

Loscon 2012 Program Schedule - Friday

Day/Time Room	Title	Description	Panelists
Fri 2:30 Marquis 1	Cassini-Huygens Mission to Saturn	The Cassini-Huygens spacecraft was launched in 1997 and had a marathon 7-year 2-billion mile journey to the planet Saturn. The largest, most sophisticated outer planet spacecraft ever built, it's in its eighth year of operation in orbit around the planet Saturn. Cassini-Huygens has been returning extraordinary data about the entire Saturn system: the spectacular rings, the numerous icy satellites, the giant planet itself, and the intriguing moon Titan, which is slightly larger than the planet Mercury, and whose hazy atmosphere is denser than Earth's. Today's talk will be an overview of the Cassini-Huygens Mission to Saturn with a summary of the top science returns of its first eight years in orbit.	Trina L. Ray
Fri 2:30 Marquis 2	Mistakes Writers Make	Paying so-called agents a fee to represent them? Calling agents and editors every day to see how they like their novel? That ain't the half of it. Come hear established writers give you a heads up on things you should know better than.	Nancy Holder Cecil Castellucci Todd McCaffrey Shaene Siders Greg Benford Jerry Pournelle
Fri 2:30 Marquis 3	Are There Too Many Cats In Science Fiction?	Cats seem to be everywhere. Science fiction. Fantasy. There are entire anthologies of cat stories. And not just in our genre. Romances and mysteries have more than their share of cat tales as well. Are dogs anywhere to be seen? Why is literature so catty?	Genny Dazzo Gary Westfahl Sarah Joy Adams
Fri 2:30 Marquis 4	How "Alternate" Can Histories Be?	Alternate Histories are, just by their name, <i>different</i> from actual history. So just how accurate do you have to be? Do you have to do <u>any</u> research? Does your story have to match up with anything? When does it switch from "Alternate History" to just being fiction? And what can you do to make your Alternate History better?	Laura Frankos Amy Sterling Casil Allison Lonsdale S.P. Hendrick Christopher Garcia Harry Turtledove

Fri 2:30 Chicago	The Steampunk Aesthetic	Steampunk is everywhere. It was the theme of an episode of <i>Castle</i> and a soon-to-be bride on <i>Say Yes to the Dress</i> was looking for a dress for her steampunk-themed wedding. It's certainly around at science fiction and comics convention. What makes something steampunk? Is it more than a vaguely Victorian outfit with some brass doodads? And when will you be able to wear it to the office?	Yvonne Penney Colleen Crosby James Hay Fr. John Blaker Kevin Roche
Fri 2:30 Dallas	Books That Changed My Life	Some books have a profound effect on people. Come hear from our panelists which books had a major effect on them and share your own stories.	Charles Lee Jackson II Steven Collins Milton F. Stevens Phil Osborn Stephen Weese
Fri 2:30 Saddlebrook	Jay Kay Klein: A Man & His Camera	Jay Kay Klein was <u>the</u> pre-eminent photographer of science fiction events from the 1950s until his recent passing. His immense collection of photographs was donated to the Eaton Collection and the libraries of the University of California at Riverside. A selection of his photos will be shown.	Julia D. Ree Dr. Melissa Conway John Hertz
Fri 2:30 Scottsdale	Genre Television: What Works, What Doesn't	Some kinds of shows seem to work, others – like horror hospitals – just don't last. Is the location? The characters? Science fiction vs. horror vs. fantasy? Does anyone know the secret?	J. Michael Straczynski Gillian Horvath Steven Sears Lorien Gray Craig Miller
Fri 4:00 Marquis 1	Guest Of Honor Alan White	Artist Guest of Honor Alan White presents a nostalgic look at his 50 years as a fan artist, from pen to pixel.	Alan White
Fri 4:00 Marquis 2	Before '50s Science Fiction Films	Discussing the science fiction films of the past, from the well known like <i>Metropolis</i> to <i>The Invisible Ray</i> and <i>Night Key</i> .	Charles Lee Jackson II Bill Warren Eric L. Hoffman

Fri 4:00 Marquis 3	ePublishing	Many writers are putting their older, out of print novels and short stories on line for downloading. Others are writing new material and releasing it solely as ebooks. Is it working? How does it compare with more traditional methods? And how can you help people to find out about your electronically published works and get them to buy them?	Neo Edmund Richard Dean Starr Maria Alexander Louise Nemschoff Mike Shepherd Moscoe
Fri 4:00 Chicago	Creating Language	Language and culture are linked. What concepts need words? How does the environment affect the language? What does it take to create a realistic, usable language?	Lorien Gray David Gerrold Buzz Dixon Sarah Joy Adams
Fri 4:00 Dallas	Books That Should Be Filmed	Everyone talks about what has been filmed. Here is a discussion of works that haven't been filmed but should be. What should you look for to make a good film? What won't translate from the printed word to the visual media? Why haven't these works been made?	Timothy Cassidy-Curtis Michael Donahue Kenne Estes Christopher Garcia James C. Glass
Fri 4:00 Saddlebrook	Does Hard Science Fiction Have To Be Dry?	Some people feel that "seeing all the rivets" is what makes science fiction good. But does it make hard science fiction too stiff? Are there interesting characters in hard science fiction? Can they have the action of an old-fashioned sword-and-starship swashbuckler and still be good?	Arthur Bozlee Jerry Pournelle Chris Butler Vernor Vinge Eric Choi
Fri 4:00 Scottsdale	Are Clones Kosher?	When we're finally able to clone a chicken breast, will it be something that vegetarians will eat? Will it be kosher? Halal? Will it taste the same as the "original"? Will anyone want to eat it? Many science fiction authors have speculated about "vat-grown meat", but are we actually on the verge of having it to serve on the dinner table? Will it help end famine and starvation, or just make things worse?	Richard Foss Shirley Bushnell Robert N. Skir Amy Sterling Casil
Fri 4:00 Autographs	Autograph Session		Greg Benford Larry Niven

<p>Fri 5:30 Marquis 1</p>	<p>Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter: Eyes in the Skies of Mars</p>	<p>The Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) arrived at Mars in 2006 with a powerful suite of scientific instruments, including high-resolution cameras, an imaging spectrometer, weather and climate sensors, and ground penetrating radar. MRO has provided unprecedented detail about the surface, subsurface, and atmosphere of Mars, and sent back more data than all other spacecraft sent beyond the Earth-Moon system combined. We have seen moving sand dunes, springtime CO2 geysers, polar avalanches, and other changes on the surface of today's Mars, and found evidence of changes in ancient environments encoded in the Martian rocks. MRO was also used to select the landing site for Curiosity, and currently relays most of Curiosity's data from the rover to the Earth. Come learn about some of the recent discoveries from this hard-working spacecraft.</p>	<p>Sarah Milkovich</p>
<p>Fri 5:30 Marquis 2</p>	<p>Forgotten Favorites Of Childhood</p>	<p>What books and stories do you remember best from childhood? Our panelists talk about their favorites and ask about yours.</p>	<p>Valerie Estelle Frankel Gary Westfahl Robert N. Skir Kenn Bates Bradford Lyau</p>
<p>Fri 5:30 Marquis 3</p>	<p>Character Vs. Plot</p>	<p>What's the most important? Which do you start with? Some readers (and writers) seem to be all about the characters. Others are only interested in the details of the plot. Can you write for both audiences? Should you?</p>	<p>Laurie Tom Tim Powers Nancy Holder D.C. Fontana Greg Benford Todd McCaffrey</p>
<p>Fri 5:30 Chicago</p>	<p>Zombies on Film</p>	<p>There are a lot of different movies with zombies. And all different kinds of zombies. Some people insist that only voodoo-enhanced folks can be zombies. But plenty of others include the slow, shuffling zombies of <i>Night of the Living Dead</i> and the speed demons of <i>28 Days Later</i>. Come talk about zombies in the movies.</p>	<p>Eric L. Hoffman Alan White Bill Warren</p>

<p>Fri 5:30 Dallas</p>	<p>Revise, Revise, Revise!</p>	<p>Often the difference between an amateur writer and a professional is that the pro knows how to rewrite and the amateur thinks he got it right the first time.</p>	<p>Doris Egan Justin Lloyd Steven Sears Richard Dean Starr Harry Turtledove Nathan Long</p>
<p>Fri 5:30 Saddlebrook</p>	<p>Zombie Killing 101</p>	<p>An introductory class on surviving the Zombie Apocalypse up close and personal. Weapon choices, tactics, good ideas which aren't.</p>	<p>Dr. Bill Ernoehazy</p>
<p>Fri 5:30 Scottsdale</p>	<p>Comics: Marrying Words & Pictures</p>	<p>An in-depth look at the art of bringing together the story, the dialogue, and the images that make comic books and graphic novels a unique art form.</p>	<p>Marv Wolfman Neo Edmund Shaene Siders Joe Pearson Buzz Dixon Jim Krueger</p>
<p>Fri 8:30 pm Scottsdale</p>	<p>The Delphic Oracle</p>	<p>Take 4-6 writers, put them in a line and turn them into the mysterious and ancient Delphic Oracle which will answer questions about the future – often in strange and hilarious ways.</p>	<p>Todd McCaffrey</p>