In the befoentimes, getting to MarsCon was a matter of getting your physical self to the convention hotel. For 2021, through the Magic Of The Internet, MarsCon brings itself to your coronavirus hideaway.

**The benefits**

Avoiding coronavirus is a wonderful goal in itself. You get to stay safe. You'll be able to connect to like-minded fans in other cities/continents. People who have previously been unable to make it to Minnesota will be able to attend. (Maybe you'll be back in 2022 in the flesh.)

**There are no downsides.**

Attending an event on a palm-size screen is absolutely the same as being there in person.

**There are no downsides.** Computer programs never crash, never bog down, never do mysterious things. Everyone has infinite bandwidth, a HAL-grade computer, and deep geeky knowledge of what each electron therein is up to. The speed of light does not apply.

**There are no downsides.** Everything. Will be. Perfect.

**Well, one slight downside.** Streaming video chews up bandwidth. If your device or ISP has data caps your MarsCon weekend could easily use up your monthly quota.

With that settled, what software will you need to take part? We will be using several platforms—now is the time to get them installed on your computer / tablet / phone and get familiar with them.

**The platforms**

*Discord*

**Cost:** free (and up)

**Runs on:** Windows, Mac and Linux computers plus Android and iOS tablets / phones. You must register and be logged in for it to work.

**Features of Discord:** Two-way text (plus picture) chat plus voice and A/V chat/conferencing. Private messaging to another user. Conversations take place in multiple areas, a.k.a. "channels". Download at: https://discord.com/download or your device's app store.

*Twitch*

**Cost:** free (and up)

You can watch Twitch streams without an account—just follow the URL to the channel. To enable chat and other features an account is required: go to Twitch.tv and select Sign Up. HowStuffWorks has an introduction to Twitch that you can get to by CLICKING HERE.

If you do not like the appearance of the mobile app, you can select Desktop View in your browser settings or append ?no-mobile-redirect=true to the channel URL.

**The Technology of MarsCon**

**Finding MarsConline**

The 2021 MarsCon Program Book ©2021 FenSF. All rights reserved by FenSF, Inc. The fans educational network for 2021 is sponsored by FenSF, Inc. and supported by ArClit on Sloan Hubert. They know why.

**More Platforms**

**We've gone ONLINE!**

Full-color Apparel and Accessories Artwork by Guest of Honor Jon Sloan

Check out our Store! teespring.com/stores/marscon

**Credits**

Thank you to all the artists and contributors of content herein contributed by members of 2021 MarsCon Com, FenSF, Inc., and authorized representatives of parties and entities represented. Thank you to all of our partners and sponsors.

Daylight Savings Time Begins Sunday! Remember to set your clocks forward.
If you see somebody violating the rules, you can summon a moderator by tagging @mod or @mods.

1. Please treat everyone with respect. Do not make disparaging remarks based on race, gender, sex, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, or favorite sci-fi show.
2. Posting iconography or statements that support or advocate for any hate group (included but not limited to: Nazism, the Ku Klux Klan, Westboro Baptist Church, or as listed on the Southern Poverty Law Center website as a current or active hate group) is expressly prohibited. This rule also applies to your profile picture and status message.
3. Do not post inflammatory or bad-faith remarks. Posting with the intention of upsetting, distressing, or provoking participants is not allowed.
4. Do not harass people in public channels or private messages. If somebody tells you to stop engaging with them, stop.
5. Please keep conversations on-topic for the channel that you are in. Check the topic at the top of the channel if you are unsure.
6. Impersonation of convention staff (i.e. changing your nickname, profile picture, custom status, direct messages, etc.) will not be tolerated.
7. We reserve the right to remove access to the Discord to anyone whom we believe to be a danger to our community.
8. Anything covered in the Discord TOS. https://discord.com/terms
Failure to follow these rules can result in moderator action up to and including a permanent ban.

Accessibility
All this new tech will help with some accessibility problems but create new classes of people with access woes. Everyone gets a front row seat (depending on screen size). For those with vision problems, Discord is relatively text-to-speech friendly. Auto-generated closed captions on YouTube are far from perfect, but will be some help to the hearing-impaired. But...Those with download caps, low bandwidth or slow computers will be at a severe disadvantage. A degree of technical knowixie is required. Fortunately, not an advanced degree in computer science.

Server

Rules

Normal

Rules

of

Civility

YouTube
Cost: free (and up)
Runs on: any device with a web browser.
Features of YouTube: high-quality one-way A/V streaming plus text chat. Al-generated closed captions.
Once you go to YouTube, Google will urge you to download an app and register. This is not strictly required but can provide some extra functionality.
MarsCon will use YouTube for any events where heavy attendance is expected.

Zoom
Cost: free (and up)
Runs on: Windows, Mac and Linux computers plus Android and iOS tablets / phones.
Download at: https://zoom.us/download/client_4meeting or your device’s app store.
The software is required but an account is not strictly required. Logging in will give extra functionality.
Features of Zoom: two-way A/V conferencing, each user has a good deal of control over how a session is displayed locally, text chat and private messages.
If you are going to be a presenter or panelist at MarsCon expect to be using Zoom.

Features of YouTube:
- Runs on: any device with a web browser.
- High-quality one-way A/V streaming plus text chat.
- Al-generated closed captions.

Features of Zoom:
- Two-way A/V conferencing.
- Each user has control over how a session is displayed locally.
- Text chat and private messages.

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Programming Schedule
- All MarsCon 2021 events are free.
- All times listed are U.S. Central Time—CST Friday and Saturday and CDT Sunday.
- Daylight savings Starts Saturday Night!! Don’t forget to adjust your sundial, etc.
- Much of the programming at MarsCon 2021 will take place on one of two YouTube channels. If you subscribe to these channels you can subscribe to upcoming MarsCon events.
- Here’s The Channels and Tracks!
  - Mainstage Channel—CLICK HERE
  - Panel Channel—CLICK HERE

Opening Ceremonies
07:00PM—FRI—Mainstage Channel
Thank you for joining us for the 23rd annual MarsCon Sci Fi/Fantasy/Gaming Convention—the first and only ever virtual rendition! We will open MarsCon by welcoming and introducing our wonderful Guests of Honor and sharing important stuff that will help you get the most out of MarsCon 2021!

Closing Ceremonies
04:15PM—SU—Mainstage Channel
Say “farewell” to the guests & “thanks” to volunteers. Hear news about next year’s convention plans, pre-register for next year, and wonder why the weekend went so quickly.
Volunteers are particularly needed in the following areas:

- Channel monitors
- Helpers / Discord guides
- Testers
- Trouble shooters

Two ways to sign up:

1. volunteer@marscon.org
2. #volunteers-and-cookies

We also encourage you to purchase MarsCon 2021 volunteer t-shirts and some Girl Scout cookies. You deserve it.

Thank You!

Girl Scout cookie sales are a tradition at MarsCon, and we are determined to honor this tradition despite the pandemic and the necessity for distancing. It’s times like these when fans need cookies the most!

Listed below are Troops who have sold cookies at MarsCon in past years:

Anna, representing the Southern Minnesota area, is helping to take her troop rock climbing and rollerskating. You can help her reach her goal at this link: Troop 44819

Nicole, in the Apple Valley area has been selling cookies for 12 years—since KINDERGARTEN—and wants to help her troop go on a senior trip to Savannah, GA. She will sell cookies via this link: Troop 54085

Ranna, a second-year Cadette in St. Paul MN is working on her Silver Award project with one of the other Cadettes, and you can support their meetings, badges, camp outs (when they can have them again) and field trips—here’s the link: Troop 55385

For MarsCon members outside the local delivery areas, click the link below to locate a Girl Scout Cookie Booth in your area by entering your zip code in the “Find Cookies!” tool.

I Want Mah Cookies!

How to talk to your fellow citizen and share some of the more interesting highlights from his conversations. It will confirm and challenge some of your hopes and fears.

At the end of the presentation, you will have a broader sense on what people think about the future of humanity, what it takes to do something every single day without fail, how to get over fear of talking to others, and you will become more aware of how others might interpret you.

Did you know that NASA is sending people to the moon in 2024? Most people don’t.

What do you think about it? Largely people are supportive. But some people have doubts. What about opportunity costs? What about messing up the moon? Don’t we have enough problems here? The government wastes so much money, glad to see they are doing something inspiring.

Would you go if it were safe and affordable? You would be amazed who would and wouldn’t go.

During the pandemic, we all took up hobbies that are related to being housebound/on Zoom a lot which we’d like to talk about.

Beth Kinderman mainly performs serious folk music, but her recent album Return of the Son of More Songs About Robots & Death is a full-on comedy album, so Beth (and maybe some of her band, the Player Characters) is going to give us all a big slice of the funny! Another important thing of note is that Beth Kinderman and her friends from the Feng Shui Ninjas also host the annual “Space Oddity Brew Club & Pub” Room Party on the 11th floor, which Beth is hosting this year as a Virtual Room Party!

Our other first-timer at MarsCon this year is Amy Engelhardt, who has a comedy song with Harry Shearer on it which makes me so jealous I can’t even. Amy spent a lot of time in rental cars from 1998-2011 as the sole female voice/writer/arranger for eclectic, Grammy®-nominated vocal “band without instruments,” The Bobs. She recorded 4 CDs and toured extensively with the band, from Lincoln Center’s American Songbook to Northwest Folklife to the Pori (Finland) Jazz Festival. As Mother Superior of the Chattering Order of St. Beryl, Amy recently...
Our Creative Planet track is planning a few create-along-with-us videos for MarsCon 2021. To join in you'll need to have some craft supplies on hand. They are listed below.

**...for Sand Jars:**
- Jar – tall and thin, or any shape you would like, with a top
- Sand – 3 – 6 bags of various colors, depending on the size of your jar
- Funnel – to minimize the mess
- Hot glue gun/glue – if you need to glue seal your sand

**...for Story Stones:**
Various stones or wood discs – flat stones work better than rounded

**...for Galaxy Jars:**
- Mason jar—any size you will do
- Glow in the Dark paint in blue, green, red, orange, and yellow
- Brushes for the paint
- Faerie lights, if you’d like

**...for Faeries:**
- Wooden Clothes pegs—any size, but not the clips with springs
- Hot glue gun and glue
- Sharpies—if you want to color the peg or give it a face
- Items to put on the peg to make a faerie. These items will be cut and glued. Many of these things can be got at the Dollar Tree.
- Silk flowers, Yarn, Ribbon, Felt, Feathers
- Anything you want to use

**...for Bead Lizards:**
- Ribbon—about 3” in length
- Key ring—just the ring with no fob or decoration
- Pony beads—any color you’d like, but craft can be done with 1 or 2 colors

led a choir of rocking Satanic nuns rhapsodizing about Armageddon through Hollywood, Austin, New York and London in the promo campaign for Amazon Prime’s Good Omens series. After invading all red carpet events, Q&As with Neil Gaiman and flashmobbing in every city, Amy produced the Nurse EP Unholy Night for Amazon Music.

10:00PM—FRI—Power for the Lunar Shadow
Panel Channel—with G. David Nordley
- Night on the Moon lasts two weeks. It would seem a shame to shut everything down until the sun rises again, but clearly direct solar power isn’t an option. What are some of the ideas for keeping lunar operations going at night?

10:00PM—FRI—Now U KNOW: Women in Film
 Bonus Tracks—Host: Sam Hedden; Producer: Andy Watson; Guests: Gwenn Ruhoff, Jessica Mraz, Lori Roovers
Now U Know Talks to three panelists about Women in Film. We cover favorite roles, what they do in the industry, advice to future females in the film world, and some harder topics as well.

10:30PM—FRI—Devo Spice concert—Mainstage Channel
Devo Spice (a former MarsCon Music Guest Of Honor) is a nerdcore and comedy rapper from New Jersey who calls himself “the red-headed stepson of Weird Al Yankovic and Eminem” and is one of the most popular artists on The Dr. Demento Show, having had the #1 most requested song of the year three times, and is also a two-time Logan Award winner for Outstanding Original Song and Outstanding Parody Song. He is the webmaster of the comedy music collective website “The Funny Music Project”, aka The FuMP .com. Of his many albums, one of note would be his Doctor Who concept album I Am The Doctor, which has has 11 tracks about each of the first 11 Doctors (there’s a new Capaldi song on his latest album, Whittaker song coming in the future, fam)
MarsCon joins with Geek Partnership Society in an online charity auction. To join in, visit GPS's Charity Auction Events page: This virtual charity auction runs March 6 through 14, 2021.

The great dumpster fire that was 2020 is not yet quite extinguished. If you are one of the fortunate financially-secure ones MarsCon also urges you to directly support several worthy causes.

MarsCon picked two we wanted to support through our Charity Auction in 2021:

**Cookie Cart** provides teens 15 to 18 years old with lasting and meaningful work, life and leadership skills through experience and training in urban nonprofit bakeries. For further news and information: Website

The Gordy Dickson Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 2002 for three purposes: To honor Gordy Dickson, local fan and science fiction and fantasy pro writer who died in 2001. To collect money to send potential new writers to the Clarion Workshop for SF and fantasy writers or some other workshop. Gordy always encouraged new writers. To promote accord in Twin Cities fandom by having a project that various fan clubs and individual fans can work on together. For further news and information about the fund: Website

**MarsCon urges you to directly support these causes. Cross your fingers for a return to normal—including our Charity Auction in 2022. Thank you to all for supporting our greater community in anyway you can**

**Black Lives Matter**
The killing of George Floyd in MarsCon's home state has brought Black Lives Matter back into international focus. While our science fiction fan community embraces diversity and inclusiveness, we recognize that we have a long way to go to get to our ideal future, and we support BLM's mission to eradicate white supremacy and intervene when violence is inflicted on Black communities... because Black Lives Matter.

**MusiCares**
Music has been a huge part of MarsCon over the years. The Recording Academy—the folks who bring you the Grammies—has established MusiCares as a safety net of critical assistance for music people in times of need... such as widespread shutdowns due to COVID-19.

More info: https://www.grammy.com/musiCares

**Uncle Hugo's and Rebuild Lake Street**
The Twin Cities suffered huge losses in late May / early June. Reconstruction takes time, and donations can make a world of difference. Consider contributing to one of the following:

(official) Help Save Uncle Hugo's fundraiser
Help Rebuild Lake Street fundraiser

**Fans Educational Network for Science Fiction / MarsCon**
If you have money left over after donating to the worthy causes above please consider helping MarsCon pay for extra coronavirus-related expenses. Visit the MarsCon store.

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This year we've broken the constraints of reality! No walls, no three-dimensional space—welcome to the new digital form!

**Is it a Show? Or is it an Alley?**

It's Both! Unlike other conventions, MarsCon hasn't had an Artist Alley, where artists have individual booths. Since we're using Discord for much of the MarsCon experience, each artist will have their own text channel within the convention Discord server. This channel will be a space for artists to display pictures of their work and interact with the convention attendees. Unlike our traditional Art Show, we hope the artists will be available for chatting with attendees in their Discord channel.

**Artists will not be limited to a certain number of art pieces, but they will be responsible for managing their own sales.**

**Where to Find Art**

Each artist in the Art Show will have their own channel on the Discord server. Take the time to click through and discover new artists or find out what old favorites have created!

Some artists may post pictures directly in their channels, others may link directly to their online storefront or website.

**A list of Artists are available on the website.**

**Purchasing Art**

If an artist posts a piece that interests you, contact the artist to determine the steps you need to take for purchasing. Remember that you may need to also account for shipping arrangements if a direct dropoff/pickup cannot be arranged.

If this day and location does not work for both the artist and the buyer, the artist and the buyer must make other arrangements.

**Orphaned Art:** If the buyer does not pick up the art, The MarsCon Art Show will call the artist to arrange for the return of their art to them. Then the artist will need to make new delivery arrangements with their buyer.

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**Socially Distanced Art Pickup Day**

Since so many attendees and buyers are local to the Twin Cities area, we are providing the option of a Socially Distanced Art Pickup Day, where artists can drop off art for buyers to pick up.

**Pick up for Art Show Alley**

**Buyers**

**Sunday, March 21**

**1PM—5PM**

**Location:**

Geek Partnership Society

1121 Jackson St NE, Suite 107

You will need to show your ID to claim your items.

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**Art Pickup Day**

**March 21**

**11AM—5PM**

**Location:**

Geek Partnership Society

1121 Jackson St NE, Suite 107

You will need to show your ID to claim your items.

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You will need to show your ID to claim your items.
During MarsCon you'll find our dealers via your Discord app and/or through Facebook. Depending on the dealer, you'll be able to view merch—ask questions—arrange for payments and delivery/pickup, things like that.

MarsCon 2021 Dealers

DreamStitcher Custom Costume—Rae Lundquist
“Custom Order Costume, from Historical to Hysterical, from Fantasy to Science Fiction, Anime and Video Game. Unlike mail order or online sales, your one on one fittings insure that your costume fits YOU. Free Consultation to discuss your project. Discount coupons available by mail. ($20 for $25 on DreamStitcher labor-PM for details). Tentatively taking new appointments for consultations starting June 1. Book your date soon—time slots fill up fast.

Email: thedreamstitcher@yahoo.com | Facebook

Emerald’s Emporium—Jodi Napierkowski
“Emerald’s Emporium is a seller of fantasy art, boxes, journals, and greeting cards.” Website | Facebook

Nathan Lueth Illustration
“I will be selling hardcover copies of my steam-fantasy graphic novel series, Impure Blood, promoting the graphic novel series, Impure Blood, Volume 3, selling art prints of my work, taking commission orders, and signing people up for my mailing list.” Website | Facebook | Instagram

Ralph J Ryan Art & Design
“Long time Dealer Room Vendor & Art Show Participant: Artist Guest of Honor 2017.” Flat media fantasy artwork in acrylics on canvas and watercolor. Website

Rhiannon’s—Viki Martins
Hand-made maps and scrolls, India bags and tapestries, handcrafted and vintage items.

Table 27 Comedy Music Sales—Luke Ski
CDs, LPs, USBs, t-shirts, stickers, buttons, posters, and other merchandise relating to the MarsCon Comedy Music Track acts. Website

XS Energy Drinks—Pavithra Ramamurthy
Zero sugar zero carb energy drinks. Website

Forces of Darkness, Bill creates a truly dark Sith Witch.

For more background: Website

03:45PM—SAT—Il Neige concert—Mainstage Channel
Returning for his second year is Garett Snook, a.k.a. "Il Neige" (it’s French). He is an L.A. based songwriter who’s love of the electric guitar is matched only by his passion for Simpsons quotes. He began producing comedy music in 2014 with “Sub Zero,” widely regarded as the moment "Let It Go” parodies stopped being funny, and has since gone on to spoof Bastille, the Beatles, and more. His originals walk the line between silly and sincere, covering topics ranging from Nintendo, to the meme-fication of Christmas, to… okay, so it’s mostly Nintendo. His most recent project is "Rock that Pokemon," a YouTube series that attempts to immortalize all 800+ of the little buggers through song. Citing influence from Green Day, Weezer, and whichever Ska band is playing in Anaheim tonight, Neige believes there’s always room for a little more Geek in your Rock. He also made one of Dr. Demento’s highest charting hits of 2019, a song about Nintendo's fighting game "Super Smash Bros. Ultimate" titled "Everyone's Here!" And check out his parody music video of a song by the Killers about Kylo Ren, "Mr. Darkside". Website

04:00PM—SAT—The Dresden Files—Panel Channel
With Tony Artrym, mod.: Elizabeth Erickson, Crystal Therese, Tim Strong
Celebrating the Platinum anniversary (20 years) of The Dresden Files Series, telling the story of Harry Blackstone Copperfield Dresden, Chicago’s first (and only) Wizard P.I. The series is slated to run 23-24 books: 20-21 case books like we’ve seen so far, capped by a Big Apocalyptic Trilogy, because who doesn’t love apocalyptic trilogies? The 3 Microfiction, Book 16, Peace Talks, and Book 17, Battle Ground, will be spoiled along with all the rest of the books.

Programming Schedule

Facebook

S.R.S. Mythic Designs—Arie & Kim Stewart
“We are local artists specializing in hand-made, one-of-a-kind, jewelry and art, including precious and semi-precious stone and Swarovski Crystal jewelry, hand-bound books, and needle-felted creations.” Email: srsmythicdesigns@gmail.com
Website | Facebook

Spirit Haven—Robin West
Stones, sterling jewelry with gemstones, sage, shells, amulets. email: robin@spirithavenmn.net

Sterling Games LLC—Jay King
“Cribbage Boards, Drink coasters, Fridge Magnets, LED displays, Signs, etc. Pride in craftsmanship with all products designed and built here by me. (No outsourcing).” Website

Table 27 Comedy Music Sales—Luke Ski
CDs, LPs, USBs, t-shirts, stickers, buttons, posters, and other merchandise relating to the MarsCon Comedy Music Track acts. Website

XS Energy Drinks—Pavithra Ramamurthy
Zero sugar zero carb energy drinks. Website
From Burl Zorn:

"I'm going to run 2 pm—10 pm Friday through Sunday. I have people's characters from years before and I can scan them and send them a copy to put into Roll20. If they want to set up their characters before MarsCon (which would be ideal), they can contact me at this e-mail or I can give out my phone number during the con so they can text me as I am usually forgetting to check e-mail while I run.

"We will take a break from 6 pm—7 pm for people to stretch, grab something to eat, etc.

"The party has been traveling north answering a call for help that their dragon shaman received. After months of traveling they discovered an old broken artifact that the gods of good had a hand in creating to hold Orcus and Tshaggua at bay. They were told to take it to the dwarves so they could forge a new one. The dwarves were missing an essential item to their forge and the party headed out to the vast swamp nearby to see if they could follow some obscure clues they had and find it.

"They did and returned it to the dwarves who took a week to forge the new artifact template. They told the party to go to Bargesport and look up a man who can direct them to a temple where they can have one of its powers invested by the priests there. So on their way they go.

"3.5 Dungeons & Dragons. 25 point buy system for character creation. (Info on that in 3.5 DMG) Players will come in at one level lower than the lowest currently in the party. Probably 1st level and we can level them up if the lowest is higher than 2nd level."

4. Items to put on the peg to make a faerie. These
3. Sharpies—if you want to color the peg or give it a face
2. Hot glue gun and glue
1. Wooden Clothes pegs—any size, but not the clips with springs
4. Items to put on the peg to make a faerie. These items will be cut and glued. Many of these things can be got at the Dollar Tree: Silk flowers, Yarn, Felt, Feathers, Ribbon, Anything you want to use
Blood points of cat whisker collecting. Julie Caitlin Brown arrived with her husband and new baby, and served everyone chocolate cake. Lev Mailer shared stories about acting on the original Star Trek series. Artist John Garner put on another venue, the Holiday Inn Select. It was held February 28–March 2, 2003. The weather was kind. The guests were fantastic! Writing team Sharon Lee and Steve Miller of the Liaden novels schooled everyone on the finer

Nathan Block, mod.

About Making a Short Film But Were Afraid to Ask—

06:30PM—SAT—Distant Calling Pictures

Space Oddity Music Club & Brew Pub

8:00P—??—SAT

March 13, via Zoom & Discord

Space Oddity Music Club & Brew Pub has been serving craft beer, cocktails, tasty snacks, and music circles to MarsCon members since 2009. We can’t bring you all of those things this year, but we can still have fun! Join our Discord voice and text chat channels anytime to hang out with other geeks, and bring your voices and instruments to our Zoom music circle on Saturday night of the con (listeners also welcome!). BYO sausage, cheese, cookies, beer keg, blog, and Purple

ChiCon Party

9:00PM—SAT

Come join Chicon 8 to find out how you can take off to the stars at the 80th World Con Labor Day weekend 2022 in Chicago. We will answer questions or be open just to hang out. Looking forward to seeing you there. http://www.chicon.org/

and how they function: after which the group representatives go into a huddle with writers who are looking for an SF writing group.

06:00PM—SAT—MarsCon Costume Presentations

Bonus Tracks—in Costume Presentations channels, under PROGRAMMING & EVENTS on Discord with George Richard, Costume Presentation Director

This year the Costume presentation will be online through Discord. As a costume presentation rather than a huddle with writers who are looking for an SF writing group.

06:00PM—SAT—Crafting: Story Stones

Bonuses Tracks—with The Craftonauts: Brittany Vaillancourt, Jen Steffen

To join in, you’ll need:

1. Various stones or wood discs – flat stones work better that rounded
2. Mod Podge
3. A brush for the mod podge
4. Icon sheet from Tried and True blog. Scroll to the end of the blog and click on the image of the page, you can then print it.
5. If you’d rather, and have time for, search and print small (1/4” to 3/4”) icons of your choice
6. A bag or jar to store your stones in

06:30PM—SAT—Distant Calling Pictures

Mainstage Channel—Everything You Wanted to Know About Making a Short Film But Were Afraid to Ask—Nathan Block, mod.

Local filmmaker Nathan Block, founder of Distant Calling Pictures production company, will lead this panel that will give you information on how you, yes you, can make your very own short film. Everything from budgets to casting, shooting and post-production will be covered.

06:30PM—SAT—Reading by Tyler Tork

Bonus Tracks—Tyler reads from “The Deep End”

07:00PM—SAT—BroadUniverse Rapid Fire Reading Panel Channel—Terri Bruce, mod.

Come hear the members of BroadUniverse Literary Coalition read from their latest works and get a sampler of stories across the science fiction, fantasy, and horror genres.

07:00PM—SAT—LEGO Chit Chat

Bonus Tracks—with Penndra

Chatting about all things LEGO. New, current, and past sets. Minifigs through the years. Building techniques. Home goods merchandise. AFOL, LUG, and MOC. Where to find more pieces.

8:00PM—SAT—The Space Program in the Biden Era, Year One—Mainstage Channel with Eric M. Heideman, mod.: Ben Huset, Bridget Landry, G. David Nordley

For years a band of scientists and science fans have been paneling at local cons about the course of space exploration and astronomy during the Obama and Trump administrations. This year we look at developments in the final year of Trump, including the Space Force, and the beginning of the Biden administration.

8:00PM—SAT—Virtual Space Oddity Music Club & Brew Pub—Bonus Tracks—Begins 8PM—runs until ?? hosted by Beth Kinderman

Space Oddity Music Club & Brew Pub has been serving craft beer, cocktails, tasty snacks, and music circles to MarsCon members since 2009. We can’t

Hey Blood Donors—Thank you for coming out

Success—thanks USS Nokomis—thanks Red Cross!

There was no need to stop MarsCon donors from saving lives in 2021. USS Nokomis hosted a blood drive on March 6th at the Airport Hilton (3800 American Boulevard E, Minneapolis, MN, 55425) in honor of the convention.

Covid limitations prevented the Red Cross from using all the donor stations in the truck, so the goal was 20 units and 24 units of blood were collected. Huzzah!

The Red Cross is testing all donations for antibodies to COVID-19, so if you’ve had it your blood could help current COVID-19 patients. You’ll be able to see your results on the Blood Donor App after you donate. (More about antibody testing here.)

The need for blood is ongoing. Covid or not. If you missed this event you can still donate blood. Go to www.redcrossblood.org and search for an upcoming event. Please help us to save lives!

Thank you!

and search for an upcoming

www.redcrossblood.org

missed this event you can still donate blood. Go to

the Blood Donor App after you donate. (More

results on the Blood Donor App after you donate. (More

about antibody testing here.)

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about antibody testing here.)

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Thank you!
Easy Meditation

A very simple meditation is: Get into a comfortable position and close your eyes. With your eyes closed, look to the top of your forehead. As you breath in, think "I AM"; as you breath out, think "calm"; repeat for 15 minutes. If you lose focus, start again. By doing this meditation while looking to the top of your head, puts you in a self hypnotic state. By thinking as you are breathing connects your mind to your body for a deeper effect.

To Discord

Rue Morgue Massage. the crew with the magic touch, returns to MarsCon. Stop by for their famous back and full body massage. Or Drop into the Black Hole and vibrate your way through space and time. Escape may be impossible losing track of time probable.
One of the cooler things about planning virtual programming is that geographical limits no longer exist. Presenters, performers and attendees can join from nearly anywhere, and we’re hoping to see folks from far and wide.

**Artist Guest of Honor Jon Sloan** is the creator of “Sa-Bom Jim” and “The Do-Jahng” webcomics, who also does other cartoons/comics as well as other freelance illustration in the Twin Cities area. He’s a member of The International Cartoonist Conspiracy, and has appeared at many conventions and shows in the Minneapolis area.

[Image of Jon Sloan]

**Website | Facebook**
Twitter: @JonDSloan
Instagram: @SabomJon
The artist who created our T-shirt and cover art, and Evil Master of the Emojis of DOOM. Look for them on Discord, and as stickers in our MarsCon Store on Teespring

**Panel Channel**

- **Starts Here!**

- **10:00AM—SUN—Open Gaming—Bonus Track**
  10:00-2:00pm CST Twin Cities Game Fest

- **11:00AM—SUN—Jupiter Revisited**
  **Mainstage Channel with Bridget Landry, Host**
  The Juno mission has returned thousands of glorious pictures of Jupiter, in vivid color and stunning detail. Following in Galileo’s footsteps, it is answering questions as well as posing new ones. Bridget Landry is a former member of the operations team, here to tell you all about it.

- **11:30AM—SUN—Cut the Boring Parts**
  **Panel Channel with Kathryn Sullivan, mod.: S.N.Arly, Walter Hunt, Steve Miller, Tyler Tork**
  Writers are told they need to cut out all the boring parts. But boring to whom? Those who like every last detail of a ship or weapons? Those who want only action? What about quiet bits of world-building—should they stay or go?

- **12:00PM—SUN—Scenes from a Hat Improv**
  **Mainstage Channel**
  *Scenes from a Hat* is a public access cable show recorded at Town Square Television in Inver Grove Heights, MN. The show is run like an open mic comedy club, welcoming anyone brave enough to get on stage. Stick around for some sci-fi themed improv, fun and mayhem.

- **12:30PM—SUN—The Do-Jahng: Just What Is This Comic About, Anyway?!—Panel Channel**
  To the uninitiated, navigating the pages and plots of Jon Sloan’s Sa-Bom Jim and sequel series, The Do-Jahng may be quite daunting! Never fear! In this panel, creator/writer/artist (and Artist GoH) Jon Sloan will introduce and discuss who’s who and what’s what in his webcomic work. How it started, what’s going on currently, and some discussion about where it might lead. Jon Sloan, Artist Guest of Honor

**Mainstage Channel**

- **1:00PM—SUN—The Do-Jahng: Just What Is This Comic About, Anyway?!—Panel Channel**
  To the uninitiated, navigating the pages and plots of Jon Sloan’s Sa-Bom Jim and sequel series, The Do-Jahng may be quite daunting! Never fear! In this panel, creator/writer/artist (and Artist GoH) Jon Sloan will introduce and discuss who’s who and what’s what in his webcomic work. How it started, what’s going on currently, and some discussion about where it might lead. Jon Sloan, Artist Guest of Honor

**01:00PM—SUN—Second Foundation Meeting**

**Bonus Tracks—(Via Zoom: Registration Link) with Eric M. Heideman, mod.**
Second Foundation, a speculative and science fiction book discussion group, has been meeting at about six week intervals since January 1983. We’ve also

**01:00PM—SUN—Insane Ian concert**

**Mainstage Channel**

- **Insane Ian** is a comedian/writer who has been in several bands and loves video games. He plays them, he reviews them, he collects them, he even writes comedy songs about video games. He’s gone so far as to combine reviews and comedy songs into his video game “Reviewsicals” on YouTube. Just one look at Ian’s Bandcamp page makes it obvious that Insane Ian is a comic music juggernaut that cannot be stopped. Ian hit a milestone in his career a long time in coming, as he had the #1 most requested song of 2015 on The Dr. Demento Show, the name-mangling Brit-tribute, “Benedict Cumberbatch”, sitting firmly atop the Doctor’s year-end funny 25. With a sharp wit, sarcastic smirk, and a bit of self-deprecation, he’s here to bring his unique sound to anyone who won’t tell him to shut up…and even a few that will.

**Music Guest of Honor Robbie Ellis** is a New Zealander who lives in Chicago. Robbie does a variety of creative things and calls himself “hard to categorise.” As a Comedy Songmaker, he writes and performs comedy songs usually singing from the piano. He writes about kind of anything really: He likes playing with language, with multiple languages, offbeat musical styles, and subject matter that irritates him.

**Readings and panels with S.N. Arly**

- Terri Bruce
- T. Aaron Cisco
- MaryJane Ackerman
- Walter H. Hunt
- Naomi Kritzer
- Sharon Lee & Steve Miller
- Lyda Morehouse
- G. David Nordley
- Isabel Schechter
- Kathryn Sullivan
- Tyler Tork
- Joan Marie Verba
- Haddayr Copley Woods
amarylengelhardt.blogspot.com

09:45PM—FRI
Amy Engelhardt concert
Mainstage Channel

Featured Guest
Guest Amy Engelhardt
Amy Engelhardt is a proud member of SAG/AFTRA, The Dramatists Guild and ASCAP, and the only honorary female member of the Vienna Boys Choir. She splits her time between Los Angeles and New York City... and is probably somewhere over Nebraska right now hunched over a New York Times crossword.

01:00PM—SUN—MN MUFON Video—Bonus Track
Warren MN UFO Incident 40th Anniversary with MN MUFON

01:30PM—SUN—"Ask Me Anything" interview with Ookla The Mok—Mainstage Channel

Ookla the Mok is a filk band fronted by Rand Bellavia and Adam English. The two met as undergraduates while attending Houghton College in 1988. The band is named after a character from the Ruby-Spears Productions cartoon Thundarr the Barbarian, created by Steve Gerber.

They provided the theme song to Disney's Fillmore!, and scored the feature film Btie Me, Fanboy! They have won four Pegasus Awards for excellence in filk music, and the 2014 Logan Award for Outstanding Original Comedy Song ("Mwahaha"). Ookla the Mok had the most requested song on Dr. Demento’s syndicated radio show in both 2012 ("Tantric Yoda") and 2013 ("Mwahaha"). Two of their songs ("Stop Talking About Comic Books or I'll Kill You" and "F. People") have appeared on Dr. Demento CD compilations.

Although Ookla the Mok has released many songs about more universal topics like relationships and lost love, they are best known for filk songs that cater to the interests of listeners at science fiction and comic book conventions, where the band makes the bulk of their public appearances. For example, their song "Arthur Curry" from Less Than Art pokes fun at Aquaman and the way his super-powers don’t seem to compare favorably with the rest of the Super Friends. Another example is "Stop Talking About Comic Books Or I'll Kill You" from Super Secret. "Song of Kong" from Smell No Evil takes a tongue-in-cheek look at the relationship between King Kong and Godzilla. "W.W.S.D.?" from oh okay LA asks its listeners to ask themselves "What would Scooby do?". "Mr. W" from the same album paints a nightmare scenario of Mr. Worf being in command of Star Trek's starship Enterprise.

bermudaschwartz.com

02:00PM—SAT
Jon "Bermuda" Schwartz Q & A
Mainstage Channel

Featured Music
Guest Jon “Bermuda” Schwartz—Drummer of "Weird Al" Yankovic's band for over 40 years and the author of the new book Black & White & Weird All Over: The Lost Photographs of "Weird Al" Yankovic '83-'86.
Bridget Landry has worked on the Hubble Space Telescope, the joint US-French oceanographic Earth-orbiter Topex, the Mars Pathfinder project, the Cassini mission to Saturn, the Dawn mission to the asteroid Vesta, the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, Mars Odyssey, and the Spitzer space telescope. Currently, she is in science sequencing development for Mars 2020, the Curiosity follow-on Mars rover mission. She is also a fantastic costumer.

8:00PM—SAT—The Space Program in the Biden Era, Year One—Mainstage Channel with Eric M. Heideman, mod.: Ben Huset, Bridget Landry, G. David Nordley

S.N. Arly, the St. Paul science fiction and fantasy writer, has had short stories featured at FearsMag.com, a limited edition DragonCon 2000 chapbook, several issues of Tales of the Unamaticipated, and most recently the WolfSongs anthology. She has received two honorable mentions from the L. Ron Hubbard's Writers of the Future contest. She is a member of the local critique group Guts and Rocks. Facebook

Terri Bruce has been making up adventure stories for as long as she can remember and won her first writing award when she was twelve. Like Anne Shirley, she prefers to make people cry rather than laugh, but is happy if she can do either. She produces fantasy and adventure stories from a haunted house in New England where she lives with her husband and three cats.

Website | Twitter | Facebook

“T.” Aaron Cisco is an Afrofuturism author with a few books out (Teleportality, Dragon Variation, The Preternaturalist, Shadow of the Valley, Big Ass Aliens). His latest book, Black Nerd Blue Box, was just released in December, and is a nonfiction memoir of growing up Black and Nerdy (and obsessed with Doctor Who). He's probably better known for his work as an award-winning television producer, having launched Twin Cities Live (on KSTP out of Minneapolis-St. Paul) and CrimeWatch (on WMAQ out of Chicago). He currently executive produces and serves as showrunner for DinnerTime on AmazonPrime, and is an occasional contributing writer to various publications. He won the 2018 Page One Award for his piece on Black Panther for Twin Cities Geek.com, and he is the creator and coordinator of TC Trek Trivia (for the past five years it's been the only, recurring pub trivia in the Twin Cities dedicated to all things Star Trek) and Wibly Woblly Wednesday (like TC Trek Trivia, but focusing solely on Doctor Who). In his downtime, T. is a prolific cosplayer, and is quite familiar with the convention scene/ environment, having been a special guest, invited guest/ panelist, and/or conducted readings and signings at CONvergence, last year's Marcon (woo hoo!!!), CONsole Room, Wizard World Minneapolis, WakandaCon, MetaCon, Crypticon Minneapolis, and the Twin Cities Black Author's Expo, to name a few. To close out 2019, he was a Guest of Honor at Dulcon (Duluth, MN- Oct), WordBrew 7 (Minneapolis, Oct), and GalaxyCon (Minneapolis, Nov). Website | Facebook

Haddayr Copley-Woods is a radio commentator, essayist and fantasy writer with pieces in places

02:30PM—SUN—Minnesota Muiron—UFOs in Minnesota Q&A—Panel Channel—with Mike Harris, mod.; Dean DeHarpporte, Tom Maher, Bill McNeff, Mutual UFO Network (MUFON)

Bring your questions and hear stories of actual Minnesota sightings throughout the years.

2:30PM—SUN—Crafting: Bead Lizard—Bonus Tracks with The Craftonauts: Brittany Vaillancourt, Jen Steffen

To join in, you need:
1. Ribbon — about 3’ in length
2. Key ring – just the ring with no fob or decoration
3. Pony beads – any color you’d like, but craft can be done with 1 or 2 colors

02:45PM—SUN—Tom Smith concert

Mainstage Channel

Known as one of the world’s fastest comedy songwriters, Tom Smith (a former MarsCon Music Guest Of Honor, which brings us to 4 former Music Guests of Honor performing this year) is beloved by thousands of people all over the world who have passed out in a hotel conference room with a bottle of vodka in one hand and an autograph in the other. With the lyrical complexity of Ashman and Sondheim, the vocal fireworks of Meat Loaf, the comedic timing of Robin Williams, and the dynamic physique of the Skipper from Gilligan’s Island, the only thing he won’t do is be boring. The only recording artist to be featured on both NPR’s Sound and Spirit and The Dr. Demento Show, and writer of the official chantey for Talk Like A Pirate Day, Tom has been praised by such diverse folk as Christine Lavin, Larry Niven, and Randy Milholland. He has two dozen albums so far, blending comedy, science fiction, fantasy, romance, popular culture, politics, religion, and the occasional recipe with virtually every genre of music you can imagine. Website

I Want Mah Cookies!

girl scouts

Troop 44819 Troop 54085 Troop 55385

Programming Schedule

3.14.2021 is Pi Day! Plan to Zoom in after closing ceremonies to sing songs about circumferences and diameters, to eat pie and to chat about the recently-completed MarsCon. No group singing—sigh—that just won’t work over Zoom.
such as Minnesota Public Radio, Strange Horizons, and Best American Erotica – with honorable mentions in Best Horror of the Year. She writes dark fantasy and horror: her radio commentaries and essays cover disability issues, community, fandom, and politics. She works in nonprofit communications and lives with her family in Minneapolis.

Website
Mary Janice Davidson is the New York Times best-selling author of the UNDEAD series and the Foster Were trilogy. Her first time travel novel, A CONTEMPORARY ASHAT AT THE COURT OF HENRY VIII, is available in paperback, audio, and on Kindle. Members of Amazon's Kindle Unlimited can read it for free!

Facebook | Instagram | Twitter | Website

Naomi Kritzer is the author of three fantasy novels in her "Dead Rivers" series: Freedom's Gate (2004), Freedom's Apprentice (2005), and Freedom's Sisters (2006), and short fiction in Realms of Fantasy, Strange Horizons, and Tales of the Unanticipated. Naomi recently completed a children's fantasy novel in which a ten-year-old Minneapolis girl notices that no one else can see one of the houses on her block.

Website | Twitter

Sharon Lee and Steve Miller, the Maine-based writing duo, have been writing about alien artifacts, strange beings, odd folk, and other worlds for more than thirty years, with published collaborations ranging from newspaper reporting and non-fiction, to light fantasy, hard fantasy, and space opera, all in lengths from short-short to good-sized novels, not least of which is their Liaden series. Website | Facebook | Twitter

Lyda Morehouse leads a double life. By day she is the science fiction author of the award-winning AngelLInk series. At night she transforms into the best-selling vampire romance writer, Tate Hallaway, author of the Garnet Lacey series, the Vampire Princess of Saint Paul series, and Precinct 13. As Lyda she’s won the Shamus (a mystery award) for Archangel Protocol, and the Philip K. Dick Special Citation for excellence for Apocalypse Array. She lives in Saint Paul with her wife, son, and five cats.

Website

G. David Nordley was born and raised in Minneapolis and Golden Valley, MN. His main interest as a writer is the future of human exploration and settlement of space, and his stories typically focus on the dramatic aspects of individual lives within the broad sweep of a plausible human future. His novella Krem's Limit, written with C. Sanford Lowe, appeared in the July/August 2006 issue of Analog. A collection of linked Mars-related stories was published as an electronic book by Scorpius Digitalin September 2001, with a print version appearing in 2003 (sold out). His novel To Climb a Flat Mountain (first appearing as a serial in Analog) was published (ebook and print-on-demand) by Variations on a Theme Publishing. He is a four-time winner of the AnLab, the Analog reader's award for best story or article of the year, and has also been a Hugo and Nebula award nominee.

Website

Kathryn Sullivan is an award-winning author from Winona. She has an essay in the Hugo winning Chicks Dig Time Lords and reviews in Outside In and Outside In Boldly Goes: 117 New Perspectives on 117 Classic Star Trek Stories. "Search and Rescue" and "The Oracle of Cilens" are her newest short stories. Any birdlike beings in her books only slightly resemble her cockatoo owner.

Website | Kickstarter

SYNTHONIE (pronounced Sintony), a SciFi and gaming related band from Germany. We play on special self-made instruments and have an artificial intelligence that sings for us, called Syndarella. We want to perform at all SciFi and gaming related conventions around the world. So we hope to perform at your convention next year! You can get our album on our homepage, and find out where we do Let's Play together (Twitch), and other social media platforms like Instagram, Discord and more. Galactic greetings—Christian le Fou—Captain of SYNTHONIE

Website

Tyler Tork lives in the Minneapolis area with a sweet and strongly opinionated wife, no pets, and several computers. He’s a techie guy to pay for groceries, books, and toys, since writing doesn’t quite cover expenses currently*. Tyler believes in the Oxford comma, as do all right-thinking people. His recent book, Doctor Dead, is just out from Rampant Loon Media. His work has also appeared in Tales of the Unanticipated, Stupefying Stories, and the MinnSpec anthology Sky-Tinted Waters, among others.

Website | Facebook | Twitter

Joan Marie Verba earned a bachelor of physics degree from the University of Minnesota and attended the graduate school of astronomy at Indiana University, where she was an associate instructor of astronomy for one year. She has worked as a computer programmer, and health-weight loss coach. She currently works as a writer, an editor/publisher and a social media manager and mobile marketing consultant. An experienced writer, Joan is the author of the nonfiction books Voyager: Exploring the Outer Planets, Boldly Writing, and Weight Loss Success, as well as the novels Countdown to Action!, Action Alert!, Deadly Danger!, Situation: Critical!, Extreme Hazard!, and Danger Zone! plus numerous short stories and articles... Website

The Blue Lotus Middle Eastern Dancers dance company was established in 2004. They are a troupe of professional and semi-professional dancers based in Minneapolis and Rochester, MN. They perform together in community events, professional performances, and their own original stage productions. Tune in to enjoy a sampler of performances from their past shows, including theatrical dances with veils, wings, fans, and other surprises! To learn more: Instagram | Facebook

Daylight Savings Time Begins Sunday! Remember to set your clocks forward.

To help you think about VOLUNTEERING

Website

Mary Janice Davidson, the author of the UNDEAD series and the Foster Were trilogy, producer Paul Lawrence, and filker Tom Smith. Many massages were given while we paid homage to creatures from dark fantasy and horror. Most horrifying of all though was the IKV RakeHell “A

Facebook | Instagram | Twitter | Website
At MarsCon 2021, we were connecting performers and audiences anywhere within the reach of the World Wide Web. For all those who have previously been unable to come to Minnesota (in the winter...), WELCOME!

Our 2021 Comedy Music Track (formerly the Dementia Music Track) features new voices and faces, as well as some of your long-time favorites.

The Comedy Track, like all of MarsCon this year, is $free, BUT YOU CAN DONATE to MarsCon and/or the Comedy Music track (Why does it still feel like 2020?)

**Hosts**

- **Beth Kinderman** mainly performs serious folk music, but her recent album Return of the Son of More Songs About Robots & Death is a full-on comedy album, so Beth (and maybe some of her hand, the Player Characters) is going to give us all a big slice of the funny! Another important thing of note is that Beth Kinderman and her friends from the Fung Shui Ninjas also host the annual “Space Oddity Brew Club & Pub” Room Party on the 11th floor, which Beth is hosting this year as a Virtual Room Party! [Website]

- **Devo Spice** is a comedy rapper from New Jersey who has been called “the red-headed stepson of Weird Al Yankovic and Eminem,” His demented brand of hip hop has made him one of the most popular artists on the nationally syndicated Dr. Demento Show. Devo Spice founded the comedy rap group Sudden Death whose songs “Cellular Degeneration”, “Getting Old Sucks” and “Pillagers” were the numbers 1, 2, and 4 most requested songs on Dr. Demento in 2007. Devo Spice performs regularly across the country at music clubs, comedy clubs, and science fiction conventions. He has shared the stage with Dr. Demento, MC Lars, MC Frontalot, Jonathan Coulton, Paul and Storm, and many others. The live show features videos and animations synchronized with the music resulting in a hilarious show that goes over very well with a variety of audiences.

- **II Neige** (it’s French) is an L.A. based songwriter whose love of the electric guitar is matched only by his passion for Simpsons quotes. He began producing comedy music in 2014 with “Sub Zero”, widely regarded as the moment “Let It Go” parodies stopped being funny, and has since gone on to spool Bastille, the Beatles, and more. His originals walk the line between silly and sincere, covering topics ranging from Nintendo, to the demification of Christmas, to... okay, so it’s mostly Nintendo. His most recent project is “Rock that Pokemon”, a Youtube series that attempts to immortalize all 800+ of the little buggers through song. Citing influence from Green Day, Weezer, and whichever SkA band is playing in Anaheim tonight, Neige believes there’s always room for a little more Geek in your Rock. [Website]

- **Insane Ian** has been called “the Weird Al of videogames” but he keeps asking his mother to stop saying that, as he writes songs about other nerdy stuff too. Ian hit a milestone in his career when he had the #1 most requested song of 2015 on The Dr. Demento Show, the name-mangling Brit-tribute, “Benedict Cumberbatch”, sitting firmly atop the Funny 25. His most recent albums include the Marvel Cinematic Universe/merc marvel mash-up album “Meet the Avengers” and his 2 disc concept epic “Internet Famous”, and he also is one half of the bloopcore quirkhop sensation Scooter Picnic with his pal TV’s Kyle. Outside of that, Ian currently

- **Music Guest of Honor Robbie Ellis** is a New Zealander who lives in Chicago. Robbie does a variety of creative things and calls himself “hard to categorize.” As a Comedy Songmaker, he writes and performs comedy songs usually singing from the piano. He writes about kind of anything really: He likes playing with language, with multiple languages, offbeat musical styles, and subject matter that irritates him. [robbieellis.net | robbieellis.bandcamp.com]

hosts weird test taste videos on his YouTube channel. Maybe you can watch him eat something weird this weekend (but likely not). He is also a member of this year’s Dementia Track Team. [Website]

- **The Great Luke Ski** At Dragon*Con 2004, Dr. Demento declared “the great Luke Ski” to be his radio program’s “Most Requested Artist of the 21st Century”. Since then, Luke held onto that title by having his nerdy comedy songs on The Dr. Demento Show’s annual year-end “Funny 25” countdown of his most requested songs of the year for 16 years in a row, with a whopping FIVE of them reaching the #1 spot, including his most recent hit “Candybars”. Luke Ski worked as a storyboarder, writer, and voice-over artist for Cartoon Network’s mighty magiswords, created by TV’s Kyle. Luke has been the Chair of the MarsCon Dementia Track since its inception in the mid 2000s, and delights in making Ian write all this copy so he doesn't have to do it himself. :P [http://www.thegreatlukeski.com]

Throwing Toasters Grant Baciocco discovered Dr. Demento in 6th grade, who introduced him to the likes of “Weird Al” Yankovic, The Smothers Brothers, Tom Lehrer, Allan Sherman and his hero, Stan Freberg. Since 1995, Grant has entertained audiences with his comedy music act “Throwing Toasters”. He’s performed his songs in over 100 clubs and music venues, 30 colleges, 3 cruise ships and a sold out show at the Tokyo Dome in Japan. No lie. He’s released several CDs with his songs that have topped the charts of The Dr. Demento Show and have been featured on college stations around the country. He’s also worked as a skipper on the The Jungle Cruise at Disneyland and was the puppeteer of the robot Waverly on Netflix’s Mystery Science Theater 3000.

Toyle 200 And oh yeah...He is also the creator and puppeteer of “Toyle T. Paper”, who has 2 MILLION FOLLOWERS on TikTok. [Website]

- **Tom Smith** is known as one of the world’s fastest comedy songwriters (a former MarsCon Music Guest Of Honor, which brings us to 4 former Music Guests of Honor performing this year), is beloved by thousands of people all over the world who have passed out in a hotel conference room with a bottle of vodka in one hand and an autoharp in the other. With the lyrical complexity of Ashman and Sondheim, the vocal fireworks of Meat Loaf, the comedic timing of Robin Williams, and the dynamic physique of the Skipper from Gilligan’s Island, the only thing he won’t do is be boring. The only recording
For 2021, the Costume contest has been re-designed and re-thought to make things safe for all our participants. This year the Costume presentation will be online through Discord.

The costume presentation is open to all costumes, past and present. Pictures, videos, and actual costumes as well as representations are welcome!

Two-Minute Presentation. Each presenter will be given two minutes to present their costume(s) while all other contestants are muted. It is not necessary to use the time. After each presentation there will be a two-minute open comment section before the next contestant is called. Remember there is a two-minute time limit for each presentation. If you want to do a montage of past costumes remember two minutes tops!!

All presentations must be registered 30 minutes prior to the contest start. This is to allow proper allocation of preparation of time for all presentations. Since there is no audience except us but to allow each presentation to be heard, all microphones except the moderator will be muted during the presentation. After all presentations are complete the floor will be “opened” for congratulations and comments.

There will be 5 awards acknowledging presentations.
Best presentation Youth: 12 and under have not won an award.
Best Presentation Novice: 3 or less past performances have not won an award.
Best Presentation Experienced: 3 or more past presentations have not won award.
Master Award: Have won costume contest prior.
Best of Show: Determined by popular vote—open to all

Worm Quartet ShoEboX is the sole member of comedy music act known as Worm Quartet (a former MarsCon Music Guest Of Honor) which is a Rochester, NY-based band that forcibly staplespunk and electronica together and throws them into a blender with hysterically twisted lyrics. They have been featured repeatedly on The Dr. Demento Show, with many Funny Five/Top Ten appearances, and had the most requested song of the year in both 2004 (“Great Idea For A Song”) and 2005 (“Inner Voice” with Sudden Death.) By day he poses as a mild-mannered software engineer. His latest album is titled simply The Pac-Man EP, on which pays homage to everyone’s favorite goldenrod semi-circle on the game’s 40th Anniversary as best as anyone who shares a VH-1 TV episode credit with Fred Willard. We’ll be streaming some popular favorites and some lesser-known titles all weekend long. We’ll be using Teleparty (Netflix Party) to watch and chat together at the same time! We’ll also be hosting panels and discussions on Discord. We’re looking forward to a great MarsCon, Forces of Darkness together!

Krushenko’s is a space that encourages conversation about science fiction and fantasy at SF conventions. Krushenko’s, named after a Manhattan bistro in Larry Niven’s novel Ringworld, started at the 1983 Minicon, and now also travels to ConSarnit and Diversicon in the Twin Cities and WisCon in Madison. A regular feature of MarsCon since 1999, Krushenko’s this year sees up panels and discussions about SF in literature and other media in the daytimes, and conversational SF-related parties in the evenings. “Krushenko’s is accustomed to serving alien guests!”

Join in the Wonderful World of Japanese Animation, aka Anime.
We’re looking forward to a great MarsCon, Forces of Darkness together!

Join Krushenko’s Talk for audio meetings and conversations
"Krushenko’s is accustomed to serving alien guests!”
on the party floors we got an unexpected preview of our 2009 theme “Invasion” when a group of military personnel stuck on layover decided to join us. We all partied through a typical Minnesota winter night. MARSCON 2009: INVASION! may have sounded threatening, but Eris was too busy playing with the world economy to bother us. Once again we rocked the Holiday Inn Select with our music and costumes, along with

Beyond the Veil

But mostly Science
Science, Science, Science
Science

MODELS! PICTURES! TOO!

Our heartfelt thanks to EVERYONE!

Parties Liaisons—Matthew Hellendrung, Christine LaBounty

Programming
Coordinator—Christine LaBounty
Anime/YA—Susan Woehrle
Creative Planet—Brittany Vaillancourt, Jen Steffen
Database—Nina Boenish
Filk—Rich Brown
Films—Tony Artym
Karaoke—Ben Lessinger
Krushenko’s—Eric Heideman
Literary—Eric Heideman, Rick Gellman
Prop-A-Torium—Bob Poate, Tony Artym, Michael Helde
Sciences—Ben Huset

Promotions—Everyone on ConCom
Publicity Out of State—Wayne R. McCloud

Publications
Program Book—Nora Leveson
Social Media—John Garner, Susan Woehrle
Web Site—Rich Brown, Mary Mac

Registration
Badges—Nina Boenish, Rachel Beise
Database—Lorra Hess, JR Hess

Sales/Concessions—Nora Leveson
Advisors—Karen Uecker, Betty Ross

Science Room—Ben Huset, Rich Brown, Dave Buth, Roger Sorenson

Videography—Ben Huset, Anita Kern
Volunteers—Gizmo Peterson

This is the Convention Committee—Con Comm. They have all worked grueling hours, days, and weeks through thick fogs of Zoom fatigue to put MarsConline together for your pleasure, purely on a volunteer basis. Everybody here has some form of online presence, so during the weekend, please give them a virtual pat on the back. Better still, if they’re staring blankly into Zoom, YouTube, Twitch or Discord Chat, ask them if they need some help.
We know what you're thinking. Wait. This isn't all of it. Is it? Doesn't even start right. Where's the rest?

Rather like 2021, the history of MarsCon is just a little bit different.

Look closely at the purple bars that run throughout the Guide. Like any foundation, the history of MarsCon runs throughout this event.

**MarsCon History**

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“The Future Ain’t What It Used To Be”

will return to

Hilton Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport Mall of America
3800 American Blvd E
Bloomington, Minnesota

March 11-13 2022