



Lambda Sci-fi

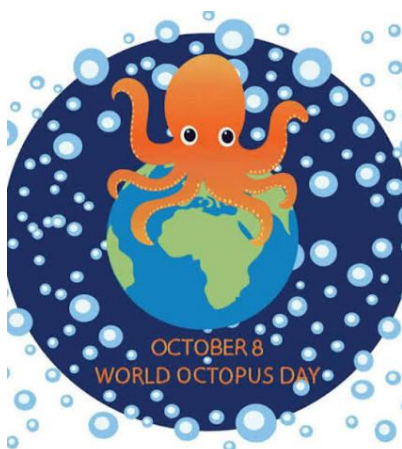
DC Area Gaylaxians

(202) 232-3141 – Issue # 439 – October 2026

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BIG UPCOMING EVENTS!



The day draws attention to the beauty, intelligence, and sentience of octopuses. It's also a chance to highlight the threats octopuses face, including octopus farming and marine pollution.



Happy Halloween!



📖 The LSF Book 📖 Discussion Group

If you're interested in lively discussions of F&SF books (with an emphasis on elements of interest to the LGBTQ community), we invite you to join the LSF Book Discussion Group. Each month, we conduct fascinating round-table discussions of works by significant F&SF authors.

The Book Discussion Group usually meets on the 4th Thursday of every month, starting at 7:00 PM, at Peter & Rob's home: 1425 "S" St., NW. The next book discussion will be held on October 22, 2026.

Here are the details for the next couple of discussions:

Oct. 22 – *The Starving Saints*, by Caitlin Starling; moderator: Rob.

Dec. 3 (combined Nov/Dec on the *first* Thursday in December) – *1632*, by Eric Flint; moderator: Jeff.

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***** October 11, 2026 Meeting *****

The next LSF meeting will be held on **Sunday, October 11th**. The meeting will be held at Peter and Rob's home, **1425 "S" Street NW, Washington, DC**. The meeting will begin at 1:30 PM. Hope to see you there!



What's Inside?

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2026 Hugo Awards

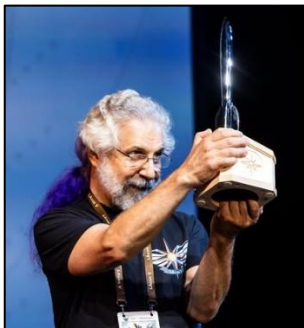
info passed along by Carl

The Hugo Award is an annual literary award for the best F&SF works and achievements of the previous year, given at the World Science Fiction Convention. It's named after Hugo Gernsback, the founder of *Amazing Stories*, the pioneering science fiction convention. In 2010, *Wired* called the Hugo "the premier award in the science fiction genre." This year's Hugo Awards were announced on August 30th at Lacon V, the 2026 World Science Fiction Convention.

- Best Novel – *The Everlasting* by Alix E. Harrow (Tor US; Tor UK)
- Best Novella – *The River Has Roots* by Amal El-Mohtar (Tordotcom; Arcadia UK)
- Best Novelette – "Never Eaten Vegetables" by H.H. Pak (*Clarkesworld*, Issue 220)
- Best Short Story – "In My Country" by Thomas Ha (*Clarkesworld*, Issue 223)
- Best Series – "Old Man's War" by John Scalzi (Tor US; Tor UK)
- Best Graphic Story or Comic – *A Wizard of Earthsea: A Graphic Novel*, written by Ursula K. Le Guin, adapted and art by Fred Fordham (Clarion Books; Walker UK)
- Best Related Work – *Inventing the Renaissance* by Ada Palmer (University of Chicago Press US)
- Best Dramatic Presentation, Long Form – *Sinners*, screenplay by Ryan Coogler, directed by Ryan Coogler (Proximity Media, Warner Bros. Pictures)
- Best Dramatic Presentation, Short Form – *Murderbot: "All Systems Red"*, written by Paul Weitz & Chris Weitz, directed by Roseanne Liang, based on the book *All Systems Red* by Martha Wells (Apple TV)
- Best Game or Interactive Work – *Clair Obscur: Expedition 33*, developed by Sandfall Interactive, published by Kepler Interactive

- Best Editor Short Form – Neil Clarke
- Best Editor Long Form – Diana M. Pho
- Best Professional Artist – John Picacio
- Best Semiprozine – *Uncanny Magazine*, publisher and editor-in-chief: Michael Damian Thomas; managing editor Monte Lin; poetry editor Betsy Aoki, podcast producers Erika Ensign and Steven Schapansky
- Best Fanzine – *nerds of a feather, flock together*, editors Roseanna Pendlebury, Arturo Serrano, Paul Weimer; senior editors Joe Sherry, G. Brown, Vance Kotrla
- Best Fancast – "Hugo, Girl!", presented by Haley Zapal, Amy Salley, Lori Anderson, and Kevin Anderson
- Best Fan Writer – Jason Sanford
- Best Fan Artist – Yuumei
- Best Poem – "Hex Supply Customer Support Log" by Elis Montgomery (*Strange Horizons*, Issue 25 August 2025)
- Lodestar Award for Best YA Book – *Coffeeshop in an Alternate Universe* by C.B. Lee (Feiwel & Friends)
- Astounding Award for Best New Writer (sponsored by Must Read Books Publishing) – Antonia Hodgson (1st year of eligibility)

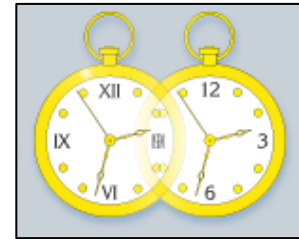
For a complete list of nominees, go to: [2026 Hugo Awards Results | The Hugo Award](#)



Scott Lefton displaying his 2026 Hugo Award Trophy Design

Sidewise Award Winners for 2026

info passed along by Carl



This year's Sidewise Awards were announced on August 31st, the last day of Worldcon in Anaheim. They were awarded for works appearing in 2025.

The Sidewise Awards for Alternate History were created in late 1995 to honor the best alternate history publications of the year. The award takes its name from Murray Leinster's 1934 short story "Sidewise in Time," which explores a world in which a strange storm allows people to travel between alternate worlds. The first Sidewise Award was announced at LACon III (Summer of 1996). Each year, two awards are given: the Best Long Form Award presented to the best novel or complete series; and the Best Short Form Award presented to the best work under 60,000 words. Occasionally they also issue a Special Achievement Award.

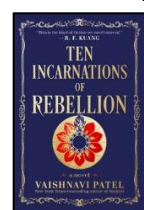
Here are this year's winners:

The award for Best Short-Form Alternate History went to Alan Smale for "Caesar at Sea" (*Skull X Bones*, ed. David B. Coe & Joshua Palmatier, ZNB Books 2025)

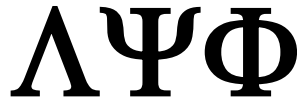
The award for Best Long-Form Alternate History went to Vaishnavi Patel for *Ten Incarnations of Rebellion* (Ballantine Books 2025).

A Special Achievement Award was given to Ronald D. Moore "for bringing alternate history to television" (*For All Mankind* and *Star City*).

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Minutes of the September LSF Meeting taken by Scott



TV News

Jim commented on the current *Star Trek: Strange New Worlds* episode titled "Orders of Magnitude." There have been mixed reviews of the occasional "wacky" episodes in the series (puppets, soap opera). This led to a general discussion of the horrible episodes of the entire *Star Trek* franchise.

Teresa asked who was watching Apple TV's creepy *Widow's Bay* show. Andy agreed that the series is well-written and creepy.

Jim has been delighted with the 3rd season of Apple TV's *Silo*, because there have finally been some reveals about what is going on with the plot.

Rob and Peter have been enjoying HBO Max's *Lanterns* and *Stewart Fails to Save the Universe* (which has included some appearances by various *Big Bang* characters).

Peter recently watched in a movie about the three "Star Trek Genesis" movies: *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*, *Star Trek III: The Search for Spock*, and *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home*.

Movie News

Rob highly recommends *Coyote vs Acme*, the Warner Brothers live action/animation hybrid feature.

Seth McFarlane will be the showrunner for the upcoming *Dungeon Crawler Carl*. Rob also recommends the audio books, saying that the narrator is immensely talented.

Teresa advised that the *Avengers: Endgame* movie will be released with four additional minutes that is *Doomsday*-related. And casting has begun for the new X-Men mutant film.

Jim says he recently enjoyed watching a theatrical showing of the 70mm print of *2001: A Space Odyssey*.

Other News

Jim provided an update on Alex Peters' controversial *Axanar* Star Trek fan movie universe, including a review of Paramount's guidelines for *Star Trek* fan productions: (1) the film must be less than 15 minutes for a single self-contained story, or no more than 2 segments; (2) the title of the fan production must contain a subtitle "A STAR TREK FAN PRODUCTION".

The original *Star Trek* shuttlecraft Galileo has been fully restored.

David reported that Dolly Parton was a silent partner for *Buffy the Vampire* and cited various references to her in episodes of *Orville*.

Rob described some of his experiences during this year's World Con Hugo Awards ceremony, such as humorous asides by host/MC T. Kingfisher.

It was noted that the Shakespeare Theater Company will be performing *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Sidney Harmon Hall in December and January, with human actors and Muppets from Jim Henson's Creature Shop.

Might you be a fan of the novel (and related "universe") *1632*? Note that this year's Philcon (Nov 21-22) will include a mini-*1632* con.

Jim led into a discussion of the three levels of transporter technology: (1) both source and destination locations must have transporter devices; (2) only the source location must have a transporter device; and (3) the transporter device itself can transport.

Upcoming LSF Book Discussions: *The Mercy of Gods* by James S.A. Corey (September), *Starving Saints* by Caitlin Starling (October); *1632* by Eric Flint (November/December). ΛΨΦ



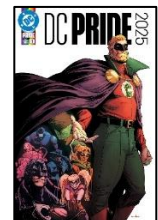
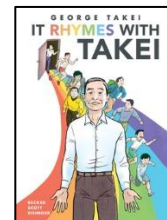
2026 Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards.

info passed along
by Richard M.

The 38th annual Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards were announced at Comic-Con in San Diego at a Friday night ceremony on July 24th. The awards are named for the pioneering comics creator and graphic novelist Will Eisner. The Eisner Awards are considered the "Oscars" of the comic book industry. There were 32 categories for works published in 2025. Here are some of the highlights.

Topping this year's winners is DC's *Absolute Martian Manhunter* by Deniz Camp and Javier Rodriguez. It won trophies for Best Limited Series and Best Penciller/Inker, as well as sharing in Best Cover Artist for Rodriguez and Best Lettering for Hassan Otsmane-Elhaou.

The only other title with multiple wins was *This Place Kills Me* (Abrams Fanfare), by Mariko Tamake and Nicole Goux, for Best Publication for Teens and Best Writer.



George Takei was the winner in the Memoir category for *It Rhymes with Takei*. Ben Passmore won Best Reality-Based Work for his *Black Arms Hold You Up: A History of Black Resistance*.

The award for Best Anthology went to Andrea Shea and Jillian Grant, editor of *DC Pride 2025*. And Best Academic/Scholarly Work went to Andrea Horbinski for *Manga's First Century: How Creators and Fans Made Japanese Comics, 1905-1989*.

For a complete list of winners, go to: [Eisner Awards - Comic-Con International](#)

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* * INFORMATION ABOUT LAMBDA SCI-FI: DC AREA GAYLAXIANS * *

Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians (LSF) is an organization for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and trans-gendered (LGBT) people, and their friends who are interested in science fiction, fantasy, horror, and related genres in all forms (SF/F/H). LSF's primary goals are to have fun, to provide a community, and to:

- promote SF/F/H, with particular attention to materials of interest to LGBT people and their friends;
- provide forums for LGBT people and their friends to share their interest in SF/F/H;
- promote the presence of LGBT elements within SF/F/H and within fandom; and
- promote SF/F/H within the LGBT community.

Newsletter submissions are always welcome

Meetings are usually held on the second Sunday of each month at a private residence. The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held on **Sunday, October 11th, at Peter and Rob's home, 1425 "S" Street NW, Washington, DC**. We hope to see you there.

Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians is an affiliate of the Gaylactic Network, an organization for gay people and their friends who are interested in science-fiction and fantasy.

* * Con Calendar * *

by Carl

October 2-4, 2025 **CONFABULOUS 2026**. Crown Plaza Suites MSP Airport—Mall of America (Bloomington MN). Hosted by North Country Gaylaxians. Gaming, discussion panels & more. Membership: \$60 for the weekend. On-line registration at: <https://confabulous.org/wordpress/registration/>
Website: <https://confabulous.org>

October 2-4, 2026 **CAPCLAVE 2026**. Rockville Hilton & Executive Meeting Center (Rockville MD). Guests of Honor: Rebecca Roanhorse, Nino Cipri. Membership: \$70 for the weekend. Website: <https://capclave.org>

November 20-22, 2026 **PHILCON 2026** and **ERIC FLINT'S 1632 MINI-CON**. DoubleTree by Hilton (Cherry Hill NJ). Guests of Honor: Charlie Jane Anders, Donato Giancola (Artist), Sarah Pinsker (Musical). Membership: \$70 for the weekend (higher at the door; one-day memberships available) – purchase memberships on-line. Website: <https://philcon.org>

New Uniforms for the US Space Force?

info passed along by Carl

Over the Labor Day Weekend, the Prez unveiled on Truth Social new uniforms for the US Space Force. He detailed how they were “inspired by the discipline of the Starship Trooper uniform” but “modernized for the guardians of the space domain.” Uniforms based on Paul Verhoeven’s 1997 film *Starship Troopers*, with its satirical fascist themes? To some observers, these uniforms also seem more than a little reminiscent of *Star Wars* Imperial Fleet uniforms and the aesthetics of Nazi storm troopers. Will this design be used? Who knows?

PS – The same media blitz shared an image of the Moon with the words “The Moon Is Ours” and the American flag to the side.

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Starship Troopers
Fleet uniform

