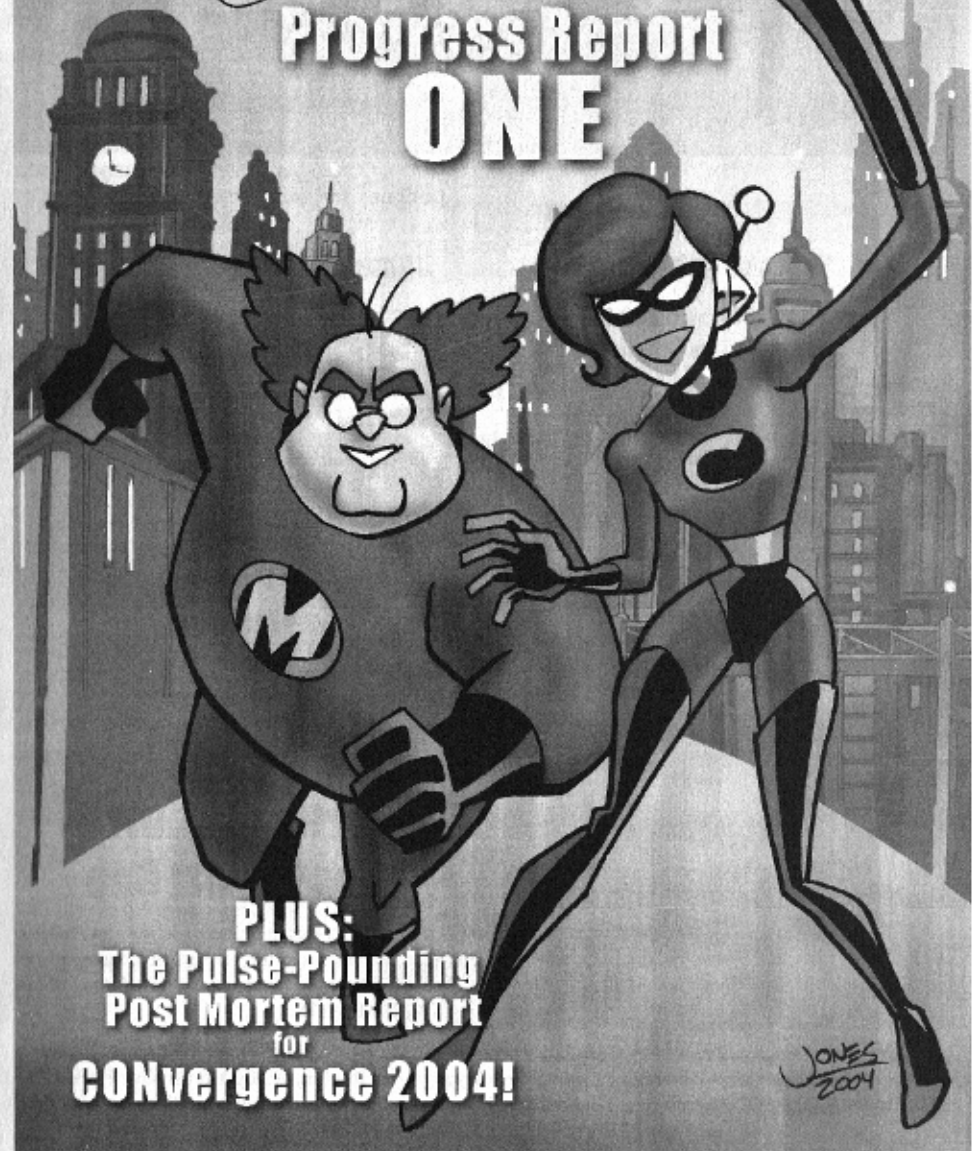


MISFITS
presents

CONVERGENCE 2005

Progress Report
ONE



PLUS:
The Pulse-Pounding
Post Mortem Report
for
CONvergence 2004!

THIS LOOKS LIKE A JOB FOR...

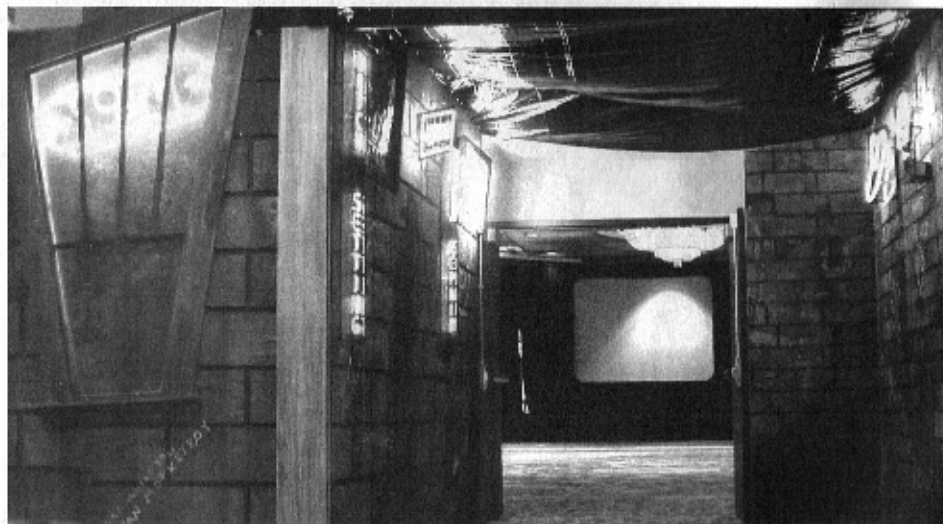
CONVERGENCE 2005

SNIKTI BAMBI TWIP!



c/o MISFITS
The Minnesota Society
for Interest in Science
Fiction and Fantasy!
1437 Marshall Ave, Suite 203
St. Paul, MN 55104

<http://www.convergence-con.org>



CONvergence 2004 MainStage Facade
Designed and constructed by Roadkill & Co.

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CONvergence 2004 Post Mortem Report / CONvergence 2005 Progress Report One

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This publication was designed by Christopher Jones for CONvergence Publications. All artwork is by Christopher Jones unless otherwise indicated. Thank you to Ann Roubik, Windy Merrill, Guy Bock and Windy Bock for their help with proofreading. We always welcome feedback and suggestions, and ask that any comments be directed to the channels listed above.

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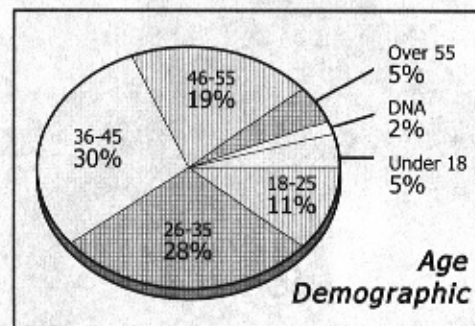
MISFITS e-mail / web site:
info@misfit.org
http://www.misfit.org

2004 Post Mortem

Registration Totals

Total Registrations:	2003: 1,818	2004: 2,086
Pre-registrations:	2003: 1,364	2004: 1,525
At-the-door:	2003: 454	2004: 561
Warm Body Count:	2003: 1,709	2004: 2,014

	Reg Total	Warm Bodies
2004	2,086	2,014
2003	1,818	1,709
2002	1,806	1,679
2001	1,739	1,615
2000	1,601	1,533
1999	1,500	1,398



Demographics

(Based on 227 Survey Responses)

What years have you attended CONvergence?

1999	94	41.41%
2000	111	48.90%
2001	140	61.67%
2002	161	70.93%
2003	184	81.06%
2004	227	100.00% (Duh)

Was this your first CONvergence?

Yes	36	15.86%
-----	----	--------

Gender:

Male	112	49.34%
Female	115	50.66%

Age Demographic:

Under 18	11	4.85%
18 - 25	25	11.01%
26 - 35	64	28.19%
36 - 45	68	29.96%
46 - 55	44	19.38%
Over 55	11	4.85%
Did not answer	4	1.76%

General Items

We again had a successful occupancy of the hotel in 2004. Our thanks go out to the Sheraton Bloomington and its staff. We also want to thank our attendees, who did their part to make the occupancy by the unique and unwieldy beast that is CONvergence as easy on the hotel staff as possible.

Here is the room occupancy by night:

Thursday

121 rooms (22 fewer than 2003)

Friday

493 rooms (46 more than 2003)

Saturday

497 rooms (60 more than 2003)

Sunday

67 (5 fewer than 2003)



Hey, even **Connie** won an award. **Amada Marquez** as Connie from the 2004 Masquerade.
Photo by Peter Verrant

CONvergence 2004 Guests of Honor

(from left to right) Vincent Truitner, Christian Colqhoun, Crist Ballas, Denise Garner, Larry Niven, David Gerrold.

Photo by Peter Verrant



We've had a charmed history of tremendous guests at CONvergence, and it's hard to imagine a more enjoyable, outgoing group of guests than we had at CONvergence 2004. Here are a few samples of what they had to say about their experience at CONvergence:

"I can't say that there is any place where I get a warmer welcome. And I really wanted to thank you."

— **Crist Ballas**, Prosthetic Make-up Artist

"I've been here for six years and I'll keep coming back... I'm looking forward to being back here next year in Cleveland. Cleveland ROCKS!"

— **Denise Garner**, Fantasy Artist

"I need to learn to relax..."

— **Christian Colqhoun**, Physical effects artist

"I've never been to such a high-spirited convention... If all of you had as much fun as I did, then you're just been to the best convention in your lives."

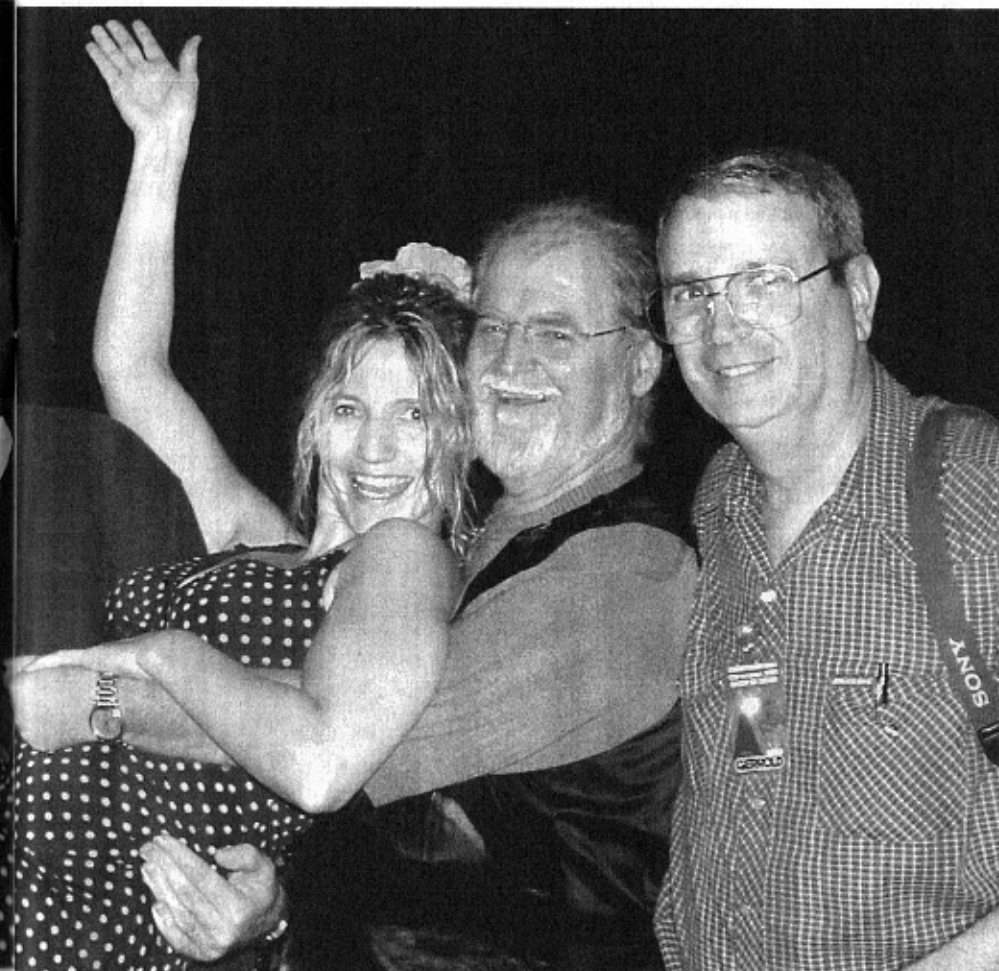
— **David Gerrold**, Science fiction/fantasy author

"This is, in many ways, the perfect convention. The organization has been near 100%... *as far as I can tell.*"

— **Larry Niven**, Author of the Ringworld book series

"I was totally unprepared for the reception and the enthusiasm everyone showed when I came here... just meeting everyone was the best thing about the whole experience."

— **Vincent Truitner**, Animation and CGI artist



Convention Survey Feedback

Each year we take a hard look at how the convention went, both good and bad, in hopes of making the convention even better next year. We talk to department heads and volunteers, and we also look at the hundreds of comments collected from the convention survey. Here are some of the results.

BADGE DESIGN

"Badges with names you can read - Connie [is] cute but I want to know who people are."

— *Survey Comment*

There were some printing issues that altered the badge design from what we intended this year. We do try to make the badge names as large and legible as the badge size will allow. However, given that we have NO control over what someone choose as a badge name, if you really want to learn who someone is, there's still no substitute for going up to them and introducing yourself.

"Badging was better this year."

— *Survey Comment*

The Badging Stations worked much more smoothly this year, and we thank you for your ongoing cooperation. One area that continues to cause a bit of confusion are the two lanes of traffic between the Volunteers

Table and the Fan Table passing into the CONvergence Central Area. Despite our tendency as Americans to pass on the right, the foot traffic patterns in this area make it work best to pass on the left, which is how the badging station is set up. If you need help remembering, think of it as the British system. Or consider it the Michael Sheard honorary badging station.

Some people still question the need for these badging stations. One survey comment even asked "Did you find anyone without a badge?" Well, yes, actually. Several. Some people simply had left their badge elsewhere, and most of those were good about going and getting it. But there were some who were trying to get into convention space without a membership. That's why we badge.



The audience at the 2004 Masquerade. Pictured from left to right... just kidding. Photo by Peter Verrant

MASQUERADE/MAINSTAGE

"Make Art Show [start] after Masquerade."
— Survey Comment

The Art Auction is scheduled so that it starts after the main costumes presentation, but typically before the awards. Life is full of tough choices, and many of them happen Saturday night at conventions...

"Mainstage needs more space."
— Survey Comment

"Dealers Room needs more space."
— Survey Comment

The biggest single space in the Sheraton Bloomington is the Grand Ballroom, which we have to divide to create both Mainstage and the Dealers Room. There is no other space in the hotel large enough to accommodate either of these features of the convention. You see the problem? Until both sides agree to a cage match, we're stuck.

Seriously, there are several locations at the convention that at peak times throughout the weekend are pushed to capacity by demand. While we are limited in our options by the physical size and shape of the hotel, we do the best we can to make the best possible use of our space.

MISCELLANEOUS

"Where is the recycling?"
— Survey Comment

Good question. We'll look into it and try to have some information on that prior to the 2005 convention.

"Elevators broke down too much."
— Survey Comment

Did you know that at least twice the elevators were intentionally broken by convention attendees? We do have some ideas about managing crowd flow with the elevators, but it would help if we could all agree to be nice to the equipment.

"[You need a] better procedure for handling small children."
— Survey Comment

The convention does not provide child care. Small children should not be left unattended and are considered to be the responsibility of their parents.

Those were a few of the main issues we identified from the surveys collected at the convention this year. If you have questions or comments about CONvergence, feel free to contact us any time of the year at info@convergence-con.org.

CONvergence Masquerade Winners 2004

The 2004 Masquerade marked the sixth and final CONvergence Masquerade for director **Kat Pepmiller**. We thank Kat for all her efforts and wish her well. See page 15 of this booklet for news about the CONvergence 2005 Masquerade.

The 2004 Masquerade workmanship judges were **Bernice Hauser**, **Diane Stebben**, and **Crist Ballas**. The performance judges were **Rochelle Rubis**, **Les Roth**, and **Christian Colquhoun**.

The 2004 awards were as follows:

Workmanship

- Best Knowledge — As the Phoenix Burns
- Best Engineering — The Long Kiss Goodnight
- Best Campiness — The Sprites
- Best Originality — KansAss Fashions
- Best Recreation of a Character — Nighterawler
- Best Headpiece — Steampunk Traveller
- Best Phospherence — Tron
- Best Theme-Related Entry — Trenchcoat

Performance

Judges Choice

- Best Composure Under Fire — The Seven-Year Itch
- Most Amazing Debut — Vicious Peacock
- Tastiest Interlude — The Long Kiss Goodnight

- Best Audience Participation — Wizard of Oz Guard
- Best Young Fan — Sakura
- Best Novice — Nighterawler
- Best Journeyman — Trenchcoat
- Best Master — Eulogy
- Best Workmanship — Borg Hybrid
- Best Presentation — Doom!

Pictured: Wizard of Oz Guard.
Photo by Peter Verrant

Best in Show: Storytime

Performed by **The Prancing Pony**
Constructed by **Wendy Beam-Einberger**, **Ann Claussen**,
Stephanie Claussen, **Erin Hildebrandt**, **Gail Hildebrandt**,
Jeff Hildebrandt, **Estelle Moore**, **Felix Needleworthy**



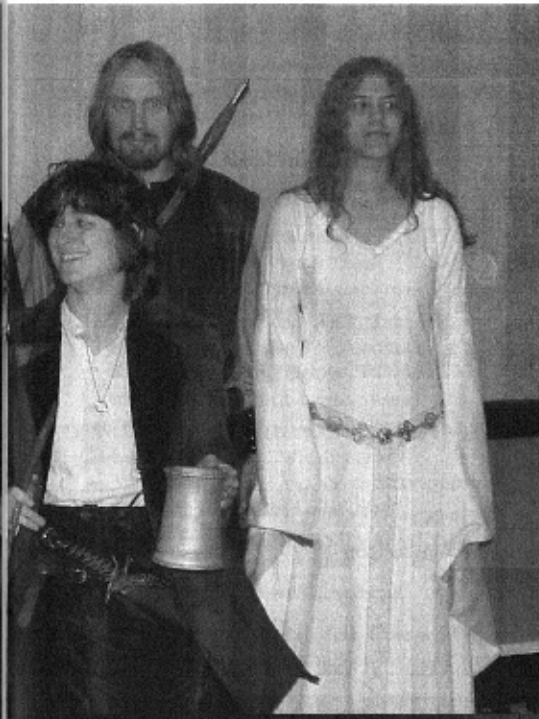
At Left: 2004 Masquerade Best in Show: "Storytime", featuring the Prancing Pony.

Above: Masquerade Emcee Amy Kazinski.

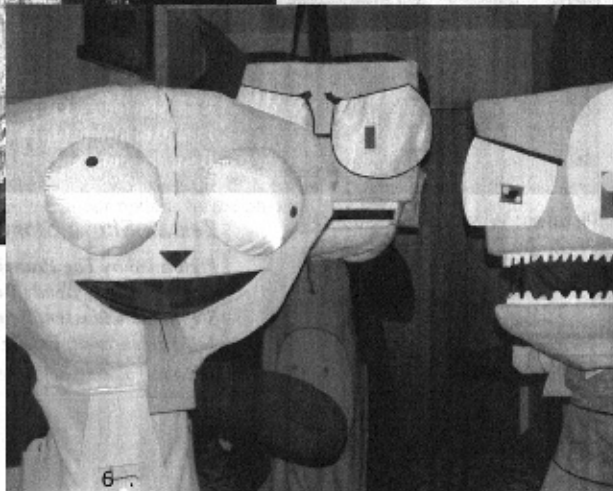


Most Amazing Debut: Vicious Peacock.

All photos on these pages by Peter Verrant.



Best Campiness: The Sprites.



At Right: Best Presentation: Doom!



MISFITS Writing Contest Winners 2004

Each year, the MISFITS organization sponsors a writing contest with divisions for both adult and juvenile writers. Winning entries are published and distributed at CONvergence. For more information on the writing contest, visit www.misfit.org. These were our 2004 winners:

Open Division Awards

Scott Imes Award: *Brown Flowers*, by T.J. Starbuck

2nd Place: *Order*, by Barbara Patten

3rd Place: *Ella Cerulean 27*, by Deborah Oakes

Poetry Division Awards

1st Place: *Starship Wanderer*, by Steven McKillen

2nd Place: *I Hear the Voice of Midnight*, by Brenda Witcher

Youth Division Awards

All Youth Division submissions this year were poetry.

Ages 10 and Under:

1st Place: *Books Are Fun*, by Jasmine Rivers
Bruce F. Vento Elementary School, St. Paul, MN

2nd Place: *The Leprechaun: Jump Rope Rhyme*, by Malcolm Jackson
Bruce F. Vento Elementary School, St. Paul, MN

Ages 11 - 13:

1st Place: *Zepharian Winter*, by Kate Foy
Museum Magnet School at Rondo Education Center, St. Paul, MN

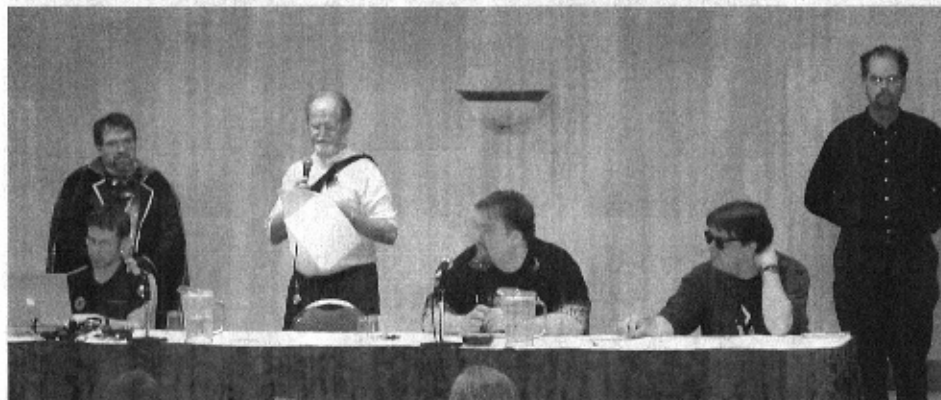
2nd Place: *Mingled Music*, by Maddie Zhu
Museum Magnet School at Rondo Education Center, St. Paul, MN

3rd Place: *Wolves*, by Suzy Xiong
Museum Magnet School at Rondo Education Center, St. Paul, MN

Ages 14 - 16:

1st Place: *The Truth About Clocks*, by Stephanie Engebretson
Anne Sullivan Communication Center, Minneapolis, MN

Thank you to everyone who participated. We'd love to have your story in our **2005 Writing Contest**, so get writing!



A reading by **Larry Niven** is the secret ingredient for 2nd annual *Iron Artist* panel. Pictured from left to right: **Perrin Klumpp**, **Chris Bowlsby**, **Larry Niven**, **Christopher Jones**, **Lou Frank**, **Matt Waterhouse**. Photo by Peter Verrant

Mark Time & Ogle Audio Awards

The Mark Time and Ogle Awards are given each year for the best science fiction and horror audio productions. The awards are presented during CONvergence's Opening Ceremonies. The following were awarded at CONvergence 2004:

2004 Mark Time Awards for Science Fiction Audio

GOLD AWARD - The Convergence
by Jeffrey Adams, International Falls, MN.
30 minutes. www.storiesonmp3.com

SILVER AWARD - A Man Walks Into A Bar
by Prometheus Radio Theater. Produced by Steven H. Wilson, Elkridge, MD. 50 minutes.
mywebpages.comcast.net/swilson15/

HONORABLE MENTION - The ShadowMan
by Dry Smoke and Whispers.
Marc Rose & Jerel McQueen, Beaverton, OR.
75 minutes. www.drysmoke.com/

LIFETIME ACHEIVEMENT IN SF AUDIO - Dirk Maggs
www.dirkmaggs.dswilliams.co.uk/

For more information on the Mark Time and Ogle Awards, visit www.greatnorthernaudio.com/MarkTime/MarkTime.html.

2004 Ogle Awards for Fantasy and Horror Audio

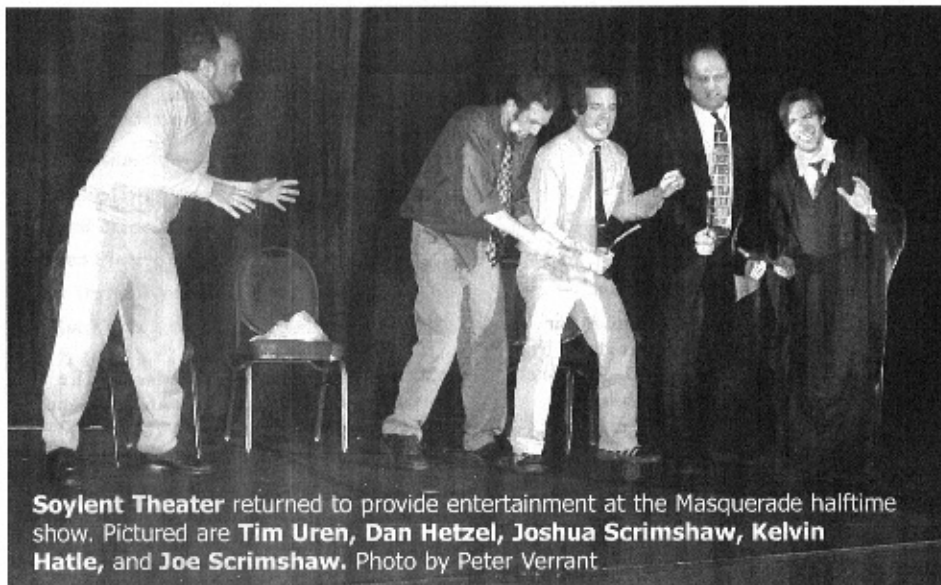
GOLD AWARD - The Field
Play It By Ear Productions.
Lance Roger Axt, Producer,
Pacific Grove, CA.
30 minutes.

SILVER AWARD - Howl of the Mac Cú Tire
by Roger Gregg, Crazy Dog Audio Theatre,
Dublin, Ireland.
37 minutes. www.crazydogaudiotheatre.com

HONORABLE MENTION - A Murder of Crows
Sam Mowry, Martin Gallagher, Robert Kowal,
Willamette Radio Workshop, Portland, OR.
30 minutes. www.radiowork.com



Dave Ossman, **Jerry Stearns** (in the upper left) and the performers and winners from the 2004 Mark Time and Ogle Awards. Photo by Peter Verrant



Soylent Theater returned to provide entertainment at the Masquerade halftime show. Pictured are **Tim Uren, Dan Hetzel, Joshua Scrimshaw, Kelvin Hatle, and Joe Scrimshaw.** Photo by Peter Verrant

Thank You

CONvergence and the Minnesota Society for Interest in Science Fiction and Fantasy (MISFITS) would like to thank everyone who helped make CONvergence 2004 our most successful convention yet. That includes our CONvention Committee, the MISFITS Officers and Staff, our volunteers, and everyone who threw a room party, sat a panel, entered the Masquerade, or otherwise participated in the weekend's events. Thank you to the staff of the Sheraton Bloomington Hotel for all their help and assistance, and for continuing to make their hotel feel like home.

We would like to thank our wonderful guests, Crist Ballas, Christian Colquhoun, Denise Garner, David Gerrold, Larry Niven, and Vincent Truittner. Thank you to all the performers and organizers of events that helped provide so many exciting things to see and do at CONvergence 2004.

There are more people deserving of thanks than we could ever individually name. Please know that we feel immense gratitude to everyone who helps make CONvergence the very special convention that it is.

And with that said, our CONvergence 2004 business is concluded. Wow. That feels kind of sad. We've got kind of an empty feeling inside. Can the experience of CONvergence 2004 ever be equalled? Will there ever again be such a gathering of parties, programming, and fans? Is there no hope?

THIS LOOKS LIKE A JOB FOR...

**CONVERGENCE
2005**
SNIKT! BAMF! THWIP!

Annual Theme

Each year, CONvergence adopts a theme that is featured in our programming and publications, and gives that year's convention a unique flavor. In 2005 that theme will be *Superheroes*.

Who doesn't love those larger-than-life do-gooders who are the scourge of evil, the defenders of the weak, and crusaders for justice?



Now we wouldn't want you to think that only Superman, Spider-man, and their spandex-clad pals from comics will be part of this theme. Not only are there superheroes from comics that *don't* fit that mold (think *Hellboy*), there are legions of tight-and-cape heroes from outside of comics, from *The Incredibles* to *The Greatest American Hero*. But there are many other characters that fit our definition of superhero.

The movies have given us snappy dressers like Buckaroo Banzai, Neo, and (good grief) *The Toxic Avenger*. There's Xena and Hercules from television, and old pulp heroes from *The Shadow* to *Doc Savage*. And don't forget superheroes from the world of animation: From *Space Ghost* to *He-Man* and *She-Ra*, to *Freakazoid* and *The Tick* (yes, we know he was a comic book character first). There are tons of beloved characters out there, and this year is about them.

As with our past themes, don't expect to find this one in every single programming event, but there will be a noticeable undercurrent throughout the convention weekend.

One final note: You'll see the words "Snikt! Bamf! Thwip!" used with our CONvergence 2005 logo (as they are at the bottom of the opposite page). These words are the three best known sound effects associated with specific actions and characters. "Snikt" is the sound made when Wolverine extends his claws, "Bamf!" is the sound made when Nightcrawler teleports, and "Thwip" is the sound made by Spider-man's web-shooters.

So if you didn't know before, now you do.

Knowledge is power.

And with great power, comes great responsibility...

Excelsior!

2005 Guests of Honor

The following guests currently plan to join us at CONvergence 2005 as guests of honor. Watch our website for the latest updates to this list.

M E R C E D E S L A C K E Y



Mercedes Lackey (also known as Misty) is a prolific author of fantasy novels. She is best known for her epic Valdemar series, which form a complex tapestry of interaction between diverse human and non-human cultures.

Mercedes Lackey describes herself this way: "I'm a storyteller; that's what I see as 'my job.' My stories come out of my characters; how those characters would react to the given situation. Maybe that's why I get letters from readers as young as thirteen and as old as sixty-odd."

Music plays an important role in Mercedes' works, as she explains: "I frequently will write a lyric when I am attempting to get to the heart of a crucial

scene; I find that when I have done so, the scene has become absolutely clear in my mind, and I can write exactly what I wanted to say. Another reason is because of the kind of novels I am writing: that is, fantasy, set in an other-world, semi-medieval atmosphere. Music is very important to medieval peoples; bards are the chief newsbringers. When I write the 'folk music' of these peoples, I am enriching my whole world, whether I actually use the song in the text or not."

Her writing contains a prominent theme of tolerance throughout. "I suppose that in everything I write, I try to expound the creed I gave my character Diana Tregarde in *Burning Water*: 'There's no such thing as "one, true way;" the only answers worth having are the ones you find for yourself; leave the world better than you found it.'"



LARRY DIXON

An award-winning artist and illustrator, Larry is a frequent collaborator with his wife, Mercedes Lackey.

Together, the two have produced the *Mage Wars* series (*Black Gryphon*, *White Gryphon*, and *Silver Gryphon*), the *Owl Novels* (*OwlFlight*, *OwlSight*, and *OwlKnight*) and *Born To Run*.

Along with Mercedes Lackey, Larry works in wildlife rehabilitation, especially with birds of prey.

MARV WOLFMAN

Marv Wolfman has created legions of characters for comics, many of which have found their way to television and the silver screen. Marv is the co-creator of *The New Teen Titans*, including its characters Starfire, Cyborg, Raven, and Slade, and he transformed Dick Grayson from Robin into Nightwing. He also created the ever-popular Blade during his lengthy run on Marvel's *Tomb of Dracula* series, a character soon to be seen in his third feature film starring Wesley Snipes. The Daredevil villain Bullseye was another creation of Marv's who found his way into that hero's first feature film adventure.

Marv was the architect of DC Comic's pivotal *Crisis on Infinite Earths*, which rewrote the continuity of the DC Universe. In the aftermath of that series, Marv re-invented Lex Luthor as a tycoon and a member of the power elite, whose criminal endeavors remain secretive and unproven. This version of Luthor was the template for the character as seen on television in *Lois and Clark, Superman: The Animated Series*, and *Smallville*.

Marv has also been Editor-in-Chief at Marvel Comics, senior editor at DC Comics, and founding editor of *Disney Adventures* magazine. He has written dozens of animated TV episodes, as well as developed and story-edited the animated series *The Transformers*, *The Adventures of Superman*, and *Monster Force*. Marv, along with partner Craig Miller, co-created, story-edited, and was co-Executive Producer of *Pocket Dragon Adventures*, a 52-episode animated series appearing on the Bobbot TV network.

Visit Marv's official site at www.marvolfman.com.

LEN WEIN

Len Wein has been Editor-in-Chief of Marvel Comics, Disney Comics, and Top Cow Comics, as well as Senior Editor at DC Comics, and has written nearly every major character in the business, ranging from Superman, Batman, and Wonder Woman to Spider-man, The Fantastic Four, and The Incredible Hulk.

Len is the creator of *Swamp Thing* for DC Comics, which spawned three successful comic book series, as well as spin-offs on film and television.



In 1975 Len was given the task of revamping Marvel's ailing X-Men title, and wrote *Giant-Size X-Men #1*, which infused the group with several new characters of Len's creation, namely Nightcrawler, Colossus, Storm, and Thunderbird, and a character he had created the previous year in an issue of *The Incredible Hulk*: Wolverine.

In the area of television, Len developed the animated series *Skeleton Warriors* and the award-winning CGI-animated series *War Planets: Shadow Raiders*, and served as Story Editor for all 26 episodes of the latter. He has scripted over 60 episodes of such varied live-action and animated series as *Hypernauts*, *Conan*, *The Incredible Hulk*, *X-Men*, *Godzilla*, *Spider-man*, *Action Man*, *Street Fighter*, *Transformers: Beast Wars*, *Beast Machines*, *ExoSquad*, *Pocket Dragon Adventures*, and many others. Len has also received Emmy honors for his work on *Batman: The Animated Series*.

Len has also written extensively in the *Star Trek* and *Star Wars* universes, Len has been nominated for and won numerous industry Awards for his work.

With partner Marv Wolfman, Len has written and sold *The Gene Pool*, a live-action feature currently in development at Solo Entertainment. They also wrote for the cult-favorite CGI-animated series *Reboot*. They are currently at work together on several other projects.

DR. JIM KAKALIOS

U of M Physics professor James Kakalios uses concepts and characters from comic books to explore basic principles of physics, chemistry, and biology in a course called "Everything I Know About Science I Learned from Reading Comic Books," and is the author of an upcoming book along the same lines.

It's a fitting venture for Jim, whose lifelong love of comic books helped cultivate his passion for science. "As a kid, comic books helped fuel my curiosity," he recalls. In one story, his favorite hero, The Flash, lost his ability to avoid air resistance and friction. "It made me aware [that], aside from the silly notion of superpowers, there were all sorts of secondary issues associated with the ability to run superfast that I hadn't considered."

Convinced that comics could help make science more accessible and appealing to students of any age, Kakalios toyed for years with the notion of creating a class on the science of superheroes.

"Take Superman," says Jim. "In his very first year, he could only leap, not fly. His skin was tough, he had great strength, all because Krypton had larger gravity than Earth." Using the hero's ability "to leap over tall buildings in a single bound" as a benchmark, the class calculated that Krypton's gravity would have to have been six to eight times that of Earth."

"That means Krypton had to be either six times larger or six times denser than Earth. Assuming that normal matter on Krypton obeys the laws of physics, the planet could not be six times denser than Earth. "So Krypton had to be six times larger," explains Kakalios. "But any planet that much larger than Earth would have to be a gas giant like Jupiter. Because Krypton had a solid crust supporting buildings and cities, the only other explanation for its increased gravity would be a super-dense—and unstable—material like a neutron star in its core. And that would explain why Krypton exploded."

Programming

CONvergence is looking for panelists and panel ideas for our 2005 convention. Our programming brainstorming meeting was held on November 20 and panel topics generated at that meeting will appear on our website in the coming weeks. We'll be looking for panelists willing to sit those panels. Without those volunteers the panels can't happen.

If you have ideas for a panel but weren't able to attend that meeting, it's not too late! To suggest a panel or volunteer to sit one, contact us at programming@convergence-con.org.



Hotel

Our 2005 convention will again be held at the Sheraton Bloomington Minneapolis South Hotel at the junction of Highway 100 (still under construction!) and 494. Last year, we handily surpassed our room block number of 425 on Friday and 400 on Saturday thusly:

We and the hotel are mutually pleased with our excellent relationship. Reserving rooms is as it's always been. Please visit the CONvergence website and print and submit the form found there, or use the form on page 16 of this booklet. Please contact us with any questions at hotel@convergence-con.com.

CONvergence Open Positions

Do you want to do more than just attend the convention? Do you want to get involved, and help make it happen? We have a number of positions open due to either expansion or turnover of our volunteer staff. Positions in different departments of the convention vary in the amount of time they require before, during, and after the convention, and some require more specialized skills and experience.

If you would be interested in being considered for one of these positions, or helping out in any other area of the convention, please contact us at info@convergence-con.org.

We are currently looking to fill the following positions:

Art Show Department Heads
Masquerade Staff
Advertising Staff

Here are some other areas of the convention looking for volunteers or staff:

CONSUIITE

Are you interested in working for a department that never sleeps? Consuite is looking for several someones looking to move into a position as consuite co-heads next year. We are currently looking to staff the position with 3-4 co-heads and several (as many as we can get) sub-heads.

Consuite is also short this year, so don't be thinking a year ahead! We need your help now!

If you are interested, you should drop us a line at info@convergence-con.org.

HARMONIC CONVERGENCE

If you haven't been in Harmonic CONvergence over the last couple of years, you have missed what is the most improved area of CONvergence.

Featuring performances by Q, Ten Seconds of Harmony, Reve Du Faun, The Great Luke Ski, and many others, Harmonic CONvergence is a great venue to relax and enjoy an incredible range of audio distractions.

We are looking to expand further outside of musical performance in Harmonic CONvergence. We would like to feature spoken word performances as well as other unique performances that do not require main stage space. If you would like to be a performer, we need to hear from you! Please send us an e-mail so we can get a sample of your work. We'd love to help you show off your abilities to the convention audience.

Remember, the sooner you contact us, the more openings we will have in our schedule. You could be the greatest band we've ever heard, but if you contact us in mid-June, we probably won't have space left.



Masquerade 2005

After six years running the CONvergence Masquerade, Kat Pempiller decided to step down this year. We greatly appreciate her contributions over the past six years, and look forward to whatever she chooses to do next.

We are pleased to announce that *Erin Kasper* will take over as the new head of Masquerade. Erin has worked as the Entertainment Director for the Minnesota Renaissance Festival and has directed competitions at juggling conventions for twelve years. She promises to bring a fresh new perspective that will help us build on the great CONvergence masquerades of the past.

One of the major changes we are implementing is a costumers outreach program. If you have participated in the Masquerade in the past, or would like to participate in the future, we'd like to make sure you know what is happening with the Masquerade. We expect to send out three to four mailings a year. If you would like to be included, simply send an e-mail to info@convergence-con.org with your mailing address.

We are also in the process of creating judging criteria that will be posted on the website. These criteria do not signify a major change in the way costumes are judged. Instead, they give all costumers the information they need to know to have the best possible chance to impress the judges.

Erin will need a lot of help this year. We are looking for a Green Room Manager, Judge Manager, technical crew, Backstage Manager and crew, and Costumer assistants. Please contact us if you are interested.

Please join us in welcoming Erin to our staff! We know she will do a great job!

MISFITS

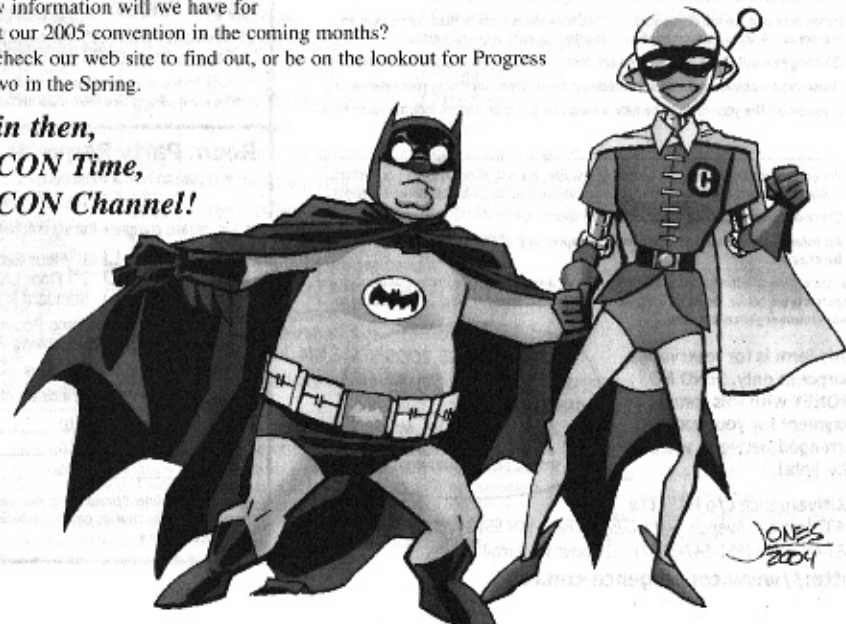
CONvergence is a presentation of the Minnesota Society for Interest in Science Fiction and Fantasy (MISFITS). While CONvergence is the biggest event we produce, we sponsor many other activities and events throughout the year. To learn more about the MISFITS organization and the clubs and events that we organize, visit our website at www.misfit.org.

To Be Continued...

What new information will we have for you about our 2005 convention in the coming months?

You can check our web site to find out, or be on the lookout for Progress Report Two in the Spring.

*Tune in then,
same CON Time,
same CON Channel!*



THIS LOOKS LIKE A JOB FOR...

CONVERGENCE 2005

SNIKT! BAMB! THWIP!

Please fill out the following contact info:

↑ Full Name _____

↑ Street Address _____

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

↑ Home Phone Number _____ ↑ Work Phone Number _____

↑ E-mail address _____

Important Hotel Information (Please Read):

- CONvergence assigns all rooms, cabanas, and other hospitality areas.
- If you want to host a room party (regardless of location), you must also fill out the Room Party Request information in the lower right-hand corner of this form.
- Please note that we will only accept TWO CONvergence room request forms from any one person. A separate form must be submitted for each room requested.
- CONvergence will return unprocessed any form considered illegible or incomplete.
- Please inquire about exact check-in/check-out times when confirming your reservation.
- If you would like your room to be near a particular group or person, indicate name here:

- We will accommodate as many people as possible, but not all requests can be fulfilled. CONvergence and the convention hotel reserve the right to make last minute changes.
- Check-out time is 12 noon unless otherwise specified.
- All information provided will remain proprietary of CONvergence and will not be shared.

For more general information on CONvergence, visit our web site or contact us through the channels listed below. Direct all inquiries to the address below or send E-mail directly to hotel@convergence-con.org.

This form is for reservation purposes only. SEND NO MONEY with this form. Payment for your room is arranged between you and the hotel.

CONVERGENCE 2005
JULY 1, 2, 3
SHERATON BLOOMINGTON
BLOOMINGTON, MN
A CONVENTION FOR FANS OF
SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY

CONvergence c/o MISFITS
1437 Marshall Avenue, Suite 203, St. Paul, MN 55104
651-MISFITS (651-647-3487) – 24-hour voicemail
<http://www.convergence-con.org>

HOTEL ROOM & ROOM PARTY request form

Room Requirements:

Check One: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 King Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Double Beds <input type="checkbox"/> Don't Care	Check One: <input type="checkbox"/> Smoking <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Smoking <input type="checkbox"/> Don't Care
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Check any room requirements that apply:

Rollaway Crib
 Low Floor Wheelchair Access

Number of People in Room: _____
 Other Responsible Party: _____

Check-in Date: _____
 Check-out Date: _____

CONVERGENCE WEEKEND 2005

WED JUNE 29	THR JUNE 30	FRI JULY 01	SAT JULY 02	SUN JULY 03	MON JULY 04
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Once received, your form will be processed and you will be assigned a room in the Sheraton Bloomington as they are available.

Room Rates:

- Standard Room (\$99 per night)
 Cabana Room (\$123 per night)*

*Cabana Rooms are only available to individual's hosting room parties. See the Parties section below.

Room Party Request:

Do you plan to hold a room party?
 Yes No

If yes, please complete the section below.

Please check one: 1st Floor Cabana
 2nd Floor Cabana
 Standard Room

Do you want a: Smoking Room?
 Non-Smoking Room?

Will you be serving alcohol? Yes No
 Hours of Operation (please indicate AM/PM):

Friday: _____ to _____
 Saturday: _____ to _____
 Sunday: _____ to _____

Please attach a brief description of your party and its theme that makes clear its connection to Science Fiction and Fantasy.

THIS LOOKS LIKE A JOB FOR...

CONVERGENCE 2005

SNIKT! BAMB! THWIP!

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

CONVERGENCE 2005
JULY 1, 2, 3
SHERATON BLOOMINGTON
BLOOMINGTON, MN
A CONVENTION FOR FANS OF
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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.

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. Badge names are also not required.

↑ E-mail address _____

↑ Badge Name (If different from Full Name) _____

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

- | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art Show | <input type="checkbox"/> Connie's Space Lounge | <input type="checkbox"/> Operations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Badgers/Gophers | <input type="checkbox"/> Programming Panelist | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COF ₂ Coffee | <input type="checkbox"/> Programming Staff | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Merchandise Table | <input type="checkbox"/> Registration | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ConSuite | <input type="checkbox"/> Gaming | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to volunteer wherever I am needed | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I would like information about entering the Art Show | | |

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
1437 Marshall Ave, Ste. 203
St. Paul, MN 55104

Make checks or money orders payable to CONvergence.

Thank you for your interest in and support of CONvergence, brought to you by the Minnesota Society for Interest in Science Fiction and Fantasy (MISFITS). If you provide us with an e-mail address, your registration confirmation will be sent to you via e-mail as soon as it is entered into our database. 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 your information private and will not share your personal information with anyone. If you have questions or need to contact us for any reason, please use the contact information at right.

Information provided is proprietary to CONvergence/MISFITS.

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