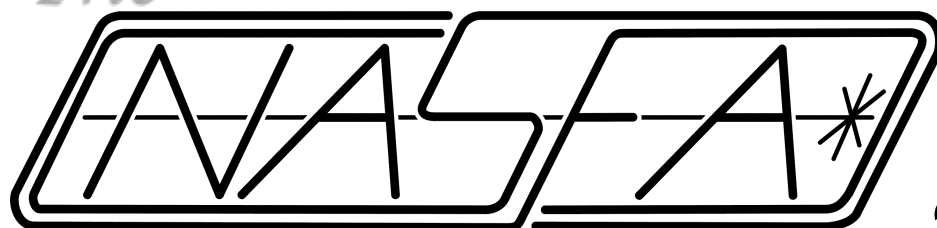


The



Shuttle

January 2019

The Next NASFA Meeting is Saturday 19 January 2018 at Willowbrook Madison

▲ Oyez, Oyez ▲

The next **NASFA Meeting** will be **19 January 2019**, at the regular meeting location and the regular time (6P). See the map at right for directions to Willowbrook Baptist Church (Madison campus; 446 Jeff Road). See the map on page 2 for a closeup of parking at the church as well as how to find the meeting room ("The Huddle"), which is close to one of the back doors toward the north side of the church. **Please do not try to come in the (locked) front door.**

JANUARY PROGRAM

The January Program will be Short Attention Span Theater—genre and genre-adjacent short films from around the web—presented by Mike Kennedy.

JANUARY ATMM

The January After-the-Meeting Meeting host is TBD at press time, but the ATMM will probably be at the church. The usual rules apply—that is, please bring food to share and your preferred drink. Also, please stay to help clean up. We need to be good guests and leave things at least as clean as we found them.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

No future 2019 programs are set yet. We are always looking for new program ideas, especially if you can run one yourself. Avoid the rush, volunteer for a future program now!

FUTURE ATMMs

Hosts are needed for all future months in 2019. Email <mikek999@icloud.com> to volunteer or inquire.

FUTURE CLUB MEETING DATES/LOCATIONS

All 2019 NASFA Meetings are currently scheduled for the normal 3rd Saturday, *except*:

- 23 March—a week late (4th Saturday) to avoid MidSouthCon
- All meetings are currently scheduled to be at the church, with the Business Meeting starting at 6P. However, as programs for the year develop, changes may be made to the place, the start

time, or both. (At a minimum, changes will probably be made for Not-A-Con 2019.) Stay tuned.

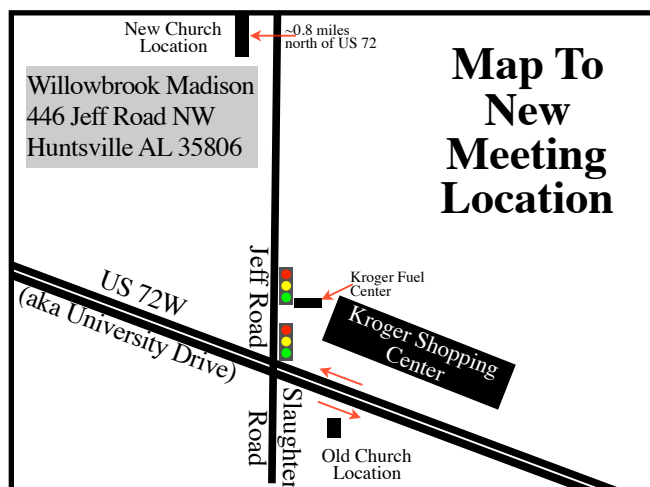
SHUTTLE DEADLINES

In general, the monthly *Shuttle* production schedule (though a bit squishy) is to put each issue to bed about 6–8 days before the corresponding monthly meeting. Submissions are needed as far in advance of that as possible.

Please check the deadline below the Table of Contents *each month* to submit news, reviews, LoCs, or other material.

JOINING THE NASFA EMAIL LIST

All NASFAns who have email are urged to join our email list, which you can do online at <tinyurl.com/NASFAEmail>. The list is usually low traffic, though the rate is variable. Generally, the list is limited to announcements about club activities plus the occasional message of general interest to north-Alabama sf/f/h/etc. fans. Non NASFAns are both *encouraged* and *welcomed* to join the list.



Beginning Our 39th Year of Publication

Inside this issue...

News & Info	2
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Awards Roundup	5
Letters of Comment	7

Deadline for the February 2019 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Monday 28 January 2019

NASFA CALENDAR ONLINE

NASFA has an online calendar on Google Calendar. Interested parties can check the calendar online, but you can also subscribe to it and have your Outlook, iCloud, or other calendar automatically updated as events (NASFA Meetings & club-sponsored cons, local sf/f/h events, *etc.*) are added or changed. You can view the calendar online at <tinyurl.com/NASFACal>.

News & Info

HUGO & RETRO-HUGO NOMINATIONS OPEN; BASE/AWARD DESIGNERS ANNOUNCED

Members of the 2019 Worldcon (Dublin, 15–19 August 2019 <dublin2019.com>) who joined by the end of 2018 and members of the 2018 Worldcon (San José) are eligible to nominate for the 2019 Hugo Awards, the 2019 Lodestar Award for YA Fiction, the 2019 John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer, and the 1944 Retrospective Hugo Awards.

Nominations for those awards are now open (including a special Best Art Book Hugo category). Individualized links for online nominations will be supplied by email to eligible voters for whom Dublin has email contact info. One can also nominate via paper ballots mailed to the con; those are available in a supplement to Progress Report 3 <dublin2019.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/pr3_supplement_web.pdf>.

Nominations will close at “11:59 PDT” (probably meaning PM rather than AM) on Friday 15 March 2019. Mailed ballots must be *received* by then—the postmark date does not count.

The Hugo Awards (and Retro-Hugos) will, of course, use the same rocket as used in prior year’s awards. The base for the 2019 Hugos will be designed by Jim Fitzpatrick. The base for the 1944 Retro-Hugos will be designed by Dr. Eleanor Wheeler. The trophy for the Lodestar Award for YA Fiction will be designed by Sara Felix. This will be the second year that Worldcon has given a YA Award, but the first year it will be known

by the Lodestar monicker. Felix had previously designed the 2018 Worldcon YA Award (as well as two past Hugo bases).

WORLDCON OPENS ROOM BLOCK; STARTS FANTASTIC DUBLIN FUND; EXPANDS FACILITIES

The 2019 Worldcon has made three key announcements. For those attending the con, room booking is now available. For those wishing to help others attend (and increase diversity), the FANTastic Dublin Fund has been announced. And, because the attendance is growing, they are expanding their facilities

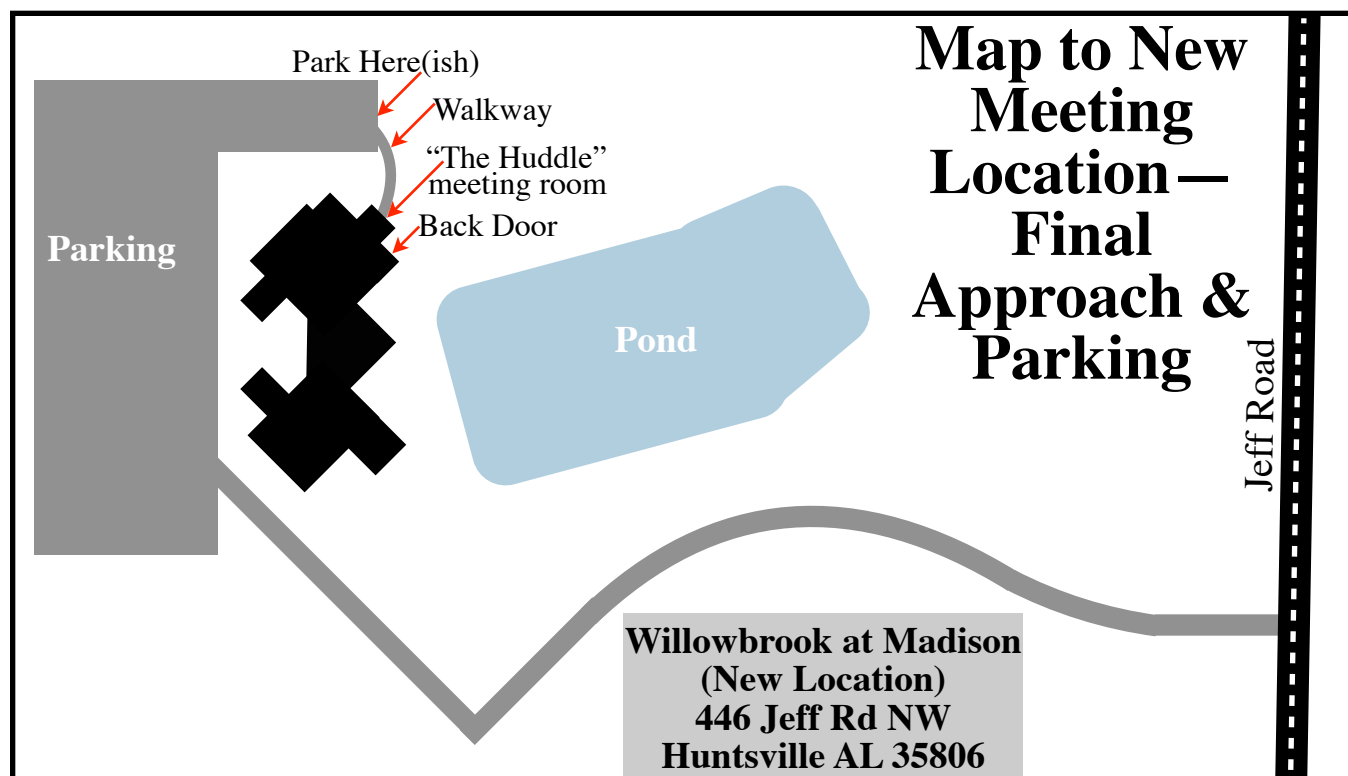
Accommodations booking is open at <dublin2019.com/location/accommodation> as of 9 January 2019. Most rooms are single (meaning one bed for one person) or double (meaning one double bed for two people). Other variants are available, including a limited number of triple rooms, some apartments, hostels, and student housing. Many *hotel* rooms either come with a full Irish breakfast automatically or have an option to book a rate that includes that. If you have special accessibility needs for your stay, you should contact the con at <access@dublin2019.com>.

The FANTastic Dublin Fund <dublin2019.com/memberships/fantastic-dublin-fund> was created to help (1) Irish fans with limited financial means, (2) the Irish Traveller community, (3) people of color, and (4) program participants from marginalized communities/program participants of color. Donations (in euros) can be charged to your credit card at <dublin2019.com/forms/fdf-donation-form>.

The con has also made note that their “membership [has] increase[d] beyond our expectations” and have expanded their facilities to make room for the extra fans <dublin2019.com/dublin-2019-expands-announcing-dublin-2019s-new-creative-hub>. The new facilities are about a half mile from the convention center, but both of those are close to stops on the Red Line of Dublin’s tram/light rail system, Luas <www.luas.ie>.

NASFiC SITE SELECTION

As a *reminder*, this year’s NASFiC (Layton UT; 4–7 July 2019; <www.spikecon.org>) will host Site Selection for the 2020 NASFiC (to be held because the 2020 Worldcon is to be



in Wellington NZ). As an *update*, one bid for that NASFiC has filed and will be on the ballot. Columbus OH <columbus2020.nasfic.org> is bidding to hold the con 20–23 August 2020 at the Columbus Hyatt Regency Hotel and Convention Center. Their bid filing paperwork is available at <www.spikecon.org/images/PDFs/Columbus%202020%20NASFiC.pdf>.

NO DUFF IN 2019

The 2019 Down Under Fan Fund <downunderfanfund.wordpress.com> (for fannish travel between North America and Australasia) has been canceled in favor of concentrating on 2020. That will become a southbound year. Normally, award years alternate between northbound and southbound but 2019 had been scheduled to be southbound. By skipping this year, the winning North American delegate can travel to the 2020 Worldcon in Wellington NZ.



Graphic “borrowed” from SFWA Twitter feed (@sfwa)

WILLIAM GIBSON NAMED SFWA GRAND MASTER

The Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers of America <www.sfwa.org> has announced that William Gibson will receive the Damon Knight Memorial Grand Master Award. It will be presented at the SFWA Nebula Conference <nebula.sfwa.org/nebula-conference> to be held 16–19 May 2019 at the Marriott Warner Center in Woodland Hills CA.

THE MAGAZINES OF SF/F/WHATEVER

Review site Rocket Stack Rank has rounded up info on many of the magazines publishing genre fiction, for your consideration in subscribing. The listing <www.rocketstackrank.com/2019/01/finding-science-fictionfantasy-magazine.html> includes both paid and free magazines, links to their websites, a general overview of the kinds of fiction (and nonfiction) they publish, and a ranking based on how much of the content of each zine has historically been recommended by RSR’s editors.

DIGITAL ONLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Two genre magazines, *Apex* and *Tin House*, have announced they are going digital only. By coincidence, *Apex* is one of ‘zines cited in the Rocket Stack Rank listing mentioned above.

NATIONAL FILM REGISTRY ADDITIONS

Three of the films added to the National Film Registry of the Library of Congress (selected for “their cultural, historic and aesthetic importance to the nation’s film heritage”) are of genre interest. Inducted in this 30th year of the Registry were *Cinderella* (1950), *Jurassic Park* (1993), and *The Shining* (1980). The full list can be seen at <www.loc.gov/item/prn-18-144>.

THE PRISONER ON BBC RADIO

An audio adaptation of the cult TV series *The Prisoner* is currently available on BBC Radio. They have a tendency to keep things online for only a short time, so if you’re interested quickly head over to <www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0001f39/episodes/player>.

ODYSSEY WRITING WORKSHOP SUMMER LINEUP

The Odyssey Writing Workshop Charitable Trust <www.odysseyworkshop.org> has announced its Summer 2019 lineup. The workshops will run 3 June–12 July 2019. The normal application deadline is 1 April; early applications may be accepted through 31 January 2019 in some cases. Guest lecturers are Scott H. Andrews, Joshua Bilmes, Holly Black, Neil Clarke, Sara King, Nisi Shawl, Fran Wilde, and Paul Witcover. Full details are at <www.odysseyworkshop.org/apply.html>.

NASFA Calendar

JANUARY

- 01 New Year’s Day/Año Nuevo.
- 01 Last Day of Kwanzaa.
- 03 BD: Jim Kennedy.
- 03 BD: Karen Hopkins.
- 06 BD: Rich Garber.
- 06 Warner Robins Comic Con—Warner Robins GA.
- 07 Orthodox Christmas Day.
- 07 BD: Douglas E. Lampert.
- 11–13 GaFilk—Atlanta GA.
- 14 Orthodox New Year’s Day.
- 16 BD: Bruce Butler.
- 18–19 Huntsville Comic Con—Huntsville AL.
- 19* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 6:30P Program, at Wilbrook Madison. **Program:** Short Attention Span Theater, presented by Mike Kennedy. **ATMM:** TBD.
- 19 Hair Of The Dragon 8—Atlanta GA.
- 19 Anime Blues Winter Remix—Southaven (Memphis area) MS.
- 19–20 BrickFair—Birmingham AL.
- 20 BD: Larry Montgomery.
- 21 BD: Martin Luther King, Jr.
- 25–27 Chattacon 44—Chattanooga TN.
- 25–27 Rocket City Gamefest—Huntsville AL.
- 25–27 Days of the Dead—Atlanta GA.
- 25–27 Secret Mission Con—Marietta GA.

FEBRUARY

- 01 National Freedom Day.
- 01 National Wear Red Day (women’s heart health).
- 02 Groundhog Day.
- 04 BD: Rosa Parks.
- 04 Día de la Constitución.
- 05 Chinese New Year.
- 07–10 Game-O-Rama—Atlanta GA.
- 08 BD: Lin Cochran.
- 08–10 Vampire Diaries Con—Nashville TN.
- 08–10 Seishun-Con—Atlanta GA.
- 09 BD: Jack Lundy.
- 09 Con-Tagion—Charlotte NC.
- 10 BD: Marcia Illingworth.
- 12 BD: Abraham Lincoln.
- 14 St. Valentine’s Day.
- 15 BD: Susan B. Anthony.
- 15–17 AnachroCon—Atlanta GA.
- 15–17 Toy Soldier & Model Show—Atlanta GA.
- 15–17 ConDFW—Addison (Dallas/Fort Worth area) TX.
- 15–18 Decepta Con—Atlanta GA.
- 16* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 6:30P Program, at Wilbrook Madison. **Program:** TBD. **ATMM:** TBD.
- 16 Most Excellent Party—Atlanta GA.
- 17 BD: Nancy A. Cucci.
- 18 Presidents’ Day.
- 18–24 Arbor Week (Alabama).
- 22 BD: George Washington.
- 22–24 ConNooga—Chattanooga TN.
- 22–24 Kami-Con—Birmingham AL.
- 22–24 Mad Monster Party—Charlotte NC.
- 24 Día de la Bandera.

MARCH

- 01 Read Across America Day.
- 01 Employee Appreciation Day.
- 02 BD: Ronnie Lajoie.

- 02 AnniCon—Anniston AL.
02 Cardboard*Con—Atlanta GA.
05 Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras.
06 Ash Wednesday.
08 Día Internacional de la Mujer.
08–10 CoastCon 42—Biloxi MS.
08–10 Salute to Supernatural—Nashville TN.
08–10 Tennessee Game Days XIV—Franklin TN.
08–10 Toylanta—Atlanta GA.
09 BD: Tracey Kennedy.
09–10 Comic & Pop Culture Expo—Huntsville AL.
09–10 Sci-Fi and Fantasy Expo—Atlanta GA.
09 SuperHero Pub Crawl—Atlanta GA.
09 Mississippi Anime Festival—Jackson MS.
10 Daylight Saving Time begins.
13 BD: Anita Eisenberg.
13–16 International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts 40
—Orlando FL.
15–17 MidSouthCon 37—Memphis TN.
16–17 River Region Comic Con—Montgomery AL.
16 Comic & Pop Culture Con—Dyersburg TN.
17 St. Patrick's Day.
18 BD: Benito Juárez.
20 Spring Equinox.
22 BD: Jayson Woosley.
21 Purim.
23* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 6:30P Program, at Wil-
lowbrook Madison. **Program:** TBD. **ATMM:** TBD.
IMPORTANT NOTE: This meeting is on the **4th Sat-**
urday (a week later than usual) to avoid MidSouthCon.
22–24 Metrotham Con—Chattanooga TN.
23 Sequoyah-Con—Canton GA.
APRIL
01 April Fools' Day.
03 Isra and Mi'raj.
03 BD: Kevin Ward.
05–07 221B Con—Atlanta GA.
06 National Tartan Day.
07 BD: Mary Lampert.
07 El Horario de Verano comienza (Mexico).
07 World Health Day (Canada).
09 National Library Workers' Day.
13 BD: Thomas Jefferson.
13 FarleyCon—East Ridge TN.
14 Palm Sunday.
15 BD: "Uncle Timmy" Bolgeo.
15 BD: Manda Freeman.
15 Tax Day (Maine and Massachusetts on 17th).
15 Patriot's Day.
18–21 Frolicon—Atlanta GA.
19 Good Friday.
19–21 MTAC—Nashville TN.
19–21 Conglomeration—Louisville KY.
20* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 6:30P Program, at Wil-
lowbrook Madison. **Program:** TBD. **ATMM:** TBD.
20 First day of Pesach.
21 BD: Randy B. Cleary.
21 Easter.
22 Earth Day.
24 Administrative Professionals Day.
25 Take our Daughters and Sons to Work Day.
26–28 JordanCon—Atlanta GA.
26 BD: Chloe Airoidi.
26 Orthodox Good Friday.
26 Arbor Day (in a plurality of states and territories).

- 27 Last Day of Pesach.
28 Orthodox Easter.
30 BD: Mark Maxwell.
30 Día del Niño.

The North Alabama Science Fiction Association meets on the third Saturday of each month. (Unless there is a large nearby convention being held that weekend—in which case we often move the meeting to the second or fourth Saturday.) The regular meeting location is the Madison campus of Willowbrook Baptist Church—446 Jeff Road NW. The Executive Committee Meeting (if scheduled) is before the Business Meeting. The Business Meeting is at 6P. The Program is at 6:30P. Anyone is welcome to attend any of the meetings. There is usually an After-the-Meeting Meeting (starting at about 7:30P) either at the church or with directions available at the program.

November Minutes
—or, as Doug would have it—
**NASFA Seconds (it was a
short meeting)**

by Doug Lampert (in the absence of Steve Sloan)

Party was called to meeting at 15:31.

CRICKETS

Jim Kennedy makes an inspired campaign speech convincing all right-thinking people to vote for him, stating that as his only official action if elected president, he'll club the crickets.

His brother, Mike, has a cricket app [on his phone].

Jim's hammer will solve that, too.

ELECTIONS

Nominations were reopened.

Judy and Jim were nominated for Not-a-Con chairs. Declined.

Jim and Judy were nominated for Not-a-Con chairs. Accepted.

Peggy was nominated for President. Duck Season, Rabbit Season. Peggy appears to have declined the nomination.

Peggy was nominated to be Peggy.

Sam still has Not-A-Con artifacts. Shelley is in labor.

Gavel given to Mike.

Jim Kennedy wins with 4 votes to 10 for Mary. [Snark about the august position of NASFA prez noted, and left intact. -ED]

Gavel given back to outgoing President Emeritus Mary. [More snark noted, and left intact. -ED]

Mike wins VP, many to 3.

Sam wins Treasurer, many to moo. [Not a typo. Well, not *my* typo. -ED]

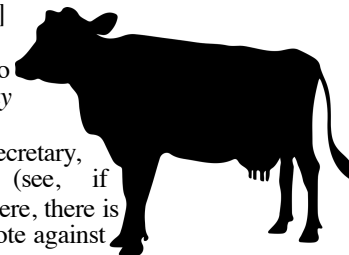
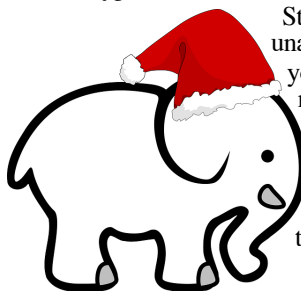
Steve wins Secretary, unanimously (see, if you're not there, there is no one to vote against you).

JudySue wins Programming, many to 1.

Sam wins Publicity, many to 1.

JimJudy wins Not-A-Con [chair], many
to 5.

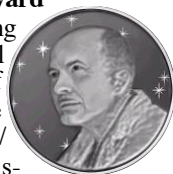
The Party resumed at 15:48.



Awards Roundup

ROBERT A. HEINLEIN AWARD

The winner of the 2019 Robert A. Heinlein Award <www.bsfs.org/bsfshheinlein.htm> (for “outstanding published works in science fiction and technical writings to inspire the human exploration of space”) is **Gregory Benford**. The award will be presented at Balticon 53 <www.balticon.org/wp53>, to be held 24–27 May 2019 at the Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel in Baltimore MD.



STABBY AWARDS

Winners of Reddit’s /r/Fantasy Stabby Awards have been announced <www.reddit.com/r/Fantasy/wiki/stabby>.

Novel *Bloody Rose*, Nicholas Eames
Independent Novel *Ghostwater*, Will Wight
Debut *The Poppy War*, R.F. Kuang
Artwork cover for *Gardens of The Moon* (French edition), Marc Simonetti

Anthology *Art of War*, Petros Triantafyllou
Related Work *The Legendarium Podcast* /u/thelegendarium (aka Craig Hanks and Ryan Buckman)

Serialized Fiction *Wandering Inn* (web serial), Pirateaba
Fantasy Site *The Fantasy Inn*
TV Series/Movie *Avengers: Infinity War*
Game *God of War*, Sony

r/Fantasy Contributor (Pro) **Michael J. Sullivan**
r/Fantasy Contributor (Community) /u/hiugregg
r/Fantasy Original *Mistborn Interpretive Dance Review*, /u/ziinaz

r/Fantasy Post /u/Jos_V for “Where do we go wrong when recommending books? An Essay”

Short Work *Artificial Condition: The Murderbot Diaries #2*, Martha Wells

GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS

Winners of the 76th Golden Globes Awards <www.goldenglobes.com> were announced 6 January 2019 in a ceremony broadcast on NBC. Genre movies and TV/streaming perhaps underperformed a bit. There had been about 20 genre (and genre-adjacent) noms scattered over a dozen of the 25 categories. There was one straight genre win (*Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse* in the **Animated Motion Picture** category) and one genre-adjacent win (*First Man* in the **Original Score—Motion Picture** category). There were no TV/streaming genre (or adjacent) wins. The official list of all winners (and nominees) is at <www.goldenglobes.com/winners-nominees>.



CRITICS’ CHOICE AWARDS

Winners of the 2019 Critics’ Choice Awards <www.criticschoice.com> were announced 13 January 2019 in a ceremony broadcast on The CW Network. Genre and genre-adjacent (defined generously) films did OK; TV/streaming less so. Most of the wins were in technical categories or those that skew heavily to genre works (e.g., the animated categories and Sci-Fi or Horror Film). The biggest exception to this trend was Thandie Newton’s win for Supporting Actress (Drama Series). *Black Panther* was the only outright genre work with multiple wins (for Costume Designer, Production Design, and Visual Effects).
Action Movie *Mission: Impossible—Fallout*
Animated Feature *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse*

Animated Series *BoJack Horesman*
Costume Designer *Black Panther*
Editing *First Man*
Original Score *First Man*
Production Design *Black Panther*
Sci-Fi or Horror Film *A Quiet Place*
Supporting Actress (Drama Series) *Westworld*, Thandie Newton
Visual Effects *Black Panther*

UK NEW YEAR HONOURS LIST

Quite a few genre figures (writers, actors, filmmakers) were named in the sizable—well over 100 pages in the official PDFs—2019 UK New Year Honours List. These include:

Dr. Margaret Atwood—Companion of Honour (for services to literature)

Julia Donaldson—Commander of the Order of the British Empire (for services to literature)

Melanie Thandiwe Newton (Thandie Newton)—Officer of the Order of the British Empire (for services to film and charity)

Christopher Edward Nolan—Commander of the Order of the British Empire (for services to film)

Sophie Okonedo Obe—Commander of the Order of the British Empire (for services to drama)

Michael Edward Palin—Honorary Knight Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George (for services to travel, culture, and geography)

Philip Nicholas Outram Pullman—Knight Bachelor (for services to literature)

Chris Riddell—Officer of the Order of the British Empire (for services to illustration and charity)



COSTA BOOK AWARDS

Winners of the 2018 Costa Book Awards (for “the most enjoyable books of the year, written by authors based in the UK and Ireland”) <www.costa.co.uk/costa-book-awards> include one genre work—*The Seven Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle*, Stuart Turton in the **First Novel** category. Turton will receive a £5,000 prize for his win and will compete with other category winners for a £30,000 Costa Book of the Year prize. That winner will be announced 29 January 2019.

PARSEC AWARDS & CONTROVERSY

Winners of the 2018 Parsec Awards <www.parsecawards.com> (for speculative fiction podcasting) have been announced.

Following the announcement, it was noted that one of the winners “has a history of extremely disturbing behavior” (per a press release by the Parsec Awards Steering Committee). [He has been identified by others as Edward Champion, though the *Shuttle* has no separate knowledge on the matter. -ED]

After the committee released a statement saying they will not rescind the award (see, for instance, <file770.com/2018-parsec-awards-committee-responds-

to-complaint>), several other recipients issued statement refusing their award. The *Shuttle* is listing all awards as currently shown on the Parsec Awards website, but to the best of our knowledge, the ones marked below with “†” symbols have refused the corresponding award.

Spec. Fic. Story, Small Cast (Short Form)†“**Six Jobs,**”
Tim Pratt (PodCastle)†
Spec. Fic. Story, Small Cast (Long Form) ..“**Derelict: Tomb,**”
Paul E. Cooley (Shadow Publications)
Spec. Fic. Story, Large Cast (Short Form)“**Buddies for Hire,**”
Edward Champion (The Gray Area)
Spec. Fic. Audio Drama (Short Form)**The Axe & Crown**
(12 episodes), Eli McIlveen and Sean Howard (The Axe & Crown)
Spec. Fic. Audio Drama (Long Form)**Uncanny County,**
Todd Faulkner, Alison Crane, William Franke, and Nicole Greevy (Uncanny County)
Spec. Fic. Video Story†**Radioactive,** Susan Bridges and Jeffrey Bridges (Active Radioactive Radio)†
Spec. Fic. Magazine or Anthology†**Escape Pod**†
Spec. Fic. Podcaster/Team ...**The Phenomenon,** Luciola Creative
Spec. Fic. Fan or News (Specific)**To the Journey!**
Spec. Fic. Fan or News (General)**Kalanadi**
Spec. Fic. Content Creation†**Under the Puppet**†
Fact Behind the Fiction**Astronomy Cast**
Spec. Fic. Comedy/Parody**Robotz of the Company,**
Jonathan Patrick Russell (Robotz of the Company)

PHILIP K. DICK AWARD NOMS

Nominees for the 2019 Philip K. Dick Award <www.philipkdickaward.org> (for a US sf paperback original) have been announced. The winner and any special citations will be announced at Norwescon 42 <www.norwescon.org>, to be held 18–21 April 2019 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Seattle Airport in SeaTac (Seattle area) WA. The award is sponsored by the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society <psfs.org> and the Philip K. Dick Trust. The award ceremony is sponsored by the Northwest Science Fiction Society <www.nwsfs.com>.

Time Was, Ian McDonald (Tor.com)

The Body Library, Jeff Noon (Angry Robot)

84K, Claire North (Orbit)

Alien Virus Love Disaster: Stories, Abbey Mei Otis (Small Beer Press)

Theory of Bastards, Audrey Schulman (Europa Editions)

Ambiguity Machines and Other Stories, Vandana Singh (Small Beer Press)

WSJ BEST SF OF 2018

The *Wall Street Journal*’s Tom Shippey has listed his picks for the best written science fiction of 2018. Unfortunately, the story is behind a paywall <www.wsj.com/articles/science-fiction-best-of-2018-1544190198>, though *Locus Magazine* mentions it includes “books by John Marrs, Arwen Elys Dayton, Cixin Liu, Kim Stanley Robinson, and Chandler Klang Smith” <locus mag.com/2018/12/blinks-wsj-best-sf-of-2018-scott-edelman>.

Poets & Writers

WRITERS FOR WRITERS AWARDS

The 2019 **Barnes & Noble Writers for Writers Awards** <www.pw.org/about-us/writers_writers_award_and_editors_award> (from the nonprofit Poets & Writers association for “authors who have given generously to other writers or to the broader literary community”) includes a name of genre interest. **Neil Gaiman** was cited for “advocating for freedom of expression worldwide and inspiring countless writers.” The other recipients were Reginald Dwayne Betts and Roxana Robinson.

SCREEN ACTORS GUILD AWARDS NOMS

Nominations for the 25th Screen Actors Guild Awards have been announced and a number of genre movies and TV/streaming shows received nods. Winners will be announced 27 January 2018 in a simulcast on TNT and TBS.

On the movie side, three genre films received one nomination apiece—*Black Panther* (Cast in a Motion Picture), *Mary Poppins Returns* (Female Actor in a Leading Role, for Emily Blunt), and *A Quiet Place* (Female Actor in a Supporting Role, also Emily Blunt).

On the TV/streaming side, *The Handmaid’s Tale* led the charge with three noms, for Ensemble in a Drama Series, Male Actor in a Drama Series (Joseph Fiennes), and Female Actor in a Drama Series (Elisabeth Moss).

Some people [but probably not me -ED] would count *Tom Clancy’s Jack Ryan* as genre-adjacent. It picked up two nods, for Male Actor in a Drama Series (John Krasinski) and Stunt Ensemble in a Comedy or Drama Series.

Four other genre shows got one nomination each: *Maniac* (Female Actor in a Television Movie or Limited Series, for Emma Stone), *Marvel’s Daredevil* (Stunt Ensemble in a Comedy or Drama Series), *The Walking Dead* (Stunt Ensemble in a Comedy or Drama Series), and *Westworld* (Stunt Ensemble in a Comedy or Drama Series).



BAFTA FILM AWARDS NOMS

Nominees for the EE British Academy Film Awards <www.bafta.org/film> have been announced. Winners will be announced 10 February 2019.

At least two of the EE Rising Star Award nominees—Lakeith Stanfield and Letitia Wright—have genre credits. More than a dozen genre and genre-adjacent movies received nominations, led by genre-adjacent *First Man* that scored seven nods for Adapted Screenplay, Supporting Actress (for Claire Foy), Cinematography, Editing, Production Design, Sound, and Special Visual Effects.

The leading actual genre honoree was *Mary Poppins Returns* with three noms for Original Music, Production Design, and Costume Design. Two movies got two noms each—*Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald* (Production Design and Special Visual Effects) and *Isle of Dogs* (Animated Film and Original Music).

Depending on how you count them, at least seven genre films received one nod each: *Avengers: Infinity War* (Special Visual Effects), *Black Panther* (Special Visual Effects), *The Blue Door* (British Short Film), *Incredibles 2* (Animated Film), *A Quiet Place* (Sound), *Ready Player One* (Special Visual Effects), and *Spider-man: Into the Spider-verse* (Animated Film).

Four other genre or genre-adjacent films also got one nomination: *I’m OK* (British Short Animation), *Marfa* (British Short Animation), *Mission: Impossible—Fallout* (Sound), and *Roughhouse* (British Short Animation).

COSTUME DESIGNERS GUILD AWARDS NOMS

Nominations for the 2019 Costume Designers Guild Awards <costumedesignersguild.com/awards/current-awards> have been announced. Winners will be announced 19 February 2019. Quite a few genre and genre-adjacent movies and TV/streaming shows copped noms. Additionally, the Career Achievement award will go to Ruth E. Carter who has several genre credits.

Genre and genre-adjacent movie nominees include *Aquaman* (Sci-Fi/Fantasy), *Avengers: Infinity War* (Sci-Fi/Fantasy), *Black Panther* (Sci-Fi/Fantasy), *Mary Poppins Returns* (Period Film), *The Nutcracker and the Four Realms* (Sci-Fi/Fantasy), and *A Wrinkle in Time* (Sci-Fi/Fantasy).

Genre and genre-adjacent TV/streaming nominees include *The Alienist* (Period Television), *American Horror Story: Apocalypse* (Sci-Fi/Fantasy), *The Handmaid's Tale* (Sci-Fi/Fantasy), *Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events* (Sci-Fi/Fantasy), *The Man in the High Castle* (Period Television), *Outlander* (Period Television), *Star Trek: Discovery* (Sci-Fi/Fantasy), and *Westworld* (Sci-Fi/Fantasy).

Last but not least, the majority of the Short Form nominees are genre or genre-adjacent, including *Farewell Yellow Brick Road: The Legacy* (Elton John short film), *Supplies* (Justin Timberlake music video), *The Quest* (Nespresso commercial), and *Star Trek: Short Treks*, "The Brightest Star" (short film).

CYBILS AWARDS NOMS

Finalists for the 2018 Children's and Young Adults Bloggers' Literary Awards <www.cybils.com> have been announced. Nominees in the most relevant categories are listed below. Other genre and genre-adjacent works appear as nominees in the Graphic Novel, Poetry, and Junior/Senior High Non-Fiction categories. Winners will be announced 12 February 2019.

Cybils YA Speculative Fiction Noms

Pitch Dark, Courtney Alameda (Feiwel & Friends)

Mirage, Somaiya Daud (Flatiron)

Tess of the Road, Rachel Hartman (Random House)

Dread Nation, Justina Ireland (Balzer + Bray)

Summer of Salt, Katrina Leno (HarperTeen)

Not Even Bones, Rebecca Schaeffer (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

This Mortal Coil, Emily Suvara (Simon Pulse)

Cybils Elementary/Middle Grade Speculative Fiction Noms

Sweep, Jonathan Auxier (Puffin)

The Stone Girl's Story, Sarah Beth Durst (Clarion)

Snared: Escape to the Above, Adam Jay Epstein (Imprint)

Thisby Thestoop and the Black Mountain, Zac Gorman (HarperCollins)

Love Sugar Magic: A Dash of Trouble, Anna Meriano (Walden Pond)

Inkling, Kenneth Oppel (Knopf)

Nevermoor: The Trials of Morrigan Crow, Jessica Townsend (Little, Brown)



SPECULATIVE FICTION IN TRANSLATION POLL OPEN

Voting for the inaugural "SFT Poll" is open. The award (for speculative fiction translated into English) is sponsored by SFinTranslation.com, with the voting taking place at <www.surveymonkey.com/r/MYSZ5WS>. The categories are Short Story, Novel, Anthology/Collection, Translator, and Publisher/Journal/Magazine. Voting is open until 1 March 2019, with the results to be announced 10 March.

Locus published lists of the novels, anthologies/collections, and short fiction along with analysis of the original language broken down by short fiction vs. book-length works. That's all at <locusmag.com/2019/01/speculative-fiction-in-translation-novels-collections-and-short-stories-2018>. For short fiction, the top two original languages are Chinese (31.8%) and Spanish (25.8%). For novels/collections/anthologies, the top two original languages are Japanese (19%) and French (16.5%).

LATE ADDITIONS: D.I.C.E. AWARDS NOMS & ANNIE AWARDS NOMS ANNOUNCED

As the *Shuttle* was being put to bed, nominations were announced for the D.I.C.E. Awards (peer-awards for video games) and the Annie Awards (from the International Animated Film Society, ASIFA-Hollywood). Both lists are lengthy (dozens of categories) and probably wouldn't be run in their entirety in the *Shuttle* even if it weren't for the last-minute situation.

You can find the full list of D.I.C.E. Awards finalists at <www.interactive.org/news/22nd_dice_award_finalists_revealed.asp>. You can find the full list of Annie Awards nominees at <annieawards.org/nominees>.

Letters of Comment

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Sheryl Birkhead

24 November 6 December 2018

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How time flies, even when you are *not* having fun. Three issues are sitting here and I will try to get something, short though it might be. Same old same old—getting quite boring, but, I hope eventually something will work and things will get easier.

Before I forget—Lloyd—I am staying caught up with the *Murdoch Mysteries* now that I have found dailymotion.com—end of non-paid announcement. One of the recent episodes was... um, interesting sf/f wise!

September—um Splatterpunk—the name says it all! To me, at least, it is interesting to look at the logos for the various awards... sometimes I get a feel for what the award represents and sometimes I do not.

That 2018 Hugo base looks really nice! The 1943 retrospective Hugo base—looks to be just that-retrospective, as it should be.

Both New Zealand and Dublin are of interest to me, but since it is never going to happen, I will content myself to read all the articles before and after—hopefully with some travel-ogues—fannish in leanings—along the way.

October—Dublin having a Fringe track made me stop and think... TV show or on the outer edge... answer came very soon as I continued reading. Having a Worldcon in China sounds... um... interesting and even more so from a *distance*. I am not sure whether it would be wiser to stay in groups or *try* to blend in individually—a longshot at best for most Westerners!

The Ig Noble awards reminds me of the *Journal of Irreproducible Results*. I really enjoyed that Journal—wonder if it still exists? Guess it would be easy enough to check—will do that RSN. According to Wikipedia:

The Journal of Irreproducible Results (JIR) is a magazine of science humor JIR was founded in Israel in 1955 by virologist Alexander Kohn and physicist Harry J. Lipkin, who wanted a humor magazine about science, for scientists. It contains a mix of jokes, satire of scientific practice, science cartoons, and discussion of funny but real research.

It has passed through several hands and as of 2015 is published in San Mateo, California.

Well, at least it is in the present tense—did not go any further see what else I could turn up.

Lloyd—fingers crossed on the Britain in 2019 trip—here's

hoping you can stretch it to a whole month(well, no reason [not] to shoot high...).

November (agh, need to take another break—hope it is minutes not days!).

Okay, record short... sorry your work deserves more, but that is not yet ready to happen... eventually... I hope, back to the locs of *old*.

Happy holiday season to all—thank you for keeping me on the mailing list! See you next year, if not sooner—well, I can cross my fingers?

[RE the Dublin Fringe (not *Fringe*) program track, Sheryl, the prototype for the concept would seem to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival <www.edfringe.com> of experimental theater, which overlaps the several other festivals happening late summer in Edinburgh. While I kind of regret not seeing any of the Fringe either time I was in Edinburgh, live theater is something I very seldom do. I did adore the Military Tattoo, but then I actually *like* bagpipe music. As far as I know no NASFAns are going to the Dublin Worldcon, so I can't promise you anything in the way of firsthand reporting from there. It is possible that Huntsville fandom will have a representative or three in New Zealand, but my guess is that firsthand reporting for the *Shuttle* from there will be scant if it exists at all. The time difference and difficulty/cost of pushing many electrons from a traveler's computer (or, more likely, phone) from the other side of the world do not give me a lot of hope. It's funny you mention both the *Journal of Irreproducible Results* and the Ig Nobel Prizes since the latter is sponsored by the *Annals of Improbable Research* (founded in 1995) which I'm sure is sometimes confused with *JIR* on the basis of the name and overlapping subject matter. In fact, the creator of the Igs and co-founder of *AIR*, Marc Abrahams, was at one time the editor of *JIR*, further confounding the possible confusion of the two publications. -ED]

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Sheryl Birkhead
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23 December 2018

Gotta work fast to be sure this actually is mailed in 2018!
Gonna be *very* short... I think.

Congrats to Ken Fletcher on the Rotsler Award.

Lloyd, I am guessing that because *Murdoch* is not on my TV Guide that I have fallen a few episodes behind. I will try to remedy that RSN. The *Frankie Drake* sort of spin-off eludes me even more—it has not been out that long so I forget about it—took me aback to see [Constable] Crabtree outside the *Murdoch* venue.

I suspect there is no longer an award-free time frame—who knew there could be so many (hopefully non-redundant) categories and content?

I had no idea this would be *this* short, but this catches me up. I think this is the only zine that does not have other issues just sitting and begging for some attention.

By the time you get this I imagine Christmas will be in the history books and we'll be staring down the barrel of a New Year. With all the escalating madness coming out of a location in DC I have given up hoping... and turned to praying!

[I watch my share (if not more than that) of police procedurals and the occasional straight mystery. I rather enjoyed period procedural/mystery *The Alienist* last year so I can see myself potentially enjoying *Murdoch Mysteries* or *Frankie Drake*

Mysteries, but I have more than enough to watch so it's unlikely I'll seek out either. I will file away the info for the future, though, Just In Case™. -ED]

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4 January 2019

Thank you for the December *Shuttle*, and I hope everyone had a great Christmas and will have a stellar 2019! It's back to the regular cycle...and I am late getting this in. Oh, well, this will show up some time...

Hope the celebrations were great fun. I am going to have to check a map, for I have no idea where Layton, Utah is, or which airport is the closest. I don't think that *Deadpool* movie made it up here... never heard a word about it. Yvonne had her birthday, and we had a great time, and then came Christmas and New Year's... we are officially holidayed out! As soon as Monday comes around, it's all done, and we can all get back to a regular routine and diet.

One thing we intend to do... get on with becoming background actors. We have gotten ourselves a good information base, namely someone who's been doing it for some years now, and we are going to try our hand at it. Yvonne did it once some years ago, and it was great fun, and we learned there's a lot of retired people who do this for extra cash, which sure is what we need now.

My loc... I still don't know where the CanVention will be. I haven't attended one in some years. It might be in Ottawa or Calgary, those two cities seem to be the only ones with hyper-literary conventions, willing to host the CanVention. We have attended our last two shows, and we are happy with the results. Now comes the winter where we can make or find new merchandise. CanVentions used to have votes, but now it's become a gentleman's agreement, that a particular con shows interest, they take it on, and stage it. The CanVention is a rider convention, like DSC, but as you say, it is possible that no one bid for it. I will keep digging.

It should have been more than this, but this is about all I can conjure up. It's actually become a sunny day out there, so Happy New Year to everyone, and see you all next time.

[Layton is north of Salt Lake City, a bit over halfway to Ogden. Either airport might work, but I imagine the large majority of people would choose SLC over OGD since the latter is a small airport with little in the way of commercial flights. (Wikipedia lists only one airline—Allegiant—and only one destination—Phoenix—for ODG.) I have somewhat the same issue y'all have with Yvonne's birthday crowding the holidays. My family generally ends up celebrating my birthday (late November), my nephew's birthdays (even later November and mid-late December respectively) right along with Christmas. My brother (early January b'day) is sometimes bundled in at the same time, but perhaps more often shoved into mid January or later as we recover from holiday fatigue. Only my sister-in-law (early March b'day) completely escapes the "bundling" effect. So, on CanVention, what happens if two cons decide—more or less simultaneously—that they want toglom on to it? Can you foresee every having competing claims? Or do you think it more likely that no one will want to host? I would find this lack of structure a bit, well, unsettling. -ED]



"Robotech—The New Generation" by Jose Sanchez—sent by email, used by permission



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