

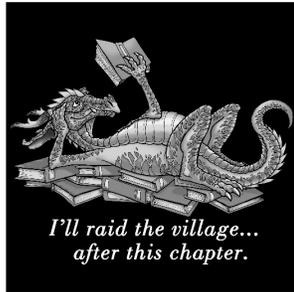
# OVFF 35

October 25-27, 2019



*Raymond Allen*

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**GUEST OF HONOR PLAYING RAPUNZEL**

**TOASTMASTER JUDITH HAYMAN**

**HONORED LISTENER TERESA GUNDERSON**

**INTERFILK GUEST DANA KATZ-BUCHSHTAV**

**NEW VOICES GUEST RHIANNON'S LARK**

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY  
THE OVFF COMMITTEE**

Linnea Davis,  
Chair  
Doug Cottrill  
Lori Coulson  
Leslie Davis  
Trace  
Hagemann  
Kathy Hamilton  
Jim Hayter  
Sally Kobee  
Steve  
MacDonald  
BJ Mattson  
Chandra  
Morgan-  
Henley  
Robin Nakkula  
Erica Neely  
Mark Peters

Kat Sharp  
Roberta  
Slocumb  
Halle Snyder  
Emily  
Vazquez-  
Coulson  
Elizabeth  
Wilson

**AND STAFF**

Mary Bertke  
Alan Dormire  
Carousel Enˆrose  
Mark Freeman  
Lisa Garrison  
Gabrielle Gold  
David Ifversen  
Anna Kelley  
Spencer Love  
Heather Munn  
Sharon Palmer  
Isobeal Ragsdale  
Seamus Ragsdale  
Jody Roliff  
Steve Shortino  
Lyn Spring  
David Tucker

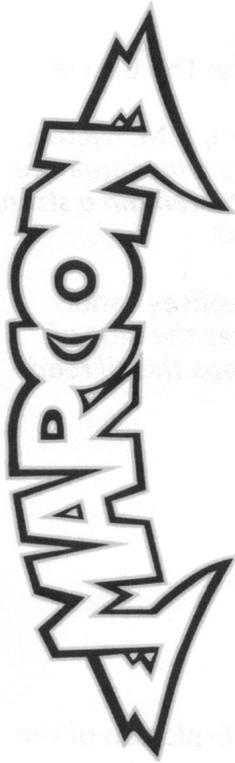
**WITH THE HELP OF  
THE FRIENDS OF  
OVFF**

Lorene Andrews  
Nancy Graf  
Gary Hartman  
Bill Henley  
Judi Miller  
Kaitlin Palmer  
Mary Frost-Pierson  
J. Elaine Richards  
Jeff Tolliver

**THE  
PEGASUS  
COMMITTEE**

Erica Neely,  
Evangelista  
Steve Macdonald  
Trace Hagemann  
Steve Shortino  
Rob Wynne

# 2020



May 8-11  
2020

Crowne Plaza  
Columbus North

*Carrie Vaughn*  
*Author Guest of Honor*

*Sara Felix*  
*Artist Guest of Honor*



Marcon  
PO Box 141414  
Columbus, OH  
43214

*The Blibbering*  
*Humdingers*  
*Filk Guests of Honor*

*Wreck the System - Featured*  
*Music Guest*

[www.marcon.org](http://www.marcon.org)  
[chair@marcon.org](mailto:chair@marcon.org)

Keep up to date on the latest Marcon happenings by joining in the fun on our Facebook group. Use the QR code below to go directly to the site. You can also get involved by coming to our monthly Con committee meetings.



# Chairman's Welcome

*It's The Last Day of the con!  
See all the people running!  
It's the last day of the con  
Hear the halls humming.  
One last trip to the Dealer's Room.  
Books aplenty and tunes to play at home  
It's the end of the con!  
The last concert and last stage sounds.  
The Farewell Jam coming soon.  
Singing together.  
Hugging People all around  
It's the last day of the con....*

(Use your own tunes. Not guaranteed to scan.)

Don't let this happen to you! Take time to meet and greet friends old and new. Grab a hat for the Tea Party. Munch and sip for there will be wonderful things in the ConSuite.

Read the words in the program book for the staff has worked very hard. Circle the things you want to attend. The Programming Committee were on fire this year. Maybe go to something completely new.



Immerse yourself in the music. Let it seep into every pore. Don't be afraid to sing. You are among friends. Enjoy! It's the first day of the Con.

Welcome from Lin Davis

*Linnea S. Davis*

ConChair OVFF 35

## Con Policies

### GOPHERS WANTED

Would you like a discount on your OVFF membership? Have you always wanted to make closer friends and learn more about our convention? Consider being a gOVFFer! Every hour of work will get you \$5 off of your membership. You can choose to have a refund check mailed to you after the con, or apply it immediately towards an advance registration for next year. We particularly need folks to help out in Consuite, Children's Programming, and packing

up the con Sunday evening. If you would like to volunteer your time, please sign-up at registration or talk with our Volunteer Coordinator Linnea Davis for more details.

### OVFF CONTACT INFORMATION

1720 Bendelow Dr  
Columbus, OH 43228  
Phone Number: 614-451-3154  
Visit our website: [www.ovff.org](http://www.ovff.org)  
Email us at: [ovff@ovff.org](mailto:ovff@ovff.org)

## CLEAR AISLE SAFETY POLICY

Please make sure to leave all aisles and hallways clear of instrument cases and other clutter. Due to the increasing numbers of people using wheelchairs, scooters, and strollers, we need to maintain clear right-of-ways. There is also a safety issue. In the past, someone tripped over an instrument case, fell, and received a nasty gash, which required a trip to the emergency room. We'd like to avoid any similar incidents!

## OVFF'S TAPING POLICY

Individuals are welcome to make recordings for their own *private* use as long as the recording is unobtrusive and the performer's implied permission is given. Performers have the option of announcing, "Please don't record me" prior to their performance.

If you want to tape next year's convention for commercial reproduction, write to us for a bid package.

## OVFF'S ROLLOVER POLICY

If you purchase a membership in advance to OVFF in any given year and then find that you are unable to attend due to an unexpected change of plans, OVFF will gladly consider rolling over the membership to next year's convention PROVIDED you inform us before the beginning of the con. We require notice in writing, (an old-fashioned letter or e-mail), not a phone call or a verbal message carried by a friend.

Memberships will be rolled over only one year. If you are still unable to attend the second year, we regret that we cannot roll it over again.



## LOST & FOUND

OVFF's lost & found department is located at the Gopher Table. Lost items found by OVFF staff can be claimed there. Items unclaimed at the end of the con will be held until next year. If still unclaimed, the items will be donated to charity.

## OVFF'S ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY

Harassment of any kind is not tolerated. If someone tells you "no" or asks you to leave them alone, your business with them is done.

Your right not to be harassed is not a right not to be offended. All of us have different things that we find offensive. If you are offended, the best solution may be for you to walk away from the person who offends you. Should that person pursue you and continue to offend you, that could be harassment.

If you feel that you are being harassed, or if you notice someone behaving inappropriately (such as violating hotel or convention policies), we respectfully suggest the following:

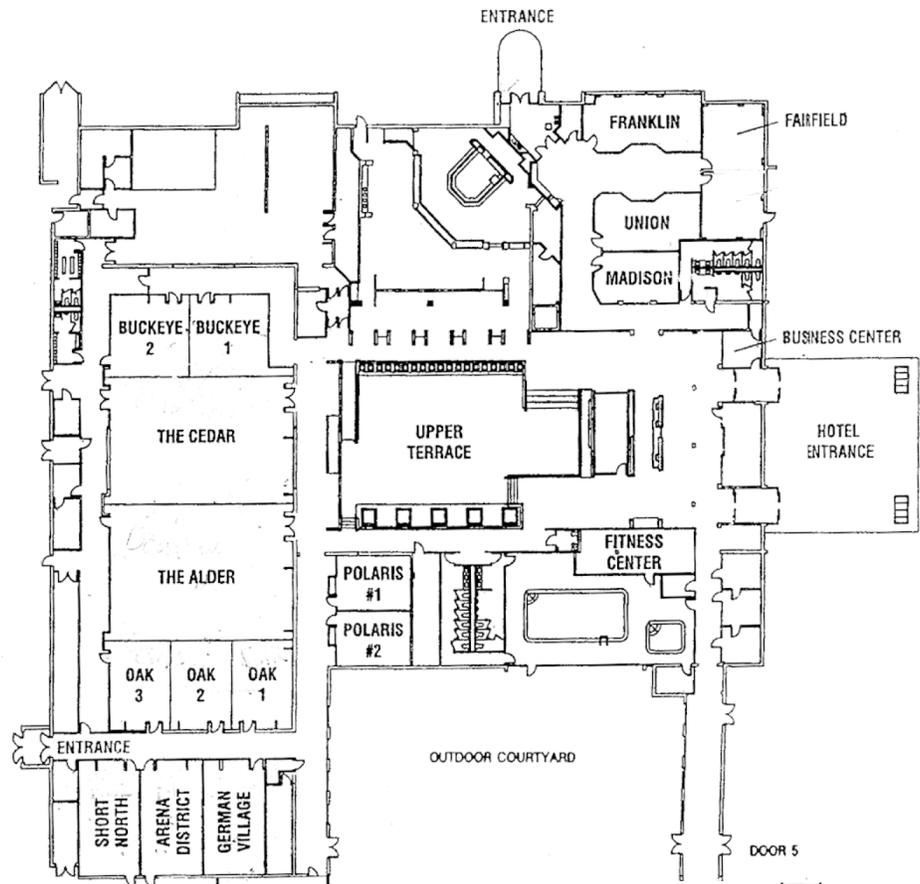
1. If you feel comfortable doing so, point out the inappropriate behavior to the person(s) involved. Often this will solve the problem immediately.
2. If you do not feel comfortable talking with the person(s) involved, or if talking to them does not resolve the issue, please report the situation immediately to any OVFF Concom member. It would be extremely helpful if you could provide a name, badge name, and/or physical description of the person(s) involved. Please remember that we need to know about any incidents during the event in order to take action.

OVFF reserves the right to revoke the membership of anyone failing to conform to the letter and spirit of these policies, those of our hotel, and the laws of the City of Worthington and the State of Ohio.

## ART CREDITS

Cover Art & T Shirts: Ray VanTilburg  
Nancy Graf: Pegasus Awards logo  
Lorene Andrews: All other pegasa used on the Pegasus Awards, ballots, and website.  
All other art is clip art.

# What's Where



Con Registration & Operations  
 Main Programming Room  
 Alternate Programming Rooms  
 Open Filk Room  
 Theme Filk Room  
 Dealers Room  
 ConSuite  
 Kid Space  
 Meeting/Rehearsal Room

Polaris One  
 Cedar & Alder Ballroom  
 German Village, Short North  
 Fairfield (after 8 PM)  
 Franklin (after 8 PM)  
 Buckeye Ballroom  
 Oak Ballroom  
 Arena District  
 Polaris Two

## Registration Hours (Polaris One)

Friday: 4pm - 11pm  
 Saturday: Noon - 6pm  
 Sunday: Noon - 4pm



ConSuite Full Service Hours  
 Friday: 5 very 'ish - midnight  
 Saturday: 9am - midnight  
 Sunday: 9am - 5 'ish

Dealers Room  
 Friday: 5pm - 8pm  
 Saturday: 11am - 5pm  
 Sunday: 11am - 4pm

# CONFLIKT

A Pacific NorthWest Filk Convention

Three Whole Days Of Musical Madness And Mayhem  
In The Moist Pacific Northwest!

**JANUARY 24 - 26, 2020**

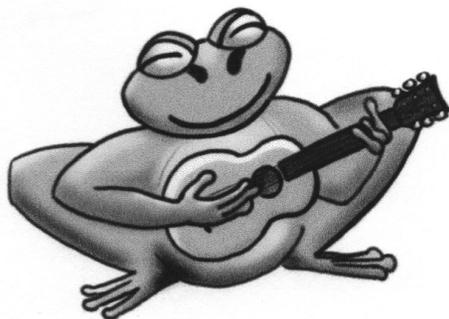
DOUBLETREE BY HILTON HOTEL SEATTLE AIRPORT  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Guest of Honor: **Cheshire Moon!**

Toastmaster: **Allegra Sloman!**

Interfilk Guest: **Daniela Festi!**

**PLUS: CONCERTS! CONTESTS! SONG CIRCLES!  
PANELS! WORKSHOPS! AND MORE!**



Register online at  
[www.conflikt.org](http://www.conflikt.org)

Pre-registration: \$50  
(After Halloween: \$55)

Lunch tickets: \$45

Supporting membership: \$25

# OVFF 35 Schedule Of Events

## THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND

**Kid Space** - The Arena District room has been set aside just for the kids. Stocked with toys, books, games and videos, kids are welcome to hang out in this room anytime. A list of scheduled activities suitable for younger children is available separately.

**Chamberfilk** - Phillip Textor will gather together all the orchestra instruments he can find and meld them into a cohesive unit in the course of three short days. If you are interested in performing with Chamberfilk, please contact Phil at [textorpmt@yahoo.com](mailto:textorpmt@yahoo.com) or meet with him at the Mad Hatter's Tea Party. There will be two rehearsals, then a short concert on Sunday afternoon.

**Plan Your Own Event** - Need to hold a rehearsal? Want to hold a meeting? Host your own theme filk? Polaris Two is available during daytime and early evenings for the use of any con member. All we request is that you reserve the room at least three hours in advance. The signup sheet is located on the hallway table opposite the doors to the main filk room.

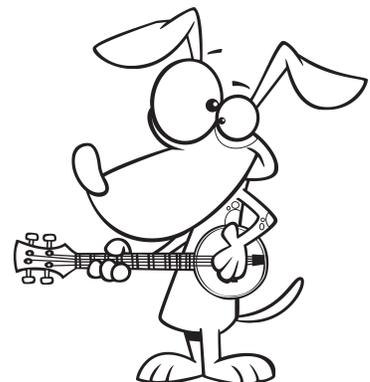


**One Shots** - Because of the limited number of slots and the number of people who want to have one of them, the slots will be assigned by lottery. Entry slips are located on the hallway table opposite the doors to the main filk room.

**Open Filk** (Any Open Room) – Open filk may be started in any room at any time **provided there is no scheduled activity**. Please note that Franklin and Fairfield are available only after 8 pm for the evening filks. If an open filk isn't happening and you want to filk, grab a friend, sit down, and start filking. If you filk, they will join!

## THURSDAY 25-OCT-19

8:00 'ish **Frisky Puppy Filk** (TBA) - First Filk of the weekend for those getting in early to get a head start. We don't know where it will be, we just know it'll be fun. Check the white board that will be set up in the main lobby for start time and location. The room will be available beginning 8:00 pm('ish).



# OVFF 35 Schedule Of Events

## FRIDAY, 26-OCT-19

4:00'ish **Afternoon Delight Open Filk** (TBA) - For those who need to get a little filk in before we start the rest of the weekend. We'll still be getting set up for the Friday main events, so we'll figure out where we're doing this and let you know on the white board in the main lobby

7:00 'ish **Mad Hatter's Tea Party** (Upper Terrace) - Our amazing hostesses, Mary Frost-Pierson and Elaine Richards, throw an astounding international tea party! Please come appropriately attired in your favorite, most spectacular hat. Those without head gear will be provided with the most embarrassing hats possible. Our gracious hostesses will award prizes for the best costume, best hat, and whatever else tickles their fancy. There will be a separate "Dormouse Tea Party" for kids in Kid Space.



8:00 'ish **Pegasus Nominees' Concert** (Cedar & Alder) - Are you familiar with the songs nominated for this year's Pegasus Awards? Here's your chance to hear them all! All nominated songs will be played for your listening pleasure. Don't forget voting ends at midnight



!

8:00 'ish The Fairfield, German Village, and Short North Rooms become available for **Open Filking**. (But why would you want to miss the Pegasus concert?)

After the concert **Apple Tasting Party** (Oak) - We've done this a lot now, and it has become very popular. We have our annual feast of apple treats. Cake! Cider! Candy! Drippy caramel sauce! And lots and lots and lots of kinds of apples, of course.



10:30'ish **Theme Filk: Pretty Pretty Princess Filk** (Cedar & Alder) - music circle where we bring songs about The Princess Life - or the Not A Princess life! Bring songs about your favorite filker who is (or should be) a Pretty Pretty Princess, or about a real member of royalty, or fairy tales, or... just about anything could squeeze into this theme. Come and wear your tiara if you have one, and get ready to be silly and sweet and laugh. Warning: there might be hugging involved. Hosted by Teresa Gunderson

11:00 'ish **Theme Filk: Songs Across Boundaries** (Short North) - Songs that communicate across boundaries. Think of generations, cultures, beliefs, and so forth. Hosted by Cat Greenberg.

# OVFF 35 Schedule Of Events

## SATURDAY, 26-OCT-19

11:00 'ish **Theme Filk: Songs of Strong Women** (German Village) - From faeries to talking  
Come sing songs of strong, inspiring women. Bonus points for songs about real-life  
women. Hosted by Mary Bertke.

**Night Owl Open Filking** (any open space) - And don't forget Franklin and Fairfield!

## SATURDAY, 26-OCT-19

10:00 'ish **Chamberfilk Rehearsal** (German Village) - Those who are involved in this project  
with Phil Textor will meet for a rehearsal.

11:00'ish **Filk Culture Around the World** (German Village) - Filk exists in many countries –  
but in what ways does the filk culture vary, country to country? We'll have  
representatives several countries to compare and contrast. This will be a round-table  
discussion format. Dana Katz-Buchstav, Katy Droge-MacDonald, Steve MacDonald,  
Yehuda Porath

11:00 'ish **Improving Your Voice** (Short North) - This workshop will teach you to use your  
voice better, and how to continue to improve it as you work on your own at home.  
Jen Midkiff.

Noon **Concerts and OneShots** (Cedar & Alder)

12:00 *Toastmaster:* Judith Hayman  
1:00 *Listener's Choice Concert*  
2:00 *Interfilk Guest:* Dana Katz-Buchshtav  
2:30 *One Shots*  
3:00 *New Voices Guest:* Rhiannon's Lark  
3:45 *One Shots*  
4:30 *Guest of Honor:* Playing Rapunzel



1:00'ish **Decolonizing Filk** (German Village) - Filkdom is famously welcoming, but less so if  
you're marginalized in ways traditional in old song. Come workshop together and  
find the small changes that make a big difference. Kat Tanaka Okopnik, Elliott  
Mason

1:00'ish **Choral Singing Workshop Part 1** (Short North) - Love harmonies? Come join us to  
learn some gorgeous filk songs in up to four-part harmony! Maybe we'll perform  
one during the con! Everyone welcome; being able to read sheet music is helpful but  
not essential. After the workshop, practice to come back for part 2. Maralisa & Mich  
(Playing Rapunzel)

# OVFF 35 Schedule Of Events

2:00'ish **Instrumental Jam** (Short North) - From guitar jamming to drum circles to freeform improv and beyond, there's something special about bringing people together to just make music. But how do you do it? In this workshop, we'll explore ideas and techniques for making unplanned music together. We'll look at different ways of finding unique things to add to enhance the jam and when to use them, how to start, move, and stop together as a group and more. We hope to have something fun here for everyone whether you are just starting out or a long-time improv fan. Please bring an instrument, even if it's you yourself and be ready to have fun making music together Eric Distad and Sunnie Larsen

6:00 'ish **Pegasus Awards Banquet** (Upper Terrace) - Join us for fun, feasting, and finding out the fabulous winners of this year's Pegasus Awards! Tickets to the buffet are on sale at the con registration desk. Seating is limited, so buy your ticket early!



8:00 'ish **Songwriting Contest: *Music is the Universal Language*** (Cedar & Alder) - Our first songwriting contest of the weekend is the traditional type: write a song on the specified topic (see above) announced in advance. Entries should be new material of limited distribution written between November 2018 and October 2019. Original lyrics and music OR original lyrics to existing music. Sign up sheets are available at the table in the hallway outside the main filk room. Please bring three copies of your lyrics, including song title and your name, for the judges. (The hotel front desk can make copies for you.)



8:00'ish **Filk, The Shallow End** (German Village) - Want to sing in a filk circle, but feel uncomfortable just jumping in? Come dip your toes in the Shallow End. Everyone is welcome, and everyone is encouraged (but not required) to sing, recite, play, or tell stories as the spirit moves them. There are no limits or restrictions on choice of material. This session will not be recorded. Mark Bernstein

10:00'ish **Oreo Tasting Party** (Oak) - Grab a glass of milk and check out some of the weirder Oreo varieties on the market, including moon-themed Oreos in honor of the first moon landing.

11:00'ish **Theme Filk: Space Songs** (German Village) - Bring your songs of space – exploration, life beyond Earth's atmosphere, first contact, and more. Judith Hayman.

11:00'ish **Theme Filk, Songs Not In English** (Country Room) - Filk songs come from around the world, in many languages. Sometimes they are even written in fantasy languages. Bring your foreign-language filks to share. Dana Katz-Buchshtav, Marilisa Valtzanou (Playing Rapunzel), Katy Dröge-Macdonald.

11:00'ish **Theme Filk, Poker Chip Filk** (Short North) - Most OVFF filks are chaos-style. In the poker chip style, everyone gets a poker chip. You can jump in when you want...if you have a poker chip. This way, everyone gets a chance to sing before anyone sings a second song. Kathy Mar.



# OVFF 35 Schedule Of Events

## SUNDAY, 27-OCT-19



10:00'ish **Sound for Performers** (Cedar & Alder- Main) - Scared of getting on stage because you don't know how to work with a sound system? Come learn the basics of singing/playing into a sound system, and have a chance to do so in a no-pressure environment. Mark Peters, Mary Bertke.

10:00'ish **Childrens Concert** (Arena District- Kidspace) - Concert especially for the youngest amongst us. Due to limited space of the room, we request that those wishing to attend be chaperoned by a child age 12 or under. Mich Sampson, Marilisa Valtazanou

10''00'ish **Geeky Guided Meditations** (Place TBA) - Meditations about hobbits, star wars, Harry Potter and more? Yes please! Ease into your day with several live guided meditations Alyssa Yeager of Rhiannon's Lark.

11:30'ish **ChamberFilk Practice** (German Village) Those who are involved in this project with Phil Textor will meet for a rehearsal.



Noon'ish **Iron Filker Songwriting Contest:** (Cedar & Alder) - Topic:*Lost In Translation*. Our second songwriting contest, designed for those fast on the draw. Three verses and a chorus, written during the con itself on the specified topic. Original lyrics and music OR original lyrics to existing music. Sign-up sheets are available at the table in the hallway outside the main filk room. Please bring three copies of your lyrics, including song title and your name, for the judges (the hotel's front desk can make copies for you).

1:00'ish **Learning the Koto** (German Village) - Two of the members of The Columbus Koto Ensemble will be presenting this workshop. They will play a few pieces and then invite audience members for an opportunity to try the koto. The ensemble will guide participants in learning to play the famous song, "Sakura Sakura" on the koto. Julie A. Palmer and Lori Fannin.



1:00 **Sunday Concerts** (Cedar & Alder).

1:00: Chamberfilk Ensemble

1:30: Sunnie Larsen

2:00 Twotonic (Steve MacDonald, Katy Dröge-Macdonald)

2:30 Astrisoni (Heather Estelme, Nate Wulver)

# CONFLUENCE 2020

July 24-26

## Sheraton Pittsburgh Airport Hotel

1160 Thorn Run Rd, Coraopolis, PA 15108 (412) 262-2400

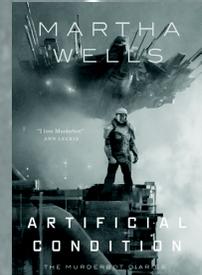
Rate: \$119 per night. Must mention "Confluence room block"



GUEST OF HONOR

## MARTHA WELLS

Martha Wells has written many fantasy novels. She has won a Nebula Award, two Hugo Awards, an ALA/YALSA Alex Award, two Locus Awards, and her work has appeared on the Philip K. Dick Award ballot, the BSFA Award ballot, the USA Today Bestseller List, and the New York Times Bestseller List. Her books have been published in sixteen languages.



FEATURED MUSIC GUEST

## TIM GRIFFIN

Tim taught all subjects in Title-1 elementary schools in Los Angeles for 18 years. He loves writing and sharing new music. Tim has performed to great hilarity and edification for the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the National Science Teachers' Association, the California Science Teachers' Association, Mensa, dozens of science fiction & filk conventions, plus a few hundred schools, libraries, museums, and other places of learning. In 2014, Tim won the Pegasus Award for best songwriter/composer. He considers himself a teacher first, a musician and storyteller second.



WRITING WORKSHOPS WITH:

## RACHEL SWIRSKY

Rachel Swirsky holds an MFA from the Iowa Writers Workshop where she, a California native, learned about both writing and snow. She recently traded the snow for the rain of Portland, Oregon, where she roams happily under overcast skies with the hipsters. Her fiction has appeared in venues including Tor.com, Asimov's Magazine, and The Year's Best Non-Required Reading. She has twice won a Nebula award.

Confluence is . . . Panels • Readings • Concerts • Art Show • Dealers Room • Hospitality Suite • Art Demos  
Autographing • Poetry Readings • Costuming • Writing Exercises • Workshops and More!

**Check our website for updates and registration information:  
[www.confluence-sff.org](http://www.confluence-sff.org)**

# OVFF Schedule of Events

- 2:00'ish **Choral Singing Workshop Part 2** (German Village) - Love harmonies? Come join us to learn some gorgeous filk songs in up to four-part harmony! Maybe we'll perform one during the con! Everyone welcome; being able to read sheet music is helpful but not essential. Marilisa & Mich (Playing Rapunzel)
- 3:00'ish **Farewell Jam Session** (Cedar & Alder) - Join us for this bittersweet moment when we come together to play and sing along – mostly to rock, folk, and oldies filk. Anything that almost everyone knows is acceptable.
- 3:00'ish **Farewell Jelly Session** (Country Room) - For those who find the Jam is too amplified. Still a bittersweet moment.
- 4:30 **The Guitar Corral** (Polaris Two) - Guitars & other instruments, music stands, etc may be stored in this room while you go to dinner. The room will be locked at 5:30 and unlocked when we get back from dinner. The room will remain available but unlocked until midnight. Please note we cannot be responsible for any items stored in this room. Anything still left in the room at midnight will become a Lost & Found item.
- 4:45 Our main filk area, Cedar & Alder, closes. Alder will reopen after the dinner trek. (Please remove all your possessions. Do not leave them in the room. Anything left in the room will become a Lost & Found item.) Dead dogs may hang out in the ConSuite until the singing begins again.
- 5:00 **Dead Dog Dinner Caravan** - Our annual trek to BD's Mongolian Barbeque to feed the beast and let off steam. We **STRONGLY REQUEST** that if you are even thinking about coming along, **PLEASE** sign up by Saturday late afternoon so that we can give the restaurant a reasonably accurate estimate of our party size. Start gathering in the Con Suite at 5:00. We'll organize driving pools and leave from there around 5:15.
- Later **Dead Dog Filk** (Cedar & Alder) - The Dead Dog Filk has grown so large that we now offer two - YES, TWO! - rooms for your filking pleasure. The fun starts when people get back from dinner.
- Later **Dead Hound Dog Filk** (Oak) - Here is the new second dead dog filk space.



# OVFF 35 Songwriting Contests

We held the first songwriting contest in 1986 at the second OVFF. Eventually, so many people entered the contest, that in 1995 we added a second contest.

This year we are again holding two contests. The first contest, to be held Saturday evening at 8:00 pm in the main programming room, is the traditional type: write a song on a specific topic announced in advance. Entries should be new material of limited distribution written between November 2018 and October 2019. They can be original lyrics and music OR new lyrics to existing music. This year's topic is: *Music is a Universal Language*

The second contest is an "Iron Filker" contest, to be held Sunday afternoon at Noon in the main programming room, requires that the song be written AT

THE CON on a topic not announced until the opening of the con. We ask for three verses and a chorus. This year's surprise topic is: *Lost In Translation*

Contest Rules: The songs are to be performed in front of a live audience for a panel of three judges. Songs are judged on the quality of the writing - not on the strength of the performance. If the songwriter is not a performer, the entry may be performed by a friend. Please note that the songwriter must be in attendance at the convention in order to enter. Please bring three (3) copies of your song for the judges. A copier should be available in the hotel's business center.

If you have any questions as to the appropriateness of the entry, please seek out an OVFF concom member.

## Past Songwriting Contest Winners

### 2018 Songwriting Contest: "Psychedelic"

- 1st Place: "The Storm Sublime" by Dave Stagner  
2nd Place: "Cat Without a Grin" by Brett Glass  
3rd Place: "Deep Dream" by Gabrielle Gold  
Audience Choice: "The Best Part of Science" by Tim Griffin

### 2018: "Mad Catter" (Iron Filker Contest)

- 1st Place: "Uraba Lugens" by Elizabeth Greenberg  
2nd Place: "Mad" by Andrew Ross  
3rd Place: "Cat in the Hat" by Brett Glass  
Audience Choice: "Mad" by Andrew Ross

### 2017--Something Wicked This Way Comes

- 1st Place: *Something Wicked This Way Comes* by John McDaid  
2nd Place: *Wicked Sings* by Leslie Hudson  
3rd Place TIE: *A Wicked Something* by Paul Kwinn  
and *What Rough Beast* by Cat Faber

Audience Choice: *Wicked Sings* by Leslie Hudson

### 2017--Welcome to my Nightmare (Iron Filker Contest)

- 1st Place: *Time (Welcome to My Nightmare)* by John McDaid  
2nd Place: *Caveat Emptor* by Naomi Rivkis  
3rd Place: *Steps* by Kerri-Ellen Kelly  
Audience Choice: *Caveat Emptor* by Naomi Rivkis

### 2016--Dr.....I Presume

- 1st Place: "Presumption of Doubt" by Randy Hoffman  
2nd Place: "Clan Macrimmon" by Gary Hanak  
3rd Place: "Muses" by Cat Greenberg  
Audience Choice: "Presumption of Doubt" by Randy Hoffman

### 2016--George of the Jungle (Iron Filker Contest)

- 1st: "George" by Andrew Ross  
Audience Choice: "George" by Andrew Ross

### 2015--Time after Time

- 1st Place: "It's Only Love" by Beth Kinderman  
2nd Place: "I Built a Time Machine"

by Eric Distad  
3rd Place: "Time After Time" by Gary Hanak  
Audience Choice: "I Built a Time Machine" by Eric Distad

### 2015--It's About Time (Iron Filker Contest)

- 1st Place: *World Wide Wait* by Brett Glass  
2nd Place: *It's About Time* by Beth Kinderman  
3rd Place: *It's About Time* by Cathy McManamon  
Audience Choice: *Oops* by Dave Stagner

### 2014--A Sticky Situation

- 1st Place: "A Song of Stick Pins" by Eric Distad  
2nd Place: "Sticky Situation" by Gary Hanak (tie)  
2nd Place: "Stuck on You" by Bill & Gretchen Roper (tie)  
Audience Choice: "Sticky Science Situations" by Sandra & Bari Greenburg / Sandra Greenburg & Gary Hanak



# OVFF 35 Songwriting Contests



## 2014--I'm Sorry

(Iron Filker Contest)

1st Place: *I'm Sorry*

by Sandra Greenburg

2nd Place: *Rasputin's Lament*

by Crystal Wolfe & Chrus Canary

3rd Place: *Sam's Yer Uncle*

by Andrew Ross

Audience Choice:

*I'm Sorry* by

Cat Greenburg

## 2013--Once Upon a Time

1st Place *"Climbing the Mountain"*

by Cat Faber

2nd Place *Snow White, Red Road*

by Lizzie Crowe / Eric Coleman

3rd Place *Slightly Evil Waltz*

by Peter Alway

Audience Choice: *Climbing the Mountain*

by Cat Faber

## 2013--Fractured Fairytales

(Iron Filker Contest)

1st Place: *The Brothers Cheeryble*

by Andrew Ross

2nd Place: *Bloodstains & Ballgowns* by

Charming McGillicutty

3rd Place: *The Death of the Perpetrator*

by W. Randy Hoffman

Audience Choice:

*The Brothers Cheeryble*

by Andrew Ross

## 2012--Come Fly With Me

1st Place: *"Come Flying With Me"*

by Cat Faber

2nd Place: *"Fly With Me"*

by Gabriel Gold

3rd Place: *"Oz"* by Bill Roper

Audience Choice:

*"We Dared to Dream"*

by Gary Hanak

## 2012--Gravity Sucks

(Iron Filker Contest)

1st Place: *Turn Off the Gravity*

by Glen Raphael

2nd Place: *The Real Culprit*

by Jen Midkiff

3rd Place:

*The Burden of the Serious Artist*

by Randy Hoffman

Audience Choice: *The Real Culprit*

by Jen Midkiff

## 2011--Ringmaster

1st Place: *"Valent Shell"*

by Tim Griffin

2nd Place: *"Title Fight"*

by Mel Tatum & Dene Foye

3rd Place: *"Carnivale of the Damned"* by

Crystal Wolf

Audience Choice:

*"Carnivale of the Damned"*

by Crystal Wolf

## 2011--I Survived Doomsday

(Iron Filker Contest)

1st Place:

*"Poor Paddy's Surviving Doomsday"*

by Andrew Ross

Audience Choice:

*"Changing My God to Vader"*

by Scott Leonard

## 2010--It's Not Rocket Science

1st Place: *"True to a 16th"* by Cat Faber

2nd Place: *"Fire, Fire, Fire"*

by Tim Griffin

3rd Place: *"Formula for Life"*

by Dene Foye & Mel Tatum

Audience Choice:

*"True to a 16th"* by Cat Faber

Honorable Mentions:

*"It Ain't Rocket Science"*

by Michael Stein

*"Cable Car to the Sky"*

by Bill Roper

*"Overthinkin' It"*

by Paul Kwinn

## 2010--Brains

(Iron Filker Contest)

1st Place:

*"Only Enough Blood For One"*

by Dawnya Thiss

2nd Place: *"Mind Control"*

by Maureen O'Brien

3rd Place:

*"The Shelves Around the Lab"*

by Morva Bowman & Allan Pollard

Audience Choice:

*"The Shelves Around the Lab"*

by Morva Bowman & Allan Pollard

## 2009 Reach for the Stars)

1st: *"Reach for the Stars"*

by Randy Hoffman

2nd: *"I've Got To Go"* by Dene Foye

3rd: TIE: *"Reach For the Stars"*

by Mel Tatum

*"Believer"*

by Naomi Pardue

Audience Choice:

*"I've Got To Go"* by Dene Foye

Honorable Mention:

*"NASA's Engineers"* by Moshe Z

## 2009-- Starstruck

(Iron Filker Contest)

1st: *"Starstruck"* by Peter Alway

Audience Choice:

*"Still Star Struck"* by Cindy Turner

Honorable Mention:

*"In Reference to Your Claim"*

by Mike Stein

## 2008--A Funny Thing Happened

on the Way To...

1st Place: *"A Funny Thing"*

by Cat Faber

2nd Place:

*"Going Down to Quizno's"*

by Blind Lemming Chiffon

3rd Place: *"Lincoln Park Putzes"*

by Randy Hoffman

Audience Choice:

*"A Funny Thing"* by Cat Faber

## 2008--Mirror, Mirror

(Iron Filker Contest)

1st Place:

*"I'm Talkin' Bout the Dog in the Mirror"*

by Blind Lemming Chiffon

2nd Place: *"Final Reflection"*

by Randy Hoffman

3rd Place: *"As You See"*

by Pocket Naomi

Audience Choice:

*"I'm Talkin' Bout the Dog in the Mirror"*

by Blind Lemming Chiffon

## Meet Our Guests of Honor Playing Rapunzel

Our story begins back in the year 2001, when Mich shlepped her keyboard to her first UK filk convention, having heard about these people who were SF geeks like her and played music. She thought it was all a bit overwhelming and almost left, but a certain Weingart kept her in the circle for 'just one more song about eggplants' which concluded, eventually, with breakfast. By the end of that year, she'd played her first solo concert and turned the recordings into her first album.

While she was busy putting together that album, Marilisa was arriving in the UK as a student. In her first week at university, she met second generation filker Peter Westhead, who uttered the all-important words "I have a harp in my room". They formed the band Chimes with some friends and wrote their first set on the train to the 2002 convention, after a slot suddenly became available due to illness. Marilisa walked into her first filkcon and straight onto the stage and realised that all these strange people she had never met were singing along to the songs the band had just written.

It was kind of inevitable that, a year and a half later, after shyly fangirling each other for quite some time, Mich and Marilisa were going out together and starting to put together their first arrangements of songs. They were half of the all-female, all-left-handed powerhouse band Divine Strumpet (with Talis Kimberley and Rachel Shurmer); when the other band members fell ill

before their second performance (there's a theme here, but Marilisa has always claimed innocence), Mich and Marilisa decided to put together an impromptu set and do a performance as the duo that would later become Playing Rapunzel.

Fourteen and a half years, two marriages (to other people), three children (total), and too many jobs, house moves, and academic degrees later, they are still going strong. They have produced two albums, *Abseiling for Beginners* and *Hanging by a Hair*, and been guests of honour in San



Francisco, Boston, Germany, and now OVFF (hi, OVFF!) as a duo, as well as guests individually at UK filk conventions. They have been nominated for many Pegasus awards between them, including six Best Performer nominations for Playing Rapunzel,

and have won several Sam awards at UK filk conventions. Outside of filk, they also perform professionally at folk clubs and book festivals, in parks and pubs, in churches and theatres. By day, Mich directs synagogue choirs, while Marilisa is an editor for a large charity.

Mich and Marilisa are both conrunners and general Organisers of Things in the UK filk community and are blessed with filk family and friends across the filk world. This is their first OVFF, and they are beyond delighted to have this chance to meet and sing with friends both old and new.

# Filk Ontario 30

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www.filkontario.ca

## Meet Our Toastmaster Judith Hayman

### The Songs Tell the Story

By Kathleen Sloan, with an assist from Joey Shoji

In a conference room somewhere in Colorado...

*All of you, please come to order. "Aux Etoiles," no don't leave yet. The stars can wait a little longer for you. And "Fair Folk", could you please stop dancing for a bit, it'll be fine, you can warp time later. "Kangaroos in California," stop hopping around, you're giving the rest us motion sickness, and no, don't give the younger songs any Marsupi-Ale. "Someone's Mom", can you quiet down those kids? "Waltz for Organs and Guitar", please stop dancing too, you don't want the Fair Folk stepping on any organs before your transplants. "Yuck" enough complaining already, we have a limited food budget, just deal with it.*

*I called all you songs here because your songwriter, Judith, is the toastmaster at OVFF 2019, and I'm writing her bio. It needs to be creative and I've got NO idea what to write, so I'm depending on you all for help. You know her better than anyone.*

Fair: Judith had a variety of musical influences in her youth. She grew up listening to a lot of Celtic music, she comes from an Irish background and later got

exposed to 50's and 60's rock, the Beatles, etc. Though I think it's pretty obvious if you look at all of us together, she really loves folk music.

*Go ahead, "K'Ehleyr", "Lost Chances" and "Not So Trilled", what do you have to tell us? K, LC and NST: Since we're all based on Star Trek,*

*we know that Judith started in fandom at Toronto Trek. After learning about filking at her first con, then hearing filk on tape, she looked for music at the next Toronto Trek. Alas there was none. At Ad Astra in spring of 1990 she finally found open filk and heard Allison Durno, Joey Shoji and others for the first time. She and Allison finagled a filk panel onto the program at TT3.*

Waltz: Oooh, let me go next. In 1991 Judith attended her first FKO. Judith was a nurse, and used to work in the ER (and boy did that job give her a gallows sense of humor!) She went to a conference on organ donation and then to FKO1 on the same day, got inspired to start songwriting and that explains how I was born. Since then she's helped run FKO, as a conchair and in other roles.

*I see a lot of literary based songs here, "Healer's War", "Moonheart", what info can you contribute? Healer's: Judith has been reading SF and fantasy since 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Moonheart:*





She converted her husband, Dave, into an SF reader so they wouldn't have a mixed marriage. That's worked out for going on 47 years now.

"Prayer at the Space Window" and "Sea of Stars", it's your turn. Prayer: Judith has written many songs of space. Sea: I'm about Roberta Bondar, the first Canadian woman to go to space (Judith is Canadian, I want to

point out), and the title song of her first CD and songbook. Her other CD is "Wither Go". And I got nominated for a Pegasus for Best Space song in 1995.

"Long Lullaby" and "Farewell": Judith wrote us, and many more songs after she joined the Interfilk Board in 1993. "Evermore": I was written in 2005, the year Judith and David were inducted into the Filk Hall of Fame.

*Wow, looking at you altogether, I can see why Judith was nominated for a best songwriter Pegasus in 1999. You are a pretty impressive bunch! Thanks for coming, sorry I can't give you all a voice today. People will just have to come to the con and hear Judith in person!*



## Interfilk Auction

Time for HIGH DRAMA! It's the Interfilk auction complete with awesome items to purchase, our auctioneers extraordinaire and our talented and athletic wenches. "No wenching" sign is below.

Thank you for enjoying the auctions, the auctioneers and the wenching shenanigans. Thank you to the generous donors, the wonderful buyers and those who cheer them on. Thank you for welcoming the interesting and talented guests we get to send to you.

### Who

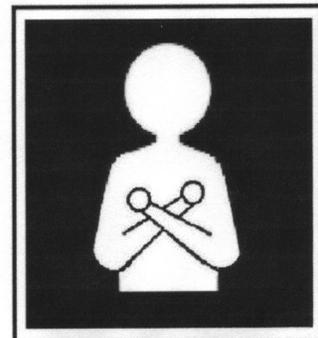
Dana Katz-Buchstav  
Susan Moerdyk  
Daniela Festi  
Karl-Johan Norén  
PDXBoadsides  
James Mahaffy

### From

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### To

OVFF  
GAFilk  
Conflikt  
Consonance  
FILKONtaric  
OVFF



## Meet Our Interfilk Guest Dana Katz Buchshtav

Dana discovered filk by reading "Lucifer's Hammer" during their teen years, and fell in love with the concept. Their first meeting with filk in real life was in a Purim convention in 2003, where they abandoned an RPG session to sit in and listen in wonder to a small crowd singing "Life's Flame".

Filkers in Israel are and were a small group. In the early 2000s, before the advent of YouTube and Spotify, the only way to listen to filk was to either sing it yourself, ask someone to sing it for you, or obtain a CD off someone who physically flew to another continent to attend a convention where filk CDs were sold. Dana was gifted a mix CD of Echo's Children, Julia Ecklar, Leslie Fish, and Heather Alexander, among others, and was entranced. They listened to those songs on repeat until they could sing them.

On their first housefilk, they met Tamir, their current partner in life and filk. On a later filksing they suggested, timidly, that perhaps they could sing a song they wrote, years ago, about vampires. They were accepted with warmth and encouragement. Dana soon became known for writing and singing *ose*, and a friend of theirs coined the Hebrew equivalent for *ose* - *yoz*, for Yom Zikaron, "memorial day".

An Israeli convention, Olamot, started a filkwriting contest. Dana attended once, twice, won first place for a song about a flamethrower, and wanted more for the contest. For the next few

years, they organized the competition under the name Nolahd LaFilk - Born to Filk. During this time the contest gained a performance aspect, and contestants could sing their own works or ask another to sing for them; Dana was often asked to sing for others, and happily agreed.

Dana also took to organizing convention filksings. The filksings were at first primarily filk in English, set to original tunes that people unfamiliar with filk couldn't follow. As Dana began running the convention filksings, they made sure to include songs in Hebrew, set to familiar Hebrew and English tunes, so that more people could follow and join in. At the same time they organized housefilks where people could sing whatever they liked, including their favorite English *ose* set to original tunes.

As more Hebrew filk began to accumulate, Dana and their partner Tamir created the website Fuzzy Fish (<http://www.fuzzy-fish.com/wordpress-he/>)- at first to host both their filks, and then any Hebrew filk or filk by Israeli writer. Fuzzy Fish also hosted

numerous translations of English filk, from classics like Fire in the Sky to Still Alive.

Today, Dana still hosts housefilks and sings whenever they're given a stage and an audience.



## Meet Our Honored Listener Teresa Gunderson

One of things Via Bella loves about filk is that it is centered around actively listening to music. Filkers are committed to hearing (and enjoying, learning, discussing, and analyzing) any song that arises from our community. This is the (or at least one) difference between a “filker” and someone who likes funny and/or poignant science fiction-themed songs.

Another thing we love about filk is Teresa Gunderson—who, as luck would have it, is this year’s Honored Listener at OVFF. Great choice! Teresa is extraordinarily good at active listening. When Teresa is listening – to your music or your conversation – her eye contact and body language are warm and inviting, and you know that you are being heard.

Which is not to imply that Teresa isn’t a joy to listen to, as well. Let us assure you that Teresa can talk as well as she can listen. Doubters should become familiar with two words: Peculiar Mayhem. (Okay, and one additional word: Podcast.) Or you could simply engage her. Trust us, if you have the chance to share a meal with Teresa, you grab that opportunity with both hands and don’t let go!

Teresa has commented more than once that if she and Rand met in junior high they would have been best friends. Rand is pretty sure she’s right, and not just because their record collections were nearly identical.

If you’ve seen Teresa or Erin at a con over the last few years, you may have noticed that they were wearing tiaras. Exactly five years ago, Diane Paine-Wheeler showed up to OVFF with three tiaras. One was on her head, and she gave the other two to Teresa and Erin. Later that weekend,

when asked why she was wearing a tiara, Erin responded, “I’m a pretty pretty princess.” From that moment on, Diane, Teresa, and Erin would show up at cons with tiaras in tow, crowning whoever took their fancy, and encouraging the newly crowned Pretty Pretty Princesses to “go and do thee likewise.” Since the sudden loss of Diane, Teresa and Erin have continued this tradition in Diane’s honor and will not rest until that fateful day when everyone at OVFF is wearing a tiara. For more information about the Pretty Pretty Princesses, please see <http://bit.ly/princessfaq>.



It is good that we honor listeners, and one of the more unique--and compelling--aspects of filk is the desire to break down the line between performer and audience. We accomplish this physically in the circles--where a casual observer would be unable to easily distinguish between performer and audience and we shift roles on a song by song basis--but we also do it by encouraging (and, assuming consent, expecting) listeners to perform. Erin took to filk very quickly, but was happy to remain an active listener, and look what you did to her. With that in mind, let us close by sharing that we have it on very good authority that Teresa can write and sing (and we keep hearing about a ukulele). So you all know what to do.

By Via Bella

Via Bella is the name Erin and Rand Bellavia use when recording and performing together, and also when speaking of one another in the third person.

## Meet Our New Voices Guest Rhiannons Lark

Have you ever wanted to hear a Disney princess sing about the things you love...board games, ninjas, and krakens? Rhiannon's Lark is happy to make your wish come true. This geek-goddess-girl tackles everything from t-rexes to ethical dilemmas with insightful lyrics, gorgeous vocals, and gentle humor.

Creator Alyssa Yeager is both a professional musician and practicing music therapist. In 2007, she released her first album, an all-original children's album, "Normal is Boring", inspired by her work at Rainbow Babies and Children's hospital in Cleveland, OH. Later that year, things got a little heavier (musically speaking) as she joined up with world class drummer Sue Balaschak of Primal Rhythm and Burning Sage. As the duo "Telling Point", Alyssa and Sue began touring the festival and convention circuits with their unique brand of tribal rock. 5 years and 2 albums later, Alyssa headed back to her home state of New York to pursue personal and professional goals.

In 2013, Alyssa's solo project "Rhiannon's Lark" was born, bringing together her unique perspective on nerdery, spirituality, and moral choices in a chaotic world. Over the last several years, Rhiannon's Lark has made appearances at sci-fi, fantasy, and gaming conventions as well as pagan-centered events including Gen Con, DragonCon, Sirius Rising, Origins, the Northeast Fire and Arts festival, and Pagan Prides. Her first EP under the new project, "Initiative" showcased exactly what you can expect from a Rhiannon's Lark show: a deep-dive into board games and

general geekery, some sweet personal stories, and a questioning look at society's current values.

Building on this introduction, Alyssa released her first full length Rhiannon's Lark album in 2016, "Sky Full of Phoenix". This was an ambitious undertaking that allowed Alyssa to create much fuller arrangements of her repertoire and perform on a variety of instruments in the studio: guitar, bass, ukulele, percussion, harmonica, jeans, and corduroy (yes, she played pants). Several songs also featured guest musicians adding piano, flute, drums, and bagpipes. According to fans, the favorite songs from this album are "Corduroy Ninja", (about a ninja who has to learn to be sneaky while wearing corduroy,) "Birds of Rhiannon", (a story that explains how Alyssa chose the name "Rhiannon's Lark" based on the welsh legend of the Goddess Rhiannon,) and "Job, the armored donkey", (about how sometimes your animal companions become the most memorable part of an RPG campaign).

In 2018, Rhiannon's Lark released a different sort of album, "Meditations for Geeks". Meditations about Hobbits, the Dark Crystal, the Force, cats, and more? Yes please! Alyssa drew on her experience leading guided meditations as part of her music therapy work to create a unique collection of guided meditations based on sci-fi and fantasy themes.

In 2019, Rhiannon's Lark released her latest full length album, "Sugar and Spice and Dinosaurs" (that's what geek girls are made of). This recent collection is right in line with Alyssa's favorite themes and includes songs about sloths, female equality, cartoons, love, crafting, and more.





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# About Our Panelists

**Astrisoni** is a duo consisting of Nate Culver and Heather Estelme, two nerds that discovered a shared love for filk music over the internet and have been fast friends ever since. Their music leans towards folk-style fairy-tale and space songs with a heavy emphasis on the themes of love and wonder, featuring Heather on vocals and guitar and Nate on the viola, which he wants everyone to know is not a violin.



**Rand Bellavia** has been attending OVFF for nearly 25 years. He is part of the filk bands Ookla the Mok and Via Bella. He has been nominated for 20 Pegasus Awards, winning 4. Two Ookla the Mok songs appeared on Dr. Demento's CD in 1999 and 2004 and two others were the most requested songs on Dr. Demento in 2012 and 2013. He co-wrote the theme to Disney's Fillmore and his voice is the first thing you hear on the Gym Class Heroes hit single "Cupid's Chokehold." His most recent release is Via Bella's *The Way of Beauty*.

**Erin Bellavia** is an educator, calligrapher and cosplayer known around Western New York as "Buffalo's Peggy Carter." She is part of the filk band Via Bella, whose songs "Cliffs of Insanity" and "Fight Like a Girl" have been nominated for three Pegasus Awards..

**Mary Bertke** has been singing all her life - in her younger days, often at night, keeping her grumpy siblings awake. She moved into her own house so that she can play banjo in the middle of the night. In addition to playing in the Irish band, Trellis, she has recently started making award scrolls for the SCA. In short: she

sings, she dances, she plays instruments, she does calligraphy and illumination and parkour and any bloody thing she feels like doing that week.

**Mark Bernstein** has been active in filk since 1975. He's a writer of songs, poems, stories, and awful puns, a singer and storyteller, a listener, and a fervent believer in the filk community as a place where everyone who wants to be heard, can be.

**Eric Distad** is a singer/songwriter who has been trying to shape words and music into art for over 25 years. He is a founding member of FAWM (February Album Writing Month) which challenges you to write 14 songs in 28 days. He is also the admin of the 50 Songs in 90 Days Challenge. With well over 300 songs and growing in his catalog (including at least 10 good ones), he is passionate about the art of songwriting. He has released two solo CDs (and may someday have a third if he ever finds the time).

**Jen Distad** is a lifelong fan of fantasy and sci-fi. She is also singer/instrumentalist who has been making music in bands and theatre for nearly 20 years. With a background in theatre and improv comedy, she adds wit (and maybe a bit of snark) to the songs and creative works she writes and performs with her husband Eric as the Faithful Sidekicks. She is also passionate about classic film and board games and would love to recommend a game to you!.

**Katy Dröge-Macdonald** was born and raised near Hamburg, Germany. She discovered filk in 1990 and has never looked back. She is a Pegasus Award winner and Filk Hall of Fame inductee. Katy has performed together with Ju Honisch (as the duo "Ju and Katy"); is a part of "Barbership" with Eva and Rafael Van-Daele

# About Our Panelists

Hunt and her husband (the world's first filk barbershop quartet), "DKSM" (with Marilisa Valtazanou), and "Twotonic" (a duo with her husband, Steve); who share the 2018 Best Performer Pegasus with Random Fractions. Twotonic's first album, Rowan & Storm, was released here at OVFF in 2014.

**Lori Fannin** learned to play the koto after meeting Julie. She was fascinated by the instrument and quickly took to it. She has a strong musical background, playing various instruments, including piano, classical guitar. Lori teaches piano and is also a yoga instructor.

**Cat Greenberg** is a writer and singer/songwriter from the St. Louis, MO area where she lives with four cats, a dog and youngest child, Aidan. She has just released *Escaping Prophecy and Other Stories*, a new anthology of fantasy and science fiction, and her first solo album, "Cat Greenberg: Alone, With Friends," will be available soon. She has 2 previous albums "Romancing the Filk" with her late husband, Bari, and "Accidental Filk Band," with their band The Unusual Suspects.

**Gundo** has played in many bands and many styles over the years, and always enjoys a chance to back someone up on stage or in a circle. He's happiest with other musicians, in a circle, in a jam, or on stage.

**Beth Kinderman** is a progressive filk-rock singer-songwriter based in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She has created six albums of songs inspired by SF and fantasy literature, genre TV shows, video games, and others geeky topics; won the OVFF songwriting contest in 2015; and has performed at



numerous conventions around the Midwest and beyond. This year Beth released "The Hero's Journey," a concept album inspired by Joseph Campbell's book *The Hero with a Thousand Faces*. For more information: [bethkinderman.bandcamp.com](http://bethkinderman.bandcamp.com)

**Sunnie Larsen** has been a performer since the age of 3, when she discovered that her charm and talents could move audiences. Since then, she's developed the skill to lift hearts by adeptly weaving deep emotional notes into the fabric of her musicianship. She belongs to several bands, including Vixy and Tony, the "four-person duo"; Bone Poets Orchestra, a psychedelic folk rock band; and string improvisation M n ge   Trio, with Betsy Tinney and Alexander James Adams. Her debut solo album, "The Space Between Notes", released July 2019.

**Steve Macdonald** is an adopted German; moving from the States to Germany in 2006. He is a Pegasus Award winner, Filk Hall of Fame inductee, and helps administer the Pegasus Awards as CO-Evangelista together with Erica Neely. Steve performs with the first filk barbershop quartet, "Barbership" together with his wife, Katy, and friends Eva and Rafael Van Daele-Hunt. He also sings with Katy and Marilisa Valtazanou in "DKSM." Lastly, Steve also performs with Katy as the duo "Twotonic," and their first album, Rowan & Storm was released here at OVFF.

**Kathy Mar** worked as a professional folksinger and streetsinger in Denver for many years before she discovered filk and filkers discovered her. Her recordings include Songbird, On a Bright Wind, Bamboo Wind (Off-Centaur Productions), Plus Ca Change, Plus C'est Les Meme Chose, and the

# About Our Panelists

re-released CD double (Thor Records). Made by Magic (Dandelion Digital), My Favorite Sings (Prometheus), Kathy Mar Live. (Love Song Productions). She was inducted into the Filk Hall of Fame in only the second year of its existence and, with Lindy Sears, instigated the Dandelion Conspiracy to promote filk to general SF conventions.

**Cathy McManamon** started playing music at age 6 on her family's Lowrey organ, and has since become known as a guitarist, songwriter, and drummer. Her background includes choir music arrangement and direction, classroom music education, and ritual facilitation and drumming. She now plays in both Random Fractions and Toyboat.

**Jen Midkiff** is a professional music educator and avid SF/F reader, and she is a founder of the filk band, Wild Mercy. She has taught voice, harp, and piano lessons for nearly 20 years.

**Jason Neerenberg** is a bassist and vocalist in two filk bands (Toyboat and Random Fractions). He can frequently be found in the late night filk circles where he brings his love of both heavy metal and folk music. When he is not performing (or practicing), he practices martial arts, reads voraciously, and volunteers with the Girl Scouts. During the week, he works as a math teacher at an alternative high school on Chicago's South Side.

**Julie A. Palmer** began her studies in Japan while working for the JET program. She has a background in music, playing flute through High School, and wanted to learn a tradition musical instrument while working in Japan. Thus, discovered the koto. After returning to the states, she sought out other koto players and found Jessica Entis. Julie is a registered

dietician with her own business, Dietician In Your Kitchen."

**Mark Peters** has been involved behind the scenes working the sound systems at OVFF for over 20 years. When he's not doing that, he enjoys going to other cons whenever he gets the chance

**Yehuda Porath** is a filker from Israel who's currently working in Paris and just had his first ever filk concert at Intermezzo in Germany. So far this year he's filked in the UK, twice in Germany, in Dublin and now in Ohio. He's been in filk 20 years and had family in it well before that (yes, Murray IS his cousin). His music is all acapella all the time. At work he does economic policy research at the OECD and the Bank of Israel.



**Kat Tanaka Okopnik** has been a fan of filkishness for years, but this is her first OVFF. She is in the midst of writing The Dictionary of Social Justice, and Etiquette for Social Justice.

**Phil Textor** is a songwriter and performer who plays trumpet, guitar, tin whistle, Indian flute, and ocarina. Phil is now teaching himself arranging. He is in both a community and a jazz band in Dayton, Ohio. His current project is Chamberfilk.

**Listener's Choice Concert:** In addition, we'd like to thank all the people who are performing in the Listener's Choice Concert. At press time this includes (but is not necessarily limited to)list to be added

# Georgia Filk Convention



Atlanta, Georgia

January 10 - 12, 2020

"Strangers no more, we sing!"



Guest of Honor

## Talis Kimberly

Toastmaster

## Lauren Cox

Interfilk GoH

## Susan Moerdyk

GAFilk is a relaxacon with one track of fun and excellent programming and many events to ring in the fannish New Year with style. Pack your fancy duds and enjoy our **Champagne Opening Ceremonies**, **My Filk Game Show**, and the most **amazing dinner dance** ever, complete with the 9-piece dance band **Play It With Mox-ie**. Sign up to perform a 2 x 10 concert, enjoy listening to our talented Guests of honor, and meet our **Super Secret Guest(s)**... always announced after Thanksgiving.

### Crowne Plaza Atlanta Airport Hotel

1325 Virginia Avenue

Atlanta, GA 30344

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1-800-972-2404 (Toll Free)

Hotel Room Rate: \$98 for 1 - 4 persons!

# [www.gafilk.org](http://www.gafilk.org)



**NOMINEES FOR THE 2019 PEGASUS AWARDS  
FOR EXCELLENCE IN FILKING**



You may vote online at our website or in person at the OVFF convention. The link to our online voting site is:

*<http://www.ovff.org/pegasus/ballot/>*

Please select only one song or artist per category. You may only submit one Final Ballot. Should you submit more than one Ballot online, only the most recent one will be counted.

Pre-convention voting is open until 12:01 midnight Pacific Time on Tuesday, October 22, 2019. This means that your last full day to vote if you are not attending OVFF is Monday, October 21, 2019.. Balloting will re-open on the evening of Friday, October 25 immediately after the Pegasus Nominees Concert, for those who are attending OVFF and wish to submit their ballot there.,

You do not need to be a member of the convention to vote. In fact, we strongly encourage you to distribute the link to this ballot as widely as possible within the filk community.

More information about our Nominees, including lyrics & mp3 samples, is available on the website. In addition, would especially like to thank Jeff Bohnhoff, Mark Peters, Gerry Tyra, Mary Ellen Wessels, Leslie Fish, Ken Lalonde of USB Studios, Bob Laurent of Wail Songs, Prometheus Music, FilKONtario, DFDF, and GaFilk as well as all the artists for their kind support and permission to use their copyrighted recordings.

**BEST FILK SONG**

- I am I*  
by Eva Van Daele-Hunt
- Lucy on the Line*  
by Tim Griffin
- Nine hundred and ninety nine*  
by Mich Sampson / Marilisa Valtazanou
- Vor*  
by Bill Sutton
- Water*  
by Cathy McManamon

**BEST CLASSIC FILK SONG**

- Arden*  
by Zander Nyronnd / Chris O'Shea
- The Dark Man*  
by Paul Kwinn
- Regrets*  
by Andrew Eigel
- Ship of Stone*  
by Don Simpson
- Storm Dancing*  
by Tom Smith

**BEST PERFORMER**

- The Blibbering Humdingers
- The Faithful Sidekicks
- Tim Griffin
- Sunnie Larsen
- Playing Rapunzel

**BEST WRITER/COMPOSER**

- Lauren Cox
- W. Randy Hoffman
- Andrew Ross
- Eva Van Daele-Hunt
- Batya Wittenberg



**BEST SING-ALONG SONG**

- Don't Push That Button*  
by Duane Elms
- Gone Filkin'*  
by Tom Jeffers
- I Had A Shoggoth*  
by Tom Smith
- Somebody Will*  
by Ada Palmer
- Teenage Popsicle Girl*  
by Bill Roper

**BEST FAMILY SONG**

- Give My Children Wings*  
by Kathy Mar
- Golden Rule*  
by Sabine Kinder
- Mommy, Can I Have A Spaceship?*  
by Joey Shoji
- My Thousand Closest Friends*  
by Naomi Pardue
- Welcome Home*  
by Mark Bernstein

# The Pegasus Awards

The Pegasus Awards were founded to recognize and honor excellence in filking.

Any member of the worldwide filk community is eligible to win. Past Nominees have hailed from the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, Australia, and Singapore as well as the United States.

The Pegasus is an ongoing project throughout the year - there's almost ALWAYS \*something\* you can vote on! Between now and April, fill out a Brainstorming Poll of filkers and songs that you think are cool, nifty, or just plain good. You can fill out one, or a thousand polls.

From May to July, you can submit one Nominating Ballot to help determine the five Nominees in each category who will be on the Final Ballot.

And from September to OVFF, anyone with an interest in the filk community can submit a Final Ballot to help select one of this year's six Pegasus Award winners! MP3 samples, lyrics, and short

bios of all nominees can be found online on the Pegasus Awards site:

<http://www.ovff.org/pegasus/>

Remember, you do not need to be a paid member of OVFF to vote.



The results are tabulated, and then presented at the Awards Banquet on Saturday evening at OVFF. The Awards Ceremony is open to the general membership of OVFF (you don't need a banquet ticket to watch the action!).

Do you know someone who you feel deserves accolade? Fill out the Brainstorming Poll! Curious about whether or not a song is eligible for

Nomination? Looking for lyrics of past Winners or Nominees? Check out the Pegasus site.

The Pegasus Awards only has the meaning that you (the filk community) choose to give it. Your participation in the Awards is needed, and deeply appreciated.

## Past Pegasus Award Winners

**2018**

Best Filk Song:

*Pageant Legend* by Katy Dröge-Macdonald / Ju Honisch

Best Classic Filk Song

*Creature of the Wood* by Heather Alexander / Philip Obermarck

Best Performer:

Random Fractions

Twotonic (tie)

Best Writer/Composer:

Leslie Hudson

Best Roadtrip Song:

*Oregon Trail* by Tim Griffin

*Road to Santiago* by Heather Dale (tie)

Best Song About Community:

*Many Hearts, One Voice* by Steve Macdonald

**2017**

Best Filk Song:

*"We Are Who We Are"* by Michelle Dockrey and Tony Fabris

Best Classic Filk Song:

*"Alligator in the House"* by Betsy Tinney / Cade Tinney / S.J. Tucker

Best Performer:

Judi Miller

Best Writer/Composer:

TIE

Ju Honisch / Jordin Kare

Best Horroe Song:

*"Dear Gina"*

by Seanan McGuire

Best Perky Song:

*"Chocolate Is a Vegetable"* by Graham Leathers

**2016**

Best Filk Song:

*"Creatures of Dream"* by Batya Wittenberg

Best Classic Filk Song:

*"Take It Back"*

by Kathleen Sloan

Best Writer/Composer:

Barry Childs-Helton

Best Performer:

Play It With Moxie

Best Adapted Song:

*"Six Transit Genitalia Centauri"*

by Bob Kanefsky

Best Exploration Song

*"Starsoul"*

by Roger Burton West / Jodi

Krangle

# Past Pegasus Award Winners

**2015**

Best Filk Song:  
*"My Story is Not Done"*  
by Seanan McGuire  
Best Classic Filk Song:  
*"Captain Jack and the Mermaid"*  
by Meg Davis  
Best Writer/Composer:  
Cat Faber  
Best Performer:  
Jeff & Maya Bohnhoff  
Best Adapted Song:  
*Grabthar's Silver Hammer*  
by Steve Macdonald  
Best Time-Related Song:  
*"Precious Moments"*  
by Phil Allcock

**2014**

Best Filk Song: (Tie)  
*"Paper Worlds"*  
by Talis Kimberley  
*"Snow White, Red Road"*  
by Cheshire Moon  
Best Classic Filk Song:  
*"Grandfather"* by Gary Hanak  
Best Writer/Composer:  
Tim Griffin  
Best Performer:  
Cheshire Moon  
Best Adapted Song:  
*"Midichlorian Rhapsody"*  
by Jeff Bohnhoff  
Best Song of Passage:  
*"Outward Bound"*  
by Cat Faber

**2013**

Best Filk Song:  
*"Joan"* by Heather Dale  
/ Ben Deschamps  
Best Classic Filk Song  
*"Second-Hand Songs"*  
by Jonathan Turner  
Best Writer/Composer:  
Talis Kimberley

Best Performer:

Alexander James Adams  
Best Fairytale Song:  
*"Dryad's Promise"*  
by Betsy Tinney  
Best Alien Song:  
*"Little Fuzzy Animals"*  
by Frank Hayes

**2012**

Best Filk Song:  
*"Cheshire Kitten"*  
by S.J. Tucker  
Best Classic Filk Song:  
*"Tiberius Rising"*  
by Rand Bellavia &  
Adam English  
Best Writer/Composer: (Tie)  
Juanita Coulson &  
Dr. Mary Crowell  
Best Performer: (Tie)  
Betsy Tinney & Wild Mercy  
Best Gaming Song:  
*"I Put My Low Stat"*  
by Dr. Mary Crowell  
Best Travel Song: *"No Hurry"*  
by Michelle Dockrey

**2011**

Best Filk Song:  
*"Wicked Girls"*  
by Seanan McGuire  
Best Classic Filk Song:  
*"The Phoenix"*  
by Julia Ecklar  
Best Writer/Composer:  
S. J. Tucker  
Best Performer:  
Amy McNally  
Best Badass Song:  
*"Evil Laugh"*  
by Seanan McGuire  
Best Romantic Song:  
*"As I Am"*  
by Heather Dale

**2010**

Best Filk Song:  
*"A Thousand Ships"*  
by Ju Honisch / Katy Dröge-  
Macdonald  
Best Classic Filk Song:  
*"Fire In The Sky"*  
by Jordin Kare  
Best Writer/Composer:  
Heather Dale  
Best Performer:  
S. J. Tucker  
Best Mad Science Song:  
*"What A Woman's For"*  
by Seanan McGuire  
Best Magic Song:  
*"Where The Magic Is Real"*  
by Paul Kwinn

**2009**

Best Filk Song:  
*"The Wreck of the Crash of the  
Easthill Mining Disaster"*  
by Brooke Lunderville  
Best Classic Filk Song:  
*"Still Catch the Tide"*  
by Talis Kimberley  
Best Writer/Composer:  
Vixy & Tony  
Best Performer:  
Heather Dale / Ben Deschamps  
Best *"A Little Bit Country"*:  
*"Stray Dog Man"*  
by Bill Sutton  
Best *"A Little Bit Rock 'n Roll"*:  
*"Six String Love"*  
by Vixy & Tony



## PEGASUS AWARDS NOMINEE FIND

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L R I G E L C I S P O P E G A N E E T T A M O I J F S  
K E N I L E H T N O Y C U L C O M M A N D W R A N U L

Created by Cat Greenberg

Contains the entire ballot - every song and nominee - plus: OHIO, VALLEY, FILK, FEST and lots of random surprise phrases because adding the extra letters at 2 am was boring and I got silly.

Hint for some of them: think about 1969.

# Closing Notes

Summer sped by this year, just as I can predict that this OVFF will be gone in a blink. Ohio never fails to surprise us with October weather. We hope you will come back and bring your friends to OVFF 36. As ever, same place, new dates but both old and new music to hear.

Ohio Valley Filk Fest 36 will take place October 23-25, 2020 here at the Doubletree Hotel. To get your membership for 2020 at the lowest possible price, make sure you pre-register at the con registration desk sometime this weekend. The price will go up significantly come Monday.

Our 202 there is Luney Tunes. Our Guests of Honor are Misbehavin' Maidens (the quartet of Flint Locke, "Lucky" Annie LeBlanc, Rouge O'Malley, and Saber Tompson) They are a bawdy nerd-folk comedy band comprised of four women from the Washington, D.C./Baltimore area with a love of feminist, sex-positive music, LGBTQIA+ representation, parodies, drinking & fandom references for the 18+ geek crowd. Our toastmaster is that acclaimed master of parodies and puns, Tom Smith (Though he has quite a few serious songs as well). Our Listener guests of Honor will be Dennis, Sharon, and Kaitlin Palmer, who have helped us tremendously over the years. Check our website WWW.OVFF.ORG Monday after the con, to see upcoming news.

The song contest topic is "Future So Bright." (The topic for the Iron Filker contest will, as usual, be announced at the con.) So, hone your songwriting skills until then.

The categories for the 2020 Pegasus Awards are: Best Filk Song, Best Classic Filk Song, Best Performer, Best Writer/Composer, Best Media (Cartoons, Movies, etc) and Best Space Song.

Throughout the year at each filkcon or filk-friendly con you attend, please remember to fill out a Pegasus Brainstorming Poll. Copies are

available on the Pegasus website: [www.ovff.org/pegasus](http://www.ovff.org/pegasus)

If you can't wait a whole year to get your fix of local filk, I'd like to point out another wonderful venue for filk here in central Ohio - a little con called the Multiple Alternative Realities Convention or MARCON for short. Marcon will be held May 8-10, 2020 at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North. Another filk-friendly regional con is Cleveland Concoction, March 20-22, 2020, at the Bertram Inn & Conference Center in Aurora Ohio.

You can also see what is happening in the Filk Community on Facebook sites like Filker. It is a closed group, but you can easily get approval. F is For Filker is a site with 384 members. You could be #384! There are countless others for the different Filk events and for many of the Filkers. I use Facebook much like a backyard fence. I can pop in and share a picture or a train of thought. Ohio Valley Filk Fest (OVFF) is a public group with 303 members.

For all fen with a song in their heart. Thank you,

*Linnea S. Davis*

Linnea Davis  
ConChair OVFF 35





**Ohio Valley Filk Fest 36**  
**October 23-25 2020**

**GUEST OF HONOR**  
**Misbehavin' Maidens**

**TOASTMASTER**  
**Tom Smith**

**HONORED LISTENERS**  
**Dennis, Sharon, & Kaitlin Palmer**

**INTERFILK GUEST**  
**James Mahaffy**

**Doubletree Hotel**  
**Worthington, OH**