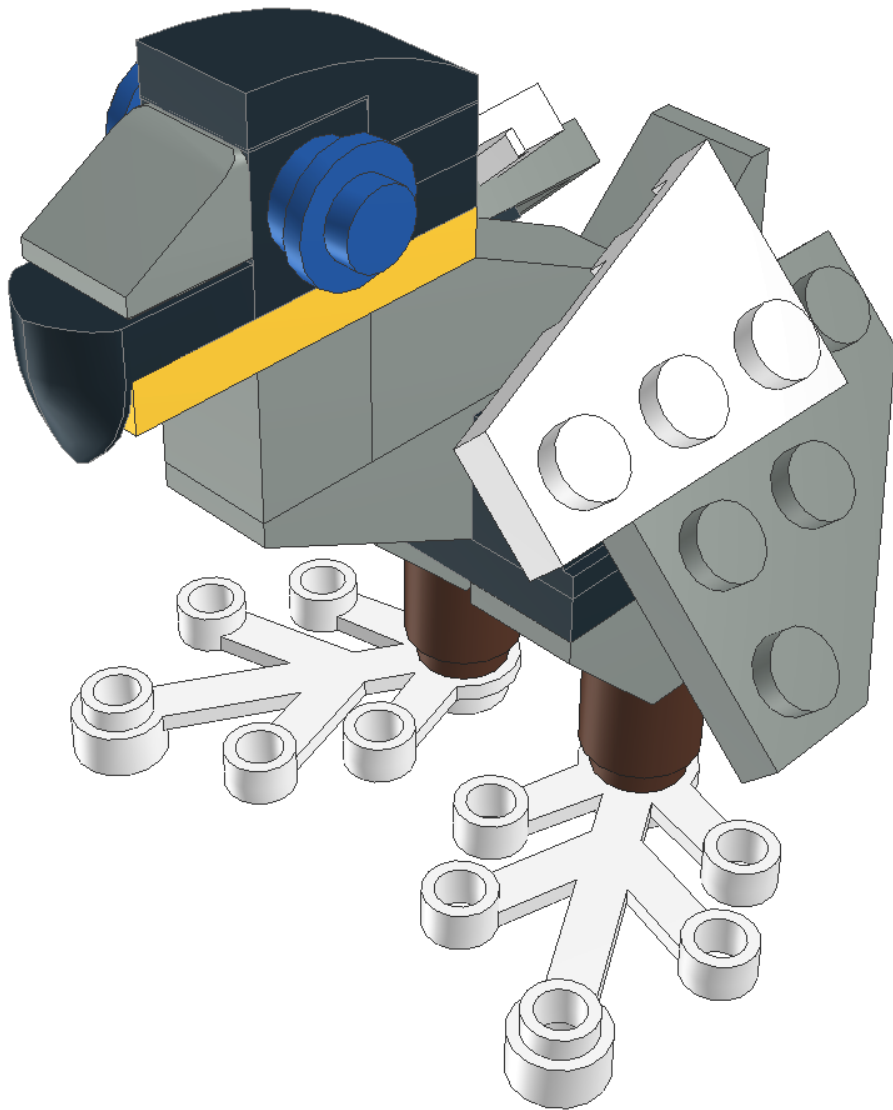


CAPCLAVE 2026



CAPCLAVE 2026

Where Reading Is Not Extinct

October 2-4, 2026

GOH: Nino Cipri

GOH: Rebecca Roanhorse

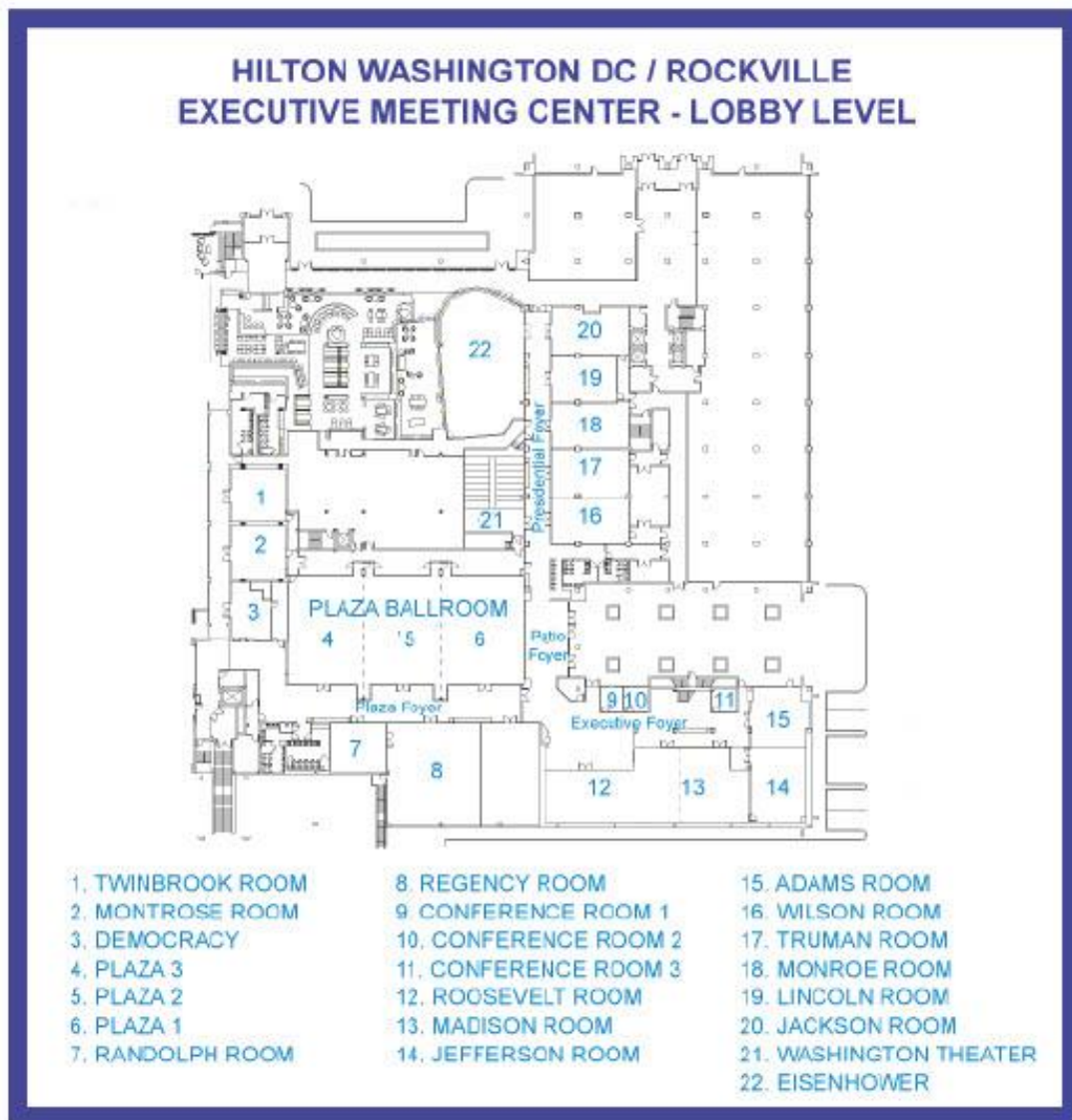
With many more science fiction & fantasy professionals and fans

Hilton Washington DC/Rockville

Executive Meeting Center

1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852-1699

Sponsored by the Washington Science Fiction Association



CAPCLAVE 2026 HOURS OF OPERATION

Registration (Front Hallway)

Friday 2 pm – 9 pm
Saturday 9 am – 7:30 pm
Sunday 9 am – 2 pm

Dealer's Room (Roosevelt/Madison)

Friday 3 pm – 6 pm
Saturday 10 am – 6 pm
Sunday 10 am – 2 pm

Con Suite (Jackson)

Friday **5 pm** – midnight
Saturday **9:30 am** – midnight
Sunday **9:30 am** – 2 pm

Con Ops/Green Room (Jefferson)

Friday 3 pm – 11 pm
Saturday 9 am – 11 pm
Sunday 9 am – 3 pm

Game Room (Adams)

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

Readings (Wilson)

Workshops (Upstairs Library)

CAPCLAVE STAFF

Chair: Rodger Burns
Vice-Chairs: Courtni Burleson
 Perrienne Lurie
Programming: Apurva Desai
Hotel Liaison: Colette Fozard
 Cathy Green
Tech Goddess: Kathi Overton
Guest Liaison: Kim Hargan
Pre-Con Registration: Sam Hogan
At-Con Registration: Kim Schlereth
 Sam Scheiner
Con Suite Purchasing: Gary Blog
Con Suite At-Con: Gary Blog
 Eva Whitley
Green Room: Elizabeth Twitchell
Dealers Room: Bob MacIntosh
Gaming: Sam Hogan
Program Book: Sam Lubell
Publicity: Cathy Green
Restaurant Guide: Carolyn Frank
Website: Paul Haggerty
 Gayle Surette
 Grig Larson
Signage: Mike Nelson
Social Media: Sarah Mitchell
Special Projects: Bill Lawhorn

Capclave 2026 Code of Conduct

The Washington Science Fiction Association is committed to creating a professional, safe, friendly, and welcoming environment for all Capclave members. Everyone is entitled to a harassment-free convention experience, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, disability, body shape, race, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, or religion.

We expect all Capclave members to help ensure a safe and positive experience for everyone. Be excellent to each other, show empathy, and help make this a welcoming space to explore speculative fiction.

Examples of unacceptable behavior include but are not limited to:

- Intimidating, harassing, abusive, discriminatory, derogatory, or demeaning speech or actions.
- Harmful or prejudicial verbal or written comments or visual images related to gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, disability, body shape, or other personal characteristics, including those protected by law.
- Inappropriate use of nudity and/or sexual images.
- Inappropriate disruption of meetings or events.
- Photographing, video or audio recording of presentations without presenter/author's permission.

A request to “stop”, “back off”, or “go away” means exactly that. If anyone engages in harassing or unsafe behavior, the convention committee may warn the offender, temporarily remove or mute the offender, or permanently ban the offender from the convention.

The code of conduct is not open to “rules lawyering.” Multiple small infractions are as much of a problem as one large infraction.

Capclave is a convention open to all-ages, and all conversation in public spaces should be in the acceptable PG-13 range or lower. If the conversation rating escalates, please take it to a hotel room or other private space.

Reporting to the Incident Response Team (IRT)

If you feel that you are being harassed, or if you notice someone engaging in questionable behavior, please contact a Capclave staffer to report the incident. Check the Green Room which is in Jefferson first. You can also email report@capclave.org to report any problems with a panel, reading, or other convention activity.

The Vice Chair of the convention leads IRT activities. A team of three individuals will review the information and make a recommendation. There are alternate members who will be brought in if any of the active members are part of the incident.

If there is a report regarding an individual, that individual will be contacted and provided the opportunity to give information unless the reporting individual asks the convention to not take any action or there is an immediate danger to members.

All reports will be kept confidential.

Consequences of misconduct may include:

- Immediate removal from a particular meeting room or function space without warning
- Revocation of one's Capclave membership; and/or
- Restrictions from future WSFA meetings and events

Mask Policy 2026

At this time, there is no mask requirement. This is subject to change based on CDC, state, and local requirements. This section will be updated with any policy changes if they become necessary.

As Capclave does not control events in private room space, the hosts determine mask requirements not the convention.

Words from the Chair

Welcome to Capclave 2026, the 26th Capclave. It's a pleasure and a privilege to welcome everyone back to enjoy the programming panels, workshops, meetups with friends, and other events that make Capclave great. My immeasurable thanks go out to Rebecca Roanhorse and Nino Cipri for agreeing to be Guests of Honor, to the staff and volunteers who contribute their brilliance and determination to make this convention run, to the presenters who are gracing us with their wit and wisdom, and to all attendees who trust that this is a good way to spend a weekend and continue to connect with speculative fiction fandom.

"25 consecutive years" was a milestone last year, and in some ways following that up is a hard act to have to follow. But in a more fundamental sense it's a very easy one, because it comes with 25 years' worth of good examples to aim towards, and a welcome challenge to try and do even better. Welcome to Capclave 2026, and please enjoy yourselves. I'm glad you're here.

Rodger Burns

Nino Cipri

Nino Cipri is a trans and queer writer, editor, and educator. Their fiction has been nominated for the Shirley Jackson, World Fantasy, Lambda, Nebula, and Hugo Awards. A multidisciplinary artist, Nino has also written plays, screenplays, and radio features; performed as a dancer, actor, and puppeteer; and worked as a stagehand, bookseller, bike mechanic, and labor organizer.

They graduated from the University of Kansas with a MFA in fiction in 2019 and participated in the Clarion Workshop in 2014. They cite Kelly Link and Ursula LeGuin as two of the major influences on their writing. They also cite queer authors of the 1990 such as Poppy Z. Brite and comics as well as screenwriter Charlie Kaufman.

Nino's 2019 story collection *Homesick* won the Dzanc Short Fiction Collection Prize and was chosen as one of the top ten books on the ALA's Over the Rainbow Reading List. Their novella "Finna," about queer heartbreak, working retail, and wormholes, was published by Tor.com Publishing in 2020, and its sequel "Defekt" was released in 2021. Nino's sapphic YA folk horror novel, *Dead Girls Don't Dream*, was published by Holt Young Readers in 2024. Their next book, *Every Room a Hunger*, will be out in 2027.

Bibliography:

"Ain't Houses, Ain't Names" — *Sunday Morning Transport*, forthcoming 2023

"Velvet" — *Baffling Magazine*, October 2020

"At the End of a Most Perfect Day" — included in *Avatars, Inc*, edited by Ann VanderMeer, March 2020

"Before We Disperse Like Star Stuff" — included in *Homesick: Stories*, Dzanc Books October 2019

"Odontogenesis" — *Fireside Fiction*, October 2018

"The Fainting Game" — *Pseudopod*, August 2018

"Dead Air" — *Nightmare Magazine*, August 2018. Reprinted in *Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy 2019*.

"Ad Astra Per Aspera" — *Capricious Magazine* Gender Diverse Pronouns Issue, January 2018. Reprinted in *Transcendent 4: The Year's Best Transgender Speculative Fiction* (2019).

"Which Super Little Dead Girl (TM) Are You? Take Our Quiz and Find Out!" — *Nightmare Magazine*, December 2017

"Presque Vu" — *Liminal Stories*, October 2017

"It Happened To Me: I Was Brought Back to Avenge My Death, But Chose Justice Instead" — *Fireside Fiction*, April 2017

"It Happened To Me: I Melded My Consciousness With the Giant Alien Mushroom Floating Over Chicago" — *Fireside Fiction*, March 2017

“It Happened To Me: My Doppelgänger Stole My Credit Card Info, and then My Life” — *Fireside Fiction*, February 2017

“She Hides Sometimes” — *Interfictions*, October 2016.

“Opals and Clay” — *Podcastle*, February 2016. Shortlisted for the 2016 Tiptree Award.

“Not an Ocean But the Sea” — *The Deadline*. Reprinted in *Arsenika*, December 2016.

“The Noctambulists” — *The Deadline*, 2015

“Let Down, Set Free” — *Crossed Genres Magazine*, May 2015

“The Shape of My Name” — Tor.com, March 2015. Reprinted in *Transcendent: the Year’s Best Transgender Speculative Fiction* (2016), *The Flametree Anthology of Time Travel Stories* (2017), *Worlds Seen in Passing* (2018), and *New Voices of Science Fiction* (2019). Shortlisted for the 2015 Tiptree Award. Available as an ebook.

“Better Girls from Broken Parts” — *Fireside Fiction*, October 2014

“The Literal Forest” — *Betwixt Magazine*, July 2014

“Liner Notes” — illustrated by Amanda Blix. Self-published, April 2014. Now available as a zine or ebook!

“Two Boots in Love” — Self-published comic, drawn by Leah Cipri. December 2013.

“Ecdysis” — *The Journal of Unlikely Entomology*, May 2013

“A Thing With Teeth” — *Eunoia Review*, April 2013. Reprinted in *Glittership*, April 2016.

“A Silly Love Story” — *Daily Science Fiction*, September 2012, reprinted in *Fireside Fiction* in February 2015, *Cicada* (Summer 2017).

Plays:

At a Window, Two Girls — December 2006

Everything that Breathes — A collaboration with John Milosich. April 2005

A Mortality Thing — March 2003

Appreciation of Nino Capri

Nino writes the type of fiction that would not have been imaginable back in the 20th century. Their work reflects current social and environmental movements, especially underrepresented queer/trans experiences and their past as a person discovering their trans identity. At the same time, they retain a commitment to trying to make a better future and to speculative fiction generally. They also like to experiment with non-traditional and non-linear story structures to explore ideas more creatively than typical stories’ linear progressions can.

Nino also incorporates their own search for links to others and a yearning for friends and family. At the same time, their stories twist the familiar into the strange.

Nino's past employment and role in the union lead them to an anti-authoritarian approach, mocking capitalism and business practices. Nino went to IKEA to help a sibling who was moving and got lost in what they call a labyrinth. This became LitenVärld's "It's a Small World"-like layout in their novella "Finna". And the grandmother named Ursula is a tribute to Ursula LeGuin, one of Cipri's favorite authors.

Their fans eagerly await future works. Perhaps they will drop a few hints at Capclave.

Rebecca Roanhorse

Rebecca Roanhorse is a New York Times bestselling and Nebula, Hugo, and Locus Award-winning speculative fiction writer. She has published multiple award-winning short stories and novels, including two novels in *The Sixth World Series*, *Star Wars: Resistance Reborn*, *Race to the Sun* for the Rick Riordan imprint, and the Hugo Award-winning epic fantasy trilogy *Between Earth and Sky*. She was the guest editor of America's Best Science Fiction & Fantasy (2023) and a contributor to the New York Times "100 Best Books of the 21st Century". She has also written for Marvel comics and games, and her TV writing includes FX's *A Murder at the End of the World*, and the Marvel series *Echo* for Disney+. She has had her own work optioned by Paramount, Amazon Studios, Netflix, and AMC Studios. She lives in Northern New Mexico with her husband, daughter, and pup. She drinks a lot of black coffee.

Bibliography:

TV/FILM:

Echo – available on Disney + MA and Hulu

A Murder at the End of the World – available on Hulu and Disney+

NOVELS:

Between Earth and Sky Trilogy

1. *Black Sun*
2. *Fevered Star*
3. *Mirrored Heavens*

Sixth World Series

1. *Trail of Lightning*
2. *Storm of Locusts*
3. "River of Bones, a Novella"

Race to the Sun (MG)

Star Wars: Resistance Reborn

NOVELLA:

“Tread of Angels”

COMICS AND GRAPHIC NOVELS:

Women of Marvel #1

Crypt of Shadows

PhoenixSong

Marvel Voices

NOTABLE SHORT FICTION:

“Welcome to your Authentic Indian Experience™” – *Apex Magazine* – Issue 99, August 2017

“A Brief Lesson in Native American Astronomy” – *The Mythic Dream anthology* from Saga Press, August 2019

“Harvest” – originally published in *New Suns* anthology from Solaris Press, March 2019, reprint in *Uncanny Magazine* March/April 2020

“The Takeback Tango” – *A Universe of Wishes*, YA anthology from Random House, Winter 2021

“Wherein Abigail Fields Recalls Her First Death, and Subsequently Her Best Life” – *A Phoenix First Must Burn* YA anthology from Viking, March 2020

“Falling Bodies” – An Amazon Original Story June 2023

“White Hills” – From *Never Whistle at Night* September 2023

“Eye & Tooth” – From *Jordan Peele’s Out There Screaming* October 2023

**Appreciation of Rebecca Roanhorse
by Erika Wurth**

Rebecca Roanhorse is, hands down, the single most transformative Indigenous writer we have—or have ever had—in Native letters. In *Black Sun*, just as in her other work, she doesn’t just imagine a world where American Indians survive, but one in which we get to merely be who we are, were, and will be, unmitigated by the ravages of genocide. Important as it is to talk about the effects of colonization, far more important for Natives and non-Natives alike is to imagine a world in which we are thriving.

There is a scene, a simple scene in *Black Sun* that gets me, every time, it kills me. The book is swashbuckling, magical—with mermaids and enormous crows, and crooked, black destinies—

and of course, it's a love story too. But the scene that gave me almost a sense of nostalgia for something I have never experienced, and never will—but spiritually is in my genetics to the core, is a scene where one of the characters is walking around a magical, imagined Maya city. They stop at a restaurant. The city is full of light, and people are speaking Maya in the streets. It's so beautiful and simple and it's the kind of thing that feels so unreachable. To be clear, there are Mayan cities now where people are speaking Maya in the streets! And we need to remember that.

But to read Roanhorse's work, which sometimes speeds us into a dystopian future where the very weaknesses that Natives had or have are the same things that allow us to survive, is also, when it comes to *Black Sun*, to move backwards in time and yet wildly into the future. There is a Renaissance happening in Native fiction, and it finally includes crime and horror and fantasy writers. And almost every single one of them is transforming the literary landscape. But no one has an imagination like Roanhorse—in fact her editor said in an interview that he assumed that the manuscript that her agent presented to him would never be seen in his lifetime. Roanhorse allows us joy.

She allows us magic. *Black Sun* is the book I have been waiting for my entire life, the book that would have transformed my childhood. My childhood was one that was filled with pounds and pounds of wonderful, nerdy books. A few cursory, two-dimensional Native characters. But nothing like *Black Sun*. To be a little more specific at the end of this, *Black Sun* is about Xiala, who is a strong, hard-drinking sailor, able to transform into a mermaid-ish creature—and when she takes work on a ship, she encounters a secretive man that the captain has been paid to transport: Serapio; blind, scarred, and incredibly charming. Xiala falls for him—only to learn that his destiny is one that will fill the streets with blood. It's a big book, epic, and has all kinds of fun, even familiar plot twists. But what it does at its core is transformative. Her work speaks of magic. But the thing is, her work IS magic, and this is why she terrifies the small minded amongst us: she remembers a world that should've existed, that once did, that will exist again.



BALTICON 61

science fiction and fantasy convention

May 28-31, 2027

Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel

202 East Pratt St, Baltimore, MD 21202

WE'LL SEE YOU IN 2027!

*And have we got
surprises in store!*

No matter how you geek,
we've saved a spot for you!

Join us next year at the
same place and time on
Memorial Day Weekend!



Wondering who our guests
might be? It's no mystery!

Stay tuned for updates!

Literature

Art

Science

Music

Cosplay

Gaming



BALTICON.ORG

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Phone: 410-JOE-BSFS (563-2737)

Capclave Program

Friday

Friday 5:00 pm

Eisenhower

The Best 2026 SFF TV/Streaming Shows (Ends at: 5:55 pm)

House of the Dragon, Dr. Who, Murderbot, and more. What's the best so far in 2026 for TV and streaming? What TV channels and streaming services are best for watching SF and Fantasy? What are you looking forward to watching in 2027?

Participants: D.H. Aire, Wendra Colleen, J.L. Gribble, Somto Ihezue, Perrienne Lurie (M)

Washington Theater

Forbidden Books (Ends at: 5:55 pm)

There is a growing effort, both grassroots and legislative (local, state and federal) to establish comprehensive bans on books in school and general libraries. Why are so many people trying to ban books? Some claim these are not really bans since would-be readers can still special order the forbidden books, but then what do you call the removal of books from libraries? Should the books in libraries only reflect "community values" or should libraries stock books that challenge their readers? Given the core of Sci Fi/Fantasy is to question; to ask "what if", and how badly book bans have worked in the past, what should we be doing to fight against this new drive? What can writers and fans do to stop book bans?

Participants: Nino Cipri, Elektra Hammond, TT Madden, Steven Harper Piziks, Jennifer R. Povey (M)

Monroe

Great Over-Expectations: Do authors assume too much of their readers? (Ends at: 5:55 pm)

Genre fiction often assumes its readers have certain knowledge/experience with select tropes from its readers, but does this limit their audience? Are writers missing an opportunity to attract more sporadic spec-fic readers by assuming everyone knows about FTL or what a faun looks like? How can writers include enough information for readers new to the genre without boring experienced readers? Or should there be starter lit for those new to the genre?

Participants: Jack Campbell, Drema Deòraich, Cerece Rennie Murphy, Melissa Scott, Scott Edelman (M)

Upstairs Library

Send Your Characters to Therapy! Character Arcs & Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (Ends at: 6:55 pm)

In this special presentation, licensed psychotherapist and award-winning SFF author Zack Be will take you through his method of deepening character arcs in fiction by applying tools from Cognitive Behavioral Therapy! Part science, part art, you will leave this workshop with tools that can help guide you toward writing amazing characters in your science fiction.

Participants: Zack Be (M)

Dealers' Room Foyer

Friday Dealers' Foyer Autographing (Ends at: 5:55 pm)

Friday open autograph table outside Dealer's Room

Wilson

Author Reading — Rebecca Roanhorse (Ends at: 5:25 pm)

Author Rebecca Roanhorse reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Rebecca Roanhorse (M)

Friday 5:30 pm

Wilson

Author Reading — Matthew Kressel (Ends at: 5:55 pm)

Author Matthew Kressel reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Matthew Kressel (M)

Lincoln

Book Launch — Miguel O. Mitchell (Ends at: 6:55 pm)

Participants: Miguel O. Mitchell (M)

Friday 6:00 pm

Wilson

Author Reading — Rosemary Claire Smith (Ends at: 6:25 pm)

Author Rosemary Claire Smith reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Rosemary Claire Smith (M)

Friday 6:30 pm

Eisenhower

What Happened to the Shared Universe? (Ends at: 7:25 pm)

Shared universes in written fiction were invented by Robert Asprin for his *Thieves' World* anthologies, starting in 1978, though the comics had been doing this since the 1940s. Is a shared universe the same thing as when a writer opens up his/her world for other writers to play in (such as Larry Niven's *Man-Kzin Wars* or Eric Flint's *1632*)? Besides George RR Martin's *Wild Cards*, what other shared universes have kept going? What makes a particular shared universe last? Why do some persist while others fizzle out?

Participants: Charles Gannon, Bjorn Hasseler, Joshua Palmatier, Edward Swing, Sam Lubell (M)

Washington Theater

Do Vampires Suck? (Ends at: 7:25 pm)

Twenty years after *Twilight*, are vampires still popular, and if so why? Or do they now suck more than just blood? What is the appeal of these monsters and why are some more popular than others? Is there anything to say about vampires that has not already been done? Is it Dracula's Eastern European accent? The clothes? Or is blood just sexy?

Participants: Andrew Fox, J.L. Gribble, Dominick Rabrun, Rebecca Roanhorse, Hildy Silverman (M)

Wilson

Author Reading — Alex Shvartsman (Ends at: 6:55 pm)

Author Alex Shvartsman reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Alex Shvartsman (M)

Truman

Everything Murderbot (Ends at: 7:25 pm)

There's a new *Murderbot* novel out and several episodes of the Apple TV series were Hugo finalists this year. We'll discuss the *Murderbot* universe and our favorite bits. How does the TV show compare to the book? Sec Units welcome.

Participants: Sarah Avery, Jennifer Brinn, Drema Deòraich, Barbara Krasnoff (M)

Friday 8:00 pm

Eisenhower

What Tangled Webs We Weave ... (Ends at: 8:55 pm)

Love is never as simple as people like to think. Monogamy and other traditional relationship structures are coming increasingly under critical review today in the 21st century, and we are seeing a growing acceptance of non-traditional relationships and families. With the rise in acceptance for polyamory and other forms of ethical non-monogamy, along with found families, how do you adapt traditional romantic arcs and tropes to reflect, and extrapolate these trends in SFF? What works do it well and which don't?

Participants: Zack Be, Scott Edelman, Jennifer R. Povey, Apurva Desai (M)

Washington Theater

Magic Rules Rulz (Ends at: 8:55 pm)

What are the advantages of a structured system of magic versus a more free-form magic? Does having strict rules for magic limit the sense of wonder or does it challenge the writer to find more creative ways of using the magic? What are some tightly controlled systems of magic in works you have read, watched, or written and what makes them work?

Participants: BrightFlame, Jennifer Brinn, Andrew Fox, Miguel O. Mitchell, Edward Swing, Joshua Palmatier (M)

Adams

Survival of the Weirdest (Ends at: 8:55 pm)

Game Demo/Learn-and-Play A card-based game of matching, lobbying and judging. Propose scenarios, compare an animal trait to the scenario, explain your (lack of reasoning), and be prepared to be judged harshly. And learn some weird animal facts along the way. The first player to collect three scenario cards wins!

Participants: Zenlizard (M)

Truman

What's New in Westeros? (Ends at: 8:55 pm)

Both *A Knight of The Seven Kingdoms* and *House of the Dragon* had episodes in 2026. We'll discuss them both and compare them to the source material. Spoilers aplenty!

Participants: D.H. Aire, Somto Ihezue, Perianne Lurie (M)

Friday 8:30 pm

Monroe

WSFA Meeting (Ends at: 9:55 pm)

WSFA's 1st Friday at Capclave 2026

Participants: Courtni Burleson, Sam Lubell, Bob MacIntosh (M)

Friday 9:30 pm

Washington Theater

Speed Writing – the silly edition! (Ends at: 10:25 pm)

Speed Writing is the panel where teams of authors collaborate to write stories on the fly, based on suggestions from the audience. Come in and join the fun as we bring “Whose Line is it Anyway” to Capclave! How silly a story can our authors come up with that still bears a passing resemblance to SFF? Participants will be given a writing prompt (the silliest ones the moderator and audience could come up with!) to based their story or scene. The results are unpredictable and usually hilarious!

Participants: Danielle Ackley-McPhail, Wendra Colleen, Randee Dawn, Bernie Mojzes, Jennifer R. Povey, Hildy Silverman, Ian Randal Strock, Jean Marie Ward, Morgan Hazelwood (M)

PHILCON 2026

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Charlie Jane Anders **Donato Giancola**
Principal Speaker Artist Guest of Honor

Sarah Pinsker **Charles E. Gannon**
Musical Guest of Honor 1632 Minicon Special Guest

ERIC FLINT'S 1632
MINICON at PHILCON



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Enjoy a Weekend of:

- Panels, art show, masquerade, Time Travelers' Ball, concerts, gaming, anime, writers' workshop, readings, meet the pros, filking, vendors, and more!
- Free parking
- Public transit access

Rates through 11/8/26:

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Students (with Student ID) - \$40
Active Military - \$40
Teens 13-17 - \$35
Children 12 & under at Philcon - Free



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Saturday

Saturday 10:00 am

Washington Theater

Wanted: Schrodinger's Cat, Dead and Alive (Ends at: 10:55 am)

Quantum computing and quantum science is being worked on in quantum labs around the planet. Quantum holes and superpositions are now big enough and long lived enough to be seen. But – being Schrodinger's cats – even if they can be seen, they still cannot be observed. Or can they? We will look at the history, definition, practical uses (yes, they have practical uses!) and interpretations, (many many interpretations,) of Schrodinger's cats. But, we will argue, the real problem is not the cat getting out of the box, but what happens when we finally realize we ourselves are in the box with the cat. There is no escape from the Quantum Tiger!

Participants: John Ashmead (M)

Monroe

Experimenting with New Forms of Writing (Ends at: 10:55 am)

There is more than one way to tell a story. *Angel Down* is considered a horror novel, it just won the Pulitzer Prize, and it's all one ongoing sentence. What are some ways for writers to rethink story structure? How can writers experiment with different forms without it getting in the way of the story? Are readers willing to read literary experiments? Are genre readers more or less willing to experiment than are readers of "literary" fiction? And how would publishers/agent market stories written in new formats?

Participants: Zack Be, Nino Cipri, Dominick Rabrun, Lawrence M. Schoen, Scott Edelman (M)

Truman

Schools, Sorcery, and Science: Academia in Speculative Fiction (Ends at: 10:55 am)

Frequently writers use schools as the setting (and often an additional character!) for their story. Does it work better for Sci Fi or Fantasy? Is it limited to stories set in a specific cultural or other milieu? Why has dark academia become so popular (as opposed to light or regular academia)? Or is all this just the influence of Harry Potter?

Participants: Tom Doyle, Edward Swing, David Walton, Sherri Cook Woosley, A.C. Wise (M)

Lincoln

Book Launch — Sheree Renée Thomas (Ends at: 11:25 am)

Book Launch — Sheree Renée Thomas

Participants: Sheree Renée Thomas (M)

Upstairs Library

Workshop – Brainstorming and Designing a Story (Ends at: 11:55 am)

Before there's even a clear story with a through-line, there's a dynamic between ideas involving story, character, and the fantastical world at the heart of every sf and fantasy story. We will use a series of prompts and guidelines to make intentional those things writers by developed instinct. We will look at the interaction between character, plot, and worldbuilding and how they are influenced by both the type of story you've chose to tell and the sub-genre you are working in. We will look at where to begin and end a story and how to maintain focus. Charlie Oberndorf will share Word documents, so bring either a laptop, a tablet, or a notebook so you can sketch out some thoughts on your own projects.

Participants: Charles Oberndorf (M)

Eisenhower

Guest of Honor Interview — Rebecca Roanhorse (Ends at: 10:55 am)

Capclave 2026 Guest of Honor Rebecca Roanhorse is interviewed by Elektra Hammond.

Participants: Elektra Hammond (M), Rebecca Roanhorse

Wilson

Author Reading — J.L. Gribble (Ends at: 10:25 am)

Author J.L. Gribble reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: J.L. Gribble (M)

Saturday 10:30 am

Wilson

Author Reading — Brigitte Winter (Ends at: 10:55 am)

Author Brigitte Winter reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Brigitte Winter (M)

Saturday 11:00 am

Wilson

Author Reading — Cerece Rennie Murphy (Ends at: 11:25 am)

Author Cerece Rennie Murphy reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Cerece Rennie Murphy (M)

Saturday 11:30 am

Washington Theater

Build a World in Less Than Six Days (Ends at: 12:25 pm)

The Bible says God took six days to build our world, science says it took millions of years. We'll discuss how to do it in one hour. Panelists will consider different ways to build a believable, internally consistent world/universe and demonstrate how they create a world by cooperating on the development of a fantasy/sf world including physical characteristics, society, aliens/fantastic creatures, and magic/technology. Come and get a peek behind the curtain into the creative process! Find out if it's easier in science fiction or in fantasy settings? What are some sources of inspiration? What makes some worlds work and some fail?

Participants: Christina Crothers, Matthew Kressel, Sam Scheinar, Edward Swing, Karlo Yeager Rodriguez (M)

Monroe

Star Trek Still Lives!: 60 years of Star Trek (Ends at: 12:25 pm)

It's been 60 years since Star Trek debuted on our televisions. The original series has spawned movies, multiple television shows, both live action and animated, and a huge number of novels (not to mention all the fanfiction!). Our panelists will discuss the highs and lows of Star Trek, rank the shows and

movies, and discuss their favorite Trek novels. What makes Trek so appealing after 60 years? Why has it continued to survive when so many other shows are forgotten?

Participants: Brick Barrientos, Randee Dawn, J.L. Gribble, Jo Miles, Adeena Mignogna (M)

Truman

Are We Truly Facing “The End of Reading”? (Ends at: 12:25 pm)

As asserted in the recent article in The Atlantic, are we actually in a “post literate” era? What does that mean? Already, fewer than half of Americans read any books and only about a fifth read 10 or more. What does that predict for society in the future generally and SFF in particular? What will be the effect in just in terms of story ideas, and actual readership and sales? Will books become just the first draft of future films? How will declining readership affect written works as a medium? What can fans of the written word do to counter this trend?

Participants: Ken Altabef, Shahid Mahmud, Alan Smale, Sherri Cook Woosley, Sam Lubell (M)

Eisenhower

Guest of Honor Interview — Nino Cipri (Ends at: 12:25 pm)

CapClave 2026 Guest of Honor Nino Cipri is interviewed by Jean Marie Ward

Participants: Nino Cipri, Jean Marie Ward (M)

Wilson

Author Reading — Nika Murphy (Ends at: 11:55 am)

Author Nika Murphy reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Nika Murphy (M)

Saturday 12:00 pm

Wilson

Author Reading — Charles Gannon (Ends at: 12:25 pm)

Author Charles Gannon reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Charles Gannon (M)

Saturday 12:30 pm

Wilson

Author Reading — Brightflame (Ends at: 12:55 pm)

Author Brightflame reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: BrightFlame (M)

Saturday 1:00 pm

Washington Theater

50 Years of the Original Dune Trilogy (Ends at: 1:55 pm)

Frank Herbert published *Children of Dune* in four issues of *Analog* in 1976, completing the original *Dune* trilogy. Starting in 1984, up to the release of *Dune* Pt 2 in 2024, we’ve seen numerous interpretations of the first books in the series. How does the third novel stand up to the preceding two? How does the

original *Dune* trilogy compare to the second *Dune* trilogy? How well did the movies capture and transmit the message of the original trilogy? What makes *Dune* so special? Why does it persist in our collective zeitgeist?

Participants: Brick Barrientos, Drema Deòraich, Jim Freund, Darrell Schweitzer, D.H. Aire (M)

Monroe

Beyond the European Castle – New Locales/New Cultures (Ends at: 1:55 pm)

Once, most fantasy took place in a quasi-medieval setting, just with magic and, frequently, greater female equality. Now, fantasy explores a multitude of worlds of different settings and cultures, many written by people from these cultures. How has this changed fantasy? How have readers reacted to these different views of what fantasy can be? What are some of the best non-Western fantasies?

Participants: Tom Doyle, Morgan Hazelwood, Rebecca Roanhorse, Jean Marie Ward (M)

Truman

How Has Diversity Affected SF and Fantasy? (Ends at: 1:55 pm)

Science fiction was once so white and male that publishers encouraged those with female or ethnic-sounding names to adopt pseudonyms. Now diversity often is a badge of honor. We are seeing the rise of Afrofuturism, whole universes based on other cultures and national identities, translations from other languages, and even more diversity among writers. Why is this happening? What are the effects of this? Why does it matter if an author is a person of color or of another nontraditional background? What are the advantages and disadvantages of greater diversity?

Participants: TT Madden, Cerece Rennie Murphy, Sheree Renée Thomas, Steven Harper Piziks (M)

Upstairs Library

Workshop – Basics of Publishing Contracts (Ends at: 2:55 pm)

This workshop will review the basics of publishing contracts for both novels and short fiction with a special emphasis on small press contracts. We'll discuss best practices and common problems found in grant of rights, AI clauses, copyright registration, payment (advance if any, royalties), delivery and acceptance, options, warranties and indemnities, subsidiary rights, and termination. Although contracts can be daunting, it's very important for an author to understand what they're signing and we'll briefly cover how to negotiate if a publisher unacceptable elements in their contract. There will be a Q&A session if there's time. Attendees are encouraged to bring in questions about the contracts that they have signed or are thinking of signing.

Participants: Rosemary Claire Smith, Michael Capobianco (M)

Eisenhower

Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of Clarkesworld (Ends at: 1:55 pm)

Come join editor Neil Clarke as we celebrate the 20th anniversary of Clarkesworld Magazine this month. Through its long history, it has published several Hugo, Nebula, and World Fantasy, and many other award winning stories, won the Hugo Award for Best Semiprozine three times (before becoming professional many years ago), and received two Locus Awards for Best Magazine. For his work on Clarkesworld, Neil has won the Hugo Award for Best Editor five times. Part history lesson, part travel journey, and part audience leading the conversation, this is the place to bring your questions about the magazine. Let's have some fun with it!

Participants: Neil Clarke, Scott H. Andrews (M)

Wilson

Author Reading — Sherri Cook Woosley (Ends at: 1:25 pm)

Author Sherri Cook Woosley reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Sherri Cook Woosley (M)

Lincoln

Book Launch — Sarah Avery/Melissa Scott (Ends at: 2:25 pm)

Participants: Sarah Avery, Melissa Scott (M)

Saturday 1:30 pm

Wilson

Author Reading — Lawrence M. Schoen (Ends at: 1:55 pm)

Author Lawrence M. Schoen reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Lawrence M. Schoen (M)

Saturday 2:00 pm

Wilson

Author Reading — Karlo Yeager Rodriguez (Ends at: 2:25 pm)

Author Karlo Yeager Rodriguez reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Karlo Yeager Rodriguez (M)

Saturday 2:30 pm

Eisenhower

Cats, Dragons and Other Things Editors of Themed Anthologies Want (Ends at: 3:25 pm)

Themed anthologies are popular, but sometimes it is hard to figure out what their editors want. As an editor what do you look for in a story that fits your anthology? What makes the cut? If you are an author who has appeared in anthologies, how do you pitch your idea to fit?

Participants: Neil Clarke, Joshua Palmatier, Alex Shvartsman, Sheree Renée Thomas, Randee Dawn (M)

Washington Theater

Research Rabbit Holes (Ends at: 3:25 pm)

Alice fell down a major rabbit hole. What are some of the crazy side paths you've taken in your research for a story idea? What's the zaniest search you've done? Do you wind up using this research or do you need to pull back when you wander too far afield? Do you find yourself putting things into your fiction just so you have an excuse to research them, such as food as the basis for world building in your story?

Participants: Sarah Avery, Nino Cipri, Christina Crothers, Mike McPhail, Alan Smale (M)

Monroe

In Defense of the Stand Alone Novel (Ends at: 3:25 pm)

The trend for at least the last decade has been a preference for trilogies or series. But sometimes a story just takes a single volume. Panelists will talk about the merits of a single volume story versus a trilogy versus an open ended series. How do writers know if the idea is enough for a trilogy or would work

better as a stand alone? Do writers plan to have a second or third volume when they write the first? What are some of the most notable stand alone novels and why didn't they get sequels?

Participants: Andrew Fox, Carolyn Ives Gilman , Nicole Glover, Cathy Green (M)

Truman

Low Rung on the Ladder: When the Main Characters Aren't the Big Shots (Ends at: 3:25 pm)

In most stories the main character is someone who's a "big shot" – they're the Prince/Princess or King/Queen; the Admiral onboard a ship of the line; or the Archmage. But what about when the main character isn't any of that? Instead they are just an average person thrown in an unusual situation? Someone who is part of the working class and just trying to do their job? Think the janitors on Babylon 5? Or an accountant who gets unexpectedly turned into a supernatural creature and now has to play the hero? What changes in the story? What doesn't? What makes such characters and stories that focus on working class and labor interesting and worth reading and writing?

Participants: Raven Jakubowski, Danian Jerry, Barbara Krasnoff, Karlo Yeager Rodriguez, Nika Murphy (M)

Wilson

Author Reading — Wendra Colleen (Ends at: 2:55 pm)

Author Wendra Colleen reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Wendra Colleen (M)

Lincoln

Book Launch – Dr. Lawrence Schoen and Adeena Mignogna (Ends at: 3:55 pm)

Book Launch for new works by Lawrence Schoen and Adeena Mignogna

Participants: Adeena Mignogna, Lawrence M. Schoen (M)

Saturday 3:00 pm

Wilson

Author Reading — James Morrow (Ends at: 3:25 pm)

Author James Morrow reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: James Morrow (M)

Saturday 3:30 pm

Wilson

Author Reading — Dominick Rabrun (Ends at: 3:55 pm)

Author Dominick Rabrun reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Dominick Rabrun (M)

Saturday 4:00 pm

Eisenhower

Writing for Different Venues (Ends at: 4:55 pm)

Many writers today do not just write stories and novels but also create content for films, tv, comics, and games. How do your work methods/approaches/craft change when writing a novel vs. short stories vs. comics vs. games vs. screenwriting for TV? How easy is it to “change gears”? Writers who have written for more than one media tell us their stories and experiences.

Participants: Wendra Colleen , Rebecca Roanhorse, Alex Shvartsman, Rosemary Claire Smith, Brigitte Winter (M)

Monroe

Is the Earth Doomed? (Climate Version) (Ends at: 4:55 pm)

Let’s talk about the end of the world. Is the Earth doomed to climate disaster? Has climate change gone too far to be stopped? We are already seeing unprecedented heat waves and drought. Can we counter this? What can humanity do? Why aren’t we doing it? What SF has the best prophesies of climate doom?

Participants: John Ashmead, James Morrow, Phillip Pournelle, Sam Scheiner, Michael Capobianco (M),

Truman

Getting Your Writing Critiqued (Ends at: 4:55 pm)

We all know that honest reviews and opinions of our drafts help us make the finished product better. But how do we do it? How do you best offer critiques of draft works when asked? How do you brace your self to receive them? Do the best critiques come from a writer’s circle? Friends and family? Online? How do writers decide what criticism is valid?

Participants: Ken Altabef, Christina Crothers, Carolyn Ives Gilman , David Mercurio Rivera, Nibedita Sen, Hildy Silverman (M)

Upstairs Library

Workshop: Poetry in Space and Magic Realms (Ends at: 5:55 pm)

Poetry workshop – come try your hand creating poetry across all types of writing genres! Learn how to add poetry or lyrics to SFF prose.

Participants: Miguel O. Mitchell (M)

Washington Theater

The State of Short Fiction (Ends at: 4:55 pm)

Join Clarkesworld and Best Science Fiction of the Year anthology editor, Neil Clarke, as he reviews the state of the short fiction market through the lens of news and data he has collected about the trends, variety, challenges, and business health of the field’s magazines and anthologies. Golden age, apocalypse, or something in-between? You’ll have to attend to find out.

Participants: Neil Clarke (M)

Wilson

Author Reading — Tom Doyle (Ends at: 4:25 pm)

Author Tom Doyle reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Tom Doyle (M)

Lincoln

Book Launch – TT Madden (Ends at: 5:25 pm)

Participants: TT Madden (M)

Saturday 4:30 pm

Wilson

Author Reading — Barbara Krasnoff (Ends at: 4:55 pm)

Author Barbara Krasnoff reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Barbara Krasnoff (M)

Saturday 5:00 pm

Wilson

Author Reading — Charles Oberndorf (Ends at: 5:25 pm)

Author Charles Oberndorf reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Charles Oberndorf (M)

Saturday 5:30 pm

Washington Theater

“Queer in Space!” (Ends at: 6:25 pm)

Roughly ten percent of humanity identifies as queer and queer characters and themes regularly appear in sci-fi and fantasy. How do these stories reflect/tell the actual lived experiences of queer and other marginalized folk? How do queer and marginalized authors navigate the publishing world (especially in today’s highly charged political environment)? What does the future hold in the next 3 to 5 years? How can we use fiction and the genre to react to (and influence) the world around us?

Participants: Nino Cipri, TT Madden, Steven Harper Piziks, Jennifer R. Povey, Brigitte Winter (M)

Monroe

HAL’s Consequences: Current AI in Writing and Publishing (Ends at: 6:25 pm)

For better or worse, the AI cat is “out of the bag.” How do we manage it? Can we manage it? Not just in using AI for the actual writing, but in the publication side of the process? Can it be used to review the slush pile? Is AI good for any aspect of the creative or publication process? If the work is good, does it matter if AI was used to create it? Or should publishers prevent any AI work from entering the bookstore/magazines? And if we do allow AI into either the creative or publishing processes, are there any legal implications?

Participants: Doc Coleman, Shahid Mahmud, Phillip Pournelle, Edward Swing, Jennifer Brinn (M)

Truman

Space Opera – Been There, Done That? Or Still a Fun Sandbox to Play in? (Ends at: 6:25 pm)

Space Opera – some of the earliest stories and novels in SF were characterized as space opera. E.E. “Doc” Smith’s *Lensman* and *Skylark* series are probably best known today as prime examples of space opera, if not the pioneers of the genre. Do we still have space (no pun intended!) for space operas today? If so, what’s the attraction? What makes a novel or series a “space opera”? Does the term have

any negative connotations? Are universes like *Star Wars* or the MCU modern reinterpretations of the concept?

Participants: Jack Campbell, Matthew Kressel, Mark Roth-Whitworth, Alex Shvartsman, Elektra Hammond (M)

Wilson

Author Reading — David Mercurio Rivera (Ends at: 5:55 pm)

Author David Mercurio Rivera reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: David Mercurio Rivera (M)

Saturday 6:00 pm

Wilson

Author Reading — Drema Deòraich (Ends at: 6:25 pm)

Author Drema Deòraich reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Drema Deòraich (M)

Saturday 7:00 pm

Washington Theater

WSFA Award Ceremony (Ends at: 7:55 pm)

Celebrate the winner of the WSFA Small Press Award and Capclave's GoHs!

Participants: Nino Cipri, Rebecca Roanhorse, Rodger Burns (M)

Lincoln

SFF Trivia Contest (Ends at: 8:55 pm)

Brick Barrientos hosts an annual Capclave tradition. Play as an individual against other players using an electronic buzzer system. Play one match, play all three matches or just watch. Ribbons for the winners, participants, and even spectators. We'll ask about written and media SFF as well as other geeky interests.

Participants: Brick Barrientos (M)

Saturday 8:30 pm

Eisenhower

Master Autograph Session – Saturday Night (Ends at: 9:25 pm)

The collective, main group autographing session Saturday night. If you would like to participate, please mark it from your participant account!

Participants: Danielle Ackley-McPhail, D.H. Aire, Ken Altabef, Michael Capobianco, Nino Cipri, Doc Coleman, Wendra Colleen, , Tom Doyle, Andrew Fox, Charles Gannon, J.L. Gribble, Elektra Hammond, Bjorn Hasseler, Barbara Krasnoff, Matthew Kressel, Mike McPhail, Bernie Mojzes, Joshua Palmatier, Rebecca Roanhorse, Mark Roth-Whitworth, Lawrence M. Schoen, Melissa Scott, Alan Smale, Rosemary Claire Smith, Ian Randal Strock, Jean Marie Ward, Apurva Desai (M)

Shore Leave Con 47

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Wyndham Resort - Lancaster, PA

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And more to come!



Head to www.Shore-Leave.com for more details!

Saturday 10:00 pm

Washington Theater

The Eye of Argon (Ends at: 10:55 pm)

It is again that most dreadful of times! The greatest challenge for the denizens of fandom (if you have the mettle for it by Crom!) awaits! Do you have the strength, the fortitude, the courage, to read *The Eye of Argon* aloud, straight-faced, without choking, doubling up with laughter and falling over? Come join our panelists and fellow con attendees for this late night rite of passage as we again attempt this most earth shattering of tasks!

Participants: Doc Coleman, Morgan Hazelwood, David Walton, Jean Marie Ward, Ian Randal Strock (M)

Sunday

Sunday 10:00 am

Eisenhower

50 Year Old Science Fiction You Should Really Hunt Down (Ends at: 10:55 am)

As the joke goes, if you remember reading in the 60s and 70s, you weren't really there. But the freewheeling, freaky-deaky era in Science Fiction publishing (in the 1960s and 70s) was a unique time that produced some fascinating fiction. Let's set the Wayback Machine to those bell bottoms days and discuss – what was good, what was bad, and what was JUST WEIRD! Can SF/Fantasy of today capture some of that adventuresome spirit (and should it)?

Participants: Jack Campbell, Jim Freund, Mark Roth-Whitworth, Darrell Schweitzer, Charles Oberndorf (M)

Washington Theater

Food Glorious Food (Ends at: 10:55 am)

Writers try to engage all the reader's senses, including that of taste, SFWA has a cookbook! Some books revel in the use of food while others even include recipes. Diane Duane has even created a whole website devoted to the recipes of the Middle Kingdoms! How does writing about food enhance the storytelling? What meals have you read about and wished you could partake? And why does nearly every fantasy novel seem to be sponsored by the stew industry? Panelists will talk about how they incorporate food into their stories, some foods they wish they could eat and why food is so important in some stories, while in others it's non-existent.

Participants: Elektra Hammond, Jo Miles, Miguel O. Mitchell, Lawrence M. Schoen, Nibedita Sen, A.C. Wise (M)

Monroe

Morally Gray Characters – “The good, the bad, the ugly” (Ends at: 10:55 am)

What's the attraction in writing morally gray characters? What can you do with a grey character that you could not with a traditional white hat? Are morally gray characters better suited to a specific genre or setting? What genre or setting makes it the most fun to write such characters? What does it say about modern day society that we are so attracted to such characters?

Participants: Wendra Colleen, James Morrow, Rebecca Roanhorse, Dominick Rabrun (M)

Truman

Brainstorming for Anthologies (Ends at: 10:55 am)

Are themed anthologies more popular than general anthologies that let the authors pick their own topics? What goes into the planning for these anthologies? What is the spark of inspiration that results in a collection of stories that get published? What topics have been done to death and what themes are driving anthologies in 2026 or coming in 2027?

Participants: Danielle Ackley-McPhail, Neil Clarke, TT Madden, Joshua Palmatier, Hildy Silverman, Sherri Cook Woosley (M)

Wilson

Author Reading — Alan Smale (Ends at: 10:25 am)

Author Alan Smale reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Alan Smale (M)

Sunday 10:30 am

Wilson

Author Reading — Melissa Scott (Ends at: 10:55 am)

Author Melissa Scott reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Melissa Scott (M)

Sunday 11:00 am

Adams

Miniatures Painting Workshop (Ends at: 12:55 pm)

This is a hands-on workshop: bring yourself, and a desire to learn painting techniques for fantasy or military miniatures. You need bring only yourself: there is no materials fee, and at the end, you will take home the mini you've painted. Zenlizard will go over the steps towards painting your miniature, from primer to finish. Note: This workshop will be in the gaming room.

Participants: Zenlizard (M)

Wilson

Author Reading — Bjorn Hasseler (Ends at: 11:25 am)

Author Bjorn Hasseler reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Bjorn Hasseler (M)

Sunday 11:30 am

Eisenhower

Clothes Make the Man or Monster. Who Makes the Clothes? (Ends at: 12:25 pm)

Discuss the historical clothing assumptions in your fantasy setting from a world-building context (and compare to real historical Europe/Asia/Africa/the Americas clothing both pre & post conquest). When designing what your characters are wearing, where do the clothes come from in your world's

civilization? How is this affected by political and religious structures? What fantasies dig deeply enough into their world-building to consider this?

Participants: Doc Coleman, Raven Jakubowski, Melissa Scott, Edward Swing, Jean Marie Ward (M)

Washington Theater

SF Essentials (Ends at: 12:25 pm)

Once there was broad agreement on the essential books that all SF/Fantasy readers should have read. Once everyone could name the Big Three authors. Is there such an agreement today? What books do you see as the core of our genre? Or is it held together by tv/movies? What concepts can writers safely assume readers know from other works? Do we need a list of essential works? Does it matter that people approach SF/fantasy from a diversity of reading backgrounds?

Participants: D.H. Aire, Drema Deòraich, Bjorn Hasseler, Charles Oberndorf, Sam Lubell (M)

Monroe

Stories that Aren't or Are They? (Ends at: 12:25 pm)

Must a story have a plot? Is it critical to have some form of conflict that's resolved by the end of the story in order for it actually be a story? Some published stories are just lists of various things with description. Must a story have characters? What about action? What makes something a story instead of just a collection of words and how far can writers push those boundaries? Why are these "maybe" stories becoming mainstream? What makes them attractive to readers and get them nominated for awards?

Participants: Nino Cipri, Scott Edelman, Matthew Kressel, Joshua Palmatier, Scott H. Andrews (M)

Truman

Holy Trilogy (Ends at: 12:25 pm)

Why have trilogies dominated SF and Fantasy? What is the significance of three for authors? Is there something writers can do with three books that they could not with four or five? What are examples of works that are successfully spread out over three books and ones that really needed more (or fewer) volumes?

Participants: Ken Altabef, Elektra Hammond, Alan Smale, Sarah Avery (M)

Wilson

Author Reading — Danielle Ackley-McPhail (Ends at: 11:55 am)

Author Danielle Ackley-McPhail reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Danielle Ackley-McPhail (M)

Lincoln

Book Launch — Carolyn Ives Gilman/Rosemary Claire Smith (Ends at: 12:55 pm)

Participants: Carolyn Ives Gilman (M), Rosemary Claire Smith

Sunday 12:00 pm

Wilson

Author Reading — Randee Dawn (Ends at: 12:25 pm)

Author Randee Dawn reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Randee Dawn (M)

Sunday 12:30 pm

Wilson

Author Reading — Andrew Fox (Ends at: 12:55 pm)

Author Andrew Fox reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Andrew Fox (M)

Sunday 1:00 pm

Eisenhower

What's It Like to Write in Another's Sand Box? (Ends at: 1:55 pm)

Get some perspectives on being a writer when writing for existing intellectual property (*Star Wars*, Marvel, shared universes such as *Thieves' World*). Why write in someone else's sandbox instead of inventing your own? What's good about it? What's bad? How does the canon you're writing in make the job easier or harder? How much advance guidance do you get from the IP owner? What restrictions did they place on you? If you could do it again, what would you have done differently?

Participants: Charles Gannon, J.L. Gribble, TT Madden, Rebecca Roanhorse, Nibedita Sen, Bjorn Hasseler (M)

Monroe

Alternate Apollos: The Space Programs That Might Have Been (Ends at: 1:55 pm)

Alternate Apollos: The Fictional Space Race Goes On. What if the space race kept going strong after humanity reached the moon? Maybe the Soviets get to the moon first, as in the show *For All Mankind*. Maybe the race starts a decade early out of planet-wide desperation, as in Mary Robinette Kowal's *Lady Astronaut* series. Our panelists will discuss these alternate Apollos, including the latest season of *For All Mankind* and its spinoff, *Star City*. And they'll ponder what we gain from imagining that the giant leaps continued. What do these alternatives tell us about the real world decisions that stalled our voyages to space?

Participants: Nicole Glover, Alan Smale, Rosemary Claire Smith, David Walton, Tom Doyle (M)

Truman

I've Done My Research & I'll Tell You All of It (Ends at: 1:55 pm)

Writers will often do extensive (and possibly even excessive) background research in the service of worldbuilding, character development and setting description. Alternate History frequently has to explain points of divergence. Invented fantasy and SF settings often need to detail the (often complex) world-building and societies. How much of this research should the writer put in the final story? How do you avoid pulling the readers down the rabbit hole of unneeded detail? What can you do to make the results of your research intriguing and entertaining, rather than boring? Panelists will share how they have answered the following questions – How do you provide the cultural/societal/environmental context without resorting to lectures or “As You Know Bob” speeches? How do you show the research rather than tell the research? What works best?

Participants: Wendra Colleen, Bernie Mojzes, James Morrow, Edward Swing, Elektra Hammond (M)

Washington Theater

Lunar Exploration (Ends at: 1:55 pm)

Presentation on Lunar exploration by Adeena Mignogna

Participants: Adeena Mignogna (M)

Wilson

Author Reading — Somto Ihezue (Ends at: 1:25 pm)

Author Somto Ihezue reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Somto Ihezue (M)

Lincoln

Book Launch — Jennifer R. Povey (Ends at: 2:25 pm)

Participants: Jennifer R. Povey (M)

Sunday 1:30 pm

Wilson

Author Reading — Scott Edelman (Ends at: 1:55 pm)

Author Scott Edelman reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Scott Edelman (M)

Sunday 2:00 pm

Wilson

Author Reading — Hildy Silverman (Ends at: 2:25 pm)

Author Hildy Silverman reads from their recent and upcoming work.

Participants: Hildy Silverman (M)

Sunday 2:30 pm

Wilson

Author Reading — Sheree Renée Thomas (Ends at: 2:55 pm)

Participants: Danian Jerry, Sheree Renée Thomas (M)

Lincoln

Book Launch — Andrew Fox (Ends at: 3:55 pm)

Participants: Andrew Fox (M)

Sunday 3:00 pm

Wilson

Author Reading — Danian Jerry (Ends at: 3:25 pm)

Participants: Danian Jerry (M)

Sunday 4:00 pm

Washington Theater

Dodo Doings (Capclave Feedback) (Ends at: 4:55 pm)

How'd we do? Come tell us what you liked about Capclave and what you think we could have improved on. Are we Dodo Dofuses or Dodo DoRights?

Participants: Apurva Desai (M)



WASHINGTON SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION

Continue the fun of Capclave all year round. Come to the Washington Science Fiction Association (WSFA). We hold monthly meetings on the first and third Friday via Zoom and at members' homes. Visit www.wsfa.org for the Zoom link. Participate in the magazine discussions. First Friday we normally discuss a print magazine (typically *Asimov's* or *Analog*) and the third Friday we usually discuss an online magazine (usually *Clarkesworld* or *Lightspeed*). We also have book discussions on the Thursday after the First Friday meeting. For more information email secretary@wsfa.org

CAPCLAVE 2027

Where Reading is Not Just a Fairy Tale



GOH: Alix E. Harrow

GOH: TBA

September 24 – 26, 2027

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