GUESTS of HONOR

Robert J. Sawyer
Author of Flashforward, Red Planet Blues
The Neanderthal Parallax Trilogy
Hugo, Nebula and Campbell awards winner

Rick Sternbach
Illustrator for Star Trek
The Last Starfighter
Carl Sagan's Cosmos: A Personal Voyage, Solaris (2002 film)
Hugo and Emmy awards winner

Naomi Novik
Author of the Temeraire series
Campbell, Compton Crook awards winner

plus

Murder Ballads
Filk Artists
CD: Pretty in Scarlet

March 18-20, 2016
The Hilton Westchester
Rye Brook, NY

THE RETURN OF THE LOONIE: A NEW WELCOME

We're baaaack! After a year off to reorganize, restructure and revitalize our sponsoring club (note that the New York Science Fiction Society – the Lunarians (2), Inc. now sports a subscript), the Lunacon 2016 will take place the weekend of March 18-20, 2016 at the luxurious and spacious Hilton Westchester (affectionately known as the Escher Hilton) in Rye Brook, NY, in the scenic Hudson Valley, just a short, accessible ride north of New York City.

The Lunacon Force awakens to offer you once more the activities and events that you've come to expect at our gathering – fascinating Program panels and readings, a top-notch Art Show, a spectacular Masquerade, an enchanting Regency Dance, melodic Filing and Concerts, fantastic Gaming, dazzling Anime, a comfy Con Suite, a winning Books And More Exhibit, a tempting Dealers Room, and much, much more. As always we strive to improve upon what we've done in the past and to present innovative, new ideas. We haven't been idle during our hiatus!

If you have any questions or comments, or would like to volunteer, please feel free to contact us at information@2016.lunacon.org or at our Post Office Box address. We look forward to seeing you at Lunacon 2016.

GUESTS OF HONOR

This year's mix of notable Guests from across the spectrum of science fiction, fantasy and alternate history is sure to enthrall and delight and entertain and enlighten you.

Robert J. Sawyer, a Canadian Homo sapiens, is the author of 23 novels. In his prolific career, he has earned numerous awards for his work, including the Nebula, Hugo and Campbell Memorial Awards, and the Prix Aurora. He received the Hugo for Best Novel in 2003 for Hominids (the first volume of his Neanderthal Parallax trilogy) and the 1999 Prix Aurora for his time-travel thriller Flashforward, which was the basis for a television series on ABC. His latest...
novel *Quantum Night* is slated for release on March 1, 2016, just in time for you to buy it, read it and bring it to the Con for autographing. We are pleased and proud that Rob has agreed to come to *Lunacon* as our Guest.

Rick Sternbach was awarded the Hugo for Best Professional Artist in 1977 and 1978, and an Emmy in 1981 for his work on the original *Cosmos*, hosted by Carl Sagan. He is perhaps best known, though, for his work on three *Star Trek* spinoff series – *Star Trek*: The Next Generation, *Star Trek*: Deep Space Nine and *Star Trek*: Voyager – where he helped define the look of the 24th century. Most recently, he’s lent his efforts to the upcoming *Star Trek*: Renegades web series. Other well-known projects of his are the films *The Last Starfighter* and *Solaris*. In addition, he is a co-founder of the Association of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists (ASFA). We take special pleasure in bringing him back home to *Lunacon* as our Guest.

Naomi Novik, winner of the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer in 2006, is author of the Temeraire series, the first book of which, *His Majesty's Dragon*, was a Hugo finalist and winner of the 2007 Compton Crook Award. Her most recent novel, *Uprooted*, was released last May and has been optioned for a feature film. The final Temeraire novel, *League of Dragons*, is expected to be released later this year.

As a special treat, *Lunacon 2016* will be presenting the Filk group The Murder Ballads. Revel in songs from their debut album, *Pretty in Scarlet* (and take the opportunity to buy your own copy of “The Ballad of Captain America’s Disapproving Face”), and be enchanted by the ballad that’s been knocking them (proverbially) dead, “White Stag.” Those who just heard Adam and Catt perform at Philcon 2015, where they were Musical Guests of Honor, won’t want to miss their concert at *Lunacon*, and those who’ve never experienced their energy are sure to become fans of these murderous balladeers. Join us and sing along!

**PROGRAMMING AND EVENTS**

Our Guests of Honor are just the beginning of what our Program has planned. We’ve assembled a wide and diverse assortment of leading figures in the genres of science fiction, fantasy, horror, comics and alternate history, along with knowledgeable folks from the art world, publishing, costuming, filksinging, gaming, computers, the sciences, and Fandom as well. You’ll find an abundance of activities and events on our many tracks of programming – panels, workshops and demonstrations covering just about every topic and interest imaginable as well as readings, speeches and multimedia presentations. Our theme for this year’s Program is Science AND Science Fiction. Along with our other usual panels, we’ll feature a plethora of topics for children & adults on current and future science – today’s science fiction, tomorrow’s science.

As part of this theme, for the first time ever, *Lunacon* is presenting a Maker Track. We’ll be featuring fascinating speakers and cutting-edge technology, including a speaker from the NY Lego Users Group giving a presentation on Lego Mindstorms (everything is awesome!), another from the Enable Community Foundation, which provides 3-D printed prosthetics for children and adults in underserved locations around the world, giving a demonstration of 3-D printing, and a presentation on the selection of maker processor boards, covering hardware, software and different applications, with more surprises at the Convention! We’re also planning a Maker program just for kids (see below).

It all starts Friday night with our “Meet the Pros” event. Plus there are our hugely popular Regency Dance, and the Masquerade, two long-standing traditions at *Lunacon*. (If you hate having to choose between two or three terrific things going on at the same time, well, we can only apologize. But we’re not totally heartless – we’re leaving you breaks for lunch and dinner, and for sleep, whatever that is.)

Suggestions for programming items are always welcome. Send them to the Convention’s POB marked Attn: Programming or to program@www.lunacon.org

**CHILDREN’S PROGRAMMING**

It’s the usual fun and games plus for the next generation, plus our Guests of Honor and invited Program participants will be doing some special stuff just for kids. Check your Pocket Program for details. (Note: Children’s Programming is NOT babysitting. Also, see below under Registration for policies specifically related to children under 6.)

**REGENCY DANCE**

The ballroom will overflow once again with elegance and grace and the movement of happy celebrants whimsically dressed for the Deco era. Period costumes (gowns and ruffled shirts) are often seen, but not required. Watch, learn and join in the fun!

**MASQUERADE**

Saturday night at *Lunacon* means the Masquerade. Let your imagination soar! Bring to life your favorite character from sf, fantasy, anime, or bring to life your own original creation. Or join the audience– it’s almost as much fun to be a spectator.

The Masquerade, as usual, will be run on a Skill Division system. We start off with a Young Fan Division (13 years old and younger) followed by costumers at Novice, Journeymen, and Craftsman/Master levels. Judging is by a panel of experts in the field of costuming. Photographs will be taken and available for purchase on Sunday. There will also be costuming-oriented Program items during the Con.

**Hall Costume Contest:**

Hall costumes are highly encouraged at *Lunacon* and awards are given. If you wish your hall costume to be judged, please stop by the Masquerade registration table. Feel free while you are there to sign up for Saturday night’s Masquerade. Please be aware that nudity is NOT a costume, and if your costume is a bit too revealing, we ask that you cover yourself in public areas of the hotel, including the lobby, hallways, restaurants, bar and the assembly areas in front of the ballrooms.

**Weapons:**

Anyone considering wearing a weapon as part of a hall costume is warned that for any violation of the rules, you will be asked to remove the item from the event. Use good judgment. Even if it complies with the rules, if it is unsafe or would reduce others’ enjoyment (e.g., scabbards that extend far enough to be a trip hazard to passersby), please don’t wear it. When in doubt, ASK!

We define weapons to include real weapons, facsimile weapons, anything actually used as a weapon, and anything that might reasonably be surmised to be a weapon. We will have Event staff to assist with enforcement of this.

**Weapons rules for hall costumes are as follows:**

- No projectile weapons (whether it projects a solid, liquid, gas, or energy).
- No replicas of any current or historical firearm are permitted. (A phaser is acceptable, a space marine’s assault rifle isn’t.) Working
brows are, unfortunately, included with the above. (Sorry, Katniss.) All edged weapons (“live steel”) must be peace-bound and incapable of being drawn. Weapons may not be drawn in any public area of the convention.

Staves, canes and non-working replicas (boffer or cardboard swords, etc.) do not need to be peace-bound per se, but must adhere to the same guidelines as edged weapons.

These rules also apply to costumes included as part of the Masquerade competition unless specifically authorized beforehand by the Masquerade Director for use during the Masquerade. Please check our website (www.lunacon.org) for further details.

**Photography:**
There is no flash photography outside of designated areas, and all photography and audio/videotaping requires the permission of the individual(s) or group being photographed. Again, please check our website (www.lunacon.org) for further details.

**FILK**
Singing of sf/fantasy, media, deep space and medieval times, Filk is Fandom’s own folk music. Songs may be silly or serious, borrow existing tunes or have original ones, and be performed as solos and sing-alongs. And even if you don’t join in, the mini-concerts are sure to entertain and amuse. Traditionally, nightly filksinging goes on into the wee small hours (or 3 am, whichever comes first), and our program offers both open filking and bardic circle. Besides panel discussions and workshops, the musical side of **Lunacon 2016** will be enlivened by a performance by The Murder Ballads.

**FILM AND ANIMÉ**
Once again, we’ll be presenting some of the latest in **Animé** (Japanese Animation) along with old favorites. All Japanese language videos will either be dubbed or have running commentary by a narrator. Check your Pocket Program for the play list and schedule once you get to the Con.

Our nostalgic favorite **Vintage Film and Video Screening Room** returns, with film archivist Movie Mike at the projector. Thrill to the World Premiere of Mission to Mongo, Mike’s new, seamless 3-hour, 16mm (yes, real film) cut of the serial Flash Gordon Conquers the Universe. Plus he’ll feature a **Leonard Nimoy Memorial Tribute**, including the Star Trek episodes “City on the Edge of Forever” (by Harlan Ellison) and “Amok Time” (by Theodore Sturgeon), In Search of: UFOs (from the TV show he hosted) and a feature cut of the serial Zombies of the Stratospere (with a young Nimoy as one of the Martian invaders battling rocketman Commando Cody, his first turn as an alien). (Live long and prosper.) Selected other gems will be shown by video projector.

The Screening Room will also host a panel on the subject of “Female Empowerment Stories and Characters” in sf movies, literature, comics, serials, animé and pulp, followed by related film and video screenings: a Wonder Woman episode on film, a DVD of the female-driven Rocky Jones, Space Ranger story “Crash of Moons,” and more. In addition, we’ll present a slide-show talk by Bob Bulko on future war fiction, 1880s-1920s, chockful of politically-incorrect stereotypes and ridiculous technology, titled “Long Before Steampunk.”

**ART SHOW & PRINT SHOP**
The **Lunacon** Art Show has long been hailed as one of the highest quality science fiction convention Art Shows around, displaying the finest works by professional and amateur artists alike. And while the Art Show features stellar artists every year, this year we’re featuring works from an artist who is literally stellar, our Artist GoH Rick Sternbach, famed and honored for his astronomical. As usual, we will have a multitude of panels of original art, as well as tables for 3-D artwork, plus a Print Shop, where multiple copies of less expensive reproductions of those originals you can’t quite afford just yet are offered for sale. Original art pieces receiving 5 written bids will go to voice auction Sunday afternoon. Whether you bid on a stunning original or take home a professional print, there’s something to suit any taste … or price range.

**BOOKS AND MORE EXHIBIT**
Throughout the weekend, we’ll spotlight the best that science fiction and fantasy publishers large and small have to offer in books and related items. You’ll also find on display e-books, magazine subscriptions, roleplaying games and computer software. In fact, our Exhibit is so wide-ranging that we’ve renamed it the “Books and More Exhibit.”

And you have a chance to win hundreds of dollars’ worth of it all! Sunday afternoon, all of the books (and more) generously donated by publishers will be raffled off to benefit the Lunarians’ Scholarship Fund, and all you have to do to win is buy a ticket. Buy a bunch of tickets for more chances to win a bundle of goodies. Then join us at the Raffle, which some consider an entertainment highlight of the Con and which has been immortalized in at least one novel. (And Seth thought it was safe to move back to New York.)

When you support our Raffle, you’re enabling the **Donald A. and Elsie B. Wollheim Memorial Scholarship** to help beginning sf and fantasy writers from the New York Metropolitan area attend the Clarion, Clarion West and Odyssey Writers Workshops. Since it began, the Fund has provided partial scholarships to four dozen aspiring writers, several of whom have gone on to be nominated for and to receive awards in the genre.

**GAMING**
Gaming at **Lunacon** is better than ever! This year we have over 200 games covering all genres, and for every taste from horror to humor, and fantasy and sf to simulation. We’ll be bringing you new hit games like Five Tribes, Manhattan Project, Dead of Winter, Vintage Film Animation) along with old favorites. All Japanese language videos will either be dubbed or have running commentary by a narrator. Check your Pocket Program for the play list and schedule once you get to the Con. Our nostalgic favorite Codenames and Batman Fluxx, and returning favorites like Ninja Burger, Werewolves of Miller’s Hollow, Settlers of Catan (a Lunacon tradition!), 7 Wonders, Carcassonne, Splendor and Shadows over Camelot. Or, in tribute to Terry Pratchett, you can come play The Witches, Ankh-Morpork or Guards, Guards on Saturday afternoon.

And on top of playing great games, you can win awesome prizes. One featured event will be a “Play to Win” tournament of the strategic game Magic the Wonder. And even now, we’re still adding to our line-up with more. In addition, we’ll present a slide-show talk by Bob Bulko on future war fiction, 1880s-1920s, chockful of politically-incorrect stereotypes and ridiculous technology, titled “Long Before Steampunk.”

**CON SUITE**
The Convention Hospitality Suite (but almost no one calls it that) is the place to relax and unwind from the hustle and bustle, to rest your weary bones, and sip, snack and schmooze with old friends and new ones. We’ll have the usual assortment of food, drinks and munchies. On Sunday morning we hope to offer our traditional New York-Style breakfast of cream cheese and bagels. We’ll try to have ingredient labels for all edibles on hand for those with special dietary concerns. (But please keep in mind that refreshments...
AT-CON SERVICES

Need help, information or have a question? The Member Services table is the place to go. You can check the message boards or post a message, get travel info, drop off copy for the Newszine, coordinate handicapped services, or find out what you need to know about the Con. If they can’t help you, they’ll direct you to someone who can.

Our At-Convention Newszine is the place to check for the latest program changes, open party listings, and any other Con-related information. Copies will be available at spots throughout the Con.

The Lunacon Operations Office (or the Office or Con Ops) is the operational center of the Convention, and also the base of Lunacon Security and the Lost and Found. You may leave copy here for the Newszine, report problems, or leave messages for Committee members.

Convention Sales: Getch’yer Lunacon 2016 T-shirt here, featuring art by the incomparable Rick Sternbach, Books and More Raffle tickets, and past year’s Program Books. (We recently moved our Storage Room and are still inventorying. Indy Jones, where are you?)

Other Fan Groups:
A number of tables will be made available (on a first-come basis) to bids, and other cons and clubs for promotional purposes only (no sales). Anyone desiring to reserve a table should contact us. Plus we’ll again have a freebie table for flyers.

STAFF
This entire Convention is run solely by volunteers. We depend on people like you to help make Lunacon a success. Help is needed on Thursday prior to the Con’s opening, during the Con and on Sunday for tear-down and move-out. Volunteers get to visit the Staff Den to grab a meal and relax for a bit, and can earn a Staff T-shirt (featuring art by Rick Sternbach) and/or a rollover membership in Lunacon 2017 (which is already in the planning stages), depending on the hours worked. And, of course, you’ll also get our heartfelt thanks. If interested in helping, check the appropriate box on the Registration form or contact us at volunteers@2016.lunacon.org or at any of the addresses in this brochure.

LUNACON POLICIES
Safer Space Policy
Lunacon endeavors to be a fun and friendly event; therefore we have set up the following guidelines to make our space safe and enjoyable for all. Any violation of Lunacon policies, or other behaviors that the Convention Chair and Committee deem inappropriate, will result in actions up to and including, but not limited to, revoking the offender’s membership.

A fuller description of our Safer Space Policy is posted on our website (www.lunacon.org) and be provided in publications available at Lunacon 2016.

Other Lunacon Policies
Our policies on specific issues is posted in greater detail on our website (www.lunacon.org) and be provided in publications available at Lunacon 2016.

SOUVENIR PROGRAM BOOK ADVERTISING
The Lunacon 2016 Souvenir Program Book will be 8 ½ in. x 11 in. and will feature cover art and a portfolio by Rick Sternbach, our Artist Guest of Honor. It will also include photographs and articles about our Guests of Honor plus other items of interest. If you are interested in placing an advertisement, e-mail us for a Rate Card (as previously, rates differ for “fan” and “pro” ads) at publications@2016.lunacon.org.

DEALERS ROOM
The Dealers Room will offer an extensive and varied array of interesting science fiction and fantasy items to entice you to part with your money. You’ll find new and used books, leather goods, costume-related items, buttons, staffs (staves), jewelry, statues, film recordings, and much, much more. Anyone wishing to sell items at Lunacon can contact us at dealers@2016.lunacon.org.

REGISTRATION
Lunacon 2016 memberships are available at the following rates:

- Adults: $55 through Feb. 29th
  $65 at-the-door
- Students/Young Adults (13-25 as of March 18, 2016) / Active Military: $45 through Feb. 29th
  $50 at-the-door
- Children (aged 6-12 as of March 18, 2016): $30 through Feb. 29th
  $35 at-the-door
- Stuffed Animals (of any age): $5 through Feb. 29th
  and-at-the-door

Note our introduction of new categories and rates. Eligibility for the Student / Young Adult (13-25) / Active Military rate is dependent on providing appropriate ID at the time of badge pickup.

Group Rates:
Special rates are available for bona fide groups of 25 or more. Contact us at registration@2016.lunacon.org for the particulars.

Lunacon memberships are a thoughtful gift for anyone with whom you want to share the Con.

Children-in-Tow Policy
The children’s membership rate in Lunacon (above) applies to those children who will be between the ages of 6 to 12 as of March 18, 2016. Children who are not yet 6 years old as of March 18, 2016 are “children-in-tow.” Children-in-tow are admitted to Lunacon free of charge.

A child-in-tow must be accompanied at all times while at the Convention by a parent, guardian or person acting in that capacity. (Stuffed animals should probably also be kept in-tow.) This rule applies in all areas of the Convention, including in any Program items or other Convention events which may be oriented toward children. Note that neither the Convention nor the Convention staff are babysitters, and no member of Convention staff is obligated to take on that role.

Convention Badges
Yes, you do need your “stinkin’ badges”! You must be able to produce a badge to enter any convention activities or when requested to do so.

Lost Badges:
If your badge is lost, check with Registration or Member Services to see if it has been turned in. A fee of $5 will be charged if the badge has to be replaced. A second badge replacement costs $10. We will not issue a third replacement.

Registration will be open during the
HOTEL

Lunacon 2016 will be held at the Hilton Westchester, Lunacon’s home for 21 of the last 23 years, located at 699 Westchester Ave., Rye Brook, NY, in Westchester County, just north of New York City.

Special room rates (per night) for Lunacon 2016 are: $141 for all regular rooms, not including taxes. Room types include one king bed, two double beds and two queen beds.

The minimum legal age to register for a room is 18. Children 17 years or younger may stay free of charge in their parent’s room. Cancellations made within 24 hours of arrival will forfeit one night’s room plus tax. Check-in time is 3 pm; check-out time is noon.

The Hotel accepts American Express, Carte Blanche, Diners Club, Visa, MasterCard, JCB, Discover cards and a few others. Please go to the Lunacon 2016 Hotel Reservation Page on our website (www.lunacon.org) to reserve your room. You will be asked if you want to be on an “Active Floor”, a “Quiet Floor” or have “No Preference”.

If you have any problems making your reservations, please contact us immediately at hotel@2016.lunacon.org so that we can resolve the issue as quickly as possible. Please note that any add-ons that may appear to be available after you confirm your reservation on the hotel website as part of the Hilton “eStandby Upgrade Program” will not be honored by the Hotel for Lunacon.

There are also a limited number of Junior and Luxury Suites available. If you are interested in one, please contact us at hotel@2016.lunacon.org. All suites MUST be booked through us. All available suites in the hotel are assigned to and by the Convention, so please get your requests in as soon as possible. We will provide the Suite rates at that time.

If you’d like to host a party, please consult our Party Policies above and on our website (www.lunacon.org).

The Hotel is 100% Non-Smoking. (That includes e-cigarettes too.) No exceptions. Smoking is only allowed in designated outside areas.

Self-parking in the Hotel’s parking lot is free. Valet parking is $18/day with in and out privileges. Pets are allowed, but there is a $75 non-refundable deposit. (Service animals are exempted.) The hotel is ADA-compliant and has handicapped-accessible bedrooms.

Hotel amenities include an indoor pool, a health club, and plenty of free parking. The Hotel’s on-site restaurant, härth, provides a relaxing atmosphere for dining. There are also a number of places to eat in the local area, several supermarkets, and other stores to supply all your needs.

Directions

By Car
From the South: Take I-95 (New Jersey Turnpike/New England Thruway) north to Exit 21, Rye. Go west on I-287 (Cross-Westchester Expressway) to Exit 10 (Bowman Avenue/Webb Avenue). Make a right at the second traffic light, then go three more traffic lights and turn left into the Hotel entrance;

… or take I-87 (New York Thruway), or the Merritt Parkway, or the Saw Mill River Parkway, or I-684, or I-84 south to I-287 east (Cross-Westchester Expressway) to Exit 10 (Routes 120, 120A, Port Chester), Stay to the left, following the signs to Port Chester. Go under the highway and you’re on Westchester Avenue. At the fourth traffic light, turn left into the Hotel entrance.

From the North and West of the Hudson River: All major highways intersect with I-87 (New York Thruway). Go east on I-87/I-287 over the Tappan Zee Bridge and stay on I-287 east (Cross-Westchester Expressway) and continue as above under “From the South”.

By Rail
Take the Metro-North New Haven Line Local to the Port Chester or Rye station. The Port Chester stop is the closer station, so cabfare will be less; however, it is not handicapped-accessible, whereas Rye is. This year we’ll have more shuttles than ever before. The complimentary Hilton shuttle will run to Port Chester and a limited run to Rye. (None of the shuttles, however, are handicapped-accessible.) Details will be posted closer to the Convention.

The #13 Westchester bus runs from the Port Chester Station and the Hotel. Check the Westchester Dept. of Transportation Bee-Line website (http://transportation.westchestergov.com/ or http://transportation.westchestergov.com/beeline/) or call 914-813-7777 for further details.

By Bus
Buses are available from various points in Westchester and the Bronx. For current fares and schedules, check the Westchester Department of Transportation website (above) for further details.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

By mail: Lunacon 2016 PO Box 3137 New York, NY 10163-3137

By e-mail: information@2016.lunacon.org or specific departments as noted above

Website: www.lunacon.org.

Please check our website periodically for updated information and other items you may want to download in advance of the convention.

We are looking forward to seeing you at Lunacon 2016.

Credits
Editor: Mark L. Blackman (with nods to past editors and thanks to the 2016 ConCom)
Layout: Nancy Talblum Printed by: Mapleton Printing. (Thanks, Joe.)
Society logo (Little Loonie) by Wally Wood and is a trademark.

Lunacon is a service mark of the New York Science Fiction Society – the Lunarians (2), Inc. It is the (usually) annual New York Metropolitan Area science fiction convention run by the Society, a New York State not-for-profit corporation.

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Please fill out this form and mail it in with your payment to the above address by February 29, 2016. If you provide an email address, an email confirmation of your registration will be sent. Please submit ONE registration form per attendee; payment information, for multiple attendees can be consolidated onto one form. A fillable PDF version of this form is available on our website www.lunacon.org. When using this form, please write clearly and legibly.

Name _______________________________________________________________

Badge Name (if different) _____________________________________________

Address ___________________________________________________________

City __________________________ State/Province _______ Zip/Postal Code __________

E-Mail Address(es) __________________________________________________

Phone # ___________________________________________________________

I would like to volunteer for __________________________________________

Since I’ve last attended Lunacon:

[ ] I’ve moved  [ ] My email has changed  [ ] My phone # has changed

[ ] This is my first Lunacon  Age, if under 25 on March, 18, 2016 __________

Number of memberships paid for ____  Total payment enclosed/attached _________

Payment Method:  [ ] Check/Money Order (indicate #) _______ (Payable to “Lunacon”)  
(Do not mail cash!)