

# ARISIA

## 2019

**Elizabeth Leggett**  
ARTIST GUEST OF HONOR

**Bjo and John Trimble**  
FAN GUESTS OF HONOR

**January 18-21, 2019**

BOSTON PARK PLAZA HOTEL



**PATIENCE**

# ARISIA

**January 18-21, 2019**

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# From the Convention Chair

## HELLO, AND WELCOME TO ARISIA 2019!

This is our 30th convention and you all being here is the best birthday present a con could ask for! I mean that. I am glad you are here, I am glad you made it, I am glad to see you.

Arisia has been toting the tag line of New England's Largest, Most Diverse Sci-Fi & Fantasy Convention, for several years now. As a genre, science fiction and fantasy emphasize otherness in the forms of magic, alien science, different forms of intelligent life. This is exemplified by the uniqueness of the protagonist. Sci-Fi allows us to find ourselves, or the aspects of who we wish to become, in new and exciting scenarios!

I think this is a wonderful and important aspect of sci-fi. As a community, I believe we understand the importance of this lesson. We must internalize acceptance of the humanity of many forms of life, and give those lifeforms the respect they deserve. It is a core tenet of a benevolent, socially minded being. As stories tell, this can be difficult, and we have to work hard to uphold this ideal.

This is why I am proud of this convention. We are varied. And we are trying to make this world better. This is a place of welcome and tolerance and learning. This is not a place to be hateful, belligerent, or harmful. This is why we have and hold to our Code of Conduct, I expect everyone to have a general understanding of it, please read it on pages 6-7 of the Souvenir book or online at [arisia.org/Code-of-Conduct](http://arisia.org/Code-of-Conduct).

This is not a perfect place, but we are evolving our patterns and behaviors to become ever better. We have introduced an entire feedback and community building and planning track. You are invited see how things work behind the scenes, and to give us direct feedback as to our track record. Come and make us better. Come and see how we change and grow. Come and learn how to be better. Thank you to everyone who has put in work this year, you are why this can happen.

To the refrain, be you aliens, magical beings, "humans," artificial intelligences, or anything else: welcome, and thank you for choosing to spend time with us at Arisia 2019!

*Daniel Eareckson  
Conchair 2019*

# BOSKONE 56

## Feb 15 – 17, 2019

Join us at New England's longest running science fiction convention.



### PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

More than 150 participants, including:

Ginjer Buchanan  
Jeffrey A. Carver  
S. A. Chakraborty  
John Chu  
Neil Clarke  
Brenda W. Clough  
John Clute  
David B. Coe/D.B. Jackson  
Gerald Coleman  
Br Guy Consolmagno SJ  
C. S. E. Cooney

Elwin Cotman  
Bruce Coville  
Ellen Datlow  
Sarah Beth Durst  
Kate Elliott  
Max Gladstone  
Barry Goldblatt  
Theodora Goss  
Carlos Hernandez  
Rich Horton

Elaine Isaak/E.C. Ambrose  
James Patrick Kelly  
Nicholas Kaufmann  
Mur Lafferty  
Fonda Lee  
Sharon Lee  
Malinda Lo  
Steve Miller  
Reiko Murakami  
Kenneth Rogers Jr.  
Brett Savory

Karl Schroeder  
Melinda Snodgrass  
Michael Stearns  
Allen M. Steele  
Charles Stross  
Michael Swanwick  
Paul Tremblay  
Fran Wilde  
Frank Wu  
Jane Yolen

### CONVENTION MEMBERSHIP

#### **FULL WEEKEND RATES**

Adult: \$55  
College Student: \$35\*  
K-6: \$25\*  
7-12: \$25\*  
Kids-in-Tow: \$0

\*(school ID may be required)

The Boskone 56 memberships rates are available through January 22, 2019. After that, the rates will increase.

### THE BOSKONE HOTEL

Westin Boston Waterfront  
425 Summer Street, Boston, MA 02210

#### **ROOM RATES:**

Single/Double Rate: \$176  
Triple Rate: \$196  
Quad Rate: \$216

Our hotel rates are good through January 22, 2019, or until the block sells out.

**Boston, MA • [www.Boskone.org](http://www.Boskone.org)**

# DC in 2021 Worldcon Bid



Gearing up for a  
Monumental  
Worldcon

## What is DC in 2021?

Washington, D.C. fandom has played host to many science fiction and fantasy conventions, including Disclave, Capclave, and two Worldcons — Discon I (1963) and Discon II (1974). A new generation of area fans and friends are bidding to bring the 79<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention to DC for a third time on Wednesday through Sunday, 25 – 29 August 2021, at the Marriott Wardman Park hotel in the Woodley Park neighborhood of Northwest Washington, D.C.

[DCin2021.org](http://DCin2021.org) • [info@DCin2021.org](mailto:info@DCin2021.org) • [Facebook/DCin2021](https://www.facebook.com/DCin2021) • [Twitter: DCin2021](https://twitter.com/DCin2021)

*Times Three cover illustration for Times Three by Robert Silverberg,  
Subterranean Press, April 2011 © John Picacio. All rights reserved.*

# From the Arisia President

## WELCOME TO ARISIA!

Eleven years ago, I wrote those three words to mean not just that you are welcome here, but that you are welcome to Arisia in the sense of owning it. As President, I invited you to join us, on the convention committee and in the corporation, to set the direction of Arisia, because Arisia belongs to the community.

Eleven weeks ago, Arisia sat at a crossroads. To continue to exist, it needed you, the community, to set a new direction. Setting direction isn't just sitting back and pointing. It is stepping forward and leading. You have stepped forward in numbers I could hardly have imagined. You have volunteered on committees, participated in policy, and run for office. You have stepped up to new roles for the convention and helped forge the way forward. Thank you! Without the community there would be no Arisia.

Your support and engagement mean a lot to me personally. Without it, I would not have felt able to step back up as President after so many years away. Knowing you are there gets me up in the morning. I'm always happy to listen to the concerns of anyone in our community because hearing that you care is what keeps me standing up. Working together we can address the issues that still face us as an organization and a community.

We returned on short notice to the Park Plaza this year because of the strength of our community support for hotel workers, without whom the convention would be impossible. Seeing this commitment in action is awe-inspiring. Please continue to show your support directly as you interact with housekeepers, servers, bell staff, and other hotel employees.

Arisia isn't a fixed set of activities and events set in stone 30 years ago. It's an evolving, living convention made of the things you, the community, care about. Everything at Arisia—from Programming to the Scavenger Hunt—is the way it is because someone cares, and makes it that way. To get involved in this year's convention, come to Team Arisia HQ in the Hancock room on the Mezzanine. Working eight hours will get you a T-shirt, and 12 hours will get you a membership to Arisia 2020. Working any amount of time will get you the satisfaction of contributing to the magic that this community creates every year.

This weekend is also a great time to join the Arisia corporation. The corporation makes important decisions like electing the board, choosing a hotel, and approving the budget. The next big decision is selecting a convention chair for Arisia 2021. Nominations for con chair open at the January meeting (in the Clarendon room on the Mezzanine at 10am Sunday) and close at the following meeting on February 21. If you attend even part of a meeting after joining, you'll get voting rights at the end of that meeting and will be able to vote by proxy even if you're not able to attend future meetings in person.

Again, thank you, and welcome aboard!

*Nicholas "phi" Shectman  
President, Arisia Inc.  
president@arisia.org*

# Arisia Code of Conduct and Behavior Policies

To help ensure our members' happiness and a successful convention, we have established a Code of Conduct and Behavior Policies for all members and staff. Please read this document and help us have a safe and welcoming convention for all.

Arisia reserves the right to revoke, without refund, the membership of anyone for just cause. This may also lead to being banned from future Arisia conventions. Persons violating the law may be turned over to the police or the hotel security force. We will refund the membership fee of anyone who finds the policies contained herein unacceptable prior to accepting their badge. The general principles of this Code of Conduct apply to the Arisia convention and also to all the activities of the convention committee, whether before or after the convention.

## GENERAL DEMEANOR

Arisia expects its members to respect each other and behave in a generally civilized fashion. Members should respect common sense rules for public behavior, personal interaction, common courtesy, and respect for private property. If you wouldn't do it in public, please don't do it here. Additionally, all Staff are representatives of Arisia and therefore are held to a higher standard of behavior, even when off duty.

Reminder: The hotel is not dedicated completely to our use for the weekend. Members of the general public stay here or visit the hotel to dine and socialize. Please be considerate of non-convention individuals at all times.

Arisia forbids abusive, insulting, harassing, and / or intimidating behavior which includes, but is not limited to, stalking, physical or verbal intimidation, discriminatory comments, inappropriate

physical contact, and unwelcome sexual attention.

Please report any incidents in which a member of the convention is abusive, insulting, intimidating, bothersome, or acting in an unsafe or illegal manner to Incident Response Team (IRT), an Assistant Div Head, a Division Head, an Assistant Con Chair, or the Con Chair.

Sleeping in public or convention areas of the hotel is forbidden by the hotel management. This is private property.

Program participants, moderators, and event coordinators are responsible for the comfort and safety of convention members in their areas. Disruptive behavior by adults or children is not acceptable. Any request to leave an area must be complied with immediately; appeals should be brought to attention of "The Watch" (Arisia Security Staff) and directed to the responsible Division Head, the Convention Chairperson, or the Arisia Corporate Executive Board.

Convention Badges must be worn by all attendees and volunteers and must be visible to access any convention area (including Dealers Room and Open Parties). Exceptions may be made for special cases, e.g., uniformed professionals (police or nurses) and masquerade participants while on-stage (but masquerade participants do need to have memberships in any case).

Student Memberships for ages 13-25 require a current valid student ID for students aged 18 and older.

## CHILDREN AS FANS AND COMPANIONS

Note: In this section where "Parent" is used, it can mean a parent, guardian, or person charged with a child's welfare. Arisia makes every effort to protect

fans of all ages and provide a healthy environment with many opportunities for fun and learning. Children are a valued part of our membership, and we welcome their appropriate participation.

All children aged 8 and under must be with an adult, in Turtle Track (Childcare), or in Fast Track (Children's Programming) con areas.

Parents of children ages 9-12 who believe their children are mature enough (and who have their own paid membership) may choose to allow their children to freely roam the convention on their own. Any child who excessively misbehaves or engages in inappropriate, disruptive or dangerous behavior is subject to having free-roaming privileges or their entire membership revoked.

Children under 12 years old may attend with either their own paid convention membership, or with a free Kids-in-Tow membership (with and under the supervision of an authorized adult at all times). Arisia requires that there be at least one supervising adult with a membership accompanying every three Kids-in-Tow members.

Parents should make sure to be aware of the hours of Fast Track and Turtle Track. Parents who are late in picking up children may have their children barred from Babysitting and/or Fast Track at the current or future conventions.

Any unattended children (which includes: children not picked up at Fast Track/Turtle Track; children that do not have free-roaming ribbons found outside of Fast Track) will be brought to "The Watch" (Arisia Security), who will follow procedure to ensure the safety of the child.

Please remember that the convention and hotel is not "child-proofed." There are many items (including

costumes, displays, art, etc.) that are easily damaged. Additionally there are things that might place a young child at potential risk. It is the parents' responsibility to supervise their children so they do not venture anywhere or touch anything inappropriate.

Participation in some regular program items by minors may require parental permission or the presence of a supervising adult. Some program items dealing with adult topics may be closed to children under 18 years of age. Although children under 18 years of age may register as "adults," membership in the convention in no way supersedes local, state, or federal laws. Some items may require the supervision of a child by parents. It is the parents' responsibility to review the schedule and decide which items they will allow their child to participate in, either with or without adult supervision

Please review the separate Children's Policies for a full description and restrictions.

## **COSTUME AND MASQUERADE GUIDELINES**

All costumes are welcome at Arisia, whether created by the wearer or not. However, purchased and rented costumes are not eligible for awards. Awards are made to the creator of the costume, not the wearer.

Costume weapons are permitted, but must be peace-bonded by "The Watch" (Arisia Security) upon arrival at the convention, unless worn solely for the masquerade as part of an on-stage costume. The use of any weaponry as part of your costume, as well as the use of any special effects, must first be approved by the Masquerade Director. Remember, it's okay to surprise the audience, but not the staff.

During the masquerade, flash photography and laser pointers are forbidden. If you take photos or videos during the Masquerade, do not obstruct the view of other audience members. All electronic devices (e.g., cell phones, pagers, tablet computers) must be silenced and their screens must be

dimmed.

Participants in the masquerade must read and agree to the terms contained in a separate costumer release and masquerade rules.

## **PARTIES IN GUEST ROOMS**

For individuals or groups wishing to host a party (Open or Closed), you must register with the convention in advance and use a room in the "Active" room block. Parties registered in advance with Arisia will be moved to a "Party Host room", which ensures that you are covered by Arisia's corkage agreement (allowing you to serve food and non-alcoholic drinks).

Parties may be "open" (all convention members welcome, or with doors open or ajar, or publicly advertised) or "Closed Parties" (private, doors closed, no advertising). Serving of alcohol is not allowed in Open Party areas.

Party hosts are responsible for adhering to convention policies, hotel rules, and local, state, and federal laws, including the enforcement of the drinking age. All Party Hosts must review and adhere to the separate Party Host Rules.

## **SMOKING, ALCOHOL, WEAPONS, NUDITY AND ILLEGAL ACTS**

The Westin hotel bans smoking in all areas of the hotel, including all guest rooms. Smoking is allowed outside the building away from the doorways.

Arisia prohibits the consumption of alcohol in all convention areas except for alcohol purchased from the hotel and consumed directly in the area in which it was purchased. The legal drinking age in Massachusetts is 21. You may be asked to provide a valid ID if ordering alcoholic beverages.

Arisia's corkage waiver does not apply to serving of alcohol. According to hotel policy all alcoholic beverages must be purchased through the hotel.

Laws governing illicit substances, obscenity, weapons, public behavior, and the treatment of minors must be

strictly observed. Remember, there may be members of the Boston Police Department on patrol at the convention.

The list of Illegal weapons in Massachusetts include, but are not limited to: blackjacks, billy clubs, any sort of double-edged knife (symmetrical cross-section, even if one side is dull), shuriken (throwing stars) and nunchucks. For further information see MA General Laws, Part 4, Title 1, Chapter 269, Section 10.

While the hotel is private property, the hotel is still required by the Boston Licensing Board to enforce standards of conduct and nudity. Accordingly, street-legal attire is required in all convention spaces and hallways.

## **RECORDING POLICY**

Arisia's Code of Conduct requires respect for other attendees, including obtaining permission to make recordings (including but not limited to still photographs, audio recordings, and video recordings), not using recordings for malicious purposes, and following the applicable laws and regulations established by the hosting facility. Further details may be found here.

## **VENDING POLICIES**

All vending (exchange of money for goods or services) must be authorized by the convention, and only take place in authorized locations. Vendors must comply with all applicable laws (including but not limited to copyright and tax laws).

## **OTHER POLICIES**

All raffles and drawings, whether for profit or charitable reasons, must comply with the City of Boston guidelines.

Attendees may only post signs on official Arisia Sign Kiosks, located around the hotel, using the tape provided.

# Convention Committee and Staff

## CON CHAIR: DANIEL EARECKSON

**Liaison to Student Art and Student Writing**

**Contests:** Kris Pelletier

**Meeting Scribe:** Lisa Hertel

## ASSISTANT CON CHAIRS

**Diana Hsu:** Hotel, Ops, Youth Services, Staff Services, Registration, Marketing/outreach, Debrief, IRT, Diversity

**Sharon Sbarsky:** Member Services, Events, Programming, Tech, Gaming, Scavenger Hunt

**Ellie Younger:** Comms-Media, Comms-Pubs, Food, Exhibits, Application IT, Website Structures, Student Contests

## CON CHAIR ADVISORS

Nicholas “Phi” Sheckman, Rachel Silber

## CON CHAIR SPECIAL PROJECTS

**Debrief:** Diana Hsu

**Scavenger Hunt Czar:** Cate Schneiderman

## CONVENTION TREASURER

**Convention Treasurer:** Ellie Younger

**Swipe Box Guru:** Rick Kovalcik

## CHIEF OF STAFF

## CON CHAIR DIRECT REPORTS

**Application IT Team Lead:** Peter Olszowka

**Zambia Sysadmin:** Dan Franklin

## DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

**Diversity Co-Chairs:** Diana Hsu, RaShawn Seams

**Diversity Committee:** Anna Bradley, Jaime Garmendia, Etana, Aaron Heuckroth, Jade, Mink Rose, Rachel Silber, and Kris “Nchanter” Snyder

**POC Safe Space Room Attendants:** Louis Alexander,

Cara Damas, Juliana Pineda

## DOCUMENTATION TEAM

**Documentation Chair:** Daniel R. Abraham

**Documentation Committee:** Cody L

## INCIDENT RESPONSE TEAM (IRT)

**IRT Lead:** Kris Pelletier

**IRT Deputy:** Kim Riek

**IRT Managers:** Daniel R. Abraham, Jaime Garmendia, Kris “Nchanter” Snyder

**IRT General Staff:** Vivian Abraham, Kelly Fabijanec, Sol Houser, Paul Kominers, Jodie Lawhorne, Jesi Lipp, Alan McAvinney, Will McMain, Sarah Toups, Heather Urbanski, Alan Wexelblat, Michelle Wexelblat, Dmitri Zagidulin

## CONVENTION WEB SITE

**Team Lead:** Alan Wexelblat

**Website Editors:** Leslie Pocklington, Alan Wexelblat, Cayla Savitzky

**Website Programmers:** Benjamin Levy, Catya Belfer, Peter Olszowka, Gail Terman

**Website Designers:** Leslie Pocklington, Alan Wexelblat, Cayla Savitzky, Anna Bradley

## Digital Publications

**GuideBook:** Alan Wexelblat

**KonOpas:** Mary Olszowka, Peter Olszowka

## COMMUNICATIONS

**Division Head:** Gregorian Hawke

**Assistant Division Head:** Rachel Silber

**Progress Reports:** Swati Joshi

**Documentation Wizard:** Sibyl Hayley

**Newsdesk Staff:** Etana, Sol Hauser

**Social Media Area Head:** Emily Parnanen

**Newsletter Area Head:** Marc Ebuña  
**Newsletter Staff:** Isaac Richman, La Sweet  
**Digital Media Staff:** Cassia Hawke  
**Press Liaison:** Justin du Coeur  
**Pre-con Staff:** Etana, Swati Joshi

## EVENTS

**Division Head:** David D'Antonio  
**Events Liaison Lead:** Beth Kevles  
**Events Liaisons:** James Boggie, Jill Eastlake, Megatron, Redbeard, Phoebe Roberts, Cate Schneiderman  
**Martial Arts Area Head:** Mark Millman  
**Music and Dance Area Head:** Jeff Keller  
**Wandering Minstrels:** Susan Weiner  
**Assistant Minstrel Wrangler:** Josh Kronengold  
**Dance Talent Wrangler:** Kristin Seibert  
**Yoga Area Head:** Eric Bornstein

## Masquerade

**Masquerade Director:** James Hinsey  
**Assistant Masquerade Director:** Kat Amitrano  
**Staff:** Susan Isaacs, Roberta Moore, Bridget McManus  
**Masquerade Table:** Kat Amitrano  
**MC:** Antonia Pugliese  
**Stage Manager:** Joel Lord  
**Presentation Judges:** Bjo and John Trimble  
**Presentation Judges Clerk:** Susan Isaacs  
**Workmanship Judges:** Carol Salemi, Lily Moore  
**Workmanship Judges' Clerks:** Roberta Moore, Rose Moore  
**Green Room Manager:** Jill Eastlake  
**Head Ninja:** Ann Catelli  
**Backstage Pirate:** Greykell Dutton  
**Official Photographer:** Derek Kouyoumjian  
**Masquerade Photographer:** Steve Karpf  
**Videographer:** Syd Weinstein  
**Hall Costume Awards:** Northern Lights Costumers' Guild

**Masquerade Computer Guru:** James Hinsey  
**CART Services:** Teri Gibson

## EXHIBITS

**Division Head:** Benjamin Levy  
**Art Show:** Megan Lewis and Julia Austein  
**Assistant Art Show Director:** Nicholas "phi" Sheckman  
**Art Show Mail-in Clerks:** Vic Macchi, Alex Morgan  
**Automation:** Jo Hogan  
**Checkin/Checkout:** Joni Dashoff, Michael Sharrow, Laurel Richman  
**Checkin/Checkout Chief:** Liadan  
**Head Cashier:** Andrea Senchy  
**Cashier:** Deb Coombs  
**Layout:** Megan Lewis  
**Lighting Chiefs:** Ellen Blackburn, Lenny Foner  
**Mail-In/Mail-Out:**  
**Setup Chief:** Rex Powell  
**Volunteer Coordinator:** Nikki Zano  
**General Art Show Staff & Runtime Crew:** Harvey Rubinovitz, Evelyn "bookwyrn" Ryan, Joan Turner, Sandy "Pink" Sutherland  
**Creators' Corner Liaison:** Liana Hertel (Formerly Artist/Author Alley)  
**Dealers' Liaison:** Ed Trachtenberg  
**Assistant Dealer Liaison:** Sabina Fecteau  
**Schleppers (Dealers Move-in/out Assistance):** Jerzy Prachniak, Jeremy Thorpe  
**Tax ID Czar:** Mieke C.  
**Fan Tables:** Sybil Shearin

## Projected Media

**Anime/Video Coordinator:** Michael Kerpan

## FOOD

**Division Heads:** Catelynn Cunningham

**Assistant Division Head:** Liz Crefin

**Con Suite Head:** Tara Walsh

**Con Suite Lead:** Stacy Masiello

**Con Suite Staff:** Joel Gould, Lisa Tsay

**Green Room Co-Area Heads:**

Liz Crefin, Gabi Morel

**Green Room Leads:** Jason Sherman, Paul Traite

**Green Room Staff:** Charei Johnson

**Staff Den Shift Lead:** Larry Nielson

**Staff Den Staff:** Ira Donewitz

## GAMING

**Division Head:** Kevin "Yellow Tie Guy" Schendell

**Assistant Division Head:** Gail Terman

**Tabletop Gaming Area Head:** Michael A. Renaud

**Tabletop Gaming Assistant Area Head:**

**Tabletop Game Room Staff:** William Mui,  
David Calmaestra, Addie Abrams, Eunice Torres,  
Judy Anderson, LiAm Wexelblat

**LARPs Area Head:** Jonathan Mendoza

## GUEST OF HONOR LIAISON

**Guest of Honor Division Head:** Michelle Wexelblat

**Liaison to Fan Guests of Honor:** Karen Purcell

**Liaison to Artist Guest of Honor:** Michelle  
Wexelblat

**At-Con Staff:** Jacqui B

## HOTEL LIAISON

**Division Head:** Andy Rosequist

**Pre-Con Liaisons:** Matt Segal

**At-Con Liaisons:** Joel Herda, Amos Meeks,  
Dave Kapell

**BEO Writer:** Kim Sward

**Innkeeper Area Head:** Kelly Fabijanic

**Party Czar:** Jennifer Koerber

**Party Czar Staff:** Matt Ringel

## MEMBER SERVICES

**Division Head:** RaShawn Seams

**Assistant Division Head:** Elena Canadas

**Assistant Access Head:** Mark Hertel

**Access Staff:** Etana

**Access: Tactile Tour:** Josh Burson

**Blood Mobile Liaison (Blood Drive):** John Hodges

**Coat Check:** April Kingston

**Coat Check Staff:** Judy Anderson, Darrell Brown,  
Greykell Dutton, Alexandra Fuentes, Maya  
Gounard, Barbara Jewell, Stella Kelleher

**Info Desk:** Kristen Page

**Info Desk Staff:** Diane Rosenburg, Jean Rossner

**Photo Booth:** Jenne Foronjy

**Photo Booth Staff:** Steve Karpf

**Cosplay Repair Station:** Melissa Schuman

**Cosplay Repair Station Staff:**

Joanne Bruno-Miller, Dale Miller, Shelly Maple,  
Krista Rose, Jess Steytler

**Quiet Room:** Patricia Vandenberg

**Quiet Room Attendants:** Bill Thomasson,  
DeAnna Sumner

**Pronoun Ribbons:** Jada Bone

**Wayfinding Signage:** Peter Kukes

## OPERATIONS

**Division Head:** Tom Traina

**Assistant Division Head:** Jodie Lawhorne

**Chief of Staff:** Grace Taverna

**IT Support Area Head:** Shirley Marquez Dulcey

**IT Support Assistant Area Head:** Lee Walter

**IT Staff:** Mike Tatroe

**Logistics Area Head:** Lisa Hertel

**Logistics Assistant Area Head:** Dan Noe

**Logistics Staff:** Julia Austein, Mark Hertel,  
Elliott Mitchell, Sandy "Pink" Sutherland,  
Heather Callahan, Sue Arnie, Brendon Chetwynd,  
Jonathon Weiss, Delbert Cleland, Meg Callahan,  
Pete Sloan, Hobbit, Daniel Goldsmith, Daniel  
Kessel, Krista Y. Rose, Tom Guertin, Eric Morrison,  
Michael Delpapa, Brian Rust, Kylie Selkirk,  
Jerzy Prachnia, Isaac Richman, Joshua Bursom,  
Steven Lee, Leon Marr

**Ops Desk Area Head:** Todd Cooper

**Ops Desk Assistant Area Head:** Milton Caban

**Ops Desk Chief of Staff:** Craig McDonough

**Ops Desk Staff:** Raven, Mango, Papi Chulo, Marlon, Bailey, Mike Paolucci, Jonathan Cornier

**Sign Shop Area Head:** Christopher Hatton

**Sign Shop Assistant Area Head:** Jack Luckner

**Sign Shop Staff:** Catelyn Johnson, Mary Stock, Charlotte Alger, Michael Renaud, Terran Lane

**First Aid Area Head:** Dani

**First Aid Staff:** Angela Morley, Mike Carroll, Ross Griffin, Adam Baskin, Derek Lichter

**First support staff:** Brooks Harrelson

**Medical Reaction Team:** Jodie Lawhorne, Gail Terman, Leo d'Entremont

**The Watch Area Head (formerly Security):**

Jonathan Mendoza

**Watch Assistant Area Head:** Edward McGonagle

**Watch Adviser:** RaShawn Seams

**Watch Auditor:** Zelda Katzenelson

**Manager of Dispatch:** Sue Thompson

**Line Management** Sarah Gullion

**Line Staff:** Cara Dumas, Juliana Pineda, Louis Alexander

**Shift Supervisors:** Jonathan Breindel, Jason Tan, Chelsea Alvarez, Jay Crandall, Bobby Huntley

**Watch Staff:** Louis Alexander, Wayne Armstrong 2<sup>nd</sup>, Edward Asencios, Sabrina Barandiaran, Bliss, Xavier Cotto, Cara Damas, Dragonfly, Elias Farah, Hunter Farrington, Spencer Farrington, Elizabeth Finni, Loren Golubic-Campbell, Jen Kruh, Juliana Pineda, Kimberly Plourde, John Shaw, Mariah Smith-Jones, Alex Traynor, Rob Rabito, Kyle Shook, Julia Brown, Christopher Flynn

**Diversity Coordinator:** Mink Rose

## Track Managers

**Anime:** Ed McGonagle

**Art & Maker:** Program staff

**Comics:** Elizabeth Hillis

**Communities:** Kris "Nchanter" Snyder

**Cosplay and Costuming:** Milo Martinez

**Fan Interest:** Jesi Lipp

**Gaming:** Justin du Coeur

**Assistant:** Ed McGonagle

**Literature:** Program staff

**Media:** Dan Toland

**Meetups:** Jennifer Old-d'Entremont

**Music:** Jeremy Kessler

**Assistant:** Angela Kessler

**Reconciliation:** Jaime Garmendia

**Science:** Program staff

**Workshops:** Innana Arthen

**Writing:** Morgan Crooks

**Program Nexus Manager:** Ilene Tatroe

**Nexus Staff:** Tammy Coxen, Melissa Honig, Jasra, Ann M. Thomas

**Nexus Runners:** Tammy Coxen, Ann M. Thomas

## PUBLICATIONS

**Division Head:** Vivian Abraham

**Assistant Division Head, Publications:**

Jason Schneiderman

**Print Publications Coordinator:** Kate Wechsler

**Souvenir Book:** Kate Wechsler

**Pocket Program:** Vivian Abraham

**Family Friendly Guide:** Beth Kevles

**Flyers & Ads:** Lisa Hertel

## PROGRAMMING

**Division Head:** Tanya Washburn

**Assistant Division Heads:** Mink Rose, Kris "Nchanter" Snyder

**Programming Staff (Pre-Con):** Jackie Kamlot, Danny Miller, Jennifer Old-d'Entremont, Ilene Tatroe, Aaron Heuckroth

## REGISTRATION

**Division Head:** Heather Cougar

**Assistant Division Head:**

Melia Beetham, Rob Castiello

**Registration Manager:** Jennifer Fitzsimmons-Gauger

**At-Con Tech Lead:** Melia B

**At-Con Staff:** Peter Brenton, Pam B., Rob Castiello, Jennifer F-G., Kathy G., Brooks H., Lenore J., Jaimie L., Eve S., Helen V., Joanna W., Kristy W.

## STAFF SERVICES

**Division Head:** Mike Sprague

**Staff Services Advisors:** Terry Holt, Diane Martin

**Duck Hunt Coordinator:** Sherene Raisbeck

**Ribbons:** Sharon Sbarsky

**Space Pilot Program Area Head:** Allison Feldhusen

**Team Arisia Headquarters Staff:** Grace Bybell, Lynette Buswell-Wible, Terry Holt, Becky Kletnieks, Diane Martin, JB Segal, Mike Sprague, Edward Wakefield

**T-shirts/Swag Coordinator:** Diane Martin

**Volunteers Area Head:** Erik Meyer-Curley

## TECHNICAL SERVICES

**Division Head/Technical Director:** Fred Bauer

**Advisor:** Rick Kovalcik

**Meeting Facilitator:** Michael Rafferty

**Arisia TV:** Carl Zwanzig

**Arisia TV Program:** Dan Franklin

**Arisia TV Content:** Dan Toland

**Dance Hall TD:** Kristin Seibert

**Lighting Designer:** Paul Kraus

**Master Electrician:** Lowell Gilbert

**Assistant Master Electricians:** Brendon Chetwynd

**Room Drawings:** Daniel Johnson-Carter

**Sound Designer:** Jason Kueh

**Video Designer:** Tom Dings

**Video Staff:** Bill Miller, Peter Olszowka, Syd Weinstein

**General Tech Staff:** Covert Beach, \*Hobbit\*, Dan Noé, Abby Noyce, Mary Olszowka, Sandy "Pink" Sutherland

## YOUTH SERVICES

**Division Head:** Jesi Lipp

**Assistant Division Head:**

**Fast Track (Children's Programming):** Aimee Bouchard

**Teen Lounge:** Susan Fabijanac, Freeman Kyne

**Teen Unconference:** Andy Raisbeck, Nico Roman

**Turtle Track (Babysitting):** Ocean Romero

# ARTIST GUEST OF HONOR

## Elizabeth Leggett



**I**t's hard to imagine that it has only been a little over a year since I first saw Elizabeth Leggett's art.

Her work landed in the Arisia art show with an enormous splash. It has a lot to say, and it's right in the middle of our artistic conversation. The big pieces attracted crowds—and buyers—within minutes after the show opened. She won the Best In Show award, given to the piece that appears on the most shortlists for other awards, by appearing at the top of all of those lists. Longtime attendees who hadn't ever bought art in the Art Show before were excited by her work and took it home with them. We, the Arisia community, fell in love with her at first sight.

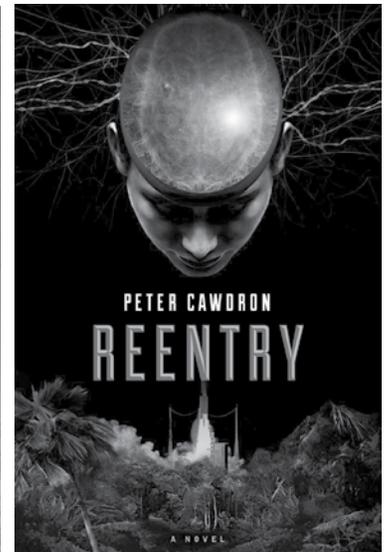
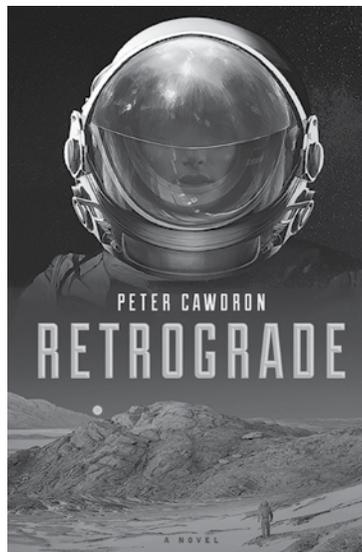
And she returned the favor. She joined the Arisia community and shared her celebration with us. She gave us discounts in her online store. And when we asked her to be this year's Guest of Honor her

first question, barely two hours after the invitation went out, was, "What can I do to help?"

Help she has. Elizabeth has been central to the development of this year's Art Show as our first ever Curator. She has done new work for our promotions including not one but two T-shirt designs. And she has made a stunning new piece, larger than the others and in an edition of only one, to benefit the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

In 2015, Elizabeth won the Hugo Award for Best Fan Artist. What is a fan artist? These days, it's not an artistic distinction. A fan artist is an artist who is a fan, one who cares about the fannish community. Elizabeth is an exceptional artist, but more than that she cares exceptionally about the fannish community.

In the past months hundreds of people, many of them as new to Arisia as Elizabeth, have stepped up to a whole lot of work on the convention and community they care so much about. Elizabeth has been at the front of that charge. It's hard to imagine what a short time it has been.



*Book covers featuring Elizabeth Leggett's artwork.*

## Bjo and John Trimble

### BURLAP, TWILL TAPE, AND LAUGHTER

*or How Bjo and John Trimble Became My Parents and Why I Owe Them So Much*

When I was asked to write an appreciation for Bjo and John I was hesitant. A huge part of my hesitation was that my appreciation for them isn't about fandom, but started in fandom. So why did I agree to do this? Because when you get a chance to publicly acknowledge the impact that someone has had on your life while they're still alive, you say yes.

Some say you can't pick your family. I disagree.

I've been attending conventions my whole life and back when I was a kid, there weren't a lot of kids hanging around fandom, but we all knew each other and each other's parents. I can't really remember when I first met Lora and Kathryn, or Bjo and John. It's just like they've always been around. What I do remember is the weekend that was the start of the road that would lead to Bjo and John becoming my parents.

It's 1984 and L.A. Con II is a few weeks away. The art show needs help making art show hangings. Typical Bjo and John idea: let's get the kids to help! I get a call from Lora telling me that our weekend is going to involve burlap, twill tape, and sewing machines. Only in fandom, eh? Over the course of that weekend, we must have sewn twill tape around the edges of over fifty 8'x4' pieces of burlap.

How do you survive the monotony? You talk (and laugh...). By the end of the weekend, we were thick as thieves. I began to spend a lot of time at their house. It was a happier place than my home. Some time, but not a lot, passed and one day, Bjo and John asked if I would like to come live with them. Since I was already spending all of my free time there, it just seemed like a logical progression.



I moved in, and after an adjustment period, it became clear that they were the parents I needed. I was a kid who didn't understand boundaries, had low self-esteem, and had no thoughts to my future or that there was a bigger world out there that I could fit into. They taught me that parents aren't distant or uncaring but loving and involved with their children. And they were fun. We'd sit there after dinner and mom would say, "I am in the mood for a coconut macaroon. Let's go find some!" and we'd hop in the car in search of coconut macaroons. They opened up their home to Star Trek fans from all over the world, which, in turn, sparked my life-long love of travel. Because of this I've travelled to

all seven continents and continue to explore this great planet.

When I mentioned to dad that being a mail carrier would be a good job, "because you get to walk all over and spend your time outdoors each day", he said, "You can do better than that." It's not that a mail carrier is a bad career choice. He knew that I hadn't considered all of my options yet and that I may not believe that I could be or do anything. If in the end that's what I wanted, great, but make sure that I've searched my heart and considered all options.

Everyone knows about Bjo and John's impact on fandom. But now you know the impact they had on a lost, teenage girl who needed someone to pay attention to her and treat her as a human being. They are the best parents ever and made me the awesome person I am today.

Can you pick your family? Yes. Mom and dad? Thank you for picking me.

— By Jenn Jumper

*(Based on ConJose, 60th World Science Fiction Convention Program Book Appreciation)*

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## GUESTS OF HONOR



**TANANARIVE DUE**



**STEPHEN GRAHAM JONES**



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# Program Participants

**VIVIAN ABRAHAM** has been attending Arisia for 30 years now(!) In her day job she is an attorney and legal editor. To remain sane in law school, Vivian mapped out, square for square, every location in Ultima IV. Twice. She also gamemastered over 100 hours of Dungeons & Dragons. In her spare time, Vivian enjoys making buildings out of paper, catching Pokémon, and cooking with her husband in Iron Chef competitions.

**MARC ABRAHAMS** is the founder of the Ig Nobel Prize ceremony. The prizes, awarded each year since 1991, honor achievements that make people laugh, then think. He is also editor and co-founder of the science humor magazine *Annals of Improbable Research*, and the author of several books. His web site and blog are at [www.improbable.com](http://www.improbable.com)

**ADRI** Three words that one might use to describe Adri are “generic,” “geek,” and “girl.” Sometimes all at once.

**AKABI** is a polyamorous queer geek. They have been educating on queer, relationship and consent related subjects since 2013. They also help run meetups around the Jersey City area. When not thinking about, reading about, and discussing such things, they enjoy ranting endlessly about superheroes and making art.

**HEATHER ALBANO** is a storyteller and game designer – the author of the steampunk time travel trilogy *Keeping Time*, the creator of the steampunk Sherlock-Holmes-themed interactive novel *A Study In Steampunk*, the co-creator of five Choice of Games titles, and a contributing writer to the Amazon Alexa games *Codename Cygnus* and *Jurassic World Revealed*. She's always looking for new ways to tell stories, and is currently excited to bring her live-action design experience to augmented reality games.

**DAWN ALBRIGHT** is involved in many different areas of fandom. She's a short story writer, editor of anthologies (*New Altars* and *Vision Quest*), a dollmaker and costumer. Her most recent project is a web journal called Polu Texni which can be found at <http://www.polutexni.com>. Her dollmaking site is [www.dollmaking.org](http://www.dollmaking.org).

**E. C. AMBROSE** wrote the Dark Apostle series of historical fantasy novels about medieval surgery concluding with volume 5, *Elisha Daemon* (02/18). As Elaine Isaak, she wrote *The Singer's Crown* and its sequels. Either way, you do NOT want to be her hero. In her research, she learned to hunt with a falcon, clear a building of intruders, pull traction, and steer a pirate ship. The author is a graduate of and instructor for the Odyssey Writing workshop. She leads adventure camp and makes wearable art clothing.

**THOMAS A. AMOROSO** I'm a medical director for a regional health plan, a practicing emergency physician with

disaster response experience, a polyamorous parent, and a licensed ham radio operator. I can claim to be a published author, but Arisia members don't care about my work in the Emerg. Med Clin. North Amer. or my appearance in Health Affairs. I talk too loud, rant too much, and have way too much fun for an introvert. I'm also a peacemaker, and I am pretty much out of characters. Good night, and good luck.

**JOSEPH ANDELMAN** Boston-based social organizer and collaborator of events for Science Fiction, Fantasy and Anime fans. These have ranged from dinners and movie viewings to anime marathons and bar crawls. However, his longest running effort has been managing a local Manga Club since 2013 that is still going strong!

**BEKAH MAREN ANDERSON** is a fantasy writer in training and disability activist. She is a co-founder of the student organization Collective of Students Affected by Ableism, which works to support students with disabilities and advocate for their needs. She has published pieces about disability, queerness, and religion with the Wild Goose Festival and the New Sacred blog. Her fantasy writing, as yet unpublished, tends to be character-driven and sad. She blogs irregularly at [bekahmaren.blogspot.com](http://bekahmaren.blogspot.com).

## MARION ANDERSON

**ATHENA ANDREADIS, PH.D.** Greek-born Athena Andreadis came to the US to attend Harvard and MIT, then research molecular brain function. She's the author of *To Seek Out New Life: The Biology of Star Trek* and the engine behind *The Other Half of the Sky* and *To Shape the Dark*. Her poems, stories and essays are in venues like *Harvard Review*, *Strange Horizons*, *Crossed Genres*, *Bull Spec*, *SF Signal*, *H+ Magazine*, *io9*, and her own site, *Starship Reckless*. She's the chief astrogator of swashbuckling small press *Candlemark & Gleam*.

**ANDREW ANSELMO** is a member, instructor, and shop lead at Artisan's Asylum, a maker space in Somerville, MA. He is an engineering consultant on a wide variety projects, and is also helping build a houseboat that sails. He's worked in aerospace, finance, and in the renewable energy sector. From time to time, he folds origami at Waterfire in Providence, RI as a street performer.

**INANNA ARTHEN (VYRDOLAK)** is a freelance book designer, voice actor and author of *The Vampires of New England Series: Mortal Touch* (2007), *The Longer the Fall* (2010), *All the Shadows of the Rainbow* (2013) and *Human Services* (2019). Inanna runs By Light Unseen Media and is a member of New England Horror Writers, Broad Universe, IPNE and IBPA. Their short story, *The Fishman and His Wife*, appears in *Twice Upon an Apocalypse* (Crystal Lake, 2017). Find out more at [inannaarthen.com](http://inannaarthen.com).

**TERRI ASH** is the Manager and Artist Wrangler at Geek Calligraphy. She's an avid knitter who cooks, makes her own jam, and gardens via the practice of benign neglect. A voracious consumer of many kinds of SFF media, nothing makes her happier than talking about it for hours.

**ATHENA SCHOOL OF ARMS** is a Boston-based Modern School of Historical Fencing and Martial Arts. We have two primary programs: the Longsword tradition of Johannes Lichtenauer, and a rotating schedule of Rapier, Broadsword, Sabre, Smallsword, Dagger, Sword & Buckler, and Grappling arts. Training includes free play, drills, test cutting, and physical fitness; together, these elements help students to understand and recreate combat on the battlefield, the list, and in personal defense.

**RICHARD B. AUFFREY**

**JULIA AUSTEIN**

**JACQUI B.** I run the editing business Literary Sidekick. I'm a member of Editorial Freelancers Association and a graduate of Emerson College's Writing, Literature, and Publishing program. My superpowers are storytelling and editing. My fandoms are many: Hundred Thousand Kingdoms, Star Trek, Star Wars, Kamala Khan/Ms. Marvel, Storm/X-Men, Graceling, The Parasol Protectorate, Moon Girl & Devil Dinosaur, Bitch Planet, and the list goes on.

**KEL BACHUS** has published several stories under their prior name, Kate Bachus, most recently "Pinono Deep" in *Asimov's* and the Sturgeon finalist "Things Greater than Love" in *Strange Horizons*. Game design credits include narrative design work on Elder Scrolls Online, the unreleased 38 Studios *Kingdoms of Amalur* MMO and Disruptor Beam's *Game of Thrones* game, in conjunction with George RR Martin and HBO. They are currently an Assistant Professor of Game Design at Champlain College.

**JAMES BACON**

**MICHAEL BAILEY** is a professional writer from Worcester, Massachusetts who kind of hates writing bios. After 15 years in journalism, Michael left to focus on his creative writing career. He is the author of two ongoing series, *Action Figures* and *The Adventures of Strongarm & Lightfoot*, and the new urban fantasy trilogy, *Well-Behaved Women*. In his spare time, Michael is a regular performer and stage combat director with the Connecticut Renaissance Faire.

**E. J. BARNES** is a cartoonist and comics writer, artist, and editor, having been published in newspapers, magazines, and anthologies. She exhibits at independent comic-book conventions, and her comic books, self-published under Drowned Town Press ([drownedtownpress.com](http://drownedtownpress.com)) are sold across the country.

**REUBEN BARON** has presented at the past four Arisias and, in light of the new Executive Board and their apologies for past failures, will present again. From Boston, he recently moved to NY to pursue work in film. He writes articles on pop culture for Comic Book Resources.

**RICK BERGERON**

**AARON BESIO**

**ALAN BETTS**

**LIZ BETTS** spent a decade being a custom framer, and is currently a member of the PPFA (Professional Picture Framers Association). Most of what she likes to do in her free time is art and building stuff.

**ELIZABETH BIRDSALL** is a French-to-English translator, occasional author, and longtime fan, as well as a queer woman and a dabbler in many subjects. She has had short stories published here and there, most notably in the "Women Destroy Science Fiction!" special issue of *Lightspeed Magazine*, and is currently taking a hiatus from Boston life by attending grad school in Montreal. Clearly, she loves maple and cold winters, not to mention tea, cats, and overflowing bookshelves.

**JOHN BORECKI**

**BOSTON ARMIZARE** is a HEMA (Historical European Martial Arts) group researching and practicing Medieval and Renaissance fencing and combat according to the teachings of Fiore de'i Liberi and other Italian masters. Our students are dedicated to the rigorous study and effective practice of Armizare, "The Art of Bearing Arms", an integrated system of longsword, dagger, grappling, spear and polaxe laid down by 14th century Italian sword master, mercenary and knight Fiore dei Liberi, in his manuscript "the Flower of Battle". We emphasize the martial efficacy and historical accuracy of our techniques and test our interpretations with speed and intent.

**BOSTON LIGHTSABER STAGE COMBAT CLUB** grew out of Boston Jedi, which was founded in 2014. BLSCC is run like a community theatre troupe, and dedicated to creating and performing compelling stage combat choreography using lightsaber props. Our 2019 plans include a May 4th show (details TBA), and we are also planning on a mid July and late September show as well. For more details, check out [www.bostonlightsaber.com](http://www.bostonlightsaber.com), or Boston Lightsaber on Facebook, Instagram, and Meetup.

**JASON BOUCHARD**

**ELIZABETH BOURGAULT**

**ANGELA BOWEN**

**CHRIS BRATHWAITE**

## PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

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**JAMES BREDT** was one of two technical founders of Z Corporation, which made 3D printers through 2012. He is one of the developers of the first full-color commercial 3D printer. He holds over 20 issued patents in 3DP technology. His present company, Viridis3D, sells industrial 3D printers to the foundry industry. He also occasionally teaches materials science at MIT and is writing a graphic novel. For the past 25 years, he has appeared as a human spotlight at the Ig Nobel Awards Ceremony.

**ROBIN BRENNER** is Teen Librarian at the Public Library of Brookline. She writes articles, nonfiction guides, and fandom coverage for professional journals. She has served on awards committees from the Michael L. Printz Award to the Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards. She is editor-in-chief of *No Flying No Tights*. She loves speculative stories in every format, from comics to podcasts to television shows.

**CYD BREZINSKY** Part-time biologist, part-time artist, full-time Dragon Lady (or so it says on my DeviantArt page). Over 30 years ago, I had a car with no radio, a long commute, and an idea that dogged me about the anatomy of dragons. This ultimately resulted in the creation of creatures that sometimes fight back. The wire skeleton of my winged reptiles is the one of the inspirations for the costume wings in this year's workshops.

**KATE BRICK** edits books, makes costumes, herds chickens. Plays well with others. Mostly.

### MATTHEW BRIGGS

**LUCAS BROOKS** is a Boston-based writer, performer, and sex educator. His blog, The Intellectual Homosexual ([intellectualhomosexual.com](http://intellectualhomosexual.com)) has been named one of the Top 100 Sex Blogs by four different websites and magazines. He has toured the fringe theatre circuit with his one-man shows, "VGL 5'4" 'Top'," "Cootie Catcher," and "Exit Through the Dick Shop." As a sex educator, he has presented at Dark Odyssey and Catalyst Con, and he hosts the Boston chapter of Smut Slam, an erotic storytelling open mic.

### SOPHIA BROWN

**RACHEL A. BRUNE** is the author of the *Rick Keller Project* urban fantasy series, published by Untold Press, as well as many other works of short fiction. She publishes interviews and articles on her blog, Infamous Scribbler, as well as a series on Medium about writing as a veteran.

**NAT BUDIN** is a singer/songwriter/LARPer/programmer. He has written and run over a dozen LARPs, has served as co-chair of Intercons I and P as well as the first three Festival of the LARPs conventions at Brandeis University, and writes open source software in the Ruby on Rails community.

**MICHAEL A. BURSTEIN**, winner of the 1997 Campbell Award for Best New Writer, has earned ten Hugo nominations and four Nebula nominations for his short fiction, collected in

*I Remember the Future*. He lives with his wife Nomi and their twin daughters in the town of Brookline, Massachusetts, where he is an elected Town Meeting Member and Library Trustee. He develops science curriculum when not writing. He has two degrees in Physics and attended the Clarion Workshop. See <http://www.mabfan.com>.

**NOMI S. BURSTEIN** is a technical writer, freelance editor, and fiction writer. Her debut novel, *Flying Without a Net*, was published in November 2016 under the name EM Ben Shaul. When she is not involved in professional word-nerdery, Nomi knits, sews, and performs amateur word-nerdery. She lives in Brookline, MA, with her husband, Michael A. Burstein, and their twin daughters.

### TYLER BUTLER

**LIZ CADEMY** I am a professional polymath, currently employed as a web designer/developer. I also knit, sew, make soap, do graphic arts, and a bit of woodworking – the Maker runs strong in me. I've been teaching Arisia's chainmail workshops for a long time. I live in the Boston suburbs with one of my two children (the other has flown the nest) and a very silly leopard gecko.

### JONATHAN CADEMY-PFEFFER

**MILDRED CADY** Writing, cooking, fandom, costuming, history, gaming, music, kink, polyamory, paganism... a little bit of this and that all combining into a quirky package. Mildred's written works have been a part of the Metamor City and Nobilis Erotica podcasts, as well as occasional appearances on other geeky podcasts.

**KEVIN CAFFERTY** is a documentary filmmaker from Massachusetts. His film, "It's a Bash!" (which is about punk rock), was given four stars by *The Providence Journal*, aired on New England PBS affiliates, and is available on DVD from Midway Pictures. He is currently working on a film about immersive theater. He has been nominated for four Emmy awards, can be followed on Twitter at @kcafferty, and was named "Person of the Year" by *Time Magazine* in 2006.

**JAMES L. CAMBIAS** James L. Cambias's first novel, *A Darkling Sea*, was published by Tor Books in 2014, followed by *Corsair* in 2015. His short stories have appeared in *The Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction*, *Shimmer*, *Nature*, and several anthologies. Mr. Cambias has also written for Steve Jackson Games, Hero Games, and other game companies, and is a partner in Zygoter Games. His new novel, *Arkad's World*, is due out in January 2019 from Baen Books. He blogs at [www.jamescambias.com](http://www.jamescambias.com).

### DAN CANTOR

**SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM,**

**CAROLINGIA** The Society For Creative Anachronism is an inclusive organization that recreates the arts, crafts, combat, and culture of pre-1601 Europe and contact cultures. Carolingia, located in the Greater Boston area, is a Barony within the East Kingdom of the SCA and always has something interesting going on. We welcome your participation!

**MELISSA CARUBIA** Actor, singer, composer, gamer in the Boston area. Musical works include award-winning *T: An MBTA Musical*, *Beneath the Skin* (about mental illness) and a published musical based on Monsterhearts characters. Performance credits include *Ragtime*, *Les Mis* and *The Little Mermaid* with The Company Theatre, as well as writer/performer at ImprovBoston. She enjoys rocking out on keytar with her band Minusworld and playing your boyfriend in RPGs. By day, she's Director of Education for The Company Theatre.

**ROB CASTIELLO**

**MONICA CASTILLO** is a writer and critic based in New York City. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Guardian*, *Variety*, *The Village Voice*, RogerEbert.com, Remezcla, NPR and *The Boston Globe*. She completed her master's at the University of Southern California as the school's first film critic fellow.

**JEANNE CAVELOS** is an award-winning editor, bestselling writer, and director of the Odyssey Writing Workshops Charitable Trust. Jeanne was a senior editor at Bantam Doubleday Dell, where she ran the SF/F and horror programs and won the World Fantasy Award. Jeanne has had seven books published by major publishers, two nominated for the Bram Stoker Award. She is director of Odyssey ([www.odysseyworkshop.org](http://www.odysseyworkshop.org)), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to helping writers of F/SF/H improve their work.

**AURORA CELESTE****HSIU CHANG**

**JULIA "JUICE" CHARTOVE** I'm a Ph.D. student in theoretical neuroscience at BU. Yeah, that's a thing. I study neural circuits, where brain waves come from, and why you can't do anything without dopamine. Maybe by the time Arisia rolls around I'll finally have something published. Also, I'm bigender, autistic, Jewish, an avid cannabis user and legalization advocate, and an aspiring anarchist. Plus, I own two ferrets named Vinaigrette and Parmesan.

**DON CHASE** Author, illustrator, picture-taker and, hopefully, one-day-movie-maker.

**BENJAMIN CHICKA** holds a Ph.D. in philosophy of religion and theology from Claremont Graduate University and is the co-founder of TheoNerd.com. His academic work focuses on the relationship between religion and science, American pragmatism, and religious pluralism. Benjamin has published scholarly work

on astronomy, neuroscience, philosophy, and theology. He writes for more popular audiences at Patheos.com and often speaks at PAX East and other gaming conventions about diversity issues.

**BOB CHIPMAN** is a film critic and entertainment writer for Geek.com and The Escapist, Chairman of the Boston Online Film Critics Association and the creator of *In Bob We Trust*, *The Game Over Thinker*, *The Big Picture*, and *Escape to The Movies*. He has published seven volumes of collected work, along with the full-length gaming analysis book *Super Mario Bros 3: Brick-By-Brick*.

**MARLEE CHONG****DEBI CHOWDHURY**

**MEL CHOYCE** I'm a longtime geek who's been attending conventions for over 18 years. I'm into video gaming (JRPGs and modern ARPGs), sci-fi/fantasy, and anime. Outside of geekdom, I'm a product designer, open source contributor, and craft beer fan. Talk to me about WordPress!

**AMY CHUSED** is a hospitalist and the Medical Director of Clinical Informatics (CMIO) at Sibley Memorial Hospital, with additional interests in palliative care. In her free time, she raises her 3 children, (7, 7, and 3 as of this Arisia), and manages the ongoing cancer care for one of them. In her other free time, of which there isn't much, she also reads SF & F and fanfic, plays boardgames and computer games, debates medical ethics, and waves vaguely at the Arisia Dealers Room.

**LJ COHEN** is a novelist, poet, blogger, ceramics artist, Whovian, and relentless optimist. After almost twenty-five years as a physical therapist, LJ now uses her clinical skills to injure characters in her Science Fiction and Fantasy novels. *A Star in the Void* (*Halcyone Space* Book 5), her 8th novel, was published in 2018. She lives outside Boston with her family, her dogs, and the occasional international student. <http://www.ljcohen.net>

**NATHAN COMSTOCK** is a co-creator of the Fiction podcast "Solutions to Problems," in which he also plays the character of Loaf. He also performs in a number of other fiction podcasts. He was the television editor of "The Analytical Couch Potato" from 2011 until it shut down in 2014. In his day job, he works for Ceaco Jigsaw puzzles and Gamewright games, where his duties include helping evaluate games for potential publication.

**TODD COOPER** is a consummate computer geek. Todd has an BA in Computer Science from Colgate University as well as an MBA and Master's in Computer Science from WPI. Todd travels to Canada frequently and, although a proud USA citizen, can name all the Canadian provinces. Todd is passionate about cutting up nice, plush, soft stuff animals and making them into creative monsters. Todd is also polyamorous and lives in two places at once.

**TOM COURTNEY**

### TAMMY COXEN

**DONALD S. CRANKSHAW** has a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from MIT, which was more useful for writing fantasy than he had expected, though less helpful for writing science fiction than he had hoped. He has previously published stories in *Nature Futures*, *Daily Science Fiction*, and *Black Gate*, and has a story in an upcoming issue of *Intergalactic Medicine Show*. He and his wife, Kristin Janz, publish the webzine *Mysterion*.

**DEIRDRE CRIMMINS** is a now Cleveland-based film and literature critic. Primarily focused on horror film, she also has a place in her heart for science fiction and fantasy. You can find her writing at Birth.Movies.Death, *Rue Morgue Magazine*, and *High Def Digest*.

**JAMES CRONEN** is a nerd-of-all-trades who enjoys running, board gaming, microelectronics, juggling, and making cocktails. He strives to teach his sons to appreciate the finer things in life: Picasso's blue period, Dvorak's Eighth Symphony, wildflowers undulating in a summer breeze, and rolling a natural 20 when you desperately need it. James spends his days writing software and evenings communing with wife Robin, their three boys, and good friends new and old in Troy, NY.

**MORGAN CROOKS** grew up in the Finger Lakes of NY, a beautiful part of the country carved into being by ancient glaciers. He now lives with his wife outside of Boston, and is obsessed with wasps, cosmic horror, and ziggurats. His works have appeared in *Electric Spec*, *Daily Science Fiction*, and *Theme of Absence*. Find him online @raponikoff on Twitter and on ancientlogic.blogspot.com.

**CTEIN** is a photographer and co-author of the NYT bestseller, *Saturn Run*. He and David Gerrold are writing a thriller, *Ripple Effect*. He's known in fandom for his photographs of eclipses, aurora, and space launches (<http://ctein.com>) and helping organize the 1968 Save Star Trek march. He has English and Physics degrees and done pollution research, astronomy, CONTACT worldbuilding, and queer activism. If he grows up, he wants to be a dilettante. He identifies as radical-poly-feminist-bi-queer.

**MJ CUNNIFF** is a Ph.D. candidate in literature at Brown University who works on contemporary poetry, queer theory, thanatology, and science fiction. MJ lives in Providence, Rhode Island with a dog statue and a haunted chandelier.

### MARCO D'ALELIO

**LEO D'ENTREMONT** has been a contributing panelist at Arisia for ten years, speaking on topics ranging from costuming to gender issues to Star Trek to autism. He's a biologist, veteran, published author, EMT, and all-round nerd. He's currently working on a book about gender issues in the United States. If you offer him a nice Scotch, he'll happily sit down with you and talk about almost anything. He's still amazed that his fabulous wife lets him run around at Arisia unsupervised.

**GILLIAN DANIELS** lives, writes, and creates art in Somerville, MA. After attending the 2011 Clarion Writing Workshop, she has had poetry and prose published in *Apex Magazine*, *Beneath Ceaseless Skies*, *Fireside Fiction*, *Strange Horizons*, and other venues, as well as content for indie gaming company Voidspiral Entertainment. She's also a local theater critic with The New England Theatre Geek blog. She blogs and sometimes posts drawings at [www.gilliandaniels.com](http://www.gilliandaniels.com).

### TROY DANIELS

### SCOTT MARCHAND DAVIS

**VIRGINIA "GINNY" DAVIS** An avid gamer (role-playing and miniatures) and reader (Sci-Fi and fantasy, mainly) since early adolescence, Ginny is now an amateur game designer and writer, as the love for the written word has grabbed hold and taken control of her soul. Now she only hopes to find a buyer for what she loves to write so that she may do much more of it. When she isn't writing or working the day job, she is in her shop doing some making for fun and profit...well, mostly fun.

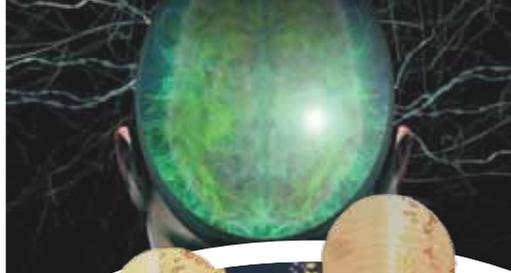
**RANDEE DAWN** Brooklyn-based author Randee Dawn's stories have appeared in outlets including *Fantasia Divinity*, *Well-Told Tales*, the *Children of a Different Sky* and *Where We May Wag* anthologies, among others. She is the author of the short story collection *Home for the Holidays* and co-author of *The Law & Order: SVU Unofficial Companion*. When not making stuff up, she is a journalist who writes for outlets including *Variety*, the *LA Times*, and *The Today Show*. Her Westie, Birdie, says, "Rowf!"

**JULIE C. DAY** has published over thirty stories in magazines such as *Interzone*, *Podcastle*, and *Black Static*. PS Publishing just released her debut collection, *Uncommon Miracles*. Julie's fiction reflects her relish for the esoteric and scientific. She's spent an inordinate amount of time researching such topics as the damselfly *Ichnura hastate* and quantum refrigerators. You can find Julie at @thisjulieday or stillwingingit.com. Café writing and long baths with paper books are also a thing.

**ANGELA DECARLIS** is a classically trained portrait artist, contra dance caller, graphic designer, and jazz singer. Whether she's drawing musicians, scatting vocals at a contra dance, or teaching musicians how to process their experiences through visual art forms like Crankies, you will always find her frolicking at the interstices of her many beloved communities. Her work can be seen online at [www.angeladecarlis.com](http://www.angeladecarlis.com).

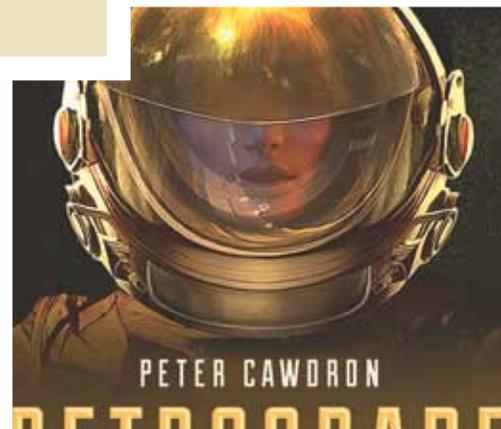
### KELLY DELEW

**DANIEL P. DERN** By day, Daniel P. Dern ([www.dern.com](http://www.dern.com)) is still an independent technology and business writer. His science fiction stories have appeared in *Analog*, *F&SF*, and elsewhere. He's currently writing more YA Jewish urban fantasy stories, including "...And They Built A Crooked Sukkah" and "For Two Zuzim Plain," along with his Dern Grim Bedtime Tales (come hear him in FastTrack!), and more/other sf. He's also an occasional amateur magician (see him in FastTrack!), and still reads comic books.



# THE ARTWORK OF ELIZABETH LEGGETT

*Artist Guest of Honor, Arisia 2019*





**JUST ONE MORE CHAPTER**



WISDOM'S WING



**BEDTIME STORY**



**PEEKABOO!**



**HARBINGER OF WAR**



LANTERN FESTIVAL



**THE QUEEN'S GUARD**

**RAY DIAZ**

**DJ DIRGE** (Allure, Excess, Haven) is known for his raucous parties and genre-defying mixing. Dirge is the resident DJ at several dance nights in and around Boston and New England. Dirge's musical selections range from EBM, IDM, Electro, Dubstep, New Wave, Goth, and Rock. Never one to hold back, Dirge infuses energy and excitement into every event. Dirge is New England's only living-dead DJ, playing music to wake the dead.

**MICHAEL DLOTT** Michael "Lawyer Mike" Dlott has been running games for over 25 years and has frequently run White Wolf LARPs and Dungeons and Dragons games at local area cons such as Arisia and Anime Boston.

**ARI DONNELLY** I am a 26-year-old entertainment professional based in LA, originally from Framingham. I believe being a panelist requires knowledge of the subject, concise expression, and respect for everyone in the room. I am well versed in the Film/TV Industry, Film School and the merits or lack thereof, film vs. digital formats, YouTube and New Media, and a plethora of films and shows. As for public speaking, I previously taught a class called "To Infinity and Beyond: The History of Pixar" with Splash MIT.

**DEBRA DOYLE** is a science fiction and fantasy writer living in northern New England. She has a Ph.D. in English from the University of Pennsylvania and does freelance editorial and critique work when she isn't writing. Her most recent publications – co-written with her husband James D. Macdonald – include the short stories "One Night in Bavari" in *Conspiracy!*, from NESFA Press, and "Gertrude of Wyoming" in *Altered States of the Union*, from Crazy 8 Press.

**MICHELLE DRISCOLL** lives in Western MA with 3 partners (who can be found running Fast Track) and their 3 kids. She has hosted relationship discussion groups of many sorts in the poly and kink worlds, and has been involved in the leadership of Transcending Boundaries, Inc. She identifies as queer, femme, polyamorous, and geek-adjacent.

**SHIRLEY DULCEY**

**GREYKELL (WEREWULF!!) DUTTON** You've seen Greykell before in the morning at coat check, or backstage at the masquerade, and starting in 2017, on random panels. She is a Professional Mom and master of a ridiculous number of eclectic skills and was the Arisia Fan Guest of Honor in 2017. Volunteering is life! Fun is the most important discipline of all!

**DANIEL EARECKSON**

**JONATHAN 'JOHNNY C' EARNEST** Jon is a self-proclaimed budget cosplay specialist. By the powers of Amazon, as well as clothes diving at various second-hand stores and very light sewing capabilities, Jon has amassed a pretty decent

collection of cosplays that he likes to bust out at any convention that he attends. Aside from cosplaying, Jon loves his video games...even if the all the games cheat and he dies more often than he should.

**GENEVIEVE ISEULT ELDREDGE GIE** writes angst-y lesbian urban fantasy YA romance – where girls who are mortal enemies kick butt, take names, and fall in love against all odds. She enjoys long hikes in the woods, believing in fairies (in fact, she's clapping right now), being a self-rescuing princess, and writing diverse books about teenage girls finding love, romance, and their own inner power. She might be planning high tea at the Fae Court right now. Her CIRCUIT FAE series is taking Amazon and Goodreads by storm!

**KEVIN ELDRIDGE** hosts The Flopcast, a ridiculous weekly podcast about comics, conventions, Saturday morning cartoons, '70s and '80s pop culture, and rubber chickens. He has performed at clubs, coffeehouses, and conventions throughout America, both as a podcaster and with his comedy band The Sponge Awareness Foundation, as heard on the Doctor Demento Show. Kevin is also an organizer and event host for Boston Skeptics, a group of nerds promoting science and critical thinking.

**RUTHANNA EMRYS** is the author of the *Innsmouth Legacy* series, including *Winter Tide* and *Deep Roots*. Ruthanna co-writes Tor.com's *Lovecraft Reread* series and writes radically hopeful short stories about religion and aliens and psycholinguistics. She lives in a mysterious manor house on the outskirts of Washington, DC with her wife and their large, strange family. She makes home-made vanilla, gives unsolicited advice, and occasionally attempts to save the world.

**GRIFFIN ESS** Professional illustrator and head-of-nonsense at Shaded Areas Entertainment, Griffin has made it his life's drive to create and facilitate art and entertainment that uplifts, informs, and includes. Check out the art at GriffinEss.com or the articles, shows, and comics at ShadedAreas.com

**PAUL ESTIN**

**ETANA** is an assistive technology specialist, social justice worker and poet. They like glitter, universal design, sewing (poorly) and cruising around like a blind cyborg in C.A.R., the trusty power chair. First fandom was Buffy (the film), first poetic love was Shel Silverstein, and Ms. Frizzle is still their favorite teacher/inspiration (for everything).

**SUSAN FABIJANIC**

**WONDER WENDY FARRELL** is an award-winning costume designer with Wonder Wendy & Friends. She is a member of the Northern Lights Costumers Guild (NOEL). Her fabric hoard is both a source of inspiration and frustration. Her nerd family enjoys travelling to Cons for fun and adventures.

## PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

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**LILLI FEHLER** is a cosplayer, reenactor, theatrical costumer, costume historian, historical seamstress, and holds an MA in historic textile conservation. Her special interests are Spanish traditional costume, 19th century costume, and early female physicians, especially those who served in the military. She has won awards for her costumes at Arisia, Anime Boston, and New York Comic Con. Find her on Instagram @albinoshadowfire or at daughtersofaesclepius.blogspot.com

**ALEX FEINMAN** hacks hackers for a living; he helps design a programming language used by millions worldwide. His sci-fi thriller, *Duplicate*, and cyberpunk series *We Were Gods* are available online.

**FEKLAR42** I am a fan of crushing the patriarchy and fighting the spread of banality. Otherwise, I enjoy science fiction and fantasy pro- and fanworks—TV, movies, books, comics, anime, cartoons, costuming, games, fanfiction, fanvids, you name it, I will check it out. I would happily spend hours a day in coffee shops fancasting books and comics, or debating who's boinking whom, who's doing shots with whom, and, of course, who would beat whom in karaoke. FTR, the answer to all three is Xena.

### SARA FELIX

**MR. FERGUSON** is a math teacher at a school for students with above average intelligence and emotional differences. He is also a youth sword instructor, so please ask him if you want your children to learn the knightly art of the sword. AND he is a storyteller with over 25 years' experience, although some would say the first ten years don't count because he wasn't over 18 yet.

**KRISTINA FINAN** Kristina Finan has been sewing and costuming since 1982, a Doctor Who fan since 1979, and a Science Fiction fan since she saw the first man walk on the moon, live. Now she attempts to write about it. Don't get her wrong, she still sews, keeps a full-time job as a Custom Framers, and a part-time job keeping a husband.

**ROBERT B. FINEGOLD, M.D.** is a retired radiologist from Maine whose stories of science fiction, fantasy, and Yiddishkeit have appeared in print and online magazines as well as anthologies since 2011. He is the consultant editor for *Myths, Legends, and Fairy Tales* at the ezine *Cosmic Roots and Eldritch Shores*. His blog/website is [www.robertbfinegold.com](http://www.robertbfinegold.com).

**ALLISON FINN** is a scarred veteran of many a decade of con running, and a semi-professional photographer. An avid film and media collector specializing in Asian and British science fiction and horror.

### FISH

**GREG R. FISHBONE** is the author of books for young readers including the *Galaxy Games* series of sporty sci-fi novels written with space opera flair, featuring a team of Earth kids competing against aliens across the Milky Way. His current project is a

historical fantasy set in the Late Bronze Age Mycenaean culture based on traditional stories from across the Mediterranean Basin. More info at [gfishbone.com](http://gfishbone.com)

### GINGER FITZSIMMONS

### JESSE FLACK

### JOHN FRALEY

**DAVID J. FRIEDMAN** is a practicing attorney that helps people understand and solve legal challenges facing their businesses. A co-author of legal reference guides, his books discuss intellectual property, privacy, speech, and related issues. Separately, David has over a decade of professional experience as a visual and performing artist and arts teacher. David is proud to argue, play with toys, and throw things for a living and has dedicated his life to helping people mind their own businesses.

**LENA G.** is thrilled to be attending Arisia again after three years away. She is science nerd, bookworm, video gamer. She loves anything involving pirates, Harry Potter, Assassin's Creed, and Once Upon a Time.

**KEN GALE'S** first published story, "Swords in the World Series," was recently reprinted by Dark Horse, and he also had sales to DC Comics. He had an eco-horror story in *Psychosis #2*. He's editor and co-publisher of *Dangerous Times and New Frontiers for Evolution Comics*, a producer and host for two radio shows on WBAI-FM in NYC: one on ecology and one on comic books. He was on the Board of the Celtic League American Branch and a former math textbook writer. [www.comicbookradioshow.com](http://www.comicbookradioshow.com) and [ecoradio.org](http://ecoradio.org).

**JAIME GARMENDIA** was the Convention Chair of Arisia 2018. He is also a member of the Boston Comics Roundtable where he writes, produces, publicizes, and markets independent comics of all genres. His first published game is the Wuxing Empire expansion for Your Move Games' Battleground tactical tabletop wargame. He has run both the Programming and Exhibits Divisions in past years. In his secret identity, he is a lifelong public servant.

**DR. PAMELA GAY** is an astronomer, writer, and podcaster focused on using new media to engage people in science and technology. She is a senior scientist at the Planetary Science Institute and the director of the CosmoQuest online research facility. Through [CosmoQuest.org](http://CosmoQuest.org), she engages people in learning and doing science. Join me as we map our Solar System in unprecedented detail through our citizen science projects, and learn astronomy through media productions like Astronomy Cast.

**JULIA GILSTEIN** is a fantasy writer, editor, medievalist, tea addict, and cosplayer. She is the Pride Activities Coordinator for New England Aces, and a member of the Boston Speculative Fiction Writing Group (B-Spec), Boston Sci-Fi/Fantasy Meetup, Boston Shakespeare Lovers, and Dress Up Boston.

When her nose isn't buried in a book, Julia can often be found procrastinating on Etsy, perusing the NaNoWriMo forums, and petting all the good doggos. Keep up with Julia on Twitter @JGilstein.

**TANYA GOLD** is a book editor, writing coach, and literary omnivore with a thing for plastic dinosaurs. She's worked on all kinds of cool books over the years. These days, she edits fiction, creative nonfiction, and poetry. It has been suggested that she owns too many dictionaries for her own good. [www.TanyaGold.com](http://www.TanyaGold.com)

**TIMOTHY O. GOYETTE** was born, raised, and lives in New Hampshire. He is the Editor of Quantum Muse, and online webzine. He runs the online writing groups at Quantum Muse. He is also the editor of Quantum Muse Books. He has a collection of short stories titled *Digital Voodoo* and a far-future science fiction novel, *Lockdown*.

## DAVE GREEN

**LUCKY GRIM** Cosplayer with 20 years of sewing experience, with 10 of those as a professional crafter. With multiple major awards under her belt, she now travels the world teach gin the art of cosplay.

## MICHAEL GRIVAKIS

## JENNIFER GROVER

## ADRIAN GUNN

## CAREN GUSOFF

**SID HACKNEY** is a software engineer (read: professional nerd) and an admin for the occasionally-rabid fan group The Boston Whovians! Though largely composed of cat hair, Sid is indeed human and a long-time fan of all things geek. One-time artists alley artist and avid cosplayer, they have played through the entirety of Resident Evil 5—twice.

**ABBY HAFER** is an Anatomy & Physiology professor. She has a D.Phil. in zoology from Oxford University and gives frequent public lectures debunking Creationism, Intelligent Design, and the gender binary. Her new book, *Darwin's Apostles*, (out in 2019), tells about the scientists who came together around Charles Darwin, who fought to have evolution accepted. Her previous works include *The Not-So-Intelligent Designer*, and chapters in *Women v. Religion* and *Christianity in the Light of Science*.

**JAMES HAILER** is a writer, artist, and adventurer born and raised in Boston, Massachusetts. He's written two independent comics; the latest, *Myanmar Folk Tales*, came out late last year. Apart from his comic creation, he also writes the occasional short story and is translating Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. In the spare moments between work and more different work, James is known for voracious reading, study of all knowledge and a wit that's so lit it's got to be legit.

**ANDREA HAIRSTON** is author of *Will Do Magic For Small Change*, finalist for the Mythopoeic Award, Lambda Award, Tiptree Award, and a New York Times Editor's pick. Other novels include: *Redwood and Wildfire*, a Tiptree and Carl Brandon Award winner, and *Mindscape*, winner of Carl Brandon Award. She has also published essays, plays, and short fiction and received grants from the NEA, Rockefeller Foundation, and Ford Foundation. Andrea is a Professor of Theatre and Africana Studies at Smith College.

**KATIE HALLAHAN** is a Boston native and an award-winning game designer, co-owner, and co-founder of Phoenix Online Studios. A lifelong gamer and writer who never met a tragic backstory she didn't want to expand upon, she's perhaps best known for being an incorrigible snarker and frequently playing the sensible one. Also a TV junkie and reviewer of *The Walking Dead* and *Fear the Walking Dead* for 411mania.com. In her day job, Katie masquerades as a mild-mannered website editor and content strategist.

**PHILLIP HALLAM-BAKER** A member of the CERN team that developed the World Wide Web, Dr Hallam-Baker is a leading designer of cryptographic protocols. In his spare time, he builds daleks and TARDISEs and is trying to finish a Han in Carbonite.

**FOREST HANDFORD** is a fire artist from Berlin, MA. Forest works as an Engineering Manager at Affectiva. While not at work, she's bringing her family on wacky adventures. Her website is [EastCoastGames.com](http://EastCoastGames.com), where she publishes video and writings about various topics. Forest recently founded [VoteSquared.org](http://VoteSquared.org), the site for rating politicians. Forest has published a novel called *Cyber Revolution* about gender equity in tech and how tech companies can fight against bad governments.

## KEEGAN HANNON

**SHANA JEAN HAUSMAN** is usually wearing a nerdy t-shirt, and yes, they are happy to tell you all about it. Shana works at Porter Square books, where they promote comics, science fiction and fantasy, especially ones from diverse authors about diverse characters. If you want queer or gender-nonconforming protagonists, they have you covered. They have a special soft spot for franchise spin-off books. They've been in fandom most of their lives, and wrote their thesis in college about cosplay and gender.

**ROSE HAYES** is an engineering director at Google, where she has led a variety of machine intelligence projects, including the Knowledge Graph. She's been an avid science fiction fan since she was 8 years old and attended her first science fiction convention at the age of 16 (Boskone, as Arisia did not exist yet). She is active in LGBTQ rights and serves on the board of two national LGBTQ rights organizations. She lives in San Francisco with her partner and two floofy cats.

**REV. JOHNNY HEALEY** is a professional software engineer and hobbyist electronic musician. His professional interests include programming languages and internet security. As a musician, his style revolves around drone ambient, noise, and generative music.

**JEFF HECHT** writes about science and technology for magazines including *New Scientist*, *Laser Focus World*, *IEEE Spectrum*, *Nature*, and *Sky & Telescope* on topics from planetary science and lasers to dinosaurs. His latest book, *Lasers, Death Rays, and the Long Strange Quest for the Ultimate Weapon*, is just out from Prometheus Books. His short fiction has appeared in *Nature Futures*, *Analog*, *Asimov's*, *Daily Science Fiction*, *Twilight Zone*, *Interzone*, *Odyssey*, and several anthologies.

**JAMES HENDERSON**

**TAYLOR HEFFERNAN**

**ALEC HELLER**

**SARA HENYA** is a singer-songwriter and harpist based in Philadelphia. She grew up in fandom, and her music is heavily influenced by fantasy. Her debut album, "Small World Alchemy," has been embraced by the folk community, receiving widespread radio play on folk radio programs in the US and internationally. When she's not playing music, Sara enjoys books, movies, gaming, and costuming.

**LISA HERTEL** is an artist who works in clay and watercolors, but also uses alcohol inks, encaustics (painting with wax), and more. In her spare time, she helps run science fiction conventions, including being the chair of Arisia 2014. Before becoming an artist, Lisa was a pharmacist for over 25 years. Visit her, along with 300 other artists, at Western Avenue Studios in Lowell, in Studio #109, where she offers art classes for children and adults.

**ANDY HICKS** needs to update his bio. Hopefully he'll remember to do this before the convention starts.

**JED HICKSON**

**ELLIE HILLIS** is an essayist, game designer, comics historian, and cosplayer. A graduate of Smith College, she wrote her senior thesis, *The Surviving Superheroines*, with Professor N. C. Christopher Couch. She works professionally in television in Western Massachusetts and is a co-founder at Density Media, and a motivating force behind the Zine Games movement; she has written and created a variety of RPGs. You can find her writing at [elliehillis.com](http://elliehillis.com).

**LEE C. HILLMAN (GWENDOLYN GRACE)** Since dying at the age of 13 months, "Gwenly" has amassed a number of vocations, including author, editor, actor, singer, songwriter, conference planner, administrator, role-player, fanfic writer, SCA Laurel, and big damn geek. A native of western New York and proud Bostonian for many years, she was most recently spotted

as an independent contractor in Pittsburgh, where she hopes her genderfluid, atheist, bisexual liberal vote will make more of a difference. She finds pronoun choice stressful.

**NAOMI HINCHEN** is a video game developer who lives in Cambridge. She fills up her spare time by having far too many hobbies, including theater, singing and playing music, cooking, square dancing, and various forms of writing. She also occasionally blogs at <https://asinclinationleadsme.wordpress.com/>, usually about various bits of pop culture.

**JAMES HINSEY** is a lifelong lover of science fiction, fantasy, books, movies, tv-shows, anime, '80s music, women, root beer, chocolate, Hawaii, Japan, and family. He is half-Japanese, a reader, Potterhead, Trekker, Browncoat, Costumer, book-collector, model-maker, videographer, con-goer, RISFC member, Sci-Fi Journal co-host, Psi Upsilon brother, RPI alum, former naval officer, brother, son, uncle, husband, and father of two young women. He is currently Arisia '19's Masquerade Director. SamuraiX47.

**STEVEN HIRSCH** has a doctorate in Physical Therapy and B.S. in Exercise & Health Sciences. He has been training with swords since 2006 and unarmed martial arts since 1998, first with the Higgins and now teaching at his own school, Athena School of Arms. Steven is also a professional strength coach focusing on performance for combat sports and martial artists; his business is Fight with All Your Strength.

**MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL**

**SWORDSMANSHIP** began at the Higgins Armory Museum in 2009 and moved to Worcester Fencing Club and Pioneer Valley Fencing Academy (Easthampton) after the Museum's closing. MHS is a community of men and women exploring the art, science, and spirit of the sword and other weapons as they were used in both serious combat and friendly encounters. We study knightly longsword and dagger, the Renaissance rapier, and the classical stick, staff, and dueling sabre. The class is led by Dr. Ken Mondschein, who has the unique qualifications of holding both a PhD in history and a fencing master's certification. Dr. Mondschein is an internationally known scholar in this field.

**MERAV HOFFMAN** wears a lot of hats, including producer, technologist, archivist, writer, editor, game designer, event planner, singer-songwriter, poet, activist, traveler, and community elder. She also dabbles in costuming, crochets a lot of things, reads a lot, recommends comics and video games, and is vice president of a charity. Merav lives in NJ with her family.

**ANASTASIA HOLT** I have been sewing for 18 years, I have been competing and costuming for about 12 years. I have learned many techniques from the many mentors and friends I possess. I am constantly learning about different things like armor and beading. I am still honing my skills as a costumer and am always eager to teach others what I know. I have recently been getting more and more interested in historical costuming as well as more interested in original designs.

**MELISSA HONIG** is the lead organizer for the Watch City Steampunk Festival in Waltham, MA, and likes to hang out with the New England Browncoats and the Boston SciFi/Fantasy Meetup Group. She enjoys steampunk, costuming, weird crafts, and playing with the stuff she finds while trying to clean up the craft room so she doesn't have to finish cleaning up.

**SOL HOUSER** has been attending Arisia for five years (since relocating from California to Boston), but has been suddenly thrust into the thick of things this time around! They are a fat, disabled, non-binary queer mainly focused on experiencing & enjoying media & fandom through the lenses of those identities and experiences. Other interests include being a hamster & pigeon parent, eating, & sleeping—and yes, they take those last two quite seriously.

**ARIELA HOUSMAN** works in tech by day and moonlights as a professional calligrapher and scribe. In 2016 she founded Geek Calligraphy to bring her day job and night jobs together. A geek of many flavors, Ariela consumes SFF in most media, including novels, comics, TV, and movies. She also enjoys tabletop games, costuming, swing dancing, smashing the kyriarchy, and drinking tea.

**DIANA HSU** has been involved with conventions of one sort or another since 2005, and has been speaking about issues around race, feminism, and social justice in fan spaces since 2011. She is also the Convention Chair for Arisia 2020. Maybe you saw her on TV that one time.

## DEA HUNSICKER

**WALTER H. HUNT** is a Massachusetts SF and historical fiction writer. He was author GOH in 2009. His four novels in the “Dark Wing” Universe are available in the Baen e-book library; a Templar novel (*A Song In Stone*), two about mesmerism (*Elements of Mind* and *Harmony In Light*, both from Wordfire Press), and a novel in the Ring of Fire universe with Eric Flint (*1636: The Cardinal Virtues*). He is working on several new projects. He is librarian for the Masonic Grand Lodge in Boston.

**RICHARD HURLEY DVM** As a veterinarian and scientist, I have been involved in biomedical research for over 30 years. I currently work at a large research hospital affiliated with Harvard Medical School and have authored numerous articles published in research journals in the areas of parasitology, infectious disease and anesthesiology. My wife and I have also developed a flock of over 400 sheep that have been bred and raised to be free of most diseases commonly found in sheep and goats.

## JIM INFANTINO

## FELICITAS IVEY

**ALEXANDER JABLOKOV'S** most recent published story was “How Sere Picked Up Her Laundry,” the first of a series of novellas. The next one is coming out in the Jan/Feb *Asimov's*. His most recent novel is *Brain Thief*, a fast-paced AI-hunting

adventure. He is the author of five other novels, including *Carve the Sky*, *Nimbus*, and *Deepdrive*, and a number of short stories. His website is [www.ajablokov.com](http://www.ajablokov.com). He lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**VICTORIA JANSSEN** reviews for *Publishers Weekly*. Her last novel, *The Duke and the Pirate Queen*, is fantasy erotica from Harlequin (2010). “Still Marching,” her most recent short story, appears in *Best Lesbian Erotica of the Year, Volume 3*. For a full publications list, visit [victoriajanssen.com](http://victoriajanssen.com). Other interests include fanfiction, fan studies, comics, classic Doctor Who, World War One, choral singing, and fighting the patriarchy. She's on Twitter @victoriajanssen.

**KRISTIN JANZ** was born in Vancouver, Canada, and has since moved across the continent three times, most recently to the Boston area in 1998. She is a Clarion West graduate whose fiction has appeared in *Escape Pod*, *Daily Science Fiction*, and *On Spec*. Along with her husband, Donald S. Crankshaw, she is a co-editor/publisher of online magazine *Mysterion* – featuring stories that engage meaningfully with Christianity from a variety of perspectives.

**KONNER JEBB** is a 25-year-old writer, LGBT activist and nerd. MFA graduate of the Solstice Program of Pine Manor, he dreams of using his poetry and novels to better the community. He is an Admin of the Boston Whovians. Lover of geektastic things, he lives with his partner, hedgehog, cats, and so many books.

**FRED JENNINGS** is a lawyer and hacker who represents clients in cybercrime and digital privacy cases across the country. He also handles copyright and trademark matters, security and privacy advising, and digital forensics. Prior to working in cybersecurity and IP law, he was Lead Researcher at the International Legal Foundation, an international NGO that champions access to legal counsel in post- and mid-conflict countries. He is general counsel for an occult bookstore in Brooklyn, New York.

## DANIEL JENSEN

**DEBORAH KAMINSKI** is Professor Emerita of Mechanical Engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. She is the author of over 80 peer-reviewed articles in technical journals, an invited article in the *New York Times*, a featured article in *Science*, with associated podcast, and an engineering textbook published by John Wiley & Sons. Her first novel is *Damian's Workshop*. She lives with her family in Slingerands, NY.

## PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

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**KATE KAYNAK** was born and raised in New Jersey, but she managed to escape. After serving a 5-year sentence in grad school, she taught psychology around the world for University of Maryland. While in Turkey, she started a conversation with a handsome stranger in an airport... and ended up marrying him. They now live in New Hampshire with their three kids, where she founded Spencer Hill Press in 2010 and wrote the Ganzfield series. She now facilitates leadership programs with The Jennings Group.

**MEGAN KEARNS** is a film critic and the Managing Editor of Bitch Flicks. Her work has also appeared at Women and Hollywood, Bitch Media, Silver Century Foundation, and Everyday Feminism, among other sites and publications. She's also a feminist vegan and a life-long sci-fi fan.

**ABIGAIL KEENAN** is a big ol' nerd and a connoisseur of all things geeky and/or kinky. They are the owner of Untamed Undies, a feminist and geeky company that provides undies, pasties and toys for folks across the gender spectrum. They write a blog about sex ed and are currently in the process of publishing their first poetry collection.

**JEFF KELLER** is a Boston-area song session leader, chantey singer, and occasional filker who has been working to expand, enrich, and revitalize Music Track since Arisia 2012. He's also a vintage dancer, the founder of the local vintage dance band (the Ad Hoc Waltz and Quadrille Band), and has done time as a member of the Arisia technical crew and as Music Track Manager as well as creating and running the Minstrel Program.

### JUSTIN KELLEY

**RACHEL KENLEY** is storyteller, muse and pleasure researcher. She loves retail therapy, anything to do with the movie *The Wizard of Oz*, and inspiring others to look into their own stories to find what they desire most. She is the author of several novels, most recently the *Melusine's Daughters* mermaid trilogy. She is also the co-host of Dragons, Unicorns, and Other Creative Creatures on YouTube (and NH cable TV) and can be found online at [www.rachelkenley.net](http://www.rachelkenley.net).

**WILLIAM KENNEDY** costumes at the master level and has competed on the national and international stage. William also created professional haunted attraction sets and props for a for-charity haunted attraction. In the professional world, William is a social worker and provided clinical outreach work for at-risk youth.

**PAUL KENWORTHY** Paul is a military historian and re-enactor with special expertise in late medieval and renaissance polearm combat including armored combat. He was one of the co-founders of the Higgins Armory Sword Guild, a group that interprets historical fencing texts, In the summer he is a National Park Service Ranger at a 17th century historical site, and in the

winter, he teaches at Worcester State University. He relaxes by practicing *kyudo*, traditional Japanese archery.

**ANGELA KESSLER** In an effort to make all the things, Angela Kessler has so far tried sewing, crochet, knitting, needle felting, embroidery, bookbinding, rugbraiding, woodburning, cheesemaking, canning, glass etching, lucet cord, and tablet weaving (varying from a single completed project through decades of experience). She also enjoys morris dance, Kalevala storytelling, and singing. She has studied but has not yet gotten around to actually trying shoemaking, soapmaking, wet felting, and dyeing.

**JEREMY H KESSLER** lives in Greater Boston where he is an instigator, singer, morris dancer, musician, cheesemaker, drinker, and co-developer of the only known kosher boar's head. He co-runs local traditional sings like pub and chantey sings. He is the squire of the only Greater Boston morris team to dance the AntiMorris. He danced the AntiMorris for Terry Pratchett himself, and is quite proud that said author described it—in Wintersmith's author's note—as “a bit creepy”.

### GERALD KIELPINSKI

**CATT KINGSGRAVE-ERNSTEIN** Born in 1967, Catt Kingsgrave-Ernstein has not yet managed to shuffle off the mortal coil, though not for want of trying, apparently. She writes (fiction, music, poetry, recipes, and the occasional political rant), draws, paints, sings, dances, cooks, builds and repairs houses, and occasionally makes an outright fool of herself when confronted with her intellectual heroes. She also has Opinions. No, wait! Don't run!

**KEN KINGSGRAVE-ERNSTEIN** is a Systems Engineer with a strong problem-solving background by day. At night, on the weekends, and especially at conventions, he is a photographer, costumer, crafter, kinkster, and occasional stage technician.

### LISA KOCH

**ASHER KORY** is a former literary agent turned software developer. They are a costumer, homebrewer, circus and muay thai enthusiast, and they are a member of the 501st Legion and Rebel Legion Star Wars costuming organizations. They play for Boston Roller Derby as Jedi Mind Trix.

### JOSHUA KRONENGOLD

**SIOBAN KRZYWICKI** I've had my first short story published in the *Hidden Youth* anthology. I've been helping run Readercon in various roles and am now the Readercon conchair.

**AMY KUCHARIK** Better known as a ukulele-slinging singer-songwriter and bandleader, Amy has been a sought-after DJ for swing and blues dance events on the local and national scene since around 2010. She can be found frequently at Blues Union

on Thursday nights, behind the DJ booth or on the dance floor, and has DJed for dancers from Burlington, VT to Dallas, TX. She obsesses over collecting early 20th Century blues and jazz, along with musical instruments, art supplies, books, and cosplay pieces.

**ADRIA KYNE** is a voracious reader of SFF, LARPer (runs a guild at Bicolline, mostly NPCs local NE games, was a professor for the first run of Magischola), cosplayer (steampunk Black Widow won a Hall Award a few years back, she's still proud). Claim to G-list fame: was on ABC's LARP-adjacent reality show "The Quest."

**MARNEN LAIBOW-KOSER** is a composer and multi-instrumentalist, performing actively at concerts, theater productions, and folk dances in the Boston and New York areas. When not doing that, he can be found developing software, reading about the dark corners of linguistics, engaging in corpus analysis on the Voynich Manuscript, knitting fun lacy stuff, or doing weird kinky things with consenting partners. For more information, check out <http://www.marnen.org/>!

**EMILY LAM** is a whimsical wanderer. Currently, she is pursuing a Ph.D. in electrical engineering. Her interests are ever-changing, but they currently include climbing, biking, and running – aka avoiding screens – and not quite fantastical or science fiction-related. Oops. Current book bag book: *The Wise Man's Fear*; lab desk book: *Norse Mythology*; bedside book: *The Strange Case of the Alchemist's Daughter*.

### BRYAN LARKIN

**DAVID LAROCHELLE** builds systems to solve hard problems and answer complex questions using a pragmatic approach of pulling techniques and tools from different areas and applying them in new ways. His involvement with fandom began when he joined the William & Mary Science Fiction and Fantasy Club (SKIFFY). He served as Vice President and was named Senator for Life upon graduation.

**CASSANDRA LEASE** is a Boston native and lifelong geek who writes on AO3 as Themiscyra, cosplays as Amazon Pink, and sculpts handmade clay charms and oddments. Her favorite fandoms include Star Trek, Power Rangers, Seanan McGuire/Mira Grant, Wonder Woman, and Disney (especially The Little Mermaid). In her spare time, she enjoys playing tabletop RPGs and first-person shooters, visiting theme parks, devouring horror stories and films, and hanging with her cats.

**LB LEE** is a multifarious entity who was raised by imaginary wolves in a subconscious barn. They make mental health comics, draw pretty pictures, and write stories about reality melting. You should talk to them.

**SCOTT LEFTON** makes and sells artwork in media including metal, wood, glass, and Photoshop, is occasionally serious about photography, and works as a freelance mechanical designer and

patent agent. He lives in a big old Victorian house in Melrose, MA with his wife Rachel.

**ELIZABETH LEGGETT** is a published writer and a multiple Hugo-award-winning artist. Her clients represent a broad range of outlets, from Grammy winning audiobook company Skyboat Media, to multiple Hugo award-winning *Lightspeed Magazine* to multiple Lambda Literary winner, Lethe Press. In 2017, she had a one-woman gallery showing at George R.R. Martin's theater, the Jean Cocteau. She art directed both *Women Destroy Fantasy* and *Queers Destroy Science Fiction*, both under the *Lightspeed* banner.

**DAVID LEUNG** is the president of Boston Lightsaber Stage Combat Club, a lightsaber stage combat troupe. Dave draws on his background in competitive ballroom dancing and teaching karate to motivate and refine choreography.

### TIM LEWANDOWSKI

**MEGAN LEWIS** is a librarian/archivist in a museum and thus has many books. She has a great fondness for biographical dictionaries. As a crocheter, she has participated in several collaborative projects. Megan's attended Arisia for over a decade and works Art Show (come buy some art!)

### JULIAN LIGHTON

### MICHELLE LIGUORI

**GORDON LINZNER** is founder and editor emeritus of *Space and Time Magazine*; author of several novels and scores of short stories; freelance editor; licensed New York City tour guide; and front man for Saboteur Tiger blues band. His latest story appears in the forthcoming anthology, *Release the Virgins*.

**JESI LIPP** has been in fandom their entire life—they attended their first convention before they were born. Their geeky interests include Harry Potter, theatre, D&D, and conrunning. Jesi works as a grants accountant at the rape crisis center in Kansas City, engaging their love of data and numbers, as well as their passion for social justice and intersectional feminism. Jesi is non-binary, asexual, and biromantic.

**BHADRIKA LOVE** What I am: A psych nurse. A psych NP, even. Short, pink, bi, cis. What I do: Knit. And write. Teach. Play games. But mostly knit. And bake bread. What I have: Too many pets. Multiple calendars. Lots of boots. Issues. Way too much yarn. A plan. What I want: Happy, strong offspring. Cinnamon. Hugs. Silliness. What I need: To look forward, not back. Also noticing here and now would be helpful.

**MIKE LUOMA** writes and publishes science fiction and comic books, produces the Glow-in-the-Dark Radio podcast, and can be found daily on internet radio WBKM.org – Burlington's Kinda Music. After releasing his *Vatican Assassin* Trilogy, Mike began *The Adventures of Alibi Jones*, including *Alibi Jones and The Hornet's Nest*, his most recent novel. Graphic Novels include *Good Samaritan: Unto Dust, Introducing...RED Hot!*, and more. Info at MikeLuoma.com / glowinthedarkradio.com.

**CORINNE LUZ** is an artist, writer, and film podcaster living in Salem, MA. She is a regular contributor to Salem Horror (www.salemhorror.com) and can be heard on the podcast CinemaSpection (www.CinemaSpection.com). Under the pseudonym Quill Shiv, her fiction has appeared in several anthologies, including *Choose Wisely: 35 Women Up to No Good* (eds H. L. Nelson and Joanne Merriam). She can be contacted on Facebook: Corinne Luz, Twitter: @WithSharpThings, or by email: MadeWithSharpThings@gmail.com.

**JAMES MACDONALD** is a science fiction and fantasy writer living in northern New England. When not writing novels or running as an EMT with the local ambulance squad, he blogs at Absolute Write.com and does stage magic. His most recent publications—co-written with Debra Doyle—include the short stories “One Night in Bavari” in *Conspiracy!*, from NESFA Press, and “Gertrude of Wyoming” in *Altered States of the Union*, from Crazy 8 Press.

**ALLY E. MACHATE** is a bestselling book collaborator, award-winning editor, and expert publishing consultant leading serious authors toward publishing success since 1999. She takes pride in serving as their books' best ally with a variety of services and specialties informed by her “Big Five” publishing background and experience with independent bestsellers. Grab Ally's free gifts and learn more at www.thewritersally.com.

**RACHEL MACPHEE**

**ZOE MADONNA**

**AARON MARKS** In his day job, Aaron works in the energy sector, most recently in the emerging technology space for a major utility. In his free time, though, Aaron is an avid gamer, publishing advice, reviews, and opinions about tabletop roleplaying games under the nom de plume “Level One Wonk” for Cannibal Halfling Gaming. Aaron has been roleplaying for nearly 18 years, and dabbles in video games, board games, and LARP as well. Aaron's other hobbies include writing, bicycling, and auto and bicycle repair.

**DAN "GRIM" MARSH** is a member of the Society of Creative Anarchism as Grim the Skald; at this point pretty much just his family and co-workers call him “Dan.” He considers himself knowledgeable in the following things, in order of how much he knows: Norse Poetry, Norse Culture, Alliterative Poetry in

general (particularly Old English and 14th Century), Medieval (particularly English) poetry in general, Medieval costuming, and Medieval/Renaissance combat. Yes, he likes to fight, but he likes poetry a lot.

**SHELLEY MARSH** Rocket scientist by day; cook, knitter, spinner, seamstress, actress, model, singer, aerialist, and weaver by night. Yes, she sleeps; she just has a messy house.

**MARIANNA MARTIN PH.D.** A PhD in Cinema and Media studies and founder of Genretastic.com, Marianna's lifelong fascination with the structures of genre storytelling led to an abiding love of everything pertaining to Marvel—and a dissertation on framing genre theory in contexts like Marvel! After an interlude working in Development in the US film and television industry, she left to pursue her own projects. She now splits her time amongst her editorial duties at Genretastic, cons, and completing her debut SF novel.

**SHAWN MARTINEAU**

**MILO MARTINEZ** is a semi-professional costumer living in Cambridge. His interests include leather working, costuming technology, craftwork (armor, casting, etc.), and villainy. An avid maker since childhood, he uses mixed media and unconventional approaches to solve costuming challenges.

**REBECCA MAXFIELD** is a fantasy fan, theatre director, and coder living in Providence, RI. She's interested in how media/narrative form serves or affects the stories we tell (and especially in liveness in theatre), in the ways real-life history was more diverse than you think, and in stories about women crossdressing to do epic stuff (and possibly become involved with other women).

**ALAN MCAVINNEY**

**JOHN G. MCDAID'S** fiction has appeared in *Asimov's* and *F&SF*. He attended Clarion in 1993 and sold his first story, the Sturgeon Award-winning “Jigoku no mokushiroku,” in 1995. In 2017, he won both the topical and Iron Filker' songwriting contests at the Ohio Valley Filk Fest. Since retiring from a corporate communications job, he divides his time among writing, music, and political activism in Rhode Island. For fiction and mp3s, visit <http://harddeadlines.com>.

**CRAIG R MCDONOUGH**

**MEG MCGINLEY** is a professional geek, in that order. By day, she dons business suits, fights for under privileged children and fills brains of college students as a professor. By night she makes games with her business partners at Games by Play Date that focus on fun and social justice. One of her hobbies is high-fiving strangers. Help a nerd out!

**LIAM MCGLOHON**

**ASHLEY MCKHANN**

**KEVIN MCLAUGHLIN** is a USA Today bestselling author of science fiction and fantasy novels, with over thirty books published. He has been a speaker at Boskone, Dragon Con, the Nebula Conference, 20Books, and other events. He believes in giving back to the writing community that helped him out during the early days of his career, so he uses his experience and success to boost others that the chain of writers helping writers continues unbroken.

**MICHAEL MEISSNER** Professionally, I am a computer programmer and I work on enhancing the Gnu compiler collection. As a hobby, I am into digital photography, and I've been the official photographer for some of the small renaissance faires in the area. Around 2010 I started thinking about how to disguise my cameras when at faire. Around the same time, I discovered steampunk, and I have made many variations of steampunk and dieselpunk cameras, incorporating my current digital cameras into my various props.

**JONATHAN MENDOZA** is loudly and—proudly—a pile of geek, nerd, and weeaboo trash. He has participated across the country in multiple facets of nerddom, including convention staff, choir vocals on video game soundtracks and as communications lead for a Tabletop RPG nonprofit. He is currently a graduate student at Lesley University in the field of Drama Therapy, aiming to integrate traditional theatrical and drama therapy language and techniques with role-playing gaming.

**PENNY MESSIER** Self-proclaimed geek and couch potato Penny never seems to find enough time in the day for the latter... In an exclusive interview with said couch, interviewers found a very disgruntled sofa: "She's always gone! Her driver's seat gets more attention than I do! That's it, the water bed and I are going on strike!"... Hi, my name is Penny and I would like to apologize for my couch; it's normally a very nice sofa but lately it gone a bit flat. Anyways this is me quirky but fun!!!

**DALE MEYER-CURLEY**

**DANNY MILLER** is a local attorney and all-around SF/F fan since high school who has always seen Arisia as his home convention. He used to have several pieces printed in the local Jewish paper, some even relating to SF/F, and some even paying; he is currently in grad school for a perpendicular change in his career. He once turned the tap dance into his crusade, and enjoys proselytizing the uninitiated into the worlds of assorted geekery. (Or, at least getting them to come to a pub trivia event.)

**MARK MILLMAN** is a member of the Salem Zouaves/Salem Trayned Band military re-enactment unit, which portrays citizen militias of the 1630s and the early 1860s, and of the Commonwealth Vintage Dancers, New England's premier vintage-dance company, which performs dances of the Federal, Civil War, Gilded Age, Ragtime, and Roaring Twenties eras. Both groups make their own historically accurate clothing and perform period movement disciplines. He is also a long-time HEMA student and teacher.

**TROY MINKOWSKY** is a published comic book writer, stand-up comedian, and director. The pilot for his webseries "Superlife" can be viewed on Youtube. He is currently working on the short film "The Garden."

**MIKE MISEPH** Way back in 1991, Mike got a Game Boy for Christmas, and ever since that fateful day he's been a gamer and a geek. He currently lives in Western Massachusetts.

**KEN MONDSCHHEIN** is a Ph.D. in medieval history, college professor, and author, as well as (fittingly for a historian of the Middle Ages and Renaissance) a fencing master and joustier.

**RICHARD MOORE** Presently, I am an instructor teaching data science, cloud computing and Hadoop courses. Previously I have held a number of different technology jobs. More importantly, I have volunteered at every Arisia, and a few other conventions too.

**SARAH MOREHOUSE** is an ugly bag of mostly water. Do not tamper, bend, fold, spindle, or mutilate (without consent.) If found, please return to her four cats, purple fairy coffee mug, yoga swing, epic hoard of books and yarn, and perpetually unfinished novel-length fanfic that was supposed to be smut but on the way to bed they accidentally an espionage plot. Librarian. Autistic, queer, traumatized spoonie, and a Social Justice NPC. Quest, anyone? How about a snack?

**CHARLES MORGRIDGE**

**SARAH "TASHARI" MORRISON** is a fantasy and children's book illustrator. In her "spare time," she sews gowns with hoop skirts. Find her work at Tashari.Org.

**AMY J. MURPHY** is not a Jedi. (But she's married to a guy that claims to be one.) She is, however, a fantastic liar—a power she uses to write kick-butt space opera. This Amazon Bestseller is also a two-time Dragon Award Finalist, a Kindle Book Award Finalist and SFWA member. Amy holds the enviable title of "slush reader" with award-winning Apex Magazine. She's been a featured speaker on several podcasts on writing craft and marketing for indie authors. Learn more at [www.amyjmurphy.com](http://www.amyjmurphy.com).

**MADDY MYERS** is an editor for Kotaku. She co-hosts a podcast about the X-Men called "The Mutant Ages," as well as a movie review show called "Let's Watch Two Movies." She has worked in journalism for ten years, during which time she has worked for The Mary Sue, *Paste Magazine*, and the *Boston Phoenix*, and freelanced for outlets like *Offworld*, *Bloomberg* and *MIT Technology Review*. She also writes synthpop music under the moniker MIDI Myers ([midimyers.com](http://midimyers.com)).

**THOMAS NATOLI**

## PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

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**DANIEL NEFF** I am a museum curator, historian, and genealogist, currently working for the Fairbanks House Museum in Dedham, MA. I specialize in colonial American history, the history of medicine, and the history of marginalization. When I'm not working, I like X-Men comics, tabletop roleplaying games, Harry Potter, and Pokémon Go.

**BENJAMIN NEWMAN** has been filking since his college friends dragged him to his first convention his freshman year at Swarthmore. Since then, he has written over 200 songs on a wide range of topics, including SF and fantasy, science, computers, and religion, both singly and in various whimsical juxtapositions. Ben has also organized filk programming for Philcon, ConCertino, and Pi-con.

**ERIC NIELSEN** is a hobbyist chainmaille and leather artist who focuses on garments and accessories for costuming and cosplay.

**ABBY NOYCE** is a cognitive neuroscientist, a knitter, and a parent.

**ANNE E.G. NYDAM** Essentially self-taught artist making mostly relief block prints, primarily self-published author writing mostly juvenile mostly fantasy, former middle school teacher still making classroom guest visits whenever possible, current stay-at-home mother, and negligent housekeeper, Anne has been creating fantasy worlds since childhood and continues to bring wide-ranging curiosity and imagination to the work of art, writing, and teaching.

**A.J. ODASSO'S** writing has been widely published since 2005. Their debut poetry collection, *Lost Books*, was nominated for the 2010 London New Poetry Award and was a finalist for the 2010/2011 People's Book Prize, and their second collection with Flipped Eye, *The Dishonesty of Dreams*, was released in 2014. Their third collection, *The Sting of It*, was shortlisted for the 2017 Sexton Prize and will be published in 2019 by Tolsun Books. They serve as Senior Poetry Editor at *Strange Horizons*.

**KAT TANAKA OKOPNIK** is currently working on The Dictionary of Social Justice, a gourmet marshmallow business, a novel, a dozen short stories, and raising two kids, while doing sensitivity reader work, every sort of editing but acquisitions, and occasionally blogging at [ShadesBetween.com](http://ShadesBetween.com)

**JENNIFER OLD-D'ENTREMONT** is a hobbyist costumer who enjoys the study and recreation of historical and ethnic dress. She works as a Medical Lab Technologist to pay for this expensive hobby. Her soap box is empowering creative expression through costuming regardless of perceived limitations, as well as making the hobby accessible to all. Jennifer is the president of the Kansas City Costumers' Guild.

**DAVID OLSEN** is an all-around geek who will happily talk your ear off about stories and games. Since he first received the D&D Redbox at age nine, he's played in dozens of worlds and

systems, including GMing a few LARPs over the years. He's done game testing for various independent companies, including Firehose Games and Choice of Games and even voice acting work for Reactive Studios. You can catch him as a background actor in various feature films or as the fourth season winner of "Beauty and the Geek."

### MARY OLSZOWKA

**KEN OLUM** is a research professor in the Tufts Institute of Cosmology, where he studies cosmic strings, the possibility of time travel in general relativity, and philosophical issues in cosmology. He lives in Sharon, MA with his partners, Valerie White and Judy Anderson, and his children, Jocelyn and Perry.

### KEVIN OSBORN

**LISA PADOL** is a second-generation SF fan, a filker, a gamer, and a player and writer of LARPS. She sings adequately and consistently fails to identify harp tunes when her spouse, Joshua Kronengold, is noodling around on the harp.

**RYAN PAGELLA** is the Director of Atomic Blue Productions. He works in film, photography, podcasting, horror and special effects make-up. He has been working in the media industry for 14 years. Ryan co-hosts an X-Men podcast with Maddy Myers called "The Mutant Ages" and also loves to vlog over at Ryan TV. To find more of his work, visit him on Twitter @ryanpagella or IG @ryan.pagella. Visit his website at [www.atomicblueproductions.com](http://www.atomicblueproductions.com) for videos and podcasts.

**MARK PAINTER** has worked as an engineer and has practiced law in the field of disability rights. He served in elected office for 17 years, culminating in a stint in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. After retiring from politics, he returned to his first love, writing fantasy and science fiction, and sometimes nonfiction. He also produces and hosts The History of the Twentieth Century podcast.

### RICHARD PARKER

**JENNIFER PELLAND** is a science fiction author turned bellydancer. For more, visit [www.jenniferpelland.com](http://www.jenniferpelland.com) or [www.tassellations.com](http://www.tassellations.com)

**KRIS PELLETIER** is a mechanical engineer who got into college with an essay about how she wanted to be B'Elanna Torres growing up and now designs military equipment—not quite a starship, but we're working on it. Her fandom experience spans the gamut from skulking around on Livejournal, attending/volunteering at cons, and being a lead staff member and editor for a multi-fandom podcast. She loves to work with kids, especially when it comes to fostering an appreciation for the STEM disciplines.

**MELISSA PERREIRA-ANDREWS** Fat and louder than necessary, Melissa is a blogger that hails from a fishing town north of Boston. As a brassy and sassy, sorted into Ravenclaw but drawn to Slytherin, intersectional feminist, Melissa writes about her rabid response to pop culture as well as the reality of being fat in our world. When not dreaming of world domination and body liberation or being a cog in the corporate machine, she is the Creative Director for the Teseracte Players of Boston.

**LEIGH PERRY** writes the *Family Skeleton* mysteries featuring adjunct English professor Georgia Thackery and her best friend, an ambulatory skeleton named Sid. *The Skeleton Makes a Friend* is the latest. As Toni L.P. Kelner, she's the co-editor of paranormal anthologies with Charlaire Harris; the author of eleven mystery novels; and an Agatha Award winner and multiple award nominee for short fiction. She and her husband, daughter, and guinea pig live north of Boston.

**ISRAEL PESKOWITZ** (*Izzy*) is a professional photographer, proficient plumber, a novice community activist, and amateur fan.

**BRETT PIERCE** is a new author with a trilogy of novellas, *The Atelva Chronicles*, under his belt and his first full-length novel, *The Rozeen Rising*, coming out in 2019. As a perpetual and compulsive worldbuilder, he serves on the staff of *Worldbuilding Magazine* when he's not obsessing over his own settings.

**ANDY PILTSEK-COWAN** is a lifelong SFF fan and con attendee, who grew up watching Star Trek with his parents and attending local cons in Iowa. Andy moved to Massachusetts in 2008 to work as a public defender and is now principal attorney at PiltserCowan Law LLC in Boston, focusing on criminal defense and estate law. Andy also enjoys cooking, gardening, amateur mycology, and spending time outdoors.

**JADE PILTSEK-COWAN** Player of Euro-style cooperative and strategy board games like Spirit Island and Splendor. Reader of speculative fiction and HP fanfic. Immigrated to the U.S. at the age of 9. Psychology nerd. Business manager at PiltserCowan Law (criminal & estate planning), as well as a freelance life-skills and business management educator. Neurodivergent. Disabled. Fat. Queer. Culturally Jewish. Lover of standup comedy, including Marvelous Mrs. Maisel. Considers Readercon and Intercon their other home cons.

**BRIAN PLETCHER**

**KELLIAN PLETCHER**

**MONIQUE "MONIQUILL" POIRIER** is an enrolled member of the Seaconke Wampanoag tribe, author, blogger, and costumer. Her work in steampunk has been featured at Beyond Victoriana, Silver Goggles, and in the books *Anatomy of Steampunk: The Fashion of Victorian Futurism*, *Steampunk III: Steampunk Revolution*, and *Steaming Into a Victorian Future: A Steampunk Anthology*. Her short story collection *This World Between* is available now for Circler Press.

**STEVE E POPKES** Steve E. Popkes, his wife, son, dog and cat breed turtles on two acres in Massachusetts. He has been publishing science fiction and fantasy since 1986. He has three novels to his name: *Caliban Landing*, *Slow Lightning* and *Welcome to Witchlandia*. When he's disguised as a normal person, he is an aerospace software engineer.

**DR. JIM PREGO** is an adjunct professor of Biology at Long Island University, Molloy College, and Nassau Community College. He is a recipient of NYANP's Physician of the Year award. He enjoys science fiction, biological topics, and many other topics both science and non-science related. He spent 10 years as the NY Delegate to the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians and 6 years as a board member of the NYANP. He is involved in acting/shadowcasting, EMS, alt-lifestyles, gaming, and more.

**ANDREW PRENTICE**

**HANNAH PRUM (KIRKETTE COSPLAY)** is a cosplayer and part-time human being based out of Boston Massachusetts. She enjoys reading frankly ludicrous amounts of fanfiction and falling asleep every night on silk sheets in a pile of dogs. She thinks *Batman Forever* is the best *Batman* movie of all time and she WILL fight you about it.

**ANTONIA PUGLIESE** is a graduate student in Microbiology. She teaches historical dancing, and performs with the Commonwealth Vintage Dancers. When she isn't sewing historical garments, she might be making superhero costumes.

**BARBARA M PUGLIESE** is a historian of both clothing and dance. She is Artistic Director of the Commonwealth Vintage Dancers. She teaches historical dance in the Boston area and has been invited to teach in England, Austria and Denmark.

**JULIA PUGLIESE** is a part-time superhero and a part-time magical girl.

**TORI QUEENO** Tori Queeno, 26, is the founder and President of the Boston Whovians, a Boston-based Doctor Who fangroup. Tori is currently pursuing an MFA in Creative Nonfiction at the Solstice Program at Pine Manor College and was awarded the 2018 Kurt Brown Fellowship for Diverse Voices. They can also be regularly seen performing with The Post-Meridian Radio Players. Tori spends the rest of their time trying to be a "real adult" and/or a professional nerd, with their partner, two cats, and a hedgehog.

**DANIEL RAINE**

**RICHARD RALSTON** has been a fan of science fiction and anime since the late 60's. Rick has been staffing conventions the past 18 years on the local and regional level. Rick is also the organizer of the local anime group in Albany, NY. Rick brings a unique point of view to the fandom community.

**IAN RANDAL STROCK** ([www.IanRandalStrock.com](http://www.IanRandalStrock.com)) is the editor and publisher of Fantastic Books ([www.FantasticBooks.biz](http://www.FantasticBooks.biz)) and an author of science fiction and non-fiction. He has published three books on the presidency of the US (with Random House and Carrel Books) and had stories in *Analog*, *Nature*, and several anthologies. He was previously an editor with *Artemis*, *Asimov's*, *Analog*, *The Daily Free Press*, and *Science Fiction Chronicle*. He is also the Northeast Regional Vice Chairman of American Mensa.

**TIKVA (RAYCHO)** is attending her bazillionth Arisia, and her fourth as a panelist. She's a public health professional, disability activist, baseball addict, and member of a poly family/household. She hosts Geek Love, a weekly radio show on Boston Free Radio, which is kind of like Arisia except all year 'round. You may recognize her via her trusty guide dog, who is small in size but large in swagger. Please do not pet either her or the dog without a whole lot of permission.

### MAUREN REDDINGTON-WILDE

#### DEIRDRE REES

**MARK W. RICHARDS** Fan, SMOF, and kinkster, starting as an SF reader as soon as I could reach the bookshelf. Found fandom as a teen, kink as an adult. Involved on committees & staff for events & served on club boards, both fannish and kink. My latest is a new convention, HELIOsphere, now in its third year. Equally comfortable discussing literary SF & fantasy, fanzines, kink, and sexual politics, preferably over a couple of pints, but I've enjoyed the experience of doing so in front of an audience at Arisia.

**SANTIAGO RIVAS** is celebrating 40 years as a sci-fi enthusiast. However, it was his time at MIT that he became an avid film, theater, poly, and gamer geek. He has been involved with Theatre@First for over ten years and the Heinlein Society Naughty Nurses for ten years, writing, directing, and starring in skits for the annual Blood Drive. In his copious spare time, he's blogging, acting, writing one-act plays involving lightsabers, spending time with redheads, and raising an advanced prototype.

**LEE CLEVER ROBERTS** is a Salem, MA based artist and cosplayer. They are best known for their Mr. Clever cosplay, which has been featured in *The Nerdist*, *The Mary Sue*, multiple BBC sites and in *Doctor Who* magazine. Lee is actively involved in the Cosplay is Not Consent movement, having recently become an admin for an Anti-Bullying group, The Blue Box Alliance. In their spare time, they volunteer as a foster home for cats and trains horses.

**PHOEBE ROBERTS** is the theater artist and dramatic writer who created the Mrs. Hawking shows, a dramatic series of steampunk superhero stories that answer the question, "What if Sherlock Holmes were a lady Batman?" More information can be found on the project website, [www.mrshawking.com](http://www.mrshawking.com). Roberts's other work in theater and writing can be found at her personal site, [www.phoerberoberts.com](http://www.phoerberoberts.com).

### GRAHAM ROCKWELL

**KENNETH ROGERS JR.** Kenneth has written and published seven novels, including *Heroes*, *Villains*, and *Healing: A Guide for Male Survivors Using DC Superheroes and Villains*, 2017 winner of the NABE Pinnacle Achievement Book Award and 2017 winner of the Beverly Hills Book Award. He uses comic books and back research to help male survivors of child sexual abuse understand and heal from their childhood sexual trauma.

**MINK ROSE** has been a part of the Arisia community for years, even before she began regularly attending in 2007. Mink served as the first Chair of the Diversity Committee for Arisia 2016, and now helps with diversity work in the Programming division. She does her best to support intersectional feminist work everywhere possible. She remains an imperfect human being who is doing her best to get everyone to save the world. (ask me how!)

**ANDY ROSEQUIST** generally tries to make the world a better place. He's been involved with Arisia at various staff responsibilities for a number of years. In the fall of 2018, he had the dual challenges of being elected to the Arisia Corporate Executive Board on a platform of improving our Incident Report process, as well as leading the Hotel Division through the move to this fine establishment. He works in tech, plays games, and is a facial hair enthusiast.

**A JOSEPH ROSS** has been in fandom since the 1960's. In 1964, he founded the University of Massachusetts (Amherst) Science Fiction Society, then later became a member of MITSFS and NESFA, serving as Vice President of NESFA from 1970-72. He edited Volume I of the NESFA Hymnal in the late 1970's. He was Clerk of Arisia, Incorporated from 1990-92 and President from 1992-94. He is a practicing attorney and expert in landlord-tenant law.

### WILLIAM ROSSEN

#### MAX ROTHMAN

**TIGIRA (JOAN RULAND DONNELLY)** is a Blue Star high priestess from Melrose, MA. She has participated with the Heathen Union of Boston, Boston Pagan Alliance, and various energy working groups through the years. She studied world religions at the University of Miami, with a focus on the social aspects of religions, rites of passage, and religious communities. Tigira has officiated the main ritual for Eastern Mass Pagan Pride in 2016, 2017, and 2018, and officiated a ritual for Arisia in the past.

**KAREN S.** Part-time voice actor, podcaster, and writer of ridiculous fannish fictions. Full-time geek and fanboy dork with a particular fondness for cartoons, blooper reels, turtles of the ninja variety, and being the Technical Director of the Post-Meridian Radio Players. She can be seen reprising her role as Captain Jane T. Kirk in the Post-Meridian Radio Players' production of Gender Swapped Star Trek.

**MARK SABALOUSKAS** is the author of *Return to the Stars*, an optimistic hopepunk tabletop RPG that mashes up sci-fi exploration with convention culture. He also publishes *The Stellar Beacon* and tweets sci-fi microfiction daily.

**EYAL SAGI** is a professor of Psychology at a liberal arts college. His research deals with how language and text color our perspective. Recently, this research has focused on the expression of moral values in political and legal texts. His other interests include how the structure of a story reflects its genre, and how language can be used to promote character development. He also has extensive background in computing and computer science from both the software and hardware perspectives.

**LIZ SALAZAR** is artistic director of the Post-Meridian Radio Players ([www.pmrp.org](http://www.pmrp.org)). She's a writer, director, GM, chainmailler, a podcaster between podcasts, and overall opinion-haver.

**CAROL SALEMI** has worked over 40 years in many aspects of costuming from creating/fabricating to teaching to judging/masquerade directing. She is a Master costumer that enjoys new/fun/challenging techniques that keep it fresh. Her most recent work can be seen on TLC's "My Big Fat American Gypsy Wedding". She's a medical massage therapist (30years), works for Regal Cinemas, Sondra Celli Designs, has jobs in the Haunt Industry and likes making Steampunk items... check out her jewelry in the Art Show!

**SHARON SBARSKY** chaired Smofcon 15, Boskone 40 & 49, ran the Masquerade at Arisias and Sasquan, ran the Hugo Ceremony at Renovation, was Events Division Head at Worldcon 76, and will co-chair Costume-Con 37 in 2019 in Danvers, MA. She creates web sites for fun and work.

**MICAH SCHNEIDER** is a long-time veteran of Arisia, both on programming and staff. Micah completed his Masters in history and public history from UMass Amherst, but somehow became a math teacher. In his free time, Micah enjoys running, highpointing, hiking, all kinds of gaming (especially cards games like Magic and Pokémon), and being polyamorous as often as possible. He lives in Western Massachusetts with his family of choice, their three children, and a small coterie of animal companions.

**CATE SCHNEIDERMAN** enjoys consuming lots of media in the form of books, podcasts, television shows, and movies. She will happily go on at length about a number of topics including GoT, *Outlander*, Shakespeare, superheroes, and the future of libraries. She also plays lots of games. In her professional capacity

she promotes the use of the college library by hanging posters and giving away candy. She is also the host of the Shakesplaining podcast.

**JASON SCHNEIDERMAN** has been active in nearly every aspect of the adventure games hobby over the past 25 years, from design to journalism to retail. He currently serves as online editor for the Nonprofit Quarterly.

**SAM SCHREIBER** is a writer and editor living in Brooklyn, New York. His work has appeared in *Vastarien: A Literary Journal*, *Tales to Terrify*, *Occult Detective Quarterly*, *Martian Migraine Press*, *PodCastle*, and *Analog Science Fiction and Fact*. He is one of the editors and co-hosts of the speculative fiction audio magazine, *The Kaleidocast* (currently in its second season!). He also teaches Science Fiction and Fantasy at New York University's Tandon School of Engineering.

**MEREDITH SCHWARTZ** is executive editor and editor of science fiction and fantasy reviews for *Library Journal*, but unless she explicitly says otherwise, she is only speaking for herself, not the magazine. Her short fiction appeared in *Strange Horizons*, *Reflection's Edge*, and *Sleeping Beauty, Indeed*. She edited *Alleys & Doorways*, an anthology of homoerotic urban fantasy. She has committed fanfiction, screenwriting, and conrunning, but is much better now.

## RASHAWN SEAMS

**JUDE SHABRY** (aka peacefrog) found Arisia in 1994 and hasn't been able to stay away since. Jude has attended as an artist, vendor, party host, techie, panelist, yoga teacher, climbing guide, wedding principle, mama, food truck wrangler, and more.

**DANIELA SHARMA** Life science buff with expertise in animal sciences, especially the interplay between hormones and behavior. Previous college instructor focusing on companion animal science and helping people pursue their goals related to working with animals. Advanced degree in reproductive science and behavior. Avid proponent of science fiction and fantasy providing moral guidance and philosophical foundations for life. Parent bringing up son with anime, manga, and science-fiction.

## MICHAEL SHARROW

**NICHOLAS "PHI" SHECTMAN** has twice each chaired Arisia and Somerville Open Studios, whose 400 participating artists make it one of the largest single weekend Open Studios events in the country.

**YARON SHRAGAI** Folk dance musician, bandleader, and dance leader/caller: Balkan, klezmer, International Folk Dance, contra dance, techno contra, English Country Dance. Percussion, recorders/whistles, singing, basic rhythm guitar. Enjoy moderating participatory events such as workshops and jams.

**ALEX SHVARTSMAN** is a writer, translator, and game designer from Brooklyn, NY. Over 100 of his stories have appeared in *Nature*, *Galaxy's Edge*, *InterGalactic Medicine Show*, and many other magazines and anthologies. He won the 2014 WSFA Small Press Award for Short Fiction and was a two-time finalist for the Canopus Award for Excellence in Interstellar Fiction (2015 and 2017). He is the editor of the *Unidentified Funny Objects* annual humorous anthology series. His website is [www.alexshvartzman.com](http://www.alexshvartzman.com).

**RACHEL SILBER** is always happy to talk about complex systems including safety of software-intensive sociotechnical systems (the day job) and convention management (a strange but rewarding hobby). Sometimes she notes down these ideas at <https://voluntarycomplexity.com>.

**BEN SILVER** is a singer, musician, teaching artist and poly and bi activist. As a performer, Ben's music slides through folk, R&B, funk, jazz and more. Ben sings about personal and social issues, and has been immersed in the creation of live improvised music—finding that those same improvisational skills can be a vital asset in navigating the flow of loving relationships. Ben runs a monthly CircleSing in NYC and has been performing and teaching Vocal Improvisation and ensemble skills for over 25 years.

**HILDY SILVERMAN** is the publisher of *Space and Time*, a five-decade-old magazine featuring fantasy, horror, and science fiction ([www.spaceandtimemagazine.com](http://www.spaceandtimemagazine.com)). Her most recent fiction publications include “My Dear Wa’ats” (2018, *Baker Street Irregulars II: The Game is Afoot*, Ventrella & Maberry, eds.), “The Lady of the Lakes” (2018, *Camelot 13*, French & Thomas, eds.), and “Sidekicked” (2019, *Release the Virgins!*, Ventrella, ed.)

**JAMILA SISCO** is an award-winning costumer with a specialization in anime, video game, and original costumes. She has worked on costumes for over 15 years, usually working on making the big and elaborate come to life. She is the former President of the Northern Lights chapter of the International Costumers' Guild.

**SARAH SMITH** writes books. (Published in 14 languages, NY Times Notable, prizewinning, all that.) She has an Edwardian mystery series (the Titanic book is being shopped) and is working on a 19C Brazilian fantasy, with pirates and talking eagles. She has been to every single Arisia, starts thinking about Arisia around September, and her proudest Arisia moment was when John Scalzi licked her Kindle. Try her, you'll like her. [www.sarahsmith.com](http://www.sarahsmith.com), sarahwriter on FB and Twitter

**KRIS "NCHANTER" SNYDER** stumbled sideways into fandom in their early 20's for lack of anything else to keep them out of trouble. With a background in theater, the visual arts, and a love for SFF fostered by their father from a young age, it soon became obvious that this was where they, and their colorful curls, belonged. Nchanter now helps make fandom go by volunteering

for several conventions, including Worldcons and Arisia, and focuses on addressing harassment and creating more inclusive spaces within fandom.

**ANNETTE SOMERS**

**SKYE SOUTER**

**CHARITY SOUTHWORTH** I am an art student turned astrophysicist! I currently work at the Charles Hayden Planetarium at the Museum of Science while attending graduate school for science communication. I also run my own business where I make science themed jewelry, accessories and clothing! I love communicating science in a humorous, entertaining fashion—why should science seem to dry and boring!?

**CRAIG STANFILL**

**LISA J STEELE** is an attorney, writer, and game designer. As a lawyer, she has been involved in litigation, teaching, and legislation about issues of science and the criminal law. As a game-designer, she is a co-author of the ENnie award winning Bubblegumshoe, and has written for Steve Jackson Games, White Wolf, and Evil Hat. She has been attending Arisia since its inception.

**KIT STUBBS, PH.D.** Dr. Kit Stubbs is a non-binary/queer/femme maker and entrepreneur who's more interested in people than in tech. Kit is Founder and Executive Director of the Effing Foundation for Sex-Positivity ([effing.org](http://effing.org)), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit whose mission is to foster sex-positive art & education. They blog about technological empowerment for sexuality and pleasure ([toymakerproject.com](http://toymakerproject.com)) and co-organize teasecraft, a meetup group for sex/kink-positive crafters ([teasecraft.com](http://teasecraft.com)).

**JOHN SUNDMAN** is the author of the novels *Acts of the Apostles*, *Biodigital*, and *Mountain of Devils*, and of the novellas *Cheap Complex Devices* and *The Pains*. His newsletter “Technopothoeosis” concerns art, ethics, synthetic biology, literary criticism and his glamorous life as unsung literary genius and underpaid construction laborer, among other things. The Technopothoeosis YouTube channel features long-form conversations with prominent scientists, novelists, philosophers and activists.

**MEG SWANTON**

**JADE SYLVAN** is a writer, performer and producer. They've had poems, essays, and stories published in *The Washington Post*, *BuzzFeed*, *The Toast*, *Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*, and the *Harvard Divinity Bulletin*. They're the playwright of the sci-fi horror burlesque musical *Spider Cult the Musical*. For the past six years, they've produced and performed in the Sailor Moon Shoujo Spectacular (a theatrical variety show in tribute to Sailor Moon) at Oberon theater in Cambridge.

**SONYA TAAFFE** reads dead languages and tells living stories. Her short fiction and poetry have been collected most recently in *Forget the Sleepless Shores* (Lethe Press) and previously in *Singing Innocence and Experience*, *Postcards from the Province of Hyphens*, *A Mayse-Bikhl*, and *Ghost Signs*. She lives with her husband and two cats in Somerville, Massachusetts, where she writes about film for Patreon and remains proud of naming a Kuiper belt object.

**CECILIA TAN** is the multi-award-winning author of *The Prince's Boy*, *Telepaths Don't Need Safewords*, and the *Magic University* series, and is the founder of Circler Press. Her award shelf includes the RT Reviewers Choice Award, the Maggie Award for Excellence, and induction into the Saints & Sinners LGBT Writers Hall of Fame. This year she will launch a new urban fantasy series at Tor Books entitled *The Vanished Chronicles*. The first book in the series will be *Initiates of the Blood*.

**TIMOTHY J TERO** has been attending Arisia cons for about 17 years now. He's a painter and photographer, and has traveled extensively; he has been to Europe about a dozen times and Japan 3 times. He's an assistant organizer for an international arthouse film meetup group in the Boston area. He would say his special interest would be the culture of Japan (old and new)—Japanese Sci-fi/horror films and some anime (especially old Anime). Also, he has a keen interest in European Sci-fi films.

**MATTHEW TIMMINS** lives in Massachusetts with his wife, and, like most writers, has far too many cats. His debut novel, *The Miseries of Mr. Sparrows*, was published in November of 2015. His short stories have appeared in the magazines *Betwixt*, *Stupefying Stories*, and *Unlikely Story* as well as multiple anthologies. When not writing he enjoys roleplaying games, watching Formula 1 racing, and writing about himself in the third person.

**DAN TOLAND** is a writer and podcaster responsible for getting his fingerprints all over Arisia's Media track this year. He lives in Boston with a woman of nearly limitless patience (Reader, she married him), a dog who tries REALLY HARD you guys, and also there is a cat. Hear him give voice to strongly-held opinions about inexpensively made British sci-fi, Reagan-era cartoons, and Bronze Age team-up comics at Earth-2.net.

**WESLEY TOMA-LEE**

**GREG TORO**

**THOMAS TRAINA** is a former lawyer turned computer forensics consultant and legal technology specialist. Academically, he focuses on civil liberties, constitutional law, speculative bioethics, and comparative law and government in science fiction. Tom got into science fiction through Star Wars, then Star Trek TNG, and snowballed from there. He is also an avid roleplayer and theatre-style LARP writer. When he can afford it, he also enjoys wargames.

**QUY TRAN**

**BJO TRIMBLE** has been active in fandom from the very beginnings. She is best known for her efforts with her husband, John Trimble, to keep Star Trek on the air. However, she has been involved in all aspects of fannish activity, from art shows and masquerades to the SCA and crafting. In the midst of all this groundbreaking activity, she also raised three daughters. She enjoys unusual cheeses, good hard apple or pear cider, intelligent conversation, and travel anywhere at any time.

**JOHN TRIMBLE** has been active in fandom from the very beginnings. He is best known for his efforts, with his wife, Bjo, to keep Star Trek on the air. However, he has been involved in all aspects of fannish activity, from art shows and masquerades to the SCA and crafting. He is especially interested in our further exploration of space beyond our planet. He enjoys unusual cheeses, home-brewed dark beer, intelligent conversation, and travel anywhere at any time.

**KEVIN TURAUSKY** I'm primarily a science fiction nerd but am gradually branching into fantasy. Star Trek is my favorite franchise, but am quite fond of Stargate, Star Wars, Babylon 5, or pretty much any show or film with cool spaceships. My professional background is much more down to earth: I used to be a park ranger and worked at sites across the US, teaching nature and history to visitors, and now I teach college level anthropology and archaeology.

**HEATHER URBANSKI** holds a Master of Arts in Writing and a Ph.D. in English. Her published works, *Plagues, Apocalypses, and Bug-Eyed Monsters: How Speculative Fiction Shows Us Our Nightmares*, the edited collection *Writing and the Digital Generation: Essays on New Media Rhetoric*, and *The Science Fiction Reboot*, all combine her fandom interests in science fiction and scholarly focus on rhetoric in pop culture. She is currently an Associate Professor of English Studies at Fitchburg State University.

**GABRIEL VALDEZ** finds himself at the strange intersection of political organizing and media criticism, which were supposed to be two completely different occupations before the sky fell in the last two years. He's worked as a campaign manager, investigative reporter, and garnered national honors for his work as a film critic. He doesn't always know which one he is on a given day, and he's not so sure it's a good thing to be in the reality where that somehow ends up working out.

**MICHAEL VALDEZ**

**MERCY VAN VLACK** has been a comics pro since 1980, including writing Richie Rich; artist on Green Ghost & Lotus (set in Boston) and Miranda; inker for DC, Malibu, and others; illustrator for numerous fanzines, APAs, anthropomorphics and SF cons; and artist of many Celtic Calendars and the Celtic Coloring Book. She also draws for private collections and makes Celtic jewelry. She sings political satire with the Raging Grannies and is a long-time fan of Dr. Demento & Tom Lehrer.

## PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

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**DREW VAN ZANDT** is an engineer, maker, and general geek. He's also on the Board of Directors of the Firefly Arts Collective, a group of a few thousand artists who make big and interactive art. Drew is happiest when he's teaching you to make something or making things himself.

**IZEBEL VEE**

**KJ VERNA**

**CECILIA VILLERO**

**COLLEEN VINOMANO** is lifelong fan who majored in Cinema and Media Studies and continues to enjoy dissecting and discussing her favorite shows. She is also an avid costumer and is happy to tell you all about what great pets pigeons make.

**JULIE VINOMANO** can usually be found procrastinating on her current sewing project with the latest sci-fi/fantasy series and fanfiction.

**MARK "JUSTIN" WAKS** Mark "Justin du Coeur" Waks is a rapidly moving particle. If one pins down his position enough (and doesn't worry about his velocity), one finds him focusing on programming, SCA, fandom, LARP, and Freemasonry.

**WILLIAM C. WALKER** is an inveterate gamer, reader, and writer. He is also a PhD candidate at Northeastern University in Law and Public Policy. His work is at the intersection of future energy solutions and governance. His first Arisia was in 2000, and he's happy to be coming back this year. He is also grateful to all of the people who have stepped up to help shepherd Arisia through a confluence of difficult times—all of which involve very hard, often contentious work.

**EMILY WALTON**

**JOHN C. WATSON** A longtime fan of SF/F, Mr. Watson was infected with the anime and manga bug in the early 1990s, and remains a virulent carrier of all three. He has been a beta reader on the 2nd & 3rd editions of *The Anime Encyclopedia*, published four articles on nursing and nursing history, is an avid editor of Wikipedia, was just hired by Baen as a proofreader, and enjoys both making lists of fannishly-oriented resources (e.g., on con survival, detecting anime bootlegs, & anime/manga character archetypes).

**KATE WECHSLER** is a brightly colored, polyam practicing, kink loving, photo taking, garb sewing, cosplay creating, life saving, bada\*\* hyper-nerd spoonie. She enjoys starting craft projects that she never finishes, talking incessantly about her latest passion, and petting dogs. She is especially interested in creating spaces that allow for intersectional polyamory/ethical non-monogamy. She lives with one of her partners, a metamour, and her dog, Chino, who is way more famous than she is. See photos of Chino on Instagram at @cfl79.

**BRENT WEICHSEL** is a filmmaker, role-player, union man, proud bisexual, and secret robot. He works in film and television in the camera department as a proud Local 600 camera person. Some projects he has worked on are; *Person of Interest*, *Jessica Jones*, *Amazing Spider-Man 2*, *Iron Fist*, *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*, *Madam Secretary*, *Tallulah*, and *Irreplaceable You*. He is also a writer and director of short films, and currently in pre-production on a cyberpunk short.

**KAT WEILER** I sing! I dance! I read lots of books! Sometimes I do all three simultaneously (though that never ends well)! Come sing with me!

**SUSAN WEINER** has been writing and running LARPs for 15 years, primarily as part of Alleged Entertainment. She has also played music with Stranger Ways, Cheshire Moon and her new band, Trinary. On the side, she teaches physiology, dates a bunch of people, studies social insect behavior, cooks weird, overly complicated meals, and does a variety of other things in not nearly enough time.

**DAVID WEINGART** Fan, conrunner, occasional songwriter, IT consultant, ham radio operator, traveler, runner, hiker, father of two Eagle scouts, lover of peaty whiskies. Hates writing program bios.

**SYD WEINSTEIN** is a masquerade presentation judge at Arisia, Worldcons and regionals. Syd works with Tech as video designer and video director for Arisia and Worldcons. He has been a mentor at the American Film Institute and has taught television production techniques to both children and adults. His current interests include renewable energy and electric vehicles.

**JESSE WERTHEIMER** is a dad, a dancer, a geek, an avid boardgamer, and a programmer.

**MORVEN WESTFIELD** first became fascinated by the unseen in her childhood, delighting in superstitions and ghost stories. Her interests are reflected in her writing. Her supernatural-themed short stories have appeared in multiple anthologies, and she regularly contributes articles on folklore and the supernatural to *The Witches Almanac*. Morven lives in Central Massachusetts with her husband. Like many writers, she keeps a messy office and drinks way too much coffee. [www.morvenwestfield.com](http://www.morvenwestfield.com)

**ALAN WEXELBLAT** (he/him) is a poly parent of two trans teens, an amateur photographer, a long-time tabletop RPG and online MMO gamer, and a writer on intellectual property issues. He has been at every Arisia since #2 and worked most of them. This year he is Head of the Convention website team and in November 2018 was elected Vice President of Arisia, Inc. Ask him about Grants, joining the Arisia corporation, and working on Arisia policies.

**MICHELLE WEXELBLAT** Besides attending cons, being on panels, moderating panels, and working as staff, Michelle is a mother, wife, friend, extrovert, self-employed clinical social worker, and dabbler in many hobbies. Magic powers include working through many layers of red tape, sorting through insurance and other financial issues and explaining complex things in simple ways. Many of these magic powers help in her profession of working with marginalized individuals and helping people heal from trauma.

**HENRY M. WHITE** A writer, editor, and storyteller. Recently finished an MFA in Writing for Children at Simmons College. Writes for and works with The Wayfinder Experience (a trans- and queer-friendly LARP camp in New York's Hudson River Valley), has written for Posthuman Studios, and is querying a middle grade space adventure as well as several illustrated books.

**VALERIE WHITE** A Vermont-licensed lawyer, Valerie White is a sexual freedom activist and practicing polyamorist. She's executive director of the Sexual Freedom Legal Defense and Education Fund, on the advisory council of the Woodhull Freedom Foundation, on the coordinating council of Family Tree, and on the board of Unitarian Universalists for Polyamory Awareness. She speaks nationally on sex and the law.

**NIGHTWING WHITEHEAD** was born in 1958. The Barbie doll was "born" in 1959; so for a year she had nothing to do. Since then, she's been making up for lost time by dressing anyone and anything that comes within her reach. She's worked for several theaters, dressed some stars, done some teaching, and has her own business designing and creating costumes for life.

**ALISON WILGUS** is a writer, editor and cartoonist who's worked in comics for over a decade. She's written two works of graphic non-fiction for First Second Books about human spaceflight and aviation history, and this year will be debuting *Chronin*, a queer historical SF duology from Tor. In her spare time, she co-hosts a podcast about comics publishing called "Graphic Novel TK" with Gina Gagliano. She tweets as @AliWilgus and you can find many of her comics and stories at [alisonwilgus.com](http://alisonwilgus.com)

**SCOTT WILHELM** is a licensed biology, physics, math, and general science teacher with more than 10 years of experience, mostly with high-school-aged learners with learning disabilities and severe behavioral problems. He combines deeply analytical lessons with fun activities to meet high expectations with no tears for a very wide range of ages and abilities.

**STEPHEN R. WILK** is a Physicist, Engineer, and part-time Krel Music critic. On the side he's an editor and columnist for the Optical Society of America. His books include *Medusa: Solving the Mystery of the Gorgon* and *How the Ray Gun Got Its Zap!* He writes Science Fiction, Horror, Fantasy, and Mystery, too. His story "George Washington and the Dragon" is still awaiting publication in the anthology *Live Free or Dragons*.

**CONNIE WILKINS** (usually writing as Sacchi Green) has published scores of short stories and edited 18 anthologies, many in the lesbian erotica genre. Two have won Lambda Literary Awards and four have won Golden Crown Literary Awards. She's especially delighted to have combined lesbian erotica and classical fantasy in her recent anthology *Witches, Princesses and Women at Arms: Erotic Lesbian Fairy Tales*. Her recent first novel is superheroine-themed *Shadow Hand* (Ylva Press.)

**JASON WISER** teaches Animation and Game Design at Harvard and Tufts and has lectured at Pixar and MIT. His art and animation have appeared at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, on the Disney/ABC Family show "Greek," in the Boston Globe and on robots at the MIT Media Lab's Personal Robotic Group. He is Creative Director of Yaya Play Games ([www.YayaPlay.com](http://www.YayaPlay.com)) and creator of the award winning "Monsters in the Elevator" family card game. View his portfolio at [www.Madwomb.com](http://www.Madwomb.com).

**BEY WOODWARD** belongs to the geek, kink, and polyamorous communities. She is married to gaming book author, Jonathan L. Woodward, and runs a one-woman business, Tasks@Bey Events. Check her out on Facebook or at [www.tasksatbey.com](http://www.tasksatbey.com). She gets your geek wedding!

**JONATHAN WOODWARD** is the author or co-author of over a dozen role-playing game books, including the Hellboy RPG, Trinity, and GURPS Banestorm. He has been an Arisia panelist for over 20 years. He lives near Boston with his wonderfully complicated family.

**TRISHA J. WOOLDRIDGE** writes fiction, non-fiction, and poetry about carnivorous horses, Tarot cards, vengeful spirits—and hay-eating horses, writer advice, and alcoholic spirits. As child-friendly T.J. Wooldridge, she's published poetry and spooky children's books. She's edited over fifty novels and four anthologies. You can find her in the HWA Poetry Showcase volume 5, Nothing Sacred Volume 4, as an Honorable Mention on Ellen Datlow's Best of Horror list and elsewhere at [www.anovelfriend.com](http://www.anovelfriend.com).

**DJ XERO** (Kismet), an operative of SeeDarkly, has spun regularly in New England's pan-alt and goth-industrial dance club scene since 2006. He also writes a weekly blog about dark-alternative cover songs and their origins. For mixes, playlists, blogs, and upcoming events, find him online: <http://Xero.SeeDarkly.com>

**KEITH YATSUHASHI** is the author of *Kojiki* and *Kokoro*, two Japanese/anime-themed fantasy novels from Angry Robot Books. Keith is represented by Laura Zats, Red Sofa Literary. In his professional life, Keith is a consultant with the U.S. Department of Commerce and helps American companies sell products internationally.

**DR. WILLIE YEE** is an amateur astronomer and magician. He is a Solar System Ambassador—a volunteer supporter of NASA supported by the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory. He is past President of the Mid-Hudson Astronomical Association and presently serves on its board. He has received numerous awards for observing projects and for astronomical outreach and education.

**ELLIE YOUNGER** is interdisciplinary and intersectional whenever possible. Embrace the power of “and.”

### LANG ZERNER

**ERIC "IN THE ELEVATOR" ZUCKERMAN** was not a real talk show host, but he did play one on TV. He was Arisia 2008 Fan Performer Guest of Honor and Lunacon 2011 Special Guest. Not only is he still associated with his former fan-participation video comedy project, “Eric in the Elevator,” but he also traveled back in time to host the 1943 Hugo Awards ceremony. He lives in Berkeley, California with his wife of over a quarter-century (Beth); and their two cats (Patience and Fortitude).

## Student Art Contest Finalists

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Eve Cole

Mustafa Berke Gureltol

Kahlan Maguire

Kylieanna

Daudelin-Rantz

Chalice Ormond

Kai Lussier

Janelys P.  
Rodriguez Narvaez

Elizabeth Webb

Aidan Carney

Yueyan Zhang

Cassia Hawke

Troy Hargrove

Ogechi Ugocha

Urim Choi

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Blue Spitzer

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Lia Clark



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Release Notes for Arisia 2.020:

January 17-20, 2020

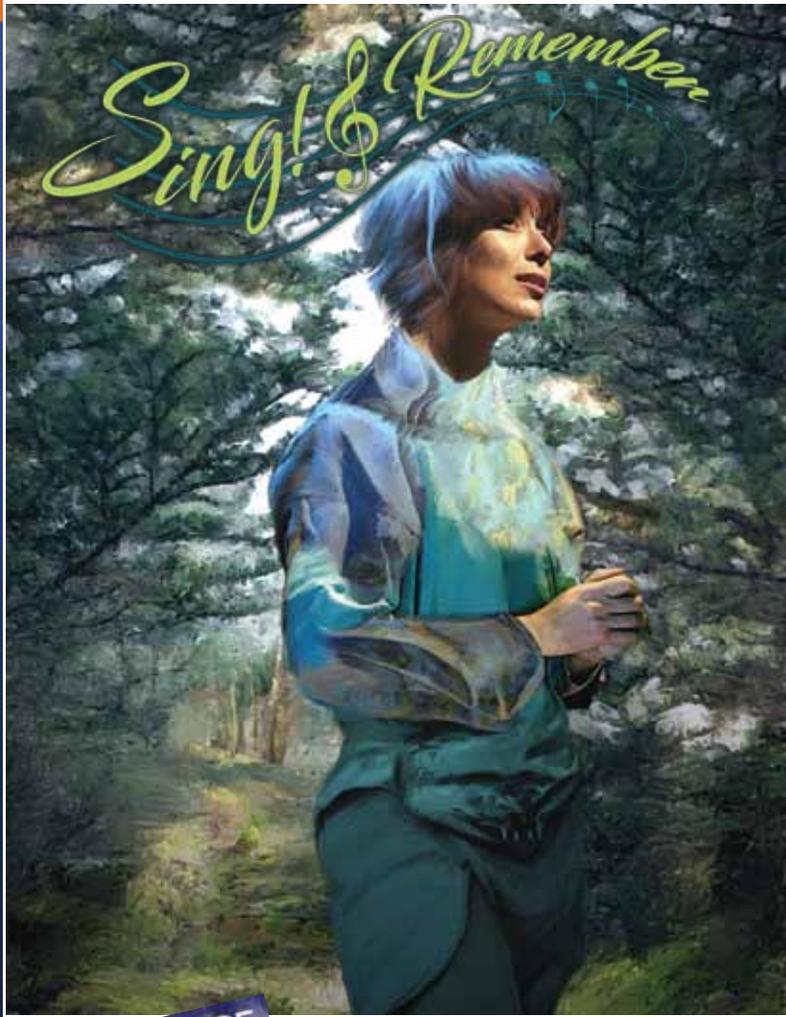
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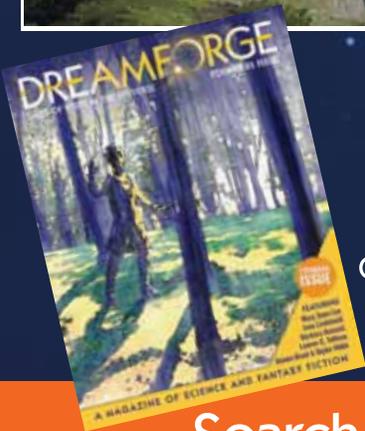
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