



CAPRICON 45

Let Your Geek Flag Fly!

Sheraton Grand Chicago Riverwalk

February 6-9 2025

Capricon.org



Bill HCapricon 45 Panel Programming Guide: February 6th to 9th 2025, Sheraton Grand Chicago Riverwalk

All times are Central Standard Time. For complete descriptions, see the full Panel Programming listings below.

This document is optimized to be viewed in the Calibri font at 12 point.

However, the font size can be adjusted when viewed as a .doc file while still maintaining most readability.

Guests of Honor Schedule

Science Guest of Honor: Thomas Barclay

Thursday 3:30 PM	All the GoHs
Thursday 8:00 PM	Opening Ceremonies
Friday 11:30 AM	Speaking to the Masses
Friday 2:30 PM	Um, Actually Game Show
Saturday 10:00 AM	Science Talk and Q&A: Dr. Thomas Barclay
Saturday 11:30 AM	Designing Things That Don't Exist
Saturday 2:30 PM	Living in Space
Sunday 11:30 AM	How to Design a Spaceship
Sunday 1:00 PM	Generation Ship Economics
Sunday 2:30 PM	Closing Ceremonies & Feedback Session

Cosplay Guest of Honor: Zeta Jane

Thursday 3:30 PM	All the GoHs
Thursday 8:00 PM	Opening Ceremonies
Friday 11:30 AM	Cosplay or Cosfame
Friday 1:00 PM	Queer Eye for Sci-Fi
Friday 4:00 PM	Handsewing Power Hour!
Friday 5:30 PM	Costuming & Cosplay - From Idea to Execution
Saturday 10:00 AM	Iron Cosplay
Saturday 2:30 PM	My Favorite Cosplays
Saturday 5:00 PM	Cosplay Parade and Photo Op
Saturday 5:30 PM	Meetup: Costumers & Cosplayers
Sunday 11:30 AM	Making Makers Make
Sunday 2:30 PM	Closing Ceremonies & Feedback Session

Author Guest of Honor: Micaiah Johnson

Thursday 3:30 PM	All the GoHs
Thursday 8:00 PM	Opening Ceremonies
Friday 10:00 AM	Fireside Chat: Magic and Science and Power
Friday 11:30 AM	Speaking to the Masses
Friday 4:00 PM	Automatons, Robots, and Other Humanoid Creations
Saturday 11:30 AM	Reading: Micaiah Johnson and John Scalzi
Saturday 1:00 PM	The City as a Character (or, Writing the City)
Saturday 3:15 PM	Autographing: Ada Palmer, Micaiah Johnson & Gwen Tolios
Saturday 4:00 PM	Working Class SF
Sunday 2:30 PM	Closing Ceremonies & Feedback Session

Artist Guest of Honor: John Kovalic

Thursday 3:30 PM	All the GoHs
Thursday 8:00 PM	Opening Ceremonies
Friday 1:00 PM	Dork Tower - Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow
Friday 3:00 PM	Playtesting with GoH John Kovalic (Friday)
Saturday 10:45 AM	Autographing: Steven H Silver & John Kovalic
Saturday 2:30 PM	From Apples to Apples to Munchkin Zombies
Saturday 4:00 PM	Are Graphic Novels Literature?
Saturday 7:00 PM	Playtesting with GoH John Kovalic (Saturday)
Sunday 10:00 AM	Random Panel Topic
Sunday 2:30 PM	Closing Ceremonies & Feedback Session

Autograph Signings: Saturday, February 8, 2025

Autograph Signings: Steven H Silver & John Kovalic

Saturday 10:45 AM Autograph Tables - 4th floor, 45 mins

Autograph Signings: Jamie Garner, K.V. Peck & Mary Turzillo

Saturday 12:15 PM Autograph Tables - 4th floor, 45 mins

Autograph Signings: John Scalzi & Bruce Schneier

Saturday 1:45 PM Autograph Tables - 4th floor, 45 mins

Autograph Signings: Ada Palmer & Micaiah Johnson & Gwen Tolios

Saturday 3:15 PM Autograph Tables - 4th floor, 45 mins

Autograph Signings: Greg Clumpner & Debbie Manber Kupfer

Saturday 4:45 PM Autograph Tables - 4th floor, 45 mins

Musical Concerts: Friday, February 7, 2025

Concert: Sassafrass

Friday 7:00 PM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Musical Concerts: Saturday, February 8, 2025

Concert: Tunesters Union

Saturday 1:00 PM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Concert: Court and Country

Saturday 2:30 PM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Concert: Dybbuk

Saturday 4:00 PM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Concert: Thee Courtesan Belle Weathers

Saturday 5:30 PM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Concert: Cheshire Moon

Saturday 8:30 PM Sheraton II - 4th floor, 60 mins

Gaming: Friday, February 7, 2025

Gaming: Open Gaming FOR KIDS!!! (Ages 5+)

Friday 7:00 PM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Gaming: Ak-Rô-Nym: The "Made Up Acronym" Game

Friday 10:00 AM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 60 mins

Gaming: Magic: the Gathering - Learn to Play

Friday 12:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Gaming: Learn to Play Some Games (Friday)

Friday 2:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Gaming: Playtesting with GoH John Kovalic (Friday)

Friday 3:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Gaming: Board Game Boot Camp

Friday 5:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Gaming: Fluxx with the Head of Gaming (Friday)

Friday 5:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Gaming: Goblin Punks (Friday)

Friday 5:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 60 mins

Gaming: Gamma World 2e (Friday)

Friday 6:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 180 mins

Gaming: Euchre Tournament

Friday 8:00 PM Sheraton III - 4th floor, 120 mins

Gaming: Tarot RPG: 3-Minute Adventures (Friday)

Friday 8:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Gaming: Saturday, February 8, 2025

Gaming: Pathfinder - Friends in Need

Saturday 9:00 AM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 300 mins

Gaming: Starfinder 2e Playtest: Shards of a Glass Planet

Saturday 9:00 AM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 300 min

Gaming: Tesseract: An Extra-Dimensional Dice Manipulation Game

Saturday 9:00 AM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Gaming: Learn to Play Some Games (Saturday)

Saturday 10:00 AM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Gaming: Flamecraft

Saturday 11:00 AM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Gaming: Magic: The Gathering - Casual Commander

Saturday 1:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Gaming: Würm: Role Playing in the Ice Age

Saturday 2:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Gaming: Pathfinder Society Intro: Year of Immortal Influence

Saturday 3:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 300 mins

Gaming: Fluxx with the Head of Gaming (Saturday)

Saturday 3:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Gaming: Starfinder 2e Playtest: It Came from the Vast

Saturday 3:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 300 mins

Gaming: Cartographers

Saturday 5:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Gaming: Tarot RPG: 3-Minute Adventures (Saturday)

Saturday 7:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Gaming: Goblin Punks (Saturday)

Saturday 9:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 60 mins

Gaming: Sunday, February 9, 2025

Gaming: Gamma World 2e (Sunday)

Sunday 11:00 AM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 180 mins

Readings: Friday, February 7, 2025

Reading: Kupfer, Phillips, and Grave

Friday 1:00 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Reading: Collier, Huston, and Palmer

Friday 2:30 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Speculative Literature Foundation Deep Dish Reading

Friday 5:30 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Reading: Cecilia Tan (18+)

Friday 8:30 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 30 mins

Readings: Saturday, February 8, 2025

Reading: Micaiah Johnson and John Scalzi

Saturday 11:30 AM Sheraton II - 4th floor, 60 mins

Reading: Oberndorf & Price

Saturday 1:00 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Speculative Poetry Reading

Saturday 2:30 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Reading: Garner, Kamphuis, and Thomasson

Saturday 4:00 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Reading: Clumpner, Flynt, and Gerrib

Saturday 5:30 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Creator Space: Friday, February 7, 2025

Creator Space: Stitch'n Bitch

Friday 10:00 AM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Creator Space: Found Poetry

Friday 11:30 AM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Creator Space: Geek Flag Making Workshop

Friday 1:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Creator Space: Paper Circuits [low tech]

Friday 2:30 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Creator Space: Handsewing Power Hour!

Friday 4:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Creator Space: Embrace the Squee Watercoloring

Friday 5:30 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Creator Space: Freeform Watercolor Make & Take

Friday 7:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

DIY Toy & Packaging Make-and-Take

Friday 8:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 120 mins

Creator Space: Saturday, February 8, 2025

Creator Space: Iron Cosplay

Saturday 10:00 AM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 90 mins

Creator Space: Frankenstuffs

Saturday 12:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 120 mins

Creator Space: How To Draw Anything

Saturday 2:30 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Creator Space: Renaissance/Fancy/Exotic Hair Braids

Saturday 4:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Creator Space: LEGO Build

Saturday 4:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Creator Space: Make Mini Art!

Saturday 5:30 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Creator Space: Balloon Animal Sculpting

Saturday 7:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Creator Space: Open Crafting

Saturday 8:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 120 mins

Creator Space: Sunday, February 9, 2025

Creator Space: Sunday Stitch 'n Bitch

Sunday 10:00 AM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 90 mins

Roundtables: Thursday, February 6, 2025

Roundtable: Star Trek-The Little Franchise That Could

Thursday 5:00 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: Admiring The Spider-Verse

Thursday 6:30 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Roundtables: Friday, February 7, 2025

Roundtable: Best of 2024/Hugo Noms - Fiction Categories

Friday 10:00 AM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: Star Wars Universe - What's Next?

Friday 11:30 AM: Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: Insert Doctor Who Discussion Here

Friday 1:00 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 min

Roundtable: Mainstream Fanfiction

Friday 2:30 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: It's The Neverending Franchise

Friday 4:00 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: What We're Watching Now

Friday 5:30 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: Book Rec Hour

Friday 7:00 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: Graphic Novels with Mature Themes

Friday 8:30 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Roundtables: Saturday, February 8, 2025

Roundtable: Best of 2024/Hugo Noms - Beyond Fiction

Saturday 10:00 AM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: Music Recommendations

Saturday 10:00 AM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: Sketchbook Tour: Alessandra Kelley

Saturday 10:00 AM Sheraton II - 4th floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: SFF Videogames

Saturday 11:30 AM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: Phandemonium Book Club

Saturday 1:00 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: Sketchbook Tour: Deanna Sjolander

Saturday 2:30 PM Sheraton II - 4th floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: Chicago-SF Book Club

Saturday 2:30 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: Underrated SFF Anime

Saturday 4:00 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: Let's Do The Time Loop Again

Saturday 5:30 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: Meetup: Costumers & Cosplayers

Saturday 5:30 PM Sheraton III - 4th floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: Comics You Need to Read

Saturday 7:00 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Roundtables: Sunday, February 9, 2025

Roundtable: Modern Cartoons

Sunday 10:00 AM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: Star Wars in Animation

Sunday 11:30 AM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Roundtable: Has Geekdom REALLY Gone Mainstream?

Sunday 1:00 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Kids Programming: Friday, February 7, 2025

Kids Programming: Kids Giant Coloring Session! (All Ages)

Friday 2:30 PM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 120 mins

Kids Programming: Kids LEGO Build (Ages 3+)

Friday 4:30 PM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 120 mins

Kids Programming: Open Gaming FOR KIDS!!! (Ages 5+)

Friday 7:00 PM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Kids Programming Saturday, February 8, 2025

Kids Programming: Fun with Adana the Dragon (Ages 4-8)

Saturday 10:00 AM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Kids Programming: Slime Science: Mix-ins (Ages 4+)

Saturday 11:30 AM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Kids Programming: A Flag That Represents ME! (Ages 6+)

Saturday 1:00 PM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Kids Programming: How to Draw Anything

Saturday 2:30 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Kids Programming: Kids Create a Costume or Mask (All Ages)

Saturday 4:00 PM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Kids Programming: Make Mini Art

Saturday 5:30 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Kids Programming: Learn to Make a Balloon Dog!

Saturday 7:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Kids Programming Sunday, February 9, 2025

Kids Programming: Dragon Dance & Story Hour

Sunday 1:00 AM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Kids Programming: Kids Open Crafting (All Ages)

Sunday 11:30 AM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: Thursday, February 6, 2025

Writer's Room: The Realities of Writing Fantasy

5:00 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: Dangerous Dance: Writing Dynamic Fight Scenes

6:30 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: Friday, February 7, 2025

Writer's Room: One Page Novel

10:00 AM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: Found Poetry

11:30 AM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: Across the Rainbow: LGBTQ+ Representation & Diversity

11:30 AM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: Worldbuilding Through Historical Example

1:00 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: What is Young Adult and How Do You Write It?

2:30 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: Pen Names, a discussion

4:00 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: Speculative Poetry Workshop

5:30 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: Kickstarter for Authors and Small Presses

7:00 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: How to Critique Fiction

8:30 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: Saturday, February 8, 2025

Writer's Room: The Five Ws

10:00 AM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: Writing FanFiction as a Professional Writer

11:30 AM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: Pros and Cons of Co-Writing

1:00 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: The Art of Revision

4:00 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: Putting the 'Science' in Science Fiction

5:30 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: Combative & Martial Arts in SFF

5:30 PM Superior - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: A World of Story Structures

7:00 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: Sunday, February 9, 2025

Writer's Room: Three Sentences to Unlock Your Plot

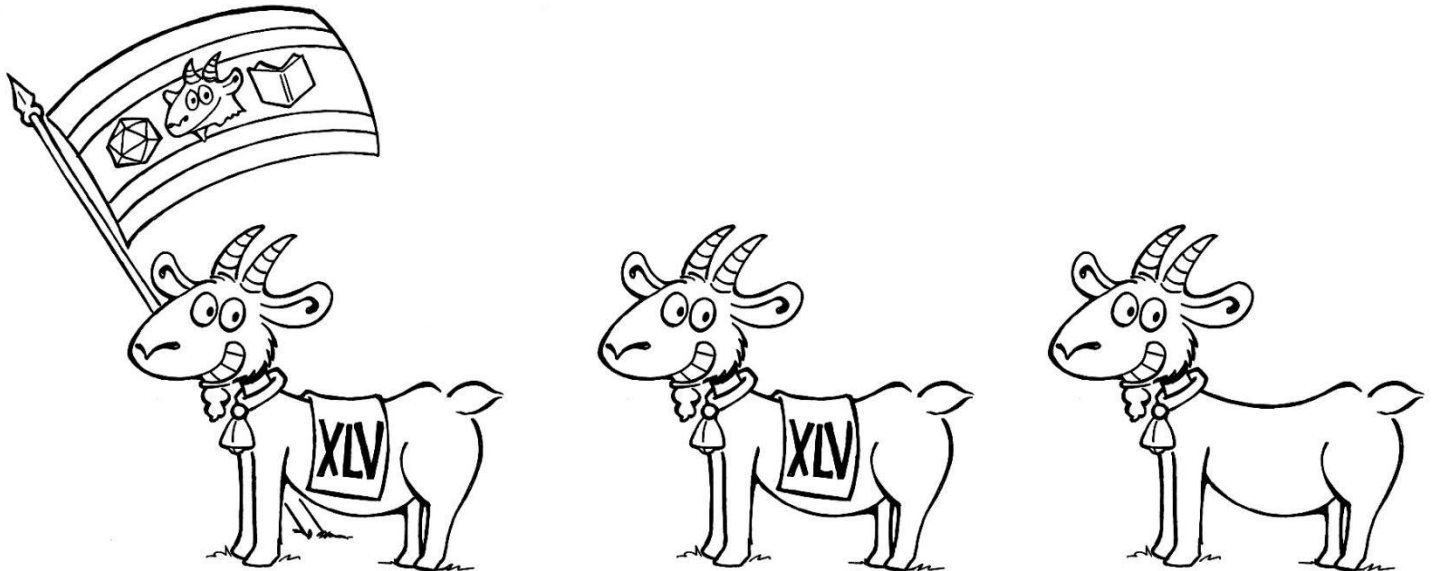
10:00 AM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: Professional Organizations for Writers

11:30 AM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Writer's Room: Writing the Second Book...

1:00 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins



Here's a list of all our panelists that we're expecting at Capricon this year!

Guests of Honor

Thomas Barclay

Micaiah Johnson

John Kovalic

Zeta Jane

Highlighted Panelists

DJ John Scalzi
Red & Blue
(Overly Sarcastic Productions)
Eric Coleman & Lizzie Crowe
(Cheshire Moon)

Ada Palmer
Ariela Housman
Brian U. Garrison
Bruce Schneier
Gene Ha

Geoffrey Landis
Marie Vibbert
Mary Turzillo
Victor Raymond

Additional Panelists

Alessandra Kelley
Alexa Grave
Alexei Collier
Alexis D Craig
Alia Federow
Angeli Primlani
Arin Komins
Barisha Lettermann
Benjamin Kamphuis
Brandon Bay
Brian Sebbly
Brianna Hall
Carol Ferraro
Cassandra R. Moritz
Cecilia Tan
Charles Oberndorf
Chris Gerrib
Clif Flynt
D'Andre Williams
David Federow
David Hirsch
Deanna Sjolander
Debbie Manber Kupfer
Dex Greenbright
Dina Krause
Donna J. W. Munro
Doug Rice
Elizabeth Langan
Eric Coleman
Ezra Weisz
Fannie Price

Greg Clumpner
Gwen Tolios
Helen Montgomery
Jamie Garner
Janice Gelb
Jason Voegerl
Jason Youngberg
Jeana Jorgensen
Jennifer Skwarski
Jim Mann
JM Guilfoyle
Joey Kupfer
John Scalzi
John Wardale
Jonathan Brazee
Jonathan Pessin
K.V. Peck
Karen Herkes
Kat Voegerl
Kevin Nickerson
Kim Kofmel
Kit Garton
Larry Bartoszek
Lauren Schiller
Laurie Mann
Lisa Freitag
Lisa Moe
Lizzie Crowe
Llewella Forgie
Mark Huston
Mark Kirsch

Mary Anne Mohanraj
Matthew Munro
N. Frances Moritz
Oleg Kazantsev
Patrick Morgan
Paul Timmins
Red
Rich Horton
Richard Chwedyk
Richard Garfinkle
Ronan Glavin
Sam Haney Press
Sarah Hawkins
Scott Lefton
Shaun Duke
Steven H Silver
Sue Burke
Susan Weiner
Suzanne Bracken
Taia Hartman
Tammy Coxen
Terry Gant
Tiana Solomon
Tracy Lunquist
Travis Creason
W A Thomasson
Wendy Robb
Will Saddler
William Rowe

Full Panel Programming Listings: Thursday, February 6, 2025

All the GoHs GOH, Panel

Thursday 3:30 PM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Thomas Barclay, Micaiah Johnson, John Kovalic, Zeta Jane

Your reward for coming to the convention early on Thursday! All of our Guests of Honor (GoHs) in one room at one time chatting amongst themselves and with you. We have no idea what they'll talk about, but we bet it will be interesting.

The Realities of Writing Fantasy Writing, Panel

Thursday 5:00 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Llewella Forgie, JM Guilfoyle, Benjamin Kamphuis (Mod), Debbie Manber Kupfer

A panel exploring what it takes to write fantasy, how to tie in real life situations into it, and how it helps with mental health.

Roundtable: Star Trek-The Little Franchise That Could Media, Discussion Group

Thursday 5:00 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Brian Sebby (Mod)

Hard to believe that Star Trek is still with us, and some would argue still going strong. Strange New Worlds continues to earn critical acclaim, and Section 31 with Michelle Yeoh just released in January. Come talk with other Star Trek fans about the state of the franchise.

Are We Tired of Superheroes Yet? Media, Panel

Thursday 5:00 PM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Lisa Freitag, Richard Garfinkle (Mod), Red, Jason Youngberg

Most of us grew up loving superheroes. Over the last several years, superheroes have been everywhere, but some of the film and TV adaptations haven't garnered as much interest. Have we reached superhero fatigue, or are there still good stories waiting to be told?

Convention Tour (Thursday) Fan Interest, Participatory Event

Thursday 5:00 PM Tour Spot - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Dina Krause

Welcome to Capricon! Our convention hosts are here to help introduce you to the convention, show you where everything is, and make some suggestions of things that you shouldn't miss this year. Highly recommended for anyone who hasn't attended Capricon before!

Open Gaming - Thursday Gaming, Open Gaming

Thursday 5:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 420 mins

Open gaming! Come check out a game from Capricon's game library.

Midwinter Faire Fan Interest, Participatory Event

Thursday 6:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 105 mins

Dex Greenbright, Taia Hartman, Helen Montgomery (Mod), Deanna Sjolander, Tiana Solomon, John Wardale

Midwinter Faire is back! This is a social and maker event featuring many tables with fun activities to do, as well the opportunity to catch up with all your Capricon friends. It's a great opportunity to let some of your creative and maker geek flags fly.

Dangerous Dance: Writing Dynamic Fight Scenes Writing, Workshop

Thursday 6:30 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Alexis D Craig

Great fight scenes can define a story, just like bad ones can take one down. This is a step-by-step process for imagining, outlining, and executing your writing ideas for everything from one-on-one combat to full-scale warfare.

Roundtable: Admiring The Spider-Verse Media, Discussion Group

Thursday 6:30 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Cassandra R. Moritz (Mod)

What do you love about the Spider-Verse series? What are you looking forward to in the third installment? And what other stories would flourish in this style? Join us as we venture Into and Across the Spider-Verse!

Norse Myth Storytelling Session Literature, Single Speaker/Lecture

Thursday 6:30 PM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Ada Palmer

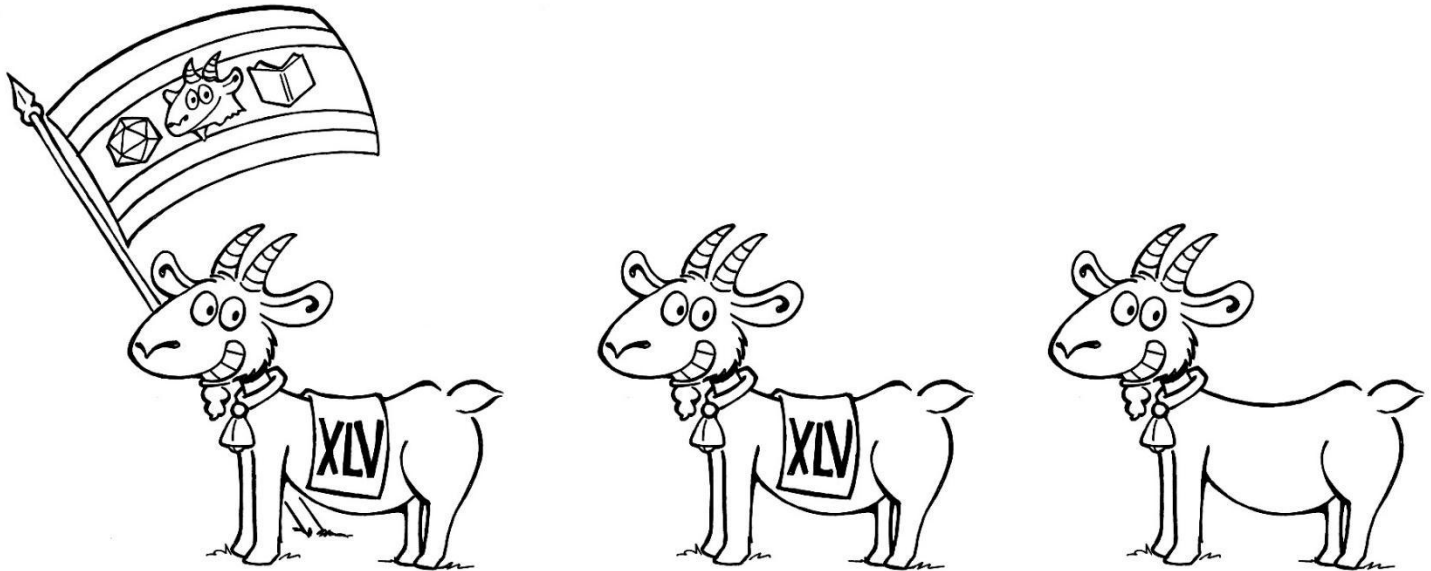
Ada Palmer mixes storytelling with the history of text and discusses translation efforts.

Opening Ceremonies Fan Interest, Panel

Thursday 8:00 PM Sheraton II - 4th floor, 60 mins

Thomas Barclay, Micaiah Johnson, John Kovalic, N. Frances Moritz, William Rowe, Zeta Jane

Welcome to Capricon 45: Let Your Geek Flag Fly! Join us as we kick off this year's event and get some idea of what to expect, and to meet our Guests of Honor and the people who make it all possible.



Full Panel Programming Listings: Friday, February 7, 2025

Open Gaming - Friday Gaming, Open Gaming

Friday 8:00 AM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 960 mins

Open gaming! Come check out a game from Capricon's game library.

Early Morning Walking (Friday) Fan Interest, Participatory Event

Friday 8:30 AM Tour Spot - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Arin Komins

Get your steps in before you spend the day sitting in chairs and listening to the program. Meet by registration to walk inside the hotel and chat with other walking-inclined fen.

One Page Novel Writing, Workshop

Friday 10:00 AM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Donna J. W. Munro

Are you a pantser who wants to reform? Do you need a little bit of direction in your novel's creation? Do you want to learn to brainstorm an entire novel on one page? Join Donna J. W. Munro and create a roadmap that can take you from idea to draft.

Streaming: Is it Unsustainable? Media, Panel

Friday 10:00 AM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Blue, Greg Clumpner (Mod), Shaun Duke, Matthew Munro

With streaming prices going up, streaming services cracking down on password sharing, and the market still being saturated with more services than you could possibly use, some wonder whether the streaming model is viable as the default media platform for viewers. Streaming is unlikely to go away, but questions about its viability as a market and the ability of viewers to meaningfully access the media they want continue to circle around the streaming conversation. Is streaming due for a financial or user reckoning (or both)? What will the future of streaming bring to the table in the years to come? What will that future look like? Our panelists explore these questions and more!

Stitch'n Bitch Maker, Participatory Event

Friday 10:00 AM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Kit Garton (Mod)

Bring your knitting, crocheting, cross-stitching, or other-portable-craft project and work on it in the company of other crafters.

Roundtable: Best of 2024/Hugo Noms - Fiction Categories Literature, Discussion Group

Friday 10:00 AM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Helen Montgomery (Mod)

Thinking about nominating for the Hugo Awards? Or just want to know what other people think were the best works of 2024? Come chat about them in this roundtable discussion.

Fireside Chat: Magic and Science and Power GOH, Panel

Friday 10:00 AM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Micaiah Johnson, Ada Palmer

GoH Micaiah Johnson is fascinated by the divide between science and magic, technology and spells, and also how these divides originated from their proximity to, or distance from, power. Listen as Johnson and Ada Palmer discuss magic, science, and power, as well as the (sometimes arbitrary) divide between the science fiction and fantasy genres.

Escape Room - Help Capricious! Gaming, Participatory Event

Friday 10:00 AM Old Town - Escape Room - 3rd floor, 420 mins

Capricious the Goat is Capricon's mascot, and his room is a chaotic mess. He needs your help to find a bunch of items he needs for his next panel, which starts in 45 minutes. To help Capricious out, your team will dig through and solve puzzles about various geeky subjects like movies, comics, role playing games, even blinkies. It's your job to make sure Capricious makes it there on time, and with everything he needs. Sessions start on

the hour from 10 am to 4 pm on Friday and Saturday. Sign up at Info Desk to reserve a spot for your team of up to 4 people. If you don't have a team, they'll help you find one or you can sign up for an open session.

Ak-Rô-Nym: The "Made Up Acronym" Game Gaming, Scheduled Game

Friday 10:00 AM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 60 mins

Humanity lives in a world where acronyms run as rampant as kangaroos on an Australian highway. Everywhere you turn someone is ROFL or taking a prize FTW... IMHO This hilarious party game of made-up acronyms that will have you LOL with your BFFs! Over six rounds collect points (and try not to lose any) while thinking of the funniest acronyms from the given letters and category. Party Card Game, 4 - 12 Players, Ages 12+, 30 minutes

Let The Kids Play on The Lawn, Darn it Fan Interest, Panel

Friday 11:30 AM Streeterville - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Shaun Duke (Mod), Lisa Freitag, Janice Gelb, Laurie Mann, Will Saddler

Aging in fandom sometimes feels like being pushed out of fandom. Every new generation passes judgment on the ones that came before. There are healthy, inclusive conversations to be had, but canon discussions can devolve into exchanges of alienating put-downs. It's uncomfortable when once-beloved creators and cherished historic works are deemed irrelevant or even harmful. What are some practical steps to take to respect the new while nurturing appreciation for the past?

Found Poetry Writing, Workshop

Friday 11:30 AM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Deanna Sjolander

In this session, we will use the text from magazines, old books, newspapers, and other ephemera to create unique poetry.

Speaking to the Masses Fan Interest, Panel

Friday 11:30 AM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Thomas Barclay, Richard Garfinkle (Mod), Micaiah Johnson, Kat Voegerl

How do you take a complicated idea - like the technical discoveries of a space mission, the systematic nature of racism, or the complexities of space travel - and condense it down so it's easy for people to understand? Teaching complex ideas can be hard, but it's a useful skill. Listen to our panelist talk about how to disseminate the message.

Roundtable: Star Wars Universe - What's Next? Media, Discussion Group

Friday 11:30 AM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Brian Sebby (Mod)

Four new Star Wars films have been announced, with the first one, The Mandalorian & Grogu, coming in 2026. Other films are in pre-production. What have we been enjoying in the Star Wars universe and what are we most looking forward to in the future?

AI: Trust & Power Science, Single Speaker/Lecture

Friday 11:30 AM Sheraton II - 4th floor, 60 mins

Bruce Schneier

Accuracy matters as we integrate AI technologies into more human processes, but so do considerations like security, trust, and power. In this non-technical presentation and Q&A, Bruce Schneier will talk about how to ensure that these non-human intelligence-like systems mirror the values we expect from the human-only systems they augment or replace.

Across the Rainbow: LGBTQ+ Representation & Diversity Writing, Panel

Friday 11:30 AM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Jamie Garner, Dex Greenbright, Victor Raymond, Gwen Tolios (Mod)

LGBTQ+ people read too, so there's a demand for inclusion in modern writing. But what are the best ways to go about it? What is respectful and what is appropriative? Let's discuss it!

Cosplay or Cosfame Costuming, Panel

Friday 11:30 AM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Brianna Hall, Zeta Jane

Cosplay started as something fans did for fun. But with the rise of social media and influencer culture, some people have turned their cosplay into cosfame. How was this changed the hobby? What psychological effects does social media have on the younger generations joining the cosplay scene?

Convention Tour (Friday AM) Fan Interest, Participatory Event

Friday 11:30 AM Tour Spot - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Helen Montgomery

Welcome to Capricon! Our convention hosts are here to help introduce you to the convention, show you where everything is, and make some suggestions of things that you shouldn't miss this year. Highly recommended for anyone who hasn't attended Capricon before!

Magic: the Gathering - Learn to Play Gaming, Scheduled Game

Friday 12:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Sam Haney Press

In Magic: the Gathering, you play a planeswalker—a powerful wizard who fights other planeswalkers for glory, knowledge, and conquest. Your deck of cards represents all the weapons in your arsenal. It contains the spells you know and the creatures you can summon to fight for you.

With thirty-plus years of history, this collectible card game can seem daunting to get into - but it doesn't have to be! Come learn the basics of the game with your choice of basic deck, and play with other beginners - or folks finding their way back to the game after a long hiatus! Free intro decks for each player at the end of the session.

****This is a Learn to Play session for folks interested in learning how to play Magic the Gathering. Intro Decks will be provided courtesy of Noble Knight Games. No experience required!****

Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session. Card Game, maximum of 6 Players, Ages 13+, up to 2 hours, Masks Encouraged

Science and Art in Orbit (Astronomy and Poetry collide) Science, Single Speaker/Lecture

Friday 1:00 PM Superior - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Brian U. Garrison

In his book Micropoetry for Microplanets, poet Brian U. Garrison shares tiny poems inspired by tiny-ish rocks. The dwarf planets serve as muse for the 13 haiku-sized poems that are accompanied by illustrations by Gowri Savor and additional facts. Learn about the solar system, the semipermeable membrane that separates science and art, and just how cold it is on the surface of Sedna. Appropriate for all ages.

Dork Tower - Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow GOH, Single Speaker/Lecture

Friday 1:00 PM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

John Kovalic

GoH John Kovalic talks about his Dork Tower series.

Queer Eye for Sci-Fi Fan Interest, Panel

Friday 1:00 PM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Kit Garton, Lisa Moe (Mod), Cecilia Tan, W A Thomasson, Zeta Jane

Queer Eye for Sci-Fi returns! There is a long and complex history of queerness in fiction, from queer-coded villains in pulp novels to the more diverse spectrum of characterization in the last decade or so. Join panelists as they discuss the recent state of genre queerness.

Using Time Wisely in a Wibbly-Wobbly World Fan Interest, Workshop

Friday 1:00 PM Sheraton III - 4th floor, 60 mins

Tracy Lunquist

We all have so much time and so little to see! Wait. Scratch that. Reverse it. If you're struggling to get everything done, feeling overwhelmed, or getting to the end of a day (or a year) wondering what the heck happened to it, join us for a conversation about strategies, tactics, and life hacks to use your energy more effectively. No TARDIS or Time-Turner required, but if you have one, hey, can't hurt to bring it along...

Roundtable: Insert Doctor Who Discussion Here Media, Discussion Group

Friday 1:00 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Jim Mann (Mod)

We're not even going to try for a description. Just show up and geek out with your fellow Whovians!

Imagining Worlds Across Political Divides Fan Interest, Panel

Friday 1:00 PM Streeterville - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Mark Huston, Victor Raymond (Mod), Kat Voegerl

Science fiction has a long and glorious history of worlds built on a variety of political foundations. Progressive and libertarian ideals might produce utopias and dystopias alike and play in the sandbox of cyberpunk, space opera, hard SF, and beyond. But these visions might only extrapolate upon one piece of the world around us or one narrow perspective of the worlds that might come to fruition in some imagined future. How might we expand SF's imaginative potential by rooting it in a more realistic approach to the world? Could SF benefit from more dialogue between different extrapolative perspectives? Our panelists discuss the sometimes-uncomfortable relationship between SF and the political.

Worldbuilding Through Historical Example Writing, Panel

Friday 1:00 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Jeana Jorgensen, Oleg Kazantsev (Mod), Ada Palmer, Angeli Primlani

How do speculative fiction authors create such vivid worlds in their stories? By plundering our history. We'll discuss our favorite literary examples of stolen and reframed history, and share tips and tricks for using the past to build your own plundered world.

Reading: Kupfer, Phillips, and Grave Reading

Friday 1:00 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Alexa Grave, Debbie Manber Kupfer, Steven H Silver

Debbie Manber Kupfer, Alexa Grave, and Steven H Silver read from their works.

Geek Flag Making Workshop Maker, Workshop

Friday 1:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Tiana Solomon

Create a custom geek flag for your interest and personality. Whether it's a fandom, a crossover, a specific character, or an identity, there is a flag for you!

Learn to Play Some Games (Friday) Gaming, Scheduled Game

Friday 2:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Have you been itching to learn River Valley Glassworks? Wondering how Hanging Gardens works? Or maybe you just want to know why everyone seems to be having so much fun playing Splendor. Join Veteran Gaming Staff Member, Tim as he teaches some of his favorite games. He'll have these and some other games on hand so come by and learn something new!

Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session. Learn to Play Session, 1-4 players, Ages 10+, varies by game

We Have Always Gamed: Women in the TTRPG Hobby Gaming, Panel

Friday 2:30 PM Streeterville - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Alia Federow, Alessandra Kelley (Mod), Sam Haney Press, Fannie Price

Women have been an active part of the roleplaying gaming community since its earliest years. This panel will discuss women and femmes' experiences in roleplaying games and the wider gaming community through the decades. Things sure have changed!

Roundtable: Mainstream Fanfiction Media, Discussion Group

Friday 2:30 PM PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

JM Guilfoyle (Mod)

Dante's Divine Comedy, West Side Story, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead, The 13th Warrior, Galaxy Quest, and Sherlock Gnomes are all examples of fanfiction that have (successfully) hit the mainstream. Come to an open discussion about your favorite mainstream fanfics.

Paper Circuits [low tech] Maker, Workshop

Friday 2:30 PM PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

John Wardale

Crafting with LEDs...Li-Ion button cells, copper tape, and card stock. With a little bit of practice, you can make light-up cards...Be creative...use your imagination! Materials will be provided, cash donations (suggested \$1-\$2) are welcome, but not required!

Um, Actually Game Show Gaming, Panel

Friday 2:30 PM PM Superior - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Thomas Barclay, David Federow, Red, Jason Voegerl (Mod), Kat Voegerl

In this game show based on the Dropout show of the same name, CONtestants are given incorrect statements about geeky topics and have to figure out what's wrong. But they only get a point if they remember to say "Um, actually." It's a fun contest of pedantry and geeky knowledge!

Magic in the Age of Social Media and Conspiracies Literature, Panel

Friday 2:30 PM PM Sheraton III - 4th floor, 60 mins

Karen Herkes, Jeana Jorgensen, Mark Kirsch (Mod), Gwen Tolios

Urban fantasy and contemporary fantasy tales sometimes set themselves in the here and now without thinking about the consequences of having magical powers and creatures in a world of social media, conspiracy theories, and YouTube content mills. So, what happens if we think seriously about magic in a world where everyone has a cellphone and your next-door neighbor's wild conspiracies about magic weirdness might be believed by thousands of people online? Our panelists discuss the daunting task of rooting contemporary magic in the world of today.

Judging a Book by Page 119 Literature, Panel

Friday 2:30 PM PM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Jonathan Brazee, David Hirsch, Helen Montgomery (Mod), Steven H Silver

They say that you can't judge a book by its cover. Can you judge it by what's on page 119?

What is Young Adult and How Do You Write It? Writing, Workshop

Friday 2:30 PM PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Donna J. W. Munro

Learn the tropes, tricks, and expectations of writing in YA. Let's examine the things that make something young adult (covers, pace, voice, priorities). What's the market like? How do you reach your audience? Bring your writing tools because we are going to practice writing for a young adult audience.

Kids Giant Coloring Session! (All Ages) Kids, Participatory Event

Friday 2:30 PM PM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 120 mins

Roll out the big paper! Kids can join us to color on some HUGE paper to display in the Kids Room. At the end of the weekend, we will roll up the paper and save it for the next year to continue our coloring!

Reading: Collier, Huston, and Palmer Reading

Friday 2:30 PM PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Alexei Collier, Mark Huston, Ada Palmer

Alexei Collier, Mark Huston, and Ada Palmer read from their works.

Playtesting with GoH John Kovalic (Friday) Gaming, Scheduled Game

Friday 3:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

John Kovalic

Grab a seat and playtest some new games with Gaming GoH, John Kovalic. Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session.

Computer Programming as Art Art, Single Speaker/Lecture

Friday 4:00 PM Superior - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Richard Garfinkle

Richard Garfinkle discusses his book, The Muse of Coding, that approaches computer Programming as an art form and brings an artistic perspective to a field that has traditionally been seen as in opposition to the arts.

Roundtable: It's The Neverending Franchise Media, Discussion Group

Friday 4:00 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Shaun Duke (Mod)

From stories that have been running continuously for decades, like Marvel and DC comics, to revivals like the Willow series, Leverage: Redemption, and that little indie show called Doctor Who, we seem to be facing a

franchise phenomenon in which the expanding canon never stops. In what contexts is this a fantastic outcome for both audience and creators? When does the story wear out? And what does it say about our interests as a society?

Making Your RPG Session Memorable Gaming, Panel

Friday 4:00 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Dex Greenbright, Patrick Morgan, Jonathan Pessin, Jason Youngberg (Mod)

What makes an RPG session great? As a player what can you do to earn that greatness?

Automatons, Robots, and Other Humanoid Creations Literature, Panel

Friday 4:00 PM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Brian U. Garrison, Micaiah Johnson, Ada Palmer (Mod)

In the arc of human invention, automatons predate paper. That means before we thought "sure would be nice to write things in a convenient and portable manner" we thought "sure would be nice to have an inhuman creation in our shape that moves." Why have automatons been with us so long, in reality and in fiction, and what roles and purposes do they fulfill in writing and culture and philosophy?

Anime in the USA Anime, Panel

Friday 4:00 PM Streeterville - 3rd floor, 60 mins

David Federow, JM Guilfoyle, Doug Rice (Mod), D'Andre Williams

Back in the day, we had a small anime room and many attendees had never watched anime. Now anime conventions are huge and anime cosplay is everywhere. How has the rise of anime media in U.S. culture impacted American SFF?

Pen Names, a discussion Writing, Panel

Friday 4:00 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Greg Clumpner, Alexis D Craig, Jamie Garner, Fannie Price, Gwen Tolios (Mod)

Social media like Facebook only lets you have one personal account and many people are used to authors using their real name. Pen names, however, have been around for centuries, as well as the ubiquitous Anonymous. Are pen names still a good idea? When should one author anonymously, if ever?

Improv 101 Fan Interest, Participatory Event

Friday 4:00 PM Sheraton III - 4th floor, 60 mins

Brian Sebby

If you've ever watched Whose Line is it Anyway? or a live improv show and thought "I could do that!", this workshop is for you! We'll cover the basic rules of improv, do some improv warm-ups and exercises, and then play some improv games to give everyone a chance to play and learn the fundamental improv rule of "yes, and...". All experience levels are welcome, so please join us and play in a supportive and collaborative environment.

Handsewing Power Hour! Maker, Workshop

Friday 4:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Zeta Jane

GoH Zeta Jane will teach you the basics of how to construct a garment entirely by hand. You'll get hands-on experience learning the basics of how to stitch together and finish a seam, how to sew a button on, and perhaps even how to make a button hole. An essential guide to what you need to know to make a garment or costume item without a sewing machine.

Art Show Walk with Sam Haney Press Art, Participatory Event

Friday 4:00 PM Tour Spot - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Sam Haney Press

Join Sam Haney Press for a wander through the art show.

Preparing for a Show or Concert Music, Panel

Friday 4:00 PM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Eric Coleman (Mod), Lizzie Crowe, Clif Flynt

What do you do to get ready? Experienced performers will discuss set lists, set up, warmups, and more.

Kids LEGO Build (Ages 3+) Kids, Participatory Event

Friday 4:30 PM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 120 mins

Kids get to dig into our big Lego bin and create whatever their heart desires! Legos will return to the bin at the end of the event, please do not bring your own Legos lest they join the other blocks.

Board Game Boot Camp Gaming, Workshop, Masks Required,

Friday 5:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Aaron Moring, Nina Castillo

In this fast-paced brainstorming session, you'll create a board game concept and then build a playable prototype to take home with you. All materials are provided including board game bits and art supplies. No game design experience necessary - experienced educators on hand can walk you through the design process. Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session. Board game, up to 18 participants, ages 10 and up, Masks required

Fluxx with the Head of Gaming (Friday) Gaming, Scheduled Game

Friday 5:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

The Head of Gaming, more commonly known as Hoptavia, can be elusive and hard to find when she isn't in the Game Room. So, she's decided to give everyone a chance to complete that task for the Scavenger Hunt by assigning herself to a table and playing some Fluxx with whomever wants to join her. She will have a variety of different types of Fluxx to play and might even have some promo cards available if you manage to beat her (while supplies last.) Card Game, 2 - 6 Players, Ages 8+, up to 30 minutes

Goblin Punks (Friday) Gaming, Scheduled Game

Friday 5:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 60 mins

Embark on a great adventure, and by "a great adventure" we mean "drinking cider round the back of a shop" in a game about being a directionless teenager but also, crucially, about being a goblin as well. Stop by if you're interested in getting up to hijinks in an easy to learn system.

Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session. RPG, 2-5 players, ages 16+

Costuming & Cosplay - From Idea to Execution Costuming, Panel

Friday 5:30 PM Streeterville - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Brandon Bay, Brianna Hall, Jennifer Skwarski, Tiana Solomon (Mod), Zeta Jane

Creating a costume can be intimidating. How do you go from an idea to a plan to a finished costume? Our panel of experienced costumers will share their tips on costume ideation and construction, as well as the important role of accessories.

Speculative Poetry Workshop Writing, Workshop

Friday 5:30 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Brian U. Garrison

A whole genre exists for poets who need more than just realism! Come learn about speculative poetry and the history of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Poetry Association (SFPA). We will share examples and discuss the difference between metaphors and new realities. But mostly we'll give you time to write your own speculative poem and share it with other attendees, too. Bring your imagination and your favorite pen.

Embrace the Squee Watercoloring Maker, Workshop

Friday 5:30 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

N. Frances Moritz

Come play with watercolors and a couple pages from John Kovalic's Embrace the Squee and Munchkin Alphabet coloring books! Materials will be provided.

Look! I Have Raised a Geek! Fan Interest, Panel

Friday 5:30 PM Sheraton III - 4th floor, 60 mins

Alia Federow, David Federow, JM Guilfoyle, Alessandra Kelley, Scott Lefton (Mod)

Or else, you might say - parenting done right. We've invited some of the unconventional parents who will share with you the parenting methods they used to raise a proper geek and, hopefully, future fandom members as well. Some stories may be funny, others quite unexpected!

Speculative Literature Foundation Deep Dish Reading Reading

Friday 5:30 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Sue Burke, Richard Chwedyk, Shaun Duke, Llewella Forgie, Karen Herkes, Mary Anne Mohanraj (Mod), Angeli Primlani

Writers who are attending the con will read from either published works or works in progress. We'll have 1-2 featured readers who have longer spots and they will be joined by 6-8 rapid fire spots.

The MCU After Endgame Media, Panel

Friday 5:30 PM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Blue, Lisa Moe (Mod), Patrick Morgan, Matthew Munro

We're now half a decade from the end of Phase 3 of Marvel's Cinematic Universe. With Phase 6 looming on the horizon and seas of criticism about lackluster performance at the box office in Phases 4 and 5, one has to wonder: Where does the MCU go from here? How does it bring back the wonder and excitement that made Endgame a cinematic marvel? Is the lukewarm reception a product of marketing, format, narrative, or all of the above? Our panelists take a look at the current direction of the MCU, the upcoming Phase 6 (opening with Fantastic Four), and more!

The Periodic Table & Astronomy Science, Single Speaker/Lecture,

Friday 5:30 Superior - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Larry Bartoszek

Larry Bartoszek will describe the intimate relationship between astronomy and the Periodic Table by looking at how everything we learn about the distant universe comes from dissecting starlight, and starlight comes from

excited atoms changing their energy states. Topics will include a brief history of the universe, electron shell structure, spectroscopy on starlight and more! All of this comes from an understanding of the unique “fingerprints” of atoms in the light they give off. Larry will also show the work that he did on the Sloan Digital Sky Survey Telescope.

Roundtable: What We're Watching Now Media, Discussion Group

Friday 5:30 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Victor Raymond (Mod)

Join the discussion as we share our current fave SFF TV series, whether it is best to binge or watch weekly, and discuss why the streaming networks keep cancelling fan favorites. (Grrrr!)

Workshop a Song Music, Workshop

Friday 5:30 PM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Carol Ferraro, Clif Flynt, Barisha Lettermann, Susan Weiner

Have a song idea that you're trying to figure out how to turn into a song? Working on finding the right words for a filk? Have words that you're having trouble writing a tune to? Just want some advice on a song in progress? Our team of experienced songwriters are here to help!

Convention Tour (Friday PM) Fan Interest, Participatory Event

Friday 5:30 PM Tour Spot - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Dina Krause

Welcome to Capricon! Our convention hosts are here to help introduce you to the convention, show you where everything is, and make some suggestions of things that you shouldn't miss this year. Highly recommended for anyone who hasn't attended Capricon before!

Gamma World 2e (Friday) Gaming, Scheduled Game

Friday 6:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 180 mins

Gamma World is a post-apocalyptic science fantasy role-playing game in which player characters explore Earth centuries after the collapse of civilization, searching for artifacts from the time before "The Great Upheaval". Play as a mutant animal, plant, or human in the far-flung post-apocalyptic future! It's Thundarr the Barbarian meets Fallout.

Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session. RPG, 4-6 players, Ages 12+, Masks required

Kickstarter for Authors and Small Presses Writing, Single Speaker/Lecture

Friday 7:00 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Cecilia Tan

Cecilia Tan offers guidance for publishing via Kickstarter. Learn about pros and cons, pitfalls, best practices, and Kickstarter's latest tools so you can have a successful and profitable campaign.

Roundtable: Book Rec Hour Literature, Discussion Group

Friday 7:00 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Cassandra R. Moritz (Mod)

Need new book recommendations? Have some to share? Join this meetup for book fans and swap book recommendations.

Concert: Sassafrass Music, Concert

Friday 7:00 PM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Ada Palmer, Lauren Schiller

Norse Mythology stories set to close harmony a cappella, Ada Palmer & Lauren Schiller as "Sassafrass: Trickster & King" perform pieces from the song cycle "Sundown: Whispers of Ragnarok" with tales ranging from the Norse creation myth through the end of the world.

Open Gaming FOR KIDS!!! (Ages 5+) Kids, Open Gaming

Friday 7:00 PM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Kids will so many options to play age-appropriate board games! Board games available will depend on the age and quantity of kids attending this event. If you are planning to bring your own game, please contact the kid's programming head prior to this event!

Starship Edsel Theater, Drama

Friday 7:00 PM Sheraton II - 4th floor, 60 mins

Starship Edsel is a Star Trek inspired improvised farce following the misadventures of the Federation Starship Edsel in the early 25th century. The Edsel, the only ship of its class, was plagued with design flaws and mechanical problems from launch, becoming a dumping ground for Starfleet's problematic personnel and ultimately relegated to giving VIP tours in orbit around the vacation planet Atlantis. Following a Romulan incursion and spatial anomaly, the crew discovered hidden technology within the ship that transported them thousands of lightyears beyond Federation space. Now this ship of misfits, never meant for critical missions, must navigate unknown territory where no one has gone before.

Introduction to American Sign Language Fan Interest, Panel

Friday 7:00 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Dina Krause

Communication is one of our greatest challenges. Learn the way the deaf have been doing it for years. With some cool Klingon Sign Language thrown in.

Freeform Watercolor Make & Take Maker, Workshop

Friday 7:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Megen Leigh

Artist Megen Leigh will guide you through creating your own freeform watercolor painting!

DIY Toy & Packaging Make-and-Take Maker, Workshop, Masks Required

Friday 8:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 120 mins

Nina Castillo, Aaron Moring (Mod), Melissa Schlessinger, Christian Tabotabo

Hack, glue, and repaint a figure. Add some accessories. Finish it off with custom package design. When you put it all together, you'll have a one-of-a-kind art toy to take home. Unleash your creativity! All skill levels are welcome. Materials and guidance provided.

Euchre Tournament Gaming, Scheduled Game

Friday 8:00 PM Sheraton III - 4th floor, 120 mins

Helen Montgomery

Get ready to play some cards! Bring your partner or, if you don't have a partner, we'll find you one - for the game only, anything else is your responsibility. Remember, this is a friendly game. Weapons policy will be strictly enforced at the tournament.

Tarot RPG: 3-Minute Adventures (Friday) Gaming, Scheduled Game

Friday 8:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Dex Greenbright

Have a spare moment you wish to fill with adventure? With only three cards, we will weave a story together and roll to determine the outcome. Stop by for one of the quickest TTRPGs you've ever played!

Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session. Card Game, 1 player, All ages, ~3 minutes

Sing-Along Circle Music, Participatory Event

Friday 8:30 PM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Suzanne Bracken, Susan Weiner

Let's sing together! We'll pick some well-known songs with singable choruses. Bring your own ideas and we can share!

How to Critique Fiction Writing, Panel

Friday 8:30 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Greg Clumpner (Mod), Mark Huston, K.V. Peck, Gwen Tolios, Mary Turzillo

Critiquing fiction is not the same as reviewing it. Critiquing is an art form—it's not just about what you like and don't like. It's about the why and how to communicate that to the writer. Learn tips, tricks, and best practices for critiquing fiction from our expert panelists.

Roundtable: Graphic Novels with Mature Themes After Dark, Discussion Group

Friday 8:30 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

William Rowe (Mod)

If anyone out there thinks comics are just for kids, this discussion group will prove them wrong! Come ready to discuss your favorite graphic novels that appeal to a mature audience.

Wanderverse - Adventures Improvised Theater, Drama

Friday 8:30 PM Superior - 2nd floor, 90 mins

Wanderverse - Adventures Improvised offers a one-of-a-kind experience that blends the thrilling elements of tabletop role-playing games (RPGs), improv comedy, sketch performances, and multimedia interaction all into one unforgettable show. Whether you're a seasoned RPG player, a fan of live comedy, or completely new to both, this will be an exhilarating ride filled with laughter, adventure, and endless surprises.

Reading: Cecilia Tan (18+) Reading

Friday 8:30 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 30 mins

Cecilia Tan

Cecilia Tan reads something very, very sexy.

Party Crawl Friday After Dark, Participatory Event

Friday 9:00 PM Tour Spot - 3rd floor, 60 mins

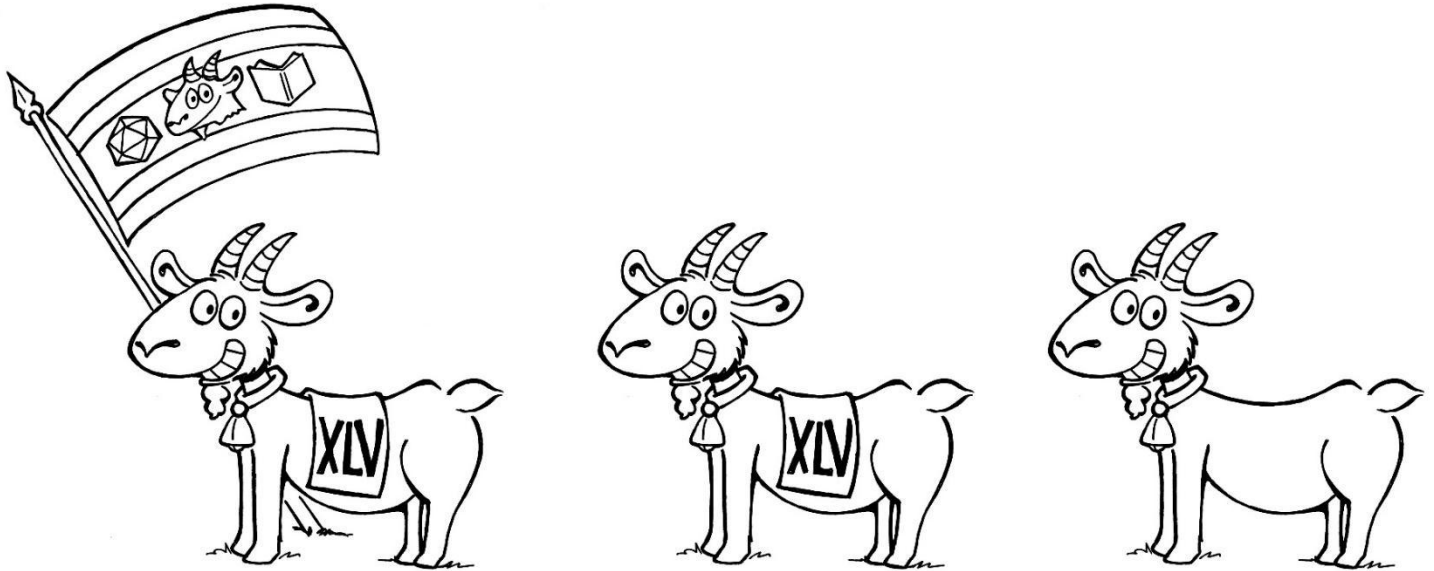
New to the Capricon party scene? Our parties are renowned for being fabulous, but they can be a bit overwhelming if you're new. Join some of our Party Liaisons on a "party crawl" where they will introduce you to people and show you where all the fun can be had. Must be 21 years of age or older as alcohol will be

served in many of the parties. Meet the tour host by the Registration Desk. (Space is limited, first-come, first-served, and make sure to bring government ID and badge!)

Friday Night Open Filk Music, Participatory Event

Friday 10:00 PM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 240 mins

Filk music started out with people getting together in a circle in their hotel rooms to swap songs. We're in a larger space now, but it's all in the same tradition of sharing music. Come by to sing or to listen!



Full Panel Programming Listings: Saturday, February 8, 2025

Open Gaming - Saturday Gaming, Open Gaming

Saturday 12:00 AM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 1440 mins

Open gaming! Come check out a game from Capricon's game library.

Early Morning Walking (Saturday) Fan Interest, Participatory Event,

Saturday 8:30 AM Tour Spot - 3rd floor, 60 mins

David Hirsch

Get your steps in before you spend the day sitting in chairs and listening to the program. Meet by registration to walk inside the hotel and chat to other walking-inclined fen.

Pathfinder - Friends in Need Gaming, Scheduled Game

Saturday 9:00 AM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 300 mins

A Pathfinder Society Quest designed for 1st- through 4th-level characters. The Tskikha iruxi enclave has long been a staunch ally of the Pathfinder Society. Their enclave's location near some elementally-attuned Azlanti ruins has given the Society a wealth of research opportunities while allowing them to protect the iruxi from the dangers in the ruins, which have a tendency to cause trouble. Recently they seem to have attracted some elemental scamps, which are causing mischief and chaos throughout the enclave. The Tskikha have once again called upon their allies for help.

Pregenerated characters are available for all Pathfinder 2e Playtest games. Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session. RPG, up to 6 players, Ages 12+

Starfinder 2e Playtest: Shards of a Glass Planet Gaming, Scheduled Game,

Saturday 9:00 AM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 300 mins

For 1st level characters. For millennia, Birnam's Bubble has been a planet untouched by outsiders. Through the energy barrier, explorers and surveyors have glimpsed pristine settlements, verdant flora, and magical emanations—yet no fauna or citizens populate the world's surface.

As in other parts of the galaxy, the Drift Crisis changed everything. Now, the barrier surrounding Birnam's Bubble cracks like shattering glass, and shards of this energy have begun to fall through the atmosphere to the planet's surface, causing destruction. Enter the breach and uncover the secrets of the lost civilizations of Birnam's Bubble before they're lost forever!

Pregenerated characters are available for Starfinder 2e Playtest games or players can download the Playtest Scenario book for free on Paizo.com to make their own Starfinder 2e characters. Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session. RPG, up to 6 players, Ages 12+

Tesseract: An Extra-Dimensional Dice Manipulation Game Gaming, Scheduled Game,

Saturday 9:00 AM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

The Tesseract appeared in our skies six days ago, over the exact magnetic north of the planet. It was the size of a city block. Since that time, it has been condensing, collapsing upon itself. It can now fit into the palm of your hand.

Our world's best minds must now find a way to contain and control the reactions of this alien artifact, or its exponentially increasing destructive power will remove our planet from existence, reconfiguring our space and time to the extra-dimensional needs of its creators. Can you and your team work together to shut down the Tesseract, or will humankind simply be a blip in the grand scheme of the universe? Only time will tell.

Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session. Co-Op Dice Game, 1-4 players, Ages 14+, 60 minutes

The Folklore of Fandom Fan Interest, Panel

Saturday 10:00 AM Streeterville - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Jeana Jorgensen (Mod), Megan Leigh, Victor Raymond, Wendy Robb

Our panel of fans and academics discuss all the ways in which sci-fi fandom has its own folklore: slang, customs, rituals, stories, material culture (costumes/attire, badge ribbons, etc.), and how these forms of folklore connect back to group identity.

The Five Ws Writing, Workshop

Saturday 10:00 AM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Deanna Sjolander

The 5 Ws are a good place to start when getting to the core of your story. These essential questions will start you down the correct, focused path toward really knowing your story, your characters, and more. If you've never used this approach before, it can be truly helpful.

What's Hot in Speculative Poetry? Literature, Panel

Saturday 10:00 AM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Sue Burke, Brian U. Garrison (Mod), Mary Turzillo

Speculative Poetry is having a moment. Former Capricon GoH (Brandon O'Brien) writes it and this year's Worldcon in Seattle is doing a Special Hugo Award category for Speculative Poetry. Where should you start exploring this genre?

Tricksters and Other Morally Complicated Beings Literature, Panel

Saturday 10:00 AM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Clif Flynt, Geoffrey Landis (Mod), Red, Marie Vibbert

Folklore, mythology and fiction are filled with Tricksters. From Loki to Coyote to Scheherazade, our panelists discuss the special role of the trickster. Even when their actions aren't on the side of good, we still can admire and appreciate their ingenuity.

History of Books Literature, Single Speaker/Lecture

Saturday 10:00 AM Sheraton III - 4th floor, 60 mins

Ada Palmer, Lauren Schiller

Ada Palmer and Lauren Schiller talk about the history of books and show hands-on examples from the 1500s to the 1700s.

Iron Cosplay Costuming, Workshop

Saturday 10:00 AM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 90 mins

Brandon Bay, Tiana Solomon (Mod), Zeta Jane

Participants will have a limited amount of time to create a costume from a pile of provided materials.

Science Talk and Q&A: Dr. Thomas Barclay Science, Single Speaker/Lecture,

Saturday 10:00 AM Superior - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Thomas Barclay

GoH Dr. Thomas Barclay talks about his research and answers your questions! ((Would you want a slide projector for this session? And can you please provide any additional information we can include in the description? Thanks!))

Roundtable: Best of 2024/Hugo Noms - Beyond Fiction Media, Discussion Group

Saturday 10:00 AM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Helen Montgomery (Mod)

Thinking about nominating for the Hugo Awards? Or just want to know what other people think were the best works of 2024 in categories like film, TV, graphic novels, podcasts and art? Come chat about them in this roundtable discussion.

Roundtable: Music Recommendations Music, Discussion Group

Saturday 10:00 AM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Travis Creason (Mod)

Are you looking to expand your listening horizons? Or expound on why your favorite artists are your favorites? Get together and trade notes (heh) at this roundtable!

Sketchbook Tour: Alessandra Kelley Art, Discussion Group

Saturday 10:00 AM Sheraton II - 4th floor, 60 mins

Alessandra Kelley

Alessandra Kelley draws a very wide diversity of things for a lot of purposes. She's illustrated books and cover art and roleplaying games. In this small-group session she'll take you on a wander through her sketchbooks.

Fun with Adana the Dragon (Ages 4-8) Kids, Participatory Event

Saturday 10:00 AM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Debbie Manber Kupfer, Joey Kupfer

Meet Adana the Earth Dragon, the little dragon who can do big things! Hear her story, play her new card game, and solve some fun puzzles!

Escape Room - Help Capricious! Gaming, Participatory Event

Saturday 10:00 AM Old Town - Escape Room - 3rd floor, 420 mins

Capricious the Goat is Capricon's mascot, and his room is a chaotic mess. He needs your help to find a bunch of items he needs for his next panel, which starts in 45 minutes. To help Capricious out, your team will dig through and solve puzzles about various classic geeky subjects like movies, comics, role playing games, even blinkies. It's your job to make sure Capricious makes it there on time, and with everything he needs. Sessions start on the hour from 10 am to 4 pm on Friday and Saturday. Sign up at Info Desk to reserve a spot for your team of up to 4 people. If you don't have a team, they'll help you find one or you can sign up for an open session.

Learn to Play Some Games (Saturday) Gaming, Scheduled Game

Saturday 10:00 AM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Have you been itching to learn River Valley Glassworks? Wondering how Hanging Gardens works? Or maybe you just want to know why everyone seems to be having so much fun playing Splendor. Join Veteran Gaming Staff Member, Tim as he teaches some of his favorite games. He'll have these and some other games on hand so come by and learn something new!

Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session. Learn to Play Session, 1-4 players, Ages 10+, varies by game

Autographing: Steven H Silver & John Kovalic Autographing, Autographing/Signing

Saturday 10:45 AM Autograph Tables - 4th floor, 45 mins

John Kovalic, Steven H Silver

Steven H Silver & John Kovalic are available to sign their work and chat with fans.

Flamecraft Gaming, Scheduled Game

Saturday 11:00 AM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Artisan dragons are sought by shopkeepers so that they may delight customers with their flamecraft. You are a Flamekeeper, skilled in the art of conversing with dragons, placing them in their ideal home and using enchantments to entice them to produce wondrous things. Your reputation grows as you aid dragons and shopkeepers, and the Flamekeeper with the most reputation will be known as the Master of Flamecraft.

In Flamecraft, players take on the role of Flamekeepers, gathering items, placing dragons and casting enchantments to enhance the shops of the town. Visit shops to gain items and a favor from a dragon there. Gathered items can be used to enchant a shop, gaining reputation and the favors of all dragons in the shop. If you're fortunate enough to attract fancy dragons then you'll have opportunities to secure even more reputation.

Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session. Card Game, 1-5 Players, Ages 10+, up to 1 hour

FilkCast - The Many Worlds of Filk Music, Single Speaker/Lecture

Saturday 11:30 AM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Eric Coleman, Lizzie Crowe

Eric and Lizzie talk about whys and wherefores of the Filk's weekly radio show and answer your questions.

Cats in SFF Fan Interest, Single Speaker/Lecture,

Saturday 11:30 AM Superior - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Mary Turzillo

Mary Turzillo talks about cats in Science Fiction and Fantasy. From Edgar Allan Poe to John Scalzi, cats rule! Slide presentation with lots of SFF cats!

Writing FanFiction as a Professional Writer Writing, Panel

Saturday 11:30 AM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Alexis D Craig, Lisa Freitag, JM Guilfoyle, Cecilia Tan, Gwen Tolios (Mod)

What is the difference between fanfiction and writing for profit? Can you bring readers from one to the other, or should you keep your identity secret? How do you balance your ideas and writing time?

Designing Things That Don't Exist Art, Panel

Saturday 11:30 AM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Thomas Barclay, Gene Ha, Alessandra Kelley, Scott Lefton (Mod)

We are always trying to depict the alien, but how far do you have to go to be truly out of this world? When you can't draw from a model, how do you create a believable fantasy creature or technological object? Are there software tools that can help? What artistic techniques help convince the viewer you were there? Are there rules you should never break?

Roundtable: SFF Videogames Gaming, Discussion Group

Saturday 11:30 AM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Cassandra R. Moritz (Mod)

Come join a roundtable discussion to share your favorite SFF videogames, talk about what makes a good one, and discover some new games for you!

The Age of Wonder Literature, Panel

Saturday 11:30 AM Streeterville - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Greg Clumpner, Mark Huston, Laurie Mann (Mod), Wendy Robb, W A Thomasson

Peter Graham once remarked that the golden age of science fiction was 14. Our panelists, each representing a different decade, will talk about what they were reading or watching at age 14. How have concept of SF and fantasy shifted through the years? Where is there continuity?

Geeky Gardening Fan Interest, Panel

Saturday 11:30 AM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Sue Burke, Karen Herkes (Mod), Kim Kofmel

Our panelists discuss how to grow weird, wonderful plants for the backyard, balcony, or windowsill.

Convention Tour (Saturday AM) Fan Interest, Participatory Event

Saturday 11:30 AM Tour Spot - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Dina Krause

Welcome to Capricon! Our convention hosts are here to help introduce you to the convention, show you where everything is, and make some suggestions of things that you shouldn't miss this year. Highly recommended for anyone who hasn't attended Capricon before!

Slime Science: Mix-ins (Ages 4+) Kids, Participatory Event

Saturday 11:30 AM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 60 mins

In today's world, slime comes in so many more textures, colors, and scents other than the classic oobleck or flarp. Kids can experiment with different mix-ins to create slime of so many varieties. This is a messy activity; kids and their accompanying adult should dress with that in mind. Slime can be taken home in zip sandwich bags.

Belly Dance Workshop Fan Interest, Participatory Event

Saturday 11:30 AM Sheraton III - 4th floor, 60 mins

Jeana Jorgensen

One thing most geeks have in common, no matter your fandom, is that we spend a lot of time sitting. So, why not get up and dance for an hour? Belly dance is essentially a folk dance from the Middle East and North Africa, and it's the everyday dance of men, women, children, people of all ages, genders, and walks of life. In this workshop, you will learn the basics of belly dance with an emphasis on properly stretching and learning to isolate different body parts, and we'll put it all together with a little flow at the end (and if you want to nerd out on the research about the benefits of dance and other flow states, just ask!).

Reading: Micaiah Johnson and John Scalzi Reading

Saturday 11:30 AM Sheraton II - 4th floor, 60 mins

Micaiah Johnson, John Scalzi

GoH Dr. Micaiah Johnson and John Scalzi read from their works.

Frankenstiffies Maker, Workshop

Saturday 12:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 120 mins

Suzanne Bracken, Ronan Glavin

Take stuffed animals apart and remake them into new creations. This workshop is suitable for all ages, but children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult to participate.

Autographing: Jamie Garner, K.V. Peck & Mary Turzillo Autographing, Autographing/Signing

Saturday 12:15 PM Autograph Tables - 4th floor, 45 mins

Jamie Garner, K.V. Peck, Mary Turzillo

Jamie Garner, K.V. Peck & Mary Turzillo are available to sign their work and chat with fans.

The Plutonian Puzzle Hunt Fan Interest, Participatory Event

Saturday 12:30 PM Sheraton III - 4th floor, 120 mins

Debbie Manber Kupfer, Joey Kupfer

The Ruling Council of Pluto are angry! They have just heard that the Earthlings have declared their world no longer a planet. They are sending a delegation from Pluto immediately. We need your help, Capricon! The Plutonians wish to educate the Earthlings using a series of devilish paper-and-pencil puzzles that only you can solve. So, gather your team (2 to 4 players is best) or come alone and join a team for some puzzling fun and maybe, just maybe we can convince the Plutonians that we are in fact friendly.

Pros and Cons of Co-Writing Writing, Panel

Saturday 1:00 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Jonathan Brazee, Mark Huston (Mod), Donna J. W. Munro, Mary Turzillo

Co-writing is becoming a popular vehicle for publishing. What are the types of co-writing, and what are the pros and cons of each? How can you pick a co-writer and methodology? Then how do you manage a co-writing relationship? How do you set parameters and timelines? Perhaps most importantly, how do you still like each other at the end?

Phandemonium Book Club Literature, Discussion Group

Saturday 1:00 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Kit Garton, David Hirsch (Mod), Dina Krause, Lisa Moe, Helen Montgomery

The Phandemonium book club will discuss *The Space Between Worlds* by GoH Dr. Micaiah Johnson. All are welcome!

The City as a Character (or, Writing the City) Literature, Panel

Saturday 1:00 PM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Micaiah Johnson, Benjamin Kamphuis, Ada Palmer, Marie Vibbert (Mod)

Since the birth of the novel, cities have figured prominently as metaphoric characters in fiction. In science fiction, sometimes the metaphorical becomes real. Our panelists discuss books that feature the city as a character, what it brings, and what makes the difference between doing it well and doing it badly.

Science in the Kitchen Science, Panel

Saturday 1:00 PM Streeterville - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Karen Herkes, Kevin Nickerson, John Wardale, Susan Weiner (Mod)

Obviously, there's measuring ingredients correctly, and adding them in the right order. What other aspects of science can be found in the kitchen and in cooking?

Concert: Tunesters Union Music, Concert

Saturday 1:00 PM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Carol Ferraro, Barisha Lettermann

Carol Ferraro & Barisha Letterman hail from Milwaukee to bring their gorgeous harmonies to our music space!

Sketchbook Tour: Deanna Sjolander Art, Discussion Group

Saturday 1:00 PM Sheraton II - 4th floor, 60 mins

Deanna Sjolander

Deanna Sjolander takes you on a wander through her sketchbooks. Learn about her process of creation in this small group session.

A Flag That Represents ME! (Ages 6+) Kids, Participatory Event

Saturday 1:00 PM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Grab some markers and create a flag that truly represents you! Kids will learn about some iconic flags and how each flag represents their community, to gain inspiration to create a flag that truly represents them. All supplies are provided and kids can take home their flags!

Powering the Space Elevator Science, Single Speaker/Lecture

Saturday 1:00 PM Superior - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Larry Bartoszek

A recent International Space Elevator Consortium (ISEC) study showed that a 20-ton Space Elevator climber needs tens of megawatts of electrical power to begin climbing from the surface of the Earth, but the power required falls off as $1/r^2$, as gravity does. This talk will look at options for delivering the large amount of power to get started and the design of a laser power beaming system to power the climber at higher altitudes. Non-laser options will also be discussed.

Reading: Oberndorf & Price Reading

Saturday 1:00 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Charles Oberndorf, Fannie Price

Charles Oberndorf and Fannie Price read from their works.

Magic: The Gathering - Casual Commander Gaming, Scheduled Game

Saturday 1:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Sam Haney Press

Join us for a totally casual get-together to play Commander/EDH! No competitive decks allowed, and there will be free booster giveaways for everyone who shows up, courtesy of Noble Knight Games.

There will be three tables dedicated to this 3-hour event. There is no limit to how many players can participate or limit to how long the games can be. Players may continue playing once the event officially ends but may be asked to move if the tables are needed for another event. Card Game, Ages 13+, Masks Encouraged

Autographing: John Scalzi & Bruce Schneier Autographing, Autographing/Signing

Saturday 1:45 PM Autograph Tables - 4th floor, 45 mins

John Scalzi, Bruce Schneier

John Scalzi and Bruce Schneier are available to sign their work and chat with fans.

Würm: Role Playing in the Ice Age Gaming, Scheduled Game

Saturday 2:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Würm is a role-playing game set in the prehistory of humanity, deep in the ice age, thirty-five thousand years ago. In these long-forgotten times, powerful beasts roamed a territory covered in steppes and taiga, from the snow-covered mountains to the roaring sea: mammoths, aurochs, bison, giant deer and cave lions. Two species of humans lived among these creatures, in small hunter-gatherer communities: Neanderthal and Cro-Magnon.

In Würm, you play the part of these prehistoric men and women. As your characters experience adventures mixing legendary quests and battles for their survival, they will gain strength, wisdom and prestige by exploring unknown territories, venturing into dark and mysterious caves, winning over the spirits of their ancestors and fighting creatures of ice, fire or darkness.

Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session. RPG, 4-6 players, Ages 12+, Masks required

Mainstream Geekery Fan Interest, Panel

Saturday 2:30 PM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Shaun Duke (Mod), Alia Federow, Janice Gelb, Sarah Hawkins, Will Saddler

Once upon a time, it was a sad and lonely thing to be a geek. Science fiction conventions were started to enable people who might have been considered nerdy outcasts to find each other. But guess what—we won! Science fiction now dominates mainstream media and being a fan, geek, or dork is cool. How has this changed

the idea of a geek, and how has this impacted people who otherwise might have fit the mold? Is this change for the better? Where do you see mainstream Geekery winding up?

Speculative Poetry Reading Reading

Saturday 2:30 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Brian U. Garrison (Mod), Jeana Jorgensen, Geoffrey Landis, Donna J. W. Munro, Mary Turzillo, Marie Vibbert

In this special reading session, a retinue of speculative poets share their work. Come bask in the poetic wonders of strange worlds, fantastical narrators, and imaginary perspectives!

From Apples to Apples to Munchkin Zombies GOH, Single Speaker/Lecture

Saturday 2:30 PM Sheraton II - 4th floor, 60 mins

John Kovalic

GoH John Kovalic talks about his life in gaming.

Meet the Candidates Fan Interest, Panel

Saturday 2:30 PM Streeterville - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Helen Montgomery

Phandemonium, Inc. is the parent corporation for Capricon. Each year Capricon members elect two new members to the Board of Directors at our open Board Meeting held on Sunday at Capricon. This panel offers the opportunity for you to meet the candidates prior to the vote.

Chicago-SF Book Club Literature, Discussion Group,

Saturday 2:30 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Kit Garton, Chris Gerrib, Rich Horton, W A Thomasson

Join with Chicago-SF for a discussion of Heinlein's Stranger in a Strange Land. All are welcome!

Fads in Video Games Gaming, Panel

Saturday 2:30 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

David Federow, Matthew Munro, Ezra Weisz, Jason Youngberg (Mod)

Like everything else, video games have trend and tropes. From retro style pixel art, to survivalcrafting games and more, our panelists discuss what we've already seen, and what they think might be next!

Living in Space Science, Panel

Saturday 2:30 PM Sheraton III - 4th floor, 60 mins

Thomas Barclay, Larry Bartoszek, Sue Burke (Mod)

So, you want to live in space. Permanently. Raise your kids there and eventually age and die there. Never see a gravity well again. What will it be like? How will your habitat generate centrifugal gravity. Or would it be better to float free, with no gravity at all? What about trade with other habitats, asteroids, and planets? What will your society and government be like? The possibilities are endless!

Concert: Court and Country Music, Concert

Saturday 2:30 PM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Elizabeth Langan

Concert of Medieval and Renaissance music.

How To Draw Anything Art, Workshop

Saturday 2:30 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Gene Ha

People, buildings, cars, animals: which would you like to draw better? With a pencil, paper, a camera phone, and a few simple principles and you can break down how to draw anything. Art is a process of observation, experiment, and play.

My Favorite Cosplays Costuming, Single Speaker/Lecture

Saturday 2:30 PM Superior - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Zeta Jane

GoH Zeta Jane shows pictures of some of her favorite cosplays and dives into the creation of two: Keyleth from Critical Role and a historical rendition of an Anneliese from Barbie: Princess and the Pauper that was made using as close to historical methods and materials as possible.

How to Draw Anything Kids, Participatory Event

Saturday 2:30 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Kids will take a field trip from the Kids Room to join the How to Draw Anything session happening in Creator Space.

Pathfinder Society Intro: Year of Immortal Influence Gaming, Scheduled Game

Saturday 3:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 300 mins

A Pathfinder Society Scenario designed for 1st- through 4th-level characters. A new year comes for the Pathfinder Society, and what better way to start it off than by attending a fancy event? The Pathfinders find themselves invited to a charity dinner to benefit the Knights of Lastwall fighting in far-off lands against the lich king, Tar-Baphon. They're not the only important Absalom-based faction there however, as the event is filled with lords and ladies and socialites of all kinds, including the Peacebuilders, a group dedicated to ensuring the Pathfinder Society pays for any of its mistakes. In the middle of dinner, evidence of a strange ritual is found and the Pathfinders must investigate before dinner becomes a murder mystery!

Pregenerated characters are available for all Pathfinder 2e Playtest games. Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session. RPG, up to 6 players, Ages 12+

Fluxx with the Head of Gaming (Saturday) Gaming, Scheduled Game

Saturday 3:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

The Head of Gaming, more commonly known as Hoptavia, can be elusive and hard to find when she isn't in the Game Room. So, she's decided to give everyone a chance to complete that task for the Scavenger Hunt by assigning herself to a table and playing some Fluxx with whomever wants to join her. She will have a variety of different types of Fluxx to play and might even have some promo cards available if you manage to beat her (while supplies last.) Card Game, 2 - 6 Players, Ages 8+, up to 30 minutes

Starfinder 2e Playtest: It Came from the Vast Gaming, Scheduled Game

Saturday 3:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 300 mins

For 5th-level characters. Countless derelict, abandoned starships litter space including the Xenowarden starship Bloom. During a mission to a planet in the Vast, the crew collected samples, secured them for further study, and departed, plotting a course through the Drift to a research lab in the Pact Worlds. The Bloom that emerged in Pact Worlds' space was changed—unresponsive, careening out of control, and with no sign of the crew. Explore the Bloom's biomechanical corridors to uncover the fate of its missing crew and face off against a dangerous, alien predator that can't be allowed to survive. The Bloom is haunted. That's the least of your problems.

Pregenerated characters are available for Starfinder 2e Playtest games or players can download the Playtest Scenario book for free on Paizo.com to make their own Starfinder 2e characters. Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session. RPG, up to 6 players, Ages 16+

Autographing: Ada Palmer & Micaiah Johnson & Gwen Tolios Autographing, Autographing/Signing

Saturday 3:15 PM Autograph Tables - 4th floor, 45 mins

Micaiah Johnson, Ada Palmer, Gwen Tolios

Ada Palmer, Micaiah Johnson, & Gwen Tolios are available to sign their work and chat with fans.

Renaissance/Fancy/Exotic Hair Braids Maker, Participatory Event

Saturday 4:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

John Wardale

Learn advanced hair braiding techniques (or just get your hair braided)! Content will be tailored to the desires and ability of the groups, but could include ropes, 4-strand "round" braids, classic (3-strand) French and (3-strand) Dutch (or inverted-French or underhand), Crown braid, and other advanced ideas like 5 and 7-strand fingering techniques, as well as shapes like hearts, spirals, and a pullup-weave. This item is aimed at adults and teens, but children are welcome if accompanied by a parent. MASK NOTE: Due to the hands-on nature and close proximity required for this item, masks are especially requested/advised.

Artist, Crafter, Maker: What's in a Name? Art, Panel

Saturday 4:00 PM Sheraton III - 4th floor, 60 mins

Blue, Kit Garton, Dex Greenbright, Scott Lefton (Mod), Megen Leigh

How do you define your creative self and how do you feel about how the rest of the world defines you and what you do? Every term for a person who creates has some assumptions and historical/cultural baggage attached. Do you feel that you had to "earn" the term you use to define what you do, or push back against gatekeeping? Are you a "real" artist? And yes, Impostor Syndrome will be part of this discussion too.

Roundtable: Underrated SFF Anime Anime, Discussion Group

Saturday 4:00 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

William Rowe (Mod)

Exactly what it says on the tin! Come share your favorite little-known SFF anime and collect some recommendations!

Are Graphic Novels Literature? Comics, Panel

Saturday 4:00 PM Streeterville - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Terry Gant, Gene Ha, John Kovalic, Lisa Moe (Mod), Red

Historically, graphic novels have had the reputation as the more "serious" relative of the comic book. Some might even call it more "literary." Yet, both visual storytelling forms have a profound impact on our culture and studies of both could be found in academic journals and professional publications. Are graphic novels really set apart from their comic book cousins? Can both forms have the same value, impact, and meaning critics and scholars might think of as "serious" or "literary"? Our panelists discuss the qualities of the graphic novel, discuss their similarities and differences to comics, and explore whether the critical appreciation of the art form has changed over time.

Snow Goons! Fan Interest, Participatory Event

Saturday 4:00 PM Tour Spot - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Helen Montgomery

Bring your snowpants and gloves and come outside with us to build Snow Goons! "What are Snow Goons?" you ask. Snowmen, but seriously twisted, a la Calvin and Hobbes. (Weather permitting) Those brave enough to venture outside will be gathering together in the lobby.

3 Minute Expert Fan Interest, Participatory Event

Saturday 4:00 PM Superior - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Tammy Coxen (Mod), Geoffrey Landis, Jonathan Pessin, Brian Sebby, Paul Timmins, Mary Turzillo

It's the geekiest open mic ever! Volunteers get 3 minutes to share their knowledge on a topic of their choice, with or without slides. Come see how much knowledge you can pack into your head in an hour! Want to give a talk? Sign up at Info Desk!

Working Class SF Literature, Panel

Saturday 4:00 PM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Mark Huston, Micaiah Johnson, Victor Raymond, Marie Vibbert (Mod)

This panel will discuss how science fiction handles the working class. What does class mean in a utopia? A dystopia? How can writers sensitively create characters from all socioeconomic backgrounds? What books do it well?

The Art of Revision Writing, Panel

Saturday 4:00 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Rich Horton, Charles Oberndorf

Revision is where the magic happens, transforming a rough draft into a polished, cohesive story. But how do you know where to start? Whether you're working on a short story, a novel, or fan fiction, the revision process can feel overwhelming. In this workshop, we will discuss the stages of revision, revision habits (good and bad) and when to involve others in the editing process. Bring a notebook so you'll remember all these lessons when you get back to your work-in-progress!

Concert: Dybbuk Music, Concert

Saturday 4:00 PM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Susan Weiner

Dybbuk performs.

Reading: Garner, Kamphuis, and Thomasson Reading

Saturday 4:00 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Jamie Garner, Benjamin Kamphuis, W A Thomasson

Jamie Garner, Benjamin Kamphuis, and W A Thomasson read from their works.

Kids Create a Costume or Mask (All Ages) Kids, Participatory Event

Saturday 4:00 PM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Create a costume or mask to wear to the cosplay parade!

LEGO Build Maker, Participatory Event

Saturday 4:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Adults, teens, and tweens are invited to come build with LEGO.

Autographing: Greg Clumpner & Debbie Manber Kuper Autographing, Autographing/Signing

Saturday 4:45 PM Autograph Tables - 4th floor, 45 mins

Greg Clumpner, Debbie Manber Kupfer

Greg Clumpner & Debbie Manber Kupfer are available to sign their work and chat with fans.

Cosplay Parade and Photo Op Costuming, Participatory Event

Saturday 5:00 PM Tour Spot - 3rd floor, 30 mins

Zeta Jane

All costumers and cosplayers are invited to meet at the Tour Spot near registration. They'll tour the con so attendees can admire their creations. The parade will end on the 4th floor promenade for a photo session - come get your pictures! The cosplayer & costumers meetup will follow just down the hall.

Cartographers Gaming, Scheduled Game

Saturday 5:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Sam Haney Press

Queen Gimnax has ordered the reclamation of the northern lands. As a cartographer in her service, you are sent to map this territory, claiming it for the Kingdom of Nalos. Through official edicts, the queen announces which lands she prizes most, and you will increase your reputation by meeting her demands. But you are not alone in this wilderness. The Dragul contest your claims with their outposts, so you must draw your lines carefully to reduce their influence. Reclaim the greatest share of the queen's desired lands and you will be declared the greatest cartographer in the kingdom.

Cartographers is a game where you get to draw a map that scores you points according to goals that shift with each season. Like Tetris, you never know what piece you'll get next - but at the end of the game, you have a pretty map! Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session. Map Making Game, 1-6 Players, Ages 10+, Masks Encouraged

Roundtable: Let's Do the Time Loop Again Media, Discussion Group

Saturday 5:30 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Will Saddler (Mod)

What exactly IS the appeal of time loops? What opportunities do they present and which stories use them in unique ways?

Artist Showdown Art, Participatory Event

Saturday 5:30 PM Sheraton II - 4th floor, 90 mins

In this event, artists are encouraged to face off against one another in a quick-draw challenge in front of a live audience. *Please note: While this is a drawing competition, it is not necessarily judged on skill alone. Artists of all disciplines may find themselves on even footing. If you wish to participate, please sign up in the Art Show any time prior to 6:00 PM on Saturday.

Meetup and Photo Op: Costumers & Cosplayers Costuming, Discussion Group

Saturday 5:30 PM Sheraton III - 4th floor, 60 mins

Brandon Bay, Inuchibi cosplay, Jennifer Skwarski (Mod), Tiana Solomon, Zeta Jane

Come meet other costumers and cosplayers and exchange ideas and tips!

Make Mini Art! Maker, Workshop

Saturday 5:30 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

N. Frances Moritz

Paint (watercolor) or color (pencils or crayons) a 4 by 4-inch canvas with your own design. Materials will be provided.

Putting the 'Science' in Science Fiction Writing, Panel

Saturday 5:30 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Jonathan Brazee, Sue Burke (Mod), Brian U. Garrison, Geoffrey Landis, K.V. Peck

Some authors have technical knowledge, others do not. Learn from SF authors as they talk about what to research, how to research, and what, if anything, you can fudge for the sake of story.

The Battle Pope's Elephant Collection Fan Interest, Single Speaker/Lecture

Saturday 5:30 PM Streeterville - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Ada Palmer

And other funny stories about the Renaissance.

A Fireside Chat with Overly Sarcastic Productions Media, Panel

Saturday 5:30 PM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Blue, Red

YouTube duo Red & Blue specialize in making the unfunny funny and the uninteresting interesting. Their channel "Overly Sarcastic Productions" covers worldwide topics in mythology, literature, and history, with a few tangents into modern media. Join them for a fireside chat discussing their work retelling stories in the space of online content creation. Along the way they'll run off on a tangent or two, and they'll finish with Q&A from the audience.

CeresCon 2125 WorldsCon Planning Committee Fan Interest, Participatory Event

Saturday 5:30 PM Lake Woebegon – Nth floor, 60 mins

Alex Kamal, Amos Burton, Jim Holden (Mod), N. Nagata, Roberta Draper

The 183rd WorldsCon will be held in the outer planets at Ceres Station in the Medina Hilton Garden Inn! For all the time travelers who want more info on how to volunteer at CeresCon 2125, come visit our panel! Come for the time travel, stay for the free food!

Concert: Thee Courtesan Belle Weathers Music, Concert

Saturday 5:30 PM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Suzanne Bracken

All Over the Place: A solo songfest with a little bit of everything in it.

Combative & Martial Arts in SFF Writing, Single Speaker/Lecture

Saturday 5:30 PM Superior - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Oleg Kazantsev

Every good speculative story needs a conflict, and all too often that conflict involves more than just Socratic dialogue. From cyberpunk to wuxia fantasy, the very pinnacle of physical conflict is hand-to-hand combat, a clash that feels immediate, personal, and palpable. It may be a noble duel or a bloody melee; it may take place in our own backyard or in the weightlessness of open space. The possibilities are endless...but do we know how it feels, how it works, and how it fits into the story? Oleg will talk about what you need to know to write combat scenes well and to think about the evolution of combative and martial arts within societies. There may even be demonstrations!

Reading: Clumpner, Flynt, and Gerrib Reading

Saturday 5:30 PM Bridgeport - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Greg Clumpner, Clif Flynt, Chris Gerrib

Greg Clumpner, Clif Flynt, and Chris Gerrib read from their works.

Make Mini Art Kids, Panel

Saturday 5:30 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Kids will take a field trip from the Kids Room to join the Make Mini Art session happening in Creator Space.

Mary Anne Mohanraj's Magical Literary Open Mic Night! Literature, Participatory Event

Saturday 7:00 PM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Mary Anne Mohanraj

Come one, come all. This casual open mic night will be open to all attendees. Come share your poetry, fiction, and other literary work in a no pressure, share-the-love environment. You don't need to be published or even want to be published. Whether you write for fun or to one day have it see the printed page, all are welcome here. And of course, you can just come listen too!

Balloon Animal Sculpting Maker, Workshop

Saturday 7:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Jonathan Pessin, John Wardale

Learn all about the art of creating with balloons! Our presenters will teach you how to make a balloon dog and demonstrate more advanced builds that you can try. (Note: this session is aimed at teens and adults, there is another session specifically for kids!)

Art Auction Art, Participatory Event

Saturday 7:00 PM Sheraton II - 4th floor, 60 mins

Attend the live-voice art auction on Saturday evening. Over the years, we have had great auctioneers and we expect to be impressed and amused again this year by both the auctioneers and the art! Remember, artists need to eat too, so bring your credit cards. Cash is also welcome.

Trivia for Chocolate Fan Interest, Participatory Event

Saturday 7:00 PM Streeterville - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Jim Mann, Steven H Silver

Answer trivia questions correctly, get a piece of chocolate. Whoever has the most pieces of candy at the end wins. It is harder than it sounds because empty wrappers don't count!

Roundtable: Comics You Need to Read Comics, Discussion Group

Saturday 7:00 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Cassandra R. Moritz (Mod)

Come discuss what you're currently reading and think others would enjoy too!

A World of Story Structures Writing, Panel

Saturday 7:00 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Alexei Collier, JM Guilfoyle, Jeana Jorgensen, Ada Palmer (Mod), Gwen Tolios

Many writers have a deep familiarity with the three-act story structure. We learn it in school and every creative writing class out there. But the three-act structure is only one of a whole host of other story structures and ways to tell stories. Join our panel discussion as we talk through Kishotenketsu 4-act structure,

omnibus, frame (a story within a story), dream record, Bildungsroman (originated in Germany; a story of growing up or growth), and more.

Introduction to American Mah Jong Gaming, Participatory Event

Saturday 7:00 PM Sheraton III - 4th floor, 120 mins

Dina Krause

Come learn the ancient Chinese tile game—American-style.

Learn to Make a Balloon Dog! Kids, Participatory Event

Saturday 7:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Kids will take a field trip from the Kids Room to join the Balloon Animal Sculpting session happening in Creator Space.

Tarot RPG: 3-Minute Adventures (Saturday) Gaming, Scheduled Game

Saturday 7:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 120 mins

Dex Greenbright

Have a spare moment you wish to fill with adventure? With only three cards, we will weave a story together and roll to determine the outcome. Stop by for one of the quickest TTRPGs you've ever played!

Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session. Card Game, 1 player, All ages, ~3 minutes

Open Crafting Maker, Participatory Event

Saturday 8:00 PM Fountainview - 3rd floor, 120 mins

It's an unguided session where you can create whatever you want using our pile of craft supplies (or anything you'd like to bring to play with)!

Fine Art Nude Photography with a Cell Phone After Dark, Single Speaker/Lecture

Saturday 8:30 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Kevin Nickerson

You can make great art nudes with a cell phone. We'll run through what the art world considers to be fine art photography, look at some sample images to see if they qualify, and finally show you everything you need to know to reproduce one of the images. Must be 18+ to attend. Images of female nudity will be shown.

Remembering Leane Verhulst, Fan Interest, Participatory Event

Saturday, 8:30 pm, Lincoln – 3rd floor, 60 mins

Longtime member of the Capricon community, Leane Verhulst, passed away on April 20, 2024. Leane was the Chair of Capricon 28: Pirates! as well as serving many years in various roles on the Convention Committee. Please come join us as we remember Leane.

Pirates! Pirates! Pirates! ARGGGG Fan Interest, Panel

Saturday 8:30 PM Streeterville - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Llewella Forgie, Chris Gerrib, Wendy Robb, Jason Youngberg

The age of piracy lasted for 70 years during which about 5,000 historical pirates roamed the seas. Which, in the grand scheme of things, really isn't that many. Why do the legends of pirates and piracy still loom so large in our imagination? What purposes does it serve, and how has the legend been revised to tell new stories through time?

Concert: Cheshire Moon Music, Concert

Saturday 8:30 PM Sheraton II - 4th floor, 60 mins

Eric Coleman, Lizzie Crowe

Cheshire Moon is a fanciful melding of trickster bird Lizzie Crowe and crazed magician Eric Coleman. These two-time Pegasus Award recipients are part of the growing music genre known as MythPunk, bringing old gods and folk tales into modern day, and bringing faerie tale princesses into the light of dark magic. They weave journeys of song and story, bringing their listeners along for the ride. Come along!

Party Crawl Saturday After Dark, Participatory Event

Saturday 9:00 PM Tour Spot - 3rd floor, 60 mins

New to the Capricon party scene? Our parties are renowned for being fabulous, but they can be a bit overwhelming if you're new. Join some of our Party Liaisons on a "party crawl" where they will introduce you to people and show you where all the fun can be had. Must be 21 years of age or older as alcohol will be served in many of the parties. Meet the tour host by the Registration Desk. (Space is limited, first-come, first-served, and make sure to bring government ID and badge!)

DJ Scalzi's Dancestravaganza Fan Interest, Participatory Event

Saturday 9:00 PM Superior - 2nd floor, 180 mins

John Scalzi

Get ready to bust out your best moves, as former Capricon GOH and famed geeky DJ John Scalzi spins the most danceable tunes from this century and the last one. There ain't no party like a Scalzi dance party!

Goblin Punks (Saturday) Gaming, Scheduled Game

Saturday 9:00 PM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 60 mins

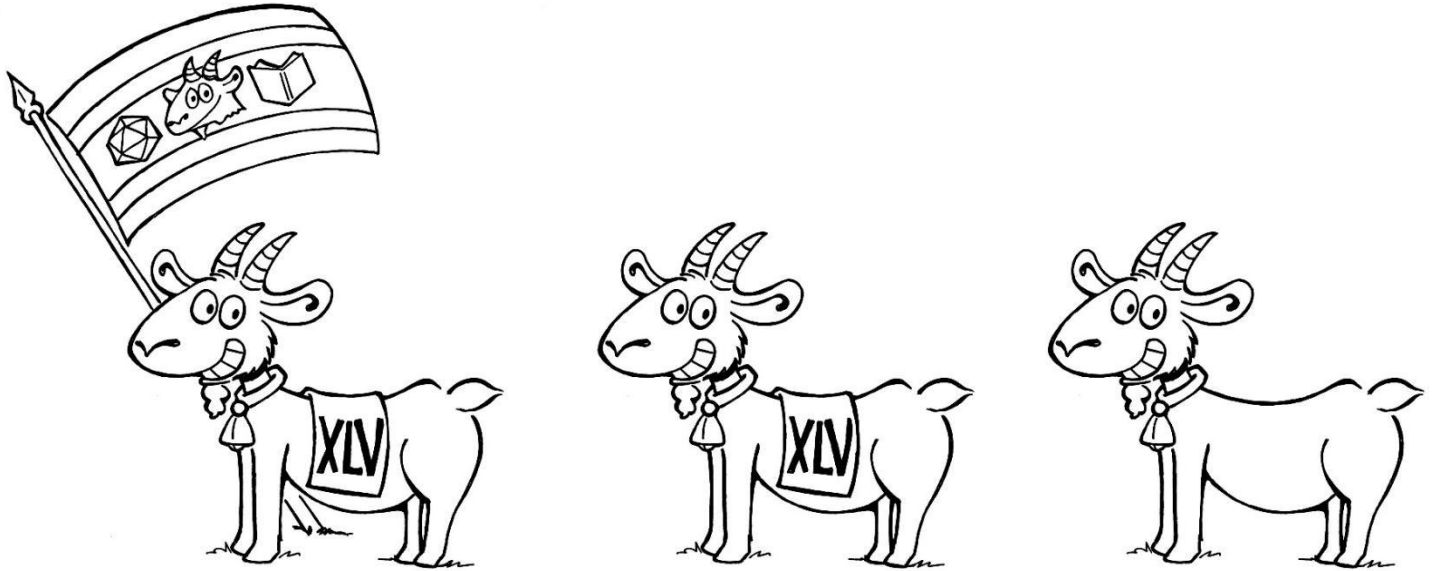
Embark on a great adventure, and by "a great adventure" we mean "drinking cider round the back of a shop" in a game about being a directionless teenager but also, crucially, about being a goblin as well. Stop by if you're interested in getting up to hijinks in an easy to learn system.

Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session. RPG, 2-5 players, ages 16+

Saturday Night Open Filk Music, Participatory Event

Saturday 10:00 PM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 240 mins

Filk music started out with people getting together in a circle in their hotel rooms to swap songs. We're in a larger space now, but it's all in the same tradition of sharing music. Come by to sing or to listen!



Full Panel Programming Listings: Sunday, February 9, 2025

Open Gaming - Sunday Gaming, Open Gaming

Sunday 12:00 AM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 900 mins

Open gaming! Come check out a game from Capricon's game library.

Early Morning Walking (Sunday) Fan Interest, Participatory Event

Sunday 8:30 AM Tour Spot - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Mark Kirsch

Get your steps in before you spend the day sitting in chairs and listening to the program. Meet by registration to walk inside the hotel and chat to other walking-inclined fen.

Roundtable: Modern Cartoons Media, Discussion Group

Sunday 10:00 AM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

There have been a lot of popular cartoons recently: The Owl House, Amphibia, Gravity Falls, and so on! What do they have in common? What makes them so good (and so popular)? And what are the advantages of cartoons as a medium?

Phandemonium Board Meeting & Election Fan Interest, Meeting

Sunday 10:00 AM Sheraton II - 4th floor, 120 mins

Helen Montgomery

Phandemonium, Inc. is the parent corporation for Capricon. As a member of Capricon, you are a member of the corporation and have voting rights! Join us at our annual open meeting where you will elect two new board members, have an opportunity to hear what else Phandemonium is doing, and tell us what you would like Phandemonium to do for fandom outside of Capricon. Note that board meeting will take place during the first hour, but election ballots will continue to be accepted in the second hour.

Random Panel Topic Fan Interest, Panel

Sunday 10:00 AM Sheraton III - 4th floor, 60 mins

Janice Gelb, Arin Komins (Mod), John Kovalic, Brian Sebby, Steven H Silver

What happens to the panel ideas that get rejected? They are reborn here as random panel topics. Our panelists will choose topics (at random, of course) and speak expertly on them for five minutes each. You'll be rolling on the floor with laughter.

50 Years Ago Today Literature, Panel

Sunday 10:00 AM Streeterville - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Travis Creason, Rich Horton, Jim Mann (Mod), Laurie Mann, Charles Oberndorf

Our panelists take a look at some of the biggest works of SF/F/H from 1975 (and a few forgotten gems, too).

Common Motifs Across Mythology Literature, Panel

Sunday 10:00 AM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Blue, Donna J. W. Munro (Mod), Red, Tiana Solomon

It could be argued that ancient mythology was the beginning of the fantasy genre. What motifs do we see in mythology that are found in modern fantasy today?

Exploring Venus Science, Single Speaker/Lecture

Sunday 10:00 AM Superior - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Geoffrey Landis

Geoffrey A. Landis gives a presentation and exploring Venus.

Three Sentences to Unlock Your Plot Writing, Workshop

Sunday 10:00 AM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Marie Vibbert

Whether you're outlining a novel, crafting a short story, or refining a fan fiction concept, we'll discuss how to create a compelling narrative with just three sentences. Join Marie Vibbert in this workshop where attendees will complete short generative exercises toward establishing the plot of a story or novel. Bring writing implements!

Dragon Dance & Story Hour Kids, Participatory Event

Sunday 10:00 AM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Clif Flynt

Clif will lead a Dragon dance with a Chinese dragon costume, then read a story about two children exploring a Chinese city during the New Year's festival. They fly kites, nearly burn down the city, share sweet buns, guess a riddle, and dance in the Dragon parade.

Sunday Stitch 'n Bitch Maker, Participatory Event

Fountainview - 3rd floor, 90 mins

Jennifer Skwarski

Bring your knitting, crocheting, cross-stitching, or other-portable-craft project and work on it in the company of other crafters.

Gamma World 2e (Sunday) Gaming, Scheduled Game

Sunday 11:00 AM Sheraton I - Gaming - 4th floor, 180 mins

Gamma World is a post-apocalyptic science fantasy role-playing game in which player characters explore Earth centuries after the collapse of civilization, searching for artifacts from the time before "The Great Upheaval". Play as a mutant animal, plant, or human in the far-flung post-apocalyptic future! It's Thundarr the Barbarian meets Fallout.

Sign up in the Gaming Room. Signup sheets will be available beginning the day before the session. RPG, 4-6 players, Ages 12+, Masks required

Making Makers Make Maker, Panel

Sunday 11:30 AM Streeterville - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Scott Lefton (Mod), Tiana Solomon, John Wardale, Zeta Jane

As anyone who's ever tried to create something knows, the biggest hurdle is starting in the first place. How do you go from talking about what you want to make (armchair-level making) to actually building things?

Just Jam Session Music, Participatory Event,

Sunday 11:30 AM Mayfair - 2nd floor, 120 mins

Everyone is invited to share jam-friendly songs (sticking to 3 or 4 chords and simple progressions or repetition) that folks can sing and play along to. Bring your voices and instruments—leading a song in voluntary; jamming along is encouraged!

Found Family and the Single Geek Fan Interest, Panel

Sunday 11:30 AM Sheraton III - 4th floor, 60 mins

Mark Kirsch, Will Saddler, Kat Voegerl, Jason Youngberg (Mod)

More people are feeling isolated and the idea of a found family is gaining acceptance. How does one go about finding their own group?

Roundtable: Star Wars in Animation Media, Discussion Group

Sunday 11:30 AM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Jim Mann (Mod)

The Clone Wars, The Bad Batch, Visions...come join this discussion on your fave animated Star Wars series and how it compares to live action.

How to Design a Spaceship Science, Panel

Sunday 11:30 AM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Thomas Barclay, Geoffrey Landis (Mod)

Our panelists look at the real science behind spaceship design and compare to some of the key examples from media. Which spaceship designs are the most realistic? Which ones are just too cool for anyone to care about the physics? How might YOU make that spaceship better?

Professional Organizations for Writers Writing, Panel

Sunday 11:30 AM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Jonathan Brazee, Llewella Forgie, Brian U. Garrison (Mod), Mary Anne Mohanraj, Cecilia Tan, Mary Turzillo

Let's talk about professional organizations out there that support writers, such as the Speculative Literature Foundation, SFWA, and even Writers Guild of America (for film and television). How are they like and unlike traditional unions, and what kind of support do they offer professionals in the field?

Getting into Cosplay Costuming, Panel

Sunday 11:30 AM Superior - 2nd floor, 60 mins

Brianna Hall

Are you curious about cosplay? Come learn more about what cosplay is, how to get into it, and the basics of what skills and tools a beginner might need.

Kids Open Crafting (All Ages) Kids, Participatory Event

Sunday 11:30 AM Lakeview - Kids - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Crayons? Check. Pom poms? Check. Yarn? Check. Popsicle sticks? Check. Glue? Check. Glitter!? ULTRA check!! Kids get to join in to create any craft they can think of! Some examples with instructions will be provided. Grown-ups may need to assist their kid during this activity.

Moorcock Madness! Literature, Panel

Sunday 1:00 PM Streeterville - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Travis Creason, Arin Komins (Mod), Steven H Silver, Jason Voegerl

Behold the man! Michael Moorcock is an incredibly prolific author and musician, so much so that he deserves a panel! Elric of Melniboné may be his most famous (and most lucrative) creation, but did you know about Hawkmoon and the Runestaff? His stints with legendary space-rock band Hawkwind? His hand in writing Blue Oyster Cult classics? There's a literal multiverse of stories and works to choose from!

Babylon 5: Its Legacy and Future Media, Panel

Sunday 1:00 PM Sheraton III - 4th floor, 60 mins

Mark Kirsch, Ada Palmer, Sam Haney Press, Brian Sebby (Mod)

Babylon 5 was last seen on our TV screens over 25 years ago. While a reboot has seemingly stalled at The CW, the show continues to be part of the grand television conversation. Our panelists take a look back at the legacy of Babylon 5 and discuss its impact over time and what hope there might be for a future retelling.

Generation Ship Economics Science, Panel

Sunday 1:00 PM Gold Coast - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Thomas Barclay, Larry Bartoszek, Sue Burke (Mod), Geoffrey Landis

What does a generation ship need to keep its humans alive? Who's going to pay for everything at the beginning, and what economic systems may develop onboard and at their destination?

Roundtable: Has Geekdom REALLY Gone Mainstream? Fan Interest, Discussion Group

Sunday 1:00 PM Lincoln - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Will Saddler (Mod)

It seems being a geek has become mainstream. How did we get here? Are there more geeks than before or is it that the stigma of being a geek has lessened? Where is geekdom going next?

Writing the Second Book... Writing, Panel

Sunday 1:00 PM Columbus - 3rd floor, 60 mins

Jamie Garner, Mark Huston (Mod), Debbie Manber Kupfer, Fannie Price, Angeli Primlani

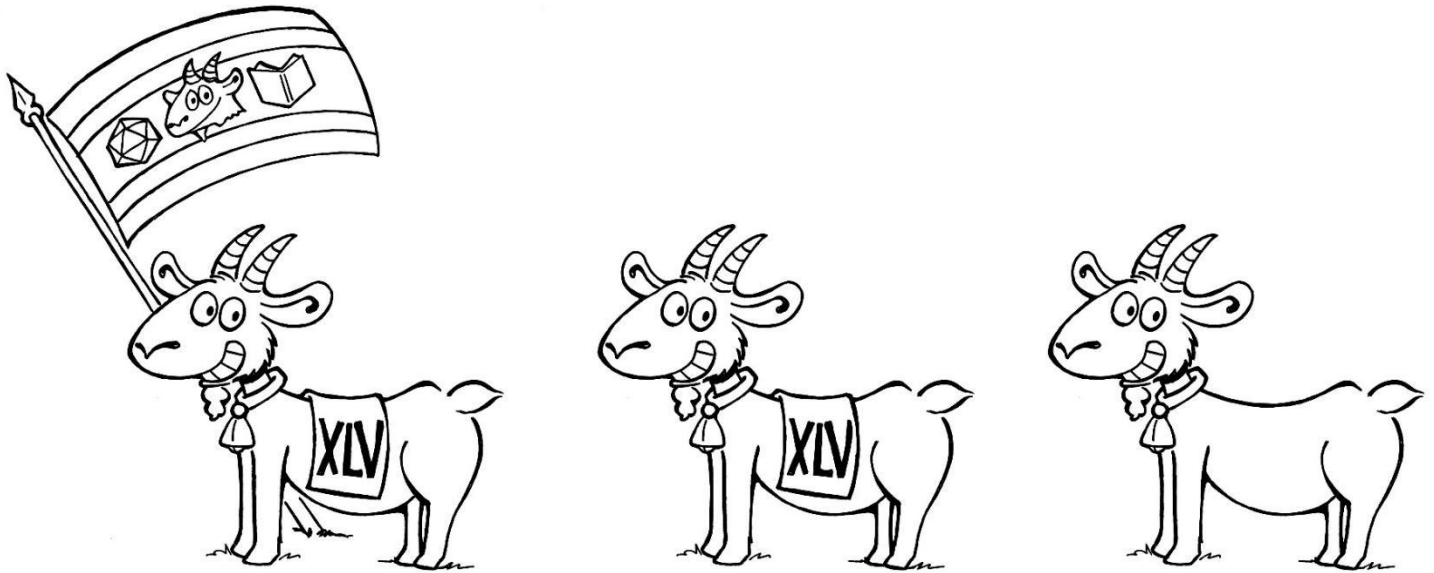
The challenge of writing another book after you've already finished the first...what makes this so darn difficult sometimes?

Closing Ceremonies & Feedback Session Fan Interest, Panel

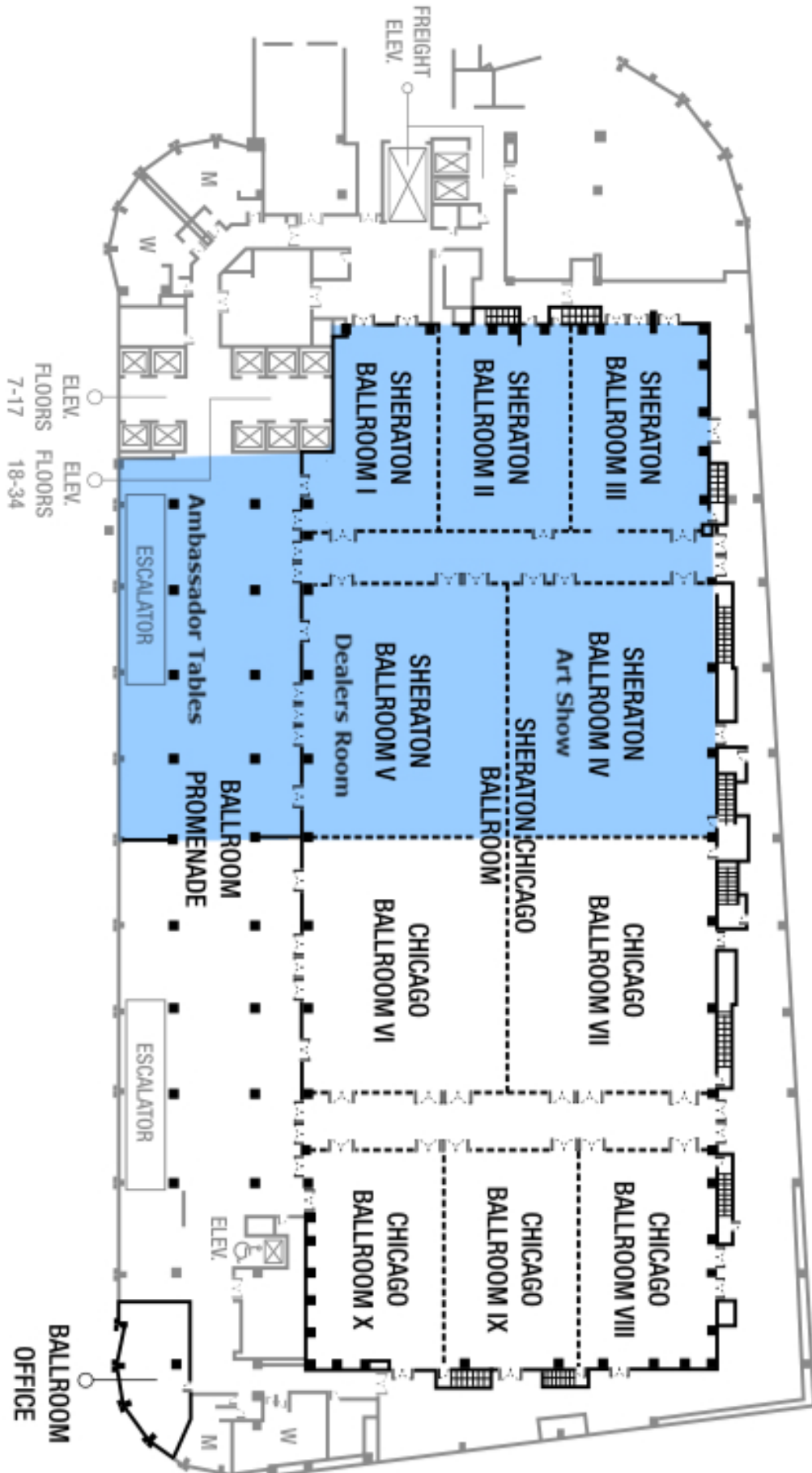
Sunday 2:30 PM Sheraton II - 4th floor, 60 mins

Thomas Barclay, Micaiah Johnson, John Kovalic, Helen Montgomery, N. Frances Moritz, William Rowe, Zeta Jane

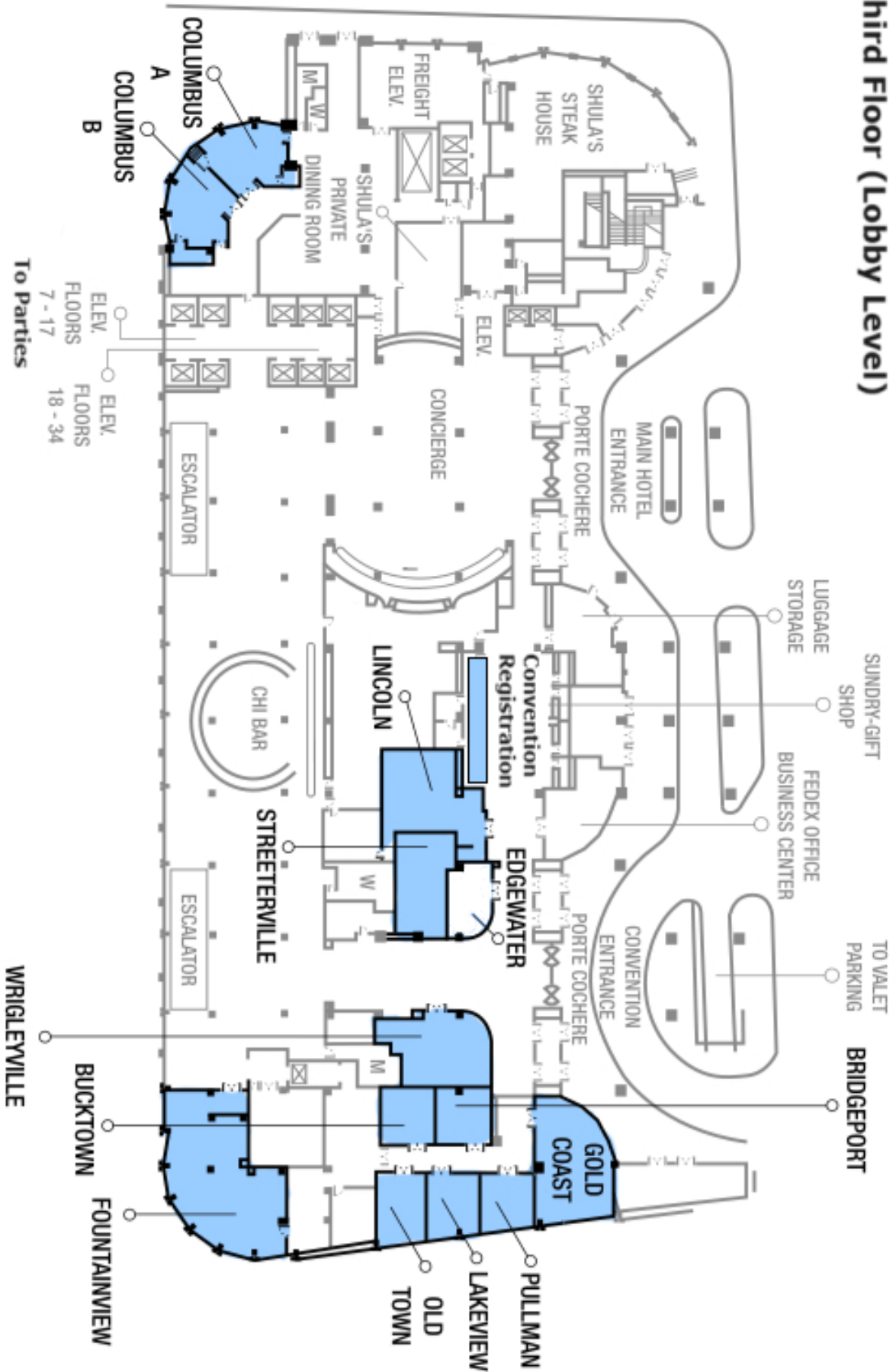
Sadly, every convention must come to an end, and so must this one. Say goodbye to our Guests of Honor and find out who won our fabulous awards. Capricon 46 will also give a hint of what's to come when we convene again in 2026. The feedback session will follow immediately after Closing Ceremonies.



Fourth Floor (Above Lobby Level)



Third Floor (Lobby Level)



Second Floor (below Lobby Level)

