

— BOLDLY INCLUSIVE —



# GAYLAXICON 2025

BLOOMINGTON, MN  
October 3-5, 2025

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## COMMITTEE

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<b>Chair:</b>	Don Kaiser
<b>ConSuite:</b>	Chad Eschweiler
<b>Dealers:</b>	Kevin Kangas
<b>Gaming:</b>	Nersi Nikakhtar
<b>Guests:</b>	Anton Petersen
<b>Media:</b>	Andrew Bertke, Amber Raden
<b>Outreach:</b>	James Bacigalupo, David Lenander
<b>Programming:</b>	Lyda Morehouse, David Paschall-Zimbel, John Till
<b>Registration:</b>	Apollo Lammers, Jason Tucker
<b>Social Media:</b>	Maria Lin, Eden Walech
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Larry Sanderson

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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We would like to acknowledge the following for support of the convention and our sponsoring organization:

Asmodee (<https://corporate.asmodee.com/>)  
Claudia Slovacek  
David Paschall-Zimbel  
Lyda Morehouse  
Xavier Pauke  
Chad Weber  
Rena Fore

Crowne Plaza Suites MSP Airport – Mall of America  
Dreamhaven Books  
Geek Partnership Society  
Quatrefoil Library  
MNeurodivergent  
Free Mom Hugs  
Dragons, Dungeons, and Drinks  
The Source Comics and Games  
Tower Games  
Gaylaxicon 2025 Attendees

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## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

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Welcome to Gaylaxicon 2025! The convention committee and I are thrilled to bring the convention back to the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul for the 5th time. It has been six years since Gaylaxicon was last in Minnesota, and much has happened in that time. We are excited to share a weekend of stories, laughter, and community with you, and we thank you for being part of it.



hosted by the fabulous Miss Shannan Paul, preceded by a buffet dinner. These events are wonderful chances to laugh, mingle, and celebrate together.

Our Dealers Room is another highlight—featuring comics, collectibles, books, jewelry, toys, and tarot. Please visit often and support these vendors who help make Gaylaxicon possible.

Our Guests of Honor are:

- **Nghi Vo**, author of *Siren Queen*, *The Chosen and the Beautiful*, and the *Singing Hills Cycle* novellas, beginning with *The Empress of Salt and Fortune*.
- **Jim Johnson**, project manager and line editor for the *Star Trek Adventures* and *Captain's Log* roleplaying games from Modiphius Entertainment.
- **KD Edwards**, author of *The Tarot Sequence*, an urban fantasy series celebrated for its LGBTQIA+ representation, contemporary reimagining of myth, and rich world-building.
- **Emma Törzs**, local author of *Ink Blood Sister Scribe*, recipient of an NEA fellowship, World Fantasy Award, and O. Henry Prize.
- **Greg Ketter**, longtime owner of DreamHaven Books, who has championed science fiction, fantasy, comics, and LGBTQIA+ works for over five decades.

We're honored to welcome these creators and hope you'll take the opportunity to meet them over the course of the convention. In addition, nearly 20 other professional authors, editors, and artists producing queer content will be in attendance—so there will be no shortage of fascinating conversations.

Gaylaxicon traditions return this year, including our Friday evening banquet and the ever-popular Saturday Chocolate Symposium. For 2025 we're also bringing back the Saturday Evening Cabaret,

Gaming remains a cornerstone of the convention. The Gaming Suite is open all weekend for casual board games, card games, and social play. Our gaming crew has an impressive library of titles to choose from, and you are welcome to bring your own favorites as well. Roleplaying sessions are also scheduled throughout the convention, so bring your dice and your sense of adventure.

Panels are at the heart of our programming, and this year's lineup is especially diverse. From children's and YA literature to costuming, fairy tales, the Midnight Slash Panel, and Guest of Honor interviews, there's something for everyone. We encourage you to join the discussions—your voice enriches the community.

Our convention suite will be stocked with snacks and drinks, and serves as a hub for conversation and occasional impromptu programming. Stop by to recharge and connect with friends old and new.

Finally, my heartfelt thanks to the entire convention committee. Their dedication made this event possible. If you see someone wearing a committee badge, please thank them for helping bring Gaylaxicon 2025 to life.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donald A. Kaiser".

Don Kaiser  
Chair, Gaylaxicon 2025

## NGHI VO

she/her | [nghivo.com](http://nghivo.com)

Nghi Vo is the author of the novels *Siren Queen* and *The Chosen and the Beautiful*, as well as the acclaimed novellas of the *Singing Hills Cycle*, which began with *The Empress of Salt and Fortune*. Entries in the series have been finalists for the Locus Award and the Lambda Literary Award, and have won the Crawford Award, the Ignyte Award, and the Hugo Award. Born in Illinois, she now lives on the shores of Lake Michigan. She believes in the ritual of lipstick, the power of stories, and the right to change your mind.



## KD EDWARDS

he/him | [kd-edwards.com/books](http://kd-edwards.com/books)

KD Edwards is the author of *The Tarot Sequence*, an urban fantasy series that blends myth, magic, and adventure into a contemporary reimagining of the Tarot legend. His work is known for its character-driven storytelling, LGBTQIA+ representation, and rich world-building. Originally from the East Coast, KD now lives in North Carolina, where he works in Higher Ed by day while dreaming about a full-time retirement into writing. His novels—including *The Last Sun*, *The Hanged Man*, and *The Hourglass Throne*—have been praised for their humor, heart, and cinematic flair. He is hard at work on the second trilogy of the series, starting with Book 4, *The Misfit Caravan*.



## Emma Törzs

she/her | [www.emmaemmaemma.com](http://www.emmaemmaemma.com)

Emma Törzs is a writer, teacher, and occasional translator based in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Her fiction has been honored with an NEA fellowship in prose, a World Fantasy Award for Short Fiction, and an O. Henry Prize. Her debut novel, *Ink Blood Sister Scribe*, was an instant bestseller, one of the New York Times 100 Notable Books of 2023, and acclaimed by reviewers ranging from NPR to Locus Magazine. She received her MFA from the University of Montana, Missoula, and is an enthusiastic member of the Clarion West class of 2017. She currently teaches at Macalester College.



## GUESTS OF HONOR

### Jim Johnson

he/him | [scribeinetti.com](https://scribeinetti.com)

Jim Johnson is the project manager and line editor for the *Star Trek Adventures* and *Captain's Log* roleplaying games from Modiphius Entertainment. He also writes *Star Trek* fiction, the *Potomac Shadows* urban fantasy series, and the *Pistols & Pyramids* weird westerns. He lives with his family in historic Alexandria, VA, and spends his free time building with LEGO bricks, reading voraciously, and making a mean bowl of popcorn.



### Greg Ketter

he/him | [dreamhavenbooks.com](https://dreamhavenbooks.com)

Greg Ketter started selling books well over 50 years ago and opened his first bookstore on April 1, 1977. It was a small, fairly standard store specializing in science fiction and comic books. As the years went by his tastes broadened and he began adding other types of books—and bookstores—pulp, beat writers, as well as more adult fare and what would now be considered LGBTQIA+ works, though the term hadn't been popularized yet.



Soon, Greg began editing and publishing a number of books, including collecting Tim Barela's *Leonard & Larry*. Now, after 48 years, DreamHaven Books is still around, proudly presenting good books to good people. Greg has supported the SF and LGBTQIA+ communities in countless ways. And he tells so many stories about the writers and people from along the way.

## SIGNING TABLE

### Friday

- 1 PM: Emma Törzs, Nghi Vo
- 2:30 PM: Jim Johnson, KD Edwards
- 4 PM: Blue Delli quanti, JM Lee

### Saturday

- 10 AM: KD Edwards, E.M. Hamill, Kristina Milnor
- 11:30 AM: Blue Delli quanti, Greg Ketter
- 1:00 PM: Jim Johnson, Rachel Gold, CM Alongi
- 2:30 PM: Emma Törzs, JM Lee, Kyell Gold

- 4 PM: Nghi Vo
- 8 PM: Cameron Reed

### Sunday

- 10:30 AM: Nghi Vo, Jim Johnson
- 12 PM: Emma Törzs, Naomi Kritzer, Kyell Gold
- 2:30 PM: KD Edwards, Blue Delli quanti

Authors listed on the schedule will be available for official signing times, but other authors may join the tables whenever they have free time.

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## INVITED GUESTS

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### Blue Delli quanti

they/them | [www.bluedelli quanti.com](http://www.bluedelli quanti.com)

Blue Delli quanti is a comic artist and writer based in Minneapolis. From 2012 to 2020, Blue drew and serialized the Prism Award-winning science fiction webcomic *O Human Star*. Blue is also the creator of graphic novels and novellas including *Meal* (with Soleil Ho), *Across a Field of Starlight*, and *Adversary*. They teach comics courses at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design.

### Miss Shannan Paul

she/her | [missshannanpaul@gmail.com](mailto:missshannanpaul@gmail.com)

Miss Shannan Paul is a comedian, host, and professional chaos-wrangler whose work blends fandom, inclusion, and laugh-out-loud storytelling. She's the creator of *Comedy Through the Chaos* — a live show and upcoming TV series that explores how we navigate real life with humor, heart, and a little nerdy joy. A longtime panelist and performer at conventions across the Midwest, Miss Shannan brings her background in stand-up, radio, voiceover, and advocacy to the stage in ways that celebrate community, culture, and the weird wonderfulness of being fully yourself.

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## ATTENDING PROFESSIONALS

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### C.M. Alongi

she/her | [www.cmalongi.com](http://www.cmalongi.com)

C.M. Alongi is a sci-fi/fantasy author and content creator from the Twin Cities. She's best known for her TikTok series *CaFae Latte*. The book based on that series, *Heart of Iron*, releases on October 7, 2025, and her 2023 science fiction novel *Citadel* was nominated for a Minnesota Book Award.

When she's not reading or writing, Alongi is playing DnD, getting tangled in yarn projects, and defending her furniture from her roommates' evil cats.

Her novel *A Woman of the Iron People* won the inaugural James Tiptree Jr. Award (now the Otherwise Award) in 1991, as well as the 1992 Mythopoeic Award. Her novel *Ring of Swords* received the Minnesota Book Award. She won the Gaylactic Spectrum Award for Best Short Fiction for "Dapple" and the HOMer Award for her novelette *Stellar Harvest*. Her novels and short fiction have also been nominated for the Hugo, Nebula, World Fantasy, John W. Campbell Memorial, Philip K. Dick, Theodore Sturgeon Memorial, Locus, and Asimov's Readers' Poll awards.

### Eleanor Arnason

she/her | [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eleanor\\_Arnason](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eleanor_Arnason)

From 1949 to 1961, Eleanor and her parents lived in "Idea House #2," a futuristic dwelling built by the Walker Art Center. Her earliest published story appeared in *New Worlds* in 1972. Eleanor's work often depicts cultural change and conflict, usually from the viewpoint of characters who cannot or will not live by their own societies' rules.

### Kelly Barnhill

she/her | [kellybarnhill.wordpress.com/](http://kellybarnhill.wordpress.com/)

Kelly Barnhill writes books. It is a strange job, but, to be fair, she is a strange woman, so perhaps it makes sense. She is a former teacher, bartender, waitress, activist, park ranger, secretary, janitor, and church-guitar-player. The sum of these experiences prepared her for exactly nothing—save for the telling of stories, which she has been doing quite happily for some time now.



She received the Newbery Medal in 2017, as well as fellowships from the Jerome Foundation, the Minnesota State Arts Board, and the McKnight Foundation. She is the winner of the World Fantasy Award, the Parents' Choice Gold Award, the Texas Library Association Bluebonnet Award, and a Charlotte Huck Honor. She was also a finalist for the Minnesota Book Award, the Andre Norton Award, and the PEN/USA literary prize. She has appeared on both the *New York Times* and Indie Bestseller lists.

She is the author of the novels *The Girl Who Drank the Moon*, *The Witch's Boy*, *Iron Hearted Violet*, and *The Mostly True Story of Jack*, as well as the novella *The Unlicensed Magician*.

### **Lee Brontide**

they/them | [leebrontide.wixsite.com/leebrontide](http://leebrontide.wixsite.com/leebrontide)

Lee Brontide is an artist, author, and mental health therapist from St. Paul, Minnesota. After a decade working in indie comics, they found their voice in novels. Their works include *Secondhand Origin Stories* and *Names in Their Blood*—part of an ongoing young adult sci-fi series about family, disability, transformation, community, trauma, and queerness.

### **Stephanie Burt**

she/her | [Bsky: @notquitehydepark.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/notquitehydepark.bsky.social)

[Insta: @notquitehydepark](https://www.instagram.com/notquitehydepark)

Stephanie Burt is the Donald and Katherine Loker Professor of English at Harvard, where she teaches classes on science fiction, comic books, poetry, queerness, trans identity, and (not least) Taylor Swift. Among her many books of poetry and literary criticism, the most recent are *Super Gay Poems* (Harvard University Press, 2025) and *We Are Mermaids* (Graywolf, 2022).

Ask her about the X-Men, if you dare.

### **Haddayr Copley-Woods**

she/her | [haddayr.com](http://haddayr.com)

Haddayr is a Minneapolis-based sci-fi/fantasy writer, radio commentator, and essayist, with pieces and performances featured on Minnesota Public Radio, *Apex*, *Story Club Minneapolis*, *Science Fiction & Fantasy*, and *Best American Erotica*.

She writes dark fantasy and horror short stories. Her radio commentaries, essays, and spoken-word performances cover disability issues, community, queerness, and politics. She also wrote the advice column “The Gentle Butch” at [gentlebutch.com](http://gentlebutch.com) for several years.

### **Kyell Gold**

he/him | [www.kyellgold.com](http://www.kyellgold.com)

Kyle Gold has published over forty queer books and one straight one, and has won multiple Ursa Major awards and C oyotl Awards for his stories and novels. His acclaimed novel *Out of Position* co-won the Rainbow Award for Best Gay Novel of 2009. He has also worked as a publisher, editor, and instructor in the furry writing community. In 2015, he helped create RAWR, the first residential furry writing workshop, and has instructed at each of its sessions.

He lives in California, loves to travel with his partners, and can be seen at furry conventions around the world. More information about him and his books is available at <http://www.kyellgold.com/>. You can follow him on [@Mastodon at @KyellGold@furries.club](https://www.mastodon.social/@KyellGold) and on [BlueSky at @KyellGold@kyellgold.com](https://www.bsky.app/profile/kyellgold.bsky.social).

### **Rachel Gold**

they/she | [rachelgold.com](http://rachelgold.com)

Rachel Gold is the author of multiple award-winning queer and trans young adult novels. Their debut, *Being Emily*, was the first YA novel to tell the story of a transgender girl from her own perspective.

Currently an English professor at Macalester College, Rachel has a diverse writing career that includes seven years as a reporter for a regional LGBTQIA+ newspaper and fifteen years in corporate marketing. They are a nonbinary lesbian, all-around geek, and avid gamer.

### **Naomi Kritzer**

she/her | [naomikritzer.com](http://naomikritzer.com)

Naomi Kritzer has been writing speculative fiction for twenty years. She is a multiple Locus and Hugo Award-winning author for both her novels and short stories. She won the Nebula in 2024 for her novelette “The Year Without Sunshine.”

Her first duology (2003), *Fires of the Faithful* and *Turning the Storm*, featured a lesbian protagonist. Her Lodestar-winning YA novel *Catfishing on Cat. Net* centers neurodivergent queer youth.

In Minnesota, Naomi is sometimes recognized more often for her political blogging, where she provides in-depth guides to candidates in local elections—especially down-ballot races that often go uncovered.

### **JM Lee**

he/him | [www.joeyverse.com](http://www.joeyverse.com)

Joe, writing as J.M. Lee, is a Minneapolis writer best known for his work within the world of Jim Henson’s *The Dark Crystal*, for which he has written television, novels, comics, and other official extended-universe material.

He also teaches, speaks, and writes on craft topics such as world-building, magic systems, and constructed languages, while supporting the wider writing community as an editor for queer and Chinese American diaspora themes.

His most recent novel, *The Nightland Express*, is a modern Western exploring countercolonialism, anticapitalism, and intersectional identity through the lens of the iconic Pony Express.

### **Lisa Millham (E.M. Hamill)**

she/they | [emhamill.wordpress.com](http://emhamill.wordpress.com)

E.M. Hamill is a writer of queer science fiction and urban fantasy. Her work *Peacemaker* was a finalist in the BookLife Prize for Fiction, and her most recent novel, *Whiskey and Warfare*, finished fourth out of 188 entries in the Self-Published Science Fiction Blog-Off.

### **Kristina Milnor**

she/her | [barnard.edu/profiles/kristina-milnor](http://barnard.edu/profiles/kristina-milnor)

Kristina Milnor is Professor of Classics and Ancient Studies at Barnard College in New York City. She is the author of two books on Ancient Roman culture and has also written articles on ancient North Africa, legal history, and Barbie®. She was briefly a historical consultant for the HBO/BBC series *Rome*. She regularly teaches courses on gender and sexuality in the ancient Mediterranean world, as well as on modern films that represent antiquity (ask her about 300!). In her spare time, she writes urban fantasy.

### **Lyda Morehouse**

she/her | [wizardstowerpress.com/authors/lyda-morehouse](http://wizardstowerpress.com/authors/lyda-morehouse)

Lyda Morehouse came out as a lesbian when Ronald Reagan was president, Act Up was staging kiss-ins, and the AIDS crisis was in full swing. Though it took nearly two decades for her first book to be published, it was in this political environment that the seeds of



her debut, the Shamus Award-winning and Locus Award-nominated novel *Archangel Protocol*, were planted. She followed it with the rest of the five-book trilogy: *Fallen Host*, *Messiah Node*, *Apocalypse Array*, and *Resurrection Code*.

Lyda has since reinvented herself multiple times, including as best-selling paranormal author Tate Hallaway (the *Garnet Lacey* series, the *Vampire Princess of St. Paul* series, and the *Alex Conner* series). She has also written over a million words of anime fanfiction pseudonymously. She continues to publish, with her newest book, *Welcome to Boy.net*, released by Wizard's Tower Press in 2024.

### **Cameron Reed**

she/they | [torpublishinggroup.com/author/cameron-reed](http://torpublishinggroup.com/author/cameron-reed)

Cameron Reed is a science fiction writer and winner of the 1998 Otherwise Award (then the James Tiptree Jr. Award). She is an avid dragonfly-watcher, a moderately skilled insect photographer, and a devoted birder. After a long and complicated path through gender, she has come to rest as a nonbinary trans woman and uses the pronouns she or they. She lives with her found family in an old duplex full of books and cats.

### **Dax (David J.) Schwartz**

they/them | [www.penguinrandomhouse.com/authors/76766/david-j-schwartz](http://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/authors/76766/david-j-schwartz)

Dax has published two novels—*Superpowers* (a Nebula finalist) and *Gooseberry Bluff Community College of Magic*—as well as dozens of short stories and nonfiction pieces. They are currently working on a mystery novel featuring an autistic, nonbinary detective who lives in Minneapolis, which coincidentally describes them as well.

### **Adam Stemple**

he/him | [www.adamstemple.com](http://www.adamstemple.com)

Adam Stemple is an award-winning author, poet, and musician. Of his first novel, *Singer of Souls*, SFWA Grandmaster Anne McCaffrey said, “One of the best first novels I have ever read.” Of his later works, Hugo Award-winning author Naomi Kritzer said, “No one writes bastard-son-of-a-bitch characters as brilliantly as Adam Stemple.”

Like most authors, his life experience is broad and unusual. He spent twenty years on the road with a variety of bands, playing for crowds ranging from 2 to 20,000 people. He started, ran, and sold a poker training site. He worked in a warehouse, picked corn, traded options, demoed houses, and drove pizzas for nine months in 1986—at the time the longest he had ever held a job. He drank too much and has now been sober for over fifteen years.

He published his first book at the age of sixteen, *The Lullaby Songbook*, for which he also arranged the music. His mother is a famous children's book author. His children are artistic. His wife, he insists, is a better person than him in nearly all regards.

### **Watt**

they/them | [cloudempire.com](http://cloudempire.com)

After years of perfectionism, Watt began creating small watercolor zines during the isolation of the COVID-19 pandemic. Tabletop RPG writing became a way to explore existential anxiety, body horror, climate change, and connection with friends. Several game jams, small zine releases, and a few Kickstarter campaigns later, Watt is still amazed by the generosity and support of the TTRPG community.

“Today I make art games that I hope will be as meaningful when you read them for the first time as when you get them to the table.”

# Diversicon 33

**“Some Assembly Required”\***

*Date: Summer 2026*

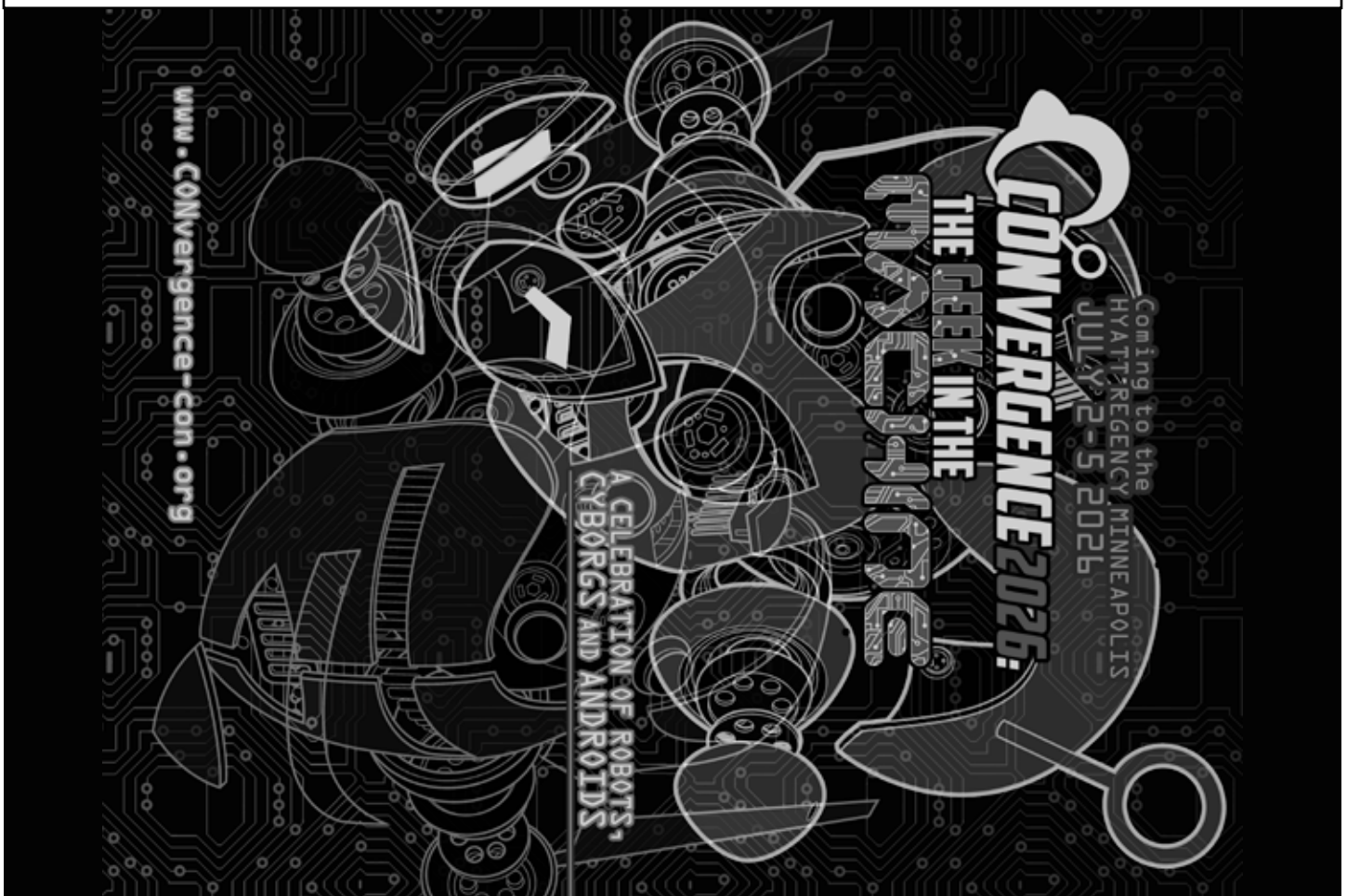
Location: Crowne Plaza Minneapolis West  
3131 Campus Dr  
Plymouth, MN 55441-2620

**Diversicon** is a small, serious, nerdy, fun Twin Cities area speculative fiction convention held in the late summer / early fall. Past guests: Kelly Link, Stephen Barnes, Tananarive Due, Melissa Scott, David G. Hartwell, Naomi Kritzer, Lyda Morehouse and many more.

Find more information at: <http://www.diversicon.org/>

Diversicon is part of MNSTF. More at: <https://mnstf.org/index.php>

\*Theme is temporary.



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**APRIL 2<sup>1/2</sup>-5, 2026 EASTER WEEKEND**

# MINICON<sup>59</sup>

**AUTHOR GUEST OF HONOR**

**PATRICIA C. WREDE**

**GAME DESIGNER GUEST OF HONOR**

**MATT LEACOCK**

**FEATURED MUSICIANS**

**GRAHAM & BECCA LEATHERS**

**DOUBLETREE BY HILTON HOTEL  
BLOOMINGTON MINNEAPOLIS SOUTH  
WWW.MNSTF.ORG/MINICON59**



## PANELS: FRIDAY

Time	Mainstage	Control Tower	Orville
<b>Friday, October 3</b>			
1:00 PM	<p><b>Tarot in Media.</b> The video game Persona 5 has a relationship system that revolves around Tarot; Last Call by Tim Powers and, of course, KD Edward's Tarot Sequence series both feature personified Tarot archetypes; there is even a Marvel superhero named Tarot. What are some other uses of the Tarot archetypes that we've seen in fiction? What have people overdone? What would we like to see more of?</p> <p><i>KD Edwards, Rachel Gold, Jim Johnson</i></p>	<p><b>Gay YA and Children's Books: Why Representation Matters (or Doesn't).</b> This June the US Supreme Court allowed that parents of children in public elementary schools in Maryland can opt to remove their children from classes where storybooks with LGBTQIA+ themes are read. What will this mean for children of queer parents and queer kids? Let's talk about the impact of censorship, but also consider some of our favorite YA and kids books that might be under fire.</p> <p><i>Adam Stemple, Kelly Barnhill, JM Lee, Naomi Kritzer</i></p>	<p><b>GMing in the age of AI.</b> AI is here to stay. There is no turning back the clock. For those of us who are creatively challenged, do you use AI apps such as ChatGPT to help you write adventures for your players? Do you use AI art from MidJourney and similar apps to create character portraits and other art for your players? Do you create dungeons or taverns with apps such as Dungeon Alchemist? Let's discuss the positive and down sides of using AI this way.</p> <p><i>Don Kaiser (moderator)</i></p>
2:30 PM	<p><b>Bits and Bobs: The Best Bits Left Out.</b> Writers often have a lot of interesting bits of research that didn't make it into the story. What are some of the coolest ideas or historic facts or other such things you've had to leave out of your work? (Inspired by <a href="https://www.uncannymagazine.com/article/interview-nghi-vo/">https://www.uncannymagazine.com/article/interview-nghi-vo/</a> ) Nghi Vo,</p> <p><i>Adam Stemple, Kelly Barnhill, JM Lee (moderator)</i></p>	<p><b>Aging in Fandom and Bridging Generational Gaps.</b> The idea for this panel came from a discussion of who's writing fanfic these days: hint, hint, many published authors are engaged in writing fanfic. Also, As the saying goes: we're not getting any younger. What do Elder Fen have to offer the next generation? Are conventions in peril as the con-going (not to mention con organizing) folks begin to retire from the scene? Is there queer history or institutional knowledge being lost? Also? What's up with The Kids these days?</p> <p><i>CM Alongi, Don Kaiser (moderator), E.M. Hamill</i></p>	<p><b>Cyberpunk and Bodily Autonomy.</b> Cyberpunk is so last century, or is it? In a time when bodily autonomy and medical privacy are hot battlegrounds, so much of it seems more relevant than ever, especially since cyberpunk has often been a trans metaphor. What's out there that tackles these issues? (May expand to movies, TV, comic books, et. al.)</p> <p><i>Lyda Morehouse, Lee Brontide (moderator)</i></p>

## PANELS: FRIDAY

Time	Mainstage	Control Tower	Orville
4:00 PM	<b>Tarot Sequence Discussion and Q&amp;A.</b> Come join us for a discussion of KD Edward's Tarot Sequence series. Get all your burning questions answered by the author himself! <i>KD Edwards</i>	<b>Blood and Bone: Material Components in Fantasy Fiction.</b> <i>In Ink Blood Sister Scribe</i> you need a material component to make magic ink. Likewise, in Törzs's short story "The Hungry Ones," magic can only work if a certain climax has been reached. In Vo's "Stitched into Skin Like Family Is" skin and fabric and needle are (pardon the pun) interwoven to make a kind of magic. Let's talk about the physicality of magic. What's appealing about the old-fashioned 'eye of newt' approach to brewing up a potion or casting a spell? What are the drawbacks? Why make these connections; what do they add? Do material components lend themselves better to thematic metaphor than just waving a wand? Let's breathe some life into this idea. <i>CM Alongi (moderator), Emma Törzs, Nghi Vo, Lisa Freitag</i>	<b>The De-Queering/Re-Queering of Found Family.</b> A term originally used to describe the families folks built outside cisheteronormative expectations, now sometimes interpreted by assigning traditional family roles to a voluntary community. What does found family mean in fandom today? <i>E.M. Hamill, Lee Brontide</i>
6:00 PM	<b>OPENING CEREMONIES</b>		
7:00 PM	<b>BANQUET IN HUMPHEY</b>		
8:30 PM	<b>Interview: Nghi Vo</b> <i>Cody Bach</i>	<b>Learning as We Go: Mistakes We Wish We Could Take Back.</b> It's hard to predict the future, but it's even harder to not become cringe over time. Words for queerness change rapidly. Understanding of gender and sexuality is always evolving. How do we face and responsibly/sensitively correct mistakes we made in the past? Are there books that were meaningful despite their flaws? <i>CM Alongi, KD Edwards, Adam Stemple</i>	<b>Hello Aloha! Webcomics, Manhwa, and More.</b> <i>Nirvana, Link*Click, Here U Are, and Day Off</i> are some of the new titles being translated and produced by Aloha Comics. Aloha Comics describes themselves as a small team of designers. Is this the beginning of smaller presses putting out paper copies of Boys' Love titles? How can they compete with the online warehouses? What is the value of having print versions of these stories? Also, can we just squee about some of these titles? <i>David P-Z (moderator), Lisa Freitag</i>



## PANELS: FRIDAY

Time	Mainstage	Control Tower	Orville
10:00 PM	<b>Greg Knows Everybody.</b> It's a panel, but it's also a game. Can the audience name any SFF luminary that Greg Ketter doesn't have a personal story about? Let's find out! <i>Greg Ketter and Don Kaiser</i>	<b>When Magic is Queer Coded: Secrets in SFF.</b> <i>In Ink Blood Sister Scribe</i> by Emma Törzs, magic is so much of a secret that talking about it, even to your lesbian lover, reads like a coming out scene complete with all the usual risks. Diane Duane's <i>Young Wizards</i> series has a similar vibe. What are some other examples of this in SFF? What is the advantage to queer coding magic, if you will? Are secrets inherently queer? In the age of Tumblr, is this even something the younger generation experiences the same way anymore? <i>Emma Törzs, Kyell Gold, Lyda Morehouse</i>	<b>Evening Music Circle.</b> <i>David Lenander, Lisa Freitag, Adam Stemple</i> - may go late
11:30 PM		<b>Evening informal event</b> - self organized; come to meet people and hang out	

### Saturday, October 4

10:00 AM	<b>Second Wave Feminist SF: What Is it and Why Did it Matter?</b> Some of us are too young to have been actively reading during the second wave of feminist science fiction (1960s and 70s), but this era produced <i>Left Hand of Darkness</i> (Le Guin), <i>Woman on the Edge of Time</i> (Piercy), <i>The Female Man</i> (Russ), some of which contain some gender exploration that is still fairly radical, even by today's standards. So many old books are problematic, but are there some we should revisit? What about these Second Wave writers is still worth exploring or, perhaps, even celebrating? <i>Eleanor Arnason, Blue Delliquanti, Haddayr Copley-Woods (moderator)</i>	<b>Writing Queer/Different Stories in Times Like These: Hope A Little Bit Every Day.</b> Writing stories and novels, even grimdark and dystopian ones, is ultimately an act of hope--hope that your work will be published, will be read, and will have a positive impact. How do we fuel our fiction when hope is in short supply? Where do you find yours? Action, connection, and empathy can be sources of hope, but so many of us are paralyzed, isolated, and exhausted. Activists such as Joanna Macy and Chris Johnstone talk about making a practice of 'Active Hope,' and in the book <i>LET THIS RADICALIZE YOU</i> Kelly Hayes and Mariame Kaba talk about ways in which grief and hope can coexist. How do we as writers use the lens of genre to talk about this present moment without terrifying our readers and driving them to despair? <i>Dax Schwartz (moderator), Em Rowene, Kelly Barnhill, Lyda Morehouse, Naomi Kritzer</i>	<b>More Than Just For Fun: How Fandoms and Games Support Mental Health.</b> Is it just a game? Are they just your online friends and weird hobbies? Often fandoms and games can be so much more. This panel will discuss the ways in which fandom and games can support mental health. <i>Rachel Gold (moderator), La Gr, Jim Johnson, Lee Brontide</i>
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## PANELS: SATURDAY

Time	Mainstage	Control Tower	Orville
11:30 AM	<b>Interview: Emma Törzs</b> <i>Naomi Kritzer</i>	<b>Trans Joy: Writing From Our Happy Place.</b> In the beginning it seemed that the only stories about trans folks a person could find were sexually exploitative or even seemed to center our pain for cis pleasure. We've flipped the table and taken control of the narrative. What are some of our favorite trans SFF or other genre stories that make us happy? Who gets us? What would we like to see even more of? <i>Rachel Gold, Stephanie Burt</i>	<b>Reading:</b> <i>CM Alongi</i> (11:30 am-NOON); <i>JM Lee</i> (NOON - 12:30 PM)
1:00 PM	<b>Live Rome/Atlantis Worldbuilding Panel.</b> Gaylaxicon GOH KD Edwards and friends Kristina and Lisa will facilitate an interactive live worldbuilding session as research for an upcoming novel by KD Edwards. The panel involves a fan with a deep knowledge of KD's work, and a Latin scholar familiar with Roman history and culture. <i>KD Edwards, E.M. Hamill, Kristina Milnor</i>	<b>Honoring Eleanor.</b> A panel honoring Eleanor Arnason, a beloved local LGBTQIA+-friendly feminist SF&F author. <i>Haddayr Copley-Woods, David Lenander (moderator), Eleanor Arnason</i>	<b>Transformative Comics and Graphic Novels.</b> <i>O Human Star, Nimona, Gender Queer: A Memoir, As the Crow Flies</i> , and so many other great webcomics, comics, and graphic novels featuring trans, nonbinary, genderqueer folks are out there. Who were some of the first trans comic book artists? What's the latest, hottest new title? Let's discuss! <i>Blue Delliquanti, Stephanie Burt</i>
2:30 AM	<b>Queering the Classics.</b> Melinda Lo's <i>Ash</i> reimagines Cinderella as a lesbian. Most <i>Ardently</i> by Gabe Cole Novoa is a gayer <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> . And we can't forget <i>Wicked</i> by our former guest of honor, Gregory Maguire, and Nghi Vo's retelling of <i>The Great Gatsby</i> in <i>The Chosen &amp; The Beautiful</i> . And then there is the very classic, like <i>Song of Achilles</i> or the less well-known but excellent <i>Wrath, Goddess, Sing</i> (with a trans Achilles). What is the pleasure in queering up classic tales? The value? Which are our favorites? Which ones that have not yet been done beg for a reimagining? <i>Nghi Vo, Amanda Mewwissen, Kristina Milnor</i>	<b>Murderbot: SecUnits and Gender and Sexuality.</b> Martha Well's <i>Murderbot</i> is canonically it/its and ace/aro, however it's being played by Swedish hottie Alexander Skarsgård. Does that change how viewers perceive <i>Murderbot</i> 's gender and sexuality? Also, there is a disaster poly thruple on the show! Is this the representation polyamorous people need? How do we feel about Pin Lee and Arada's 'lesbian bed death' vibe? Let's discuss! <i>Naomi Kritzer, Dax Schwartz, Haddayr Copley-Woods, Lyda Morehouse (moderator)</i>	<b>Reading:</b> <i>KD Edwards, Blue Delliquanti</i>
3:00 PM	<b>Chocolate Symposium in ConSuite</b>		

## PANELS: SATURDAY

Time	Mainstage	Control Tower	Orville
4:00 PM	<b>Interview: KD Edwards</b> <i>Don Kaiser</i>	<b>Advice for Queer Authors.</b> Practical advice for aspiring and veteran authors alike, with a primary focus on 1) finding and owning one's narrative, 2) writing and crafting diverse characters, 3) navigating the publishing world, and 4) building community. Also, what is different within the queer landscape? What are the pitfalls, triumphs, and crucial learnings from recent years from queer authors deep within the trenches of modern publishing? <i>Amanda Meuwissen, CM Alongi, Jim Johnson, Lee Brontide, JR Dawson</i>	<b>Readings:</b> <i>Emma Törzs (4:00 PM - 4:30 PM); Nghi Vo (4:30 PM-5:00 PM)</i>
7:00 PM	<b>Star Trek Adventures.</b> Project Manager Jim Johnson talks about all things STA, including its 9-year history and new and upcoming products. <i>Jim Johnson</i>	<b>North Country Galaxians Book Discussion on the Singing Hills Cycle by Nghi Vo.</b> Read as many of the Singing Hills novellas as you like, which starts with <i>The Empress of Salt and Fortune</i> , and join a discussion of the novellas.	<b>Readings:</b> <i>Cameron Reed (7:00-7:30 PM); Rachel Gold &amp; Stephanie Burt (7:30-8:00)</i>
8:30 PM	<b>Comedy Through the Chaos: Cabaret Edition – Out &amp; Outrageous</b>		
10:00 PM	<b>Home is Where the SFF is?</b> Often science fiction and fantasy seems to exist in ubiquitous fantasy lands or in elaborate and painstakingly built worlds. But sometimes what you want is a taste of home--or maybe to explore a real world place you've visited or want to visit. What are the advantages (or disadvantages) to writing about real world locations like Washington, D.C. or Minneapolis? Is this just a fantasy thing? What about science fiction in real world places? <i>Jim Johnson, Adam Stemple (moderator), Lee Brontide</i>	<b>Building Queer Worlds.</b> How do we do worldbuilding in sci-fi/fantasy stories in ways that break down patriarchal and queerphobic systems we've all been raised in, while still creating structural societal problems that can provide narrative conflict? <i>CM Alongi, Watt, JR Dawson</i>	<b>Reading:</b> <i>Kyell Gold (10:00-10:30 PM)</i>
12:00 PM	<b>Midnight Slash</b> Like a poetry slam, only smuttier. With your hosts Lyda Morehouse and Kyell Gold, plus sign-ups for others		

# PANELS: SUNDAY

Time	Mainstage	Control Tower	Orville
<b>Sunday, October 4</b>			
10:30 AM	<b>Problematic Favs.</b> Do we even have room to name them all? But, from JK Rowling all the way to whatever might break this week, a lot of fans have to cope with discovering that the person who wrote the stories that got them through the dark times might actually have had more than a few skeletons in their closet or are still out there actively doing harm to our community. What do we do? Is it okay to love the art while hating the artist? How do we reconcile this sort of thing? <i>CM Alongi, Naomi Krizter (moderator), Lisa Freitag, and Don Kaiser</i>	<b>Gay Vikings! Queerness in Icelandic Saga and Viking Fiction.</b> Research into the Viking Age shows clearly that the Vikings had words (and perhaps therefore mental constructs and concepts) of same-sex activity. So how gay were they, historically-speaking? Thor once dressed in a wedding gown in the Icelandic sagas--was that just played for humor or was there anything more to it? MCU's Loki reads to a lot of fans as bi or pansexual and in the comic books (and the sagas!) Loki is canonically genderfluid. <i>Eleanor Arnason, Adam Stemple, Dax Schwartz</i>	<b>Superman is WOKE and Other Media Malarky.</b> The new Superman movie came out in July to the familiar cry of "everything is so woke now!" from the right. What's with the collective amnesia that comic books, superheroes, Star Trek, Star Wars, and many of our beloved 'fanchises' have ALWAYS had liberal values of empathy, diversity, equity, and inclusion? Let's talk about some of the historical "liberal agenda" media representations and consider what we can do to support the continuation of it! <i>Blue Delliquanti, Kyell Gold</i>
12:00 PM	<b>Interview: Jim Johnson</b> <i>John Till</i>	<b>Soul-Bonding in Queer Stories.</b> KD Edward's Tarot Sequence highlights an unusual soul-bonded pairing. What are some other books, comic books, movies, TV shows, RPGs, etc., that highlight this kind of relationship? What do we like about soul-bonded stories? Are there things we hate? Is there something about soul-bonding that makes space for queerness? Sharing of secrets without words perhaps? <i>KD Edwards, E.M. Hamill</i>	<b>Universal Studio Monsters.</b> <i>Bride of Frankenstein! Dracula! The Mummy!</i> From the 1930s to the 1950s, Universal Monsters pumped out a ton of films we now consider classic horror movies. Monsters and queerness have had a long association, in fact, these days, a lot of young folks have adopted Krampus as a gay icon. Is there an intersection between monsters and queerness? <i>Greg Ketter, Amanda Meuwissen</i>
2:30 PM	<b>Eye of Newt: Herbs and Magic in SFF and Beyond.</b> Eye of newt sounds so much cooler than mustard seed but they're actually the same thing! Magic and herbs have been intertwined since before Shakespeare. Is there any real magic to be found in the weeds growing in the backyard? Does the real life association with herbs and magic help inform magical fantasy and fiction? If so, how? <i>Lisa Freitag, Haddayr Copley-Woods, Emma Törzs</i>	<b>Seeing Yourself in the Story.</b> For many of us, the inclusion of diverse characters remains deeply important to our fiction. When was the first time you truly saw yourself in media—whether in books, comics, TV, or movies? How important was that moment? What are the kinds of representation we still want to see more of? Has there been recent pushback from publishers or readers, or is fiction—specifically SFF—still the place to speculate about the "future liberals want?" And where is the Boldly Inclusive SFF today? <i>Naomi Kritzer, Adam Stemple, Kelly Barnhill, JR Dawson</i>	<b>Ask a GM.</b> This is a favorite panel at Minneapolis Gaylaxicons. An AMA session with attending GMs. <i>Jim Johnson, Lyda Morehouse, Don Kaiser</i>
4:00 PM	Closing Ceremonies		

FURRY MIGRATION PRESENTS

# BEKIND REWIND



September 11 – 13, 2026

MN

All rights reserved. Valid only at the Hyatt Regency in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Attendance of performances, panels, dances, and other programming is strongly encouraged. Duplication in whole or part of this convention theme without express written permission would make us pretty sad. Anyway, tell your friends you're looking forward to seeing them at Furry Migration 2026.

# Marscon: Sci-Fi of Yesteryear

March 6-7-8 2026

Hilton Mpls/St Paul Airport





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## GAMING: RUNWAY AND EARHART

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Please feel free to come and sample the wide selection of games in our game library, or to bring your own. If you wish to run a game, please let us know and we will add it to our schedule.

### **Friday: 1 PM, Runway**

Game Room Opens

### **Friday: 1 PM - 5 PM, Runway**

#### **Eberron D&D RPG (Devon)**

Come play 5th edition D&D in the Eberon setting, with Devon from Tower Games. 6 Players.

### **Friday: 8:30 PM, Earhart**

#### **Star Trek Adventures RPG - "Time Capsule" (Jim Johnson)**

An automated distress signal leads the crew to a rogue planetoid in the Beta Quadrant. What will the crew discover when they delve into the planetoid? Up to 6 players. Rules will be taught.

### **Saturday: 10 AM - 12 PM, Earhart**

#### **Playtest "eeps & Keepers RPG" (James Bacigalupo)**

You are a cat, and this is your world. Decide if you play as an Eep and wield spirit powers, or choose to train in weapons, skills, and spells as a Keeper. Will you try to put down roots and grow a community in this strange new world or will you stand up to go forth and seek adventure and glory? You decide when to nap, to hiss, to purr, and when to pounce. GM James Bacigalupo is helping develop and playtest this new RPG. 5 Players.

### **Saturday: 1 PM - 4 PM, Earhart**

#### **Ape City Goes Queer! (with John Till)**

Come try out the new Planet of the Apes RPG, which uses the classic D6 system beloved of Star Wars RPG players. This game was inspired by the classic Planet of the Apes movies, animated Saturday morning cartoon, and TV series, but fans of any of the Planet of the Apes media new or old will enjoy this game. Limited to 5 players, apes, humans, and mutants, welcome (haha). Simple rules will be taught.

### **Saturday: 1 PM - 3 PM, Runway**

#### **Summoner Wars Card Game (Devon)**

Come play the Summoner Wars card game with Devon from Tower Games. Up to 12 Players.

### **Saturday: 1 PM - 3 PM, Runway**

#### **Strixhaven 5th Edition D&D RPG (Diana)**

Come play 5th edition in the Strixhaven setting with Diana from Tower Games. 7 Players.

### **Saturday: 4 PM, Runway**

#### **A Virus Most Foul! (with Lyda Morehouse)**

The Thirsty Sword Lesbians and their friends return to Neo-Tokyo where the denizens of Akihabara are being attacked by something online that is leaving their consciousnesses stranded in Glitchspace. Is it a virus? Some malicious malware? Or is that strung out holo-idol who is always yelling about a conspiracy involving MegaCorps actually right for once? Let's go, Lesbians! Grab your net-surfboards, gear up your mirrorshades, and let's crack this case! A one-shot for up to 7 players.

### **Saturday: 6 PM - 8 PM, Earhart**

**Rust Wings: Wrench and Propeller roleplaying** Become a Rust Wing crew member (GM Watt) - Misfit teenagers who build and pilot their own planes from the scrap around them. Journey deep into an abandoned city full of decaying robots, sky pirates, and the imperial navy to find your missing friends. A one-shot for up to 6 players.

### **Sunday: 10:00 AM - 12 PM, Earhart**

#### **Playtest "eeps & Keepers RPG" (James Bacigalupo)**

You are a cat, and this is your world. Decide if you play as an Eep and wield spirit powers, or choose to train in weapons, skills, and spells as a Keeper. Will you try to put down roots and grow a community in this strange new world or will you stand up to go forth and seek adventure and glory? You decide when to nap, to hiss, to purr, and when to pounce. GM James Bacigalupo is helping develop and playtest this new RPG. 5 Players.

### **Sunday: 1 PM - 3 PM, Runway**

#### **Strixhaven 5th Edition D&D RPG (Diana)**

Come play 5th edition in the Strixhaven setting with Diana from Tower Games. 7 Players.

### **Sunday: 1:30 PM - 4 PM, Earhart**

#### **Daggerheart RPG (GM John Till)**

Critical Role's new tabletop game *Daggerheart* was the biggest release of the summer, selling out within one week! The game is designed for exciting narrative play with a D&D feel without drowning players and GM in a sea of mechanics. Let's try out the game together! 5 Players. Simple rules will be taught.

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## DEALERS ROOM: AIRE BALLROOM 2

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### **Amanda Meuwissen**

Amanda Meuwissen is a local Minnesotan and queer author of primarily M/M or gay romance, dabbling in every subgenre from fantasy to paranormal to horror and more. As the creator of multiple LGBTQIA+ #1 Best Sellers & New Releases, she is best known for her erotic romp through Greek mythology, *Last Courtesan of Olympus*.

### **Andrea Krieter**

#### **Coffee Cartel by Mimosa Everheart**

A small high production quality card game called “Coffee Cartel”, made by me! Mimosa! It contains a deck of 70 cards all beautifully illustrated by myself using vector art (I’m not kidding, I metaphorically killed it with the art), 28 chocolate coin tokens, 2 “cartel tokens”, a small brown bag to hold the coins.

#### **Dice and spices**

Fantasy-themed teas, RPG-inspired spice mixes, bright and cheerful kandi bracelets, adorable stickers, soothing sensory items, and fun fidget toys, and handmade dice bags—crafted for gamers, dreamers, and flavor seekers alike!

#### **Diecaster Games**

Innkeeper the Board Game – Innkeeper is a fast-paced, card-slinging game of commerce where you take on the role of a proprietor in the medieval town of Bittersburgh. It is a 2–4 player competitive game lasting 30–45 minutes. Each of the 7 starter

proprietors has unique abilities and varying starting stats. Gain assets and build your inn to attract customers, but beware of opponents slinging treachery cards to mess with you—and more.

### **DreamHaven Books**

DreamHaven is one of the oldest specialty Science Fiction/Fantasy bookstores in the world. Coming up on 50 years, we’ve always had strong relationships with ALL of our customers and with many marginalized communities.

### **Emeric Rowene**

Emeric Rowene is debuting a newly released M/M Epic Fantasy book, along with soy wax candles inspired by favorite book tropes such as enemies to lovers and mutual pining. Also available are Dungeons & Dragons-themed candles, with scents inspired by classes like warlock and paladin.

### **Mohr Creations**

One of a kind fine jewelry pieces and original artwork.

### **Moonbeam Designs**

A bright illustrative style on stickers, prints, buttons, bookmarks, and more! Come see my premade works or purchase a custom commission!

### **Torn Pages Studios**

Selling book-themed accessories and vases made from books, all items made from books.

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## CONSUIE: ROOM 412

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The ConSuite is Gaylaxicon’s social heart and a place where everyone is welcome to relax, recharge, and connect with fellow fans. Located in Room 412 on the 4th floor, the suite will be open throughout the convention with a wide assortment of snacks, pop, and other potables. Each morning, the ConSuite will also feature a continental breakfast with “real food” options to help you start your day off right.

Whether you’re looking for a quick bite between panels, a quiet corner to sip a soda, or a lively hub for conversation about your favorite books, shows, or games, the ConSuite is the place to be. We invite you to drop by often—meet new friends, reconnect with old ones, and enjoy the welcoming spirit that makes Gaylaxicon special.

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## GPS SILENT AUCTION: WILBUR WRIGHT

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Join us for the GPS Silent Auction during Gaylaxicon 2025! Proceeds will benefit the Geek Partnership Society (GPS), which supports year-round geeky community building through clubs and events, assistance for other geeky nonprofits, and outreach programs such as Project Lighthouse (an educational grants program), the GPS Annual Writing Contest, the Space Camp Scholarship Fund, and the GPS Arts Initiative.

Auction items have been generously donated by community members, dealers, and artists. Thank you to everyone whose contributions help make this fundraiser possible.

By bidding, each participant agrees to the rules posted on the auction website. These include the use of contact information (name, phone number, email) in case item(s) won are not paid for and picked up, or if bidder registration information is incomplete or incorrect.

### Online Bidding

Online Bidding means you can place your bid anytime between Thursday at noon through Saturday at 7pm.



<https://app.charityauctionstoday.com/auctions/2025-gaylaxicon-auction-44316>

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## COMMUNITY TABLES: PRE-FUNCTION

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**MNeurodivergent** is a Minnesota nonprofit founded in 2022 by and for neurodivergent people. We reduce isolation and foster inclusive spaces where individuals can connect, share experiences, and build community. Our statewide networks host social gatherings, sensory-friendly convention spaces, artist collaborations, and advocacy that celebrates self-determination and radical inclusion. Learn more at [mneurodivergent.org](http://mneurodivergent.org).

**Free Mom Hugs** is national movement founded by a mother and advocate to empower the world to celebrate LGBTQIA+ people through visibility, conversation, and education. With chapters in every state and more than 37,000 volunteers, we embrace people of all backgrounds, work to restore family relationships, provide resources for allies, and create a groundswell of inclusion fueled by love. Learn more at [freemomhugs.org](http://freemomhugs.org).

**Dragons, Dungeons & Drinks** is a Twin Cities gaming community offering Dungeons & Dragons one-shots for both new and experienced players. With 2,000+ local adventurers and 150+ Game Masters, there's always a seat at the table. Learn more at [dragonsdungeonsdrinks.com](http://dragonsdungeonsdrinks.com).

**Quatrefoil Library** is a volunteer-run LGBTQIA+ library and community center in South Minneapolis. It offers a living archive of books, zines, DVDs, and periodicals, plus engaging programs, resource exchange, and outreach, cultivating free exchange of ideas and access to LGBTQIA+ materials for education and inspiration.

## EXPECTATION OF BEHAVIOR

All of our attendees come to have a good time at the convention. We are privileged to have a community that is respectful of each other, and all attendees are encouraged to have the utmost respect toward other convention attendees. However, if an attendee shows extremely bad judgment, causes undue stress, or is causing trouble, please inform a Gaylaxicon committee member so we may take care of the situation immediately. Behavior violating public respect and expectations may result in the confiscation of offending member's convention badge and revocation of their membership privileges.

In addition, local laws may restrict various activities, no matter how consensual. Attendees who place Gaylaxicon 2025 at legal risk may be asked to leave the convention.

With the help of all attendees, we wish to promote a fun atmosphere where people share their interests. Please help us maintain this atmosphere.

## BADGES

Your badge must be displayed at all times in convention areas. It is your proof of membership. If you lose your badge, report the loss to Registration at once. There will be a \$20 charge for replacement badges.

## ALCOHOL

Although the convention will not be serving alcohol, we have arranged for a cash bar at major events where the bartenders will be checking IDs. If you intend to purchase alcohol at any of these events, be sure to have your photo ID with you. Any room party serving alcohol must follow all state and local laws regarding alcohol consumption. Any party serving alcohol does so at their discretion, in their private room, and under their own direction.

## MEMBERSHIP TRANSFERS

A signed written document from the original membership owner must accompany any membership transfer.

## PETS

No pets will be allowed in any of the function areas, our function foyer, or in the ConSuite. If you plan to bring a pet/pets, please contact the hotel regarding their policies. Service animals are allowed.

## ID CHECKING

All attendees will need to provide a suitable form of photo identification verifying their age at check-in. There will be no exceptions. Young adults 16 and 17 years of age may attend Gaylaxicon 2025 unaccompanied, but a valid emergency contact for a parent or guardian and a legitimate proof of age (such as a driver's license or school photo ID with birthdate) will be required at registration. Anyone providing false documentation of identity or age will be denied membership.

## WEAPONS

Real weapons are not allowed, even as part of a costume. Realistic prop weapons will only be allowed as part of a cabaret costume. Realistic prop or toy weapons are not allowed as part of hall costumes. Make love, not war.

## FOOD ALLERGIES

Gaylaxicon 2025 takes no responsibility for potential allergen content of food and drink served in convention space, including the ConSuite. Items served may contain milk, nuts, soy, wheat, and other ingredients to which members are sensitive. It is the sole responsibility of the member to ensure that the food or drink item is safe for them. If you don't know, ask. If you can't find out, don't eat or drink it.

## SMOKING

This is a smoke-free convention and hotel. Smoking is allowed 30 feet beyond building entrances.

## MINORS

We welcomes people of all ages and persuasions. We expect parental supervision for younger attendees, and we require that a parent or guardian accompany anyone under the age of 16 at the convention. Please understand it is the responsibility of the parent or guardian adult (18+) to be aware of where anyone under 16 years of age is and what they are doing. Unaccompanied young adults aged 16 and 17 will have their parent or guardian notified if their convention membership is revoked.

## CONTENT

Gaylaxicon 2025's policy is to not censor participating artists, dealers, and panelists. If you find something objectionable in the Dealers Room, simply move on to the next dealer.

## OTHER HOTEL GUESTS

There will be many other people sharing the hotel with us. Everyone is expected to respect them and their rights.

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## MASKING & SAFETY

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At Gaylaxicon 2025, our theme is **Boldly Inclusive**. That means we strive to create a space where everyone can feel safe, welcome, and part of the community. One of the simplest and most meaningful ways to support that vision is by wearing a face mask in our shared convention spaces. Through this small act, we help protect those in our community who otherwise could not attend without risking their health.

**Masks covering your nose and mouth are required in all convention spaces, including registration, panel rooms, and gaming areas, with the following exceptions:**

- While performing or presenting on a panel
- In the ConSuite and other designated eating spaces
- Briefly in masked spaces for sipping a beverage
- In non-convention areas of the hotel (ample open seating is available outside of convention spaces for eating and socializing without masks)

High-quality masks such as N95, KN95, and KF94 are strongly encouraged. For more information on types of masks, please see CDC mask guidance.

### ADDITIONAL SAFETY MEASURES

**Gaming Areas:** Gaming tables will be spaced to allow for distancing, and chairs at each table will be arranged for both safety and playability.

**Hand Sanitizer:** Hand sanitizer will be available throughout all convention spaces, especially where game pieces and shared materials are used.

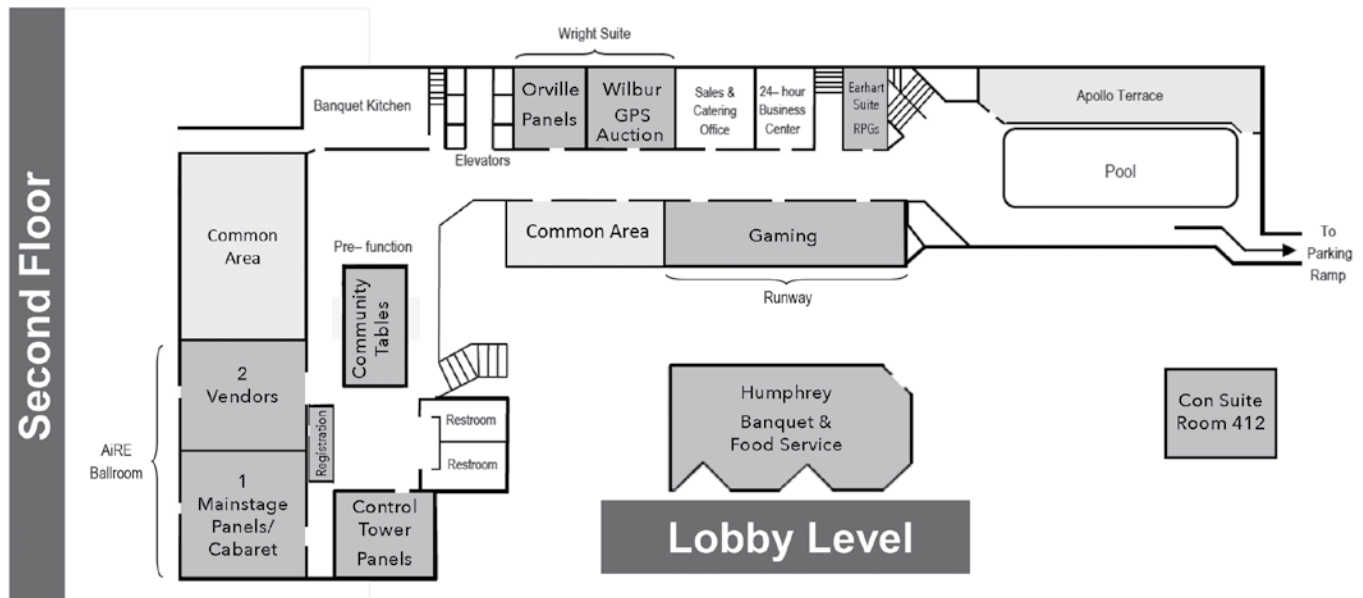
**ConSuite:** The ConSuite will offer a selection of pre-packaged snacks and individually packaged drinks (cans, bottles), or items served by our ConSuite staff in individual serving portion cups.

**Hotel Guests:** Please note that the hotel is not exclusive to Gaylaxicon, and we cannot guarantee that other hotel guests are masked.

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## HOTEL MAP

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# HOURS

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## CONSUIITE

FRI 3 pm-1 am  
SAT 9 am-1 am  
SUN 9 am-1 am

## DEALERS ROOM

FRI 12 pm-6:30 pm  
SAT 10 am-7 pm  
SUN 10 am-3 pm

## GAMING

FRI 12 pm-12 am  
SAT 10 am-12 am  
SUN 10 am-12 am

If the game room becomes empty in the early hours, it may close and reopen at 8 am.

## REGISTRATION

FRI 12 pm-9 pm  
SAT 9:30 am-5:30 pm  
SUN 9:30 am-12 pm

## GPS SILENT AUCTION

FRI 3 pm-7 pm  
SAT 10 am-7 pm  
SUN 10 am-2 pm

## BANQUET

FRI 7 pm-8:30 pm

Please join us for our Friday Night Dinner Banquet in the hotel Lower Atrium. Tickets are available at the convention registration table for \$40. Seating is limited.

## CABARET

SAT 7 pm-8:30 pm

## VOLUNTEERING

Volunteers are the lifeblood of any convention. If you would like to give some of your time to the convention, please stop by the Registration desk to find out where help is needed.