BOSKONE 52
POCKET PROGRAM

FEBRUARY 13-15, 2015 • WESTIN BOSTON WATERFRONT
FREE FRIDAY AFTERNOON
FROM 2–6PM
ALL EVENTS ARE FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

A One Day or Weekend Membership is required to attend events after Friday 6pm and through the duration of the convention
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<td>2nd floor, Harbor Foyer</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Anime &amp; Film Screening</strong></td>
<td>5pm – midnight</td>
<td>10am – midnight</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd floor, Carlton</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Art Show</strong></td>
<td>6pm – midnight</td>
<td>10am – 9pm</td>
<td>10am – noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Galleria</td>
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<td>(closeout at noon)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Art Show Quick Sale</strong></td>
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<td>noon – 9pm</td>
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<td><strong>Art Show Sales</strong></td>
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<td>1pm – 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Con Suite</strong></td>
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<td>10am – 1am</td>
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<td>Galleria</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dealers Room</strong></td>
<td>5pm – 8pm</td>
<td>10am – 6pm</td>
<td>10am – 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Galleria</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Filking</strong></td>
<td>5pm – late</td>
<td>10am – late</td>
<td>10am – late</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lobby Level, Marina 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd floor, Lewis</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Gaming</strong></td>
<td>5pm – midnight</td>
<td>10am – midnight</td>
<td>10am – 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lobby Level, Marina 1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Information/Volunteers</strong></td>
<td>3pm – 9pm</td>
<td>10am – 9pm</td>
<td>10am – 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Galleria</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Program</strong></td>
<td>2pm – midnight</td>
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<td>10am – 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd floor, Galleria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lobby Level</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DragonsLair — Kids Activities</strong></td>
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<td>9am – noon</td>
<td>9am – 2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Galleria</td>
<td></td>
<td>1pm – 5pm</td>
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<td>7pm – 9pm</td>
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## Event Locations

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art Show Opening (Fri night)</td>
<td>Galleria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boskone Reception &amp; Meet the Guests (Fri night)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Meet the Press: Book Launch Party (Sat night)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dead Dog (Sun)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Awards Ceremonies (Sat night)</td>
<td>2nd floor Harbor II and III</td>
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<td>Featured Filker Concert (Sat night)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improv at Boskone (Sat night)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silly Poses (Sat night)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steven Brust Reading (Sat night)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sassafrass Concert (Sun afternoon)</td>
<td>2nd floor, Lewis</td>
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## Activity Locations

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<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<td>Main Programming</td>
<td>Lobby Level, Marina Ballrooms</td>
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<td>Newsletter Distribution Point</td>
<td>Lobby Level, Marina 1</td>
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<td>Gaming</td>
<td>Lobby Level, Marina 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Filking (evenings, Fri daytime)</td>
<td>Lobby Level, Marina 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>2nd floor, Harbor Foyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newsletter Distribution Point</td>
<td>2nd floor function rooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main Programming</td>
<td>2nd floor function rooms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Art Demos</td>
<td>2nd floor, Lewis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Readings</td>
<td>2nd floor, Carlton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Filiation (Sat &amp; Sun daytime)</td>
<td>2nd floor, Lewis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anime &amp; Film Screenings</td>
<td>2nd floor, Carlton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fan Tables</td>
<td>lower level and escalator lobby</td>
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<tr>
<td>Art Show and Art Show Sales</td>
<td>Galleria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Autographing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Con Suite</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dealers Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion Groups</td>
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<tr>
<td>DragonsLair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kaffeeklatches</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Party Board</td>
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<td>Print Shop</td>
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<td>Program Operations</td>
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<td>Program Participant Check-in — Program Ops</td>
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<td>Volunteers Desk</td>
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### About Kaffeeklatches

- Kaffeeklatch seating is limited. You must sign up for Kaffeeklatches at the Program Desk in the Galleria.
- The sign-up sheets for Saturday will be set out on Friday, and the sign-up sheets for Sunday will be set out at noon on Saturday.
- Since space is limited, please be sure to sign up early to secure a place at the table.
GAME ROOM HOURS

Friday 3pm — midnight
Saturday 10am — midnight
Sunday 10am — 3pm

LOCATION

Marina 1

FRIDAY

3pm (free to public)  Boss Monster
                Stars, Inc.

5pm (free to public)  Coup
                City Boss
                Cosmic Encounter

7pm  Caverna

SATURDAY

10pm  Slash
                Stars, Inc.
                Moonquake Escape

11pm  Cosmic Encounter
                City Boss

1pm  Guru of the Game Room Tournament

7pm  Rails of New England

10pm  St. Petersbg

SUNDAY

10am  Innovation
                Stars, Inc.
                Cosmic Encounter
                Moonquake Escape

12 noon  Power Grid

GAME DESCRIPTIONS

Boss Monster
This time you get to be the boss, trying to stop the heroes from getting through your dungeon. 2–4 players. Novices welcome.

Caverna
It’s very similar to Agricola, but rooms have replaced the cards, making this one a much more level game to play. 2-7 players. Beginners welcome.

City Boss
2–4 players collectively build a city and compete to take it over. Play roles such as Mayor, Slum Lord or Community Organizer. Place your managers wisely to decide your actions. Make deals, commit arson and avoid criminal investigations. Only one player will emerge the true City Boss.
Cosmic Encounter
Try out a new expansion for Cosmic Encounter presented by co-creators Peter Olotka and Bill Eberie themselves. 2-8 players. Novices welcome.

Coup
A sly game of manipulation and detection. 2-4 players. Novices welcome.

Guru of the Game Room Tournament
Lords of Waterdeep, Puerto Rico, Stone Age, St. Petersburg. 4 games in 5 hours. See tournament rules in gaming for more details.

Innovation
Build your civilization up one card at a time, using various technologies to further your cause. 2-4 players. Novices welcome.

Moonquake Escape
You’re a criminal who recently escaped from jail on the Moon. Unfortunately, all the other players escaped as well, and you’re all trying to reach the one escape rocket at the top of the crater. Race to the top of the board, fighting your opponents, the guards, and also the board itself, which changes constantly due to Moonquakes.

Power Grid
The classic game of resource management, buy your power plant, then buy the resources to power your plant, then expand into cities to power them. 3-6 players. Novices welcome.

Rails of New England
Co-created by our own Walter H. Hunt, this is a railroad/business game. Build your railroads to connect your businesses to major cities to earn the money to go after the extra income. Take over mail routes, grab the subsidies, and build the specific routes to make a ton of money and win the game. 2-5 players. Beginners welcome.

Slash
Similar to Apples to Apples but this time the players have to describe why the controller should pick their card. 2-10 players. Novices welcome.

St. Petersburg
Acquire the workers, build the buildings, hire the aristocrats, and grab all the upgrades you can to build a city worthy of the Czar. 2-5 players. Novices welcome.

Stars, Inc.
Play as an alien race that has the technology to create stars by collapsing gas clouds. Harvest hydrogen, helium, and carbon from these stars. Form massive stars and evolve them until they become supernovae to collect heavier elements. Create rocky and gaseous planets to gain resources or points. Let your sun-like stars evolve to become white dwarfs that you can rent out as “space heaters” to earn points each turn, or sell giant space diamonds on the black market for quick one-time-only points. Once you have finished travelling the galaxy by going through the environment deck, the most successful player wins!
FRIDAY

Steamboy
In 1860s Britain, a boy inventor finds himself caught in the middle of a deadly conflict over a revolutionary advance in steam power.
2pm

Kiki’s Delivery Service
A young witch, on her mandatory year of independent life, finds fitting into a new community difficult while she supports herself by running an air courier service.
4pm

Summer Wars
A student tries to fix a problem he accidentally caused in OZ, a digital world, while pretending to be the fiancé of his friend at her grandmother’s 90th birthday.
6pm

Bodacious Space Pirates
Marika, a high school girl, has been living a normal life in a distant galaxy many years into the future. But this changes when she is told that her recently deceased father was captain of a pirate ship and only a direct descendant may inherit the title of captain of the pirate space ship. (4 episodes)
8pm

Dirty Pair (Original OAV)
In the 22nd century mankind may be technologically advanced, but there are still some problems that can only be fixed by a couple of women who don’t back down from a fight! These are the adventures of Kei and Yuri, two official Trouble Consultants for the World Welfare Works Association, who use their brains, brawn, and looks to solve any problem. They call themselves the “Lovely Angels,” but because their solutions often result in chaos and mass destruction, the rest of the universe has dubbed them the “Dirty Pair”! (4 episodes)
10pm

Ice Pirates
In the far future water is the most valuable substance. Two space pirates are captured, sold to a princess, and recruited to help her find her father who disappeared when he found information dangerous to the rulers. A real Space Opera with sword fights, explosions, fighting robots, monsters, bar fights and time warps.
12am

SATURDAY

SDF Macross
In the next century, a reconfiguring ship (think “Transformer” with a pilot) called Macross carries fifty thousand refugees within its hold as it returns to Earth pursued by giant humanoid warriors. (4 episodes)
9am

Invasion of the Astro Monster
Aliens from Planet X request the use of Godzilla and Rodan to fight off King Ghidorah, but have a better use for the three monsters.
11am
Princess Mononoke
On a journey to find the cure for a Tatarigami’s curse, Ashitaka finds himself in the middle of a war between the forest gods and Tatara, a mining colony. In this quest he also meets San, the Mononoke Hime.

12:45pm

FLCL
A 12-year old boy named Naota one day meets a strange woman, riding a Vespa and wielding a big guitar. As soon as she appears, mysterious things start happening. (complete series)

3pm

Guardians of the Galaxy
A group of intergalactic criminals are forced to work together to stop a fanatical warrior from taking control of the universe.

6pm

Martian Successor Nadesico
Some unknown presence is attacking Earth with dangerous robots and the only thing that can save the day is the crew of the Nadesico: a powerful spaceship. (4 episodes)

8pm

Maleficent
A vengeful fairy is driven to curse an infant princess, only to discover that the child may be the one person who can restore peace to their troubled land.

10pm

Plan 9 from Outer Space
Aliens resurrect dead humans as zombies and vampires to stop humanity from creating the Solaranite (a sort of sun-driven bomb).

12am

SUNDAY

Classic Cartoons
9am

The Secret World of Arrietty
The Clock family are four-inch-tall people who live anonymously in another family’s residence, borrowing simple items to make their home. Life changes for the Clocks when their daughter, Arrietty, is discovered.

10am

Serial Experiments Lain
Strange events begin to occur as a withdrawn girl named Lain becomes obsessed with interconnected virtual realm of “The Wired.” (4 episodes)

12pm

“I Remember the Future” Viewing and Discussion
During a visit from his estranged daughter, an elderly science-fiction writer struggles with his fading mind and the visions he thinks he is receiving from the future. The film will be followed by a discussion with Michael A. Burstein, author of the Nebula-nominated short story that served as the basis for the award-winning film. 2014, NR; starring Tiffany Lyndall-Knight (from Battlestar Galactica) and Reg Gorman. 30-minute viewing followed by a discussion with the author, Michael Burstein.

2pm
The AniMangaVerse
Ada Palmer (M), Veronica Koven-Matasy, Tim Szczesuil
Lewis • 50 min • Panel
Anime and manga have become forces unto themselves, spawning hordes of excited new fans as well as adaptations, reinterpretations, and fantastic new original stories. Panelists discuss the shining examples that got them into anime and manga. What's out there? What new trends are emerging? And how about the art?

Food in Fiction
Carrie Cuinn (M), Steven Brust, James Cambias, Fran Wilde, Lawrence M. Schoen
Burroughs • 50 min • Panel
Stories that make you go, “Yum!” How do you describe food to convey mood or set the scene? Join our panelists as they dish on the culinary delights that tantalize us in fiction, from regional teas to kingly feasts. What works? What doesn’t? And what should you know about a food-centric scene?

Welcome to Boskone #1
Brenda Noiseux, Priscilla Olson
Independence • 50 min • Discussion Group
New to Boskone? Or returning after a long absence? Join us for a short discussion about what Boskone has to offer, learn some of the convention lingo, and meet new people. Then join our docents for a stroll around the con.
Vintage HallowDay Art
Charles Lang, Wendy Snow-Lang
Harbor II · 50 min · Solo Talk
Collecting and collectibles have deep connections with SF/F fans and fandom. Official Artists Chuck Lang and Wendy Snow-Lang share the world of collectible art and objects that feature their favorite holiday — Halloween!

Top Fantasy Vacation Locations
Margaret Ronald (M), Max Gladstone, Teresa Nielsen Hayden, Allen M. Steele
Harbor III · 50 min · Panel
TripAdvisor’s got nothing on our panelists! Get a fun-filled glimpse of the pros and cons of taking the family on some truly “fantastic” vacations — to destinations straight out of the pages of your favorite fiction. Find out where to go, whom to see, and what to do while you’re (not really) there. Where would you most like to go, if you had the chance?

Welcome to Boskone #2
Erin Underwood, Bob Kuhn
Independence · 50 min · Discussion Group
New to Boskone? Or returning after a long absence? Join us for a short discussion about what Boskone has to offer, learn some of the convention lingo, and meet new people. Then join our docents for a stroll around the con.

Beauty and the Beast
Priscilla Olson (M), Chris Jackson, Peadar Ó Guilín, Jane Yolen, Greer Gilman
Lewis · 50 min · Panel
Disney adapted “Beauty and the Beast” into an animated film 25 years ago, but this romantic story has been around forever and has taken many forms: “Cupid and Psyche,” “East of the Sun, West of the Moon,” etc. Why is this such a popular motif? What other stories of mythic love and romance have survived the ages?

Reading: Charles Stross
Griffin · 25 min · Reading

Kaffeeklatsch: Jordan Hamessley
Galleria · 50 min · Kaffeeklatsch

Kaffeeklatsch: Lawrence Schoen
Galleria · 50 min · Kaffeeklatsch

The Author on the Flying Trapeze
E. C. Ambrose (Elaine Isaak) (M), Elizabeth Bear, Vincent O’Neil, Jill Shultz, Allen M. Steele
Burroughs · 50 min · Panel
Research tips for fainthearted and fearless writers from panelists who’ve tried falconry, caving, rock climbing, and flying trapeze, cooked space food, been tattooed, and gone behind-the-scenes at Cirque du Soleil for their novels. They’ll share stories and research strategies, including advice for introverts about interviewing experts. How do you handle the ethics and logistics of experiential research?
The Dark Side of Doctor Who
Jim Mann (M), Susan Jane Bigelow, Ginjer Buchanan, LJ Cohen, Laurie Mann
Harbor I · 50 min · Panel
We’ve all seen the bright and charming Doctor saving the universe. But traveling through time and space in a blue police box isn’t all sunshine and puppies. Threaded through the rollicking adventures, the Doctor deals with some serious, dark topics that navigate the border of horror. “The Empty Child,” “Blink,” and “Silence in the Library” are just a few of the episodes that slide into dark fiction territory. What makes these episodes so special to the audience, to the series, and to the Doctor himself? What would the Doctor be without this edge of darkness? What other episodes have made us pause and cast a glance over our shoulder to peer through shaded eyes at what might be hiding in the shadows?

Pulp Art Overview — America Falls in Love with a Good Story
Vincent Di Fate
Harbor II · 50 min · Solo Talk
Much of the visual history of science fiction and fantasy can been seen through the array of cover art that was created during the pulp era. Join Vincent Di Fate as he walks us through the key artists who illustrated for the pulps as well as the artists who influenced the look of the pulps across a broader spectrum of genres.

Losing True Dark
David L. Clements (M), James Cambias, James Patrick Kelly, Donna L. Young, Guy Consolmagno
Harbor III · 50 min · Panel
With the growth of modern cities, the star-swept sky is vanishing, hidden behind the ever-spreading glare of nighttime light pollution. Has the absence of true dark skewed the impact of the nighttime skies? If so, how might this alter the human imagination? What does it mean for our outlook on the supernatural, our observation of outer space, or even our basic desire to discover what lies beyond our own planet? Has this changed our perception of humanity’s place within The Universe?

Spec Fic on the Stage
Jen Gunnels, Erin Underwood
Independence · 50 min · Discussion Group
An informal discussion with the editors of Geek Theater, Jen Gunnels and Erin Underwood, about science fiction theater.

History of the Book
Ada Palmer
Lewis · 50 min · Solo Talk
How have books changed since the 16th century? With the aid of genuine antique books and manuscripts from the 16th through 18th centuries, historian Ada Palmer shows how books were made and how they have evolved over time.

Reading: Christopher Golden
Griffin · 25 min · Reading
FRI 5 PM

Reading: Jane Yolen
Griffin • 25 min • Reading

Reading: Kate Baker
Independence • 25 min • Reading

A Conversation with Vincent Di Fate
Joe Siclari (M), Vincent Di Fate
Burroughs • 50 min • Dialog
Enjoy an engaging conversation with NESFA Guest and award-winning artist Vincent Di Fate, one of science fiction’s top illustrators.

Kaffeeklatsch: Jeff Bohnhoff
Galleria • 50 min • Kaffeeklatsch

Kaffeeklatsch: Vincent O’Neil
Galleria • 50 min • Kaffeeklatsch

Growing Up in “Game of Thrones”
Darlene Marshall (M), D. Lynn Smith, Valerie Estelle Frankel, Laurie Mann, Peadar Ó Guilín
Harbor I • 50 min • Panel
The consequences of their parents’ plots sit squarely upon the shoulders of the Stark, Lannister, and Targaryen children. Their childhoods are gone, and they must come quickly into their own strengths if they hope to live through the great Game of Thrones. How have they survived — and changed? But have the adults underestimated the youngsters’ value — and valor — as players? How will they evolve? Who will survive? Who will gain power? Who will surprise them all?

Art Demo: Framing Your Art
Wendy Snow-Lang
Harbor II • 50 min • Demonstration
Boskone Official Artist, Wendy Snow-Lang, shares her skills as a professional framer. What matting should you use? How should you choose a frame? Does the glass matter? Wendy shows how it’s done, while highlighting things to consider when putting your art together.

Sidekicks and Henchmen
Paul Di Filippo (M), Steven Brust, Jeffrey A. Carver, Scott Lynch, Leigh Perry
Harbor III • 50 min • Panel
“Helper” characters are often genre fiction’s unsung heroes and villains. Harry might lose a lot of his magic without his mates Ron and Hermione. Sam helps Frodo stay grounded on two humble hairy feet. And how cool are those weird winged monkeys of the Wicked Witch’s? Panelists discuss the value of sidekicks and henchmen in speculative fiction.

Bards, Ballads, and Storytellers
Ada Palmer (M), Greer Gilman, Ed Stauff, Mary Ellen Wessels
Lewis • 50 min • Filk
Bards and poets were once the social historians, providing musical tales of great and wicked deeds, as well as offering social commentary on events of the day. Can we identify great bards of the past in different cultures? What examples of their work remain today? Where have all of the bards gone and will they return? Have bards found new life in fiction?
Managing the Mean Critique
F. Brett Cox (M), Tom Easton, Gregory Feeley, E. C. Ambrose
Marina 2 · 50 min · Panel
Being a writer means at some point you’ll receive the dreaded “mean critique.” Receiving unduly harsh feedback from someone in your workshop group, a well-known reviewer, or an internet blogger can happen to any writer at any level. We’ll discuss how to handle these critiques with grace and poise as well as what you can learn from them...even if they are totally wrong!

Reading: Dana Cameron
Griffin · 25 min · Reading

Reading: Ken Altabef
Independence · 25 min · Reading

END FREE PROGRAMMING
Memberships can be purchased at Registration (second floor)
Wild Cards: Inside the Series
David Anthony Durham, Carrie Vaughn, Walter Jon Williams
Griffin • 50 min • Reading
Dating back to 1987, the Wild Cards series continues to be as popular as ever with readers and writers alike. Wild Cards writers Walter Jon Williams, Carrie Vaughn, and David Anthony Durham take turns reading excerpts from their favorite stories and discussing the ins and outs of writing stories within this shared-world series that brings metahumans into our world back in the 1940s, changing the course of history. Join the discussion and find out what might be in store for the Aces and Jokers in the future!

Tall Technical Tales
David L. Clements (M), Guy Consolmagno, Jordin T. Kare, Joan Slonczewski
Harbor I • 50 min • Panel
What stories do scientists tell when they’ve inhaled too much ethanol? Could they involve exploding particle accelerators or “oops” moments with virulent viruses? Perhaps they’ll explain why you should never operate a centrifuge while under the influence. Find out when our panel of loose-lipped lab rats tells true stories about their work. Oh, and bring your own nerdy narratives for our open mic.

The Continuing Adventures of the QUILTBAG
John Chu (M), Susan Jane Bigelow, Justine Graykin, Julia Rios, Jill Shultz
Harbor II • 50 min • Panel
Our media may be starting to feature more characters and situations from the queer/questioning, undecided, intersex, lesbian, transgender/transsexual, bisexual, allied/asexual, gay/genderqueer (QUILTBAG) perspective, but there’s still a long way to go. How do we move from tokenism to full inclusion? We’ll discuss favorite characters, new challenges, and available resources for writers and readers.

25 Things I Learned From SF
Laurie Mann (M), Gillian Daniels, Walter H. Hunt, Fred Lerner, Steve Davidson
Harbor III • 50 min • Panel
How much of what you know was learned from science fiction? Chromatophores and Kuiper belts, tesseracts and teratogens — what Newton dreamt and how anarchy might work — we’ve all received numberless info dumps. What are your favorites? Your most exotic? How has science fiction shaped your life, your worldview, and the fancy factoids you spout at parties? How much was actually…wrong?

Poets and Poetry within Science Fiction and Fantasy
Theodora Goss (M), Carrie Cuinn, Jo Walton, Jane Yolen, Darrell Schweitzer
Lewis • 50 min • Panel
There is a burgeoning market for science fiction and fantasy poetry. Panelists discuss speculative fiction poetry: where you can find it, whom you should be reading, and what markets you should be watching to get the best of what SF/F poetry has to offer.
Dead Penguins and Chocoholics: The Truth About Antarctica

Joan Slonczewski
Burroughs · 50 min · Solo Talk
Pristine white snowdrifts marred only by meteorites: this storybook image is just part of what you find in Antarctica. Penguins lose their way and become mummified in desolate desert wastes. Exotic microbes fill ice lakes with super-rich oxygen — or deplete their oxygen completely. And the mysterious McMurdo community harbors dark secrets, such as rampant chocoholism … This evening, an SF-writing microbiologist (and recent Antarctic explorer/escapee) tells all!

Open Activities for Kids
Galleria-DragonsLair · 50 min · Childrens

Dialog with Special Guest
Robert Wiener
Robert K. Wiener, Joe Siclari
Harbor 1 · 50 min · Dialog
Special Guest Robert Wiener is the president of Donald M. Grant Publisher, Inc. and has a long history as both a professional and as a fan within the SF/F community. Robert is also a well-known collector of science fiction art and illustration and is exhibiting many of his favorite pieces at the Boskone Art Show. Join us for an engaging dialog, which is sure to delve into all aspects of fandom and publishing.
 Angels, Demons, and Saints  
*Mur Lafferty* (M), Maya Bohnhoff, Christopher Golden, Hillary Monahan, Charles Stross  
Harbor II · 50 min · Panel  
Religion has always played a strong role in fantasy, and we’ve seen an influx of fiction that specifically features characters that have been touched by higher powers — especially in today’s urban fantasy. What role do these characters play within the story? How do we see these roles changing or morphing into something new? Why do we keep coming back to these types of characters? And what are some examples of stories that use these characters especially well?

 It’s Complicated: Kids and the Culture They Consume  
*Veronica Koven-Matasy* (M), A.C.E. Bauer, Bruce Coville, Lauren Roy  
Harbor III · 50 min · Panel  
As the lives of young adults in our ever-changing modern society become more complicated and diverse, so do their personal interests and experiences. Panelists discuss how the growing complexity of our world affects the content of young adult literature, comics, games, and film. How do the philosophical issues that impact today’s society affect how teens see themselves within the fiction they consume? What are some practical ideas for better connecting today’s children and teens with yesterday’s or tomorrow’s literature?

 Caring for Aging Parents Discussion  
*Wendy Snow-Lang*, Charles Lang  
Independence · 50 min · Discussion Group  
Official Artists Chuck Lang and Wendy Snow-Lang lead a discussion on the ups and downs of caring for aging parents while trying to work and stay creative.

 Off the Air  
*Stephen P. Kelner* (M), D. Lynn Smith, Don Pizarro, Ken Altabet, Susan Jane Bigelow  
Marina 2 · 50 min · Panel  
Why does good television fail? Panelists talk about SF/F/H TV shows that died too soon, including *Firefly*, *Alphas*, *The Tomorrow People*, *Millennium*, *Jericho*, *Almost Human*, and more. Were they as good as we think? What are we missing?

 Chapter and Verse: Songs About Books  
*Edward L. Stauff*, Mary Ellen Wessels  
Marina 4 · 50 min · Filk  
This round-robin-style concert will present short passages from books and stories that inspired songs, then feature the songs themselves.

 Opening Ceremony: Meet the Guests  
*Adina Adler* (M), Jeff Bohnhoff, Maya Bohnhoff, Steven Brust, David L. Clements, Vincent Di Fate, Charles Lang, Wendy Snow-Lang, Robert K. Wiener, David G. Grubbs  
Galleria-Stage · 25 min  
Welcome to Boskone, New England’s longest-running convention for science fiction, fantasy, and horror! Whether you are attending for the first time or the fifty-second, we invite you to join us in the Galleria to meet this year’s guests.
**Father, You Made Me**
*Don Pizarro (M), ML Brennan, Theodora Goss, Max Gladstone, Alexander Jablokov*

Harbor III • 50 min • Panel

From Dr. Frankenstein and his monster to Darth Vader and his son, speculative fiction uses fantastical ways to explore the special relationship between fathers and sons. What about the relationships between mothers and daughters? Panelists explore notable parental relationships within fiction and how those relationships shape characters and the choices they make.

**How to Get Your Story Rejected**
*Steven Sawicki (M), Neil Clarke, Teresa Nielsen Hayden, Walter Jon Williams*

Marina 2 • 50 min • Panel

Every writer has received the dreaded rejection letter. Pros from both sides of the publishing fence share their anecdotes and tales of woe when it comes to tragic turn downs. Through the laughter and tears, you may even pick up a few tips and tricks to increase your odds with an editor!

**NESFA Hymnal Geek Sing-a-long**
*Edward L. Stauff (M)*

Marina 4 • 50 min • Filk

Group singing of geek songs from the NESFA Hymnals, vols. 1 and 2. Loaner hymnals will be provided. A good way to learn some of the old classics of filk and find your inner geek.

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**Friday the 13th: When Sequels Run Amok**
*Jack M. Haringa (M), Christopher Golden, Paul G. Tremblay, Mallory O’Meara*

Harbor II • 50 min • Panel

On Friday, March 13, 2015, the 13th movie in the Friday the 13th franchise will be released. As a genre, horror movies seem prone to extended franchises. (Okay, so *Friday the 13th* falls far short of the 23 James Bond movies.) Still, on this ominous Friday the 13th, we pause to consider this likewise significant date and the release of the cursed-number movie and wonder when — and whether — enough is too much for this and other horror movie franchises?
Boskone 52 Reception
Adina Adler, Jeff Bohnhoff, Maya Bohnhoff, David L. Clements, Vincent Di Fate, Charles Lang, Wendy Snow-Lang, Robert K. Wiener, Steven Brust
Galleria-Stage · 90 min
Connoisseurs and philistines alike: welcome to the Boskone Art Show! Join us in the Galleria for an upscale social mixer. Meet our program participants while enjoying refreshments, stimulating conversation, and exceptional art that is a feast for the eyes. Experience the music and the festivities as Boskone celebrates another year of science fiction, fantasy, and horror in Boston.

FRI 9 PM

Reading: Greer Gilman
Griffin · 25 min · Reading

Reading: Don Pizarro
Independence · 25 min · Reading

Name that “Skiffy” Tune! — The SF/F Version
Tim Szczesuil (M), Vincent Docherty, Denise A. Gendron
Burroughs · 50 min · Game Show
Name that theme! If you’d know the melodies from Forbidden Planet, Blade Runner, and Space: 1999, come test your knowledge of other famous — and not-so-famous — movie and TV themes. The crew for this game will be Vinc Docherty as MC, Denise A. Gendron on cello, and Tim Szczesuil as score keeper and digital tune wrangler.

Writing for Teens vs Adults
Carrie Vaughn (M), Melissa Marr, Hillary Monahan, Paul G. Tremblay, Jordan Hamessley
Harbor I · 50 min · Panel
With so much crossover, is there a difference anymore? And where does middle-grade fiction fit? Editors and authors discuss.

Dated Science Fiction
David G. Hartwell (M), Elizabeth Bear, Felicitas Ivey, Alexander Jablokov, Steven Sawicki
Harbor II · 50 min · Panel
With the rapid advancement of science, the science within science fiction can get dated quickly. What SF works use science that has passed its expiration date, or at least reads as irretrievably retro? What books have stood the test of time, science-wise? How did they do that?

The Best Bad Movies
Erin Underwood (M), Dana Cameron, Jennifer Pelland, Julia Rios, Stacey Friedberg
Harbor III · 50 min · Panel
Watching bad movies on purpose has become a phenomenon, and many of the films in question are SF, horror, or fantasy flicks. Why do people watch them? What makes one truly terrible and another “terribly” good? And what bad movies should we all be watching?

Open Filking (Late Night)
Marina 4 · Filk
Keep on singing as long as you can stay awake. Or longer.
Star Trek: New Voyages: Phase II presents “The Holiest Thing”
Rob Mauro (M)
Marina 2 • 110 min • Video
Star Trek: New Voyages/Phase II is an award-winning independent internet series of new episodes of classic Star Trek. In “The Holiest Thing,” a deadly disaster at a Federation terraforming project draws the Enterprise into a mystery involving an unknown alien race and Captain Kirk into a life-changing encounter with the project team’s only survivor: Doctor Carol Marcus. Episode screenings will be followed by a Q&A panel with the cast and crew.

Reading: Kenneth Schneyer
Griffin • 25 min • Reading

Reading: Daniel M. Kimmel
Independence • 25 min • Reading

Trivia for Chocolate
Mark L. Olson, Priscilla Olson
Burroughs • 50 min • Game Show
How much chocolate can you collect in an hour? The MCs ask the questions, and the audience shouts out the answers. Get the correct answer first and win big kudos plus a small wrapped chocolate. A fun and tasty event!
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<th>Time</th>
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<td>SAT 8:30 AM</td>
<td>Non-denominational Christian Morning Service</td>
<td>Marina 2</td>
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<td>SAT 9 AM</td>
<td>Costuming and Mad Hatter Hats</td>
<td>Galleria-DragonsLair</td>
<td>50 min · Childrens</td>
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<td>From the Earth to the Moon — and Beyond!</td>
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<td>Jordin T. Kare (M), Guy Consolmagno, Jeff Hecht, Walter H. Hunt, Ian Randal Strock</td>
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<td>A hundred and fifty years ago, Jules Verne’s From the Earth to the Moon surveyed the</td>
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<td>forward to today, when NASA is shooting to land people on Mars by 2035. Panelists</td>
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<td>discuss the challenging realities of space exploration — from getting off the ground</td>
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<td>Vincent Di Fate (M), Bob Eggleton, Jon Hunt, Marianne Plumridge-Eggleton, Donna L.</td>
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<td>Transformative Fan Fiction</td>
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<td>Julia Rios (M), Gillian Daniels</td>
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<td>Looking for fiction that breaks boundaries across gender, race, and religious roles?</td>
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<td>What is fan fiction? Moreover, what is transformative fan fiction? Why do people write</td>
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<td>it? Where did it come from? What needs does it fulfill? And where can you find it?</td>
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KidLit: Great Spec Fic for Young Readers
Bruce Coville (M), A.C.E. Bauer, Jordan Hamesley, Veronica Koven-Matasy, Hillary Monahan
Harbor II • 50 min • Panel
There's some pretty spectacular speculative fiction available for children these days. What's behind the ongoing boom? Panelists talk causes and trends, while plugging their favorite authors and stories — including some that grownups could also learn to love.

Are We Living in the Superhero Renaissance?
Carrie Vaughn (M), Jack M. Haringa, Daniel M. Kimmel, Marjorie Liu, Marshall Ryan Maresca
Harbor III • 50 min • Panel
Marvel and DC heroes and heroines keep ka-powing at us from every screen and page, reviving the comics industry along the way. Why is the superhero biz suddenly so mega-ultra super? Why is this kind of storytelling so compelling? Is it just the special effects — or do we yearn for superheroes to save us from ourselves? Or from something else?

The Antihero
Bob Kuhn (M), Laird Barron, Paul Di Filippo, Scott Lynch, Darlene Marshall
Lewis • 50 min • Panel
Science fiction and fantasy with an antiheroic protagonist goes back at least to Lucifer/Satan in Milton's *Paradise Lost*. In these dark days, have we been seeing a rise in the number of antiheros in fiction? Is it harder or easier to write an antihero? Is it more or less satisfying to the reader? Why are antiheroes so popular?

The Future of Forensics
John P. Murphy (M), James D. Macdonald, Alison Sinclair
Marina 2 • 50 min • Panel
Advances in science and technology are driving the future of forensics. How will these changes affect the future of crime prevention and detection? What crimes committed today or yesterday might be solved in the future, and how might it be done? What relationship do these advances have to the future of crime fiction? And how do we keep it feeling “real” without wandering into science fantasy?

Magical Relics
Michael Sharrow (M), ML Brennan, Felicitas Ivey, Jennifer Pelland, Steven Sawicki
Marina 3 • 50 min • Game Show
Welcome to the land of magical relics. Marvel at treasures recovered from a dozen realms throughout the known worlds. Our puissant panel comprises wizards, witches, artificers, and members of a certain University that remains Unseen. These eldritch experts will divine the nature, origin, and use (odd, bizarre, extreme, even demonic in some cases) of these cryptic curiosities to the amazement of our audience.

Translation in SF and Fantasy
Neil Clarke (M), John Chu, Fred Lerner, Ken Liu
Marina 4 • 50 min • Panel
Translated books can expand our imaginations with ideas from different perspectives and cultures. We'll discuss why it's important to share books via translation as well as the challenges specific to translating science fiction, fantasy, and some of our other favorite genres. Panelists also share some of their favorite "must read" translations.
**SATURDAY**

**SAT 10:30 AM**

**Reading: Michael Swanwick**  
Griffin • 25 min • Reading

**Reading: Rosemary Kirstein**  
Independence • 25 min • Reading

**SAT 11AM**

**Reading: David L. Clements**  
Griffin • 25 min • Reading

**Great Horror for Teens and Tweens**  
*John Langan (M), Christopher Golden, Jordan Hamessley, Jack M. Haringa, Sarah Langan, Paul G. Tremblay*  
Burroughs • 50 min • Panel  
Teen fiction is more than BFFs, family issues, and dystopias. A whole lot more. There is a world of dark and dangerous beings who walk the night and infest the pages of teen and tween horror. Panelists share the books that inspired them to love reading and writing horror. Does adult and teen horror differ? Is there a line that should or shouldn’t be crossed? What new stories are coming out that you should be reading?

**Autographing: Elizabeth Bear, Susan Jane Bigelow, James Cambias, Andrea Hairston**  
Galleria • 50 min • Autographing

**Welcome to Boskone #3**  
*Tim Szczesuil, Laurie Mann*  
Galleria • 50 min • Discussion Group  
New to Boskone? Or returning after long absence? Join us for a short discussion about what Boskone has to offer, learn some of the convention lingo, and meet new people. Then join our docents for a stroll around the con.

**Designing Aliens**  
*Donna L. Young*  
Galleria-DragonsLair • 50 min • Childrens

**Kaffeeklatsch: Steven Brust**  
Galleria • 50 min • Kaffeeklatsch

**Kaffeeklatsch: Steven P. Kelner & Leigh Perry (Toni L. P. Kelner)**  
Galleria • 50 min • Kaffeeklatsch

**Women in Science & Technology**  
*Janice Gelb (M), Janet Catherine Johnston, Jill Shultz, Alison Sinclair, Edie Stern*  
Harbor I • 50 min • Panel  
Science and science fiction have long gone hand in hand, inspiring young minds to dream bigger. With the influx of women and young girls into scientific fields, what part can science fiction play? What role models are out there for young women and girls who are curious about science, technology, engineering, and math? What resources — or resistance — will they find? What fiction would it benefit them to read?

**Who Painted That?**  
*Mark L. Olson (M), Vincent Di Fate, Bob Eggleton, Joe Siclari, Robert K. Wiener*  
Harbor II • 50 min • Panel  
One of the joys of SF art is seeing the wide range of styles and techniques used by various artists. When an expert looks at a piece, he or she can usually tell who painted it without checking the signature. Today we repeat a popular game from last year’s Boskone: shown pictures of genre art from decades past and present, the panelists will identify them — and explain how they did that. Then we’ll find out if they’re correct.
SATURDAY PROGRAM

SAT 11AM continued

**New Stars: Fresh Authors You Should be Reading**
David G. Hartwell (M), Vincent Docherty, Stacey Friedberg, Beth Meacham, Patrick Nielsen Hayden
Marina 3 • 50 min • Panel
Let's survey some relatively recent additions to the SF/F/H firmament. Who's white-hot? (We're looking at you, Ann Leckie.) Who's world-class but not yet world-famous? We'll discuss their must-read stories and books, and what makes them so special already.

**The Literary Bestiary**
Dana Cameron (M), Ellen Asher, Myke Cole, Melissa Marr, Fran Wilde
Marina 4 • 50 min • Panel
There is a long (in fact, ancient) history — it includes Homer, Herodotus, Dante, and Shakespeare — of authors' employing fantastical creatures in their stories. What is it about these creatures that enriches literature? Who or what are some of the most notable literary beasts? Do they represent the moral character or concerns of their time? What role do these creatures play in today's literature?

**The Founding of Fandom: A Discussion with David Kyle**
David A. Kyle, Leslie J. Turek
Independence • 50 min • Discussion Group
David Kyle is a founding member of First Fandom, a self-identified group of SF fans from the late 1930s and early 1940s. Join David and discussion leader Leslie Turek (a founding member of NESFA) for an engaging and insightful chat about the history of fandom from a man who was there. And, be sure to wish him a happy birthday because today is the day!

**Mythic Love and Epic Romance**
Darlene Marshall (M), Debra Doyle, Max Gladstone, Chris Jackson, Ada Palmer
Harbor III • 50 min • Panel
Some of the greatest love stories come from ancient mythology, such as Psyche and Cupid or Odysseus and Penelope. However, great love stories that span the fantastic and (in some cases) the centuries also come in more modern tales, featuring couples such as Sarah Connor and Kyle Reese, Bella and Edward, Wesley and Buttercup, Dr. Frankenstein and Elizabeth, and Count Dracula and Mina. What do these tales of love and romance tell us about love? What do these epic love stories tell us about ourselves? And why are we drawn to them?

**Singing in Harmony (Workshop)**
Beth Runnerwolf, Emily Lewis, Paul Estin Lewis
Lewis • 50 min • Filk
There's joy in singing along with other people. Sometimes singing along with the melody is all you need, but there's something magic about harmony. Learn how it's done.

**Writers on Writing: Talking Plot with Stonecoast MFA Faculty**
James Patrick Kelly (M), David Anthony Durham, Theodora Goss
Marina 2 • 50 min • Panel
Popular-fiction faculty from the University of Southern Maine’s Stonecoast MFA program discuss the ups, downs, and twisted turns of creating a believable plot. Moderated by alumna Allison Hartman Adams.
What’s Up with Welcome to Night Vale?

*LJ Cohen, John P. Murphy*

Galleria • 50 min • Discussion Group

*Welcome to Night Vale* is supposedly a “radio show” bringing news and advertisements from a small town in the desert Southwest where some very strange things happen. What is it about this cult-hit podcast that has captured fans’ attention? Panelists dish on the origins of the show, some of the juicier episodes, and the fan community that has sprung up around this popular series.

Films That Changed Everything

*Bob Devney (M), Daniel M. Kimmel, Marshall Ryan Maresca, Steven Sawicki*

Burroughs • 50 min • Panel

Until recently, science fiction and fantasy films were few and far between. Now, SF/F movies have taken over the theater box offices. What changed? More importantly, which films changed everything? Why were these films so important to SF/F, to mainstream cinema, and to the audience?

Guest of Honor Interview Featuring Steven Brust

*Jo Walton (M), Steven Brust*

Harbor I • 50 min • Interview

Boskone GOH Steven Brust is a wisecracking, sometimes swashbuckling storyteller who has been shortlisted for a Nebula Award and nominated in at least five different *Locus* polls for Best Fantasy Novel. Today’s chat with fellow fantasist Jo Walton may deal with: playing poker; performing music; or writing his Vlad Taltos series about assassination and racism, his Khaavren series about outdoing Alexandre Dumas, or his numerous cool stand-alone stories. Brust says, “The novel should be understood as a structure built to accommodate the greatest possible amount of cool stuff.” Sounds like a plan for this interview as well.
Finding Diverse Fiction
Charles Stross (M), Susan Jane Bigelow, Don Pizarro, Lauren Roy
Marina 2 • 50 min • Panel
There is a clear desire for increased diversity within SF/F fiction and fandom. There are also a lot of emerging writers who are bringing diversity to the genre, but many of them are still flying below the publicity radar. Authors and publishers come together to share their “must read” lists and tips on where to find some of the new up-and-coming authors.

If You Liked That, You’ll Love This
Tony Lewis (M), Gregory Feeley, Felicia Herman, Darrell Schweitzer
Marina 3 • 50 min • Panel
A perennial favorite for Boskone’s booklovers. We’ll talk again about how cherished stories or authors lead us to others that are similar in interesting or unexpected ways. Share your likes (and dislikes) — our experts will give you recommendations on what to read next!

The Wonderful Worlds within Middle Grade Fiction
Ken Altabef (M), A.C.E. Bauer, Stacey Friedberg, Jane Yolen, Matthew London
Harbor III • 50 min • Panel
Worldbuilding comes with its own rules and expectations — but what if your reader is a preteen? How much of a given world must be explained to readers aged 8 to 12? How much can be left to their imaginations? Panelists discuss some of the great middle grade fictional worlds. What worked, what could have/should have been different, and what is left to explore?

The Art of Songwriting
Mary Crowell (M), Gary Ehrlich, Paul Estin, Benjamin Newman
Lewis • 50 min • Filk
A good song needs a combination of good ideas and solid technique. But where do you start, and what really goes into writing a filk song? How can you fix a song that isn’t finding its groove?
SATURDAY

**Odyssey Writing Workshop Presentation**

*Jeanne Cavelos (M)*

Galleria • 50 min • Discussion Group

Director Jeanne Cavelos describes the Odyssey Writing Workshop, an intensive six-week program for writers of fantasy, science fiction, and horror held each summer in Manchester, NH. Guest lecturers have included George R. R. Martin, Elizabeth Hand, Holly Black, Jane Yolen, Robert J. Sawyer, Nancy Kress, and Dan Simmons, and 59% of graduates have gone on to be published. Jeanne explains the structure of the program, the work required, and the pros and cons of workshops. She also describes Odyssey’s online classes, critiques, and the many free resources offered, including podcasts, interviews, essays, writing tips, and exercises.

**Creating Paper Bag Puppets**

*Sarah Langan*

Galleria-DragonsLair • 50 min • Childrens

In this cool, crafty workshop, author Sarah Langan shows kids how to turn a paper bag into their very own hand puppet! Young artists can have fun re-creating favorite characters, superheroes, or monsters.

**Spaceships, Battles, and Zero Gravity**

*Allen M. Steele (M), David L. Clements, Janet Catherine Johnston, Frank Wu*

Burroughs • 50 min • Panel

Don’t you love those incredible space war battles? All of those big explosions, etc.? But how realistic are they? For instance, how come the participants all seem to share the same sense of up and down in space? Scientists and authors team up to critique some blockbuster scenes from page and screen. Let’s determine the physical requirements, risks, and realities of what would happen when two spaceships duel between planets or raging armadas battle it out beyond the stars.

**Autographing: Jeffrey Carver, John Langan, Marjorie Liu, Michael Swanwick**

Galleria • 50 min • Autographing
An Interview with Boskone’s Official Artists
David G. Grubbs (M), Charles Lang, Wendy Snow-Lang
Harbor III · 50 min · Interview
Join Boskone’s Official Artists, Charles Lang and Wendy Snow-Lang, for an engaging discussion about their work, their influences, and various oddities that go bump in the night — something these Salem residents know about, considering the dead outnumber the living in their neighborhood. Their art gleefully embraces vintage-style Halloween images, Lovecraft-inspired themes, and holiday collectibles. They are co-founders of the Terror Fantasies Art Show in Salem, MA, which draws people from around the world.

Fantasy and the Sea Chantey
Edie Stern (M), Gary Ehrlich, Jordin T. Kare
Lewis · 50 min · Filk
Songs of the sea have long included the stuff of fantasy: ghosts, mermaids, and other creatures of the “vastly deep.” Share discussions and performances of some of these nearly forgotten gems of the ocean.

What’s Hot in Comics?
Brenda Noiseux (M), Craig Shaw Gardner, Christopher Golden, Don Pizarro, Thomas Sweterlitsch
Marina 2 · 50 min · Panel
Now that the zombie craze has peaked, and every major comics publisher has delved into horror-related titles, how has this impacted the mainstream’s monthly superhero titles? Does rampant fan interest in The Walking Dead eclipse the latest issue of Superman, Batman, X-Men, or Avengers? We’ll take a look at current comics trends, to see what types of comic books are winning the battle for readers.

The Dos and Don’ts of Do-Overs: The Art of Fairytale Retellings
Elizabeth Bear (M), Theodora Goss, Peadar Ó Guilín, Jane Yolen, Valerie Estelle Frankel
Harbor II · 50 min · Panel
The mainstream and science fiction communities seem to think they invented retellings and have christened them “reboots,” but the retelling of fairytales is a time-honored tradition. Think about the rainbow of Fairy Books to start with, and Robin McKinley has rebooted Beauty and the Beast, Snow White, Sleeping Beauty, and her namesake, Robin Hood. Or consider radical retellings like Gregory Maguire’s Wicked. What can you change for an acceptable retelling? What must you change? What makes a good retelling of a fairytale?

Dune — 50 Years later
Kenneth Schneyer (M), Scott Lynch, Beth Meacham, Joan Slonczewski, Walter Jon Williams, Karl Schroeder
Harbor I · 50 min · Panel
Frank Herbert’s Dune, published in 1955, was an epic science fiction saga that won the Hugo Award and the Nebula Award in 1966. Now, 50 years after its publication, we look back at the legacy left by Frank Herbert and his unique vision of a feudal interstellar society that was rocked by political machinations, contentious religious orders, and a very lucrative spice trade — and giant worms! How has this seminal work held up over time? What place might it take in the science fiction hall of fame? Panelists also discuss the impact that Dune has had on their own work as well as on the development of science and science fiction.

SATURDAY PROGRAM
SAT 1PM continued
Digging the Past
Erin Underwood (M), Ginjer Buchanan, Dana Cameron, David Anthony Durham, Ada Palmer
Marina 3 • 50 min • Panel
Historical speculation and curiosity can lead to some of the richest fodder for authors, whether they’re researching life in ancient Rome, digging up Tutankhamen’s tomb, or tracking down Amelia Earhart’s lost plane. The devil is in the detail, as they say, when telling a story that is gripping and realistic. What role does research play? How might future generations speculate about life today? At what point does historical fiction just become fiction?

Building Fandom and Community
Janice Gelb (M), Steve Davidson, Jim Mann, Teresa Nielsen Hayden, Jen Gunnels
Marina 4 • 50 min • Panel
Fandom is a many-legged thing that spans generations and genres. It’s become more than a little fragmented over the years, but we are all still part of a larger whole. What have we lost with the fragmenting of fandom? How can its niche groups engage with the wider fan community while still honoring and protecting what makes them unique?

SAT 1:30 PM
Reading: Laird Barron
Griffin • 25 min • Reading

Reading: Tom Easton
Independence • 25 min • Reading

SAT 2 PM
Reading: Peadar Ó Guilín
Griffin • 25 min • Reading

Reading: Julia Rios
Independence • 25 min • Reading

SF Theater Renaissance
Marshall Ryan Maresca (M), Andrea Hairston, James Patrick Kelly, A. Vincent Ularich, Jen Gunnels
Burroughs • 50 min • Panel
Science fiction theater has been around for a while, but it’s just now starting to hit a wider audience. SF theater companies have appeared, SF theater festivals have been produced, and SF plays have been anthologized. Are we in an SF theater renaissance? Panelists discuss some of their favorite plays, what they would still like to see, and what might be next for SF theater.

Special Art Show Tour: The Wiener Exhibit
Vincent Di Fate, Robert K. Wiener
Galleria-Art Show • 50 min • Docent Tour
View the art collection of Special Guest Robert Wiener with the collector himself, as well as artist Vincent Di Fate.

Autographing: ML Brennan, Bob Eggleton, Daniel Kimmel, Lawrence Schoen
Galleria • 50 min • Autographing

Game of Thrones: What’s Gonna Happen?
Priscilla Olson
Galleria • 50 min • Discussion Group
Who can resist speculating on the future of everyone’s favorite spec fic TV show? Join us for another lively discussion of what appealing pageantry and perversity or delectable butchery and betrayal await us. Speaking of which, how will the showrunners change (and/or outrun) the story from the books? Warning — spoilers ahead!
Model Magic
Lisa Hertel
Galleria-DragonsLair • 50 min • Childrens
Artist and Art Show Director Lisa Hertel leads kids in a hands-on clay demo that is kid-friendly and kid-safe.

Kaffeeklatsch: Guy Consolmagno
Galleria • 50 min • Kaffeeklatsch

Kaffeeklatsch: Michael Swanwick
Galleria • 50 min • Kaffeeklatsch

25 More Years of Good Omens
Vincent O’Neil (M), Ellen Asher, Mur Lafferty, Darrell Schweitzer
Harbor I • 50 min • Panel
Terry Pratchett and Neil Gaiman’s novel Good Omens has had 25 years of success. Now there is talk again that a six-part TV series is in development. What will it take to bring the book to the small screen? Are we missing out on a big-screen experience? And how did the BBC do with the recent radio play? How might the adaptation of the novel deviate, or what areas might it more fully develop? Are there good omens for this project happening in other media?

Paranormal Romance Before It Was Cool
Leigh Perry (M), Melissa Marr, Darlene Marshall, Carrie Vaughn, Skyler White
Harbor II • 50 min • Panel
Paranormal romance is one of today’s hottest genres, but it wasn’t always that way. Panelists discuss the origins and early works that built the foundation for today’s paranormal romance genre. What are some of the foundational works? What and who should you be reading from the early days of paranormal romance? Why did it take off like it did?

Non-Western Folklore and Fairytales
Carrie Cuinn (M), Ken Liu, Max Gladstone
Harbor III • 50 min • Panel
Folklore and fairytales offer powerful short stories beloved by young and old. The mainstream princess movies tend to focus on Western stories, but what about the rest of the world? Let’s discuss the globe’s lesser-known folklore and fairytales and what they tell us about their cultures, plus their similarities and differences.

Reading Your Own Work Out Loud
Bob Kuhn (M), Kate Baker, Justine Graykin, Bruce Coville
Lewis • 50 min • Workshop
Take part in a workshop/discussion led by professional voice actors, podcaster, and authors who share tips and tricks on how to read out loud (and in front of an audience!). Get advice on overcoming stage fright. Some attendees will also have a chance to read out loud for 1-2 minutes and receive live feedback.

The Walking Dead: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly
Erin Underwood (M), James D. Macdonald, Jennifer Pelland, Thomas Sweterlitsch, Steve Davidson
Marina 2 • 50 min • Panel
The Walking Dead opened its fifth season with a literal bang and seems to be going strong despite the occasional halting plot, erratic pace, and poor choices made by several characters in past seasons. Still, it remains the most popular show on cable television. What is it about TWD that compels 17 million viewers to keep watching a show that is possibly one of the most violent on television?
PG-13: Violence, Sex, and Teen Readers
Veronica Koven-Matasy (M), Felicitas Ivey, Stacey Friedberg, Hillary Monahan, A.J. Paquette
Marina 3 · 50 min · Panel
When writing for teens or choosing books for young adults to read, is there a PG-13 line that needs to be drawn? Is there more violence and sex in YA books today? Or have we just become more aware of it? How does a writer address difficult or sensitive topics without going too far? Panelists discuss danger zones within YA fiction.

Constructive Criticism for Revising Novel-Length Work
Kenneth Schneyer (M), Gregory Feeley, Ken Liu, John P. Murphy, Margaret Ronald Burroughs · 50 min · Panel
Both getting and giving constructive criticism can be a challenge when going through the revision process, particularly for longer works. As a writer: how do you know what to ask of a potential critic, and how do you provide feedback on the success of the critique? As a critic: how do you identify and communicate issues or problems to the author? How do you keep track of plot threads, identify themes, and figure out what questions need to be asked? Also, how should writer and critic approach a series?

Mining Fiction and Music for Creative Inspiration
F. Brett Cox (M), Maya Bohnhoff, Rosemary Kirstein, Beth Runnerwolf, Mary Ellen Wessels
Marina 4 · 50 min · Filk
While fiction inspires music, music also inspires fiction. How do these two forms of expression interact? Panelists discuss examples of music or fiction that were inspired by the other genre. Who are the great literary musicians? Discussion may also include some live demonstrations as examples.

Autographing: L.J. Cohen, Vincent Di Fate, Christopher Golden, Vincent O’Neil
Galleria · 50 min · Autographing

The Hollywood Historical Past
Debra Doyle
Galleria · 50 min · Discussion Group
Sleepy Hollow is not the first TV show with a historical backstory that diverges from real-world history. Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Angel, and Highlander also presented us with some highly dubious flashbacks. Is this a recent development, or only the latest product of the ahistorical approach to the past-as-story that gave us Shakespeare’s Italy and medieval writers’ fanciful versions of ancient Greece and Rome?

Kid’s Concert with Guest of Honor
Steven Brust
Steven Brust
Galleria-DragonsLair · 50 min · Childrens
Kaffeeklatsch: Elizabeth Bear and Scott Lynch
Galleria • 50 min • Kaffeeklatsch

Kaffeeklatsch: Jo Walton
Galleria • 50 min • Kaffeeklatsch

Writing About Groups to Which You Do Not Belong
David Anthony Durham, Brianna Spacekat Wu, John Chu
Harbor I • 50 min • Panel
Writing diverse characters necessarily requires writing people who are not like you. When these characters come from groups that have been traditionally underrepresented or targets of discrimination, it is necessary to approach this task with care — but the need to be careful sometimes scares off well-intentioned authors. What techniques can be used to understand and communicate their perspectives? Where is the line between writing inclusively and co-opting a story that is not yours to tell?

The Life and Art of Jeffrey Jones
Robert K. Wiener
Harbor II • 50 min • Solo Talk
Jeffrey Jones is one of the great artists of fantasy and SF than no one knows by name, but whose art everyone recognizes. Jones was a stylist and an amazing painter whose images define worlds like those of Fafhrd and the Grey Mouser. Special Guest Robert Wiener — the major collector of Jones’ work — talks about the life of Jeffrey Jones and shows some extraordinary art.

Pitch Perfect
Joshua Bilmes (M), Jeanne Cavelos, John R. Douglas, E. C. Ambrose (Elaine Isaak), Matthew London
Harbor III • 50 min • Panel
Pitching a project is an art. What does it take to put together a good pitch? When should you give a pitch; when should you hold off? Pros share advice and tips on pitching, including success stories and failures.

Workshop: The Teen Perspective on Writing
Stacey Friedberg (M)
Independence • 50 min • Workshop
Teens and preteens join YA editor Stacey Friedberg for an interactive roundtable discussion about writing and publishing. Attendees also get to participate in a short creative writing activity and share their own story ideas.

Performance Skills
Mary Ellen Wessels (M), Jeff Bohnhoff, Gary Ehrlich, Benjamin Newman
Lewis • 50 min • Filk
Performing, whether onstage or in a circle, is more than just singing. What about that nagging feeling of stage fright? Learn some tips and techniques from experienced filk performers.

Writing Great Openings
Paul Di Filippo (M), ML Brennan, Alexander Jablokov, Michael Swanwick, A.C.E. Bauer
Marina 2 • 50 min • Panel
What elements are necessary for a great opening, and is a great opening necessity for a great novel? Is it even more important to have a great opening in short fiction?
Daring Outer Space Rescues  
Jeff Hecht (M), David L. Clements, Allen M. Steele, Donna L. Young  
Marina 3 · 50 min · Panel  
Spaceflight has long been one of humanity’s dreams. We have sent people into space for decades to build space stations and to conduct research. Now with Space X and possible plans for a moon base, what happens when a spacecraft breaks down in outer space, or some system has a catastrophic failure? Real-world solutions are possible, but what would it take to pull off a rescue mission? What happens if we can’t pull it off?

The Alien  
Walter H. Hunt (M), Andrea Hairston, Charles Stross, Michael Swanwick, Patrick Nielsen Hayden  
Burroughs · 50 min · Panel  
Let’s probe an alien for a change. What is it about aliens that captures our imagination? Does a good alien have to be different? Should it necessarily be fascinating … and maybe a bit frightening? Why? Which aliens have awakened our sense of wonder? They have been portrayed as benefactors, conquerors, victims, and even objects of desire: why? What parallels can we draw with human-to-human relationships? Perhaps we should be asking “what is it about humans?”

Tolkien through the Peter Jackson Lens  
Tom Shippey (M), Ken Altabef, Valerie Estelle Frankel, Annalisa Schaefer, Ken Mondschein  
Marina 4 · 50 min · Panel  
With his cinematic versions of The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit, director Peter Jackson has certainly left his mark on Middle Earth. How have Jackson’s LOTR and Hobbit changed our interpretation or feelings about the books? What have we lost or gained by putting these films on the big screen? More generally, what impact have these movies had on subsequent epic fantasies in film and in fiction?

Autographing: Ken Altabef, Max Gladstone, Melissa Marr, Hillary Monahan  
Galleria · 50 min · Autographing

Xenolinguistics Discussion Group  
Galleria · 50 min · Discussion Group  
What makes a language alien? Conversely, what makes one human or familiar? Join us for an informal discussion about “speech” and other communication modes, rare types of grammar, and fictional alien languages.

Storytelling with Persis Thorndike  
Persis Thorndike  
Galleria-DragonsLair · 50 min · Childrens

Kaffeeklatsch: Walter Jon Williams  
Galleria · 50 min · Kaffeeklatsch

Kaffeeklatsch: Beth Meacham  
Galleria · 50 min · Kaffeeklatsch

Reading: Darlene Marshall  
Griffin · 25 min · Reading

Reading: Craig Shaw Gardner  
Griffin · 25 min · Reading
Demystifying the Agent Process
Joshua Bilmes, A.J. Paquette
Independence • 50 min • Discussion Group
The business of finding an agent can be a bit of a mystery. Who should you contact? What should you say? How much of your manuscript should be finished? These are only a few of the questions new authors have, but what about authors who have to change agents? There is a set of other issues they need to manage. Professional agents take the time to share their experience and advice on the steps in the “agent finding” process.

Terror Fantasies Art Show
Charles Lang, Wendy Snow-Lang
Harbor II • 50 min • Dialog
Join our Official Artists — Chuck Lang and Wendy Snow-Lang — as they introduce us to the wicked world of Terror Fantasies. They present this extraordinary, spooky art show every year in Salem, Massachusetts. This year, Terror comes to Boskone!

Social Implications of New Technologies
Edie Stern (M), Jeffrey A. Carver, Janet Catherine Johnston, John P. Murphy, Mark L. Olson
Harbor III • 50 min • Panel
What unexpected places may today’s tech take us tomorrow? How will we live with 3-D printing? Driverless cars? Robots that quit the factory’s floor and start sweeping ours? Handheld everythings? What gadgets will change our lives for good (or ill), and how? And what if those robots get minds of their own?
Writing Fight and Combat Scenes  
*Myke Cole (M), Chris Jackson, James D. Macdonald, Ken Mondschein, Jen Gunnels*  
Marina 3 · 50 min · Panel  
You can learn fencing, stage combat, or martial arts, but these skills are neither necessary nor sufficient to write compelling, realistic fight scenes. What does it take to write a fight scene that creates tension and drama without turning it into a play-by-play? Panelists will explore how to bring their readers into the fight and leave them gasping for air.

The Children of Metamorphosis  
*James Patrick Kelly (M), F. Brett Cox, Sarah Langan, John Langan, Darrell Schweitzer*  
Marina 4 · 50 min · Panel  
A hundred years ago, Gregor Samsa awoke from uneasy dreams to find himself transformed into a gigantic dung beetle. Franz Kafka was a fairly obscure writer at the time, but his fiction has since helped to transform literature as it challenged preconceptions about what could be done and how it might be done. What other stories of personal “metamorphosis” have since been published that echo or reflect Kafka’s masterpieces? Panelists discuss “Metamorphosis” (1915), Franz Kafka as an author, and his literary legacy.

Reading: Andrea Hairston  
Griffin · 25 min · Reading

Reading: Susan Jane Bigelow  
Independence · 25 min · Reading

Rejectomancy  
*Stephen P. Kelner (M), Craig Shaw Gardner, James Patrick Kelly, Margaret Ronald, Lawrence M. Schoen*  
Marina 2 · 50 min · Panel  
Is there really a blue sheet of death? Does an encouraging form letter mean less or more than a generic personalized response? These are just a few of the questions that new writers ponder as they try to read between the lines of the rejection letters they receive. Every new writer goes through this dreaded stage (better known as “rejectomancy”) as they try to glean some hidden meaning within the text. Writers who have been there share their own rejectomancy stories and give some helpful advice on ways to avoid the “rejectomancy” trap.

Autographing: David L. Clements, Debra Doyle, James Macdonald, Allen Steele  
Galleria · 50 min · Autographing

DragonsLair is Closed for Dinner  
Galleria-DragonsLair · 50 min · Childrens

Kaffeeklatsch: Walter H. Hunt  
Galleria · 50 min · Kaffeeklatsch

Kaffeeklatsch: Myke Cole  
Galleria · 50 min · Kaffeeklatsch

SAT 4:30 PM  
Reading: Scott Lynch  
Griffin · 25 min · Reading

SAT 5PM  
Jewish Havdalah Service  
Quincy (on the Mezzanine level) · 110 min  
Service ending the Sabbath.
Music Theory
Edward L. Stauff (M), Denise A. Gendron, Ada Palmer
Lewis • 50 min • Filk
Filk is a tradition born into SF/F fandom in the hallways and stairwells of the places our community gathers. What place does music theory have in the creation and performance of filk? How might music theory affect the creation of new songs within fandom?

Artistic Interpretations of Classic Stories
Joe Siclari (M), Vincent Di Fate, David G. Hartwell
Burroughs • 50 min • Panel
Most classic science fiction stories have been visualized by several generations of artists. Join us for a discussion comparing the various interpretations and how those interpretations may continue to change over time.

Authorship, RPGs, and the Legacy of D&D
Chris Jackson (M), James Cambias, Mur Lafferty, Lauren Roy
Marina 3 • 50 min • Panel
Dungeons & Dragons, the first commercially available role-playing game, was published 40 years ago. D&D ushered in a new era of cooperative storytelling that has inspired Game Masters, players, and authors to dream big and create their own fictional universes. Panelists explore the many facets of RPGs — from developing challenging and believable frameworks for cooperative story construction to taking the story beyond the game.

Are Geeks Fans? Are Fans Geeks?
Priscilla Olson (M), John R. Douglas, Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Peadar Ó Guilín, Laurie Mann
Marina 4 • 50 min • Panel
Sometimes the two terms seem to be used interchangeably. And, it’s true that traditionally skiffy images and interests have come to dominate popular culture. But - is it right to think of “fan” and “geek” as synonymous? Why, or why not?

Hugo Awards: Dramatic & Written Works
Bob Devney (M), Vincent Docherty, Daniel M. Kimmel, Jim Mann, Steve Davidson
Harbor 1 • 90 min • Panel
What’s the greatest stuff you saw or read last year? Join us to spend 90 minutes discussing 2014’s best speculative fiction books, stories, movies, TV shows, theatrical productions, and more! Bring your own suggestions, and help us build a world-class reading/viewing list in preparation for the Hugo Awards at this year’s Worldcon in Spokane, WA. Also, find out how to become eligible to nominate your favorite 2014 items for the 2015 Hugos — the ballot is due soon!

Reading: Bruce Coville
Griffin • 25 min • Reading

Reading: Marjorie Liu
Independence • 25 min • Reading
Space Weather
Janet Catherine Johnston
Burroughs • 50 min • Solo Talk
Join Janet Johnston to find about outer space meteorology, and learn about solar storms and forecasting space weather. How might the weather in space affect conditions on Earth? What about other planets in our solar system?

DragonsLair is Closed for Dinner
Galleria-DragonsLair • 50 min • Childrens

Cambridge SF Workshop Group Reading
Steven Popkes, James Patrick Kelly
Griffin • 50 min • Reading
A rapid-fire reading by the members of the Cambridge Science Fiction Writers Workshop, featuring James Cambias, Brett Cox, Alex Jablokov, Steven Popkes (M), Kenneth Schneyer, and Sarah Smith.

Boskone's Multi-Author Book Party
Galleria-Stage • 90 min
Fans and readers: come meet the presses who have come to the convention! Join us for Boskone’s Multi-Author Book Party, and see what’s new from authors you already love, as well as those you have yet to discover. Authors and publishers with a new book and a current Boskone membership are welcome to take part, but need to contact program@boskone.org for details.

Story Games
Annalisa Schaefer
Galleria-DragonsLair • 50 min • Childrens
Artists and writer Annalisa Schaefer leads kids in a fun activity in which they each take turns in writing part of a story together.

Featured Filkers: A Concert with Jeff & Maya Bohnhoff
Jeff Bohnhoff, Maya Bohnhoff, Mary Crowell
Harbor II+III • 50 min • Filk
Jeff and Maya Jeff Bohnhoff are musicians of many talents who have been making music for over 25 years. Their wry wit, wicked talent for parody, and ear for a well-sung tale are a rare combination. Come find out why as our Featured Filker performs. Mary Crowell will also join them for a few songs.

Open Filk
Marina 4 • 50 min • Filk
Come sing with your friends or make new ones.

Star Trek: New Voyages Phase II presents “Mind-Sifter”
Rob Mauro (M)
Marina 2 • 110 min • Video
Star Trek: New Voyages/Phase II is an award-winning independent internet series of new episodes of classic Star Trek. “Mind-Sifter” is a fan favorite story, originally written by Grandma Trek herself, Shirley Maiewski. When the crew of the Enterprise is forced to accept Captain Kirk’s death, Spock and McCoy must come to terms with their own grief. When Spock discovers a plot by the Klingons to send Kirk back in time to destroy the Federation, it will take all the courage and abilities of the crew of the Enterprise to rescue their beloved Captain before he succumbs to the horrific torture of the Mind-Sifter. Episode screenings will be followed by a Q&A panel with the cast and crew.
**SATURDAY PROGRAM**

**SAT 8 PM**

**NESFA Awards Ceremony**
*David G. Grubbs (M), Gay Ellen Dennett, Tony Lewis, Michael Sharrow, Jane Yolen, Bruce Coville*
Harbor II+III · 15 min

The New England Science Fiction Association (NESFA) presents its annual Skylark and Gaughan Awards. The Skylark Award honors the work and personal qualities of an exceptional contributor to science fiction. The Gaughan Award is presented to a talented emerging artist.

**Reading: LJ Cohen**
Griffin · 25 min · Reading

**Murder, Mystery, and Mayhem**
*Leigh Perry (M), Dana Cameron, John Langan, Paul G. Tremblay*
Burroughs · 50 min · Panel

Dark fiction and suspense are natural bedfellows. What is it about their synergy that works so well? How do you walk the line between mystery and suspense when there are monsters tearing their way through the plot? And how do dark fiction and horror help generate or amplify those nail-biting moments that make readers blaze through a story to see how it ends?

**Kid Crafts**
Galleria-DragonsLair · 50 min · Childrens
Free crafting time for children in Dragonslair.

**Open Filk**
Marina 4 · 50 min · Filk
Come sing with your friends or make new ones.

**SAT 8:30 PM**

**Reading: Marshall Ryan Maresca**
Griffin · 25 min · Reading

**Improv at Boskone**
*Rosena Cornet (M), Gregory Scott, A. Vincent Ularich, Shiyan Bee, Erik Volkert*
Harbor II+III · 45 min

Welcome to an exciting hour of improvisation with a special SF/F twist. A troupe of professional improvisers performs short-form games inspired by speculative fiction topics that are truly out of this world. You can influence the action by offering inventive suggestions from the audience. Join us for some truly fantastic fun and games!

**SAT 9 PM**

**Reading: John Langan**
Griffin · 25 min · Reading

**Open Filking (Late Night)**
Marina 4 · Filk
Keep on singing as long as you can stay awake. Or longer.

**Small Press Marketing Roundtable**
*Neil Clarke, Steve Davidson, Ian Randal Strock*
Burroughgs · 50 min · Panel

Publishers, editors, and marketing specialists from some of today’s hottest small presses share stories, tips, and advice on marketing small press works in an ever-changing landscape.
The Jodorowsky Effect
Paul Di Filippo (M), Carrie Cuinn, Daniel M. Kimmel, Don Pizarro, Steven Sawicki
Burroughs • 50 min • Panel
Alejandro Jodorowsky, a Chilean filmmaker, author, and surrealist, influenced some of the greatest cult SF/F works of the last 60 years. He directed the first midnight cult film (El Topo), his comic series The Incal inspired The Fifth Element, and he spearheaded a failed effort to film Dune — “the greatest SF movie never made.” Jodorowsky’s production art for Dune inspired Star Wars, Alien, Heavy Metal, Raiders of the Lost Ark, and others. His other work is also critically acclaimed and hugely influential. Panelists discuss Jodorowsky’s legacy, his “Psychomagical Realism,” and his influence on contemporary work.

Fun with Silly Poses
Erin Underwood (M), John Chu, Bruce Coville, David Anthony Durham, Max Gladstone, Mur Lafferty
Harbor II+III • 30 min
Expect to emit great giggles at our group reenactments of scenes from SF/fantasy/horror cover art. Warning: high probability of awkward audience participation and pretty pathetic props.

Reading: Steven Brust
Harbor II+III • 25 min • Reading
SUNDAY PROGRAM

SUN 8:30 AM

Non-denominational Christian Morning Service
Marina 2 • 50 min

SUN 9 AM

MarbleWays and Legos
Galleria-DragonsLair • 50 min • Childrens

SUN 9:30 AM

Flash Fiction Slam
Carrie Cuinn (M), James Patrick Kelly, Kenneth Schneyer, Fran Wilde, F. Brett Cox
Marina 4 • 90 min • Reading
Join Boskone’s second Flash Fiction Slam. Be one of eleven (11) writers to compete for the title of The Flash, reading your own original fiction — which must tell a complete tale within a 3-minute period. Our expert panel of judges will score your work, and you automatically lose 10 percent for going over your 3-minute time. You may only read your own work. The reader with the top score wins! Sign up before the con for one of eight (8) reading slots on a first-come, first-served basis by e-mailing erin.m.underwood@gmail.com. Or sign up onsite at Program Ops in the Galleria for one of three (3) at-con openings. A waiting list will also be available.

SUN 10 AM

Reading: Wendy Snow-Lang
Griffin • 25 min • Reading

Reading: James Cambias
Independence • 25 min • Reading

Vincent Di Fate Tour

Vincent Di Fate
Galleria-Art Show • 50 min • Docent Tour
Stroll through Boskone’s Art Show with the NESFA Press Guest, Vincent Di Fate, as he shares his thoughts on his own work and some of the other pieces on display.

Autographing: A.C.E. Bauer, Darlene Marshall, Leigh Perry (Toni L. P. Kelner), Karl Schroeder
Galleria • 50 min • Autographing

Long Live the Legion?
Priscilla Olson
Galleria • 50 min • Discussion Group
It’s still dead. Anyone have any ideas if/how/when our favorite group of superheroes might don their rings and fly again?

Fun and Games with Walter Hunt
Walter H. Hunt
Galleria-DragonsLair • 50 min • Childrens

Kaffeeklatsch: David L. Clements
Galleria • 50 min • Kaffeeklatsch

Kaffeeklatsch: Bruce Coville
Galleria • 50 min • Kaffeeklatsch

SF/F Art for Children
Gay Ellen Dennett (M), Michael A. Burstein, Ingrid Kallick, Marianne Plumridge-Eggleton, Annalisa Schaefer
Harbor I • 50 min • Panel
Science fiction and fantasy art isn’t just for adults. With the cool creatures and fantastic landscapes, it’s also a perfect genre for children. However, SF/F art for children has largely gone unnoticed. Who are some of the artists working in this area? Is there a line between art created for adults and children? Our panelists will dish on some of their favorite artwork for kids.
Overlooked Anthologies
David G. Hartwell (M), Melissa Marr, Jane Yolen
Marina 3 · 50 min · Panel
Everybody says that some of the most interesting work in science fiction, fantasy, and horror bypasses the novel and shows up in short stories. But anthologies tend to have shorter shelf lives than novels, and not everybody gets to read these stories before they are gone. From short stories, novelettes, and novellas, panelists share some of their favorite places for finding shorter fiction that should not be overlooked.

SUN 10:30 AM
Reading: Elizabeth Bear
Griffin · 25 min · Reading
Reading: Mur Lafferty
Independence · 25 min · Reading

SUN 11 AM
Reading: Allen M. Steele
Griffin · 25 min · Reading

Death Rays: A Dialog
Jordin T. Kare, Jeff Hecht
Burroughs · 50 min · Dialog
Fifty-six years ago, the director of the then-new DARPA said the agency might try to develop a death ray as the “ultimate” weapon to obsolete the hydrogen bomb. A few months later, Gordon Gould walked into DARPA and said he could make a laser, so the agency gave him a million dollars. At the end of last summer, the Navy deployed its first laser weapon on the USS Ponce in the Persian Gulf. We’ll talk about the half-century of “death ray” development and the state of the art, and show some pictures.
The Fairytale Princess, Circa 2100
Sarah Langan (M), Hillary Monahan, Carrie Vaughn, Tom Shippey
Harbor III • 50 min • Panel
Before Disney appropriated Snow White, Jasmine, Aurora, and the rest of the “princess clique,” these were characters who presumably served a deeper purpose in structuring the fables of bygone years. What parts do they play for today’s children? What meaning might these reminders of a fairytale feudal past still hold a hundred years from now?

Contracts: Talking Terms
Joshua Bilmes
Independence • 50 min • Discussion Group
Literary contracts can be tricky to navigate. Find out about the mysterious clauses and terms that are hidden in plain sight. When is a deal too good to pass up or too good to be true? Ask questions about what’s okay to publish, find out about legal landmines, and ask the questions that you most want to know.

Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. and the Marvel Cinematic Universe
Jack M. Haringa (M), LJ Cohen, Jim Mann, Marshall Ryan Maresca, John Langan
Marina 2 • 50 min • Panel
From comics to movies, the Marvel Cinematic Universe has succeeded in keeping comic book fans interested and engaging new ones. With the weekly television show, Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D., the reach extends. How does the show expand the storytelling toolkit of comics and/or the movies? Which elements have been successful and which could use some improvement?
Writing Workshops: What’s Right for You as a New Writer?
Kenneth Schneyer (M), Debra Doyle, Theodora Goss, Jill Shultz
Marina 3 · 50 min · Panel
Thinking about attending a writing workshop or an MFA program? Wondering how to pick which one is right for you? Once you do, then what? There is no magic formula to elicit an acceptance letter, but a solid application is a good place to start. Join representatives from various writing programs and learn how to present the best of what you have to offer as a student.

YADN: Yet Another Dystopic Novel
Brenda Noiseux (M), Ken Altabef, Peadar Ó Guilín, Alison Sinclair
Marina 4 · 50 min · Panel
Why are dystopias so popular in fiction? With the ever-increasing number of dystopic novels, the circumstances of the characters’ lives, the world they inhabit, and the struggles they face often have a repetitive quality. Yet readers consume them like comfort food. What’s comforting about coming catastrophes? How do authors keep their stories feeling fresh and new when their worlds are so grim and austere? How long can this futuristic feel-bad boom last?

Reading: Jeff Hecht
Independence · 25 min · Reading

The Herschel Project
David L. Clements
Burroughs · 50 min · Solo Talk
The Herschel Space Observatory (launched 2009) was one of the European Space Agency’s flagship missions. The spacecraft, which featured a 3.5m diameter far-infrared telescope, was sent to the second Lagrange point. Over its almost 4-year lifespan, it observed both objects in our solar system and targets in the most distant galaxies known. David L Clements began working on Herschel in 2001, and has been a leading member of some of the largest projects using this spacecraft. He will discuss the science and technology of the mission, and present results on topics ranging from star formation to the origin of galaxies.

Autographing: Michael A. Burstein, Dana Cameron, David G. Hartwell
Galleria · 50 min · Autographing

Group: Knit-A-Long
Priscilla Olson, Edie Stern
Galleria · 50 min · Discussion Group
The Knit-A-Long is our annual exploration of string theory ... and a chance to show off your prowess with the needles. Come and join the fun, and get to finger fine fibers with other obsessive knitters.

Kaffeklatsch: John Langan
Galleria · 50 min · Kaffeklatsch

Kaffeklatsch: Jack M. Haringa
Galleria · 50 min · Kaffeklatsch

Reading: Vincent O’Neil
Griffin · 25 min · Reading

Reading: John Chu
Griffin · 25 min · Reading

SUN 11:30 AM

Reading: Vincent O’Neil
Griffin · 25 min · Reading

SUN 12 NOON

Reading: John Chu
Griffin · 25 min · Reading
Swashbuckling
*James Cambias (M), Steven Brust, Chris Jackson, Darlene Marshall*
Harbor I · 50 min · Panel
Swashbuckling adventure models itself on tales of privateers like Sir Francis Drake (latter half of the 16th century), buccaneers like Henry Morgan (mid-17th century), and pirates like Blackbeard (turn of the 18th century). We even see suitably swashbuckling pirates in the Caribbean into the early 19th century. Who today is writing adventure stories that tap this rich vein? How are they adapted for fantasy and science fiction? What is the appeal for a speculative fiction-loving audience? What happens when these stories go arrr-wry?

What to Wear When Saving the World
*Fran Wilde (M), Valerie Estelle Frankel, Felicia Herman, Teresa Nielsen Hayden*
Harbor II · 50 min · Panel
Saving the world is one thing; doing so in style is another. How much practicality are authors, artists, and filmmakers willing to sacrifice so their characters look good going into battle? Are heroes’ and heroines’ outfits getting any more realistic? What tools and gear should they be sure to bring — and where can they store them without those pesky pockets that so spoil the line of a good getup? How do writers keep things real without forsaking fashion?

Writers on Writing: Worldbuilding from the Ground Up
*E. C. Ambrose (M), Myke Cole, Peadar Ó Guilín, Lauren Roy, Rosemary Kirstein*
Harbor III · 50 min · Panel
Some spectacular stories take place in worlds very different from our own: from life on (or in) a gas giant to a civilization that lives on a world-tree as big as the Himalayas. But there are perils associated with venturing far beyond human experience. An inconsistent or poorly described worldscape can furnish a confusing story, or challenge a reader’s ability to suspend disbelief. Hear from writers who have created fully realized worlds that their readers can almost see, touch, and smell.

Sassafrass Concert
*Ada Palmer, Emily Lewis*
Lewis · 50 min · Filk
Join Sassafrass for some short sets of fantastic folk with Emily Lewis, Ada Palmer, and others!

Women in Comics
*Carrie Cuinn (M), D. Lynn Smith, Marjorie Liu, Jane Yolen, Brenda Noiseux*
Marina 2 · 50 min · Panel
Do women get the same opportunities as men in comics? Do female superheroes receive fair representation? Are female superheroes “over-sexualized?” Let’s examine trends in the comic book industry over the last decade regarding the “fairer sex” in comics.
Noir & Moral Ambiguity in SF
James Patrick Kelly (M), Laird Barron, Leigh Perry, Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Thomas Sweterlitsch
Marina 3 · 50 min · Panel
Noir is a shadowy staple of the futuristic crime tale, emphasizing moral conflict, dark themes, and sexual tension. Films like Blade Runner and Dark City, as well as books like Gibson’s Neuromancer and Lethem’s Gun, with Occasional Music are gloomy, gritty dramas that demand attention despite our instinct to turn away. Why do they work so well? Panelists discuss some of their favorite future-noir stories, novels, and films.

Editors — After the Draft
Tom Easton (M), Neil Clarke, Jordan Hamessley, Beth Meacham
Marina 4 · 50 min · Panel
An editor can make a good manuscript great. No matter how perfect you think your manuscript is, there is always room for improvement, tightening, trimming ... and editing. Once your manuscript is done, submitted, and accepted, what happens next? What can you expect? What do you do if you don’t agree with changes? How many people are involved in the work? Professional editors share tips and techniques for those struggling with the editing process.

Reading: Michael A. Burstein
Griffin · 25 min · Reading

Real Magic
Craig Shaw Gardner (M), Myke Cole, E. C. Ambrose, Beth Meacham, Carrie Vaughn
Burroughs · 50 min · Panel
Making magic feel real — and fresh — can be challenging. How does an author invest “she cast a spell” with as much verisimilitude as “he baked a pie” or “it licked its chops”? Rules and boundaries can help, but how do you make supernatural rules seem natural? Panelists discuss the perils and potential associated with using magic in fiction.

Autographing: Mur Lafferty, Kenneth Schneyer, Alison Sinclair, Charles Stross
Mur Lafferty, Kenneth Schneyer, Charles Stross, Alison Sinclair
Galleria · 50 min · Autographing

Voiceovers
Bob Kuhn, David G. Grubbs
Galleria · 50 min · Discussion Group
Anyone interested in the art of voiceovers such as audiobooks, eLearning or documentary narration, commercial voiceovers, ... is welcome to join a discussion to share ideas and suggestions.

Creating Amazing Animals with Pipe Cleaners
Benjamin Newman
Galleria-DragonsLair · 50 min · Childrens
The Evolution of Urban Fantasy

Darlene Marshall (M), ML Brennan, Ginjer Buchanan, Leigh Perry, Max Gladstone
Harbor III · 50 min · Panel

Now wildly popular, urban fantasy first appeared on our literary radar in the 1980s — showcasing works by Charles de Lint, Neil Gaiman, and Terri Windling. Today, the genre embraces elements of paranormal romance, horror, and noir in books such as *The Mortal Instruments*, *The Sookie Stackhouse Series*, and *The Dresden Files*. Why is urban fantasy so successful? Are there further opportunities for writers in this genre, or is fantasy with a modern setting morphing into science-fantasy? What are our favorite urban fantasy books? Whom should we be reading?

Managing Your Motivation

Stephen P. Kelner (M)
Independence · 50 min · Discussion Group

Professional consultant Stephen Kelner leads an interactive discussion with attendees on how to stay motivated to write during good and bad times alike. Hear all of the tips, tricks, and dirty little secrets of getting words on the page.

Recording and Music Technology

Mary Crowell (M), Jeff Bohnhoff, Ada Palmer, Edward L. Stauff
Lewis · 50 min · Filk

Music technology is ever-changing and advancing. What gear is best for live performances, and what should you use for recordings? What’s out there that you wish you had in your own studio? What price points should you keep in mind?
Magnificent B-Movie Monsters
Bob Devney (M), Vincent Di Fate, Bob Eggleton, Mallory O’Meara, Frank Wu
Marina 2 · 50 min · Panel
From Pumpkin Head to The Blob, these B-movie monsters continue to capture our attention. But why? B-movies aren’t generally known for their scripts or their acting, and some are even best known for “jumping the shark” nadir. So, what keeps us coming back for more? Panelists discuss the good, the bad, and the awesomeness of a truly magnificent B-movie monster. They’ll even name a few of their favorite beasts.

YA Then and Now
Ken Altabef (M), A.C.E. Bauer, Bruce Coville, Stacey Friedberg, Veronica Koven-Matasy
Marina 3 · 50 min · Panel
In the 1960s, when Norton, Clement, Heinlein, and Asimov were contemporary authors, there was no real perception of young adult fiction. Today, there is a thriving industry built around teenaged protagonists and authors who exclusively write YA fiction. Who are some of the current or emerging authors? What else has changed in the field between then and now? Are the books by those bygone authors still relevant for young adults today?

The Year in Physics and Astronomy
Jeff Hecht (M), Guy Consolmagno, Mark L. Olson, David L. Clements
Marina 4 · 50 min · Panel
An annual roundup of the latest research and discoveries in physics and astronomy. Our experts will talk about what’s new and interesting, cutting-edge and speculative: the Higgs boson, solar and extrasolar planets, dark energy, and much more besides.

Reading: Hillary Monahan
Griffin · 25 min · Reading

Reading: Carrie Vaughn
Griffin · 25 min · Reading

Reading: Lauren Roy
Independence · 25 min · Reading

“I Remember the Future” Viewing and Discussion
Michael Burstein
Carlton · 50 min · Panel
During a visit from his estranged daughter, an elderly science-fiction writer struggles with his fading mind and the visions he thinks he is receiving from the future. The film will be followed by a discussion with Michael A. Burstein, author of the Nebula-nominated short story that served as the basis for the award-winning film. 2014, NR; starring Tiffany Lyndall-Knight (from Battlestar Galactica) and Reg Gorman. 30-minute viewing followed by a discussion with the author,

Filkling Parody
Jeff Bohnhoff (M), Maya Bohnhoff, Jordin T. Kare, Roberta Rogow
Burroughs · 50 min · Filk
Parody is a long-held practice and tradition among musicians. But writing one is an art. Join our panel of filkers for a lively, lighthearted discussion of how to pen proper (or improper) parodies. Spontaneous demonstrations and laughter may well ensue …
Autographing: Steven Brust, Rosemary Kirstein, Darrell Schweitzer, Jill Shultz

Steven Brust, Darrell Schweitzer, Jill Shultz, Rosemary Kirstein
Galleria · 50 min · Autographing

Kaffeeklatsch: Karl Schroeder
Galleria · 50 min · Kaffeeklatsch

SF Screen Comedy: Galaxy Quest to Guardians of the Galaxy

Julia Rios (M), Gillian Daniels, Craig Shaw Gardner, Annalisa Schaefer, Stephen P. Kelner
Harbor I · 50 min · Panel

Anybody order a side of Meatballs? Let’s talk about the most successful SF films with a lighter touch. We’ve seen many SF feature-length cartoons in the last few years aimed primarily at children: Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs, Planet 51, Mr Peabody & Sherman. Which of those are worth seeing? What about live-action comedies aimed at adults? Are there examples the other way around? Which are the “best” big-screen SF comedies, and what sets them apart from the crowd?

The Great Game in Space: SF Retellings of Kim

James Cambias (M), Gregory Feeley, Fred Lerner
Harbor III · 50 min · Dialog

Rudyard Kipling’s novel, Kim, was set in 1800s India when Britain and Russia played the Great Game or espionage and occasional war for dominance of the subcontinent. Always hungry for inspiration from history, SF has dabbled in the Great Game as well. Join us and hear about Poul Anderson’s homage to Kim featuring Dominic Flandry, S. M. Stirling’s Great Game in a devastated world, and other stories which play in a fascinating milieu.

NESFA Book Club: Neptune’s Brood

Gay Ellen Dennett, Michael Sharrow, Charles Stross
Harbor II · 50 min · Discussion Group

The NESFA Book Club hosts its monthly meeting at Boskone. Join us as we discuss Neptune’s Brood by Charles Stross, who will join the group halfway through for a Q&A. All are welcome and newcomers are encouraged to attend.

WorldCons: What You Need to Know

Erin Underwood, Laurie Mann
Lewis · 50 min · Discussion Group

Join this open discussion about WorldCons. Find out how the selection and bidding process works. How do you volunteer to help? How do you get picked for programming? And, most important of all, how do you wrangle the logistics to run a world class WorldCon?

Promoting Your Project

Steve Davidson (M), Valerie Estelle Frankel, Ian Randal Strock, Brianna Spacekat Wu, LJ Cohen
Marina 2 · 50 min · Panel

Learn the ins and outs of promotions that get your projects seen by as many people as possible. Find out about hidden opportunities, pitfalls to avoid, and best practices for networking your way to publication success.
Casting Your Lot with Shirley Jackson
F. Brett Cox (M), Laird Barron, Paul G. Tremblay, Jack M. Haringa
Marina 4 • 50 min • Panel
From “The Lottery” to “The Haunting of Hill House,” Shirley Jackson’s work has not only helped to shape the horror genre, but to inspire writers both inside and outside of the genre. Moreover, the New York Times describes Shirley Jackson as having two styles: “She could describe the delights and turmoils of ordinary domestic life with detached hilarity; and she could, with cryptic symbolism, write a tenebrous horror story in the Gothic mold in which abnormal behavior seemed perilously ordinary.” Is this an accurate summation of Jackson? What more is there to her work and her legacy? Does she continue to inspire and shape horror today?

Feedback Session
Adina Adler (M), Tim Szczesuil, Erin Underwood
Burroughs • 50 min • Panel
Folks, the con is over. (Except for Dead Dog Filking — and of course teardown, where we'd love to have your help!) But we're already working on Boskone 53 (February 19–21, 2016)! So, let's talk about what went right or wrong this year and how we do even better next year.

Dead Dog Filk
Lewis • Filk
Still more time to sing with your friends and chosen family until we run out of voice.

Reading: Max Gladstone
Griffin • 25 min • Reading

Reading: Alison Sinclair
Independence • 25 min • Reading

MASSFILC Meeting
Ellen Kranzer (M)
Lewis • 30 • Filk
Business meeting for MASSFILC, the Boston-area filk association. Dead Dog Filking starts right after the meeting finishes.
NEXT YEAR:

BOSKONE

53

FEBRUARY 19–21, 2016
THE WESTIN BOSTON WATERFRONT

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GARTH NIX

OFFICIAL ARTIST:
RICHARD ANDERSON

FEATURED FILKERS:
VIXY & TONY

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