

MarsCon 2015

March 6-8, 2015

Heroes & Wizards & Fae

OHhh MYyy!!

A fan-run Science-Fiction & Fantasy Convention held every March in the Twin Cities

Charity Auction
proceeds will benefit American

The Votes Are In!

Foundation for Suicide Prevention-Greater Minnesota and the Gordy Dickson Memorial Scholarship Fund which sponsors aspiring science fiction writers to attend writing workshops. So, how can I and other MarsCon members help out with Charity Auction and other charitable events at MarsCon? We're glad you asked. Here are a few ways to help:

The Fairie Coalition's taking over our Room of Requirement, and they are planning a kid-friendly space (mushrooms for seats, a life-size dungeon game, a photo corner with frequent Dalek visits & loads of hands-on fun). A new Anime & Young Adult track has been added, and the Dance Rave/Demos Room will be back with sword demos, burlesque, and dancing, of course! We invite you to join in the fun by offering your suggestions or maybe signing up to host a discussion or event. It's not too late! Send us a note via the ideas page at: <http://marscon.org/2015/ideas.php>

Last Call for Programming Ideas

Donate stuff! It's not too late. We accept donations at planning meetings and all the way until the convention and even during the convention. If you have something cool that somebody would bid on, you can drop it off in Ops when you arrive. Ops will be located on the second floor of our new hotel right across from Registration. Ops will also be accepting Food Drive donations which will go directly to Twin Cities' Second Harvest Heartland after the convention.

Bid on stuff! There is usually at least one treasure that you will really want—maybe an autographed picture of one of the Guests of Honor, a toy, some tickets to a movie, a poster, some books—so show up, bid, and remember that what you spend is going to support two worthwhile causes.

Volunteer! We always need help setting up the auction donations for display prior to the auction, holding up items for better viewing during the auction, keeping track of bids and tabulating, etc. It's a great way to help out.

As always, thank you for your generosity & support!

Gaming Needs You!

Game requests are always welcome at games15@marscon.org.

More on Pg 5

Space for demos and scheduled events is limited, but we'll do our best to fit as much as we can. People can sign up for any block of time to host whatever games they want, no matter how ridiculous. Any open space remaining will allow Open Gaming. Now, get your pencils, dice, cards or board games ready! 2015 is going to be another awesome year in the Gaming Room!

Let's Get the Parties Started!

Change is in store for party givers and attendees. The hotel is remodelling guest rooms, so all room parties will be moved to the 5th and 6th floors.

Send any additional questions to parties15@marscon.org

Party hosts, pick the floor that best suits your needs.

Now more than ever. Groups that sign up early get the best selection!

Planned parties so far include:

Harry Potter
The Dude's Abode

Second Foundation's Party for Readers and Viewers

Space Oddity Music & Brew Pub

USS Nokomis/WDF

Crypticon

Variations on a Theme Publishing Book Launch Party

The Royal Manticoran Navy/Manticon Karaoke & Desserts

Anime Twin Cities
Anime Lounge

IKV RakeHell

Bandana Square
Cons Party

The 70s Rock—A loving tribute to 70s Sci-Fi, pop culture and music

Valleycon

Sign up Today!

marscon.org/2015/party.php



Action Actress Spice Williams-Crosby

is an action actress, stunt-woman, and stunt coordinator who portrayed the Klingon Vixis in Star Trek V: The Final Frontier. In 1993, she appeared as a Klaestron kidnapper in the Star Trek:

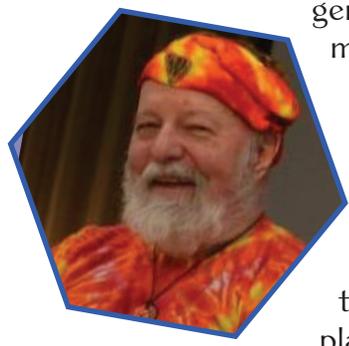
Deep Space Nine episode "Dax" alongside Tom Morga. One year later, Williams-Crosby doubled guest actress Megan Gallagher in the second season episode "Invasive Procedures" in a fight scene with fellow stunt-woman Patricia Tallman. Her latest Trek performance was doubling for Star Trek: Voyager leading actress Jeri Ryan.

spicewilliams-crosby.com

Artist Robert Odegard has been involved with photography for 40 years and 25 years as a professional wedding photographer. He's photographed over 500 weddings, creating images that people treasure for a life time. In the early 90's, he started to follow the works of Boris Vallejo and other fantasy artists. he wanted to create fantasy with real people, making the images look real but impossible to exist. In the 90's, the technology to merge images together was limited to what he could do in the dark room while printing the images. Consequently, he could only do so much and it wasn't very good. It took 10 years for the technology to catch-up to his visions. Now the sky (and beyond) is the limit. It's now to the point, if he can imagine it, he can do it. He has specialized (but not limited) to fairies, angels, warriors, dragons and mermaids for their richest emotion in our culture.

Author Lyda Morehouse leads a double life. By day she is the science fiction author of the award-winning AngeLINK series. At night she transforms into the best-selling vampire romance writer, Tate Hallaway, author of the Garnet Lacey series and the young-adult Vampire Princess of Saint Paul series. As Lyda she's won the Shamus (a mystery award) for Archangel Protocol, and came in second for the Philip K. Dick award for Apocalypse Array.

She lives in Saint Paul with her partner of twenty-four years, eight-year old son, four cats, two gerbils and a multitude of fishes.



Fan/Game Master Richard Tatge

as colorful as his house in tie-dyed shirts and fanciful hats, started out by playing the classic dungeon role-playing games with a group of friends who would take turns hosting the gatherings. Eventually he became the default host just because he had more games than any of the others—six thousand at last count

Game Designer Eric Wile

is a Game Designer who worked for both Verant Interactive and Sony Online Entertainment in San Diego, California. He has also worked with Big Idea Interactive and SCEA (Sony Computer Electronics America). In his career he received back to back Team Member of the Month, as well as awarded the Sony Achievement award for his work on EverQuest Macintosh Edition. While at SOE, Eric worked on the development of several games including PlanetSide, Star Wars Galaxies, EverQuest II and Vanguard: Saga of Heroes.



Prop Master Dave Duca

from Oconto, WI, is an announcer for their local radio station, and enjoys the many ambitions in the Community and Events. Born in Green Bay, Dave's hobbies and interests go anywhere from astronomy, short-wave radio, rotary cam engines, UAVs, and Bread Pudding. He finds it fascinating, taking things apart to figure out how they work. "Anything from a simple space shuttle to a complex door knob....will do" His forté is literally anything autonomous, including Daleks.



Michael Gilemi

residing in Holland Town WI, is a mechanical designer of wide experience. Born in Chicago, IL, he fell in love with all things Sci-Fi well before he attended school. Science fiction and fantasy are ever present in the warp and woof of his life. Dr. Who has, for a very long time, been the golden threads in that weave. Then Mike once dared to ask his very good friend Dave Duca, a kindred spirit in all things Whovian, if Dave

Registration Now is a wonderful time to register for MarsCon

Our rates are \$50 for ages 13 and up and \$25 for ages 6-12. You'll have to pay more if January ends before you sign up. Additional details and a printable form are at:

<http://marscon.org/2015/register.php>

This year we have changed our credit card processing over to Square Market—as the upstart, they take a smaller slice out of what we get and they deliver the cash into our account much faster.

We're passing the savings on to you!

No surcharge for credit card transactions this year. If you want to be super-geeky and register using Bitcoin, or just normally geeky and use a credit card, head on over to our Square Market page at

<https://squareup.com/market/marscon-minnesota> and buy as many adult and child memberships as you need. We will then send you a link to our form where we will collect your name/badge name/address/etc. (all spelled properly!), so we can have everything waiting for you at the registration table when you arrive at MarsCon.

Dates of Note Only a few more planning meetings left!
Sunday, February 8, 2015 1-4pm
Program Book Ads Due
Sunday, February 22, 2015 1-4pm
"What did we forget!?" Meeting

You needn't be a member of the committee to attend; we welcome visitors, representatives of other groups, and the mildly curious.

ConCom meetings are a great place to **Volunteer** and talk to the people you'll be working with face to face.

Location: Unless otherwise noted, all meetings will be at the Hilton Minneapolis/St Paul Mall of America 3800 American Blvd. E. Bloomington, MN 55425

Booking deadline for MarsCon rooms is February 5. Anyone wishing to stay overnight at the hotel for the MarsCon science fiction/fantasy/gaming convention (March 6-8, 2015), may book a room for \$99.00 plus tax by following this link to the Hilton MarsCon booking page:

www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/M/MSPAHHF-MARCON-20150305/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG.

The MarsCon convention rate applies to rooms booked during the 3 days before and after the official convention dates, subject to availability.

You may also call the Hilton to make a reservation, but make sure to mention MarsCon to get the reduced room rates.

PARTY HOSTS: Room rates are the same for party rooms—\$99 plus tax, but parties will be grouped together on the 5th floor near Con Suite, Krushenko's Lounge & A/V Film Club. Discounted bed removal will be \$50, subject to availability. **TIP: Put in your bed removal requests early.** Hotel is waiving the high speed wireless internet charge for all rooms. Party hosts are eligible for a \$5 discount per membership when registering together in groups of five or more. (See Registration)

EVERYONE: As always, we invite and encourage you to enjoy the convention all weekend long by getting a room! Taking a room at the hotel is a wonderful way to enhance your convention experience. It gives you a home base, a place to park the wonderful merchandise you've just purchased in the Dealers' Room, a place to entertain friends, to store your musical instruments or gorgeous artwork from the Art Show, and to crash whenever you finish with partying throughout the convention weekend... not to mention it makes the host hotel very happy with MarsCon.

Shuttle Schedule to the Mall of America

The Airport Hilton has Complimentary shuttle service to and from Mall of America every hour from 10:20am to 10:20pm

Snarky's

Open to ConCom Members, Dealers, Party Room Groups and anyone who volunteers a minimum of 5 hours.

For the small cost of \$40 for the whole weekend have wholesome hot food between 7:30 am and 11:30 pm.

Delicious hot meals for breakfast, lunch and supper.

If you have food allergies or special food needs Snarky's has you covered.

Check out the MarsCon website for the registration form. Volunteers that put in at least five hours can get a free meal if they don't want to buy into the whole weekend.

OUR HOTEL

MarsCon FAQ

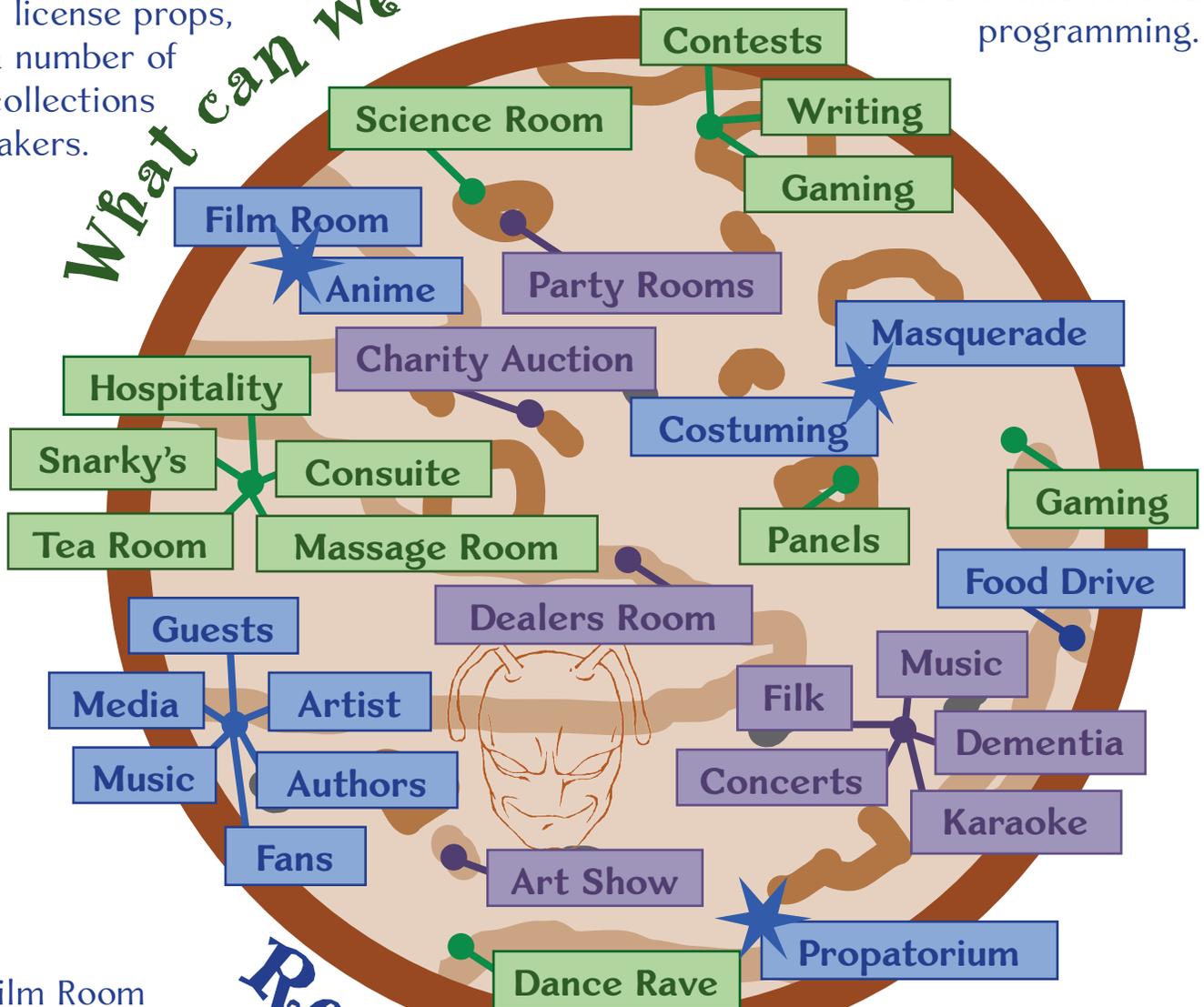
What is it?

MarsCon is a fun, volunteer run, Family oriented Science Fiction / fantasy convention.

★ The Propatorium offers a large prop collection from Sci-Fi and fantasy movies and TV shows, screen used, fan made and official license props, from a number of prop collections and makers.

★ A renowned cosplay and costume maven meeting place, MarsCon has over 20 hours of costume-related programming.

What can we do there?



★ Film Room brings in films from the classics, to cult classics, local independent films and independent films from around the world.

Register NOW!

would consider making a Dalek for the purposes of attending conventions. The rest, as they say, is history.

Music Guest Of Honor

Rob Paravonian, well-known for his popular Pachelbel Rant, is a comedian, musician and writer who performs all over the U.S. and throughout world. Rob has released several CDs and has received millions of views of his videos on YouTube. In addition to performing standup across the country, Rob created 3 solo shows, has written one-act plays that have been produced in New York, and regularly writes for New York-based sketch group Spurn. Rob Paravonian



appearance sponsored by dementiaradio.org

Featured Guest Author: Sammi Kat

is a 30-something wife of a U.S. Army soldier and the mother of a son with high-functioning

autism. She's been writing almost nonstop as far back as anyone remembers. This is the first book for the Minnesota writer. In her spare time, she makes costumes, jewelry and has a passion for superhero movies.

<http://sbpra.com/SammikKat/>



More Guests of Honor

Art Show

To our artisans,

As we prepare for the 2015, we now look forward and to the growth of the MarsCon Art Show. As many of you noticed, hanging room and table space is becoming a rare commodity. Therefore, the art show is revising its policies for the artwork that we will be accepting for viewing and bidding.

Starting in 2015, all artwork entries will need to be of a Sci-Fi/Fantasy theme.

We are not wishing to turn away artists, yet with our space quickly dwindling we needed to make a decision. If there is any questions about if your art work qualifies for viewing, present your concerns to the art show head Michael Byrne. If there are any questions or issues regarding if it follows the necessary theme, a select group will make a final decision.

We apologize if this sends any of our artisans away, yet as we continue to grow we must look to the future of the MarsCon Art Show and its artisans. For many of you, this decision will not affect you. However, MarsCon is a Sci-Fi/Fantasy convention with panels and guests revolving around these genres. We felt it was time the art show reflected them as well.

We appreciate your understanding of this matter and look forward to seeing your work at the 2015 MarsCon Art Show.

Sincerely,
MarsCon Art Show staff and volunteers.

Matt McMillan and his group from Twin Cities Game Fest are coming to MarsCon 2015 to help entertain! They have a large assortment of scheduled games for your enjoyment. From Magic the Gathering events, to classic board games and more esoteric titles.

We very much look forward to making new gaming friends this year. Please make sure to stop by and say "Hi"!

Events

Firefly the Board Game
Settlers of Catan

Magic the Gathering tournaments—bring your Standard, Modern, Legacy and Commander decks
7 Wonders and more!

Gaming Needs You!
Plenty & fun for everyone

Prize support for various events sponsored by Level Up Games.

Plus a huge assortment of games in the Open Library and open gaming area just begging to be played.

We're super excited to welcome Society in Shadow LARP to MarsCon 2015!

In the shadows of our world, a secret battle ensues among supernatural forces. You are the Expressed, and you fight to defend a civilization that can't know about you. Join this established live-action role-playing game near the beginning of a new story in the world of SiS after a recent world reset.

This is a LARP where players roam. Player costumes are encouraged. Running Friday through Sunday.

Manticon's presentation of the "Artemis Bridge Simulator"

Fallout Shelter's Battletech Pod Simulators.

Other Events

MarsCon 2015

March 6-8, 2015

Heroes
& Wizards
& Fae
OHhh MYyy!!

A fan-run Science Fiction & Fantasy Convention
held every March in the Twin Cities

Guests of Honor

Dave Duca—Prop Master
Richard Tatge—Fan/Game Master
Spice Williams-Crosby—Action Actress
Robert Odegard—Artist
Lyda Morehouse—Author
Eric Wile—Game Designer

Enjoy Sci-Fi/fantasy inspired panel discussions, parties, guest of honor presentations, a variety of music, performance and dance, art show, film/anime, science, dealers, charity auction and masquerade. The Dementia track is virtually a con in itself.

Mix and mingle with a few hundred of your FFFs (favorite fanish friends) at **MarsCon!**

Registration Rates

Cut off Dates: 2014 Con 10/31/14 01/31/15 At The Door

	2014 Con	10/31/14	01/31/15	At The Door	
Teen/Adult	\$30	\$40	\$50	\$65	\$5 discount at all MarsCon represented events
Child (6-12)	\$15	\$20	\$25	\$30	
Supporting ‡	\$20	\$25	\$30	★	
Sponsor †	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$75	

Children six and under enter free, with Child badging complimentary on request.

‡ **Supporting** members pay a reduced rate through 1/31/2015 to hold memberships. Purchase is complete with \$25 at any time up to and including at the door.

† **Sponsors** contribute to making the convention BETTER!!

Party Host Discount—Party hosts are eligible for a \$5 discount per membership when registering together in groups of five or more. This discount may only be applied to full weekend memberships and is subject to verification by the host hotel.

New
Hotel! Hilton
Minneapolis/St Paul
Mall of America
3800 American Blvd. E.
Bloomington, MN 55425

Registration Information

Please Print

Name: _____

Badge Name: _____

Address: _____

Address(2): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Register online with Square or mail this form with your payment to the following address

NO CASH PLEASE:

MarsCon
P.O. Box 21213
Eagan, MN 55121

E: info15@marscon.org

W: marscon.org/2015

Please e-mail me: Mars Today Updates Progress Reports as PDFs

I WANT TO VOLUNTEER! PLEASE CONTACT ME!

I want information about

Dealer's Room Art Show Gaming Room Masquerade Party Room

I got this flier
with PR-1