

The Maryland Regional Science Fiction Convention
BALTICON 48

Guest of Honor
Brandon Sanderson

Two-Time 2013 Hugo Award Winner!



Bard/Filk Guest of Honor
Kenneth Anders

2013 Compton Crook
Award Winner
Myke Cole



Artist Guest of Honor
Halo Jankowski



2014 Robert Heinlein
Award Winner
Geoffrey A. Landis



Ghost of Honor
Robert Jordan

1948-2007

Sunday Only! Special Science Guest
Vint Cerf

*Vice President & Chief Internet
Evangelist of Google*

Fan Ghost of Honor
Marty Gear

1939-2013



2014 Compton Crook Award Winner **TBA**

May 23-26, 2014
Memorial Day Weekend

The Hunt Valley Inn
245 Shawan Road, Hunt Valley, MD
Just north of Baltimore on I-83 – Free Parking

\$55/\$27 until Feb. 28 \$60/\$30 March 1-April 15 \$65/\$33 after Apr. 15/at the door*

Group rate available, buy 10 memberships and get 11th free (not available online). Active duty military personnel (including spouses and children accompanied by a military member) receive a complimentary membership on Monday. At the door only (not available online). *Active Duty ID required.* Email registration@balticon.org for details.

*Child aged 6-12. Under 6 free (must be accompanied by adult). *Pet Policy: No pets allowed in Balticon function space.*

Hundreds of authors, publishers, artists, scientists, musicians and over a thousand fans
at the area's largest & longest running Science Fiction/Fantasy convention!

Author panel discussions, readings, podcasting/new media, live SF theater, children's programming, BSFS Books for Kids charity auction, Steampunk, Medieval and other dances, science briefings, concerts, Masquerade, writers' workshop, poetry contest and workshop, Film Festival, Art show, dealers' room, anime, RPG and board gaming, LARP, skill demonstrations and other special events.



Sponsored by the Baltimore Science Fiction Society,
a 501(C)(3) non-profit educational organization.

P.O. Box 686
Baltimore, MD 21203-0686
WWW.BALTICON.ORG
Email: balticoninfo@balticon.org
Phone: 410-JOE-BSFS (563-2737)

**Check our website
periodically for updates:
WWW.BALTICON.ORG**

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Balticon 48 flyer, vers. 8, 2014-02-14

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR Balticon 48! The Baltimore Science Fiction Society (BSFS) is proud to present its 48th Science Fiction & Fantasy convention, Balticon 48, on Memorial Day weekend, May 23-26, 2014. Balticon takes place at the Hunt Valley Inn (a Wyndham affiliate), just north of Baltimore outside the Baltimore Beltway (I-695) off of I-83. The Balticon 48 ConCom is working hard to bring you a wide variety of live events, program items and activities, along with the opportunity to meet authors, artists, costumers and other members of the SF&F community. In these pages are all the details required to register, reserve your hotel room, and begin planning to attend Balticon!

OPENING CEREMONIES: At 8:00 PM Friday in the Valley Ballroom, Balticon 48 officially kicks off with introductions of the Guests of Honor and program participants, and presentation of the 32nd Compton Crook Award. Doors open at 7:30 PM.

GUESTS OF HONOR (GoH) APPEARANCES: During the course of the weekend, attendees will have the opportunity to spend some quality time with our Guests of Honor. These sessions will include events for each GoH in the Valley Ballroom and Garden Room, program panels, and signings.

CONFIRMED PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS: Danielle Ackley-McPhail, Jhada Addams, Day Al-mohamed, Kenneth Anders, Scott Andrews, Catherine Asaro, John Ashmead, Lisa Ashton, Jared Axelrod, Sue Baiman, Rob Balder, Philippa Ballantine, Jason Banks, Martin Berman-Gorvine, Joshua Bilmes, David Brawley, Alessia Brio, N.R. Brown, Peter Bryant, K.T. Bryski, Stephanie Burke, Jonette Butler, Mildred Cady, Jack Campbell, Vinton Cerf, Christine Chase, Robert Chase, Carl Cipra, Brenda Clough, John Cmar, Myke Cole, Doc Coleman, Paul Cooley, Iver Cooper, Vonnie Winslow Crist, Mike D'Ambrosio, A.L. Davroe, Keith DeCandido, Tim Dodge, Tom Doyle, Collin Earl, Gaia Eirich, Christiana Ellis, Billy Flynn, the Flynnstress, John French, Nancy Frey, Allie Gamblin, Brand Gamblin, Chuck Gannon, Pamela Gay, Thomas Gideon, Veronica Giguere, Stephen Granade, Jennifer Grier, Val Griswold-Ford, P.C. Haring, Katie Hartlove, J.P. Harvey, Melissa Hayden, CJ Henderson, Reesa Herberth, Inge Heyer, Sharon Hill, Abigail Hilton, Thomas Holtz, Patrick Holyfield, Starla Huchton, Chris Jackson, Halo Jankowski, Paula S. Jordan, Jason Kalirai, Alma Katsu, Robert Katz, Mark Kilfoil, Holliann Russell Kim, Jonah Knight, Rachel Elizabeth Kolar, Ruth Lampi, Geoffrey A. Landis, John S. LaPolla, Dan Lathrop, Gary Lester, Bryan Lincoln, Timothy Livengood, Andy Love, Nathan Lowell, Mike Luoma, Perianne Lurie, Kristina Lynch, Gail Z. Martin, Bernie Mojzes, Michelle Moore, Tee Morris, Christopher Morse, Laura Nicole, Christine Norris, Nutty Nuchtchas, Andrew Plotkin, Hugh O'Donnell, Kat Otis, Joshua Palmatier, Pavlina, Marianne Pease, Larry Pinsker, Sarah Pinsker, Jennifer R. Povey, Bruce Press, Michael Rafferty, Nobilis Reed, Sarah Richardson, Betsy Riley, Dave Robison, Scott Roche, Tom Rockwell, Zan Rosin, Brandon Sanderson, Kathreja Sarfati, Lee Sarfati, PJ Schnyder, Darrell Schweitzer, Melissa Scott, H. Paul Shuch (Dr. SETI), Alex Shvartsman, Hildy Silverman, Chris Snelgrove, Bud Sparhawk, Jon Sprunk, Ian Strock, Linda Swann, Thomas Talbot, Benjamin Tate, Mark Van Name, Michael Ventrella, Terri Vernon, Jean Marie Ward, Joy Ward, Brent Warner, Diane Weinstein, John Taylor Williams, Steven H. Wilson, Leona Wisoker, Batya Wittenberg, Cindy Young-Turner, Marv Zelkowitz, Alan Zendell, Darren Zieger. Check the web site for updates.

MAIN PROGRAMMING: Balticon 48 continues the tradition of mixing traditional SF&F literary panels with program items that deal with SF&F topics beyond the printed word. Main program tracks include Anime, Art, Children's, Costuming, Dance, Fan, Film/TV/Video, Filmmaking, Gaming, Music, New Media, Readers, Editors, Science, Skeptical Thinking, Small Press, Teens (ages 13 to 19), Balticon University (ages 18 to 25), Workshops and Writing. Join us for "Friday Face Time" gatherings following Friday's Opening Ceremonies to meet our GoHs and program participants.

MASQUERADE: The Balticon Masquerade (consistently one of the best on the East Coast) will be held on Saturday starting at 9:00 PM. Masquerade registration opens Saturday at 10:00 AM and closes at 4:00 PM. Tech run-throughs/rehearsals will start at 3:00 PM. Masquerade rules are on the web site. Info: masq@balticon.org.

COMPTON CROOK AWARD: At Friday's Opening Ceremonies, BSFS will present the 2014 Compton Crook Award for the best first SF/fantasy/horror novel of 2013. As is tradition, last year's winner, Myke Cole (*Shadow Ops: Control Point*) returns to Balticon to present the annual award.

ROBERT HEINLEIN AWARD: BSFS will present the 2014 Robert A. Heinlein Award at Balticon 48. Geoffrey A. Landis, science fiction author and NASA scientist, is this year's winner. The award is bestowed for outstanding published works in science fiction and technical writings that inspire the human exploration of space.

COSTUME PROGRAM: There will be 10-12 hours of glorious costume panels! We'll have workshops, demonstrations and discussion panels ranging in topic from cosplay to how to make, create and buy! Info: costumes@balticon.org.

HALL COSTUMES: Each year we look for the most colorful, unusual and imaginative hall costumes. Whether novice or expert, Balticon wants you to dress up. Entrants go to Brian at the volunteer desk to be photographed and have their photos posted in the gallery at the con. You, the membership, vote for best costume and the winner gets a prize!

GAMING PROGRAM: There will be over 20 hours of gaming panels and workshops offered this year in Parlor 1041 and other locations. Come join us! Info: gameprog@balticon.org.

NEW MEDIA: Come and meet artists and writers from the world of podcasting, publishing, and other leaders of new media. Learn more about what's available in independent new media and how to turn it to your advantage. Don't let your work be lost in the shadows; find your audience! As the first con to run a new media program and have its own dedicated podcast, Balticon has the longest running new media track. This year we are beginning the process of merging the literary and new media program tracks. Info: newmedia@balticon.org.

WRITERS' WORKSHOP: This year's writers' workshop theme is "The End is Near." We will look at what makes a good ending. Participants are asked to bring a synopsis of one or more of their stories along with their endings in their entirety (not more than one page). As many synopses and endings will be read and discussed as time permits. Info: writers@balticon.org.

POETRY WORKSHOP/CONTEST: Poetry programming at Balticon 48 explores the arena of verse from inspiration and writing to submitting for publication and an overview of small press publishing. There will be a poetry workshop and reading featuring winners of the Balticon 48 Poetry contest and open mic. Calling all poets who want a chance at fame, glory, publication in the *BSEAN* and a cash prize (contest deadline: April 1 of each year). Contest rules and an online entry form are available on the BSFS web site. Info: poetry@balticon.org.

FOR FANS & READERS: The Fan, Film/TV/Video and Literary: Readers' program tracks include panels and presentations about authors, books, movies, TV shows, magazines and other issues of interest to readers of science fiction, fantasy and fantastic horror. Participants will be writers, artists, movie and TV people, publishers and fans who have knowledge and experience in these subjects. Compton Crook alumnus Mark Van Name returns this year with a brand-new comedy show and the ever-popular Liars Panel, both of which will benefit BSFS Books for Kids.

The **EDITORS, PUBLISHING AND WRITING** program tracks include panels and workshops for writers of all experience levels on writing, publishing, and other aspects of the business and craft, including presentations by small presses. The **Editors** program track, coordinated by Danielle Ackley-McPhail, is where authors and aspiring editors can hear words of wisdom and war stories from the pros, and the latter can put their heads together and talk shop. Info: literary@balticon.org.

ART PROGRAM: Over 15 hours of art programming, both in and outside the Art Show, features demos, panels and workshops with several popular artists. Bring your sketchbook! Info: artprog@balticon.org.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM: There will be over 20 hours of children's track, including magic shows, science, crafts, movement, music and storytelling activities. We will be hosting a lunchtime party on both Saturday and Sunday. Children's program is *not* baby-sitting. Info: childrens@balticon.org.

PERFORMING ARTS: There will be seminars and workshops on voice acting, improv, stage and audio tech, martial arts and combat for the stage, and a surprise shadowcast after the film festival!

GAMING: Don't forget to visit Hal's Game Room at Balticon for a break from the con, to relax with friends over a game of chance, play a short RPG scenario or get involved in a deep strategy board game. There will be a nightly game of BSFS's own "Social Class." Join us in Tack. Info: gaming@balticon.org.

TABLE-TOP RPGs: Table-Top Role-Playing is returning to Balticon! While open tables have been available for RPGs in the game room, Balticon will once again have organized, con-run table RPGs being run during various tracks in the game room and in the evening! Mark Geary is returning to the con to lead a group of GMs to provide several different varieties of games/stories, open to any who sign up. And, as always, there will still be open tables available for spontaneous RPGs for whoever wants to play/run! Info: RPGgaming@balticon.org.

VIDEO ROOM: The Balticon video room will once again present current and past, familiar and obscure science fiction, fantasy and horror videos for your entertainment and enjoyment. Info: video@balticon.org.

TEEN PROGRAM: Balticon 48 offers hours of programming for fans aged 13 to 18, including programs for teens only. Topics include art, writing, reading,

social and societal issues, and some crafting projects (may cost a nominal fee for supplies). Info: YoungFan@balticon.org.

BALTICON UNIVERSITY (B.U.): New this year will be educational programming for ages 18 to 25, including seminars and workshops about the craft and businesses of writing and art and open forum discussions.

SUNDAY NIGHT FILM FESTIVAL: *You Be the Judge!* Independent filmmakers have submitted their work hoping you will vote for them as “Best Live Action,” “Best Animated” or “Best Specialty” film for Balticon 2014. Entries have been pre-screened so only the finalists go before you, the jury. We’ll have audience door prizes, too! All this on a 12-foot by 12-foot screen! Info: films@balticon.org.

CHARITY AUCTION: Our 19th annual charity auction will be held during the Masquerade halftime break on Saturday night and continued in the Garden Room on Sunday afternoon. There will be SF&F collectibles, memorabilia and other exotic items put on the block. Bring auction donations to convention operations at the con. The “Bobby Gear Memorial Charity Auction” raises money so that BSFS Books for Kids can provide book purchase funding for students of Buck Lodge Middle School. Book donations may also be dropped off at convention operations. Info: BooksForKids@balticon.org.

COSTUMING: There will be 10-12 hours of costuming programming ranging from discussion panels to skills workshops and presentations. Info: costumes@balticon.org.

ANIME PROGRAM: This year’s anime programming includes several dynamic panels as well as new and classic programming in the anime room. Info: anime@balticon.org.

LARP: Join us for Live Action Role Playing in the con suite Saturday and Sunday. This year we will be venturing into the realm of Steampunk with a new storyline of international, political and scientific intrigue. Cost is \$10 at LARP registration. Costumes are welcome. Look at our Facebook page, Balticon LARP, for more info, including a coupon good for \$3.00 off LARP registration.

SCIENCE PROGRAM: Dr. Vinton Cerf, Chief Internet Evangelist and V.P. of Google, will be our Science Special Guest on Sunday only. Also welcome newcomers Dr. Dan Lathrop, Univ. of MD; Dr. Jennifer Grier, Planetary Space Institute; John S. LaPolla, Towson Univ. professor of biology; Rabbi Larry Pinsker; and Heinlein winner Geoffrey A. Landis, space researcher. Welcome back our core researchers/scientists, starting with Brent Warner’s fun Cryogenics and Thermo Demonstration; Dr. Thomas Holtz’s standing room only dinosaur updates; Jason Kalirai of James Webb Telescope; Inge Heyer of Loyola Univ.; Dr. Robert Katz’s Life Extension; and Dr. Thomas Talbot’s Androids, etc. for 30 hours of original presentations from archeology to zoology. Info: science@balticon.org.

DANCE PROGRAM: Join us Friday night at 10:00 PM for a time-traveling formal evening at the **Steampunk Ball**, extended this year to three hours! Steampunk, neo-Victorian, or Victorian costume encouraged and admired but not required. On Saturday afternoon, Patches will teach an array of English Country (Playford and Arbeau), Italian Renaissance, and SCA dances at the **Medieval Dance**. All levels are welcome from beginners to experienced. Live music will be provided by Maugorn and friends. Musicians interested in sitting in with the band should contact filk@balticon.org; sheet music can be provided in advance. Other dances include: Two **Belly Dancing** workshops (one for teens only, another for all Balticon members); Friday night **Teen Dance** with DJ Daniel and friends; Friday night **B.U. Dance**; Saturday **Post-Masquerade Dance** featuring “Ditched by Kate”; and a **Swing and Jitterbug Dance** on Sunday night.

FILK & OTHER MUSICAL MAYHEM: Balticon is home to one of the East Coast’s strongest tracks of filk and fannish music, featuring a variety of concerts, panels, and workshops, plus open filk all three nights. This year’s concert schedule is still developing, but is slated to include Devo Spice, Darren Zieger, and the Boogie Knights. The music program will also feature a special theme circle in memory of Marty Gear. Info: filk@balticon.org.

FILMMAKING PROGRAM: The Balticon Filmmaking program track continues at Balticon 48 with the same dual primary missions: 1) to provide a forum wherein talent, producers, directors, special effects technicians and others involved in making independent science fiction, science fact, fantasy, and horror films can meet each other and discuss their trade; 2) to provide opportunities for Balticon members to meet folks involved in independent filmmaking and learn about the filmmaking process from those who are out there doing it. Info: filmmaking@balticon.org.

DEALERS’ ROOM: If you are interested in selling your wares at Balticon 48, contact: Larry Sands, PO Box 70013, Rosedale, MD 21237, or email dealers@balticon.org.

VOLUNTEERS: Balticon is an all-volunteer staffed convention. We can always use more help. Show your SF community spirit by volunteering a few hours at the con. Volunteers who work more than 10 hours receive our exclusive Berserker T-shirt. Work over 20 hours and Balticon 49 membership is comped. We need you in the following areas: setup/breakdown (double time!), Registration, Con Suite, Art Show, Operations, Green Room, Program Operations, Children’s Programming, Info Booth/Sales Table, Volunteer Desk. Sign up at the con, or email volunteers@balticon.org. Detailed job descriptions are available on the web site.

HOTEL: Our hotel is the Hunt Valley Inn (a Wyndham affiliate), 245 Shawan Rd, Hunt Valley, MD, 21031, 410-785-7000 (north of Baltimore off of I-83). Our room rate is \$135/night plus applicable taxes, and is available from May 20–May 31. The cut-off date to get this rate is April 22, 2014, but our room block typically sells out in March, so reserve your room ASAP. Parking is free and plentiful. There is free wireless internet in the lobby, and wired in the rooms. Cancellations within 48 hours of scheduled check-in are subject to a one-night penalty. If you must cancel in this time frame, please email hotel@balticon.org first, as we may have people waitlisted for rooms and thus be able to save you the penalty. URL: https://reservations.hotelier.com/crs/g_reservation.cfm?groupID=824689&hotelID=76975; or call the hotel and mention “Balticon.” For additional questions/problems, or to request an accessible room, email hotel@balticon.org.

PET POLICY: No pets are allowed in Balticon function space.

DIRECTIONS

• *From BWI/Thurgood Marshall Airport:* Take I-95 or I-295 north. Follow the from points south info below.

• *From Pennsylvania & points north:* Take I-95 south to I-695 and exit west towards Towson. From I-695, take I-83 north (exit 24) towards York, PA, and then see directions from I-83 below. Alternatively, use the Pennsylvania Turnpike to cross Pennsylvania to Harrisburg and take I-83 south to exit 20A, Shawan Road east. You can catch the turnpike from many spots as it crosses most of southern PA.

• *From Washington, DC & points south:* Take I-95 north to I-695 and take the left-lane exit north towards Towson. From I-695, take I-83 north (exit 24) towards York, PA, and then see directions from I-83 below.

• *From I-83:* Five miles north of the I-695/I-83 interchange is exit 20A, Shawan Road east. Take this exit; the hotel is at the bottom of the ramp on the right.

Public Transportation: Light Rail runs north to the Hunt Valley Town Centre (across and up the street from the hotel), and south to BWI/Marshall Airport. The two stops closest to the hotel are Hunt Valley and Pepper Road. For detailed Light Rail and other public transit schedules and information, visit www.mtmaryland.com or call 410-539-5000.

BALTICON ON THE WEB

www.balticon.org—Balticon’s web site has the most up-to-date information about Balticon, along with links and detailed contact information.

www.balticonpodcast.org—Nine years ago, Balticon became the first podcasting science fiction convention. Check the site for previous Balticon guest interviews, downloadable to your iPod! As Balticon 48 draws near, we’ll be adding pre-con interviews with some of our GoHs, so check back frequently. <http://community.livejournal.com/balticon/>—Balticon has a “community” on LiveJournal. Join the community to keep abreast of the latest news and developments to the con, and give us feedback, too!

[@balticon](https://twitter.com/balticon)—Follow us on Twitter.

BALTICON & MARYLAND SF NEWS EMAIL UPDATES! To receive updates, go to www.bsfs.org/bsfslist.htm and follow the directions, or send a request to dale@bsfs.org. Year-round monthly Maryland SF cultural event information and Balticon updates will be sent to this list, as well as posted on the BSFS web site (www.bsfs.org) under “Balticon News.”

CONTACT US: Send all correspondence & membership fees to the appropriate department at the address below. Please include your name, address, phone number and email address so we may respond with the most appropriate information packet.

Balticon 48	Phone: (410) JOE-BSFS [563-2737]
P.O. Box 686	Email: balticoninfo@balticon.org
Baltimore, MD 21203-0686	Web: www.balticon.org

If there is a particular program track you would like more information about, please view our committee contact list at www.balticon.org/contact.html.

SPECIAL NEEDS: For assistance with mobility, vision or other needs, contact us: ADAInfo@balticon.org, or by mail to Balticon, attn: Special Needs Chair. Stop by the Special Needs reception on Sunday afternoon in Parlor 1041.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS! Share this brochure by photocopying the front page and posting it wherever SF/Fantasy fans might see it, or give it to your friends. A PDF version can be downloaded from our web site.



Balticon 48: Maryland's Regional SF Convention
 The Baltimore Science Fiction Society
 PO Box 686
 Baltimore, MD 21203-0686

Balticon 48 Registration Form

Name: _____ Badge Name: _____ Adult Child (circle one)
 Name: _____ Badge Name: _____ Adult Child (circle one)
 Name: _____ Badge Name: _____ Adult Child (circle one)
 Name: _____ Badge Name: _____ Adult Child (circle one)

Address: _____ e-mail: _____
 _____ Phone: () _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

If postmarked by:	2/28/2014	4/15/2014	After/At Door	Quantity	Total	
Adult	\$55	\$60	\$65	x_____	\$_____	<i>Notes: Children under 6 are free if accompanied by an adult at ALL times.</i>
Child (age 6-12)	\$27	\$30	\$33	x_____	\$_____	

Group Discount: Buy 10 memberships get the 11th free/buy 20 and get the next 2 free.
 Must be purchased at same time (*not available online*). Total \$_____

Online registration: Coming soon. Check website for details.

Payment Options: Check or Money Order made payable to Balticon 48

Card Number: _____ Exp (Month/Year) _____ Mastercard Visa

Cardholder Signature: x_____ Name on card: _____

Billing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Send this form and payment to:
Mail-in Registration deadlines: April 30, 2014.

Balticon 48 Registration
P.O. Box 686
Baltimore, MD 21203-0686

Please copy this page for
 additional registrations.
 One address per form, please.

For more information, check your areas of interest below:

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handicapped Access | <input type="checkbox"/> Party Registration | <input type="checkbox"/> Artist Registration | <input type="checkbox"/> Writers' Workshop | <input type="checkbox"/> Gaming |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Young Writers' Contest | <input type="checkbox"/> Masquerade | <input type="checkbox"/> Costuming Track/Workshop | <input type="checkbox"/> Fan Tables |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teens/Young Adult Track | <input type="checkbox"/> BSFS Books for Kids | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsorships | <input type="checkbox"/> BSFAN Advertising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Be A Program Participant | <input type="checkbox"/> Filmmaking Track | <input type="checkbox"/> Artist Alley | <input type="checkbox"/> Open Staff Positions | <input type="checkbox"/> New Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Science Programming | <input type="checkbox"/> Music/Filk Programming | <input type="checkbox"/> Film Festival | <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry Contest/Workshop | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |