda Lynn Bliss, John A. Shea, Mary Elizabeth Sterling, Melissa Kaercher (mod), Remy Corso*

12:30pm–1:30pm **Fashioning Wings for Cosplay**
Hyatt 2 Greenway I
We all know beeswax doesn't work. Let's talk about the many different types of wings and how to make them. *Bob DeMers, Kevin Doheny (mod), Khori, Nicole LaBat*

12:30pm–1:30pm **Keep On Keeping On**
Hyatt 2 Northstar B
Motivation is a tricky beast that keeps its own schedule. What can one do to stay in the mindset needed to finish a project, be it a creative endeavor or housekeeping? *A L Raden (mod), Al Kaye, Charlene Holm, Janelle Kloth, Kate MacEachern*

12:30pm–1:30pm **Professional Game Masters**
Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D
The professional Game Master is a rising new profession in the hobby. It offers its own unique sets of challenges and also offers a different approach to how we interact with our players. We'll offer insight on encounter design, table behavior, and more. *Chase McAllister, Hunter Goetzman, Jake Rafter, Lauren Crabtree (mod), Rea Renee, Wendy A Hoskin*

2:00pm–3:00pm **Nanotechnology in Medicine**
Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A
Can nanotechnology create bots that could course through the human body, correcting errors where they occur? Would this nanotechnology enable us to cure the aging process? If so, would nanotechnology grant humans immortality? *Bryan J Joshua (mod), James Kakalios, Kurt Fleschner*

2:00pm–3:00pm **Dungeons & Dragons (movie) Fan Panel**
Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE
Arthur Ray Armstrong, Janelle Kloth, Nikki Armstrong (mod), Sarah Jeanette Moretsky, TK

2:00pm–3:00pm **Game Grumps Jeopardy**
Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH
Bienvenu! Do you think you know the most about our beloved Grump and Not So Grump? Come on down to Game Grumps Jeopardy! This game will feature questions for old and new fans alike! Participation is not required. *Calico Smith-O'Brian, Ian Appold, Tabitha Moore*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

2:00pm–3:00pm

Ashoka Fan Panel

Hyatt 2 Greenway I

Jeff R Grapevine, Nicole Anne Printy, Peter M Aviom (mod)

2:00pm–3:00pm

Queer—What Does It Mean?

Hyatt 2 Northstar B

The term “queer” is an umbrella, but what does it mean? What falls under the umbrella? Is it just being gay or is there more to it? In this panel, we will discuss what including everyone under the term queer might mean to you. *Aeryn Sinwell (mod), Christina M Alongi, Eiryn Hegland, Katherine Jo Pysick, Sean Eberle*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Afrofuturism

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

Afrofuturism centers on Black history and culture, incorporating SF, technology, and futuristic elements into literature, music, and the visual arts. Recurring themes include reclamation, Black liberation, revisioning the past, and predicting the future. *Lathan Murrell, Miss Shannan Paul, T. Aaron Cisco (mod)*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Radio Play Auditions

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters C

Come audition for this year’s radio play. Give yourself a chance to perform with actual voice actors on stage with and for your fellow fans. **Must be available for rehearsal/performance Saturday 12:30-3pm** *Brigitte Bako, Christopher Jones, Greg Weisman, Jennifer L Anderson, Thom Adcox-Hernandez, Windy Bowlsby, Zehra Fazal*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Let’s Talk About PVC Foam!

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

A presentation and demo on PVC foam: an underutilized cosplay material that requires no power tools, no special skills, and is lightweight and versatile. It’s carvable, sandable, easily paintable, and slightly moldable. Come learn how to get started! *Adrienne (of Quite-a-Riot Cosplay) Ottemann*

2:00pm–3:00pm

ConFABulous and CONsole Room

Hyatt 4 Lake Minnetonka

This panel will introduce the audience to two local conventions: ConFABulous, a GLBTQ+ and allies gaming relaxicon in October, and CONsole Room, the Twin Cities Dr. Who Convention in January. *A L Raden, David Lenander, Donald Kaiser (mod), Natasha Jo Krentz*

3:15pm–5:30pm

Meet and Greet-Gargoyles Cast

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall Signing Table A

Brigitte Bako, Christopher Jones, Greg Weisman, Keith David, Thom Adcox-Hernandez, Zehra Fazal

3:30pm–4:30pm

GMing for Youths

Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A

Kids and teens interested in running their own tabletop roleplaying games (TTRPGs), come learn about some great ways to get started leading games, easy games to lead, and how to find folks to play with. Players are welcome, too! *Ian Martin-Mann, Jacob Evert Borgmann, Kenneth Joel Justiniano, Shaun Larsen, Sherry Pofahl Johnson (mod)*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Trivia Jutsu

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

Kahoot-based anime trivia (bring a smart device). Believe it! *Ashley D Haapapuro, Lucas Haapapuro, Sartorial Jutsu Studios*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Weird AI Yankovic Fan Panel

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

Dave Margosian, Edward Eastman, Margaret Eastman (mod), Mark Lundberg, Miss Shannan Paul

3:30pm–4:30pm

Welcome to CONvergence

Hyatt 2 Greenway I

This is a big, busy convention and we can offer suggestions on how to enjoy it without wiping out. *Amy Marie Dekker (mod), Jeanne M Mealy, Nick Glover, Rhea Wessendorf, Sean Eberle*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Parallel Worlds

Hyatt 2 Northstar B

Is the concept of parallel universes valid? If so, would this signify an afterlife? *Carlos Hernandez, Charlene Holm, James Kakalios, Lathan Murrell (mod)*

3:30pm–4:30pm

What Makes a Good Antihero?

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

An antihero is a character lacking the qualities of traditional heroes but with specific skills or an interesting flaw that make them more complex. How does one create or portray such a person and how flawed do they need to be to earn the “anti” label? *Christina M Alongi, F. D. Lee, Kate MacEachern, Raederle Gabrielle Sterling, Sam August Miller (mod)*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Fighting Games 101: Why You Are Being Beat By Math

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

Tired of getting beat at Street Fighter? Looking to level up at Melty Blood? Or are you maybe just curious to how fighting games work on a deeper level? KOLD X will take you into the heart of fighting games with a lesson on hit boxes and frame data. *KOLD X, KitKat*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

3:30pm–4:30pm

Cooking as Practical Chemistry

Hyatt 4 Lake Minnetonka

Cooking includes such chemistry activities as experimental measurement (timing water boiling), solubility (mixing water with salt, sugar, or oil), heat capacity (heating salt, sugar, butter, and water), combustion calculations, and colligative properties. *Kurt Fleschner, Rachel Poleke (mod), Renee Petersen, Zack Mayville*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Exploring Yourself Through RPGs

Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A

What can we learn about ourselves through “avatar” games, where we play ourselves (or a specific/exaggerated version thereof) in an RPG universe? Can it affect your social dynamic with your fellow players? *Arthur Ray Armstrong, Cetius d’Raven, Jacob Evert Borgmann (mod), Jeb Hagan, Kenneth Joel Justiniano*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Young Frankenstein 50 Years Later

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

Young Frankenstein came out in 1974. How has the movie held up in 50 years? It was a different time then—what would a modern remake look like? *Christopher Daniels, Jody Wurl (mod), Mark Goldberg, Sean Eberle, William J Leisner*

5:00pm–6:00pm

It’s OK to Be Bad

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

You can’t be a great artist or writer at the beginning, and it’s ok to do something just because you enjoy it. What motivates you to continue? *A L Raden (mod), Al Kaye, Charlene Holm, Jon Stark Olsen, Kate MacEachern*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Just Because It’s Animated Does NOT Mean It’s for Kids

Hyatt 2 Northstar B

Grave of the Fireflies, Watership Down, Fritz the Cat, and so on. What strengths does animation lend to these kinds of stories? *Bryon David Stump, Dave Margosian, Mark James McPherson, Remy Corso (mod)*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Making History Interesting

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

Many folks find history to be dull, difficult, or boring to learn. Is there something about current pedagogy that turns people off? What could be done differently to bring a sparkle to the subject? *Jenny McElroy, Kara Knight, Raederle Gabrielle Sterling, Renee Petersen (mod), Sarah Barsness*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Hobby Swap aka “Buy Nothing CONvergence”

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters C

Drop off your abandoned, clean, and organized hobby tools/materials and go fishing for new ones amongst the donated goods. Any leftovers can be recollected, donated to Costume Wars/Sandbox, or leave an “In Search Of” sticky note with your room number. *Ashley D Haapapuro*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Exotic Pets

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

A conversation among a group of animal experts on different types of unusual pets. *Jim Soos, Kelly Jo Fredrickson, Shari H*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Eugenics in Science Fiction

Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A

Science fiction has long grappled with the concepts of human “advancement” and “perfection” in genetic terms. Let’s talk about what authors have done well and where they’ve perpetuated oppressive tropes and misunderstanding of how genetics work. *Justin Edward Grays, Lathan Murrell, Mara DeMers, Wes Huntington (mod)*

7:00pm–8:00pm

John Wick Fan Panel

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

Christopher Daniels (mod), Madeline Gasper, Melissa Kaercher, Nathan Anderson, Noel Thingvall

7:00pm–8:00pm

Why Do We Need Horror?

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

Horror as a genre speaks to us all in different ways. Fear is human, so tasting of that fear is a universal experience. Why do we seek out being scared? What lessons does the genre teach us? *Brian Forrest (mod), Charlene Holm, Ruby Baker, Scott Kevin Jamison, Skazka*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Music to Create To

Hyatt 2 Greenway I

Artists, what music inspires you? Does it change with what you’re making? How can we find playlists to help inspire us? *Arthur Ray Armstrong, Beth Hansen, Jason Richard Klietz, Kerry Teckla Peterson (mod), Lisa Hario*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Book Banning

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

A perennial problem for educators, book banning seems to be back in vogue. Come discuss why banning books is harmful to everyone, often only promotes the book, and violates the First Amendment. *Crystal Kelleher, Danith McPherson (mod), Melanie Reap, Meredith Jeanne Gillies, Raederle Gabrielle Sterling*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

7:00pm–8:00pm

Friends of Bill W

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters C

7:00pm–8:00pm

3D Printing for Cosplay

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

An intro-level presentation on 3D printing based on the experience of creators designing and printing for cosplay.

Adrian Perryman

8:30pm–9:30pm

Darker Storylines of Recent Disney

Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A

Come hear the discussion about how post-Frozen animated Disney is addressing darker themes, reincarnation, depression, and general trauma. *F. D. Lee (mod), J.R. Dawson, Nikki Armstrong, Patrick W Marsh*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Glorifying a Galaxy Far Far Away

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

Join our panel to celebrate the Galaxy gifted to us by Uncle George and so many other creative individuals. This panel is about everything we love about our favorite science fiction franchise. Complaint department located in the Saarlac pit. *Gregory Parks, Susanna Malak, Tim Wick (mod)*

8:30pm–9:30pm

In Memoriam—Film

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

Find out who we lost this year in genre film and get some recommendations from the panel on what work to seek out. *Garrick A Dietze (mod), Kelvin Hatle, Megan M Slawson, Melissa Kaercher*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Dead Like Me, 20 Years Later

Hyatt 2 Greenway I

It's been 20 years since the series ended. Come discuss the reapers and what they taught us about life, death, and the human experience. *Catherine Schaff-Stump, Cetius d'Raven (mod), Renate Fiora, Ruby Baker, T. Aaron Cisco*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Best of Banned Books

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

Banned books tend to be socially important books, so we don't talk as much about them as books. Come prepared to recommend your favorites. *Carlos Hernandez, Crystal Kelleher (mod), Danith McPherson, David R Lowery, Jody Wurl*

8:30pm–11:00pm

Crafting Circle

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters C

Come join us, bring a project to work on, or just come to chat. Learn about other arts and crafts and talk with others who enjoy making.

8:30pm–9:30pm

Manufactured STI-gma: How One Company Used Sex-shaming for Profit

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

Does the word "herpes" send shivers of horror down your spine? Come learn the relationship between marketing and sex-shaming. All ages welcome, but be aware that sexual topics will be discussed in an educational format! ****mature content**** *Alexa Torgenson, Lathan Murrell*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Care and Keeping of the Con Goer

Hyatt 4 Lake Minnetonka

Panelists from multiple medical specialties CON-FAB-U-LATE on ergonomics, injury prevention, energy conservation, and general self care to keep you well enough to enjoy Con. Licensed practitioners are welcome to PAR-TI-CI-PATE. *Ashley D Haapapuro, Kurt Fleschner (mod), Lucas Haapapuro*

10:00pm–11:00pm

Queer Vampires

Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A

Vampires, by the very nature of how they use seduction as part of the hunt, seem to be at least a little queer. A discussion about expressly queer vampires and the queerness that's always been apart of the lore. *Brian Forrest (mod), Em Rowene, Sean Eberle, Skazka, T'Yanna Singleton*

10:00pm–11:00pm

The Prank Panel (TV)

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

GoH Susanna Malak discusses her appearance on The Prank Panel, a show where contestants pitch prank ideas at celebrity judges—think Shark Tank meets Punk'd. *Anton Petersen (mod), Susanna Malak*

10:00pm–11:00pm

CONvergence does JackBox

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

Come vote for your favorite nerdy answers in the audience as you watch the panel play a variety of JackBox fill-in-the-blank games. *Eric Thompson, Hedy Rand-McKay, Mike Dee, Molly Glover, Nick Glover, Nikki Armstrong (mod)*

10:00pm–11:00pm

Letterkenny Fan Panel

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

Charlene Holm (mod), Amy Stomberg, Jeremy Stomberg, Katherine Jo Pysick, Viga

10:00pm–11:00pm

There Should Have Been Only One

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

Sequels and prequels exist for a lot of properties and sometimes those stories do not enhance the original. Come discuss Highlander 2 and other instances of tales that shouldn't have been told...at least in your opinion. *Aimee Kuzenski, KitKat, Mark James McPherson, Patrick W Marsh (mod), T. Aaron Cisco*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

10:00pm–12:30am

Late Night Music Circle

Hyatt 4 Lake Minnetonka

A late night gathering of musicians where you can sing, play or just listen.

11:30pm–12:30am

20 Years of Saw

Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A

In October 2024, the Saw franchise will turn 20 years old. How have the films changed through the years? What traps still terrify you? Do you still live in denial and believe that Adam is alive? Let's play a game and discuss! *Hannibal Grim, Madeline Gasper, Sam August Miller (mod), Sarah Jeanette Moretsky, T. Aaron Cisco*

11:30pm–12:30am

Killer B's Improv Movie Show

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

As clips of strange movies play on screen, a team of voice actors and musicians create a whole new soundtrack... without ever seeing the movies before! It's film, improv comedy, and live music all in one, plus a 75% chance of rubber-suit monsters! *Caly McMorro, Duck Washington, Kelvin Hatle, Matthew Kessen, Melissa Kaercher, Molly Glover, Nick Glover*

11:30pm–12:30am

Smut Appreciation Panel

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

Thanks to self-publishing, Kindle Unlimited, and BookTok, it feels like a smut golden age. Join us for conversation and recommendations (tropes, authors, platforms, communities, etc.)! ****mature content**** *Barb Lind, Kay King, Rhea Sayotovich, Windy Bowlsby (mod)*

11:30pm–12:30am

Open to It

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

Open and polyamorous relationships are more common than ever, inspiring many monogamous couples to rethink their stance. Those who've gone from monogamy to poly or open relationships discuss the pros and cons of their experiences for those on the fence. *Amanda Leinbaugh, Ashley M. Mages, Heather Lynn Heim, Lathan Murrell, Stephanie Dreis (mod)*

11:30pm–12:30am

Magnus Protocol Fan Panel

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters C

Cetius d'Raven (mod), Ruby Baker

11:30pm–12:30am

Stranger Things Fan Panel

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

KitKat (mod), Noel Thingvall, Peter M Aviom, Skazka

FRIDAY

9:30am–10:30am

Masquerade 101

Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A

Get your questions answered about participating in the Masquerade by the Masquerade director and staff. *Donald Kaiser*

9:30am–10:30am

Everyone's a Leader: Embracing Advocacy in Fandom

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

Leadership isn't reserved for the few. Explore how embracing advocacy in our favorite fandom realms can inspire and empower every individual to take the lead. *Amáda Márquez Simula (mod), Ashley M. Mages, Kerry Teckla Peterson, Miss Shannan Paul*

9:30am–10:30am

Adults Like It Too

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

A discussion of media made for kids or teens but is also appealing to adults—Animaniacs, My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic, and so on. *J.R. Dawson, Mark James McPherson, Sam August Miller, Viga (mod)*

9:30am–10:30am

How to Volunteer

Hyatt 2 Greenway I

You've heard that CONvergence runs on volunteers. You've heard that volunteers have more fun. So how do you get in on that? Ask us. Members of the Volunteer department are here to answer all your volunteering-related questions. *Alex Singer, Rachel Lubich, Samantha Bitner*

9:30am–10:30am

Allergy Restricted Diets

Hyatt 2 Northstar B

Dietary allergies and intolerances seem to be on the rise, or at least knowledge of them has entered the public consciousness. Where do you begin when you need to change your diet? Are our existing labels good enough? *Joan Marie Verba, Rachel Poleke, Renee Petersen, Staci Corcoran (mod)*

9:30am–10:30am

Octavia Butler Fan Panel

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

Eric Karn, Joe Weinberg, Lathan Murrell, Sherry Pofahl Johnson, T'Yanna Singleton (mod)

9:30am–1:30pm

Crafting Circle

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters C

Come join us, bring a project to work on, or just come to chat. Learn about other arts and crafts and talk with others who enjoy making.

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

9:30am–10:30am

Podcasting 101

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

If the pandemic proved anything, it's that anyone can have a podcast. Do you not have one yet because you're intimidated by the thought of making one? It's easier than you think and our panelists will show you just how true that is. *Allyson Cygan, Jerry Stearns, Noel Thingvall, Patrick W Marsh (mod), Wes Huntington*

9:30am–10:30am

Move It Like Water

Hyatt 6 Pool

A 45 minute low-impact workout in the pool led by a certified water fitness instructor. Learn how to use water resistance to tone and strengthen and do cardio in a supportive way. You do NOT need to know how to swim. All levels of ability welcome. Ages 12+. *Christina Neitz*

11:00am–Noon

Building a World for a Character and a Character for a World

Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A

Some writers start with a world, some start with a character. The relationship between character and setting can have a huge impact on the story being told regardless of the medium, so this panel will explore the way to make character and setting resonate. *Danith McPherson, F. D. Lee (mod), J.R. Dawson, Joe Weinberg, Lisa Hario*

11:00am–Noon

CONvergence: the Game!

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

Join Connie and Connie Mark II for a fun board game where you get to join forces with your favorite bot and help them win the amazing title of "Bot of CON!" You will be answering trivia questions, making silly gestures, and playing a game. Help your bot to victory! *Angela Fox, Courtney Azar, Dawn Krosnowski, Jeremy Stomberg*

11:00am–Noon

Year in MCU

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

Another year, another parade of Marvel movies and television. Let's discuss the latest developments in the MCU. *Charlene Holm, Danielle Elise Maser, Elisabeth Hazelton, Mark Lundberg, Peter M Avirom (mod)*

11:00am–Noon

Sewing Tips and Tricks for Newbies

Hyatt 2 Greenway I

For those just starting to make costumes, my 40 years of sewing professionally as The DreamStitcher can help to facilitate what to do and what NOT to do when creating costumes. I'll discuss sewing tools and techniques to make things easier. *Rae Lundquist*

11:00am–Noon

Emotion in Motion: Voice Acting for Animation and Video Games

Hyatt 2 Northstar B

Guest of Honor Zehra Fazal discusses her experiences breaking into the industry and stories from her career. If time allows, the audience will practice acting principles to bring "motion" into voice acting, giving the animators lots to work with. *Zehra Fazal*

11:00am–Noon

The Wachowskis and Their Impact

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

The Wachowskis are a filmmaking duo known for their innovative storytelling, creative visuals, inclusivity, and ambitious projects. Their work has inspired other filmmakers to follow in their footsteps, taking risks, and exploring philosophical themes. *Allyson Cygan, Boris Smelov (mod), Lathan Murrell, Noel Thingvall, T'Yanna Singleton*

11:00am–Noon

Fur Real Anime

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

Anime has a lot to offer to the world of furry content. Come see its history, get recommendations for shows, and see some kawaii animated fluffiness. *Viga*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Meet and Greet-Brigitte Bako

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall Signing Table A

Brigitte Bako

12:30pm–1:30pm

Meet and Greet-Matthew Kessen

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall Signing Table B

Matthew Kessen

12:30pm–1:30pm

How Do I Make This Work?

Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A

Develop your costuming ideas that you haven't figured out how to make work with our panel of experts. *Erica Zaffke, Haruka, Janine Wardale, Sara Huebschen, Todd Murray*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Dating "Different"

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

We all find ourselves in "different" relationships, whether they be queer, bi-racial, or neurodiverse. How do we handle these differences when it comes to loving one another or the opinions of others around us? *Heather Lynn Heim, Justin Edward Grays, Kiki Joy Latham, Stephanie Dreis (mod), Viga*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Godzilla Minus One Fan Panel

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

Christopher Daniels (mod), Eric Karn, Madeline Gasper, Melissa Kaercher, Scott Kevin Jamison

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

12:30pm–1:30pm

What Genre Did I Just Write?

Hyatt 2 Greenway I

Sometimes you've got a story that fits nicely into a particular box, but often stories cross over into many different genres. How do you focus? Do you need to? How do you market a multi-genre book effectively? *Aimee Kuzenski, Becca Justiniano, F. D. Lee, Patrick W Marsh, Sherry Pofahl Johnson (mod)*

12:30pm–1:30pm

It's a CONspiracy: Everyone's Involved!

Hyatt 2 Northstar B

Our expert panel of comedians are back to tell you the TRUTH about the biggest conspiracies ever. Everyone's involved, even you. Yeah you, Barbara. *Duck Washington, Jeremy Stomberg, Molly Glover, Nick Glover, Tim Wick*

12:30pm–1:30pm

What Makes a Good Game System?

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

A discussion of gaming systems. What makes a system work or fail? What systems work well for some types of gaming but not for others? *Eric Zawadzki (mod), Jacob Evert Borgmann, Joe Weinberg, Kenneth Joel Justiniano*

12:30pm–1:30pm

History is Not Supposed to Make You Feel Good

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

History is full of uncomfortable truths that are nonetheless factual. If it is true that those who fail to understand history are doomed to repeat it, why are there so many wishing to keep some history out of schools? *Jenny McElroy, John A. Shea, Rachael Sterling (mod), Raederle Gabrielle Sterling, Sarah Barsness*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Meet and Greet-Carlos Hernandez

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall Signing Table A

Carlos Hernandez

2:00pm–4:30pm

Meet and Greet-Susanna Malak

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall Signing Table B

Susanna Malak

2:00pm–3:00pm

Getting Started on a Budget

Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A

Picking up a new hobby or craft can be difficult without spending a lot of money. Come hear about some tips and tricks to get into creating without breaking the bank. *Allyson Cygan, Dana Baird (mod), Sarah Barsness, Staci Corcoran*

2:00pm–3:00pm

I'll Be Home For Kahless: A Very Klingon Christmas Movie

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

A staged reading of a Klingon Hallmark Christmas Movie mashup! Samantha yearns for something more than her life on the battlefield. Could planet Earth be her answer and will she find even more than her Klingon hearts could have imagined? By Angela Fox. *Angela Fox, Christopher Jones, Dawn Krosnowski, Duck Washington, Philip Henry, Jason Kruger, Lana Rosario*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Andor Fan Panel

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

Eric Zawadzki, Erik Nyberg (mod), Scott Saunders, Skazka

2:00pm–3:00pm

Representation and Why It Matters

Hyatt 2 Northstar B

Discussing representation in media, why it is important, who does it right, and who does it wrong. *Assad Khaishgi (mod), Christina M Alongi, Eiryn Hegland, Miss Shannan Paul, T. Aaron Cisco*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Integrating Evil PCs

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

Mixed alignment parties can be tricky, particularly in long-term campaigns. How can GMs and players make it easier to play non-goodie goodie characters without crossing any in or out-of-game lines? *Cetius d'Raven, Jacob Evert Borgmann (mod), Kenneth Joel Justiniano, Lauren Crabtree, Roger C Mlynczak*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Busting Viking Myths

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

What's really true of Vikings? Horned helmets? Beautiful long-haired women on flying horses? Eye sacrifice? Huge hunks of meat? Join us for some mythic busting! *Christopher Daniels, David R Lowery, Lisa Hario, Renee Petersen (mod)*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Kids Eye View of Minecraft and Other Games

Hyatt 4 Lake Minnetonka

Minecraft is one of the most popular games for kids. They also play Roblox, Scrap Mechanic, and many other games. Hear kids talk about what excites them about these games. By and for kids! *Becca Justiniano (mod), Ian Martin-Mann, Missy Green*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Meet and Greet-Thom Adcox-Hernandez

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall Signing Table A

Thom Adcox-Hernandez

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

3:30pm–4:30pm

Good Food, Less Effort

Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A

Many see cooking as a chore. What are some great recipes that don't take a ton of effort or skill but are still healthy and tasty? We'll share some of our favorites, so be prepared to take notes! *Heather Lynn Heim, Rachael Sterling, Renee Petersen (mod), Sarah Barsness, Staci Corcoran*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Gargoyles in Comic Books

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

The television series lives on in comic book form. See how the sausage is made and find out what's coming down the pike. *Christopher Jones, Greg Weisman (mod), Karine Charlebois*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Good Omens, Season 2 Fan Panel

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

Cetius d'Raven (mod), Eiryn Hegland, Kathleen Nicole Addams, Penguin E, SaraBeth Ray

3:30pm–4:30pm

New in Disney Parks

Hyatt 2 Greenway I

The Disney parks are making moves to keep things fresh. What are some of the recent changes, how do we feel about them, and what's coming in the near future? *Haruka, Laura Joy Gough, Nicole LaBat, Scott Saunders (mod)*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Fall of the House of Usher Fan Panel

Hyatt 2 Northstar B

Brittany Ann Kerschner, Renate Fiora, Sarah Jeanette Moretsky, Skazka, Wendy Fossum (mod)

3:30pm–4:30pm

Professionalism and Neurodiversity

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

Professionalism is a tricky part of life on the best of days and can be even more difficult to navigate if you're neurodivergent. Panelists share experiences, suggestions, and insights to help make those waters easier to tread. *Ben San Del, Erica Zaffke, Kerry Teckla Peterson, Mark James McPherson, Maya Sutton (mod)*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Writers Meetup

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters C

A gathering of people who are either published authors, aspiring authors, or just in it for the pure joy of it. This is a way of networking with others who enjoy writing in any form or level of experience. *A L Raden, Cat Beltran, Catherine Champion, Christina M Alongi, J.R. Dawson, Joe Weinberg, Justin Edward Grays, Katherine Jo Pysick, Naomi Kritzer, Patrick W Marsh, Peter M Avirom, Stephanie Cranford, William J Leisner*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Wig Styling 101

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

New to wigs? Join White Lotus Witch to talk about the basics of wig wearing/styling for cosplay! *Calliope, Emily*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Meet and Greet-Shannan Paul

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall Signing Table A

Miss Shannan Paul

5:00pm–6:00pm

Meet and Greet-Naomi Kritzer

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall Signing Table B

Naomi Kritzer

5:00pm–6:00pm

CONvergence Events Open Meeting

Hyatt 4 Lake Minnetonka

Get an update on the latest with the organization that runs CONvergence with members of the Convergence Events Board of Directors. *CJ Mantel, Charmaine Parnell, Courtney Azar, Eric Knight, Luis Beltran, Tim Wick, William Verburg-Cunningham*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Preparing for Your Death

Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A

Panelists will discuss different ways of preparing for the end of your life or loved ones. What questions to ask, how to make a "death book", and more. You are never too young to get started on this process and make your death a little less painful. *Amanda Folberg, Elizabeth Reynolds, Jeri L. Byrne, Jon Stark Olsen (mod), Sarah Jeanette Moretsky*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Japanese Sword Collecting

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

Collecting traditionally made Japanese swords (nihonto) is an expensive but enriching hobby that requires an exploration of the Japanese sword as a whole. A small collection of antique nihonto and handmade "Japanese-style" swords will be on display. *John A. Shea*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Things I Learned the Hard Way

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

When you first start GMing, things might not always go so well. That's normal but can be hard to overcome. Learn from some veterans how to cope with the expected unexpected. *Annie Fleschner (mod), Eric Zawadzki, Jacob Evert Borgmann, Roger C Mlynczak, TK*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Web Comics Worth Reading

Hyatt 2 Greenway I

Most of us probably know about XKCD or Looking For Group, but what are some other web-based comics worth checking out? *Boris Smelov, KitKat (mod), Meredith Jeanne Gillies, Rachel Poleke*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

- 5:00pm–6:00pm** **Ace, Aro, and Agender: the Invisible Panel!**
Hyatt 2 Northstar B
Is any representation good representation? Do the portrayals of characters on our spectrums as androids, cyborgs, aliens, or other non-humans bother us? *Christina M Alongi, Elyssa Mason, Kathleen Nicole Addams, Sam Willson (mod), SaraBeth Ray*
- 5:00pm–6:00pm** **Ted Lasso Fan Panel**
Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B
Eric Karn, Erik Nyberg, Galen Cox, Maren Aalgaard, Peter M Avirom (mod)
- 5:00pm–6:00pm** **Radio Play Auditions**
Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters C
Here's your last chance to audition for this year's radio play. Take your shot at performing with actual voice actors on stage, with and for your fellow fans. **Must be available for rehearsal/performance Saturday 12:30–3pm** **Brigitte Bako, Christopher Jones, Greg Weisman, Jennifer L Anderson, Thom Adcox-Hernandez, Windy Bowlsby, Zehra Fazal**
- 5:00pm–6:00pm** **Wig Styling 201**
Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D
Already know the basics of wigs? Take your skills to the next level! In this panel, we will cover how to make gravity defying styles and other advanced wig styling techniques. *Calliope, Emily*
- 7:00pm–8:00pm** **Klingon Drag Queen Story Hour**
Hyatt 2 Northwoods Promenade
Come get your milk and cookies then listen to some stories before heading off to bed. Special thanks to our Klingon translator: Dapper Dinosaur. *Gregory Parks, Angela Fox*
- 7:00pm–8:00pm** **Judaism in Speculative Fiction**
Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A
Fictional religions often draw inspiration from real world counterparts, but often Christianity holds the spotlight. How has Judaism been portrayed in speculative fiction? How can we take inspiration from Jewish belief and practice in building new worlds? *J.R. Dawson, Joe Weinberg, Naomi Kritzer (mod), Peter M Avirom*
- 7:00pm–8:00pm** **Judging a Book by Its Cover**
Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE
Teams of "literary experts" compete to describe the plot of a book, judging only from its cover art! *Eric Thompson, Melissa Kaercher, Miss Shannan Paul, Molly Glover, Nick Glover, Tim Wick (mod)*
- 7:00pm–8:00pm** **Funniest Japanese Commercials**
Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH
What do Tommy Lee Jones, pasta aliens, and the length of gummy candy have to do with each other? They are part of the funniest hour of Japanese commercials! *Viga*
- 7:00pm–8:00pm** **Arcane: League of Legends**
Hyatt 2 Greenway I
The Netflix adaptation of League of Legends proves high quality adaptations of video game properties are very possible. This panel focuses on why Arcane works as an adaptation, what we love about it, and what we hope to see in Season 2. *Ben San Del, Lauren Crabtree (mod), Noel Thingvall, Susie Kline*
- 7:00pm–8:00pm** **Negocios Infernales, an Infernal Salon**
Hyatt 2 Northstar B
Join author Carlos Hernandez in a gathering of writing prompts taken from his GM-less TTRPG *Negocios Infernales*. Get that inspiration you need to start your next TTRPG campaign, short story, or novel with Carlos as your guide! **Carlos Hernandez**
- 7:00pm–8:00pm** **Things that Scare Us**
Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B
How have horror movies changed over time? *Andrew Meyer, Clarissa S Goldsmith, Hannibal Grim, KitKat (mod), Mark Goldberg*
- 7:00pm–8:00pm** **Friends of Bill W**
Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters C
- 7:00pm–8:00pm** **Best Film and TV Scores of 2023/2024**
Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D
Every year we gather to discuss our favorite (or "best") movie and TV scores of the past year+. Come and join us, listen to some tunes, and tell us what YOU think was the best! *Dave Margosian (mod), Duck Washington, Kayla McGrady*
- 8:30pm–9:30pm** **Fancy Bastard Pie Competition**
Hyatt 2 Northwoods Promenade
Do you have a pie recipe that can't be beat? The goal is to bake a pie that 2024 Guest of Honor Greg Weisman likes better than all the other pies present. Bring your pies or just come watch Greg eat himself sick. **Greg Weisman, Christopher Jones (mod), Hal Bichel, Zehra Fazal, Thom Adcox-Hernandez**

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

8:30pm–9:30pm

Monster Loving and Queerness

Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A

It is well known that monsters are very *ahem* beloved by the LGBTQ+ community. What drives this fascination? What are some must-reads and must-sees for this group? What are we excited to see come out? ****mature content**** *Elliott Kios Dean, Mordecai Mika, Sean Eberle, Sonni de Soto, T'Yanna Singleton (mod)*

8:30pm–9:30pm

DS9: Past Tense-A Generation Later

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

2024 is the year of the Bell riots. It's been a generation since that two-part episode aired. How are its themes relevant to events of today? *Brittany Ann Kerschner, Cory Damone Enriquez, Justin Edward Grays, T. Aaron Cisco (mod), William J Leisner*

8:30pm–9:30pm

A Little Story of Hollywood

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

Come ask Susanna Malak questions about her career as an actor and her life as a little person in Hollywood! **Susanna Malak**

8:30pm–9:30pm

Mystery Soda Panel

Hyatt 2 Greenway I

This panel has been happening at Con in secret for years and now it's finally time for the public debut! Watch several victims, um VOLUNTEERS, try sodas of mysterious origins. Will they suffer? Can they choke it down? Might they even like it?! Find out! *Dan Schmidt, Kelly Murphy, Marti Benson, Michael Benson, Nick Amos, Steve Sylvestre, Viga*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Healthy Coping Mechanisms for Mental Health and Neurodiversity

Hyatt 2 Northstar B

We talk a lot about mental health and neurodiversity and what it means in our lives. This panel will explore the wonderful world of healthy coping mechanisms. *Charlene Holm, Elizabeth Ess (mod), Katherine Jo Pysick, Kiki Joy Latham, Maya Sutton*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Storytelling Without Stories

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

Speculative fiction has used non-narrative storytelling through lists, letters, articles, technical instructions, and so on. How can you add depth to your story through footnotes and bibliographies? How do you need to change your process for these works? *A L Raden, Michael Allen Kingsley, Naomi Kritzer, Patrick W Marsh*

8:30pm–12:30am

Crafting Circle

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters C

Come join us, bring a project to work on, or just come to chat. Learn about other arts and crafts and talk with others who enjoy making.

8:30pm–9:30pm

Not in Front of the Children

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

A discussion of things we think children need to be protected from and how that has changed over time. *Elizabeth Reynolds, Elyssa Mason, Lathan Murrell, Melanie Reap, Staci Corcoran (mod)*

10:00pm–11:00pm

Interview with a Vampire (TV) Fan Panel

Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A

KitKat, Sarah Jeanette Moretsky, Skazka, T. Aaron Cisco (mod)

10:00pm–11:00pm

Not Funny Anymore

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

A discussion of things we used to find funny but are not okay anymore. *Ashley M. Mages, Miss Shannan Paul, Staci Corcoran (mod)*

10:00pm–11:00pm

Weird Crushes

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

Ever catch yourself crushing on an unsavory character? Maybe Rumpelstiltskin gets your spinning wheel turning. Does vampire sheriff Eric Northman get your blood boiling? Join our panelists and delve into dark and maybe not so healthy desires. *Anne Rementer, Christina Gregerson, Kelsi Williams, Lindsey Wollan (mod), Tyronne Davidson*

10:00pm–11:00pm

Dealing with Toxic Comments

Hyatt 2 Northstar B

It's a sad truth that the world of online comments includes a lot of toxicity. How do you deal with such posts? Ignore them? Wield the ban hammer? Engage politely...or not so politely? Come hear how some creators are handling such things. *Becca Justiniano, Lathan Murrell, Patrick W Marsh, Wes Huntington (mod)*

10:00pm–11:00pm

Our Flag Means Death: Season 2 Fan Panel

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

Alli M May, Eric Karn, F. D. Lee (mod), Maren Aalgaard, Peter M Aviom

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

10:00pm–12:30am

Shanties, Work Songs, & Sea Songs: a Nerdy Singalong

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

You don't have to be a musician to sing! Join us for another rousing singalong of shanties, work songs, and sea songs! If you have a song recommendation or wish to lead a tune, please come early or reach out to a panelist in advance. *Kerry Teckla Peterson (mod)*

10:00pm–12:30am

Late Night Music Circle

Hyatt 4 Lake Minnetonka

A late night gathering of musicians where you can sing, play, or just listen.

11:30pm–12:30am

Star Wars Has a Problem with Slavery

Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A

From Hutt space to clone armies to droid liberation, an exploration of the systems of slavery endemic in the Star Wars universe. Examining the significance of slavery in the Star Wars universe and how it's addressed in a narrative and metatextual context. *Boris Smelov (mod), Diane Perry, Jeff R Grapevine, Justin Edward Grays, Katherine Maher*

11:30pm–12:30am

The Blue Mug

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

Want to learn about the sex lives of Gargoyles? Want to know who was hooking up with whom among the heroes of Young Justice? Then join us at this absolutely inappropriate-by-design panel, where no question is too risqué. **mature content** *Greg Weisman, Thom Adcox-Hernandez*

11:30pm–12:30am

Locked Tomb Fan Panel

Hyatt 2 Greenway I

Join us for a discussion of the Locked Tomb series by Tamsyn Muir, where we talk about our favorite moments from the series and our hopes and predictions for "Alecto the Ninth". *Amanda Leinbaugh, Gretchen Lucken, Meredith Jeanne Gillies, Nathan Caleb Wulver (mod)*

11:30pm–12:30am

Boozy Baking: Pets Edition!

Hyatt 2 Northstar B

Do our mascots, Connie and MKII, have pets? What are they? What would they look like after Boozy Bakers Angela and Dawn attempt to recreate them in rice krispie bars, frosting, and other random stuff they find at the dollar store? Come and find out! *Angela Fox, Birdchick, Christopher Jones, Dawn Krosnowski, Miss Shannan Paul, Windy Bowlsby*

11:30pm–12:30am

Year In Horror

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

Join us to discuss the highlights of the year in horror 2023. *Arthur Ray Armstrong, Charlene Holm (mod), Hannibal Grim, KitKat, T. Aaron Cisco*

SATURDAY

9:30am–10:30am

Year in New Trek

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

Several series are running concurrently. Engage in a discussion about Discovery, Lower Decks, Prodigy, and Strange New Worlds. What are we hoping for in Starfleet Academy? *Assad Khaishgi (mod), Justin Edward Grays, Scott Saunders, Staci Corcoran, Wes Huntington*

9:30am–10:30am

Great British Bake Off Fan Panel

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

Elizabeth Reynolds, Mary Elizabeth Sterling, Nikki Armstrong, Raederle Gabrielle Sterling (mod), Renee Petersen

9:30am–Noon

U of M Raptor Center

Hyatt 2 Northstar B

See live raptors such as owls, hawks, and falcons, and learn about them through a variety of hands-on props and activities.

9:30am–10:30am

Marketing for Authors

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

Both traditional and indie published authors have to do their own marketing these days. How do you do that, especially as an introvert? *Aimee Kuzenski (mod), Christina M Alongi, Em Rowene, F. D. Lee, T. Aaron Cisco*

9:30am–10:30am

Superhero Fatigue...Fatigue

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

The age of superheroes isn't over—you're just not watching the right stuff. Our panel discusses superhero-centric shows/movies that are inclusive, interesting, innovative, incredible, and sometimes even a little...insane. *A L Raden (mod), Danielle Elise Maser, Lathan Murrell, Mark James McPherson, Mark Lundberg*

9:30am–10:30am

Move It Like Water

Hyatt 6 Pool

A 45 minute low-impact workout in the pool led by a certified water fitness instructor. Learn how to use water resistance to tone and strengthen and do cardio in a supportive way. You do NOT need to know how to swim. All levels of ability welcome. Ages 12+. *Christina Neitz*

11:00am–Noon

Meet and Greet-Christopher Jones

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall Signing Table A

Christopher Jones

11:00am–1:30pm

Meet and Greet-Susanna Malak

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall Signing Table B

Susanna Malak

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

11:00am–Noon

Writing for Multiple Media

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

Learn the differences (and similarities) between writing for television, movies, novels, and comic books. **Greg Weisman**

11:00am–Noon

Sympathy for the Devil

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

What characters portrayed as villains did you agree or sympathize with? What makes you root for the bad guy? *Aimee Kuzenski, Cetius d'Raven (mod), Jennifer Lee Lundstrom, Kate MacEachern, Nikki Armstrong*

11:00am–Noon

Cooking for Kids

Hyatt 2 Greenway I

Cooking's a skill with lifelong benefits to learning. We'll talk about some simple, kid-friendly recipes to help bring younger folks into the kitchen. *Amanda Folberg, Elizabeth Reynolds, Renee Petersen, Sherry Pofahl Johnson (mod)*

11:00am–Noon

Short Anime You Can Binge

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

Several famous anime are long running series that would be daunting to try and watch in complete. Come learn about some worthy series with a limited run. *Donald Poleke, Ian Cross, Kenneth Joel Justiniano (mod), Patrick W Marsh, Staci Corcoran*

11:00am–Noon

Build-a-Scare III

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters C

We're back to help you, the audience, comedically collaborate on making a monster for your RPG while teaching you about our favorite RPG Monster of the Week! *Ken Merriman*

11:00am–Noon

It's Not About You

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

Enjoying media about people who are not like you is sometimes difficult. What can you do to better step into the shoes of those with experiences other than your own? Do you even need to? Should you? *Christina M Alongi, F. D. Lee, Lathan Murrell, Morgan Strickland, Sam Willson (mod)*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Meet and Greet-Briana Lawrence

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall Signing Table A

Briana Lawrence

12:30pm–1:30pm

How to be an Ally

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

A panel to discuss how to be an ally and accomplice to marginalized communities. *Ashley M. Mages, Charlene Holm (mod), Morgan Strickland, Remy Corso, Sean Eberle*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Geeks Without God

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

A local godless and geeky comedy podcast that first recorded at CONvergence in 2012! Tim, Molly, and Nick will record two episodes live at the convention! *Molly Glover, Nick Glover, Tim Wick*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Introducing RPGs to Younglings

Hyatt 2 Greenway I

RPGs can be enjoyed by folks of all ages, but most sessions seem to be teens and older. How can we bring the joy of RPGs to those under 13? Are certain systems better geared for this? How can the more complex systems be adjusted for youths? *Annie Fleschner, Jacob Evert Borgmann, Kenneth Joel Justiniano (mod), Shaun Larsen, Zack Mayville*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Radio Play Rehearsal

Hyatt 2 Northstar B

Check the posted cast lists! If you made the cut, attend the one and only (MANDATORY) rehearsal for this year's radio play. ****Closed session for the cast only**** *Brigitte Bako, Christopher Jones, Greg Weisman, Jennifer L Anderson, Thom Adcox-Hernandez, Windy Bowlsby, Zehra Fazal*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Year in Movies

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

What's come out since last CONvergence that is worth talking about but didn't get a panel of its own? *Mark James McPherson, Melissa Kaercher (mod), Miss Shannan Paul, Niles Joseph Schwartz, T. Aaron Cisco*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Geek Partnership Society and Our Community

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters C

The local nonprofit GPS exists to support our local fan community. Find out how they can connect you to your fandoms and grow partnerships. Learn about their events and activities.

12:30pm–1:30pm

Elected Officials Unveil the Power of Geek Leadership

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

Their love for sci-fi and fantasy enhances governance, from quoting heroes to decoding data. Discover the unique synergy that makes these elected leaders exceptional in fostering inclusivity and creativity in their communities. *Amáda Márquez Simula (mod), Curtis Johnson, Sandra Feist*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

12:30pm–1:30pm

Beyond Oppenheimer: Scientists Who Need Bio Movies

Hyatt 4 Lake Minnetonka

Who's been overlooked? Who's been underserved by an existing bio movie? Whose stories ring with drama? Bring your pitches. *Boris Smelov, Bryan J Joshua, Lathan Murrell, Melanie Reap, Renate Fiora (mod)*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Meet and Greet-Shannan Paul

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall Signing Table A

Miss Shannan Paul

2:00pm–3:00pm

Meet and Greet-Charles Urbach

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall Signing Table B

Former Guest of Honor Charles Urbach will be signing materials at his Dealers Room stall. The Meet and Greet table will have directions. *Charles Urbach*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Writer and Actor Strikes

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

2023 saw a 148-day strike by the WGA, the longest since 1988. SAG-AFTRA had their longest strike ever. Both struck over the impact of AI and the financial impact of streaming and other new technologies. What are the impacts and why did they happen? *Allyson Cygan, Kieran McCudden-Delany, Niles Joseph Schwartz, Susanna Malak, T. Aaron Cisco (mod)*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Guys, Let's Talk

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

Polling shows U.S. women are at least twice as likely than men to talk regularly to friends about their mental health. Roughly 40 percent of men say they've never talked with anyone about their mental health. Men struggling with mental health: let's talk. *Andrew Meyer, Ben San Del (mod), Ian Cross, John White*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Biology for Writers

Hyatt 2 Greenway I

From gene-hacking to dragons to zombie plagues, biology is everywhere in genre fiction, but it can be intimidating for writers. Come hear from biologists on when science helps your story, how to research biological topics, and common mistakes to avoid. *Anessa DeMers, Brittany Ann Kerschner, Bryan J Joshua (mod), Lathan Murrell, T'Yanna Singleton*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Radio Play Performance

Hyatt 2 Northstar B

Come see your fellow fans perform alongside the pros in this year's radio play. Laughs guaranteed, whether with the cast or at them. Maybe even a few tears will be shed. Who knows? It's a crapshoot! *Brigitte Bako, Christopher Jones, Greg Weisman, Jennifer L Anderson, Thom Adcox-Hernandez, Windy Bowsby, Zehra Fazal*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Session Zero: Setting the Stage for Your Epic Campaign

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

Do you wish you knew what your fighter's arc should look like? Do you wish you'd defined your gameplay loop sooner? Did you have an awkward game because of something you didn't know about a player's red lines? Session Zero might be your answer! *Annie Fleschner (mod), Daniel Jay-Dixon, Eric Zawadzki, Maya Sutton, TK*

2:00pm–6:00pm

Crafting Circle

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters C

Come join us, bring a project to work on, or just come to chat. Learn about other arts and crafts and talk with others who enjoy making.

2:00pm–3:00pm

#SaveMyShow

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

A panel to highlight and discuss the history of fan activism to save beloved shows from cancellation, from the letter-writing campaign that saved Star Trek TOS to more recent examples like #SaveTheExpanse. *Amanda Nerud, Kerry Teckla Peterson, Kyle LaBarre (mod), Peter M Aviom, Wes Huntington*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Meet and Greet-Greg Weisman

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall Signing Table A

Greg Weisman

3:30pm–4:30pm

Meet and Greet-T. Aaron Cisco

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall Signing Table B

T. Aaron Cisco

3:30pm–4:30pm

Author's Guide to Writing for Comics

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

Author Carlos Hernandez talks about his experience writing comics for Marvel and beyond. Learn from a pro the ins and outs of writing for comic books! *Carlos Hernandez*

3:30pm–4:30pm

I LOL'd

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

A discussion of fantasy and science fiction stories and media that are also hilarious. *Dana Baird, Hannibal Grim, Jon Stark Olsen, Staci Corcoran (mod), William J Leisner*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Finding Specialty Foods

Hyatt 2 Greenway I

The popular grocery chains carry the "usual fare", but what if you want to explore a broader variety of foods? How do you go about finding safe, quality products? Let's discuss some local options. *Nicole LaBat, Rachael Sterling, Rachel Poleke (mod), Renee Petersen*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

3:30pm–6:00pm

Art: Impossible

Hyatt 2 Northstar B

Watch as talented artists are given impossible challenges! Could you create a CONvergence-themed amusement park in thirty minutes? How about designing a new Doctor Who costume in five minutes? These artists create the impossible! *Christopher Jones, Danielle Pebbles, Dawn Krosnowski, Lauren Addy, Lou Frank, Melissa Kaercher, Tim Wick, Windy Bowlsby*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Year in Anime

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

What is the best new anime from the last year? *Allyson Cygan, Donald Poleke (mod), Patrick W Marsh, Scott Kevin Jamison, Viga*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Dawn of the Fictional Vampire

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

How did vampires make their way from folklore into fiction? We used to think it was in a leap, but new evidence suggests something more methodical. Featuring original research, this presentation invites you to study the 300 year old mystery. *Brian Forrest*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Stories from the Kids' Table

Hyatt 4 Lake Minnetonka

Kids play D&D and other TTRPGS. These are their stories. From wacky adventures to missed or epic rolls, we're interested to hear what happened. By and for kids! *Becca Justiniano (mod), Ian Martin-Mann, Michael Schatz, Zack Mayville*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Meet and Greet-Zehra Fazal

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall Signing Table A

Zehra Fazal

5:00pm–6:00pm

Meet and Greet-Carlos Hernandez

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall Signing Table B

Carlos Hernandez

5:00pm–6:00pm

Power of Storytelling

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

What do we learn from characters making gut wrenching decisions? How do we take this from media to real life? *Brigitte Bako, F. D. Lee, John A. Shea, Kate MacEachern, Raederle Gabrielle Sterling (mod)*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Baking is Serenity

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

A discussion of cooking and baking as self-care. Jenny McElroy, Kelly Jo Fredrickson (mod), KitKat, Sean Eberle, Staci Corcoran

5:00pm–6:00pm

Spy X Family Fan Panel

Hyatt 2 Greenway I

Ian Cross (mod), Lathan Murrell, Madeline Gasper, Scott Kevin Jamison

5:00pm–6:00pm

Evolution of Doctor Who

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

Discuss the evolution from classic Doctor Who to the modern era. What worked in the 60s that does or doesn't work now? *Aaron Lee Propes, Assad Khaishgi (mod), Danith McPherson, Kirsten Roepke-Larsen, T. Aaron Cisco*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Religious Trauma and Its Impact

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

Trauma caused by religious environments is an area of study with very little research, yet is far more prevalent than people realize. What ways has religious trauma affected people's mental health and how can they start to heal? *Abigail Sloane Silver (mod), Kiki Joy Latham, Melissa Collins, SaraBeth Ray, Skazka*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Middle Grade Book Club

Hyatt 4 Lake Minnetonka

Kids, grab your book and come let's talk about them. If you don't have your book, that's fine. Open to anyone 12 or under reading chapter books. By and for kids. *Becca Justiniano*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Young Justice Memories

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

Attend a Q&A about the Young Justice television series and its in-canon comic book spin-offs. *Christopher Jones, Erin Robinson, Greg Weisman (mod), Jennifer L Anderson, Thom Adcox-Hernandez, Zehra Fazal*

7:00pm–9:30pm

Mega Panel

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

The panel where we talk about anything and everything *except* the CONvergence Masquerade. If you are interested in everything *except* the Masquerade, this is the panel for you! *Jeremy Stomberg, Melissa Kaercher, Molly Glover, Nick Glover, Nikki Armstrong*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Books on BookTok

Hyatt 2 Greenway I

Books on TikTok have really taken off and many bookstores even have their own section for some of the most popular titles. How has BookTok affected publishing and the book community, both the bad and the good? *Christina M Alongi, Crystal Kelleher, Elizabeth Ess, Jody Wurl, Patrick W Marsh (mod)*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

- 7:00pm–8:00pm** **Narrative In Game Design**
Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B
Whether tabletop or video games, the story in a game can either enhance or deter from the gameplay experience. Come learn the role a narrative can play in the design of your favorite games. **Carlos Hernandez**
- 7:00pm–8:00pm** **Friends of Bill W**
Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters C
- 7:00pm–8:00pm** **The Mirror of Amun-Ra: Short Film Screening / Q&A Session**
Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D
Calling all lovers of pulp adventure movies like Indiana Jones or The Mummy, and anyone interested in meeting local filmmakers! Join the director and cast of this 20-minute, independent short film for a special screening and then a Q&A panel afterwards. *Jonathan Rogers*
- 8:30pm–9:30pm** **The Spectacular Spider-Man Meets the Spectacular Spider-Men!**
Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE
Learn all you ever wanted to know about The Spectacular Spider-Man animated series and Marvel's new The Spectacular Spider-Men comic from some of the folks who have made these projects happen. **Greg Weisman** (mod), *Jennifer L Anderson, Thom Adcox-Hernandez*
- 8:30pm–9:30pm** **Where Do I Start?**
Hyatt 2 Greenway I
Introducing people to your favorite media can be a tricky business. Where do you start with longtime favorites like Doctor Who or Discworld? Can you just pick up in the middle and be okay? **Miss Shannan Paul**, *Patrick W Marsh* (mod), *Sam Willson, SaraBeth Ray*
- 8:30pm–9:30pm** **Baldur's Gate 3 Fan Panel**
Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B
Leilani Rose, Mordecai Mika, Morgan Strickland (mod), *Renee Freyja Vorbeck, TK*
- 8:30pm–12:30am** **Crafting Circle**
Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters C
Come join us, bring a project to work on, or just come to chat. Learn about other arts and crafts and talk with others who enjoy making.
- 8:30pm–9:30pm** **Midwest SciFi Film Festival Shorts**
Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D
Midwest Sci-Fi Film Festival - featuring a retrospective of the best sci-fi & genre short films from the Midwest and around the planet.
- 9:00pm–1:00am** **Art Auction**
Hyatt 2 Northstar B
- 10:00pm–11:00pm** **Smash or Pass**
Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE
A beloved but questionable decision making game that you all know and love! Join us for a new and improved "Smash or Pass" Kahoot! (smart device required to participate but not to enjoy the show). ****mature content**** *Alicia Beck, Anne Rementer, Christi Farris, Christina Gregerson, Kelsi Williams, Lindsey Wollan*
- 10:00pm–11:00pm** **Monsters of Sex**
Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH
A discussion of sex with monsters and monsters affiliated with the sex act. ****mature content**** *Elliott Kios Dean, Lathan Murrell, Mordecai Mika, Sam August Miller* (mod), *Skazka*
- 10:00pm–11:00pm** **Adult Themes in RPGs**
Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B
The vast majority of games approach mature topics by ignoring them. On the complete opposite end of the spectrum are games that explicitly explore dark, disturbing themes. How should a GM introduce such topics to the players? *Annie Fleschner, Daniel Jay-Dixon, David R Lowery, Kenneth Joel Justiniano* (mod), *Maya Sutton*
- 10:00pm–11:00pm** **The Pun-El**
Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D
And again, the English language is treated with great violence in a space safe from flying fruit. *Bob Alberti, Brian LaBounty, Edward Eastman* (mod), *Margaret Eastman*
- 10:00pm–12:30am** **Late Night Music Circle**
Hyatt 4 Lake Minnetonka
A late night gathering of musicians where you can sing, play, or just listen.
- 11:30pm–12:30am** **Hentai Game Show**
Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE
Join us for a mature game show where contestants compete for prizes. Volunteers compete and play in adult-themed games. These fun, naughty games are for aliens and humans alike! Come show us your bawdy side or just be a voyeur! ****mature content**** *Khori, Michael*
- 11:30pm–12:30am** **Year in Fanfiction**
Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B
A discussion of ALL kinds of fic (including slash). We'll talk popular fandoms, ships, and tropes from the last year. Not to mention recs! Not all fanfic is mature, but mature topics will be discussed. ****mature content**** *Kathleen Nicole Addams, Kerry Teckla Peterson* (mod), *Sam Willson, Skazka, TK*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

11:30pm–12:30am **Bad Geeky Pickup Lines**
 Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D
 Cheesy pick up lines are so bad they're good again. What are your favorites to use when you have your ion someone?
Mark James McPherson, Nikki Armstrong (mod)

SUNDAY

9:30am–10:30am **Move It Like Water**
 Hyatt 6 Pool
 A 45 minute low-impact workout in the pool led by a certified water fitness instructor. Learn how to use water resistance to tone and strengthen and do cardio in a supportive way. You do NOT need to know how to swim. All levels of ability welcome. Ages 12+. *Christina Neitz*

11:00am–Noon **Mike Flanagan Fan Panel**
 Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A
 Ready for our own deep discussion and dialogue about Mike Flanagan movies and shows? Let's talk about what makes his stories haunting, dark, and existential and his well-written characters. *Andrew Meyer, Jennifer Lee Lundstrom, Jody Wurl (mod), Nathan Anderson, Wendy Fossum*

11:00am–Noon **Gargoyles Biology and Culture**
 Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE
 Join us as we discuss the ins and outs of Gargate anatomy and society. What are the rules? How do they differ from clan to clan? From gargoyle to gargoyle? *Chip Coffin, Greg Weisman (mod), James Kakalios, Karine Charlebois, Lucas McClain, Matt Parker*

11:00am–Noon **The Creative Continuum, The Superteam of Arts Disciplines**
 Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH
 Many art forms bleed into each other during the creative process. In the space where these artforms merge, true innovation invigorates and evolves. Join Carlos Hernandez for a discussion of this world of interstitial arts and the fruitful bleed between genres. **Carlos Hernandez**

11:00am–Noon **Historical Costuming for Beginners**
 Hyatt 2 Greenway I
 A beginner's guide to historical costuming. *Dana Baird, Kara Knight, Mary Elizabeth Sterling, Nathan Caleb Wulver (mod), Raederle Gabrielle Sterling*

11:00am–Noon **Midsomer Murders**
 Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B
 A discussion of the long running British murder mystery series—the characters, the stories, the settings. *Linda Kloempken, Margaret Eastman (mod), Miss Shannan Paul*

11:00am–Noon **Gaylaxians Book Discussion Update**
 Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters C
 Each year North Country Gaylaxians choose one book a month to read. Our charter is to read books either by GLBTQ+ authors or books with positive GLBTQ+ content. This panel will discuss the books we have read since CONvergence 2023. *Claudia Slovacek, David Lenander, Donald Kaiser*

11:00am–Noon **Loki Season 2 Fan Panel**
 Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D
Catherine Schaff-Stump, Noel Thingvall, Morgan Strickland (mod), Staci Corcoran

12:30pm–1:30pm **Year in STEM**
 Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A
 What cool things have been developed and discovered? What's new in science? *Bob DeMers, Kurt Fleschner (mod), T'Yanna Singleton, William L Donohue*

12:30pm–1:30pm **Bringing Gargoyles to the Screen**
 Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE
 Join Greg Weisman, the creator of Gargoyles, as he tells stories of how this classic series was created, developed, and sold at the Walt Disney Company in the early 1990s. **Greg Weisman**

12:30pm–1:30pm **I Know It's Terrible But I Love It Anyway**
 Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH
 Let's talk about your guilty pleasures in movies, television, novels, and anything else that comes to mind. *F. D. Lee, Janelle Kloth, Patrick W Marsh (mod), Ruby Baker, Wendy Fossum*

12:30pm–1:30pm **Gender Fluid Representation in Genre**
 Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B
 From classic myths to Desire from Sandman, gender fluid characters are not new to science fiction and fantasy. However, as gender fluidity becomes more accepted, how are gender fluid characters changing in modern works? What needs improvement? *J.R. Dawson, Jacob Evert Borgmann (mod), Skazka, Staci Corcoran, Viga*

12:30pm–4:30pm **Crafting Circle**
 Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters C
 Come join us, bring a project to work on, or just come to chat. Learn about other arts and crafts and talk with others who enjoy making.

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

12:30pm–1:30pm

But Where Do I Shelve It?

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

Let's discuss our favorite media that mixes multiple genres like romance, fantasy, mystery, or horror. *Ben San Del, Crystal Kelleher (mod), David R Lowery, Jody Wurl*

12:30pm–1:30pm

How to Become a Panelist

Hyatt 4 Lake Minnetonka

You can be on panels. It's easy and we want you to join us. Find out all you need to know about being a panelist. *Becca Justiniano, Margaret Eastman, Sandy Darst*

2:00pm–3:00pm

They ARE Out to Get Me: Paranoia in Science Fiction/Fantasy

Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A

Paranoid fiction is used to describe works that explore the subjective nature of reality and how it can be manipulated by external forces. Some SFF creators include H.P. Lovecraft, Patrick McGoohan, Terry Gilliam, and Philip K. Dick. Let's discuss! *Arthur Ray Armstrong, Michael Allen Kingsley (mod), Niles Joseph Schwartz*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Bringing Gargoyles to the Screen Visually

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

In Part Two of this look at the nascent stages of Gargoyles, see early development videos, thirty-year-old marketing materials, and pitches from spin-off series that never made it to the air. *Greg Weisman*

2:00pm–3:00pm

What's Your Comfort Media?

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

What media do you turn to when you've had a bad day? What about it centers or resets you? *Charlene Holm, Hannibal Grim, Jason Richard Klietz (mod), Katherine Jo Pysick, Staci Corcoran*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Found Family in SF/Fantasy

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

The concept of a found family is everywhere in recent pop culture. The idea that friends can inspire as much love and loyalty as biological families and romantic partners resonates with many SFF fans, especially those in marginalized groups. *Christina M Alongi, J.R. Dawson, Jody Wurl, Michael Scott Shappe, Raederle Gabrielle Sterling (mod)*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Weird Music Listening Society

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

We've all had a friend expose us to strange music, some of which we've loved and some that left us confused. What happens when a lover of random items, thrift finds, and all things obscure exposes comedians to weird music they've never heard before? *Jason Kruger (mod), Melissa Kaercher, Eric Knight, Maren Aalgaard, Morgan Strickland*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Evolution of Storytelling

Hyatt 1 Lakeshore A

How has storytelling changed over time? *F. D. Lee, Kate MacEachern, Patrick W Marsh (mod), Peter M Avirom, Raederle Gabrielle Sterling*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Dungeons & Dragons: 50th Anniversary

Hyatt 2 Greenway BCDE

The granddaddy of tabletop role playing games is old enough to be one. Come discuss the lasting appeal of the game, its iterations, and its spin-offs. *David R Lowery, Donald Kaiser (mod), Jeb Hagan, Kathleen Nicole Addams, TK*

3:30pm–4:30pm

OK...I'm Done

Hyatt 2 Greenway FGH

What's your line in the sand for no longer supporting a fandom, franchise, performer, etc.? What made you tap out, decide to stay, or continue to enjoy previous things but not anything new? Can you separate art from artist? What if they're dead? *Cetius d'Raven, Charlene Holm, KitKat, Sam Willson, Staci Corcoran (mod)*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Disney: Live Action vs. Animated

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters B

Disney has continued to produce live-action versions of their animated films, sometimes creating a "controversy" along the way. Is this Disney being short on ideas or are these retellings offering a new take on the story? *Erica Zaffke, Janelle Kloth (mod), Mary Elizabeth Sterling, Noel Thingvall, Sarah Jeanette Moretsky*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Maker Spaces

Hyatt 4 Boundary Waters D

If you're interested in the making of things, anything ranging from props, cosplay, robots, furniture, siege engines, longbows, Viking shields, or anything at all, involving laser cutting, 3D printing, CNC milling, and more, this panel is for you! *Riley Harrison*

PHOTO MEETUPS

Hyatt 2 Greenway Stairs

Please note that while attending these particular events, your photo will be taken by an official CVG photographer. All ages, caliber, mash-ups, and genders of costumes are welcome at these meetups.

THURSDAY

4:00pm–5:00pm	Photo Meetup: Barbie
5:00pm–6:00pm	Photo Meetup: Anime
6:00pm–7:00pm	Photo Meetup: Fantasy / D&D

FRIDAY

1:00pm–2:00pm	Photo Meetup: Ghostbusters
2:00pm–3:00pm	Photo Meetup: Dune Photo Meetup: Honorverse
3:00pm–4:00pm	Photo Meetup: DC Universe
4:00pm–5:00pm	Photo Meetup: Star Trek
5:00pm–6:00pm	Photo Meetup: Hazbin Hotel
6:00pm–7:00pm	Photo Meetup: Good Omens / Sandman

SATURDAY

1:00pm–2:00pm	Photo Meetup: Marvel
2:00pm–3:00pm	Photo Meetup: Star Wars
3:00pm–4:00pm	Photo Meetup: Disney
4:00pm–5:00pm	Photo Meetup: Doctor Who
5:00pm–6:00pm	Photo Meetup: Baldur's Gate
6:00pm–7:00pm	Photo Meetup: The Boys

SUNDAY

1:00pm–2:00pm	Photo Meetup: Percy Jackson
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PHOTOGRAPHY

Hyatt 4 Lake of the Isles

Welcome from the CONvergence Photography Department! Our team of enthusiastic photographers is dedicated to capturing the excitement and energy of this one-of-a-kind event through our photography services. From candid shots of fans enjoying the convention to stunning images of cosplay and panel discussions, our team is committed to documenting every aspect of this exciting weekend. Members of the department will be identifiable by their official Photography badges.

We will be out and about everywhere at the convention, but we do have a home: Hyatt 4 Lake of the Isles (across from Connie's Space Lounge). We will be open Thursday–Saturday

11:00am–11:00pm (or later if busy) and Sunday 10:00am–2:00pm. Please stop by and let us take your picture!

We will be posting our pictures on Smugmug (QR code for link) and the official CONvergence Facebook page. Please give us a few weeks after the convention to get everything organized and posted. We also have a panel this year on how to pose for the camera! Come check it out: Thursday 3:00pm, Photography Studio, Hyatt 4 Lake of the Isles.

If you have any questions about CONvergence's policies about photography, visit the policy section of the website, or review the policies in this very guide. Enjoy the con! We'll help you remember it.



DEALERS ROOM

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall

Hours of Operation:

Thursday	2:00pm–7:00pm
Friday	10:00am–6:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–6:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–4:00pm

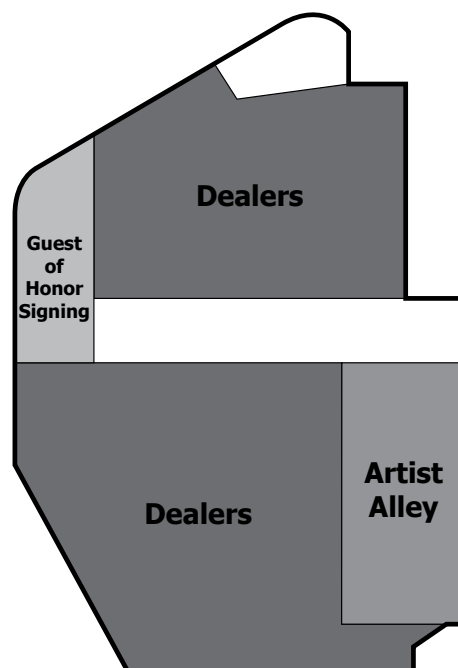
Come one, come all! Everyone is welcome! No matter your interest, our Dealers bring in all manner of geeky delights that will keep you entertained for hours. Like shiny math rocks (dice)? We've got those! Like t-shirts, books, awesome regular rocks, anime collectibles, stuff made out of leather, or board games? We've got those, too! Through our doors you can find all the things that you never knew you needed to complete your cosplays and nerd caves.

If you, someone you know, or a creator/company you like would be interested in participating in Dealers Room for CONvergence 2025, send an email to dealers@convergence-con.org.

2024 Dealers:(subject to change)

- Alembic Assembly
- All Systems Go Games LLC
- Angelwear Creations
- Archimedes Azure Creations
- Art By Nukabelle LLC
- Art of Charles Urbach
- Artemis Leathers
- Awesome Industries
- Big SoftD/Lady Dragon's Treasures
- Boudoir Belle Reproductions
- Briar and Spindle
- BTA Workshop
- Catalyst Books & Gifts
- Chris Nichols
- Claire Doolittle Illustration LLC
- Conjured Cat Dice
- Cryptid Arcade
- D20 Stitchery
- Dapper Raptor Studios
- Earth Wisdom
- F. D. Lee
- Fragmented Nostalgia
- FTL Publications
- Giant Turtle Creations
- Golden Goose Games MN LLC
- Grumpy Gnome Naturals LLC
- Highland Princess Designs, LLC
- Highwind Steamworks
- Horizon Music, Inc.
- Illgot and Gaines
- Jumalon Art
- Justin Rose: Author
- Leaf Runner Book
- LunarAchilles

- Magus Books
- Maps and Scraps
- Meg's Crafty Creations
- MO'R Designs
- Moxie and Babs LLC
- MystiCrafts Wands
- Mythic Arts by Shauna Aura Knight
- Nani?Wear
- One Corner Square
- Patrick W. Marsh & Joseph Crowe - Authors
- Pegasus Publishing
- Raden Studios
- Radiant Grey
- Rhiannon's
- Rising Phoenix Arts
- Robot Dragon Studios
- Sagemoon Arts
- Saintash Illustrations
- Silly Wacky Zany Books
- Spectacular Ears
- Stellar Custom Images
- Tako Collective
- The BirdHive
- The Pirate Cove
- The Spooky Sniper
- Thread Theories
- Total Party Kill Games
- True Namer LLC
- Unforgiven Productions
- Your Geek Partners
- Ziggy's West



ARTISTS ALLEY

Hyatt 1 Exhibit Hall

Hours of Operation:

Thursday	2:00pm–7:00pm
Friday	10:00am–6:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–6:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–4:00pm

Artists Alley lives in a magical part of the Hyatt Regency, usually known as the Exhibition Hall. Our Artists welcome you to their worlds each day of CONvergence! From webcomics and graphic novels to shiny art prints, you can find pages full of amazing illustrations. You can even talk to the Artists about bringing one of your own ideas to life with a custom commissioned piece!

If you, someone you know, or a creator/company you like would be interested in participating in Artists Alley for CONvergence 2025, send an email to artistsalley@convergence-con.org.

2024 Artists (subject to change)

- AJ Methner
- AliceQuinnArt
- Angels Creations
- Art By Nozomi
- Ashes Does Art
- Bibliotrek
- Bird + Egg
- BriDanann
- Craft Quest
- Daphne Art and Comics
- Erik Krenz
- Fried Unicorn Studios
- Invasive Labs (Chance Wyatt)
- Latabubble
- Moonbeam Designs
- Mythic Phoenix
- Rokaturas
- Sirkles Studio
- South Pauz Art
- Steak and Unicorns
- Sweetoothghost
- The Art of C.K.
- ToniRae Art
- Voltz Art

ART SHOW

Hyatt 2 Greenway A

The CONvergence Art Show is a silent auction featuring artwork from across the country for you to browse through and to bid on, as well as an Art Market with art available for retail purchase. Come visit the gallery and see what the artists have brought to showcase this year. There are always unique offerings available for a wide variety of artistic tastes!

Saturday evening of the convention features a live Art Auction, where artwork that has received sufficient bids in the Art Show's silent auction is then offered for sale in a live auction format. Part of the fun is watching the antics of our auctioneers as they sell some spectacular pieces!

Please refer to the CONvergence policy on AI-generated artwork.

Note: The Art Show does not censor artwork. Parental guidance is advised.

Art Show Hours

Thursday	2:00pm–7:00pm
Friday	10:00am–9:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–6:00pm
Sunday	11:00am–3:00pm

WORDSLINGERS WAY

Hyatt 4 Great Lakes A1

Can't bear the silence? Mosey on up to the fourth floor for the weirdest, wildest collection of vocalizations and vituperations this side of the Mississippi! Readings and open-mics, stand-up showcases and poetry slam showdowns, naughty puppets and pun competitions, uncensored tales of ghosts, monsters, and inquisitive aliens... Our performers have no want of worlds, no dearth of dimensions to share with you. We know the forbidden languages, the lost equations, the softly spoken magic spells to open the paths between them. Want to sling some words? Welcome to the Way.

THURSDAY

9:00pm–10:00pm Last Year in Nerd-dom Trivia

Films on the big screen, streaming on the small, 2023 had much to celebrate—and we're here to trivialize it. Bring a smart device and a team of up to four savvy human brains to prove your worth as the pop-culture experts of the last tumultuous year! *Cory Damone Enriquez*

FRIDAY

12:30pm–1:30pm Autism Film Theory

An autistic author and film critic dissects how autism is portrayed in film and how it can be found in places without explicitly neurodivergent characters. *Mark James McPherson*

2:00pm–3:00pm The Wordslinger Reading Hour

Stories from other places, other times, and other universes? Find your new favorite author, sharing their tales of worlds that can't, should, or mustn't exist, in this imaginative hour of storytelling! *Aimee Kuzenski, Catherine Schaff-Stump, Danith McPherson, Joan Marie Verba*

3:30pm–4:30pm Star Surveys: A Trek/Wars Game Show

Whether you prefer exploring the final frontier or a galaxy far, far away, come compete in a social gaming experience with giveaways, your clever answers, and a whole lot of celebrating the stars! *Cory Damone Enriquez*

5:00pm–6:00pm Full Color Futures: T. Aaron Cisco Reads Excerpts

An award-winning author and former CONvergence Guest of Honor reads excerpts from his latest books and shares stories from his multifaceted career as a Black author, musician, and television broadcaster. *T. Aaron Cisco*

5:00pm–7:00pm Story Slam Sign-Up

Enter a lottery to perform six minutes of a real-life story as part of the 2024 CONvergence Story Slam!

7:00pm–8:30pm The CONvergence Story Slam

Compete with six minutes of a real-life story about your most epic Magic battle, cosplay gone wrong, finding love

over a board game, meeting your nerdy heroes, or anything on the theme ALL GEEKS WELCOME HERE! *Allison Broeren, Dan Marlow*

9:00pm–10:00pm He-Man Is the Devil: A Satanic Panic Tale

A story of experiences odd and traumatic—essential in creating a worldview, nerdy hobbies, and a contentious family relationship. Tales of demon possession, religious fanaticism, and learning to be yourself. *Kyle B Dekker*

SATURDAY

11:00am–12:00pm Naomi Kritzer

Author Naomi Kritzer reads from her work. *Naomi Kritzer (mod)*

12:30pm–1:30pm Carlos Hernandez and C.S.E. Cooney

Join authors Carlos Hernandez and C.S.E Cooney as they share readings from their works and answer your questions about them. *Carlos Hernandez, C.S.E Cooney*

2:00pm–3:00pm Press Your Luck

The classic game-show format of "Press Your Luck" finds its way to CONvergence, as six players try to avoid the Whammy on their way to the Big Bucks in two 30-minute shows filled with fun and surprises! *Joshua Lane*

3:30pm–4:30pm Double-Blind Improv

A random-draw, short-form improv show where you never know what might happen—because neither do we! *Andrea Ropella, Eric Thompson, Garrick A Dietze, Hedy Rand-McKay, Jason Kruger, Kelvin Hatle, Rouge Zastera*

5:00pm–6:00pm Vagrants: An Old-West Mystic Play

Delve into the mysticism of 19th-century Oregon territory along with an amnesiac cowgirl, her harsh mentor, a dead body, and a Bigfoot-hunting missionary in this world-premiere staged reading of a fantastical new script! *Matthew Stoffel*

5:00pm–7:00pm Poetry Slam Sign-Up

Enter a lottery to perform two three-minute poems as part of the 2024 CONvergence Poetry Slam!

7:00pm–8:30pm The CONvergence Poetry Slam

Vogon poetry. Bilbo's Walking Song. Nevermore. The CONvergence Poetry Slam is here to celebrate words and nerds in an exciting competitive format! Show up, sign up, and if the lottery gods are kind, you may be drawn to read two three-minute poems. *Allison Broeren, Dan Marlow*

10:00pm–11:00pm Big Fat Quiz of Geekdom

Six comedians compete in a format lifted from the infamous British comedy game show, "Big Fat Quiz!" *Mike Dee*

22ND ANNUAL USS NOKOMIS CONVERGENCE BLOOD DRIVE

Hyatt 1, near the escalators

Be a Hero at the 2024 Annual USS Nokomis CONvergence Blood Drive!

Since 2001, the crew of the USS Nokomis has hosted American Red Cross blood drives at CONvergence. We are inviting everyone to come save up to three lives with one donation on Friday July 5 between 9:30am–3:30pm. CONvergence donors have touched over 2,000 lives with their donations over the last 23 years, and this year we'll touch even more!

Come donate to get the most coveted, hardest to get, absolute coolest badge ribbon at Con! Plus, we have a special gift for all donors—a Red Cross umbrella! There are three ways to sign up:

- Register online at redcrossblood.org using sponsor code CONvergence (or redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=CONvergence)



- Email Captain@ussnokomis.org
- Come to the first-floor registration table on Friday to sign up with USS Nokomis crew members

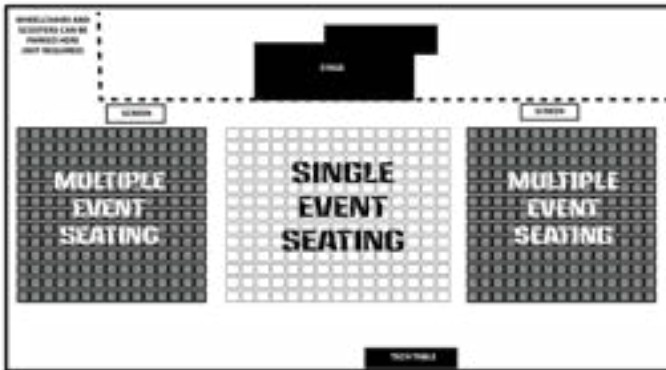
MAINSTAGE

Hyatt 1 Nicollet Ballroom

We can be found on the 1st floor of the Hyatt Regency in the Nicollet Ballroom, with our entrance across from the CONvergence Dealers Room. There is plenty of seating, so don't get discouraged by long queues—friendly Nerf Herders and our usher volunteers will help get you in and seated comfortably as quickly as possible. With our giant repeater screens, there are no bad seats in the house!

See our map for additional seating details—it is possible to remain seated through multiple performances in some areas.

Have special seating considerations or accessibility needs? We're happy to help to the best of our ability. Please contact one of our ushers or staff at least 15 minutes prior to the performance you'd like to see.



MainStage Dance Etiquette

MainStage stays open late to give you a place to get your dance on and burn off some extra energy. While we welcome all, here are a few things to keep in mind that will keep everybody's experience spaced out and groovy:

- Hydrate! We promise the air conditioning is turned up as high as it will go. Nevertheless, it can get warm quickly if you dance a lot. MainStage is lucky enough to be one of the places that has a water tap, so you don't have to go far to quench your thirst. There are also drinking fountains near the escalators. Remember to keep an eye on and re-use your cup if you can.
- As with any other space at this convention, costumes are NOT consent. Make sure to ask before dancing with that awesome Kylo Ren or Leeloo; some people are more comfortable dancing alone.
- Please ask before getting on our stage. We have scheduled dancers and performers that will be on stage from time to time and asking people to move around constantly gets awkward for everybody. If nobody is

there, feel free to ask us, but please be respectful if the current performer doesn't want the company.

- Please limit requests. Most of our performers work through the year to prepare their sets for CONvergence. If you don't like the music right now, remember that most performers play for no longer than an hour and then something different will happen. If you do like the music, make sure you let that performer know.
- The dances can get loud. If you enjoy the atmosphere, but are concerned about the volume, please find complimentary earplugs near our main door.
- See our electronic signage for additional details.

THURSDAY

6:00pm–7:00pm

Big Fun Radio Funtime

Angela Fox, Charles Hubbell, Christopher Jones, Dawn Krosnowski, Duck Washington, Tim Wick, Windy Bowlsby

7:00pm–8:00pm

Opening Ceremony

Angela Fox, **Brigitte Bako**, **Carlos Hernandez**, Dawn Krosnowski, **Greg Weisman**, **Keith David**, **Miss Shannan Paul**, **Susanna Malak**, **Thom Adcox-Hernandez**, **Zehra Fazal**

8:30pm–9:30pm

Gargoyles 30th Anniversary Celebration

Brigitte Bako, Erin Robinson, Greg Bishansky, **Greg Weisman**, Jennifer L Anderson, Karine Charlebois, **Keith David**, **Thom Adcox-Hernandez**, **Zehra Fazal**

FRIDAY

12:30pm–1:30pm

Star Trek: The Next Improvisation

2:00pm–3:00pm

Voices from the Eyrie Live!

Attend a live recording of the premiere Gargoyles podcast, Voices from the Eyrie. **Brigitte Bako**, Greg Bishansky (mod), **Greg Weisman**, Jennifer L Anderson, **Thom Adcox-Hernandez**, **Zehra Fazal**

3:30pm–4:30pm

PowerPoint Karaoke

Four "experts" must each give a PowerPoint presentation with slides they have never seen before, and the slides make no sense! *Duck Washington, Gregory Parks, Melissa Kaercher, Miss Shannan Paul, Molly Glover, Tim Wick (mod)*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Cirque de Bienvenue

Back on the Mainstage for 2024, everyone's invited to step into the circus as diverse characters take to the air, dance, and dazzle! Join the cirque-style celebration of fantastic fandoms with a show sure to delight those of all ages!

MAINSTAGE

7:00pm–8:00pm

Reverend Matt's Monster Science: Monstrolympics

2022 Guest of Honor Rev. Matt returns to MainStage with one of his signature deep dives into monster lore, plus jokes! In "Monstrolympics", learn about the best monsters of mythology and fiction, by category. What categories, you probably ask? Why, categories like: Best Vampire (it's Seminole), Best Dragon (Babylonian), Best Lycanthrope (South African), Best Kaiju (well, I mean, Japanese), and so many more! Almost too many more. "Monstrolympics"-it's like the Laff-A-Lympics, only for monsters! *Matthew Kessen*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Miss Shannan

Standup comedy and storytelling from *Miss Shannan Paul*.
Miss Shannan Paul

10:00pm–11:00pm

Vilification Tennis

Ad Surmack, Bob Alberti, Caitlyn McCgrath, Dave Rand-McKay, Duck Washington, Eric Knight, Eric Thompson, Hedy Rand-McKay, James Fairbairn, Kelvin Hatle, Mike Dee, Molly Glover, Nick Glover, Nikki Armstrong, Tim Wick

11:30pm–4:00am

Dance

SATURDAY

5:30pm–6:00pm

Masquerade

Doors open

6:00pm–8:00pm

Masquerade

Performance

8:30pm–4:00am

Dance

SUNDAY

12:30pm–2:00pm

Harisen Daiko

Full of sound and fury, signifying that it's past noon on Sunday, we are Harisen Daiko. Our drummers bring you a selection of pounding visceral rhythms including original compositions, as well as something thoroughly geeky that we have either made special or bent into a new and unnatural shape just for you. Step inside the blast radius this Sunday, and get a taste of the power, energy and emotions that taiko ignites.

2:30pm–3:30pm

Beyond the Barrier: The Journey of Diverse Voices in Media

Join our panel of BIPOC, queer, and women entertainment pros as they discuss how they broke barriers and thrive in white male dominated fields. Gain insights into their journeys, strategies for success, and tips for following your own ambitions. *Carlos Hernandez, Miss Shannan Paul, Susanna Malak, T. Aaron Cisco (mod), Zehra Fazal*

5:00pm–7:00pm

Closing Ceremony

Angela Fox, Carlos Hernandez, Dawn Krosnowski, Duck Washington, Greg Weisman, Miss Shannan Paul, Susanna Malak, Thom Adcox-Hernandez, Zehra Fazal

TEEN ROOM

Hyatt 4 Lake Bemidji

The CONvergence Teen Room is a fun, safe place for CONvergence attendees aged 13–20. You can hang out in a place for teens, by teens. It's located in Hyatt 4 Lake Bemidji, by the escalators. Come down to relax, eat snacks, and play games with new friends!

Thursday	2:00pm–1:00am
Friday	10:00am–1:00am
Saturday	10:00am–1:00am
Sunday	10:00am–6:00pm

Special Event

Thursday 3:30pm–4:30pm

Connie's Quantum Sandbox will be in the Teen Room making kumihimo bracelets with charms!

PARENTING ROOM

Hyatt 4 Room 4102

Need a space at CONvergence to feed your infant, toddler, or young child? Or maybe you need to change a stinky diaper, express milk, or are simply looking for some moments of silence? Then the Parenting Room in Hyatt 4 Room 4102 is just what you're looking for!

Hours:

Thursday	4:00pm–9:00pm
Friday	10:00am–9:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–9:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–5:00pm

Please be aware of the following rules for CONvergence's Parenting Room:

- The Parenting Room is open to parents and caregivers with infants, toddlers, young children, children with special needs, and anyone needing to express milk.
- All children must be supervised at all times.
- Do not lock the door for any reason.
- Clean up after yourself and your children.
- Be respectful of others using the room.



CON of the NORTH

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February 14—16, 2025

Crowne Plaza Minneapolis West



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www.ConOfTheNorth.org

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Hyatt 2 St Croix / Greenway Promenade

The most up-to-date hours for Registration can be found on the CONvergence website at convergence-con.org/at-the-con/services/badge-pick-up/ or at the QR code to the left. Hours will also be posted outside of Registration spaces.



Day Passes

Day passes cost \$75 per day for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, and \$55 for Sunday. Passes are good from 10:00am–5:00am and can be purchased online and in person beginning the Wednesday of CONvergence. Day passes are not transferable, are not upgradeable, and cannot be replaced if lost or stolen. Please see Registration with any questions.

Transferring Weekend Passes

You may transfer a weekend pass until a badge has been issued. Visit the Register page at convergence-con.org/get-involved/register/ and scroll to the “Transferring your Weekend Pass” section for instructions. If you need assistance to transfer a weekend pass, Registration will process the transfer for you for a \$20 non-refundable fee.

Lost Attendee Badges

There is a fee for replacement of Adult or Teen weekend pass badges. There is no fee for 5-and-under. Check with the Lost & Found in Operations and the Hotel Front Desk to see if your lost attendee badge was turned in. If you still cannot locate the badge, a replacement can be printed at Registration. Day pass badges cannot be replaced.

Registering for CONvergence 2025

You can register for the 2025 convention beginning at Noon on the Sunday of CONvergence.

If you are paying by credit card, visit convergence-con.org/get-involved/register/ and click the registration link. Log into your existing account or, if you have not registered for CONvergence before, create a new account. You can complete and pay for your registration online.

If you are paying cash or need assistance, Registration will be open Sunday for 2025 registration.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Rates and Dates for 2025

Registration only accepts cash and credit cards.

	Adult 18+	Ages 13–17	Ages 6–12	Ages 5 and Under
Until Noon July 16, 2024	\$85	\$45	\$25	Free
Until 11:59pm January 15, 2025	\$95	\$55	\$35	Free
Until 11:59pm May 15, 2025	\$115	\$55	\$35	Free
Until 11:59pm June 1, 2025	\$135	\$75	\$35	Free

Day Pass

	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Available online July 2, 2025	\$65	\$75	\$75	\$45

T-Shirt Preorder

New for 2025, you can pre-order your CONvergence souvenir t-shirts when you register. Just check the box next to the “T-Shirt” option and pick your size—the amount will be added to your registration total. Shirts will be available for pick-up from the Merchandise room at CONvergence 2025. See the CONvergence website under Merchandise to take a look at the shirts.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

First Advisors

John Hermanstorfer—Head
Lara Messer—Head
Steve Honse—Sub-Head
Kathleen Lowery—Sub-Head
James Green—Specialist
Lara Messer—Head

Massage

Jennifer Peck—Head
Scott Stone—Head
Deborah Spiesz—Sub-Head

Nerf Herders

Kori Anderson—Head
Robert Atendido—Head
Katie Nave—Head
Eiryn Hegland—Sub-Head
Erica Howard—Sub-Head
Cat Lenander—Sub-Head
Katarina Larsen—Sub-Head
Bekka Mueller—Sub-Head
Lorien Radmer—Sub-Head
Mika Reisdorff—Sub-Head
Nick Rosencrans—Sub-Head
Stephanie Zuercher—Sub-Head
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Joel Kovach—Specialist
Kerry Peterson—Specialist
Ace Oubaha—Legacy Tech Guru

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Andy Murphy—Head
Kelly Reich—Head
Ben Swope Vetvick—Head
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Jason Kobett—Sub-Head
Marina Krinsky—Sub-Head In Training
Kayla McGrady—Sub-Head
Kethry Muggleton—Sub-Head
John Rasmussen—Sub-Head
Allen Tipper—Sub-Head
Rhea Wessendorf—Sub-Head
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David Benhart—Bridge Guru
Karen Berger—Bridge Guru
James Hall—Bridge Guru
Lon Heligas—Bridge Guru
Richard Hertel—Bridge Guru
Sheilah Howard—Bridge Guru
Jessica Jacobs—Bridge Guru
Amaya Park-Goldsmith—Bridge Guru
Cas Renelle—Bridge Guru
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Marguerite Krause—Dispatch Guru
Miriam Krause—Dispatch Guru
Adam Rautio—Dispatch Guru
Sarah Ravely—Dispatch Guru
Christina Super—Dispatch Guru
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John Hermanstorfer—Wandering Guru
Tron Howard—Wandering Guru
Jerry Keohen—Wandering Guru
Katarina Larsen—Wandering Guru
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Brandon Paplow—IT Specialist
Francine Pass—At-Con Specialist

Parenting Room

April King—Head

Space Lounge

Rachel Beauchamp—Head
Gwen Law—Head
Cali Mastny—Head
Chelsea Bue—Sub-Head
Paul Eigenbrodt—Sub-Head
Arthur Kneeland—Sub-Head
Martin Law—Sub-Head
James LeDuc—Sub-Head
Caly McMorro—Sub-Head
Aaron Prust—Sub-Head
Cole Sarar—Sub-Head
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Carlos Lamas—Specialist

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Brian Etchieson—Head
Spence Fasching—Head
Lillaia Christiansen—Sub-Head
Becca Cook—Sub-Head
Adam Meitz—Sub-Head
Logan Svoboda—Sub-Head

VolDen

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Jordan Loar—Sub-Head
David Lowery—Sub-Head
Malcolm Peterson—Sub-Head
Nick Zuleger - Sub-head

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Angela Fox—Puppeteer/Performer
Dawn Krosnowski—Puppeteer/
Performer
Molly Glover—Writer
Nick Glover—Writer
Tess Kean—Stage Manager

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Heather McKay—Head
Zvie Razieli—Head
Cara White—Head
Kristi Laudert—Specialist

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Mary Rohe—Head
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Derek Mahr—Sub-Head-Playback
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Bahb Heddle—Head
Patricia Wick—Head
Arden Chrusciel—Sub-Head
Dan Featherstone—Sub-Head
Brian Kisch—Sub-Head
Daniel Petersen—Specialist

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Anthony Karna—Head
Troy LaFaye—Specialist

Masquerade

Patrick Cool—Head
Donald Kaiser—Head
Emily Chesley—Sub-Head
Kori Kontz—Sub-Head-Green Room
Diana Fitzwater—Sub-Head Volunteer
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Aimee Kuzenski—MC
Ashley Haapapuro—Costume Wars
Benjamin Livingston—Backstage
Manager
Chrys VanDerKamp—Stage Manager

Theater Nippon

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Jose Rivera—Head
Holly Johnson—Sub-Head
Jill McTavish—Sub-Head
Andy Mills—Sub-Head
Hannah Stein—Sub-Head

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Fes Works Kaercher—Head

Wordslingers Way

Allison Broeren—Head
Phillip Low—Head
Dan Marlow—Sub-Head
Jenna Papke—Sub-Head
Elizabeth Stiras—Sub-Head
Elizabeth Vogel—Sub-Head

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Molly Glover—Support

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Cassandra Fisher—Head
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Mallory Mueller—Meeting Transcription
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Jenna Powers—Head
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Hertzey Hertz—Sub-Head
Elyssa Mason—Sub-Head
Rachel Poleke—Sub-Head

Merchandise

Karin St Aubin—Head
Simone St.Aubin—Head

Registration

Mark Sauntry—Head
Destiny Sparks—Head
Jeffrey Allen—Sub-Head
Tatiana Allen—Sub-Head
Colleen Baltutis—Sub-Head

Jennifer Curti—Sub-Head
Amy Fischer—Sub-Head
Caro Smith—Sub-Head
Anne Fleschner—Specialist
Liz Jones—Specialist
John Murray—Specialist
Jai Negri—Specialist
Alyssa Pon-Franklin—Specialist
Maya Sutton—Specialist

Volunteers

Samantha Bitner—Head
Rachel Lubich—Head
Elyssa Mason—Sub-Head
Glenn Melena—Sub-Head
Dorothy Norton—Sub-Head
Ann Roubik—Sub-Head
Alex Singer—Sub-Head

BOARD DEPARTMENTS

IT

Lillaia Christiansen—Head
Mike Sonnicksen—Sub-Head
Bryce Tollefson—Sub-Head
Alex Davies—Specialist

Software Development

Aric Stewart—Head
Ryan Kaiser—Sub-Head

Staff Resources and

Documentation

Luis Beltran—Board Co-Liaison
Will Cunningham—Board Co-Liaison
George Atendido
Andy Murphy
Rachel Poleke
Jenna Powers
Nick Rosencrans
Caro Smith
Allen Tipper
Rhea Wessendorf

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Colleen Baltutis
Nick Rosencrans
Stephanie Zuercher

YOUTH PROGRAMMING ADVISORY

Alanna Worrall
Allison Tieman
Electra Vincent
Madeline Lee

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Charmaine Parnell—Vice-President
Eric Knight—Secretary
Luis Beltran—Treasurer
Thomas Keeley—CFO
Will Cunningham—CTO

You were, and are, one of us.

Now and forever.

You are missed dearly and loved beyond words.

Convention Committee

Robert "Roadkill" Aiken 1965–2/26/2008 (Decor)
Ginger Bock 10/11/1962–9/2/2010 (Registration, Art Show)
Carly Buchanan 8/10/1988–6/4/2019 (Guests)
Christen "Tish" Cassidy 3/30/1972–7/6/2014 (Parties)
Lauri Deatherage 7/13/1973–6/18/2021 (Arrivals, Departures)
Rachel MacAulay 3/11/1970–2/26/2006 (Guests)
Erik McInroy 3/18/1968–7/12/2022 (Dock, Art Show)
Mary McKinley 2/8/1956–11/30/2020 (Dealers, Artists Alley)
Christopher Sherman Pasquarette aka Christo Foro Pallavincino 11/6/1967–4/11/2021 (Publications)
Baron Dave Romm 7/5/1937–5/13/2016 (Photography)
Robert Schug 7/21/1963–8/25/2014 (Parties, D.I.O.D.E.S)
TJ Starbuck 3/22/1962–9/2/2010 (Parties)
Bob Wagner 1971–2019 (Gaming)
Cathy Wappel 10/29/1970–05/13/2023 (Art Show)
Kathleen Taylor 4/23/1945–4/19/2024 (Guests)
Tom Gaasch 10/8/1960–6/5/2024 (Operations)
John "John John" Mathern 9/4/1967–3/29/2024 (Consuite)

Guests of Honor

Forrest J Ackerman 11/24/1916–12/4/2008 (1999)
Leslie Esdaile(LA) Banks 12/1/1959–8/2/2011 (2010)
Eric Flint 2/6/1947–7/17/2022 (2003) (2006) (2008)
Peter Mayhew 5/19/1944–4/30/2019 (2001) (2008)
Dwayne McDuffie 2/20/1962–2/21/2011 (2009)
CH Morgan (Landley) 11/21/1947–12/05/2002 (2001)
Michael Sheard 6/18/1938–8/31/2005 (2001)(2003)
Len Wein 6/12/1948–9/10/2017 (2005) (2008)
Bernie Wrightson 10/27/1948–3/18/2017 (2007) (2008)



2024



NORTH STAR NERDLESQUE FESTIVAL



JULY 12 • 8PM | JULY 13 • 7PM & 10PM

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*'elmeH chawmey
DilmeH Huchvo'
vaghmaH vatlhvI' yInge'!*