Diversicon 28
“The Roaring 2020s”
July 30-August 1, 2021
Crowne Plaza Minneapolis West Hotel
SF MINNESOTA (founded February 1992) is a multicultural, multimedia organization dedicated to improving contacts among groups and individuals interested in speculative fiction, in and out of the traditional SF community. We have a special commitment to helping make our state’s SF community more representative of Minnesota in the third millennium.

In addition to our biggest project, DIVERSICON, we also co-sponsor the SPECULATIONS READINGS SERIES, at DREAMHAVEN BOOKS (2301 38th St, Minneapolis). After the monthly readings, interested persons hobnob at a nearby restaurant, offering a chance for the local SF writing community and their reader friends to hang out.

We host an annual CLASSIC HORROR FILMS party in the fall--the same Saturday and same hotel as the MarsCon Masquerade Ball--surveying the history of the classic tradition in horror films, complete with complimentary refreshments and historical notes on the period and theme celebrated at the party. The event is free.

SF Minnesota publishes the long-running speculative fiction magazine/anthology Tales of the Unanticipated.

Worthy causes to which we have contributed include the Gordon R. Dickson SF Writing Scholarship and the Down Under Fan Fund. Diversicon hosts or co-sponsors parties in Krusenkeno’s at MarsCon, Minicon, and WisCon.

The Board of Directors welcomes proposals for additional projects.
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Welcome
By Scott Lohman, Chair

It’s been an interesting time. The world looks different from the last time we were together in person. Viruses and pandemics are no respecters of SF fans. SF fans have found alternatives to meeting in person. Now with the vaccines being successful and people respecting the danger of the virus we can meet again in person. It’s good to be back.

I would like everyone to observe good, common sense COVID safety protocols. The rooms will allow spacing. Wear masks if you feel the need. Many of us are vaccinated and may choose to not wear masks. Let’s respect each other and keep it safe.

This is a new hotel for us. After the “adventure” of 2019, we decided to change hotels. The Crowne Plaza is a bigger space for us and it will give us options we’ve not had.

We have our usual mix of programming. Diversicon is known for its wide variety of serious and fun panels. Our two live guests are both local and will highlight why Minnesota is a good place for writers.

Let’s all play safe and enjoy the con. Diversicon is an amazing community that exists for a weekend once a year, enjoy the people, gatherings and programming.
Guest of Honor: Micheal Merriam
By Abra Staffin-Wiebe

Michael Merriam’s writing explores the modern mythology of America, from steampunk and weird west yarns, to rural folk tales and contemporary ghost stories. His bones are railroad ties. He has published ten books and over 90 pieces of short fiction and poetry. His novella, Should We Drown in Feathered Sleep, was long-listed for the Nebula Award, and his novel, Last Car to Annwn Station, was named a Top Book by Readings in Lesbian & Bisexual Women’s Fiction.

He has lived many lives, as a bassist in a rock-a-billy band, short-order cook, playwright, blind spoken-word artist, insurance gremlin, late night disc jockey, manager of a puppet troupe, scriptwriter, actor, poet, and novelist, but he has always been a storyteller. His memory travels a route of haunted bus stops.

He currently lives just outside Minneapolis, with his wife, her squirrel army, and their majestic floofs. He carries the ghosts of the Midwest with him wherever he goes: endless grassland prairies, abandoned schoolhouses, trains that still haul daily cargo and those that only show up when a full moon’s silver light shines on the tracks.

Michael is a founding member of the Minnesota Speculative Fiction Writers and a member of the Artists with Disabilities Alliance, the Steampunk Artists and Writers Guild, and Story Arts Minnesota.

If you are in a room with him, you may hear the sound of a distant train whistle or a strange mechanical ratcheting noise. It’s best not to look for the source of such sounds. Read a book instead. Find Michael Merriam’s fiction at http://michaelmerriam.com.
Special Guest: Abra Staffin-Wiebe
By Michael Merriam

Abra Staffin-Wiebe deals in dark science fiction, cheerful horror, and futuristic fairy tales. Abra Staffin-Wiebe’s fiction is not for the faint of heart. Here there be monsters and myths, things both beautiful and bizarre. Her stories beg you to enter the strange cabin in the woods – or maybe the strange cabin on a starship – and get comfortable. Don’t worry about the fluffy pink murderbears.

Abra spent many years dwelling in far-off places such as Africa, India, and Kansas, before settling down in the cool green heart of Minneapolis. Oh, did we mention the mad scientist? She married one. Keeps him in the attic. You are forewarned.

Besides her very own mad scientist husband, she also wrangles two delightful children and various pets, teaches at the Loft Literary Center, manages Aswiebe’s Market List, narrates for several of your favorite podcasts, and steals the souls of – I mean – photographs whatever will stand still long enough for her to catch on camera.

How does she do it all, you might ask? Simple. Abra has discovered the secret to folding time and space. And she is not sharing! Seriously, it’s proprietary.

Rather than trying to convince her to give up her secrets, you should read her fiction. We suggest A Circus of Brass and Bones, a post-apocalyptic steampunk novel following a circus traveling through the collapse of civilization, or her most recent book, The Unkindness of Ravens, an epic fantasy coming-of-age story about trickster gods and favors owed.

And that firebird you see following her around? The one offering gifts? Perhaps best to give that a pass. But you should definitely pet the Very Good Dog at her side, even if it is mechanical. Find out more about Abra and her works at www.aswiebe.com
Issac Asimov was born in Petrovichi in Russia. The family emigrated to the United States in 1923. His siblings were all born in the United States. Asimov was fluent in both Yiddish and English. He taught himself and a sister how to read when he was 5. His family owned a number of candy stores, that sold newspapers and magazines, including early pulp science fiction ones. Asimov credited that aspect of what his parents did to his life long love of reading and then writing. At first his father did not approve of the SF magazines, however Isaac convinced his father that the magazines were serious as they had “science” in the titles.

He attended New York public schools and went to Columbia. He started as a zoology major, but discovered a dislike of dissecting animals. He switched to chemistry. Asimov spent 3 years during World War 2 working as a civilian chemist at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. He was drafted into the Army in 1945, but due to an error with his date of birth, he was removed from the early nuclear tests missing going to the Bikini Atoll. He was discharged from the Army in July 1946 at the rank of corporal. He then completed his doctorate and joined the faculty at Boston University School of Medicine.


Asimov earned decent fees speaking about science. However he hated flying and also learned to drive later in life. Asimov loved small spaces and his phobia about that played parts in a number of his stories.

Asimov began writing science fiction short stories in 1938. He didn’t do many novels as a younger writer and began publishing non-fiction books. He began writing more novels in the 1980’s starting with Foundation’s Edge. He eventually linked both his robot novels and the Foundation series in his later years. Asimov is known for his 3 laws of Robotics, as well as coining the word “robotics”. Homages to his robot stories can be found in Star Trek: The Next Generation. Asimov was friends with Gene Roddenberry and is listed as a consultant in the credits for Star Trek-The Motion Picture. Asimov became friends with Astounding editor John W. Campbell because he liked to deliver his stories to the magazine in person. Asimov and Campbell would have lot chats about his writing and other topics. Campbell encouraged Asimov to write the Foundation series. In 1977 he lent his name to a still published science fiction magazine, now called Asimov’s Science Fiction.
Asimov was a member of *The Futurians*, a science fiction fan club. He also had interests in Gilbert and Sullivan as well as mysteries. Asimov wrote a considerable number of mystery stories as well as being a big fan of Rex Stout’s *Nero Wolfe*.

Asimov wrote some 500 books, according to some counts, over his career in both fiction and non-fiction. He won a number of Hugo’s, Nebula’s and Locus awards as well as many other awards.

Asimov contracted AIDS due to a blood transfusion in 1983. It was kept quiet for a number of years and was made public 10 years after his death in 1992.

Asimov is still considered one of the masters of science fiction.
Posthumous Guest: Ray Bradbury 1920-2012

By Eric Heideman

Raymond Douglas Bradbury was born August 22, 1920 in Waukegan, Illinois which imbued him with both the charms and the darkness of small town life. Unathletic, Ray became a devoted reader, especially taken by the Buck Rogers and Flash Gordon comic strips and the Oz novels of L. Frank Baum. He also became an early devotee of movies, especially the films of The Man of a Thousand Faces, Lon Chaney. His family moved to Los Angeles in 1934. When he graduated from high school in 1938 he couldn’t afford college, so he got a job as a newspaper deliverer, and set about educating himself in the public library.

In the late ‘30s he became a founding member of the Los Angeles Fantasy Society. Other members, seeing his talent, encouraged him to keep writing. His work began appearing in science fiction fanzines, then in SF/fantasy/horror magazines. He met Marguerite McClure in a bookstore, and married her in 1947. They stayed together until her death in 2003. At first she became the breadwinner while he kept writing. His first story collection, Dark Carnival, was published by a small press in 1947. That same year Truman Capote pulled Bradbury’s story, Homecoming, out of a slush pile, and it appeared in The Saturday Evening Post, the first of many appearances in national magazines.

Beginning in 1946 Bradbury sold several stories set on a fanciful Mars. They were collected as The Martian Chronicles in 1950. In 1953 came the dystopian science fiction novel, Fahrenheit 451, which remains his most widely read and influential book. He went on to publish the partly autographical novels Dandelion Wine (1957) and Something Wicked This Way Comes (1962), and hundreds of stories, dozens of them collected in such books as The Illustrated Man (1951), The October Country (1955), and I Sing the Body Electric (1969). Under the direction of John Huston, Bradbury wrote the script for Herman Melville’s Moby-Dick (1956). Ray Bradbury Theater, launched by HBO, ran on television from 1985-1986 and 1988-1992. Bradbury wrote the scripts, adapted from his stories, sometimes combining elements of more than one story.

An enthusiastic speaker, Bradbury spoke on a variety of subjects, especially championing space exploration.
In the 1997 edition of Something Wicked This Way Comes, critic Jonathan Jonathan R. Eller writes, “In exploring the underlying themes of Ray Bradbury’s early stories, fellow writer and critic Damon Knight revealed the intense emotional focus found at the heart of his friend’s best supernatural fiction: ‘Bradbury’s strength lies in the fact that he writes about the things that are really important to us…not the things we say we are interested in—science, marriage, sports, politics, crime—but the fundamental pre-rational fears and longings and desires: the rage at being born; the will to be loved; the longing to communicate, the hatred of parents and siblings; the fear of things that are not oneself.'”
In Memoriam:

David Christenson 1958-2021
by Eric Heideman

David C. Christenson, born in Wisconsin, grew up a Packers fan, a cat lover, and an accomplished photographer. He worked as a reporter and photographer for several newspapers, including the collectibles paper The Old Times. In the early 90's he found his calling as a book dealer. This eventually led to his holding down a table at several area science fiction conventions, including Minicon, WisCon, Diversicon, Arcana, MarsCon and CONvergence. He was meticulous about pointing out any defects in items he was offering for sale. He stood among the anchors of the book discussion group Second Foundation. Sometimes he took an hour away from his splendid at-con dealer table to moderate well researched panels about the development of film and book genres. In 2008 he and I cofounded the Western convention Con-Sarnit.

As his sense of responsibility for the local SF community developed he worked as a publications editor for Arcana and Diversicon. As “sugar daddy” for both conventions he acquired much of the material for their fund-raising auctions. While he could, he loved giving readers and viewers’ advisories. Ie: “Yes that paperback is Delaney’s first novel. There’s a tear on page 14, but I think you’ll enjoy the story…”

David is survived by his wife, antiques dealer Abby Andresen. In lieu of flowers, preferred memorials are Water Legacy and Howling for Wolves. Examples of David Christenson's film criticism can be found in all ten issues of Monsterzine.com. His fiction can be found in Tales of the Unanticipated #32 and The Cronus Chronicles, a time travel anthology.
# Programming Grid

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<th>Mainstage (Studio 2)</th>
<th>Altair Four (Studio 5)</th>
<th>Other</th>
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<td>3:05 pm</td>
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<td>Video “I Robot”</td>
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<td>Panel: Writing at Different Lengths</td>
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<td>Video: “Fahrenheit 451”</td>
<td>Poetry (Krushenko’s Annex (Studio 6))</td>
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<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Opening Ceremonies</td>
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<td>Interview: Michael Merriam</td>
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<td>Novel Brainstorming</td>
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<td>Party for Readers</td>
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<td>Waiting for a Spaceship “Moby-Dick”</td>
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<td>Scott’s Saturday Am Cartoons</td>
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<td>Astounding. Analog and the SF writers</td>
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<td>Learning from other writers</td>
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<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Special Guest Interview: Abra Staffin-Wiebe</td>
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<td>Fiction Reading: Phyllis Ann Karr</td>
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<td>Videoaycalypse Pt 2</td>
<td>Rhysling Awards</td>
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<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>Fiction Reading: Michael Merriam</td>
<td>China’s Space Program</td>
<td>State of LGBTQ SF/F</td>
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<td>3:00 pm</td>
<td>Could “Blazing Saddles” be made today?</td>
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<td>SFFPA Poetry</td>
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<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>Fiction Reading: Abra Staffin-Wiebe</td>
<td>State of the Solar System</td>
<td>SF/F Films</td>
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<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Autographing</td>
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<td>5:10 “Something Wicked This Way Comes”</td>
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<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Auction preview</td>
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<td>Party for Creators</td>
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<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>The Roaring 20's</td>
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<td>Star Lines, Dwarf Stars</td>
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<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>Asimovs Mysteries</td>
<td>For All Mankind</td>
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<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>Yugo's</td>
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<td>Roddenberry at 100</td>
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<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>What do I Read Next?</td>
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<td>3:00 pm</td>
<td>Disabled People in Fiction</td>
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<td>Generic Panel</td>
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<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>October Man</td>
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<td>Diversicon’s Past and Present</td>
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<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Closing Ceremonies</td>
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<td>7:30</td>
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<td>Life in the Old Dog Party</td>
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Programming Schedule

Thursday, July 29:

6:30-7:45 pm DreamHaven Books, 2301 38th St E, Minneapolis
Reading/Autographing/Reception by Diversicon 28 Guest of Honor Michael Merriam and Special Guest Abra Staffin-Wiebe

Except as noted, all subsequent items in Crowne Plaza Minneapolis West

Friday, July 30:

3:05-3:55 pm Altair Four (Studio 5)
Video: The Outer Limits: “I, Robot” (b&w, 1964; 50 mins.)
Eando Binder and Isaac Asimov each published a series collection with the I Robot title. The Outer Limits episode combines elements of both books.

4:00-4:55 pm Mainstage (Studio 2)
Panel: Writing at Different Lengths
What are the challenges of writing from flash fiction to short story to novelette, novella and novel?
Abra Staffin-Wiebe, Michael Merriam

5:00-5:55 pm Krushenko’s Annex (Studio 6)
Speculative Poetry Workshop
This year we have a speculative poetry workshop filled with culture prompts and exercises in both short and longer forms to bring out your imaginative verse.

5:00-6:51 pm Altair Four (Studio 5)
Film: Fahrenheit 451 (b&w, 1966, 111 mins.)
dir. Francois Truffaut; scr. Ray Bradbury, from his novel.

7:00-7:25 pm Mainstage (Studio 2)
Opening Ceremonies

7:30-8:25 pm Mainstage (Studio 2)
Guest of Honor, Michael Merriam Interview
interviewed by Scott Lohman

8:30-9:25 pm Mainstage (Studio 2)
Novel Brainstorming Abra Staffin-Wiebe writes, “I have a fun audience participation workshop where the audience and I brainstorm together to come up with a complete SFF novel outline and related world building. Mommy, where do story ideas come from? Well, when a panelist and an audience like each other very much...
Abra Staffin-Wiebe, mod.
9:00-10:00 pm
A Party for Readers and Viewers, sponsored by Second Foundation.
Includes Dave (in memoriam) & Eric and all who would like to join to discuss films for an hour.
Tonight’s topic: How does Blade Runner 2049 fit into the Blade Runner universe. And other topics as they come up.

9:30-10:55 pm
Waiting for a Spaceship: SF/Poetry Slam Open Mic
Getting the weekend off to an exciting start.

9:30-11:26 pm
Film “Moby Dick” (b&w, 1956; 116 min.)
Dir. John Houston, Scr. Ray Bradbury, from the novel by Herman Melville
Saturday, July 31:

9:00-9:55 am Scott's Saturday Morning Cartoons

10:00-10:55 am Panel: Astounding. Since the Roaring 20s, science fiction has been recreating America in its own image, and vice versa. Witness Alec Nevala-Lee's recent book Astounding: John W. Campbell, Robert A. Heinlein, Isaac Asimov, L. Ron Hubbard and the Golden Age of Science Fiction. Eric M. Heideman, Mod; Scott Lohman

10:00-10:55 am Panel or Discussion: What are the most important things you've learned from reading other writers? Martha A. Hood mod.

11:00-11:55 am Special Guest, Abra Staffin-Wiebe Interview interviewed by Scott Lohman

11:00-11:55 am Videoapocalypse (Or Video Killed the SpecFlic Star) The effects of video streaming instant access everywhere. How is this affecting fiction and storytelling? Conrad Zero, mod. Martha A. Hood

11:00-11:55 am Fiction Reading: Phyllis Ann Karr reads from the 11th century British thriller "Barney the Vampyre".

Noon-12:55 pm Panel: Writing While Disabled What are the unique challenges of writing while disabled? A look at technology, time management, and balancing energy levels when you are disabled and an artist. Will include a small survey of disabled authors working in the field today and some of their works. Michael Merriam, mod; Eleanor Frisch

Noon-12:55 pm Noon-12:55 pm Krushenko's Annex

1:00-1:55 pm Videoapocalypse Part 2: "The Pandemic Ruined My Dystopian Manuscript" How has the pandemic effected your reading, writing, watching and storytelling? Martha A Hood, mod. Conrad Zero

1:00-1:55 pm 2021 Rhysling Awards: The annual reading of the Rhysling Award winners.
2:00-2:55 pm  Mainstage (Studio 2)
Fiction Reading: Our guest of honor, Michael Merriam reads from his work.

2:00-2:55 pm  Altair Four (Studio 5)
PowerPoint Presentation: China’s Space Program
Ben Huset

2:00-2:55 pm  Krushenko’s Annex (Studio 6)
Panel or Discussion: The State of LGBTQ in speculative fiction. How have the recent challenges been reflected in LGBTQ SF?
Robin Raianiem, mod.

3:00-3:55 pm  Mainstage (Studio 2)
Panel: Could “Blazing Saddles” be made today? And if not, how do we effectively satirize racism, sexism, corruption and violence in the 21st century?
Greg L. Johnson, Mod. Martha A. Hood

3:00-3:55 pm Altair-Four

3:00-3:55 pm  Krushenko’s Annex (Studio 6)

4:00-4:55 pm  Mainstage (Studio 5)
Fiction Reading: Our Special Guest, Abra Staffin-Wiebe reads from her work.

4:00-4:55 pm  Altair Four (Studio 5)
Continues our annual survey of space exploration and astronomy.
Hank Lederer, Ben Huset

4:00-4:55 pm  Krushenko’s Annex (Studio 6)
Panel or Discussion: SF/Fantasy Films: Two Years in Review
Melissa S. Kaercher, moderator

5:00-5:25 pm  Mainstage (Studio 2)

5:10-6:45 pm  Altair Four (Studio 5)

5:30-7:00 pm  Mainstage (Studio 2)
Closed for Auction set-up.

SF Minnesotar/Diversison Auction  Mainstage (Studio 2)
7:00-7:30 pm Auction items available for inspection
7:30-8:20 pm Bidding: Round One
8:20-8:30 pm Auction Half-Time, incl. Flash Fiction Contest Winner
8:30-9:20 pm Bidding, Round Two
9:30 pm  Krushenko's Annex (Studio 6)
A Party for Creators: Celebrating Tales of the Unanticipated, The Speculations Readings Series, and other SF-Minnesota sponsored activities.
Sunday, August 1

9:00-9:55 am Scott's Sunday Morning Cartoons


10:00-10:55 am Altair-Four


11:00-11:55 am Panel: Star Lines, Dwarf Stars and Eyes to the Telescope, Oh My! Past and present editors of the SFFPA Publications discuss the publications editorial approaches What we’re looking for in the years ahead.

Noon-12:55 pm Panel: For All Mankind: This brilliant, funny new TV series is set in an alternative history in which the Soviets won the race to the moon. Ben Huset mod. Scott Lohman

Noon-12:55 pm Panel: Asimov's Mysteries Looks at both his SF and non-SF mysteries. Carole Ashmore, Mod. Rick Gellman, Hank Lederer

1:00-1:55 pm 22nd Annual Yugo Awards Book Review: The Yugos commemorates the best SF that’s never been written. Carole Ashmore, Hank Lederer, co-hosts

1:00-1:55 pm Roddenberry at 100. 2021 was the 100th anniversary of Star Trek creator Gene Roddenberry’s birth. We’ll take a look at his life and works. Scott Lohman, mod. Robin Raianamedi
2:00-2:55 pm  Mainstage (Studio 2)
Panel: What do I Read Next?  A Diversicon treat. What splendid new speculative fiction has come out over the last couple of years?

2:00-2:55 pm  Altair Four (Studio 5)

2:00-2:55 pm Krushenko’s Annex

3:00-3:55 pm  Mainstage (Studio 2)
Panel: Disabled People in Fiction—Getting Past the Tropes
Why are so many disable people relegated to the three roles of “Wise Mentor Who Dies Act I, Act II Evil Villain of Evil” and “Sad Thing to be Fixed?” How do we move past these tropes and allow disabled characters to be both disabled and a main protagonist/hero of the story?
Michael Merriam, Mod.

3:00-3:55 pm  Altair Four (Studio 5)
Panel: SF/Fantasy Television: Two Years in Review
Scott Lohman, Mod. Ben Huset

3:00-3:55 pm  Krushendo’s Annex (Studio 6)
General Panel: We’ll discuss various topics that have come up over the weekend. We’ll also discuss new topics.
Art Johnson, mod.

4:00-4:55 pm  Mainstage (Studio 2)
Panel: October Man: Ray Bradbury, 1920-2012
Eric M. Heideman, mod.

4:00-4:55 pm Altair-Four

4:00-4:55 pm  Krushenko’s Annex (Studio 6)
Discussion: The Roaring 2020s. Of Diversicon’s past, present and yet to come!
Scott Lohman, Diversicon 28 & 29 Chair

5:00-5:30 pm  Mainstage (Studio 2)
Closing Ceremonies: In which our guests get a chance to say their goodbyes. But wait! We still have…
Scott Lohman, MC; Michael Merriam, Abra Staffin-Wiebe, Eric M. Heideman; Ray Bradbury, Isaac Asimov in absentia.

5:30-7:00 pm Dinner Expedition followed by…

7:30 pm There’s Still Life in the Old Dog Party featuring…Hotel Lobby Conversation and Gaming Krushenko’s (see signage) Conversation and Viewer’s Choice

Dead Dog Open Mic
A Page for Notes
Diversicon Policies

Children
While Diversicon is a child-friendly convention, it is not a child-centered convention. All children under 12 must be accompanied and directly supervised by their adult caregiver at all times. Violators will receive one friendly but firm warning. We reserve the right to pull badges of repeat violators and escort them from the convention. This policy will be enacted if it is felt that the direct safety of the child is involved.

Adult Behavior Policy
Diversicon is committed to offering a convention experience as free from harassment as we can make it for all our members regardless of characteristics such as gender, sexual orientation, nationality, or social class. We do not tolerate harassment of conference participants in any form. Diversicon attendees violating these rules may be sanctioned or expelled from the convention with the discretion of the convention organizers.

Harassment includes offensive verbal comments related to such characteristics, deliberate intimidation, stalking, following, unwelcome photography or recording, sustained disruption of talks or other events, inappropriate physical content, and unwelcome attention. Attendees asked to stop any harassing behavior are expected to comply immediately.

If a Diversicon attendee engages in harassing behavior, the convention organizers may take any lawful measure we deem appropriate, including but not limited to warning the offender or expelling them from the convention with no refund. If you are being harassed, notice that someone else is being harassed, or have similar concerns, please contact a convention staff member immediately.

Convention staff will help attendees contact hotel security or local law enforcement, provide escorts, or otherwise assist those experiencing harassment to feel less unsafe for the duration of the convention. We value your presence.

Crowne Plaza Minneapolis West: 763-559-6600
Police: 911 (emergencies only)
National Sexual Assault Hotline: (800) 656-4673 (24 hour crisis line)
Medical help: 911 (emergencies only)

We expect attendees to respect each other and each other’s boundaries in all convention spaces including but not limited to programming, parties, Vendors room, and Hospitality.
Places to Go:

**Vendor Room** (Dealers & Art) Studio 3  
Friday, 3:00-7:00 p.m.  
Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.  
Sunday, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

**Dealers**

**Art Display:** Attending Artists get our $30 membership rate in return for agreeing to hang 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. Contact Eric (eheideman@dhzone.com) or Scott (scottl2605@aol.com).

**SF Minnesota Table:** Vendor Room; beside Diversicon Registration  
The SF Minnesota Table includes t-shirts of past and present Diversicons; Diversicon tote bags; and *Tales of the Unanticipated*, a Twin Cities speculative fiction anthology, now published by Sf Minnesota, that includes contributions by many Diversicon participants.

Also check out the Auction table in the Vendor Room. The items will be available to examine until dinner time Saturday.

**Hospitality** Studio 4, 2nd floor
There will be drinks and snacks. We'll have wrapped snacks and sodas available.

**Parties:**

**A Party for Readers and Viewers**  
Friday, 9:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m., Krushenko’s (see signage)  
Hosted by Second Foundation, a Twin Cities speculative and science fiction book discussion group that has met regularly since 1983, most of whose members are also film buffs.

**Saturday Evening:**

**Party for Creators**  
Saturday, 9:45 p.m.-2:00 a.m., Krushenko’s.  
Meet staff of and contributors to this long-running (since 1986!) Twin Cities speculative fiction anthology (of which issues 31 and 32 have so far been published by SF Minnesota).

**Sunday Evening:**

**There's Still Life in the Old Dog Party**  
Sunday, 7:15 p.m.-late night. Lobby: Conversation & Gaming  
Krushenko’s: Conversation & Viewers’ Choice  
Dead Dog Poetry Slam: Post Convention poetry reading. Still in town after others have gone home? A last, low-key reading with our SFBA Southeast Asian Speculative poetry locals.
Convention Rooms:
Mainstage, Studio 5 2nd Floor
Panels and other big stuff, including the fabulous SF Minnesota Auction. See Program Schedule.
Altair 4, Studio 2 2nd Floor
Panels, discussions, presentations, and films/videos/radio broadcasts. See Program Schedule.
Vendor Room, Studio 3 2nd floor
Dealer tables, Art Display, and Convention Registration, auction items.
Krushenko's, Studio 6
Intimate parties, panels, readings, and discussions; Viewers' Choice Sunday nights. See Program Schedule.
Supporting Organizations

DIVERSICON and its Sponsoring Organization, SF Minnesota, with to thank the following organizations for their Supporting Organization Grants of $20 or more. The financial assistance from some of the organizations was helpful in hosting Diversicon, Como Park Cons Parties, and/or tales of the Unanticipated Parties at Diversicon, MarsCon, Minicon, and WisCon over the past year, spreading the word about SF Minnesota and its projects. Another donation went to our General Fund, to be used as needed.

CON-SARNIT, a Celebration of the American West in Film, Fiction, Television, Music, Radio, Artwork, Comics, and Historical Fact, is a one-and-a-half-day event, one of two fan-run conventions currently scheduled in the Best Western Plus--Como Park, St Paul (the other being Diversicon). Con-Sarnit 13 is being scheduled to return in 2022, check the website for dates. Friday evening we’ll meet in the hotel lobby, probably walk over to Gabe’s by the Park for dinner, then return to the hotel (Krushenko’s) to watch Westerns. Saturday’s live Program will include a panel on a Western or frontier author; a complimentary lunch; and a panel on the Western Icon of the Year, other activities TBA. Saturday we’ll adjourn to Hospitality for a coordinated pizza order and Western viewings.

Rates: Through New Year’s Eve 2021 just $15. Postmarked through Tuesday, May 26 (the day after Memorial Day), $20; At the Door $25. Make checks payable Eric M. Heideman. Do not mail cash. Mail to Eric M. Heideman, Con-Sarnit 13, PO Box 8036, Lake Street Station, Minneapolis MN 55408. Or PayPal to con-sarnit@comcast.net.

FFI: con-sarnit@comcast.net; eheideman@dhzone.com. Find our pardin, Con-Sarnit Sam, on Facebook!

KRUSHENKO’S (since 1983!), inspired by a Manhattan bistro in Ringworld by Minicon’s 1983 Minicon Guest of Honor, Larry Niven, is a floating space for beings who like to spend time at SF conventions really talking about science fiction and fantasy. At Diversicon 28, we have Krushenko’s for panels or discussions in the day and parties hosted by SF-related groups in the day and parties hosted by SF-related groups in the evenings, as well as as Krushenko’s Annex (Northern Pacific Room) for more panels, discussions, readings, and presentations.

To find Krushenko's in other times and spaces, see signage and/or Program Book listings in the coming year’s MarsCon, Minicon (we understand that Odyssey Con now has Moo-Shenko’s), Wis-Con, Con-Sarnit, and of course Diversicon 28.

"Krushenko’s is accustomed to serving Alien Guests!"

SECOND FOUNDATION, a group for the serious discussion of speculative and science fiction, meets at approximately six-week intervals, usually Sundays, 2:00-4:00 p.m., at Parkway Pizza, 4359 Minnehaha Ave, Minneapolis. Each meeting centers around a discussion topic, usually the work of a particular SF author. We talk about the acknowledged giants in the field and interesting lesser known writers. At Twin Cities SF conventions, we have on many occasions sponsored discussions of the work of a particular Guest of Honor with the author present and participating. Outside of conventions, our formal discussions usually last about two hours. On occasion we follow these with a trip to a member’s house to watch a film related to the day’s topic. At Diversicon 28, join us for A Panel for Readers and Viewers Friday, 8:45 p.m.-1:00 a.m. in Krushenko’s.
TALES OF THE UNANTICIPATED (TOTU for short) the anthology of SF Minnesota, features off-the-beaten path speculative fiction, poetry, artwork, interviews, and interviews with SF authors.

For an extensive run of back issues, visit the SF Minnesota Table at Diversicon 28. Come to Diversicon 28's Party for Creators Saturday after the Auction, in Krushenko's (). Visit our websites for periodic updates.

www.totu-ink.com
www.diversicon.org
www.sfminnesota.org
Diversicon and SF Minnesota Events

Thursday, August 12, 2021:
Speculations Reading: S.N. Arly.
6:30-7:45 p.m. DreamHaven Books, 2301 38th St E, Minneapolis.

Monday, August 23, 2021:
Diversicon 28 Post-Mortem, followed by a brief Diversicon 29 Planning Committee Meeting,
6:30 p.m. at Saigon Uptown, 3035 Lyndale Ave S, Minneapolis. Come and share your feedback
and (if you like), volunteer! We meet about ten times a year.

Sunday September 5, 2021
Second Foundation discussion group. Parkway Pizza, 4359 Minnehaha Av S, Minneapolis Mn
55406. 1:30-3:30.

Saturday, October 16, 2021:
TOTU and Diversicon at Twin Cities Book Festival, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Minnesota State Fair grounds
www.raintaxi.com/bookfest

Saturday November 13, 2021
The Classic Horror Films Party, Part 29: Becoming Uncanny: Karloff in the ‘30s. An annual
party celebrating the classic tradition in horror cinema, complete with a playbill for the films
being celebrated. In the same hotel, at the same date, as MarsCon’s Masquerade Ball. The
Classic Horror Party is free.

Speculations Readings:
Check the website for readings throughout the year. Held at: DreamHaven Books, 2301 38th St
E, Minneapolis.

Other Events in 2022
Diversicon hosts (with Con-Sarnit) parties at MarsCon (March 11-13, 2022), Minicon (Easter
Weekend, April 15-17 2022) and WisCon (Memorial Day Weekend, May 27-30, 2022)

Check the Diversicon, SF Minnesota, and Tales of the Unanticipated websites for updates:
www.diversicon.org
www.sfminnesota.org
www.totu-ink.com
And/or visit our Facebook page.
Tales of the Unanticipated

The Anthology of SF Minnesota!

Features off-the-beaten-path speculative fiction, poetry, and artwork, and the occasional SF-related essay or interview.

For an extensive run of back issues visit the SF Minnesota Table in the Vendor Room at Diversicon 28. When ready there will be an announcement about a one-month submissions window for #33. We will publish submissions guidelines, and the submissions window dates.

Come to Diversicon’s Party for Creators Saturday night after the Auction, in Krushenko’s ().

www.diversicon.org
www.totu-ink.com
www.sfminnesota.com
Con-Sarnit

A celebration of the American West in films, fiction, folklore and historical fact.

-is on hiatus, but we’ll be back in 2022!

To get on our contact list, e-mail Eric M. “Doc” Heideman, Con-sarnit sheriff

Eric M. Heideman, eheideman@dhzone.com
Hotel Information

Crowne Plaza Minneapolis West
3131 Campus Dr
Plymouth MN 55441
(763) 559-6600

This is our first year at this hotel.

The hotel has the usual amenities of a pool, workout room and business center for paying guests.

Restaurant
Creekside Cafe and Lounge
Breakfast buffet and Dinner
Bar and Lounge
Food: 7:00 am-9:00pm

There are also a number of restaurants located along Hwy 55 going either east or west.

Diversicon will help coordinate dinner expeditions for people who want to drive farther. If enough persons express interest to us, we might also coordinate a Saturday dinner order.

If you encounter any problems, please contact Scott Lohman, Convention Chair, Eric M. Heideman, Hotel Liaison, or another committee member. Enjoy your stay and have a great convention!
Volunteers

Chair, Program Book Designer and Publications Co-Editor, Programming Subhead, At-Con Vendor Room Manager, Hotel Liaison, Guest Co-Transportation, Krushenko's Transportation: **Scott Lohman**

Programming Director, Publications Co-Editor, Co-Hotel Liaison, Guests Pre-Con Liaison, Pre-Con Vendors, Krushenko's Host: **Eric M. Heideman**

Planning Committee: **Scott Lohman, Eric M. Heideman, Rich Brown, Carole Ashmore, Hank Lederer, Sybil Smith, Conrad Zero, Rick Gellman, Ben Huset, Christine LaBounty, Christina Maria.**

Treasurer, Registration, Badges: **Arthur C. Johnson**

Hospitality Manager: **Various**

Webmaster, Proofreader Extraordinaire: **Rich Brown**

SF Minnesota Table: **Art Johnson**

At Con Guest Liaison: **Anton Petersen**

Cover and T-Shirt Graphic: **Christina Maria**

Addition Program Book help: **Jessie Lohman**

Programming Subhead, T-shirts & bags, work behind the curtain: **Conrad Zero**

Auction Hosts: **Rick Gellman, Melissa S. Kaercher, Eric M. Heideman, David Christenson (in memoriam), Scott Lohman, Arthur C. Johnson**
Diversicon 29

July 29-30, 2022
Hotel: TBA

Guest of Honor: Taylor Cisco

Special Guest: TBA

Rates: Through Ides of March (15 March 2022): Adult $30; Student (ages 12-25) $20; Supporting $10
Through Bastille Day (14 July 2022): Adult $35; Student $25, Supporting $10
At the Door: Adult $45, Student $35, Converting $25, Child (ages 5-11) $5 anytime

Make out check or money order to Diversicon 29, PO Box 50303, Loring Station, Minneapolis MN 55405.
Or pay via PayPal to diversicon@gmail.com
Complete instructions on Website. Do not mail cash.

For further information: www.diversicon.org diversicon@gmail.com
Scott Lohman, Diversicon 29 Chair: scottl2605@aol.com
Eric M. Heideman, Programming: eheideman@dhzone.com