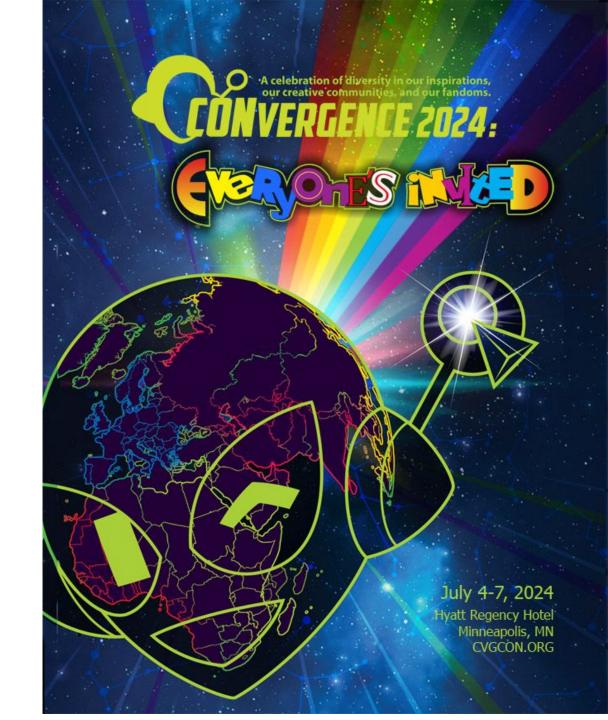
# CONvergence 2024

A Social Narrative



### CONvergence

### **CONvergence**

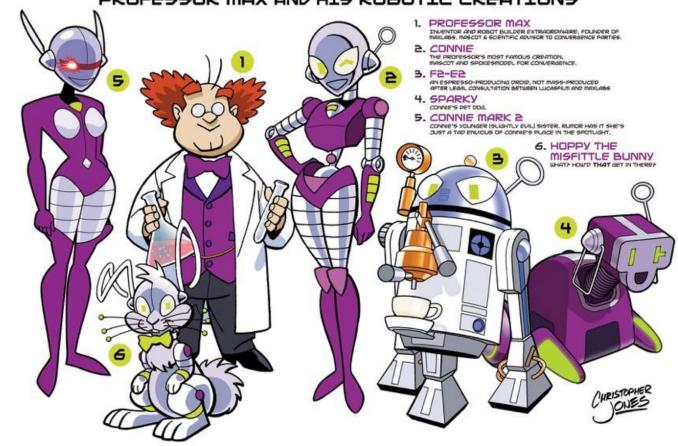
Thursday July 4<sup>th</sup> – Sunday July
 7<sup>th</sup>

#### **Hyatt Regency Minneapolis**

- 1300 Nicollet Mall
- Minneapolis, MN 55403

CONvergence is a convention for fans of speculative fiction, fantasy, and more in all media forms.







### I am going to CONVergence

### **Events**

### CONvergence 2024

07/04/2024 - 07/07/2024 06:00 PM CT

- \$135.00 Adult (Age 18+) After 15 May 2024
- \$75.00 Teen (Ages 13-17) After May 15, 2024
- \$35.00 Youth (Ages 6 to 12) after July 17, 2023
- Free Child (Ages 5 and Under)

The Hyatt Regency Hotel 1300 Nicollet Mall Minneapolis, MN 55403 I can register for CONvergence online. Registering online allows me to get my tickets ahead of time and helps convention staff and volunteers get me set up with my badge more quickly.

If I don't want to register online or ahead of time, I can register at the door.



## Transportation to CONvergence

I can plan my transportation to CONvergence. I have different options of where to park — at hotel parking, parking ramps, on-street parking or a park & ride. If I am not driving, I can plan to take a bus, train, metro mobility, or use cab, Lyft and/or Uber services.

For more information on transportation and parking, I can look at the CONvergence website.



### **COVID-19 Policy**

I am not required to wear a mask at CONvergence, but it is recommended.

Parties Hallways have individual party rooms set their own mask policies.

I am NOT required to be vaccinated, show proof of vaccination, or show proof of a negative COVID-19 test within 48 hours of the start of CONvergence.

CONvergence strongly recommends that attendees do these things but is not requiring them.



If worn, Masks should be worn over the nose and mouth. They can be fabric, procedure, or N95-type masks, but must be clean, dry, and woven tightly enough to block light.



### Costumes

I can dress up for the con if I would like.

There are many people that enjoy wearing their costumes at CONvergence. People who work, volunteer and participate in the con wear costumes.

It is ok if I don't want to wear a costume. There are many people who enjoy going and without wearing a costume.

I can review costume policies, prop policies, prohibited items and other <u>policies</u> on the CONvergence website.









### **Photos**

If I really like a person's costume, I can compliment them. It is also ok to ask the person if I can take a photo of their costume or with them. I can wait for their response if they are ok with being photographed.

Likewise, someone may ask me for my photo if they really like my costume. I can tell them yes or no if I would like to be photographed individually or with them.





### Hyatt Regency Minneapolis Hotel

CONvergence is hosted at the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis. I can choose to rent a hotel room at Hyatt Regency or the Marriott Hotel (across the street from the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis) using the CONvergence Room Rates.

I must book all three nights, July 4–7, to reserve a room in the CONvergence room block. Not entering the correct dates will cause a message that the hotel does not have any rooms available.





# Registration at CONvergence

When I arrive, I will go to registration. I will go down the hallway to the left of the front doors of the lobby of the Hyatt Regency, take the elevator/escalator to the 2<sup>nd</sup>floor, registration is right at the top of the escalator on the 2<sup>nd</sup>floor (signage is also posted).

There will be tape on the floor indicating where to queue. When I get to the front of the line, I will go to an open registration volunteer's station (will tell everyone they're open by holding a sign and other staff will be at the front of the line to point me in the right direction). I will have your ID ready.





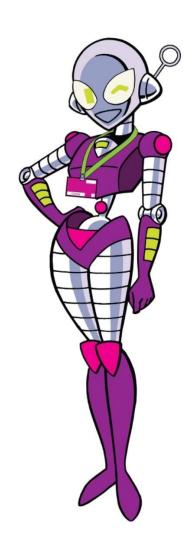


### Registration

At registration, I will receive my CONvergence badge.

There is a station that I can decorate my badge with small banners and pronoun stickers.

I can pick up CONvergence materials, such as a map guide and schedule/activity guide. These can help me navigate my way around CONvergence. It will also tell me when and where events that I want to go will be at.





### Signage

Throughout CONvergence there is ample signage throughout the halls. Signage includes but is not limited to:

- Places and activities to do at con
  - Party Rooms
  - Accessibility & Sensory Room
  - Additional Activities
- Where things are (rooms and floors)
- Expectations throughout con
  - Policies
  - CONvergence Values
- Fun Memes







### Merch

I can bring a credit or debit card and/or cash with me to CONvergence. This helps me be prepared in case I want to purchase food, CONvergence merch, or art and souvenirs from the dealers or artists rooms











# Attending CONvergence

There are a lot of people that attend CONvergence. I can be mindful of my space and other people's personal space.

Due to number of attendees, lines may be long, and some spaces may be louder than others

At CONvergence I can go to different activities, performances, and panelist rooms. I can check out my CONvergence schedule to see if I'm interested in going to specific events.

## Sensory Spaces

If I am feeling overwhelmed and need to take a moment to regulate, I can go to:

- The Sensory Quiet Room
  - Thursday 4pm 10pm
  - **Friday** 4pm 10pm
  - Saturday 4pm 10pm
  - **Sunday** Noon 4:00pm
    - If this space is closed when I need it, I can go to First Advisors, on the second floor, to use their quiet space.
- The Space Lounge (for sensory seekers)
  - Thursday 9:00pm 2:00am
  - Friday 11:00am NOON (Dance Dance Evolutions: Just-One-Hour-Rave)
  - Friday 1:00pm 2:30pm (Chair Rikering)
  - **Friday 3:30pm 5:30pm** (BIPOC Meetup)
  - Friday 7:00pm 9:00pm (TEENS ONLY!)
  - Friday 9:00pm 2:00am
  - Saturday 1:30pm 4:00pm (Classic Video Game Tournament)
  - Saturday 9:00pm 2:00am





### Sensory Quiet Room

I can go to the sensory break room or the space lounge. The sensory break room is a quiet space to reset, stim and relax.

There I can use filtered sounds and light, as well as sensory stimulating and de-stimulating tools, to quietly reenergize.

I can use the sensory break room as many times as I need throughout con. The sensory break hours are from 2pm to midnight throughout CONvergence.

I can also visit the First Advisors on the second floor when the sensory room is closed, because they also have quiet space and sensory options.





### Space Lounge

If I am looking for sensory seeking activities, I can visit the Space Lounge. The Space Lounge has several activities and things to do for sensory seekers that include a sensory bar, ample glow lighting, body paints, video game tournaments, musical acts and raves.

I can look at what the Space Lounge hours are and what activities I want to go to when I'm seeking sensory inputs.





### Accessibility

If I have any accessibility issues throughout CONvergence, I can go to the Accessibility table.

Accessibility is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, across from the Bridge (operations). CONvergence Accessibility team is dedicated to providing the best con experience to all con-goers.

I can ask them for support if I need. They will figure out how best to support and accommodate your needs.





# Thank You for Attending CONvergence!

For more information about CONvergence, I can visit Convergence's website.

For more information on Social Narratives and Sensory-Inclusive events, I can visit the Autism Society of Minnesota (AuSM)'s <u>website</u>.

