

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: Bryan Thao Worra is the President of the Science Fiction Poetry Association, an international literary organization celebrating the poetry of the imaginative and 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*, *On the Other Side of the Eye*, *Winter Ink*, *Barrow*, *Demonstra*, *Tanon Sai Jai*, and the e-book *Touching Detonations*. His work appears internationally, including in Australia, Canada, Scotland, Germany, France, Singapore, Hong Kong, Thailand, South Korea, and Pakistan.

Guest of Honor: 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*. 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 a recipient of the Lambda Literary and Locus awards. Her novelette, *Six Months, Three Days*, won a 2017 Hugo Award.

Guest Artist: Ursula Hustad is a nationally recognized fantasy painter, illustrator, and teacher.

Posthumous Guests:

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

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

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

Also Attending: Eleanor Arnason, Ruth Berman, Rob Callahan, Phyllis Ann Karr,, Sandra Lindow

Check out the latest news at www.diversicon.org, including our updated behavior and harassment policies.

"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 convention."—Carolyn Ives Gilman

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

Message from the Chair:

Diversicon is a 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 in 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 14, 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 2-2 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, graphic arts, and interwebs; speculative science; alternative lifestyles; and—especially—multicultural SF. We'll hold our 20th 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 2nd annual announcement of the winners of the *Rhysling Award for Best Science Fiction and Fantasy Poetry of the Year*, with accompanying round robin readings and a poetry writing workshop; panels on planned societies, utopian and dystopian; "Science Fiction and the Stories That Don't Explain Themselves", and the fabulous SF Minnesota Auction. Contact Eric M. Heideman, and/or Scott Lohman, at the Diversicon PO box, and/or the Programming "Blue Sheet" posted on our website, to submit ideas—priority consideration will be given to those received by May 31, 2018— to let Programming know of your interest in being on Program items.

SF Minnesota Auction: Featuring books, DVDs, Blu-Rays, artwork, and other miscellaneous items. The auction supports our sponsoring organization and its projects. And it's great fun! To donate or consign items contact Eric or Scott.

Hotel: We're pleased to remain at the traditional Best Western Plus—Como Park. Built inside an historic 1891 train repair shop, with original tracks running through the lobby. The hotel has an exercise room, 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. The horror fiction convention, Arcana, has met there for 26 consecutive years, and the Western convention, Con-Sarnit, will meet there for the 11th year (of 11) on June 8 and 9, 2018. Diversicon meets there for the 14th time (of 26). By now the Diversicon room rates should 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. Carole Ashmore and Hank Lederer will do some hosting at our Hospitality Suite. 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, Minicon, and WisCon). 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 _____
Phones _____

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 or money orders 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 Bastille Day (14 July), 2018: Adult \$35; Student (ages 12-25) \$25; Supporting \$10
At the Door: Adult \$45; Student \$35; Converting \$30; Child (ages 5-11) \$5 anytime

Dealers: Our Dealers will get our \$30 early membership rate 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 (ehaideman@dhzone.com).

Art: Attending Artists get our \$30 early membership rate 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: SF Minnesota thanks the speculative fiction book discussion group Second Foundation for its donation. 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 write-up in our website and in the Diversicon 26 Program Book in July.

"Diversicon is a truly invigorating, well-crafted, and enjoyable conference for true scifi lovers, progressive thinkers, and science fiction readers alike. Diversicon provided an excellent platform for me to share my works Afrofuturism and Rayla 2012 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

"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 of our lives. Diversicon is a trip worth taking."—Andrea Hairston



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

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

“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

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

“People who like this sort of thing will find it the sort of thing that 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