



MINNESOTA  
SCIENCE  
FICTION  
SOCIETY

PROGRESS REPORT ONE  
WWW.MNSTF.ORG/MINICON52

**MINICON52**  
PO Box 8297  
Lake Street Station  
Minneapolis, MN 55408-0297

# MINICON 52

APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup>-16<sup>TH</sup> 2017  
EASTER WEEKEND



## WITH GUESTS OF HONOR

### JIM C. HINES

Author Guest of Honor

Jim C. Hines is best known as a fantasy novelist and the author of the Libromancer series, the Goblin Quest series, and the Princess series. His first novel was Goblin Quest, the tale of a nearsighted goblin runt and his pet fire-spider. He's also the author of the Magic ex Libris books, which follow the adventures of a magic-wielding librarian from northern Michigan. Jim won the Hugo for Best Fan Writer in 2012.

### BROTHER GUY CONSOLMAGNO

Science Guest of Honor

An astronomer with a Ph.D. in planetary science, an ordained member of the Jesuit Order, and Director of the Vatican Observatory, "Brother Guy" believes in science and religion working alongside one another rather than as competing ideologies.

### MARK OSHIRO

Fan Guest of Honor

Mark likes to read books and watch TV and movies. You can read Mark's reviews at his websites markreads.net and markwatches.net.

## HOTEL

We are once again at the DoubleTree, 7800 Normandale, Bloomington MN. A block of rooms with a special rate of \$92/night has been reserved for April 12-16, 2017, and will be available until March 11th.

For reservations go to [www.mnstf.org/minicon52](http://www.mnstf.org/minicon52) or call (952) 835-7800 and use the code MINICON. If you have any questions about reservations, please feel free to email [hotel@minicon52.mnstf.org](mailto:hotel@minicon52.mnstf.org).

## REGISTRATION

You can pre-register for Minicon 52 until March 17th, 2017 or register at the door. Pre-registering is cheaper! You may register online at [www.mnstf.org/minicon52](http://www.mnstf.org/minicon52) or complete the form below and mail it to: PO Box 8297, Lake St. Station, Minneapolis, MN 55408-0297

- Adult \$40       Student (13-20) \$20       Kid (6-12) \$10  
 Child (0-5) Free       Supporting \$15

At the door: \$70 Adult      \$25 Student  
                         \$15 Kid                      \$0 child

- Would you like to help us out with a \$10 donation?  
(This goes toward keeping our membership rates low)

Please contact me, because I want to:

- Volunteer                       Share programming/panel ideas  
 Throw a room party       Learn more about kids' activities

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Name                      Middle                      Last

\_\_\_\_\_  
Badge Name (if left blank, we will use your full name above)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address Line1

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address Line2

\_\_\_\_\_  
City                                      State/Province                      Postal Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Country (if not in the US)                      Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email

\_\_\_\_\_  
Birthdate\*                      Sex\*                      Year of your first Minicon?\*

- Do not publicly list me as a member

\*Optional: For demographics; can also help plan programming

## WELCOME

Minicon 52 looks to the skies and celebrates all things space – space ships, space travel, space opera, space pirates, space camp – and adds some real astronomy to keep us grounded. With a focus on hard science, we will explore what SF has gotten right and what is just wistful fantasy. Toss in some fantasy to give us a break from the hard science and Minicon 52 has something for everyone! Programming is currently in the Giant Swirling Vortex of Ideas stage, as we match our interests to our resources and proclivities. If you have particular topics or events you would like to be considered, drop an email to [programming@minicon52.mnsthf.org](mailto:programming@minicon52.mnsthf.org) and we will add it to the mix.

## CONSUIITE

The consuite will be open all weekend and provide a thoughtful assortment of snacks, drinks and surprise protein events. Consideration has been made for our gluten-sensitive members as well. It is, however, a lot of work to make all this food magically appear, so please consider volunteering to help in the consuite!

## BAR

As always, the bar will be the perfect escape from the harsh light of day. We will have beer and cider on tap, as well as wine and both varieties of Blog. Pröst!

## KLATSCHES

Klatsches are opportunities to meet with the Guests of Honor in a small group setting. They generally involve coffee, tea, wine...or whatever the GoH's beverage of choice is. Space is limited, however, so look for sign-up sheets at the registration desk.

## PARTIES

If you or your organization would like to throw a party, now is the time to let us know! Would you like to promote a bid for another convention or just have a karaoke machine gathering dust? You should have a party! Send an email to [parties@minicon52.mnsthf.org](mailto:parties@minicon52.mnsthf.org) and let us know your details.

## NEXTGEN

NextGen is a place for teens to play board games, watch movies, and hang out with other teens at Minicon. We have a lot of different board games, movies, and will have a schedule of planned events throughout the weekend.

## RUMPUS ROOM

The Rumpus Room is our place for kids programming, craftiness and other fun stuff. As always, there will be puzzles, games, toys and art materials available to play with. There will also be structured kids activities and events all weekend.

## GAMING

The gaming area will have a wide assortment of video and table-top gaming. We will have a selection of new games as well as old favorites!

## MUSIC

Minicon will again feature music, both in scheduled concerts and in open music circles that usually go until the last of us drop over.

## CINEMA OBSCURA

Cinema Obscura's slate of fascinating films includes unique documentaries, full length narratives and shorts that will appeal to SF fans. Stay Tuned!

## DEALERS' ROOM

The Dealers' Room will once again be a cornucopia of SF related items. If you are interested in being an exhibitor in the dealers' room, refer to our rules and rates on the website at [www.mnsthf.org/minicon52](http://www.mnsthf.org/minicon52), or write and we'll mail a copy out to you.

## ADVERTISING

Do you have a service, event or convention you would like to promote in our program book? Please send an email to [pub.ads@minicon52.mnsthf.org](mailto:pub.ads@minicon52.mnsthf.org)

## ART SHOW

The Minicon 52 art show is a non-juried show open to all artists who'd like to submit artwork with a science fiction and/or fantasy theme. Regardless of the media you work in — traditional, digital, fiber, sculpture, etc. — you are welcome. Most art is for sale, although some may be just for show. Art can be bid on or, if the artist chooses, be purchased at a set price.

Volunteers are needed for set-up and tear down, and to fill in during lunch-breaks. In addition to the art show, we will have art-based activities and programming in the art show area. We haven't yet finalized these events, so if you have ideas, please email Alec at [artshow@minicon52.mnsthf.org](mailto:artshow@minicon52.mnsthf.org).

All artists under the age of 18 can hang their art for free at the Minicon art show (no hanging fees!). Please limit the number of pieces you submit to 5 per person due to limited hanging space.

If you would like to mail your artwork to the convention beforehand, go to [www.mnsthf.org/minicon52/artshow](http://www.mnsthf.org/minicon52/artshow) for the forms and Art Show guidelines.

## VOLUNTEERING

Want to get involved? There are plenty of opportunities to help out before and during the convention. We are looking for someone to drive the truck to and from our storage locker during move-in and move-out.

We also have specific opportunities for people to help out with programming, publications, gaming, the dead dog party, and other departments. Send an email to [volunteers@minicon52.mnsthf.org](mailto:volunteers@minicon52.mnsthf.org). There will also be a sign-up sheet at the registration desk at the convention.

## CODE OF CONDUCT

If you have any questions about the code of conduct, please refer to the Minicon 52 Code of Conduct at [www.mnsthf.org/minicon52](http://www.mnsthf.org/minicon52). Minicon's full Code of Conduct will be posted on our web page. If you have questions or concerns before the convention, please feel free to contact us at [coc@minicon52.mnsthf.org](mailto:coc@minicon52.mnsthf.org).