

DIVERSICON 26

“Diversitopia”

July 27-29, 2018

Best Western Plus—Como Park

1010 Bandana Blvd W, at Bandana Square, St Paul MN (651) 647-1637

Guest of Honor: Charlie Jane Anders

Charlie Jane Anders is the author of the Nebula Award-winning novel *All the Birds in the Sky* (2016) and the collection *Six Months, Three Days, Five Others* (2017). She’s the organizer of the “Writers with Drinks” reading series, and she was a founding editor of *io9*, a website about science fiction, science, and futurism, and co-founder of *Other* magazine, a magazine of pop culture and politics for the new outcasts. Her stories have appeared in *Asimov’s Science Fiction*, *The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction*, *Tor.com*, *Lightspeed*, *Tin House*, *ZYZZYVA*, and several anthologies; and five chapbooks. She is recipient of the Lambda Literary and Locus awards. Her novelette, “*Six Months, Three Days*,” won a 2017 Hugo Award.

Guest of Honor: Bryan Thao Worra

Bryan Thao Worra is the president of the Science Fiction Poetry Association, an international literary organization celebrating the poetry of the imaginative and the fantastic. A Lao American writer, he holds over 20 awards for his work, including an NEA Fellowship in Literature, and was chosen as a Cultural Olympian representing Laos during the 2012 London Summer Games. His books include *The Tuk-Tuk Diaries: Our Dinner with Cluster Bombs* (2003), *On the Other Side of the Eye* (2007), *Winter Ink* (2008), *Barrow* (2009), *Demonstra* (2013), *Tanon Sai Jai* (2016), and the e-book *Touching Detonations* (2012). His work appears internationally, including in Australia, Canada, Scotland, Germany, France, Singapore, Hong Kong, Thailand, Korea, and Pakistan.

Posthumous Guests:

Theodore Sturgeon (1918-1985) is the author of *More Than Human*, *A Saucer of Loneliness*, *Need* and *Godbody*.

Madeleine L’Engel (1918-2007) is the author of *A Wrinkle in Time*, *A Wind in the Door*, *A Swiftly Tilting Planet* and *Many Waters*.

Philip Jose’ Farmer (1918-2009) is the author of *The Lovers*, *Night of Light*, *To Your Scattered Bodies Go* and *The Best of Philip Jose’ Farmer*.

Also Attending: Eleanor Arnason, Ruth Berman

Check out the latest news at www.diversicon.org.

“Diversicon is a truly invigorating, well-crafted, and enjoyable conference for true sci-fi lovers, progressive thinkers, and science fiction readers alike. Diversicon provided an excellent platform for me to share my works *Afrofuturism* and *Rayla 2212* to new audiences. I was thoroughly elated to meet so many thoughtful and conscious sci-fi readers who were truly struggling with the themes and works amongst edge future writers and beyond. I look forward to attending in the future.”—Ytasha L. Womack

“Thanks for a wonderful weekend! Diversicon is one of the most enjoyable conventions I have ever been to in over 30 years of con-going!”—Rob Chilson

Message from the Chair:

Diversicon is great con to put on your calendar. If you are looking for smart, literate and fun panels, discussions and conversations on speculative fiction come join us. It's the people who attend who make it a great weekend. --Scott Lohman

Flash Fiction, Round 11! The Flash Fiction Contest, suggested by Diversicon 16 Guest of Honor Anne Frasier, continues at D26 with Judge Charlie Jane Anders. We want stories up to 250 words (firm) related to the Convention Theme, "Diversitopia." Entries will be judged on the creative interpretation of the theme, the quality of the writing, and emotional/intellectual impact. The winner gets a cool certificate, the honor of winning, and the opportunity to read your work out loud at our Auction Halftime Saturday night. Submit no later than 11:59 p.m. Central Standard Time, July 6, 2018, to diversicon@gmail.com. No entry fee, but only open to attending members of the convention. Writers of any experience level may submit. The Diversicon Chair and the Programming Director are ineligible. Authors retain all rights to their stories.

Programming: Programming will feature two to 2 ½ solid tracks (40-50 items), including Guest readings and/or presentations, our usual lively mix of panels and discussions on SF in literary media, film, TV, and graphic arts; speculative science; alternative lifestyles; and—especially—multicultural SF. We'll hold our 19th annual Yugo Awards Book Review for "Best SF Books That Should Have Been Written." Other topics will include the work of the Guests, both living and posthumous; the announcement of the winners of the Rhysling Award for Best Science Fiction and Fantasy Poetry of the Year, with accompanying round robin readings; and the fabulous SF Minnesota Auction. Your Programming suggestions are welcome! Contact Eric M. Heideman, eheideman@dhzone.com, and Scott Lohman, scottl2605@aol.com, and/or the Diversicon PO box, and/or the Programming "Blue Sheet" posted on our website, to submit ideas—priority consideration will be given to ideas received by May 15, 2018—and/or to let Programming know of your interest in being on program items.

SF Minnesota Auction: Featuring books, DVDs, BluRays, artwork, and miscellaneous items, the Auction supports our Supporting Organization and its projects. And it's great fun! To donate or consign items contact Eric (eheideman@dhzone.com) or Scott (scottl2605@aol.com).

Hotel: We're pleased to remain at the traditional Best Western Plus—Como Park (formerly Bandana Square), 1010 Bandana Blvd W, St Paul. Built inside an historic 1891 train shop, with original tracks running through the lobby, the hotel has a swimming pool, sauna, free guest computer, and free wireless. A free breakfast, hot and cold, is served in the lobby for hotel guests. The hotel's own lounge, The Waiting Room, is open from 4:00-9:00 p.m. Monday-Saturday. A nearby restaurant is Gabe's by the Park, 991 Lexington Pkwy N. The hotel has a strong connection to the fan community; in 2018 it will host the Western Convention Con-Sarnit Eleven (of 11), June 8 & 9, 2018; and Diversicon for the 14th time (of 26). The Diversicon rates will be posted to our website: www.diversicon.org. Specify Diversicon when reserving a room: 651-647-1637. Deadline: July 6, 2018.

Hospitality: Rich Brown will serve gourmet coffee and latte Saturday and Sunday mornings; Sybil M. Smith, Carole Ashmore, and Hank Lederer will host our Hospitality suite, near our function rooms. More Hospitality hosts are eagerly sought.

Krushenko's: Inspired by a Manhattan bistro in Larry Niven's *Ringworld*, this space is for people who like to spend some time at SF conventions talking about SF. It started at the 1983 Minicon, and now also materializes at MarsCon, WisCon, and Con-Sarnit (including Diversicon-sponsored or co-sponsored parties at MarsCon and WisCon). At Diversicon 26 it will be near the function rooms. Stop by for a mix of readings, discussions, and conversational parties hosted by SF groups.

Parties: We like parties! If you and/or your SF-related group are interested in hosting a party at D26, contact Hotel Liaison Eric M. Heideman (eheideman@dhzone.com) and/or Chair Scott Lohman (scottl2605@aol.com).

Diversicon 26 Registration

Name_____

Address_____

City, State/Province, Postal Code_____

Email_____ Website_____

Phone_____

I'd like information on the following: Program Participation___ Dealer Table___ Art Display___

Party Hosting___ General Volunteering___

Enclose check or money order and mail to: Diversicon 26, PO Box 8036, Lake Street Station, Minneapolis MN 55408. Make checks payable to Diversicon 26. Do not mail cash. Or you may pay via PayPal to diversicon@gmail.com Complete instructions available at www.diversicon.org

Rates:

Now—Through Ides of March (15 March), 2018: Adult \$30; Student (ages 12-25) \$20; Supporting \$10

Through Bastille Day (14 July), 2018; Adult \$35; Student \$25; Supporting \$10

At the Door: Adult \$45; Student \$35; Converting \$30 Child (ages 5-11) \$5 anytime

Dealers: Our dealers will get our early membership rate (\$30) for each person working the table, plus \$20 for the first table, \$15 for a second table, if available. Space is tight. To get on the waiting list, contact Eric (eheideman@dhzone.com).

Art: Attending Artists will get our early membership rate (\$30) in return for hanging out in the Vendor Room for an hour on Saturday and talking about their work. The Attending Artists display rate is \$1 per bid sheet (per piece). Walk-in art will be accepted from a non-attending artist or agent at the rate of \$2 per bid sheet. Items that receive two or more Silent Auction bids will be included in the SF Minnesota Auction Saturday night.

Program Book Ads: Advertise your event, service, or cause in the Diversicon Program Book. Ads are \$50 full page (8 ½" x 11"—7 ½" x 10" screen); \$35 half page; \$25 quarter page.

Supporting Organization: Your group's Supporting Organization Grant of \$25 or more helps support such SF Minnesota projects as the monthly Speculations Readings Series at DreamHaven Books; Diversicon parties at other conventions; and *Tales of the Unanticipated*. In return for your grant, your organization will receive a thank you note in Diversicon 26 Progress Report Two and on our website, and a paragraph write-up in the Diversicon 26 Program Book in July.

"The Diversicon crowd certainly know how to make you feel like a DIVA in Minneapolis! This was an exciting convention: great conversations, a lot of fun-loving folk, with the gift of gab who think about how to be active in the science fiction and fantasy in our lives. Diversicon is a trip worth taking."—Andrea Hairston

"Diversicon is a convention for the unconventional."—Karen Joy Fowler

"I can't remember ever having more fun at a con."--Jack McDevitt



Diversicon 26
PO Box 8036
Lake Street Station
Minneapolis MN 55408
Progress Report One

“Diversicon is an experience. Great conversations, warm and welcoming, with a broad range of ideas, insights, interests, and offbeat humor. I loved it! Had a great time. Will be back again!”—Sheree R. Thomas

“How does Diversicon manage to be stimulating and relaxing at the same time? It's a weekend-long conversation about crazy ideas with people who are fully engaged but not full of themselves. That's my definition of a good con.” --Carolyn Ives Gilman

“People who like this sort of thing will find this the sort of thing they like.”—Abraham Lincoln

Diversicon is a project of SF MINNESOTA, a multicultural, multimedia organization dedicated to improving contacts among groups and individuals interested in speculative fiction, in and out of the traditional SF community. Our continuing mission: to provide the most thoughtful Programming and the mellowest, most welcoming Parties of any Minnesota SF convention, and to making our state's SF community more closely reflect the cultural diversity of Minnesota in the third millennium.

For Further Information:

Diversicon 26, PO Box 8036, Lake Street Station, Minneapolis MN 55408
Web: www.diversicon.org; diversicon@gmail.com
Facebook: Diversicon

Scott Lohman: Diversicon 26 Chair, scottl2605@aol.com
Eric M. Heideman: Programming, eheideman@dhzone.com