



**A WORD FROM THE EDITOR**

If you have not renewed your membership and wish to do so, please contact us or renew on the website.

Checkout the *Locus* website for their recommended reading list. It is a good guide if you are an award voter or just looking for something new to read.

At the Playwrights Roundtable Table Launch there were four plays (half) were Science Fiction/Fantasy. Some of them might be shown at 2018 Fringe Festival in May,

Next month I hope to do a review and the Nebula final ballot should be out.

**Events**

**Florida Pop Con**

February 2-4  
Orlando Live Events  
6405 S. US Highway 17-92  
Fern Park, FL 32720

Guests: George Lowe (voice actor)  
Butch Patrick (Eddie, *The Munsters*)  
And many others, see website  
\$55 for 3-Day, \$20 for Fri & Sun, \$25 for Sat  
floridapopcon.net

**Rapier**

February 8-11  
Doubletree by Hilton at the Jacksonville Airport  
2101 Dixie Clipper Drive,  
Jacksonville, Florida, 32218, USA  
Gaming convention  
\$20 for Friday and Saturday, \$10 for Sunday  
www.rapiercon.com

**Comic Book Connection**

February 10--11  
Holiday Inn  
11083 Nurseryfields Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32256  
\$10 for 1 day, \$15 for 2 Days  
thecomicbookconnection.com

**SyFy Bartow**

February 17  
Main Street  
Bartow, FL  
A SF themed street fair  
Free  
Search on Facebook for more info

**Costal Magic**

February 22-25  
The Shores Resort  
2637 S Atlantic Ave,  
Daytona Beach Shores, FL 32118  
Guests: Lucienne Diver (writer)  
Aria Kane (writer)  
Aletha Kontis (writer)  
And many others see website  
Weekend pass \$90  
coastalmagicconvention.com

**Pensacon**

February 23-25  
Pensacola Bay Center  
201 E Gregory Street  
Pensacola, FL, 32502  
Guests: Neal Adams (comic artist)  
Dan Wells (writer)  
Brent Spiner (Data, *Star Trek:TNG*)  
Jim Butcher (writer)  
And many others see website  
Weekend pass \$80  
www.pensacon.com

**Birthdays**



**Pat Sims February 9**



*(Continued on page 2)*

## February OASFiS Calendar

### OASFiS Business Meeting

Sunday, February 11, 1:30 PM, Orange Public Library (Downtown Orlando, 101 E. Central Blvd, Orlando, FL 32801, 407-835-7325). Come join us as we discuss the works of Spider Robinson and Chelsea Quinn Yarbro

### Sci Fi Light TBD

To contact for more info:  
OASFiS Business Meeting 407-823-8715

(Continued from page 1)

### Comic Con Revolution

February 24  
Palm Beach County Convention Center  
650 Okeechobee Boulevard  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Guests: Adam-Troy Castro (writer)  
Chris Claremont (writer)  
Peter Rawlik (writer)  
And many others see website

\$30 for the day  
www.comicconrevolution.com

January 21, 2018

Officers: Juan Sanmiguel, Rocio Flores

Members: Steve Cole, Ed Anthony, Harry Parkhurst

Guests: Marinela Ortiz, Charlotte Hunter, Sarah Fisk, Robert Steele

Some brief introductions were made.

Marinela talked about herself being blind, an author and previously studied humanities and writing rhetoric at UCF. She is getting ready to go back to school and get her grad certificate to become an assistive technology specialist. Sci-Fi has been one of her favorite genres and one of her favorite series is by Jim Butcher *The Dresden Files*. It is more fantasy but does have Sci-Fi. She is also a published author and working on her third book which deals with a blind person about to survive a zombie apocalypse. Juan asked if she ever read *World War Z*. One of the stories is about a blind Japanese hermit. He was a Hiroshima survivor who was blinded by the blast and decided to live out in the woods. A short discussion ensued about how the Japanese culture and other cultures view people with disabilities.

Charlotte Hunter introduced herself. She saw the meeting advertised in the library materials and decided to stop by. She prefers middle grade and YA books and enjoys reading Science Fiction in those genres.

Last year Juan did include a collection and there are more

## OASFiS People

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Steve Grant	352 241 0670 stevegrant@embarqmail.com
Mike Pilletere	mike-sf@webbedfeet.com
David Ratti	407-282-2468 dratti@eudoramail.com
Juan Sanmiguel	407-823-8715 sanmiguel@earthlink.net
Patricia Wheeler	407-832-1428 pwheeler11@cfl.rr.com

Any of these people can give readers information about the club and its functions. To be included in the list call Juan.

novellas being published. Novellas seem to be making a comeback due to being under 40,000 words. He went on to give a disclaimer about not being there to validate fandoms. All of the books in the presentation were published in the last calendar year. There are 26 books in the presentation. All of them were found on best seller lists. Juan mentioned that he has read about a third of the books on the list and encouraged anyone who might have read any of the books to chime in with thoughts.

**The Power:** Charlotte said she read it and it held her interest for a bit and found it interesting to see the gender power dynamic flip. Robert indicated that there were some political tones as well.

**The Bear and the Nightingale:** Marinela found it a bit frightening with all of the religious aspects behind it but found the folklore interesting as the story progressed. She mentioned that she received an advanced copy of the next book in the series and plans to read it. Juan asked if the books leaves stuff dangling and Marinela said it did finish with a cliffhanger.

**City of Brass:** Charlotte currently reading it. She says that it has started out very well. Charlotte goes into the story. She says the author is not great with action scenes but her characterization is quite good. She is very entertained. The story is in Cairo and the French are there after Napoleon. Well written. A short discussion continued on action scenes.

**Persepolis Rising:** Discussion ensued about the series and the tv show. This book ends in cliffhanger.

**The House of Binding Thorns:** Juan said he was intrigued by the character Madeline who is a scientist addicted to Angel Essence which provides a euphoric feeling.

**Walkaway:** Robert asked what is the moral of the story? Juan responded that if there is a moral then seems to be a political one.

(Continued on page 4)

## Award News

## Philip K. Dick Award Nominees

(source *Locus* website)

- *The Book of Etta* by Meg Elison (47North)
- *Six Wakes* by Mur Lafferty (Orbit)
- *After the Flare* by Deji Bryce Olukotun (The Unnamed Press)
- *The Wrong Stars* by Tim Pratt (Angry Robot)
- *Revenger* Alastair Reynolds (Orbit)
- *Bannerless* by Carrie Vaughn (Mariner/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)
- *All Systems Red* by Martha Wells (Tor.com)

The award is presented annually to a distinguished work of science fiction originally published in paperback form in the United States.

The winner and any special citations will be announced on Friday, March 30, 2018 at Norwescon 41 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Seattle Airport, SeaTac, Washington.

Academy Awards Speculative Fiction finalists  
(source *File 770*)

**Best Picture**

- *Get Out*
- *The Shape of Water*

**Directing**

- Jordan Peele, *Get Out*
- Guillermo del Toro, *The Shape of Water*

**Actor in a Leading Role**

Daniel Kaluuya, *Get Out*

**Actress in a Leading Role**

Sally Hawkins, *The Shape of Water*

**Actor in a Supporting Role**

Richard Jenkins, *The Shape of Water*

**Actress in a Supporting Role**

Octavia Spencer, *The Shape of Water*

**Writing (Adapted Screenplay)**

*Logan*, screenplay by Scott Frank & James Mangold and Michael Green, story by James Mangold

**Writing (Original Screenplay)**

- *Get Out*, written by Jordan Peele
- *The Shape of Water*, screenplay by Guillermo del Toro & Vanessa Taylor, story by Guillermo del Toro

**Animated Feature Film**

- *The Boss Baby*
- *The Breadwinner*
- *Coco*
- *Ferdinand*
- *Loving Vincent*

**Short Film (Animated)**

- *Dear Basketball*
- *Garden Party*
- *Lou*
- *Negative Space*
- *Revolting Rhymes*

**Cinematography**

- Roger A. Deakins, *Blade Runner 2049*
- Don Laustsen, *The Shape of Water*

**Costume Design**

- Jacqueline Durran, *Beauty and the Beast*
- Luis Sequeira, *The Shape of Water*

**Film Editing**

Sidney Wolinsky, *The Shape of Water*

**Foreign Language Film**

*On Body and Soul* – Hungary

**Music (Original Score)**

- Alexandre Desplat, *The Shape of Water*
- John Williams, *Star Wars: The Last Jedi*

**Music (Original Song)**

- “Remember Me,” Music and Lyric by Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez, from *Coco*

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

### Production Design

- Production Design: Sarah Greenwood, Set Decoration: Katie Spencer, *Beauty and the Beast*
- Production Design: Dennis Gassner, Set Decoration: Alessandra Querzola, *Blade Runner 2049*
- Production Design: Paul Denham Austerberry, Set Decoration: Shane Vieau and Jeff Melvin, *The Shape of Water*

### Sound Editing

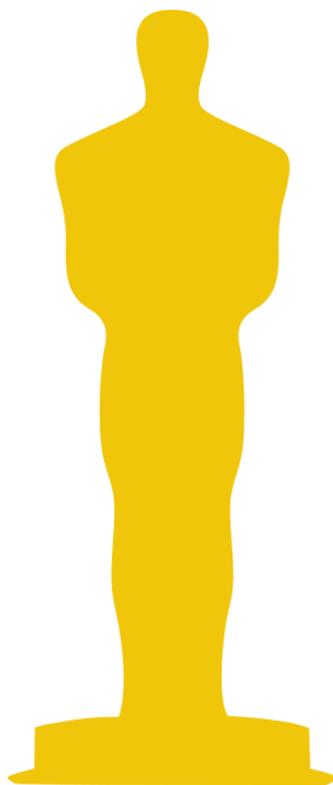
- Mark Mangini and Theo Green, *Blade Runner 2049*
- Nathan Robitaille and Nelson Ferreira, *The Shape of Water*
- Matthew Wood and Ren Klyce, *Star Wars: The Last Jedi*

### Sound Mixing

- Ron Bartlett, Doug Hemphill, and Mac Ruth, *Blade Runner 2049*
- Christian Cooke, Brad Zoern, and Glen Gauthier, *The Shape of Water*
- David Parker, Michael Semanick, Ren Klyce, and Stuart Wilson, *Star Wars: The Last Jedi*

### Visual Effects

- John Nelson, Gerd Nefzer, Paul Lambert, and Richard R. Hoover, *Blade Runner 2049*
- Christopher Townsend, Guy Williams, Joanthan Fawkner, and Dan Sudick, *Guardians of the Galaxy, Vol. 2*
- Stephen Rosenbaum, Jeff White, Scott Benza, and Mike Meinardus, *Kong: Skull Island*
- Ben Morris, Mike Mulholland, Neal Scanlan, and Chris Corbould, *Star Wars: The Last Jedi*
- Joe Letteri, Daniel Barrett, Dan Lemmon, and Joel Whist, *War for the Planet of the Apes*



(Continued from page 2)

If you have a 3D printer, you basically have a replicator so why would you need to steal other people's resources. Robert continued that without having read the books it sounds like there can be argument that there can actually be an abundance of resources. Discussion ensued about dystopias and popularity among other genres including YA. Juan ended discussion with mentioning that this book is more of an economic apocalypse.

**Norse Mythology:** Charlotte read it and said that she felt it didn't have the life as he isn't telling the stories, he is retelling other stories and didn't have the same sparkle. Juan asked Steve if he read it and he isn't a fan of this author so didn't read it.

**The Strange Case of the Alchemist's Daughter:** Steve mentioned that he read this book and thoroughly enjoyed it. The author does a good job of weaving the Sherlock Holmes & Dr. Hyde tale together. The character doesn't know that they are one in the same so seeing it from her perspective was interesting and he looks forward to the next book in the series.

**The Stars are Legion:** All female society. Juan said it has a lot of action and kept moving. Steve said he read the first few chapters and discarded it. None of the characters appealed to him and if doesn't find a character that appeals to him, he drops the book.

**The Stone Sky:** Juan says it's a great conclusion to the series. He said he wouldn't be surprised if it was a finalist. Marinela said she heard of this book thru the podcast Galactic Suburban. Juan said he has contributed to the podcast.

**Raven Stratagem:** This is the second book in the series. Discussion ensued about the series and Charlotte said that she read the first few chapters of the first book and felt it was so grim that she didn't want to continue. Juan said he struggled with the prose style. It was complex prose. Marinela mentioned how the hosts of the podcast Galactic Suburbia really liked the first book.

**Void Star:** Both Juan and Steve said that they plan to read this book.

**The Book of Dust:** Sarah said that it is YA. Charlotte said she read the first two chapters and its beautifully written. Juan found it funny that the author set out to write the Dark Material like the anti-Narnia but ending is worse than the Narnia ending. Discussion ensued how the Doctor Who ripped off the Dark Material ending with the Rose and 10th doctor ending.

**Autonomous:** Juan says he likes the prose style and is fast paced. He said that he was really engaged and would like to reread some parts. He wouldn't be surprised if it makes some award lists.

**New York 2140:** Fast paced and a lot of subplots. Steve said there are two young boy characters that were central to the plot. He said that this was the most enjoyable book he has read by the author. Steve felt that the characters in this book are some of his best characters. Some discussion ensued about the author and his other books.

(Continued on page 5)

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**The Collapsing Empire:** Juan really enjoyed this book. First of the trilogy. Juan says this is a pretty good space opera. Juan asked Steve if he read it. Steve said that is the better than the typical Baen book that may fall into the same category. Steve feels that the characters are interesting and some of the plot is interesting. Juan wondered if this could have been done as a democracy. Steve said that someone had asked about this type as to why books based in the future fall into feudalism. A theory was that it is because of the speed of communication in these societies.

**The Conjuring of Light:** Last in the series. Charlotte says she read the first book and felt the author did a good job but still didn't feel a desire to go onto with the series. She felt the secondary characters were much more fascinating than the main characters. She may give the second book a look. Steve says he read the first book and plans to get to the second book.

**The Unkindness of Ghosts:** A YA novel.

**Borne, A Novel:** There was a small discussion on whether this is YA. Author lives in Florida. One of his books Annihilation is being made into a movie. A short novel and Juan really liked it.

**Artemis:** Author is very hard science.

Juan listed his sources for compiling his best of presentation: Amazon's Best Science Fiction and Fantasy Books 2017, Book Scrolling, Kirkus Best of Science Fiction and Fantasy 2017, The Verge.

Recommendations from others and additional discussion:

Providence: Steve mentioned this book. A new set of characters and feels that it is the strongest book by Ann Leckie.

Best of Lists discussion: discussed various lists and their rankings. Steve felt he can't really trust the lists because many of the books are reviewed by people who do not read a lot. Many lists are also compiled based on number of units sold. Discussion ensued about Harry Potter winning a Hugo. There were opinions on disgust to defense of the award. There was also discussion about many of the Science Fiction books on list being more fantasy. There was discussion on romance novels being bestselling books. Bestselling versus quality discussion continued for a while. Robert mentioned that in terms of romance and Sci-Fi, any romance is usually not the central theme. They seem to have demons and vampires as the central theme. There was discussion about *Stranger in a Stanger Land* and *The Moon is a Harsh Mistress*. Discussion then moved onto that there isn't much hard science fiction anymore. Harry said that as authors they also look to see what is selling... what is popular. Not all just write what is popular but it is something that they consider. Steve said that he wants to read authors who write outside the mainstream not those who worry about what sells. Robert says that his criticism is that he would like to see a more optimistic future in the books. He would like to see more coming

of age, people going out exploring and elements of youth and optimism. Juan recommended The Expanse series as it is optimistic but also deals with political/class structure. Juan also recommended The Three Body Problem as optimistic. Charlotte recommended the Illuminate series which is YA. The author made the teenagers extremely resourceful, smart and funny. It is outstanding. Robert would like to see optimism in technologies without getting into nuclear war. That is why he likes the older books. They seem to be more positive. Discussion went onto the about the types of books that get rewarded at the Hugos and Nebulas. They tend to be deadly serious. Humor tends to be squeezed out. Discussion moved onto if looking for hard science fiction, try googling Hard Science Fiction 2017. Steve said right at the top where 10 brilliant Science Fiction novels. Harry suggested Frontier Saga. Steve suggested Robert Sawyer books.

Juan mentioned planning happening for the picnic and would send out an email. The next two meetings will be back at the main library. The group will be discussing Chelsea Quinn Yarbro and Spider Robinson soon. Juan mentioned that there is a thriving Zine community. LaunchPRT happening at Orlando Shakespeare Theatre and has a couple that are fantasy and Science Fiction oriented. Sci-Fi Bartow happening and Juan will likely get a table there.

The presentation adjourned at approximately 3:25pm

Ursula K. Le Guin

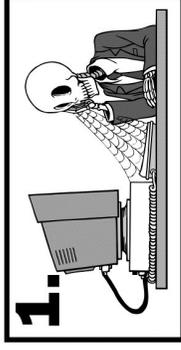
When I started to seriously read Science Fiction in my teens I went through the Hugo lists. *The Left Hand of Darkness* blew me away. It made me see how gender can affect society by creating a race that do not have it all the time. I would read other stories and see adaptations of her work. NPR played a radio show version of her story "The Field of Vision" where astronauts come back from a space voyage and something affected how their senses worked. PBS' adaptation of *The Lathe of Heaven* accomplished a great deal on limited budget. Her stories always pushed the edge of what the field could do.

I recently read her collection of essays *Words Are My Matter: Writings About Life and Books, 2000-2016*, and heard her Worldcon (1975) Guest of Honor speech on YouTube. Both conveyed her love of Science Fiction and her desire to see it treated like mainstream literature.

Le Guin continued to contribute to the field. Last year, she won the Hugo for *Words Are My Matter: Writings About Life and Books, 2000-2016*, and published another collection of essays *No Time to Spare: Thinking About What Matters*.



# There are two ways to be a science fiction and fantasy fan in Florida.



**1.**

Read about the exciting fan activities other people are doing.

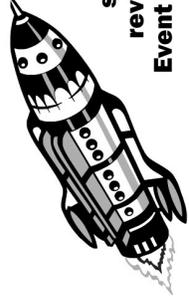


**2.**

Start doing exciting things yourself, and meet new friends "in the flesh" with OASFIS!

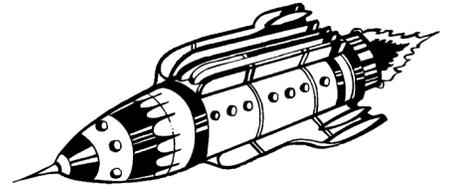


We're OASFIS - the Orlando Area Science Fiction Society. We enjoy and promote science fiction, fantasy, horror, books, movies, TV series, costuming, gaming - every part of the most imaginative hobby in existence. Of all the conventions in Central Florida, only our **OASIS conventions** are operated *by fans, for fans*, and not for profit...bringing affordable fun that speaks to *your* interests. Bring your unique fan interests to life and share them with Florida's fan community. We work with other fan organizations to bring our mutual passions to life. Visit our monthly meetings...and help shape fandom's future by joining OASFIS. Individual and family memberships are available. If you're tired of just sitting, you're welcome at OASFIS...no bones about it!



**Besides monthly meetings and our OASIS conventions, read about our special events and activities on our web site! Members can contribute articles, reviews and original fiction to our magazine Event Horizon. We want to hear from you!**

**OASFIS: The Orlando Area Science Fiction Society**  
**[www.oasfis.org](http://www.oasfis.org)**



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