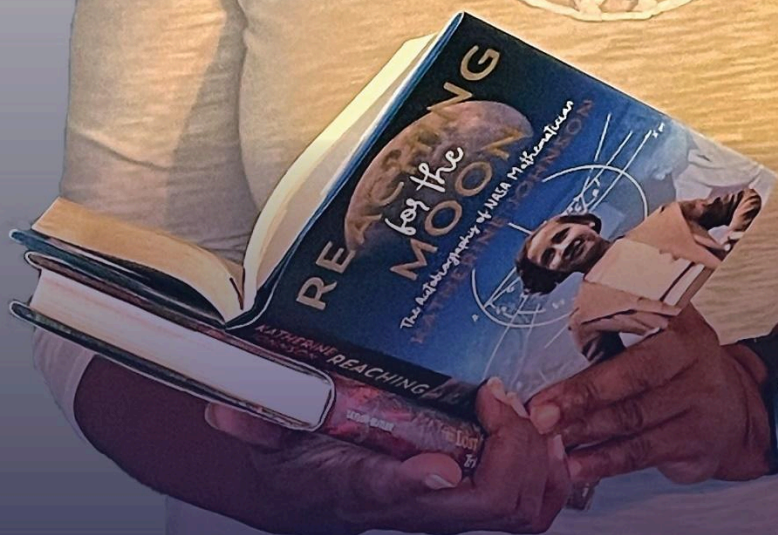


Capricorn 46





My name is Christine and I'm a writer and reader. I'm an engineer that grew up with my head buried in science fiction and fantasy. Now I write the same for young people! Studies show that students who read independently have higher executive functioning and that's important to me. It's also a great way for me to hide real science in my stories. My writing led to my discovering MidAmericanII and I've attended every WorldCon since.

If you're interested in my work come find me at the Montréal 2027 WorldCon! I promise you'll leave with memories and friendships from Worldcons that last long after the convention concludes.

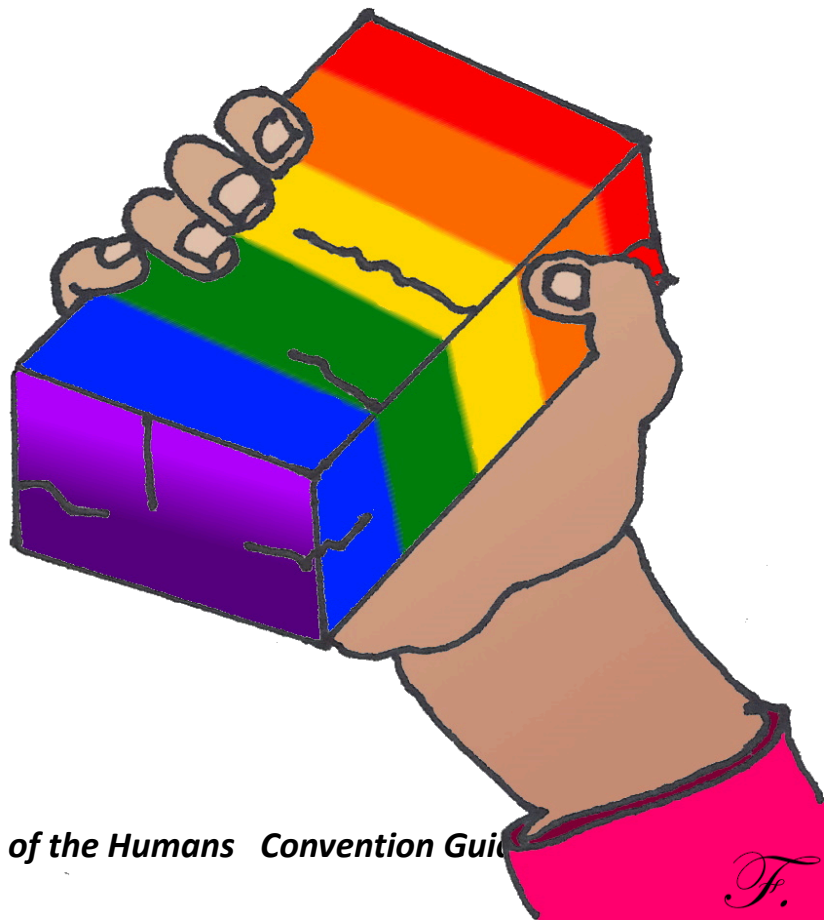
My name is Christine and
I AM FANDOM



<https://www.facebook.com/MontrealWorldCon27>
<https://bsky.app/profile/montrealworldcon27.bsky.social>
<https://mastodon.social/@montreal27worldcon>

X Letter from the Chair

Get from Kevin...



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Capricon 46 Staff List

Art Show 1st:	Gina Fischer	Kids Prog. 1st:	Tori Carnall Hawkins
Art show 2nd:	Taia Hartman	Kids Prog. 2nd:	Xris Hawkins-Kamper
Awards:	JP Kroschel	Merchandising:	Karen Herkes
Capricious/Mascot:	Andrea Hawkins-Kamper	Music 1st:	JT Thomas
Con Suite 1st:	Vicki Ortega	Music 2nd:	Xap Esler
Con Suite 2nd:	John Higgins	Operations:	Andrea Hawkins-Kamper
Creator's Space:	Erika Donat	Operations:	Jason Vassos
Dealers 1st:	Shirley McKinzey	Parties 1st:	Rachel Cohan
Dealers 2nd:	Theresa Hahn	Parties 2nd:	Wash Esler
Design/Art:	Dex Greenbright	Photographer:	Michelle Rebot
Discord Admin:	Tammy Coxen	Programming 1st:	Shaun Duke
Fan Tables:	Chris Gerrib	Programming 2nd:	Cassandra Moritz
Gaming 1st:	Jenna Kantor	Program Ops 1st:	Jeanne Steele
Gaming 2nd:	Sarah Rice	Program Ops 2nd:	Linda Hawkins
GSuite Admin:	Jason Betts	Publications:	D. Ordoñez
Guest Liaison:	Brian Sebby	Registration:	"Cheesecake" Perez
Gophers:	Tammy Coxen	Ribbons:	Ed Friman
Hotel 1st:	"The Broke Otaku"	Signage 1st:	Helen Montgomery
Hotel 2nd:	Aimee Dundon	Signage 2nd:	Bob de la Torre
Info Desk 1st:	Michael Kelly	Special Events:	Jackie Kutrovacz
Info Desk 2nd:	Sharon Waltham	Website:	Frances Moritz
Logistics 1st:	"Rosencrantz Strange Thunderbraid"	Website:	MJ Duhan
Logistics 2nd:	Bob de la Torre	Writers Room:	Deanna Sjolander

Con Crud Prevention Policy

Introduction

Capricon is a community of people who care about each other. No policy can ensure the health and safety of every member, but we want all of our members to be aware of how their actions can improve the health outcomes of all of our attendees. It is up to each individual member, in consultation with their health care providers, to determine appropriate precautions for their personal health circumstances such as masking, personal hygiene, personal boundaries, appropriate vaccinations, and whether their individual circumstances make attending such in-person events advisable.

All policies applicable to the City of Chicago and Cook County and State of Illinois will be enforced. We have chosen to add some stronger mitigation recommendations. We reserve the right to revise this policy to be more restrictive as dictated by new circumstances, but will not revise to a standard less restrictive than as originally published.

Summary of our policies

1. **Our social policy:** be kind and cautious, and observe the Code of Conduct
2. **Illness/symptoms:** do not attend Capricon if you have symptoms of a respiratory or contagious illness.
3. **Masking:** We strongly recommend that members wear a mask in crowded convention spaces, especially when seated together in programming, performances, gaming and similar activity tables. Some specific events in certain spaces will be mask-required. While not mandated in most spaces, we encourage as many members as possible and able to be masked for their own health, but also especially for the health of others who need more protection.
4. **Vaccine policy:** we do not check the vaccine status of our members.
5. **Ventilation:** We will have Corsi-Rosenthal filtration (“C-R”) boxes in non-ballroom program spaces where suitable.

Health and Safety Social Policy

We ask all attendees to be kind and cautious with regards to their fellow attendees’ health.

Ask first whenever encroaching on other peoples’ personal space, particularly if they are masked. Please ask about your fellow attendee’s comfort level, and if the people you are spending time with are wearing masks, please consider putting on your own mask. If you are asked to mask or move away, please share the space and do so without argument.

Shaming anyone for masking, or not masking, will not be tolerated. Note that some members are unable to mask due to their own health issues. Enforcement of this policy will be handled exclusively by official Capricon staff. Attendees should report issues and concerns to a staff member, and not confront other attendees.

Con Crud Prevention Policy (Cont.)

Illness/Attendance Policy

Capricon requests that individuals with a contagious illness or unexplained respiratory symptoms stay home. While we understand that it is disappointing to miss out on our event, it is more important to protect your health as well as the health of your fellow attendees.

Accommodations to defer attendance to the next year will be made for those unfortunate enough to fall ill prior to or during the event.

Contact registration@capricon.org to arrange a transfer of your membership to next year, or leave your badge with a Registration desk or operations staff member if you must depart due to illness.

Masking Policy

It is always acceptable to wear a mask in any area (even when not required). Attendees should not confront, bother, or harass individuals who are following masking rules. Politely asking someone to wear or remove a mask once is not harassment; please do not make repeated requests in areas where it is not required.

Masks will be required in the following areas:

1. Any party with a 'mask required' sign at the door;
2. In any official workshop, table-based or event where the program runner (presenter, teacher, GM, etc) requests it.

Masks are not required but are especially strongly recommended for Attendees in programming rooms, particularly those with theater-style seating. We consider these to be HIGH RISK areas due to close seating proximity and amount of time spent in the same space. Wearing a mask in these areas also helps protect presenters who may be unmasked for accessibility purposes

Masks are optional in any areas not listed above – including but not limited to:

1. Program participants delivering program items. We recognize that masks can impact accessibility for those who are hearing impaired and that some people find it especially difficult to wear a mask while speaking.
2. Social event spaces except as clearly posted.
3. Public spaces connected to the convention.

Vaccine Policy

We encourage our members to stay up-to-date on all available vaccinations for communicable diseases. The organization will not be verifying vaccination status.

Ventilation

We will have Corsi-Rosenthal (C-R) filtration boxes in all suitable non-ballroom program spaces.

What is Phandemonium?

Phandemonium, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit membership and educational organization. We bring you our annual member event, Capricon, with the goal that our members learn new things, build community, and have fun.

We also promote science fiction as a genre and support the Chicagoland fannish community. We also host other events throughout the year. Up-to-date information on these events can be found on our social media sites (Facebook, Instagram, Bluesky, and the Capricon Community Discord).

If you are interested in any of our ongoing programs, have new ideas, or just have questions about Phandemonium please look for a Board member this weekend and let's have a chat.

Who's in Phandemonium?

It's you! When you purchase a membership for Capricon through this website, you are actually purchasing your annual membership in Phandemonium, and as a member, you get to attend our annual member event, which is Capricon.

Phandemonium also includes:

- The Board of Directors, who are responsible for stewardship of the Corporation, including – but not limited to – choosing the Chair for each convention and the Corporate Staff (see below);
- The Corporate Staff, who perform vital functions in support of the Board of Directors and the Corporation as a whole;
- The Annual Ad-Hoc Convention Committee (aka 'the ConCom'), who does all the valuable work it takes to hold the convention each year;
- The Keepers of Valuable Knowledge, who perform specific necessary duties and/or provide continuing knowledge of how to accomplish various important tasks related to the Corporation.

Want to Get Involved?

Phandemonium is always looking for those in our membership who want to become more involved — especially with the ConCom.

If you have ever thought that helping run a convention would be fun, then 1) you're right! and, 2) you can! Please contact us to talk about how you can become more involved in the convention or in Phandemonium as a whole.

As members of Phandemonium, you have the right to participate in our annual election of Board members.

On Saturday at Capricon each year, the Board will host a "Meet the Candidates" panel, where Phandemonium members get the chance to ask questions about the organization and to meet and hear from the candidates running for the Board of Directors.

On Sunday at Capricon each year, we have an open Board meeting to discuss corporate business and elect two new Board members to replace those whose terms are ending. All Phandemonium members are invited and encouraged to attend and vote. Thank you for being a member of Phandemonium!

Helen Montgomery, Phandemonium Board President

What is Phandemonium? (Cont.)

Contact Information

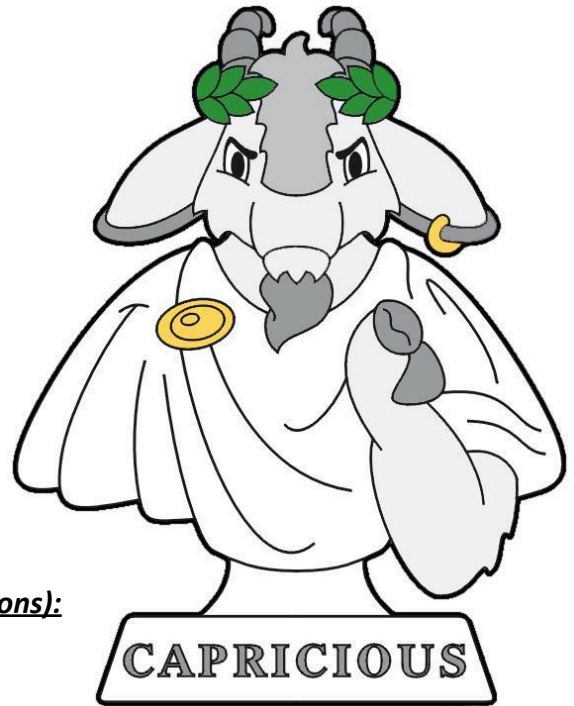
Phandemonium, Inc.
126 E. Wing St. Ste 244
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
Capricon e-mail: info@capricon.org
Board e-mail: boardpresident@phandemonium.org

Phandemonium Board Members (Elected)

Helen Montgomery (3rd year) – Board President
Rachel Cohan (3rd year)
Tammy Coxen (2nd year)
Aimee Dundon (2nd year)
Sam Haney Press (1st year)
Wren Hawkins Kamper (1st year)

Phandemonium Board Members (Appointed Positions):

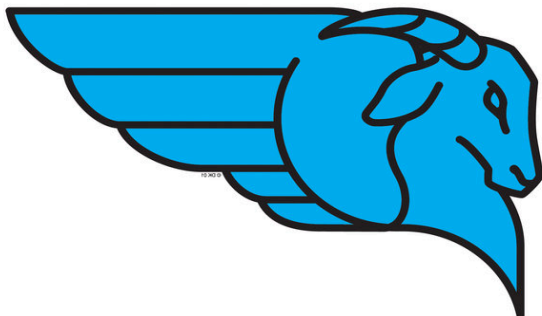
Treasurer:	Alexia Hebel
Secretary:	Tori Carnall-Hawkins
Capricon 46 Chair:	Kevin Hilty



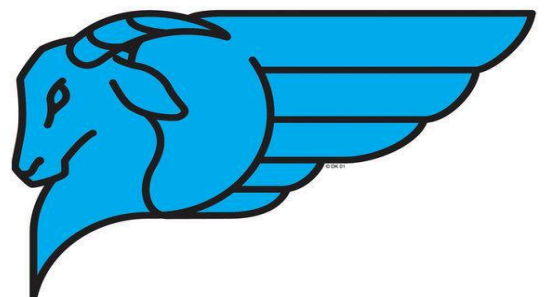
Phandemonium Corporate Staff (Appointed Positions):

Accessibility Director:	Sharon Karpierz & Wren Hawkins-Kamper
Archivist:	Xap Esler
Coordinator for Community Outreach:	<i>Open</i>
Facilities Coordinator:	Aimee Dundon
Facilities Coordinator Second:	"The Broke Otaku"
Health & Sanitation Supervisor:	Vicki Ortega
IT Director:	Paul Timmins
Social Media Coordinator:	Helen Montgomery
Supreme Minister of Fun (SMOF):	Tiana Solomon
Treasurer Second:	Michelle Rebot

Phandemonium Keepers of Valuable Knowledge



Alice Bentley
Phil Foglio
Amy Schaffer
Tracy Lunquist
Brian Rogers
Helen Montgomery



Phandemonium Code of Conduct

Phandemonium, (Capricon's parent organization) Capricon, and various affiliated outreach events exist for the enjoyment and enrichment of the fannish community. To ensure that the greatest number of people achieve this objective, we have established this Code of Conduct. By this Code, we seek only to ensure that the behavior of any individual or group does not disturb the membership as a whole, nor does it detract from the overall enjoyment of our events.

It is important that you read and understand this Code. ***Anyone who attends a Phandemonium event, including Capricon, is expected to follow this Code for the entire duration of the event, including any informal pre- or post-event activities.***

Phandemonium reserves the right to amend these rules at any time without prior or posted notice and reserves the sole right of interpretation. Please keep in mind that these rules are put in place to ensure the safety and comfort of our attendees. They are not all-inclusive. In all cases, the singular rule that supersedes all others is, "Any action or behavior that is illegal or causes significant interference with event operations, excessive discomfort to other attendees, or adversely affects Phandemonium's relationship with its guests, its venue, or the public is strictly forbidden and may result in revocation of membership privileges."

Although we anticipate no difficulties, Phandemonium is prepared to deal with any issues related to the Code in as rapid and efficient a manner as possible should they occur. We thank our members and attendees for their past cooperation and for their continued assistance in making Phandemonium events enjoyable experiences for everyone. Have fun and please remember to be courteous of those around you while doing so!

All Phandemonium events may have additional policies that members / attendees are required to follow. Any additional policies for events will be posted on the official Capricon website and social media.

1. Respect for Others

Phandemonium wants all its attendees to enjoy themselves at its events. As such, we ask that you respect each other. All Phandemonium events should be a space where everyone feels welcomed and comfortable. Phandemonium forbids abusive, insulting, harassing, and / or intimidating behavior which includes, but is not limited to, stalking, physical or verbal intimidation, discriminatory comments, inappropriate physical contact, hate group iconography and unwelcome sexual attention.

Consent: Only "yes" means yes. If a person does not express clear consent for attention or personal intervention, then consent has not been given.

Discrimination (based on, but not limited to, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical / mental disability) is not tolerated.

Racism of any kind will not be tolerated. At Phandemonium, we want to welcome the voices of people who are often spoken over or erased in Fandom – and make Phandemonium events as inclusive as we can to people from all racial and ethnic backgrounds.

Phandemonium Code (Cont.)

Harassment of any kind is not tolerated. It includes but is not limited to:

- Offensive verbal comments about gender, gender identity & expression, sexuality, sexual orientation, disability/impairment, physical appearance, body size, race/ethnicity, age or religion
- Intimidation, stalking or following
- Photographing or recording someone without their permission
- Sustained disruption of talks or other events
- Uninvited physical contact or uninvited sexual attention
- Bathroom policing

Participants asked to stop behavior that is perceived as harassing must comply immediately.

Iconography & Sexualized Imagery/Discussion:

As we strive to provide a welcoming, safe environment for all attendees, we expressly forbid sexual images and symbols associated with historical atrocities and current hate groups from public* spaces at the convention. The following outlines the allowed exclusions:

Sexualized imagery or discussion related to sex, pornography, discriminatory language or similar is allowed if it meets all of the following criteria:

- (a)** Organizers have specifically granted permission in writing;
- (b)** It is necessary to the topic of discussion and no alternative exists;
- (c)** It is presented in a respectful manner, especially towards women and LGBTQIA people; and
- (d)** Attendees are warned in advance verbally or in the program and respectfully given ample warning and opportunity to leave beforehand. This exception does not allow use of gratuitous sexual images as attention-getting devices or unnecessary examples.

Hate based iconography is strictly forbidden from all public and convention* space. It includes (but is not limited to) iconography, paraphernalia, and cosplay representative of Nazi, neo-Nazi, KKK, and other hate groups. Anyone wearing or displaying an item of clothing, prop, or other item considered a hate symbol will be asked to remove it from the convention and refusal to do so will result in ejection from the convention without refund.

*(*A more detailed discussion of what constitutes “public” vs. “private” vs. “Convention” spaces can be found in the Phandemonium Policies and Procedures document.)*

II. How Phandemonium requests you report instances of disrespect

If you feel that you are being discriminated against, harassed, or if you notice someone behaving inappropriately (such as violating hotel, Phandemonium or convention policies), we respectfully suggest the following:

1. If you feel comfortable doing so, point out the inappropriate behavior to the person(s) involved. Often this will solve the problem immediately.

Phandemonium Code (Cont.)

2. 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 as soon as you are able to any Phandemonium / Capricon event coordinator (i.e. Board Members, Convention Committee Members, Event Organizers, or Operations Staff). If the incident takes place during the Capricon Convention, these individuals can be identified by their Staff badge or “Staff” ribbon attached to their badge.
3. A report can be filed electronically by emailing conduct@phandemonium.org at any time. This email is directed to the Board President, Convention Chair, and Supreme Minister of Fun.

It would be extremely helpful if you could provide a name, badge name/number and/or physical description of the person(s) involved.

III. Corporate Response to Violations of the Code of Conduct

1. Phandemonium reserves the right to revoke without refund the membership of anyone for just cause, and eject anyone at any time from a Phandemonium event.
2. Failure to adhere to any of the above policies may result in a number of possible consequences. Consequences include, but are not limited to the following:
 - Talking with all parties involved and attempting to mediate a solution to the problem
 - Issuing verbal warnings
 - Revoking memberships & requesting that the person(s) leave the event involving hotel or facility staff or security
 - Contacting local law enforcement
 - Banning of attendance and membership to future Phandemonium events

IV. Privacy, Photographs, and Recording Electronic Information

Phandemonium event attendees should be aware that photography and video and/or audio recordings are frequently made by Phandemonium during events and that their likenesses may appear in those recordings. Attendees agree to assign without compensation the use of their likeness for the use of promotional material.

Personal Photography / Recordings: Please be polite and ask before taking photographs or recordings of attendees whenever possible. Video and audio recording and photography for personal archival use only is generally acceptable, unless individuals make it clear that they do not wish to be photographed or recorded (e.g.: a verbal request or via the official Capricon “No Photo” ribbon), in which case any photography or recording of them is expressly forbidden.

V. Media Relations

Phandemonium welcomes members of the press at its events. All journalists, media photographers, bloggers, podcasters and any other members of the press are required to display an official Press ribbon or be accompanied by a Phandemonium / Capricon staff member at all times while at Phandemonium events. Members of the press who have not been issued a Press ribbon may not conduct interviews or take photographs, audio or video footage without an escort.

VI. Financial Transactions

Checks that are presented against insufficient funds will be charged a fee of \$30 per check. Anyone who has an outstanding balance due to Phandemonium must settle that balance before being permitted to attend the Capricon Convention or an outreach event.

Capricon Code of Conduct

In addition to the General Phandemonium Code of Conduct, Capricon members are expected to abide by the following Code of Conduct upon purchase of membership. It applies in all publicly accessible spaces at the facility and convention function areas.

Capricon reserves the right to revoke, without refund, the membership of anyone for just cause. This may also lead to being banned from future Capricon conventions. Persons violating the law may be turned over to the police or the hotel security.

Badges:

Capricon is a membership-only event, hosted by Phandemonium. All members must wear their badge at all times. A badge is:

- 1) valid only for the person to whom it was issued,
- 2) only valid for the year of issue and may not be reused in a following year,
- 3) may not be shared under any circumstances.

Capricon requires that any child 12 or older have a purchased membership (or appropriate day badge) for the convention.

Age Restrictions:

All convention areas are open to members of all ages, with the exception of events or exhibits that are specifically noted to be inappropriate for minors and access to which is controlled.

Weapons:

No actual weapon or any item that can be mistaken for one may be carried either openly or concealed at any time on properties being used for Capricon, regardless of any government permits which you may possess, unless it has been peace bonded by Operations. If you wish to carry such a weapon, it must be presented to Operations. Operations staff is the final arbiter of what weapons require peace bonding. If you are unsure about whether your weapon may be considered realistic, Operations staff will be happy to check it for you.

Any actual weapon or any item that can be mistaken for one that is purchased in the dealer room must be wrapped and immediately transported to your room or vehicle. If you wish to use the item at the convention, please refer to section 1 of this policy.

[In the event that Capricon sponsors a masquerade] If an actual weapon or any item that can be mistaken for one is part of your masquerade costume, you must transport it to and from the masquerade green room wrapped securely unless peace bonded. The masquerade director must approve your use of any weapons during the masquerade.

Live steel is prohibited. The Operations Department is the final arbiter of what constitutes live steel. Any weapon, actual, realistic, or toy/prop, that is utilized in a threatening or harmful manner may result in confiscation of the item and/or removal of your membership without refund.

Failure to adhere to the above policies is grounds for the removal of your membership without refund. We are a private and voluntary membership-based organization. As a condition of membership, no member shall carry concealed firearms at our event. Any open carry is subject to the above noted weapons policies.

Capricon Code of Conduct (Cont.)

Hotel:

Please follow any and all rules set by the convention hotel. Phandemonium asks that you pay special attention to the following:

Damages:

Any act of vandalism, deliberate or excessive damage to hotel property, or interference with hotel staff in the performance of their duties will have negative consequences for individuals and the convention. Consequences for individuals could range from being billed for damages, evicted from the hotel and/or convention, and criminal charges. These types of incidents can also harm the relationship Phandemonium has with the hotel, resulting in monetary losses or cancellation of our contract. The person in whose name a sleeping room is rented is solely responsible for the conduct of all individuals in the room as well as for the condition of the room. Excessive trash, soiling or other damage to hotel property, or any circumstance that may present a hazard to hotel housekeeping staff will also result in negative consequences as above.

Smoking:

Illinois has an indoor clean air ordinance; this is beyond the control of Phandemonium and the hotel. Smoking or vaping is not allowed in any public buildings, including restaurants and bars, nor within 15 feet of building entrances. Designated smoking locations can be found outside the entrances to the hotel. The hotel does not allow smoking or vaping in sleeping rooms. NOTE: members who smoke or vape in sleeping rooms are subject to cleaning charges.

Pets:

The hotel does not allow pets in function space. This is for the protection of the pet, the pet owner, our members, and hotel guests. Service animals are permitted in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Shoes:

Shoes are to be worn in all public and convention spaces at the facility. Socks are NOT shoes.

Signs:

Signs may be posted only in designated areas. Any signs posted in designated areas must be affixed using “blue painter’s tape” ONLY. Do not affix anything to the walls of the hotel, to the elevators, to the windows, or to/over official Capricon signage. Blue painter’s tape is available in limited quantities in Convention Operations.

Non-convention guests/General Public:

The hotel is not dedicated completely to our use for the weekend. Members of the general public stay here or visit the hotel to dine and socialize. Please be considerate of non-convention individuals at all times. This includes hotel staff.

Sales of Merchandise:

All vending (exchange of money for goods or services) must be authorized by the convention, and only take place in authorized locations. Vendors must comply with all applicable laws (including but not limited to copyright and tax laws).

Capricon Code of Conduct (Cont.)

Parties:

Only certain convention hotel rooms are available for hospitality suites, and all hospitality events / parties must be coordinated with the Capricon Party Liaison and occur in these designated spaces.

Party floors are crowded; we encourage you to leave your props in your room or vehicle.

All hospitality events/parties must follow the Phandemonium and Capricon Codes of Conduct. Hospitality/party rooms are considered private space and as such, the individual host may have additional rules beyond those mentioned herein.

Alcohol:

The legal drinking age in Illinois is 21. Hosts of registered hospitality events are required to verify legal drinking age (by checking unexpired proper government issued identification) of anyone who wishes to drink alcohol at their event. Capricon does not allow alcohol consumption in convention function space. Please follow the hotel policies on alcohol consumption transportation in public spaces, such as the lobby.

Privacy, Photographs, and Recording Electronic Information:

Capricon supports intellectual property rights. The usage of photographic or recording devices is prohibited within certain areas of the convention, including the Film Room, Anime Room, Art Show, and Art Auction. Where allowed, we suggest that personal photographs be taken before or after a program event to avoid distracting panelists and audience members from the discussion.

If you do not wish to be photographed, please go to either Operations or the Info Desk and request a “No Photo” ribbon. If you affix a “no photo” ribbon to the side of your badge, the official con photographer and the social media chair will make a reasonable effort to honor your wishes. The con photographer and the social media chair can be recognized by their “Official Photographer” ribbon. You may still decline to be photographed if asked, even without a ribbon.

Reporting:

If you are being harassed by a member of Capricon, notice that someone else is being harassed, or have any other concerns, please either contact the Code of Conduct Team by going to Convention Operations or by filing a report electronically by emailing conduct@phandemonium.org at any time. This email is directed to the Board President, Convention Chair, and Supreme Minister of Fun.

If the person who is harassing you is on the team, they will recuse themselves from handling your incident. We will respond as promptly as we can.

Consequences:

Participants asked to stop any harassing behavior are expected to comply immediately.

If a participant engages in harassing behavior, the Code of Conduct Team may take any action they deem appropriate, up to and including expulsion from all Capricon spaces and other actions as seen fit by the Board of Directors.

Guest of Honor: This Machine Kills

Jathan Sadowski is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Human-Centered Computing at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia. He studies the political economy of technology, or how dynamics of social power and financial profit influence the design, use, and impacts of emerging technologies in our lives. For his research on the techno-politics of crisis, insurance, and climate risk governance, he is the recipient of a prestigious Future Fellowship from the Australian Research Council. Jathan is also co-host of the weekly podcast *This Machine Kills* and author of two books: *The Mechanic and the Luddite: A Ruthless Criticism of Technology and Capitalism* (University of California Press, 2025) and *Too Smart: How Digital Capitalism is Extracting Data, Controlling Our Lives, and Taking Over the World* (MIT Press, 2020).

<https://www.jathansadowski.com/>



Edward Ongweso Jr is a writer, editor, and born-again Luddite. His fiction and non-fiction can be found in a few places; his two cats are trapped inside his home. With Jathan, Edward co-hosts the *This Machine Kills* podcast which explores the political economy of technology. He also writes *The Tech Bubble* newsletter.

<https://thetechbubble.substack.com/>



Guest of Honor: Alex Mui

Alex Mui is an artist and amateur historian, involved with many different fandoms and communities. They are the founders of the Con History Project, which has been dedicated to researching, preserving, and archiving over 85 years of convention history including the creation of the Convention Family Tree. Alex hosts panels and lectures around the country on topics ranging from creative transformative art to covering the subject of human to animal and object transformation narratives in fiction. Other topics they are passionate about range from designing tarot cards, vexillology, documenting the history of the visual novel medium. They occasionally transform into Bash the Piñata and founder of ShifterCon Online. Comics they are working on include *The Wrath of Con - The Story of Fandom's Con Quest*, *Shifter School*, and *Would've Bit You*.



Guest of Honor: Andrea Hairston

Andrea Hairston ran away from the physics lab to the theatre when she was a young thing and has been a scientist, artiste, and hoodoo conjurer ever since. She is a novelist, poet, playwright, and L. Wolff Kahn 1931 Professor Emerita of Theatre and Africana Studies at Smith College. An Afrofuturist in league with Indigenous Futurists, stories that have been erased, stolen, or hidden call to her. Writing speculative fiction, she lets African and Indigenous ancestors talk to the future. Andrea is the author of *Archangels of Funk*, shortlisted for the 2025 Ursula K. Le Guin Prize for Fiction; *Mindscape*, a Carl Brandon Award winner and finalist for the Phillip K. Dick and Otherwise Awards; *Will Do Magic For Small Change*, a New York Times Editor's pick and finalist for the Mythopoeic, Lambda, and Otherwise Awards; *Redwood and Wildfire*, a Washington Post Best Book of 2022, Otherwise and Carl Brandon Award winner; and *Master of Poisons* on the *Kirkus Review's* Best Science Fiction and Fantasy of 2020. Andrea bikes at night year-round, meeting bears, multi-legged creatures of light and breath, and the occasional shooting star.



Guest of Honor: Laser Webber

Laser Webber is a producer, improviser, and writer. He has been a touring musician with The Doubleclicks, produced live events, films, and podcasts with Laservision Productions, and been the strategic mind behind more than 70 crowdfunding campaigns, raised \$5 million for independent art. Credits include writer of musicals *Teaching a Robot to Love* and *Love Chicken*, founder of trans theater festival JoyWhoLived.com, development manager for Hank Green's educational media company Complexly, and distributor of indie film *D(e)ad*, starring Isabella Roland.

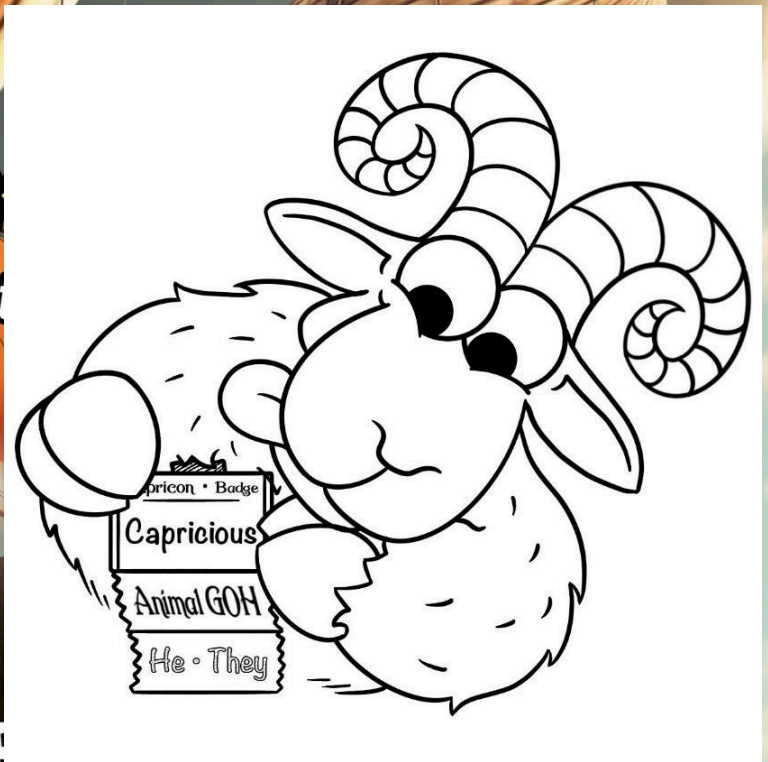
<http://laservisionproductions.com/>



Archon 49

OCTOBER 2 - 4, 2022

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Capricon Merchandise



We now have official Capricon 46 merchandise available at [https://capricon.org/departments/merch/shop/!](https://capricon.org/departments/merch/shop/)

We go all the way to 11 with our merch (as in, there are 11 options for this year available)! There's even some merch options from Capricon 45 available, featuring artwork from that year's Guest of Honor, John Kovalic.

Buy now and show it off proudly! Every purchase helps to support Capricon directly.

We have the option to add additional merch, so if there is something you wish we would make available, email merch@capricon.org and they will be happy to see what they can do.

In Memoriam

Jill Mitchell



Jill was a real fan. She was always involved with some activity - defaulting to Tech and Pubs when there wasn't anything new to learn. For Cap, she was our Treasurer 2nd for Cap 45 just before we lost her.

I had a strange relationship with Jill. I've known her since my first convention Windycon back in 1980 when she was still a man. Through the years Jill went through many changes. She was very brave. She was the first person I knew who changed to be a woman. I know that that caused her many life issues, but she struggled through it all. She left Chicago soon after her change, and I was not in touch with her again until she moved to Ohio to be with her son in 2023.

At that time I was working on the Buffalo 2024 NASFiC and Jill joined us and did all of the publications and helped make the website have content. Her souvenir book that year showed how she was able with next to zero help put together something that made us proud that we had her to work with us.

It's still online



<https://buffalonasfic2024.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/WebProgramBook.pdf> and is a true reflection of her capabilities. Jill was a frequent visitor at our home, gaming with my husband and his buddies.

I miss her presence very much.

By Alexia Hebel

Jill Mitchell and Alexia Hebel

X In Memoriam (Cont.)



Cheryl "Dragon Lady" Storm (Center?)

Registration

Location: Outside Chicago A (Main Floor)

Hours: Thursday: 2:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Friday: 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Saturday: 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Sunday: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Your first stop at Capricon should be the Registration Desk. If you've pre-registered for your badge, you can pick up your badge at the Registration Desk, or if you haven't registered for the convention already, you can purchase your badge there too! Your badge will get you into all the panels and events we have to offer. Our badges come in a variety of colors and styles: Full Weekend, Single Day, Youth, and Kid-In-Tow!

For any Registration issues after hours, please visit Convention Operations.

Convention Operations

Location: Cumberland (Main Floor)

Hours: Thursday: Open 8:00 AM

Sunday: Close 8:00 PM

Operations is here for the Convention, and the best way of Having A Good Time at Capricon is by following these guidelines:

- 1. Don't be that person!** Think before you do that Thing You Were Going To Do. Remember that Operations hates doing paperwork. Help us do less paperwork by not doing things that will cause us to do paperwork.
- 2. Always be courteous, kind, and respectful of other people's personal space.** This rule applies AT ALL TIMES, in and outside of the Con space, and enthusiastic and vigorous consent is the only consent that matters.
- 3. Read and follow the Code of Conduct.** As a Reminder, Capricon does not tolerate harassment of any form. All attendees are expected to treat other attendees, vendors, staff, and the general public with respect. Please help do your part to provide a safe and welcoming environment for those around you.
- 4. Operations is here for the Convention.** If there is a question or a concern, ask. We'll do our best to get answers to your question ourselves or get you to the right place.
- 5. Follow the directions of Con Staff.** After 40 years, we've got a remarkably good handle on how things need to be done.

Seriously, don't make us do paperwork. Paperwork is us Not Having A Good Time

Goat Droppings

Pick up a copy at: Operations, Registration, or Info Desk

Check for *Goat Droppings*, your daily newsletter for any last-minute program changes, Guest of Honor interviews, things to do, and Capricon activity reports. We also feature the "Out of Context" column, showcasing random quotes heard around the hotel throughout the weekend. Out of Context quotes can be emailed directly to ooc@Capricon.org or posted on the Capricon Facebook Page under **#Capricon**. The deadline to submit for the next day's edition is 6:00 PM.

Remember what Capricious the Goat says, "Pick it up or you might step in it!"

Capricon Accessibility Statement

Capricon is committed to ensuring accessibility for people with disabilities to our convention. Any member of the Capricon community can request accommodations; this is not limited to those who consider themselves disabled. To quote An Introduction to Accessibility on digital.gov:

Disability is a mismatch between a person and their environment. For the person who isn't able to do something, it's this mismatch that impairs an individual.

We will also have a low-sensory quiet room for those who may have sensory issues and become overwhelmed. There will be seating, water, and some quiet activities available.

Low-Sensory Room: Wacker (3rd Floor)

Hours: Thursday: 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Friday: 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Saturday: 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM

If you require accessibility accommodations, encounter accessibility barriers, or have any other accessibility issues, let us know how we can help by emailing our Accessibility Team at accessibility@capricon.org.

Information Desk

Location: Outside Chicago B (Main Floor)

Hours: Thursday: 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Friday: 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM

Saturday: 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM

Sunday: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Info Desk is here to answer any questions about the con, whether you seek a panel, a special event, or someplace to eat. What we don't know immediately, we'll do our best to find out. And even if you ask nothing, we have chocolate for everyone.

Volunteers

Location: Outside Chicago B (Main Floor)

Do you want to help Capricon be the best experience for everyone that it can be? Have some extra time before/during/after the convention? Then do your part to help the convention by volunteering as a Gopher! Come to the Information Desk (or Convention Operations after hours) to find out what jobs we might need done, when we might need them done, and coordinate when you might be available to help! You can volunteer to help during the convention, setup Wednesday/Thursday before the convention starts, or teardown Sunday after Closing Ceremonies.

In the past, volunteers who worked enough hours were eligible to have their membership reimbursed after the convention, if convention finances permitted. Unfortunately, we already know that our financial situation will not allow us to offer this to our volunteers this year. However, we have high hopes that going forward we will be able to bring this perk back. We provide a free meal for Gophers Saturday night, and to the generous Gopher who volunteers for the most hours, you receive the "Gopher of the Year" award!

Con Suite

Location: Randolph (3rd Floor)

Hours: Thursday: 2:00 PM – 2:00 AM

Friday: 9:00 AM – 2:00 AM

Saturday: 9:00 AM – 2:00 AM

Sunday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Welcome to ConSuite! Come relax as you enjoy a beverage or a quick snack to catch up with friends as you look out over the river. Though we'll only be able to serve snacks this year, with no outside food allowed in, there are quite a few seating areas just outside our door and on other event floors where you can enjoy yourself with friends as well. Stop in for a nibble and to say hi!

Dealers Room

Location: Grand Ballroom 4 (Main Floor)

Thursday: 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Friday: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Saturday: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Sunday: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Come to the Dealers Room to find all sorts of artifacts from all sorts of fandoms: books, movies, jewelry, clothes, art, toys, etc. Find that one thing, or several things that you know you can't live without it and will cherish it for eons! Check out the full list of dealers at <https://guide.capricon.org/> or see the new Panel Programming Guide for the full list and descriptions.

- DVD world books and toys
- Margie Lee
- Pegasus Publishing
- Keith Ammann
- Timothy J Vaulato
- Mythica Gaming
- Robert J. Mendenhall
- Kevin Fagaragan Art
- Archimedes Azure Creations
- Fannie Price
- Larry Smith Book Seller
- The Pugling hoard
- Apothecary Teas
- Space Dork
- Mobile Stress Relief Unit
- DreamHaven Books
- With a Grain of Salt Designs
- Nomadic Lasers
- Alexis D Craig Books
- Lost in the Maille
- Horizon Music, Inc.
- Bard and Broad
- AngelsWorld LLC
- The Silver Necklace/
GabbysStuff.com
- My Caliber Company /
Emjay Universe
- Dana Fraedrich, Steampunk
Fantasy Author

Gaming

Location: O'Hare Ballroom 1/2/3 (Main Floor)

Hours: Thursday: 5:00 PM - Midnight

Friday: 8:00 AM - Sunday, 3:00 PM

Welcome to Capricon Gaming! Beyond our doors you will find a wide variety of games to play and people to play them with. We have dice and card games as well as board games. We have games that can be over faster than they start and some that will have you so wrapped up that you aren't sure where the time has gone. We even have a few games that you can play by yourself, if that's your jam. We have a large library of games that you can borrow to play as well as a variety of scheduled events happening.

There are also plenty of tables available for you to play something that you brought with you. There's always someone on duty to help you out, whether you aren't sure what game you want to play or if you need help finding a couple extra players. So come on in, browse the library, peruse the game schedule, and see a friendly member of the Game Room Staff to check out a game or sign up for a spot at a scheduled event.

Check out the full schedule at <https://guide.capricon.org/> or see the new Panel Programming Guide for the full schedule/descriptions.

Video Game Lounge

Location: O'Hare Terminal 5

Hours: Thursday: 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Friday: 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Saturday: 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Sunday: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

The Video Game Lounge is open and ready to have some fun! Level up your con experience by playing, relaxing, and hanging out with other fans. Whether you're taking a break between panels or looking for a few casual matches, this is the perfect spot to unwind and enjoy some gaming all weekend long. Offering a wide variety of video games and activities, we're sure you'll find plenty of side quests to complete!



Art Show

Only YOU can save our culture for the civilization that will rise!

Located next to the dealer room, our gallery-format art show is a place for attendees to see – and purchase – a wide variety of work from many talented artists. You can find almost anything in the art show, from traditional paintings to photography, digital art, jewelry, fiber arts, mixed media, and more. Exhibitors here range from established professionals to up-and-coming amateurs, and we will even have space for artists to do demonstrations and take commissions. Everything culminates in the Artist Showdown and the Live Art Auction on Saturday night, so be sure to stop by!

Our exhibitors range from established professionals to up-and-coming amateurs, their subject matters vary, every discerning art advocate will find something to appreciate. Become an artist yourself at the Art Showdown, then stay for the culmination of the art show written auction at the live event Saturday night. Raise your hand and be counted! Be a patron, be a hero, SAVE OUR CULTURE!

Location: Chicago C/D (Main Floor)

Viewing/Bidding Hours:

Thursday: 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Friday: 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM

ART & HORS D'OEUVRES STARTING AT 6PM

Saturday: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Buyer Pickup: Saturday Evening: After the auction, by appointment only

Sunday: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Art Show Information

The main **Auction Gallery** area of the art show is run primarily as a written auction. Bid sheets will be attached / in close proximity to the piece, and attendees may bid on the work in writing on these sheets during art show hours.

All first bids on a piece must be at or above the minimum bid on the control sheets; subsequent bids must be greater than previous bids in whole dollar amounts. Should any piece receive **three or more** qualifying bids, that piece will go to the Live Art Auction on Saturday night, where the highest 'paper bid' may or may not be beaten by a 'live bid.' Should any piece receive fewer than three bids, the highest bid on that piece prior to the close of the art show on Saturday will win.

Pickup of and payment for pieces won in the art show will be on Sunday – we may also open up for payment late on Saturday, by prior appointment only. **All bids are binding, and all sales are final.**

Bidding Assistance

Bidding assistance is available at all times during Art Show open hours. Please ask an art show staff member for any assistance you may need to bid on items.

Art Show (Cont.)

Print Shop

In contrast to the Auction Gallery, art in the Print Shop is available for immediate purchase and removal, and will be priced at a flat rate (as in, there is no 'bidding').

Volunteering/Staffing

We welcome volunteer staffers, and encourage artists to participate in related programming events. If you have any proposals, input, or interest in participating or volunteering, please contact artshow@capricon.org.

Photography

Photography of work on display in the Auction Gallery &/or Print Shop is strictly prohibited, unless both the artist and a member of the art show staff are present and have given their express approval.

Artist Info

We accept online applications for space reservation and mail-in art until January 15, 2025. It's unlikely that we'll have any space remaining after that, but if we do, it will be available to walk-in artists only on a first-come, first-serve basis, so we do recommend reserving space beforehand.

Hours For Artists & Staff Only:

Thursday: 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Friday: 9:00 AM - 11:00 aM

Sunday: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM (artist pickup)

If you (or your agent) need alternate set-up or pick-up times, please let us know ASAP.

Awards And Artist Challenge

All convention attendees are welcome to vote until the art show closes on Saturday; winners will be announced and awards given out at the Live Art Auction that evening.

Work in the Auction Gallery (NFS pieces included) may be eligible for the following awards:

- ***Best in Show***

- ***Best Pro Work***

- ***Best Non-Pro Work*** (previously "Best Fan Work")

- ***Artist's Challenge Award***: goes to special works which incorporate a goat (the convention's mascot) and three of the following items: a flag, a sci-fi/fantasy franchise symbol, a book, a board game, or a fantasy/sci fi creature

Any questions about the art show not answered here can be sent to artshow@capricon.org.

Parties

If there's one thing humans are better at than robots, it's throwing a spectacular party! Whether it is celebrating an epic victory or laughing in the face of destruction, human resilience can't be beat. Join us on the party floors Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights to connect with other members of our community and cheer for the ability to solve a CAPTCHA. Whether you're looking to spark a conversation about defying our robot overlords or embracing your last drink before marching into battle, our party hosts have the variety of human experiences that you're looking for. Still have questions? Feel free to email us at parties@capricon.org

For those of you who want to attend parties:

Thank you for attending the parties!! Without you, the party floors would be a bunch of empty rooms with their doors open, you are the reason we do this. Upon exiting the elevators, you will see flyers advertising which parties are where (these are also seen in some of the hallways around the program areas), pick one that looks interesting and start there. Another great way to find parties is to go to the party floors and see who has their doors open. If you want to know more about the parties before diving in, come on the party crawl on Friday and Saturday night! We will be limiting the amount of people on the tour, so make sure to show up on time to get a spot (see the program book for more information). Our daily newsletter Goat Droppings will also have the most up to date information in case anything changes.

Having a good time at the convention is the goal, and we have suggestions to make it the best weekend:

Obey the Law:

You'd think this would go without saying, but here we go anyway... Things such as underage drinking and/or property damage cause serious problems for everyone involved, and Capricon as a whole. Remember, if it is illegal outside of the convention, it's illegal inside the convention. This also means that all rules from the Capricon Code of Conduct also apply. If you need a refresher, please read over the Codes of Conduct before attending the con.

No Liquor off the party floors:

Just don't do it.

Respect Everyone:

The people throwing the parties are working hard at their own expense to throw parties for you to enjoy. Please remember to appreciate the effort that they are expending on your behalf. And remember, a party is no fun if you're the only one there... If you don't respect the other party goers, you may find yourself without people to party with. If someone has said no thank you, don't push. You may be trying to help them have more fun, but if they aren't willing just let it drop. They may have a very good reason for not being interested, or they may just not want to. It doesn't matter what the reason is. No means no, and that is the end of the discussion.

Take Care of yourself:

You know your body, and what it needs, please make sure you take care of yourself. There is nothing worse than knowing that fun is happening all around you but being too sick to have any yourself. Please make sure to drink some water, especially if you are drinking adult beverages, eat at least 2 meals that aren't just snack foods, and get some rest when you need it. Pushing your limits may make a night more enjoyable but breaking them entirely will result in sadness and hangovers. Also, remember it is always OK to turn down a drink. You know your limits and know when to say when.

Parties (Cont.)

Party Awards:

We want to give our hosts the recognition they deserve for all their hard work and time put into making their party happen. To do this we ask the guests to tell us what they thought was the best party. Was it a small group having an intense discussion about Golden Age Comics? Did you enjoy the drinks and dancing of one of the more club-like parties? Fill out a ballot telling us who knocked it out of this world.

This year we are expanding our awards! Our hosts do such an amazing job that we want to recognize as many of them as possible. We are looking for your help in finding:

- **Best Overall Party** – Which party was your favorite in all aspects?
- **Party Staff's Choice** – That's right, they gave us power and we're going to abuse it.
- **Best Alcoholic Drink** – Is it ...Green? Does it give off smoke? Tell us what was the best tasting thing that you can remember drinking over the weekend.
- **Best Mocktail** – Not every good drink needs to get you drunk. Who created the tastiest non-alcoholic drink?

Ballots will all be electronic this year. Don't have a device to vote with? Ask the party hosts or find a party liaison, and we will set you up with a ballot.



Ballots will be counted at 10:00 AM on Sunday. Don't count on us having hangovers! Vote before 10. The results of the voting will be announced at Closing Ceremonies. We encourage all attendees to show up to find out who won. Who knows? Maybe it's you!

Panel Programming

Programming Operations Location: Higgins (Main Floor)

Hours: Thursday: 2:00 PM- 9:00 PM

Friday: 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM

Saturday: 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

We're stoked to bring you a vibrant, varied, and interactive program for Capricon 46 — all written by humans!

Capricon 46's programming will bridge the divide between the convention's theme, "Rise of the Humans," and the wide-reaching tentacles of discovery that Capricon fans come to expect. We plan to tackle the convention's theme by creating spaces to discussion about SFFH's penchant for interrogating, dooming and glooming, and breaking apart (sometimes with a brick) techno-futures, whether it be to imagine revolutionary alternatives, to examine the consequences of giving ourselves over to techno-feudalism or other fantastic dictatorial nightmares, or to tackle the complex human element that makes integrating technologies into a society so fraught (but also potentially liberating). Ultimately, we want to leave you, our attendees, a complicated answer to a core question behind our theme: What direction do we want to go, and how will we get there?

Our program will feature a wide selection of panels and educational experiences, including themed and non-themed items across a range of general SFFH topics, media, literature and comics, science, writing, and more. We'll host talks on science and other cultural subjects, provide you a sea of informative, playful, and interactive panels and other events (including an Escape Room), and bring back our Roundtable format so YOU, the Capricon attendee, have a Capricon-y space to share your ideas, thoughts, and recommendations at length. The rise of the humans will come with name tents, provocative ideas about the future, and brilliant ponderings on media both old and new!

Check out the full schedule at <https://guide.capricon.org/> or see the new separate Panel Programming Guide for the full schedule and descriptions.

Roundtables

Location: Wacker (3rd Floor)

Come geek out about your favorite topics with fellow fans! Having been a popular format from previous years, roundtables are back, providing the opportunity for everyone in the room to offer their opinion. Each roundtable has a host and is intended to be an open discussion about a particular topic. Check the program guide for the full schedule - the topics are diverse and there's something new most hours the convention is running!

Check out the full schedule at <https://guide.capricon.org/> or see the new separate Panel Programming Guide for the full schedule and descriptions.

Musical Concerts

Location: Grand Ballroom 1/2/3 (Main Floor)

We've got plenty of filk and nerdy music for you this year! We have workshops, concerts, and no shortage of open circles to enjoy. Whether you're a listener or performer, there's always fun to be had in the music room!

Check out the full schedule at <https://guide.capricon.org/> or see the new separate Panel Programming Guide for the full schedule and descriptions.

Kids Programming

Location: Madison (3rd Floor)

Hours: Friday: 2:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Saturday: 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Sunday: 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Welcome to Kids Programming where members under the age of 13 can relax, play, and make friends! Join us for fun among the stars as we share stories, create masterpieces, and make discoveries together. Only children with paid memberships can attend unaccompanied. **Please note Kids Programming is not babysitting.** Kids-in-Tow badges must be accompanied by a parent/guardian at all times, and children under the age of 5 may need additional assistance for some activities.

Check out the full schedule at <https://guide.capricon.org/> or see the new separate Panel Programming Guide for the full schedule and descriptions.

Escape Room

Location: Adams (3rd Floor)

**Hours: Sign-up slots available every hour from Friday/Saturday, 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM
2-4 people per slot. Sign up at the info desk.**

Capricious the Goat is Capricon's mascot, and his room is a chaotic mess. He needs your help to find a bunch of items he needs for his next panel, which starts in 45 minutes. To help Capricious out, your team will dig through and solve puzzles about various classic geeky subjects like movies, comics, role playing games, even blinkies. It's your job to make sure Capricious makes it there on time, and with everything he needs. Sign up at Info Desk to reserve a spot for your team of up to 4 people. If you don't have a team, they'll help you find one or you can sign up for an open session.

Ambassador Tables

Location: Grand/Chicago Ballroom Hallway

Capricon believes in supporting our fellow fans and the best way to do so is to provide a way to let you know they exist. We have a limited number of complimentary Ambassador Tables that can be reserved by Fannish organizations to share your passion with the Capricon community. Stop by the tables and learn more about genre events in the Greater Chicagoland area (and beyond). If you're interested in securing an ambassador table for next year's Capricon, email fantables@Capricon.org to find out more or and to reserve your table.

Maker Space

Location: Dearborn/Franklin (3rd Floor)

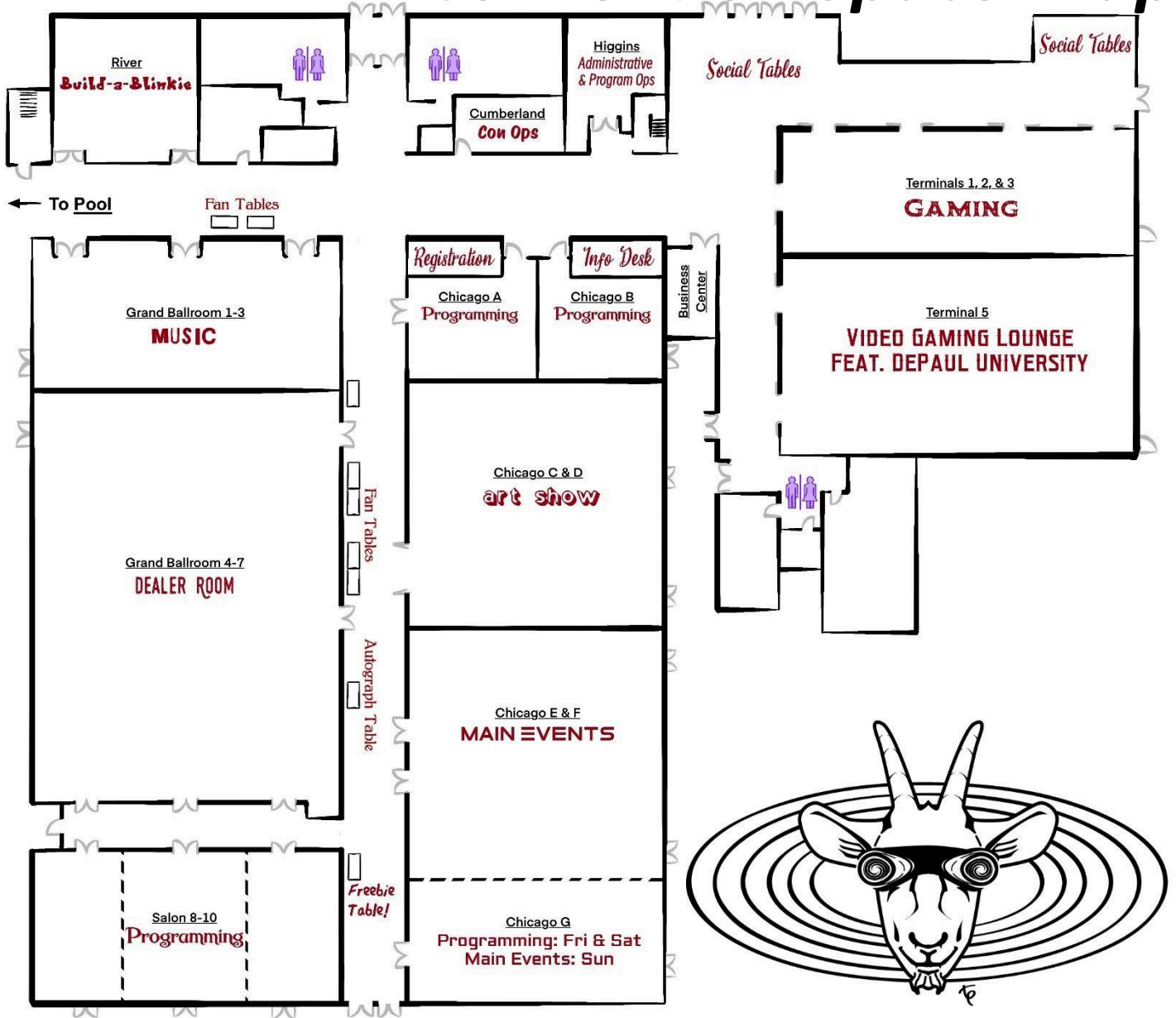
Returning to Capricon for its second year, a space devoted to hands-on activities where you can get making and crafting! Head to the Dearborn room where you'll find workshops and activities.

Check out the full schedule at <https://guide.capricon.org/> or see the new separate Panel Programming Guide for the full schedule and descriptions.



1st Floor

Convention Space Map



3rd Floor



WINDYCON 52

JOIN A RIOTOUS GOOD TIME
CAPRICON 46

FEB 5-8 2026
MARRIOTT CHICAGO O'HARE



Featuring

Art Show & Auction
Writing Workshops
Cosplay & Costuming

Children's & Teen Programming
Vendor Room

Board & Card Games • TTRPGS
Panel Discussions

Science Presentations
Concerts & Jams • Parties

Hands-on Activities
Social Spaces
Community Building



MORE INFO AT CAPRICON.ORG

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GUESTS OF HONOR

Andrea Hairston



Laser Webber

ALEX MUI



EDWARD ONGWESO JR. & JATHAN SADOWSKI

THIS MACHINE KILLS PODCAST

**RISE
THE**



Back Cover

Remember! The number of printed pages has to be divisible by 4!