

Dispatches from DeeCee

★ ★ ★ DisCon III

THE 79TH WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

25 – 29 AUGUST 2021

WASHINGTON, DC

discon3.org



[Worldcon2021](#)

[#DisConIII](#)

Issue Four

October 2020

Hello Again!

Greetings once again from Colette and Bill. How is it October already, where has the summer gone? It is hard to believe that DisCon III is less than a year away. As you can imagine, we have uncertainty related to the Coronavirus but planning and activities continue.

The status of the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel is unclear. Litigation between the owners was filed 2 September and settled at the end of September. At the start of October, Marriott filed a lawsuit against one of the entities that owns the hotel. What a mess! The hotel itself does not have an official statement at this time, and we are in close touch. Our Facilities team does have the room blocks for both the Marriott and the Omni Shoreham set up, and our current plan is to release those in January 2021.

We're thrilled to announce we have a YouTube channel for presenting a variety of content, including monthly author events, video game streaming, and other informational bits. Subscribe at [YouTube/Worldcon2021](#) for creative content to get you excited for DisCon III. Share your Halloween costumes with a short description using the hashtag [#DisConIII](#) for a chance to be featured in our next video!

We are also proud to announce the Capitalize!: The DisCon III Fan Fund to support persons from underrepresented and marginalized communities to attend DisCon III. Information about the program, including how to make a tax-deductible donation, is on the [Get Involved](#) page on our website. Applications for support under this fund opened on 15 October, so pass along this information to fan groups that you may know to spread the word!

Thank you for your continued support. We plan to have a more formal announcement of the configuration of DisCon III at the start of 2021. In the meantime, please enjoy the rest of this issue of *Dispatches from DeeCee* and we look forward to when we can get together and see many of you again.

– Bill and Colette

2021 Hugo Awards and 2023 Worldcon Site Selection

2021 Hugo Awards Nominations

Members of DisCon III and ConZealand, the 2020 Worldcon, have the privilege to submit nominations for the 2021 Hugo Awards. A nomination form will be released electronically and in Progress Report One in January. Details on the Hugo Awards nomination and finalist voting processes may be found in [Article 3 of the World Science Fiction Society Constitution](#). The Hugo Awards voting ballot will be released in the spring of 2021 and the winners will be announced at the Hugo Awards Ceremony during DisCon III. Send questions to hugoadmin@discon3.org.

Site Selection for the 2023 World Science Fiction Convention

The vote to decide the location for a Worldcon is organized by the Worldcon held two years previously. DisCon III is administering the site selection for the Worldcon in 2023. Sites hoping to host Worldcon in 2023 will submit their bids to DisCon III in 2021, and DisCon III members will vote for their preferred site, with the result being announced at DisCon III. Send questions to siteselection@discon3.org.

Capitalize! The DisCon III Fan Fund

One of the most important ways to ensure a fabulous Worldcon is to have participants and attendees as diverse as fandom itself! Capitalize! The DisCon III Fan Fund was inspired by the successes of the Worldcon 76 Mexicanx Initiative in 2018 and the Fantastic Dublin Fund last year. We will be financially supporting fans, staff, and program participants from marginalized communities in an effort to lift voices across science fiction, fantasy, and fandom who have not been recognized in the past. For more information, visit our [Get Involved](#) page.

To learn more about our other inclusion efforts, visit our [Inclusion](#) webpage.

Hosts Announced for the 2021 Hugo Awards Ceremony

We are honored to announce that our DisCon III Special Guests, authors Sheree Renée Thomas and Malka Older, will host the 2021 Hugo Awards Ceremony to be held at DisCon III. A detailed press release may be found on our [Press and Media](#) page.

Sheree Renée Thomas is an award-winning short fiction writer, poet, and editor with fellowships and residencies from the Millay Colony of Arts, Bread Loaf Environmental, VCCA, Cave Canem Foundation, and Smith College. Her first fiction collection, *Nine Bar Blues: Stories from an Ancient Future* (Third Man Books, May 26, 2020), was published in May. Malka Older is a writer, aid worker, and sociologist. Her science fiction political thriller *Infomocracy* was named one of the best books of 2016 by *Kirkus*, *Book Riot*, and *The Washington Post*.

News for Our Guests of Honor and Special Guests

Artist Guest of Honor John Harris

John Harris is represented by Artists' Agent Alison Eldred. You can browse a portfolio of his work, shop for original art and fine art prints, view videos, and catch up on the latest news on her [John Harris](#) page.

Author Guest of Honor Nancy Kress

Simon & Schuster, Inc. published Nancy Kress' latest novel, *The Eleventh Gate*, in May. (ISBN13: 9781982124588).

Sheila Williams has just edited a new anthology entitled *Entanglements: Tomorrow's Lovers, Families and Friends*. Not only does it include a short story by Nancy Kress (among others), but it also includes a profile of Nancy Kress written by Lisa Yaszek. The book is available now and published by MIT Press. (ISBN: 978-026253925)

New Scientist included Nancy's 1993 novel *Beggars in Spain* on a list of "11 of the best sci-fi books that transport you to another world."

The September 2020 issue of *Galaxy's Edge* reprinted Nancy's story "Every Hour of Light and Dark."

Special Guest Malka Older

Malka Older has two recently published op-eds in *Foreign Policy*: "[Building a Shared Worldview Among Democrats and Republicans Could be More Dangerous Than Healing](#)" and "[The Only People Panicking Are the People in Charge](#)."

Special Guest Sheree Renée Thomas

One project I'm excited about beyond *Nine Bar Blues* is *SLAY*, a collection of "vampire noire" stories edited by Nicole Givens Kurtz. The anthology features a new original story I wrote, "Love Hangover," set in the late 1970s Disco nightclub scene. It's a fun collection that has some great writers in it, and I'm enjoying the stories! *Slay* is available for pre-order now.

Here is an eleven-question interview Milton Davis posted on his blog, reposted on [MVmedia, LLC](#).

Sheree was featured in this article in [Memphis Magazine](#).

Sheree collaborated with [Third Man Books](#) to design a tote bag to benefit the Memphis chapter of Black Lives Matters.

Editor Guest of Honor Toni Weisskopf

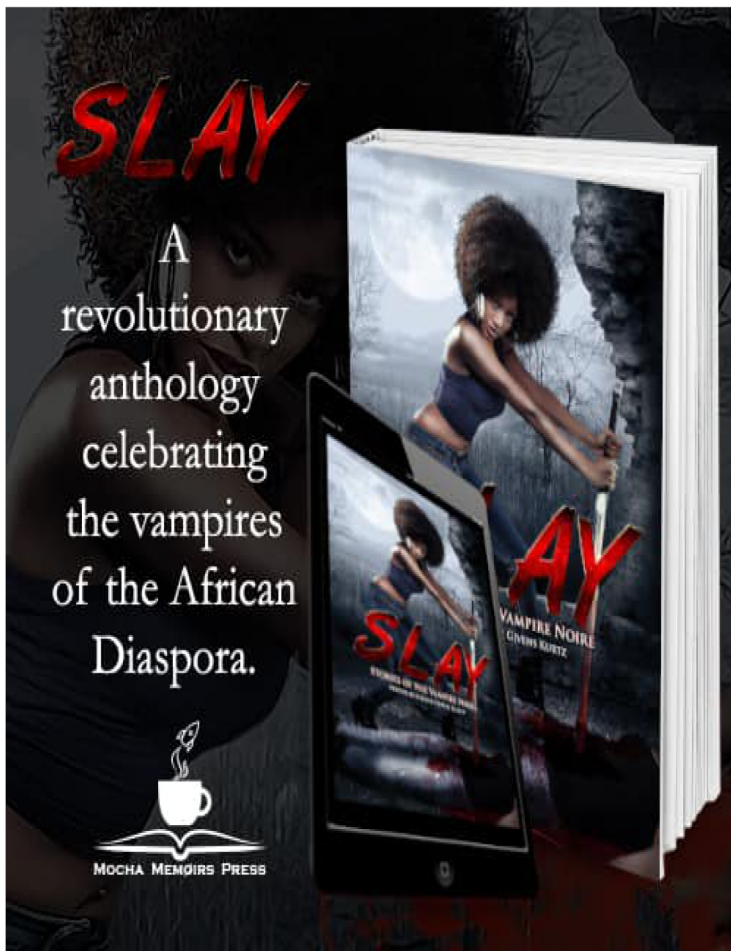
POP QUIZ

Toni Weisskopf's full name is Antonia Katherine Flora Weisskopf Reinhardt.

True or False?

Fan Guest of Honor Ben Yalow

Did you know Ben Yalow has two entries at the [Internet Movie Database](#) (IMDB) as Self under Cast for *Trekkies 2* (2004), particularly in the DVD extras, and an Associate Producer credit for *Cats Laughing: A Long Time Gone* (2016) for his contributions to the fundraising?



Hugo Award-Winning Virtual Smithsonian Collections Tour

– Claire Rojstaczer, Tours Area Head

The Smithsonian Institute is a community of learning and the opener of doors. Visit [Explore & Learn](#) to explore your interests, discover something new, or spark a memory.

The vast size of the Smithsonian's collections means most of its treasures remain in storage most of the time. There's a reason the nickname for this venerable American institution, comprising more than a dozen museums, is "America's Attic." But whether on display or not, the items are accessible in the [Smithsonian Collections](#) online database. Here's a tour through ten collection items whose connections to the Hugo Awards might make them of interest to the Worldcon community.

1. Arthur C. Clarke's Hugo Rocket

Arthur C. Clarke's papers and memorabilia were acquired by the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum (NASM) in 2014, leaving vast riches available for researchers to explore. Those memorabilia include some of the awards he received over his long writing career — including the Best Novel Hugo he received for *Rendezvous with Rama* at Discon II in 1974.

2. Willy Ley's Hugo Rocket

Clarke's Hugo wasn't the first rocket acquired by the Smithsonian; that honor goes to Willy Ley's 1956 Best Feature Writer Hugo. How exactly that award made it into the collection is unclear; the database notes only that it was "Found on NASM premises [in 2002]. Donor unknown at this time." But it's on display to visitors at the NASM Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, Virginia.

3. Lt. Uhura's Starfleet Uniform

Star Trek, which won the Hugo for Best Dramatic Presentation in 1967 (for "The Menagerie") and 1968 (for "The City on the Edge of Forever"), is well-represented in the NASM collection, from starship models used in shooting to a collection of Tribbles. But that's not the only Smithsonian where it has a presence. Lt. Uhura's Starfleet uniform, used in 1966 and 1967, was acquired by the newest Smithsonian museum, the National Museum of African American History and Culture, which opened in 2016.

4. C-3PO and R2-D2 Costumes

The Smithsonian National Museum of American History (NMAH), which reopened to the public on September 25, holds both C-3PO and R2-D2's costumes from *Return of the Jedi*, which won the Hugo for Best Dramatic Presentation in 1984. The description in the collection database, which talks at length about the Star Wars movies' role as "cultural reference points for successive American generations," is worth reading even if you're not interested in high-resolution images of the iconic costumes.

5. Raiders of the Lost Ark Costume Sketchbook

Raiders of the Lost Ark won the Hugo for Best Dramatic Presentation in 1982, and *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade* picked up a second rocket in 1990. Both are well-represented in the NMAH collection, from the sketchbook of original costume designs above to Indiana Jones's iconic hat from the Last Crusade.

6. Aliens Egg

Continuing the Best Dramatic Presentation trend, NMAH also holds an alien egg prop used in *Aliens*, which won a Hugo in 1987. That's not the only *Aliens* item in the collection — NMAH holds the shooting script for *Aliens* as well. On another ovoid note, a dinosaur egg from the 1994 Best Dramatic Presentation winner *Jurassic Park* also has its place at NMAH.

7. The Exploration of Mars

Chesley Bonestell was nominated for a Best Professional Artist Hugo in 1956 and 1968, but it wasn't until 2004 when he finally won a posthumous award, the 1954 Retro Hugo. NASM has a number of his iconic paintings in its collection, from "The Exploration of Mars" to the less science fictional (but my personal favorite) "The Milky Way as Seen from the Andes". Also held by the Smithsonian: a portrait photo of Bonestell taken by Ansel Adams.

8. Isaac Asimov Portrait

Isaac Asimov, who won Best Novel Hugos in 1973 (*The Gods Themselves*) and 1983 (*Foundation's Edge*), as well as numerous awards for shorter fiction, is represented with a photo taken a few years before his passing. Other Hugo-associated luminaries in the NPG collection include George Lucas, George Takei, and Kurt Vonnegut.

9. Octavia Butler's Typewriter

Off the National Mall and less-frequented by tourists, the Anacostia Community Museum in the Southeast (SE) quadrant of Washington, DC, is devoted to interpreting social issues in urban communities. Its unexpected treasures include the typewriter used by Octavia Butler, who would go on to win a Hugo for Best Short Story in 1984 and Best Novelette in 1985, to draft her early stories in the 1970s.

10. Apollo 11 Command Module

It's hard to pick a single item from the *Apollo 11* mission, whose media coverage won the Best Dramatic Presentation Hugo in 1970, to highlight, but the command module Columbia, meticulously documented in a digital 3D model, is a strong contender. Looking for more? NASM assembled an online collection of *Apollo 11* objects that includes everything from leftover space food to Michael Collins's toothbrush.

Advertising in DisCon III Print Publications

Progress Reports

We will be publishing two progress reports for our members. The first DisCon III progress report will be released in January 2021. All ads for Progress Report One are due by 8 January 2021.

Souvenir Book

A World Science Fiction Convention Souvenir Book serves as a source of reference for attendees and provides a memento of the event, ensuring that advertisements will be seen repeatedly over an extended period. The DisCon III Souvenir Book will be a glossy, four-color publication featuring significant advertising content from professional, semi-professional, and fan organizations. It is traditionally the key Worldcon publication and is widely read and collected. The deadline to reserve space in the souvenir book is 1 May 2021. The ad copy deadline is 10 July 2021.

Our progress report and souvenir book advertising rate cards may be found on the [Publications](#) page.

Accessibility Services

Putting the DisCon III Accessibility Policy into action is the responsibility of our experienced Member and Staff Services Division's Access Team, and they will be working across the convention and with our venues to create an inclusive and accessible event.

Accessibility Policy

The DisCon III chairs and committee are dedicated to a fully accessible Worldcon. This includes ensuring that all convention spaces, programming, events, and exhibits are accessible to all members, that services are available to all who request them, and proof of need is not required. Our venue is fully accessible and we will work to ensure that members are informed of accessible paths to all convention areas and of all other services the convention provides for those with access needs.

To that end, we will be creating and regularly updating our [Accessibility Services](#) page, which will provide all information on the accessibility of our venue, services the convention will provide and how to make use of them.

If you have access needs, questions about the venue or accessibility services, or have suggestions for ensuring access, please contact access@discon3.org.

Childcare

We expect to arrange for a professional childcare service to be available to members at DisCon III. However, the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has created uncertainty and change in the regulations around such services, and this limits our ability to be definitive at this time. We therefore don't yet have details on the cost of the childcare or hours of service, but we expect to be able to provide more information later in 2020. In the meantime, if have any queries or concerns, you can contact our Member and Staff Services Division at mss@discon3.org.

Members Area

Visit our new [Members Area](#) to check your membership status, upgrade your membership, or update your name and address details.

Press and Media Center

Members of the press and creators of online media covering DisCon III may visit our [Press and Media Center](#) for support. You will find downloadable copies of our official media releases and other useful material as it becomes available. For pre-convention information and queries, contact the DisCon III Outreach Team at outreach@discon3.org.

DisCon III Needs You!

We have many roles to fill and are looking for volunteers! You can commit to working as little as a few hours or you can make a substantial time commitment in advance for a Staff level position, which involves more responsibility or specific skills. You decide how much time you'd like to commit. Information can be found on our [Volunteer](#) page.

Advertising in *Dispatches from DeeCee* Issue 5

As DisCon III draws nigh, we will publish this member newsletter more frequently. Issue Five may be released as early as December or we may wait until after Progress Report One has been published.

We offer free quarter-page ad space in our newsletter to promote your convention or fannish activity. Dimensions are 7.5-in. x 2.5-in. or 3.75-in. x 5-in. in pdf, psd, tif, png, gif, or jpeg format. Send your color or grayscale ad for Issue Five to advertising@discon3.org by 30 November 2020.

"World Science Fiction Society", "WSFS", "World Science Fiction Convention", "Worldcon", "NASFiC", "Hugo Award", the Hugo Award Logo, and the distinctive design of the Hugo Award Rocket are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society. You can contact the [WSFS Mark Protection Committee](#) for more information.

The Beltway Program

This year, we'll be introducing an area of particular interest to those who live and work within the mysterious eight-lane border circling the U.S. capital known as "the Beltway," covering such subjects as politics, diplomacy, taxation, and bureaucracy. From "Death and Space Taxes" to "The Logistics of Off-World Disasters," the Beltway program should have something for the work in all of us. If you would like to submit ideas for this area, email brainstorm@discon3.org.

DisCon III Facebook Community

We now have a [Community Group](#) on Facebook as a space for our members to interact together. Come on over and introduce yourself.

DisCon III Discord Server

We're delighted to announce that DisCon III now has a [Discord server](#). It is a great place to talk to DisCon III members and staff.

Weekend Gaming with DisCon III

Check our social media accounts and website for schedule announcements of weekend gaming on our [YouTube channel](#).



The Best T-shirts in Fandom!™

DisCon III Souvenirs

[OffWorld Designs](#) is the official source of DisCon III souvenirs. They have t-shirts, polo shirts, long-sleeve denim shirts, and even DisCon III face masks for these crazy times. They also have gift cards to simplify your Xmas shopping.

Wild DC – Tregaron Conservancy and Klinge Valley Trail

Just west of the National Zoo and Rock Creek Park, you'll find a green oasis of woodland gardens, ponds, meadows, streams, and trails. Welcome to the 13-acre [Tregaron Conservancy](#) historic garden, the most important surviving landscape collaboration by noted architect, Charles Adams Platt, and renowned landscape architect, Ellen Biddle Shipman. The Klinge Valley Trail runs through the Tregaron Conservancy and continues to the Rock Creek Park Multi-Use Trail.



ConFusion 2021

71st Eastercon (British Science Fiction Convention)
2-5 April 2021 Birmingham (UK) Hilton Metropole

Guests of Honour
Dan Abnett * Nik Vincent * Dave Lally (Fan GoH)
More participants to be announced

Panels * Interviews * Readings * Performances * Workshops
Art Show * Dealer Room * Science Lecture * Awards

Memberships: Adult £ 70 YA/Child £ 50 Infant £ 5

It will have been a long year.
Join British fandom on our planetside for some R&R!

 confusion2021.uk
 [@Confusion 2021](https://twitter.com/Confusion2021)

 enquiries@confusion2021.uk
 [@confusion 2021](https://facebook.com/Confusion2021)



Glasgow in 2024

A Worldcon For Our Futures



Glasgow is a vibrant city filled with science fiction, fantasy and inventiveness, and our team aims to bring our love of these to our Bid to host the 82nd Worldcon. Our venue, the Scottish Event Campus, has seen much growth with new onsite hotels and restaurants, and will serve as a hub for a fantastic Worldcon. Join us as we bring all our futures together in one great celebration!

8th-12th August 2024 • Glasgow SEC
www.glasgow2024.org • [@glasgowin2024](https://twitter.com/glasgowin2024) • info@glasgow2024.org