



FOOLSCAP 11 PROGRAMME

This is the preliminary schedule as of September 20. The members of various panels are still in flux and there may be other changes.

FRIDAY

4-5 pm

Elk Room

The Future of Friendship

How many of your friends have you actually met face to face? Are friends you only know online “real” friends? How does the increase in working from home and other reclusive patterns of work and lifestyle change how we interact with friends, and does that change the nature of friendship?

Marty Hale-Evans (M); Peter David; Andrea Howe; Corry Lee

Alder Room

NASA In The Age of Shrinking Budgets

For those of us over a certain age, NASA still carries some glamour from the early days of space exploration and moon landings. It was the stuff that made our kid dreams of space travel. However, federal budgetary money has dwindled, and it seems likely that some percentage of space travel and work will be entering the private sector (such as with Virgin Galactic). We'll discuss what the state of NASA today is, and the future role of publicly funded space ventures.

Carlton Rhodes(M); Jeff Sturgeon; Greg Paddock

Red Lounge

What's an SF Con? (Discussion)

Consider the con – what is it, what is it not, why do we go, and what do we do? This open discussion will welcome participation from the general public who may be curious about what we're doing.

Sue Mohn(M); Tom Whitmore; Jay Lake

5-6 pm

Elk Room

20th Century Archeology

Panelists will bring along contemporary objects and make us guess – if we were archaeologists 300 years from now, and we dug it up, what would we think it was?

Nick Fraser (M); Daryl Frazetti; David Levine; Carlton Rhodes; Ellen Eades

Alder Room

Short Writing

Nano-fiction, Drabble, Flash Fiction – there are lots of styles of super-short writing. Workshop style,

we'll define the most common forms and spend the rest of our time producing extremely short fiction. Bring your pens and plan to write!

Corry Lee; Marty Hale-Evans; Janna Silverstein

Commons

Autograph Session: Peter David and Jeff Sturgeon

6-8 pm – Dinner Break

8-9 pm

Elk Room

Marie Antoinette Memorial Masquerade – Set-Up

Alder Room

Strut Your Stuff – Vicki Glover: Origami Hats (members can participate!)

8:55-9 pm

Commons

Opening Ceremonies

9-10:30 pm

Elk Room

Marie Antoinette Memorial Masquerade

Master of Ceremonies: Tom Whitmore

Alder Room

Which Stories Matter?

The world contains an infinite number of stories; some pass by and are gone, while others are revisited over and over. Which stories matter to us? To the world? To the future? What makes a story important

Jennifer Brozek (M); David Levine; Nick Frazer; Mark Ferrari; Amy Thomson

9:30-midnight

Commons

Stitch & Bitch

Bring your knitting, needlepoint, sewing, embroidery, chain mail, or whatever you like to make on your lap, and hang out. What you “discuss” will be up to you!

10:30-11 pm

Alder Room

Strut Your Stuff – Jennifer Brozek: Reading

10:30-11:30 pm

Elk Room

The Fantastic Wrapped in the Mundane

Exploring an old house, you find a mysterious wardrobe in the attic. Turning an unfamiliar corner in your city, you suddenly come across a world you never knew about. What's so compelling about finding the fantastic right under our noses, just beyond – or woven into – our daily lives?

Mark Ferrari (M); Peter David; Corry Lee; Diane Spahr; Katherine O'Kelly

11 pm – midnight

Alder Room

Strut Your Stuff – Tom Whitmore: Basic Book Collecting

SATURDAY

10-11 am

Elk Room

The Changing Definition of Art

Defining “art” has always been a moving target, but it seems that new ideas and new techniques and technologies come along at a breathtaking pace these days. How do we sort through it for the important changes? On what terms do we legitimize new art forms? What’s exciting us about the new and upcoming?

Kevin Radthorne (M); Jeff Sturgeon; Jeliza Patterson; Manny Frishberg; Mark Ferrari

Commons

Hats, Chapeaux, Huts, Bunkaquanks & Sombreros (Discussion)

Come talk about what you wear on your head, what you’ve seen people put on their heads, and other hat discussion. Bring examples!

Vicki Glover (M); David Levine; Torrey Podmajersky; Janna Silverstein

10-10:30 am

Alder Room

Strut Your Stuff – Carlton Rhoades: Slide Presentation

10:30-11 am

Alder Room

Strut Your Stuff – Katherine O’Kelly: Reading from *Clevermind*

11 am-Noon

Elk Room

Clothing as Character

Does a character’s clothing change your view of the character? Can clothing flesh out a character? Can there be too much description, so that the clothes are wearing the character instead? In this panel, we’ll discuss how to use descriptions of clothing effectively to enrich characters and stories.

Karen G Anderson (M); Corry Lee; Jennifer Brozek; John Alexander

Commons

Good Things I Haven’t Read Lately (Discussion)

We all have books that stay on the top of the “To Read” pile, but somehow never get read – why? What keeps us from reading them, or giving them up and moving on? Do we need a support group?

Jay Lake (M); Beth Mitcham; Renee Stern; Nancy Kress

11-11:30 am

Alder Room

Strut Your Stuff – David Levine: Reading

11:30 am-noon

Alder Room

Strut Your Stuff – Mark Ferrari: Reading

Noon-1:30 pm – Lunch Break

1:30-2:30 pm

**Red Lounge
Collaboration Panel**

What's it take to collaborate on a single story? How do two or more writers get in sync enough to actually produce a collaboration that's publishable? What are the advantages and pitfalls of collaborating? Experienced authors advise and commiserate.

Jay Lake (M); Shannon Page; Jennifer Brozek; Jack Skillingstead

1:30-3 pm

Elk Room

Guest Of Honor: Jeff Sturgeon; included Slide Show and Q&A

Alder room

YA SF&F

Many of us have kids in our lives who enjoy reading books aimed at the "young adult" audience, and many of us enjoy reading these books ourselves! Yet this section of the library is often misunderstood. What defines a YA book? How can you find the best YA books? If you're choosing for someone else, how can you determine what's appropriate for an age group? Two YA librarians and an author answer your questions about this vital and growing literary field.

Meredith Hale (M); Kara Dalkey; Kirsten Edwards

3-4:30 pm

Elk Room

Guest of Honor: Peter David

Alder Room

The Next Great Plague

In 2009, the world is officially facing two worldwide pandemics, H1N1 influenza and HIV/AIDS. In the past, there have been cholera, other influenza, plagues, and poxes; the future may contain viral hemorrhagic fevers and antibiotic-resistant bacteria. What's the next thing that's likely to make us all sick, and what can we do about it? If you want to write about pandemics, what's plausible?

Torrey Podmajersky (M); Eric Yarnell; Manny Frishberg; Jennifer Brozek

4:30-6 pm

Elk Room

Why Doesn't Fandom Take Female Characters in SF Seriously?

The problem isn't that there aren't good female characters around anymore. It's that so few fans – even the female ones – really care. And why are they inevitably the butt of jokes instead of admiration? Is it that most popular writers can't write effective female characters, or that writers who do don't become popular? Is it something in the fannish culture? Why don't female fans wonder about it more?

Ellen Eades (M); Corry Lee; Diane Spahr; Katherine O'Kelly

Alder Room

How to Write What You Don't Know – and Putting What You Know Into Your Work

So you've got a great story, but it just so happens to include something – a location, occupation, field of study, something – that you don't really know much about. If you're really attached to it, how can you make it work? How do you research it effectively, and then write about it without overwhelming the reader with "guess what I found out" recitations? Similarly, how do you avoid the same problem when you write about what you DO know?

David Levine (M); Kevin Radthorne; Renee Stern; Nathan Crowder; Nancy Kress

5-6 pm

Commons

Autograph Session (part two): Jeff Sturgeon and Peter David

6-8 pm – Dinner Break

8-9:30 pm

Elk Room

Game Show: hosted by Dave Howell

8-8:30 pm

Alder Room

Strut Your Stuff – John Alexander: Reading

8 pm – whenever

Commons

Board Games!

8:30-9 pm

Alder Room

Strut Your Stuff – Kevin Radthorne: Reading

9-9:30 pm

Alder Room

Strut Your Stuff – Nathan Crowder: Reading

9:30-11 pm

Elk Room

Why Do Certain Stock Characters Keep Showing Up?

Lately it's vampires, pirates, and zombies, oh my! (With a few wizards and werewolves thrown in for good measure.) Why do certain kinds of characters appeal to the mass consciousness so much that they come back into vogue over and over? Why do others enjoy a short heyday and then fade away, or never come into fashion, despite being just as adventurous, magical, wicked, or undead as anyone else

Tom Whitmore (M); Peter David; Kara Dalkey; Gene Breshears

9:30-10 pm

Alder Room

Strut Your Stuff – Diane Spahr: Reading

10-10:30 pm

Alder Room

Strut Your Stuff – Edd Vick: Flash Fiction

10:30-11 pm

Alder Room

Strut Your Stuff – Sue Mohn: Reading

SUNDAY

10-11 am

Elk Room

Food in SF Literature

Speculative writing about food can be extremely evocative and compelling, but it's also often difficult to do well. What's the purpose of including food in a story? What are some good ways to go about it, and what are the pitfalls

Tom Whitmore (M); Corry Lee; David Levine; Manny Frishberg

Commons

Why Are SF Fans Such Total Nitpickers? (Discussion)

You know it's true. We bet you have three or four points to make on the subject already, and probably two are for the proposition and two are against. What is it about us that makes us so concerned about the details? Why do we feel the need to apply such high standards, and continue to argue with each other with such passion? And why do we love and hate doing it so much at the same time?

Beth Mitcham (M); John Alexander; Gene Breshears

10-11:30

Red Lounge

Reading Group: Discussion of Greg Bear's *Legacy*; Led by: Kathleen Retz

10-10:30 am

Alder Room

Strut Your Stuff – Torrey Podmajersky: Reading *Fallen Fruit*

10:30-11 am

Alder Room

Strut Your Stuff – Kara Dalkey: Reading

11 am – noon

Elk Room

Writing Funny

Everyone loves a funny story. Even serious stories can benefit tremendously from funny elements or interludes that provide contrast and seasoning. But writing humor...well, many are called, but few are chosen. Or perhaps it's that the spirit is willing, but the funnybone is weak? We'll discuss how to wrestle down the savage joke, and how to walk the fine line of funny.

Kara Dalkey (M); Peter David; Nathan Crowder; Gene Breshears; Jay Lake

Alder Room

Aluminum Art: Jeff Sturgeon

Jeff Sturgeon discusses his unique aluminum art techniques.

Noon – 1:30 pm – Lunch Break

Nanobites

1:30-3 pm

Elk Room

Auction

Alder Room
Editing Your Own Work

Writers and editors use similar – but not identical – skill sets in the process of taking a work to publication. To be a good editor, you need to know how to write...and to be a good writer, it pays to know something about editing. We'll discuss why writers should edit and how to edit your own work, often a tricky task. We'll also discuss how to decide something is good enough to stop editing, and when to turn it over to a pro.

Gene Breshears (M); Andrea Howe; Kevin Radthorne; Amy Thomson

3-4 pm

Elk Room
Deconstructing Foolscap

Come and tell us what we did right, and what we can fix for next year!

Foolscap Committee

4-5 pm

Elk Room
What Would You Change About Your Body and Why Is The Future Filled With Thin People?

Someday, we'll all be able to make many more choices about how our bodies look. When that happens, what do you think you'd do with yourself? To judge from most SF, people will trend toward more uniformity to match an accepted beauty standard – do you agree, or do you think there may be more body diversity as people get more possible choices? Do you think living in different situations (such as with lower gravity) and with other cultures will change how we think about what's attractive?

Marty Hale-Evans (M); Peter David; Ellen Eades; Greg Paddock

Alder Room
Mapmaking for Fantasists

If you write stories set in a fictitious country or world, how do you make your geology/geography believable? Are you the kind of reader who makes your own maps if there isn't one included? Or does it really matter that the characters are mining for the wrong minerals, or that you can't quite picture how the countryside goes together?

Kara Dalkey (M); Eric Yarnell; John Alexander

5-6 pm

Commons
Meet the Guests of Honor

Sit, take a load off, talk with Peter and Jeff while the rest of us clean up!

6-8 pm – Dinner Break

8-?? – Dead Dog Party in Commons/Bear Room