



NORWESCON  
P.O. Box 68547  
Seattle, WA 98168

# NORWESCON Thirty-Three



Progress Report Alpha  
November 2009

Future Plausible • Future Perfect

# NORWESCON Thirty-Three

Future Plausible • Future Perfect

April 1-4, 2010

Seatac, WA

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## Statement From the Chair

Hello, all!

Time is flying by and Norwescon 33 is quickly approaching! It's hard to believe that it's already November – and that means it's time for us to let you know how plans for the convention are progressing.

I hope you take a moment to read our progress report. You'll see that our wonderful team of volunteers have been putting in countless hours trying to make Norwescon better and better. Each year we try to out-do the previous year by implementing fresh programming, new and exciting special events, and by welcoming new dealers in the Dealers Room and new artists in the Art Show. That's just the beginning! We'll have much more to report in our second progress report in February.

We want you to join us! Please take the time to make sure you have sent in your membership and made those hotel reservations. We don't want you to be left out!

The countdown has begun! See you April 1st, 2010.

Tracy Knoedler  
Chair, Norwescon 33

### The New PR Alpha

You may have noticed that your PR Alpha is a little different. In order to conserve funds and go green, Norwescon has decided to mail out an abbreviated version of the regular PR Alpha and provide detailed information at our website. Visit the home page at [norwescon.org](http://norwescon.org) to view this document as a PDF with live links.



## Introducing the Norwescon 33 Guests of Honor



Writer Guest of Honor:  
**Verner Vinge**  
Hugo Award-Winning  
Writer



Artist Guest of Honor:  
**John Jude Palencar**  
2008 Spectrum Grand  
Master Award Winner



Special Guest:  
**Cory Doctorow**  
Science Fiction Author,  
Activist, Journalist & Blogger



Spotlight Publisher:  
**Tor Books**  
Multiple award-winning  
publisher of science fiction,  
fantasy and horror

More information > [norwescon.org/guests.htm](http://norwescon.org/guests.htm)

## MEMBERSHIP RATES

Full convention Pre-Registration Rates (4 days):  
\$50 until December 31, 2009  
\$55 until March 1, 2010  
No charge for children 12 and under

More information > [norwescon.org/memberships.htm](http://norwescon.org/memberships.htm)

PRE-REGISTER  
**ONLINE**  
at [norwescon.org](http://norwescon.org)

## PROGRAMMING UPDATE:

### New wonders of panel info-technology are in development!

We are tearing down and rebuilding workshops, panel topics, and panelists. We have the technology and know how to make them better, stronger, faster. Over 400 hours of panels are in the works for your enjoyment this year. We will have

over 70 hours of science-related panels and workshops focusing on space, biological, technical, and fringe science. Some of the other topics we will be testing will be art, writing, literature, comics, movie previews, costuming, horror, urban fantasy, fandom, media, fan fiction, gaming, young adult, and more. The programming staff is working diligently coming up with diabolical ideas to keep you hopping with plenty of things to do and check out. Here are some of our workshops:

**Writers Workshop** The Fairwood Writers & Norwescon 33 invite you to participate in the annual genre fiction writing workshop. Deadline for submissions is December 20, 2009.

**Single Pattern Contest** The pattern selected for this year's contest is Simplicity pattern number 2972 – a shoulder bag! Regardless of your skill level (and even if you don't sew!) you can create an entry.

**11th Annual Fandance Film Festival** The Festival is a celebration of low-and no-budget cinema, brought to wondrous lurching life by amateur filmmakers from all around the Pacific Northwest.

The Programming testing department is always looking for panel suggestions. If you think you have what it takes, please send your suggestions to [programming@norwescon.org](mailto:programming@norwescon.org). Please keep your eyes to the stars or at least the Norwescon web site for programming updates as the year moves on.

Rob Stewart  
Programming Director

More information > [norwescon.org/programming.htm](http://norwescon.org/programming.htm)

## Norwescon 33 Outreach

Over the years, Norwescon has developed relationships with many charitable and educational organizations. This year, Norwescon 33 will continue in that tradition by proudly partnering with these estimable members of the Northwest community:



More information > [norwescon.org/outreach.htm](http://norwescon.org/outreach.htm)

## Volunteer Opportunities Await You!

Did you know that Norwescon is a completely volunteer-run event? Without all the hard work that volunteers put in each year, there would be no Norwescon. Some people only volunteer at the convention, while others take a more active role throughout the year. If you would like to get involved, a good way to learn about available volunteer opportunities is to attend a ConCom meeting:

November 14, 2009

December 12, 2009

January 9, 2010

February 20, 2010

March 13, 2010

May 8, 2010 (post-con meeting)

Executive Team Meeting: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

General ConCom Meeting: 1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Post Meeting Social: 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Doubletree Hotel Seattle Airport

18740 Pacific Highway South

SeaTac, WA 98188

206-246-8600

If you can't attend the meetings, please send email to [volunteers@norwescon.org](mailto:volunteers@norwescon.org) letting us know what you are interested in doing. Our volunteer department will work with you to find the perfect volunteer position for you.

Shawn Marier  
Norwescon 33 Personnel Director

More information > [norwescon.org/volunteer.htm](http://norwescon.org/volunteer.htm)

## The Norwescon Banquet

It's back, so mark your calendars!

Thursday, April 1, 2010 - Grand Ballroom 2

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Ticket Price: TBD

More information as it becomes available.

## BOOK YOUR ROOM NOW AND REST EASY!

Norwescon 33 once again makes its home at the Doubletree Hotel Seattle Airport conveniently located in SeaTac, Washington. Book early! Norwescon's room block is already 60% full!

### DOUBLETREE HOTEL SEATTLE AIRPORT

18740 International Blvd  
SeaTac, Washington  
Tel: 1-206-246-8600  
Fax: 1-206-431-868

### CONVENTION ROOM RATE:

\$114 (USD) for up to 4 people  
Use code NORWESCON when booking your room.  
Doubletree Toll Free Reservations:  
1-800-222-TREE (8733)  
You can also register online at [norwescon.org/hotel](http://norwescon.org/hotel)

More information > [norwescon.org/hotel.htm](http://norwescon.org/hotel.htm)

## EXHIBITOR INFORMATION:

### Finish up your creations, Polish up your wares ...

Applications are now being accepted for the Art Show, Artist's Alley, the Dealer's Room and Lobby & Club Tables.

**Art Show** The Norwescon Art Show staff are thrilled to present John Jude Palencar as Norwescon 33's Artist Guest of Honor. Along with many great artists that we have had in the past, we are excitedly looking for new faces to bring to the show. The deadline to register your artwork is 12:00 a.m. on March 29, 2010.



Art copyright © 2009 by John Jude Palencar

**Artist Alley** Artist Alley welcomes a wide range of artists who are willing to share their skills and knowledge with other con-goers.

**Dealer's Room** Each year Norwescon provides access to some of the finest fandom-related merchants carrying a vast array of collectibles, books, games, and other merchandise of interest to our membership. Applications, contracts and payment are due by December 1, 2009.

**Lobby Tables** Norwescon offers lobby tables to members as an opportunity to meet other fans and introduce them to their science, science fiction, costuming, fannish group, convention, convention bid, or writing organization.

More information > [norwescon.org/exhibitors.htm](http://norwescon.org/exhibitors.htm)

## The Philip K. Dick Awards

The Philip K. Dick Award and Special Citation are presented annually for distinguished science fiction published in paperback original form in the United States at a ceremony and dessert reception which is held each year at Norwescon. The nominated works will be announced in January.

The Philip K. Dick Awards  
Friday, April 2, 2010  
7:00 p. m. in Grand Ballroom 2

More information > [norwescon.org/pkdick.htm](http://norwescon.org/pkdick.htm)

## GET CONNECTED! FIND NORWESCON ONLINE:

Forums at Norwescon • News at Norwescon (RSS feed)  
Norwescon Google Group • Facebook • Flickr • Live Journal • Twitter  
You can also signup to receive the monthly Norwescon eNewsletter.

More information > [norwescon.org](http://norwescon.org)

## SPECIAL EVENTS UPDATE:

### Masquerade, Match Game, Midnight Movies and More ...

We of Special Events have lots of exciting events planned for Norwescon 33. We will be updating the website frequently right up to the con. If you have any questions or ideas, or wish to volunteer for any of our Special Events, please send an e-mail to [specialevents@norwescon.org](mailto:specialevents@norwescon.org). Here is a look at what we have going so far.

**Dances** Thursday, Friday and Saturday. We are very pleased to announce that the theme for Friday night's Stardance is "Beyond Thunderdome."

**Lazer TAG 2010** Lazer tag is moving to the Evergreen rooms! More room and no more airport interference with the equipment. New hours: 7 - 11 p.m.

**Gaming** Game Masters needed - whether they master card games (collectible or not), board games, miniature games or role-playing games. Run one session or plan a tournament event! Gaming is also eager to hear from any LARPS that are interested in running at Norwescon 33.

#### The Fannish Fetish Fashion Show

Planning for the FFFS is in full swing with several designers already lined up. Watch [norwescon.org](http://norwescon.org) for updates about designers and contests. Designers and models needed!

**Match Game** Kevin Standlee is bringing his fabulous Match Game back to Norwescon 33.

**501st Photo Charity Event** The 501st is back again to do their charity photo shoot Saturday afternoon. This year the money will be donated to Clarion West.

**Masquerade** It is time to start working on those costume ideas and get started creating. You'll find application forms at [norwescon.org](http://norwescon.org).

**Poker Tournament, Scavenger Hunt, Queer Eye and Midnight Movies** They are all back, so be sure to check out the website for more updates as they develop.

**Sunday Fannish Flea Market** Last, but not least, is our newest event: the Sunday Fannish Flea Market. It is a flea market for Norwescon attendees to sell stuff that is science fiction and fantasy in nature that they no longer need or want. More details on this, and sign-up forms, will be available sometime in November.

Peggy Stewart  
Special Events Director

More information > [norwescon.org/specialevents.htm](http://norwescon.org/specialevents.htm)

### Special Events needs volunteers in these areas:

- ▶ Lazer Tag: Barrier setup crew, referees and tear down crew
- ▶ Gaming: Game masters
- ▶ Masquerade: All areas