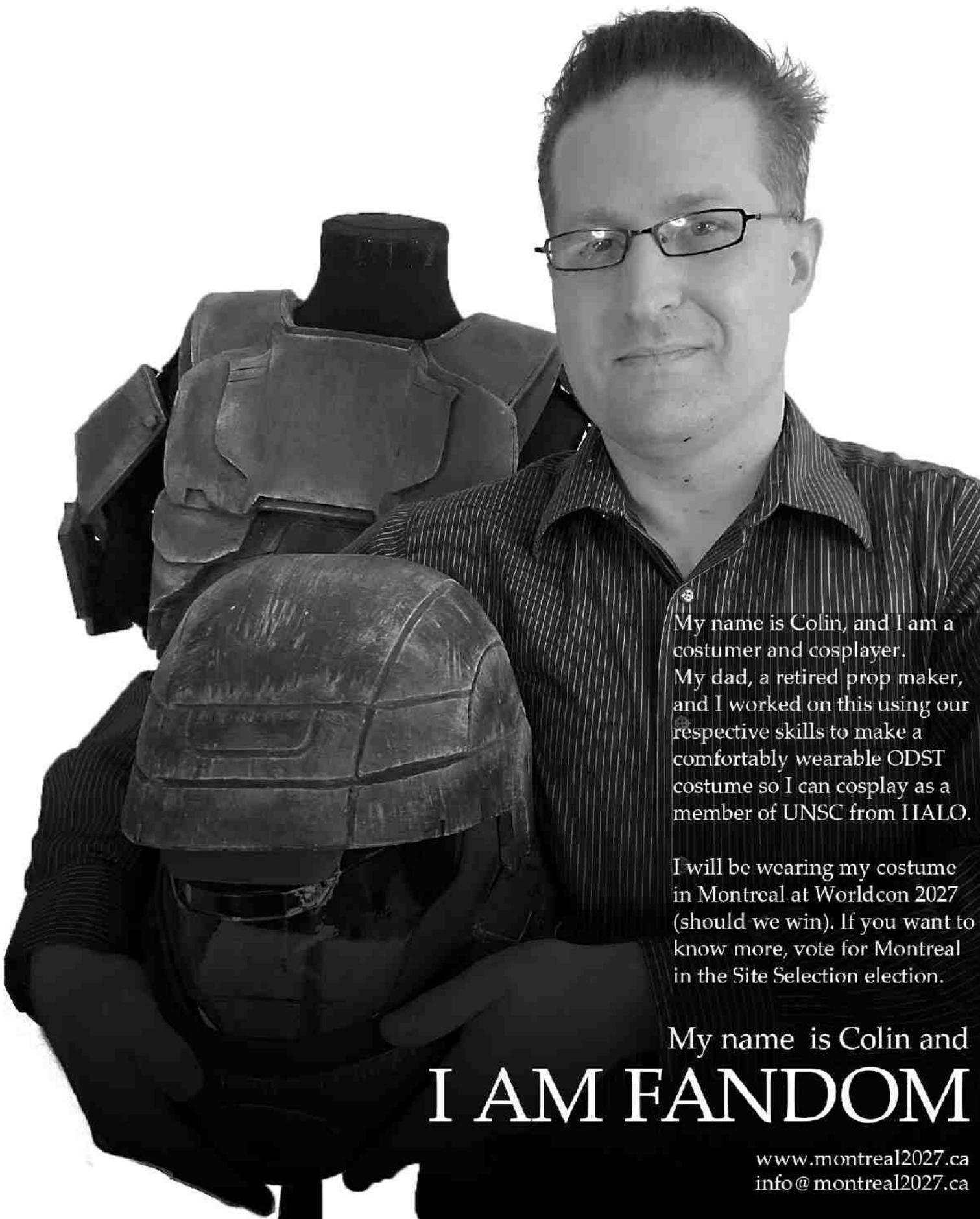


CONVERGENCE 2025

THAT'S HOW WE ROLL



SOUVENIR GUIDE



My name is Colin, and I am a costumer and cosplayer. My dad, a retired prop maker, and I worked on this using our respective skills to make a comfortably wearable ODST costume so I can cosplay as a member of UNSC from HIALO.

I will be wearing my costume in Montreal at Worldcon 2027 (should we win). If you want to know more, vote for Montreal in the Site Selection election.

My name is Colin and
I AM FANDOM

www.montreal2027.ca
info@montreal2027.ca



CONVERGENCE 2025: THAT'S HOW WE ROLL

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

You and your party have arrived at the Hyatt Regency. As you pass through the revolving door, a blast of air conditioning sweeps over you, freezing the sweat that had formed on your brow under the sweltering Minneapolis summer sun. In front of you is a fireplace lobby, sunken into the ground by a few steps, where you see a Flying Spaghetti Monster merrily chatting with Senshi and a Black Mage. Tucked into a corner of the lobby is a group of Super Smash Brothers characters poring over their Souvenir Guides and Grids. To your right is the Prairie Kitchen and Bar, advertising unique drinks and dishes designed to appeal to the incoming deluge of adventurers. To your left is the hotel's front desk, a cohort of competent concierges checking in guests and lending out bell carts to haul luggage to their rooms. You turn left and make your way past the front desk, down the hall to the escalator, riding it up to Registration for your badge. Roll initiative!

From the first release of Dungeons & Dragons in 1974, fans have gathered around tables with bags full of dice to escape into fantasy worlds with each other. Tabletop role-playing games (TTRPGs) have since been synonymous with geekery: card-carrying nerds talk about their latest ocean-based druid, the fight their Game Master used to wipe their party, or the hilarious situation they wandered into with that bard and that rogue. Twenty-sided dice have become a visual shorthand for chaos in our circles, but most importantly, these games have brought us together. Though some systems have been designed for single-player journeys, TTRPGs are at their core social games—they give us a framework where we can be in relationship with our friends.

This year at CONvergence, we're celebrating all the wild, wacky, and wonderful ways that TTRPGs (and games in general) have enriched our lives and our community. Our Guests of Honor have all worked in the production or development of these experiences, the Gaming department has an overclocked schedule for all ages, and our films and panels will showcase how broadly TTRPGs have affected the modern world. We're also looking forward to seeing everyone dress up as their original characters, bringing their creativity to the fore and blessing us all with a vision of how the world looks through their eyes.

A word about the modern world: we, the Board of Directors, know that it's gotten really, really hard out there for a lot of people, and especially for marginalized members of our CONvergence community. That's why we feel it's our responsibility to ensure that CONvergence is a welcoming, inclusive event. We were able to offer over 70 attendance grants this year to BIPOC and underrepresented attendees, and we're overjoyed to offer a BIPOC mixer in the Space Lounge again this year. All-gender bathrooms are once again available on the first and fourth floors, and menstrual products are present in every restroom, regardless of gender. It's not just important to us that these measures, and others aimed at accessibility, are present at CONvergence: it's essential.

As you embark on the journey through these four days of fun and fandom, we encourage you to party up. Talk with the person sitting next to you at a panel, take on a Quest from the Bridge with a stranger, or hop into a game for a fresh experience. Fascism fails in the face of friends gathering together to support each other, and what better place to make friends than the delightful dungeons of CONvergence? Everyone here has a unique story to tell and connecting with each other will only help us all get stronger.

We'll see you at the tavern afterward for a drink and a tale. Until then, enjoy CONvergence 2025: That's How We Roll!

Courtney Azar, Director of Administration

Eric Knight, Director of Facilities

CJ Mantel, Director of Systems

Charmaine Parnell, Director of Communications

Allen Tipper, Director of Hospitality

William Verburg-Cunningham, Director of Activities

Tim Wick, Director of Productions

David Bianchi, Board-Elect

Rachel Poleke, Board-Elect

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is a presentation of
Convergence Events

M/S #162

2355 Fairview Ave. Roseville, MN 55113

24-Hour Voicemail: 612-234-2845

CONvergence Email: info@convergence-con.org

Convention Website: convergence-con.org

Organization Website: convergenceevents.org

The CONvergence 2025 Souvenir Book & Programming Guide

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While times and schedules listed were accurate as of the time of printing, the final schedule can be found on the CONvergence schedule website (convergence-con.org/at-the-con/schedule/) and Sched app. To provide feedback and suggestions on the souvenir book and programming guide, email publications@convergence-con.org.

Cover artwork is by Christopher Jones. The CONvergence 2025 Souvenir Book and Programming Guide was designed by Molly Glover for CONvergence Publications. A special thank you to the Publications department (Jen, Muriel, Molly, Cole, Alee, Trish, and Jeanne), Department Heads and Subheads, the Convention Committee, the Board of Directors, and to everyone else who helped with this publication.

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CONVERGENCE EVENTS

CONvergence is a convention for fans of science fiction and fantasy in all media. CONvergence was launched in 1999 and has grown to be one of the largest conventions of its kind in Minnesota and beyond! CONvergence is produced by Convergence Events, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

CONvergence is our premier event, our largest celebration, and a sign of things to come.

MISSION AND VALUES

Mission Statement

Convergence Events, Inc. is a non-profit, volunteer-run organization dedicated to creating exciting events that connect, enrich, and expand our diverse community, and to inspiring each other through creativity, learning, and service.

Core Values

- We believe in treating ourselves, each other, and our diverse community with respect.
- We believe in accepting all diverse geek communities.
- We believe in providing a culture of openness, inclusivity, equity, and fun.
- We believe community service is delivered with professionalism, passion, and integrity.
- We believe in being open-minded and inventive.
- We believe in listening with an open mind and compassion.
- We believe in always being willing to learn.

- We believe in taking risks, learning from our experience, and taking personal and community responsibility.
- We believe in being patient and honest.
- We believe in encouraging innovation and empowered decision-making.
- We believe our actions should inspire volunteerism, confidence, and creativity.
- We believe personal and organizational balance is the key to sustainable success.

CONvergence Events, Inc. Corporate Officers and Board of Directors

Charmaine Parnell—President and Director of External Relations and Communications

William Verburg-Cunningham—Vice President and Director of Activities

Allen Tipper—Secretary and Director of Hospitality

CJ Mantel—Treasurer and Director of Systems

Courtney Azar—Director of Administration

Eric Knight—Director of Facilities

Tim Wick—Director of Productions

Thomas Keeley—CFO

David Bianchi—CTO

CONvergence Continues our Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Accessibility; and Gender Inclusion

We, the Board of CONvergence Events, have chosen to make this statement because we feel it is important that you, our community, know we, as a board, stand united on this topic.

The issues here are important and they are messy. We have no illusions that what we are saying is perfect or covers everything we are all thinking and feeling right now, but we want all of you to know that as members of our community are under attack, we feel now more than ever that CONvergence must continue to strive to be a safe space.

As such, we continue to be committed to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Accessibility; and Gender Inclusion.

We know supporting these facets of life is not always easy and we frequently falter, but we remain steadfast in our commitment to continually strive to be better. Without these efforts we have segregation: a toxic way of being that divides our community.

The demographics of CONvergence, held on Dakota land, are not limited by national borders or racial definitions, and when they come after one of us, they're coming after all of us. Black lives matter. No human is illegal.

Accessibility benefits everyone. Diversity benefits everyone. A more diverse and accessible convention is a better convention.

We further are committed to the belief that trans rights are human rights.

We look around this convention community and see our queer and trans members and you are our people. Queer folks sit on the CONvergence board. "Gay and bi people exist" is not a political statement. "Trans people exist" is not a political statement. Politicizing existence undermines human rights.

This is a moment in time in which spaces like CONvergence are necessary. CONvergence is not just a party, and we are not just a convention. We are a necessary space and community for people who are currently under attack in other facets of their lives and we take that responsibility very seriously.

We recognize words are not enough. We are all committed to continue to act in ways that support this statement and to support the vulnerable members of our community who are under siege with more than words. We urge all of you to take care of each other. We urge you to reach out to each other and to us if you need help. **As a community, we take care of us.**

HOURS OF OPERATIONS

Accessibility Table

Hyatt 2, Lobby Overlook

Thursday	2:00pm–6:00pm
Friday	10:00am–6:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–6:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–2:00pm

After Hours Overnight Open Gaming

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade

Friday	12:30am–9:00am
Saturday	12:30am–9:00am
Sunday	12:30am–9:00am

Art Show

Hyatt 2, Northstar A

Thursday	2:00pm–7:00pm
Friday	10:00am–9:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–6:00pm
Sunday	11:00am–3:00pm

Artists Alley

Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall B

Thursday	2:00pm–7:00pm
Friday	10:00am–6:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–6:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–4:00pm

Blood Drive

Hyatt 1, Near the Escalators

Saturday 9:30am–3:30pm

Book Swap

Hyatt 6, Promenade Alcove

Continuously
Thursday 10:00am–Sunday Noon

Cinema Rex Movie Room

Hyatt 5, Lake Superior

Thursday	3:00pm–1:30am
Friday	10:00am–1:30am
Saturday	10:00am–2:00am
Sunday	10:00am–6:30pm

Connie's Quantum Sandbox

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes B

Thursday	11:00am–10:00pm
Friday	10:00am–10:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–10:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–3:30pm

ConSuite

Hyatt 2, Northwoods

Thursday	3:00pm–Midnight
Friday	8:00am–Midnight
Saturday	8:00am–Midnight
Sunday	8:00am–5:00pm

CONvergence Merchandise

Hyatt 2, Minnehaha

Wednesday	Noon–8:00pm
Thursday	Noon–8:00pm
Friday	11:00am–7:00pm
Saturday	11:00am–7:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–Noon

Cosplay Repair Station

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes B

Thursday	11:00am–10:00pm
Friday	10:00am–10:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–10:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–3:30pm

Costume Wars Registration

Hyatt 1, Nicollet Ballroom

Promenade

Thursday	3:00pm–6:00pm
Friday	10:00am–1:00pm

Dealers Room

Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall

Thursday	2:00pm–7:00pm
Friday	10:00am–6:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–6:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–4:00pm

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity Table

Hyatt 2, Lobby Overlook

Thursday	2:00pm–6:00pm
Friday	10:00am–6:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–6:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–2:00pm

Fan Tables

Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Promenade

Thursday	2:00pm–7:00pm
Friday	10:00am–6:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–6:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–4:00pm

First Advisors

Hyatt 2, Hiawatha

Continuously
Wednesday 9:00am–Sunday 5:00pm

Gaming Front Desk

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes Promenade

Thursday	10:00am–Midnight
Friday	9:00am–Midnight
Saturday	9:00am–Midnight
Sunday	9:00am–3:00pm

GPS Charity Auction

Hyatt 2, Greenway A

Thursday	5:00pm–8:00pm
Friday	10:00am–8:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–7:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–2:00pm (Pickup and Sunday sales)

Online Bidding available until
Saturday 7:00pm

Hall Costume Contest Registration

Hyatt 1, Nicollet Grand Ballroom Promenade

Continuously
Thursday 7:00pm–Saturday 10:00pm

HOURS OF OPERATIONS

Harmonic CONvergence

Hyatt 2, Regency

Thursday	5:00pm–12:30am
Friday	11:00am–11:00pm
Saturday	11:00am–Midnight

Kids Gaming

Hyatt 2, Lake Nokomis

Thursday	10:00am–8:00pm
Friday	8:00am–8:00pm
Saturday	8:00am–8:00pm
Sunday	8:00am–3:00pm

MainStage

Hyatt 1, Nicollet Ballroom

Thursday	6:00pm–Midnight
Friday	12:30pm–4:00am
Saturday	5:30pm–4:00am
Sunday	12:30pm–7:00pm

Masquerade Orientation

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A and B

Saturday 8:00am

Masquerade Registration

Hyatt 1, Nicollet Ballroom

Promenade

Thursday	3:00pm–6:00pm
Friday	10:00am–1:00pm 2:00pm–6:00pm

Masquerade Technical

Judging and Tech Rehearsal

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A and B

Saturday 8:30am–4:30pm

Massage

Hyatt 2, Walker

Thursday	4:00pm–8:00pm
Friday	Noon–10:00pm
Saturday	Noon–10:00pm
Sunday	Noon–2:00pm

Open Gaming

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters

Promenade

Thursday	10:00–Midnight
Friday	9:00am–Midnight
Saturday	9:00am–Midnight
Sunday	9:00am–3:00pm

Operations & The Bridge

Hyatt 2, Mirage

Wednesday	Noon–6:00pm
Continuously	
Thursday	8:00am–Sunday 7:00pm

Parenting Room

Hyatt 4, Room 4102

Thursday	4:00pm–9:00pm
Friday	10:00am–9:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–9:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–5:00pm

Parties Headquarters

Hyatt 4, Room 418

Thursday	11:00am–2:00pm, 6:00pm–2:00am
Friday	11:00am–2:00pm, 6:00pm–2:00am
Saturday	11:00am–2:00pm, 6:00pm–2:00am
Sunday	11:00am–2:00pm

Photo Meetups

Hyatt 2, Greenway Stairs and

Hyatt 4, Lake of the Isles

Thursday	3:30pm–9:30pm
Friday	12:30pm–8:00pm
Saturday	12:30pm–8:00pm
Sunday	12:30pm–1:30pm

Photography Studio

Hyatt 4, Lake of the Isles

Thursday	11:00am–11:00pm
Friday	11:00am–11:00pm
Saturday	11:00am–11:00pm
Sunday	11:00am–1:00pm

Programming Headquarters

Hyatt 4, Executive Boardroom

Thursday	Noon–12:30am
Friday	9:00am–12:30am
Saturday	9:00am–12:30am
Sunday	9:00am–6:00pm

Reboot Café

Hyatt 4, Room 4115

Thursday	4:00pm–10:00pm
Friday	7:30am–1:00pm 4:00pm–10:00pm
Saturday	7:30am–1:00pm 4:00pm–10:00pm
Sunday	7:30am–5:00pm or until coffee runs out

Registration

Hyatt 2, Promenade

Wednesday	Noon–11:00pm
Thursday	10:00am–Midnight
Friday	9:00am–10:00pm
Saturday	9:00am–10:00pm
Sunday	9:00am–3:00pm

Roleplaying Gaming

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters C

Thursday	10:00–Midnight
Friday	9:00am–Midnight
Saturday	9:00am–Midnight
Sunday	9:00am–3:00pm

Sandbox Lab

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes B

Thursday	11:00am–10:00pm
Friday	10:00am–10:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–10:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–3:30pm

Scheduled Board Gaming

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters B

Thursday	10:00–Midnight
Friday	9:00am–Midnight
Saturday	9:00am–Midnight
Sunday	9:00am–3:00pm

HOURS OF OPERATIONS

Sensory Break Room

Hyatt 4, Room 4101

Thursday	4:00pm–Midnight
Friday	Noon–Midnight
Saturday	Noon–Midnight
Sunday	10:00am–3:00pm

Space Lounge

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes C

Thursday	9:00pm–2:00am
Friday	9:00pm–2:00am
Saturday	9:00pm–2:00am

Teen Room

Hyatt 4, Lake Bemidji

Thursday	10:00am–10:00pm
Friday	10:00am–10:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–10:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–5:00pm

The Grove

Outside between Nicollet Mall and the Hyatt parking ramp

Continuously	
Thursday	Noon–Sunday 8:00pm

The Holodeck

Hyatt 6, Gymnasium

Thursday	1:00pm–11:00pm
Friday	Noon–11:30pm
Saturday	11:00am–9:30pm
Sunday	Noon–1:00pm

Theater Nippon

Hyatt 4, Lake Harriet

Thursday	1:00pm–1:00am
Friday	8:00am–12:30am
Saturday	8:00am–12:30am
Sunday	8:00am–3:30pm

Video Gaming

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters D

Thursday	10:00am–Midnight
Friday	9:00am–Midnight
Saturday	9:00am–Midnight
Sunday	9:00am–3:00pm

Volunteers Den

Hyatt 2, North Woods B

Friday	9:00am–8:00pm
Saturday	9:00am–8:00pm
Sunday	9:00am–Noon

Volunteers Department Headquarters

Hyatt 2, Greenway J

Volunteer Information Only

Tuesday	If Doors Are Open
Wednesday	10:00am–1:00pm

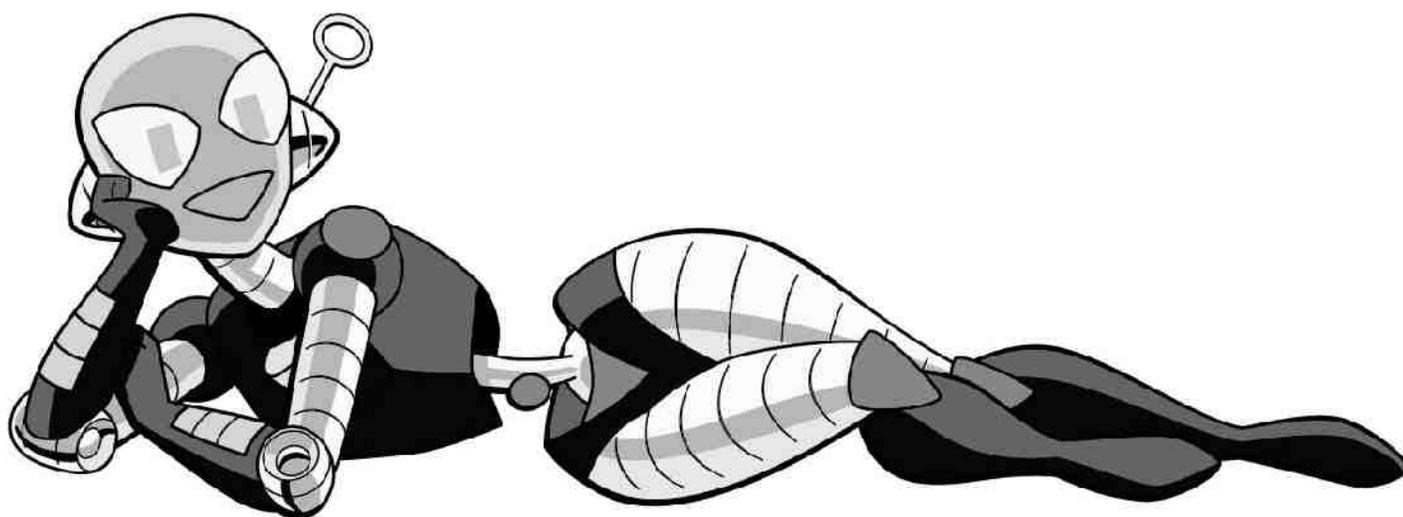
Volunteer Information and Claiming Hours

Wednesday	3:00pm–9:00pm
Thursday	10:00am–9:00pm
Friday	10:00am–9:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–9:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–7:00pm

Wordslingers Way

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A1

Thursday	8:30pm–11:00pm
Friday	11:00am–9:30pm
Saturday	11:00am–11:00pm



OPERATIONS (OPS) AND THE BRIDGE

Hyatt 2, Mirage

The Operations department directs communications and manages services for the convention, the convention committee, and attendees. The Bridge is the central hub of Operations at CONvergence that supports the convention while it's in progress.

Props

CONvergence requires that all props be peace bonded before carrying them into convention spaces. Stop by The Bridge to get "The Talk" about prop expectations and responsibility and have your prop peace bonded (you will also receive a badge ribbon!). For more information, please read the CONvergence Attendee Conduct Policies section titled Props, located in this Souvenir Guide and on the CONvergence website.

Lost and Found

CONvergence maintains a lost and found at The Bridge. Please bring any items potentially misplaced by another attendee to The Bridge where we will attempt to find the owner. Enjoy some good karma in return! Attendees who are searching for their lost items may check in with us. If we don't have your lost item, we'll take your contact information and reach out if the item is found. After the convention, attendees may inquire about lost items by emailing

operations@convergence-con.org. For any found items, we'll arrange a meetup for returning them. We keep found items for each convention through the last day of the following year's convention.

Questions?

We have answers! Tap into the Operations department's wealth of knowledge about the convention. We'll provide you with the information you need

Purple-Vested Helpers

Not all those who wander are lost...they assist! Wandering Hosts are Operations volunteers in purple vests who aid attendees all over the convention. If you need assistance, flag down a Wandering Host; they will help you and relay your questions or concerns to Operations.

Your Safety and Comfort Are Important to Us

The Operations department's primary goal is a convention that is safe, comfortable, and accessible to everyone. If you see something concerning or that makes you uncomfortable, let Operations know:

- Visit: Stop by The Bridge
- Approach: Flag down a Wandering Host
- Message: Text us at 612-800-1677

CONVERGENCE SAFE SPACES

Expectations

CONvergence strives to have an open-minded and inclusive atmosphere where everyone is accepting of all people and all forms of geekdom, where everyone feels safe and is free from harassment. However, CONvergence is a community that allows individuals to engage in respectful discussions of controversial topics and ideas, to play with concepts that may push against boundaries (so long as they do not create any direct threats to other attendees). If any engagement makes you feel distressed or uncomfortable, please seek a designated Safe Space.

What Is a Safe Space at CONvergence?

Your physical, intellectual, and emotional security is important to CONvergence. Safe Spaces are locations within the convention that are, or can be made to be, places of heightened safety. If an attendee feels unsafe and needs help, Safe Spaces either have volunteers present or can call volunteers to the location to assist. We promise that assistance will be provided to anyone who seeks it without judgment and without expressions of doubt.

Locations

Look for CONvergence-branded signage with "Safe Space." Safe Spaces are marked on all CONvergence maps.

Outside	• The Grove
2nd Floor	• ConSuite (Hyatt 2, Northwoods) • Registration (Hyatt 2, St. Croix) • First Advisors (Hyatt 2, Walker) • The Bridge (Hyatt 2, Mirage)
3rd Floor	• God Awful Theater (Hyatt 3, Room 3124)
4th Floor	• Parties HQ (Hyatt 4, Room 418) • Programming (Hyatt 4, Executive Boardroom) • Gaming (Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters)
5th Floor	• GPS Party Room (Hyatt 5, Room 5115)

Your Safety and Comfort Are Important to Us

The Operations department's primary goal is a convention that is safe, comfortable, and accessible to everyone. If you see something concerning or that makes you uncomfortable, let Operations know:

- Visit: Stop by The Bridge (Hyatt 2, Mirage Room)
- Approach: Flag down a Wandering Host
- Message: Text us at 651-800-1677

CONVERGENCE ATTENDEE CONDUCT POLICIES

CONvergence Attendee Conduct Policies

CONvergence is dedicated to providing a safe and inviting convention experience for everyone. These policies support the goal of ensuring that the behavior of any individual or group does not harm other attendees or detract from the Core Values of CONvergence.

Attendee conduct policies apply to all attendees, volunteers, attendees of the Convention Committee (ConCom), Invited Participants, Guests of Honor, dealers, vendors, and all other individuals that have gone through official channels in order to participate in convention activities.

CONvergence reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to take such actions as it feels appropriate where any individual or group is found to have breached convention policies or behaved in a manner contrary to the Core Values. Although we consider our attendees to be rational and responsible people, we recognize that issues related to the policies may still arise. We will deal with any issues as promptly, efficiently, and fairly as possible.

CONvergence reserves the right to revoke any pass and to eject anyone at any time from the convention without a refund.

Vaccination and Mask Recommendations

Recent masking studies show that individual masking choices have a greater impact on personal health than previously thought. Because of this it is strongly recommended, but not required, that all attendees ages 3+ wear masks during the convention.

This is especially important if:

- You had symptoms or a positive test 5-10 days before the convention.
- You were exposed to someone with COVID-19 within the 10 days prior to the convention.
- If you have concerns about COVID-19 and/or the indoor air quality.

In addition, if you are immunocompromised or at increased risk of severe COVID-19 illness, consider asking your health care provider for advice on additional COVID-19 precautions you should take.

We will continue to provide N95/KN95 masks for attendees who find themselves in need of one.

Furthermore, it is strongly recommended that all attendees be fully vaccinated.

- We hope to once again have updated vaccinations available at con on Saturday afternoon for those who have been unable to find them.
- The Bridge Access Program now pays for vaccines for those without the means to pay for them.

It is strongly recommended that attendees have a negative COVID-19 test within 48 hours of the start of CONvergence 2025.

CONvergence reserves the right to update this policy with more stringent guidelines if the Wastewater Virus Data for Minnesota shows surge conditions at the time of the convention.

If you have any questions or comments about COVID-19 policies at CONvergence 2025, please contact the CONvergence Board of Directors.

City, County, State, and Federal Laws

Please remember: whatever applies outside of the convention still applies both inside the hotel and in all convention spaces.

Prohibited Representation

The following is not allowed representation at CONvergence:

Hate Groups

Any representation or iconography of any hate group (including but not limited to: Nazis, the Ku Klux Klan, Westboro Baptist Church, or any group listed on the Southern Poverty Law Center website as a current or active hate group) is expressly prohibited. Discrimination or prejudiced behavior is not tolerated by CONvergence.

Harassment

Harassment of any kind will not be tolerated.

Harassment includes, but is not limited to:

- Physical assault and/or battery
- Offensive verbal comments
- Inappropriate physical contact
- Unwelcome physical attention
- Intimidation
- Stalking
- Display of hateful iconography
- Non-consensual photography or recording (see the CONvergence Photography Policy for more details)
- Sustained disruption of panels, signings, or other events

Particularly in relation to identity attributes, including but not limited to:

- Race
- Color
- Culture
- National origin
- Disability
- Gender
- Gender identity
- Gender presentation
- Sexual orientation
- Religion
- Age
- Body size
- Appearance



CONVERGENCE ATTENDEE CONDUCT POLICIES

Dealing With Harassment

Anyone can report harassment.

If you feel that you are being harassed or subjected to prejudiced or unwelcome behavior, if you are aware of others being harassed or subjected to prejudiced or unwelcome behavior, or if you notice someone behaving inappropriately (such as violating hotel or convention policies), we respectfully suggest the following:

- If you feel comfortable doing so, point out the inappropriate behavior to the person(s) involved. Often this will solve the problem immediately.
- If you do not feel comfortable talking with the person(s) involved or if talking to them does not resolve the issue, please report the situation immediately to CONvergence Operations. If possible, we ask that you try to provide a name, badge name, badge number, and/or physical description of the person(s) involved to assist with subsequent investigation and follow up.
- Do not feel that it is necessary to craft a complete narrative in order to be heard. It is understood that details of stressful situations can become murky and our procedures take this into account. Report situations to the best of your ability and feel free to provide supplemental reports if needed.
- If you are in a situation that makes you feel unsafe, please seek assistance from CONvergence staff immediately. Find a Wandering Host, leave the situation and come to a Safe Space or The Bridge, find anyone on a radio, or text Operations at 651-800-1677 (651-800-1-OPS) and we will come to you.

If someone tells you “no” or asks to be left alone, your interaction with them is over. Do not follow or attempt to disrupt their convention experience in any way. If you continue, against their wishes, to attempt to have contact with people who have said “no” or have asked that you leave them alone, you may be removed from the premises. If you wish to offer an apology to someone who asked that you not interact with them, please come to The Bridge and CONvergence Operations can assist in relaying your message.

Community Safety

CONvergence is not responsible for solving disagreements and interpersonal problems that may arise between individual attendees outside of the convention. However, CONvergence reserves the right to revoke any pass and to deny future attendance to individuals found to have behaved in a manner contrary to the Core Values of CONvergence at any event within or adjacent to the local community, or who are otherwise deemed to pose a legitimate threat to the safety, inclusivity, and overall health of CONvergence, its attendees, its parent organization, or event venues. We

encourage you to contact CONvergence Operations or the members of the Board of Directors of Convergence Events, Inc. if you have concerns about an individual and their presence at the convention.

Minors

Fans of all ages are welcome at CONvergence. However, CONvergence does not provide childcare, and not all events at CONvergence are appropriate for all audiences.

Attendees under the age of 13 should be supervised in a manner appropriate to their age and ability by an actively responsible parent, guardian, or designated adult while in convention spaces.

A designated adult is defined as someone that is not the legal guardian or parent of a minor, but is over the age of 18, a registered convention attendee, and identified in the minor’s registration record as an adult responsible for them at the convention. The designated adult must be a registered attendee on each date that the minor is also attending.

Registration

Attendees who will be under the age of 16 on the Thursday of the convention are required to provide contact information for a designated adult when registering and must have a parent, legal guardian, or designated adult with a valid weekend or day pass provide legal identification at the time the minor picks up their badge. Attendees who will be age 16–17 on the Thursday of the convention must provide contact information for a designated adult when registering. Attendees 16–17 years of age may collect their badges using their own form of authorized identification.

Curfew

Minneapolis city curfew does not apply within convention spaces. It does, however, apply outside the hotel. The juvenile curfew in the city of Minneapolis is:

Under Age 12

Sunday–Thursday	9:00pm–5:00am
Friday & Saturday	10:00pm–5:00am

Ages 12–14

Sunday–Thursday	10:00pm–5:00am
Friday & Saturday	11:00pm–5:00am

Ages 15–17

Sunday–Thursday	11:00pm–5:00am
Friday & Saturday	Midnight–5:00am

Recommendations

In order that young fans and their parents, guardians, or designated adults may have the best experience, CONvergence recommends that:

- Attendees under the age of 18 should have an Emergency Contact sticker (available in Registration) completed and affixed to the reverse of their badge

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for the purpose of identifying their parent, guardian, or designated adult in case of emergency. Please ensure that any voice or text number listed on this sticker will be answered regardless of the hour or caller.

- Attendees under the age of 18 should be aware of convention support structures, such as Safe Spaces, Wandering Hosts, The Bridge, and the Operations text number (651-800-1677).
- There should be an active means of communication between a parent, guardian, or designated adult and their associated minor(s).
- Parents, guardians, or designated adults should be in areas to which their associated minors have access (for example, not in a full panel or show, 18+ panel, or 21+ party room).
- Time of day should be taken into consideration when assessing age and ability. Areas and events that may be appropriate for young attendees in the afternoon may not be in the evening. Attendees under the age of 18 should avoid convention spaces after 1:00am. Attendees under the age of 13 should avoid convention spaces after 11:00pm.

Animal Policy

Pets are not permitted in convention space. Service animals, as defined under the ADA, are welcome in all areas of CONvergence.

Distracting a service animal without its owner's permission is a safety hazard and denies another attendee the benefit of their accessibility aid. Petting, touching, or intentionally distracting a service animal without its owner's permission is not allowed under any circumstances.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Art Policy

This policy aims to prevent the sale and/or promotion of any goods or services that profit off of the theft of another artist's work, while also allowing attendees to submit art generated by AI programs they themselves have created and trained on original art with permission.

This policy applies to all art submissions to the convention, including but not limited to any competitive and/or monetized art submitted to CONvergence. This includes Art Show, Dealers Room, Artists Alley, and any other compensated or competitive venue that may arise.

- The AI program must be an original creation of the Artist or Group of Artists displaying, selling, or entering the work in a competition at CONvergence 2025.
 - The Artist or Group of Artists can collaborate with a programmer or program the AI themselves.
 - Any programmer must be a named collaborator on all display signage.

- The Artist or Group of Artists cannot use publicly or commercially available AI programs, including but not limited to: ChatGPT, Midjourney, Craiyon, Fotor, Starryai, Deep Dream, Stable Diffusion, Grok, Google Bard, Claude, and so on.
- The data set on which the AI was trained must be 100% original art belonging to the Artist or Group of Artists, or used with documented permission.
 - Public domain art is prohibited from inclusion in the data set.
 - Data sets must be viewable upon request by convention staff.
 - Original art used for the data set that is not created by the Artist or Group of Artists requires a written release from its creator(s).
 - Releases are needed for subjects of photographs and videos, as well as for originating artists who are part of a Group of Artists seeking to sell or display but who are not physically present.
- The Artist or Group of Artists must disclose that their art is AI generated, whether in full or in part, when submitting their work to CONvergence.
 - The Artist or Group of Artists should disclose that their art is AI generated, whether in full or in part, on any item tags or display signs.

Badges

Your convention badge is necessary for participation in the convention. It allows you access to the convention and indicates you are an attendee in good standing. However, CONvergence reserves the right to revoke the badge and the pass it represents and hold the badge of any attendee for any reason, including but not limited to violating the CONvergence Conduct Policies or behaving in such a manner as is deemed unsafe or unacceptable.

Attempts to enter badged convention space while failing to purchase a day or weekend pass and display a valid badge will result in being escorted off site.

Fraudulent Badge Use

The use of any CONvergence Badge not issued to you, or the possession with the intent to use of a CONvergence Badge not issued to you, is prohibited and will result in your day or weekend pass being revoked.

Financial Transactions

Anyone who owes an outstanding balance to CONvergence (for example, an outstanding balance on pass payment, Art Show purchase, or Dealers Room table rental), must settle that balance before being permitted to acquire their badge.

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Props

We at CONvergence believe that the convention as a whole benefits from the amazing costumes and props brought, worn, and displayed by our attendees. In order for CONvergence to remain an enjoyable experience, everyone must agree to a social contract. This contract is simple: if an attendee agrees to be safe and considerate with their props, CONvergence agrees to let that attendee carry their props in convention spaces. To ensure that prop-carrying attendees abide by our social contract, CONvergence Operations provides The Talk and peace bonds props.

The Talk

If you have a prop that meets any of the following criteria, you must come to The Bridge to receive The Talk and have your prop peace bonded before carrying it in convention spaces:

- Is large or unwieldy
- Is capable of emitting a laser beam or any sort of projectile
- Resembles a weapon from any universe
- Uses wheels for other than accessibility purposes

Peace bonding may also be required in other circumstances, at the discretion of CONvergence Operations. When CONvergence Operations gives The Talk, they outline what is expected of you and your specific props, and provide an opportunity to ask any questions you may have. You will receive a badge ribbon reading "I've Had The Talk." This ribbon must be worn visibly when carrying your props to indicate that you agree to our social contract.

Peace Bonding

Peace bonding is the process of marking a prop so that it may be known to one and all that you agree to be responsible with it. At CONvergence, peace bonding is more about marking that a prop has been inspected and found to be in compliance with CONvergence Operations' safety procedures than an attempt to render the prop inert. Props must be peace bonded on The Bridge with materials provided by CONvergence Operations. Peace bonding does not carry over from year to year.

In some cases, special care must be taken when a prop is peace bonded:

- Metal bladed or pointed weapons must be secured into a sheath.
- Props normally capable of emitting projectiles or laser beams must be rendered unable to do so.
- Other instances, as determined by CONvergence Operations.

Prohibited Items

The following are not permitted in convention spaces:

- Firearms, disabled or otherwise (A MN Permit to Carry is not an exception)
- Explosives/pyrotechnics
- Tasers/stun guns
- Pepper spray/chemical irritants
- Any item deemed unsafe by CONvergence Operations

We allow the following types of props:

- Knives, swords, and daggers
- Bows
- Bats, clubs, mallets, and lightsabers
- Toy, replica, and model firearms
- Many other nifty props! This list is not comprehensive.

Mobility Aids

CONvergence's props policy generally does not apply to mobility aids used for accessibility such as canes, crutches, walkers, and wheelchairs. Unless on the prohibited items list, such devices are explicitly allowed throughout convention spaces and require neither peace bonding nor The Talk. Attendees are welcome to bring their mobility aids to The Bridge to be inspected and receive The Talk and its associated badge ribbon if they would like to do so.

Exception: Sword canes must be peace bonded as if they were props.

Tools

This policy is not intended to cover tools such as pocket knives, multi-tools, glue guns, nail clippers, and so on. Unless on the prohibited items list, such items are allowed, provided they are being used as tools. If such items are being carried as props, they fall under the props policy, and must be peace bonded accordingly.

Wheels

It is not permitted to ride any manner of wheeled recreational transport device such as a bicycle, unicycle, roller skates or blades, skateboard, hoverboard, or motorized mini-vehicle in convention spaces. Strollers and wheeled mobility devices providing accessibility are permitted.

Flying Things

Deployment of any flying object, be it tethered or free flying, powered or unpowered, is not permitted in convention spaces unless advanced authorization is obtained from CONvergence Operations.

Programming Exceptions to Props Policies

Peace bonding may be removed, and props drawn, wielded, or brandished when an attendee is participating in a CONvergence scheduled event at the discretion of the event organizer (such as the Masquerade or a stage combat demonstration). Props used in such a manner must be taken

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to The Bridge to be peace bonded once more before being again permitted in convention spaces. Programming is never an exception to the Prohibited Items list.

Costumes/Clothing

All costumes must conform to the CONvergence Harassment Policy and Prohibited Representation Policy.

Any costume that gives the appearance of being a member of present-day United States military or law enforcement will not be permitted. Exception: Current or former US military personnel may wear their uniforms in a manner consistent with military regulations governing off-duty dress.

The following areas must be completely covered by opaque material:

- Genitals and pubic area
- Cleft of the buttocks
- Nipples and areolas of all attendees, regardless of gender presentation

Exception: Breastfeeding is never a violation of this policy.

Alcohol & THC

- The legal age of consumption in the state of Minnesota is 21. No one under the legal age of consumption should be offered or provided with alcohol or THC. IDs should be verified before anything is shared.
- Tampering with food or drinks consumed by others will not be tolerated. Anyone found to have tampered with items consumed by others will be expelled from the convention and may face criminal charges.
- Intoxication, to the point of interfering with other attendees or becoming a hazard to yourself, will provoke responses from First Advisors and CONvergence Operations and may result in any of the sanctions discussed above.
- If you feel unsafe, regardless of your level of alcohol or THC consumption, please seek assistance. The safety of attendees is a primary concern of CONvergence. This applies even if you are not of legal age for the consumption of alcohol or THC.

Smoking (Nicotine)

The Hyatt Regency Minneapolis is a non-smoking establishment, per state law.

Smokers are encouraged to take advantage of The Grove. The Grove provides easy access to seating, tables, ashtrays, and fellow fans.

Smoking is discouraged in other outdoor locations, as it may interfere with people uninvolved with CONvergence.

Smoking is prohibited:

- Inside the Hyatt
- Inside the skyway

Use of e-cigarettes and other vaping devices is restricted in the same manner as traditional cigarettes.

Planned "Spontaneous" Group Activities (Flash Mobs, Performance Art, and so on)

Parades, moving performances, LARP-style games, and other mobile events are welcome at CONvergence. For the maximum enjoyment of all attendees, organizers and participants should avoid the following areas:

- Programming spaces (such as panel rooms or MainStage)
- High traffic areas (such as ConSuite or The Bridge)
- Room Parties, unless given permission by party hosts

Please provide advance notice of your event to Operations and Programming. If running an event on the 6th floor (the Holodeck), please also contact Exhibits and Special Events. Events run without prior notification to Operations and Programming may be shut down without warning.

Photography Policies

There is a lot to see at CONvergence and we know you'll want to snap pictures of the awesome cosplays and goings on around you. To ensure that all attendees have a good time, we've laid out some rules and guidelines to keep our event safe and fun.

Photography by CONvergence Staff

CONvergence maintains a staff of volunteer photographers to create an official record of the convention. As a result of this important task, CONvergence Photography department volunteers operate under slightly different rules than general attendees. On-duty photographers associated with the CONvergence Photography department are the only people who may take photographs without the explicit consent of the subject. By registering for a CONvergence day or weekend pass, attendees give their consent to be photographed by the CONvergence Photography department. This consent may be suspended at any time on a case-by-case basis, even retroactively. If an attendee wishes to revoke consent for a particular photograph, they must contact CONvergence at photography@convergence-con.org and ERAC@convergence-con.org to address the situation.

Official CONvergence Photographers may be easily identified by their official Photography badges listing the current convention year.

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Photography by Attendees

Attendees must ask permission before taking photographs of specific individuals. Consent may be revoked retroactively. If a subject wishes for a photograph in which they appear to be deleted, they may ask the photographer to do so, and the photographer must comply.

All pictures must be for personal or general public use such as social media, with the exception of private photoshoots as outlined below.

The use of photos, videos, or audio tapes made at CONvergence for commercial use or for the solicitation of funds for any commercial or other purpose without the express written permission of Convergence Events, Inc. is strictly prohibited except for approved members of the press.

Flash photography is not permitted during panels, programming, and MainStage events; please check with Masquerade personnel for scheduled pre- or post-Masquerade photo sessions.

Crowd Photos

Prior consent is not required when taking photographs of large crowds (for example, overlooking the Hyatt lobby). Nor is prior consent required from people who appear incidentally in the background of an image, but who are not the primary subject of the photograph.

Prohibited Photography

Please do not interfere with Operations, First Advisors, Emergency Medical Services, Police, or other official personnel when responding to an emergency situation. CONvergence reserves the right to ask photographers to delete any photographs or video of any such events if they would compromise the personal health information of those involved.

Attendees who are not official CONvergence photographers may not take photographs in CONvergence Convention Committee areas (those restricted to the Convention Committee members) and the following: Art Show, Art Auction, Print Shop, and Green Room.

Private Photoshoots

Many people are interested in doing professional private photoshoots at CONvergence. We welcome you to do so under the following provisions:

- Pictures taken at CONvergence for professional use are prohibited unless a contract and release is received by the photographer from any and all subjects.
- Contracts and transactions must be negotiated and take place outside of CONvergence entirely.

- You may not block off, bar, or otherwise impede any use of the hotel by other patrons or hotel staff. For example, you cannot set up a mermaid photoshoot and then prohibit other people from entering the pool during your photoshoot.
- You may not use the CONvergence Photo Booth or other CONvergence organization areas for private photoshoots.
- Photographers and all subjects MUST each have purchased a CONvergence day or weekend pass.

Tape

You may post non-adhesive signs with low-tack tape. The Hyatt Regency specifies and requires use of low-tack blue painter's tape so that surfaces will not be damaged by tape removal. There are no specific brand or model requirements. Any low-tack blue tape is allowed. If you do not have acceptable blue tape, come to The Bridge. We have plenty and are happy to share. Neither the convention hotel nor CONvergence will tolerate the application of stickers or high-tack tape to hotel surfaces. Removal of these adhesive substances is damaging to the hotel, and is therefore considered to be unacceptable. Incidents of this kind will be treated as vandalism. Don't break the hotel.

Poster Hanging Guidelines

Posters, signage, and flyers may be hung in CONvergence event spaces on floors 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6; in room party hallways on floors 3, 4, and 5; and in the elevator waiting areas for guest room elevators on floors 2 through 24.

Posters, signage, and flyers may not be hung in the following areas:

- The Hyatt front desk, Hyatt Marketplace, Fireside Lounge, the Prairie Kitchen & Bar, or from railings overlooking any of the above.
- In stairwells, escalators, elevators, or elevator doors.
- In the skyway bridge connecting the Hyatt with the Millennium Hotel, on storefronts, or in businesses co-located within the Hyatt, including Fedex, Vitali's Cafe, and Salon Blu.
- On glass surfaces, anywhere outdoors, The Grove, the Loring Greenway, or any parking ramp.

Methods

- Low-tack blue painter's tape is the only allowed adhesive. Tape may not be attached to doors or door frames. Magnets are also a permitted method of attaching posters to any otherwise permitted surface.

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Times

- Attendees may not hang flyers, signage, or posters in CONvergence event spaces on floors 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 prior to 6:00pm on the Wednesday before the convention.
- Official CONvergence departments may not hang flyers, signage, or posters in or near CONvergence's contracted event space for common areas on floors 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 prior to Noon on the Wednesday of the convention.
- No posters or flyers of any kind may be posted in party hallways on floors 3, 4, and 5, or the elevator waiting areas for the Guest Room Elevators on floors 2 through 24, until Noon on Thursday of the convention.
- Posters in party room hallways must be removed by 1:00pm on Sunday. Posters in other areas must be removed no later than 8:00pm Sunday. Attendees who hang posters are expected to also remove them. If the hotel needs to remove posters, charges may apply.

Questions

If you have questions, please contact Hotel Relations. They may be found in Operations (Hyatt 2, Mirage), or may be contacted by email at hotel@convergence-con.org.

Litter

Please pick up after yourself. There are trash containers around the hotel. It makes a big difference if we try to keep things clean. Professor Max has not yet provided us with a trash-gathering robot!

Volunteering

Volunteering for CONvergence can be a lot of fun, and we value each and every one of our volunteers. But, as with everything else, there is always the administrivia that needs to be documented. To that end, please understand that your volunteering for CONvergence is at-will and no one has the right to force or guilt you into it. We do sincerely encourage you to, and hope that you will, be proud of the time and effort you put in on behalf of CONvergence as it is an extremely valuable and highly appreciated gift you provide to our community.

By that same token, when volunteering for CONvergence, you are agreeing to release and hold harmless Convergence Events, Inc. from any and all liability, claims, demands, injuries, illness, death, or property damage resulting from your volunteering activities. Convergence Events, Inc. does not maintain health, medical, or disability insurance coverage for any volunteer or contractor and each volunteer and contractor is expected and encouraged to obtain their own medical and/or health insurance coverage.

Guests & Invited Participants

While CONvergence financially and logistically supports Guests of Honor coming to our convention, CONvergence does not pay appearance fees for Guests of Honor or Invited Participants. The reasons for this are:

- As a nonprofit, we focus on using our funds to support our infrastructure and community.
- Our goal is to invite participants and guests who are excited to engage the convention community and spend time with our attendees, rather than only showing up for their scheduled events.

Guests of Honor

Guests of Honor are professionals and qualified experts in many different fields who are invited as the convention's honored guests in a given year. Guests of Honor will be asked to participate in a minimum of six panels during the course of the convention. Guests of Honor are welcome and encouraged to participate in more than six panels should they wish to. Guests of Honor are also welcome and encouraged to participate in other events, such as attending any of our MainStage shows, enjoying our evening Parties, and spending time with our attendees in a more relaxed setting.

CONvergence will cover the following expenses for each Guest of Honor and that person's optional personal guest:

- Convention weekend pass for that year and all subsequent years
- All travel expenses to and from the convention
- Their entire hotel stay
- All dining (minus alcohol)

A convention staff member will be assigned for each Guest of Honor to act as a personal assistant, help navigate them through our process, and provide support during the convention itself. Guests of Honor are welcome to schedule signing times during the convention to sell merchandise and/or autographs. They may also offer items for sale at the convention's merchandise booth, and artist Guests of Honor will be guaranteed space to display and sell art in the CONvergence Art Show.

Guests of Honor will receive a personalized bio page on the CONvergence website and a feature in the CONvergence programming guide for the year of their CONvergence appearance. Guests of Honor are also welcome to publish press releases regarding their current work and their CONvergence appearance on CONvergence's website.

Elevators, Escalators, and Moving from Floor to Floor

We depend on elevators and escalators throughout the convention, and it is in our best interest to keep them from

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breaking. Because of this, we have instituted the policies and procedures outlined below.

Informational

There are two banks of elevators and one set of escalators. There is also one set of stairs open to floors with convention spaces.

- The Conference Elevators (two elevators near the escalators) serve convention spaces on floors 1–6.
- The Guest Elevators (five elevators near the front desk, and in various locations on upper floors) serve guest rooms on all floors, with indirect access to convention spaces on floors 1–5.
- The Escalators (centrally located) serve convention spaces on floors 1–5.
- The open Stairwell (near the escalators and conference elevators) provides access to all floors. Note that other stairwells will provide egress to the ground floor but will not allow access to intermediary floors.

Accessibility

Anyone with limited mobility who needs reliable access to elevators may visit the Accessibility Table to make arrangements.

Escalators and Stairs

Please use either escalators or stairs to access floors 1–5.

Procedure: When boarding the escalators, please leave a gap of 1–2 steps between riders. Cosplayers or attendees with long articles of clothing should take care to avoid becoming entangled in the equipment. When exiting the escalators, step off promptly, and immediately move clear of the escalator exit area. Do not stop to talk or look around. Other passengers may be behind you.

Elevators

When using elevators, please follow the instructions of the elevator operator.

Procedure: If the wait time for an elevator exceeds 15 minutes, please text CONvergence Operations at 651-800-1677 and indicate your floor and elevator bank. An elevator operator will be contacted to get an elevator to you as soon as possible.

The 6th Floor

The 6th floor can only be reached via the Conference Elevators. To reach the 6th floor, please use escalators, stairs, or Guest Elevators to get to the 5th floor (or as high as able), and transfer to the Conference Elevators there.

When departing the 6th floor, please transfer from the Conference Elevators at the 5th floor (or as high as able). Use the escalators, stairs, or hotel tower elevators to complete your journey.

Press Procedures

Please email ERAC@convergenceevents.org for press inquiries and interview requests at any time of the year.

Press Tours and Interviews

CONvergence welcomes press and media organizations to visit our event and share the CONvergence story with their audiences. We would be happy to schedule time for you to interview a Convergence Events, Inc. Director and/or provide you with a full, customized press tour of everything CONvergence has to offer!

- You or your organization must submit a request for a press tour by the Monday before the convention that includes your name, your media organization, the purpose of your visit, and requested duration.
- You will be escorted by a Convergence Events, Inc. Director throughout your visit to the convention. Most press tours are one hour.
- You must agree to and abide by the CONvergence Photography Policies.
- We would greatly appreciate you sharing a link to your story, album, or video with us upon publication!

Press Passes

Press passes for CONvergence are available in limited quantities to approved media outlets and personalities.

You or your organization must request a press pass by the Monday before the convention. Your request should include:

- Your name
- Links to your media organization or website and social media
- The size of your audience (for example, average website visitors, subscribers, social media followers, or broadcast area)
- The purpose of your visit
- Your requested duration
- Any other information you think we should know

You must have your request approved before you will be issued a press pass.

- You must present your credentials, a copy of which will be kept on record, upon picking up your press pass.
- You must attend a press tour on the day that you pick up your press pass.
- You must agree to and abide by the CONvergence Photography Policies.
- We would greatly appreciate you sharing a link to your story, album, or video with us upon publication!

ACCESSIBILITY

CONvergence is serious about doing everything we can to provide a welcoming, accessible environment for all fans. Check out the CONvergence website under Accessibility & Inclusion (convergence-con.org/at-the-con/services/accessibility/) for the following:

- Social narrative for CONvergence
- Details on panel rooms and event seating
- List of recommended apps for deaf and hard of hearing attendees
- Information on captioning and ASL interpreters
- Anonymous diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) feedback form
- Information on service animals and medical needs
- And more!

Accessibility Table

Hyatt 2, Lobby Overlook (near the Skyway)

At CONvergence, accessibility volunteers are available at a staffed table to answer your questions, address requests, and provide resources! Can't visit the table or it's after hours? Email accessibility@convergence-con.org for help. The accessibility table has paddle signs, information on nearby drugstores and clinics, restroom tip sheets, wheelchair/scooter rental venues, large hotel maps marked with accessibility information, and pronoun and disability badge stickers.

Sensory Break Room

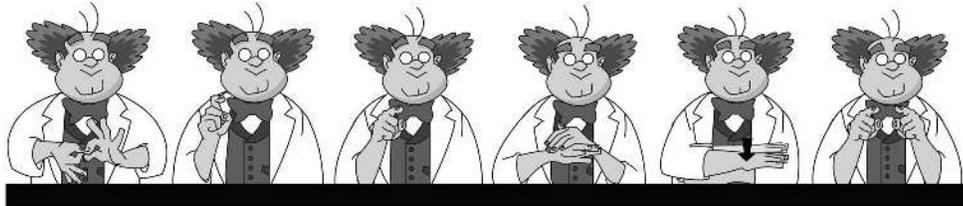
Hyatt 4, Room 4101 (next to the Parenting Room)

Provided in collaboration with the Autism Society of Minnesota, the Sensory Break Room is the ideal place to take a break with minimal distractions. Loud activity and other distracting behaviors are discouraged. Sound and light will be filtered. Fidget toys and other activities will be available to help visitors quietly reenergize.

If you find yourself in need of a sensory break outside of staffed hours, see the First Advisors to use their sensory spaces.

American Sign Language Interpretation

American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters are available by request through the Accessibility Table or The Bridge.



**INTERPRETER NEED YOU?
TABLE ACCESSIBILITY GO.**

VOLUNTEERS DEPARTMENT

Hyatt 2, Greenway J (near the Escalators)

As a volunteer-run event, CONvergence wouldn't exist without the countless hours of work from dedicated attendees. Every volunteer is valued, whether you volunteer for just one hour, for several hours at the convention, or for dozens of hours throughout the year. We appreciate any time you have to help!

Thank You Gifts and Other Perks

As a thank you, volunteers may redeem their earned hours for exclusive gifts. These gifts are awarded at specific hour levels and are given once per volunteer at each level while supplies last. One hour of volunteering is eligible for a special badge ribbon, 15 hours for a unique t-shirt created specifically for volunteers, and 30-plus hours for our gift for uber volunteers! How will you redeem your hours?

Two hours in one day grants volunteers access to a 15-minute massage in the Volunteers Massage Room, located in Hyatt 2, Walker. Four hours of volunteering grants access to the Volunteers Den, located next to ConSuite in Hyatt 2, Greenway J, and discounted parking at the Loring Garage for the day. Additionally, every volunteer is also invited to our Volunteers Party, thrown with gratitude later in the summer.

How to Volunteer

If you're new to the convention or volunteering, discover the benefits by signing up for your first shift: meet new people, work with friends, support and grow our community, and help make CONvergence better than ever. There are ways to contribute for all interests and ability levels. Stop by and talk with the Volunteers department to learn about current volunteer needs, hear about year-round volunteer opportunities, or to sign up for at-con shifts.

More information on volunteering is also available on the volunteer section of the website at convergence-con.org/get-involved/volunteer/.

VOLUNTEERS DEN

Hyatt 2, Greenway J (next to ConSuite)

Welcome to Volunteers Den (VolDen) Lite, a simplified and COVID-modified version of VolDen from years past. VolDen is a place for our valued volunteers to access additional food options. **After only four hours of volunteering at any point during CONvergence, you may gain entry to VolDen.**

Enjoy a limited range of tasty dishes and snacks, including allergen- and vegan-friendly options. Dine in at our cozy eating room (space permitting) or take your food to go. We look forward to providing tasty victuals to our CONvergence volunteers all convention long.

If you're looking for a relaxed area in which to volunteer, come slop some soup for a while!

How to Enter

- Attendees will need to show a color-coded access sticker or their ConCom badge to enter.
- You may pick up the color-coded access sticker from the Volunteers department after verifying your volunteer hours.
- Party Hosts and their staff do not need to meet the minimum volunteer hours requirement.

The Geek Partnership Society (GPS) is a volunteer-run non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the incredible diversity and energy of the Twin Cities geek community. We don't run conventions, we run the rest of the year! We perform public outreach with our partners through Twin Cities Pride (Geeks@Pride), as well as help many local conventions put on the best show possible by providing expertise, equipment, movie licenses, volunteers, and promotion where we can.

We encourage creativity and interest in science with Project Lighthouse, the Annual Writing Contest and Space Camp scholarship (winners for both announced at CONvergence), and the GPS Arts Initiative. Look for us at your favorite convention. Stop in and say hi—we're probably there!

Clubs

- Crafty Geek/Make It Sew
- United Geeks of Gaming
- Tsuinshi Anime Club
- GPS Photography Club
- Geeks Read
- Geek Physique
- GPS Movie Appreciation Posse
- The Twin Cities Steampunk Club DIODES (Dioscurian Imperial Order of Dreamers, Engineers, and Scientists)
- Echo Base Lightsaber Builders

Want to Talk to Us at CON?

Stop by the GPS Room Party in Hyatt 5, Room 5115 or the GPS Charity Auction in Hyatt 2, Greenway A to find out more and catch up on all the news going around in the geekiest metro in the United States of America. Talk to anyone you see wearing our logo; we'll tell you what we're up to, and you can tell us what you want to see!

Stay Connected

There are many ways to stay connected with GPS, both during the convention and all year round! Follow GPS on Facebook and X or check us out on Meetup.

Pirates for Space Camp!

This year, our floating fundraiser will focus on replenishing our Space Camp Scholarship fund! Join us Friday, August 8 for live music, food and drink, and cool raffle baskets as we cruise the St. Croix river.



"We are a society celebrating imagination, inspiring creativity, and building our community all through service and education."

Find us online

Join us on



geekpartnership.org

Like us on



GPS at CONvergence

We have many events throughout the convention weekend. We encourage you to check them out!

The GPS Room Party

There will be club meetings and guests hosted throughout the weekend.

Join GPS as we showcase our year-round clubs and programs. Some of them are even meeting in the party room during the convention weekend! Visit Hyatt 5, Room 5115 for the schedule as there can be last-minute changes; we also have fun activities outside of convention party hours.

GPS Charity Auction

Online Bidding

Opens Monday, June 30 at Noon
 Closes Saturday, July 5 at 7:00pm

Bidding opens early for attendees the Monday before the convention and runs through 7:00pm Saturday, so you don't even have to be in the auction space to bid!



There is a Quick Win option in the auction space Thursday through Saturday close.

See something a friend would like? Torture them in the name of charity and send them the QR code!

Pickup/Sunday Sale

On Sunday, winners pick up their items and browse the Sunday Sale where items without bids can be purchased for the item value, unless marked otherwise.

Donations may be dropped off in the auction space during open hours, although item placement in this year's auction depends on space available. If you have questions about donating, please email gps.auctions@geekpartnership.org.

GPS Charity Auction—Silent Auction

Hyatt 2, Greenway A

Auction Room Hours

Thursday	5:00pm–8:00pm
Friday	10:00am–8:00pm
Saturday	10:00am–7:00pm (Bidding closes at 7:00pm)
Sunday	10:00am–2:00pm (Pickup and Sunday Sale)

U of M Raptor Center

Hyatt 2, Northstar B

Saturday 9:30am–Noon

GPS is once again bringing in the U of M Raptor Center demonstration with live birds of prey, a perennial favorite for both kids and adults alike.

Meet GPS: Geek Partnership Society and Our Community

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

Saturday 12:30pm–1:30pm

Learn about what CONvergence support enables, the latest workings of the Geek Partnership Society, and how you can get your geek on the rest of the year. Hear news and updates about our clubs, events, and work in the geek community. Share your ideas, feedback, and questions. Find out how you can get involved.

GPS Iron Pen Writing Contest

Ready, set, write! This writing contest, which takes place entirely at the convention, starts Thursday at 11:00am and ends Saturday at 8:00pm. Participants must write a 250-word short story based on a mystery prompt that will be posted in the GPS Room Party and Connie's Quantum Sandbox (Hyatt 4, Great Lakes B). Entries will be judged after the contest closes and the winners will be posted Sunday morning at 10:00am at the GPS Charity Auction (Hyatt 2, Greenway Ballroom A). First, second, and third place will receive \$25, \$15, and \$10 Amazon gift cards, respectively. Entry forms are available at the GPS Room Party and Connie's Quantum Sandbox; drop boxes are also available at both locations for submissions. If your entry form does not include an address, you will need to pick up your prize Sunday at the GPS Charity Auction before it closes.

Rules

- Only one submission per participant (which must include their badge number).
- All entries must be original works of fiction.
- All entries must be written during the contest timeline.
- All entries must involve the mystery prompt item in a clearly recognizable way.
- All entries must be exactly 250 words (hyphenated words or phrases count as multiple words).
- All entries must not exceed a PG-13 rating.
- All entries must be legible.

CONSUIITE

Hyatt 2, Northwoods

Some days it feels like the world isn't even worth taking over anymore, but Connie Mark II (all hail!) isn't about to stop! Even with all that planning, Mark II still finds time to oversee ConSuite. In order to serve fans, ConSuite staff and volunteers have graciously been permitted to keep the Meat Babies supplied with snacks and drinks.

ConSuite is a place where you can get drinks and between-meal snacks (like attendee-favorite rice) as part of your convention admission. However, please do not depend on ConSuite as your only source for food and meals during the convention. Connie Mark II (all hail!) strongly encourages you to visit restaurants (in the hotel and outside) and outside stores for more substantial offerings. Learn more on the CONvergence website (convergence-con.org/venue-hotel/restaurant-guide/).

ConSuite needs your help to remain clean and stocked during the convention. If you see something broken, spilled, empty, or otherwise needing attention, please notify a volunteer in the room.

While all are welcomed in ConSuite, unattended children are not allowed. Staff will track down parents as quickly as possible.

ConSuite Snacks

Stop by for ConSuite staples such as individually wrapped candies and chips, fruits and vegetables, rice with flavorful toppings, peanut butter and jelly UnCrustables, bottled waters, and soda (or pop). There may be other surprises as well (hopefully just good ones), including some breakfast items put out in the morning. Stop by and find out what we have to offer!

ConSuite Volunteering

Want to spend some time with some rather exceptional people? Consider joining us and helping keep CONvergence attendees fueled with snacks during the convention.

Where to Eat

If you want to sit down, relax, and chat while eating your ConSuite snacks, the Northstar Promenade across the hall from ConSuite is available and set up for all Meat Babies to enjoy.

BOLDLY INCLUSIVE

GAYLAXICON 2025

• October 3-5, 2025 • Crowne Plaza Suites, Minneapolis / MOA

Guests of Honor:

Nghi Vo • Emma Törzs • Jim Johnson • K.D. Edwards • Greg Ketter

Celebrate LGBTQ+ stories in sci-fi, fantasy, and horror with guests, panels, gaming, and community fun.



www.gaylaxiconmn.org

NERF HERDERS

Hyatt 2, Skyway AB

CONvergence's Nerf Herders are volunteers in green vests responsible for helping people find their way at CONvergence. On your way to a panel? Navigating the hallways toward a party room? Need accessible seating at an event or other accessibility accommodation while standing in line? Nerf Herders are here to help!

Checking every attendee badge when people are passing into CONvergence areas is vital to keeping the convention running well. The badge lets attendees access CONvergence activities and amenities like MainStage events, free drinks and snacks from ConSuite, and many other privileges only available to registered attendees.

How to Volunteer

Nerf Herders are always saying hello and enjoy making attendees feel positive about their time at the convention, even if they're just waiting in line for the next event. They like solving problems despite stressful situations and do their best to communicate clearly to make everyone's experience better. If this sounds like you, join us!

No prior experience is necessary, but you must first complete a short training session (which also earns you volunteer hours) that will teach you everything you need to know to help with badging, line management, and more during the convention. We have positions for everyone, whether you need to do your volunteering sitting down, or can spend an entire shift on your feet. Help us keep the convention running smoothly!



DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSIVITY (DEI)

Hyatt 2, Lobby Overlook (near the Skyway)

CONvergence's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity (DEI) department is dedicated to helping ensure that CONvergence continues to grow more inclusive, more accommodating, and more fun for everyone. But we can't do it alone!

We encourage all attendees to strive to make CONvergence a more welcoming space for its BIPOC and culturally diverse attendees. The DEI table is a great place to start: pick up a book recommendation list, chat with us about current projects, find out about DEI volunteering opportunities, or share your feedback and suggestions.

We also have an anonymous feedback form found at convergence-con.org/at-the-con/services/accessibility/ or you can email us directly at diversity@convergence-con.org.

CONVERGENCE EXPERIENCE SURVEY

How was your CONvergence?

Fill out the CONvergence Experience Survey and tell us what you liked, what didn't work, and what you'd like to see next year!

Your feedback helps us make future conventions better and better.

The survey will be open from Saturday, July 5 at Noon to Saturday, July 19 at 11:59pm and may be found using the link below or the QR code to the right!

<http://convergence-con.org/about/survey>

Check out survey results from previous years on the CONvergence Events website (convergenceevents.org/about-2/survey-results).



BOOK SWAP

Hyatt 6, Promenade Alcove (turn left from the elevator)

Do you love stumbling upon a new book that looks exciting, the smell of a small library, or an environmentally friendly way to celebrate reading? Then the CONvergence Book Swap is for you! Join us and explore new reads or pass on old favorites to your nerdy community!

The process is easy, and best of all, free: come to our alcove and take a book or leave a book!

Please help us keep Book Swap tidy and organized. Put books back once you're done if you aren't taking them home.

What to Donate

Book Swap accepts and offers the following books and print media:

- Hardcover
- Paperback
- Manga
- Graphic novels
- Comics
- Children's

We especially love receiving children's and young adult books to make sure we have material for people of all ages!

Do not donate items such as cookbooks, manuals, and how-to books relating to computer programs and components from 2016 and earlier. And, please, leave the pornography at home.

When to Donate

You are welcome to take a book or leave a book at any time during the convention.

Boxes of books and other large donations can be dropped off during the following times:

Thursday	10:00am–5:00pm
Sunday	10:00am–Noon

If these hours are not convenient for you, email us at bookswap@convergence.con.org.

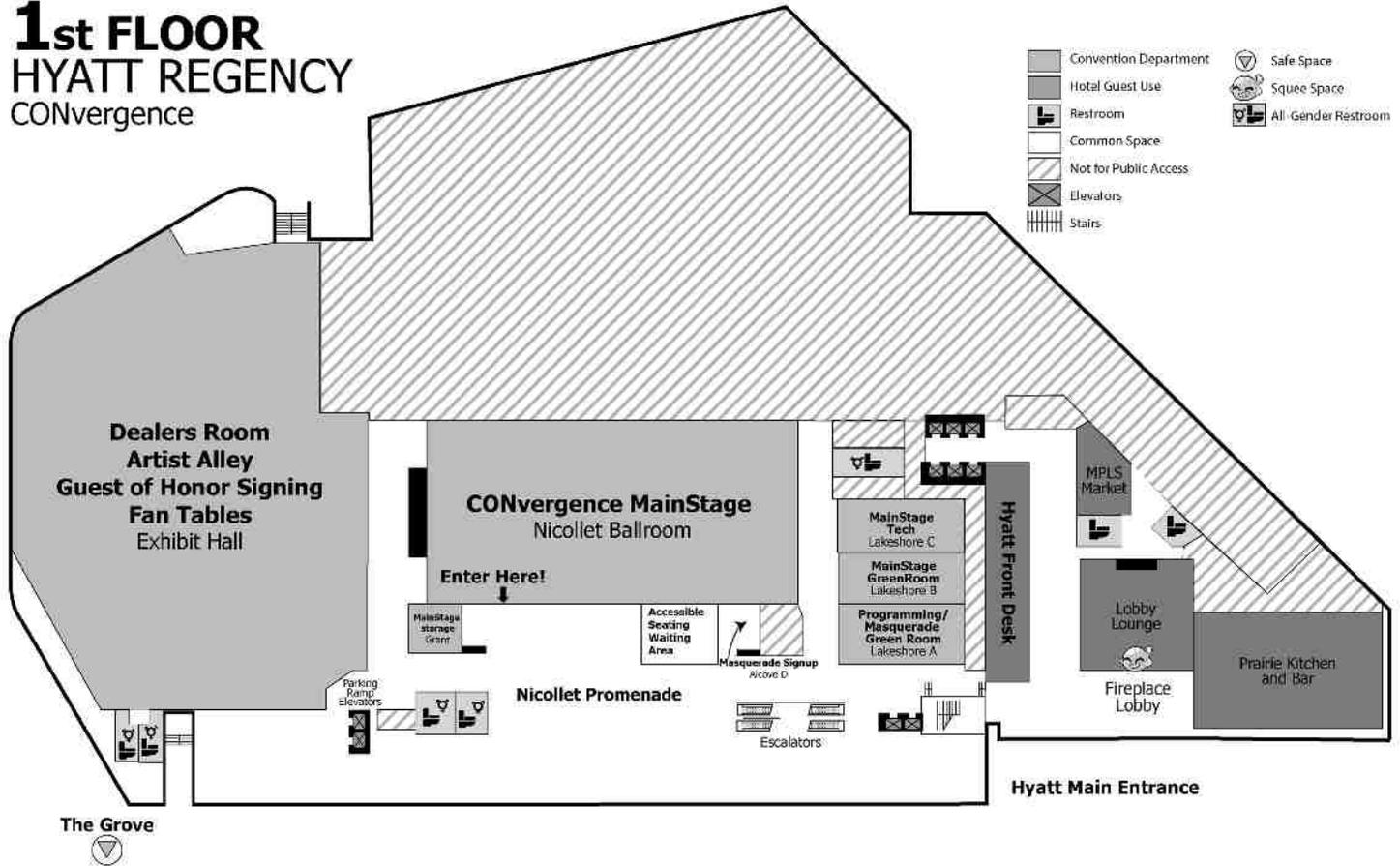
Year-Round Reading

We love your passion for reading! After the convention, explore your communities year-round for Little Free Libraries where you can pick up new books or donate old ones.



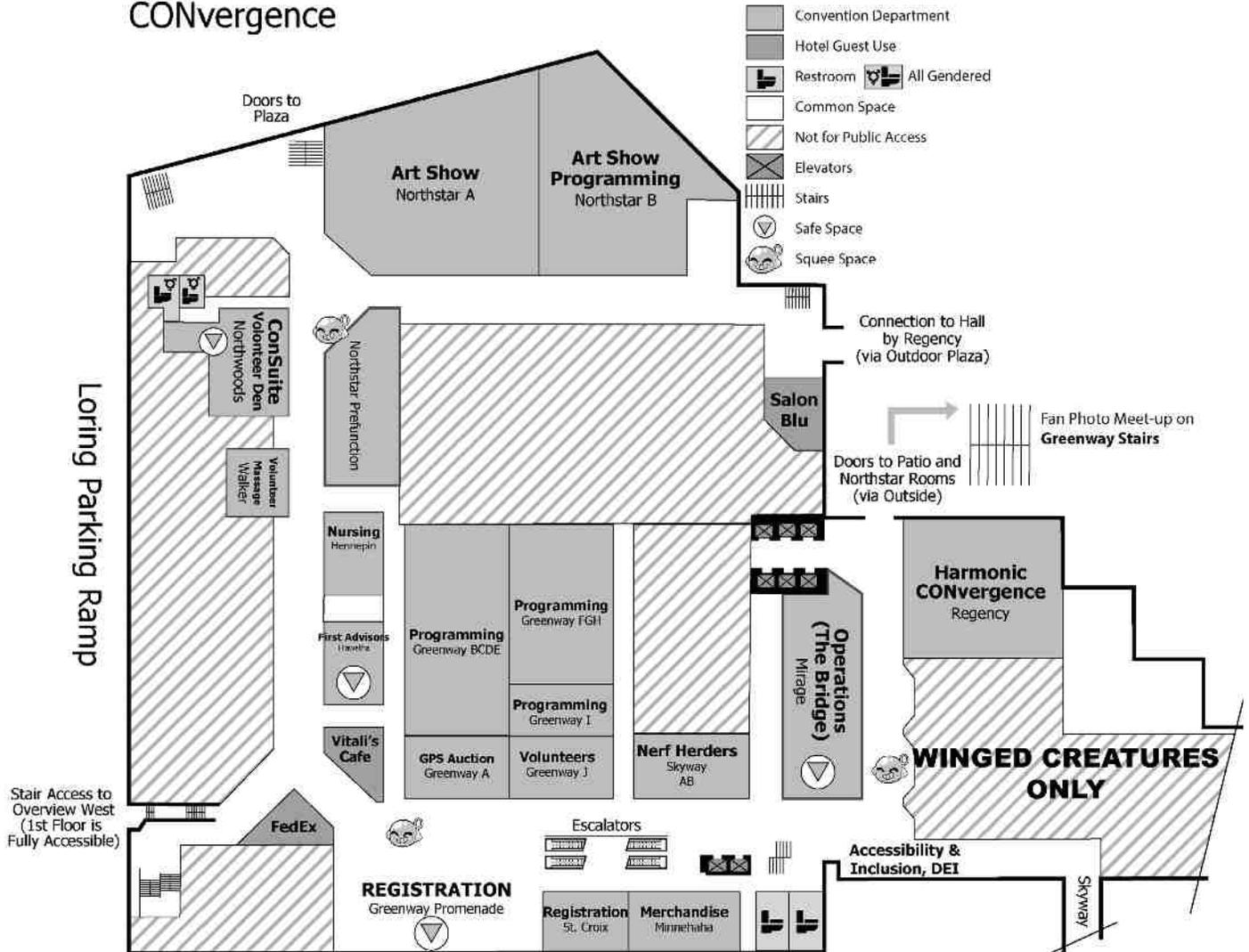
HYATT MAP - 1ST FLOOR

1st FLOOR HYATT REGENCY CONvergence



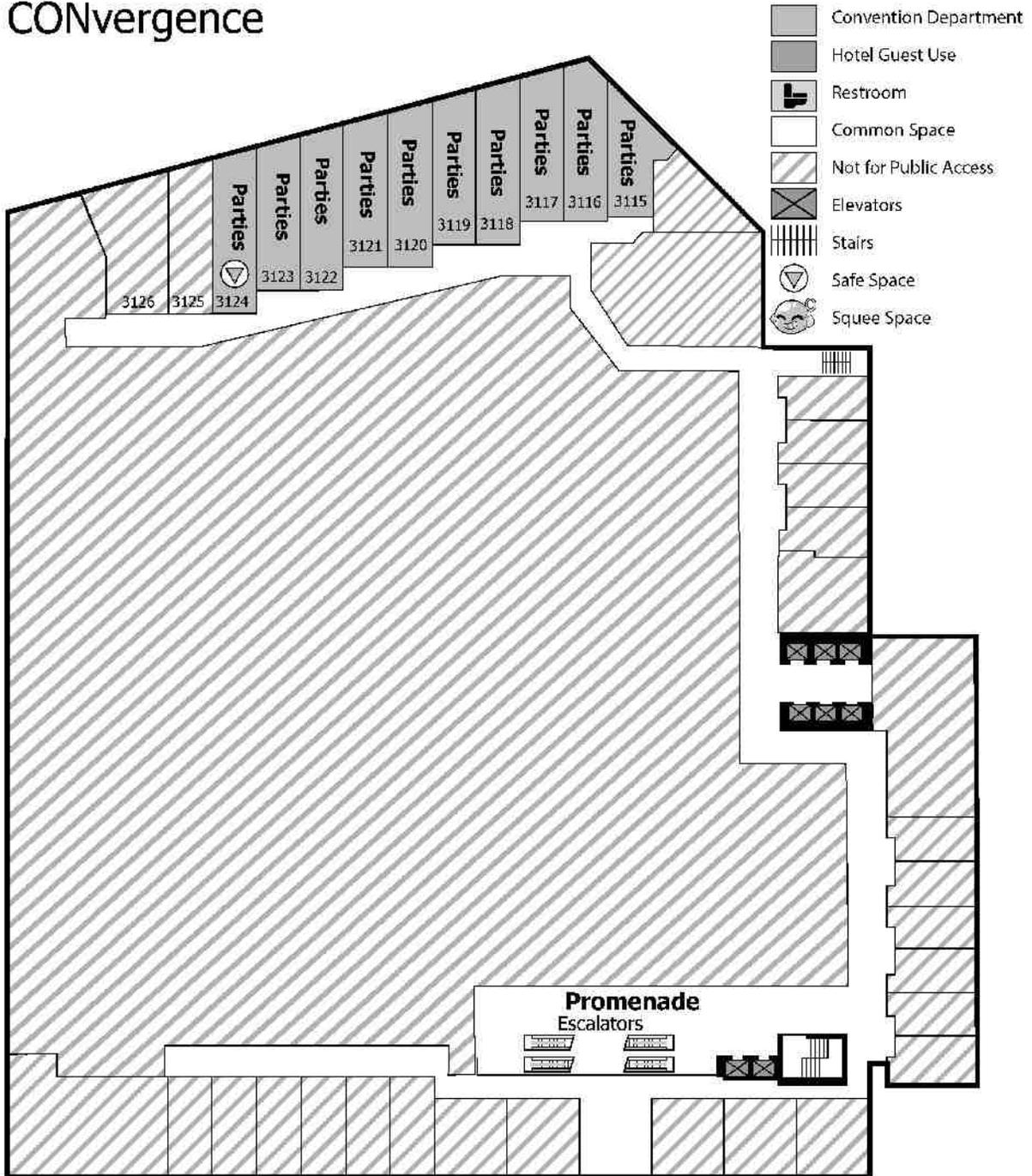
HYATT MAP - 2ND FLOOR

2nd FLOOR HYATT REGENCY CONvergence



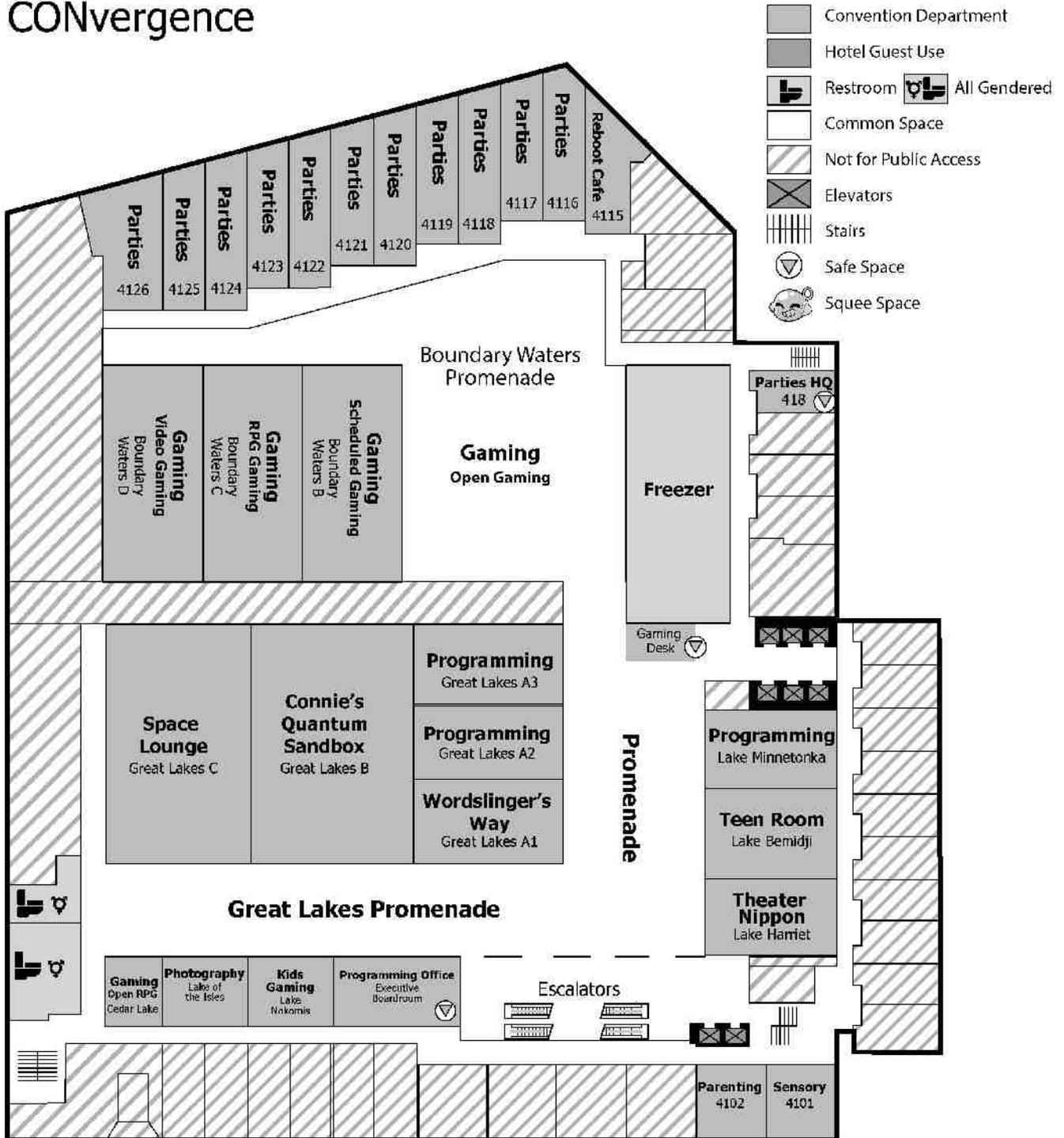
HYATT MAP - 3RD FLOOR

3rd FLOOR HYATT REGENCY CONvergence



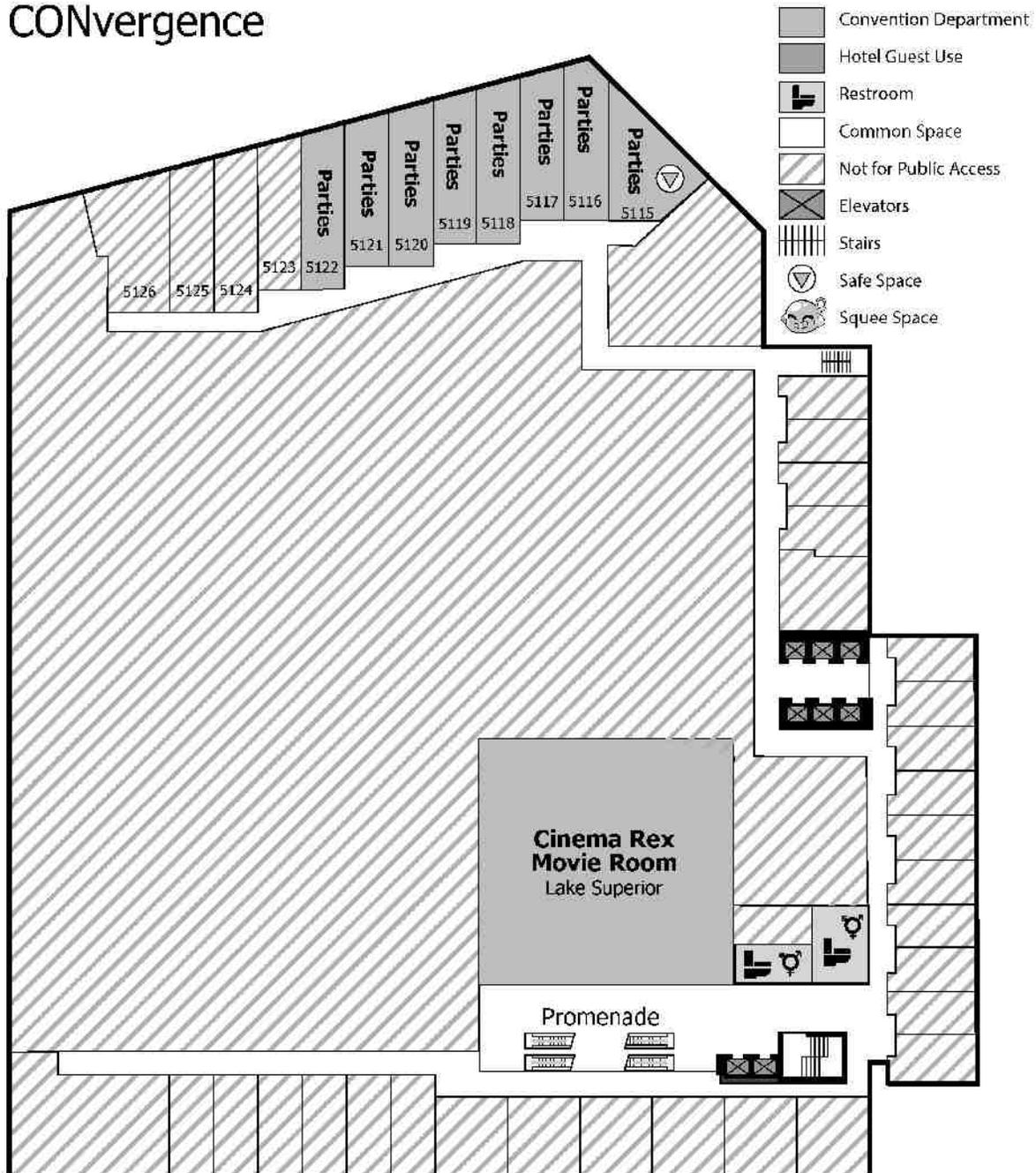
HYATT MAP - 4TH FLOOR

4th FLOOR HYATT REGENCY CONvergence



HYATT MAP - 5TH FLOOR

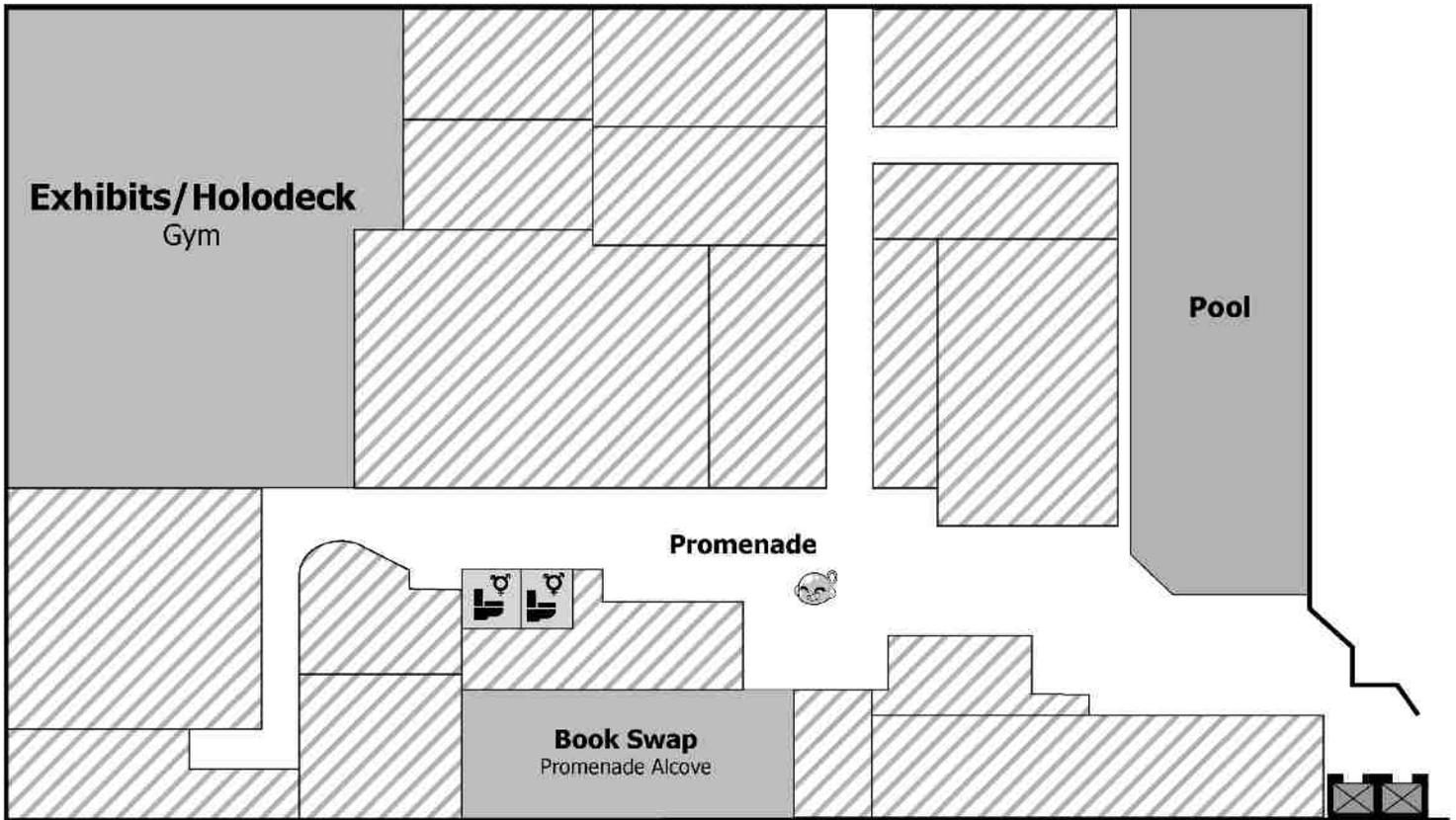
5th FLOOR HYATT REGENCY CONvergence



HYATT MAP - 6TH FLOOR

6th FLOOR HYATT REGENCY CONvergence

-  Convention Department
-  Hotel Guest Use
-  Restroom
-  Common Space
-  Not for Public Access
-  Elevators
-  Stairs
-  Safe Space
-  Squee Space



GUESTS OF HONOR



PROF BROWN

by Stephanie Cranford

Top Five Reasons Prof Brown Would Make a Great ConCom Member, by Stephanie Cranford (ConCom Member)

The CONvergence Convention Committee (ConCom), the group of people who help run the convention year-round, is always on the lookout for new members, and here, I present to you, five reasons that we should talk Prof Brown into joining our numbers.

5) They have a cat.

An awful lot of ConCom business is conducted over video meetings, for accessibility reasons. This helps both our ConCom members who live outside of the Twin Cities and our disabled ConCom members, but also, it gives us all the important ability to see everyone's cats. Prof's cat Mr. Davis is, based on his performance during more than one of Prof's recorded talks, quite familiar with being on camera, and I am certain that Prof's cat would fit in with all the other feline (and canine) stars of our video meetings. In addition, Mr. Davis is harness trained and can perform tricks, which should be an inspiration to everyone else's lazy beasts.

4) They have already published a novel.

Let's be honest, there's more than one aspiring novelist on ConCom, and several who have already been published.

It would help all of us to add another one to our ranks. In addition, Prof's fantasy novel, titled *An Unlikely Flock*, sounds wonderful. It's about nonhuman sapient creatures, mostly bird-like to go with the name, although the lead is more of a gargoyle (a local favorite!). The book's themes of trauma recovery and found family are also important to our convention family, and we hope they'll write more.

3) They have played a lot of video games.

We have a Gaming department! Obviously we love having people who play video games, and since this is the Gaming year, we clearly need more! Prof's favorite video games include *Elden Ring*—you might see them cosplaying as the Nomadic Merchant around the con—and recently they've been obsessed with *Blue Prince*. They, of course, also designed and worked on many video games, from AAA titles to the small titles that they produced themselves during game jams and other similar events. They've recently begun work at EA Games as a Principal World Designer, and clearly they would have many opinions to add to our Gaming department.

2) They understand the value of communication.

About 60% of what the ConCom does is send emails around, and a significant portion of the rest is other forms of communication. Any time we can grab someone who is a good communicator, we're happy. Prof has demonstrated their dedication to open communication by responding to an awful lot of emails from the Guest of Honor department, among others, and they have always responded promptly and accurately. They've also emphasized how important communication is in their day job, especially between teams working together, and they've mentioned that communication needs to go both ways, both by expressing yourself properly and by listening. Anyone who understands that and can put it into action would be an asset to any team.

1) They know the number-one rule of conrunning: If you point out a problem enough that it's clear you care about it, you're going to get put in charge of it.

Back when they worked for Insomniac Games, Prof asked whether the team had figured out how a certain mechanic would work in cooperative gaming mode so often that they were put in charge of it. They've also led accessibility design for games, another topic they care about, and they've helped out other game designers, including participating in events specifically for early-career folks and mentoring mid-career designers. They've even participated in and helped organize game jams and events at conventions. In short, they care about many aspects of the game industry, not just the sitting-down-to-code part, and because of that, they would make an excellent ConCom member.

GUESTS OF HONOR



C.S.E. COONEY

By Kyle B. Dekker

One of the magical things about CONvergence is how it brings together geeks and nerds from every fandom, discipline, and passion imaginable. Within the halls of this hotel, you can find amazing panels, live music, gaming of every variety, and so much more. With CONvergence having so many amazing offerings of geekdom and creativity, it is an enchanting delight to have a Guest of Honor with such a broad skill and passion set. C.S.E. Cooney (she/her) is a poet, musician, voice actor, game designer, AND award-winning novelist! To have such a force of creativity, kindness, and talent grace CONvergence is a fantastic honor.

Cooney is the two-time World Fantasy Award-winning author for *Bone Swans: Stories and Saint Death's Daughter* (on Kirkus Review's list of Year's Best Science Fiction and Fantasy 2022). The much anticipated sequel to the latter, *Saint Death's Herald*, released this year. Other works published include *The Twice-Drowned Saint*, *Dark Breakers*, *Desdemona and the Deep*, a poetry collection, *How to Flirt and Other Wild Rhymes*, which includes her Rhyssling Award-winning poem, "The Sea King's Bride."

While her prose and poetry credentials alone would make her an ideal Guest of Honor, her creative geek cred extends to voice acting, including narration of over 120 audiobooks, short fiction podcasts for the likes of *Uncanny Magazine*, *Beneath Ceaseless Skies*, *Tales to Terrify*, and *Podcastle*. Musically, Cooney is a singer/songwriter whose alter ego, Brimstone Rhine, is a fictional rock star and has recorded three albums: *Corbeau Blanc*, *Corbeau Noir*; *Headless Bride*; and *Alecto! Alecto!* Of course, someone of her caliber must musically and creatively outdo herself, so Cooney has created and produced a collaborative sci-fi musical, *Ballads from a Distant Star*. In a project with Tina Connolly and Dr. Mary Crowell, Cooney created a musical theater podcast, *The Devil and Lady Midnight*, which will grace the stages of our very own Harmonic CONvergence!

I do mean to go full Billy Mays here, but wait there's more. You may be thinking to yourself, "sci-fi music, award-winning novels and poetry, and audiobooks are cool and all, but what I really love is tabletop gaming." Cooney, along with Carlos Hernandez (2024 CVG Guest of Honor), designed and published via Kickstarter their DM-less, dice-less, collaborative role-playing game, *Negocios Infernales*, that puts players in the role of wizards who believe they've sold their souls to demons, which are really just alien case workers trying to help a hyper-religious, Spanish Inquisition-inspired planet join the Cosmic Consciousness.

Finding C.S.E. Cooney in the halls and rooms of CONvergence will be an easy task. She's packed her schedule with an amazing variety of panels, musical performances, game sessions, readings, and signings sure to fit that geek itch you came to scratch in these wonderful four days. To find her, check the schedule or, more easily, look for an impeccably dressed CONvergence attendee donning a variety of ornate, lace-laden gowns, jewel-encrusted tiaras, and a variety of stellar jewelry choices. We are graced with the presence of a Guest of Honor who fully resonates and radiates the spirit of CONvergence—a place where all geekdoms come to thrive, celebrate, and share the best they have to offer.

GUESTS OF HONOR



TANYA DEPASS

By Cat Beltran

Tanya DePass is an NPC. She is the character that you cannot play but is the master of the game and the holder of all the quests. She has created her universe—all of the ins and outs and the tiniest of details and the grandest of schemes—and, if you are lucky, you might just be allowed a playthrough.

Unlike your standard non-player character, Tanya will not be relegated to the background. She is a fount of knowledge and an architect of the game. Maybe we should correct that to games, plural. Tanya is a designer, and she is far from a one-hit wonder.

Why, in an industry bursting at the seams with playable games and playable characters within those games, would we need yet another design, another voice? Because hers was not heard. People like her were not heard. People like her were rarely even seen. They simply were not represented. The vast majority of playable characters were white and male and so she dared to ask why this had to be the norm? Why were there so few characters of color? Why were there so few women? Why were there so few LGBTQIA+ characters? And, of the few that you might dig to find, why were so many relegated to the background in minor or less than glamorous roles?

She asked these questions, and it spurred the creation of the now infamous tag of **#INeedDiverseGames**. It did not take long for her to discover that she was not the only one asking. People want to see themselves, want to be themselves, in this world and in the worlds of fantasy. Gaming is for everyone, or at least it should be. It is an escape to another universe where you can be so much more than what the constraints of the real world will allow. So, why were the same constraints being applied to the fantasy world? Why was it limited to only one type of character? One type of hero? One race, one gender, one color of skin, one style of expression?

The tag was just the beginning. Tanya soon created the non-profit I Need Diverse Games dedicated to promoting diverse voices in all aspects of gaming. Based in her hometown of Chicago, the organization supports marginalized game developers so that they can be seen and be heard at the big-name industry events. By providing scholarships to attend conferences and hosting events and simply showing that diversity does and should exist, it opened the doors to not just creating new games but consulting on how to make the existing games that much more welcoming to the world as a whole as well.

Tanya's own work reflects these values as well. She is well known in the Twitch community by her handle Cypheroftyr where she does playthroughs of games of all sorts, including her own. She is the creative director of the afro-futuristic *Into the Mother Lands* RPG, developed with all POC creators, as well as co-developer of *The Fifth Season Roleplaying Game* based upon award-winning novelist N.K. Jemisin's *The Broken Earth Trilogy*. She has written for Monte Cook Games as well as Green Ronin and Paizo with game critiques in such publications as *Polygon*, *Vice Gaming*, and *Uncanny Magazine*. She is known for her presentations on feminism, diversity, and race in gaming and the world beyond.

Tanya DePass is an NPC. She is queer, she is Black, she is female, and she has a quest for you: find your diversity in life. Find what makes you different and embrace it. Hold it close and nurture it and love it until you are ready to present it to the world so that others can see that it is okay to do the same. Then go that one step further—that one level higher—and support those others so that, together, we can all build a foundation for the generations yet to come.

GUESTS OF HONOR



CHRIS KLUWE

By Jimmy LeDuc

Chris Kluwe was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on November 9, 1981. He came to prominence in the early 2000s playing for UCLA. He was signed by the Seattle Seahawks in 2005, picked up by the Minnesota Vikings, and played with them from 2005 until 2012. While playing with the Vikings, he set franchise records for the longest punt in team history. He also played for the Oakland Raiders. After retiring from the NFL in 2013, Kluwe wrote a memoir, *Beautifully Unique Sparkleponies*, which chronicled his life, career, and advocacy work while offering a humorous take on his time in the NFL.

Kluwe is passionate about social justice and has been an outspoken ally for the LGBTQIA+ community. Beyond his work on the field, his advocacy brought him to the attention of many, including myself. Kluwe's passion for social justice brought him a whole new fan base. He advocated for marriage equality following a passionate letter to the Minnesota legislature. Chris is known for using humor to

address serious issues, making him relatable and engaging, even to those unfamiliar with LGBTQIA+ rights. His role as an activist has left a lasting legacy far beyond his work on the playing field.

Chris Kluwe has a strong presence in the gaming world, bringing him even more fans. Over the years, some of his favorite games and genres included *World of Warcraft*, where he played as a Night Elf warrior. He has discussed raiding with his guild and how the game has impacted his teamwork and leadership. He is also a longtime fan of *Final Fantasy*, especially *Final Fantasy Tactics* and *Final Fantasy VI*. He has also been a fan of Halo. He loves competitive play and worldbuilding. He prefers games that make you think, such as tactical RPGs, deep storylines, and games that give the player moral choices. He is also a fan of *Dungeons & Dragons* and other tabletop games. Kluwe has written essays and fiction inspired by gaming. He contributed to the *Press Start to Play* collection, where he wrote a short story blending sci-fi and gaming culture. Kluwe isn't just a casual gamer. He believes gaming is an essential part of his identity, which makes him an excellent addition to CONvergence. He regularly engages with gaming communities and advocates on issues related to the gaming culture, such as promoting inclusivity and pushing back against toxic behavior. He's a lifelong player who deeply respects the art and complexity of gaming—and proudly reps the community, even when it doesn't fit the stereotypical image of a professional athlete.

Kluwe is known for his sharp wit and active use of social media. His online and in-person presence focuses on commentary, insight into the world, and equity advocacy. This has made him a beloved figure in the sports and gaming communities. Kluwe is also a musician.

He is an exceptional athlete, musician, thinker, activist, and avid gamer unafraid to take a stance on social issues. Kluwe is a fantastic advocate and a pioneer. He is a true individualist, unafraid to be seen as anything less than his authentic self. It is exciting to have him as a Guest of Honor this year at CONvergence.

GUESTS OF HONOR



JULES PORTER

By Stephanie Cranford

Jules Porter is interested in everything.

Her educational history shows it: she's studied Political Science and Government at Florida A&M, Aerospace Engineering at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, earned a JD and an MBA from The University of St. Thomas, and even a BA in Theology. She spent four years in the Marine Corps as an engineer and a diplomatic security officer, and somehow all of that led to a career as a video game designer, a business owner, a professor, and an AI developer and trainer.

Her studio's video games, planned and current, show this breadth as well. *Ultimate Elder Battle* is an action/role-playing game with 80-year-old superheroes still fighting bad guys. *Songbirds* is a series focusing on "the music, personalities, lives, and stories of musical legends," beginning with the Pointer Sisters. (Both games are under Seraph7 Studios.) She also has been developing an AI called Zora.ai, based on various Harlem Renaissance figures, including the eponymous Zora Neale Hurston as well as Langston Hughes and Claude McKay. She's also mentioned wanting to work on a game about Harriet Tubman, as well as one about the

angels' rebellion in heaven.

In addition to video games, the law, AI, business, entrepreneurship, the Pointer Sisters, poetry, and the military, she also enjoys anime (*Berzerk* is one of her favorites), follows space missions (Dr. Mae Jemison's flight into space made her want to be an astronaut when she was a kid), and writes and draws. Her essay, "Using Video Games to Champion Justice and Expand Imaginations of Superheroes," along with three works of art, were published by MIT Press in *An Anthology of Blackness: The State of Black Design*.

The games Jules plays for fun (and, of course, market research) are diverse, as well: while her favorite game series is *God of War*, she's also enjoyed the *Assassin's Creed* series, the *BloodRayne* series, and many of the *Civilization* games. She prefers the *Battlefield* games over the *Call of Duty* games, as *Battlefield* is about Marines. In years when the Vikings are good, she also plays the *Madden* games, but only those years. Who would want to play as any team other than the Vikings? (Skol!)

When she's not working or playing video games, she's volunteering on the board of the Minnesota Association of Black Lawyers; she's also training AIs for other companies, and she's developed a STE[A]M (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) program for underestimated high school students, primarily Black and Native. The program aims to give them skills, including programming and design skills, that should allow them to get a job in video games or other tech-related fields right out of high school.

That's one of the threads that ties her life together: she phrases it as being a "champion for the underestimated everywhere." More than 80% of Black teens and more than half of Black adults play video games, but BIPOC characters are either in sports games or representing 3%–10% of the characters—and often as villains or side characters. Jules wants to change that, not just by having Black video game characters even exist at all but also by having Black video game characters as the protagonist. Let them slay the dragons, conquer the castles, and win the romantic lead! Let there be nonviolent options, as well as rewards for winning the game without using violence! And, of course, let Black stories, culture, and folklore be used in games the way that white stories have been for years.

Jules is going to do it.

CONVERGENCE MERCHANDISE

Hyatt 2, Minnehaha (behind the escalators)

Let your geek flag fly when you grab official CONvergence merchandise during the convention, available only while supplies last!

Take home Connie, Connie Mark II, Professor Max, and the rest of the CONvergence mascots on a variety of items—including our new Registration mascot, Reggie the cat!

Perhaps you're looking to sport our super-soft, lightweight t-shirt featuring new art every year; grab a set of colorful pint glasses, perfect for an evening quaffing Romulan ale, blue milk, or Brawndo; or decorate your possessions with our stickers, decals, or car magnets featuring iconic CONvergence designs by Christopher Jones.

Perhaps you could be wanting to celebrate this year's theme with our gaming-inspired products! Come peruse large gaming mouse pads, messenger bags of holding, custom foldable dice trays, d20 lollipops, and high-quality Connie miniatures.

But wait...there's more, such as our sling bags, badge holder bags, sketchbooks, notebooks, and bookmarks! There are no wrong choices with our exciting assortment of CONvergence swag!



Reggie, the New Registration Mascot



25th Anniversary Enamel Pin



CONvergence 2025 T-Shirt



25th Anniversary Hoodie



Insulated Cooler Bag, Badge Holder, Sling Bag



Stainless Steel Tumbler, Pint Glass

THE GROVE

Outside Between Nicollet Mall and the Hyatt Parking Ramp

Welcome to The Grove—a nice, shaded, breezy area outdoors for attendees to hang out and partake of their tobacco products and e-cigarettes. The Grove offers everyone hospitality and plenty of seating, tables, ashtrays, and bottled water.

If you partake of tobacco products or e-cigarettes, are friends with someone who does, or simply enjoy being outside and people-watching, come join our friendly atmosphere!

The Grove is completely wheelchair accessible. There are no stairs within The Grove or on the way to accessing it.

How to Find The Grove

Navigate yourself to outside the main entrance of the Hyatt Regency (reference the Hyatt map of the first floor if needed) and turn right. Please be mindful of cars.

The Grove Rules (No Exceptions)

- The Grove is badged space. Only CONvergence attendees may hang out in The Grove.
- Food delivery directly to The Grove is not allowed. You may have it delivered to the main entrance of the Hyatt Regency and bring it to The Grove. Alternatively, you may bring your own food to The Grove and consume it there.
- Clean up after yourself.
- Be respectful of others using the area.

For rules about the consumption of THC, please read the CONvergence Attendee Conduct Policies section titled Alcohol & THC, located in this Souvenir Guide and on the CONvergence website.



SPACE LOUNGE

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes C

Worried about the state of the universe? Deep in the corridors of the spaceship Hyatt Prime, you will stumble across the most transmutational bar known to fully energized beings. Resist the deep space doldrums: take part in arcade simulations of invaders from space, chill in the sonic harmonizations of only the most intergalactic DJs, record your newly bioluminescent image on our observation deck to post in your hypersocial media, highlight your circuits and tentacles in our blacklight district, and partake of the illuminating menu at the sensory bar. Most importantly, become vibrant and join the resistance to the oppressive doldrums. Please don your shiniest adventure garb to ensure your time with us is completely cosmogonic.

Space Lounge (Splounge) is everything you would want for the convention's galactic social hub: lounge, nightclub, sensory bar, and more! Featuring comfy seating, chill music, amusements, and (often interactive) décor, when you step through the entrance portal, you'll feel like you've been transported to another world!

SCHEDULE

The gravity tunnel opens to Space Lounge each night at 9:00pm for general activities.

FRIDAY

Splounge Game Meetup

11:00am–Noon

Fight the doldrums in Splounge's real-world adventure game. New adventurers and seasoned rebels can join forces to complete mysterious and important missions.

Adventuring Party: Just-One-Hour Rave

12:30pm–1:30pm

Put on your +3 Boots of Dancing and come to our Transdimensional Tavern. DJ Gunn will conjure a midday Space Lounge dance party for all characters and classes to level up. All ages welcome; some songs might have adult language or themes.

BIPOC Meetup

3:30pm–5:30pm

Organized by DEIA and Space Lounge. Come together for a social event for us, by us. Bring your friends, your business cards, and anything else you might need to connect and collect with your peers.

Teens Only!

7:00pm–9:00pm

The Convergence Teen Room hijacks Splounge for a teens-only (ages 13–20) event. Bartend at the sensory bar, DJ, or just have all the awesome glowiness for yourselves during this two-hour cooperative event! Space Lounge never serves alcohol, but during the teens-only event, no alcohol is allowed into the room.

Caly McMorrow

10:30pm–11:30pm

Live electronic music for your galactic listening pleasure.

Dissociate

11:30pm–12:30am

Live electronic music to sonically harmonize your ears.

Solar Object

12:30am–1:30am

Live electronic music that will transport you to the stars.

SATURDAY

Classic Video Game Tournament

1:30pm–4:00pm

This elimination-style competition on a two-player glass table-top arcade machine features games ranging from the classic to the bizarre. Note: Space is limited. Sign up by 1:30pm. The tournament begins at 2:00pm.

Cole Sarar's Sci-fi Reading Hour

5:30pm–7:00pm

New Science Fiction from Cole Sarar and John Heimbuch, underscored with futurist soundscapes by Caly McMorrow. Hear futures you never imagined, be transported to places you've never been, see yourself and your world in new ways, and be transformed.

DJ Macchines

9:00pm–2:00am

Splounge's resident DJ is ready to bring you another specially curated set to get your antennae waving, your pulsars vibrating, and refill your life meter to full hearts.

MASQUERADE

Hyatt 1, Nicollet Grand Ballroom

Masquerade is one of CONvergence's premiere events, showcasing the talent and creativity of costumers of all skill levels from novices to masters. Participants compete for five major awards based on both technical and performance prowess. Whether you participate or simply watch (in person or on CVG-TV), you're in for a magical experience like none other! Spectacular craftsmanship, engaging skits, and celebration of fandoms or original creations—it's all on display at Masquerade!

The Masquerade department offers three costuming events during the convention: Masquerade (the department's namesake), Costume Wars, and the Hall Costume Contest.

Please review the CONvergence website (convergence-con.org/at-the-con/events/masquerade/) for additional details on any of our events or visit the Masquerade registration table if you have any questions.

If you have any mobility difficulties (in costume or out) and need accommodation, please inform us at registration and orientation.

Masquerade Registration

Hyatt 1, Nicollet Grand Ballroom Promenade

Thursday	3:00pm–6:00pm
Friday	10:00am–1:00pm 2:00pm–6:00pm

All entries must sign up in advance; register online or in person at the Masquerade registration table. Note: In person registrations will only be accepted if Masquerade is not at capacity. Online registrations must also check in at the Masquerade registration table during the convention.

The 2025 cap for the number of entries (including all runway entries) is 40. All entries are limited to a maximum of four persons and one handler.

Masquerade Technical Judging and Tech Rehearsal

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A and B

Saturday	8:30am–4:30pm
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Upon checking in, non-runway entries will be assigned an hour time slot for their technical (formerly workmanship) judging time and tech rehearsal time; runway entries may also be judged on technical upon request. Note: These times are scheduled first come, first served. The number of entries that can be judged in each hour time slot is limited; check in early if you have time restrictions. You may be asked to do either your technical judging or tech rehearsal first; please be flexible.

Masquerade Orientation

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A and B

Saturday	8:00am
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Orientation is mandatory without exception for all participants regardless of previous experience. A runway entry walkthrough takes place immediately after orientation.

Costume Wars

Hyatt 6, Gymnasium (The Holodeck)

Friday	3:00pm–5:00pm
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What happens when teams of two are given a sack of unknown, random materials and only one hour to create a costume? Chaos, innovation, and a whole lot of fun!

Costume Wars is a timed event in which teams must craft a wonderful creation in under an hour from mystery supplies. Everyone will receive accolades and applause! The top three entries will be given awards after judging.

The 2025 cap for the number of teams is 25. Additional teams will have to join a waiting list. All teams are limited to a maximum of two costume-making persons and one model (who may not help with construction) who will show off the newly created attire. If the team does not have a model present, one of the costume-making persons will need to wear their creation for judging.

Costume Wars Registration

Hyatt 1, Nicollet Ballroom Promenade

Thursday	3:00pm–6:00pm
Friday	10:00am–1:00pm

All teams must register at the Masquerade registration table before 1:00pm on Friday.

Costume Wars Check-In and Orientation

Hyatt 6, Gymnasium (The Holodeck)

All teams must check in on Friday no later than 15 minutes prior to the start of the competition. There will be a short orientation. If your team does not check in, your spot may be given away to a team on the waiting list.

MASQUERADE

Hall Costume Contest

Thursday through Saturday

Want to show off your costume in a fun, casual contest that doesn't interfere with your other scheduled events? Participate in the Hall Costume Contest! Hall costumes are those worn for fun at the convention (usually for long periods) and vary in scope and craftsmanship. Whether you have a lifelike recreation of your favorite character or a costume bought off the rack, you can't go wrong! You'll fit right in with CONvergence's atmosphere, where you can meet someone who threw together a last-minute costume the day before the convention being celebrated by someone who started their costume project right after the last year's convention ended.

There is no cap for the number of entries. Participants compete for four awards and winners are selected late Saturday night by volunteer judges. Winners will be announced on Sunday at Closing Ceremony (and contacted directly by the Masquerade staff) and will be posted on CONvergence Social Media afterward.

Hall Costume Contest Registration

Hyatt 1, Nicollet Ballroom Promenade

Want to participate? It's easy! First, read the Hall Contest Rules (convergence-con.org/at-the-con/things-to-do/hall-costume-contest/) and the Photo Release Policy (convergence-con.org/at-the-con/policies/) on the CONvergence website or ask for them at the Masquerade registration table.

Next, take a picture of yourself in front of the Hall Contest Banner backdrop on the Nicollet Promenade outside of MainStage, which adheres to the following guidelines:

- Family friendly
- Complies with the CONvergence Attendee Conduct Policies titled Costume/Clothing found in this guide and on the CONvergence website (convergence-con.org/at-the-con/policies/)
- Complies with the laws of the City of Minneapolis
- PG-13 content

Finally, use the Hall Costume Contest entry form to submit your photo (the Hall Costume Contest banner and the Masquerade registration table both have QR codes and direct links to the form).

Before you click submit, make sure you're committed to your photo! Only one entry is allowed per person per convention regardless of individual or group participation (if you submit in a group entry, you can't submit an individual entry as well).

You can also post your photos on social media (not required for entry) and include the official CONvergence hashtag #CVG2025 as well as the Hall Costume Contest hashtag #CVGHall2025!



PARTIES

What's a Room Party?

Room Parties are a small part of what makes CONvergence such a nerdy affair. Room parties are held on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th floors and are open almost around the clock: from relaxed daytime hours to dance parties all night long. Party themes vary and there's guaranteed to be something that'll strike your fancy. Parties are like a convention within a convention, are run by volunteers, and can include snacks, drinks, fun activities, and even programming! Check out each party's open hours. If the door is open, everyone is welcome! (Age restrictions may apply.)

Mobile Parties

Mobile parties are parties without a room that wander throughout the convention, bringing fun experiences to CONvergence attendees wherever they are!

Are the Stairwells Open?

The stairwells next to Parties Headquarters (Hyatt 4, Room 418) giving access to the 3rd, 4th, and 5th floors will be open from 8:00pm–1:00am on the condition that we have volunteers to check badges. Want to volunteer? Come say "hi" to us in Parties Headquarters or head over to Volunteers (Hyatt 2, Greenway J) to book a shift. Volunteers get hours that can be used for swag and access to the Massage Room and Volunteers Den!

Party Events

Curious about the room parties' ever-changing and impromptu events? Scan here for a link to the parties' special events guide. Make sure to check back often, as the document will update periodically with new and changing events going on around the parties.



Want to Host a Party in 2026 But Not Sure Where to Start?

Congrats! The Parties department is here to answer questions. We love hearing your ideas and helping you along the way, so feel free to stop by Parties Headquarters (Hyatt 4, Room 418) and talk to the Parties department staff.

Party applications go live in November, so keep an eye on the website and social media for updates. You are also always welcome to contact us throughout the year at parties@convergence-con.org!

Don't Forget to Vote!

Want to show some love to your favorite parties or give your compliments to the chef? Scan here to vote for this year's party awards and drop a note for your favorite party! Make sure to check again after the convention to see who won!



MOBILE PARTIES

Insufferable Bard

@Insufferable Bard

The lute playing is only slightly better than last year, and the jokes are worse! Catch lute performances in the hotel common areas, just outside the hotel if the weather is good, and nightly performances at the Wyvern's Aerie room party. Requests for Wonderwall will still be met with Vicious Mockery.

Mobile Rubber Duckie Party

Bright Yellow Duckie Lady, minion(s) and a wagon full of Duckie badge-ribbons, rubber duckies, and many other duck related items.

Thursday	3:00pm–5:00pm
Friday	3:00pm–5:00pm
Saturday	3:00pm–5:00pm
Sunday	Noon–2:00pm

Badge Ribbon Gacha

facebook.com/profile.php?id=61573736934403

Insert coin, turn handle, receive badge ribbon! Can you collect them all? Play every day for a free badge ribbon.

Thursday	1:00pm–4:30pm; 7:00pm–8:00pm
Friday	1:00pm–4:30pm; 7:00pm–8:00pm
Saturday	1:00pm–4:30pm; 7:00pm–8:00pm
Sunday	2:00pm–4:00pm

Take a Pin Leave a Pin

Want to do some pin trading? Head on over to Gaming and look for the easel!

Thursday	Noon–Midnight
Friday	Noon–Midnight
Saturday	Noon–Midnight
Sunday	Midnight–4:00pm

3RD FLOOR

Minicon: Next Gen—Room 3115

mnstf.org/minicon59/

Minicon is the longest-running, volunteer-run Sci-Fi Convention in the Midwest (on our 59th year). We're a community-driven, general fannish Convention, branching out to more gaming, anime, and other related themes. Come by our party for a small taste of our community and for some Blog, our official drink.

Thursday	8:00pm–4:00am
Friday	8:00pm–4:00am
Saturday	8:00pm–4:00am

The Midnight Society Presents: Beyond Sleepless Nightmares—Room 3116

We are a party room dedicated to all things horror. We are a chill space to sit back and watch something scary or discuss the genre. Horror has always been a big part of nerd/geek culture, but it needs its own space. This year, our guiding theme is Cosmic/Lovecraftian horror.

Thursday	8:00pm–Midnight
Friday	8:00pm–2:00am
Saturday	8:00pm–2:00am

Anime Fusion—Room 3117

animefusion.net/

Revisit classic anime and discover new favorites with the convention that spans the ages. Whether you're just getting into anime or haven't dusted off those old VHS tapes in years, there's a place for you at Anime Fusion. Stop in, watch some anime, and let us grill you a cheese!

Thursday	7:00pm–Midnight
Friday	7:00pm–Midnight
Saturday	7:00pm–Midnight

Mushroom Kingdom—Room 3118

facebook.com/profile.php?id=61568472142010

We are back under a new name, now known as the Mushroom Kingdom! Still serving up amazing Mario themed drinks and of course playing some Mario Kart and Mario Party!

Thursday	8:00pm–Midnight
Friday	1:00pm–3:00pm; 8:00pm–Midnight
Saturday	1:00pm–3:00pm; 8:00pm–Midnight

Salty's Dream Casino—Room 3119

salty.social/

Salty's FAQ

Q: What does Salty Mean?

A: *Getting mad 'cause you keep losing at fighting games.*

Q: Why does the theme keep changing?

A: *It's fun. Happy Birthday!*

Q: What's in this drink?

A: *All ingredients are posted and available, but frankly unless you have a dietary restriction, you're better off not knowing.*

Q: Can you put Smash on?

A: *No, Smash is not a fighting game.*

Thursday	8:00pm–2:00am
Friday	7:00pm–2:00am
Saturday	7:00pm–2:00am

The Continental Hotel (Assassin's Guild)—Room 3120

Seated in the lap of luxury, this historic establishment offers its comforts and atmosphere to only the most discerning of clientele. This is a place of meeting and professional discourse. As such, no business may be conducted on Continental property. All who enter do so as associates and shall meet in peace and civility. Please join us for refreshment, entertainment, games, and pleasant company. Find information on the Guild's events, such as the foam sword combat tournament, or perhaps pick up a contract or two. Here at The Continental, we are all friends.

Thursday	8:00pm–Midnight
Friday	8:00pm–1:00am
Saturday	8:00pm–1:00am

Purrfectly Good Cat Pawty—Room 3121

facebook.com/catpawtyMN/

Celebrate your love for all things cats with cat-themed drinks, snacks, games, and cat videos! Our daytime hours are purrfect for all ages (nighttime is 21+). We may even throw in some fun, new themed events! Come enjoy the cool cat vibes with us. =^_^=

Thursday	8:00pm–Midnight
Friday	3:00pm–5:00pm (all ages) 8:00pm–Midnight (21+)
Saturday	3:00pm–5:00pm (all ages) 8:00pm–Midnight (21+)

Wyvern's Aerie—Room 3122

Experience The Wyvern's Aerie, the medieval tavern from the book series, The Knights' Trials. Food, ale and a few concoctions from the bartenders are available. Come say "Hi" to talk about the latest book, learn about the series, or just get some food and drink in you before you continue partying.

Thursday	6:00pm–Midnight
Friday	6:00pm–Midnight
Saturday	6:00pm–Midnight

Twin Cities Con—Room 3123

twincitiescon.com

Join the crew behind Twin Cities Con as they prepare for Year 5 of Minnesota's Largest Comic Con! Enjoy your favorite breakfast cereals and watch movies starring the 2025 TCC Guest list!

Thursday	7:00pm–Midnight
Friday	7:00pm–Midnight
Saturday	7:00pm–Midnight

God Awful Theater—Room 3124

facebook.com/share/15qQamaHoC/

Bad movies and Saturday morning cartoons.

Thursday	6:00pm–Midnight
Friday	6:00pm–Midnight
Saturday	9:00am–Noon; 6:00pm–Midnight

4TH FLOOR**Eternity—Room 4116**

facebook.com/EternityPartyRoom

The Ley Lines converge in a place beyond darkness and light. Drift into Eternity, where starlit drinks flow, hot dogs sizzle, and wishes cling to the walls like whispered secrets. Snap a shot at the selfie station, vibe to music echoing through the void, and watch for the elusive feline observers hidden throughout the room. Come for the food. Stay for the mystery.

Thursday	8:00pm–Midnight
Friday	8:00pm–2:00am
Saturday	8:00pm–2:00am

PARTIES

Afterlife—Room 4117

facebook.com/jrpartyroom/

Come join Omega's finest scum and villainy at Aria's Afterlife Club for drinks, music, and dancing. (Mass Effect Themed Party Room.)

Thursday 8:00pm–Midnight
Friday 8:00pm–2:00am
Saturday 8:00pm–2:00am

Jimibufa Bimijufa's Moogleritaville—Room 4118

Searchin' for your long lost shaker of salt? Come on down to Jimibufa Bimijufa's Moogleritaville and waste your days away in sunny Tuliyoall with as many margaritas as you can drink.

We have a fishing hole (catch yourself a ruby dragon!), tequila shots, and catboy bartenders. No shirt, no shoes, no problem. 21+. IDs will be checked at the door.

Thursday 7:00pm–10:00pm
Friday 1:00pm–3:00pm; 5:00pm–Midnight
Saturday 1:00pm–3:00pm; 5:00pm–Midnight

The TARDIS Graveyard—Room 4119

facebook.com/groups/thetardisgraveyard

Join the Doctor's staff for tastings from the Doctor's liquor cabinet and emergency travel snacks. Enjoy cool vibes from across the ages, Doctor Who and space-themed black light coloring, and viewings of the Doctor's lives.

Thursday 8:00pm–Midnight
Friday 4:00pm–2:00am
Saturday 4:00pm–2:00am

Guys Games and Beer Pop-Up Dive Bar—Room 4120

guysgamesandbeer.net/

The Guys Games and Beer crew is recreating the classic Wisconsin dive bar vibe in their one-of-a-kind pop-up party room! Packed with beloved local staples and quirky charm, this immersive space will transport you straight to the heart of Wisconsin. Come hang out, grab a cold one, and experience a room that's been completely transformed—dive-style!

Thursday 9:00pm–2:00am
Friday 9:00pm–2:00am
Saturday 9:00pm–2:00am

Atomic Afterparty—Room 4121

A retro-futuristic refuge in the post-apocalypse. Sip radioactive cocktails at the vault bar, explore scattered relics of the wasteland, and follow curious trails that begin with a faint glow of glass. Featuring a working Fallout terminal, challenge shots, collectible ribbons, and a live signal broadcast from the radio room. Whether you're here to unwind or investigate, the end of the world has never felt so inviting. Brought to you as part of Vault-Tec's ongoing social compatibility trials.

Thursday 8:00pm–1:00am
Friday 8:00pm–1:00am
Saturday 8:00pm–1:00am

The Royal Manticoran Navy Ward Room—Room 4123

facebook.com/groups/259237357435704

Come celebrate the con in style with The Royal Manticoran Navy! Food, drinks, and Missile Pod rolls twice an hour, all three nights. The only place where joining the navy is this much fun. Plenty of snacks and celery for everyone. Warning: Watch out for tree cats! The Royal Manticoran Navy—One Family Many Branches.

Thursday 8:00pm–Midnight
Friday 8:00pm–Midnight
Saturday 2:00pm–4:00pm; 8:00pm–Midnight

Puzzle Paradise—Room 4124

Escape to Puzzle Paradise, a vibrant beach-themed party room featuring tropical drinks, puzzle games, and endless fun! Perfect for relaxing, challenging your mind, and connecting with fellow puzzle game enthusiasts. Dive into a unique tropical escape this year at CONvergence!

Thursday 8:00pm–1:00am
Friday 8:00pm–1:00am
Saturday 8:00pm–1:00am

Archaide—Room 4125

Journey through the Oasis to the retro-futuristic arcade inspired by the novel Ready Player One, and evocative of the quintessential arcades of the 1980s. Join us in playing some of your favorite old-school games. We'll be offering daytime hours and pizza rolls midday until we run out!

Thursday 10:00am–4:00pm
Friday 10:00am–4:00pm
Saturday 10:00am–4:00pm

Aech's Basement—Room 4126

Your invitation to Aech's elite Gunter hangout space. Drop by to chill, catch a flick, read vintage editions of Starlog, and chat about basically anything. Open daytime hours offering Bloody Marys, breakfast cereals, coffee, and screening films considered canon to a Gunter. This is a room inspired by the novel Ready Player One. Brought to you by the makers of Vault 131.

Thursday 10:00am–4:00pm
 Friday 10:00am–4:00pm
 Saturday 10:00am–4:00pm

5TH FLOOR**GPS Party Room—Room 5115**

geekpartnership.org/

We like to keep the space at the end of the hall chill. Stop by for a few minutes to relax away from the crowds and noise of the halls. Get to know more about CONvergence's sibling Geek Partnership Society and the benefits of being a member!

Thursday 8:00pm–Midnight
 Friday 3:00pm–Midnight
 Saturday 4:00pm–Midnight

The Jasmine Dragon—Room 5116

"Sharing tea with a fascinating stranger is one of life's true delights." —Uncle Iroh. A fan room for the Avatar cartoon series, we'll provide a laid back atmosphere for watching the series, participating in chill activities, and of course, serving the finest tea (and coffee) in the 4 nations. Open to all ages.

Thursday 8:00am–Midnight
 Friday 8:00am–Midnight
 Saturday 8:00am–Midnight
 Sunday 8:00am–Noon

Costumer's Conclave—Room 5117

A quiet place where you can drop in, sip tea, crunch cookies, and talk COSTUME! Reference books and costumed mannequins available for your examination. Hang out with experienced costumers, ask questions, and show off your own creations.

Thursday 9:00pm–1:00am
 Friday 2:00pm–4:00pm; 9:00pm–1:00am
 Saturday 9:00pm–1:00am

The Lodge Room—Room 5118

bradenlodge.org

Find yourself drawn into a room of puzzles. Solving the puzzles will lead you to other puzzles, and the answers to those will lead to a final challenge. If you can make it to the end, you will become a member of the winners club and get the goodies it provides.

Thursday 7:00pm–1:00am
 Friday 7:00pm–1:00am
 Saturday 7:00pm–1:00am

A.C. Villager Retreat—Room 5119

facebook.com/events/1460976908213711/

Your Animal Crossing getaway is back! Join us for a camp out under the night sky, coloring your own AC neighbor, and enjoying a cozy retreat. Prove your fishing skills with CJ, collect all of Wisp's spirits, or crash on the couch and admire our Happy Home Academy approved home! Book your trip with Dodo Airlines today!

Thursday 10:00am–2:00pm; 8:00pm–Midnight
 Friday 10:00am–4:00pm
 Saturday 10:00am–4:00pm

Cosplay O.R.—Room 5120

Cosplay O.R.: When your cosplay needs critical care, we're here. Advanced repairs, expert tools, and a steady hand. Step into the O.R.!

Thursday 9:00am–5:00pm
 Friday 9:00am–5:00pm
 Saturday 9:00am–5:00pm

Magic School Party Room—Room 5121

facebook.com/MagicSchoolPartyRoom

Join us for an exploration of the natural world and revel in the nostalgia of our favorite School Bus. Free family-friendly experiments during the day, and scientific discussions over refreshments in the evening. Just don't be afraid to take chances, make mistakes, and get messy in this party room.

Thursday 11:00am–6:00pm
 Friday 11:00am–6:00pm; 9:00pm–11:00pm
 Saturday 11:00am–6:00pm; 9:00pm–11:00pm

H2OwO—Room 5122

H2OwO?? What's this??? Step into the oasis of H2OwO to learn about sea creatures! Vote on best animal and peek into the depths of the abyssal zone. Before you swim off to the party circuit, grab a snack and hydrate yourself! We are an all-ages, dry party room.

Thursday 6:30pm–11:30pm
 Friday 6:30pm–11:30pm
 Saturday 6:30pm–11:30pm



Hyatt 4, Great Lakes B

Welcome to the Sandbox!

Connie's Quantum Sandbox is where art and science come together in the most enjoyable ways. You won't want to miss our hands-on activities, which can be messy and dirty, but, most definitely, fun! Come exercise your creative muscles and keep an eye out for any quantum cats!

Most of our activities are suitable for all ages (children and adults). Some activities do have limitations; the schedule lists age recommendations or when parental supervision is required.

For the best chance of getting a seat during our most popular activities, we recommend arriving early and being prepared to wait in line. If you cannot stand in line for long periods and need accommodation, please flag down a Nerf Herder or Sandbox staff member at the head of the line.

Connie's Quantum Sandbox does have a cap on the number of attendees that can participate in an activity; if any activity reaches capacity, everyone still waiting in line will be alerted as soon as possible.

The final schedule can be found on the CONvergence schedule website (convergence-con.org/at-the-con/schedule) and Sched app.

Did you know? Most of our supplies come from donations and our Sandbox staff is made up of hard-working volunteers who are excited and passionate about art and fun.

Want to join us or donate supplies? We are always looking for more volunteers and ways to do more activities! Learn more on the CONvergence website (convergence-con.org/at-the-con/things-to-do/connies-quantum-sandbox/).

Cosplay Repair Station

Located inside Connie's Quantum Sandbox, the Cosplay Repair Station has basic tools for small costume emergencies, such as sewing needles, thread, scissors, hot glue guns, and so on, that can be used while at the station. Cosplay repair specialist volunteers staff the station as often as possible.

Sandbox Lab

Looking for a smaller project? Check out our drop-in activities for daily creative fun! Open to all ages, the Sandbox Lab has a quiet play area with toys and mini activities that can be easily done using the provided instructions. Have your own craft? Bring knitting or any other quiet hobby.

Connie's Quantum Sandbox Rules (No Exceptions)

- Children under 13 years of age must be accompanied by an adult at all times and for all activities.
- Be respectful of each other and property.
- No theft or vandalism.
- Do not eat any food used in any Sandbox activity.
- Leave the room at the scheduled end time.

Allergen Warning

Latex is sometimes used in Sandbox events (for example, costuming, face or body painting). Sandbox staff will do their best to keep latex isolated when not in use. However, attendees are responsible for knowing their own sensitivity to latex and acting accordingly.

Food products are sometimes used in Sandbox events. These ingredients are not safe for consumption. Additionally, some of these food products may contain peanuts, tree nut products, gluten, lactose, or other ingredients that can trigger contact food allergies. Sandbox staff will do their best to keep food products isolated when not in use. However, attendees are responsible for knowing their own food allergies and acting accordingly.

If you have any questions about our activities or the products we use (latex, food, or otherwise), ask one of the Sandbox staff members.

THURSDAY

11:00am–Noon **Book Swap and Coloring Contest**

Come visit the Book Swap shelves in the Sandbox, as we introduce the Book Swap Coloring Contest. Learn about the contest and the wonderful ways and places you can enjoy Book Swap throughout the convention. *Erik Nyberg*

2:00pm–3:00pm **Old Time Drive-In and DIY Car**

Come and build a cardboard car to drive a short distance to our own private drive-in. Stay to watch a video. *Angie Anderson, Dierdre Schultz*

3:30pm–6:00pm **Build a Board Game in Under 2 Hours**

Learn rapid paper prototyping and hone your game design skills! We'll race against the clock to move through the phases of development, overcome roadblocks, get feedback, and bond through play and problem-solving. You'll walk away with a functional game! *Alexandra Eckert, Ben Scaglione, Daniel LaCrosse, Thomas Boguszewski*

8:30pm–10:00pm **Cardboard City**

Join the world-building to create towers, vehicles, and more to turn the Sandbox into a mini cardboard city. We will use this city for kids and attendees to cosplay and go for maximum damage on Friday morning. All ages; under 8 may need assistance. *Lisa Wallin*

FRIDAY

11:00am–Noon **Monster Smash**

Get your kids, get your costumes on, and come cosplay in our miniature cardboard city. Choose your character and join the fun; no need to roll for damage! Parents, join as an NPC and enjoy the commentary by Nick and Molly Glover. Ages 12 and under. *Molly Glover, Nick Glover*

12:30pm–1:30pm **Riker Beards**

Riker's iconic beard: a thing of beauty or an unfortunate choice? Find out for yourself as you make your own Riker Beard. *Christina Gregerson, Jesse Boom*

2:00pm–3:00pm **Pet Tie Blankets and Toy Swap**

Pets love comfort. Join GPS and Sandbox in making a fleece blanket or toy for your furry friend. We will also have a pet toy swap, so bring your new or gently used toys to trade. Disclaimer: used pet toys should be sanitized before being given to your pet. *Denise C Brophy, Jaylynn Speidel, Natasha Jo Krentz*

5:00pm–6:00pm **Fantasy Maps**

Who says a map has to show you real directions? Learn how to let your imagination dictate the places to which you travel. *Nathan Goree*

7:00pm–8:30pm **Catapults!**

You can't assault your neighbors with large projectiles, but what about pom-poms? Build an assortment of craft stick catapults ranging from a trebuchet to mangonel to a ballista. And create your pom-pom ammo. All ages; under 10 may need assistance. *Renee Petersen*

SATURDAY

11:00am–1:30pm **Bookbinding**

Is making a book harder than writing one? Let's find out! Learn to make a physical book from scratch the old-fashioned way. *Aric Stewart*

3:30pm–4:30pm **Crafting Smorgasbord**

Chris Kluwe's career includes a little bit of everything, so who better to help us do a smorgasbord of crafts? Come join us in doing a variety of crafts and try a little bit of everything yourself! Suitable for all ages. *Chris Kluwe, Dierdre Schultz*

5:00pm–6:00pm **Needle Felting**

Stabby, stabby, STABBY! Come learn the art of needle felting. You will be making a coaster to take home. Ages 10 and up. *Charlotte Haas*

7:00pm–8:00pm **Convergence Crop Art**

Are you a fan of crop art at the Minnesota State Fair? Does pixel art hold a special place in your heart? Learn how to turn a pile of beans into art. *Kaz Healy*

8:30pm–9:30pm **Papercraft Models**

You would be amazed at what you can make with paper. This project will have us building 3D models...with paper! *Elley Murray*

SUNDAY

11:00am–Noon **Crayon's Corner**

KIDS! Bring your parents to this exciting story and activity hour. Crayon (Caryn Lengkeek) leads this wonderful CONvergence staple. Ages 12 and under. *Caryn Lengkeek*

12:30pm–1:30pm **Finish Your Fabulous Project**

Do you have a Sandbox project that you didn't quite finish? Now is the time to work on it. *Dierdre Schultz*

2:00pm–3:00pm **Everyone Needs Bling!**

Make some simple earrings or a pendant to take home. *Angie Anderson*

STAY CONNECTED

There are many ways to stay connected with CONvergence, both during the convention and all year round! Follow CONvergence on Facebook, Instagram, and more.

Official Hashtag

The official hashtag for CONvergence 2025 is: **#CVG2025**

Use #CVG2025 for all your CONvergence 2025 social media posts to connect other CONvergence attendees with your convention coverage!

Facebook

CONvergence Facebook Page: Official news updates and content all year round.

facebook.com/CONvergenceConMN

CONvergence Discussion Group: Talk about CONvergence with our community.

facebook.com/groups/CONvergenceCon

CONvergence Connections Group: Find CONvergence hotel roommates, carpools, babysitters, weekend passes for sale, and more.

facebook.com/groups/CONvergenceConnections

Instagram

Official CONvergence Account: Official announcements, content all year round, and photos during the convention.

[@CONvergenceCon](https://instagram.com/CONvergenceCon)

X (FKA Twitter)

Official CONvergence Account: Official news updates and content all year round.

[@CONvergenceCon](https://twitter.com/CONvergenceCon)

Tumblr

Official CONvergence Account: Official news updates, content all year round, and reblogs of the official hashtag during the convention.

CONvergenceCon.tumblr.com

TikTok

Official CONvergence Account: Videos around the con from CONvergence social media staff.

[@convergence_con](https://tiktok.com/@convergence_con)

Bluesky

Official CONvergence Account: Official news updates and content all year round as well as during the convention, including CONvergence panels, cosplay, fun stuff, and events live-skeeted.

[@convergencecon.bsky.social](https://bluesky.com/@convergencecon.bsky.social)

YouTube

CVG-TV Channel: Videos produced for CONvergence and CVG-TV.

youtube.com/CVGTelevision

CONvergenceTube Channel: Videos of panels and events at CONvergence.

youtube.com/CONvergenceTube

Masquerade Channel: Videos of individual Masquerade entries.

youtube.com/CVGmasquerade

Discord

Official CONvergence Server: Connect and talk with our community.

cvgcon.org/discord

Email

Social media not your thing? Simply head to CONvergence-con.org and sign up for email updates of the latest CONvergence news.

CVG-TV

CVG-TV is CONvergence's video production studio and pop-up TV network, bringing shows and events, exclusive content, and more directly to your screen! During the convention, CVG-TV is streamed online. CVG-TV is available on-demand throughout the year.

CVG-TV is broadcast Thursday afternoon through Sunday evening. Find the full CVG broadcast schedule and links to stream CVG-TV online:

cvgcon.org/cvgtv

After the convention, catch CVG-TV content on-demand on YouTube:

youtube.com/CVGTelevision

CINEMA REX

Hyatt 5, Lake Superior

Cinema Rex is CONvergence's official film room, a place where attendees can relax, get comfortable on couches and throw pillows, enjoy free concessions (freshly popped popcorn, movie theater candy favorites, and a variety of refreshing sodas), and watch great films on a big screen with a great sound system all convention long. Our volunteers, who just plain old love watching movies, will be happy to have you, so please make yourself at home—just don't get too comfortable as sleeping in Cinema Rex is not allowed (even late at night). We also ask all attendees to follow good movie theater etiquette—hold conversations out in the lobby or in between films.

Note: While the schedule includes applicable content warnings, many of the films contain content of a sensitive nature; audience discretion is advised. If you'd like subtitles for any movie that doesn't already include them, please ask at the concession stand.

Message From the Cinema Rex Department

This year, we didn't play around when it came to our film schedule. Okay, maybe we did! Can you blame us? As it turns out, there's a huge selection of movies focused on games—movies about board games, video games, sports games, tabletop games, life-or-death games, and virtual reality games all made the list. Have you spotted the trend?

We have so much exciting content for attendees to watch! Grab your spot on a couch early because your CONvergence favorite riff-ers Molly Glover, Duck Washington, Nick Glover, and Jeremy Stomberg are back for another live riff, this time with commentary and joking observations of the 1993 flop *Super Mario Bros*. Fan favorite *Trailer Park* is returning and will feature an hour's worth of previews for upcoming movies (maybe some fun extras too). And while John Leguizamo has been featured on our schedule for three consecutive years, you may not forgive us for this particular film.

You'll notice we've continued our tradition, and the schedule has a movie picked by each of the Cinema Rex coheads that we wanted to share with attendees! For the rest, we've pulled content from comment cards and attendee suggestions—each carefully negotiated and thoughtfully considered. Stop by for a single movie or try to watch every single one—we don't judge, we encourage! As always, we look forward to welcoming you back or seeing you for the first time.

THURSDAY

3:00pm

Jumanji

PG—1995—104m

Dir. Joe Johnston w/ Robin Williams, Kirsten Dunst, Bonnie Hunt, Bradley Pierce

Have you ever been scared to play a board game because you might get sucked into the game and trapped for 20 years, growing a full beard while your clothes deteriorate into rags, becoming basically feral while your friends and family move on without so much as a sideways glance in your direction? That's called getting Jumanjied, and it happens. It doesn't matter if you get Jumanjied in, or Jumanji comes out. It could happen to you this weekend, so protect yourself by watching the true Jumanji, which earned Robin Williams a Kids' Choice Award nomination for Favorite Movie Actor.

5:00pm

Clue

PG—1985—95m

Dir. Jonathan Lynn w/ Madeline Kahn, Tim Curry, Colleen Camp, Christopher Lloyd

If Tim Curry cites this as one of his favorite movies of his own making, you know it's good. Six guests, all with colorful names and personalities, are anonymously invited to a dinner party at a weird mansion and then they just... decide to go? An introvert would never. While this was technically a box office flop, it is beloved by so many that it was one of the top suggestions on our comment cards. We had to include it this year!

7:00pm

**Dungeons & Dragons:
Honor Among Thieves**

PG-13—2023—134m

Dirs. Jonathan Goldstein, John Francis Daley w/ Sophia Lillis, Chris Pine, Daisy Head

The first of two Goldstein & Daley films on our schedule for the weekend, *Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves* is possibly the most charmed the world has ever been by tabletop gaming, thanks in large part to the excellent pacing and the stellar cast. But most importantly, to a regular player, it feels like a game of D&D. Roll for initiative! (Be warned, a 1 gets you the weird couch.)

Content warning: moderate violence



9:30pm

Ouija: Origin of Evil

PG-13—2016—99m

Dir. Mike Flanagan w/ Lulu Wilson, Elizabeth Reaser, Annalise Basso, Henry Thomas

Grab the planchette, place it on the souvenir guide, and nobody better push it around this time. Ask it a question: Where should I go at CONvergence this weekend? It starts to wobble. Slowly, it slides over to "O," then "U," and well, you can see where this is going. It spells "OUTSIDE, TOUCH GRASS." You throw the board away. Those things never work. You come back inside to the cool air conditioning, to the welcoming couches, to the smell of fresh popcorn, and you watch a horror movie in Cinema Rex featuring Doug Jones, the very best contortionist in the business, and think to yourself, "Why would I touch grass? Dogs pee on grass." *Content warning: disturbing images, terror, moderate violence*

11:30pm

The Blackening

R—2022—97m

Dir. Tim Story w/ Sinqua Walls, Grace Byers, Melvin Gregg, Dewayne Perkins

The Blackening is a smart and well paced comedy with a slasher film added to the mix. When seven friends go to a cabin in the woods (uh oh) to celebrate Juneteenth together, they're greeted by a disfigured (oh no) gas station clerk who menaces at them a bit (oh dear) before the killing kicks off. Their knowledge of horror films through the lens of Black culture is put to the test, and before long the slasher film is turned on its head and becomes a satire of how Black characters are typically portrayed in horror films. *Content warning: moderate violence, profanity, drug use*

FRIDAY

10:00am

Wreck-It Ralph

PG—2012—101m

Dir. Rich Moore w/ John C. Reilly, Sarah Silverman, Jane Lynch, Mindy Kaling

Sick of being a Bad Guy, Wreck-It Ralph decides that people can change and strikes out on a path of redemption, wrecking a bunch of things on his way. Go figure. But even Bad Guys can be lovable! Except for the early sketches of Ralph, which were intended to be in 8-bit but were scrapped because it was deemed too hard to make an 8-bit character sympathetic and relatable. We can think of a couple of plumbers from Brooklyn who'd take umbrage with that.

12:00pm

Zathura: A Space Adventure

PG—2005—102m

Dir. Jon Favreau w/ Jonah Bobo, Josh Hutcherson, Kristen Stewart, Dax Shepard

This is one of those movies where if you mispronounce the title, three people will immediately materialize to correct you, even if you're stranded on a desert island. This addition to the Jumanji Cinematic Universe is a spiritual prequel to the contemporary Jumanjis in that the characters try their hand at a mysterious video game while left unsupervised by their father who has Very Important Business to rush off and attend to. And aside from the first and last scenes, the film was shot in chronological order. Other notable examples of (mostly) sequentially shot films: Boyhood, The Shining, and E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial.

2:00pm

Super Mario Bros.

PG—1993—103m

Dirs. Annabel Jankel, Rocky Morton w/ Bob Hoskins, John Leguizamo, Dennis Hopper

Not that Super Mario Brothers movie, the BAD one! But to be fair, this film paved the way for film adaptations of video games for decades to come, so the haters can just take a seat on one of our couches. Back by popular demand, we're joined by Molly Glover, Duck Washington, Nick Glover, and Jeremy Stomberg for a Cinema Rex Riff. This film will feature live commentary by some of the best local comedians we could wrangle up to sit through another film widely regarded as questionable.

4:00pm

Shaolin Soccer

PG-13—2001—85m

Dir. Stephen Chow w/ Stephen Chow, Wei Zhao, Yat-Fei Wong, Kai-Man Tin

If your least favorite thing about soccer is how the athletes can't take a hit without being a big baby, or your least favorite thing about kung fu is the pretty universal lack of soccer, have we got the perfect film for you. Michael's pick for the schedule this year, Shaolin Soccer follows a family of brothers who form a soccer team that results in a feature that's as action packed as it is funny, with a bonus makeover scene in the middle of the film. He always elevates the schedule with a foreign film. And stick around until the end, because this one shows outtakes before the credits. *Content warning: kung fu style violence*

CINEMA REX

5:30pm **Ready Player One**

PG-13—2018—140m

Dir. Steven Spielberg w/ Tye Sheridan, Olivia Cooke, Mark Rylance, Ben Mendelsohn

It's 2045, and the world is tough. There's giant piles of garbage everywhere. Meta Glasses have somehow become the norm, maybe even cool. Everyone wears grey every day, a color that flatters literally nobody. Yet somehow, the main character finds a way to have four close friends? It's no wonder Spielberg has cited this as the third-most-difficult film he's ever made (*Jaws* and *Saving Private Ryan* take the top two spots).

Content warning: moderate violence

8:00pm **eXistenZ**

R—1999—97m

Dir. David Cronenberg w/ Jude Law, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Willem Dafoe, Don McKellar

One of the most thought-provoking movies you've maybe never seen, *eXistenZ* took on virtual reality decades before the technology was in our homes with games like *Beat Saber*. *eXistenZ* is not like *Beat Saber*. With a star-studded cast of "Oh, I love that guy!" actors and the famous Rosebud Motel from *Schitt's Creek*, you'll want to share this one with a room full of game geeks and film geeks. A cerebral pick from *Zvie*, you say?

Content warning: strong sci-fi violence and gore

10:00pm **Werewolves Within**

R—2021—97m

Dir. Josh Ruben w/ Milana Vayntrub, Sam Richardson, Harvey Guillén, Cheyenne Jackson

There's more than just maple syrup brewing in this small Vermont town, and it all started right when this awkward park ranger showed up. Coincidence? Not in a movie. That's called plot, baby. With tensions already running high because of a proposed pipeline through the pristine woods, it doesn't take long for the townspeople to begin turning on each other when the murders start.

Content warning: bloody violence and gore

11:30pm **Resident Evil**

R—2002—100m

Dir. Paul W. S. Anderson w/ Milla Jovovich, Michelle Rodriguez, Eric Mabius, Martin Crewes

If that laser room scene isn't still living in your head rent-free, we are not the same. The first of a dozen *Resident Evil* films has everything: dogs, a haunted little British AI child, the best asymmetrical dress ever made, giant double helix syringes full of what looks like *Kool-Aid*, Jason Isaacs narrating (and uncredited!), and a whole bunch of zombies. *Content warning: gory violence, dogs dying*

SATURDAY

10:00am **Sonic the Hedgehog 3**

PG—2024—109m

Dir. Jeff Fowler w/ Jim Carrey, Ben Schwartz, Keanu Reeves, Idris Elba

If only we could get our hands on a version of *Sonic* where the hedgehogs have full sets of human teeth. We only have so many connections to the film industry. (Zero, to be specific.) *Sonic the Hedgehog 3* rounds out the trilogy of the grandest scale since *The Lord of the Rings* was released twenty years ago, and *The Lord of the Rings* didn't have Idris Elba, Keanu Reeves, or 1996 Kids' Choice Award winner for Favorite Movie Actor Jim Carrey. Bring the kids and sugar them up early. It's a Saturday!

12:00pm **The Most Dangerous Game**

NR—1932—63m

Dirs. Irving Pichel, Ernest B. Schoedsack w/ Joel McCrea, Fay Wray, Leslie Banks

When deranged big game hunter Count Zaroff intentionally strands a luxury yacht on a remote island and begins to hunt the passengers for sport, we, the viewers, are supposed to be disturbed, but 1932 was a different time! Don't get any ideas. With a perfect score on *Rotten Tomatoes*, *The Most Dangerous Game* had an extended cut with more heads in jars and a longer trophy room scene that made preview audiences cringe and shudder. Oh my word! Those people could never fathom a *Saw* film.

1:00 pm

Jumanji

PG—1995—104m

Dir. Joe Johnston w/ Robin Williams, Kirsten Dunst, Bonnie Hunt, Bradley Pierce

Were you so engrossed in a board game on Thursday that you missed our opening film? Well, fine, we understand. You can catch the encore. Can you believe director Joe Johnston had reservations about casting Robin Williams in the film due to his notorious reputation for improvisation? If so, you've never met anyone who performs improvisational comedy! According to reports, Robin Williams improvised as much as 16 hours worth of material recording for the role of Genie in Aladdin and over 2 million feet of film for Mrs. Doubtfire, most of which remains unseen.

3:00pm

Scott Pilgrim vs. the World

PG-13—2010—112m

Dir. Edgar Wright w/ Michael Cera, Mary Elizabeth Winstead, Kieran Culkin, Anna Kendrick

During the height of the Michael Cera years, Scott Pilgrim was born. It was a golden time when you could write "An epic of epic epicness," as the tagline of the film (seriously!) and people would be like "Hell yeah, brother!" While the film was not a commercial success, it is undoubtedly a stylistic masterclass with a powerhouse cast that includes a number of Oscar winners and nominees. They grow up so fast.

5:00pm

The Hunger Games

PG-13—2012—144m

Dir. Gary Ross w/ Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth, Stanley Tucci

There are some movies that are better to experience on a big screen, and almost all of them include Stanley "The Tuch" Tucci. Well, maybe not, but in this dystopian, post-apocalyptic America where a dictator is suppressing any form of rebellion or free thought, dragging dissidents out into the streets to publicly punish them, and televising the horrors in real-time, young people are the heroes we need. Wait, young people are the heroes Panem needs!
Content warning: intense violence against children, death of children

7:30pm

Tetris

R—2023—118m

Dir. John S. Baird w/ Taron Egerton, Sofya Lebedeva, Roger Allam, Ayane

Tetris has been proposed as a preventative intervention to reduce intrusive memories after a traumatic event like a car accident, but this movie is not about that. This movie is a wild ride about the origin story of the game we've all played for 16 hours straight at least once in our lives, with fun visual gags, an exciting pace, and definitely some traumatic events that the characters would benefit from some Tetris therapy after experiencing. Plus, Taron Egerton has a career-making mustache in this film, so it's no surprise it was Hedy's pick for the year.

9:30pm

Trailer Park

NR—60m

Swing into Cinema Rex, grab some popcorn and candy, and pull up a couch seat to check out trailers for upcoming films and some other fun stuff that we're excited about.
Content warning: we may include horror film and red band trailers; viewer discretion advised

10:30pm

Game Night

R—2018—93m

Dirs. John Francis Daley, Jonathan Goldstein w/ Jason Bateman, Rachel McAdams

Picture it: former Queen Bee of the Plastics Regina George invites you to a game night at her house. She's nice now and you're best friends. It's gonna be fun! No, no. Wrong cinematic universe, but she's always Mean Girls royalty to us. As far as a fun game night, this one goes south quickly in a comedy of errors in our second Goldstein & Daley film of the weekend. Jesse Plemons steals the show, as usual, but the dog steals our hearts.
Content warning: moderate violence, extreme profanity

CINEMA REX

12:00am

Ready or Not

R—2019—95m

Dirs. Matt Bettinelli-Olpin, Tyler Gillett w/ Samara Weaving, Andie MacDowell, Adam Brody

In a contemporary spin on *The Most Dangerous Game*, Samara Weaving goes to great efforts to try and fit in with her future in-laws, a wealthy dynastic family, despite the fact that they're spending her wedding night hunting her down. Costume designer Avery Plewes created 17 versions of the dress Weaving wears to show both the progression of the night and the character's attitude throughout the film as she fights for her life. And with a strong female lead, horror elements, gorgeous scenic design, and a candelabra budget, you know this was Cara's pick for the schedule.

Content warning: extreme violence and gore, extreme profanity, moderate drug use

SUNDAY

10:00am

Pokémon: Detective Pikachu

PG—2019—104m

Dir. Rob Letterman w/ Ryan Reynolds, Justice Smith, Kathryn Newton, Bill Nighy

On the mean streets of Ryme City, when an ace detective suddenly drops off the map, there's only one gumshoe for the job. A real shamus. A total hard case. A 1'4", 13 pound private dick named Pikachu. DETECTIVE Pikachu, who looks amazingly soft and fluffy in this fun flick, we honestly just want to pinch those little red cheeks and scratch those floppy ears and rub that belly and give him such a big hug and it's so cute that he has a job.

12:00pm

The Last Starfighter

PG—1984—100m

Dir. Nick Castle w/ Lance Guest, Robert Preston, Catherine Mary Stewart, Dan O'Herlihy

One of the most requested movies from our comment cards, and for good reason, *The Last Starfighter* is a teenage arcade gamer's fantasy that transcends the time capsule of the 1980s when it was filmed. While the practical and visual effects (that were made on a Cray X-MP, one of those \$15,000,000 computers the size of an entire room) were groundbreaking at the time, it's really the characters that make this film memorable.

2:00pm

Mortal Kombat

PG-13—1995—101m

Dir. Paul Anderson w/ Robin Shou, Christopher Lambert, Bridgette Wilson, Linden Ashby

This movie is going to make you want to scream "Mortal Kombat!" The best fighters in the world converge for a tournament, but then three of them have to battle demons in another dimension instead, so it escalates very quickly. With surprisingly gorgeous cinematography, incredible fight choreography, and mostly great scenic design, this movie will make you want to "Get over here!" to Cinema Rex and grab a box of our "Toasty!" popcorn and take it all in. *Content warning: constant martial-arts style violence*

4:00pm

Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves

PG-13—2023—134m

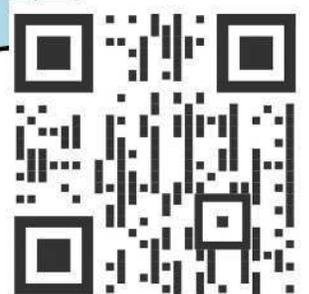
Dirs. Jonathan Goldstein, John Francis Daley w/ Sophia Lillis, Chris Pine, Daisy Head

Check out the encore if you missed it on Thursday night and close out your weekend in Cinema Rex with the party that charmed the world into thinking they could schedule a weekly tabletop gaming session with four or five of their buddies, maybe on a Tuesday or a Thursday. How hard could it be? See if you can find Bradley Cooper's cameo in the movie this time!

Content warning: moderate violence



Join us for 3 fun days of gaming at the DoubleTree Bloomington February 13-15, 2026. Badges go on sale July 1st, and GMs can start submitting games right away! Badge discount until midnight on 12/31/25, Get your badge early for the best deal!



THEATER NIPPON ANIME ROOM

Hyatt 4, Lake Harriet

Theater Nippon is CONvergence's anime room, screening a diverse collection of classic anime and new releases. Enjoy anime in its natural habitat: with a group of friends in a dark room! Explore new titles, revisit old favorites, and sing along to fan dubs like nobody's watching. Every year, we have a drawing for fabulous prizes! Enter for your chance to win! Winners will be announced, with much fanfare, at the conclusion of *Evangelion: ReDeath* on Saturday night—usually a short time after Midnight. You must be present to win.

THURSDAY

1:00pm–3:00pm

Kekkaishi

PG-13—Dubbed—2006

Yoshimura must fight to protect his beloved school and hometown from demons. Although, if it were up to him, he would rather be baking cakes than fighting off the ugly characters that show up at night.

3:00pm–5:00pm

Ghost Stories

PG-13—Dubbed—2000

Years ago, all of the ghosts in a haunted schoolhouse were banished, but they are being released due to urbanization and they want revenge. The exorcist's daughter is stuck dealing with the angry ghosts.

5:00pm–6:30pm

Dallos

PG-13—Subtitled—1983

Rebellion brews among dissatisfied third-generation moon colonists, beholden to an Earth they've never known. Meanwhile, Dallos sleeps, a massive metal face in a crater whose origin no one remembers.

6:30pm–8:00pm

Kyousougiga

PG-13—Subtitled—2013

A priest can make anything he draws come to life, so he created a family and then a secret world where they could live. His three children are stuck when he and his rabbit goddess partner leave them behind.

8:00pm–10:00pm

Pilot Candidate

PG-13—Dubbed—2000

Humans are left with only one colony planet after aliens wipe out the rest of their space empire. To save this last planet, they train boys as pilots for five giant fighting robots.

10:00pm–11:30pm

A Wind Named Amnesia

R—Dubbed—1990

In 1999, a mysterious wind wiped out humanity's memories. After relearning basic human functions, young people attempt to navigate a post-apocalyptic wasteland ruled by scraps of technology.

11:30pm–1:00am

Legend of the Dark King: A Fist of the North Star Story

R—Subtitled—2008

Raoh will never go around an obstacle—only through! This prequel series shows his journey to carve out an empire for himself in the post-apocalyptic world of Fist of the North Star.

FRIDAY

8:00am–9:30am

Professor Layton and the Eternal Diva

PG—Subtitled—2009

A renowned gentleman archaeologist and puzzle-solver receives tickets to the opera from a former student and is drawn into a mystery involving the fountain of youth.

9:30am–11:00am

Puss in Boots

G—Dubbed—1969

A sword-wielding cat-in-boots, sentenced to death for sparing a mouse, escapes and embarks on a journey. Along the way, he teams up with a company of bandit mice and Pierre, a gentle orphan who has been cheated out of his inheritance.

11:00am–1:00pm

Comic Party

PG-13—Dubbed—2001

When a friend drags him to his first convention, Kazuki discovers his destiny: fan comics. His childhood friend tries to pull him back to his normal life, but how long can she fight his fate?

1:00pm–2:30pm

Cybersix

PG-13—Subtitled—1999

A super-soldier created by a Nazi's experiments after WWII is trying to live a normal life. By hunting down her creator's latest evil creations, she inadvertently becomes a superhero.

2:30pm–4:30pm

S-CRY-ed

PG-13—Dubbed—2001

Twenty-two years ago, an earthquake destroyed the Lost Ground. People with psychic abilities adopt the Lost Ground as their home and a special task force of “law-abiding” psychics attempt to bring them under control.

4:30pm–6:30pm

Descendants of Darkness

R—Subtitled—2000

Even after death, life is full of paperwork and criminals. Dorky shinigami Tsuzuki Asato is in the worst division with horrible pay, but his new partner just might work out. They investigate a serial killer and bump into Tsuzuki’s dark past.

6:30pm–8:00pm

Blue Submarine No. 6

PG-13—Subtitled—1998

A famous scientist has created a new race of ocean people and declared that humanity’s reign on earth is over. It is up to Blue Submarine No. 6 and the Blue Fleet to stop his evil plan.

8:00pm–9:30pm

Fate Stay/Night

R—Dubbed—2006

A boy loses his family in a suspicious fire and learns magic to compete in a tournament for the Holy Grail. His ideals clash with the reality of competing in a deadly battle royale.

9:30pm–11:30pm

Requiem from the Darkness

R—Subtitled—2003

A struggling author travels Edo-period Japan compiling ghost stories to turn his career around. Deep in the mountains, he accidentally witnesses a murder by paranormal investigators.

11:30pm–12:30am

Nescaflowne

R—Parody Dubbed—2003

A high school track star is transported to another world to defeat the evil Starbach Empire. If you can recognize all of the references in this classic fan parody dub, you’ve probably seen a mind-boggling amount of anime.

SATURDAY

8:00am–9:30am

Medabots

PG—Dubbed—1999

Medabots—intelligent robots—serve at the whims of their human owner. Medafighters use their Medabots to qualify for the World Tournament and fight amongst the elite to gain the title of champion.

9:30am–11:30am

Digimon Adventure 02

PG—Dubbed—2000

Several years after the original DigiDestined saved their own and the Digital World, Digimon are living in fear of the mysterious Digimon Emperor, who is somehow suppressing their ability to Digivolve!

11:30am–1:30pm

Shaman King

PG-13—Dubbed—2001

The Shaman Fight is held every five hundred years, and the winner can shape the world to make their dream a reality. High schooler Yoh Asakura would rather chill with ghosts and live an easy life.

1:30pm–3:00pm

Inuyasha: The Final Act

PG-13—Subtitled—2009

After the original 167-episode series, this anime wraps up the final 20 manga volumes in 26 episodes. Feuds are settled, sacrifices are made, the Shikon jewel is completed, and the final battle between light and darkness is fought.

3:00pm–5:00pm

Ultimate Muscle

PG-13—Dubbed—2002

The spoiled son of superhero wrestler King Muscle must take on his father’s old enemies and their Demon Manufacturing Plant. The Hercules Factory begins training a new generation of superheroes.

5:00pm–7:00pm

Cromartie High School

PG-13—Dubbed—2003

An honor student enrolls at Cromartie High School, notorious for its tough delinquents. The delinquents are a ragtag collection of references and homages including a robot, a gorilla, and a kid who strongly resembles Freddie Mercury.

THEATER NIPPON ANIME ROOM

7:00pm–8:30pm **Thus Spoke Kishibe Rohan**
R—Subtitled—2017
A series of one-shots based on the manga series JoJo's Bizarre Adventure, this follows the bizarre adventures that Rohan Kishibe goes through as he searches for inspiration for his manga.

8:30pm–10:30pm **Case Closed:
Sunflowers of Inferno**
PG-13—Dubbed—2015
Detective Conan must foil a plot to steal Van Gogh's Sunflowers paintings from a special exhibition. The plot is much more complicated than one could reasonably expect.

10:30pm–11:30pm **Bananya**
G—Dubbed—2016
Is it a cat? Is it a banana? It's Bananya! Together with his fellow bananya, this kitten cloaked in yellow enjoys a calm and peaceful existence as he experiences what the world has to offer.

11:30pm–12:30am **Evangelion ReDeath**
R—Parody Dubbed—2000
A young man comes of age and pilots a giant robot while his father plots the end of the world. This classic fan parody dub is best enjoyed in loud groups. It doesn't matter if you don't know all the references, come sing along!

SUNDAY

8:00am–8:45am **Ringling Bell**
PG-13—Dubbed—1978
A newborn lamb lives peacefully with his mother until they are attacked by a wolf. Struggling to process his mother's death, the lamb swears to become a wolf and seek his revenge, unaware of what this transformation will cost him.

8:45am–10:00am **Horus, Prince of the Sun**
G—Subtitled—1968
On a journey to his ancestral village, Horus helps a village whose residents are besieged by the Frost King's magic. The villagers feel threatened when he befriends Hilda, a beautiful girl whose haunting songs conceal a dark secret.

10:00am–11:30am **Panda! Go, Panda!**
G—Subtitled—1972
In this precursor to Studio Ghibli, a young girl invites a family of pandas to stay with her while her grandmother is away. Meanwhile, zookeepers search for their missing pandas.

11:30am–1:30pm **Earl and Fairy**
PG-13—Subtitled—2008
A rare human who can see and communicate with fairies makes a living as a fairy doctor, but no one believes her. However, Edgar is in need of someone with a vast knowledge of fairy lore, and Lydia is just that person.

1:30pm–3:30pm **Battery the Animation**
PG-13—Subtitled—2016
12-year-old Takumi is a genius baseball pitcher who moves in with his grandfather. He finds another boy who can catch his pitches and joins the school's terrible baseball team.



MECHS AND MADNESS

ANIME

FUSION



OCTOBER 17 - 19 2025

- COSPLAY CONTEST
- GAMING
- VENDORS & ARTISTS
- ANIME SCREENINGS
- DANCES

- PANELS & EVENTS
- ROOM PARTIES
- CONFUEL (SNACKS)
- MANGA LIBRARY
- MAID CAFE
- & MUCH MORE!



\$40 THRU JUNE
\$50 JULY-SEP
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THE HOLODECK

Hyatt 6, Gym

The Holodeck is a space for panels or activities that do not fit in a standard panel room or format, such as boffing, dancing, performance art, demonstrations, and more! Everyone is welcome to watch or participate (for those events that are interactive). Our goal is to provide a group space that is a welcoming, safe, and respectful environment for everyone.

The Holodeck Rules (No Exceptions)

- Be respectful of performers, presenters, and participants.
- Listen to rules or directions given by panelists.
- Step out into the outside meeting space to take any calls, listen to music, or watch a movie.
- Any activity that involves audience participation may require participants to sign a waiver.

THURSDAY

1:00pm–2:00pm Early Birds Get the Ribbon!

Got ribbon? Want to trade? Bring all your ribbons and trade with everyone that has ribbons at the annual Great Ribbon Trading Event. One can never have enough ribbons!
Elizabeth Hufnagle Puffer

3:30pm–5:30pm Renaissance Dance Lessons

Do you enjoy visiting the local Renaissance festivals? Have you never been? Join us for some dancing and get a taste of the Renaissance era. We teach a variety of English Country dances designed for anyone from age 2 to 102, and some other dances, too! *Natasha Jo Krentz*

7:00pm–9:00pm Practical Self-Defense for Humanoids

Self-defense involves more than punches, kicks, and pepper spray. Come take a two-hour class that will go over basic de-escalation, smart/safe environmental choices, and self-defense maneuvers to survive dangerous encounters.
Elizabeth Hufnagle Puffer

9:30pm–11:00pm Thursday Crafting Social Hour

Bring a craft and come hang out with friends in the Holodeck! During our Crafting Social Hours, the Holodeck will be an open space to meet up and craft! We have plenty of tables and chairs! BRING YOUR OWN CRAFT (for example: crochet, knitting, drawing, etc.). *Elizabeth Hufnagle Puffer*

FRIDAY

Noon–2:00pm Assassins' Guild Boffing Practice

Are you not feeling particularly competitive and just want to hit friends, loved ones, or other congoers with foam-padded weapons? Feel free to do so in this practice event. No need to feel intimidated; relax and have fun fighting.
Amanda Jacobsen

3:00pm–5:00pm Costume Wars

Teams of two have an hour to build costumes from unconventional materials. *Ashley Haapapuro, CandyCatCosplay, Dewfeathers, Jesse Homa, Kyle Homa, Nexis Fiskewold, Pippin Panic (mod), ThatsNiceDear*

5:30pm–7:30pm Swap Meet

Decluttering? Moving on from an old favorite? We've got you covered at the official swap meet hosted by Free Geek Twin Cities! No cash sales, no bootlegs, no 18+ material. (Free Geek Twin Cities is a 501(c)(3) non-profit tech rescue.)
Amanda Jacobsen

8:30pm–11:30pm Sing-Along Karaoke

There are those who love to sing karaoke, and those who love to watch karaoke! We have a fun party for you, come to sing, watch, OR sing along! Come wrap up an amazing evening at CONvergence with some karaoke and friends.
Elizabeth Hufnagle Puffer

THE HOLODECK

SATURDAY

11:00am–11:30am Harisen Daiko Holodeck Preview

A short taiko tasting for fans of the acoustic mayhem that is Harisen Daiko. Can't wait for the Sunday MainStage show? Need more taiko in your weekend? We've got you.

Holly Johnson

12:30pm–3:30pm Assassins' Guild Boffing Tournament

Welcome to the 144th Assassin's Guild Boffing Tournament! We are back post-COVID! Compete against your fellow CONgoers by hitting each other with foam-padded weapons! Trophies will be awarded to the top combatants!

David Bianchi

5:00pm–6:00pm Get Measured for a Chest Binder!

Safe binding requires a good fit. Stop by for a quick measurement in a private pop-up pod and leave with your 2025 gc2b brand size. Sorry, no actual binders to try on. We will have a waitlist app to streamline the wait! Hosted by Sartorial PT and Wellness. *Ashley Haapapuro*

6:30pm–7:30pm Saturday Crafting Social Hour

Bring a craft and come hang out with friends in the Holodeck! During our Crafting Social Hours, the Holodeck will be an open space to meet up and craft! We have plenty of tables and chairs! BRING YOUR OWN CRAFT (for example: crochet, knitting, drawing, etc.). *Elizabeth Hufnagle Puffer*

8:30pm–9:30pm Hula Hooping Hoopla

Learn how to hula hoop! All ages and abilities are welcome. *Jolyn Augesen*

SUNDAY

Noon–1:00pm

Ribbons at the End of the Universe

Got ribbon? Want to trade? Bring all your ribbons and trade with everyone that has ribbons at the annual Great Ribbon Trading Event. One can never have enough ribbons! *Julia Celley*

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HARMONIC CONVERGENCE



Hyatt 2, Regency

Harmonic CONvergence (HarmCON) is CONvergence's intimate music venue created by and for the attendees. On the HarmCON stage you can see and hear anything and everything, including rock, filk, comedy songs, hip-hop, electronic music, and beyond! A crowd favorite is our annual burlesque show featuring cosplay, glitter, and attitude. We hope you'll join us to experience the amazing talent of our CONvergence community!

Performances that have more adult content are marked with ****mature content**** in the description and are for audiences aged 18 and up. Showing ID is required to be admitted to these performances.

It is HarmCON's policy to clear the room after all shows and "seat saving" between performances is not allowed. For the best chance of getting a seat during our most popular shows, we recommend arriving early and being prepared to wait in line. If you cannot stand in line for long periods and need accommodation, please flag down a Nerf Herder.

The final schedule can be found on the CONvergence schedule website (convergence-con.org/at-the-con/schedule) and Sched app.

THURSDAY

5:00pm–6:00pm **DeejayNeko**

DeeJayNeko provides the high-energy funky house and breakbeat, you provide the vibe! *Pete Lane*

7:00pm–8:00pm **Wilson Parc**

With 50 years of musical experience, Wilson Parc's music ranges from classics and mash-ups to originals with influences from metal, folk, bluegrass, and jazz. *Jac Martins, Ren Riga, Eric Neuville, Annette Larson*

8:30pm–9:30pm **Lyritics**

The nerdcore hip-hop trio is saying farewell with one last set at their favorite venue. Come watch them jam! *Dee Quinn, Wednesday, Jason Kruger, Jauston Campbell*

10:00pm–11:00pm **Dissociate**

Noisy science fiction electronic instrumental music that is spontaneity personified with crunchy beats, soaring synths, and otherworldly noise. *Jonathan L. Ford*

11:30pm–12:30am **Nerdlesque: Roll for Risqué (18+)**

Grab your dice and get ready to accept a quest to watch nerd-infused burlesque where every performance is a critical hit! Whether you're lawful good or chaotically hot, adventure awaits! ****mature content**** *Mona Montague, Opiumm Hayze, Tre da Marc, Curvee B, and more*

FRIDAY

11:00am–Noon

The Devil & Lady Midnight: Selected Readings & Music

A selection of songs and musical stories from the original SFF musical podcast by authors and musicians C.S.E. Cooney, Tina Connolly, and filk-maven Dr. Mary Crowell. *Tina Connolly, C.S.E. Cooney, Carlos Hernandez, Kyle B Dekker, Jeremy Cooney, Mary Crowell*

12:30pm–1:30pm

The Meaning Program

Two-person alternative acoustic songwriters having fun while using instruments to explore psychology and nonsense through songs. *Logan Hale, Vance Crowley*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Candles Enough

Female filk and parody group focused on positivity and giggling. Now including a harp! *Kelly Reich, Sarah Ravely, Marina Krinsky, Kayla McGrady*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Birds of a Feather

Celtic and North American folk music and traditional tunes performed by a two-piece family band. *Ren Riga, Alex Riga*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Elisabeth Zarnoti

Pop acoustic and musical theater covers. Hear your favorite throwback songs from the 2000s. *Elisabeth Zarnoti*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Bad September

A steampunk rock band using their original music to weave tales of love, loss, and technology since 2009. *John Heimbuch, Charles Borchert, Michael Borchert, Elizabeth Borchert, Keith Prusak, Rob Prusak*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Scott Keever

Award-winning fingerstyle guitarist with Celtic, Balkan, and American Roots styles, sometimes all at the same time. *Scott Keever*

10:00pm–11:00pm

burnunit

Country-fried trans folk punk that puts weirdo, twangy electronica in a big blender and pushes crush ice. *Johanna Stark*

SATURDAY

11:00am–Noon

Ravenscroft Musicke Guild

Nerdy acoustic chamber orchestra performing video game and film soundtrack music. *Rebecca D, Megan F, Rin K, Chris M, Kathleen O, Kerry P, Eve Z*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Countersong

Original songs and stories from D&D-style bards. Come see them and sing along! *Meredith McLinn, Ben Flood, Ben White, Laura Arvidson*



HARMONIC CONVERGENCE

2:00pm–3:00pm

Briar

Flute- and guitar-driven folk noir from a duo performing together for over 20 years with a moody flair. *Anita Kelling, Jay William Koelsch*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Filk and SFF Musical Theater Concert With C.S.E. Cooney

A selection of SFF music selected from filk musical BALLADS FROM A DISTANT STAR and other music by C.S.E. Cooney's musician alter ego, Brimstone Rhine. *C.S.E. Cooney*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Dr. Mary Crowell

Geeky jazz piano and songwriter with music on gaming and mythology. Be regaled with songs of radium girls, devils, and dice. *Dr. Mary Crowell*

7:00pm–8:00pm

MOONZOUT Featuring Justin Case, Kareem Oda Qrop, Toxoplasmosis, Eric Karn, Daksha

Acid-jazz metal prog-rock featuring new original music inspired by friendship, philosophy, and jamming. *MOONZOUT*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Versatile Fluff

Internet meme cover band with gender-neutral love songs full of heart and sass that can span multiverses or survive the zombie apocalypse. *Reverend Rebecca Nathaniel Elfprincess, Grenevic Sharladanel Stremski*

10:00pm–Midnight

The Dregs (18+)

Music and comedy collide with The Dregs returning to the place where they have returned to before! Still set list free after all these years. You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll see them again and again. ****mature content**** *Tim Wick, Susanne Becker, Paul Score, Trevor Hartman, Molly Zupon, Rian Vellichor*

APRIL 2^{1/2}-5, 2026 EASTER WEEKEND

MINICON⁵⁹

AUTHOR GUEST OF HONOR
PATRICIA C. WREDE

GAME DESIGNER GUEST OF HONOR
MATT LEACOCK

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON HOTEL
BLOOMINGTON MINNEAPOLIS SOUTH
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MINNESOTA
SCIENCE
FICTION
SOCIETY



GAMING

Hyatt 4, Multiple Rooms

Are you a gamer? Not sure? Ever played a board game, video game, or a game on your phone? If yes, you're a gamer! If no, try something new; everyone can be a gamer. Beginners are welcomed and encouraged! CONvergence offers gaming suites, tabletop open gaming, puzzles, kids games, and video gaming! Roll some dice, shoot virtual critters, draw maps, flip cards, kill monsters and loot or, best of all, meet new friends! Have questions or comments about Gaming facilities or events? Contact us at gaming@convergence-con.org.

Gaming Locations and Hours

Gaming Front Desk— Great Lakes Promenade

- Thursday 10:00am–Midnight
- Friday and Saturday 9:00am–Midnight
- Sunday 9:00am–3:00pm

Kids Gaming— Lake Nokomis

- Thursday 10:00am–8:00pm
- Friday and Saturday 8:00am–8:00pm
- Sunday 8:00am–3:00pm

Drop-In Roleplay Gaming— Cedar Lake

- Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 2:00pm–10:00pm
- Sunday 12:00pm–3:00pm

Open Gaming, Board Game Demos, and Magic: The Gathering— Boundary Waters Promenade

- Thursday 10:00am–Midnight
- Friday and Saturday 9:00am–Midnight
- Sunday 9:00am–3:00pm

Scheduled Board Gaming—Boundary Waters B

- Thursday 10:00am–Midnight
- Friday and Saturday 9:00am–Midnight
- Sunday 9:00am–3:00pm

Roleplaying Gaming—Boundary Waters C

- Thursday 10:00am–Midnight
- Friday and Saturday 9:00am–Midnight
- Sunday 9:00am–3:00pm

Video Gaming— Boundary Waters

- Thursday 10:00am–Midnight
- Friday and Saturday 9:00am–Midnight
- Sunday 9:00am–3:00pm

After-Hours Overnight

Open Gaming— Boundary Waters Promenade

- Friday, Saturday and Sunday 12:30am–9:00am

Gaming Schedule and Sign-Up Process

The final schedule can be found on the CONvergence schedule website (convergence-con.org/at-the-con/schedule/) and Sched app. We may add additional events or move them so check the whiteboards at the Gaming Front Desk for the most up-to-date list! **Note: Signing up for an event on the Sched.org page or app does not constitute an actual sign-up. To register, you'll need to come and sign up in person at the Gaming Front Desk.**

Gaming Front Desk

Report Gaming volunteer hours, ask questions on Gaming activities, or check out the whiteboards for announcements and to find other players for a game you'd like to play.

Kids Gaming

With roleplaying, board games, and activities that both the young and the young-at-heart will enjoy, this room is for kids and little ones alike! The board game library dedicated to family-friendly play and easy-to-understand rules means everyone is bound to have a good time! Children 12-and-under must be accompanied by an adult.

Drop-In Roleplay Gaming: Sword of Air

Take part in the longest running game at CONvergence! Sword of Air is a Dungeons & Dragons 3.5 campaign that runs during the whole convention, picking up right where it left off last year. This is a drop-in adventure with no sign-up needed—join whenever you want. Use a pre-generated character or create your own level 25 heroic build. All ages and experience levels are welcome!

Open Gaming

Put together a puzzle, play casual Magic: The Gathering, learn a new game from our demo team, or borrow a game from the huge, free-to-play Board Game Library! Watch for the Ticket Fairy who may give you a raffle ticket for prizes just for spending time in this gaming paradise!

Scheduled Board Gaming

Ready to try your luck through dice rolls or go all in on your gaming strategy? Learn and play a tabletop game at one of our many board game scheduled events!

Role-Playing Games

Come here for games involving storytelling and interactive elements! Experience scheduled events run by professional game masters like Badwolf Adventure Studios and the Pathfinder Society or fellow CONvergence attendees!

Video Gaming

See retro machines, play classics and learn about two community-focused nonprofits: Twin Cities Free Geek (focused on sustainably reusing technology, enabling digital access, and empowering people through education) and LANfest (a biannual LAN party giving back in a way that matters). And welcome Guys Games and Beer (a fun-loving group with a podcast on games and beer) and their truckload of games to the convention! They will be hosting a fully networked version of Steel Battalion: Line of Contact (original Xbox) for beginners and veterans alike!

After-Hours Overnight Open Gaming

Looking for a late-night party game or a bring-your-own social gaming experience? Stop by after hours for some gaming fun! **Note: The Gaming Library will not be available during these hours to borrow games.**

THURSDAY

9:30am–11:30am

Quacks of Quedlinburg (18+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bb

Come play a fun push-your-luck game! You are a quack doctor, throwing ingredients in your pot to make your next miracle potion. Make sure you don't put in too many ingredients or your pot will explode! *John Sniadajewski*

10:00am–Midnight

Kartoon Kaiju (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade q

Just-for-laughs Giant Monsters (Reptar, OreO Cookie, Tomato, etc...) stomp and battle among the cardboard towers of Singer City.

10:00am–Midnight

Beer & Pretzels Space Marines (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade r

Simple, solo (or co-op) shoot-'em-up miniatures: A squad of grunts (modeled on the USCM in "Aliens") against galactic nasties. Games take about 2 hours (depending on how well/poorly you play!)

10:00am–Midnight

Witches' Quarrel

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade w

Fast 2-player Legacy game of best friends learning magic by dueling. A deckbuilder with a character driven narrative. Try it before the Kickstarter ends on the last day of CVG! *Shanti Pothapragada*

11:00am–12:30pm

Marvel Legendary

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ba

Legendary is a deckbuilding game set in the Marvel Comics universe. Select a team of heroes to combat the evil mastermind and defeat their scheme. *Ian Bryan*

11:00am–12:30pm

Learn to Play Pathfinder 2E

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ce

Learn to play Pathfinder 2nd Edition! Our experienced GMs will teach you this awesome RPG and introduce you to organized play! Play a pre-generated character or bring your own. *Tom Fenn*

11:00am–2:30pm

The Theater (Frictive Architecture)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cc

Frictive Architecture is a homebrew TTRPG where places have grown: weird, strange, liminal, filled with horrors. You and your group have chosen to explore these in-between places. Explore this doomed movie theater! Discover its secrets! Survive!

11:00am–3:30pm

Save the Renkrodas (SF1)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cf

Jet across the Galaxy with the Starfinder Society in a game universe that mixes spells, lasers, and a plethora of awesome alien cultures! *Bret Indrelee*

11:00am–5:00pm

Heidmarch Heist (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cg

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Hilary Moon Murphy*

11:00am–10:00pm

Dice Tower

(also Friday & Saturday) Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade v

A PVP board game that takes elements of RPGs and card games and mashes them with dice. It's like PvP Yahtzee.

11:30am–12:30pm

Cats and Caverns

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bk

A D&D-inspired, cat-themed tabletop board game! Personal sets of dice welcome! *Rowan Fischer-Hoefl*

Noon–4:00pm

Break!! (Kids)

Hyatt 4, Lake Nokomis a

Break!! is an award-winning fantasy tabletop RPG about exploration and teamwork. *Jordan Peacock*

12:30pm–2:00pm

Dominion: Rising Sun (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bd

Dominion is back with the latest expansion, Rising Sun! Featuring Shadow cards and Prophecies, along with more Events and Debt cards! *Carl Patten*

GAMING

12:30pm–3:30pm

**Terran Revenge Fleet (3:16
Carnage Amongst the Stars) (13+)**

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ca

You are a Space Marine sent into the far reaches of space to deliver mankind's revenge on all aliens. An over-the-top game of space marines bringing a fistful of democracy to alien planets. Drop-in/drop-out welcome. 30-second character creation. *FLipsiDE, Timetwist*

12:30pm–3:30pm

**The City of Fireflies
(Garden in the Sky) (18+)**

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cb

Like stirring from a nightmare, the world that seemed to be slipping through your fingers now is manifest as false before your waking eyes. A distant voice calls out in silence. Raise your head and watch as these souls flee to the golden island. *Liam MacDonald*

12:30pm–5:00pm

Year of Immortal Influence (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ce

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Katie Berger*

12:30pm–5:00pm

**Let's Play Dungeons & Dragons
(2024 Ed.) (18+)**

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ch

Get your Dungeons & Dragons fix at CONvergence! Using the 2024 revision of 5th edition, form an adventuring party to take on an exciting mission mixing roleplay, exploration, and combat! Characters will be 1st level with premade options available. *Charles Roberts*

12:30pm–6:00pm

**Fluffy Goes to Heck (D&D 5E)
(13+)**

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ci

Yes, cute widdle Fluffy has been dognapped, and you must brave the flames of Heck to save her! A 5e D&D game with pre-generated characters.

12:30pm–3:30pm

Magic: The Gathering

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters
Promenade a

All ages welcome. Some knowledge of the game is required. *Rocking Elves LLC*

1:00pm–4:30pm

Dragon's Race (5e 2024) (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cd

The Avatar of the Dragon God, Bahamut, calls on you to assist a young dragon from her clutch in a death race against its siblings. Through bottomless canyons into volcanic ruins, it becomes clear there is more at stake than one could imagine. *Wendy A Hoskin*

2:00pm–4:00pm

**Conquest Princess: Fashion is
Power (13+)**

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ba

You are the Agents of the T.I.A.R.A.—the Temporal Intergalactic Armed Response Agency! Move, Shoot, and Engage with classic space problems in this co-op, crisis management extravaganza. (Medium weight! Beginners welcome.) *Seppy Yoon*

2:00pm–4:00pm

**Lords of Waterdeep with
Skullport Expansion (18+)**

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bb

In this worker placement game, you will compete to control D&D's city of splendor, Waterdeep! Recruit adventurers, complete quests, and build the city to score points and earn rewards. Do you have what it takes to become the Lord of Waterdeep? *John Sniadajewski*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Sagrada (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bk

Roll dice and try to complete your stained-glass window in this drafting, sudoku classic. Fun for the puzzle lover and gamer alike. *Stephen Simusa*

2:00pm–10:00pm

Sword of Air (D&D 3.5)

Hyatt 4, Cedar Lake

The party is currently on a sea voyage to travel north to a famous library to research the Shadowfell and other parts of the Quest they are on. This is a drop-in/drop-out game; join us whenever you're free!

3:00pm–4:00pm

**Landmarks! Word Association
Treasure Hunt (13+)**

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bk

Guide your team to the treasure and off the cursed island one word at a time in this instant family classic. Think Code Names meets Tomb Raider or Indiana Jones. *Stephen Simusa*

3:30pm–6:30pm

**Quiet Year (Buried Without
Ceremony) (13+)**

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cc

The Quiet Year is a map drawing TTRPG in which you do not play as characters but as societal forces. The map will evolve and change depending on your choices. *Diane Perry*

3:30pm–5:00pm

Learn to Play Pathfinder 2E

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cf

Learn to play Pathfinder 2nd Edition! Our experienced GMs will teach you this awesome RPG and introduce you to organized play! Play a pre-generated character or bring your own. *Tom Fenn*

GAMING

4:00pm–6:00pm

Conquest Princess: Fashion is Power (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ba

You are the Agents of the T.I.A.R.A.—the Temporal Intergalactic Armed Response Agency! Move, Shoot, and Engage with classic space problems in this co-op, crisis management extravaganza. (Medium weight! Beginners welcome.) *Seppy Yoon*

4:00pm–5:00pm

Kites! Keep them Flying (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bk

Can you keep all the kites flying before the sand runs out across multiple timers? Come join us for this real-time, co-op treat which is fun for everyone. *Stephen Simusa*

5:00pm–9:00pm

Learn to Play Spirit Island (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bd

Become a powerful spirit! Work together to remove, destroy, and scare the settlers off your island! *AJ Zozulin*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Decorum: Passive-Aggressive Home Decorating (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bk

Try to live together in this co-op, home decorating situation where you're unable to directly express your feelings about how hideous your roommate/partner's lamp is. We'll be running two sets of this 2-player co-op. *Stephen Simusa*

5:00pm–9:00pm

Parathulhuzombinoa (Mothership) (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ca

Stay alert! Trust no one! Keep your elder sign handy! Mother computer sends YOU, an elite troubleshooter, on a mission of utmost importance, to repel the communist threats from beyond space and time. Eat eel-flesh! Guzzle Bubbly Beverage! *FLipsiDE, Timetwist*

5:00pm–8:00pm

The City of Fireflies (Garden in the Sky) (18+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cb

Like stirring from a nightmare, the world that seemed to be slipping through your fingers now is manifest as false before your waking eyes. A distant voice calls out in silence. Raise your head and watch as these souls flee to the golden island. *Liam MacDonald*

5:00pm–6:30pm

Rust Wings: Wrench & Propeller

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ch

In Rust Wings, you'll take the role of a member of the Rust Wing crew—misfit teenagers who build and pilot their own planes from the scrap around them. Rust Wings crews explore ancient robot-filled ruins of a failed corporation. *Watt*

6:00pm–8:00pm

Simplicity for Younger Players (Kids)

Hyatt 4, Lake Nokomis a

Simplicity is a fun d10 roleplaying game that kids 8 and up can learn to play. *Kenneth Joel Justiniano*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Cats and Caverns

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bk

A D&D-inspired, cat-themed tabletop board game! Personal sets of dice welcome! *Rowan Fischer-Hoeft*

7:00pm–10:00pm

Swordlord's Challenge (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ce

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Katie Berger*

7:00pm–Midnight

Symposium on a Fallen God (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cf

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Samantha Korson*

7:00pm–Midnight

Godsrain in a Godless Land (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cg

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Chris Gwinn*

8:30pm–10:00pm

Seas of Strife (18+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ba

Come play this interesting trick-taking game where the lead suit can change during the hand. A must play for anyone who loves playing trick-taking card games. ****mature content**** *John Sniadajewski*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Cats and Caverns

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bk

A D&D-inspired, cat-themed tabletop board game! Personal sets of dice welcome! *Rowan Fischer-Hoeft*

8:30pm–11:30pm

The City of Fireflies (Garden in the Sky) (18+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cb

Like stirring from a nightmare, the world that seemed to be slipping through your fingers now is manifest as false before your waking eyes. A distant voice calls out in silence. Raise your head and watch as these souls flee to the golden island. *Liam MacDonald*

GAMING

9:30pm–12:30am

Last Caravan/Storytelling Game (18+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ci

Mature, story-focused game for narrative roleplayers. Group consensus will set the rule system and content limits. Player groups with more than 4 people will be split across 2 GMs. Last Caravan (alien apocalypse) system preferred. Alternatives: Fiasco or Trophy Dark. ****mature content****
FLipsiDE, Timetwist

10:00pm–11:00pm

Cats and Caverns

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bk

A D&D-inspired, cat-themed tabletop board game! Personal sets of dice welcome! *Rowan Fischer-Hoef*

10:00pm–2:00am

Cursed Tomb of Nefertari (18+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ca

Prepare for a classic tomb raid where you'll have to fight undead, avoid traps, and look for treasure. (D&D 2024.)

10:00pm–Midnight

Lacking Respect (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ce

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Christine Somers*

10:00pm–2:00am

Come Play Simplicity

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cc

Come play a system that is a cross between a traditional dice RPG system and a storyteller game. Come play a system that allows you to create any kind of character, play in any kind of world, and develop an organic unique story. Come check it out! *Kenneth Joel Justiniano*

FRIDAY

9:30am–11:00am

Dixit

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bd

Let's play Dixit, the card game with adorable abstract art! Give clues so people guess your card, but don't make it too easy (or too hard) or you'll miss out on points! *Carl Patten*

9:30am–1:30pm

Learn to Play Spirit Island (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Be

Become a powerful spirit! Work together to remove, destroy, and scare the settlers off your island! *AJ Zozulin*

9:30am–12:30pm

The City of Fireflies (Garden in the Sky) (18+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cb

Like stirring from a nightmare, the world that seemed to be slipping through your fingers now is manifest as false before your waking eyes. A distant voice calls out in silence. Raise your head and watch as these souls flee to the golden island. *Liam MacDonald*

9:30am–12:30pm

Silver Bark, Golden Blades (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ce

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Hilary Moon Murphy*

9:30am–2:00pm

Sewer Dragon Crisis (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cf

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Bret Indrelee*

9:30am–11:00am

Dragon Who Stole Evoking Day (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cg

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Christine Somers*

10:00am–11:00am

Sagrada (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bi

Roll dice and try to complete your stained-glass window in this drafting, sudoku classic. Fun for the puzzle lover and gamer alike. *Stephen Simusa*

10:00am–1:00pm

Arc:Doom (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cd

Take on the roles of heroes that stand against doom. Are you up to the task? *Jordan Peacock*

10:00am–Midnight

Kartoon Kaiju (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade q

Just-for-laughs Giant Monsters (Reptar, Oreo Cookie, Tomato, etc...) stomp and battle among the cardboard towers of Singer City.

10:00am–Midnight

Beer & Pretzels Space Marines (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade r

Simple, solo (or co-op) shoot-'em-up miniatures: A squad of grunts (modeled on the USCM in "Aliens") against galactic nasties. Games take about 2 hours (depending on how well/poorly you play!)

10:00am–Midnight

Witches' Quarrel

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade w

Fast 2-player Legacy game of best friends learning magic by dueling. A deckbuilder with a character driven narrative. Try it before the Kickstarter ends on the last day of CVG!
Shanti Pothapragada

GAMING

11:00am–1:00pm **Stagecraft**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ba
Players take on the role of rival community theatres, competing for Critical Acclaim and Box Office success. Mount productions, hold fundraisers, upgrade your theatre building, or hire experts to make your theatre the hottest ticket in town! *Nate Metcalf*

11:00am–1:00pm **Conquest Princess: Fashion is Power (13+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bc
You are the Agents of the T.I.A.R.A.—the Temporal Intergalactic Armed Response Agency! Move, Shoot, and Engage with classic space problems in this co-op, crisis management extravaganza. (Medium weight! Beginners welcome.) *Seppy Yoon*

11:00am–Noon **Lorcana Learn to Play**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bd
Learn to play Lorcana, an introduction to the game for any and all players. *Brandon*

11:00am–Noon **Landmarks! Word Association Treasure Hunt (13+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bi
Guide your team to the treasure and off the cursed island one word at a time in this instant family classic. Think Code Names meets Tomb Raider or Indiana Jones. *Stephen Simusa*

11:00am–12:30pm **Learn to Play Pathfinder 2E**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cg
Learn to play Pathfinder 2nd Edition! Our experienced GMs will teach you this awesome RPG and introduce you to organized play! Play a pre-generated character or bring your own. *Christine Somers*

11:00am–2:00pm **Quiet Year (Buried Without Ceremony) (13+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ch
The Quiet Year is a map drawing TTRPG in which you do not play as characters but as societal forces. The map will evolve and change depending on your choices. *Diane Perry*

11:00am–2:00pm **Magic: The Gathering**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade a
All ages welcome. Some knowledge of the game is required. *Rocking Elves LLC*

11:00am–Noon **Outfoxed! (Kids)**
Hyatt 4, Lake Nokomis a
A cooperative whodunit game where players gather clues to figure out who stole Mrs. Plumpert's prized pot pie. (Ages 5+) *Raina Kelly*

Noon–1:00pm **Kites! Keep them Flying (13+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bk
Can you keep all the kites flying before the sand runs out across multiple timers? Come join us for this real-time, co-op treat which is fun for everyone. *Stephen Simusa*

Noon–2:00pm **Beastmorphers (Child + Soldier)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cc
You're a group of rad 90s teens who just got the power to shapeshift into any animal you can touch. As cool as it sounds, you are also the last line of defense against and invading alien species. Your mission: save humanity and stay undetected. *Jackson Hoemann*

12:30pm–2:00pm **Marvel Legendary**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bb
Legendary is a deckbuilding game set in the Marvel Comics universe. Select a team of heroes to combat the evil mastermind and defeat their scheme. *Ian Bryan*

12:30pm–4:30pm **Dracula 1897 (13+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bj
A new semi-cooperative game. Van Helsing, the Harkers, and their friends must work together to foil Dracula's move to London. But has he influenced some to his side? *David Allison*

12:30pm–3:30pm **Terran Revenge Fleet (3:16 Carnage Amongst the Stars) (13+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ca
You are a Space Marine sent into the far reaches of space to deliver mankind's revenge on all aliens. An over-the-top game of space marines bringing a fistful of democracy to alien planets. Drop-in/drop-out welcome. 30-second character creation. *FLipsiDE, Timetwist*

12:30pm–3:30pm **The City of Fireflies (Garden in the Sky) (18+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cb
Like stirring from a nightmare, the world that seemed to be slipping through your fingers now is manifest as false before your waking eyes. A distant voice calls out in silence. Raise your head and watch as these souls flee to the golden island. *Liam MacDonald*

12:30pm–5:00pm **Let's Play Dungeons & Dragons (2024 Ed.) (18+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ci
Get your Dungeons & Dragons fix at CONvergence! Using the 2024 revision of 5th edition, form an adventuring party to take on an exciting mission mixing roleplay, exploration, and combat! Characters will be 1st level with premade options available. *Charles Roberts*

GAMING

1:00pm–3:00pm

Conquest Princess: Fashion is Power (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bc

You are the Agents of the T.I.A.R.A.—the Temporal Intergalactic Armed Response Agency! Move, Shoot, and Engage with classic space problems in this co-op, crisis management extravaganza. (Medium weight! Beginners welcome.) *Seppy Yoon*

1:00pm–2:00pm

Decorum: Passive-Aggressive Home Decorating (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bi

Try to live together in this co-op, home decorating situation where you're unable to directly express your feelings about how hideous your roommate/partner's lamp is. We'll be running two sets of this 2-player co-op. *Stephen Simusa*

2:00pm–3:30pm

Viticulture with Tuscany Expansion (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bd

Let's make wine! In Viticulture you build your vineyard from scratch, from planting vines all the way to tastings and distribution! The myriad varied visitor cards make every game different. *Carl Patten*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Landmarks! Word Association Treasure Hunt (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bi

Guide your team to the treasure and off the cursed island one word at a time in this instant family classic. Think Code Names meets Tomb Raider or Indiana Jones. *Stephen Simusa*

2:00pm–6:30pm

Enkindled Carnival (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cc

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Tom Fenn*

2:00pm–7:30pm

Fluffy Goes to Heck (D&D 5E) (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cc

Yes, cute widdle Fluffy has been dognapped, and you must brave the flames of Heck to save her! A 5e D&D game with pre-generated characters.

2:00pm–3:30pm

Learn to Play Pathfinder 2E

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cf

Learn to play Pathfinder 2nd Edition! Our experienced GMs will teach you this awesome RPG and introduce you to organized play! Play a pre-generated character or bring your own. *Jon Amos*

2:00pm–6:30pm

Once in Whispers (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cg

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Jim Radloff*

2:00pm–5:00pm

Arkham Horror: The Roleplaying Game (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ch

In the heart of 1920s New England, nestled among the rolling hills of the Miskatonic River Valley lies Arkham, Massachusetts. Eldritch horrors and grim mysteries lurk in the shadows and someone must stand against the monsters and conspiracies. *Philip D Henry*

2:00pm–4:00pm

Magic: The Gathering Commander Social

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade a

Come one, come all! You have been waiting a year and Ross is back with more prizes and two MTG: Commander Social tournaments. *Ross Prosser*

2:00pm–4:00pm

Patriotic Pulp (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade s

Fourth of July Pulp Matinee Miniatures. 1938. A mysterious fog settles onto the village green as rival forces converge to seek for hidden talismans that may influence America's destiny in the coming war...or just provide an excuse to shoot stuff!

2:00pm–10:00pm

Sword of Air (D&D 3.5)

Hyatt 4, Cedar Lake

The party is currently on a sea voyage to travel north to a famous library to research the Shadowfell and other parts of the Quest they are on. This is a drop-in/drop-out game; join us whenever you're free!

2:00pm–4:00pm

Big Trouble in Little Warlington (Kids)

Hyatt 4, Lake Nokomis a

New graduates of "Lord Brindle Fiddlesticks Fantastic Academy for Young Adventurers" (Go Butterflies!) must save the town of Warlington! Are these adventurers up to the task? Come join us, young adventurers, and find out! *Erik R*

3:00pm–5:00pm

Conquest Princess: Fashion is Power (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bc

You are the Agents of the T.I.A.R.A.—the Temporal Intergalactic Armed Response Agency! Move, Shoot, and Engage with classic space problems in this co-op, crisis management extravaganza. (Medium weight! Beginners welcome.) *Seppy Yoon*

3:00pm–5:00pm

**Ghost Town, U.S.A.
(Monster of the Week) (13+)**

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cd

You are monster hunters searching for your next job when you pull over in a tourist trap that prides itself on the strange spectres that come out at night. Do you play along with the townsfolk or spend the night in a town rumored to be plagued by ghosts? *Jackson Hoemann*

3:30pm–5:30pm

Stagecraft

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ba

Players take on the role of rival community theatres, competing for Critical Acclaim and Box Office success. Mount productions, hold fundraisers, upgrade your theatre building, or hire experts to make your theatre the hottest ticket in town! *Nate Metcalf*

3:30pm–6:30pm

**Rain Falls on the Mountain of
Sea & Sky (PF2)**

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cf

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Samantha Korson*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Rivers, Roads, and Rails (Kids)

Hyatt 4, Lake Nokomis e

Be the first to use all your tiles while building a continuous network of rivers, roads, and rails. *Raina Kelly*

5:00pm–8:00pm

Spirit Island (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bb

Come play Spirit Island against a level 5 or 6 Adversary! Win or lose, we'll do our best to rid the island of the colonizers! *AJ Zozulin*

5:00pm–9:00pm

**Parathulhuzombinoia
(Mothership) (13+)**

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ca

Stay alert! Trust no one! Keep your elder sign handy! Mother computer sends YOU, an elite troubleshooter, on a mission of utmost importance, to repel the communist threats from beyond space and time. Eat eel-flesh! Guzzle Bubbly Beverage! *FLipsiDE, Timetwist*

5:00pm–8:00pm

**Quiet Year (Buried Without
Ceremony) (13+)**

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ch

The Quiet Year is a map drawing TTRPG in which you do not play as characters but as societal forces. The map will evolve and change depending on your choices. *Diane Perry*

5:00pm -8:00pm

**The City of Fireflies
(Garden in the Sky) (18+)**

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cb

Like stirring from a nightmare, the world that seemed to be slipping through your fingers now is manifest as false before your waking eyes. A distant voice calls out in silence. Raise your head and watch as these souls flee to the golden island. *Liam MacDonald*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Cats and Caverns

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bi

A D&D-inspired, cat-themed tabletop board game! Personal sets of dice welcome! *Rowan Fischer-Hoeft*

7:00pm–9:00pm

**Escape From the Twin Cities
(Never Stop Blowing Up) (13+)**

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cd

The Twin Cities have been transformed into a battleground of mercenaries, crime lords, and dastardly villains. You're 80s action heroes who've been airdropped in with one goal: infiltrate the Cities, save the MN Twins, and get out alive. *Jackson Hoemann*

7:00pm–10:30pm

**The Apartment
(Frictive Architecture)**

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cf

Frictive Architecture is a homebrew TTRPG where places have grown: weird, strange, liminal, filled with horrors. You and your group have chosen to explore these in-between places. Explore this cursed apartment! Find its former occupants! Escape!

7:00pm–11:00pm

**Negocios Infernales with GoH
Alumni Carlos Hernandez (13+)**

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ci

What if aliens interrupted the Spanish inquisition? A DMless, diceless, collaborative RPG casts players as wizards who contend with alien handlers and their progress toward joining the Cosmic Consciousness. Precon characters await in this exciting new RPG! *C.S.E. Cooney, Carlos Hernandez*

7:00pm–Midnight

**Pathfinder Society Season 4
Special: Blessings of the Forest**

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade k

Kyonin's Queen asks the Pathfinders to investigate a demon-obsessed elf noble's plans. In return, the Society can operate in Kyonin. Upon arrival, they find the town under siege by a greater power. Pathfinders must unite to save the town! *Katie Berger, Samantha Korson*

GAMING

7:00pm–11:00pm

Fantasy Barroom Brawl (13+) -

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade s

JFL saloon fight in the Prancing Peony during the Fourth (boring) Age of Man. Be the last man, woman, or troll standing in a no-holds-barred fight.

8:30pm–10:30pm

Stagecraft

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ba

Players take on the role of rival community theatres, competing for Critical Acclaim and Box Office success. Mount productions, hold fundraisers, upgrade your theatre building, or hire experts to make your theatre the hottest ticket in town! *Nate Metcalf*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Cats and Caverns

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bi

A D&D-inspired, cat-themed tabletop board game! Personal sets of dice welcome! *Rowan Fischer-Hoeft*

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Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cb

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10:00pm–11:00pm

Cats and Caverns

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bi

A D&D-inspired, cat-themed tabletop board game! Personal sets of dice welcome! *Rowan Fischer-Hoeft*

10:00pm–12:30am

Doctor Magnet Hands (18+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ca

Doctor Magnet Hands is a game where you play superheroes looking to save the world from destruction. Stop the devious Doctor Magnet Hands from firing his rocket-powered radioactive castle on the moon into the White House on CHRISTMAS EVE! ****mature content**** *Tim Patton*

10:00pm–2:00am

Come Play Simplicity

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ce

Come play a system that is a cross between a traditional dice RPG system and a storyteller game. Come play a system that allows you to create any kind of character, play in any kind of world, and develop an organic unique story. Come check it out! *Kenneth Joel Justiniano*

10:00pm–2:00am

Cursed Tomb of Nefertari (18+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ch

Prepare for a classic tomb raid where you'll have to fight undead, avoid traps, and look for treasure. (D&D 2024.)

11:30pm–12:30am

Cats and Caverns

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bi

A D&D-inspired, cat-themed tabletop board game! Personal sets of dice welcome! *Rowan Fischer-Hoeft*

SATURDAY

9:30am–11:00am

Marvel Legendary

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bb

Legendary is a deckbuilding game set in the Marvel Comics universe. Select a team of heroes to combat the evil mastermind and defeat their scheme. *Ian Bryan*

9:30am–11:00am

Dominion: Rising Sun (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bd

Dominion is back with the latest expansion, Rising Sun! Featuring Shadow cards and Prophecies, along with more Events and Debt cards! *Carl Patten*

9:30am–12:30pm

The City of Fireflies (Garden in the Sky) (18+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cb

Like stirring from a nightmare, the world that seemed to be slipping through your fingers now is manifest as false before your waking eyes. A distant voice calls out in silence. Raise your head and watch as these souls flee to the golden island. *Liam MacDonald*

9:30am–11:00am

Winter Queen's Dollhouse (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ce

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Samantha Korson*

9:30am–12:30pm

Upon Wheels and Rime (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cf

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Chris Gwinn*

9:30am–12:30pm

Head Shot the Rot (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cg

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Tom Fenn*

9:30am–10:30am

Rivers, Roads, and Rails (Kids)

Hyatt 4, Lake Nokomis E

Be the first to use all your tiles while building a continuous network of rivers, roads, and rails. *Raina Kelly*

- 10:00am–11:00am** **Sagrada (13+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bi
Roll dice and try to complete your stained-glass window in this drafting, sudoku classic. Fun for the puzzle lover and gamer alike. *Stephen Simusa*
- 10:00am–Midnight** **Kartoon Kaiju (13+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade q
Just-for-laugh Giant Monsters (Reptar, Oreo Cookie, Tomato, etc...) stomp and battle among the cardboard towers of Singer City.
- 10:00am–Midnight** **Beer & Pretzels Space Marines (13+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade r
Simple, solo (or co-op) shoot-'em-up miniatures: A squad of grunts (modeled on the USCM in "Aliens") against galactic nasties. Games take about 2 hours (depending on how well/poorly you play!)
- 10:00am–Midnight** **Witches' Quarrel**
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Fast 2-player Legacy game of best friends learning magic by dueling. A deckbuilder with a character driven narrative. Try it before the Kickstarter ends on the last day of CVG!
Shanti Pothapragada
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Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bb
You are the Agents of the T.I.A.R.A.—the Temporal Intergalactic Armed Response Agency! Move, Shoot, and Engage with classic space problems in this co-op, crisis management extravaganza. (Medium weight! Beginners welcome.) *Seppy Yoon*
- 11:00am–1:00pm** **Tales from the Red Dragon Inn (13+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bc
It's time to sharpen your weapons as we delve into dangerous dungeons battling dastardly foes! This is a 1-4 player cooperative dungeon crawler board game set in the universe of the highly successful Red Dragon Inn (2007) by Slugfest Games. *Charles Roberts*
- 11:00am–Noon** **Lorcana Learn to Play**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bd
Learn to play Lorcana, an introduction to the game for any and all players. *Brandon*
- 11:00am–2:00pm** **Spirit Island (13+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Be
Come play Spirit Island against a level 5 or 6 Adversary! Win or lose, we'll do our best to rid the island of the colonizers!
AJ Zozulin
- 11:00am–Noon** **Landmarks! Word Association Treasure Hunt (13+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bi
Guide your team to the treasure and off the cursed island one word at a time in this instant family classic. Think Code Names meets Tomb Raider or Indiana Jones. *Stephen Simusa*
- 11:00am–2:00pm** **Solar Sortie (SF1)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ce
Jet across the Galaxy with the Starfinder Society in a game universe that mixes spells, lasers, and a plethora of awesome alien cultures! *Bret Indrelee*
- 11:00am–2:00pm** **Quiet Year (Buried Without Ceremony) (13+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cc
The Quiet Year is a map drawing TTRPG in which you do not play as characters but as societal forces. The map will evolve and change depending on your choices. *Diane Perry*
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What if aliens interrupted the Spanish inquisition? A DMless, diceless, collaborative RPG casts players as wizards who contend with alien handlers and their progress toward joining the Cosmic Consciousness. Precon characters await in this exciting new RPG! *Carlos Hernandez*
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All ages welcome. Some knowledge of the game is required.
Rocking Elves LLC
- Noon–1:00pm** **Kites! Keep them Flying (13+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bi
Can you keep all the kites flying before the sand runs out across multiple timers? Come join us for this real-time, co-op treat which is fun for everyone. *Stephen Simusa*
- Noon–2:00pm** **Gifted Youngsters (MASKS)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cd
As a teenager at the Stratus Academy, not only are you fighting emotions, expectations, and relationships, but also supervillains, aliens, and robots. Will you be able to find your place in the world and handle the new supervillain attacking the school? *Jackson Hoemann*

GAMING

12:30pm–2:30pm

Stagecraft

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ba

Players take on the role of rival community theatres, competing for Critical Acclaim and Box Office success. Mount productions, hold fundraisers, upgrade your theatre building, or hire experts to make your theatre the hottest ticket in town! *Nate Metcalf*

12:30pm–2:30pm

Ticket to Ride

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bf

Race across America building routes and completing your Tickets to Ride! *Kay King*

12:30pm–4:30pm

Dracula 1897 (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bj

A new semi-cooperative game. Van Helsing, the Harkers, and their friends must work together to foil Dracula's move to London. But has he influenced some to his side? *David Allison*

12:30pm–3:30pm

Terran Revenge Fleet (3:16 Carnage Amongst the Stars) (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ca

You are a Space Marine sent into the far reaches of space to deliver mankind's revenge on all aliens. An over-the-top game of space marines bringing a fistful of democracy to alien planets. Drop-in/drop-out welcome. 30-second character creation. *FLipsiDE, Timetwist*

12:30pm–3:30pm

The City of Fireflies (Garden in the Sky) (18+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cb

Like stirring from a nightmare, the world that seemed to be slipping through your fingers now is manifest as false before your waking eyes. A distant voice calls out in silence. Raise your head and watch as these souls flee to the golden island. *Liam MacDonald*

12:30pm–3:30pm

Fanciful March of Urwal (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cf

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Hilary Moon Murphy*

12:30pm–5:00pm

Linnorm's Legacy (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cg

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Jon Amos*

12:30pm–6:00pm

Fluffy Goes to Heck (D&D 5E) (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ch

Yes, cute widdle Fluffy has been dognapped, and you must brave the flames of Heck to save her! A 5e D&D game with pre-generated characters.

1:00pm–3:00pm

Conquest Princess: Fashion is Power (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bb

You are the Agents of the T.I.A.R.A.—the Temporal Intergalactic Armed Response Agency! Move, Shoot, and Engage with classic space problems in this co-op, crisis management extravaganza. (Medium weight! Beginners welcome.) *Seppy Yoon*

1:00pm–2:00pm

Decorum: Passive-Aggressive Home Decorating (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bi

Try to live together in this co-op, home decorating situation where you're unable to directly express your feelings about how hideous your roommate/partner's lamp is. We'll be running two sets of this 2-player co-op. *Stephen Simusa*

1:00pm–3:00pm

Simplicity for Younger Players (Kids)

Hyatt 4, Lake Nokomis d

Simplicity is a fun d10 roleplaying game that kids 8 and up can learn to play. *Kenneth Joel Justiniano*

2:00pm–3:30pm

Zombicide! Second Edition (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bd

We'll be playing Zombicide Second Edition with one or more expansions depending on experience level! Help save the last of humanity from the zombie threat! *Carl Patten*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Landmarks! Word Association Treasure Hunt (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bi

Guide your team to the treasure and off the cursed island one word at a time in this instant family classic. Think Code Names meets Tomb Raider or Indiana Jones. *Stephen Simusa*

2:00pm–5:00pm

Dacilane Academy's First Great Prank War (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ce

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Jim Radloff*

2:00pm–4:00pm

Magic: The Gathering Commander Social

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade a

Come one, come all! You have been waiting a year and Ross is back with more prizes and two MTG: Commander Social tournaments. *Ross Prosser*

2:00pm–4:00pm

Gargoyles! (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade s

Become a character in a cheesy horror matinee. Bring your best 'pesky kid' vibe as you try to save a small town from an infestation from Hell. Popcorn and candy is optional, but seriousness has no place at the table.

2:00pm–10:00pm

Sword of Air (D&D 3.5)

Hyatt 4, Cedar Lake

The party is currently on a sea voyage to travel north to a famous library to research the Shadowfell and other parts of the Quest they are on. This is a drop-in/drop-out game; join us whenever you're free!

2:00pm–4:00pm

Big Trouble in Little Warlington (Kids)

Hyatt 4, Lake Nokomis b

New graduates of "Lord Brindle Fiddlesticks Fantastic Academy for Young Adventurers" (Go Butterflies!) must save the town of Warlington! Are these adventurers up to the task? Come join us, young adventurers, and find out! *Erik R*

2:00pm–6:00pm

Mouse Guard (Kids)

Hyatt 4, Lake Nokomis c

Enter a fantasy adventure world of cloaked, sword-wielding mice who protect the common mouse against the threats of predator, weather, and wilderness. *Jordan Peacock*

3:00pm–5:00pm

Conquest Princess: Fashion is Power (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bb

You are the Agents of the T.I.A.R.A.—the Temporal Intergalactic Armed Response Agency! Move, Shoot, and Engage with classic space problems in this co-op, crisis management extravaganza. (Medium weight! Beginners welcome.) *Seppy Yoon*

3:00pm–5:00pm

Escape from the Twin Cities (Never Stop Blowing Up) (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cd

The Twin Cities have been transformed into a battleground of mercenaries, crime lords, and dastardly villains. You're 80s action heroes who've been airdropped in with one goal: infiltrate the Cities, save the MN Twins, and get out alive. *Jackson Hoemann*

3:30pm–5:30pm

Stagecraft

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ba

Players take on the role of rival community theatres, competing for Critical Acclaim and Box Office success. Mount productions, hold fundraisers, upgrade your theatre building, or hire experts to make your theatre the hottest ticket in town! *Nate Metcalf*

3:30pm–5:30pm

Tales from the Red Dragon Inn (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bc

It's time to sharpen your weapons as we delve into dangerous dungeons battling dastardly foes! This is a 1-4 player cooperative dungeon crawler board game set in the universe of the highly successful Red Dragon Inn (2007) by Slugfest Games. *Charles Roberts*

3:30pm–5:00pm

Rust Wings: Wrench & Propeller

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cc

In Rust Wings, you'll take the role of a member of the Rust Wing crew—misfit teenagers who build and pilot their own planes from the scrap around them. Rust Wings crews explore ancient robot-filled ruins of a failed Corporation. *Watt*

3:30pm–5:00pm

Great Toy Heist (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cf

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Katie Berger*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Outfoxed! (Kids)

Hyatt 4, Lake Nokomis a

A cooperative whodunit game where players gather clues to figure out who stole Mrs. Plumpert's prized pot pie. (Ages 5+) *Raina Kelly*

5:00pm–8:00pm

The City of Fireflies (Garden in the Sky) (18+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cb

Like stirring from a nightmare, the world that seemed to be slipping through your fingers now is manifest as false before your waking eyes. A distant voice calls out in silence. Raise your head and watch as these souls flee to the golden island. *Liam MacDonald*

5:00pm–9:00pm

Paranoia

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ci

The dystopian comedy RPG returns! In a world ruled by a mad computer, you must overcome obstacles, including your treasonous teammates, to earn the favor of Alpha Complex. Fun is mandatory. Backstabbing is encouraged. Rules knowledge is treasonous.

6:00pm–9:00pm

Darktide over Frey Epic Adventure (D&D 5e) (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade k

Normalcy in the coastal city of Frey is shattered when the sun is suddenly blotted from the sky and the ocean forms a wall hundreds of feet tall as dark shapes move behind the aquatic curtain. Cooperation is the only way to turn aside the menace. *Jackson Hoemann*

GAMING

- 7:00pm–9:00pm** **Stagecraft**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ba
Players take on the role of rival community theatres, competing for Critical Acclaim and Box Office success. Mount productions, hold fundraisers, upgrade your theatre building, or hire experts to make your theatre the hottest ticket in town! *Nate Metcalf*
- 7:00pm–8:00pm** **Cats and Caverns**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bi
A D&D-inspired, cat-themed tabletop board game! Personal sets of dice welcome! *Rowan Fischer-Hoeft*
- 7:00pm–10:00pm** **Quiet Year (Buried Without Ceremony) (13+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cc
The Quiet Year is a map drawing TTRPG in which you do not play as characters but as societal forces. The map will evolve and change depending on your choices. *Diane Perry*
- 7:00pm–11:00pm** **Star-room Brawl (13+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade s
Characters from Movies and TV duke it out in this sci-fi saloon fight. A sense of humor a must - or at least a lack of seriousness. After all: Who can fairly adjudicate a fight between Darth Vader and Gort?
- 8:30pm–10:30pm** **Red Dragon Inn Saturday Night Special (18+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bd
Come drink, brawl, and gamble at the Red Dragon Inn! We'll be including both the newest characters and classic friends. ****mature content**** *Carl Patten*
- 8:30pm–9:30pm** **Cats and Caverns**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bi
A D&D-inspired, cat-themed tabletop board game! Personal sets of dice welcome! *Rowan Fischer-Hoeft*
- 8:30pm–11:30pm** **The City of Fireflies (Garden in the Sky) (18+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cb
Like stirring from a nightmare, the world that seemed to be slipping through your fingers now is manifest as false before your waking eyes. A distant voice calls out in silence. Raise your head and watch as these souls flee to the golden island. *Liam MacDonald*
- 9:30pm–12:30am** **Last Caravan/Storytelling Game (18+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ch
Mature, story-focused game for narrative roleplayers. Group consensus will set the rule system and content limits. Player groups with more than 4 people will be split across 2 GMs. Last Caravan (alien apocalypse) system preferred. Alternatives: Fiasco or Trophy Dark. ****mature content****
- 10:00pm–11:00pm** **Cats and Caverns**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bi
A D&D-inspired, cat-themed tabletop board game! Personal sets of dice welcome! *Rowan Fischer-Hoeft*
- 10:00pm–2:00am** **Cursed Tomb of Nefertari (18+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ca
Prepare for a classic tomb raid where you'll have to fight undead, avoid traps, and look for treasure. (D&D 2024.)
- 10:00pm–2:00am** **Come Play Simplicity**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cd
Come play a system that is a cross between a traditional dice RPG system and a storyteller game. Come play a system that allows you to create any kind of character, play in any kind of world, and develop an organic unique story. Come check it out! *Kenneth Joel Justiniano*
- 11:30pm–12:30am** **Cats and Caverns**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bj
A D&D-inspired, cat-themed tabletop board game! Personal sets of dice welcome! *Rowan Fischer-Hoeft*
- ## SUNDAY
- 9:30am–11:00am** **Marvel Legendary**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bb
Legendary is a deckbuilding game set in the Marvel Comics universe. Select a team of heroes to combat the evil mastermind and defeat their scheme. *Ian Bryan*
- 9:30am–11:00am** **Red Dragon Inn: Latest & Greatest (13+)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bd
We'll be playing Red Dragon Inn with the new Adventure is Nigh characters and others! *Carl Patten*
- 9:30am–10:30am** **Cats and Caverns**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bj
A D&D-inspired, cat-themed tabletop board game! Personal sets of dice welcome! *Rowan Fischer-Hoeft*
- 9:30am–11:00am** **Grehunde's Gorget (PF2)**
Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ce
Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Katie Berger*

9:30am–12:30pm Burning of Greensteeples (PF2)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cf

Join the Pathfinder Society for magic, monsters, and mayhem in a globe-trotting campaign of mystery and adventure. *Hilary Moon Murphy*

9:30am–12:30pm Hard Reset (SF1)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cg

Jet across the Galaxy with the Starfinder Society in a game universe that mixes spells, lasers, and a plethora of awesome alien cultures! *Bret Indrelee*

10:00am–11:00am Sagrada (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bk

Roll dice and try to complete your stained-glass window in this drafting, sudoku classic. Fun for the puzzle lover and gamer alike. *Stephen Simusa*

10:00am–1:00pm Flabbergasted (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cd

Flabbergasted is a narrative driven TTRPG set in the roaring 20s. Join an up-and-coming social club, get invited into secret societies, and work towards leaving your mark by cultivating your reputation. *Jordan Peacock*

10:00am–3:00pm Witches' Quarrel

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade w

Fast 2-player Legacy game of best friends learning magic by dueling. A deckbuilder with a character driven narrative. Try it before the Kickstarter ends on the last day of CVG! *Shanti Pothapragada*

11:00am–1:00pm Stagecraft

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ba

Players take on the role of rival community theatres, competing for Critical Acclaim and Box Office success. Mount productions, hold fundraisers, upgrade your theatre building, or hire experts to make your theatre the hottest ticket in town! *Nate Metcalf*

11:00am–3:00pm Dracula 1897 (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Be

A new semi-cooperative game. Van Helsing, the Harkers, and their friends must work together to foil Dracula's move to London. But has he influenced some to his side? *David Allison*

11:00am–Noon Cats and Caverns

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bj

A D&D-inspired, cat-themed tabletop board game! Personal sets of dice welcome! *Rowan Fischer-Hoefl*

11:00am–Noon

Landmarks! Word Association Treasure Hunt (13+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Bk

Guide your team to the treasure and off the cursed island one word at a time in this instant family classic. Think Code Names meets Tomb Raider or Indiana Jones. *Stephen Simusa*

11:00am–2:00pm

The City of Fireflies (Garden in the Sky) (18+)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cb

Like stirring from a nightmare, the world that seemed to be slipping through your fingers now is manifest as false before your waking eyes. A distant voice calls out in silence. Raise your head and watch as these souls flee to the golden island. *Liam MacDonald*

11:00am–12:30pm

Learn to Play Pathfinder 2E

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Ce

Learn to play Pathfinder 2nd Edition! Our experienced GMs will teach you this awesome RPG and introduce you to organized play! Play a pre-generated character or bring your own. *Tom Fenn*

11:00am–2:00pm

Magic: The Gathering

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Promenade a

11:30am–1:00pm

Reservoir Bears (Honey Heist)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cc

You're a group of bears with one simple goal: rob an artisanal honey shop and get out fast. How could you mess it up THIS bad? Someone in your crew betrayed you! Find out who double-crossed you, avoid the cops, and get back to the woods with your honey! *Jackson Hoemann*

Noon–3:00pm

Sword of Air (D&D 3.5)

Hyatt 4, Cedar Lake

The party is currently on a sea voyage to travel north to a famous library to research the Shadowfell and other parts of the Quest they are on. This is a drop-in/drop-out game; join us whenever you're free!

1:00pm–3:00pm

Gifted Youngsters (MASKS)

Hyatt 4, Boundary Waters Cc

As a teenager at the Stratus Academy, not only are you fighting emotions, expectations, and relationships, but also supervillains, aliens, and robots. Will you be able to find your place in the world and handle the new supervillain attacking the school? *Jackson Hoemann*

1:00pm–3:00pm

Simplicity for Younger Players (Kids)

Hyatt 4, Lake Nokomis a

Simplicity is a fun d10 roleplaying game that kids 8 and up can learn to play. *Kenneth Joel Justiniano*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

CONvergence's panels and events focus on science fiction and fantasy, featuring the work of our Guests of Honor, discussions related to our theme and attendee interests, and the expertise and enthusiasm of our panelists. Panels are open to all attendees with a weekend or day pass; they are one hour long with a half-hour break between sessions.

Audience Guidelines

- Audience participation is encouraged for most panels; please ask questions in a respectful manner.
- Food and drink are allowed—throw away your trash. Trash receptacles are located outside of most rooms by the doors.
- Rearranging the chairs is allowed, assuming the room isn't too full, but please put the chairs back in place afterward.

Panel Age Ratings

For all panels, speakers are instructed to note the age of the youngest members of the audience and adjust their comments accordingly. Panels that may have more adult content are marked with ****mature content**** in the description. These panels are generally scheduled to start at 10:00pm or later. Parents may use this information to determine whether a panel is appropriate for their children.

Feedback

Send comments through our panel feedback form, available at convergence-con.org/panel-evaluation or the QR code to the right.



Future Suggestions

Send suggestions for next year through our panel suggestion form, available at convergence-con.org/panel-suggestion or the QR code to the right.



THURSDAY

12:30pm–1:30pm

Introducing Mature Media to Youth

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

What's the right age to introduce your kid to more mature media, such as *Watchmen*? How do kids decide what they're ready for? *Annie Fleschner, Katarina R Larsen, Atlas (mod), Mackenzie Fleschner*

12:30pm–1:30pm

I'm Not a Lawyer, But...

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

We all know that courtroom dramas aren't entirely true to life, but some offenders are particularly bad. What does Hollywood get wrong about law, court, forensic science, and the justice system? Where should you NEVER take your legal advice? *Erica Fair, Jules Porter, Nathan Michael Anderson, Samuel T. Weston (mod)*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Worst Adaptations

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Adaptation from one medium to another can be tricky. What are some examples that failed and why? *Kendrick Edmund Cronin, Randee Dawn (mod), T. Aaron Cisco*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Anime 101

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

There are vast amounts of anime out there, but how do you find out about any of it to know what you might enjoy? Come learn about the places you can watch and the tools you might use to narrow your search. *Amanda Lynn Bliss, Donald Poleke, Mara DeMers, Viga*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Creating a Memorable RPG Character

Hyatt 2, Northstar B

Dive into the art of character creation with our expert panelists! Discover how to craft unforgettable RPG characters that stand out. Learn how to develop backstories, define distinctive traits, and find balance between strengths and flaws. *Andrea Stephanie Herman, Jamie Riedesel (mod), Jaymie Delia Wagner, John Gary Leppik, Scott Kevin Jamison*

12:30pm–1:30pm

CONvergence 101

Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka

This is a big, busy convention and we can offer suggestions on how to enjoy it without wiping out. *Allen Tipper, Ben Ellis, Kelly Reich, Nick Glover, Rhea Wessendorf (mod)*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Memorializing Your Digital Footprint

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

Emails, social media posts, photos, documents, playlists, passwords, subscriptions, etc. What happens to all that when you die? What steps can you take now to minimize the impact on your loved ones? How do you save your intellectual property? *Bob Alberti (mod), Elizabeth Ess, Sarah Barsness*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Game Jam Experimentation and Analysis

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

Prof has worked in the games industry for 17 years and released some big titles, but has also made a multitude of small, weird, experimental games. Join us as we go through Prof's game jam archive and talk about game design learnings from each. *Prof Brown*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

2:00pm–3:00pm

Deadpool and Wolverine Fan Panel

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Dave Margosian, Dirk Thomas Ykema, Mark Lundberg (mod), KitKat, Nikki Armstrong

2:00pm–3:00pm

Being a Content Creator Over 25

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Content creation seems to be for the young; in reality, creators are likely to be older than you think! Many do the Twitch thing, hold down a day job, raise families, and try to have a life. Let's discuss being older and online creating content. *Brian Forrest, Chris Kluwe, Tanya DePass (mod), Taru Hunter*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Value of 19th Century Sci-Fi

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

Is early science fiction—such as Frankenstein, Journey to the Center of the Earth, and The Time Machine—still worth reading or has modern science and technology rendered them uninteresting and irrelevant? *Barbara Gregorich, David Lenander, Renate Fiora (mod), Scott Kevin Jamison*

2:00pm–3:00pm

From Page to Screen

Hyatt 2, Northstar B

Which TV adaptations of popular science fiction/fantasy books have worked and which have been less successful? What do our panelists think makes a good adaptation? What books do our panelists dearly want to see on screen? *Annie Fleschner, John Shea, Jonathan Matthew Surdo, Lee Harris, T. Aaron Cisco (mod)*

2:00pm–4:30pm

Infernal Salon: Negocios Infernales

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

Join Guest of Honor C.S.E. Cooney and Carlos Hernandez as they host and run an Infernal Salon of writing prompts to ignite your creative spark using a spooky oracle deck from their TTRPG Negocios Infernales. *C.S.E. Cooney, Carlos Hernandez, Kyle B Dekker (mod)*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Here's the Story: A Very Brady Panel

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

Everything Brady Bunch! This sitcom ran from 1969–1974 and in syndication for decades while also generating a myriad of spinoffs. We'll discuss the best and worst episodes, characters, spinoffs, and reunions. Maybe even indulge some fanfic ideas. *Melissa J Arbuckle (mod), Wes Huntington*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Meta Panel

Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka

A panel about panels. How do they work? How would you make them better? *Ashley M Mages, Erik Nyberg (mod), Heather Bufkin, Shaun L Larsen, Viga*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Failure as Your Friend

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

Otherwise successful people tell tales about their worst efforts and what was learned and/or earned from them. *Chris Kluwe, Kelly Murphy, Stephanie Mariy Dreis, T. Aaron Cisco (mod)*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Ready, Steady, Flash!

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Four authors write complete flash fiction stories in five minutes based on topics suggested by the audience. *Duck Washington, Lee Harris (mod), Molly Glover, Tim Wick, Stephanie Olson*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Impact of Technology on Tabletop Gaming

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Discuss how technology is transforming the tabletop gaming experience. From digital tools that enhance gameplay to the rise of virtual platforms, this panel will explore the benefits and challenges of integrating technology into traditional gaming. *Eric Zawadzki, Grace Holdinghaus, Jaymie Delia Wagner, Philip D Henry (mod)*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Geeks & Cats

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

Back for its third year, Geeks & Cats is a panel where geeks discuss cats. Love cats? Come to this panel. Have cat-related questions? Come to this panel. Don't have anything else going on? Come to this panel! *Donna Louise Cook, Kelly Jo Fredrickson (mod), Mary Rohe, Ren Nonnweiler, Sarah Pierce*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Year in Anime

Hyatt 2, Northstar B

What is the best new anime from the last year? *Daren Johnson (mod), Donald Poleke, Jessica Lynn Silver, Samuel T. Weston*

3:30pm–4:30pm

3D Printing 101

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

Learn how to get started, find the right printer for your needs, and find and/or create useful designs. *Andrea Stephanie Herman, Jeff Winsor, Nick Glover, Neal Sorensen (mod), Todd Murray*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

5:00pm–6:00pm

I Once Had To Explain...

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

Let's talk about random things we've had to explain to our non-geeky friends, family, and co-workers. *AJ Pete, Ben Ellis, Daren Johnson, Heather Bufkin, KitKat (mod)*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Babylon 5 Fan Panel

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Assad Khaishgi, Ben Zamora-Weiss, Jim McMahan, Viga (mod), Michael S Shappe

5:00pm–6:00pm

**Relationship Goals:
The Addams Family**

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

The family dynamics of the Addams Family are often lauded as goal-worthy, especially Gomez/Morticia. Come discuss what you find appealing across the various incarnations of the characters. *Jaymie Delia Wagner, Kendrick Edmund Cronin (mod), Nathan Michael Anderson, Sarah Moretsky, Tony Artym*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Games as Teaching Tools

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

Gaming is most often seen as a leisure hobby, but it can be used for teaching as well. Many subjects can benefit from using games as a tool, and some games are well suited to illustrate certain ideas. Come discuss your go-to games and how they can be used. *Amanda Larsen (mod), Jules Porter, Kenneth Joel Justiniano, Melanie Reap, Zaydden Johnson*

5:00pm–6:00pm

I'm Not Watching if the Dog Dies

Hyatt 2, Northstar B

What will make you decide not to consume a particular book/movie/TV series? What tropes, characters, or events will make you decide something is not for you? *Kate Dane (mod), Kelly Jo Fredrickson, Sarah Pierce, Scott Kevin Jamison*

5:00pm–6:00pm

**Hobby Swap aka "Buy Nothing
CONvergence"**

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

Drop off your abandoned, clean, and organized hobby tools/materials and go fishing for new ones amongst the donated goods. Or leave an "In Search Of" sticky note with your room number. Any leftovers can be recollected or donated to Costume Wars/Sandbox. *Ashley Haapapuro*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Drones 101

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

The fundamentals of flying, operating, using, and, most importantly, being safe and legal about using drones. *Terry O'Brien (mod)*

5:00pm–6:00pm

**Magic of Style Guides for
Writers and Editors**

Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka

Two publishing pros introduce and discuss the style guide: your go-to lorebook for documenting important writing decisions, from the spelling of a superhero name to the fictional astronomy of a fantasy novel. A must-have tool for any writer or editor. *J.M. Lee, Madeleine Vasaly (mod)*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Old School Anime

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

What are your favorite pre-2000s anime? *Bryon D Stump, Donald Poleke, Mara DeMers, Scott Kevin Jamison (mod), Viga*

7:00pm–8:00pm

David Lynch Memorial Fan Panel

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Ann Laabs, Garrick A Dietze (mod), Nathan Michael Anderson, Noel Thingvall

7:00pm–8:00pm

Romantasy

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Romance/fantasy books are all over bestseller lists and social media. What makes a good romantasy? What about other related subgenres like paranormal romance, gothic romance, and sci-fi romance? Let's pick some tropes and name names. *Atlas, Kate Dane (mod), Paige Elisabeth Erickson, Samuel T. Weston, Mary Elizabeth Sterling*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Not All RPGs Are D&D

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

Looking to explore new worlds beyond D&D and Pathfinder? Join our panel as we delve into a variety of RPG games that offer unique mechanics, settings, and storytelling opportunities. Come discover games that can bring fresh experiences to your tabletop! *Chris J Mortika, Edward Eastman, John Gary Leppik, Kayla McGrady (mod), Kurt Fleschner*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Fans of Fountain Pens Meetup

Hyatt 2, Northstar B

Veterans and newbies are welcome! Bring yourself and any extra fountain pen supplies you may want to share, and let's enjoy geeking out over our favorite writing tools. We'll have a demo table with pens for people to try and a swap area. *Andy Dunn, Hedge Yoder, Tania Richter (mod)*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Friends of Bill W

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

7:00pm–8:00pm

Is the Home File Server Dead?

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

Cloud storage is cheap and plentiful, but it's on the internet, and your photos or other valuable files aren't guaranteed to not be lost or used for others' ends. We'll talk about why/how you can build your own file server, even for non-techies! *Scott Saunders*

8:30pm–9:30pm

These Stories Survive for a Reason

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

We often go back to older works of fiction, mythology, and folklore to inspire current work. Why do these stories still appeal to us and teach us things? *Crystal Lynn Kelleher, John Shea, Kenneth Joel Justiniano, Lisa Hario, Randee Dawn (mod)*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Pitch Meeting: Movies that Shouldn't Exist!

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Join our interactive pitch meeting for the most outrageous movies that probably should never exist! Help us decide as a benefactor if these reboots and sequels should make it to the big screen or go straight to VHS! *Alicia Beck, Anne Rementer, Christi Farris, Christina Gregerson, Lindsey Wollan (mod), Tyronne Davidson*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Let's Chew on Nosferatu

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

A remake of a 1922 German silent film shouldn't have been the smash hit of 2024–2025. Yet somehow a wheezing, mustachioed, comb-over vampire was exactly what people needed. Let's talk about how to interpret the film and the varied reactions to it. *Brian Forrest, Bricklyn Holtgrave, Kirsten Hazel Roepke-Larsen (mod), Nathan Michael Anderson, skazka 9000*

8:30pm–9:30pm

CONvergence is Volunteer-Powered

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

Have you ever wanted to learn how ConSuite keeps filling up the bags of chips or how badging can be a great way to make new friends? Come find out from the CONvergence Volunteers department how you can become volunteer-powered. *Heather L Heim, Rachel Lubich, Samantha Bitner (mod), Ben Ellis*

8:30pm–9:30pm

OCD and Me

Hyatt 2, Northstar B

This panel aims to spread awareness and understanding about OCD. Society often has an inaccurate view of OCD and how it affects those suffering from it. Hear from those diagnosed and living with OCD, talk about representation in the media, and more. *Dani Mayville, Hedy Rand-McKay (mod), Jennifer Rogachevsky, Ren Nonnweiler*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Writers Meetup

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

A gathering of people who are either published authors, aspiring authors, or just in it for the pure joy of it. This is a way of networking with others who enjoy writing in any form or level of experience. *C.S.E. Cooney, Jackson Vanguard, Jaymie Delia Wagner, Kendrick Edmund Cronin*

8:30pm–9:30pm

You Were Lucky to Have Dice!

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

The early days of the tabletop RPGs...some of us were there! What were the experiences of those early gamers by comparison to the current state of the industry? *Bob Alberti, Don Kaiser, Edward Eastman, Eric Zawadzki (mod)*

10:00pm–11:00pm

Hazbin Hotel and Helluva Boss Fan Panel

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

****mature content**** *Cetius d'Raven (mod), Kerry Teckla Peterson, Lisa Marie Deguiseppi, Paige Elisabeth Erickson, Sonni de Soto*

10:00pm–11:00pm

I'm Sorry, I Haven't a Clue

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Four panelists play increasingly silly games for your host, Lee Harris. Based on the longest-running British panel game show in history. *Lee Harris, Matthew Kessen, Tim Wick, Windy Bowlsby, Nick Glover*

10:00pm–11:00pm

CONvergence Does Jackbox

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Come vote for your favorite nerdy answers in the audience as you watch the panel play a variety of JackBox fill-in-the-blank games. *Amanda Nerud, Arthur Ray Armstrong, Caitlyn McGrath, Duck Washington, James Fairbairn, Kelvin Hatle, Nikki Armstrong (mod)*

10:00pm–11:00pm

Murderbot Diaries Fan Panel

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

Allison Dean (mod), Christopher J. Daniels, Eric Zawadzki, Jesse Abrahamson, Justin Edward Grays

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

10:00pm–11:00pm **Polyamory Representation or Just Wishful Thinking?**
Hyatt 2, Northstar B
As we see more canonical polyamorous representation in media, it seems like some media properties hint at throuples and polycules that are almost, but not quite, canon. Are these legitimate explorations of non-monogamy or are we being polyamory baited? *John Heimbuch, Katherine Jo Pysick, Lathan Murrell, Patti Anne DeMay (mod)*

10:00pm–12:30am **Crafting Circle**
Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2
Come join us, bring a project to work on, or just come to chat. Learn about other arts and crafts and talk with others who enjoy making.

10:00pm–11:00pm **Topless T'Pol**
Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3
Nudity, sexual innuendo, and sexual fantasies are the hallmarks of Star Trek: Enterprise. Something NSFW happens in 46% of all 98 episodes! 20 years after the finale, let's watch a few clips to see if Enterprise has aged well. ****mature content**** *Frost Simula (mod), Brittany Ann Kerschner*

10:00pm–12:30am **Late Night Music Circle**
Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka
A late night gathering of musicians where you can sing, play, or just listen.

11:30pm–12:30am **Rocky Horror Picture Show 50th Anniversary**
Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A
Come celebrate one of the first great midnight movies on its 50th anniversary! What was your first RHPS experience? What did it awaken in you? ****mature content**** *Cetius d'Raven (mod), Katherine Jo Pysick, KitKat, Nathan Michael Anderson, Sean Eber*

11:30pm–12:30am **Killer B's Improv Movie Show**
Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE
As clips of strange movies play on screen, a team of voice actors and musicians create a whole new soundtrack... without ever seeing the movies before! It's film, improv comedy, and live music all in one, plus a 75% chance of rubber-suit monsters! *Caly McMorro, Duck Washington, Jerry Belich, Kelvin Hatle, Melissa Sue Kaercher, Molly Glover, Nick Glover*

11:30pm–12:30am **Hot Takes!**
Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH
We've seen panels where a hot dog's pedigree as a sandwich is up for debate, but what other topics in SFF/H are worth battling around? Panelists bring their controversial takes and present them for debate, with a moderator declaring resolutions at the end. *Elizabeth Ess (mod), John BLiss, Nikki Armstrong, Rande Dawn, Shaun L Larsen*

11:30pm–12:30am **Loving Someone with Different Values**
Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3
How do you maintain a good relationship with someone with different views? What are your boundaries or hard lines? *Atlas, Charlene Holm (mod), Kelly Jo Fredrickson, Kerry Teckla Peterson, Lisa Marie Deguisseppi*

FRIDAY

9:30am–10:30am **Masquerade 101**
Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A
Get your questions answered about participating in the Masquerade by the Masquerade director and staff. *Ben Livingston, Don Kaiser (mod), Patrick Cool*

9:30am–10:30am **Manifesting the Future We Want**
Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE
We all have a vision of a beautiful future. How do we get there? *Ashley M Mages, John Shea, Kerry Teckla Peterson (mod), Melissa J Arbuckle*

9:30am–10:30am **Influence of AI on Art**
Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH
What does it mean to be an artist with the rise of AI? How do you protect your work? How do you market your skills against a machine? *Amber Raden (mod), Charles Urbach, Geoffrey D Williams*

9:30am–10:30am **The Heroine's Journey**
Hyatt 2, Greenway I
Learn about how the archetypal heroine's journey differs from the hero's journey and how to spot it in the wild in your favorite books, TV shows, and movies. *Dana Baird, Jody Wurl (mod), Rande Dawn, Sherry Merriam, Stephanie Olson*

9:30am–10:30am **Rise of the Cozy Board Game**
Hyatt 2, Northstar B
Popularity of the "cozy" board game has risen over the last couple of years. What constitutes a cozy board game? Why are they so popular? What are some go-to titles? *Brandy McQueen, Erik Nyberg, Philip D Henry, Renate Fiora (mod)*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

9:30am–10:30am

Living with Solar, Batteries, and an EV

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

Explore the basics of having solar installed on your property and how they are enhanced by batteries. How to find reliable installers and accurate information. How EVs fit into the mix, and how my car performed during this last winter's sub-zero cold snaps. *Mickie Erickson*

9:30am–10:30am

Move It Like Water

Hyatt 6, Pool

A 45-minute, low-impact workout in the pool led by a certified water fitness instructor. Learn how to use water resistance to tone and strengthen and do cardio in a supportive way. You do NOT need to know how to swim. All levels of ability are welcome. Ages 12+. *Christina Neitz*

11:00am–Noon

Historical Costuming: Beyond Accuracy

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

Historybouncing, historically-inspired fantasy settings, "[character design] but make it [time period]," sheer flights of fancy—let's talk about the joys of purposefully playing around with historical authenticity in the service of art and storytelling. *Alex V Bender (mod), Dana Baird, Elizabeth Merritt, Kendrick Edmund Cronin, skazka 9000*

11:00am–Noon

The Bad Batch Fan Panel

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Bryon D Stump, Elsie Whitcomb, Henry Avalon Kaldhusdal, Jeff Grapevine (mod)

11:00am–Noon

Comfort Media: The Appeal of Long-Lived Franchises

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

What's the appeal of TV and films that never end? How much is our need to ease into a familiar place without a season of worldbuilding and how much of it is about a shared social experience? What are other reasons we like long-lived shows and franchises? *Assad Khaishgi (mod), Janelle Kloth, Nathan Michael Anderson, Randee Dawn, Wes Huntington*

11:00am–Noon

CVG as a Resume Builder

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

How can you use your volunteer experience on your resume or college application? What skills are transferable? *Ashley M Mages, Cat Beltran, Cetius d'Raven, Heather L Heim, Katarina R Larsen (mod)*

11:00am–Noon

All Bodies are Good Bodies

Hyatt 2, Northstar B

Let's talk about being fat at CVG! What are the intersectionalities that come with being a fat nerd/geek, and how does the media we love represent and demonize us? What does CONvergence do well to support us, and what can it do better? *AJ Pete, Jessi Fox, Mordecai Mika, Nikki Armstrong (mod), Renate Fiora*

11:00am–Noon

CONvergence 101

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

This is a big, busy convention and we can offer suggestions on how to enjoy it without wiping out. *Brian Etchieson, Hawthorne Fasching, Rachel Poleke, Rhea Wessendorf (mod), Samantha Bitner*

11:00am–Noon

Streaming for Fun and Rarely Profit

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

A lot of people think streaming is easy, just turn on the console, PC, camera, and go! We'll have some real talk on what actually goes into streaming and the harsh reality that you need to be in it for the love of it, and if you earn some money...bonus! *Chris Kluwe, Tanya DePass (mod)*

11:00am–Noon

Freelance Illustration for Games

Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka

Step-by-step walk-through of a typical art assignment for tabletop game companies like Wizards of the Coast, Fantasy Flight Games, Wizkids, and other major game publishers. A basic introduction for students, aspiring pro artists, and curious gamers. *Charles Urbach (mod), Christine Mitzuk, Lauren Addy*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Meet and Greet—Chris Kluwe

Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Signing Table A

****prices may vary**** *Chris Kluwe*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Meet and Greet—Jules Porter

Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Signing Table B

****prices may vary**** *Jules Porter*

12:30pm–1:30pm

You Don't Have to be Good

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

Practice makes perfect, but why is perfection the goal? Art is about self-expression and you don't need perfection to be able to speak your truth. Learn how to appreciate where you are in your artistic journey with those who've already walked that road. *Erin Wilaby, Kerry Teckla Peterson, Sarah Pierce, Sonni de Soto, Viga (mod)*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

12:30pm–1:30pm

Andor Fan Panel

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Amber Raden, Boris Leonidovich Smelov, Erik Nyberg (mod), Jeff Grapevine, skazka 9000

12:30pm–1:30pm

Crafting Characters Readers Care About

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

What makes readers love a character? Let's discuss some of our favorite stories and why the characters live on in our minds. Are series characters more likely to stand out? *Barbara Gregorich, C.S.E. Cooney, Jaymie Delia Wagner, Prof Brown, Rande Dawn (mod)*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Being a Geeky Professional

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

How can you incorporate geeky things into your professional life? How can you decide whether it's safe to share your authentic self with your coworkers? *Alex V Bender (mod), Kiki Joy Latham, KitKat, Natalya Rose, Renate Fiora*

12:30pm–1:30pm

It's All Jane Austen's Fault

Hyatt 2, Northstar B

The works of Jane Austen have been translated into multiple other contexts—Regency romance, *Pride and Prejudice* and *Zombies*, *Clueless*, and others. How is this still relevant today? *Elizabeth Merritt (mod), Kirsten Hazel Roepke-Larsen, Sarah Barsness, Stephanie Cranford, Tina Connolly*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Writers Meetup

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

A gathering of people who are either published authors, aspiring authors, or just in it for the pure joy of it. This is a way of networking with others who enjoy writing in any form or level of experience. *Cat Beltran, Justin Edward Grays, Justin Octavian Rose, Milli Gilbert, Stephanie Olson*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Intermediate Corsetry

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

Made your first corset or two and now you're hooked? Come learn about different construction methods and how to perfect the fit of your corset! *Hardly Plastic, Sara Spookystitch (mod)*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Teaching RPGs to Beginners

Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka

The world of role-playing can sometimes be overwhelming for newcomers. How can we teach the genre in a way that's fun instead of confusing? How can a Storyteller adjust the rules to the players' comprehension level? *Amanda Larsen, Chris J Mortika, John Gary Leppik, Kenneth Joel Justiniano (mod), Molly Elizabeth Cornelius*

2:00pm–3:00pm

**Meet and Greet—
Briana Lawrence**

Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Signing Table A

****prices may vary**** *Briana Lawrence*

2:00pm–4:30pm

**Meet and Greet—
Christopher Jones**

Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Signing Table B

****prices may vary**** *Christopher Jones*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Meet and Greet—Charles Urbach

Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Signing Table D

Former Guest of Honor Charles Urbach will be signing materials at his Dealers Room stall. The Meet and Greet table will have directions. ****prices may vary**** *Charles Urbach*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Reading as Rebellion

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

Why do books get banned? Why should you read the stuff people are trying to ban? *Crystal Lynn Kelleher (mod), Danith McPherson, Elizabeth Ess, Renee Petersen, nick a jaworski*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Villains with Good Publicity

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

If you want to get away with evil deeds, you have to seem virtuous to outsiders. We discuss our favorite fictional villains who spun their public image to hide their intent, the tactics they used, and how we can learn from them to avoid real propaganda. *Lathan Murrell, Lauren Crabtree, Naomi Kritzer, T. Aaron Cisco (mod)*

2:00pm–3:00pm

**Avatar: the Last Airbender
Universe**

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Are you an Avatar fan? No, not the blue people one—Avatar: the Last Airbender. Cartoons, comics, books, and the live action...but not **that** live action! Get together with other fans and discuss what you like about the series and hope to see! *Cetius d'Raven (mod), Lisa Marie Deguisseppi, Michael S Shappe, Samuel T. Weston*

2:00pm–3:00pm

**Royal Manticoran Navy:
Who Are They?**

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

By now, you've probably seen folks in black shirts and berets wandering around the con. Ever wondered who they are, what they do, and what organization they belong to? We'll share what the TRMN is all about and explain how you can participate. *Cate Hesser, Chuck Kelly (mod), John Fairbairn, John Neitz*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

2:00pm–3:00pm

Inclusive Gaming: Creating Welcoming Spaces

Hyatt 2, Northstar B

A discussion on how to create inclusive and welcoming gaming environments. Learn about the importance of diversity in games, strategies for fostering inclusivity at your gaming table, and how to address and prevent toxicity in gaming communities. *Grace Holdinghaus, Jaymie Delia Wagner, Tanya DePass, Katarina R Larsen (mod), Kerry Teckla Peterson*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Sketchbook Swap Jam

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

Bring your sketchbook and get sketches from others at this sketch jam! This gathering welcomes artists of all skill levels! *Viga*

2:00pm–3:00pm

I'll Be Home For Kahless: Hallmark Movie Bingo!

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

A staged reading of the fan favorite Klingon Hallmark movie mashup...now with bingo! Play along as you watch Samantha, a Klingon warrior, visit "A Minnesota" to find what is missing in her two hearts. *Alison Anderson, Angela Fox, Charles Hubbell, Edwin Strout, Lana Rosario, Laura Thurston, Samuel Popen, Stefanie Fauth, Tim Uren*

2:00pm–3:00pm

What Are Middle Grade Readers Reading?

Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka

What chapter books are popular among young readers? Let's hear from the real experts—the kids themselves. *Becca Justiniano (mod), Dani Mayville, Gwen McCabe, Mackenzie Fleschner, Rose Grumdahl*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Meet and Greet—Bridget Landry

Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Signing Table A

****prices may vary**** *Bridget Landry*

3:30pm–4:30pm

What the Filk!—SFF Theater and Music

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

Music and theater for the spec fiction geeks! How does one write and collaborate on such a thing? Find out from writers and musicians who have done just that. *C.S.E. Cooney, Carlos Hernandez, Jeremy Cooney, Mary Crowell, Tina Connolly*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Sports Fandom as Fandom

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

People obsessed with sports are just as nerdy as people into video games or RPGs. Research shows that being a fan fills an innate human need to belong. Why isn't that brand of fandom given the same treatment in society? *Chris Kluwe, Erik Nyberg (mod), Janelle Kloth, Kendrick Edmund Cronin, Stephanie Cranford*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Sailor Moon Retrospective

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

From the original manga to the new Cosmos movies, it's the series that keeps on giving! Which generation of fan are you? Let's take a quick trip through the legendary series that introduced so many of us to anime. *Heather Bufkin*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Textiles in Costuming

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

What do you consider when selecting fabrics for a costume? How has this changed as you've advanced as a costumer? What tips do you have for beginners, such as notoriously difficult materials, things that look good on a budget, and so on? *Dana Baird, Elizabeth Merritt (mod), Jen Schultz, Haruka, Sara Spookystitch*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Royal Manticoran Navy Award Ceremony

Hyatt 2, Northstar B

Awards and promotions earned by members of the Grand Alliance will be presented in a formal ceremony, in dress uniform. Preceded by flag parade. All are welcome to attend. TRMN is the official fan organization of the Honorverse book series by David Weber. *John Neitz (mod)*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Yellowjackets Fan Panel

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

Cetius d'Raven (mod), Heather K Terrell, Jennifer Rogachevsky

3:30pm–4:30pm

Do We Really Need That Backstory?

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

There is a current trend of giving antagonists backstories to make them sympathetic. Is this something we need? Does it add to or subtract from their character? *Barbara Gregorich, Becca Justiniano, Jamie Riedesel, Kate Dane, Lisa Hario (mod)*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Out of the Way, Boomers!

Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka

Kids and teens discuss how to save the planet. *Dani Mayville, Gwen McCabe, Kenneth Joel Justiniano (mod), Mackenzie Fleschner, Rose Grumdahl*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

5:00pm–6:00pm

Meet and Greet—C.S.E. Cooney
Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Signing Table A

****prices may vary** C.S.E. Cooney**

5:00pm–6:00pm

**Meet and Greet—
Carlos Hernandez**
Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Signing Table B

****prices may vary** Carlos Hernandez**

5:00pm–6:00pm

Tips for Game Masters
Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

Dream of weaving tales and guiding adventurers through perilous quests? Join our panel of seasoned game masters as they share invaluable tips and tricks for running engaging and memorable campaigns. This panel is your gateway to the art of game mastering. *Alex V Bender, Bob Alberti (mod), Eric Zawadzki, Kenneth Joel Justiniano, Margaret Eastman*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Sword Myths and Misconceptions
Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Piercing discussion on the myths and misconceptions behind swords and fencing. Panelists will discuss good and bad examples of historical fencing in media, and what really happens when you can't roll to hit in real life. *Erica Fair, Jamie Riedesel, Kendrick Edmund Cronin, Kurt Fleschner (mod), Paul Bates*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Game Grumps Jeopardy
Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Bienvenue! Do you think you know the most about our grump and not so grump? Then come on down to the 2nd Annual Game Grumps Jeopardy! This lighthearted game will feature questions for old and new fans alike! Participation is not required! *Link Christianson, Tabitha Moore*

5:00pm–6:00pm

**Making Art Without Monetary
Motivation**
Hyatt 2, Greenway I

How do we create art that is authentic while navigating the economic pressure of paying our bills? What are the downsides of monetizing our passions? Is there inherent privilege in participating in artistic hobbies without monetary compensation? *Amber Raden (mod), Christopher J. Daniels, Elizabeth Merritt, Ren Nonnweiler, Sonni de Soto*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Stage Plays and Musicals
Hyatt 2, Northstar B

Come discuss some of your favorite musicals and stage productions! How has Broadway changed since *Hamilton*, and what new shows are taking center stage? What local theaters and productions deserve recognition? *Crystal Lynn Kelleher, Dawn Krosnowski (mod), Haruka, Melissa J Arbuckle, Paige Elisabeth Erickson*

5:00pm–6:00pm

**CONvergence Events
Open Meeting**
Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

Get an update on the latest with the organization that runs CONvergence with members of the Convergence Events Board of Directors. *Allen Tipper, CJ Mantel, Charmaine Parnell, Courtney Azar, David Bianchi, Eric Knight, Rachel Poleke, Tim Wick, William Verburg-Cunningham*

5:00pm–6:00pm

**Geeky Cooking: Everything and
the Kitchen Sink**
Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

Join panelists for a discussion about geek-themed cookbooks and getting nerdy in the kitchen. Topics covered may include: what makes a good geek cookbook, where to get your hands on them, and how to use geeky interests to make cooking more fun! *Dani Mayville, KN Hamann, KitKat (mod), Renee Petersen, Scott Grandt*

7:00pm–8:00pm

That Didn't Go Well...
Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

A lot of costumers have had the experience of something not working out as planned. Costumers discuss the things that just did not go as planned and what they learned from it. *Dana Baird (mod), Elizabeth Merritt, Kendrick Edmund Cronin, Molly Elizabeth Cornelius, Sonni de Soto*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Judging a Book by Its Cover
Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Teams of "literary experts" compete to describe the plot of a book, judging only from its cover art! *Eric Thompson, Jerry Belich, Lee Harris, Melissa Sue Kaercher, Molly Glover, Nick Glover, Shannan Paul, Tim Wick*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Jojo Pose Off!
Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Can you dip like Dio? Are your knees as strong as Jonathan's...fists? Does your spine bend like Old Man Joseph when he sees a pretty lady? Come and try your best to pose like Jojo characters! Prizes will be awarded! *Amaya Park-Goldsmith, Ellie Lockman, Ian Cross, Laine Schierman, Thomas Lockman*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

7:00pm–8:00pm

Psychology of Gaming

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

Explore the psychological aspects of gaming, including why we play, how it impacts our emotions and behavior, and its potential benefits and downsides. Delve into topics such as game addiction, games as therapy, and the social dynamics of multiplayer. *Allyson Claire Cygan, John Shea, Prof Brown, nick a jaworski (mod)*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Klingon Story Hour

Hyatt 2, Northstar B

Special thanks to our Klingon translator: Dapper Dinosaur. *Angela Fox, Gregory Parks, Charles Hubbell*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Friends of Bill W

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

7:00pm–8:00pm

All the President's Vampires

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

In 1867, a convicted killer received a presidential commutation. Known as the vampire pardon, how did the breathless reporting on a bloodthirsty vampire with friends in the White House come to be? Original research will try to crack this coffin case open! *Brian Forrest*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Dos and (Mostly) Don'ts of Board Game Design

Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka

Ever have dreams of designing your own board game? That's awesome. So did we. But it's harder than it looks. Come learn from our mistakes and let us help you take your game from a mere idea to a finished product. *Brandy McQueen, Kenneth Joel Justiniano (mod), Martin Grider, Nate Metcalf, Philip D Henry*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Writing Fanfiction

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

Discussing the ins and outs of writing fanfiction. ****mature content**** *Allison Dean (mod), Dirk Thomas Ykema, Erica Fair, Jaymie Delia Wagner, Tanya DePass*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Funniest Japanese Commercials

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Pasta Aliens, grade school Crash Bandicoot, and the long-lost legend of Segata Sanshiro are just scratching the surface of the funniest commercials from Japan. Come see a curated hour of oddities. *Viga*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Voyage to an Ocean World

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Come hear about the exciting Europa Clipper mission that launched last year. The talk will cover the spacecraft, its instruments, and the fascinating questions it seeks to answer. *Bridget Landry*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Scaring for Fun and Profit

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

Behind the scenes at a haunted house. What's it really like to work as a zombie at a haunted attraction? Share stories, makeup and costuming tips, and our favorite scary phrases. *Beva Steinberg, Carla Hennes (mod), Catherine Hansen, Cherelle-Renee Childs, Todd Murray*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Queer in an Ever-Changing Climate

Hyatt 2, Northstar B

Do you still feel safe to be "out and proud"? This panel is an opportunity for us to come together to discuss that very issue and find comfort in one another's identities. *Eiryn Katherine, Erin Wilaby, Kiki Joy Latham (mod), Mordecai Mika, Sean Eber*

8:30pm–11:00pm

Crafting Circle

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

Come join us, bring a project to work on, or just come to chat. Learn about other arts and crafts and talk with others who enjoy making.

8:30pm–9:30pm

Comics as a Medium

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

Comics are a unique medium that allow for techniques that don't work elsewhere. What are they? How do comics use them effectively? What types of stories work better in comics than anywhere else? *Amber Raden, Jules Porter, Lathan Murrell, Madeleine Vasaly, Mark Lundberg (mod)*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Video Gaming in Cinema: Best and Worst Movie Adaptations

Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka

Join us for a lively discussion on the highs and lows of video game movies. We'll cover what makes a successful adaptation, analyze some of the best and worst examples, and speculate on upcoming releases. *Henry Avalon Kaldhusdal, Jackson Vanguard, Wes Huntington*

10:00pm–11:00pm

Folk Horror

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

The documentary "Woodlands Dark and Days Bewitched" hit streaming and ignited renewed interest in folk horror. These stories focus on how outsiders collide with folk religion, paganism, and the dark side of nature. Let's talk about some of our favorites. *Andrea Stephanie Herman, Ann Laabs, Bryon D Stump, Lathan Murrell (mod), skazka 9000*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

10:00pm–11:00pm

Tipsy Treats: Board Game Edition!!!

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Connie and MKII need help! The sisters are competing to design the perfect board game and will need the assistance of six audience members to help (or hinder) their creations. Don't worry! Only Pam and Dawn (sisters) will be involved in the messy process. *Cory Damone Enriquez, Pam Germ, Dawn Krosnowski*

10:00pm–11:00pm

What We Do in the Shadows Retrospective Fan Panel

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

AJ Pete, Auggi May, Catherine Schaff-Stump, Charlene Holm (mod), Dave Margosian

10:00pm–11:00pm

Harley Quinn (TV) Fan Panel

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

Cetius d'Raven (mod), Justin Edward Grays, Mark Lundberg, Sarah Moretsky

10:00pm–11:00pm

Fairy Godmother's Fantastical Fiasco

Hyatt 2, Northstar B

Join your favorite Villainess from Far Far Away during a night of inappropriate hijinx and debauchery as she celebrates her win over that hideous ogre Shrek. Party games, prizes, and NO OGRES ALLOWED. ****mature content****
Bailey Workman, Jennifer Golbuff

10:00pm–11:00pm

Alan Moore and the Working Out of Ideospace

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

Alan Moore is known for such graphic novel classics as Watchmen, V For Vendetta, and From Hell, but recently he's focused more on prose works such as Jerusalem and The Great When. Let's gather and listen to the Voice of the Fire!
Matthew Kessen, Patrick G Harrigan (mod), Tim Uren

10:00pm–12:30am

Late Night Music Circle

Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka

A late night gathering of musicians where you can sing, play, or just listen.

11:30pm–12:30am

Cheesy Good Fun

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

Some movies and TV series are not cult classics or so bad they're good. Instead, they're a little cheesy and a lot of fun. Streaming services are responsible for creating or resurrecting properties that qualify. Let's talk about our favorites. *Katherine Jo Pysick, Kay Ericson (mod), Nathan Michael Anderson, Ren Nonnweiler*

11:30pm–12:30am

"Hear Me Out" Cake—CVG Edition

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Ok...so...hear us out. Is there a better place to share your "unique" crushes than at CONvergence? NOPE! Join us for this interactive "adult craft" experience where the stranger the crush, the more we want to Hear YOU Out! *Christina Gregorson, Cory Damone Enriquez, Dawn Krosnowski*

11:30pm–12:30am

Sinners (movie)

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Ryan Coogler and company gave us a vampire movie that incorporates lore and ties it in with American experiences of "the other," assimilation, and resistance. Let's talk about this ish! *Damarra Atkins, Gregory Parks (mod), Lathan Murrell, T. Aaron Cisco, Charlene Holm*

11:30pm–12:30am

Magnus Protocol Fan Panel

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

Cetius d'Raven

11:30pm–12:30am

Video Games After Dark

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

Video games have had adult content since forever, but with online game stores opting to carry more adults-only games, we are in a renaissance of adult content. Join the discussion about the whats, wheres, and WHY?! ****mature content****
Jaymie Delia Wagner, Roger Morse (mod), TheRealGChu

SATURDAY

9:30am–10:30am

Cartoons We Miss

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Hop aboard the nostalgia train and gush about your favorite cartoons from the 20th century! What do we prefer about them over modern animated shows? *Bryon D Stump, Elizabeth Merritt, Erik Nyberg, Kiki Joy Latham, Shannan Paul (mod)*

9:30am–10:30am

Business of Tabletop Game Development

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Join Talking Cardboard as they dive into the world of board game design and publishing. Get insights from industry experts as we explore their journeys, challenges, and the creative process behind bringing your favorite games to life. *Adam Rehberg, Cory Peickert, Jeremy Geenen, Justin Kempainen, Liz Davidson, Nick Dotzenrod (mod)*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

9:30am–10:30am **ADHD/Autism: A Journey of Adult Diagnosis**
 Hyatt 2, Greenway I
 Ever wondered if you may have ADHD or be autistic? Come hear from panelists about their experiences getting diagnosed as an adult. Learn how to advocate for yourself, what the process may look like, and what benefits a formal diagnosis may hold. *Auggi May, Alyssa Pon-Franklin, Annie Fleschner, Damian Boldizs (mod), Renate Fiora*

9:30am–Noon **U of M Raptor Center**
 Hyatt 2, Northstar B
 GPS is once again bringing in the U of M Raptor Center demonstration with live birds of prey—a perennial favorite. This year there will be an hour-long Meet and Greet booth immediately following the 9:30am panel.

9:30am–10:30am **Managing Financial Expectations as an Artist**
 Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3
 Deciding whether you can make a business from your art is a difficult process. How do you figure out what will pay your bills? How do you balance time for art with a need for a regular job? *Amber Raden (mod), Charles Urbach, Janelle Kloth, John Heimbuch*

9:30am–10:30am **Move It Like Water**
 Hyatt 6, Pool
 A 45-minute low-impact workout in the pool led by a certified water fitness instructor. Learn how to use water resistance to tone and strengthen and do cardio in a supportive way. You do NOT need to know how to swim. All levels of ability are welcome. Ages 12+. *Christina Neitz*

11:00am–Noon **Birding with Nerds**
 Greenway Stairs
 Come join GoH Prof Brown, Duck Washington, and other avid birders for a walk down Loring Green and into Loring Park to look at birds! Bring Your Own Binoculars and get ready to geek out on birds. ****canceled if raining****
Duck Washington, Prof Brown

11:00am–Noon **Meet and Greet—T. Aaron Cisco**
 Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Signing Table A
****prices may vary**** *T. Aaron Cisco*

11:00am–1:30pm **Meet and Greet—Christopher Jones**
 Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Signing Table B
****prices may vary**** *Christopher Jones*

11:00am–Noon **Guilty Pleasure Television**
 Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE
 It's objectively terrible, but it's fun! What shows do you know are awful but watch anyway? *Kiki Joy Latham, Laura Okagaki (mod), Randee Dawn, Ren Nonnweiler*

11:00am–Noon **World Building and Mythmaking**
 Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH
 Join two-time World Fantasy and Rhysling Award-winning author C.S.E. Cooney in a bazaar of tips, tools, and methods to build the world and myths of your very own story in any medium. *C.S.E. Cooney, Kyle B Dekker (mod)*

11:00am–Noon **Religious Trauma in Gaming**
 Hyatt 2, Greenway I
 What do video games have to say about religious trauma? How can tabletop Game Masters navigate this issue with sensitivity in their campaigns? Is gaming a good tool for recovering from religious trauma? *Abigail Sloane Silver (mod), Amanda Larsen, Damian Boldizs, Jules Porter, Kenneth Joel Justiniano*

11:00am–Noon **CONvergence 101**
 Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2
 This is a big, busy convention and we can offer suggestions on how to enjoy it without wiping out. *Brian Etchieson, Heather L Heim, Maya Sutton, Rachel Poleke, Rhea Wessendorf (mod)*

11:00am–Noon **Passive-Aggressive vs. Aggressive-Aggressive**
 Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3
 Anger is a natural human emotion, though one that requires more control in expressing positively than many. How does one keep from being toxic while still allowing a healthy expression of their anger? In what ways is anger good? *Charlene Holm (mod), Elizabeth Ess, Jamie Riedesel, Kelly Murphy, Tanya DePass*

11:00am–Noon **How to Introduce Gaming**
 Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka
 Want to introduce kids or non-gaming friends to the world of tabletop games? Join our panelists as they share tips and strategies for making gaming accessible and enjoyable for players of all ages and skill levels. *Erik Nyberg, Raina Kelly (mod), Grace Holdinghaus, Kierin McKay, Mackenzie Fleschner*

12:30pm–1:30pm **Meet and Greet—Shannan Paul**
 Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Signing Table A
****prices may vary**** *Shannan Paul*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

12:30pm–1:30pm

Being in the Resistance

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

How do science fiction and fantasy inform our understanding of how to be in the resistance? *Jaymie Delia Wagner, Katarina R Larsen (mod), Kerry Teckla Peterson, Lathan Murrell, Renate Fiora*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Knights of Sportsball

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Geeks and nerds are far more common in the memberships of sports industries than you've heard. Hear some first hand reports from the trenches. *Chris Kluwe, Peter Maxwell Avirom, Ryan Kaiser (mod)*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Basic Klingon Phrases

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

Ever wanted to learn Klingon? Our panelists will teach you a few basic phrases and discuss the history of the language. *Dawn Krosnowski (mod), Lana Rosario, Laura Thurston*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Ready Player CON(spiracy)

Hyatt 2, Northstar B

Your favorite improvisors are back with more COMPLETELY TRUE and DEFINITELY REAL conspiracies! We've been telling you The Truth for over a decade and we're not stopping any time soon. Bring your questions about the world and we'll answer every single one. *Jeremy Stomberg, Jerry Belich, Molly Glover, Nick Glover, Tim Wick*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Geek Partnership Society and Our Community

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

The local nonprofit GPS exists to support our local fan community. Find out how they can connect you to your fandoms and grow partnerships. Learn about their events and activities. *Ann Roubik, Jo Ackerman, Natasha Jo Krentz*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Wargaming Outside Wargames

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

Hobby wargaming has existed since the 19th century, but recently many of those design ideas have been repurposed to model non-military subjects in games such as John Company, Root, Cross-Bronx Expressway, and others. How, why, and by whom? *Patrick G Harrigan (mod), Tim Uren*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Kids in the Kitchen

Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka

What do kids like to cook? What are the epic fails? When should kids start cooking? *Becca Justiniano (mod), Dani Mayville, Mackenzie Fleschner, Rose Grumdahl*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Meet and Greet—Chris Kluwe

Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Signing Table A

****prices may vary**** *Chris Kluwe*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Meet and Greet—Matthew Kessen

Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Signing Table B

****prices may vary**** *Matthew Kessen*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Meet and Greet—Charles Urbach

Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Signing Table D

Former Guest of Honor Charles Urbach will be signing materials at his Dealers Room stall. The Meet and Greet table will have directions. ****prices may vary**** *Charles Urbach*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Geeks Without God Live at CONvergence 2025

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Your favorite godless geeks are back again, celebrating their 13th anniversary at the place where it all started. Tim, Nick, and Molly will record an episode live with an audience! Come sit with like-minded folks for geeky atheist nonsense. *Molly Glover, Nick Glover, Tim Wick, Lee Harris, Dave Rand-McKay*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Realities of Self-Publishing

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

The world of self-publishing can be misleading. This will be a discussion about the realities versus the expectations of that process, all the pitfalls to avoid, and all the benefits to be gained. *Barbara Gregorich, Becca Justiniano, Madeleine Vasaly, Prof Brown (mod), Stephanie Olson*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Helping Youth Find Gender Expression

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

With the broadening of gender expression and the wider acceptance of exploration on that spectrum comes the need for resources and community, especially for younger people. What's out there? How do you find it? *Annie Fleschner, Jaymie Delia Wagner, Kay Ericson, Mackenzie Fleschner (mod), Sarah Pierce*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Dragon Age: The VeilGuard

Hyatt 2, Northstar B

After 10 years, BioWare finally gave us a sequel to Dragon Age: Inquisition. How well did they do? What lingering questions do you still have? *Brittany Ann Kerschner (mod), Caitlin Jean Sauve, Janna Seliger, Tanya DePass, Theo Quinlivan*

2:00pm–4:30pm

Crafting Circle

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

Come join us, bring a project to work on, or just come to chat. Learn about other arts and crafts and talk with others who enjoy making.

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

2:00pm–3:00pm

**501st Legion, Rebel Legion,
Mando Mercs: Info and
How to Join**

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

The 501st Legion+Rebel Legion+Mando Mercs are international non-profit charity groups who make and wear screen-accurate Star Wars costumes to bring joy and raise money for those in need. Want to learn more? Have a question? You've come to the right place. *Jill McTavish, Kayla Beckemeyer*

2:00pm–3:00pm

**May the Votes Be With Us:
Leading with Culture**

Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka

Diverse geeks in elected office? Yes, please! Join elected nerds—from mayor to school board—as they share how fandom and culture shape their leadership. From Raya to Wonder Woman, we lead with imagination. Q&A included. The future is ours to create! *Amáda Márquez Simula (mod), Heidi Garrido, Laurel Deneen, Michelle Pettway*

3:30pm–4:30pm

**Meet and Greet—
Victor Raymond**

Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Signing Table A

****prices may vary**** *Victor Jason Raymond*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Meet and Greet—Colette Feehan

Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Signing Table B

****prices may vary**** *Colette Feehan*

3:30pm–4:30pm

**Physics of Superheroes:
Hollywood Edition**

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Former Guest of Honor Dr. James Kakalios gives a talk based on his upcoming book, *The Physics of Superheroes: Hollywood Edition: An All-New Exploration of the Multiverse, the Quantum Realm, and Everything In-Between*. *James Kakalios*

3:30pm–4:30pm

**Bad Representation or
No Representation?**

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Creators (esp. film) have a checkered past in portraying marginalized groups accurately, never mind respectfully. But is it better than no representation at all? How can we improve this situation? *Assad Khaishgi, Dirk Thomas Ykema, Jules Porter, Laura Okagaki, Shannan Paul (mod)*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Year in New Trek

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

Several series are running concurrently. Engage in a discussion about *Lower Decks*, *Prodigy*, *Strange New Worlds*, *Section 31*, and *Starfleet Academy*. *Brittany Ann Kerschner, Jim McMahon, Justin Edward Grays, Kirsten Hazel Roepke-Larsen (mod), Wes Huntington*

3:30pm–6:00pm

Art: Impossible

Hyatt 2, Northstar B

Watch as talented artists are given impossible challenges! Could you create a CONvergence-themed amusement park in 30 minutes? How about designing a new Doctor Who costume in five minutes? These artists create the impossible! *Melissa Sue Kaercher, Tim Wick (mod), Jerry Belich, Christopher Jones*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Series vs. Stand-Alones

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

Some sci-fi readers revel in reading series and don't really care for stand-alones. Others are the opposite. What attracts readers to series and what to stand-alones? What are the strengths and weaknesses of each? *Barbara Gregorich, Dani Mayville, Kate Dane, Milli Gilbert, Randee Dawn (mod)*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Depictions of Kids in Media

Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka

What portrayals of kids in media do kids like and find realistic? *Kierin McKay, Mackenzie Fleschner, Peter Larsen (mod), Shaun L Larsen*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Meet and Greet—Jules Porter

Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Signing Table A

****prices may vary**** *Jules Porter*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Meet and Greet—James Kakalios

Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall Signing Table B

****prices may vary**** *James Kakalios*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Mystery Soda Panel

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Watch several victims, um VOLUNTEERS, try sodas of mysterious origins. Will they suffer? Can they choke it down? Might they even like it?! Find out! Our misery loves your company. Pointing while laughing is optional. *Dan Schmidt, FLipsiDE, Geoffrey Benson, Kelly Murphy (mod), Michael Benson, Nick Amos, Steve Sylvestre, Viga*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

5:00pm–6:00pm

Swiss Army Writer: The Art of Multi-Disciplinary Writing

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Stories are written across many mediums: novels, poems, plays, lyrics, and so much more. In what ways are these processes the same and what are the key ways they are different? *C.S.E. Cooney, Kyle B Dekker (mod)*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Year In Horror

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

Join us to discuss the highlights of horror media that have come out since CVG2024. *Charlene Holm, Molly Glover (mod), Ann Laabs, Stephanie Olson*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Writers Meetup

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

A gathering of people who are either published authors, aspiring authors, or just in it for the pure joy of it. This is a way of networking with others who enjoy writing in any form or level of experience. *Amber Raden, Eric Zawadzki, Katherine Jo Pysick, Samuel T. Weston, T. Aaron Cisco*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Level Up: Legal Considerations in Games

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

OGL? ORC? IP? IC? Whether you're a game dev, streamer, contractor, or dreamer, this session will equip you with the knowledge to protect your creative work, navigate contracts with confidence, and avoid legal pitfalls in the gaming industry. *Lindsay Lundeen*

5:00pm–6:00pm

Youth Speak

Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka

Our panel of youth and teen experts will help bring you up to speed with the latest slang so that you might have a chance of understanding it. *Becca Justiniano (mod), John Kline, Katarina R Larsen, Kit Holmboe, Mackenzie Fleschner*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Parasocial Relationships

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Parasocial relationships (one-way relationships where fans feel they "know" a content creator, media personality, or influencer) have always existed. With social media, they take unfortunate, sometimes perilous twists. Let's discuss navigating them. *Chris Kluge, Kendrick Edmund Cronin, Naomi Kritzer, Tanya DePass (mod), Taru Hunter*

7:00pm–9:30pm

Mega Panel

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

The panel where we talk about anything and everything **except** the CONvergence Masquerade. If you are interested in everything **except** the Masquerade, this is the panel for you! *Jeremy Stomberg, Melissa Sue Kaercher, Molly Glover, Nick Glover*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Agatha All Along Fan Panel

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

Cetius d'Raven, Charlene Holm, Jaymie Delia Wagner, Noel Thingvall (mod), Renate Fiora

7:00pm–8:00pm

Friends of Bill W

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

7:00pm–8:00pm

Improv Storytelling Games

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

Whether you're writing a story, running a TTRPG campaign, building a game or just wanting to have fun, improv games can help boost your storytelling chops. Let's play some together and come up with some great stories! *Prof Brown*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Truck-Kun's Greatest Hits!

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Beep, here's comes the isekai truck! Why is the trope of getting hit by a truck in so much anime, and how many times has this happened? *Viga*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Perimenopause and Menopause

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

Oh heavens, our lovelies, this blows! Let's have a discussion about hormones, oral and otherwise, diet, and best practices to get us through these very difficult times. *Annie Fleschner, Jai Negri, Kendrick Edmund Cronin, Renate Fiora, Shannan Paul (mod)*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Magnus Archives Retrospective

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

Statement of multiple fans of Rusty Quill's horror podcast concerning their enjoyment of said podcast and their post-conclusion head canons. Recorded live during Convergence 2025, Minneapolis, Minnesota, United States. Statement begins... *Allison Dean, Cetius d'Raven (mod), Lisa Marie Deguiseppe*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Best Movie & TV Scores of 2024+

Hyatt, 4 Great Lakes A3

It's our annual Score-a-ganza! Come hear what we've picked this year! *Dave Margosian, Duck Washington, Kayla McGrady*

8:30pm–9:30pm

Korean Dramedies

Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka

Netflix has a bunch of Korean comedies that are totally addicting! Let's chat about shows we love, what we enjoy about Korean TV, and the various themes/tropes seen. Be ready to jot down some titles to check out later! *Dawn Krosnowski, KayCee Bucher, Noel Thingvall, Susie Kline (mod)*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

9:00pm–1:00am

Art Auction

Hyatt 2, Northstar B

10:00pm–11:00pm

Smash or Pass!

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

A beloved but questionable decision making game that you all know and love! Join us for the “Smash or Pass” Kahoot! (smart device required to participate but not to enjoy the show). ****mature content**** *Alicia Beck, Anne Rementer, Christi Farris, Christina Gregerson, Lindsey Wollan, Tyronne Davidson*

10:00pm–11:00pm

Interracial Love

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Ebony and Ivory, Black and Asian, etc.—why are we so afraid of this? What can we do to combat that fear and embrace the statement “love is love”? Join us as we discuss this topic and more. *Cyn Sanchez, Justin Edward Grays, Kiki Joy Latham (mod), Lathan Murrell*

10:00pm–11:00pm

The Pun-El

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

And again, the English language is treated with great violence in a space safe from flying fruit. *Bob Alberti, Brian LaBounty, Edward Eastman (mod), Margaret Eastman*

10:00pm–12:30am

Crafting Circle

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

Come join us, bring a project to work on, or just come to chat. Learn about other arts and crafts and talk with others who enjoy making.

10:00pm–11:00pm

Adulting, Am I Right?

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

Tasks, meetings, and mental loads will expand to fill available space and time. Let’s talk about this thing called “adulting” and how we can keep ourselves from stressing about it. *Ben Ellis, Charlene Holm (mod), Heather L Heim, Kelly Murphy, Melissa J Arbuckle*

10:00pm–12:30am

Late Night Music Circle

Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka

A late night gathering of musicians where you can sing, play, or just listen.

11:30pm–12:30am

Working Out the Kinks

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

How does someone explore kink and the kink community safely? What is it like in the kink community? And why are so many geeks so kinky as well? Let’s talk about kink and the community surrounding it! ****mature content**** *Heather L Heim, James, Kelly Murphy, Lathan Murrell, Lisa Marie Deguisseppi (mod)*

11:30pm–12:30am

Where Are We Going?

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Many have observed striking parallels between recent U.S. history and that of Germany in the late 20s/early 30s. What can we do to ensure history doesn’t repeat itself? *Abigail Sloane Silver, Boris Leonidovich Smelov, Jaymie Delia Wagner, Jules Porter, Kendrick Edmund Cronin (mod)*

11:30pm–12:30am

Caffeine is the Lifeblood of Geekery

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

Why do you feel different drinking tea versus coffee? Let’s talk about caffeine in all its different forms. *Katarina R Larsen, KitKat (mod), Laura Okagaki, Robert Gounley, Shaun L Larsen*

11:30pm–12:30am

Hundreds of Beavers Fan Panel

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

Azron Borchert, Beth Grimes, Elizabeth Borchert, Jesse Abrahamson, Michael Borchert (mod)

SUNDAY

9:30am–10:30am

Move It Like Water

Hyatt 6, Pool

A 45-minute, low-impact workout in the pool led by a certified water fitness instructor. Learn how to use water resistance to tone and strengthen and do cardio in a supportive way. You do NOT need to know how to swim. All levels of ability are welcome. Ages 12+. *Christina Neitz*

11:00am–Noon

I Wish School Taught That

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

While school can teach a wide variety of subjects and skills, it can’t cover everything needed for general adulting. How can we use geekdom to either teach those skills or offer support in finding a teacher or mentor? *Ashley M Mages, Dani Mayville, Janelle Kloth, Katarina R Larsen, Raederle Sterling (mod)*

11:00am–Noon

Wicked (movie) Fan Panel

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Charlene Holm, David Lenander, Jai Negri, Kiki Joy Latham, Nikki Armstrong (mod)

11:00am–Noon

How to Have a Hobby Without Turning It Into a Hustle

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Let’s discuss the value in engaging in creative projects without the end goal of turning them into a money-making enterprise, whether it be a full-time career or a side-hustle. *Amber Raden, Jerry Belich, Kendrick Edmund Cronin (mod), Prof Brown, Tanya Brody*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

11:00am–Noon

Evolution of Tabletop Games

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

Explore the history and evolution of tabletop games, from ancient classics to modern masterpieces. Our panelists will discuss how game design, themes, and mechanics have changed over the years and what the future might hold for the industry. *Brandy McQueen, Chris J Mortika, Eric Zawadzki, Martin Grider, Renate Fiora (mod)*

11:00am–Noon

Tailoring 101: Structured Jackets

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

Learn the basics of making a tailored jacket, like padstitching, making and installing a canvas front, installing a full lining, and more! We'll also discuss how to apply these techniques to other projects and learn some machine sewing shortcuts. *Sara Spookystitch*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Brainhacks and Burnout: An Author's Musing on the Writing Craft

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

Whether you've been writing for a few months or for decades, the burnout's real. Permission to play and taking pleasure in the process can reinvigorate your joy in the work of writing. *C.S.E. Cooney, Kyle B Dekker (mod)*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Fighting Censorship in Fandom Spaces

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Pro-censorship rhetoric is on the rise both in politics and in fandom. We'll discuss why it's become so prevalent, what forms censorship can take, and how to combat it in the fight to keep fandom a space where expression, not repression, is celebrated. *Assad Khaishgi (mod), Jaymie Delia Wagner, Jules Porter, Kerry Teckla Peterson, Lauren Crabtree*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Dealing with the Post-Con Blues

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Struggle with going back to regular life after a convention? You're not alone. Our panelists will discuss their coping mechanisms and why it might be good that conventions are usually just vacations. *Heather L Heim, Kelly Murphy, Kendrick Edmund Cronin, Renate Fiora, T. Aaron Cisco (mod)*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Setting vs. System

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

As a GM, what are some options if you love an RPG setting but not the system it was written in? If you convert into another system, how do you maintain balance? *Alex V Bender (mod), Bob Alberti, Chris J Mortika, John Gary Leppik*

12:30pm–1:30pm

North Country Gaylaxians Book Review

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

Each year, North Country Gaylaxians chooses one book a month to read. Our charter is to read books either by LGBTQIA+ authors or books with positive LGBTQIA+ content. This panel will discuss the books we have read since CONvergence 2024. *Claudia Slovacek, David Lenander, Don Kaiser*

12:30pm–1:30pm

Managing Art and Disability

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

The creative process can be hard enough, but many of us have disability challenges, both physical and mental, that can make it seem daunting. What strategies can one employ to ease those concerns? Are there mediums that work well for certain concerns? *Eiryn Katherine, Erin Wilaby, Katherine Jo Pysick, Neal Sorensen (mod), Ren Nonnweiler*

12:30pm–1:30pm

How to Become a Panelist

Hyatt 4, Lake Minnetonka

You can be on panels. It's easy and we want you to join us. Find out all you need to know about being a panelist. *Becca Justiniano, Elizabeth Hufnagle Puffer, Jesse Boom, Pete Lane*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Everything Old is New Again

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

Reimagining classic stories/novels in different settings. What draws us back to these stories? *Craig Smith, David Lenander, John Heimbuch, Noel Thingvall (mod), Rande Dawn*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Writing Sci-Fi

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Writers of mystery novels must come up with a mystery to be solved. What "givens" must writers of science fiction come up with? How does this help or hinder writing the story? *Danith McPherson (mod), Jaymie Delia Wagner, Kate Dane, T. Aaron Cisco, Wes Huntington*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Best Intentions: Unexpected Triumphs and Cautionary Tales

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

When we started, we were headed somewhere else, but we got here. Come hear stories of unexpected triumphs and cautionary tales! *Chris Kluwe, Jules Porter, Prof Brown, Tanya Brody (mod), Tanya DePass*

PANELS AND PROGRAMMING

2:00pm–3:00pm

Sewing Tips and Tricks for Newbies

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

Presented by The DreamStitcher (who has over 40 years of professional sewing experience), she will give you information about sewing costumes that you can't always find on the internet. She's made all the "mistakes" so you don't have to! *Elizabeth Sloan, Gerald Dagle, Rae Lundquist (mod)*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Gaylaxicon 2025 and CONsole Room 2026

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A2

This panel will introduce the audience to two local conventions: Gaylaxicon 2025, a LGBTQIA+ and allies literary speculative fiction (SF, Fantasy, Horror) and gaming convention in October, and CONsole Room 2026, the Minnesota Dr. Who Convention in January. *Ben Ellis, Don Kaiser (mod), Natasha Jo Krentz*

2:00pm–3:00pm

Weird Music Listening Society

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

We've all had a friend expose us to strange music, some of which we've loved and some that left us confused. What happens when a lover of random items, thrift finds, and all things obscure exposes comedians to weird music they've never heard before? *Duck Washington, Jason Kruger (mod), Maren Aalgaard, Melissa Sue Kaercher, Shannan Paul, Tim Wick*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Big Fun, Small Box

Hyatt 1, Lakeshore A

Some games that come in small boxes are a lot of fun to play over and over again. What are some of your favorites? *Don Kaiser (mod), Ren Nonnweiler, Renate Fiora, nick a jaworski*

3:30pm–4:30pm

Galaxy Quest Fan Panel

Hyatt 2, Greenway BCDE

Assad Khaishgi, Kayla McGrady, Nathan Michael Anderson, Samuel T. Weston (mod), Sarah Pierce

3:30pm–4:30pm

Is It a Sandwich?

Hyatt 2, Greenway FGH

Is a sausage on a bun a sandwich? What about a stroopwafel? Come debate the merits of the sandwich alignment chart. *Nikki Armstrong (mod), Randee Dawn, Tony Harmelink*

3:30pm–4:30pm

What Makes a Good Opening for a Novel?

Hyatt 2, Greenway I

When you're deciding to read a book, you might look at the cover, the title, the author, and the back cover blurb. You might also glance at the first page. We'll discuss which openings are most likely to draw an audience in and why. *Danith McPherson (mod), Jaymie Delia Wagner, J.M. Lee, Justin Octavian Rose, Lisa Hario*

3:30pm–4:30pm

In Memoriam–Film

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A3

Find out who we lost this year in genre film and get some recommendations from the panel on what works to seek out. *Garrick A Dietze (mod), Kelvin Hatle, Megan M Slawson, Melissa Sue Kaercher*



SEATTLE Worldcon 2025

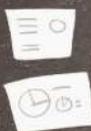


Building YESTERday's Future - FOR EVERYONE



August 13-17, 2025

Seattle Convention Center



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K. Tempest Bradford
Nisi Shawl
Poet Laureate
Brandon O'Brien

Guests of Honor
Martha Wells
Donato Giancola
Bridget Landry
Alexander James Adams



<https://seattlein2025.org>

PHOTO MEETUPS

Please note that while attending these particular events, your photo will be taken by an official CVG photographer. All ages, caliber, mash-ups, and genders of costumes are welcome at these meetups.

THURSDAY

- 3:30pm–4:30pm** **Photo Meetup: Disney**
Hyatt 2, Greenway Stairs
- 5:00pm–6:00pm** **Photo Meetup: Fantasy/D&D**
Hyatt 2, Greenway Stairs
- 7:00pm–8:00pm** **Photo Meetup: Bridgerton/
Historical**
Hyatt 4, Lake of the Isles
- 8:30pm–9:30pm** **Photo Meetup: Barbie**
Hyatt 4, Lake of the Isles

FRIDAY

- 12:30pm–1:30pm** **Photo Meetup: Marvel**
Hyatt 2, Greenway Stairs
- 2:00pm–3:00pm** **Photo Meetup: Science Fiction**
Hyatt 2, Greenway Stairs
- 3:30pm–4:30pm** **Photo Meetup: Gaming**
Hyatt 2, Greenway Stairs
- 5:00pm–6:00pm** **Photo Meetup: Royal Manticoran
Navy**
Hyatt 4, Lake of the Isles
- 7:00pm–8:00pm** **Photo Meetup: Halloween/
Horror**
Hyatt 4, Lake of the Isles

SATURDAY

Hyatt 4, Lake of the Isles (Across from Space Lounge)
CONvergence's team of enthusiastic photographers (identified by their official Photography badges) are dedicated to capturing the excitement and energy of the one-of-a-kind moments had at each convention. Whether it's candid shots of fans out and about, popular panel discussions, or stunning images of cosplay, our team is committed to documenting every aspect of this exciting weekend.

Looking to have a specific photo taken? Stop by our headquarters and we'll take your picture in our studio!

12:30pm–1:30pm

Photo Meetup: DC
Hyatt 2, Greenway Stairs

2:00pm–3:00pm

Photo Meetup: Wicked
Hyatt 2, Greenway Stairs

3:30pm–4:30pm

Photo Meetup: Star Wars
Hyatt 2, Greenway Stairs

5:00pm–6:00pm

Photo Meetup: Ghostbusters
Hyatt 4, Lake of the Isles

7:00pm–8:00pm

Photo Meetup: Anime
Hyatt 4, Lake of the Isles

SUNDAY

12:30pm–1:30pm

Photo Meetup: Percy Jackson
Hyatt 4, Lake of the Isles



PHOTOGRAPHY

CONvergence posts photos on official CONvergence social media as well as on Smugmug (use the QR code below) a few weeks after the convention. For more information on photography policies, please read the CONvergence Attendee Conduct Policies section titled Photography, located in this Souvenir Guide and on the CONvergence website.

Every convention experience is unique. We hope you'll focus on living in the moment while we focus on helping you remember it.



DEALERS ROOM

Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall

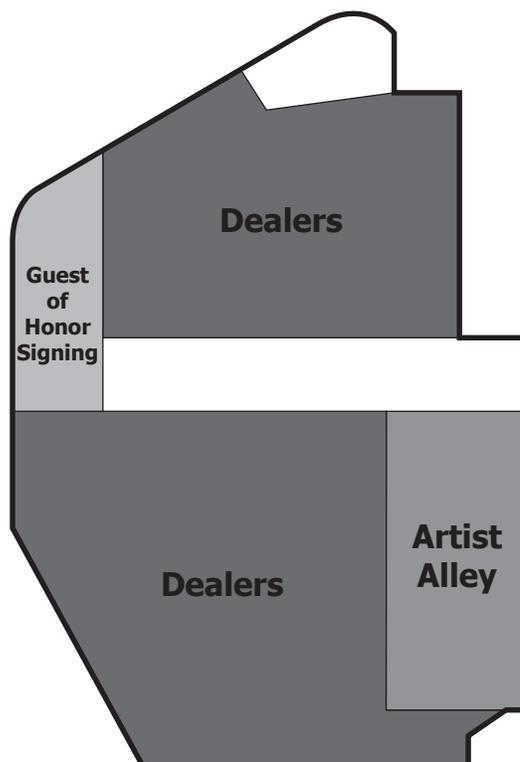
Do you typically think shopping is a roll of the dice? That you might never find what you're looking for? Don't worry, no matter what your interests, our dealers from near and far offer all manner of geeky delights and unique wares that will keep you entertained for hours. Need some new dice to roll initiative? We've got those! Looking for pop culture t-shirts, books, jewelry, anime collectibles, one-of-a-kind crafts, books, or board games? We've got those, too! Through our doors, you can find all the things that you never knew you needed. Your CONvergence weekend is not complete without a visit to the Dealers Room!

If you, someone you know, or a creator/company you like would be interested in participating in the Dealers Room for CONvergence 2026, email dealers@convergence-con.org.

2025 Dealers (subject to change)

- Alembic Assembly
- Angelwear Creations
- Archimedes Azure Creations
- Ars Invicta: Art of Charles Urbach
- Art by Nukabelle
- Author S.G. Tasz
- Awesome Industries
- Bad Wolf Adventure Studio
- Barbara Gregorich, Author
- Better Off Studios
- bitZANITY
- Briar and Spindle
- Bright Bard
- BTA Workshop
- Catalyst Books & Gifts
- Chip Theory Games
- Claire Doolittle Illustration LLC
- Comic Wreck
- Cryptid Arcade
- D20 Stitchery
- Dapper Raptor Studios
- Daughter of Dale LLC
- Djent Gamer/NinDjent0
- Dramastikator Arts LLC
- Fox Den Board Game Cafe
- Fragmented Nostalgia
- Fuzzbutt Boutique
- Gamezenter
- Giant Turtle Creations
- Grumpy Gnome Naturals, LLC
- Highland Princess Designs, LLC
- Highwind Steamworks
- Honey Weasel Candles
- Horizon Music, Inc.
- Justin Rose Author
- Latchkey Press
- Lunarstarr
- Maps and Scraps

- MiniCryptid Studio
- MO'R Designs
- Moxie and Babs
- MystiCrafts Wands
- Mythic Arts by Shauna Aura Knight
- Mythical Menagerie
- MythicPhoenix
- Nerdy Knits
- Nomadic Lasers
- Orbs of Destiny
- Patrick W. Marsh and Joseph Crowe Authors
- Raden Studios
- Radiant Alchemy
- Radiant Grey
- Robot Dragon Studios
- Sagemoon Arts
- Silly Wacky Zany Books
- Starshine Plush
- Stellar Custom Images
- Tako Collective
- TANSTAAFL Press
- The Big Door Prize DBA Pin Daddies
- The BirdHive
- The Imagination Shoppe
- The Spooky Sniper
- Total Party Kill Games
- Total Power Xchange
- Wooperworks
- Ziggy's West



ARTISTS ALLEY

Hyatt 1, Exhibit Hall

Welcome to a magical place where you can purchase art directly from graphic and material artists, interact face to face and hear about their process and work, and potentially score some custom art created during the convention! Whether you're interested in webcomics, comic books and graphic novels, art prints, illustrations, t-shirts, stickers, buttons, or keychains, you can find it all and more at Artists Alley!

If you, someone you know, or a creator/company you like would be interested in participating in Artists Alley for CONvergence 2026, email artistsalley@convergence-con.org.

2025 Artists (subject to change)

- ArtNVaine
- BluuuoArt
- ColourmeKatelyn
- Crooked Nose Arts
- Daphne Art and Comics
- EKMS Studio LLC
- Enrique Draws
- Foxpirate's art
- Fried Unicorn Studio
- gawki
- haromochi
- Illumiknobi
- JJTheBunBun
- Lociro Draws Stuff
- Moonbeam Designs
- Rokaturas
- Skull Bros
- softcenteregg
- SweeToothGhost
- The Meggles Art
- Zecypher

ART SHOW

Hyatt 2, Northstar A

Silent Auction

The Art Show is a silent auction that features artwork from across the country for attendees to bid on or simply enjoy with their eyes. Also available in the same space is a well-stocked Art Market with pieces available for retail purchase. Come visit the gallery and see what the artists have brought to showcase this year. There are always unique offerings available for a wide variety of artistic tastes!

For clarification on bidding and buying artwork at the Art Show, check out the CONvergence website at convergence-con.org/at-the-con/things-to-do/art-show/art-show-buyers-guide/ or ask an Art Show volunteer.

Please refer to the CONvergence policy on AI-generated artwork.

Note: The Art Show does not censor artwork. Parental guidance is advised.

Live Auction

Saturday evening features a live art auction in Hyatt 2, Northstar B beginning at 9:00pm. Artwork that received a sufficient number of bids in the silent auction will be offered for sale in a live auction format. Part of the fun is watching the antics of our auctioneers as they sell some spectacular pieces!

Awards

Did you know that the Art Show presents five different awards at the end of the show? These awards are judged by a jury of professional artists and knowledgeable art collectors. The results are announced at the Live Auction, Closing Ceremony, and on the website after the convention. Don't miss visiting the Art Show to see who will win in 2025!

2024 Art Show Award Winners

Best Amateur Piece

Charizard Quilt @Pokemon by Kristen Ellingson

Best Amateur Collection

T Erickson

Best Professional Piece

Key to Your Destiny by Shauna Aura Knight

Best Professional Collection

Meredith Dillman

Best in Show

Golconda by Ralph J Ryan

WORDSLINGERS WAY

Hyatt 4, Great Lakes A1

Welcome to Wordslingers Way! Like so many things these days, Wordslingers Way is in a transitional period. Our space has always been about allowing people to find their voice and this year, we are in the process of finding our own voice. You will see some things that are the same and some things that are different, but the end goal is the same: to provide wordsmiths with the opportunity to share their words with you! So please enjoy as we explore what Wordslingers Way is and what it will become!

THURSDAY

8:30pm–9:30pm **Janelle, Did You Know You Talk Really Fast?**

A pop culture/reference behemoth of a show perfect for the CONvergence audience! This one-woman variety show brought to you by Janelle Kloth was previously performed at the 2024 Minnesota Fringe Festival. Come see how many references you know! *Janelle Kloth, Ryan Klima*

10:00pm–11:00pm **Nerd Name that Tune**

Fellow nerds, I promise you that there is no trick in the title. This is trivia about songs and tunes. Movies, TV shows, video games—all are fair game. Have you got an ear for victory? Let's find out! *Cory Damone Enriquez*

FRIDAY

11:00am–Noon **Heart of Iron Sneak Peek**

C. M. Alongi's urban fantasy TikTok series CaFae Latte has gained hundreds of thousands of followers across social media. The first CaFae Latte novel—Heart of Iron—will be published in October 2025, but she'll read you a chapter today. *C. M. Alongi*

12:30pm–1:30pm **An Hour with T. Aaron Cisco**

Award-winning author, TV producer, and musician T. Aaron Cisco shares excerpts from their latest novel, as well as wild tales from a lifetime of being an awkward, ugly, lonely nerd who made it their mission to bring much-needed squee into the world... *T. Aaron Cisco*

2:00pm–3:00pm **Kyle B. Dekker Presents: StoryBoard**

Touring theater professional and storyteller Kyle B. Dekker (He-Man Is The Devil) presents a Choose Your Own Storytelling Show Experience, with a selection of geeky and fun stories he's crafted and told on stages across the Twin Cities and the U.S. *Kyle B Dekker*

3:30pm–4:30pm **Kelvin Hatle**

A collection of short solo performance and reading pieces by local actor and playwright Kelvin Hatle. *Kelvin Hatle*

5:00pm–6:00pm **Double-Blind Improv**

A random-draw short-form improv show where you never know what might happen because neither do we! *Andrea Ropella, Duck Washington, Eric Thompson, James Fairbairn, Molly Glover, Nick Glover*

7:00pm–8:00pm **Would I Lie to You?**

Get ready for an evening of outrageous stories, quick wit, and hilarious deception as six of Minnesota's sharpest performers go head-to-head in a live version of Would I Lie to You? Can you spot the truth among the tall tales? *Bob Alberti, Chris Kluwe, Eric Knight, James Fairbairn, Kelvin Hatle, Mike Dee, Nikki Armstrong, Stephanie Hammon*

8:30pm–9:30pm **Running Pains**

A candid narrative of one bookworm's journey from hating running to running while hating it. *Elizabeth Ess*

SATURDAY

11:00am–Noon **Exit Velocity by Barbara Gregorich**

Author Barbara Gregorich will read from Exit Velocity, in which working class hero Rowan Pickett fights for her job and her life. She gets help from friends and from an unexpected source: a parrot from another planet, sent to Earth on a mission. *Barbara Gregorich*

12:30pm–1:30pm **Reading with C.S.E. Cooney**

Join two-time World Fantasy and Rhysling Award-winning author C.S.E. Cooney as she reads from her prose and poems. *C.S.E. Cooney*

2:00pm–3:00pm **Charlie Bethel's The Odyssey, Book 1: The Journey**

John Heimbuch performs part one of Charlie Bethel's adaptation of The Odyssey. John has been performing Charlie Bethel's Beowulf and Gilgamesh around the country since 2019. This is his first public reading of The Odyssey. *John Heimbuch*

WORDSLINGERS WAY

3:30pm–4:30pm

Charlie Bethel's *The Odyssey*, Book 2: *The Homecoming*

John Heimbuch performs part two of Charlie Bethel's adaptation of *The Odyssey*. John has been performing Charlie Bethel's *Beowulf* and *Gilgamesh* around the country since 2019. This is his first public reading of *The Odyssey*.
John Heimbuch

5:00pm–6:00pm

Questionable Choices

Do you like comedy? Do you want to see what happens when we add mousetraps, blindfolds, and lots of other Questionable Choices? *Duck Washington, Eric Thompson, James Fairbairn, Mike Dee, Stephanie Hammon*

5:00pm–7:00pm

Poetry Slam Sign-Up

Enter a lottery to perform two three-minute poems as part of the 2025 CONvergence Poetry Slam!

7:30pm–9:00pm

The CONvergence Poetry Slam

Vogon poetry. Bilbo's Walking Song. Nevermore. The CONvergence Poetry Slam is here to celebrate words and nerds in an exciting competitive format! Show up, sign up, and if the lottery gods are kind, you may be drawn to read two three-minute poems. *Cole Sarar*

10:00pm–11:00pm

"Welcome to the Ethics Committee": An SCP play

A live reading of "Welcome to the Ethics Committee" by Katherine Farmar. This play brings the world of the SCP Foundation from the Internet to the stage. ****mature content**** *Dan Britt, Dirk Thomas Ykema, Echo Payne, Geordan McDougal, Jex Arzayus, Jim Radloff, Katie Berger*



22ND ANNUAL USS NOKOMIS CONVERGENCE BLOOD DRIVE

USS Nokomis Table (Hyatt 1, near the escalators)

Saturday, July 5

9:30am–3:30pm

This year, the USS Nokomis CONvergence Blood Drive is celebrating 25 years!

Since 2001, CONvergence attendees have helped almost 4,000 people with their generous donations, and we're still going strong! Summer is a tough time for the blood supply—especially during the holiday weekend—but the USS Nokomis, a Twin Cities Star Trek fan club, is ready to offer this much-needed support to the American Red Cross.

When it comes to lifesaving care, there's no substitute for blood. According to the American Red Cross, "every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood." Donating blood helps trauma patients, cancer patients, patients needing surgery, and more. The more people that are donating blood, the better the diversity in the nation's blood supply as well, which is essential for helping as many people as possible.

Increasing the blood supply and the warm feeling that accompanies that action aren't the only benefits of donating! This year, the USS Nokomis has some special treats to commemorate our big anniversary. All donors will receive an exclusive pair of American Red Cross x goodr sunglasses (while supplies last) and the coolest (and hardest to get) badge ribbon. You will also be entered in drawings for other fabulous prizes.

Are you ready to donate blood? Schedule your appointment:

- Register online at redcrossblood.org using sponsor code "CONvergence" or visit redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=CONvergence.
- Call 612-385-3750 and USS Nokomis crew members will reserve your appointment for you.
- Use the American Red Cross Blood Donor App.

To find out more about the USS Nokomis, visit us at ussnokomis.org.



American
Red Cross



MAINSTAGE

Hyatt 1, Nicollet Ballroom (entrance found in Nicollet Promenade, facing Nicollet Ave)

CONvergence MainStage is the place for live comedy performances, late-night dances, the Opening Ceremony, the Closing Ceremony, and other large events.

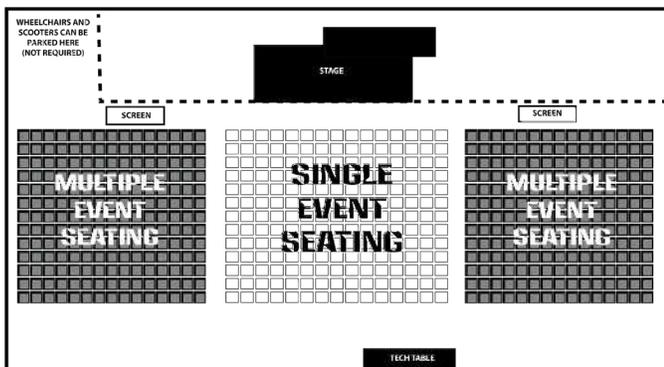
The final schedule can be found on the CONvergence schedule website (convergence-con.org/at-the-con/schedule/) and Sched app. You may also reference the video signage outside MainStage for the most up-to-date information.

MainStage Event Seating

With plenty of seating (nearly double compared to our previous location), there's no need to be discouraged by long queues—friendly Nerf Herders and usher volunteers will help you inside as quickly as possible to a comfortable spot. You'll be guaranteed to see all the action from any seat as MainStage's giant repeater screens mean there are no bad seats in the house!

Eager to watch show after show? We have a designated seating area for attendees who wish to remain seated through multiple performances without leaving the room. Check the seating map below.

Have special seating considerations or accessibility needs (such as visual, hearing, or mobility concerns)? We're happy to help to the best of our ability. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before showtime and contact one of our usher volunteers or MainStage staff. There is a reserved section of priority seating; however, once the doors have opened for general admission, MainStage cannot guarantee seats.



MainStage Dances and Raves

Not ready to end your evening yet? MainStage stays open late to give attendees a place to groove and burn off any extra energy to a variety of music selections. All are welcome!

Complimentary earplugs are available near our main door for any attendee with sensory needs or who is concerned about the volume.

MainStage Dance Rules (No Exceptions)

- Be respectful of each other.
- Hydrate! When dancing it can get warm quickly, even with the air conditioning as high as it will go. Use MainStage's water tap (reuse your cup if possible—but keep an eye on it) or the drinking fountains near the escalators.
- Costumes are not consent (true for any CONvergence space). Always ask before dancing with anyone and respect rejections; "no" is a complete sentence.
- Ask before getting on our stage—even if the stage is empty. We will have scheduled dancers and performers using the stage; be respectful if they don't want company.
- Limit your requests—performers work hard to prepare their sets for CONvergence. Most play for no longer than an hour; if the music isn't for you, it will change eventually. If you do like the music, let that performer know!

THURSDAY

6:00pm–7:00pm

Big Fun Radio Funtime

Big Fun Radio Funtime is a staged performance of audio comedy featuring new comedy sketches spoken into microphones for your laughing pleasure. *Jerry Stearns, Tim Wick, Dawn Krosnowski, Angela Fox, Christopher Jones, Charles Hubbell, Windy Bowslby*

7:00pm–8:00pm

Opening Ceremony

Dawn Krosnowski, C.S.E. Cooney, Prof Brown, Chris Kluwe, Tanya DePass, Jules Porter

8:30pm–10:00pm

Smackdown 2025: Battle of the Bands

See a symphony of Smackdown as our sonic specialists sound off about which bogus bands succumb or survive! *Melissa Sue Kaercher, Tim Wick, Christopher Jones, Kelvin Hatle, Tim Uren, Chris Kluwe, Duck Washington, Windy Bowslby, Rian Vellichor*

MAINSTAGE

10:00pm–Midnight Live Dungeons and Dragons

Come watch a live play through of a Dungeons and Dragons campaign with past and present Guests of Honor! They will jump right into an active campaign and what happens next is your best guess. *Kyle Dekker (mod), Chris Kluwe, Shannan Paul, Victor Raymond, Claire Cooney, Carlos Hernandez, Colette Feehan*

FRIDAY

12:30pm–1:30pm CONvergence Taskmaster

A panel of comedians compete to complete the strange tasks set forth by a megalomaniacal game show host and their assistant. Based on the British game show. *Lee Harris, Tim Wick, Nick Glover, Duck Washington, Shannan Paul, Windy Bowlsby, Jeremy Stomberg*

2:00pm–3:00pm The Physics of Kicking a Football

Dr. Jim Kakalios, physicist, and Chris Kluwe, retired NFL punter, will discuss and demonstrate the physics of kicking (punting) a football. *Chris Kluwe, James Kakalios*

3:30pm–4:30pm PowerPoint Karaoke

Four “experts” must each give a PowerPoint presentation with slides they have never seen before, and the slides make no sense! *Melissa Sue Kaercher, Tim Wick, Shannan Paul, Lee Harris, Gregory Parks, Andrea Ropella*

5:00pm–6:00pm Cirque de L’Aventure

Ready to run away to the circus? Escape to MainStage for a cirque-style celebration of fantastic fandoms and creative cosplays as performers dance, climb, spin, and astound! *Anjela, Dewfeathers, Foxxi Stiletto, Hot Tang, Jayne Aer, Rev Dominic, Sara Su, Sarah Herda, Sasha Rapacz, Shadowcat Sophie, Thayer Slichter*

7:00pm–8:00pm Reverend Matt’s Monster Science: They Might Be Halfings—A History of Player Character Species

2022 CONvergence Guest of Honor Reverend Matt returns to MainStage with a compact history of nonhuman adventurers in role-playing games! From the days when “Elf” was a character class (and Gary Gygax was grumpy about it), through to the modern day, where every single character is maybe a pony! Mutant animals! Moody vampires! Various humanoid ducks! At least two whole games where everybody is a dinosaur in outer space! And much, much more! Tons of information about the history of role-playing games, plus so many comedy jokes, and even PowerPoint! *Matthew Kessen*

8:30pm–9:30pm Comedy Through The Chaos: Roll With It

What happens when real life goes full critical fail? You roll with it—laughing all the way. Join Miss Shannan Paul and her special guests as they turn life’s chaos into comedy gold with hilarious, heartfelt, and geek-approved tales that celebrate fandom, resilience, and the joy of embracing the unexpected. *Miss Shannan Paul, Matt Dooyema, Diane Sieber, Joe Cocozzello, Wendy Maybury*

10:00pm–11:00pm Vilification Tennis

Vilification Tennis is a horribly offensive show that isn’t appropriate for anyone. However, if you don’t mind a bunch of geeks insulting each other, that’s exactly what you are going to get! *Ad Surmak, Amanda Nerud, Caitlyn McGrath, Colin O’Donnell, Dave Rand-McKay, Duck Washington, Eric Thompson, Hedy Rand-McKay, James Fairbairn, Laurie Sweep, Molly Glover, Nick Glover, Nikki Armstrong, Pher Sturz, Tim Wick*

11:00pm–4:00am Dance

The usual suspect DJs along with a special guest or two will help you keep moving into the wee hours.

SATURDAY

5:30pm–6:00pm Masquerade Doors Open

6:00pm–8:00pm Masquerade Performance

9:00pm–4:00am Dance

The usual suspect DJs along with a special guest or two will help you keep moving into the wee hours.

SUNDAY

12:30pm–2:00pm Harisen Daiko

Loud as a Nat-20 made entirely of drums, we are Harisen Daiko. Our drummers bring you a selection of pounding visceral rhythms including original compositions. Step inside the blast radius this Sunday, and get a taste of the power, energy and emotions that taiko ignites. *Harisen Daiko*

2:30pm–3:30pm Star Trek: The Next Improvisation

The continuing adventures of the second-best Galaxy class starship in the Federation fleet: The USS Intrigue! Join the cast for a completely new and totally improvised episode performed in the style of The Next Generation. A show that truly goes where no one has gone before! *HUGE Theater*

5:00pm–7:00pm Closing Ceremony

Dawn Krosnowski, Tanya DePass, Prof Brown, C.S.E. Cooney, Chris Kluwe, Jules Porter

TEEN ROOM

Hyatt 4, Lake Bemidji (near the Escalators)

Want a place for teens by teens? Visit the CONvergence Teen Room, a fun, safe place for CONvergence attendees aged 13–20. Hang out, relax, eat snacks, and play games with new friends!

The Teen Room sometimes hosts events and activities throughout the convention. Check the CONvergence schedule for the most up-to-date information.

Teen Room Rules (No Exceptions)

- Only open to CONvergence attendees aged 13–20.
- Be respectful of each other.
- Alcohol is not permitted.

Did you know that teens can volunteer? Because the Teen Room is for teens by teens, we need teens to keep everything running! Consider volunteering and running an event, joining Teen Room leadership, or helping make this teen-exclusive space the best it can be!

PARENTING ROOM

Hyatt 4, Room 4102

Need a family-friendly space at CONvergence to feed your child, change a diaper, express milk, or take a break from the convention? Head to our Parenting Room! The Parenting Room is open to parents and caregivers with infants, toddlers, young children, children with special needs, and anyone needing to express milk.

Parenting Room Rules (No Exceptions)

- Children must be supervised.
- Do not lock the door.
- Clean up after yourself and your children.
- Be respectful of others using the room.

Lactation Lounge

Hyatt 2, Hennepin

For those who need a dedicated, private place to pump or nurse during the convention (outside of our Parenting Room), there is a lactation room available at all hours. The room features chairs, a table, a water station, and cups. Head to First Advisors (Hyatt 2, Hiawatha) and ask to check out the room key for access.

MASSAGE

Hyatt 2, Walker (across from First Advisors)

How does a relaxing 15-minute massage sound? Volunteer for at least two hours within one day at the convention and enjoy this relaxing benefit!

Note: Cleanliness is important to us. All surfaces are sanitized between massages; disposable table and chair sheets and face cradle covers are used for each massage.

If you have experience and knowledge in massage, consider volunteering and earn double hours! Come talk with us or speak to the Volunteers department. You'll take part in a brief interview with the Massage department to discuss your experience, knowledge, and availability.

How to Enter

Attendees will need to show a color-coded access sticker to enter. You may pick up the color-coded access sticker from the Volunteers department after verifying your volunteer hours.

REBOOT CAFE

Hyatt 4, Room 4115

Popular TV shows and movie franchises aren't the only fan favorites being rebooted. Please welcome back the CoF2E2 Free Coffee Shop, now named Reboot Café! This establishment is proud to house CONvergence's one-stop shop for caffeine and all things related. While Reboot Café will not be serving espresso, we will have an assortment of other thirst-quenching choices: hot drip coffee in medium and dark roasts, iced or hot cold brew in medium roast, iced tea, a selection of hot teas, and, premiering this year, lemonade—cold, fizzy, and caffeinated!

Want something more adventurous? Don't miss out on our specialty beverages! This year, attendees can refuel through a Mana Potion, indulge with a nonalcoholic Pan Galactic Gargle Blaster, quaff an Ogre's Oatmilk Brew, and more!

Indecisive? Reboot Café's baristas have the saving throw for you! Try "rolling for it" and let the dice choose your fate.

All nutrition facts and ingredients will be available for review. Decaf roast and sugar-free versions of our syrups are also available.

If you'd rather be making fuel than drinking it, join our crew and earn some volunteer hours. We will train you on the spot; no experience required! Be sure to stop in on Thursday from 9:30am to 1:00pm as we will have rolling training opportunities and additional volunteer tasks (though volunteers will be accepted any time).

Reboot Café is committed to environmental consciousness and community support. Our beans and teas are locally sourced and tips collected will be donated to Avivo, our local high-fidelity housing first and harm-reduction specialists.

Roll in, refuel, and recharge at Reboot Café.



Omniscient Reader's Viewpoint

THE GLOBAL HIT APOCALYPTIC FANTASY WEBNOVEL NOW IN PRINT!

IF YOU ARE READING THIS, YOU WILL SURVIVE.
Sadistic scenarios from an obscure novel become reality, and as the only one who knows where the plot is heading, Dokja must use his knowledge to survive the oncoming apocalypse!

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sing, song

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration Hours

The most up-to-date hours for Registration can be found on the CONvergence website (convergence-con.org/at-the-con/services/badge-pick-up/) or at the QR code below.



Day Passes

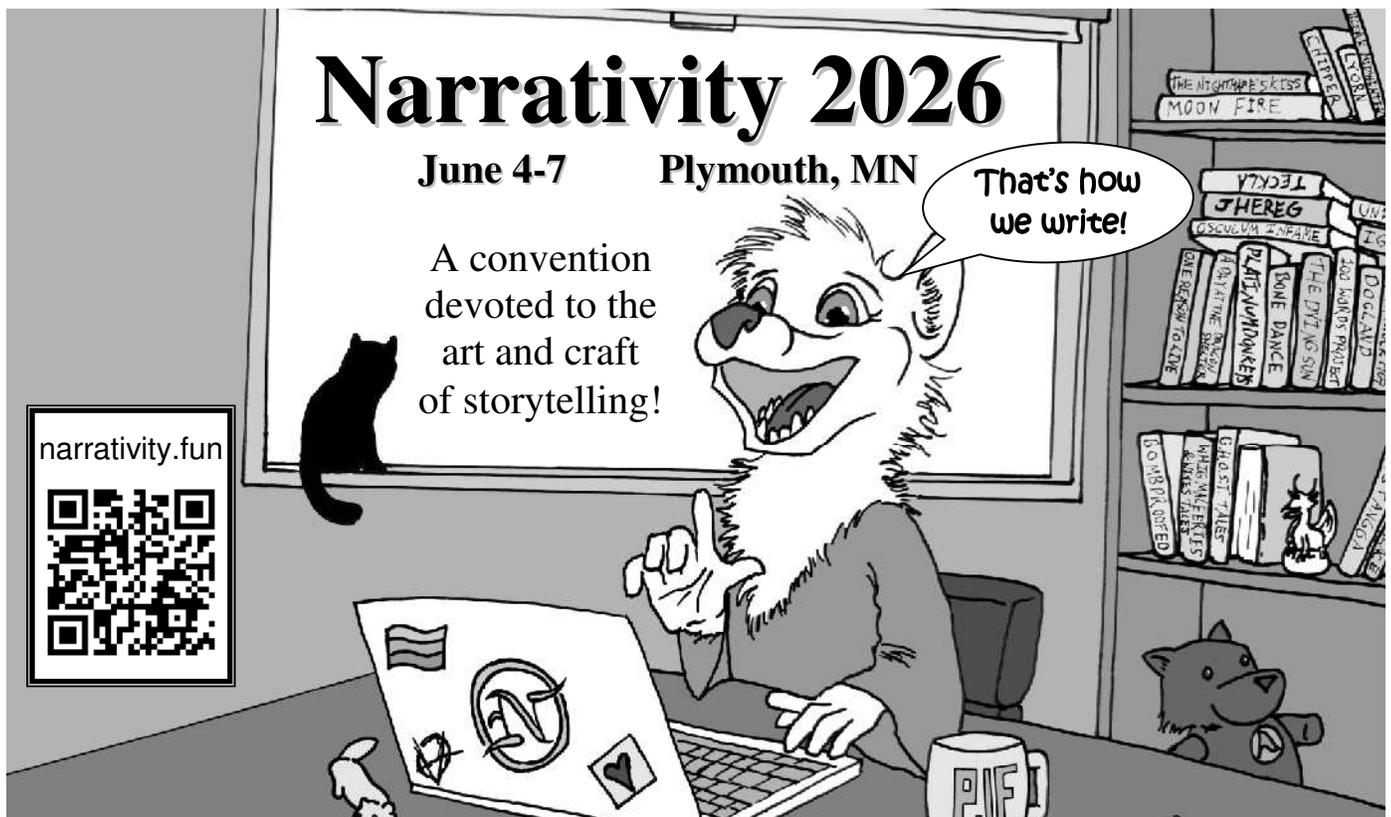
Day Passes are valid from 9:00am–5:00am the following day. You can purchase them online or in person beginning the Wednesday of CONvergence. Day Passes are not transferable, are not upgradable, and cannot be replaced if lost or stolen. Please see Registration with any questions.

Lost Attendee Badges

CONvergence maintains a lost and found at The Bridge. You may also check with the front desk of the hotel. Still unable to locate your lost attendee badge? Adult and teen weekend badges can be replaced at Registration for a fee. Youth and child badges may be replaced at no cost. Day Passes cannot be replaced; you must purchase a new Day Pass at Registration.

Transferring Weekend Badges

You may transfer a weekend badge until a badge has been issued. For step-by-step instructions, visit the CONvergence website (convergence-con.org/get-involved/register/) and navigate to the Transferring a Registration section or use the QR code below. If you need assistance to transfer a weekend badge, Registration will process the transfer for you for a \$20 nonrefundable fee. Note: "Guest of" badges are exempt from this fee.



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

CONvergence 2026: The Geek in the Machine is scheduled for **July 2–5, 2026** at the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis.

Registration for CONvergence 2026 begins at Noon on Sunday. If you are paying by debit or credit card, visit the CONvergence website (convergence-con.org/get-involved/register/) and click the registration link. You may also use the QR code below.

Log in to your existing account or, if you have not registered for CONvergence before, create a new account. You can complete and pay for your registration online.

Don't forget to preorder your CONvergence souvenir t-shirt when you register!

Rates and Dates for 2026

	Adult 18+	Ages 13–17	Ages 6–12	Ages 5 and Under
Until 11:59pm July 16, 2025	\$85	\$45	\$25	Free
Until 11:59pm February 1, 2026	\$95	\$55	\$35	Free
Until 11:59pm June 15, 2026	\$115	\$55	\$35	Free
After June 15, 2026	\$135	\$75	\$35	Free



Day Pass

Available online July 1, 2026	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Adult Day Pass	\$65	\$75	\$75	\$45
Teen Day Pass	\$30	\$35	\$35	\$20

T-Shirt Preorder

When registering, check the box next to the t-shirt option and choose your size—the amount will be added to your registration total. Shirts will be available for pickup from the Merchandise Room during CONvergence 2026.

A preview of the shirt is available on the CONvergence website (convergence-con.org/at-the-con/things-to-do/merchandise/).

Note: If you transfer your badge before the preorder cut-off, any merchandise selected will transfer with it.

Lifetime Pass

New for 2026, you will have the option of purchasing a Lifetime Pass at the introductory rate of \$1,500. The cost is based on a weekend badge purchased at the lowest rate (the discounted rate of \$75) per year for 20 years. Check out the CONvergence website for more details!

CONvergence Attendance Grant Fund

When registering, you now have the option to contribute to the CONvergence Attendance Grant fund. The fund will provide grants in the form of CONvergence weekend badges to selected applicants. For 2025, the fund focused on fans who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color. For more details, eligibility criteria, and the application process, visit the CONvergence website (convergence-con.org/about/convergence-attendance-grant/). The more money we raise for the fund, the more people we can help attend CONvergence!



CONVENTION COMMITTEE

ACTIVITIES

William Verburg-Cunningham, Director

Book Swap

Becca Cook, Head
Erik Nyberg, Head

Connie's Quantum Sandbox

Jesse Boom, Head
Dierdre Schultz, Head
Lisa Wallin, Head
Angelique Anderson, Subhead
Lori Baerg, Subhead
Sam Drewe, Subhead
Nicholas Feeney, Subhead
Renee Petersen, Subhead
Jim Shields, Subhead
Ro Wagner, Subhead
Nikita Woltersen, Subhead
Arthur Armstrong, Specialist
Alessa Boom, Specialist
Sandy Darst, Advisor
Layshia Wall, Specialist

Exhibits/Holodeck

Hertzey Hertz, Head
Elizabeth Hufnagle Puffer, Head
Julia Celley, Subhead
Catherine Puffer, Subhead
Jakob Hufnagle Puffer, Subhead
Samuel Smith, Subhead
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Sabrina Risk, Specialist

Gaming

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Peter Lane, Head
Adina Schefsky, Head
Daniel Stiglich, Head
Elley Murray, Subhead
Tammy Patten, Subhead
Steve Schefsky, Subhead
Kyrie Stephenson, Subhead
Robert Cudinski, Specialist
Carl Patten, Specialist
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Chuck Roberts, Specialist
Josh Schendel, Specialist
Lee Stark, Specialist

Guests of Honor

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Luis Beltran, Subhead
Stephanie Berlien, Subhead
Tanya Brody, Subhead
Kyle Dekker, Subhead
Elizabeth Erickson, Subhead
Tom Hogan, Subhead
Natasha Krentz, Subhead
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Paula Merns, Subhead
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Rick Snyder, Subhead
Alisha Srock, Subhead

Invited Participants

Cetius d'Raven, Head

MidWest Sci Fi Short Film Festival

Ansley Kolisnyk, Head
Troy LaFaye, Head

Photography

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Margaret Eastman, Head
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Eris Oleander, Head
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Shaun Larsen, Specialist
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Heather Dickinson, Subhead
Damien Mills, Subhead
Tania Richter, Subhead
Anne Thillen, Subhead
Holley Van Susteren, Subhead
Regina Voracek, Subhead
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Rache Dutcher, Specialist
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Sean Sullivan, Specialist
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Jade Ziells, Head
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Hedy Rand-McKay, Head
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Patricia Wick, Head
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Brian Kisch, Subhead
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Anthony Karna, Head

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Diana Fitzwater, Subhead
Takeaseat Please, Subhead
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Hannah Stein, Subhead

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Wordslingers Way

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Elizabeth Vogel, Subhead

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Mallory Mueller, Specialist

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Treasure Thoreson, Head
Brianna Reeves, Subhead
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Peter Larsen, Specialist
Kerry Peterson, Specialist

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Rachel Poleke, Subhead

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Scott St. Aubin, Head
Michael Shappe, Specialist
Simone St. Aubin, Specialist

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Tatiana Allen, Subhead
Colleen Baltutis, Subhead
Jennifer Curti, Subhead
Amy Fischer, Subhead
Alyssa Pon-Franklin, Subhead
Maya Sutton, Subhead
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Elizabeth Douglas, Specialist
Anne Fleschner, Specialist
Liz Jones, Specialist
John Murray, Specialist
Caro Smith, Specialist
Benjamin Zeise, Specialist

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Rachel Lubich, Head
Alex Singer, Head
Elyssa Mason, Subhead
Dorothy Norton, Subhead
Ann Roubik, Subhead
Ben Ellis, Specialist
Heather Heim, Specialist

You were, and are, one of us.

Now and forever.

You are missed dearly and loved beyond words.

Remembering Those Passed Since CONvergence 2024

Convention Committee

Matthew Gress September 10, 1969–April 19, 2025
(Programming)

David Peck August 12, 1942–October 30, 2024
(Volunteers/VolDen/Operations)

Erica Redden December 26, 1979–January 28, 2025 (Archives)

George Richard September 14, 1953–October 26, 2024
(Publications/Advertising)

Steven Townsend August 1, 1977–May 15, 2025 (GPS)

Guests of Honor

Peter David September 23, 1956–May 24, 2025 (CONvergence 2019)

Remembering Those Passed in Years Prior

Convention Committee

Robert "Roadkill" Aiken September 17, 1965–February 26, 2008
(Decor)

Ginger Bock October 11, 1962–September 2, 2010
(Registration, Art Show)

Carly Buchanan August 10, 1988–June 4, 2019 (Guests)

Christen "Tish" Cassidy March 30, 1972–July 6, 2014 (Parties)

Lauri Deatherage July 13, 1973–June 18, 2021
(Arrivals, Departures)

Tom Gaasch October 8, 1960–June 5, 2024 (Operations)

Rachel MacAulay March 11, 1970–February 26, 2006 (Guests)

John "John John" Mathern September 4, 1967–March 29, 2024
(ConSuite)

Erik McInroy March 18, 1968–July 12, 2022 (Dock, Art Show)

Mary McKinley February 8, 1956–November 30, 2020
(Dealers, Artists Alley)

Christopher "Christo Foro Pallavincino" Sherman Pasquarette
November 6, 1967–April 11, 2021 (Publications)

Baron Dave Romm July 5, 1937–September 15, 2017
(Photography)

Robert Schug July 21, 1963–August 25, 2014
(Parties, D.I.O.D.E.S)

TJ Starbuck March 22, 1962–September 2, 2010 (Parties)

Kathleen Taylor April 23, 1945–April 19, 2024 (Guests)

Bob Wagner 1971–2019 (Gaming)

Cathy Wappel October 29, 1970–May 13, 2023 (Art Show)

Guests of Honor

Forrest J Ackerman November 24, 1916–December 4, 2008
(CONvergence 1999)

Leslie Esdaile (LA) Banks December 1, 1959–August 2, 2011
(CONvergence 2010)

Eric Flint February 6, 1947–July 17, 2022
(CONvergence 2003, 2006, and 2008)

Peter Mayhew May 19, 1944–April 30, 2019
(CONvergence 2001 and 2008)

Dwayne McDuffie February 20, 1962–February 21, 2011
(CONvergence 2009)

CH Morgan (Landley) November 21, 1947–December 5, 2002
(CONvergence 2001)

Peter Morwood 1956–2025 (CONvergence 2002)

Michael Sheard June 18, 1938–August 31, 2005
(CONvergence 2001 and 2003)

Len Wein June 12, 1948–September 10, 2017
(CONvergence 2005 and 2008)

Bernie Wrightson October 27, 1948–March 18, 2017
(CONvergence 2007 and 2008)



2025

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