



 CROSSTHREECON 2021

SLIPPING SIDEWAYS

Program



WELCOME TO CROSSINGS CON!

Dai stihó, cousins! Welcome to CrossingsCon: Slipping Sideways!

I'm so pleased that you could join us here in the events wing at the Crossings Intercontinual Worldgating Facility on Rirhath B! For three conventions now, you all have been telling us to have the convention in space, and we're delighted to have finally done it! We've put the con in (cyber)space!

For a whole week, this space will be packed with old friends and new: We are thrilled to have Diane Duane with us for the fourth time, and traveling by worldgate instead of plane made it possible for so many new faces to make it! Ursula Vernon, Jessica Day George, C.B. Lee, Cat Valente, and Megan Whalen Turner are all new to CrossingsCon, and we're so excited to hear them talk about worldbuilding, mythology, portal fantasy, conlangs, superheroes, and more.

This isn't the convention we were picturing when we started planning in 2019, but we're really excited about what we've put together for you. There are people we get to meet and things we get to do that wouldn't have been possible if things had gone according to plan. And of course, none of this would be possible without you! Your generous support—whether through Patreon, other donations, or just telling your friends to come join us—made this week possible, and we are so glad to have you here.

If it's your first time here, welcome! If you've been to CrossingsCon before, thanks for sticking with us! I hope all of you have a wonderful time this week.

MaryVail Baucom

Chair, CrossingsCon: Slipping Sideways



CONVENTION STAFF

Stationmaster

MaryVail Baucom

Events

Emma Heuchert
Sonia Grace
Claudia Kowalski

Guest Relations

Sarah Cowett
Jenny Peterson

Design & Merchandise

Amy Hall

Public Relations

Anuj Opal
Kayla Forshey

Registration, Venue & Location

Eli Morris-Heft

Sponsored by Emfozzing Enterprises, 501(c)3.

GUESTS OF HONOR

DIANE DUANE



Appearing at CrossingsCon now for the fourth time, is the one and only Diane Duane! She is the creator of the *Young Wizards* YA science fantasy series and the *Middle Kingdoms* LGBTQ adult-fantasy series, and has also worked in comics and computer games. She has also written extensively for television and film, working with characters ranging from Jean-Luc Picard to Batman and from Siegfried the Volsung to Scooby-Doo. She has picked up various awards for her prose and screen work over time, the most recent of these being the Faust Grandmaster Award from the International Association of Media Tie-In Writers. She also served as a writer guest of honor at the World Science Fiction Convention in Dublin in 2019.

URSULA VERNON

Ursula Vernon, author and illustrator, has written over fifteen books for children, several novels for adults, an epic webcomic called *Digger*, and various short stories. She publishes children's books under her own name and adult books under the pen name T. Kingfisher. She has received numerous awards, including the Hugo Award, the Nebula Award, and the Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for her work in various mediums. Having moved across the country several times, she eventually settled in Pittsboro, North Carolina, where she works full-time as an artist, writer, and creator of oddities.



JESSICA DAY GEORGE

Jessica Day George—author of the *Rose Legacy*, *Castle Glower*, and *Dragon Slippers* series—earned a BA in Humanities/Comparative Literature from Brigham Young University, where she enjoyed classes in Pottery and Old Norse, and dutifully forced herself to take Algebra and Biology. Originally from Idaho, she now resides in Salt Lake City, Utah, with her husband and three young children.



GUESTS OF HONOR

C.B. LEE

C.B. Lee is a Lambda Literary Award nominated writer of young adult science fiction and fantasy. Her works include the *Sidekick Squad* series, *Ben 10* graphic novels, *Out Now: Queer We Go Again*, *Minecraft: The Shipwreck*, *From A Certain Point Of View: The Empire Strikes Back*, and *A Clash of Steel: A Treasure Island Remix*. Lee's work has been featured in Teen Vogue, Wired Magazine, Hypable, Tor's Best of Fantasy and Sci Fi, and the American Library Association's Rainbow List.



CAT VALENTE

Catherynne M. Valente is the New York Times bestselling author of forty works of speculative fiction and poetry, including *Space Opera*, *The Refrigerator Monologues*, *Palimpsest*, the *Orphan's Tales* series, *Deathless*, *Radiance*, and the crowdfunded phenomenon *The Girl Who Circumnavigated Fairyland in a Ship of Own Making* (and the four books that followed it). She is the winner of the Andre Norton, Tiptree, Sturgeon, Prix Imaginales, Eugie Foster Memorial, Mythopoeic, Rhysling, Lambda, Locus, Romantic Times' Critics Choice, and Hugo awards. She has been a finalist for the Nebula and World Fantasy Awards. She lives on an island off the coast of Maine with a small but growing menagerie of beasts, some of which are human.

MEGAN WHALEN TURNER

Megan Whalen Turner is an award winning and NYT bestselling author of fantasy for children, adults and young adults. Her novel *The Thief* was a Newbery Honor book in 1997. It was the first of six books set in the world of the Queen's Thief. Turner has been awarded a Horn Book Honor, been shortlisted twice for the Norton Award, and won both the Mythopoeic Award and the LA Times Book Award for Young Adult Literature. Satisfying for all ages, her books are filled with political machinations and divine intervention, friendship, fortitude and deceit. It is a testament to their staying power that twenty five years after *The Thief* was published, readers were eagerly awaiting the arrival of *Return of the Thief* in October 2020.



SCHE~~D~~*U*E OF EVENTS

SUNDAY 8/1/21

Time UTC-4 (EDT)	Tír na nÓg	Wonderland	Library
12:00 PM	Opening Ceremonies		
12:30 PM			
1:00 PM	Guest of Honor Game Stream		
1:30 PM			
2:00 PM			
2:30 PM			
3:00 PM			Games and Mixer
3:30 PM	Visualizing Alternate Worlds		
4:00 PM			
4:30 PM			
5:00 PM	Travel Stories		
5:30 PM			
6:00 PM			
6:30 PM			
7:00 PM			
7:30 PM			
8:00 PM			
8:30 PM			
9:00 PM			
9:30 PM			
10:00 PM			
10:30 PM			
11:00 PM			



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MONDAY 8/2/21

Time UTC-4 (EDT)	Tír na nÓg	Wonderland	Avalon
12:00 PM			
12:30 PM			
1:00 PM			
1:30 PM			
2:00 PM			
2:30 PM			
3:00 PM			
3:30 PM			
4:00 PM			
4:30 PM			
5:00 PM	Food in Fiction		
5:30 PM			
6:00 PM			
6:30 PM		Roving Mars: Exploration Through the Ages	
7:00 PM			
7:30 PM			
8:00 PM		Meet the Author: Jessica Day George	Book Talk
8:30 PM			
9:00 PM			
9:30 PM			
10:00 PM			
10:30 PM			
11:00 PM			



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

TUESDAY 8/3/21

Time UTC-4 (EDT)	Tír na nÓg	Wonderland	Avalon
12:00 PM			
12:30 PM	Parents and Mentors in Youth Fiction		
1:00 PM			
1:30 PM			
2:00 PM			
2:30 PM			
3:00 PM			
3:30 PM			
4:00 PM			
4:30 PM			
5:00 PM		Meet the Author: Diane Duane	
5:30 PM	Exploring Race in Time Travel Fiction		
6:00 PM			Meet the Author: CB Lee
6:30 PM			
7:00 PM	Linguistics After Dark: Live Show		
7:30 PM			
8:00 PM			
8:30 PM			
9:00 PM			
9:30 PM			
10:00 PM			
10:30 PM			
11:00 PM			

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY 8/4/21

Time UTC-4 (EDT)	Tír na nÓg	Wonderland	Library
12:00 PM			
12:30 PM			
1:00 PM			
1:30 PM			
2:00 PM			
2:30 PM			
3:00 PM			
3:30 PM			
4:00 PM			
4:30 PM			
5:00 PM			
5:30 PM			
6:00 PM	Interactive Worldbuilding: Game Design and Cultural Consulting	Writing Workshop	
6:30 PM			
7:00 PM			
7:30 PM			
8:00 PM			Pub Trivia
8:30 PM			
9:00 PM			
9:30 PM			
10:00 PM			
10:30 PM			
11:00 PM			



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY 8/5/21

Time UTC-4 (EDT)	Tír na nÓg	Wonderland	Avalon
12:00 PM			
12:30 PM			
1:00 PM			
1:30 PM			
2:00 PM			
2:30 PM			
3:00 PM			
3:30 PM			
4:00 PM			Unconvention Slots
4:30 PM			
5:00 PM		Meet the Author: Ursula Vernon	
5:30 PM			
6:00 PM	BAM! POW! Superhero Stories		
6:30 PM			
7:00 PM	Authors in Conversation		
7:30 PM			
8:00 PM			
8:30 PM			Fanfiction Discussion
9:00 PM			
9:30 PM			
10:00 PM			
10:30 PM			
11:00 PM			

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY 8/6/21

Time UTC-4 (EDT)	Tír na nÓg	Wonderland	Avalon
12:00 PM			
12:30 PM		Portal Fantasy	
1:00 PM			
1:30 PM			
2:00 PM			
2:30 PM			
3:00 PM			
3:30 PM			
4:00 PM			
4:30 PM			
5:00 PM		Meet the Author: Megan Whalen Turner	
5:30 PM			
6:00 PM	Baron Munchausen		
6:30 PM	CB Lee, Ursula Vernon, Cat Valente, Eli Morris-Heft		
7:00 PM			
7:30 PM			
8:00 PM	Conlangs		
8:30 PM			
9:00 PM	The Angry Red Planet Movie Showing		
9:30 PM			
10:00 PM			
10:30 PM			
11:00 PM			

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SATURDAY 8/7/21

Time UTC-4 (EDT)	Tír na nÓg	Avalon	Library	
12:00 PM	Authors in Conversation			
12:30 PM				
1:00 PM				
1:30 PM	Planets in Science Fiction			
2:00 PM				
2:30 PM				
3:00 PM	Folklore Inspirations			
3:30 PM				
4:00 PM		Unconvention Slots		
4:30 PM	Baron Munchausen Diane Duane, Megan Whalen Turner, Jessica Day George, Megan Wegenke			
5:00 PM				
5:30 PM				
6:00 PM				
6:30 PM				
7:00 PM	Heaven's Vault			
7:30 PM				
8:00 PM				
8:30 PM				
9:00 PM			CrossingsJam	
9:30 PM				
10:00 PM				
10:30 PM				
11:00 PM				

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUNDAY 8/8/21

Time UTC-4 (EDT)	Tír na nÓg	Avalon	Library
12:00 PM		Unconvention Slots	Games and Meetups
12:30 PM			
1:00 PM			
1:30 PM			
2:00 PM			
2:30 PM			
3:00 PM			
3:30 PM			
4:00 PM			
4:30 PM			
5:00 PM	Closing Ceremonies		
5:30 PM			
6:00 PM			
6:30 PM			
7:00 PM			
7:30 PM			
8:00 PM			
8:30 PM			
9:00 PM			
9:30 PM			
10:00 PM			
10:30 PM			
11:00 PM			

EVENTS

CrossingsCon 2021 will feature a mix of panels, workshops, Q&As, lectures and more. At past conventions we've had guests of honor give exclusive readings from their upcoming works, had experts do serious academic analysis of people's favourite books, musical jam sessions, live gameplay of table-top games such as The Adventures of Baron Munchausen, and more. Many of these will be run by convention staff and feature our wonderful guests of honor. All times are in EDT (UTC-4)

SUNDAY

Opening Ceremonies

Sunday August 1 at 12:00 PM in Tír na nÓg
The grand opening of CrossingsCon 2021!

Guest of Honor Game Stream

Sunday August 1 at 1:00 PM in Tír na nÓg
Featuring C.B. Lee, Diane Duane, Jessica Day George and Ursula Vernon
Watch CB Lee, Ursula Vernon, Diane Duane, Jessica Day George, and Stationmaster Masha duke it out in party games such as Jackbox and Bring Your Own Book!

Visualizing Alternate Worlds

Sunday August 1 at 3:30 PM in Tír na nÓg
Featuring Diane Duane, Megan Whalen Turner and Ursula Vernon
What does another world's sky look like? Or buildings, people, or clothes? Join Diane, Ursula, and Megan as they discuss ways of illustrating alternate worlds in various mediums both written and visual

Travel Stories

Sunday August 1 at 5:00 PM in Tír na nÓg
Featuring Diane Duane and Ursula Vernon
From incredible adventures to unfortunate mishaps, come hear all kinds of exciting travel tales from Diane and Ursula, as well as how their travel experiences have influenced their writing

Games & Mixer

Sunday August 1 at 3:00 PM in Library
Greet old friends and new as you play games, chat, and mingle in the Library space

MONDAY

Food in Fiction

Monday August 2 at 5:00 PM in Tír na nÓg

Featuring Diane Duane, Jessica Day George, Megan Whalen Turner and Ursula Vernon

Join our authors as they discuss the foods they love (and some they despise) and the place that food has in their writing. How do they choose the foods that fit in their fictional worlds? Plus, a discussion of the fictional foods they've always wanted to try...

Roving Mars: Exploration Through the Ages

Monday August 2 at 6:30 PM in Wonderland

Featuring Alex Innanen

From the flybys of the 60's up to this year's TWO rover landings, join wizard of Mars Alex for an overview of Mars exploration through the ages, the discoveries we've made, and what's next for the red planet

Book Talk

Monday August 2 at 8:00 PM in Avalon

An opportunity to share the favorite new books you've read, meet up to talk about all the wonderful works of our guests, and speculate about what might be coming next...

Meet the Author - Jessica

Monday August 2 at 8:00 PM in Wonderland

Featuring Jessica Day George

Sign up for a five minutes conversation with Jessica, to ask your burning questions, take a screenshot "selfie," or just tell her how much you love her books! Slots will be chosen raffle-style

EVENTS

TUESDAY

Parent and Mentor Figures in Young Adult Fiction

Tuesday August 3 at 12:00 PM in Tír na nÓg

Featuring C.B. Lee, Diane Duane and

Jessica Day George

Where do the grown-ups fit in in children's books? Balancing the desire for independence with a continued need for support, parents and mentor figures in books for children and youth often fill a nebulous spot, from absent or malicious to wise and understanding. Join our Diane, Jessica, and CB as they discuss how they create their older parent and mentor characters, what relationships they have with the youthful protagonists, and what to keep in mind when writing from a kid or teen's point of view

Meet the Author - Diane

Tuesday August 3 at 5:00 PM in Wonderland

Featuring Diane Duane

Sign up for a five minutes conversation with Diane, to ask your burning questions, take a screenshot "selfie," or just tell her how much you love her books! Slots will be chosen raffle-style

Exploring Race in Time Travel Fiction

Tuesday August 3 at 5:30 PM in Tír na nÓg

Featuring Isabel Sepúlveda

Join Isabel Sepúlveda in taking a closer look at how time travel stories, especially those that explore the trauma of collective atrocity, have the power not only to reclaim and reinterpret the past, but also show us how we might build a better future. In particular, this talk will examine Kindred by Octavia Butler to explore how Butler makes use of the time travel genre to comment on America's brutal history of chattel slavery, Black-white racial relations, and the political landscape in which she was writing

Meet the Author - C.B.

Tuesday August 3 at 6:00 PM in Avalon

Featuring C.B. Lee

Sign up for a five minutes conversation with CB, to ask your burning questions, take a screenshot "selfie," or just tell her how much you love her books! Slots will be chosen raffle-style

Linguistics after Dark liveshow

Tuesday August 3 at 7:00 PM in Tír na nÓg

Featuring Eli Morris-Heft and Sarah Cowett

Modern usage got you tense? Can't start up your conjugator? Or maybe you'd just like to make like a schwa and destress. Submit questions to the Linguistics After Dark live show with your burning language questions, and Sarah and Eli will answer them for you. Just one catch: they can't do any research before answering. If your language is making a funny noise, they'll get to the bottom of it, with some rowdy discussion, bad nerdy jokes, and a lot of linguistics along the way

WEDNESDAY

Interactive Worldbuilding: Game Design and Cultural Consulting

Wednesday August 4 at 6:00 PM in Tír na nÓg

Featuring James Mendez Hodes

How are RPGs designed and constructed? How do we respectfully create culturally diverse and varied fictional worlds? What goes into creative and cultural consulting? James Mendez Hodes shares his expertise from the world of game design and cultural consulting to answer these questions and more!

EVENTS

Writing Workshop

Wednesday August 4 at 6:00 PM in Wonderland

Featuring C.B. Lee and Jessica Day George
CB and Jessica lead a two part writing workshop which includes an opportunity to write a short piece based on a prompt, followed by an in-depth Q&A session

Pub Trivia

Wednesday August 4 at 8:00 PM in Library

Form a team and test your knowledge in a game of pub trivia!

THURSDAY

Unconvention Slots

Thursday August 5 at 4:00 PM in Avalon

Sign up for a time slot and talk about anything you like! If you have an area of expertise that you think people might be interested in, share it here! If you want to meet up with others that share your interests or passions, book a slot! From poetry slams to animal sustainability to kite flying, anything and everything is welcome

Meet the Author - Ursula

Thursday August 5 at 5:00 PM in Wonderland

Featuring Ursula Vernon

Sign up for a five minute conversation with Ursula, to ask your burning questions, take a screenshot “selfie,” or just tell her how much you love her books! Slots will be chosen raffle-style

BAM! POW! Superhero Stories

Thursday August 5 at 6:00 PM in Tír na nÓg

Featuring C.B. Lee

In an age where superheroes are all the rage, how do you create a superpowered story that feels fresh and unique? CB Lee discusses her writing process and story inspirations, what superpower she'd most like to have, and the unique pleasures and challenges of writing in a genre that's captured the imagination of our culture

Authors in Conversation

Thursday August 5 at 7:00 PM in Tír na nÓg

Featuring C.B. Lee, Jessica Day George, Megan Whalen Turner and Ursula Vernon

Hear our guests talk about their recent and upcoming writing projects, share some fun stories, and answer questions submitted by you, the attendees!

Fanfiction Discussion

Thursday August 5 at 8:30 PM in Avalon

A space to share all your fanfic thoughts - recommendations and requests for the next favorite fic, current writing projects and ideas, or simply a discussion of your favorite tropes and AU scenarios!

FRIDAY

Portal Fantasy

Friday August 6 at 12:00 PM in Wonderland

Featuring Megan Whalen Turner

Join Megan Whalen Turner as she discusses portal and quest fantasies, the ways in which authors construct their fantastical worlds, and the relationship of protagonists to those worlds, using the seminal work *Rhetorics of Fantasy* by Farah Mendlesohn as a touchstone of her analysis

EVENTS

Unconvention Slots

Friday August 6 at 4:00 PM in Avalon

Sign up for a time slot and talk about anything you like! If you have an area of expertise that you think people might be interested in, share it here! If you want to meet up with others that share your interests or passions, book a slot! From poetry slams to animal sustainability to kite flying, anything and everything is welcome

Meet the Author - Megan

Friday August 6 at 5:00 PM in Wonderland

Featuring Megan Whalen Turner

Sign up for a five minutes conversation with Megan, to ask your burning questions, take a screenshot “selfie,” or just tell her how much you love her books! Slots will be chosen raffle-style

Baron Munchausen

Friday August 6 at 6:00 PM in Tír na nÓg

Featuring C.B. Lee, Cat Valente, Eli Morris-Heft and Ursula Vernon

Watch Ursula Vernon, Cat Valente, CB Lee, and Eli play a game of collaborative storytelling that will leave you in stitches!

Conlang Panel

Friday August 6 at 8:00 PM in Tír na nÓg

Featuring Marcus Miles, Jenny Peterson, Eljay Rich
Ever wonder what it takes to create a language? Join Sarah and our panelists to discuss the construction and use of conlangs in different fictional and nonfictional settings, and how readers/consumers interact with them

Watch Party! *The Angry Red Planet*

Friday August 6 at 9:00 PM in Tír na nÓg

Join us in a virtual watch party of the 1959 film *The Angry Red Planet* (as referenced in *A Wizard of Mars*). Don’t forget the popcorn!

SATURDAY

Authors in Conversation

Saturday August 7 at 12:00 PM in Tír na nÓg

Featuring C.B. Lee, Diane Duane, Jessica Day George, Megan Whalen Turner, Cat Valente, and Ursula Vernon

Hear our guests talk about their recent and upcoming writing projects, share some fun stories, and answer questions submitted by you, the attendees!

Planets in Science Fiction

Saturday August 7 at 1:30 PM in Tír na nÓg

Featuring Alex Innanen, Cat Valente, Diane Duane and Emma Puranen

Curious how planets both inside and outside our solar system are portrayed in science fiction? Join authors Diane and Cat in conversation with scientists Alex and Emma (studying Mars and exoplanets respectively) as they discuss the many worlds visited in the books we read

Folklore Inspirations

Saturday August 7 at 3:00 PM in Tír na nÓg

Featuring Jessica Day George, Megan Whalen Turner and Ursula Vernon

Ursula, Megan, and Jessica discuss the myths, folklore, and fairy tales that inspire them as well as finding new ways to tell old stories

Baron Munchausen

Saturday August 7 at 4:30 PM in Tír na nÓg

Featuring Diane Duane, Jessica Day George, Megan Wegenke and Megan Whalen Turner

Watch Diane Duane, Jessica Day George, Megan Whalen Turner, and Megan Wegenke play a game of collaborative storytelling that will leave you in stitches!

EVENTS

Unconvention Slots

Saturday August 7 at 4:00 PM in Avalon

Sign up for a time slot and talk about anything you like! If you have an area of expertise that you think people might be interested in, share it here! If you want to meet up with others that share your interests or passions, book a slot! From poetry slams to animal sustainability to kite flying, anything and everything is welcome

Heaven's Vault

Saturday August 7 at 7:00 PM in Tír na nÓg

Featuring Dash, Eli and Sarah

Resident archaeology-and-linguistics nerds Eli, Dash, and Sarah analyze aspects of the exo-archaeology video game Heaven's Vault. How did they decode the Ancient language? Why is that language the way that it is? Why is the protagonist the only person in her world who believes in history? They'll do their best to answer these questions and more—be ready for spoilers!

CrossingsJam

Saturday August 7 at 9:00 PM in Library

Featuring everyone!

Open mic night!! Bring your best tunes/standup routine/slam poetry/performance art and enjoy the multitude of talent in this community!

SUNDAY

Unconvention Slots

Sunday August 8 at 12:00 PM in Avalon

Sign up for a time slot and talk about anything you like! If you have an area of expertise that you think people might be interested in, share it here! If you want to meet up with others that share your interests or passions, book a slot! From poetry slams to animal sustainability to kite flying, anything and everything is welcome

Games & Meetups

Sunday August 8 at 12:00 PM in Library

One more chance to play games, chat, and mingle with all your con friends

Closing Ceremonies

Sunday August 8 at 5:00 PM in Tír na nÓg

A fond farewell to the wonderful week we've had, and hopefully a see-you-soon as well!

RULES & POLICIES

The main focus of CrossingsCon is to hang out and have fun! But there is also a code of conduct we expect our attendees, staff, and guests to adhere to so that the convention stays fun for everyone.

CONVENTION RULES

Keep to these rules and we'll be able to avoid speeding up entropy, at least in our corner of the universe:

1. Respect your cousins.
2. Don't harass anyone.
3. Don't spoil anyone on anything!
4. What is illegal outside the convention is illegal inside the convention.
5. Children 12 and under should be accompanied by an adult 18 or over.
6. Always check your name before doing a spell.
7. Listen to convention staff when they ask you to do something (or stop doing something).

Failure to observe these rules will result in appropriate action being taken by staff, up to and including a ban from the virtual convention space at the extreme. If there is a disagreement, the ruling of the convention chair is final.

If you have any questions about our rules and policies, contact us! We'd hate to have misunderstanding that could have been avoided.

VIRTUAL CONVENTION RULES

Since 2021 is the first virtual CrossingsCon, there are several rules that are unique to this year and the virtual convention space.

The public spaces in the virtual convention space will be considered all-ages

The following topics and activities must be contained to a GatherTown private space containing only other con-goers that are comfortable with engaging with the activity or topic. Private spaces are special areas where only the people in the private space can hear and see each other, and not any passers-by.

- On-screen consumption of controlled substances such as alcohol or tobacco, regardless of the legal age of consumption in the person's country of residence.
- Discussion of 18+ topics such as sex, kink, alcohol or cannabis use, etc. Note that this does not include discussions of sexuality or one's experience with gender, which are allowed and welcomed in all-ages spaces.

ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY

In order to make sure that everyone is on the same page about what is and isn't harassment, how to report harassment, and what will happen if someone reports harassment, here is CrossingsCon's anti-harassment policy:

If someone's behavior makes you feel unsafe, uncomfortable, or unwelcome, that is harassment.

CrossingsCon does not tolerate harassment of any kind, including (but not limited to) behaviors such as: stalking, hate speech, bathroom policing, inappropriate or unasked-for contact, or taking pictures without permission. The aforementioned hate speech could be in reference to: race or ethnicity, color, national origin, religion, age, marital or relationship status, pregnancy, gender presentation or identity, sexual or romantic orientation, appearance or body type, or disability. This is not an exhaustive list.

Watch what you say, how you say it, and how people react to it. Remember that cosplay is not consent: the way someone dresses doesn't give you license to take pictures of them without asking first. **If you ask and they say no, respect that.**

RULES & POLICIES

If you feel harassed, you are welcome to ask your harasser to stop, if you feel comfortable doing so. Otherwise, find a CrossingsCon staff member and report the harassment. Once notified, the staff member will do what is necessary in their judgement to stop the harassing behavior, up to and including banning the harasser from convention space. We will also, if you like, take steps to help you feel safe again, like escorting you to a place you feel safe or calling your friends or family for you.

This policy applies without exception to everyone at the convention, including attendees, special guests, convention staff, and venue staff.

GatherTown, the platform we will be using for the virtual convention, allows a user to block the audio and video of other individuals in the space, and we recommend using this feature to completely stop a harasser from contacting you in the convention space if the need should arise.

SPOILER POLICY

Please be aware that other attendees at the convention may not be as up-to-date as you are with books, movies, fanfiction, and other media. You should be more careful about recently released books, movies, comics, etc. Use your judgment for what counts as “recent”; in general, the longer something takes to consume (books > movies > TV episodes, for example), the longer you want to assume most people aren’t caught up.

Please be especially mindful of your cousins who haven’t read the *Young Wizards* series as far as you, both the main series and other works such as *Interim Erranty* or the *Feline Wizards* series, and stop before spoiling something for them! Remember the wonder you felt when you first read *Young Wizards*, and let them experience that too.

We will have some events where spoilers are explicitly allowed, but for the rest of the convention please avoid spoilers entirely if

possible. If you want to discuss spoilers about a book, movie, or other piece of media, please do so in a private conversation away from any other attendees who may overhear and be accidentally spoiled, and especially avoid spoilers during panels and discussions when many attendees can hear you. If you accidentally spoil someone, apologize and move the remainder of your discussion to another location. If you are unsure whether everyone in a certain conversation has seen or read the thing that you would like to discuss, then ask!

Spoilers aren’t limited to revealing future plot points. Consider this comprehensive guide by the folks over at Mark Reads for examples of more subtle kinds of spoilers:

- Stating something that happens in the future. *“That character dies in book two!”*
- Hinting that something happens in the future. *“I just love what happens when that door finally opens!”*
- Saying that a specific moment is important. *“You’ll want to remember that line of dialogue for later.”*
- Defending a character because they are redeemed in the future. *“That character totally has a reason to be super mean right now!”*
- Telling someone that the “answer” is in a book they’ve read. *“Go back to book 3 and it’ll all make sense.”*
- Saying, hinting at, discussing, referring to, or ambiguously clueing someone into something they haven’t read yet. *“Have you figured out the thing with the birds yet?”*
- Telling someone they interpreted a scene wrong or that their prediction is proven wrong later. *“It only seems that way because you haven’t read Book 6.”*

If there is anything else we missed or about which you have concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.



**JOIN US
NEXT
YEAR!**

AUG 5 - AUG 7
MONTRÉAL, QUEBEC

register.crossingscon.org

