

# MHC54 Schedule by Room

## Conifer 1 - Friday, Oct 21

### **3-4pm: Non-Western Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Horror**

Our panelists will share readings from their works and discuss how to effectively write from an angle you might not be familiar with.

### **4-5pm: The Wild West**

Join our authors as they read from their versions of the Wild West and discuss what makes this niche so enduring.

### **5-6pm: You got your Punk in my Story! (Cyber, Steam, Alt, Dystopian, etc)**

Join our panelists for readings from their stories set in these genres as well as a discussion of the differences in the various "punks"

### **6-7pm: Middle Grades Forever! (YA and middle grade)**

Join our psnelists for reading from YA and Middle Grade works and a discussion of the similiarities and differences between the two.

### **7-8pm: The Multiverse of Multiverses**

Join our authors as they read from their stories set in multiverses or alternate universes and discuss what makes universes not our own so appealing.

### **8-9pm: Teen Challenge Panel: Most Hated Characters of All Time!**

What is a character you hate more than any other? Whether it's on purpose for story details or just really annoying, come put your least favorite character of all time to the test!

## Conifer 1 - Saturday, Oct 22

### **10-11am: Colorful Colorado**

Our authors will read from stories set in our lovely state and talk about what makes it a great setting for a story.

### **11am-Noon: Book Matchmaking - if you love you might like**

It's like BookTok, except it's not "try again!". Here you can join fellow reading enthusiasts and trade suggestions of books people might like based on their tastes and your knowledge.

### **Noon-1pm: My Honor to Serve**

Our authors wil read from stories with a military setting and discuss why it's so popular.

### **1-2pm: Own Voices: Readings from BIPOC Authors**

Join our authors for readings from their own experiences and a discussion of what own voices means to them.

### **2-3pm: Cats Rule!**

Need we say more? (Your friendly neighborhood programming director has four of her own. Cats & Fans - the one true pairing.)

### **3-4pm: Own Voices: Readings from Queer Authors**

Join our authors for readings from their own experiences and a discussion of what own voices means to them.

### **4-5pm: Seelie, Unseelie, and Beyond**

Readings from and discussion of tales of the fae.

### **5-6pm: My First Sale**

Our panelists will read from their first (or second) sale and discuss what made it special for them.

### **6-7pm: Empire State of Mind**

Not New York - we're talking bigger. Space empires, domestic empires, and everything in between. Join our panelists for readings and discussion.

## **Conifer 1 - Sunday, Oct 23**

### **10-11am: Instant Slush Pile**

Bring your words and your courage to the instant slush pile, where your words will be read and editors will give you feedback.

### **11am-Noon: Beyond Infinity War and Into the Multiverse**

Which phase are we in now? Which section of the madness of multiverses? Let's talk all things Marvel fandom in this roundtable.

### **Noon-1pm: Say Feisty One More Time**

Readings from and discussion of SF&F/horror focused on women characters.

### **1-2pm: Tales of the City**

Readings from and discussion of Urban & Suburban SF&F/Horror

### **2-3pm: Team Dog**

Dog people unite in this roundtable discussion.

### **3-4pm: Fractured Fairy Tales**

Our authors will read from and discuss re-tellings of fairy tales w/a twist

## **Conifer 2 - Friday, Oct 21**

### **3-4pm: Avoiding Cultural Appropriation in Art**

What is the line between appreciation and appropriation? How do you include another culture in your art without taking away from the artists of that culture? Join our panelists as they discuss these questions and what defines appropriation in the modern age.

### **4-5pm: Rolling the Dice and other Unique Ways of Plotting**

Stuck on what your character should do next? Try rolling a die for the outcome, or flipping a coin, or any other unique method of plotting our panelists have tried, have heard of, or can make up on the spot as they discuss the ins and outs of unique ways of plotting.

### **5-6pm: How to GM a successful campaign**

Whether it's your very first campaign or your 100th, there's always something new to be learned. Join our panelists for a lively discussion on how to set yourself and your players up for success.

### **6-7pm: The Evolution of the Artist**

Our panelists will talk about how their artistic careers have changed over the years and how their styles have evolved.

## **Conifer 2 - Saturday, Oct 22**

### **10-11am: Flash Fiction Chopped**

Join us once again in Word Kitchen Stadium for a battle royale between authors. 4 authors, 3 rounds, one winner. Each round the audience will give a character, a setting, and a conflict and our intrepid authors will make flash fiction right before your eyes.

### **11am-Noon: Cryptozoology in Art and Fiction**

Cryptids remain ever popular. Our panelists will discuss what they are, and how they show up in art and fiction of all forms (books, movies, television, comics, etc).

### **Noon-1pm: Making your Characters Names Memorable and True to Them**

The naming of things is complicated. It gets even more so when you are naming your characters. Our panelists will talk dos and don'ts and how to make your character names memorable, but also reflective of who your character is at heart.

### **1-2pm: The DASFA Turkey Readoff Will Never Die**

Join us once again for the Turkey Readoff. Will our panelists make it through their chosen selections? Will the audience injure themselves laughing? Only time will tell.

### **2-3pm: Challenge Panel: Scariest Horror Villain**

Our panelists will bring their pick for the scariest horror villain, and then it's up to you, the audience, to challenge them on that with your own pick. If you're voted the winner, onto the panel you go, until you're booted out.

### **3-4pm: Successful Indie Publishing**

How does one successfully navigate the world of indie publishing? Our panelists will share their experiences, their successes, and their pitfalls to help you succeed yourself.

### **4-5pm: SF&F Poetry**

SF&F is not just prose. Our panelists will discuss all things poetic in the SF&F world.

### **5-6pm: Writing Believable Aliens**

What makes an alien believable? Is it biology? Culture? History? All of the above? Join our panelists as they delve into what makes your alien believable versus what throws the reader out of the story.

### **7-8pm: Finding your Artistic Style (digital/physical art, not writing style)**

Whether it's experimentation, imitation, sheer frustration, how does one form an artistic style? Our panelists will talk all things stylistic, and how they settled on their own unique styles.

### **8-9pm: The Future of Food**

Impossible meats grown in labs, CRISPR edited vegetables, a potential future without bananas. Our panelists will discuss the scientific future of food and what things might look like in the short and long term.

## **Conifer 2 - Sunday, Oct 23**

### **10-11am: So you want to start a podcast?**

Like the title says, so you want to start a podcast? Well, our panelists have opinions and will share them freely.

### **11am-Noon: Satire without Punching Down**

"The failure mode of clever is asshole." J. Scalzi Our panelists will talk about how they've seen satire done well and what they recommend for avoiding "punching down" even unintentionally.

### **Noon-1pm: The Kids are Alright - youth activism and a changing world**

Every generation likes to complain about the one that came before, but what if the kids really are alright? Our panelists will talk about what today's youth are doing well and how it's changing the world one day at a time.

### **1-2pm: What Part of Neutral Did You Miss?**

You're a GM (or maybe a player) and someone in your fellow cohort is maybe a little too far to the chaotic or lawful alignment of neutral. What now? Our panelists will tell you how to bring your players back to middle ground. This panel is dedicated to Kit W. You know why.

### **2-3pm: True Crime Stories- What is the Appeal?**

Serial did not burst forth like Athena from Zeus' head - there's a long history of true crime shows and movies preceding it. But why? What causes us to follow true crime? Is it the idea of avoiding being a victim? Is it feeling morally superior? Our panelists will try to get to the heart of the matter.

### **3-4pm: Finding an Artistic Mentor**

Hear from our panelists how they found their artistic mentors and some suggestions on how and why you should do the same.

## **Conifer 3 - Friday, Oct 21**

### **2-3pm: Panelist 101**

How can you be a successful panelist and increase your chances of getting to do it again? Our team of expert panelists will answer your questions, share their tips for being a good panelist, and entertain you with stories of their own experiences as panelists.

### **3-4pm: Author's Favorite Tools**

Are you organized but looking for your next suggestion? Or perhaps you're not at all organized and have always wondered how others do it. Maybe you're tired of your current tooling and are looking for the next best thing? Our panelists will discuss their favorite tools - everything from writing tools, to productivity, to planners, and beyond.

### **4-5pm: Digital, Physical, Both? Choosing your art medium**

Our panelists discuss the pros and cons of the various modalities one can make art in. Come hear what works for each and why.

### **5-6pm: Beta Readers - what are they and how to find them**

What is a Beta Reader? Why would an author use them or find them useful? Where does one find good beta readers? Our panelists will answer these questions and more from their experiences with Beta Readers.

### **6-7pm: Why Does This Book Have Character Sheets? The Evolution of the LitRPG Genre**

LitRPG is one of the newest genres in SF&F. Join our panelists as they talk through what it is, what it isn't, where it came from, and where it might be going in the future.

### **7-8pm: Creating non-stereotyped Villains**

We all know the tropes of villains - the lime green lighting, flamboyant clothing or behaviors, the lone wolf who just needs someone understanding, the woman who can't have children so is a monster, etc. Let's talk about moving beyond these stereotypes to create unique and engaging villains.

### **8-9pm: Body Modification - Science can take us farther than ever, but should/can we?**

From the more mundane (tattoos, piercings) to the more outrageous - RFID chips, tongue forking, etc body modifications are here to stay. Science is taking us further into the future of what we can do day by day, but should we push the limits? How far can we push them and retain an inherent humanity?

## **Conifer 3 - Saturday, Oct 22**

### **10-11am: Advanced Cosplay Techniques (sewing textures, eva foam, and beyond)**

Join our panelists for a lively discussion on advanced techniques you can use to make your cosplay shine.

### **11am-Noon: Blind Slush Panel**

A panel of editors will provide feedback on your writing - feel free to identify yourself or just listen anonymously.

### **Noon-1pm: How Secure is Cryptocurrency?**

Long hailed as the opportunity to reject fiat money, how secure is cryptocurrency? With at least one currency's wallet becoming completely unusable due to a lost password, how can that be avoided? Our

panelists will talk all things security-related.

### **1-2pm: Garbage In, AI Out - Why Data Matters**

An AI model is only as good as the data fed into it - as everything from Amazon's recruiting model that only picked one type of candidate, to cameras with difficulty identifying non-white faces. As more things become AI driven, data matters even more. Our panelists will talk about ethical data pools and why the content of the data matters so much for machine learning and artificial intelligence.

### **2-3pm: Finding your Identity through Books, Games, and Media**

Sometimes the first time you see someone that looks/feels like you is in a book, in a game, or in other media. Our panelists will discuss how they have used books, games, and other media to help them see their identities more clearly.

### **3-4pm: Writing Flash Fiction and Short Stories**

Not all genres of writing are the same, and what might work in a novel or novella won't work in a short story or flash fiction piece. Join our panelists as they talk tips and tricks for writing on the shorter side.

### **4-5pm: The Art of Choosing a Cover**

A picture tells a thousand words - and a cover can make or break your book. Join our panelists as they talk through the art of choosing a cover.

### **5-6pm: Writing Effectively For Comics (So You're Not Murdered by your Artist or Letterer)**

Writing for comics is very different than writing for prose. Learn from our panelists how not to make things harder for yourself, your letterer, your artist, or your editor.

### **7-8pm: It Takes a Village - the logistics of human colonies in space**

It takes an entire city population (a small city, to be fair) to keep the ISS afloat. The logistics of human colonies in space are more complex than most might imagine. Our panelists will talk the whys and hows of what that looks like.

## **Conifer 3 - Sunday, Oct 23**

### **9-10am: Ecumenical Worship Service**

### **10-11am: Cosplaying from your Closet**

Join our panelists as they talk about how to evaluate your closet for cosplay potential.

### **11am-Noon: The Future of Work**

Work looks very different than it used to - between the great resignation, more people than ever working remotely (and expecting to be able to continue to do so) and union pushes at Starbucks, Amazon, game studios and more the landscape is shifting quickly. Our panelists will discuss what the future may hold.

### **Noon-1pm: Shooting Films on a Shoestring**

Champagne tastes but a shoestring filming budget? Learn from our panelists on how to cut costs while still making your film the work of art you know it can be.

### **1-2pm: Time Travel Done Right**

Our panelists will talk about how they have seen time travel done right in media, and also the ways it has gone very sideways. Don't step on that butterfly...

### **2-3pm: Beyond the 3 Laws of Robotics**

AI and machine learning have gone beyond what Asimov predicted when he created the three laws of robotics. Our panelists will talk about what the next laws might be, grounded in current science and technology.

### **3-4pm: Hopepunk and Other Bright Futures**

Moving into a brighter future is something many dream of. Let's talk all things hopepunk and other if not entirely utopian future visions, ones that are brighter than today.

## Evergreen B - Friday, Oct 21

### 2-3pm: Moderator 101

New to moderating or just looking for a refresher? Our panel of experts will cover the dos and don'ts of good moderation and answer any question you may have.

### 3-4pm: Writing a Good Query Letter

Ah, the query letter. That magical piece of paper (bits and bytes really) that opens doors. Join our panelists to talk through how to write a good one.

### 4-5pm: An Army Marches on its Stomach

Variouly attributed to Napoleon and Frederick the Great it is both believable and cliched. How does one write believable supply chains (or a handwavy enough to be okay with your readers supply chain)? Our panelists will talk all things logistical so you can improve your worldbuilding.

### 5-6pm: GenX - Stop Stealing Our Culture Cues

Nestled between the Boomers and the Millennials, just hanging in the corner in our flannel sits Gen X. Now that everything 90s is new again, why is it that our culture is making a comeback but no one seems to remember Gen X (except to occasionally make memes about how much one should not eff around and find out with us).

### 9-10pm: SF&F Beat Poetry

Join our panelists as they improvise poems on the fly from people/places/things/concepts sci fi, fantasy, and horror.

### 10-11pm: Welcome to Night Vale Reader's Theater

Join us for a roundtable reading from the Night Vale novels.

## Evergreen B - Saturday, Oct 22

### 10-11am: Beyond Damsels and Witches - The Rise in Unconventional Women in Media

Beyond the trope of "I'm not like other girls" - there has been a sea change in the complexity of the types of women portrayed in media. Heroic older women, flawed mothers, successful career women who don't regret their choices, the list goes on. Our panelists will talk about what makes a woman unconventional and why they're so appealing right now.

### 11am-Noon: Building a Sustainable Future

Our current future feels very unsustainable - beyond the micro (recycling more, composting, carpooling, solar panels) and to the macro (water plants, cleaning the ocean of microplastics, moving away from fossil fuels) our panelists will discuss what a sustainable future might look like and how we can get there.

### Noon-1pm: But All my Aliens are - othering the "other"

In a science fiction future/milieu, why is it that sometimes you only see the diversity of life (culture, gender, sexuality, neurodivergence, disability) in the non-humans? Our panelists will talk about what only having the characters who are "alien" also be the only characters who are "other" in some way means and why it can be harmful.

### 1-2pm: Colonization in Space - The Ethics of Terraforming

With no near-distance Earth like habitable planets, finding somewhere to live might require making serious changes to its current environment. What are the ethics of doing so? How do we identify species we might be forcing out of existence like we did the dodo?

### 2-3pm: How to Handle Rejection

Rejection is a fact of life - whether personal or professional. Our panelists will talk about how to handle rejection, without letting it own your headspace, and how to do so gracefully.

### 3-4pm: When is the Lily too Gilded? (Aka when have you revised enough)

It can be tempted to continue working on something long past the point at which you're not seeing any returns. Our panelists will discuss when you have revised something too much versus when you know

you've hit just the right spot.

#### **4-5pm: Playing D&D with your Family**

So your family wants to play D&D? Our panelists will talk through the process - from picking an intro campaign, to who should be the GM, to finding time in busy lives, and so on. They'll maybe even share funny stories from their family D&D nights.

#### **5-6pm: When and How to pick an Editor**

When you reach the point where you decide you need outside help, how do you pick an editor? How do you know what the point at which you need one is? And what type of editor do you need? Our panelists will share their experiences and give some suggestions on why/when/how to pick an editor.

#### **6-7pm: Creating a Political and Moral Universe**

Our panelists will talk the ingredients of universe building: morality, science, politics, art, religion and how these interplay to create a moral and political universe. Each ingredient packs its own punch, and getting the ratios right means you won't have an overcooked souffle of a universe.

#### **7-8pm: Crowdfunding your Project**

Join our panelists as they talk all things crowdfunding. From new platforms (like Seed & Spark) to the tried and true (kickstarter, indiegogo, patreon) - they'll go over the ins and outs and what has worked for them. They'll also discuss the importance of communication, and what swag is and isn't worth it.

## **Evergreen B - Sunday, Oct 23**

**10am-Noon: Critter Crunch 2lb Division**

**3-5pm: Critter Crunch - 20lb Division**

## **Evergreen C/D - Friday, Oct 21**

**2-3pm: Adapting Fiction for Comics**

Join our panelists as they talk about how to adapt fiction to comics - tips, tricks, and pitfalls.

**3-4pm: Standalone, Duology, Trilogy - How do you decide?**

How do you decide how long your set of books should be? Are some ideas better suited to a single enclosed story, or do others need a full span of pages to spread their wings in? Join our panelists as they discuss the ins and outs of picking a length, and if they've ever been wrong in their decision.

**4-5pm: American Mythology**

Our panelists will discuss the varied forms of American Mythology - from folk heroes like Johnny Appleseed and John Henry, to the myths around the Founding Fathers, to the American myths that came before the U.S.

**5-6pm: An Hour With Charles Vess**

Join us for an hour with Artist Guest of Honor, Charles Vess. It could be a chat, a slideshow, a demo - it's all in his hands - but he will definitely be reading from his new novel, *The Queen of Summer's Twilight*.

**6-7pm: Opening Ceremonies**

**7-8pm: Filk Concert**

## **Evergreen C/D - Saturday, Oct 22**

**10-11am: An Hour with Ken Liu**

Join Author Guest of Honor Ken Liu for a reading followed by Q&A.

**11am-Noon: Monsters Tell the Truth**

Exploitation horror films can be a unique view into the zeitgeist of fear for a generation. Our panelists will discuss what's changed over the past few decades and what modern horror auteurs are doing to reflect our current fears.

### **Noon-1pm: "I am a leaf on the wind..." Betraying vs Surprising the Reader**

Some plot points or story beats feel like a betrayal to the reader. Sometimes things are figured out well ahead of time and the denouement is not a surprise. Our panelists will talk about walking the thin line between keeping your reader on their toes and able to be surprised versus betraying their feelings and expectations.

### **1-2pm: An Hour with Travis Heermann**

Join Author Guest of Honor Travis Heermann for a screening of his short film "Demon for Hire" (parental discretion suggested) and a Q&A afterwards.

### **2-3pm: Fiction Becoming Fact? Science Fiction and the Fate of Humanity**

A one-hour talk on why SF is no good at predicting the future (and what SF *actually* is good at), drawing on my experience as both a technologist and an SF writer.

### **3-4pm: The Reading Game!**

Everyone's favorite game show, where you the audience have a chance for a book date with one of our mystery authors.

### **4-5pm: Mass Autographing**

Any attending author or artist is encouraged to join the fun in the main event room. Spots are first come, first served.

### **7-8:30pm: Masquerade and Literacy Auction**

Come for the dazzling costumes and a music show by Stace Johnson. Stay for the Ed Bryant Memorial Literacy Auction and the chance to win items from many of our participants and local businesses.

## **Evergreen C/D - Sunday, Oct 23**

### **10-11am: Neo-medievalism in Media**

From Game of Thrones (and its prequels) to the fascination with Vikings, the themes of the medieval era, as we see them from a distance keep resurfacing. Our panelists will talk about the rise of neo-medievalism and how its represented in current media.

### **11am-Noon: An Hour with Kevin J. Anderson**

Join Toastmaster Kevin J. Anderson for an hour in which he gets to choose his own adventure - will he read? answer questions? Show travel slides? Who knows!

### **1-3pm: Art Auction**

### **3-4pm: What to Leave Out**

Writers usually focus on all the things that need to be in their stories, but what you leave out is just as important--and sometimes more important. As Mark Twain said, "A successful book is not made of what is in it, but of what is left out of it." Connie Willis will discuss how to decide what to leave out, how to leave out things that don't belong in the story, things the reader already knows, things readers can figure out on their own, and things better left to the imagination, as well as "shoe leather" and "back story" and those times when extraneous explanations actually need to be there.

### **4-4:30pm: Closing Ceremonies**

Come bid a fond farewell to our Guests of Honor as we give them awards and Kevin J. Anderson passes the virtual gavel to our 2023 Toastmaster.

### **4:30-5pm: Orchids and Onions**

Come tell the MHC Concom what went well this year, and what we could do better next year.



## Evergreen E - Friday, Oct 21

### 3-6pm: Wyrms on a String

Come and create your very own dragon friend out of a worm on a string

### 6-7pm: Teen Story Work

Whether it's a fan fiction or a story you are creating, just in your head or fully written down, come join us to discuss your ideas. It always helps to bounce ones ideas off one another's. I hope to create a safe place full of young open minded individuals of similar ages to share and constructively critique each other's writing or story ideas.

### 7-8pm: Kids/Teen Lightsaber Fighting

Younglings! Put your training to the test! Fight one on one using lightsabers against friends or Foe!

### 8-9pm: Storytime with Miss Danyda

Join MileHiCon's favorite storyteller for a good night tale or two. Pajamas optional.

## Evergreen E - Saturday, Oct 22

### 9-10am: Colouring

Come start your Saturday off with some colouring.

### 10-11am: Live Action Five Nights at Freddy's

If you are brave enough or have always wanted to see how you would handle the FNAF world, come try our new game and see if you can last five nights! (Red Light Green Light)

### 11am-Noon: Jedi Academy

Come and build your very own light sabres and learn the ways of the Jedi

### Noon-1pm: Escape Room

A witch has once again caught you and thrown you in her dungeon. Use your wits and find a way to escape.

### 1-2pm: Apsara Performance

Join convention favorites Apsara for a bellydance performance.

### 2-3pm: Pipe Cleaner Fairies

Come and create your own fairy out of pipe cleaners and tissue paper.

### 3-4pm: Self Defense w/Master K

Join Master K for a brief lesson in self-defense

### 4-5pm: Tribble Hopscotch

Play hopscotch while avoiding the tribbles, be careful, they multiply at an alarming rate!

### 5-6pm: Sewing Machines

Join Dr. Courtney Willis as he talks all things sewing machine-related.

## Evergreen E - Sunday, Oct 23

### 9-10am: Colouring

Come start your Saturday off with some colouring.

### 10-11am: Friendship Bracelets

Learn a fun new way to make your own friendship bracelet.

### 11am-Noon: Storytelling with Stickers

Come and create a story of your very own using only your wits and the stickers available.

**Noon-1pm: Star Wars Loteria**

Come play a Star Wars themed loteria game.

**1-2pm: Arts and Crafts Catch Up**

Come and finish any project you haven't had the opportunity to get done.

**2-4pm: Pumpkin Carving w/Alanna**

Pumpkin carving is back!

## **Evergreen F - Friday, Oct 21**

**3-4pm: Cats in SFFH**

A fabulous slide show about the history in SFFH: Jonesy in ALIEN, Rowl in CINDER SPIRES, Maneki Neko, Heinlein's Pixel, Exploding Kittens, Gummitch, Tailchaser, Hermione's Crookshank, Dax in TUF VOYAGING, Behemoth, Greebo, Magus & Loki, the list expands day by day.

**4-5pm: To See New Earths**

David Lee Summers introduces Kitt Peak's planet-hunting detector and discusses its role supporting NASA's TESS mission, hunting for Earth-like planets outside the solar system.

**5-6pm: Home Computing 1965**

Coding and gaming like you've never seen them! Visit the nearly lost era of analog, hard-wired, and mechanical computing and experience first hand how the founders and builders of the modern digital revolution learned about programming and played with computers at home.

**6-7pm: Bullets to Blades**

The change from melee to gunpowder warfare.

**8-9pm: Did Going to the Moon Save the Earth?**

In 1968, war was raging in Vietnam, our country was locked in a monumental Cold War that threatened to destroy civilization, protests and riots disrupted normal domestic life, popular progressive leaders were being murdered, and a tentative blossoming of freedom was crushed by a Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia. Then people started going to the Moon! Were the Apollo Moon missions a bright beacon of hope in a world roiling with strife and violence, or a colossal publicity stunt that squandered valuable national resources? What difference did it make? This talk explores the impact of Apollo in the context of the times as well as its effect on our own lives today. Questions and discussion are encouraged!

**9-11:30pm: Open Filking**

Join in a Denver tradition of the Bardic Circle and listen to or contribute to the filking

## **Evergreen F - Saturday, Oct 22**

**10-11am: Ice Planets**

Visit erupting ice volcanoes on Enceladus, onion-layered seas beneath the surface of Ganymede, deserts of ice dunes and floating mountains on Pluto. Michael Carroll brings you the real-life alien worlds of the outer solar system!

**11am-Noon: Robotics**

World renowned roboticists and specialists in machine understanding, Drs. Louise and Jim Gunderson will discuss how robots / AIs can build and use models of their universe as well as some of the more humorously problematic aspects.

**Noon-1pm: My 10 Favorite Science Inventions**

Big discoveries and breakthroughs were crucial (fire, the wheel, gravity), but Dr. Science will take a look at some of his favorite (if less earth-shaking) inventions and gadgets. It's possible slide rules will be

mentioned...

### **1-2pm: Why Explore Space?**

Are there any good reasons to spend money or to risk human lives by traveling into space? Space exploration can be expensive and there are certainly risks. But what are the benefits? This presentation investigates some of the ways that space exploration has already changed our lives, as well as how it might solve problems and improve our future. Chuck promises there will be surprises and new perspectives, even for seasoned SF fans and aerospace aficionados!

### **2-3pm: The Year in Science**

The James Webb Telescope, new thoughts on why T. Rex had stubby arms, latest in 3-D printing, nanotechnology and other stories that intrigued our panelists this year

### **3-4pm: Apollo 11 Moon Landing Experience**

The greatest achievement of engineering and science in human history ... and you missed it! Here's your chance to experience what it was like for the 8 days from July 16-24, 1969 while three astronauts did what cultures around the Earth had dreamed of for millennia – travel to the Moon and back.

### **4-5pm: Handicaps of my Trade**

Writing can be a difficult process. How do handicaps make your writing more difficult--or better?

### **5-6pm: Creating Content for Social Media - when you're the product**

It seems like a social media presence is a near requirement for everyone these days. Join our panelists as they talk about how to sell content, while still keeping a sense of self (and privacy, if you want to).

### **9-11:30pm: Open Filking**

Join in a Denver tradition of the Bardic Circle and listen to or contribute to the filking

## **Evergreen F - Sunday, Oct 23**

### **10-11:30am: Speaking Tools: How to Tell Stories About Technology**

Limited to 40 people. This workshop will train you to see and think about "technology"—both fictional and nonfictional—in new ways that help you tell compelling stories. We'll examine a broader definition of technology and take on the perspective of a worldbuilder, someone who must conjure a new world for readers (in the case of a futurist or novelist) or players (in the case of a GM or scenario designer). Interactive exercises will allow participants to put the new ways of seeing and thinking into practice. Besides fiction writers, this course is also suitable for journalists, technologists, sales and marketing staff, activists—anyone who wants to communicate more effectively about technology. Come with a piece of technology in mind that you want to tell a story about.

### **Noon-1pm: Careers in Astronomy and Space Science**

Interested in a career in astronomy or space science? Join some of our participants for an informal 45 minutes of conversation about what it takes to become an astronomer or space scientist, and what inspired them to follow their careers to the stars!

### **1-2pm: Alien Weather**

The forecast: cloudy skies with scattered methane monsoons. If you like weather, you'll love the outlook on places like Jupiter, Titan and Venus, where you'll find ammonia snow, fool's gold frost, and winds that make Katrina look like a gentle breeze!

### **2-3pm: Mapping the Universe**

Kitt Peak's DESI instrument is engaged in a five-year mission to make the largest 3D map of the known universe. How does it work? What are some things we've learned along the way? And what do we ultimately hope to learn?

### **3-4pm: Raising Kids in the Digital Age (how can you? what limits do you set?)**

Join our panelists as they talk about what it's like raising kids these days, and what they're doing to help their (and other) kids grow up safely.

## **Crestone Peak - Friday, Oct 21**

### **7-8pm: Games you should be playing**

Join a roundtable discussion about games you might be missing out on, and bring your suggestions to share.

### **8-9pm: My Road into Fandom**

Roundtable discussion of how you got into fandom: clubs, cons, gaming groups, online, parents, etc

## **Crestone Peak - Saturday, Oct 22**

### **11am-Noon: Session Zero, Planning Your D&D Campaign**

How to plan, prepare, and host your next adventure. Discover how to include player characters, and their backstories into your world. We'll talk about how to set expectations of behavior and establish house rules. See how you can prevent players from destroying your game and stop them from causing problems at the table. Our tips can be applied to most tabletop RPGS, no matter how different the system. Learn from some of the best DMs from gamesmastery.com, the chromatic DM, and dicetowertheater.com

### **Noon-1pm: Authortube! Utilizing Youtube/Twitch as an Author**

Did you know there was such a place called Authortube? Many authors use youtube, twitch, and other social media platforms to grow their audience and market their books. Take it from resident authortube Qwordy to hear all about the wide world of authors in video, streams, tiktoks, and more.

### **1-2:30pm: Costume and Geeky Clothing Exchange**

Bring your gently loved but outgrown/no longer your style costuming pieces and general geeky clothing and trade it away for something you might love.

### **3-4pm: BYO Panel**

### **5-6pm: Homebrewing & Vintning**

Join your fellow fans of SF&F and brewing/vintning for a discussion of their current brews in progress, their favorite equipment, and more.

### **8-9pm: Teen Roleplaying**

Any young adventures want to go on a dangerous quest filled with danger! Come game and have fun!

## **Crestone Peak - Sunday, Oct 23**

### **Noon-1pm: Ed Bryant Memorial Panel**

Come talk all things Ed - his legacy, updates on new volumes of his work, etc.

### **2-3pm: Fan Fiction: Reading It, Writing It, Loving It**

Fan fiction has been around for decades, has been a learning ground for writers, and is just fun. Hear about similarities and differences between fanfic and tie-in novels as well as what our panelists love about the genre.

### **3-4pm: We Love Dinosaurs**

Do you have a favorite dinosaur? (Your programming director's favorite is technically not a dinosaur - the dimetrodon.) If so, this is the roundtable for you!

## **Con Suite (1107) - Friday, Oct 21**

## **Con Suite (1107) - Saturday, Oct 22**

**9-10am: Kaffeeklatsch**

Join our guests for coffee, snacks, and conversation.

### **3-4pm: Tea Dueling**

Description: Got a friend or enemy you desire to challenge well now is your time! Tea Dueling is a time honored tradition in recent years and it is yet again your time to use the power of tea and cookies to take on opponents of your choosing. If you do not know what Tea Dueling is then come join us and learn, I'm sure you'll have a blast.

## **Con Suite (1107) - Sunday, Oct 23**

### **9-10am: Kaffeeklatsch**

Join our guests for coffee, snacks, and conversation.

### **10:30am-Noon: Stitch & B\*tch**

Come hang out and stitch and chat

## **Art Show - Friday, Oct 21**

## **Art Show - Saturday, Oct 22**

### **10:30am-Noon: Artist's Chat**

Join your fellow artists for a chat in the art show.

## **Art Show - Sunday, Oct 23**

## **Autograph Table - Friday, Oct 21**

**3-4pm: Signing - Jonathan Brazee**

**4-5pm: Signing - Lou Berger**

**5-6pm: Signing - Sumiko Saulson**

**6-7pm: Signing - Rick Wilber**

## **Autograph Table - Saturday, Oct 22**

**11am-Noon: Signing - Carol Berg**

**Noon-1pm: Signing - Olivia Abtahi**

**1-2pm: Signing - Ed Kramer**

**2-3pm: Signing - Carrie Vaughn**

**3-4pm: Signing - S. A. Bradley**

**4-5pm: Signing - James Van Pelt**

**5-6pm: Signing - Paul Lell**

**6-7pm: Signing - David R. Slayton**

## **Autograph Table - Sunday, Oct 23**

**10-11am: Signing - Adam Gaffen**

**11am-Noon: Signing - Sam Knight**

**1-2pm: Signing - Natli VanDerWerken**

**2-3pm: Signing - Richard Friesen**

**3-4pm: Signing - Jason Henderson**

## **Pint's Pub Back Area - Friday, Oct 21**

**7-8pm: GOH Autographs**

Join our guests of honor after opening ceremonies for autograph signing.

## **Pint's Pub Back Area - Saturday, Oct 22**

**Noon-1pm: Wordfire Press Signing**

Join David Boop, Marie Whittaker, and other Wordfire Press authors for a signing.

**2-3pm: GOH Signing**

**3-4pm: GOH Signing**

## **Pint's Pub Back Area - Sunday, Oct 23**