



# CONvergence



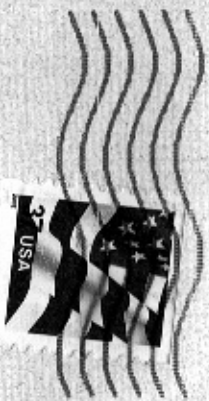
CONvergence 2005  
Post Mortem Report

CONvergence 2006  
Progress Report One

# CONVERGENCE 2006

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## BOLDLY GO.

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

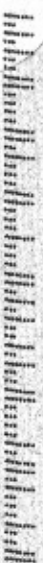
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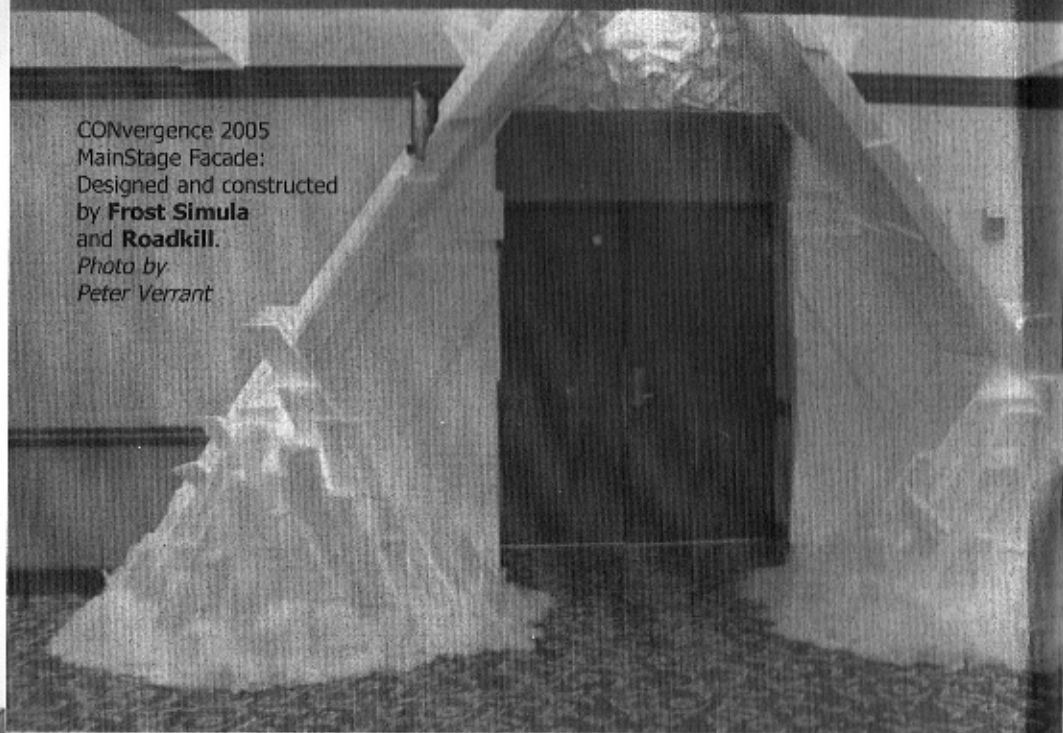
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<http://www.convergence-con.org>

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CONvergence 2005  
MainStage Facade:  
Designed and constructed  
by **Frost Simula**  
and **Roadkill**.  
Photo by  
Peter Verrant



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## CONvergence 2006

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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 Windy Merrill, Peter Verrant, and Melissa Kaercher for their help with proofreading. Any remaining errors are most likely not their fault.

We always welcome feedback and suggestions, and ask that any comments be directed to the channels listed above.

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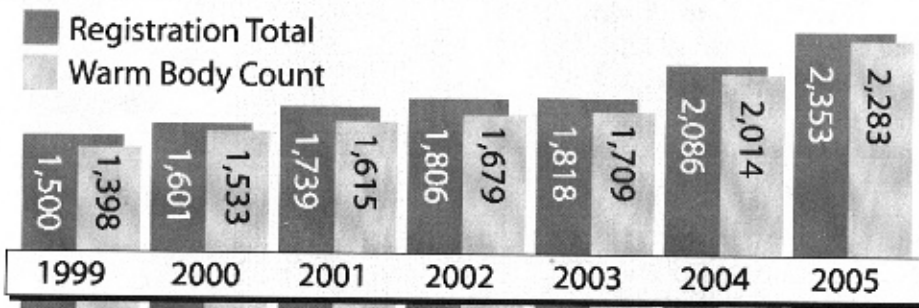
### MISFITS eMail / Web Site:

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http://www.misfit.org

# 2005 IN REVIEW

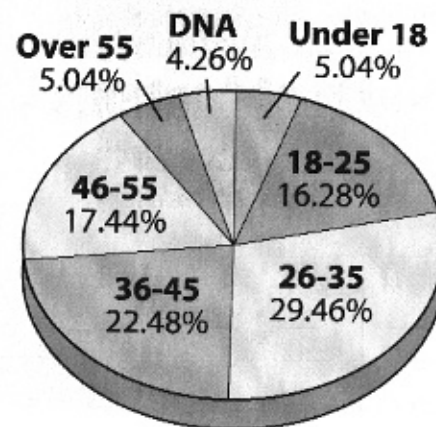
## Registration Totals

We are pleased to state that CONvergence 2005 was our best-attended convention to date, with our registration totals continuing to go up each year.



Total Registrations:	2004: 2,086	2005: 2,353
Pre-registrations:	2004: 1,525	2005: 1,647
At-the-door:	2004: 561	2005: 706
Warm Body Count:	2004: 2,014	2005: 2,308

### 2005 Membership Age Demographics



DNA = Did Not Answer

We already have 884 pre-registered for CONvergence 2006, with 830 of those signing up while attending our 2005 convention.

### Demographics

Of the 257 people who filled out convention surveys this year, 147 (57.2%) of them were female and 110 (42.8%) were male, and 41 of them (14.95%) said that 2005 was their first CONvergence. A breakdown of the ages of survey participants is at right. Our thanks go to everyone who filled out a survey and offered feedback on the convention. All the comments were read and discussed by the Convention Committee and Board of Directors, and several of the comments are presented in the following pages of this publication.

### General Items

Our occupancy of the Sheraton Bloomington, our home for many years, continues to grow. This year saw us actually go over the 500-room mark, inching ever closer to 100% occupancy of the hotel's 564 rooms, and once again exceeding our expected room night count handily. Here is the room occupancy by night:

Wednesday 06/29	11
Thursday 06/30	130 (9 more than 2004)
Friday 07/01	501 (8 more than 2004)
Saturday 07/02	508 (11 more than 2004)
Sunday 07/03	130 (63 more than 2004)*
Monday 07/04	6
Tuesday 07/05	1

1287 Total

\* Undoubtedly due to the July 4 holiday on Monday

At this rate, we are likely going to fill the building in 2007. Thanks to everyone who helps us meet our contracted room occupancy of 425 each year.



# CONvergence 2005 Guests of Honor

(top row)

## Larry Dixon

Co-author of *Mage Wars* and *Dariens Tale* series and fantasy artist

## Jay "Father Geek" Knowles

SF Collector and contributor to *AintItCoolNews.com*

## Marv Wolfman

Writer for comics and animation, creator of *The New Teen Titans*

## Dr. Jim Kakalios

Physics professor, author of *The Physics of Superheroes*

## Len Wein

Writer for comics and animation, creator of *Swamp Thing* and *Wolverine*

(seated)

## Harry Knowles

Founder of *AintItCoolNews.com*

## Mercedes Lackey

Author of the *Valdemar* and *Bardic Voices* series

Photo by Peter Verrant



Over the years, CONvergence has found guests who don't come as a paid appearance or for a speaking fee, but instead come to meet fans and be part of the CONvergence convention experience. In 2005 we were again lucky enough to have a group of guests who enriched the convention with their talent, their humor, and their good will, and parted with us at the end of the weekend having made several hundred new friends.

"The CONvergence people, they could organize a moon mission."

— Larry Dixon

"I've had an amazing time...being chosen as a guest was a huge honor...Geeks rule the planet and we're not taking any more guff from the man!"

— Dr. Jim Kakalios

"One of the best conventions I have ever been to and I hope you guys will have me back some day."

— Len Wein

"This convention is just wonderful...I really, really, really, hope to come back soon."

— Marv Wolfman

"I look forward to just kicking back and getting wildly intoxicated and geeky with a ton of intoxicatingly geeky geeks."

— Harry Knowles

"Thanks."

— Larry Dixon (His entire Closing Ceremonies address after being fairly long-winded at Opening Ceremonies.)

Our thanks go in return to Larry Dixon and all our 2005 guests. Thanks also go to their liaisons who got them to all their panels and signings, kept them fed, and essentially took good care of them while they were guests of CONvergence.

## CINEMA REX

"Cinema Rex great as always!!!"

— Survey Comment

Another year of well-attended films in Cinema Rex... thanks to all who helped out or came to see a film and consume our abundance of snacks! Rex was also very pleased to have the convention offer our very own Cinema Rex shirts. If you didn't get one this year, there should be more available at future events. Rex is already starting to think about a schedule for next year. Rest assured, there are more space exploration movies to choose from than we could show in a week, much less a weekend, so we expect 2006 to be a fun year in Cinema Rex!

## DORIAN GREY MEMORIAL LITERARY LOUNGE

"Appreciate literary readings in 'Dorian Grey' Great addition! Poetry readings! Love them!"

"Please bring back the Dorian Grey Lounge next year, and give us a picture of DG from the LXG movie - he ruled."

— Survey Comments

The Dorian Grey Literary Lounge was a new CONvergence feature in 2005 and proved very popular. We've learned a lot from this first year, and hope to make the lounge bigger and better in 2006.

## MAINSTAGE

Mainstage had some shiny new toys to make lights and sounds with this year, and we hope that the audience liked how we used them. Our new wireless microphones were a big hit with the folks in the back rows of the Ballroom, as demonstrated by the title of this year's Soylent Theatre show: "Invasion of the Body Mics: This Year, It's Audible!" We plan to make next year's Mainstage even shinier and louder than ever before.

Mainstage would like to thank the bands Telephone! and Heliosphere, comedian Tim "10,000 Comic Books" Uren, and DJs Neko, Stryfe, Oxygen, noise, Star5, Nitrogen, and Dr. Boom for their brilliant performances. We would also like to thank and heartily congratulate the new Masquerade Head, Erin Kasper, and the new Masquerade crew and staff for doing a fine job and for being such great folks to work with. We would additionally like to thank Frost Simula and Roadkill for their respective work on the Fortress of Solitude facade. And for everyone else who helped carry, install, fix, clean, put away, or do anything else for and/or with the Mainstage crew, we thank you very very much.

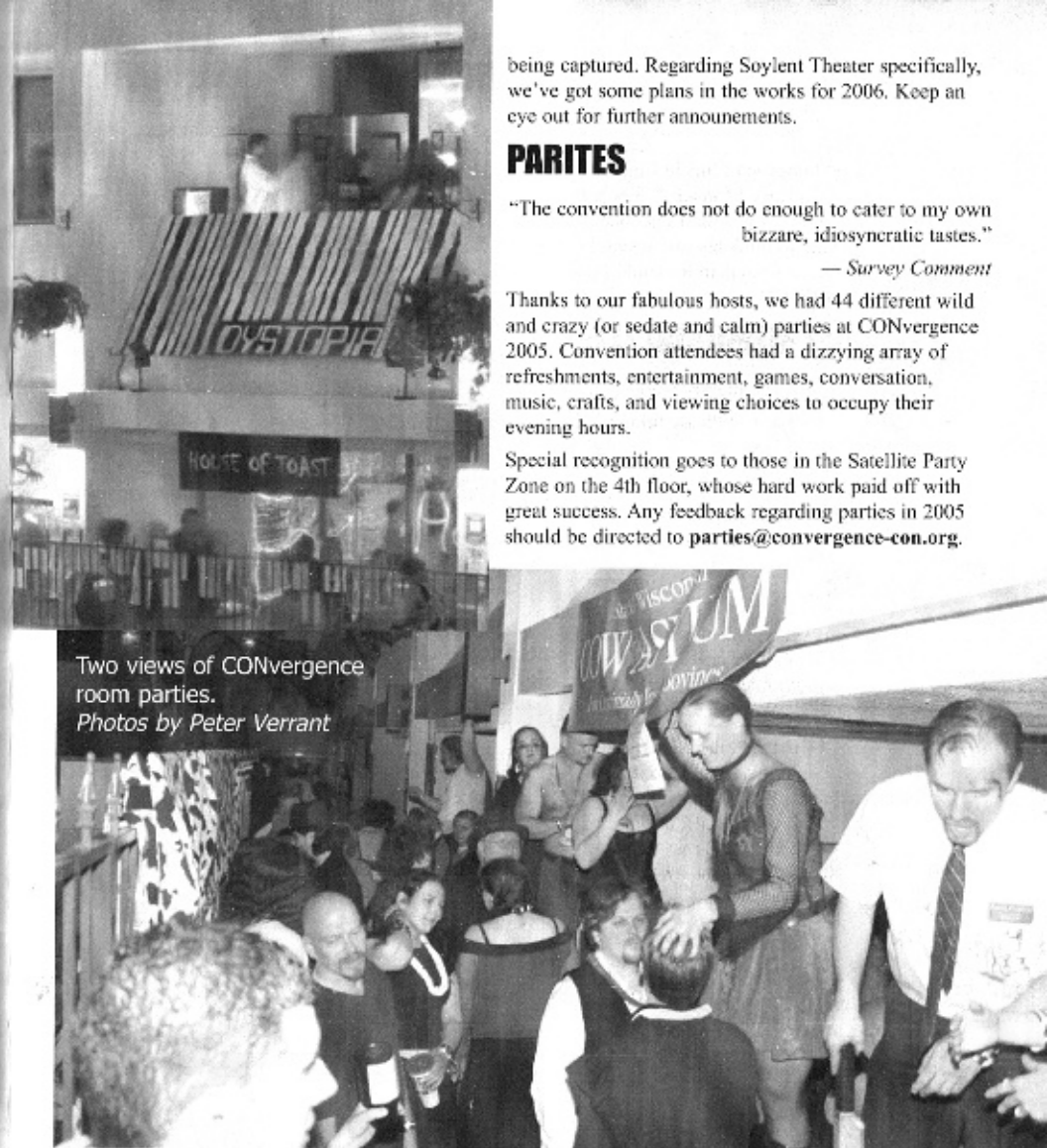
"For the love of god, make Soylent Theater available OUTSIDE the Masquerade."

— Survey Comment

We continue to work each year to make MainStage events more accessible to those who can't get in to see them live. The body mics that were added this year allow for many more options now that the audio is



Con-goers gather in Cinema Rex.  
04 Photo by Chris Bowsby



Two views of CONvergence room parties.  
Photos by Peter Verrant

## VIDEO CREW

Video had a great time watching all of you people doing cool and weird and fun and creative things last year. We hope that you'll enjoy watching yourselves doing those things over and over again on the cool and weird and fun DVDs that will be available before Christmas this year. We've seen most of the footage already, and we think it's going to be the best CONvergence Video Yearbook of the entire year. Honest, we wouldn't make up something like that.

Video sincerely thanks our Guests of Honor for being so generous with their time and their words, and for letting us film while they talked about cool and weird and amazing things. Video also thanks all the attendees and organizers of CONvergence for being so friendly and cool and weird and creative, and for helping us to collect such an amazing array of pictures and sounds.

being captured. Regarding Soylent Theater specifically, we've got some plans in the works for 2006. Keep an eye out for further announcements.

## PARITES

"The convention does not do enough to cater to my own bizzare, idiosyncratic tastes."

— Survey Comment

Thanks to our fabulous hosts, we had 44 different wild and crazy (or sedate and calm) parties at CONvergence 2005. Convention attendees had a dizzying array of refreshments, entertainment, games, conversation, music, crafts, and viewing choices to occupy their evening hours.

Special recognition goes to those in the Satellite Party Zone on the 4th floor, whose hard work paid off with great success. Any feedback regarding parties in 2005 should be directed to [parties@convergence-con.org](mailto:parties@convergence-con.org).





## MISCELLANEOUS

*"The 3-D balloon star map was a great idea! I never knew there were so many binary systems nearby."*

— Survey Comment

Wasn't that fabulous? We hope everyone got a chance to see the star map as it appeared outside of the Science Room in the North Tower over the weekend.

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](mailto:info@convergence-con.org).

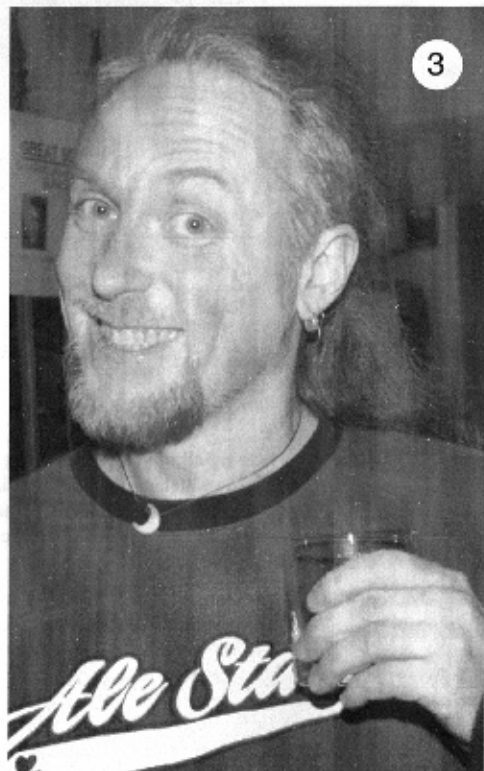
## RETURNING GUESTS

We had a record number of Guests of Honor from previous years join us at the convention this year. We'd like to thank all of them for making the effort to be with us at CONvergence 2005.

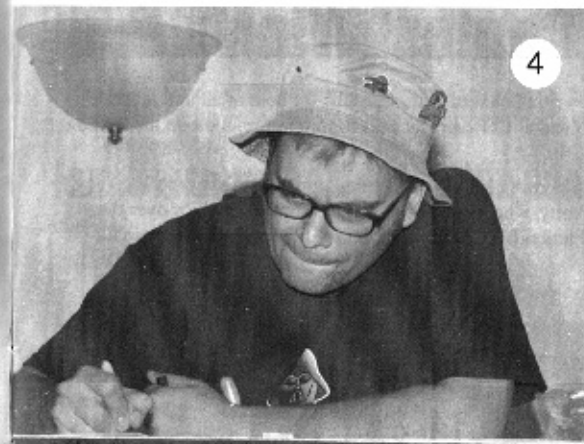
Returning guests included John Kovalic, Christian Colquhoun, Vincent Tritner, Denise Garner, and Crist Ballas. Many of them are pictured on these pages.



2



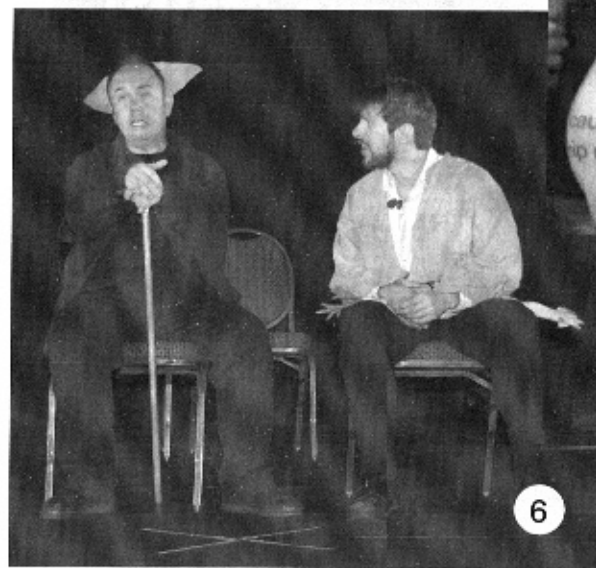
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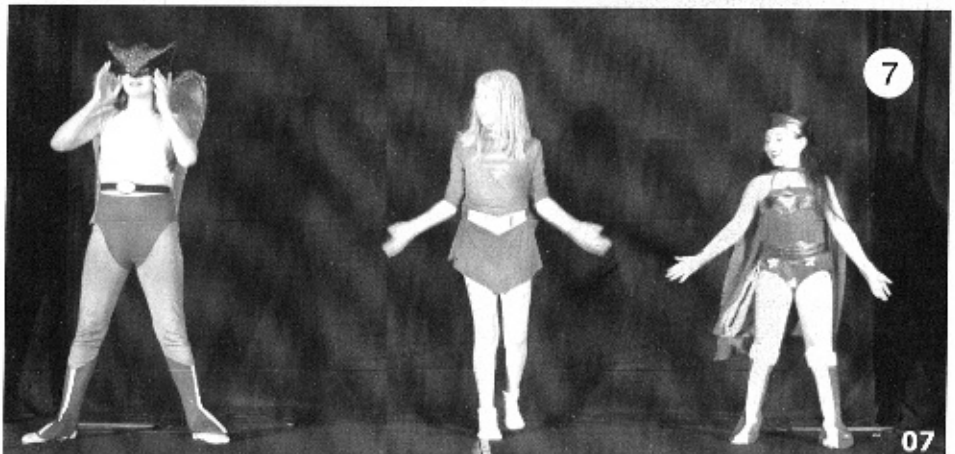
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1. The star map in the North Tower
2. **Vincent Tritner** and friend
3. **Christian Colquhoun**
4. **John Kovalic** at *Iron Artist*
5. **Denise Garner**
6. **Tim Uren** and **Joseph Scrimshaw** of *Soylent Theater*
7. *Superheroes at Play* in the Masquerade

All photos by Peter Verrant

# MISFITS Writing Contest Winners

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](http://www.misfit.org).

**The Scott Imes Award:** MISFITS premier award proudly honors Scott Imes, a major force in the Twin Cities' science fiction reading and writing community, who passed away in December 2001. For over two decades, Scott worked at Uncle Hugo's Science Fiction Bookstore; his recommendations served those far beyond its doors.

## 2005 Contest Winners

### Open Division:

Open to entries from writers of any age.

**1st Place/Scott Imes Award Winner:**  
*The Manneken and the Melons*  
by Amy Tibbetts

**2nd Place:**  
*Kiss of Death* by Ev Baldwin

**3rd Place:**  
*Caterpillar Tickle* by Barbara Patten

### Youth Division 1:

Open to writers 10 years of age or younger  
(as of May 14, 2005)

No entries this year

### Youth Division 2:

Open to writers 11-13 years of age  
(as of May 14, 2005)

**1st Place:**  
*An Elvish Story* by Brandon C Shapiro

**2nd Place:**  
*Wish upon a Star* by Mica Catherine Dumas

**3rd Place:**  
*Reflections* by David M Garner

### Youth Division 3:

Open to writers 14-16 years of age  
(as of May 14, 2005)

**1st Place:** *Adventures in Algebra* by Michael Panush

**2nd Place:** *The Magerider* by Allana Hooker

**3rd Place:** *Out of the Blue* by Gretchen Gally

### Poetry Division:

Open to entries from writers of any age

**1st Place:** *Changing Spell* by Amy Tibbetts

**2nd Place:** *The Field of Blood* by Elaine Isaak

**3rd Place:** *Why UFOs Don't Stop* by Greg Beatty

Thank you to everyone who participated. We'd love to have your story in our **2006 Writing Contest**, so get writing!



# Mark Time Awards 2005

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 2005:

## 2005 MARK TIME AWARDS FOR SCIENCE FICTION AUDIO

**GOLD AWARD** – No Award.

**SILVER AWARD** – Tie

*Paradox*, Strange Interludes, Stephen Couch, Producer. [www.strangeinterludes.com](http://www.strangeinterludes.com)

*Snowbank*, Icebox Radio Theatre, Jeffrey Adams, Producer. [www.icebox.storiesonmp3.com](http://www.icebox.storiesonmp3.com)

**HONORABLE MENTION**

*Rod Renegade*, Texas Radio Theater, Rich & Shannan Frohlich, producer.

[www.texasradiotheatre.com](http://www.texasradiotheatre.com)

**SPECIAL AWARD: BEST ADAPTATION**

*The Menace from Earth*, Atlanta Radio Theater Company, William Alan Ritch, producer.

[www.artc.org](http://www.artc.org)

## 2005 OGLE AWARDS FOR FANASTY/HORROR AUDIO

**GOLD AWARD**

*Next Year's Girl*, Willamette Radio Workshop, Sam A. Mowry, producer. [www.radiowork.com](http://www.radiowork.com)

**SILVER AWARD** – No Award.

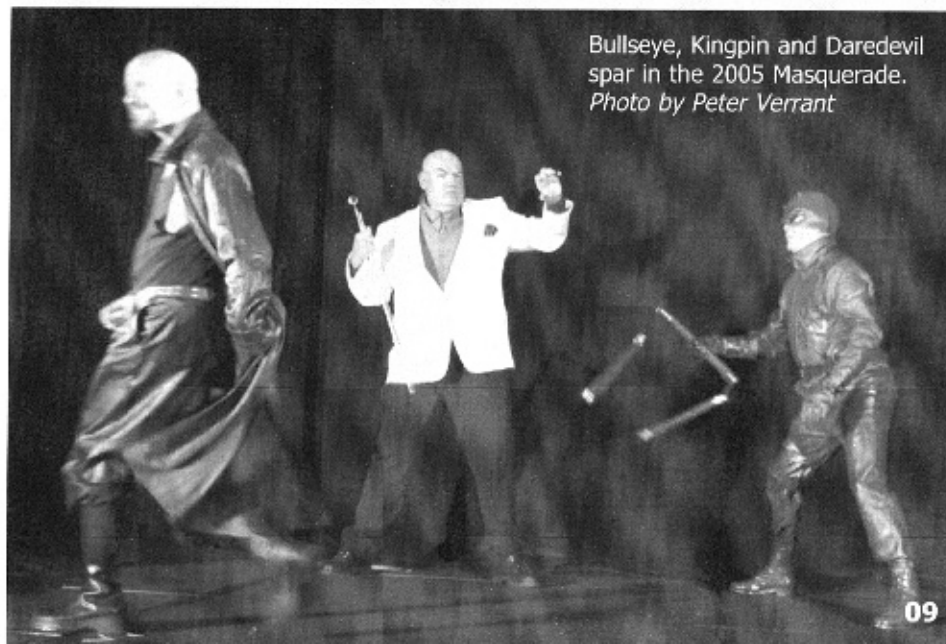
**HONORABLE MENTION**

*Three Skeleton Key*, One Act Audio Theatre, Glenn Carlson, producer. [www.oneact.org](http://www.oneact.org)

**SPECIAL AWARD: BEST ADAPTATION**

*Frankenstein*, Willamette Radio Workshop, Sam A. Mowry, producer. [www.radiowork.com](http://www.radiowork.com)

For more information on the Mark Time and Ogle Awards, visit [www.greatnorthernradio.com/MarkTime/MarkTime.html](http://www.greatnorthernradio.com/MarkTime/MarkTime.html).



Bullseye, Kingpin and Daredevil spar in the 2005 Masquerade.  
Photo by Peter Verrant

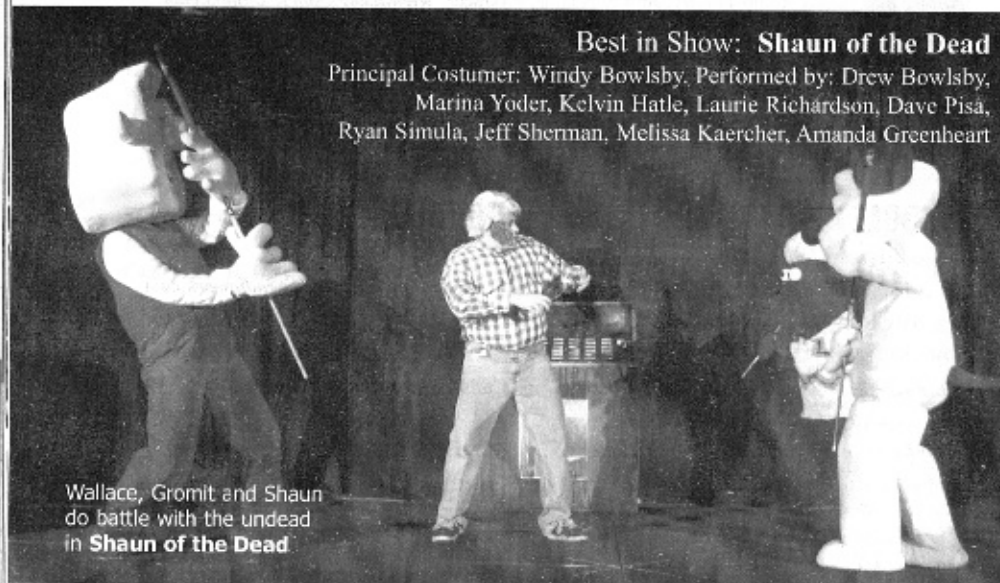


# CONvergence 2005 Masquerade

The 2005 Masquerade was produced and directed by **Erin Kasper**, and **Aimee Kuzinski** was the Mistress of Ceremonies.

The 2005 Masquerade workmanship judges were **Eve Kramer**, **Amanda Gordon**, and **Crist Ballas**. The performance judges were **Tim Wick**, **David Piphon**, and **Christian Colquhoun**.

The 2005 awards were as follows:



## Best in Show: **Shaun of the Dead**

Principal Costumer: Windy Bowsby, Performed by: Drew Bowsby, Marina Yoder, Kelvin Hatle, Laurie Richardson, Dave Pisá, Ryan Simula, Jeff Sherman, Melissa Kaercher, Amanda Greenheart

Wallace, Gromit and Shaun do battle with the undead in **Shaun of the Dead**

## Best Master: **Dash**

Principal Costumer: Eric Knight  
Performed by Spencer & Stuart Alt

## Best Journeyman: **Nicholas of the North**

Michael Tschimperle

## Best Novice: **Rikku**

Anne Hauser

## Best Workmanship: **Center Stage**

Heather Deckard, Nikita Petersen

## Workmanship Honorable Mention: **Legendary Heroes**

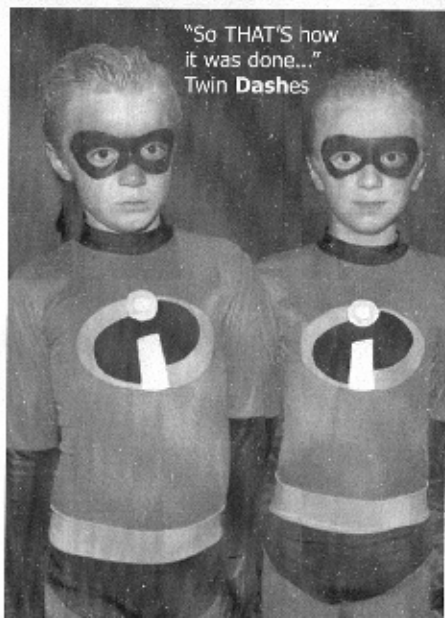
Stacey Feldmann & Rosanna Caponi

## Workmanship Honorable Mention: **Writer's Block**

Sean Doyle

## Best Performance: **Something Completely Different**

Lori Fischer, Brian Jonas, Alicia Struble, Jessie Silver, Evan Miller, Dian Huynh, Teresa Kramer, Nathaniel Wilson-Gradt, Alison Ellingberg



"So THAT'S how it was done..."  
Twin Dashes

Performance Honorable Mention: **Hero Help Line**  
Jim Stone, Debbie Robie

Performance Honorable Mention:

## **One Lonely Kitten**

Brigid DeDannon, Aodhionn DeDannon

Best Representation of Convention Theme:

## **Charlie's Angels**

Amada Marquez, Erica Zaffke, Liz Robinson

Best Make-Up: **Phantom Unmasked**

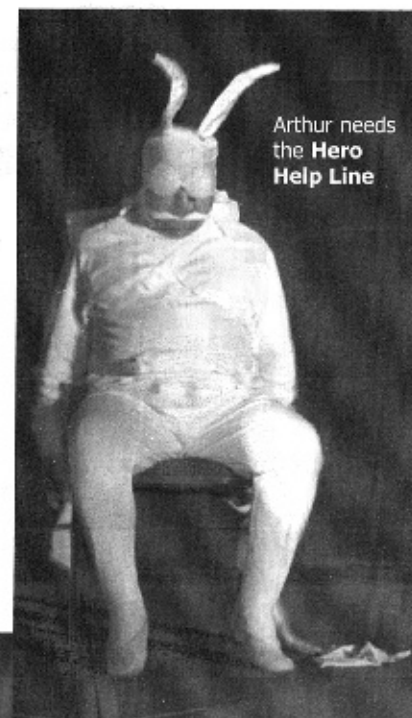
Allison Trombley, Amy Hoops

Best Props: **Why Samurai Don't Play Football**

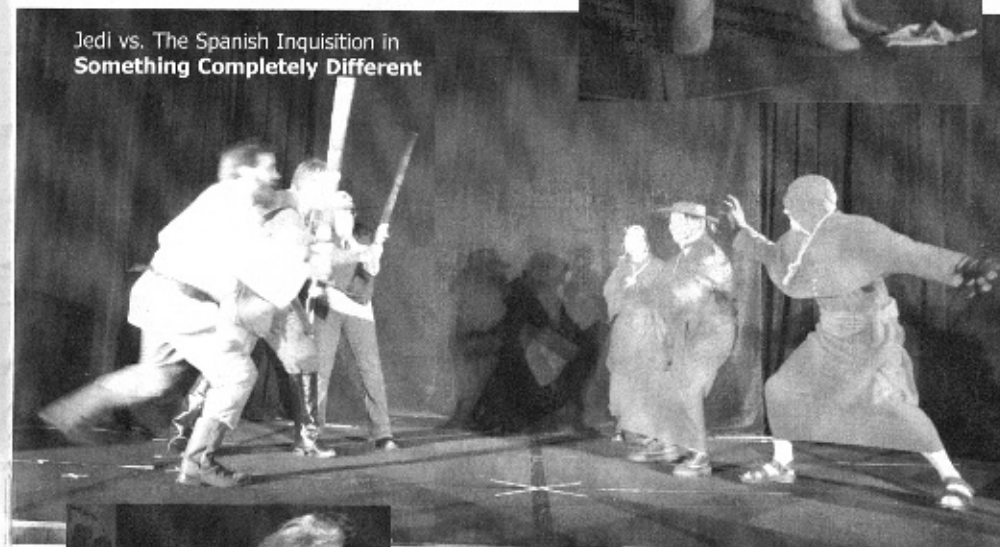
Shmuel Blyly-Strauss, Jo O'Hanley, Garek Bushnell, Elizabeth Bushnell, Rex Bryant, Geoff Wessendorf

Best Re-creation: **Typical Sith Date**

Joe King, Mary Ellen Berglund



Arthur needs the **Hero Help Line**



Jedi vs. The Spanish Inquisition in **Something Completely Different**



First time Masquerade Director **Erin Kasper**, not at all nervous.

Young Fan Honorable Mention: **Superheroes at Play**  
Megan Peterson, Rachel Hogan, Joan Sullivan

Young Fan Honorable Mention: **Gone Fishin'**  
Amy Burge, Kyle Burge, Cody Burge

Young Fan Honorable Mention: **Episode 3.5**  
Harry Sullivan, Walter Sullivan, Frankie Sullivan, John Hogan

All photos in this spread by Peter Verrant

# Who's Who on the CONvergence 2005 Programming Guide Cover

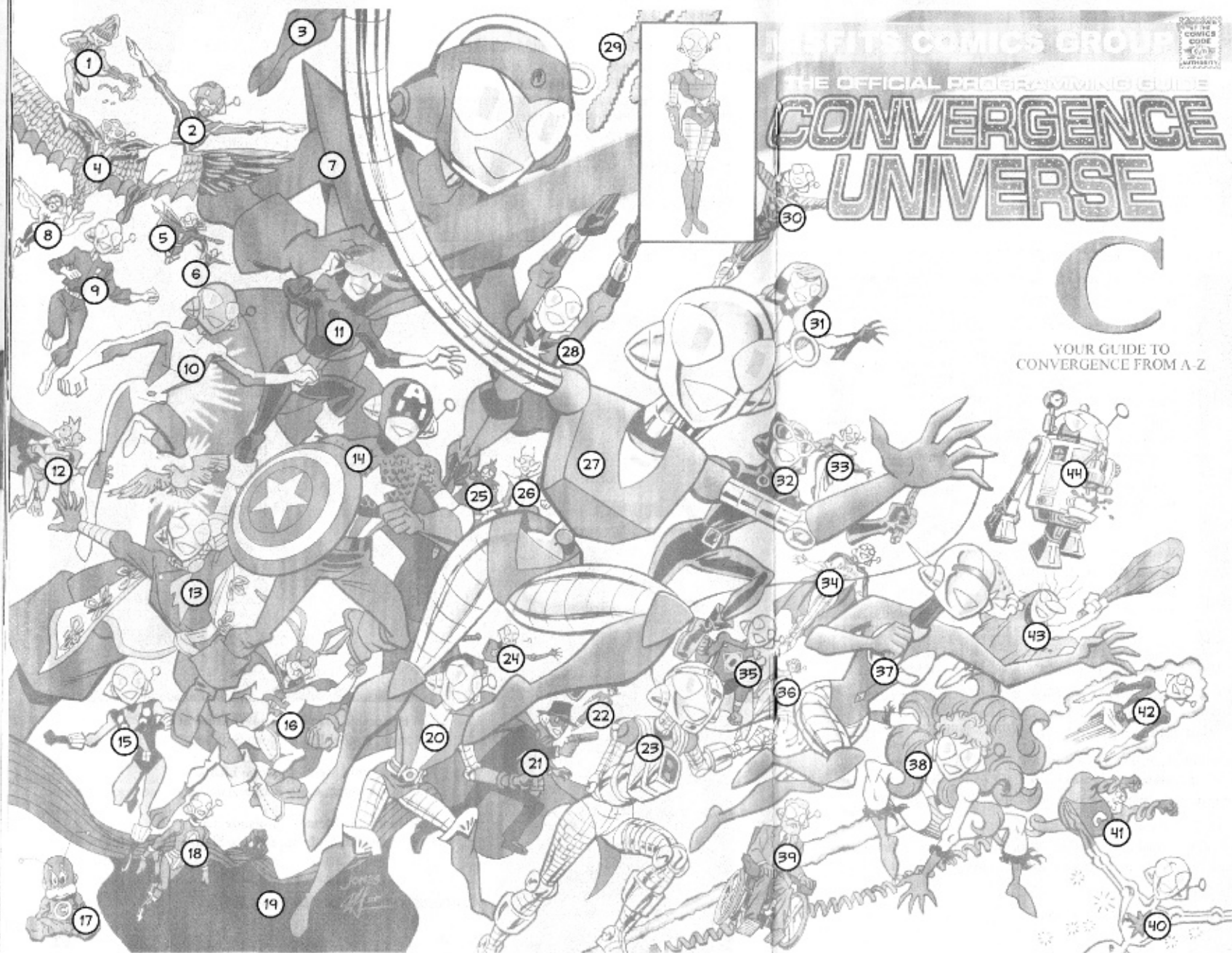
By popular demand, here's a key to the identity of EVERY character on the CONvergence 2005 Programming Guide cover. Thanks to *Official Handbook of the Marvel Universe* inker **Joe Rubinstein** for inking the Connie figure for the Connie guide entry on the inside front cover.

## Interesting trivia:

- There are four Captain Marvels on this cover.
- There are three Tick characters.
- All characters do begin with the letter C.
- They are all heroes or anti-heroes; no villains.

## Character List

1. Captain Muselage (The Tick)
2. Captain Britain (Marvel)
3. (One of two non-specific characters, just there to even out the composition.)
4. Condorman (Disney)
5. Captain Marvel, Jr. (DC)
6. (The other non-specific character. If you like, imagine that Choda Boy, from Orgazmo)
7. Colossal Boy
8. Captain Marvel (Marvel)
9. Challenger of the Unknown (DC)
10. Changeling (DC)
11. Cyclops (Marvel)
12. Crusader Chameleon (The Tick)
13. Captain Marvel (DC)
14. Captain America (Marvel)
15. Cosmic Boy (DC)
16. Captain Carrot (DC)
17. Cheeks, the Toy Wonder (DC)
18. Captain Comet (DC)
19. Cloak (Marvel)
20. Colossus (Marvel)
21. Crimson Avenger (DC)
22. Comet (Marvel)
23. Cyborg (DC)
24. Captain Marvel (M. F. Enterprises)
25. Chlorophyll Kid (DC)
26. Chameleon Boy (DC)
27. Connie (CONvergence mascot)
28. Captain Marvel (Marvel)
29. Carpeted Man (The Tick)
30. Captain Amazing (Mystery Men)
31. Crystal (Marvel)
32. Catwoman (DC)
33. Color Kid (DC)
34. Captain Nice (ABC TV)
35. Captain Omnipotent (Dr. Blink)
36. Captain Universe (Marvel)
37. Connie Mark 2 (CONvergence)
38. The Creeper (DC)
39. The Chief (DC)
40. Captain Atom (DC)
41. Coil Man (Hanna Barbara)
42. Cannonball (Marvel)
43. Captain Caveman (Hanna Barbara)
44. CoF2E2 (CONvergence)





# Volunteers

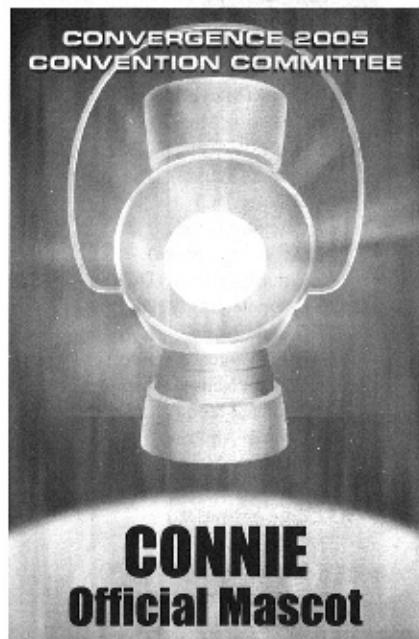
Volunteers are the lifeblood of any fan-run convention, going above and beyond paying their membership fee and contributing with their time, skills, and talents.

At CONvergence 2005 we had 373 volunteers reported (through volunteer books, volunteer cards, and department heads). Every CONvergence volunteer earns a volunteer button, an invitation to our volunteer pool party, and our sincere thanks. Of those 373, 119 put in 15 or more hours to earn their volunteer T-shirt.

Thanks again to the hundreds of you who volunteered and we look forward to seeing you next year!



# Thank You



Because we just can't say "thank you" enough, we're going to say it one more time!

CONvergence and the Minnesota Society for Interest in Science Fiction and Fantasy (MISFITS) would like to thank everyone who helped make CONvergence 2005 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, **Larry Dixon**, **Dr. Jim Kakalios**, **Harry Knowles**, **Jay "Father Geek" Knowles**, **Mercedes Lackey**, **Len Wein**, and **Mary Wolfman**. Thank you to all the performers and organizers of events that helped provide so many exciting things to see and do at CONvergence 2005.

Thank you to everyone who helped manage the minor emergency on Friday of CONvergence 2005 involving a broken sprinkler head in a hotel hallway.

Thanks also to **Chad Ness** at the Art Institute International of Minnesota for his assistance. Connie's Space Lounge would like to give huge thanks to **Jeff Sherman**, **Zhac Rahkonen** and **Leann Olsen**. CONvergence Operations would like to thank all our volunteers, and reserve special thanks for **Ann Roubik**.

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. This isn't just our convention. It's yours.

Thank you for making it special. Thank you for making it CONvergence.

Edna Mode tries to hold off trouble in the hallways of CONvergence 2005.  
Photo by Chris Bowsby



The Great Luke Ski and friends perform.  
Photo by Peter Verrant



It's Justice League vs. Sith in Episode 3.5 from the 2005 Masquerade. Photo by Peter Verrant



# CONVERGENCE 2006

## BOLDLY GO.

### Annual Theme

"Space is big. You just won't believe how vastly, hugely, mind-bogglingly big it is. I mean, you may think it's a long way down the road to the chemist's, but that's just peanuts to space."

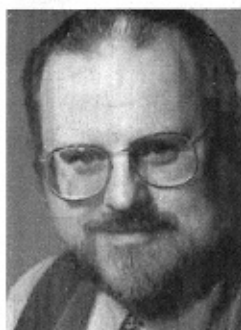
— Douglas Adams, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*

The theme of CONvergence 2006 will be "Boldly Go," and is a celebration of space exploration in reality and science fiction. We will be having guests and programming about real world space sciences (more exciting news on that front soon!), as well as panels and programming on topics from Heinlein's Space Cadet to Whedon's Firefly.

2006 is also the 40th anniversary of Star Trek, so help us celebrate four decades of exploring the Final Frontier!

### 2006 Guests of Honor

The following guests currently plan to join us at CONvergence 2006 as guests of honor. Watch our website for the latest updates to this list.



#### DAVID WEBER

David Weber is often compared to C.S. Forester (the celebrated creator of Captain Horatio Hornblower) and is the recipient of the sort of critical praise once reserved for a Heinlein or an Asimov. His novels range from epic fantasy (*Oath of Swords*, *The War God's Own*) to breathtaking space opera (*Path of the Fury*, *The Armageddon Inheritance*) to military science fiction with in-depth characterization (the celebrated and awesomely popular Honor Harrington series. *Ashes of Victory* made it to the New York Times bestsellers list, and the latest instalment in the series is *War of Honor* (2003).)

Of his creation, David Weber said this: "If I had to pick the three characteristics which I think are most central to who Honor Harrington is and to the reason readers respond to her so positively, those characteristics would be responsibility, compassion, and loyalty. She is not a 'safe' person. She has a ferocious temper which it is very dangerous to arouse, but that dangerous side of her personality is controlled and focused by her sense of compassion and her willingness to assume responsibility for fixing problems, whoever created them. It doesn't matter to Honor whether or not a problem is 'her fault.' What matters to her is that there is a problem which needs to be solved, and she digs in to do just that."

David has collaborated with other authors including David Drake, S. M. Stirling, and CONvergence Guest of Honor Eric Flint, with whom he worked on the novels *Warmasters*, *1633*, and *Crown of Slaves*.

To learn more about the work of David Weber, visit his page at the Baen Books website:

[http://www.baen.com/author\\_catalog.asp?author=DWeber](http://www.baen.com/author_catalog.asp?author=DWeber)

We look forward to having David join us at CONvergence 2006.

#### MILES TEVES



Miles Teves is a painter and a sculptor working as a conceptual designer for film, television, and computer games. A child of the 60's and 70's, Miles was raised on a steady stream of pop-culture including Godzilla, Batman, Star Trek, Whacky Packages, Plop magazine, old horror and sci-fi films and Monty Python. He began working in the Hollywood entertainment industry in 1984 and has been at it ever since.

In a stroke of fate Rob Bottin hired the young artist to work as a concept illustrator on a landmark fantasy film called 'Legend'. Over the next couple of years, Miles provided character concept art for Explorers, Robocop, The Witches of Eastwick, and Total Recall.

After some time spent pursuing work in the computer game field, Miles returned to conceptual design for film. Since then he has worked on a number of projects including a large number of popular genre films including the following:

- *Interview with a Vampire* (Stan Winston Studio - Concept Artist/ Sculpture)
- *Men in Black* (Rick Baker's Cinovation - Character Concept Artist)
- *Blade* (Cannon Creations - Art Director/Character design)
- *The Mummy* (I.L.M. - Character Artist)
- *Galaxy Quest* ( I.L.M. - Conceptual Artist)
- *Planet of the Apes* (20th Century Fox - Concept Artist)
- *Spider-man* (Sony Pictures - Concept Artist)
- *Bullet Proof Monk* (Captive Audience - Makeup sculptor)
- *Pirates of the Carribean* (Disney - Visual Development)
- *Van Helsing* (Universal - Character Concept Artist)
- *King Kong* (Universal/WETA - Concept Artist/Sculptor)
- *Ghost Rider* (Sony Pictures - Concept Artist)

To learn more about Miles Teves and his work, visit his web site at <http://www.milesteves.com>.

We look forward to having Miles join us at CONvergence 2006.

#### GREG WEISMAN

CONvergence is pleased to welcome GARGOYLES creator Greg Weisman to CONvergence 2006. Greg has been a story-teller all his life, working as an Associate Editor and Freelance Writer for DC Comics, where he wrote *Captain Atom* and other titles.

Greg worked at Walt Disney Television Animation from 1989 until 1996, rising through the ranks to become the Director of Series Development for the division. Greg worked on such diverse properties as *Darkwing Duck*, *Gummi Bears*, *Tail Spin*, *Bonkers*, *Raw Toonage*, *Duck Tales the Movie*, *Aladdin the Series* and *The Mighty Ducks*, among others.

In 1991, Greg and his team created and developed a new series for Disney: *Gargoyles*. Greg left his position as an executive to become the Supervising Producer and Supervising Story Editor of the first 66 episodes of that series. In 1996, Greg left Disney for DreamWorks Television Animation, where he also developed numerous series.

In October of 1998, Greg left DreamWorks to become a full-time Freelance Writer, Story Editor, Producer and Voice Director. He has written scripts for *Men In Black*, *Disney's Hercules*, *Big Guy & Rusty the Boy*





*Robot, Max Steel, Roughnecks: The Starship Troopers Chronicles, Buzz Lightyear of Star Command, The Mummy, Kim Possible, The Batman, Alien Racers* and *Bionicle: Mask of Light*, among others.

He has also voice directed the original DVD Movie, *Atlantis: Milo's Return* and the English dub of the Japanese anime video series *3X3 Eyes*.

Greg is currently producing and story editing the second season of *W.I.T.C.H.* for Disney and SIP animation, and writing a *Gargoyles* comic for Slave Labor Graphics.

Greg has a wife, Beth, and two kids, Erin and Benny, two cats, Iggy and Bigtime and two basset hounds, Abraham and Sami.

## K E N N E T H H I T E



Kenneth Hite has discovered roleplaying in the summer of 1979, and has been "GMing" almost continuously since that October.

He has written extensively for Steve Jackson Games' *GURPS* system, including *GURPS Alternate Earths*, *GURPS Cabal*, *GURPS Horror*, and *GURPS WWII: Weird War II*.

Kenneth has also enjoyed a long association with the Star Trek role playing license, contributing to the *Star Trek Roleplaying Game* for Last Unicorn Games, and *Star Trek Roleplaying* for Decipher, including the *Starfleet Operations Manual* and the *Player and Narrator Guides*.

Kenneth Hite also writes two mostly-regular columns, *Surpressed Transmission* for *Pyramid* magazine (<http://www.sjgames.com/pyramid>) and *Out of the Box*, a game industry news and review column currently at *Gaming Report* (<http://www.gamingreport.com>).

We are told Kenneth's weaknesses include atomic radiation, sonic cannons, and vodka tonics. Kenneth has been a lifelong Chicago native ever since he moved there from Oklahoma City in 1988. He now lives in Chicago; his mate Sheila will avenge his death.

## G A R Y R U S S E L L

CONvergence is pleased to welcome Gary Russell back for CONvergence 2006. Based in the UK, Gary has had a long association with *Doctor Who*, having edited *Doctor Who Magazine* during the early 1990s and having written several *Doctor Who* novels. Gary latest *Doctor Who* novel, *Spiral Scratch*, was released in August of 2005.

Along with partner and Managing Director Jason Heigh-Ellery, Gary is one of the producers behind *Big Finish Productions*, producers of a large series of science fiction audio stories on CD.

Gary was last with us in 1999, the year of our first convention, when Big Finish was in the process of launching its series of officially licensed *Doctor Who* audio stories, featuring Peter Davison, Colin Baker, and Sylvester McCoy reprising their roles as the Doctor, along with several original companions. Since then, Big Finish has produced more than 80 *Doctor Who* adventures, including a series of "Eighth Doctor" stories featuring Paul McGann. Many of these stories have been directed by Gary himself.

Big Finish has also produced several *Doctor Who* spin-off series, including *Dalek Empire*, *Bernice Summerfield*, *Gallifrey*, *Unit*, and *Sarah Jane Smith*, many featuring actors from the original *Doctor Who* TV series reprising their classic roles.

As a note of trivia, Gary is also a former child actor having played leading roles in the BBC's adaptation of E. Nesbit's novel *The Phoenix and the Carpet* and ITV's adaptations of Enid Blyton's *Famous Five* novels. He even had a minor walk-on role in the James Bond movie *Octopussy*.

To learn more about Gary Russell's Big Finish Productions, visit their web site at [www.bigfinish.com](http://www.bigfinish.com).



# ConSuite

"Loved health choices for food at ConSuite. Fruit + miso soup was great."

"Please more junk food! No more dang carrots."

"Too much sugar and junk food. Fruit was nice"

"Want Twinkies!"

"There are not enough pixie sticks at your lovely convention."

— 2005 Survey Comments

CONvergence 2006 will see the first major turnover in ConSuite personnel since our convention began. Thaadd Powell and her crew did a great job and they will be missed but with a new staff we have the opportunity to look at the way things have been done and make some major changes.

We recognize the challenge with ConSuite. ConSuite is the one convention department that will never be able to satisfy everyone. Our goal is to ensure that we excel at certain basic priorities this year.

## Organization

We want to ensure that the consuite staff is well trained and easy to find. We also want to streamline the food distribution process so we can make sure there is always a good variety of food available.

We have four individuals signed to act as co-heads for the department and are also looking to fill eight sub-head spot. During the convention, our goal will be to have one head and two sub-heads on duty at all times.

In addition to these twelve people, we are going to need lots of help! Please contact us if you are interested in volunteering for ConSuite. We will need help with set-up on Thursday, with food distribution, food prep and cleaning throughout the weekend and with tear down on Monday. Remember, if you volunteer for ConSuite, you get first crack at the special food!

We are also looking at a new method of food distribution. Most con-goers will not notice a major difference. What we hope they notice is the fact there is fresher food available and a greater variety of options.

## Cleanliness

A frequent complaint about ConSuite is the cleanliness of the rooms. Our new staff is focused on this problem and we have come up with several ideas to ensure the hospitality rooms stay clean and inviting. One area we have looked at is smoking ConSuite and changes to that room are outlined below.

The new plan for food distribution should also help. But there is no substitute for having people on the floor. With three dedicated heads at all times, we feel we will have a strong focus on keeping ConSuite clean and inviting.

## Decor

We want ConSuite to reflect the theme of the convention. We also want the interior rooms to be interesting and inviting. Room decor is a big part of that. Look to see a lot more time and thought going into room decor at the convention.

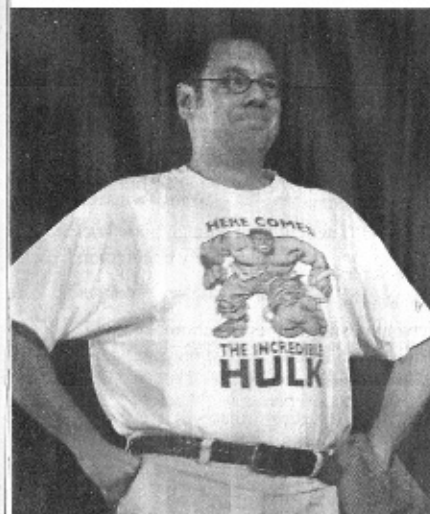
We have a lot of other ideas and would love to hear your suggestions. Feel free to contact us at [consuite@convergence-con.org](mailto:consuite@convergence-con.org).

## Smoking ConSuite / Smoking Lounge

"I am very happy that there was still a smoking room; but people need to shut the door and Saturday cigar smokers went too far. They even smoked me out."

— Survey Comment

Over the past several years, we have had difficulty maintaining a clean environment in the CONvergence Smoking ConSuite. This problem combined with the fact that we have been using one of our largest meet-



ing rooms to meet the needs of a comparatively small number of convention members prompted us to take a look at our Smoking ConSuite policy.

After careful consideration, we decided to keep a Smoking Lounge but to move it to a different room so our entire membership would have access to more space in ConSuite.

We will no longer have a room designated "Smoking ConSuite." Instead, room 222, which is one of the whirlpool suites located on the end of the consuite function space, has been re-designated the CONvergence Smoking Lounge. The lounge will be open 24 hours a day with the exception of two 1/2 hour "airing out" periods per day.

Due to the smaller size of the room, the smoking of cigars or pipes will not be allowed in the room.

We hope this new plan for accommodation of our smoking and non-smoking members will work out well for everyone.

**Dr. Jim Kakalios** reveals his true colors.  
*Photo by Guy Bock*

## Registration

Kate Carey stepped down after many years as Registration Head. Our new Registration Co-Heads will be Stephanie Lindorff and Andy Murphy. Steph was a previous Co-Head of Programming, Co-Head of Ops (and Lead Architect for our web design), and is pleased with this opportunity to advance her plan to "Collect the Whole Set! Win Valuable Prizes!" Andy Murphy was invaluable for many years in the Art Show and had joined the Registration Team two years ago as a Sub-Head. (Andy has plans of world domination through database design.)

Look for Registration to continue the things that have worked, tweak the problem spots, and implement brand new adventures as well!

## Parties

More than half of last year's 44 parties are already signed on for 2006, with five new ones joining the ranks. If we received your party application, you've gotten an email from the Parties department by now.

Problems? Questions? Missing form? Want to try your hand at throwing a party? No special qualifications are required. Apply early; apply often: [parties@convergence-con.org](mailto:parties@convergence-con.org). Even with the addition of the Satellite Zone, space\* is limited!

\* Party space, that is. Outer space is theoretically infinite.

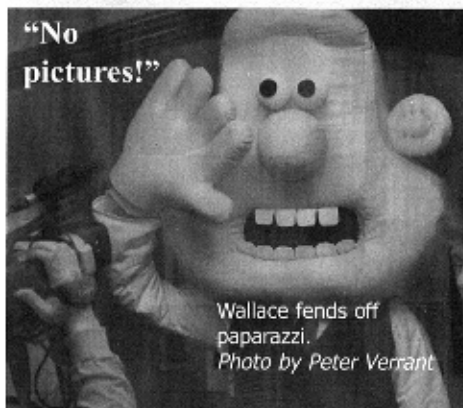
## Programming

CONvergence is looking for panelists and panel ideas for our 2006 convention. The CONvergence programming brainstorming meeting — and our main programming kick off meeting — will be Saturday, November 19th 2005 at 2:00pm at the Sheraton Bloomington Hotel. It will likely be held in the 22nd Floor meeting rooms. Check posted room schedules at the hotel when you arrive.

This meeting is open to anyone interested in suggesting ideas for CONvergence for 2006. It's our most important meeting for the year as far as programming at the convention goes. For more information, contact [programming@convergence-con.org](mailto:programming@convergence-con.org). Also, if you are unable to attend and have ideas, or would like to help with programming for 2006, please e-mail at that address. We'll be looking for panelists willing to sit those panels. Without those volunteers the panels can't happen.

Don't forget, MISFITS Movie Night will be held right downstairs that same evening. Come for the programming meeting and stay for a free movie party! See [page 22](#) for more details.

## Programming Guide



"I loved both convention booklets - especially the gorgeous 'Marvel Universe' comic cover. I'm still giggling over the perfect parody. However, for next year we need pocket programs too, 1-2 pages, disposable, easy to carry."

— *Survey Comments*

The comic book format of this year's Programming Guide was one-time only format specific to the Superhero theme of CONvergence 2005. Not only will the 2006 Programming Guide return to its traditional proportions, but the Programming Grid will be separated out into a separate booklet, hopefully making it even more convenient to stuff in your pocket.

## 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.

The CONvergence website is scheduled for some major construction (hard hats not required)! If you've got programming skills, please contact our webmistress, Laurie Richardson, and let her know you'd love to help! We also need a Web Content Wrangler, someone who will check the web content regularly to make sure it is up to date.

The Volunteers Department itself is looking for Sub-Heads.

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](mailto:info@convergence-con.org).

Dead can dance. From **Shaun of the Dead**, 2005 Masquerade. *Photo by Peter Verrant*





# MISFITS

CONvergence is a presentation of the MISFITS, The Minnesota Society for Interest in Science Fiction and Fantasy. While CONvergence is the biggest event we produce, we sponsor many other activities and events throughout the year.

## Upcoming MISFITS Events

### Board Elections - Deadline November 18

The deadline for Declarations of Intent to Run is coming up for three CONvergence Board positions (Communications, Events, and Guests divisions). Send your declaration to run to [info@misfit.org](mailto:info@misfit.org) by Friday, November 18th, 2005. More information will be available at the November 6th Convention Committee meeting or by contacting [info@misfits.org](mailto:info@misfits.org).

### MISFITS Movie Night - Saturday, November 19

MISFITS Movie Night returns to the **Sheraton Hotel South** (the CONvergence hotel) when Cinema Rex hosts this latest installment on Saturday, November 19. The event will be held in the **Cinema Rex Movie Room (Plaza 4)**. Doors will open at 6:00pm, with the first movie starting at 7:00pm.

We're not ready to announce anything about the lineup of films yet, but you can plan on the Cinema Rex movie experience: Geek movies with a geek audience, with popcorn, soda and snacks. (You know we mean geek in a positive way, right?) Don't expect all the comfy chairs and furniture you get at the convention version of Cinema Rex (sorry), but there will be plenty of Rex-style ambiance and fun.

Earlier in the day, there will be a Brainstorming Meeting for CONvergence 2006 Programming also held at the Sheraton Hotel South. If you attend, hang around for MISFITS Movie Night. There will be no cover charge for this event, but foodshelf donations will be welcome. Keep an eye on the MISFITS web site ([www.misfit.org](http://www.misfit.org)) for more information on this event soon.

If you're on our mailing list, you'll receive a postcard in the mail sometime in the next month with more information!

## Other MISFITS Programs/Clubs

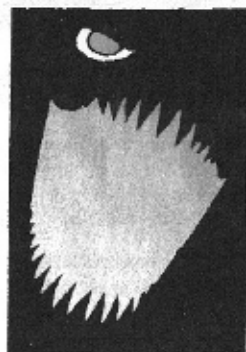
### In the Schools

Developed and initiated in 1999, MISFITS "In The Schools" Program started by sponsoring local, published author visits to the St. Paul area school systems. Since then the "In The Schools" Program has expanded to include sending NASA, Reptilian and Robotics demonstrators.

To find out how to obtain this MISFITS service for your schools or library please contact MISFITS "In The Schools" Program at [intheschools@misfit.org](mailto:intheschools@misfit.org).

### Crafty Geek

One of MISFITS newest clubs is Crafty Geek, a group where geeky crafters can get together to socialize, learn, share and show off. Crafty Geek meetings are monthly, and are being held at Crafty Planet located in NE Minneapolis at 2318 Lowry Ave. For more information on the club, or to learn the time and location of the next Crafty Geek meeting, email us at [craftygeek@misfit.org](mailto:craftygeek@misfit.org).



2005 convention guest **Len Wein** and 2004 guest **Christian Colquhoun** at the MISFITS Room Party at CONvergence 2005.

Photo by Peter Verrant

### Geek Physique (and Diabegeek)

Weight management can be especially hard on us, partly because of the community we are a part of. Many of our favorite past times are sedentary activities. That's where **Geek Physique** comes in. Part educational and part support group, Geek Physique also organizes exercise outings like scenic walks around Minnesota's numerous lakes and maybe even attempt indoor rock climbing or ice sledding in the winter.

**Diabegeek** is a sub-group working with the Geek Physique club but also having our own monthly meetings (usually the first Wednesday of each month) to talk about issues that directly concern those of us with Diabetes. If you have any questions, please email us at [geekphysique@misfit.org](mailto:geekphysique@misfit.org).

### Read the Book / See the Movie

The MISFITS read the book/see the movie club was the first club formed by our organization. The club's goal was to expand our reading and film horizons by comparing and contrasting films to their source material. The club has become an education in literary and film history as well as an education in how the film industry adapts written material. For more information, visit [bookmovie@misfit.org](mailto:bookmovie@misfit.org).

### Writer's Group

The MISFITS Writers' Group is a place where you can share your writing, receiving feedback and constructive criticism of your work, interact with other writers and, hopefully, improve your writing. This group meets the third Thursday of the month. For more information about meetings or this group in general, send a message to [writersgroup@misfit.org](mailto:writersgroup@misfit.org).

### MISFITS Book Club

To learn more about the MISFITS organization and the clubs and events that we organize, visit our website at [www.misfit.org](http://www.misfit.org).

## Until Next Time...

We'll have more information about plans for our 2006 convention in **Progress Report Two** in the Spring. Until then, keep an eye on [www.CONvergence-con.org](http://www.CONvergence-con.org) or make sure to be signed up for our monthly e-mail updates. To get on our publications or e-mail distribution lists, email us at [info@convergence-con.org](mailto:info@convergence-con.org) for convention-related business or [info@misfit.org](mailto:info@misfit.org) for everything else MISFITS does.

please print clearly • one room request per form • please feel free to make photocopy duplicates of this form

# CONVERGENCE 2006

## BOLDLY GO.

### HOTEL ROOM Request Form

#### Room Requirements:

- |                                       |                                      |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>Check One:</i>                     | <i>Check One:</i>                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 King Bed   | <input type="checkbox"/> Smoking     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Double Bed | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Smoking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't Care   | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't Care  |

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" 2006

WED JULY 05	THUR JULY 06	FRI JULY 07	SAT JULY 08	SUN JULY 09	MON JULY 10
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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 individuals hosting room parties. If you wish to host a CONvergence room party, check the Cabana box, and complete and attach the CONvergence Parties Form.

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 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](mailto: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 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>

please print clearly • one pre-registration per form • please feel free to make photocopy duplicates of this form

# PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

## CONVERGENCE 2006

### BOLDLY GO.

### July 7-9

Sheraton Bloomington South  
Bloomington, MN  
A Convention for Fans of  
Science Fiction and Fantasy

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 \_\_\_\_\_  
 ↑ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

**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.

↑ Badge Name (if different from Full Name) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Registration Rates

Adult Membership until Dec. 31, 2005	\$30
Adult Membership until May 15, 2006	\$40
Adult Membership At the Door	\$55
Supporting Membership until May 15, 2006 (\$20 now plus \$20 at the door)	\$20 + \$20
Kids Age 6-12 until May 15, 2006	\$15
Kids Age 6-12 At the Door	\$20
Kids 5 & under	Free

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"/> Registration         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Badgers/Gophers    | <input type="checkbox"/> Gaming                | <input type="checkbox"/> Programming Panelist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CoF2E2 Free Coffee | <input type="checkbox"/> Gravediggers          | <input type="checkbox"/> Programming Staff    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ConSuite           | <input type="checkbox"/> Operations            | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteers           |

I would like to volunteer wherever I am needed

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, Suite 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 our 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.

US Mail: 1437 Marshall Ave, Suite 203  
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Web: [www.convergence-con.org](http://www.convergence-con.org)