

World Fantasy Convention 2009

Fairmont Hotel, San José

Oct 29th – Nov 1st

Press Pack

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Stars of Fantastic Fiction Meet in San José over Halloween

The World Fantasy Convention (WFC) will take place in the Fairmont Hotel, San José over Halloween weekend (Oct 29th – Nov 1st). Writers, artists, editors and agents from all over the world will meet up at this annual event for the fantastic fiction industry. Although the convention itself is not open to the public, many of the attendees will also be appearing at events around the Bay Area. Also the convention is an ideal opportunity for journalists to catch up with latest developments in this hugely important sector of the book trade.

The convention is home to the prestigious World Fantasy Awards. Jane Yolen and Ellen Asher will receive lifetime achievement awards. The nominees for the Best Novel award include Neil Gaiman's Newbery Medal-winning *The Graveyard Book* as well as works by Jeffrey Ford, Daryl Gregory, Australia's Margo Lanagan and Californian writer, Kage Baker. The awards will be presented at a gala banquet on the afternoon of Sunday November 1st.

The theme of this year's convention is the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Edgar Allan Poe. Program discussions will include discussions of Poe's influence on genre fiction, and on later writers such as Ambrose Bierce, Mark Twain, Clark Ashton Smith and H. P. Lovecraft.

An all-star guest list is topped by the best-selling Australian writer of Young Adult novels, Garth Nix. Other guests include award-winning writers Michael Swanwick and Jeff VanderMeer; inspirational artist Lisa Snellings; award-winning editor, Ann VanderMeer of *Weird Tales*; and from Serbia the modern master of surreal fiction, Zoran Živković. The convention is also honoring local writers Donald Sidney-Fryer and Richard A. Lupoff.

In addition the convention will be attended by almost 1000 professionals from the fantastic fiction community. Many of them are well-known best-selling writers. Numerous books will be launched at the convention. Peter Straub will be present to promote his recently published two-volume anthology, *American Fantastic Tales*, from the Library of America.

The 2009 World Fantasy Convention is being organized by San Francisco Science Fiction Conventions, Inc. (SFSFC). SFSFC is a non-profit corporation that exists to promote interest in all forms of fantastic literature in the Bay Area.

At the Convention

WFC is able to offer single-day press passes to accredited members of the media who wish to attend the convention for the purposes of interviewing our members and otherwise writing about the convention and fantastic literature. To apply for a pass please write to media@worldfantasy2009.org giving details of your planned coverage.

Our Press Office in the California Room of the Fairmont will be open during the following hours:

Thursday Oct 29th: Noon – 5:00 PM

Friday Oct 30th: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Saturday Oct 31st: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Sunday Nov 1st: 10:00 AM – Noon

Please report to the Press Office on arrival at the convention to collect your press pass.

The convention will provide free wi-fi access. You will need to obtain login codes from the Press Office.

A separate room will be made available as a studio for interviews and photography. Apply at the Press Office for bookings.

Public Events

The following events are taking place in the Bay Area around the time of the convention and feature convention members. Please note that these events are organized by the individual stores and other locations listed, not by the World Fantasy Convention. Please contact the venues or authors for further details.

Thursday, October 22nd

Borders Books, 39210 Fremont Hub, Ste 211, Fremont, CA 94538

http://www.borders.com/online/store/StoreDetailView_404

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM, Scott G. Browne signing for *Breathers*

Saturday Oct 24th

Borderlands Books, 866 Valencia Street, San Francisco CA 94110

<http://borderlands-books.com/>

3:00 PM Kim Stanley Robinson signing *The Lucky Strike* and Terry Bisson signing *The Left Left Behind*

SF in SF Charity Movie Night 7 Halloween Party

The Variety Preview Room, 582 Market St., San Francisco

<http://www.sfinsf.org/>

Screening *The Simpson's Treehouse of Horror & Boo!*

Doors open 6:00 PM, films start 7:00 PM

Sunday Oct 25th

Clayton Books, 5433 Clayton Road, Suite D, Clayton, CA 94517

<http://www.claytonbookshop.com/>

3:00 PM Laura Anne Gilman signing for *Flesh & Fire*

Wednesday Oct 28th

Borderlands Books, 866 Valencia Street, San Francisco CA 94110

<http://borderlands-books.com/>

Group signing event for WFC members: David Drake, Kate Elliot, Graham Joyce, Patricia McKillip, Garth Nix, Ken Scholes, Michael Swanwick, James Anderson, Carol Berg, Marie Brennan, Gail Carriger, David B. Coe, Steven Erikson, David Farland, David Lunde, L.E. Modesitt, Jr., John Picacio, Barbara and Christopher Roden, Mark Sebanc, S.M. Stirling, Mark Van Name, Bill Willingham, Zoran Živković.

Thursday Oct 29th

Kepler's Books, 1010 El Camino Real Menlo Park, CA 94025

<http://www.keplers.com/>

4:00 PM, Lucienne Diver signing for *Vamped*

Borders Books, 50 University Avenue, Suite 280, Los Gatos, CA 95030

http://www.borders.com/online/store/StoreDetailView_192

6:30 PM, group event including Lucienne Diver (*Vamped*)

Monday Nov 2nd

Borderlands Books, 866 Valencia Street, San Francisco CA 94110

<http://borderlands-books.com/>

Group signing event for WFC members: Paolo Bacigalupi, Ellen Datlow, Nina Kiki Hoffman, Cecelia Holland, Mary Robinette Kowal, Laird Barron, Lynn Ceasar, Nancy Etchemendy, Cody Goodfellow, Elaine Isaak, Nick Mamatas, Diana Paxson, Mark Teppo, Tony Richards, Michael Shea, John Skipp.

Tuesday Nov 3rd

Borderlands Books, 866 Valencia Street, San Francisco CA 94110

<http://borderlands-books.com/>

Amelia Beamer, Delia Sherman, Anna Tambour, and Ray Vukceвич – signing for the anthology *Interfictions 2* (Small Beer Press).

Friday Nov 6th

Los Gatos Public Library, 110 E. Main Street, Los Gatos, CA 95030

<http://www.losgatosca.gov/index.aspx?NID=42>

7:00 PM, Malinda Lo

Saturday Nov 7th

Laurel Bookstore, 4100 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland CA 94619

<http://www.laurelbookstore.com/>

6:30 PM, Malinda Lo, signing for *Ash*

Borders Books, 4575 Rosewood Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588

http://www.borders.com/online/store/StoreDetailView_117

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Scott G. Browne reading & signing for *Breathers*

Friday Nov 13th

Copperfield's Books, 139 Edman Way, Sebastopol CA 95472

Jeff VanderMeer workshop and signing

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM “How to Write a Novel in a Month Without Going Crazy”

8:30 PM to 9:00 PM signing

Saturday Nov 14th

SF in SF Charity Reading Event

The Variety Preview Room, 582 Market St., San Francisco

<http://www.sfinsf.org/>

6:00 PM for 7:00PM Jeff VanderMeer & S. G. Browne

Sunday Nov 15th

Clayton Books, 5433 Clayton Road, Suite D, Clayton, CA 94517

<http://www.claytonbookshop.com/>

3:00 PM, Jeff VanderMeer, signing for *Booklife*

Attending Writers & Editors

The following writers and editors who are attending the convention have indicated their interest in talking to the media. For further information and contact details of the people listed please write to media@worldfantasy2009.org.

Ann Wilkes
www.annwilkes.com

Ann VanderMeer
www.weirdtalesmagazine.com
Guest of Honor at the convention. Winner of a 2009 Hugo Award for the legendary fiction magazine, *Weird Tales*. Ann is only the second female editor of the magazine in its 86-year history. Also a World Fantasy nominee.

Barbara Roden
www.northwestpassages.org
Collection of short stories, *Northwest Passages*, with introduction by Michael Dirda, launching at the convention. Local signing event.

Charles Prepolec
www.edgewebsite.com/books/gaslightgrotesque/ggrot-bio.html#CHARLES
Editor of new Sherlock Holmes horror themed anthology, *Gaslight Grotesque: Nightmare Tales of Sherlock Holmes* (EDGE SF&F) launching at the convention.

David Levine
www.bentopress.com/sf/
Finalist for the 2009 Endeavour Award

Dan Wells
www.fearfulsymmetry.net
Debut novel, *I Am Not a Serial Killer*, has just launched in England and Germany; due out in the US from Tor next April. Recent winner of a Parsec award for the writing podcast, *Writing Excuses*.

Dorothy Hearst
www.dorothyhearst.com
Novel: *Promise of the Wolves*

Ellen Datlow
www.datlow.com
Winner of the 2009 Hugo Award for Best Editor (Short Form). Local signing event.

Erik M. Gist
www.erikgist.com

Frederic S. Durbin
www.fredericsdurbin.com
YA fantasy novel *The Star Shard* forthcoming from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Guy Gavriel Kay
www.brightweavings.com, www.ysabel.ca
Winner of the 2008 World Fantasy Award for Best Novel with *Ysabel*.

Greg Bear

www.gregbear.com

Latest novel: *Mariposa* (Perseus/Vanguard). Book tour planned

Jeffrey J. Mariotte

<http://jeffmariotte.com>

Author of a comic book biography of President Obama – collected hardcover edition to be published Oct 28th.

Jeff VanderMeer

<http://www.jeffvandermeer.com>

Guest of Honor at the convention. New books *Finch* (fiction) and *Booklife* (non-fiction) due out soon.

John Shirley

www.john-shirley.com

Latest novel: *Bleak History* (Pocket), an urban fantasy thriller.

Juliette Wade

talktoyouuniverse.blogspot.com

Kij Johnson

www.kijjohnson.com

World Fantasy Award nominee

Laura Anne Gilman

lauraannegilman.net

Latest novel: *Flesh & Fire*: Book 1 of the Vineart War (Pocket). Local signing event.

Laurel Anne Hill

<http://www.laurelannahill.com>

Grew up in San Francisco

Lawrence C. Connolly

www.LawrenceCConnolly.com

Latest book: *Visions*, a short story collection spanning Connolly's 30 year career

Lisa Mannetti

www.lisamannetti.com

Winner of the 2009 Bram Stoker Award for Superior Achievement in a First Novel with *The Gentling Box*.

Lucienne Diver

www.luciennediver.com

Debut novel: *Vamped*. Local signing events.

Malinda Lo

www.malindalo.com

Debut novel: *Ash*, a lesbian retelling of Cinderella. Local signing events.

Marie O'Regan & Paul Kane

www.marieoregan.net & www.shadow-writer.co.uk

Editors of *Hellbound Hearts*, an anthology of stories based on an original novella by Clive Barker

Marjorie Liu

www.marjorie-liu.com

Co-writer of *Dark Wolverine* (Marvel) and NYT Best Selling author of the *Hunter Kiss* urban fantasy series (Ace) and the *Dirk & Steele* series of paranormal romances (Leisure).

Mark L. Van Name
www.markvanname.com

Michael Allen Shea
www.michaelsheaauthor.com
Latest book *Mythos Tales*, collection of Lovecraft-inspired stories set in San Francisco. Local signing event.

Michelle M. Welch
www.michellemwelch.com
Editor of *Theme and Variations*, a podcast anthology of speculative fiction with music as a theme. The podcast debuts October 28, with a CD release at WFC.

Nathan Long
nathan-long.livejournal.com/
2009 recipient of the IAMTW Scribe Award for best Gaming Related Original Novel for *Elfslayer*, a Warhammer novel.

Nisi Shawl
www.sfgwa.org/members/shawl
Joint winner of this year's James Tiptree, Jr. Award, double World Fantasy nominee

Paula Guran
www.juno-books.com
Editor of Juno Books, a leading publisher of urban fantasy with female protagonists, recently acquired as an imprint by Pocket Books.

Robert Freeman Wexler
<http://robertfreemanwexler.com/>

Russell Blackford
www.russellblackford.com
New book, *50 Voices of Disbelief: Why We Are Atheists*, due out November 16th – a compilation of essays by various writers, including some SF&F novelists, on why they reject religion.

S. A. Bolich
www.sabolich.info

S.J. Chambers
www.sjchambers.org
Independent Poe scholar

Saladin Ahmed
www.saladinmed.com
Story published this month in Orson Scott Card's Intergalactic Medicine Show

Scott G. Browne
<http://sgbrowne.com>
Debut novel, *Breathers*, a dark comedy about zombies (Broadway 2009), has been optioned for film rights by Fox Searchlight Pictures, with Diablo Cody and Mason Novick co-producing. Local signing events.

Shauna Roberts
www.ShaunaRoberts.com
Latest novel, *Like Mayflies in a Stream*, based on the Epic of Gilgamesh, published on October 5th.

Steven R Boyett

www.steveboy.com

Latest novel, *Elegy Beach*, a post-apocalyptic fantasy set in California, will be published on November 3rd.

Thomas S. Roche

<http://www.thomasroche.com>

Erotic writer, based in San Francisco