

Norwescon 35 - Thursday

Scheduled Gaming

1 pm - 1 am

Cascade 9&10

You're at the Con, waiting for things to rev up, but we're already off and running in the Scheduled Gaming rooms! Come and see what we're playing and sign up for a game or two! We have card games, role-playing games, miniatures and more all lined up for YOU! Get in early! Bring in your game and schedule a spot to make new gaming friends! You could qualify for a prize!

Open Gaming

1 pm - 6 am

Rotunda 1&2

Got an hour before your next session? Stop by Open Gaming and play for a while. We have plenty of tables for fans to sit down with old friends (or new) and play...no sign-up sheet required. The Rotunda is available for open gaming all weekend on a first-come first-serve basis.

Thursday Movie Matinee: Short Circuit

1 - 2:30 pm

Olympic 1

Something wonderful has happened... Number Five is alive!

Flashback Arcade

3 pm - 1 am

7110

Join us for a blast from the past as members of the Seattle Area Metro Collectors (SMAC) present a full-fledged video game arcade here at Norwescon. Enjoy classic favorites and some great newer games, all set to free play, so no quarters required! Stop by for a trip down memory lane and test your skills against your friends, family and other Con members, or just take in the sights and sounds that pervaded the lives of almost everyone who grew up in the 70s and 80s.

Folded Paper Follies

3:30 - 5 pm

Olympic 1

Playing with bits of colored paper was never more fun! Learn to construct simple animals and flowers using the ancient technique of origami (folding paper). Or if you're more of a paper airplane person, use our supplies and patterns to construct a fantastic fleet of flying fancies!

The Greener Revolution

4 pm

Cascade 3&4

The 1960s saw vast improvements in worldwide crop yields. How will we continue to feed the world's growing population? Genetically engineered crops? Vertical farms? Will there be a place for organic agriculture?

Costumes Your Kid Will Actually Wear

4 pm

Cascade 7

Costume ideas and fabrics that work well with active and fussy kids.

Who Would Win?

4 pm

Cascade 8

Join us in a tournament of sorts, pitting willing participants in heated debate over the important issues of our time. Who would be better at smuggling: John Wayne or Joan of Arc? Who would win in a game of poker: Jacques Cousteau or John Shaft? Who would score higher in pinball: Jesse Owens or Jack the Ripper? Come play and/or vote in a session of "Who Would Win?" by Gorilla Games.

Norwescon 35 - Thursday

Norwescon Dance Academy

4 - 6 pm

Maxi's Ballroom

Welcome to the Norwescon Dance Academy! Learn the steps to the favorite songs of fandom: The Time Warp, Rasputin, Thriller, The Macarena, The Hustle, The Cupid Shuffle, The Electric Slide, Y.M.C.A. and whatever else we can think of. Then at the Dance, show off those new moves. Let's get ready to Rumba!!!

Bribing People to Listen to Poetry

5 pm

Cascade 2

Cookies. Probably from Costco. Yes, there will be poetry. Did we mention the cookies?

Building a Balanced Mythos

5 pm

Cascade 3&4

When building a religion for your world, how do you make it balanced and plausible without riffing off of existing religions? How will myth and religion impact your plot and motivate your characters? Why should there be several types of belief systems on a world?

Tech Ed

5 pm

Cascade 5

Is this panel about educating people about technology, or about using technology to educate people? Perhaps the answer is "yes".

Fandom in Mass Media

5 pm

Cascade 6

The visibility of fandom is on the rise (Big Bang Theory, Community, etc.) how are we being portrayed? Is it a good thing?

Branching Out with Your Art

5 pm

Cascade 7

Is it a good idea to try new methods and materials? How about whole new art disciplines? Should 2D artists dabble in 3D, and vice versa? Or should you just stick with what you're good at, because you have to make a living?

Cross-Genre Costumes

5 pm

Cascade 8

No, I didn't say cross-gender, I said cross-genre... A discussion on how to meld genres together to create unique costumes such as steampunk pirates, futuristic western wear, and shagadelic Regency.

Low Budget Special Effects

5-7 pm

Cascade 11

Although each of us would love to have a hundred million dollars for the top-of-the-line special effects, the sad truth is that those Powerball numbers remain as elusive as ever. In lieu of an unspeakable budget, here is a collection of techniques and tricks, including live demonstrations, of some special effects that you can do on a more dinner-and-a-movie budget! Bring your own conundrums and let's see if we can figure out how to make it happen!

Banquet

5-7 pm

Grand 2

Join our Guests of Honor and dine on a buffet dinner featuring Chicken Breast Forestier, Roast Pork Loin with Apple Cranberry Rum Sauce, Hazelnut Crusted Halibut with Creole Sauce and much more. Presentations will be made and there will be raffle prizes.

Norwescon 35 - Thursday

- | | | |
|---|----------------|--------------------------|
| Jay Lake reads from Sunspin
His current space opera project. Rated PG | 6 pm | Cascade 1 |
| Graphic Novels, Comics and RPG Costuming
Come find out how to translate a character concept from a card deck, game board, video game or graphic novel/comic into a finished costume. | 6 pm | Cascade 3&4 |
| Comparative Religions: Past, Present, Future, and Fictional
Faith and belief -- both historical and author-invented -- have been major themes in popular fiction and fannish media for generations. We'll respectfully discuss how faith is applicable to fandom, and the parallels and differences of religions past and present that have shaped (or been shaped by) the worlds of our favorite genres. | 6 pm | Cascade 5 |
| The Technology of Steel Weapons
What is steel and why does this family of alloys make such effective weapons and tools? Join a master bladesmith in a discussion, with examples, of the metal that dominated the world for nearly two thousand years, and the techniques of forging and polishing. | 6 pm | Cascade 6 |
| Vacation on Vesta
The DAWN spacecraft is orbiting the asteroid Vesta. How has it changed our view of asteroids, and what would a manned mission to Vesta look like? | 6 pm | Cascade 7 |
| Comic Adaptations
The last decade has seen an explosion of comics being made into movies, T.V., and video games. Do these live up to the comics they are inspired by? Have we really reached the saturation point, like Spiderman, where comics directors are also using the old story reboot? What are some of the best and worst of these? | 6 pm | Cascade 8 |
| Alien and Fantasy Biology
What can artists do to create new and unusual life forms? How does our understanding of human and animal biology help us take the known and twist it to create the unknown? Come meet some artists who excel in making realistic creatures that do not actually exist and make us believe that they could. | 6 pm | Cascade 12 |
| In The Beginning
Do you invent a world? Create a character? Plot a story line? Where should you start? | 6 pm | Evergreen 1&2 |
| Benjamin Tate reads Leaves of Flame
Dark epic fantasy novel Rated PG | 6:30 pm | Cascade 1 |
| Opening Ceremonies
Welcome to Norwescon 35! Come meet our Guests of Honor, and find out a little more about what's in store for you this year, as we explore together the "Seeds of Tomorrow". | 7 pm | Evergreen 1&2 |

Norwescon 35 - Thursday

Bruce R Cordell reads Spinner of Lies

8 pm

Cascade 1

Memories of his past incarnations haunt Demascus, even as he searches for stolen portraits that contain the trapped souls of demigods. Meanwhile, Drow creep beneath the city of Airspur, intent on precipitating war between Akanûl and a rival nation! While Demascus attempts to win free of the ghost of his murdered lover, he agrees to thwart the Drow's secret scheme, sending him on a trail that stretches between the Demonweb, Airspur, and an island that appears on no map. Rated PG

You Never Told Me THAT Was Going To Happen!

8 pm

Cascade 2

Warnings in fanfic – do you need them? Can you not live without them?

Anthropology in World Building

8 pm

Cascade 3&4

Human culture varies dramatically around the world. What weird practices and customs are out there, and can they be used in world-building for science fiction or fantasy worlds?

The Early Years

8 pm

Cascade 5

A few of our brave, thick-skinned professional authors will be reading from some of their earliest attempts at fiction. Grade-school assignments, juvenile fan-fiction, unintentionally hilarious short stories – see how their writing has improved, and what lessons can be learned from these initial attempts.

Myth, Legends and Fairy Tales

8 pm

Cascade 6

We generally think these stories form the basis of fantasy stories, but are they also the basis for science fiction and horror stories too?

Worlds for Science Fiction Dragons

8 pm

Cascade 7

Our thin atmosphere and high gravity make flying, rideable dragons almost impossible, but on a warm Titan, they'd be easy. Would Mars with a thicker atmosphere work? Where could one find or build such a world? What would drive the evolution of such a creature?

Finishing Touches

8 pm

Cascade 8

So you've got an outfit, don't think you're done costuming. What about makeup? Hair? Accessories? Props? It's time for research, creativity, and fun about those finishing touches!

Big Press, Small Press, or Self-Publishing?

8 pm

Cascade 11

Each publishing method has pros and cons. Come find out what they are and share your experiences.

The "Panel" Panel

8 pm

Cascade 12

Or, How to Be a Good Pro. Tips and tricks on being a moderator, pro, or panelist at a convention. What's your job, really, when your name appears after a panel description in a program book? How do you keep it on topic and interesting for the audience? And, what do you do when some blowhard in the back row thinks he knows more than you?

Out of Alignment: Moral Ambiguity in Gaming

8 pm

Evergreen 1&2

Sure, unwavering righteousness can be fun; but infallible heroes are boring - and the real world rarely breaks down into strictly good and evil. Why not make your players or readers wrestle with moral issues? Do the ends ever justify the means? Is the enemy of your enemy your friend? Is the villain evil, or just different? Come question your assumptions.

Norwescon 35 - Thursday

MC Firedrill in Concert	8 pm	Evergreen 3&4
Firedrill has waded through digital hell. He resides deep in the forest, a hidden treasure dreaming up the tunes of his heart using outdated software, hardware, anything he can get his paws on, exploring as many chiptune styles as possible.		
J. A. Pitts reads Mushroom Clouds and Fairy Rings	8:30 pm	Cascade 1
Post Apocalypse Fey story Rated G		
Caren Gussoff reads Free Bird	9 pm	Cascade 1
A Rroma family raises their alien foundling daughter. Rated PG		
Evolution of Marriage	9 pm	Cascade 2
In science fiction and fantasy, marriage has seen many shapes and forms -- just as it has in the real world. Which SF/F authors have toyed with different forms of marriage and family in ways that you think could be helpful to consider in the real world? How has marriage changed throughout history? What impact do recent laws and legislation have? And what does sanctity have to do with anything, anyway?		
Gaming & Community	9 pm	Cascade 3&4
Game communities have grown beyond small game clubs, web forums, and IRC as social networking has integrated with game companies – thereby creating even more game communities. Our panelists will discuss social networking and creating a positive community via chat tools, web forums, Twitter, Facebook, and 3rd party news/blogs.		
Does Horror Have Something to Say?	9 pm	Cascade 5
Politics in Horror? Romero's films are always full of his political beliefs. What are they, and what other horror movies have political influence?		
Costuming Your Norse God or Goddess	9 pm	Cascade 6
Ancient Norse mythology still resonates within our culture today, from Seattle Opera's acclaimed production of The Ring, the success of Peter Jackson's adaptation of The Lord of the Rings to the big screen epic of Thor. Now it is our chance to reinterpret the pantheon of Norse deities, and by Baldur's hammer, we are going to get it right! Bring your ideas and your horned helmets.		
The Science of Time Travel	9 pm	Cascade 7
While many scientists scoff at the idea of time travel, others aren't so sure. Some models of physics allow for the possibility of time travel, and some say it happens on a regular basis at an atomic level. Come hear what scientists have to say about mini wormholes, infinite futures and quantum time travel. Just don't forget to avoid meeting your future self on the way to the panel.		
You Can See More From Here	9 pm	Cascade 8
Space based astronomy has revolutionized our view of the universe and our place in it. Everywhere we look there are new, exciting and unexpected things going on. What is the latest from the world of astronomy and what does the future hold?		

Norwescon 35 - Thursday

Let's Make a Movie: Intro!

9-11 pm

Cascade 11

It's our thirteen year anniversary! For more than a decade, we've been making movies every Norwescon, like some sort of terrifying clockwork monkey. Be a part of history without actually burying yourself in the desert for a thousand years! In this introduction, see all the movies ever made at Norwescon as a part of this ground-breaking workshop, including introductions by the filmmakers. Here's the best place to watch all these movies at once, and behold the genesis of one of the weirdest and funniest workshops ever to be tolerated by Norwescon! Learn about some of the weird and heinous behind-the-scenes stories! Feel free to ask the filmmakers questions afterwards, if they're brave enough to stick around! Be inspired for part 1!

The Block

9 pm

Cascade 12

Whether it's writer's block or artist's block, everyone (with the possible exception of Stephen King) has struggled with it. But is The Block necessarily a bad thing? Is artist's/writer's block a curse... or a blessing in disguise? Come talk to artists and writers, learn about how they circumvent blocks, or accept them as valuable and much needed creative 'down' time.

Writers & Conventions

9 pm

Evergreen 1&2

Why do writers go to conventions? Do you have to go to WorldCon or World Fantasy if you want to be a writer? What other local and non-local Cons should you attend? BONUS! With Cons come stories--let's hear the best and the worst Con experiences from writers who've been around the block more than a few times.

Rai Kamishiro in Concert

9 pm

Evergreen 3&4

J-pop nerdcore. I'm sorry, didn't you hear me? J-POP NERDCORE. How awesome is that?

Lazer Tag

9 pm

Grand 2

The only place in the convention you are allowed to draw your lazer weapons. We have equipment for use; it is compatible with the Tiger Lazer Tag system, not the Team Ops system. Wizard tag will be available for those who wish to hone their skills before the battle this summer. For those players who are under 18, you must have a parent or guardian present at the arena. Lazer Tag is a live action, NON-CONTACT sport.

Beach Party at the End of the Universe Dance

9 pm

Grand 3

Callahan's and Milliways proudly presents "The Crosstime Beach Party at the End of the Universe"! If you've done six impossible things at Norwescon today, why not round it off with a beach party? No matter your time-zone, species or gender, dance the night away to the best party music of all time. And once again, DJ Dancin' Dan will lead the way with your favorite dances. Cosplay or not, all Norwescon attendees are welcome to this first night event. Don't forget your towel and DON'T PANIC!

Jennifer Brozek reads The Lady of Seeking in the City of Waiting

9:30 pm

Cascade 1

Crossed genre fantasy-horror Rated PG

Carol Berg reads The Daemon Prism

10 pm

Cascade 1

The third novel of the Collegia Magica. Rated PG

Norwescon 35 - Thursday

- | | | |
|---|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Friends of Bill W. | 10 pm | Cascade 2 |
|
 | | |
| How to Destroy the World without Even Trying | 10 pm | Cascade 3&4 |
| If you wanted to destroy the world, or perhaps just civilization, with the technology at hand, how would you do it? And how would you fix it again? | | |
|
 | | |
| Fairy Tale Adaptations | 10 pm | Cascade 6 |
| Red Riding Hood, Snow White and several other traditional tales are being adapted (some in multiple versions) for more adult movie audiences. Is this the next big thing? Does this have legs or is it something to be avoided? | | |
|
 | | |
| Writing Tie-In Fiction | 10 pm | Cascade 7 |
| Many video games today have accompanying fiction which often provides a more detailed storyline of current events as well as past or future action. Many roleplaying games have companion novel series expanding their worlds with characters, cities, and events that become canon. Join our panelists as they discuss how a game's setting is translated into a novel that, in turn, gives back to the game. | | |
|
 | | |
| Intro to Seattle Sex Positive Culture | 10 pm | Cascade 8 |
| What does it mean to be sex positive? Where can you find sex positive environments? How can you get involved? Learn more about this movement, and what it implies. 18+ WITH ID | | |
|
 | | |
| Kräken-Röhl in Concert | 10 pm | Evergreen 3&4 |
| The Steam & SeaPunk "SaltRock" Sing-a-Long Band! We take a lot of Latitude, with a lot of Attitude, so let's get kraken! | | |
|
 | | |
| 4/5/2012 Night Chaos Filk | 11pm-2am | Evergreen 3&4 |
| Chaos Filk. Bring your instrument and come play your geek heart out with other musicians in an all-peer environment. New at this? That's fine, everybody starts somewhere. Come start here! | | |
|
 | | |
| Logan's Run | Midnight | Evergreen 1&2 |
| In the 23rd century, the remnants of human civilization live in a sealed domed city, a utopia run by a computer that takes care of all aspects of their life, including reproduction. The citizens live a mostly hedonistic lifestyle but every resident must undergo a ritual the age of 30, where they are vaporized, but with the promise of being "Renewed". The computer has assigned several humans as Sandmen who chase after and terminate Runners who try to avoid their fate. | | |