

Welcome to

IMAGINARIUM 2026

July 17-19, 2026
Louisville, Kentucky

Your Imagination
is the Foundation

Welcome to Imaginarium 2026!

Welcome to Imaginarium 2026, our 13th year of a convention that embraces the mission embodied in the following statement:

“To foster and inspire imagination, one creative at a time. Create and make your world everything you imagine it to be.”

Imaginarium is a celebration of writing, storytelling, and the creative world in all of its forms and media. Our programming and guests reflect the realms of fiction, non-fiction, filmmaking, screenwriting, game design and development, songwriting, poetry, art and illustration, content creation and podcasting, cosplay, and much more!

Every year we strive to bring you a broad array of voices and perspectives from all over the nation and abroad. Take some time to go through our extensive Panel and Workshop programming, Film Festival schedule, and Guest List. Browse all of our vendors in the Expo, in both the Main Expo Hall and Creatives Alley. Participate in our Gaming and Cosplay, and enjoy our live entertainment! Imaginarium 2026 features more than ever for you to explore!

We ask that you help us maintain the kind of welcoming and supportive environment that we've always had across the years, and if there are any issues, we have a firm no-harrassment policy set in place to help make sure that everyone has the best experience possible.

You have a multitude of great networking, mentoring, professional development, educational, and business opportunities for you to explore this weekend at Imaginarium, so be sure to meet all the creatives participating as Spotlited Guests, Panelists, and Vendors that you can while you are here with us!

Above all, have a great time! You are part of positive and supportive creative community! Thank you for becoming part of Imaginarium and helping us make Imaginarium 2026 our best year yet!

Most sincerely,

Stephen Zimmer
Founder and Executive Director

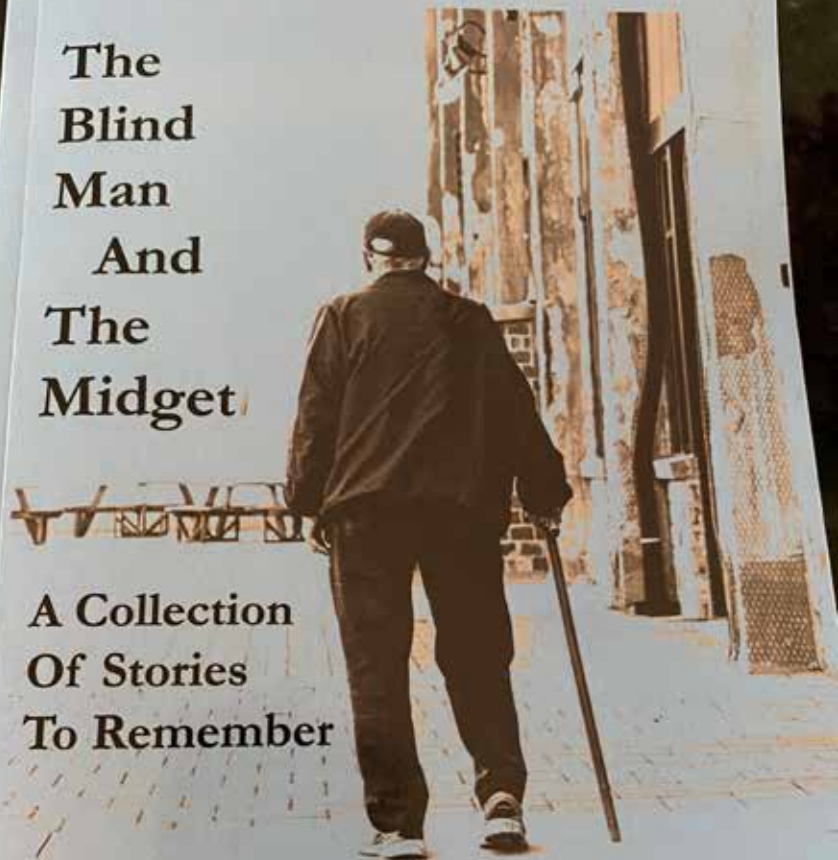
Holly Phillippe
Convention Co-Director and Head of
Programming



The Blind Man And The Midget

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Of Stories
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or from the author: adobechris@hotmail.com

Imaginarium 2026 General Schedule

Friday, June 17th	Saturday, June 18th	Sunday, June 19th
Registration Counter Opens: 9:30 AM	Registration Counter Opens: 9:00 AM	Registration Counter Opens: 9:00 AM
Panel and Workshop Programming: 12 PM -11 PM	Panel and Workshop Programming: 9 AM – 11 PM	Panel and workshop programming: 9 AM – 6 PM
Main Expo Hall: 12 noon to 6 PM	Main Expo Hall: 10 AM to 6 PM	Main Expo Hall: 10 AM to 5 PM
Film Festival Screenings: 10 AM – 9 PM	Film Festival Screenings: 9:30 AM to 9 PM	Film Festival Screenings: 9:30 AM to 5 PM
Gaming Room: 12 noon to 12 midnight	Gaming Room: 12 PM to 12 midnight	Gaming Room: 12 PM to 6 PM
Opening Ceremonies: 6:30 PM	Awards Banquet: Seating at 6:00 PM	Have a wonderful Imaginarium Convention Weekend! And never forget... Your Imagination is the Foundation!
Keynote Speech: 7 PM (keynote speaker)	Awards Banquet Dinner Served and Entertainment Begins 6:30 PM	
Friday Live Entertainment Begins at 8:15 PM	Awards Ceremony 7 PM	
Midnight Oasis featuring Sako Tumi & Jennifer Noran aka the Queenbee	Costume/Cosplay contest: Main judging at 8:30 PM	
10 PM The Music of Jayson William Allen and Poetry of the Dead	Winners Announced: at 9 PM	
	Imaginarium Karaoke Ball: 9 PM to 12 midnight+	

Meet our wonderful Imaginarium 2026

Guests and Panelists!

Guest Of Honor
Heather Graham
Scott Sigler

Imaginator Guests
Don Bentley
A.G. Mock
Dacre Stoker

Toastmaster
Michael Knost

Keynote Speaker

Spotlighted Guests

Tony Acree
Jayson William Allen
Brian D. Anderson
Arlan Andrews, Sr.
Nate Begle
Rose Betancourt
Jill Baker
H. David Blalock
Gregg Bridgeman
Hallee Bridgeman
Silvio Wolf Busch
Liz Carey
Santiago Cirilo
Chris Cohron
Douglas diMonda
David Domine
Elizabeth Donald
Amanda Durkin

Sean “Joker” Durkin
Barbara V. Evers
Chris Flanigan
Maxwell I. Gold
Sven Granlund
Yazmin Granlund
Annette Marie Griffen
Chris Helvey
Joann Hess
Devin Hylton
Ryan David Jahn
Roni Jonah
Annie Jones
Vince Kelien
Gavin Kelly
Paula Kelly
Dan Klefstad
Jonathan Knosp
Ben Lacy
J.M. Madden
Barry Maher
Amy Leigh McCorkle
Claude D. Miles
Da’Rell Miller
DiAnn Mills
Jennifer Noran
John Palisano
Lee Pennington
John B. Pyka
Renmeleon
Laurissa Rex
James Sabata
David Sherrer
Lydia Sherrer

Katerina Stoykova
Brent Terhune
Robert Thompson
Lynn Tincher
WC Turck
Eva Vertrice
Stephen M. Vest
Roxanne Warren
Cherry Weiner
Nicole Whisler
Michael Williams
Ron Yacovetti

Panelists

Marian Allen
Melisssa Allen
Kathlene Ashcraft
James O. Barnes
Jennifer L Barnes
Clayton Barnett
Marilyn Barr
T.R. Benjamin
Rebecca Besancon
Caitlin Bias
Tim Bischoff
K.L. Bone
S.A Bradley
Dakota Brown
Kathy L. Brown
J.E.Calvert
Darlene Franklin
Campbell
Kevin Carey
KB Carlisle

Meet our wonderful Imaginarium 2026

Guests and Panelists!

Richard Cartwright	Marian Gosling	Brick Marlin
J.M. Celi	Brian Haas	Christina Marrocco
Alisa Childress	Katherine Hale-Stringfield	Jeri Fay Maynard
S. Cinders	Sheridan C. Hall	Rebekah McAuliffe
J.M. Clark	T. Lee Harris	M.L. Macintosh
Dave Creek	N.V. Haskell	Ron McMillan
Erynn Crittendon	D. Mark Haynes	Mangala McNamara
S. Donovan Croft	Morgan Hazelwood	Annette Miller
JD Curie	Dwan L. Hearn	Jessica Minyard
Ava Cuvay	Nate Hoffelder	Carl. R. Moore
Molly Daniels	Kimberly Hoffman	Diana Morgan
Alyssa Davis	Paul J. Hoffman	J L Mulvihill
S. Lee Davis	Terry Hooker	Les Murphy
Drew Dennis	Michael Ignacio, Jr.	Will Neely
Jennia D'Lima	Vaughn A. Jackson	Jon R. Osborne
Ed Downes	Andrea Jenelle	Todd Padgett
Aaron Christopher Drown	Teri Kay Jobe	Mysti Parker
Maria Eidenback	Darius Jones	Rick Pate
Chad Elliott	Myles Jordan	Randi Perrin
Russ Emanuel	Dan Kemp	Caroline Peterson
Jesse James Fain	Kermet Merl Key	Fred Phillips
Steve Farris	Dr. Christina Kieffer	Carol Preflatish
Kelly Ferguson	Stephanie Lanham	Leah Pugh
Katie Fitzgerald	Michael LaVoice	Sara R. Ramsey
Carol June Franks	William Lehman	Herika R. Raymer
Rich Frazier	J. Patrick Lemarr	Linda Rees
Graham Ganson	Bradley P. Logan	R.C. Reid
Joy Ganson	J. Lyno	Beecher Reuning
Talitha Gholston	Rose Marie Machario	Jan Schiffer
David E. Graham	IJ Mack	Riley Scott
Robert "Hollywood" Gobelet	Scott Macmann	Jen Selinsky
Alan Goldstein	Rose Macfair	Carma Haley Shoemaker
Melissa Goodman	Sara Marian	Lynn Slaughter
	Gabiann Marin	Michael Small

Meet our Imaginarium 2026 Guests, Panelists, and Executive Staff!

Matthew Smith
Tommy B. Smith
Angelia Sparrow
Christopher Stevens
Logan Stovall
Kathryn Sullivan
Ariella Talix
Jason Tanamor
Heather-Rose
Thompson
Heather Dawn Torres
Sako Tumi
Rebecka Vigus
Jocelyne Waddle
Alison Weaverdyck
Lawrence Weill
Dave Weller

Jim Weter
Mick Williams
W.B.J. Williams
B.A. Williamson
Thomas M. Wing
Dylan A. Young
W. Jade Young

Imaginarium Executive Staff

Executive Director
and Founder: Stephen
Zimmer
Convention Co-
Director & Program
Director: Holly
Phillippe
Film Festival Co-
Director: Drew Graber

Game Hall Director:
Josh Palmer
IT/Administrative:
Wayne Pedersen
Administrative:
Cassandra Morgan
Volunteer Coordinator:
Dorothy Nguyen
Technical Manager:
Bentley Phillippe
Logos and Branding:
Aaron Christopher
Drown

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Friday Panel and Workshop Programming
For full descriptions of panels and workshops, refer to:
www.entertheimaginationarium.com

Note: This programming schedule is subject to changes.

Thursday, July 16h

Room/Time

TURFWAY

5 PM – Marathonarium
4 Premium Anthology Workshop presented by Stephen Zimmer – 3 hrs

Ashford (Film Festival Screening Room)

9 PM NIGHT OF THE TURKEYS: A Celebration of Misfit Monster Movies! Hosted by S.A. Bradley & James Sabata (3 hrs+)

FRIDAY, JULY 17th

Room/Time

TRIPLE CROWN

12 PM Using Timelines to Tighten Plot – Presented by Chad Elliot (60 min)

1:15 PM Illustrating for Online Presentations – Presented by Jill Baker (60 min)

2:30 PM How to Be Creative When All I Want to Do Is Take a Nap Presented by Kimberly Hoffman (60 min)

3:45 PM The Art of Co-Writing - Presented by K.L. Bone (60 min)

5 PM Crafting Cross-Genre – Presented by Sara Marian

7 PM Humor on the Page vs Humor on the Stage (MOD- Brent Terhune) James Sabata & Brian Haas, Steve Farris, Ed Downes

DERBY

12 PM Create Memorable Characters – Presented by Rebecka Vigus (60 min)

1:15 PM Whispered Rituals and Sentimental Alchemy – Presented by Jocelyne Waddle (60 min)

2:30 PM “Micro Publishing” and Niche Nonfiction (MOD - Kevin Carey) Amy Leigh McCorkle, Elizabeth Donald, Maxwell Gold, Melissa Allen, Morgan Hazelwood

5 PM Action! How to Break into Independent Film Acting (MOD - Christopher Stevens) Claude D. Miles, Jim Weter, Paula & Gavin Kelly, Todd Padgett, Robert “Hollywood” Gobelet

7 PM Echoes & Ink / An Open Reading and Poetry Session

CALUMET

12 PM Never Listen to Anyone Offering Advice On How to be a Writer – Presented by Aaron Drown (90 min)

1:45 PM Diversification Strategies to Build an Ironclad Author Career presented by Lydia Sherrer (90 mins)

3:30 PM Building Mythology into Speculative Fiction - Presented by Gabiann Marin. (60 min)

4:45 PM Building Metadata in Ebooks – Presented by Gregg Bridgeman (60 min)

7 PM Writing the Frontier: Grit, Justice, and the Modern Western (MOD-Joe Isenberg) Dave Creek, Dylan A. Young, Jesse James Fain, Richard Cartwright, Michael Knost

8:15 PM Creative Collaborations: How Writers & Filmmakers Can Work Together Presented by Roxanne Warren and Jonathan Knosp (60 min)

9:15 PM Practice Lab: Practice Your Film/Book Pitch Presented by Roxanne Warren and Jonathan Knosp (60 min+)

Friday Panel and Workshop Programming

Winner's Circle (Restaurant Area)

12 PM Ask The Agent:
Part I – Presented by
Cherry Weiner (2 hrs)

2:15 PM Build Out
Your Book: Make Your
Promotion Uniquely
Yours – Presented by
Renmeleon (2 hrs)

CARRIAGE

12 PM Technical Writing:
A Path to Becoming
an Author and Speaker
(MOD – D. Mark Haynes)
Carma Haley Shoemaker,
Barbara V Evers, Nate
Hoffelder, Laurissa Rex,
Rebecka Vigus

1:15 PM Realism in
Fiction (Even Speculative
Fiction) (MOD- James O.
Barnes) H David Blalock,
Kathy L. Brown, Tom
Wing, Eric Calvert, Ryan
David Jahn, S. Lee Davis

2:30 PM Double Trouble:
Crafting Iconic and
Dynamic Duos (MOD
- Caitlin Bias) T. Lee.
Harris, Tony Acree, James
O. Barnes, Mick Williams,
Michael LaVoice

3:45 PM The Romantasy
Revolution: Blending
Magic and Heart (MOD-
Annette Miller) S. Cinders,
Alyssa Davis, Marilyn
Barr, Trysh Thompson,
Caitlin Bias,

5 PM Grimoires and
Gravy – (MOD – Michael
Knost) KB Carlisle, Jesse
James Fain, Logan Stovall,

Michael Lavoice, “KB
Carlisle, Jesse James Fain,
Logan Stovall, Michael
Lavoice, Katherine Hale
Stringfield

7 PM The SF Ethics of
the Future (MOD- Dan
Kemp) Lydia Sherrer,
Alan Goldstein, Brick
Marlin, Dave Weller, Brian
D. Anderson

8:15 PM Has Ireland
become the new
Transylvania? Evolving
Vampire Origins – (Mod
– Dan Klefstad & Eva
Vertrice) Jennifer Barnes,
JM Celi, Dacre Stoker,
Christina Kieffer, K.L.
Bone

CLAIBORNE

12 PM Defining Genre
and Why it Matters (RM
Claiborne) (60 min)

1:15 PM The Producer's
Playbook: Funding and
Packaging Your Indie
Film (MOD- Christopher
Stevens) Drew Dennis,
Ashley Moreno, joAnn
Hess, Tim Miller, Myles
Jordan

2:30 PM Nuclear Heat
(MOD – James Sabata)
(90 + mins) John Palisano,
Dwan Hearn, Brian
Haas, S.A. Bradley, Brent
Terhune

4:15 PM The Great
Debate: Vampires vs.
Werewolves (MOD –
Da'Rell Miller) Jennifer
Barnes, Eva Vertrice, Dan
Klefstad, Carl R Moore,
Maria Eidenback

7 PM Authenticity &
Representation in Film
and Television (MOD -
Santiago Cirilo) Da'Rell
Miller, Maria Eidenback,
David Dominé, Jeffery
Lynch, Beecher Reuning

8:15 PM Horrors Against
Humanity (MOD – James
Sabata) (90 min) Brent
Terhune, S.A. Bradley,
Brian Haas, KB Carlisle,
Logan Stovall, Jesse James
Fain

ELLIS

12 PM Conflict & Plot -
Presented by Cassandra
Morgan (60 min)

1:45 PM Writing
Neurodivergent
Characters (MOD –
Diana Morgan) S. Cinders,
Rebecca Besancon,
Nate Hoffelder, Missy
Goodman, Arlan
Andrews, Sr.

3 PM Talk is Cheap:
Subtext, Dialect, and
the Unspoken (MOD-
Tommy B. Smith) A. G.
Mock, Clayton Barnett,
Jim Weter, J. Patrick
Lemarr, Lynn Slaughter

4:15 PM AI: From “Will
it Replace Us?” to “How
Do I Use It?” (MOD
- David E. Graham)
Darlene Campbell, David
Sherrer, WC Turck, Jayson
William Allen, Melissa
Allen

7 PM Building Irresistible
Chemistry in Romance
(MOD- Rose Maefair)
Jessica Minyard, Talitha

Friday and Saturday Panel and Workshop Programming

Gholston, Molly Daniels,
Randi Perrin, K.L. Bone,
Misty Parker

8:15 PM The Architecture
of Anxiety: Crafting
Unputdownable Thrillers
(MOD - Mick Williams)
Don Bentley, Riley Scott,
Dan Kemp, Jeri Faye
Maynard, Ryan David
Jahn, Tony Acree

TURFWAY

12 PM Developing
Deep Point of View –
Presented by DiAnn Mills
(90 min)

1:45 PM Stoker on Stoker
Multimedia Presentation
Presented by Dacre
Stoker (90 min)

3:30 PM Horrific Sci-Fi
Horrific Sci-Fi - (MOD -
Scott Sigler) Brick Marlin,
Stephanie Lanham, Nate
Hoffelder, J.M. Clark,
Logan Stovall, Vaughn
Jackson

4:45 PM Understanding
the Basics presented by
Don Bentley (60 min)

6 PM Opening
Ceremonies

6:15 PM Keynote Speech

7 PM Vamp Chat LIVE
Podcast With Dan & Eva
Featuring Guests Dacre
Stoker (60 min)

8:15 PM Midnight Oasis
featuring Sako Tumi &
Jennifer Noran aka the
Queenbee

10 PM The Music of

Jayson William Allen and
Poetry of the Dead

SATURDAY, JULY 18th

Room/Time

TRIPLE CROWN

9 AM Memoir Writing –
Presented by Jill Baker (60
min)

10:15 AM Descriptive
Writing & Tea Presented
by Jen Mulvihill (60 min)

12:30 PM Self Editing
Like A Pro – Presented by
R.C. Reid (60 mins)

1:45 PM The Writer's
Guide to the Apocalypse:
Building the Ultimate
Bug-Out Bag Presented
by Tim Bischoff (60 min)

3 PM Accounting for
Creatives Presented by
James O. Barnes (60 min)

4:15 PM Short Story
Contest Readings
presented by Arlan
Andrews (60 min)

8:15 PM Understanding
Distribution Contract
Legalese Presented by
Roxanne Warren and
Jonathan Knosp (60 min)

DERBY

9 AM The Poet's Guide
to Publishing: How to
Conceive, Arrange, Edit,
Publish, and Market
a Book of Poetry -
Presented by Katerina
Stoykova

10:15 AM Exploring
the Art of Dialogue
Presented by DiAnn Mills
(60 min)

12:30 PM The Poetic
Journey: Writing for a
Deeper Life – Presented
by Lee Pennington (60
min)

2 PM Jungian Psychology
(with a little Joseph
Campbell thrown in) for
Character Development,
presented by Darlene
Franklin Campbell (60 min)

3:15 PM Amazon's
Coveted #1 Bestseller
Flag—How to Achieve
One for Your Book!
Presented by A.G. Mock
(2 hrs)

8:15 PM Anatomy of a
Scene: Breaking Down
Special Makeup Effects
Presented by The Ky
Creature FX Crew (60
min)

CALUMET

10:15 Semiauto Magic
– An Exploration of
Urban Fantasy: Presenter
- Jennifer L. Barnes. (60
min)

11:30 AM Horror &
Comedy: Adding levity to
the darkness, Presented by
Scott Sigler (60 min)

12:45 PM The Alchemy
Framework – Presented
by Rob Thompson (60
min)

2 PM Getting Started
Self-publishing Your
Children's Book -

Saturday Panel and Workshop Programming

Presented by Carol June Franks. (60)

Sat 3:15 PM What's Next- After the First Draft presented by Jeri Fay Maynard (RM Calumet) (60 min)

5 PM Mastering Facebook Marketing presented by David Sherrer (60 min)

8:15 PM Sizzling Prose – Presented by Ariella Talix (60 min)

CARRIAGE

9 AM Mind the Gap: Identifying and Closing Plot Holes (MOD - Ava Cuvay) Carol Preflatish, James O. Barnes, Kathy L. Brown, H. R. Raymer, Mark S. Avery

10:15 AM Interactive Worldbuilding Jam - (MOD - W. Jade Young) (90 mins) David Sherrer, Jon R Osborne, Sara Marian, Teri Kay Jobe, Renmeleon, William Lehman

11:30 AM The Final Encore: Michael Williams Reads Farewell Tour (60 min)

12:30 PM Amelia: The Largest Self-Own In History and How She's Changed the World (MOD – Clayton Barnett) Lydia Sherrer, Benjamin Rittgers

1:45 PM Slushfest (MOD - Barbara Evers) (90 mins)

Aaron Drown, Liz Carey, Rose Betancourt, Kelly Ferguson, Cherry Weiner

3:30 PM The Anatomy of a Cold Case: Structuring and Researching True Crime (MOD - Ashley Moreno) Carol Preflatish, Gregg Bridgeman, Jayson William Allen, David Dominé, S. Lee Davis

4:45 PM Leveling Up Your Narrative: The Art of LitRPG Writing (MOD - W. Jade Young) Michael LaVoice, Stephanie Lanham, Angelia Sparrow

8:15 PM The Skeptic vs. The Believer: Navigating Paranormal Evidence (Michael Castro) Jeff Witham, Paranormal Theory, Leah McKain, Sean & Amanda Durkin, Vince Kelien

CLAIBORNE

9 AM The Pilot Puzzle: Structuring for Television and Streaming (MOD- Rebeka McCauliffe) Devin Hylton, Amy Leigh McCorkle, Kermet Merl Key, joAnn Hess, Rick Pate

10:15 AM Tech, TV, & Cinema (MOD - Kathleen Ashcraft) D. Mark Haynes, Paula & Gavin Kelly, Michael Castro, Myles Jordan

12:30 PM Special Effects Horror Makeup: Mastering the Art &

Adapting on the Fly – Presented by Stephanie Lanham (90 min)

2:15 PM Cosplay 101: Crafting & Character (MOD – Da'Rell Miller) Maria Eidenback, Jennifer Noran 'Queen Bee', Rebecca Besancon

3:30 PM Scene, Sequence, Story: Building Visual Momentum (MOD- Steve Farris) Jason Tanamor, Rose Marie Machario, Les Murphy, Missy Goodman, Russ Emanuel

4:45 PM The Soundtrack to the Story: Crafting Book Playlists (MOD- Jennifer L. Barnes) Fred Phillips, Annette Miller, Jesse James Fain, Logan Stovall, Rebekah McAuliffe

8:15 PM From Muskets to Manuscripts: Chronicling the Birth of the Republic – (MOD – Joe Isenberg) Thomas M. Wing, Ron McMillan

ELLIS

9 AM Breathing Life Into Tired Tropes (MOD- Kathryn Sullivan) Gregg Bridgeman, Riley Scott, Marian Allen, Dan Klefstad, Annie Jones

10:15 AM The Evolving Craft of 21st Century Writing (MOD - Aaron Drown) John Palisano, Brian D. Anderson, Laurel McKinley, R. C. Reid

Saturday Panel and Sunday Workshop Programming

12:30 PM A Match Made In Hell (MOD – James Sabata) Dwan L. Hearn (MOON), Brent Terhune, Brian Haas, Darius Jones, H. R. Raymer

1:45 PM Navigating Sensitive Topics In Your Writing (MOD-Diana Morgan) Angelia Sparrow, Leah Pugh, Ariella Talix, Chris Helvey, Santiago Cirilo

3 PM Researching Clothing & Setting for Historical Realism (MOD- WC Turck) T. Lee Harris, Angelia Sparrow, J.M. Celi, Ariella Talix, Mangala McNamara

Winner's Circle (Restaurant Area)

12:45 PM AMA: Film Distribution and Post-Production presented by Roxanne Warren and Jonathan Knosp (2 hrs)

2:45 PM Pitch to an Agent Session – Presented by Cherry Weiner (2 hrs)

TURFWAY

9 AM Legends & Lattes: The Rise of Cozy Fantasy & Low-Stakes Storytelling (MOD- Jennifer L. Barnes) KB Carlisle, Alyssa Davis, Marilyn Barr, Katie Fitzgerald

10:15 AM What's Vlad Got to do With It? Presented by Dacre Stoker (60 min)

Guests of Honor and

Imaginator 30 min
Interviews by Michael Knost 12:00 PM A.G. Mock - 12:30 PM Scott Sigler - 1:30 PM Don Bentley - 2:00 PM Dacre Stoker

3 PM Special Presentation: From Royal Scandals to Lost Time: Telling Stories for a Living & Book Signing – Presented by Barry Maher (75 min)

6 PM Seating Starts for the Awards Ceremony

6:30 PM Sako Tumi performs followed by the musical artistry of Ben Lacy / Meal Served

7 PM Awards Presentation Begins

8:15 PM Costume Contest

9 PM Imaginarium Karaoke Ball

Game Hall Area

4 PM The Queen Bee's Tea Duel of Composure and Crumb Presented by The Queen Bee (Jennifer Noran)

SUNDAY JULY 19th

Room/Time

TRIPLE CROWN

9 AM Crafting Critters – Presented by Barbara Evers (60 min)

10:15 AM Writing the Ancestors presented by Christina (Tea) Marrocco (90 min)

1 PM Live Round Table Pitch Session (MOD - Talitha Gholston) Cherry Weiner, Kelly Ferguson, Kevin Carey, Tony Acree, R. C. Reid

2:15 PM Agent Pitches with Rose Betancourt (2 hrs)

DERBY

9 AM Writing Stories of Transformation and Community (MOD- Kathy L. Brown) Christina L. Marrocco, Michael Williams, Alisa Childress, Lawrence Weill, Robert Thompson

10:15 AM Interviewing Your Characters – Unlock Their Deepest Secrets – Presented by Lynn Tincher (60 min)

11:30 AM Creating a Marketing Plan When You Don't Have a Marketing Degree – Presented by Hallee Bridgeman (60 min)

1 PM Creative Writing Through Grief and Trauma (MOD – Tim Bischoff) Amy Leigh McCorkle, Carma Haley Shoemaker, Scott Macmann

2:15 PM Sequential Storytelling: The Architecture of Comics

Sunday Panel and Workshop Programming

and Graphic Novels
(MOD - Renmeleon)
Da'Rell Miller,
Christopher Stevens, Dan
Kemp

3:30 PM The Craft of
Short Story Writing
(MOD- Jon R. Osborne)
David Sherrer, Dave
Creek, Terry Hooker,
Alisa Childress.

CALUMET

9 AM What Indie
Booksellers Wish Authors
Knew (MOD- Sarah
Ramsey) Liz Carey, Lynn
Tincher, Caitlin Bias, Eric
Calvert, J.M. Clark

10:15 AM Ask The Agent:
Part II Presented by
Cherry Weiner (90 min)

11 AM Direct to
Consumer (D2C)
Mastery (MOD- Ed
Downes) Da'Rell Miller,
Maria Eidenback, Nate
Hoffelder, Dan Kemp

1 PM Crafting and
Connecting through
Poetry (MOD - Christina
Marrocco) Darlene
Campbell, Jayson William
Allen, Michael Williams,
Sheridan C. Hall, Maxwell
Gold

2:15 PM Navigating the
New Age of Young Adult
Fiction (MOD- B.A.
Williamson)

3:30 PM Automating and
Systemizing Social Media
for Authors and Book
Marketing Presented by
Ed Downes (60 min)

CARRIAGE

9 AM Navigating
Publishing Scams (MOD
- Jessica Minyard) J.M.
Celi, Elizabeth Donald,
Michael Small, Rebecca
Besancon

10:15 AM Beyond the
Beats: Exploring Non-
Linear and Alternative
Story Structures (MOD-
Alison Weaverdyck) A.
G. Mock, Devin Hylton,
Darius Jones, Marian
Allen, Mark S. Avery,
Tommy B. Smith

11:30 AM Future-
Proofing Your Career:
The Multi-Platform
Creator (MOD- Eva
Vertrice) Scott Sigler,
Rose Marie Machario, Les
Murphy, Michael Ignacio
Jr, Sako Tumi, Morgan
Hazelwood

1 PM The Imposter in the
Room: Overcoming Self-
Doubt and the "Fraud"
Factor" (MOD - Teri Kay
Jobe) Erynn Crittenden,
Jason Tanamor, Ron
McMillan, Diana Morgan,
Fred Phillips, Dave Weller.

2:15 PM Crafting
Irresistible Romance Arcs
(MOD-Andrea Jenelle)
Talitha Gholston, Caitlin
Bias, Nicole Haskell,
Annie Jones

3:30 PM Building and
Sustaining a Successful
Writing Group (MOD
- Chris Helvey, Barbara
V. Evers, Marian Allen,
Benjamin Rittgers, Scott
Macmann)

CLAIBORNE

9 AM Telling Bold
Stories in a Restricted
World (MOD- Kathelene
Ashcraft) Andrea Jenelle,
Angelia Sparrow, Tony
Acree, Rebekah McAuliffe

10:15 AM 9:16 Vision:
The Art of Vertical &
Short Form Cinema
(MOD- Silvio Wolf
Busch) Drew Dennis, Tim
Miller, Missy Goodman,
Beecher Reuning

11:30 AM Crafting Songs
for Story and Stage (Carl
R. Moore) M.L. McIntosh

1 PM Horror and Humor:
Two Sides of the Same
Coin (MOD - James
Sabata) Scott Bradley,
Dr. Christina Kieffer,
Terry Hooker, Stephanie
Lanham, Douglas
diMonda

2:15 PM Mastering the
Magazine and Periodical
Market (MOD - Dave
Creek) H David Blalock,
Carma Haley Shoemaker,
Rebekah McAuliffe.

3:30 PM The Mystery
Wrestling Experience
(MOD - James Sabata)
Dwan L. Hearn (MOON)

ELLIS

9 AM Bulletproofing
Your Plot: Building
Inconsistency-Free
Worlds (MOD - Marilyn
Barr) Ava Cuvay, Gabiann
Marin, Molly Daniels,
Tommy B. Smith, Katie

Sunday Panel and Workshop Programming

Fitzgerald

10:15 AM Crafting Stories for the Next Generation (MOD- Kathryn Sullivan) Heather-Rose Thompson, Carol June Franks, Jen Selinsky, Jennia D'Lima

11:30 AM The Mechanics of Faith (MOD- Leah Pugh) Clayton Barnett, DiAnn Mills, J. Patrick Lemarr, Caroline Peterson, Todd Padgett

1 PM The Art of Illustrating Literature (MOD- Sako Tumi) T. Lee Harris, Jen Selinsky, Graham and Joy Ganson

2:15 PM Self-Publishing vs. Traditional Publishing (MOD- Lydia Sherrer) Lady Erynn Crittenden, Ed Downes, Sarah Ramsey, Nate Hoffelder, Michael Knost

3:30 PM Gears, Goggles, and Gaslight: The Steampunk Aesthetic (MOD- Chad Elliott) Jennifer Noran 'Queen Bee', Sara Marian, B. A. Williamson, Jen Mulvihill

TURFWAY

9 AM Church Service

10:15 AM The Future of Creative Integrity – (MOD – Chad Elliot) Renmeleon, Dwan L. Hearn (MOON), Kermet Merl Key, Elizabeth Donald,

12 PM The Art of Cross-Genre Writing (MOD-

Rose Macfair) Alison Weaverdyck, W. Jade Young, David E Graham, Lawrence Weill, Caitlin Bias, Marian Gosling

1 PM Where the Wild Books Are: A Magical Reading Adventure! Presented by Alyssa Davis (60 min)

2:15 PM Adding Intrigue & Action to Your Writing presented by Don Bentley (60 min)

3:30 PM Rewrite the Century: An Interactive Alternate History Panel (MOD- W. Jade Young) Teri Kay Jobe, JD Currie, Mangala McNamara, Richard Cartwright, Walt Williams, Will Neely

...and this brings us to the end of another wonderful Imaginarium, and we would like to extend our gratitude to our great Volunteers for this year who help make Imaginarium a place of welcome and support for creatives!

Kathlene Ashcraft
Vanessa Brown
Autumn Carroll
Aimee Edens
Raven Gomez
Sheridan Hall
Natalie Hutcherson
Trevor Hutcherson
Will Hutcherson
Addison Phillippe
Larry Vires
Diana Wiczorek-Gomez





About the Imaginarium Convention

To foster and inspire imagination, one creative at a time. Create and make your world everything you imagine it to be.

The Imaginarium Convention, now in its 12th year, is a unique event for writers and storytellers of all genres, including filmmakers, game developers, artists, musicians, poets, cosplayers, and many other creatives, and their fans.

The convention features three days full of extensive panel and workshop programming, an expo, a film festival, live entertainment, literary and film awards, cosplay, and much more!

A broad array of professional guests and panelists are featured in the programming, including authors, editors, publishers, filmmakers, screenwriters, game designers, comic creators, artists, actors, poets, and many other working creatives.

The Imaginarium Convention hosts an inclusive and welcoming environment that enables networking, learning, professional opportunities, promotional opportunities, and other benefits to independent creatives.



Friday Screening Schedule

My Boyfriend, a	
Mannequin	10:00 AM
Posers	11:20 AM
Africa Blanca: The	
Color of Exile	11:44 AM
The Last Illusion	1:14 PM
Shot Clock	1:39 PM
The End	3:08 PM
Formembrance	3:12 PM
In Plain Sight	3:30 PM
Law & Beaver	3:41 PM
Distant Dreams	3:55 PM
Open For Connection	4:13 PM
Evenly Matched	4:33 PM
Traction Park Massacre	4:47 PM

Opening Ceremonies 6:30 PM

The Mysteries of
Science: Volume One 7:35 PM

Saturday Screening Schedule

Black Gold	9:30 AM
Clack Mountain Clay	10:20 AM
Resilience	10:25 AM
Man Slapping	10:34 AM
The Other	10:43 AM
Simultane	11:47 AM

Mace	12:01 PM
Cherry Cola	12:12 PM
Black Saturday	12:42 PM
Invasion '53	12:52 PM
Kevlar Soul	1:02 PM
Heartstop	2:34 PM
Round The Corner	2:51 PM
Northpointe	2:55 PM
My Foot is in Heaven	3:25 PM
Zero Trace	3:40 PM
Limbo	3:47 PM
The Redemption of	
Mary Louisa McBroom	3:57 PM
Dreams of the Dead	
God	5:32 PM

Award Ceremony 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Malice Manor Cribbs 8:35 PM

Sunday Screening Schedule

Rooted	9:30 AM
The Conversation	10:43 AM
Ideal Recruit	10:55 AM
Hunters	11:02 AM
Too Late	11:16 AM
AI Jesus	11:31 AM
Another Day In the	
Neighborhood	11:46 AM

Sunday Film Festival Screening Schedule

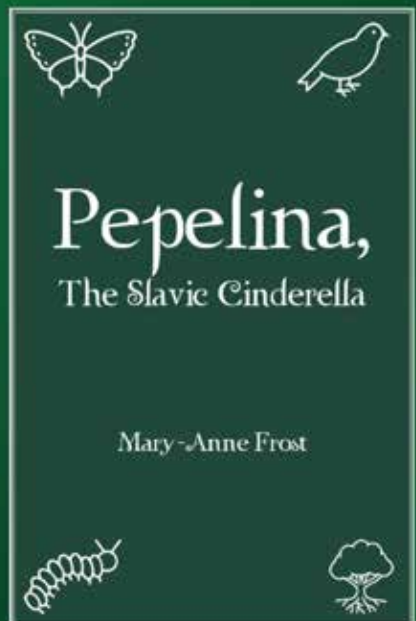
Transform	11:53 AM	A Night with the	
A Coffee Reunion	11:57 PM	Queen	2:22 PM
As You Wish	12:05 PM	Empathy Rehearsal	2:37 PM
At the Mercy of Faith	12:19 PM	Live in Live	2:57 PM
Game Day	12:39 PM	Once Again: The	
Martha's Notebook:		Start of it All	3:27 PM
Samuel & Jordan	12:43 PM	Prayer of the Sea	3:39 PM
Nyarlahotep	12:58 PM	The Noise Beneath	3:45 PM
Salt Lake Jake	1:13 PM		
Satisfaction Guaranteed	1:26 PM		
She Couldn't Put			
It Down	1:42 PM		
Tomahawk Holler	1:46 PM		
Zimmerman's Telegram	1:56 PM		
The Beneath	1:59 PM		
A Girl Called Alice	2:07 PM		



★★★★★
masterpiece
 ★★★★★ unputdownable ★★★★★ brutal honesty
 ★★★★★
written in a unique style
 ~~~~~  
**The true story of how two people  
 found each other again  
 after being divorced  
 25 years.**



★★★★★  
**a hallmark movie type book**



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 Cinderella**  
**Available now**  
[maryannefrostauthor.com](http://maryannefrostauthor.com)

# Imaginarium 2026 Gaming



Bloat Games will be hosting open gaming and our gaming room during Imaginarium 2026, our 13th year!

They will have a large library of games on site that will be free to play. Just come on into the game room anytime during the convention weekend, if you want to take a break, and enjoy some card, board, and tabletop role-playing games!

## **Game Room Hours with Open Gaming & Events**

**Friday Noon-Midnight**

**Saturday 10 AM–Midnight**

**Sunday 10 AM – 5 PM**

Copies of many popular games will be on hand, such as Scrabble, Dungeons & Dragons, List Off, Chess, Scattergories, 7 Wonders, Uno, Wingspan, Betrayal at Hill House, Dune, Azul, Evolution, Dead of Winter, Settlers of Catan, Parks, Ticket to Ride, Carcassonne, Roll Player, King of Tokyo, Zombies, Munchkin, Axis & Allies, Dark Places & Demogorgons, Trivial Pursuit, Quacks, Geek Out, Vigilante City, Space Race, Survive This: Zombies, Citadels, Are You a Werewolf?, Man Bites Dog, Huggermugger, Sequence, Checkers, and many more.

Magic the Gathering will be available to play all weekend. Bring your own deck or use one of our many decks.

Get ready for the best gaming environment

that we have had yet!

Demos/ Open Play All Weekend

The game room will have dozens of classic and new board games, card games, and role-playing games for free play all weekend. Come on into the game room and play a game, check out a demo, or just chill out.

## **Bloat Games Tabletop Role-Playing Game Demos and Information**

Bloat Games will be set up next to the game room with all of their awesome RPG games for sale and available for demo at any time during the convention.

## **Bloat Games RPGs**

**Dark Places & Demogorgons:** Teens in the 1980s in a paranormal and cryptid-filled Kentucky.

**Bloody Appalachia:** Survive the horrors of Appalachia, where strangers are not welcome. 2024 Imadjinn Award winner!

**Camp Blood:** Play as teen counselors as they attempt to make it through the night at an isolated summer camp.

**We Die Young:** Supernatural horror meets Grunge in a 1990s Seattle filled with vampires, werewolves, fairies, ghouls, and much more.

**Survive This!! Zombies:** Survive in a post-apocalyptic, zombie-filled world.

**Evolved:** Superhero Time Traveling game for DCC (Dungeon Crawl Classics).

**Dead West:** Role-Playing in the Wild West with a supernatural twist.

**Greasers & Ghouls:** Role-Playing in the 1950s world of hot rods, hula skirts, and huge monsters.

## Imaginarium 2026 Gaming Continued

... and many more!

[bloatgames.squarespace.com](http://bloatgames.squarespace.com)

### List Off Demos

A trivia game that plays like Uno meets Trivial Pursuit! You can learn the game in a few minutes. Come playtest demos for current and upcoming List Off expansions with the game's designers. Demos will be held all weekend: List Off Movies, Music, 80s, Horror, Pro Wrestling, Sci-Fi/ Fantasy, and more.

Demos anytime on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday

[bloatgames.squarespace.com](http://bloatgames.squarespace.com)

### Play, Rewind, Eject Demos

It's a quick-paced card game in which you decide which movies should be remade, erased from history, or kept just the way they are!

Demos anytime on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday

[bloatgames.squarespace.com](http://bloatgames.squarespace.com)

### Bluffaneer Card Game

All landlubbers, come put your coin on the line for a good time. Roll the bone to see how much gold you can get....or lose. In a game of bluffing, it's all or nothing!

Come check out the fast-paced card game by Imaginarium guest, Baryn Lore. He will have a booth in the exhibitor hall, and the game will be available to demo in the game room.

[facebook.com/barynlore](https://facebook.com/barynlore)

### Cat Magic and Outflanked Demos

Cat Magic and Outflanked are two great games created by Imaginarium Spotlight guest David Sherrer!

Cat Magic is a friendly (mostly) card game for lovers of cats, snark, and magical

fun. Based on the bestselling Love, Lies, and Hocus Pocus book series.

Outflanked: Looking for a quick, fun game to enjoy with family and friends? You'll love this deceptively simple game of territory takeover based on the bestselling Love, Lies, and Hocus Pocus Universe.

Demos anytime on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday.

[store.lydiasherrer.com/collections/merchandise](http://store.lydiasherrer.com/collections/merchandise)

### Evidential Myths Card Game Demo

Evidential Myths Game Overview

Fast-paced mobile card battle game (5–10 min matches)

Target: Kids, casual players, mobile-first audience

Unique: 1v1, 2v2, 4-player chaos modes

Presented by game designer Da'Rell Miller

Friday before 4 p.m. or Saturday before 2 p.m. or Sunday before 2 p.m.

### Magic the Gathering Commander/ EDH

Bring your favorite Commander/ EDH deck and test your skills anytime during convention hours. If you do not have a deck, we will have several for guests to play. We will have fun, casual decks, and hardcore competitive decks. All levels of players are welcome. Bring your trade binder!

Friday – Sunday All Day

[magic.wizards.com/en/formats/commander](http://magic.wizards.com/en/formats/commander)

### Gaming Events

#### Magic the Gathering Commander Super Battle

Time Friday 7-10 PM

## Imaginarium 2026 Gaming Continued

Bring your own Commander deck, or play one of our decks. Proxies are welcome at this event. All participants will receive a door prize. Prize for the winner.

[magic.wizards.com/en/formats/commander](http://magic.wizards.com/en/formats/commander)

### Dark Places & Demogorgons Role Playing Game

Set in Kentucky in the 1980's, you play teenagers trying to solve a monster mystery. Easy to play RPG designed by Kentucky's own Bloat Games.

Time TBD

[bloatgames.squarespace.com](http://bloatgames.squarespace.com)

### Dungeons & Dragons 5E

The classic RPG that started it all! Come join in some high fantasy adventure.

Time TBD

[dnd.wizards.com](http://dnd.wizards.com)

### Scattergories Super Battle

Fast-paced, knowledge board game.

Time Saturday 4-6 PM

Door Prizes for all players! Prize for the winner!

[shop.hasbro.com/en-us/product/scattergories-game](http://shop.hasbro.com/en-us/product/scattergories-game)

### 8th Annual List Off Trivia Championship

A trivia game that plays like Uno meets Trivial Pursuit! You can learn the game in a few minutes.

This is the eighth year in a row that the List Off Championships will be held at Imaginarium! Hosted by the game's creator!

Prize for the winner! Door prizes for all players!

Time Saturday 8-10 PM

[bloatgames.squarespace.com](http://bloatgames.squarespace.com)

### Bluffaneer Card Game

Awesome pirate-themed card game event. Come test your mettle against other scallywags and see if you can win all the gold. See the Bluffaneer booth during the Imaginarium for more information.

Time Saturday 10 PM

Prize for the winner.

### Are You a Werewolf?

The infamous card game that draws a crowd every Saturday night at Imaginarium! This will be the 11th year in a row of the late-night madness!

Saturday 11 PM-Midnight

[beziergames.com/products/ultimate-werewolf-deluxe-edition](http://beziergames.com/products/ultimate-werewolf-deluxe-edition)



# Imaginarium 2026 Cosplay

Imaginarium 2026 will be a great environment to celebrate and explore the wonderful world of Cosplay!

Many great Cosplay groups will be in attendance throughout the weekend and featured in our Creative's Alley! They will be conducting contests and games of their own, and demonstrations, so be sure to visit all of them!

We invite you to express yourself through Cosplay throughout the weekend, meet all of our wonderful groups, and participate in the Imaginarium Karaoke Ball and Costume Contest!

A few of the attending Cosplay groups at Imaginarium 2026 include:

The Kentucky Browncoats, The Airship  
Caduceus, and more!

## **Imaginarium Karaoke Ball and Costume Contest!**

After a full day of great programming and activities, the Imaginarium Karaoke Ball will kick off with a Costume Contest for both children and adults!

The Costume Contest will begin at 8:30 PM with judging and be followed immediately by the Imaginarium Karaoke Ball which will last until at least midnight, at the earliest!

Sign-ups for the costume contest will be at the registration counter from the beginning of the convention. The theme of the characters portrayed by contestants must be taken from the world of storytelling, including literary works, film/television, a song, or a game. Come have fun and enjoy the magic of cosplay!

Prizes will be awarded for all categories including special new Imaginarium tokens that can be spent in the expo hall with any vendor!

Immediately following the costume contest the Back to the 90's Imaginarium Karaoke Ball will commence!

There will be a cash bar provided along with music by our house DJ, Keith Brockman of Soundoff.

Lots of dancing, singing, and fun for all ages! You are not required to be in costume to attend!

## **Imaginarium Karaoke Ball/ Contest Rules**

All costumes must be based on a character from a medium of storytelling, such as literature, film/tv, or games.

Costumes will be judged on creativity, uniqueness, and character-based precision. A costume does not have to be of professional make to be considered for the prizes. Creativity and imagination are a big part of what we are looking for!

We ask that you sign in when you arrive with your real name and your character. In the event we have more than one of the same character, photos may be taken by con staff for reference. (Note: The judges will not see this list.)

No nudity. This event, as with the rest of the Imaginarium Convention's main events, is family friendly. All ages will be admitted to the Ball. Costumes containing nudity or adult-themed parts will be disqualified from the contest and the wearer asked to change clothes and/or leave.

A cash bar will be provided. Proper identification will be required.

You do not need to be in costume to attend the Back to the 90's Imaginarium Karaoke Ball.

Winners will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in the form of Imaginarium Bucks to use in the vending halls.

Adults: 1st - \$50 2nd- \$25 3rd - \$15

Kids: 1st - \$25 2nd - \$15 3rd - \$10



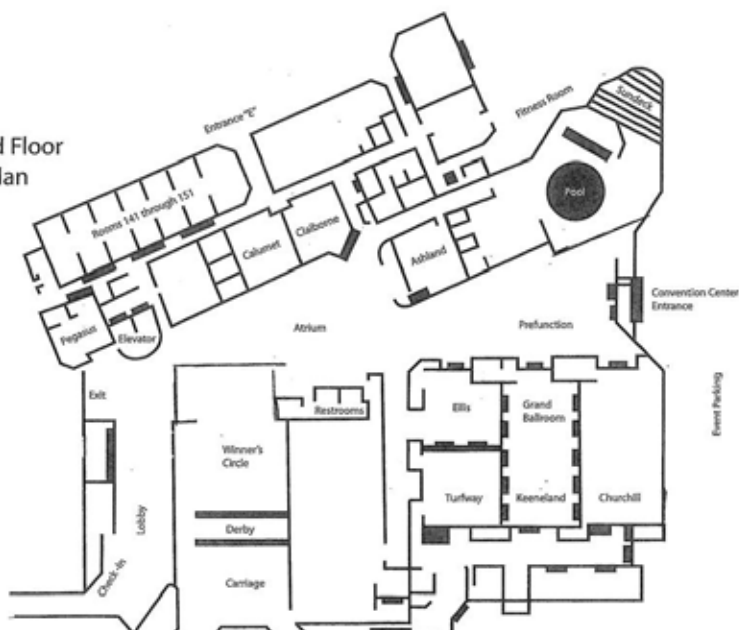
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Hihurstbourne.com

Ground Floor  
Floor Plan



# The Unlife of Lisa Cooper

A Vampire Urban  
Fantasy Series By  
J.M. Celi



# Imaginarium No-Harassment Policy

Harassment of an individual is a very serious matter when it comes to convention and events. As the Imaginarium Convention seeks to provide a comfortable and inclusive climate for everyone in attendance, we have a firm no-harassment policy.

As Bill and Ted famously said, “Be Excellent to Each Other.”

However, verbal comments, or any behavior considered to be intimidating or of a stalking nature, including but not limited to the use of recording devices, disruption of discussions/events, unwelcome sexual attention, or inappropriate physical contact can result in revocation of event registration at the discretion of staff and security.

We will not tolerate any abuse of any attendee with regard to their religion, ethnic heritage, gender, physical appearance, or sexual orientation. Any request to cease behavior deemed of a harassing nature is expected to be complied with immediately, and failure to do so will result in immediate revocation of the individual's event registration. There are no refunds on a revoked registration, so please cooperate.

We also ask that anyone experiencing any harassment report it to our staff or security as soon as possible. Staff and security will be easy to identify with unique staff/security shirts. Let's all have a great weekend together and we sincerely hope that this policy does not have to be invoked a single time. Help us make that happen and ensure that Imaginarium's atmosphere is one that is welcoming, supportive, and positive for everyone!

## Friday Evening, Don't Miss Our Live Entertainment!

**Begins at 8:15 PM in the Turfway Ballroom! Featuring:**

Midnight Oasis featuring Sako Tumi & Jennifer Noran aka the Queenbee

The Music of Jayson William Allen and Poetry of the Dead



# The 2026 Imadjinn Awards!

## Full Finalist List!

### Best Anthology (multiple authors)

Dancing With Destruction  
from editor Jason Cordova

Love at Harriet from editor  
Elizabeth Anne Lance

What Swallows the  
Light from editors Paula  
Limbaugh, Victoria Kiska,  
Charlene du Toit, & Theresa  
Derwin

It Came From the Trailer  
Park: Double Wide Volume  
1 from editors William  
Joseph Roberts & Jesse  
James Fain

### Best Audiobook Narration

Ghostship Derelict (Dagdan  
Federation universe Book 1  
narrated by Brian Fairbank

Shadow Card Guardian  
narrated by Anna Delphine

Bowen Island: A Folly Beach  
Mystery narrated by Rich  
Frazier

Harvest of Evil: Book  
One of the John Fisher  
Chronicles narrated by Perry  
Wince

### Best Children's Book

What Farm Boots are For by  
Carol June Franks

Sunny and the Round  
Things by Jennia D'Lima

The Young Dragon And  
The Curse Of Tempest Isle  
by Alyssa Davis

### Best Cross Genre Novel

We Are Travelers by Kiley  
Patteson

The Eagle Flies at Night by  
Lance Loot

-Clutching Cthulhu's Pearls  
by Marilyn Barr

### Best Faith-Based Novel

Love Makes Way by Hallee  
Bridgeman

Four Moments: A Dylan  
Drake Story by J. Patrick  
Lemarr

The Stories We Carry by  
Robin W. Pearson

### Best Fantasy Novel

Rise From Ruin by Melissa  
Olthoff

A Count of Courage by  
Nancy Moser

The Blacksmith's Boy by  
Bruce Buchanan

The Healer's Heir by Katie  
Fitzgerald

### Best Game Module / Rule Book

Evolved: Super Heroic Time  
Travel RPG by Josh Palmer

### Best Historical Fiction Novel

In Harm's Way by  
Thomas M. Wing

Whistles of the Wendigo:  
A Joint Task Force 13  
Legacy Novel by Charli  
Cox

Thrall of Deception: A  
Tale from Norvegr by  
Edale Lane

### Best Horror Novel

The Great Dick and the  
Dysfunctional Demon by  
Barry Maher

The Exorcist's House:  
Resurrection by Nick  
Roberts

Southern Cross by  
Vaughn A. Jackson

Darkness Calls by Joe  
Chianakas

### Best Literary Fiction Novel

Again, Only More Like  
You by Catalina Margulis

Exiting the Bluegrass  
Turnpike by Benjamin  
Rue Silliman

The Ashes of Us by  
Ashley Baker

|                                                                                  |                                                                 |                                                        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Best Middle Grade Book</b>                                                    | Dancing with a Demon<br>by L. R. Braden                         | Joshua Viola and Sean Eads                             |
| Dreams of Gold and Fire<br>by Fred Phillips                                      | <b>Best Poetry Collection (single author)</b>                   | The Wind's Four Quarters<br>by Alma Alexander          |
| Not Lucille by Mike Steele                                                       | The Book of Hours by Darius Jones                               | <b>Best Short Story</b>                                |
| Scareville: Food To Die For<br>by John Ward                                      | I Am, You Are, Part of it All<br>by Carla Cilkik                | Through the Holler, Into the Dark<br>by Emma E. Murray |
| <b>Best Mystery Novel</b>                                                        | The Eighth by Rita Spalding                                     | Love's Fiercest Light<br>by Hallee Bridgeman           |
| Alibi for Murder<br>by Melodie Romeo                                             | <b>Best Romance Novel</b>                                       | The Leper's Garden<br>by Jeff Clulow                   |
| Crossfire: A Folly Beach Mystery<br>by Bill Noel                                 | Everybody Knows<br>by Ariella Talix                             | This Broken World<br>by Mia Dalia                      |
| Shattered Sanctuary<br>by Nancy Mehl                                             | No Apologies<br>by Andrea Jenelle                               | <b>Best Song Lyrics</b>                                |
| <b>Best Non-Fiction Book</b>                                                     | The Scald Crow<br>by Hannah Park                                | The Long Road<br>by Romana Bereneth                    |
| When the Smoke Cleared<br>by Det. Lt. Bill Powers (Ret.)                         | <b>Best Science Fiction Novel</b>                               | Hush<br>by Jayson William Allen                        |
| A Monster in Mount Pleasant<br>by CJ Williams                                    | Bifrost Down<br>by Jon R. Osborne                               | Finish line<br>by Jayson William Allen                 |
| 52 Weeks 52 Sherlock Holmes Novels<br>by Paul Bishop                             | Dead to Rights: A Car Warriors Autoduel Novel<br>by Jay Barnson | <b>Best Thriller Novel</b>                             |
| Abundantly Brilliant: A Story of Pain, Power and Perseverance<br>by Black Mariah | Frozen Echoes<br>by Ed Downes                                   | The First Wives<br>by S.E. Reed                        |
| <b>Best Paranormal Romance Novel</b>                                             | <b>Best Short Story Collection (single author)</b>              | Collateral Damage<br>by Mick Williams                  |
| S'more Love<br>by K. Rose                                                        | Six O'Clock House & Other Strange Tales<br>by Rebecca Cuthbert  | Cash Target<br>by Edale Lane                           |
| Resurrection<br>by Hannah Park                                                   | Midnight Vintage<br>by                                          |                                                        |

**Best Urban Fantasy  
Novel**

House of Owls by Jon R.  
Osborne

The Unlife of Lisa  
Cooper: Vengeance by JM  
Celi

A Conundrum of  
Wizards by K.R. Bady

Reaper by John G.  
Hartness

**Best Western Novel**

Iron Horse by Will Neely

Legends of the West by  
Michael Black

Blood Lake by C.M.  
Saunders

**Best Young Adult Novel**

The Unraveling of Emlyn  
DuLaine by Lindsay A.  
Franklin

Awakening: Winberie  
Journals Book One by  
Lynn Tinchier

Missing Mom by Lynn  
Slaughter

Paramour by Robin  
Alvarez

**Best Magazine/  
Periodical**

Kentucky Monthly by  
Stephen M Vest

parABnormal Magazine  
by H David Blalock

Kraft Paper Muse by Ana  
Maria Selvaggio



**Get ready for a great Imaginarium  
2026 Awards Ceremony!**

Dinner seating begins 6 PM on Saturday, July  
18th in Turfway Ballroom!

With Live Entertainment, including:

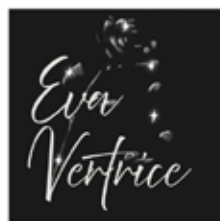
|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| A Musical        | A Dance          |
| Performance From | Performance From |
| Ben Lacy!        | Sako Tumi!       |

Awards Ceremony Begins at 7 PM

# Thank You To All Of Our Official Sponsors For Imaginarium 2026, Our 13th Year!



Hydra  
Publications



## Thank You To All Of Our Imaginarium 2026 Individual Patrons!

Carol June Franks

Carol Preflatish

Chris Helvey

Heather M. Floyd

Jill Baker

Lee Pennington

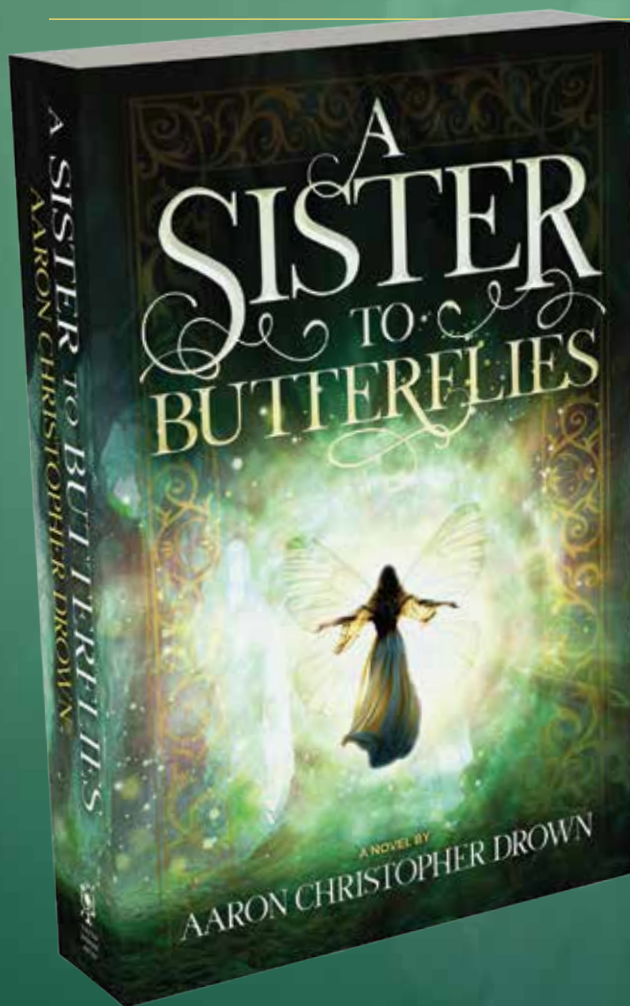
Mick Williams

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“Lyrical prose, haunting imagery.  
This is a fairy tale turned inside out.”

AMAZON REVIEW

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