
SEAMS TO ME

Costume-Con 26 Progress Report
April 25 - 28, 2008, San Jose, California
Issue 4 - Spring 2008

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Kevin Roche

As I write this, we are just a few weeks away from Costume-Con 26! In just over a month, I'll get to welcome you personally to our four-day celebration of the art of costume. Our registered membership is rapidly approaching 600, so CC26 is going to be quite a gathering.

We can't possibly fit all the latest news into this PR, so please be sure to visit www.cc26.info for the most recent updates. We've added a "What's New?" page to make it easy for you to look for them. Our program information is available online now, too!

One of the fun tasks I got to perform this year was helping our various show directors to locate entertainment for their events. We've booked some fun and unusual performers for not only the Friday Night Social, but for the masquerade half-times as well. I've also been having fun helping Ken Patterson find items we can run on CCTV, the in-house video channel we'll be running at the Doubletree.

If you haven't booked a room yet, please consider doing so; you'll have lots more fun staying on site, and room bookings are how we pay for our function space. Our guaranteed room block was released April 3rd, but you may still be able to get our discounted rate after that if you contact hotel@cc26.org after making your reservation. See you in a month!

P.S. Even if you are only planning to attend part of the weekend, there are some very important deadlines if you are entering one of our competitions or shows:

- * Art to Wear creations may be submitted until ***April 12.***
- * ALL paperwork and documentation for the Historical Masquerade must be turned in by ***8PM Friday, April 25,*** even if you are not attending Friday or Saturday.
- * Registration forms for the Science Fiction Masquerade must be turned in by ***8PM Friday, April 25.*** Documentation and Music is due by the end of tech rehearsal Saturday.
- * Registration for the Single Pattern Contest is open until ***noon on Saturday, April 26.***

Pre-registration via our online system (or via mail) is encouraged for ALL competitions.

Kevin Roche

Costume-Con 26 Convention Chair

President, The Unconventional Foundation

IMPORTANT CONVENTION CONTACTS AND INFO:

Doubletree Hotel: 800-***.***

hismasq@cc26.org (Shelley Monson/Eleanor Farrell)

fsfmasq@cc26.org (Jennifer Tiftt)

ffshow@cc26.org (Dana MacDermott)



dolls@cc26.org (Cayta Barrows)

madsience@cc26.org (Christie Bertani)

videomasq@cc26.org (Henry Osier)

HOTEL INFORMATION

TIPPING

Tipping is not a city in China. Tipping is a good way to show your appreciation for the folks making your stay at the hotel pleasant, and in many cases, an important supplement to their regular wages. California may not have a separate "tips" minimum wage, but service employees everywhere are often taxed on their expected level of tips above their regular wages. If you receive good service, please tip.

Keep a stack of singles available, and things are easy. Remember, too, that tipping is never required if you're receiving bad service.

Valet parking tips: If you're doing valet parking, give \$1-2 to the valet each time you pick up your car. There's no need to tip when dropping it off.

Maid/Housecleaning tips: Leave your tip for your maid on your pillow or on the fitted sheet each day when you leave the room in the morning. Maids will ignore money in other places, and will not assume it's for them. If you want to be very thorough, bring some envelopes, and leave your tips for the maids in an envelope clearly marked "maids" or "tip." Tip \$1/person in your room. If you're sloppy, tip \$2/person. If you've thrown a party and there's lots of trash to clear, think about giving the maids a \$20.

Bell Staff tips: If you have a bellman unload your car and bring your bags to your room, tip your bellman \$1/bag. If you've got a lot of heavy stuff, small packages, or other inconvenient items, consider just giving him (or them) a \$10 for each full luggage cart.

Restaurant tips: 15-18% for good service is the expected level. If you're not sure how much that is, the San Jose sales tax rate is 8.25%. Just double the tax line on your receipt and you'll leave a 16.5% tip.

(Editor's Note: The above map is not a map to Costume-Con. If you believe Costume-Con is in China, you are mistaken and confused. Did you take your pill this morning? Go take it. Right now. Thank you. In fact, Costume-Con 26 is in Spain. See you there!)



BORED? CRANKY? TIRED OF WATCHING WEIRDOS IN FUNNY CLOTHES WANDER THE HALLS OF THE HOTEL HAVING FUN WITHOUT YOU? NO PROBLEM! NOW, COURTESY OF CC26, YOU CAN GO TO YOUR HOTEL ROOM, AND WATCH MORE OF THE SAME ON CCTV!!

CCTV (Costume Con Television) brings you the best of fromage cinematographique (pardon our French), delivered discreetly to your hotel room through the modern miracle of the Idiot Lantern. Some of the things you can expect to see this weekend will include the movies "Pied Piper of Hamelin," "Little Lord Fauntleroy," "Intolerance," and "Treasure Island," as well as the serials "Flash Gordon" and "Ace Drummond." Plus, we'll present some highlights from past Costume Con Masquerades, and KTEH's science fiction programming – including "Doctor Who" and "Cinema Insomnia with Mr. Lobo." So when you find yourself kicking back in a hotel room, switch on the ol' Radiation Master 2000 and prepare to be amazed!!!



IMPORTANT MESSAGES FROM COMPETITION HEADS

PARALLEL DIMENSIONS IN DESIGN:

This event, which will take place Sunday morning at 11:30, includes:

The Future Fashion Show
The Single Pattern Competition
Art to Wear

Single Pattern Competition: Entries for the single pattern competition are accepted online up to Wednesday, April 23, and at the Con when registration is open through noon, Saturday, April 26, at the Masquerade registration table near con registration. To register online, go to: <http://www.cc26.info/main.php?section=events&page=fashion>. Sign in and select Single Pattern Online SPC Entry Form from the left hand menu.

Art to Wear: There may still be time to submit that piece of Art to Wear you have in your closet or workroom to the show! Any garment, accessory or ensemble that is art by virtue of design and construction, or modification and embellishment is eligible to be taken down the CC-26 runway. The deadline for registration is April 12, and you can sign up on line at: <http://www.cc26.info/main.php?section=events&page=fashion>. Sign in and select Online A2W Entry Form from the left hand menu. You will also need to submit a photo to ffshow@cc26.org.

We hope you will join us.

Participant information: Important notification for the Participants in any of the elements of the Parallel Dimensions in Design show:

- * There may be sign ups available for pre-greenroom judging slots at the Masquerade registration table near con registration. The sign ups will be first come, first serve.
- * Other Judging will take place in the greenroom on Sunday morning, as time permits. If we have a large last minute turnout for the Single Pattern competition, we cannot guarantee there will be opportunity for every entry to be seen up close by a Judge.
- * It will benefit everyone if you register in advance of arriving at the Convention.
- * Single Pattern participants who are entering the Wellington Hat, and Art to Wear models for single garments or accessories should bring the equivalent of stage blacks to wear on the runway so that your entered item is emphasized.
- * There will be a run through, and green room Judging in the morning before the show. Participants should plan on being there starting at 9:00 AM, but check at the Masquerade registration table for the details and up to date information. If you are registered in advance for the show, you will receive emailed updates and information.

If you have any questions, please email us at ffshow@cc26.org

FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION MASQUERADE (Addition to Rules Posted in Costume-Con 26 PR 3):

Special Circumstances:

Since in some areas of costuming, particularly Fursuit and Cosplay, the Creator and the Presenter are frequently not the same person, special arrangements must be made when the Creator of such a costume entered in competition will not be present at CC26.

If the Creator (defined as the person who did the majority of principal construction and/or design on the costume. For fur-suits this would include the head and/or 'torso') has an attending membership but cannot attend the convention, you need to let me know this either when you register or at the convention before registration closes. Bring with you a signed copy (or equivalent) of the Non-Attending Creator Statement found on our website.

If the Creator has a supporting membership, you need to let me know this either when you register or at the convention before registration closes. Bring with you a signed copy (or equivalent) of the Non-Attending Creator Statement.

If the Creator does not have a membership, a supporting or higher membership for that person must be obtained in order for the costume to be entered in competition. Supporting memberships are set at \$35.00.

Notify me either when registering for the Masquerade or at the convention before registration closes of the situation. Bring with you a signed copy (or equivalent) of the Non-Attending Creator Statement.

The Masquerade Director will decide on a case-by-case basis whether to allow an entry to compete when the creator is a supporting member, since the usual rule requires an attending membership.

Entering in the Exhibition category does not require a non-attending maker to have a membership. I encourage you to enter in this category if the above will be a hardship.

PROGRAMMING

Hello to all from the elves of program land. Our schedule should be up soon on the website: we do have hands-on workshops, lectures, demos, show and tells on everything from Bustle Period Hats to Tamil Sarees, from Friday afternoon till Monday afternoon. We have special effects and fursuits and cosplay and lots of historical. We have a track on special effects and a track on masquerade presentation and two panels where you can bring your "problem children" for diagnosis and treatment (one on costume crafts and one on construction difficulties - remember to bring your examples). You'll want to come early and stay late. Of special note: Quickie Corsets demo Friday afternoon, Hair and Hairpieces workshop on Monday morning, Embellishment Fair from 10-1 on Saturday.

There are some workshops that you may wish to sign up for before the convention. Here are the descriptions and web addresses.

WORKSHOPS:

Wire Frame Hats

Saturday 10-12:30 San Juan-San Carlos
 Taught by Lynn McMasters

Many of those amazing confectionary-like creations of the late Victorian and Edwardian periods used wire frames instead of wired buckram, felt, or straw alone to give them their oft-complex appearing structure. Wire frames can have advantages in terms of the strength-to-weight ratio, as well as its translucence. By the end of this class given by Lynn McMasters, you will know how to use this technique to make a wire frame in any shape for any hat style. The teacher will provide: the millinery wire, wire joiners, fine 28-gauge wire and a pattern. Students should provide a styrofoam head or rounded poly hat block, wire clippers, needle nose pliers, scissors, a small pack of T-pins and hand sewing supplies.

Please email Lynn McMasters at *** to reserve a space.**

Cost \$15

Eliminating the Stress of Distressing Costumes

Saturday 1:30-4 :30 San Juan-San Carlos
 Taught by Gail Wolfenden-Steib

Basic distressing techniques covered will include: dyeing/teching down garments to create age, the techniques of working wet and dry using direct applications of paint and dye to create 'natural' and 'unnatural' wear and tear, airbrushing to create age and depth (will be demonstrated), mechanical means of distressing (rasps, wire brushes, sand paper, stones, etc.) and creating worn leather from new. There will be numerous examples of costumes and photos of the various processes used to create garments to support the discussion as well as the opportunity for a few people to work hands on with the airbrush. Bring an apron or wear something you don't mind getting dirty if you would like to be part of the airbrush hands on group. Some discussion of safety and characteristics of dyes and paints.

Cost \$2

Do It Yourself Shoe Design, Painting, and Embellishment

Saturday 1:30 - 5 San Juan-San Carlos
 Taught by Margot Silk Forrest

In this four-hour workshop, you'll learn how to transform ordinary footwear into wild and wonderful wearable art for your feet. Margot will show you how to create striking and durable shoes, boots, and sandals, using the new leather paints, her proprietary glitter paint for leather, and embellishments ranging from beads, buttons, piping and appliqués to chain, chain mail, feathers, fur, buckles, bling you name it!

You bring the shoes you want to work on, and Margot will bring her paints, brushes, tools and glues (there is a \$10 materials fee per person for the use of these), her special stash of embellishments for purchase, and her new book (due out in March), *Sassy Feet: How to Paint, Bead, Bedeck, and Embellish Your Shoes*. For more information on Margot and her work, visit www.sassyfeet.com . What to bring

* A new or used pair of shoes, sandals, or boots. These can be made of fabric, leather, or manmade material. Don't bring shoes made of plastic, suede, fake suede, or fur. (You can paint or dye these kinds of shoes, but it requires special supplies and more time than this workshop allows.)

* A painting smock or old shirt

* Pen and paper for making notes

* A thimble

Cost \$10

Please email Margot Silk Forrest at margo@sassyfeet.com Pre-Con to reserve a space

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Pre-registration for Costume Con 26 ends on APRIL 15!! If you (or your friends) want to get the pre-con rate you must register online by that date or we must have your mailed in registration IN OUR HANDS by April 15TH!!!

These Preregistration prices are good until... you guessed it.. APRIL 15

*** Attending: \$95**

*** Supporting: \$35**

*** Kid in Tow (5* or under): Free with attending adult**

*** Youth (6-12* inclusive): \$35 with attending adult**

Pre-registering will not only save you money, but it will also help us determine what our publications needs will be. So be sure to tell all your friends who haven't already registered that they should go to the CC26 website and register **NOW**.

So you've already pre-registered for Costume Con 26? Great! Before you hit the dealer room, go to a class/lecture or check out the exhibits, you are going to have to pick up your Convention Badge. Your Badge is your ticket in to all the CC26 events that will happen at the Hotel over the convention weekend. You **MUST** wear your badge when in the convention areas of the hotel so we know that you are a member.

Where and when can you get your badge?

The CC26 registration desk will be located on the first floor of the DoubleTree Hotel, tucked inbetween the Coffee Garden restaurant and the stairs leading up to the upper level ballroom. If you enter the hotel at the main entrance, you will see the hotel registration desk at your right. Turn to the left, and past Spencer's Restaurant will be the open area for the Coffee Garden. Follow the hallway going past the Coffee Garden, and you will come to our CC26 registration desk.

Our At-the-door registration hours are currently set to be:

*** THURSDAY April 24, 6pm - 9pm -- badge pickup for PRE-REGISTERED members only**

*** FRIDAY April 25, 11:30am - 7:45pm**

*** SATURDAY April 26, 9:30am - 7:45pm**

*** SUNDAY April 27, 10:00am - 7:45pm**

*** MONDAY April 28, 10:00am - 1:00pm**

These hours are subject to change. Please check the CC26 website for updates on registration hours as we get closer to the event.

On site registration rates will be:

*** Full weekend membership: \$110**

*** Friday only membership: \$35**

(includes the Friday evening Social)

*** Saturday only membership: \$45**

(includes the Fantasy and Science Fiction Masquerade)

*** Sunday only membership: \$45**

(includes the Parallel Dimensions in Design runway show and the Historical Masquerade)

*** Monday only membership: \$20**

(includes the Monday night Mouse-Kerade)



We will be able to accept cash and checks for registrations at the door. We hope to have a hookup to accept credit card payments as well, but we're still working on that. Again, check the website closer to the convention for updates!

Lost Badge Policy

Please don't lose your badge! If something unfortunate happens and you do lose it, please check ConOps to see if it has been found and turned in. If your badge is not there, you will need to purchase a replacement membership badge. If your badge is found later on, we will gladly refund the amount you paid for the replacement.

IT WAS A DARK AND SCARY NIGHT "HELP!" SHE CRIED, "HELP!!!!"

Help Wanted! People needed to help work the stages at the Science Fiction and Fantasy Masquerade, Historical Masquerade and the Parallel Dimensions in Design Show. We need help both behind the curtains helping people get to the stage and we need catchers in front of the stage to make sure that people don't accidentally go off the edge. No experience required, we will train. All that is required is an ability to follow directions, a pair of black pants, black shirt and black shoes. You can work just one show, two shows, or all three.

Before the con, please contact volunteers@cc26.org and let the volunteer coordinator know that you would like to work for John and Chris as part of the stage crew. At the con, contact either the volunteer coordinator or the staff of the masquerade/fashion show you'd like to work.

Thanks,
John and Chris O'Halloran - CC26 Stage Managers

Ahoy, Mateys! Dress up in your best pirate costume* for...

the 26th annual **BayCon**SM *Science Fiction and
Fantasy Convention*

Don't miss Northern California's premier convention as we experience...
Adventures in Space: A Pirate's Tale

Writer GoH	Artist GoH	Fan GoH	Toastmaster
Tim Powers	Todd Lockwood	Patty Wells	Scott Sigler

May 23 - 26, 2008 • Memorial Day Weekend • Hyatt Regency Santa Clara
For more information and online registration, see: www.baycon.org

* Ninja costumes are also welcome.

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