

CONtraflow 2022

Programming by Track

Art:

So You Want to Be a Toy Designer? - Friday, 6pm, Panel Room 1

Robby Musso

Men's Fashion for the Artist, Writer, or Time Traveler - Saturday, 9am, Panel Room 1

Steven Harper

Art of Amanda Makepeace - Saturday, 12pm, Event One

A slideshow presentation from CONtraflow's Artist Guest of Honor, Amanda Makepeace. See where she began and where she's going.

Ask an Artist Anything - Saturday, 4pm, Panel Room 1

Have questions about being a working artist? Looking for advice on art education? Or maybe you just want to know what inspires us? Ask our panel of professional artists.

Amanda Makepiece, Robby Musso

Nebula Painting Demo - Sunday, 11am, Event One

Come watch Artist Guest of Honor, Amanda Makepeace paint a nebula in Photoshop!

Drawing for Kids... or Beginning Artists of Any Age – Saturday, 7pm, Panel Room 2

Steven Harper

Portrait Drawing For Advanced Artists – Sunday, 12pm, Panel Room 2

Steven Harper

Comics:

Is the MCU Dying? - Saturday, 10pm, Panel Room 1

After Avengers: Endgame, the MCU is stacked with movies, TV shows, games, and other media. But has it crossed the line from fandom into homework? How can one fan keep up?!

Kurt Amacker, Andrew Myers

Creating Your Own Comic - Saturday, 6pm, Panel Room 1

Kurt Amacker, Steven Harper, John Slade

All the Presents are Opened. - Saturday, 9pm, Event Two

Darn near every superhero comic has been turned into a movie, along with cartoons, toys, and books. What's left to adapt or revive and does it even matter anymore?

Kurt Amacker, Robby Musso

How to Draw for Comics - Sunday 11am, Panel Room 2

Steven Harper

What You Should Know About TENRAI NO KAIRO – Sunday, 12pm, Event Two

Robby Musso

Contests:

Costume Contest - Saturday, Event One, 6:30-8pm (run through and pre-judging 5-6pm)

Skungy (MC)

Charles N Brown Memorial Hawaiian Shirt Contest – Sunday, Event One, 4-5pm

Jessica Styons (MC)

Cosplay:

That Time My Wig Tried to Eat Me... - Saturday, 10am, Event Two

Cosplay 101: The care and feeding of a good wig. Tips on wig maintenance and styling, how to

purchase, and how to store and transport your wig.

Mizzuz Achree, The Kawaii Astronomer, Naturesass

Cosplay All the Things - Saturday, 2pm, Panel Room 3

This panel is a beginner's guide to a multitude of costuming styles and materials which will discuss some favorite methods of costume construction and materials.

BlueKnight Cosplay

Cosplay and SFX Makeup - Saturday, 3pm, Panel Room 1

Cosplay 101: Make up tricks and tips. Cool tricks with and effects with make up, as well as a discussion on application, types of make up to buy, and what not to do with body paint.

Mizzuz Achree

The Bargain Barbarian – Sunday 10am, Panel Room 2

Making your own weapons on a budget.

David Liang

Cosplay Coffee - Sunday, 11am, Panel Room 1

Join BlueKnight and friends for coffee, treats, and to chat about judging costume contests, what judges are looking for, and all things cosplay.

BlueKnight Cosplay

Potpourri:

Jocks vs. Geeks! Friday, 4pm, Panel Room 3

The war is over and guess what? The geeks won. But are sports fans and geeks really all that different? Both are prone to over-analysis, costumes, and unrequited love for the objects of their fandom. We talk about the similarities and differences and ask if the rift can ever truly be healed

Kurt Amacker, Raymond Boudreau

The World Fantasy Convention - Friday, 7pm, Event Two

The World Fantasy Convention this year will take place in New Orleans one month from now, November 3rd-6th. The con chair, Tom Hanlon, will tell you all that you need to know about this event.

Debate This! - Friday, 8pm, Panel Room 3

Have you ever wondered which Disney Princess would win the hunger games? Who would win in a drinking contest- Darth Vader or Gandalf? Whether the Winchesters or the Scooby Doo gang would be better at robbing a bank? Come hear our favorite authors debate these topics and much sillier ones!

Hosted by 'The' Rob Cerio

Rob Cerio(m), Toni Weisskopf, Ernest Russell

Sex Toys of the Future – Friday, 9pm, Panel Room 3

Louise Herring-Jones

Shibari Safari: An Introduction – Friday, 9-11pm, Panel Room 2

Shibari Safari: Further Adventures – Saturday, 9-11pm, Panel Room 2

Tying knots is an art. Incorporating those into your fun time can be both exhilarating and releasing simultaneously. Join Dreux, a Nawashi with over two decades of experience, and "Gaki" as they explain these simple ideals, answer your questions, and even help you out with a demonstration of a quick release corset that you can do with your partner or partners. (18+, no photography)

Reconciling Faith and Reason - Saturday, 10am, Panel Room 1

Raymond Boudreau, Father Jeff and Les Johnson

To Filk or Not to Filk – Saturday, 11am, Panel Room 3

Lewis D'aubin. Beth Patterson

This is Not My Power Point Presentation – Saturday, 3pm, Event One

Watch panelists attempt to make sense of power point slideshows that they have never seen before.

Julie Schiavo, Bryan Alexander

The Final Mission – Saturday, 5pm, Panel Room 1

The crews of the USS NEW ORLEANS and USS NEPTUNE gather to remember the fallen of Star Trek Fandom like the beloved Nichelle Nichols and locally as our close friend Don Fallo. Join us as we remember those on their final mission to the Undiscovered Country continuing the Human Adventure.

Starship New Orleans Awards - Saturday, 6pm, Event Two

The USS NEW ORLEANS will be presenting its belated awards and promotions for their krewe since the pandemic. Come join the krewe as we gather to recognize our efforts for the last three years.

Superheroes and The Law, Revisited - Saturday, 7pm, Event Two

Rob Cerio, Raymond Boudreau, Louise Herring-Jones, Frank Schiavo

Ethical Hacking – Saturday, 7pm, Panel Room 3

Local DEFCON Group 504, a group of ethical hackers, makers, and infosec professionals and hobbyists present a panel discussion on what "hacking" is, hacker culture, how to break into cybersecurity as a career, and protecting yourself in the modern, connected world.

Absinthe; Spirit of Liberty - Saturday, 8pm, Panel Room 1

A Presentation on the history and the making of absinthe by a home distiller. There will be sampling of absinthe Attendees 21 and over only.

Charles Becker

Christian Prayer Service – Sunday, 10am, Event Two

Raymond Boudreau

Bitchin' Stitch – Sunday, 2pm, Panel Room 2

Bring your needlework projects to this gathering for decompression and crafting.

Unity Rains

Gaming:

Guardians – Saturday, see Game Room for times.

Future of the U.S. Space Force. A demo of the new game, from the mind of Michael Scott, based on the U.S. Space Force

Michael Scott

Girls Who Game - Friday, 6pm, Panel Room 3

Join BlueKnight and chat about being a girl that plays video games while we play video games. The love, the hate, and everything in between.

BlueKnight Cosplay

Creating a Role Playing Game – Saturday, 11am, Panel Room 1

Rule development, character creation, world building, and test plays. Jessie talks about his experience writing the Wyrd RPG.

Sherri Craig, Jessie Craig

Streaming Your Games and Art – Sunday, 10am, Event One

Do you Twitch? Or watch YouTube Livestreams? Jessie and Sherri discuss streaming test plays of the WYRD RPG on United Adventure Company, along with other table top RPGs, and streaming video games, art, and music on Twitch and Youtube

Sherri Craig, Ashley Waller, Lewis D'aubin, Jessie Craig

History:

Historical Firearms – Saturday, 8pm, Panel Room 2

A discussion with show and tell.

David Liang

Strong Women, in Fiction and the Real World - Saturday, 9am, Panel Room 1

J L Mulvihill

Two Minutes to Doomsday - Sunday, 12pm, Panel Room 1

Nuclear accidents and the use of nuclear weapons

Aubrey Stephens

Bugs in Space - Sunday, 1pm, Panel Room 3

Bryan Alexander

Air Power, Post Russo-Ukrainian War - Sunday, 2pm, Panel Room 3

Michael Scott

Horror:

True Crime Obsession – Friday, 10pm, Event One

Why are we so obsessed with the criminal mind? What draws people to serial killers, mass murderers, and the home-town mysteries?

Sherri Craig, Chris Genre, Erica Welter, Thomas Parrie, Kristina McBride

Italian Horror – Friday, 11pm, Panel Room 3

Geretta Geretta, Jessica Styons, Frank Schiavo, Raymond Boudreau

Current Horror Films and the BIPOC Perspective – Saturday, 8pm, Panel Room 3

Geretta Geretta, John Slade

Evolution of the Modern Zombie - Saturday, 11am, Event Two

Scott Kenemore

The Walking Dead: What Do We Do Now? - Saturday, 4pm, Event One

Every year, I get asked when I'm doing another Walking Dead panel. With the main series coming to an end, what are our thoughts, plans, and hopes for the future?

Sherri Craig (m), Jessica Styons, Scott Kenemore

Has Anyone Checked on the Children? - Saturday, 10pm, Panel Room 3

Have you ever wondered why there are generally no parental figures in horror/slasher movies (or really any movie from the 80's)? This discussion will look at how well this trope works in some cases and how illogical it seems in others.

Sherri Craig (m), Thomas Parrie, Jessica Styons, Kristina McBride

Writing Horror - Sunday, 1pm, Event Two

Ernest Russel(m), Charles Gramlich, Kurt Amacker

Literature:

Dale Kesterson, a Reading - Friday, 4pm, Panel Room 2

Book Discussion: A Psalm for the Wild-Built by Becky Chambers – Saturday, 10:30am-12pm, Panel Room 2

A discussion of this year's Hugo Winner for Best Novella, with the members of the Octavia Books Science Fiction Book Club

Dangerous Women - Saturday, 1pm, Event Two

This panel explores female monsters and villains. We will look at the stereotypes involved with evil women throughout literature, as well as how modern storytelling seeks to break those stereotypes.

Sherri Craig, Thomas Parrie, Kurt Amacker, Trisha Baker, Kristina McBride

A Bit of a Time Slip – Saturday, 5pm, Panel Room 2

Time travel spans multiple genres in writing. What are some of your favorite time travel stories? What films/shows have it right? Which seem to be stretching logic a bit?

Sherri Craig, Chris Genre, Thomas Parrie

The Classics of Science Fiction, Are They Dated? - Saturday, 8pm, Panel Room 1

Charles Gramlich, Toni Weisskopf

Remembering Ben Bova - Sunday, 10am, Panel Room 3

Les Johnson, Toni Weisskopf

The Age of Lovecraft - Sunday, 11am, Event Two

Ernest Russell

Lovecraft is one of those authors who many people have heard of, but few seem to have read. Over the last century his extensive influence can be found everywhere - from graphic novel and comic book appearances, popular role-playing and board games to Swiss surrealist paintings, heavy metal music and more. The legacy of Lovecraft's mythos has been revived, and since his quiet death in 1937, his legacy — once impoverished and unrecognized — has flourished. So when exactly is (or was) the age of Lovecraft? And if it's now, then why?

Main Events:

Opening Ceremonies – Friday, Event One, 5-7pm

Meet your Guests of Honor and others and hear stirring speeches.

Art Show Reception – Friday, Art Show, 6:30-8:30pm

Meet some of our artists while having wine, cheese and snacks in the Art Show.

Escape From the Secret Lab: Bad Beth and Beyond – Friday 8-9:30pm, Event One

Our musical guest, Beth Patterson, performs as her alternate persona in an attempt to escape the COG's Secret Lab.

B.L.T. Dance, Presented by The Porno Patrol – Friday, Event Two, 9pm-1am

Wear your best BLACK TIE (formal wear), LINGERIE (sleepwear), or TOGA (only) and join the Porno Patrol as they celebrate 40 years of Decadence in Southern Fandom. 18+ years old to attend.

ALL IDS WILL BE CHECKED AT THE DOOR. NO PHOTOGRAPHY ALLOWED IN THE BLT.

Please remember to wear publicly appropriate clothes to and from dance in the hotel hallways and that NUDITY IS NOT A COSTUME. Come dance the night away with The People Your Mother Warned You About.

Beth Patterson; in Concert – Saturday, 11am, Event One

Charity Auction – Saturday, Event Two, 2-5pm

Bid on cool stuff and support our charity, The Friends of the New Orleans Public Library.

Costume Contest – Saturday, Event One, 6:30-8pm (run through and pre-judging 5-6pm)

Show off your latest costume creations for fun and (if you win) prizes!

Art Auction – Sunday, Event Two, 2-4pm

Details on how to bid, as well as the art itself, of course, can be found in our Art Show on Friday and Saturday.

Charles Brown Memorial Hawaiian Shirt Contest – Sunday, Event One, 4-5pm

The late editor of Locus Magazine, Charles N. Brown, was known for his penchant for Hawaiian shirts. Show off your wildest Hawaiian style shirt. All species welcome!

Closing Ceremonies – Sunday, Event One, 5pm

Awards and results will be announced. Moving speeches will be made.

Media:

Forgotten SF TV – Friday, 3pm, Panel Room 3

Raymond Boudreau, Andrew Myers

What Does God Need With a Starship – Friday, 5pm, Panel Room 1

The USS NEW ORLEANS explores the implication on the Federation by lifeforms god-like lifeforms.

Gary Mitchell being the first and dealing with the Emissary and the Prophets of Bajor. And of course, there is also Q and Trelane. Are they the same person or even of the same race?

World of Sid and Marty Krofft - Friday, 6pm Event Two

Andrew Myers

The Legacy of Hammer Films – Friday, 8pm, Panel Room 2

Raymond Boudreau

50 Shades of Trek – Friday, 11pm, Panel Room 2

A CONtraflow favorite, once again the krewes of the USS NEW ORLEANS explore the taboo side of

Trek that even the writers of "The Lower Decks" won't even touch it. At least not yet...

Randolph Allen, Shayna Fortenberry Este

The Rise and Fall of Saturday Morning Cartoons – Saturday, 1pm, Panel Room 1

John Slade, Andrew Myers

Star Wars Was Always Left Wing Propaganda – Saturday, 2pm, Panel Room 1

John Slade

Star Wars and Psychology III: Attack of the Critics – Saturday, 8pm, Event Two

Follow up to previous years' panels about our favorite transmedia universe. Did you like the sequels? What about the shows? Sherri plays Devil's Advocate on the Pro side (for the most part) while Chris outlines major mistakes. Pick your side!

Sherri Craig, Chris Genre, Ashley Waller

Retconning Doctor Who: The Timeless Child and The Division – Saturday, 9pm, Panel Room 3

J L Mulvihill, Lewis D'aubin

Is the MCU Dying? - Saturday, 10pm, Panel Room 1

After Avengers: Endgame, the MCU is stacked with movies, TV shows, games, and other media. But has it crossed the line from fandom into homework? How can one fan keep up?!

Kurt Amacker, Andrew Myers

What is the United Federation of Planets - Sunday, 1pm, Panel Room 1

In Star Trek we hear about the Federation all of the time. And sometimes we may even see a high commissioner, ambassador or some other representative. Is the Federation a democracy as we know it? Or is it a concept that defies politics and nationalism as we know it. The USS NEW ORLEANS explores this in detail.

Amazon's Rings of Power – Sunday, 1pm, Panel Room 2

Just how successful has it been in depicting the pre-history of Tolkien's fantasy world? Are they being faithful to the spirit of the books or just trying to capitalize on the mania for GOT?

J L Mulvihill, James Coolman, Rebecca Smith

Raumpatrouille Orion (Space Patrol Orion)- Sunday, 2pm, Panel Room 1

A discussion of the short-lived, German TV series from the 60's.

Raymond Boudreau

Joey Grillot Memorial Film Room:

Afro Brother Spacemen – Friday, 8-9pm

John Slade presents the animated adaptation of his comic book series, Afro Brother Spacemen. There will be a Q&A afterwards.

Midnight Schlock – Friday (well, technically, Saturday), 12am

Alfred Richard riffs on a surprise gem from the annals of wretched, bargain basement cinema.

Raumpatrouille Orion – See Film Room for times

Star Maidens – See Film Room for times

Paranormal:

Ghost, Angel, Alien or Cryptid? - Friday, 5pm, Panel Room 3

Audience members will be encouraged to describe their own personal encounters with supernatural beings. Together, we will discuss your experiences and try to categorize your encounter.

Rob Cerio, Dr. Charlotte Pipes

Living in the Age of Disclosure - Saturday, 12pm, Panel Room 1

What an exciting time to be alive, we are indeed living in the age of disclosure! Revelations are happening every day and our governments are finally admitting their involvement. Come and join the discussion as we review the latest news and learn how we can make the disclosure process easier on our family and friends.

Dr Charlotte Pipes

Performances:

Dream and Make it Happen – Friday, 4:30-5:30pm, Event Two

Contestant on America's Got Talent, star of the 2020 documentary film, "Nobody May Come", and clip-favorite on The Ellen DeGeneres Show, performer Valerie Sassyfras explores what it means to dream, to find courage and inspiration in dreams, and to live your best life on your own terms. Join Sassyfras on an exciting adventure of musical pop and eccentricity to tear down the barricades to your happiness.

Escape From the Secret Lab: Bad Beth and Beyond – Friday, 7-9pm, Event One

Beth Patterson, Lewis D'Aubin

Karaoke Party! - Friday, 9-11pm, Panel Room 1

Hosted by Larry Kooken

Beth Patterson, in Concert – Saturday, 11am, Event One

One Big Dark Room – Saturday, 8pm, Event One

From the lost caverns of the Crystal, the short-lived New Orleans' ChilledMonkeyBrains reprises its repertoire of goth tunes, cabaret, and dark fan favorites. A stirring mix of Orphic originals and arcane covers (slightly revised) promises to please or perplex everyone in an exquisitely unique sound setting

The Life of Milo Thaddeus Pinkerton, Mad Scientist – Saturday, 9pm, Panel Room 3

Lewis D'Aubin

Science:

Dreams and Creativity - Friday, 5pm, Panel Room 2

Charles Gramlich

Solar Sail Update - Friday, 7pm, Panel Room 3

The latest news about current, planned, and possible future missions using solar sail propulsion.

Les Johnson

The 2 Best Bets for Life in our Solar System - Saturday, 12pm, Panel Room 3

Kathy Beauford

Our Journey to Deep Space: The Space Launch System - Saturday, 1pm, Panel Room 3

Kathy Beauford

Interstellar Travel - Saturday, 2pm, Event One

From Breakthrough Starshot to NASA's Interstellar Probe, much is beginning to happen with regard to sending spacecraft beyond the edge of our solar system and into interstellar space.

Les Johnson

The James Webb Space Telescope - Saturday, 3pm, Panel Room 3

Kathy Beauford

Settling in on Mars: Make It; don't Take It - Saturday, 4pm, Panel Room 3

Kathy Beauford

Let's Talk About Space - , Saturday, 6pm, Panel Room 3

Bring those burning questions you've been pondering about space and space exploration for the panelists to address.

Les Johnson

The Fermi Paradox – Saturday, 7pm, Panel Room 1

Aubrey Stephens

Writing and Publishing:

Getting Rich as a Writer – Friday, 4pm, Panel Room 1

Aubrey Stephens

Outlining: Yes or No? - Friday, 7pm, Panel Room 2

Dale Kesterson(m), Charles Gramlich, Chris Hayes, Hope Bridger

How Not to Get Published; Avoiding Publishing Scams - Friday 8pm, Panel Room 1

Trisha Baker

How to Get Published – Saturday, 10am, Event One

Chris Hayes(m), Trisha Baker, Rob Cerio, Aubrey Stephens, Toni Weisskopf

Fandom Verse – Saturday, 10am, Panel Room 3

Poetry workshop. Writing exercises and sharing. Tapping into your inner geek for inspiration!

Charles Gramlich, Sherri Craig, Erica Welter

Writing and Tea with Jen - Saturday, 11am, Panel Room 2

Tea, cookies and sharpening your writing skills with J L Mulvihill

Science in Science Fiction: The Pros and Cons - Saturday, 12pm, Event Two

Les Johnson, Chris Hayes, Louise Herring-Jones

The Baen Books Travelling Road Show - Saturday, 1pm, Event One

Toni Weisskopf, Les Johnson

Tales from the Edge of Space - Saturday, 5pm, Panel Room 3

Les Johnson goes off the record to describe some of the more offbeat, but very real, events from his career. Did he ever tell you about the time he almost had to go into the US Federal Witness Protection Program? Or about the time he was almost arrested for trying to get a drivers license when he first moved to Huntsville, AL? And there's more...

Les Johnson

Creating Memorable Characters – Saturday, 5pm, Event Two

A story has many parts – plot, theme, action, dialogue, point of view, pacing, conflict, settings and more. But no one element is so vital as that of character. No matter what else we throw into the story, the trick is to making our stories feature people worth reading about.

Ernest Russell (m), Chris Hayes, Trisha Baker, Louise Herring-Jones, Beth Patterson

Historically Accurate: Blending Real People with Created Characters – Saturday, 6pm, Panel Room 2

Dale Kesterson(m), Louise Herring-Jones, Aubry Stephens

Dilemma: First Person Narrative VS Third Person – Saturday, 10pm, Event Two

Dale Kesterson, Scott Kenemore, J L Mulvihill, Hope Bridger

Steampunk Tech and Storytelling – Sunday, 10am, Panel Room 1

Rob Cerio, JL Mulvihill

The Hero's Journey; Turning an Idea into a Story with a Plot – Sunday, 11am, Panel Room 3

Chris Hayes(m), Trisha Baker, Aubry Stephens, Hope Bridger

Writing a Mystery Should Not BE One – Sunday, 12pm, Panel Room 3

Dale Kesterson(m), Louise Herring-Jones, Hope Bridger

Archtypes, Stereotypes, and Tropes: A Writer's Toolbox – Sunday, 12pm, Event One

What are the elements of good storytelling that draw in readers. What elements push people away? This is a discussion about how to use classic elements to tell a story and think about fan favorite elements, too.

Sherri Craig, Chris Genre, Erica Welter, Thomas Parrie, Ashley Waller

Writing Horror – Sunday, 1pm, Event 2

Charles Gramlich, Kurt Amacker, Ernest Russel (m)