

CONVERGENCE 2011

PROGRESS REPORT 2



CHRISTOPHER
JONES

WOODLAND



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ANNUAL THEME: TOMORROW THROUGH THE PAST

CONvergence 2011 will be a four-day celebration of Yesterday's Visions of Tomorrow. Will there be Steampunk? Of course. But this theme is more than that.

The first Tomorrowland opened at Disneyland on July 18, 1955, depicting a city of the futuristic year of 1986, the year Halley's Comet would next appear. Visions of the future date quickly. We have communications technology undreamed of a few decades ago, but you still hear endless pining for the flying cars and rocket packs that haven't materialized.

Metaphors aside, 1984 came and went free of Orwell's dystopia, the moon was not flung off into space in 1999, and there were no Pan Am flights to our space station to discuss the monolith found in the moon in 2001. These visions are no longer of what might be, but are instead of what might have been, yet they're no less compelling.

We love Fritz Lang's *Metropolis*, *The Jetsons*, and *Buck Rogers*, even though they are more of the era in which they were made than the era they try to depict.

The science of the age may date the works of Jules Verne, but that can't detract from the sense of wonder and imagination found in his stories. Sometimes we even want our new heroes rooted in an earlier age.

The Rocketeer and Sky Captain soar through the skies of the pulp era, and would be right at home with *Commando* Cody and Doc Savage!

What will tomorrow bring? The answer may be found... yesterday!



REGISTRATION: YOUR FIRST STOP AT THE CONVENTION

CONvergence Registration is your portal to the convention; it's your first stop at the con where you pick up your badge and Programming Guide, and it's the one place every member of the convention passes through.

As an experiment, Registration has decided to hold a **PRE-Convention Pickup** on **Saturday June 25** at our Mission Control space in the **Waterbury Building** (1121 Jackson St. NE, Minneapolis). Hours will be 10:00am–2:00pm and 4:00pm–7:00pm. Members who are registered and have a Valid ID, their postcard or a valid email confirmation may pick up their badge and publications before arriving at the convention. For those who are not able to make it, Registration will still be open at the con **Wednesday June 29** from 3:00pm-6:00pm. NO Money will be taken during the Pre-Convention Pick-Up.

For those visiting the Registration Department **at-con**, we will again have a new home when you arrive at the Sheraton this year:

Wednesday and Thursday come to the **Garden Court** near the Pool from the West Main Entrance to pick up your registration materials.

Friday, Saturday and Sunday Registration will move to **Atrium 8** which is on the North side of the Hotel on the second floor (right above the Coffee Shop).

2012 Pre-Registrations will go on sale Saturday of the con at Noon.



REGISTRATION HOURS

Pre-Convention Pickup (NO Money Taken)

(At the Waterbury Building)

Saturday June 25 10:00am–2:00pm
4:00pm–7:00pm

(At the Sheraton Hotel)

Wednesday June 29 3:00pm–6:00pm

At-Con Registration/Badge Pick-up

Thursday June 30 9:00am–8:00pm

Friday July 1 9:00am–8:00pm

Saturday July 2 9:00am–8:00pm

Sunday July 3 Noon until one half-hour
after Closing Ceremonies

MEMBERSHIP TRANSFER POLICY

In an effort to provide the best service to our membership, CONvergence has updated its policy on **Transfer of Membership**. Members may transfer a membership that they have purchased to either another CONvergence attendee or to a new member on line until **June 15** for **free**. The current process is to send an email to **registration@convergence-con.org** with the following information:

1. Owner's name and address
2. The name and address of the new owner
3. Age of owner
4. Badge Name for the new owner

Transfer of Memberships that occur **at-con** will require:

1. Transfer of Membership Form – completed and legible
2. Owner's signature on the Transfer of Membership form or a printed email with the owner's email address showing and indicating approval of the transfer.

3. New Owner's contact information
4. A \$20 fee if the badge type changes (EG: Adult to Teen).
5. A \$20 fee if the new owner requests a new/personalized badge name.

Transfer of Membership requests will not be accepted by email after **June 15** for the current convention. They will need to wait to be done at-con.

Transfer of Memberships occurring at the convention are still free **IF** there is no change in badge (EG: Badge name or type), otherwise new badges require a \$20 fee.

So to re-cap what's **new**:

1. Pre-CON Transfers will not be processed after June 15
2. \$20 fee if a new badge is needed at-con.

LOST BADGE POLICY

In an effort to provide the best service to our membership, panelists, entertainers, volunteers and others, CONvergence would like to reiterate its policy on lost badges.

Members who have lost their badge need to first go to **Operations (aka "The Bridge")** to see if their badge has been turned in, then go to the registration department, complete an At-the-Door form and pay **\$20** for a new badge to be created. To avoid delays, please be sure to fill out the form carefully and completely.

Lost badges will not be re-issued after the Registration department has closed for the evening.

SERVICE ANIMALS

CONvergence Service Animal Policies have been revised according to Federal clarifications. Please go to **convergence-con.org/faqs/FAQregistration.php#Q13** for all the details.

WHAT'S NEW(S) IN 2011?

HARMONIC CONVERGENCE STAGE

The stage is jammed full... **seriously!** We have been booked solid since September of 2010, so look for some great new faces and returning favorites!

We are THRILLED to announce that the "Tongue in Geek Comedy Hour" was a HUGE success last year, and this year we are collaborating with **Stand Up! Records (www.standuprecords.com)** in all things funny. The Comedy Hour will be hosted again this year by **Andy Brynildson**, host of *Monday Night Comedy Show*. Be sure to come by Harmonic CONvergence stage at **10:00pm Thursday, Friday and Saturday** to get your guffaw on....

Our **Music Track** panels are also growing, so be sure to look for them as you start planning your weekend. We are chock-full of some amazingly talented folks, so be sure you check them out.

We will start featuring some of the acts on the **CONvergence Facebook page** and our **website**, so be on the look out for those links and features.

We are looking for some technically skilled music/theater volunteers for Harmonic CONvergence. If you have technical/sound engineering/musical set-up experience and want to get some Volunteer hours in, contact **Dayna Jean** at **queenvalkyrie@hotmail.com**. Please include "HarmCON tech help" in the subject line.

USS NOKOMIS BLOOD DRIVE

The USS Nokomis (a Twin Cities Star Trek Fan Club) is proud to host its 11th Annual CONvergence Blood Drive on Saturday, July 2 from 11:00am-4:00pm.

- You can save THREE lives with your donation
- It only takes about an hour
- Almost everyone can donate blood, even if they stayed up late partying on Friday night



If you haven't pre-scheduled your appointment, which can be done at www.redcrossblood.org, you can stop by the USS Nokomis' room on Thursday or Friday night to schedule one. You may also stop by the lobby after 11:00am on Saturday July 2 to check for open appointments. Please remember: You have the ability to be a hero and save lives by doing something very simple. Go boldly to the bus and roll up your sleeve!

CVG-TV VIDEOS NEEDED

CVG-TV is the channel of CONvergence TV programming that is broadcast over the Sheraton's internal TV network over the convention weekend, and we're looking for content!

We are looking for DVD copies of **public domain** sci-fi and horror films, as well as **indie films** for which **broadcast rights / permission for use** can be provided. Please submit content on **DVD** to the Video department. You **MUST** provide **return information** if you want your DVD returned.

We're also looking for Guest Announcers for CVG-TV for voiceovers and/or on-camera announcing.

CVG-TV content is due **May 15**. Please contact the Videography Department at video@convergence-con.org if you'd like more information on any of these items.

PROGRAMMING

The CONvergence programming schedule is nearly complete! If you'd like to start planning your weekend, you can take a look at our online schedule at <http://schedule.convergence-con.org>. We are no longer accepting panel suggestions for the 2011 convention year. However, any panel with less than five participants may still be open for additional panelists. Please send an e-mail to programming@convergence-con.org if you are interested.

CONSUIITE

"I wasn't banished; I'm regrouping."
- Connie Mark II (New ConSuite Mascot)

Most of the time, we in ConSuite don't have a lot to tell you in these reports. After all, most of you know where we are, and what we have. But with the increase in attendance, we thought it might be good to offer a little refresher update, especially on what we are not.

At ConSuite, we do our best to provide soda, snacks, and some healthier staples to tide you over between panels, parties, or meals. We've also got room to sit down, relax, and talk with friends -- or make new ones.

What we do not do is provide meals. Even if we wanted to become a restaurant, we simply cannot serve meals to five thousand people. We don't have the resources, we

don't have the space, we don't have the people. We are working on ways to provide more healthy "staple" food - soup, rice, and PB&J sandwiches - more consistently. If things go well, you should be able to get some soup or rice to eat, along with your snacks and soda.

If you'd like to help, we are expecting to need a lot of it. If you're interested in helping out, please send an e-mail to consuite@convergence-con.org.

MASQUERADE REGISTRATION

In order to streamline and speed up the Technical Rehearsals, ALL entrants using any type of music for their entry **MUST** provide (2) copies of the **musical track** on CD AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION. You must label your CD with the following information:

REAL Name of entrant
Entry Title
Contact info (email or phone number)

You will not be allowed to register until your COMPLETED Registration paperwork and (2) copies of music are provided. And remember, the last several years we have seen the registration for the event fill up by 1:00pm on Friday, so be prepared for that. Registration paperwork will be available during the posted Masquerade Registration times at CONvergence Central across from the Mainstage doors.

MASQUERADE REGISTRATION TIMES

Thursday, June 30 2:00pm-5:00pm
Friday, July 1 10:00am-2:00pm and 1:00pm-6:00pm

OTHER MASQUERADE NEWS

Are you thinking about entering this year's Masquerade for the first time in the **Novice** Category? Or are you a **Journeyman**? In collaboration with **CVG-TV**, we are looking for a few of these category 2011 entrants to talk to about their process in preparing for the big show. (We are already covered in the Masters category.) If you are interested, please contact **Dayna Jean** at convergencemasq@gmail.com and she will interview you about the project.

Be sure to look in the 2011 Programming schedule for our "**Masquerade 101**" panel Thursday night. This is a great place to get your pre-show Q & A needs and talk to some of the judges and producers of the event.

New this year, we are introducing a "**Masquerade Recap**" panel on Sunday. Come meet some of the winners and judges, and get a better idea of why their entries were considered award worthy.

We are excited so many folks are doing such awesome **latex work** for the Masquerade. It really adds a complex and interesting dimension to the show and the special effects grow every year. Due to this trending, if you have any type of latex allergy, be mindful of this and take the appropriate precautions. We want everyone to be safe and healthy when participating in the Masquerade this year and in the future.

OPERATIONS TRAINING SESSION JUNE 12

CONvergence Operations will be holding a training session for those interesting in working in Ops at the convention. The meeting is June 12 from 2:00pm-5:00pm in Room 106 at Waterbury Building (1121 Jackson St., Minneapolis), and we will be going through each position and running simulations of what you might run across while working at the convention. Come meet the operations department and get training!

MIDNIGHT SYNDICATE & THE DEAD MATTER AT CVG 2011

Gothic Horror Fantasy soundtrack creator **Edward Douglas** of **Midnight Syndicate** joins our roster of Guests of Honor with two actors from his dark fantasy film **The Dead Matter** (<http://www.thedeadmatter.com>) which will be shown in Cinema Rex. Please welcome Ed, actor **Brian Van Camp** (Mark Pym in the film), and **Jason Carter** (McCallister in the film, also known for his role as the Ranger Marcus Cole on **Babylon 5**) and be sure to see the movie Fangoria describes as "Plays like a vulgar episode of *Scooby-Doo* crossed with *Night of the Creeps*... the music is fantastic... Douglas clearly put his heart and soul into this project, and it shows... fans should flip their brainpans for it." <http://www.midnightsyndicate.com/index.html>

MY SUCKY TEEN ROMANCE IN CINEMA REX

We are delighted to announce that the Cinema Rex Movie Room will be showing Emily Hagins' new film *My Sucky Teen Romance* at this year's convention! Emily's previous film *Pathogen* was shown in Cinema Rex when Emily was a CONvergence Guest of Honor in 2007.

My Sucky Teen Romance premiered during this year's **South By Southwest** film festival in Austin, Texas. The film is described this way, "In a culture that is currently overrun with romanticized vampires, it is up to four geeky teenagers to defend their friend and beloved sci-fi convention from a group of very real, and very blood-thirsty vampires." <http://www.cheesy nuggets.com/mstr/mstr.html>.

HELP WANTED

Our convention is run by volunteers and we could not do it without you. There are many ways you can volunteer at the convention, from being an elevator operator to helping in ConSuite, from being a Wandering Host to badging, from staffing the Volunteer Table to working in Connie's Space Lounge - CONvergence needs you!

We're looking for **volunteers** and for **feedback!** How can we help you help us? Send any questions or suggestions to volunteers@convergence-con.org. We're listening!

In addition to the usual need for at-con volunteers, several CONvergence departments are looking for help at the staff level. If you are interested in any of the positions or are looking for more information, contact the individual indicated or contact volunteers@convergence-con.org.

ConSuite: Sub-Heads/Staff

- Sub-Head (multiple positions)
- Staff (multiple positions) Seeking experienced ConSuite volunteers to manage soup or rice stations; coordinate and perform ConSuite Tasks.
- Benefits for both positions include early sign-up for shifts and advance notice of the food schedule!

COF2E2 Sub-Head

- 1 position: Training for head position; Plan and run the 24-hour Coffee Shop. Plan the coffee menu, train on equipment and run staff training, at-con serve coffee. Time commitment: Monthly meetings including ConCom, approx 3-hours/month. At-con Commitment: On-call for 72 hours, additional hours for set-up and teardown.

Logistics Sub-Heads (2)

- Sub-Head (2 positions) Volunteering is mainly 2 days before and 1 day after the convention (3-6 hours per day). Involves directing and some lifting during move

in/out. Emphasis on delegation and teamwork.
Contact Amy (amfmborial@gmail.com).

Theme Committee and Guest Search Committee

- Guest Search Committee will recommend future Guests of Honor for the convention. Theme Committee will recommend future topics of convention theme. Apply for either Committee with information about yourself to Mike Lee (michaell@michaell.org)

Dealers Room

- Co-Head (1 position): Attend ConCom Meetings, year-round position, averages 10 hours a month but varies depending on time of year. At con: 10 easy hours helping with open/close each day, walkthrough and coordinating move-in/out. Skills: comfort with google docs, MUST have good customer service skills.
- Dock Liason (1 position) Work on the dock coordinating move-in/out. Some lifting will be required. Hours are during move in/out Wednesday evening, Thursday mostly morning and Sunday evening. Skills: work with dock and dealer's room staff. Works will under pressure a bonus!

Videography

- Camera Operators (multiple positions) Video record events and panels as well as random happenings around the convention. Showcase the con experience! Camera experience preferred, must have steady hands and willingness to sit through panels you may not have interest in. 30-minute to 2-hour blocks of volunteering. Shifts are open around the clock.

Signage Team

- In addition to volunteers to actually post signage around the convention on Wednesday June 29, a team leader is needed to organize volunteers and manage the process. Hours are during move-in on Wednesday June 29, starting in the morning. **Contact Christopher Jones** (creativeservices@convergence-con.org)

Restaurant Guide

- Volunteer needed to call local restaurants around the area of the convention hotel to verify hours over the holiday weekend and inquire about specials/coupons for convention members. Good phone skills a plus. Calls would be made during business hours through the month of May. Deadline for completion **is June 1**. **Contact Christopher Jones** (creativeservices@convergence-con.org)

CONNIE'S QUANTUM SANDBOX

Connie's Quantum Sandbox is looking for **Project Panelists** - panelists of all kinds, especially those with an affinity for science or engineering (and artisans of all types), are in high demand. We currently have planned panels available for jewelers, knitters, costumers and general craftspeople. Don't worry about not knowing how to lead the panel - we have detailed instructions for many of the activities we do in the Sandbox. If you're willing to help us, we'll make sure you don't kill or maim yourself or anyone else (to a significant degree) in the process.

Connie's Quantum Sandbox is also looking for Room Volunteers. Experience in crowd control, art, hobbies, scientific background, or other CQS-style skills are great, but if you're breathing, you're welcome, **We Want You!**

Donations Accepted - We can use your leftover stuff! As usual, the Sandbox is willing to take your leftover scientific tools (no chemicals please) and bits of artistic supplies. Let us know what you have and we will let you know if we can use it.

If you're interested in volunteering in Connie's Quantum Sandbox, or if you've got some leftover stuff to donate to us, or if you just want to experience our delightful personalities on a more consistent basis, you can email us at sandbox@convergence-con.org.

GUESTS OF HONOR

Every year we are fortunate enough to have amazingly talented and fun people join us as Guests of Honor. The coming year looks to be no exception. The following individuals are scheduled to join us as Guests of Honor at CONvergence 2011. Watch our website for the latest additions and updates.



EDWARD DOUGLAS

Composer/filmmaker: *Midnight Syndicate*, *The Dead Matter*

Edward Douglas formed *Midnight Syndicate* shortly after releasing the 1996 version of his film *The Dead Matter* which he directed and scored and would later remake. *Midnight Syndicate*'s self-titled debut album was released the following year, and majority of music on the album was written, arranged, and performed by Edward. Most of the songs on *Midnight Syndicate*'s thirteen albums are characterized by a blend of instrumental music and sound effects and are commonly used to provide atmosphere during the Halloween season, in haunted attractions, and in the role-playing game industry.

BRIAN VAN CAMP

Actor: *The Dead Matter*, *New World Disorder*

Born in Southfield, Michigan, Brian Van Camp plays Mark Pym in *The Dead Matter*, and has also appeared as Coltrane in the Rutger Hauer film *New World Disorder*, and as Lyle Barnes in the TV-movie *Terror in the Mall*.



JASON CARTER

Actor: *The Dead Matter*, *Babylon 5*

Born in London and raised in Gainsborough, a small market-town in Lincolnshire, Carter appeared on stage since he was a child, and spent three years at London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art. In 1982, he landed his first television role on BBC2's long-running *Jackanory* (1965-1996) as Hawkwing. He has appeared in numerous television series including *Viper*, *Beverly Hills 90210*, *3rd Rock from the Sun*, *Angel* and as **Ranger Marcus Cole** on *Babylon 5*. He also played the hedgehog, Hans, in an episode of the television series *The Storyteller*. Jason also voiced **James Bond** in the video game *GoldenEye: Rogue Agent*.

Previously announced **Guests of Honor** include:

BRIAN KEENE

Author: *The Rising*, *The Last Zombie*, *Doom Patrol*

We're delighted to have Brian returning to CONvergence this year. Brian is a Bram Stoker Award-winning author of horror and crime fiction, who has recently been branching out into comics. Brian's novels include *The Rising*, *Terminal*, *City of the Dead*, *The Conqueror Worms*, and *Ghoul*. <http://www.briankeene.com/>

SEANAN MCGUIRE

Author & Filker: *October Daye* and *NewsFlesh* novels

Seanan describes herself as an "Urban fantasy author, old-school horror girl, and comic book addict." She has published short stories, non-fiction essays and poetry. This year Seanan released the Hugo-nominated **Feed**, the first book in her *NewsFlesh* trilogy under the pseudonym of **Mira Grant**. <http://www.seananmcguire.com/>

LYNNE M. THOMAS

Author, Editor & Librarian: *Chicks Dig Time Lords*, *Whedonistas*

Lynne is the Head of Rare Books and Special Collections and Assistant Professor at Northern Illinois University. She has published articles about uses of gender in dime novels, maintains a professional blog called *Confessions of a Curator*, and has appeared as a guest blogger for the Nebula Awards Blog. She is the co-editor of the Hugo-nominated *Chicks Dig Time Lords* and the new *Whedonistas*.

<http://niurarebooks.blogspot.com/>

ANTHONY TOLLIN

Historian & Publisher: *Doc Savage*, *The Shadow*

Anthony is a historian of pulps, and is currently the publisher of a series of lavish reprints of the original *Doc Savage* and *Shadow* pulps through his *Shadow's Sanctum* Press. Anthony also was a colorist for DC Comics working on titles ranging from *The Shadow Strikes to Crisis on Infinite Earths* and *Ambush Bug*.

<http://www.shadowsanctum.com/>

CATHERYNN M. VALENTE

Novelist, Poet & Literary Critic: *The Orphan's Tales* series

Catherynne is a Tiptree-, Andre Norton-, and Mythopoeic Award-winning novelist, poet, and literary critic. Her debut novel, *The Labyrinth*, was a Locus Recommended Book, and her subsequent novels have been nominated for the Hugo, World Fantasy, and Locus awards. She has also published five books of poetry and won the Rhysling Award for speculative poetry. <http://www.catherynnemvalente.com/>

GREG WEISMAN

Writer & Animation producer: *Gargoyles*, *Spectacular Spider-man*, *Young Justice*

Since last joining us at CONvergence, *Gargoyles* creator Greg Weisman has served as the Supervising Producer of *The Spectacular Spider-Man*, and is currently producing the upcoming *Young Justice* animated series.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greg_Weisman

SPECIAL MUSICAL PERFORMANCE BY PAUL AND STORM

Musical and improv duo Paul and Storm will be performing at CONvergence on **Friday, July 1**. You may have heard them on the *Dr. Demento* or the *Bob and Tom* radio shows, seen them online at Homestarrunner.com or YouTube, or watched them perform live with **Jonathan Coulton** or in their touring geek cabaret **W00tstock**. Now you can experience "The Captain's Wife's Lament" at your favorite con! How many verses will they sing for us?

www.paulandstorm.com/



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Convergence Events has a growing number of Community Partners, and you can learn more about them here: <http://www.convergenceevents.org/partners/>. We encourage you to visit their websites and check out their upcoming events!

ANIME TWIN CITIES

Anime Twin Cities is the non-profit organization behind **Anime Detour**, a convention run by fans for fans of Japanese animation, manga (comics), videogames and culture. Held in the Spring each year in the **Sheraton Bloomington** (the same hotel that his home to CONvergence) Anime Detour was first held in 2004 and has grown to 4,500 attendees in 2011. Learn more about Anime Detour at <http://www.animedetour.com/>.

Our partnership with Anime Twin Cities includes jointly renting space at the Waterbury Building in Minneapolis, which serves as office and storage space as well as a home for several events throughout the year for our community.

CON OF THE NORTH

Con of the North is the Twin Cities' longest running games convention, run by an all-volunteer organization dedicated to bringing you the best in gaming every year! **Con of the North 2012** will be held February 18-20 at the Holiday Inn St. Paul East. Con of the North features over 100 events free with your admission; all your favorite tabletop roleplaying games; numerous board games, miniatures, and card game events and tournaments; humorous and engrossing interactive/live-action roleplaying games; and three free computer rooms.

For more information about our convention, visit <http://www.conofthenorth.org/>.

FALLOUT SHELTER ARCADE

In 2010 we entered into a partnership with Fallout Shelter Arcade, Minnesota's only operator of the **Virtual World Tesla II cockpit simulators**. They brought their Tesla II cockpit simulators running *BattleTech: Firestorm* to Garden Court, which were not only enjoyed by several attendees, but it also was a fundraiser for us: For every game paid for by attendees, Convergence Events received a portion of the proceeds.

We are excited to have Fallout Shelter Arcade return at CONvergence 2011, and are looking forward to the benefits they bring to our organization and the CONvergence membership community!

Fallout Shelter Arcade also does monthly gaming events at their own location. Visit them at <http://falloutshelterarcade.com>.

JOKING ENVELOPE

Joseph Scrimshaw's production company Joking Envelope is committed to high-quality intelligent comedy. Their newest production is **Sexy Librarian: File Under Rock Musical**, running April 28-May 21 at the Minneapolis Theater Garage. It's described this way:

A meek librarian lives in quiet frustration until she finds an ancient tome with a horrible spell and transforms herself into a beautiful monster. Whip off your glasses and shake out your hair for this stereotype smashing twist on the classic Jekyll and Hyde tale. A rock musical about fantasy, obsession, and rockin' the bookmobile after hours. Get ready for the total opposite of quiet in the library.

There will be a Converge Upon event at opening night on Saturday April 30, 7:30pm. Tickets are only \$15 when you show your CONvergence badge or T-shirt. To reserve

tickets at the CONvergence price call the Joking Envelope box office at 612-280-9210.

Learn more at <http://jokingenvelope.com/>.

GEEK PARTNERSHIP SOCIETY (GPS)

The Geek Partnership Society is a non-profit organization with a mission of celebrating imagination, inspiring creativity, and building our community, all through service and education. GPS is also Convergence Events other partner in the shared space at the Waterbury Building.

UPCOMING GPS EVENTS

- May 15: **Annual Meeting with elections**
2:00pm at the Event Horizon (Waterbury Building), Room 135, 1121 Jackson St. NE, Minneapolis
- May 20-22: **Art-A-Whirl**
Come check out the artists who will be displaying in our space!
- June 5: **Geek Prom**
Featuring a Steampunk theme

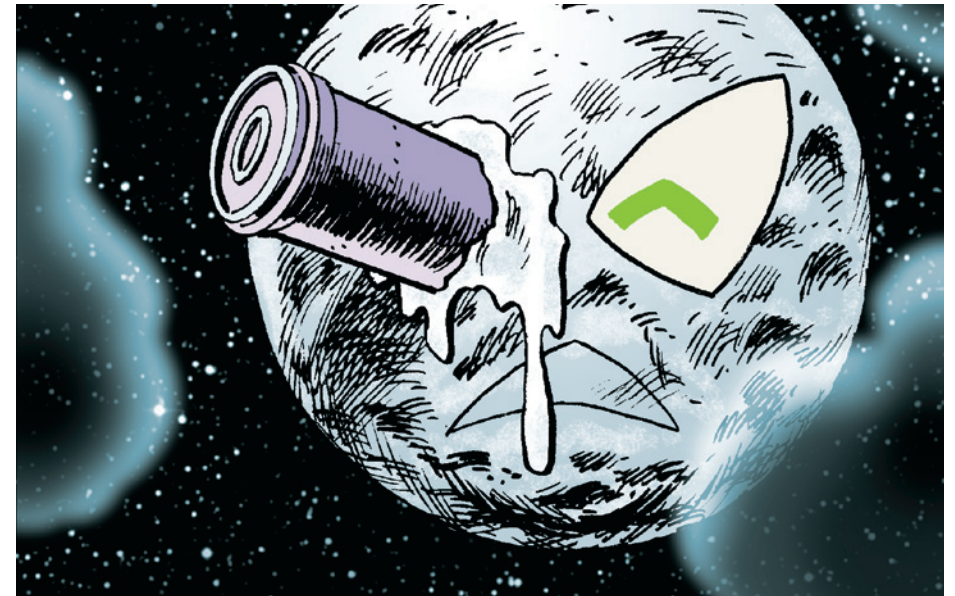
GPS SILENT AUCTION AT CONVERGENCE

The Silent Auction is a GPS fundraising event that takes place every year at CONvergence for partner organization Geek Partnership Society. The purpose is to raise money for the many educational and community activities that GPS is involved in throughout the year.

Silent Auction will make arrangements for dropping donations of at the GPS offices in Event Horizon, the geek community center at 1121 Jackson St NE, Room 106, Minneapolis, MN 55413. Please email silentauction@geekpartnership.org if you'd like to make a donation, or if you'd like to help out. We will need help organizing and inventorying donations pre-con, and help at the convention as well.

GPS CLUBS

GPS clubs continue to meet regularly, including Crafty Geek, Gaming, Geek Physique, Geeks Read, and Read the Book / See the Movie. You can find more information on ALL these clubs and events at <http://www.geekpartnership.org/>.



HOTEL UPDATE

RESERVATIONS

The CONvergence room blocks at the **Sheraton** and the **Sofitel** are FULL, and we are referring all new requests for rooms to the **Crowne Plaza**, located across Highway 100 from the convention hotel. Other hotels in the area prepared to host our attendees are:

The Crowne Plaza

5401 Green Valley Drive, Bloomington, MN (952.831.8000)

The Staybridge Suites

5150 American Blvd W., Bloom., MN (952.831.7900)

This hotel includes free hot breakfast and free shuttle to the convention.

Be sure to request the CONvergence rate.

The convention dates for 2011 are Thursday June 30, Friday July 1, Saturday July 2, and Sunday July 3.

CONFIRMATIONS

As we went to press with PR2, the CONvergence Hotel Team has processed all of the requests received for hotel rooms - more updates should be available on the CONvergence website.

If you have not received a reservation confirmation from the **Sheraton**, think you should, and have made sure no confirmation lurks in your spam or junk folders, please contact us at hotel@convergence-con.org and we will look into it for you. Likewise if you were expecting a confirmation from the **Sofitel**, please let us know so we can check on that as well.

GUARANTEE YOUR RESERVATION

If you have received a confirmation, please be sure to contact the hotel with appropriate methods of guaranteeing your room. Please call the Sheraton's IN-HOUSE Group Reservations Coordinator at **(952) 835-7800** to guarantee your room or to add days to your stay. Please be sure to ask for IN-HOUSE reservations as the national 800 number cannot help you. To cancel your reservation, or make other changes, please contact the CONvergence Hotel Team at hotel@convergence-con.org.

To guarantee your room, you may use a **credit card** or **debit card**. If you use a debit card, please be advised that when you check in, the hotel will preauthorize your room stay, and those funds will not be available to you. Credit card guarantees will not be pre-authorized.

Why is it important to guarantee your room? The Sheraton, in accordance with standard hotel practice, and CONvergence reserve the right to cancel non-guaranteed reservations. Often, when a reservation has not been guaranteed, the guest does not arrive to take possession of the room. Guaranteeing your reservation helps protect it beyond what CONvergence usually does to keep cancellations from happening and helps keep the room available to you in the event of a late arrival.

Please note that if you guarantee the room via credit or debit card and abandon your reservation without calling to cancel, the hotel will charge the first night's stay.

If you have any questions about your reservations, please contact the CONvergence Hotel Team at hotel@convergence-con.org.



PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

CONVERGENCE 2011: A CELEBRATION OF
YESTERDAY'S VISIONS OF TOMORROW
SHERATON HOTEL, BLOOMINGTON, MN

Check the box that will apply on the dates of the convention:

- Adult Badge (18 & over)
- 13 - 17 Years Old
- 6 - 12 Years Old
- 5 and Under

You **must** specify one of the age levels above.

People wishing adult badges will be asked to show a picture ID showing that they are at least 18 years old at the time they pick up their badge. That means that if you're not 18 now but will be by the time the convention is held, you can still request an adult badge.

By registering for a CONvergence membership, you are giving your consent to be photographed or videotaped by the convention.

Required - These fields **MUST** be filled out for us to process your registration.

↑ Full Name

↑ Street Address

↑ City, State, ZIP Code, Country (if not USA)

↑ Phone (Home and/or Work) - at least one is required

NOT Required - An e-mail address is **NOT** required but will speed up the process of confirming your registration and providing you with information about the convention. Without one we will default to mailing you Progress Report booklets, rather than emailing the PDF. Badge names are also not required.

Please print and mail me hardcopy booklets anyway.

↑ E-mail address

↑ Badge Name (If different from Full Name)

Registration Rates

Adult Membership
Until May 15, 2011..... \$ 55
At The Door..... \$ 80
Ages 13-17
Until May 15, 2011..... \$ 40
At The Door..... \$ 60
Ages 6-12
Until May 15, 2011..... \$ 20
At The Door..... \$ 30
Kids 5 and Under...Free

I am interested in volunteering in the following areas: (check all that apply)

- Art Show
- Badgers/Gophers
- CoF2Ez Free Coffee
- ConSuite
- Connie's Space Lounge
- I would like to volunteer wherever I am needed
- I would like information about entering the Art Show
- Connie's Quantum Sandbox
- Gaming
- Harmonic CONvergence
- Move in/Move out Crew
- Operations
- Registration
- Programming Panelist
- Programming Staff
- Silent Auction
- Volunteers

You may like to know that I'm a professional in the field of:

Complete this form and send it (with check or money order, US funds only) to:
CONvergence
PO Box 11996
Saint Paul, MN 55111-0996
Make checks or money orders payable to **CONvergence**.

I'd like more information about American Sign Language (ASL) translation service at the convention.

Thank you for your interest in and support of **CONvergence**, brought to you by **Convergence Events Inc.** If we do not have your e-mail address, confirmation will be sent upon our next scheduled US Mailing cycle. Any confirmation given is pending the clearing of payment. Please note that we keep our information private and won't share your personal information with anyone. **Information provided is proprietary to Convergence Events.** If you have questions or need to contact us for any reason, please use the contact information at right.

US Mail: Convergence Events Inc.
1121 Jackson Street, Suite 106
Minneapolis, MN 55413

Phone: 612.234.2845 (24-hour voicemail)

E-Mail: info@convergence-con.org

Web: www.convergence-con.org

CONVERGENCE

TOMORROW  *THROUGH THE PAST*

Convergence Events

Waterbury Building, 1121 Jackson St., Suite 106
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55413



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