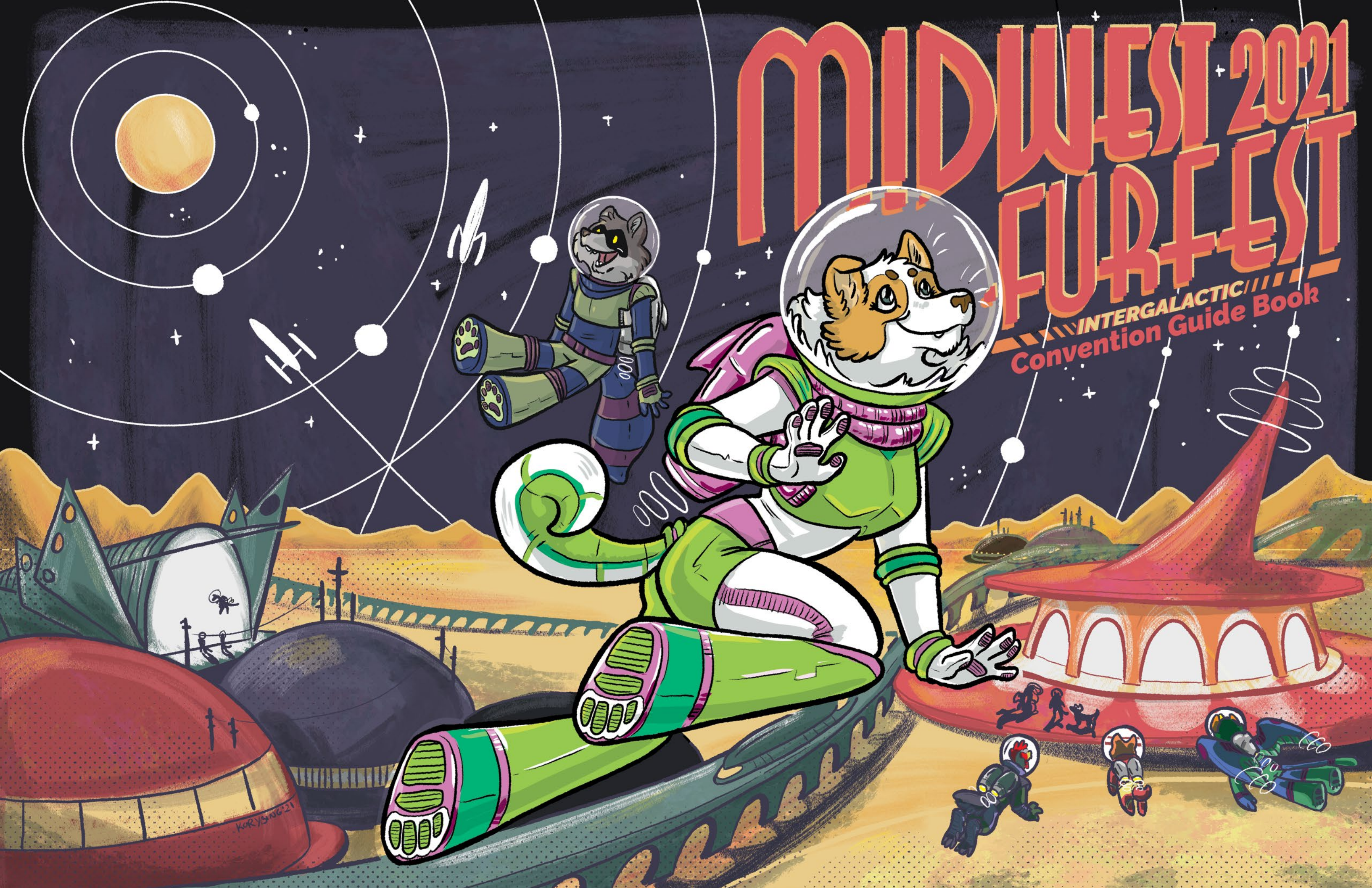


MIDWEST 2021 FURFEST

INTERGALACTIC
Convention Guide Book



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WELCOME TRAVELER

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INTERGALACTIC

GREETINGS FROM YOUR COMMANDER

It is my delight and honor to welcome you to Midwest Furfest 2021. It has been a tremendous joy and privilege to lead the amazing team of Furfest staff and volunteers through the unknown galaxy that the last two years have been. We have faced many challenges, from canceled in person events, to murder hornets, to stay at home orders, to concern for the health and safety of our friends and loved ones. Not to mention poor Tiller who has been stuck in space not knowing when he would get home! It is a joy to welcome you all back. Maybe even Tiller, if he's lucky.

We have worked hard to put together this amazing Intergalactic themed event, even in light of all the challenges we've faced. Unfortunately, just as in our day to day lives, we've had to make some changes to ensure a safe event. Some of the first changes you will ultimately notice would be the lack of con suite and fursuit menagerie. While these are both well loved and well attended parts of our event, there was also no way could safely hold these events this year. Another change you will see throughout the event is everyone wearing face masks. This is actually a state requirement that we all must adhere to, unfortunately fursuiters that includes you too. However, have fun with it! I myself have masks for all my different hobbies and interests. Just remember, keep them family friendly, masks are like shirts and those not appropriate will be asked to be replaced.

Even with the changes for this year, some things haven't. Every year we welcome special guests to showcase their talents. This year we are pleased to welcome three incredibly talented and creative people as our Guests of Honor. **Lynette Eklund** has been in the special effect industry since she was 20. Her work comes in all sizes, from stop-motion miniatures to full-size dinosaurs. She has contributed to Nightmare on Elm Street 5: The Dream Child, Beetlejuice, Species I & II, the Emmy Award winning miniseries The Stand, and Oscar-nominated The Lost World: Jurassic Park, among others. **Kory Bing** is a Portland-based illustrator with a focus on animals that don't exist and animals that don't exist anymore. She's the award-winning creator of the long-running webcomic Skin Deep and illustrator of the InCryptid Field Guide by Seanan McGuire. **Rachael Bock** (otherwise known as Panda) has been creating fursuits under the name Stuffed Panda Studios since 2011. Rachael specializes in whimsical realistic & toony suits that have been used by small businesses and individual hobbyists alike. All of our guests will be presenting some great panels throughout the weekend, from character design to cryptids. See our programming schedule at mff2021.sched.com for all of the details!

Additionally, we wouldn't be us without choosing an amazing charity. This year we have chosen **Mission Companion Paw (MCP) Rescue and Outreach** as our annual charity. MCP is more than a rescue organization for pit bulls and other misunderstood dogs: it describes itself as going beyond rescue and adoption to "use the international language of art to imprint compassion for animals into urban

youth culture" & based in Chicago, MCP has rescued hundreds of dogs since 2016 and helps beyond the adoption process, supplying pet food donations to food pantries, and directing families to low cost spay and neuter services. 70% of MCP rescues are considered hard to adopt dogs such as pit bulls, seniors, special needs animals, and extreme medical cases. You can help support MCP in many different ways this weekend, participating in the Escape Room, Charity Poker Tournament, or the Charity Dance Workshop, as well as a special charity performance of Whose Lion Is It Anyway? There is also our annual Charity Auction, which is always great fun for a good cause. Charity Auction items may be donated at the MCP table in the Dealers Den, where you can also meet their volunteers and perhaps some potential adoptees as well!

Finally, and most importantly, we would not be Midwest Furfest without the amazing staff and volunteers that work hard throughout the year to plan and prepare this amazing weekend for us all. As fellow fans, they take time out of their busy lives to volunteer their energy, their brains, and their experiences to bring alive the event we all now get to enjoy. Please thank a staff member, they have worked hard to ensure we all have a good time. If you find yourself with time and the want to help, maybe volunteer some time during the weekend!

It is my complete honor and privilege to continue to be a part of this organization and to lead these fine folks through our journey. Most importantly, thank you to you all, and welcome to Midwest Furfest 2021!

DataHawk
2021 Convention Chair





Intergalactic Traveler by Paco Panda
Bid on this piece in the 2021 Furfest Art Show!

NIGHTCLUB

a story by Fere

"Scuse me?!"

No luck!

"Oh paws alive, please... can I have your pawpr...?"

"Nope!"

Sean's muzzle fell to a grumble, a scrunched frustration that made his wool shudder; but then he perked up again when he saw another super-star.

"Wow, cool! Could you...?"

"Beat it, kid!"

Hoo boy, getting pawprints at St Balfe's most exclusive nightclub was a trial to say the least! This unfortunate circumstance was the whole evening of a young ram who dedicated himself to collecting the musks of the rich and famous. Sixteen-year-old Sean Capric had been stood in the pouring rain for more than two hours, jostled and pushed aside by the over-zealous Press. His rippled, beige-yellow horns dripping like corrugated pipes to the soaked pavement, the lanolin in his wool rich and sticky beneath his rather uncomfortable anorak; but all of this was worth it! Really it was!

All here tonight, as with every Saturday night, were desperate to get pictures and prints from the villains and the heroes, the movers and the tail-shakers of society.

The youngster had been visiting The Andromeda Club since he was a mere lamb-in-hooves, eager to have some muzzle-time with these awesome stars.

I mean, how could you possibly turn your nose up at these guys?!

There was heavy metal singer Cael Luperian with his partner and drummer Lorimer Kami. Then came death-metal geniuses, PentaRam, and the always-grumpy DJ of Horn\$ fame, CeeD8. It was amazing to see him in-the-wool, but he was one of those dudes with a super short temper... and no one would mess with that stature, his curly horns and that extensive entourage. The lamb had longed to get his hoofprint to add to his plentiful collection back home, but alas it wasn't to be... again!

Sean sighed. It was a mixed feeling of disappointment and awe. There was something so very special about being beneath the neon green, blue and white, at the very door of what felt like another world. He just longed to be close to them, to be pulled close by their high gravitational force.

Tonight had been a complete bust! He usually clopped away with at least a hoof-full of pawprints to make his collection evermore burgeoning, but the book was blank. Not a single one. Plenty of chance, but the tabloids always pushed him aside. The Vulpic Times and the cringeworthy columnists from Pack Mentality were eager to the point of being willing to shove, kick and positively manhandle anyone in their way. The red rope that lined the entranceway was like a target to them, a finishing line that only they had the privilege of knowing.

Sean had been lifted aside, elbowed and even grabbed by his bell-rope tail, yanking him away from any prime location that would garner him some success.

"Not for you, sheep!" The gruff ol' fox mumbled, his large camera resting awkwardly against his paunch as a thick brush dragged heavily against the bitumen and dirt.

The payload of water for all concerned was

not one that could be ignored, not least for Sean who felt like he weighed a ton! The eagerness and conceit of the reporters was also coming out in their scent, letting a keen-nosed ram that he wasn't gonna' win!

Soaked through to a now shivering hide, the poor ram decided enough was enough. Clipping away from the bustle, the large double-door to Andromeda yet casting lights and glimpses of its amazing insides like a slow blinking eye, Sean could just dream as he sheltered at the bus stop yards away. He'd usually be able to sneak a few close encounters if Frank was working. He was one of the doordogs, an older doberdawg who took pity on the cubs, pups and lambs who sought heroes and not sensationalism. The kind soul would wave them through, introduce them and get them whatever they needed to complete a collection or satisfy a dream; but he was on vacation for the next week.

It just wasn't his night!

And now most of those who were gonna' be here were already inside, doubtlessly shining like the amazing talent they were. With that said, Sean gazed upward to the grotty roof of the plastic and beaten aluminium of the bus stop in which he sat, eyes glazed with bright white light and adverts that were faded by the sunshine.

Dad would be back to pick him up soon.

Great! He murmured sarcastically under his breath as he gazed forward, squinted yellow sight that struggled with the contrast with the night.

The bench was wet. Gross! The rubbish bin was overflowing. Yuck! And now he had to await the wrath and inevitable impatience of his strict father. Sean senior was a ram of few words, dark of wool and stern of muzzle, eager to oversee his only lamb's every move in life. He also would not accept deviation from

his pickup time.

"I'm coming back at midnight, and you better be ready!" He'd grunted. "Don't know why I bother. Just a waste of..."

"Time? Yeah, I know, Dad. Thanks for the support!"

"Don't bleat at me, boy, else I won't take you at all!"

All this rang like a dull bell in his small, cultrate ears, flicking now and again with the carburetor breeze of the city and of the sadness that twitched to life every time he thought of his father. He kept his muzzle shut as the male role model in his life drove him to this rather backwoods spot. All this animosity and expectation probably came about when Mum had died two years prior. She'd always been supportive of her young lamb. Dad on the other hoof had always been pretty much the opposite.

Sean was a hundred-percent his Dam's lamb!



Lyda had been a groupie for The Knitted Mittens back in the Seventies. They were one of the first all-Ovine folk-rock groups to have success on the Vulpic mainland. Controversial at the time, they certainly put their hoofprints on modern music; and Sean's mum had been at the very heart of it all. She'd loved every second of her time with them. Dyed wool, flowers around her small horns and silver ribbons wrapped about her tail, Lyda had it all... before she married that was.

Sean senior had taken umbrage at her free-lovin' and free-stylin' past, especially the wool paint which he compared – most unflatteringly – to raddle. That was of course not what it was. This was all just a sign of his insecurity as a ram of the household. He wanted control.

Mittens' lead singer Orville Buck attended her funeral. It was the first time he'd seen Sean and was eager to pawprint the young lamb's first auto-graph book.

"Ya' Mam always liked to collect 'em. Here... this'll start you off!" It was a kindly but throaty voice from a six-feet-six Dall who carried a full beard and a very big heart.

He'd loved Lyda's spirit. They had doubtlessly been friends.

"Tough luck tonight, Lano'!" A snide remark woke Sean from his daze, a couple of the Press making their way to their cars and spotting the lonely ram sat paddling his hooves on the bus stop bench.

Those guys were so... oooo, it made 'im so mad! But what was a mere teenager to do?!

Another heavy sigh heaved from his chest, the rustle from his coat's dark navy material inflating and deflating with a cooling heart. It was tough takin' all the flack, especially when he knew his dad would probably agree with them.

"You seek stars, my boy?"

This voice initially didn't spark a reaction, Sean thinking that it was probably still the paper guys

slinging more jibes; but it was only when he turned to brave his very best snarl that he realized it couldn't have been further from the truth.

"Uhhhhh, who... who are you?"

A tall and dark canid stood to his right, half in and half out of the shelter. Fabulously sharp ears rose to the clouds, peeking from a hood that hid all but the guy's muzzle and nose. You could barely see his eyes, burning amber embers that were smouldering and seemingly staring right at Sean.

"I'm Sabian." He murmured in reply, paws hidden in a monk-like shroud, footpaws barely visible above the hem of this floor-length cloak. "And I'm here to show you that you may seek others, but others actually seek you. You are wanted, my boy. Your company is greatly desired."

"M... m... mine? My... my company?"

The huge dawg grinned, pulling his right paw from the plentiful cuff and ushering Sean to join him.

"Come. Let me show you."

Normally he'd be wary, but there was something about this Anubian fella' that was comforting, kind and... fatherly. With his beloved but blank book in his left hoof, Sean gingerly got to his feet and clopped over to the stranger, reaching out and touching those skeletal, black-furred claws and...

Woooahhhh!

After what seemed like blinking in the face of the glaring sun, the next thing Sean knew he was stood in the midst of a bustling nightclub, surrounded by curious tails and... holy paws!

"Is that? Hoof in a pawbasket!"

"Mhm, yessir it is!"

Sabian followed the youngster's awestruck gaze upwards, the ram's eyes wide and flickered with a roulade of swirling nebulae, stars and the sheer expanse of the night sky.

"Where am I?"

"You sir are at the heart of the universe, a floating hunk of carbon upon which we built... this!" Sabian panned his paws outward, finally letting his hood drop and allowing Sean to see not only his features but the amazing pride in those haunting eyes and sandy, tarry scent.

With all that had happened, the ram kinda felt out of place in his damp anorak, grubby hooves and wet wool. And gosh, his horns were a mess!

"Fear not, my friend! You are not to be judged here. Everyone is eager to meet you. They've waited so long to have this opportunity."

"Yeah, no one ever comes to visit!" Someone overheard them talking and came padding over.

"Wow!" The ram felt the looming and imposing stature of Ursa.

"Ohhhh cool, you found one!" The big bear murmured with a smile, kneeling before the blushing sheep and patting his head-wool. Ursa's eyes were kindly, his muscled body wrapped in a white and slate blue robe whilst his scent remained woody and evergreen.

"Found one?" Sean hissed between his teeth at his guardian stood beside him, the ram unsure of the attention.

"A mortal." Sabian eked from the side of his muzzle.

"Ohhhh, I see, I... wow, this is trippy!" And he turned to look up at Ursa. "Can... can I have your pawprint?"

"By the moon, you sure can!"

It was only as the huge ursine dabbed his clawed paw to the ram's book, leaving a glittering scent struck across the page, that Sabian strode to the centre of the room and brought everyone to a hush.

"Fellow sky-born tails. I'm glad you could all be here." His voice seemed so quiet yet so effective, bringing all eyes, ears and noses to focus on him. "Before I introduce you to our guest, let us remember those we lost this year."

"Awww man, I hate this part!" Came a sniffled, trembling upset. It was Bowl n' Bone, canine god of food. Two headed and inimitably cute, both Bowl and his companion Bone had different outlooks, differentiated only by their eyes and their different collars.

"Cut ya' whinin', Bowl!"

"I just get real emotional, s'all." He replied, wiping his nose and adjusting his blue spiked collar.

"Paws above, I know!" Bone rolled his eyes and shook his head.

As everyone quieted, the lights were dimmed and a holographic merry-go-round lit the hall, pictures of amazing, swirling phenomena swimming to eyes and noses alike. Sabian narrated in as empathic a tone as he could manage.

"We remember today, star lost in Camelopardalis. Supernovae in Indus and Draco."

A dark green dragon, knocking back a few simmering, smoking purple shots, raised his glass.

"Sorry to hear that, Draco." Sabian murmured sadly. "And last but not least, three lost stars in Ursa Major. Ursa, please accept our sincerest condolences."

The bear, still stood by Sean, smiled bravely and nodded.

"Now, on to something happier." The Anubian directed the lights be brought up and now pointed in the ram's direction. "I have brought you a mor-



tal, one of Earth in the Milky Way."

All senses were turned to Sean who blushed furiously, twizzling his hooved footpaws and shyly raising a hoof to say 'hi'; and it wasn't long before everyone was up and over to see him! Sean couldn't believe his luck, cos' it was no sooner had Sabian finished then all of them started congregating, almost lining up to meet and greet.

Holy paws, this was just too much!

"Can we see 'im? Can we, can we, can we, huh? Huh?" Bowl n' Bone were almost jumpin', eager to get their muzzle-time with the mortal, both heads in agreement and clutching their own books with right and left paws respectively.

"Jeez, chill out, B n' B!" The Moon muttered with a shake to his head, his multitude of eyes

rolling comically like cue balls trying to find lost pockets.

And another piped up.

"Sabian, dude, why don't you get more tails up here, huh?" A huge bull with bakelite, caramel horns spoke with a laugh, turning to the group over the back of his straining chair.

"Leave off, Taur!" Leo growled, swishing his mane as he did so. "The guy can't be everywhere at once!"

Defended but wanted, Sean got all manner of striking initials, signatures, musks and starlight in his book, Draco, Canis Major and his pup Canis Minor all coming over to shake his hoof. Bowl and Bone got all giggly and blushy but got what they came for... a moment with the sheep. Even Moon, the multi-eyed lupine who was worshipped by most of those of grey fur, came down off his 'high horse' for a moment. He 'took home' the warm spirit of the ram, exchanging it for his hallmark in the youngster's collection.

"A living cloud?" Came one remark.

"Ooo he's soft!" Cooed another.

"I've made clouds like this!"

Typical of Capricorn to boast! Others just quickly suggested that the goat had horn envy! He wasn't keen on that observation.

"Heh!" Sean chuckled shyly, overwhelmed by the attention.

But as quickly and cryptically as all this came about, most were already gone, fading to the cosmos to do their duty in the grand scheme of things. The ram turned to his mentor, all the while flicking in awe through his book. He'd also noticed that a sparkling stardust had settled into the cropped wool of his tail, a fitting if unintended tribute to his mother.

"You did all this... for me?" He murmured, a

worried look about his roman muzzle.

"Sure! Why not?"

"I... I mean, I'm not sure what I did to deserve this."

Sabian smiled, his sharp white teeth creaking to a smile, that natural light like a door to the dawn against his midnight fur.

"We are very proud of our creations." He paused, supping on a clear whisky, his glass etched with a feather and a heart. "We don't ever want to lose touch."

Sean didn't know what to say. He stood by the Anubian's side, gazing out across a vast expanse, both almost alone now. His hooves shuffled nervously against the thick glass floor as Sabian finished his shot.

"Good stuff!" He murmured with a satisfied nod. "Time to be heading out I think."

The ram didn't reply, just feeling amazingly warm inside. He hadn't needed his wool tonight. The comfort of quite literal universal presence had been enough.

"Space above, space below..." Sabian turned and smiled at his young charge, his fenestral eyes shimmering. He reached out and touched Sean's right shoulder, squeezing it gently. The wool 'gave' beneath the coat, the ram feeling that connection. "...and everywhere seemingly to go."

No sooner was that said, Sean was back on the bus stop bench, his ears full of the patter of early morning rain, his nose loaded with wet tarmac and discarded cigarettes.

"There you are! Where've you been, boy?" Sean senior growled. The ram looked at his watch as he ruffled the cuff of his shirt and heaved tiredly from leaning to the wall behind the stop.

"I uh... sorry, I..." Sean stammered, lost in the

dream he'd experienced. Or was it? Where had he been?

"And what's that on your wool?" And now his father had caught sight of his tail.

"Oh, uh this is... uh..." The lamb shuffled, trying to hide his floofy cauda from a parental nagging.

It was only now that Sean senior paused; and something changed. It was something that melted that usually frozen shell.

"It's... beautiful."

"Look I can explain... what?" The shock was palpable.

"Heh, I really like it."

"You do?"

"Yeah, I..." And the elder ram shook his head, almost as though he couldn't believe he was feeling this benign about something he had always reviled. "Heh, I'm just in awe at it. Looks good on you."

He touched his son's wool and some of the dust came off on his hoof, Sean rubbing it between his dark, keratin digits like fondant sugar caught in a headlight.

"You OK, Dad?"

"Yeah, I'm fine. I... I really need to come out with you more." He laughed.

"I'd like that."

"Well, anyway... ahem!" Dad was all business now. Had to keep up that big tough ram image after all, even though his proud hoof was around his lamb's shy, hunched shoulders as he guided Sean to the car. "So uh, what did you get up to? Have fun, cos' you look spaced. Like you've been seein' stars."

"You could say that!"

MEET THE CHARITY



VISIT THE
WEBSITE!



<http://mcprescue.org/>

MEET THE CHARITY

SUBMISSIONS

CHARITY AUCTION

This year's auction will be held in two phases over MFF weekend: as a silent auction Friday and Saturday in the Dealer's Den, and as a traditional live auction Sunday morning in the Hyatt Regency O'Hare. Please visit our Charity table in the Dealer's room to learn more about it!



We've amassed a veritable hoard of artworks, commissions, gifts, curios, knickknacks, doodads, geegaws, baubles, bibelots, gimcracks, foofoos, wingwongs...you get it. Don't just watch furries bid for valuable... stuff, get in the action and help MCP Rescue + Outreach help the pibbles! Who knows what valuables you'll proudly pack for home. No FOMO! Get those credit cards and checkbooks (wait, who still brings checkbooks?) ready!

Want to see what's up for auction? Check out the website!

<https://www.furfest.org/charity/auction>

Sunday 11:00am in the Rosemont Ballroom



Mission Compassion Paw (MCP) is a nonprofit dog rescue and humanitarian organization, uses the international language of art to imprint compassion for animals into urban youth culture.

MCP provides safety, nourishment to the mind, body and soul, medical care and ultimately loving, forever homes to dogs in need. Every dog deserves to have their existence acknowledged, their personality shine and their heart breathe. MCP teamwork brings life, light and love to the ones that everyone may not be able to hear or understand. The stance isn't speaking for them but speaking with them in ways they will be heard.

MCP establishes collaborative efforts between artists and our youth with a strong focus on preventive measures by creating compassion for animals. Compassion can be strengthened through targeted exercises and practice. Encouraging cooperation and creating reminders of connectedness cultivates compassion. Decades of evidence show that a young individual's attitude towards animals can predict future behavior as animal cruelty is a warning sign for at risk youth. Studies not only have drawn links between the animal cruelty during youth to violence against people in adulthood but also that compassion can improve health, self value, over all well-being and strengthen relationships.

Everything is connected. Through the process of creation, not only encouragement of compassion and education of the humane treatment of animals is instilled but also the power of uniting as one.

One Fight. One Love.

MCP Achievements

- Over 1200 lives rescued to date
- Over 70% of our dogs are considered underdogs and harder to adopt
- Our concept of adoption is adopting humans into our Pack versus our dogs out
- Return rate of less than 3%

KORY BING ILLUSTRATION



Kory Bing is a Portland-based illustrator with a focus on animals that don't exist and animals that don't exist anymore. She's the award-winning creator of the long-running webcomic Skin Deep and il-lustrator of the InCryptid Field Guide by Seanan McGuire. When she's not drawing mon-sters she's yelling about dino-saurs.

MFF - Geemo

How exactly did you become involved with the furry fandom?

Kory

I first started posting art on the internet around 1999 and I was really into the Sonic the Hedgehog fandom back then. I was kind of furry adjacent for a very long time. One of my favorite websites was Yerf-- I always into monsters, creatures and non-human designs. I've never been a hardcore furry artist, but I've always been very fond of furries and furry fandom. I've always had fans from it since I draw a lot of non-human creatures, which is great. In 2011, I was invited to Furry Fiesta, which was my very first furry convention and that was really fun. At the time I didn't have any other friends that did furry conventions, so I always forgot to sign up for them. Until a few years ago, I had a friend who forced me to attend Further Confusion in San Jose. Now I've been doing furry cons ever since then. I've also been doing big pop culture cons like Emerald City and other comic book cons since about 2010. It's fun, but it's been getting a little bit old. Being able to start doing furry cons again is really bringing the fun back into the convention circuit. I did MFF for the first time maybe three years ago and my favorite story from then was I had a booth next a plush seller. That was the year that that Violent J and his daughter came to the show. He was buying a plush for his daughter and I didn't notice him because SonicFox was also there. I was too busy going, "oh my god that's SonicFox," to recognize that Violent J was also right there. It was just such a weird combination of things. That's one of my favorite things about furry cons is that it's always such a good

Check out Kory's panels!

Event	Location	Date/Time
Meet the Guests of Honor	Rosemont A/B	Fri 8:00 pm
North American Cryptids with GOH Kory Bing	Hyatt - Midway	Fri 8:30 pm

GUESTS OF HONOR

GUESTS OF HONOR

vibe; there's so many different people there. It's weird fun and I love it.

MFF - Geemo

Where did you grow up? Where do you go to school?

Kory

I grew up in the northern part of the Ozarks around South Central Missouri, in the middle of absolutely nowhere. I went to school at Missouri State University down in Springfield, Missouri. I graduated in 2007 with a degree in Graphic Design and Illustration. I worked for Bass Pro Shops for a number of years, in the catalog department. My husband and I moved out to Portland in 2010 and that's when I went full time with my art; I've been self-employed since 2010. I have somehow managed to keep that up since then, which has been incredible. I've had such support to be able to draw comics, monsters, and people want to see that.

MFF - Geemo

So you've been published several times. You've got a couple different things out, correct.

Kory

Yeah, I've got four books out right now. My main thing is my webcomic Skin Deep, which is about mythical creatures, living hidden from the rest of humanity. I started that in 2006 when I still lived in Missouri. I think it's 600 pages now-- I've updated once a week since 2006. It's weird because at the time the comic took place in 2005, but even now it's still written in 2005. I have to remember that there weren't iPhones then or there weren't this or that back then. People are like "Wow, this is a weird period piece you've made" and I didn't mean it to be one.

MFF - Geemo

Like how in The Simpsons, Bart and Lisa will always stay the same age?

Kory

Yeah, exactly. Every time they go back in time

to when when Marge and Homer were in high school it goes back to 60s, or the 80s, or the 90s now. It's been fun posting up once a week, every day, for the past 15 years. People have been following and everyone really enjoys it. It's really interesting, because right now I'm finally getting into parts of the story that I had planned 10 years ago. I'm really nervous, I hope that it lands because it's stuff that I planned a long time ago, and I wrote differently 10 years ago. I really hope I can manage to make this work, but everyone seems to enjoy it. The readership is great, absolutely great.

MFF - Geemo

What other sorts of things besides Skin Deep do you have?

Kory

I do a lot of paleo art. I do a lot of dinosaur and extinct animal artwork that has been really fun. I started doing that fairly recently, compared to my comic work. I didn't realize when I started doing furry conventions, how many dinosaur people are in the furry fandom. I wasn't sure if my paleo art would sell. People go nuts for it! It's great! My favorite thing with the paleo art is that people get really excited about dinosaurs, then I get really excited about dinosaurs and then we're both excited about dinosaurs together! I haven't been able to yell at people about dinosaurs for a long time. My main goal with my paleo art is I try to make it as accurate as possible, with also still being kind of cartoony and designery to make it more accessible for people who don't really know anything about dinosaurs. I don't want them to be like, "Oh, I know what a T-Rex is," but only from Jurassic Park. That's good, but also, here's a more accurate version of T-Rex. I tried to do more stuff that's really cute and cartoony but also accurate at the same time. My favorite thing about paleontolo-



gy is that these things are millions of years old and we're still learning new things about it all the time. Before I even sell stuff, I look at what I drew last year, and notice this is wrong, this is wrong and this is wrong.

MFF - Geemo

Have you seen the YouTube channel "Your Dinosaurs are Wrong"? I love it. He's so dry. He'll critique children's crayon drawings that got sent in or even a coloring book that was on sale on Etsy and he's like, "okay, yeah, this dinosaur doesn't have any of these characteristics. This doesn't have this plate. This is too big. This is too small," but it's enjoyable all the same, because it's a really good way to learn.

Kory

Yeah, exactly. I was a huge Jurassic Park fan and when I was a kid, because of course I was! I was nine when it came out. My favorite thing to do was to list off all the things wrong about it when I was a kid. I watched the movie, and then I learned about



dinosaurs, and then I learned about what things were wrong about the dinosaurs. I told everyone I knew about the things that were wrong in Jurassic Park. If I hadn't watched Jurassic Park, I wouldn't have learned about those things.

MFF - Geemo

How would you describe your creative process when you're working either through something for your comics, or you're working on a piece of paleo art for yourself? Where do you start? Do you get inspired by something?

Kory

I try to stay open to inspiration as much as I can, because it does come from a lot of different places. When it comes with the comic - I write the script and try to have at least a full chapter done before I start drawing it. While I'm drawing the comic, there's not really a lot of area to add new things that I just find while I'm working on that particular comic, they'll try to file it away for later. In this specific chapter I'm doing right now, has a lot of dragons in it and I hadn't really drawn dragons before. So I scoured a bunch of old medieval bestiaries and other folklore to try to find weird looking dragons that the Europeans believed in, so I went down that rabbit hole. I'm really good at going down rabbit holes. I will get hyper-fixated on certain things, and then I'll just kind of follow that to wherever it leads. One example that I learned about a dinosaur called "Magnapaulia" which name translates to "Big Paul" and I just thought that was really funny. I drew a bunch of Big Paul art because I thought it was really great that there was a dinosaur named Big Paul. So then I wanted to show everyone, I wanted to teach the world about Big Paul. I want to stay open to whatever interests me and just kind of keep things fresh. I don't want to feel like I'm obligated, I have to draw any one particular thing just because it's what I'm supposed to be drawing. I do find a lot of the appeal of my work, even if my readers aren't interested in what I'm interested in, just my enthusiasm about the subject will get them into it too.

MFF - Geemo

Do you have a circle of friends you do trades with or you work with take commissions from just because you're like minded, you've got similar tastes?

Kory

Not as much anymore because we all do this for a living now. One of the biggest or hardest things about art is that once you start doing it for a living, then it doesn't become your hobby anymore. When I get free time I contemplate - should draw for fun, or should I go to sleep, or play video games? I don't do as much fan art for friends anymore but one of the things that's really fun is we'll help each other with merchandise or brainstorm with each other about our own work. It's a fun kind of back and forth with friends.

MFF - Geemo

So cool. It sounds like you've got a good support group then.

Kory

Yeah, it's I've been building it up for a long time and it's been it's really blossomed since I started doing furry conventions actually. I've made a lot of really fun friends in the furry fandom that thanks to furry cons. I've been enjoying that a lot.

MFF - Geemo

Have you drawn from any resources like books or tutorials, maybe things that people have put online videos? Is there anything that you'd want to maybe plug real quick and say, this really helped me?

Kory

I went to Missouri State University and my degree is in Graphic Design with an emphasis on Illustration, but my classes weren't focused on comics. I didn't go to a comic class. One of the main things I did learn from the class was how to sell art, which is basically just make as much art as you can and see what happens. Don't get too attached to one specific thing because you never know what's going to sell, you never know what's going to catch with people. I wish I had taken storytelling classes, like specific comic-making classes. In the end though, I'm still



making comics without having to do that. And I also didn't have any college debt when I graduated, which helped a lot.

MFF - Geemo

Did you have a 529 college savings plan or something similar?

Kory

I had a partial scholarship that paid for room and board. It was a small regional school that had a surprisingly decent Graphic Design program that was a hidden gem of the area. At the end of the day, one of the things that really helped me be able to do what I'm doing now is that I was I graduated with a degree and knowledge, but also I didn't have a bunch of debt to pay down so I was a little more free with being able to not make as much money. That really

helped me. I always try to emphasize that with people, you don't need to go into a bunch of debt. Once you graduate you're still learning constantly. I haven't taken a class in since 2007, but you still have to learn all the time.

MFF - Geemo

What other talents or passions do you have? Is there anything in particular you're doing right now, other than art?

Kory

I have been trying to find a lot of hobbies to get into-- one of the weird things about doing art for a living is that all your hobbies suddenly become monetized and then it becomes a job. I wanted to try to do stuff I could not monetize. I got really into building those little tiny miniature rooms. I built a little greenhouse, that was really fun. I also got a Gundam model that I built. That was really fun. My main one that I just got into now is that I am learning how to cross-stitch. I made a pattern for cross-stitch, which is kind of breaking my rules of don't monetize your hobby. Now I'm selling this pattern that I made of a plesiosaur, but it's been it's really fun. There's this huge community that I had no idea about before.

MFF- Geemo

We're coming up towards the end of the interview. So just I'd have one more quick question. Do you have any role models or people that have inspired you along the way?

Kory

The really cheesy answer for that is my Grandma, she was a children's book illustrator for decades. This is the one that lived in Kenosha. In the 50s, 60s, and 70s she did paper doll art and a coloring book. She did the official Beatles coloring book in the 60s. She was super prolific. She would come visit us and have us work with her. Just being able to see that she can visit her family but also do work at the same time. I thought, "That's really cool. She had a lot of freedom because as long as she got her work

done, it didn't matter." She was just really, really super kind and really talented. I aspire to be a lot like her. She's the one that kind of taught me that I you can draw like cartoons, monsters, dinosaurs and stuff and make a living out of that. Her name is Nancy Pollard and she's my big influence and I love her. That's my, that's my schmaltzy answer to that question.

MFF- Geemo

Excellent. Has there been anyone, in addition to your grandmother, that you've been following or other people's comics, or authors, that you look up to?



Kory

The person that got me into comics in the first place was Jeff Smith's Bone. Bone was the first comic I ever read when I was a kid. I got to meet him at a convention a number of years ago, and it was like, "Oh, you're a real person, just like me," sort of thing. He was a big influence. I've got a ton of friends that I just think are all the coolest so it's hard to kind of pick. I feel like if I name one, I'll be like, "Oh no, I forgot these other four." Basically anything that Spike Trotman publishes. She's a Chicago native. My friend Evan Dahm does comics like "Rice Boy" and "Vattu." Also Nina Matsumoto is a really incredible artist. My friend Kiki Doodle is the one that got me into doing furry cons in the first place. She shows me all the way she monetizes and makes all the different merchandise has really been inspiring for what I can do with my stuff. Nero O'Riley and Iris Jay are big friends of mine; I just think everything they do is really cool. I have a lot of cool friends.

MFF

I've think I found some of your stuff through theirs.

Kory

Cool. I love this stuff. We have a little scene we did together called Monsters Love. That was excellent. Yeah, it's got three different stories; one from me, Iris Jay have different

romance stories involving monster people that we put together last year.

MFF- Geemo

Have you ever read "Epiphany?"

Kory

Yes, it's so good. I think "Templar, Arizona" was Spike's comic that was one of the first ones I read when I first got online. That was one that wasn't a gag-a-day sort of comic strip. I was like, "Oh, you can do long form comics on the internet. I didn't know that." I've met a lot of really cool people. And it's hard to choose which ones to mention, because they're all just really cool people doing such cool work.

MFF- Geemo

That's definitely true. I'm always amazed just how much the community grows and the different facets of it. There's always more people out there doing more things; any one of them takes you to a completely different group of people with ideas for stories and things like that. We're definitely very lucky and we're very glad to have you as our Guest of Honor this year.

Kory

Thank you so much. It's really a big honor to be to be the Guest of Honor at Midwest Furfest.



Check out Rachel's panels!

Event	Location	Date/Time
Meet the Guests of Honor	Rosemont A/B	Fri 8:00 pm
Designing Characters for Fursuits with GOH Stuffed Panda Studios	Hyatt - Midway	Fri 9:30 pm
Airbrushing & Dry Brushing with GOH Stuffed Panda Studios	Hyatt - LAX	Sat 7:00pm

RACHEL BOCK

FURSUIT MAKER



Rachael Bock, otherwise known as Panda, has been creating fursuits under the name Stuffed Panda Studios since 2011. She graduated from Truman State University in 2010 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art with a focus in fibers. Rachael specializes in whimsical realistic & toony suits that have been used by small businesses and individual hobbyists alike. She draws inspiration from nature, anime, and fairy tales.

In 2020 MFF interviewed Rachael for our Virtual Con event, here's what we talked about!

MFF - Geemo
Have you been to MFF before? What conventions have you been to?

Rachael Bock
I have not. I've always wanted to go, but it was hard finding friends to go with me that time of year. I've been to a lot of anime conventions and comic conventions. I've been to Dragon*Con several times. I really like that. As far as furry conventions go, I've been to Gateway Furmeet in St. Louis, and Anthro Northwest in Seattle.

MFF - Geemo
What is it that people know you for?

Rachael Bock
Mainly for making fursuits, but I also make bases and things I sell in my Etsy shop. Some people don't like casting parts and they don't want to buy all the equipment supplies, so you can buy them from me!

MFF - Geemo
Where do you get your supplies? Where do you find stuff?

Rachael Bock
I get most of my casting supplies from Smooth-On. As far as fur goes there's a lot of different suppliers. Howl Fabrics is one of my favorites or Fabric Empire. Different places like that. I get a few things locally, but most of it I have to buy online.

MFF - Geemo
I was gonna say does anything come from overseas? Has it gotten trickier this year with shipping and supplies?



Rachael Bock

Yeah, I get a lot of the casting materials for eyes from China. Those have definitely slowed down when COVID first hit. I actually had, four different large orders for eyes because I was planning on selling at Furry Weekend Atlanta. They got stuck for four or five months in the mail. I didn't think they would ever show up. I thought they were gone for good, but they did show up eventually.

MFF - Geemo

When and where did you get started?

Rachael Bock

I first started making costumes when I was in college. It was freshman year and I was in an anime club. They were having a Halloween party so I decided

to make a costume and it was just so much fun. I got addicted to it and then not long after my friends took me to an anime convention. Soon I started making anime cosplays and that's where I first saw fursuits. I just could not get over the fact that someone made that by hand because it just looked impossible. I started researching it and built my first one just got hooked on it.

MFF - Geemo

Was your first costume for you or for somebody else?

Rachael Bock

It was for me. It could be any anime thing. I was obsessed with Azumanga Daioh at the time, there was this little gray chompy cat. So not surprisingly, I ended up making a cat costume. The head was like paper mache and there was no harness inside. It was just bobbing around on my head, but it was super fun to make.

MFF - Geemo

Wonderful! So what did you study in school that helped you with this? How did you get on this path?

Rachael Bock

I majored in Studio Art and my focus ended up being Fibers, which is sewing so that kind of played into it. Fibers is basically just art with fabric. So a lot of what I was doing was flat, like illustration and tapestry type things. Some of that detail work I kind of brought into fursuit making, but I was doing fursuits on the side along with what I was learning in class. Eventually I tried to combine the two.

MFF - Geemo

Did you end up doing any actual fursuits for classes?

Rachael Bock

At the very end I did! My teacher let me, they were a little skeptical, but it's a piece of art that sewn so for my final project they let me. It was a full suit of the Pokemon Luxray and it honestly did not look very good. But I was so proud of myself for putting it together. I did I got an A on it. Yeah, they were just impressed that it came together and I was actually able to wear it because I was working on it.

MFF - Geemo

How long have you been making fursuits?

Rachael Bock

I think technically my first one I made probably in 2008, so around 12 years. I started officially selling in 2011. So I'm up to about 10 years. Doesn't seem like it's been that long. It goes quickly.

MFF - Geemo

Do you have a group of friends that you make things with? Do you still have contact with people from college?

Rachael Bock

Yeah, I'm still in contact with friends from college. A lot of my friends ended up doing graphic design or designing fabric, things like that. It's still really inspirational seeing them grow their businesses because several of them are freelance. Just seeing them constantly researching and improving is a big inspiration. I talk to quite a few fursuit makers online and seeing what everybody comes up with is always really inspiring and pushing me to improve all the time.



MFF - Geemo

Have you gotten any books or any tutorials from friends or other professionals that have really helped you with your career?

Rachael Bock

When I was first starting out Matrices website was super helpful because at the time that was really the only place I could find tutorials that had all been collected in one place. So that was a huge help. Otherwise, Kamui Cosplay has a lot of cosplay books that aren't fursuit related, but a lot of things about LEDs or carving foam. It's interesting to look into other kinds of crafts and see how things can be applied.

MFF - Geemo

Have you seen fursuit makers from overseas or in different parts of the country that just did something completely off-the-wall? Something you didn't expect anybody to be able to do, or something that's really inspired you?

Rachael Bock

I believe Elk Craft Designs recently did a dog that was two heads. That was really cool. They did one that was three heads and I didn't think that would be possible to make something that would fit well on someone's head and still be able to see out of, so that was really crazy cool. I know when I first saw kemono suits in Japan they were fascinating to me, like the different style eyes they had and looking through the window tint. Just different things like that.

MFF - Geemo

What part of the country do you live in right now?

Rachael Bock

I live in northeast Missouri, in a rural area. Pretty much always lived in that area. I went to school in Kirksville, Missouri, which is little bit further north. I briefly went to grad school and decided it wasn't for me in Kansas City. So it's been always in Missouri.



MFF - Geemo

What sort of challenges have you faced in your career?

Rachael Bock

I'd say the hardest for me was figuring out how to quote people properly and time management, even now, it still can be difficult. I track my time and write it down in a notebook. You might have one project that takes so many hours and you think, "Okay, this is how I'm going to quote this next project," but then something goes wrong, and you end up spending more time on it than you think. Maybe it goes a little faster you think, "Hey, I'm getting faster at this," so you under quote the next time. That's always been a challenge. In the hours, sometimes budgeting can be hard because you'll find some new supplies that cost more but you really want to try out. So you buy it anyway, even though you didn't budget for it originally. It's usually worth it in the end to see a project come out really cool.

MFF - Geemo

What would you say you're you're better at estimating based on hours or pricing full suits?

Rachael Bock

It's a little bit of both. I have a general idea of how many hours each part takes so when I'm done with the project I separate out pieces like, "the padding took this long, the sewing took this long." If I have a suit that doesn't have any padding, I can just take from the sewing sections or average it together. Since adding 3d printing and custom molds to projects it can take from 400 to 500 hours now.

MFF - Geemo

Excellent. How many suits do you think you've made total?



Rachael Bock

The longer I go, it seems like the more I slow down. I probably do four or five suits a year now. When I was first starting, I was doing one, one to two a month. I think I'm getting a little pickier, a little more technically detailed. For example, when I was first doing padding, I would just carve foam padding and have it sit inside the suit. Now I do more body pods, which requires more patterning. I try and add in features too. I think that will make it just look more professional when it's done and easier to wear.

MFF - Geemo

How do you take measurements from people?

Rachael Bock

I always ask for a duct tape dummy if it's for a full suit. I always want hand measurements, I have a little chart that I made for people. They get head measurements and then a shoe size. That's usually all that I need. If I'm doing a partial, sometimes if it has arm sleeves, I'll ask for a duct tape dummy of just the arms or the legs because sometimes people want a really fitted look to that. That helps me out visualizing it. Otherwise, that's about all I ask for.

MFF - Geemo

What sorts of tools do you use? Do you use any software or other ways to plan out your work?

Rachael Bock

When I'm planning out the shape of a suit or new head base I use ProCreate on my iPad to kind of sketch it out. If I have a duct tape dummy, I'll take a picture of it and draw over it in ProCreate. I'll put it into Photoshop and actually crop it and print it out to scale, then I trace that on the phone. At first I was just trying to look at the picture and then trace what I was seeing on foam, but I figured out that [printing] was much more accurate.

MFF - Geemo

So when you print it out, is it like a bunch of little 8.5 x 11 sheets? Or is it actually like a large format you go get some were printed on a plotter?

Rachael Bock

It's a bunch of 8.5 x 11's that I tape together so takes a little bit. It definitely seems like a lot of work, but it's a good result.

MFF - Geemo

What sort of projects are you working on right now? Have you got anything lined up?

Rachael Bock

I am making a bodysuit for Suki which is a partial kemono fox I made last year. I'm working on that right now. I've also got some premades that I started and one of them I'll be working on in streaming during your guys' online [2020] convention. I'm working

on a fursuit for myself finally and that I'm going to keep. I've made partials for myself of random characters, but I've never made one of my fursona so it'll be fun. It's something I kept telling myself- I'm not at the skill level I want to make this yet so I'm just gonna wait. I decided for MFF I really wanted to have her done to take her with me. So I decided this was the time to finally start working on it and I'm having a lot of fun with it.

MFF - Geemo
Was there a particular technological advancement or something that you saw that wanted to learn?

Rachael Bock
This year I learned how to 3-D print for the first time and use ZBrush to sculpt, so that made me feel a lot better. I actually went ahead and sculpted a head in ZBrush and printed it out, so now I need to make a mold and do a cast out of foam. Learning that gave me a boost of confidence because I thought I could never ever possibly learn how to 3-D sculpt or print. I'm basically printing head bases right now then molding and casting them in resin and foam. I'm doing some teeth that way and also horns and antlers because those are a lot lighter. I want to do claws next because I hate sculpting and casting claws.

MFF - Geemo
Do you ever have to put your resin casts in a vacuum so you don't get bubbles?

Rachael Bock
I don't with the resin but I do it silicone because if I don't it comes out with tons of bubbles and it looks kind of cloudy.

MFF - Geemo
How big of a workspace do you have?

Rachael Bock
It's one big room and it's about 15 feet wide



by 50 feet. This is actually on my parents property because they built a shop and they were going to use this top part for storage but I was like, "Hey, I could rent this out from you and you could get some money and I could have a bigger space." It's about 10 minutes from my house so I just drive here everyday and work.

MFF - Geemo
So what would you say has been your biggest success? What are you most proud of that you've done so far?

Rachael Bock
I think just building up my Patreon and my Etsy shop because those took years of constant working at it to get it to where it is. At first I had hardly anyone on Patreon for the first few years, but I enjoyed it. It was fun and I kept doing it. Same with all the parts and things that I sell in the Etsy shop, it just took years of sculpting to build up and have as

many molds as I do now.

MFF - Geemo
I know your YouTube channel has gotten very popular.

Rachael Bock
Yeah, yeah, I'm really lucky. I was super worried that people wouldn't want to be buying things with conventions canceled, but people are still buying bases and parts and I'm still getting commissions so I'm really lucky in that respect.

MFF - Geemo
What are your plans for the future with new projects or advances?

Rachael Bock
I think I just want to continue learning more about 3-D sculpting since that was a new thing for me this year. Maybe try resin 3-D printing instead of just using the filament. Otherwise, I just want to expand the amount of molds I have in the store and just keep improving.

MFF - Geemo
Do you have a local group of makers and other folks that you talk with at all or compare



notes?

Rachael Bock
Not locally, but online I talk to a lot of different fursuit makers and try to stay in touch with them. I always try to stay open if people have technique questions for me or anything like that. It's really nice to talk with other artists.

MFF - Geemo
Are there particular species that you kind of either prefer or shy away from depending on how complex it would be to make a suit?

Rachael Bock
Hmm, maybe anything with a lot of scales, like a pangolin or something? I wouldn't say that I don't want to do it, but it would be a challenge to do something like that. Also feathers. I've only done like, some decorative feathers on wings and heads and stuff. Doing something that had a lot of handmade feathers might be something I would shy away from.

MFF - Geemo
What was your introduction to the furry fandom?

Rachael Bock
Yeah, it was weird because in high school, I basically drew furry art. I was making furry and anthro characters, but never came across it online. I have no idea how. In college, I saw the first seeds of it when I started researching, and then I came across the fandom. I didn't consider myself a part of it at first, but I was posting on like the fursuit Livejournal group, everyone was so nice and friendly, and I definitely fell into the fandom. It was a perfect fit for me.

MFF - Geemo
Have you had any role models or people that inspired you? Anybody that you look up to right now?



Rachael Bock

When I was first starting out I was really, really inspired by like Beastcub, and Matrices, and Arito fursuit. Makers like that. They're all making these really beautiful fursuits, I just cannot wrap my head around. So I definitely look to them for inspiration. Now there's just so many fursuit makers that I find inspirational, everyone's making really cool things. I actually find newer fursuit makers really inspirational too, because they're really pushing to try new techniques. And sometimes, I know like with me, I'd kind of stumble into techniques. You find something you like doing but then you're not always willing to push or experiment more, so it's really inspiring seeing newer makers really push the boundaries all the time.

MFF - Geemo

Have you encountered any challenges where a client was looking for something that would be specifically used like in a dance competition or they were planning on performing?

Rachael Bock

I have only had a couple people request that and they did tell me they'd be dancing in the suit. I tried to make vision as big as possible and for the feet I'll do flat bottoms instead of silicone paw pads; things like that just to make it easier for them to move around without slipping or falling. For outdoor use usually what I do is I buy actual shoe sole material, which I put on the bottom of feet, and that's really durable and also helps with the grip outside. It's much easier to clean than having any kind of bottoms on it and there have been a few times I've made fursuit sandals for that sort of thing. But usually I just try and make sure the feet are easy to wash and clean if they're going to be used outside.

MFF - Geemo

How do you recommend people clean their suits or are there's maybe different ways you should be cleaning different parts?

Rachael Bock

The body suits you can definitely put in the washer with no issues, same with the hands. Feet you can usually put in the washer. Sometimes people don't like to because it can be kind of loud and bang around in the wash. In that case you could wash it by hand in a tub. My resin bases now have it set up so you can pull any electronics or head padding out and wash the inside with soap and water. The head padding can be thrown in the washer too. Foam heads I wouldn't recommend putting in a washer but you can submerge those most of the time in a bathtub and wash them as long as you dry it out afterwards in front of the fan really well. I try and keep washability in mind as much as I can.

MFF - Geemo

Have you had much experience yourself, or

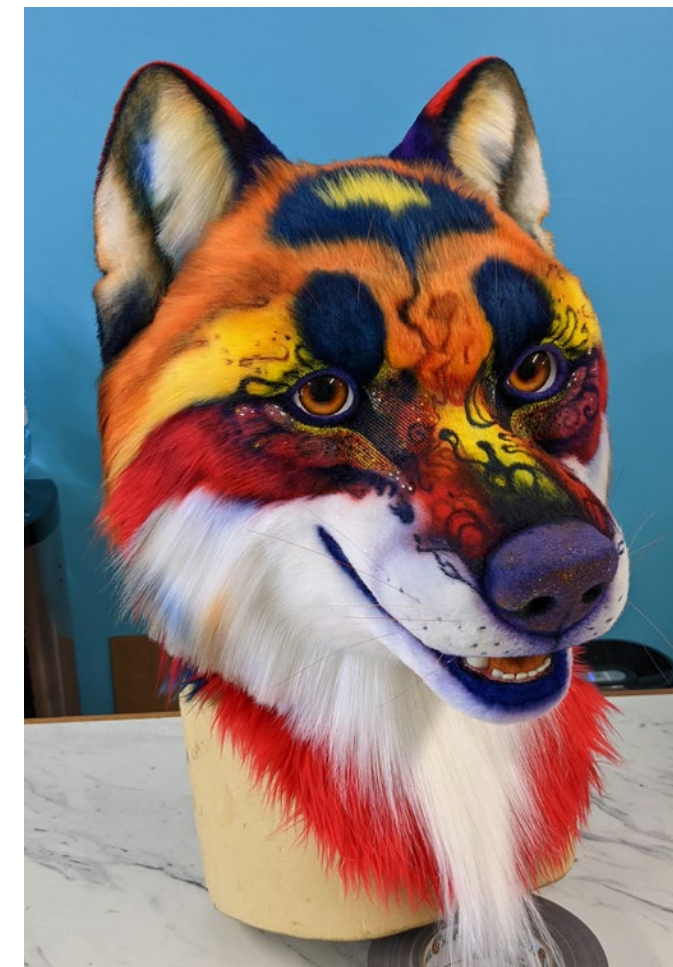
gotten feedback from your customers, that's changed the way you do things on projects?

Rachael Bock

Yeah, early on I made electronics so they were not removable because I was thinking, "Oh, I'm gonna make this as durable as possible. Make sure it's really stuck in there," and then people were like, "Hey, it'd be nice if I could take this out to really clean it." So things like that, same with the head padding inside. People pointed out it'd be nice to have it removable so they could really clean it. Having that feedback early on was super helpful.

MFF - Geemo

Are there certain electronic things people ask for?



Rachael Bock

Most of the time it's fans, and sometimes led eyes, but that's about all I do anymore. I'm not super well versed in wiring different things.

MFF - Geemo

Are they using conventional nine volt batteries or double A batteries or something a little bit more substantial?

Rachael Bock

I used to use 9-volt batteries for the fans, but now I've switched to little rechargeable USB ones. The eyes go on AA batteries.

MFF - Geemo

Is there anything in particular you're into lately, as far as like books or TV shows? Anything that you're doing in your spare time besides working?

Rachael Bock

Um, recently I've been catching up on Schitt's Creek. I really love that show. I really love anime, so I've been keeping up with like Fire Force and My Hero Academia. My friends have got me started on the Dresden Files. I've read the first couple of those.

MFF - Geemo

Do you have any pets?

Rachael Bock

I do. I have a miniature Schnauzer named Merlin that I got this year, he's super cute. He's five months old right now. I got him as a puppy.

MFF - Geemo

Any other hidden talents or passions?

Rachael Bock

I like cooking, gardening, and canning

stuff in the summer. I do a lot of arts and crafts, like just needle-felting and crochet, things like that. Jigsaw puzzles I've always done, but I've gotten more into this year being stuck inside.

MFF - Geemo

Have you gotten anything new this year, as far as hand tools, anything that you just you can't live without?

Rachael Bock

The only thing would be the 3-D printer, or maybe a heat gun I use a lot. This is something I've upgraded to and it's very useful. I'm surprised at how much I use it. If the fur's a little wrinkly, you can put it on a low setting and kind of iron it out. There have been times I've glued something on a base and it will not come undone. So I'll use the gun to kind of heat up the hot glue and get it back off. So it's been super helpful.

MFF - Geemo

I don't have any other questions, you've been great to interview! Thank you and we look forward to hosting you in 2021. We thank you for being a Guest of Honor this year.



Space Traveler by CybertechFoxArt



Check out Lynette's panels!

Event	Location	Time
Behind the Scenes - Movie Magic with GOH Lynette Eklund	Hyatt - Midway	Fri 6:30pm
Meet the Guests of Honor	Rosemont A/B	Fri 8:00 pm
Your Body Is Your Character with GOH Lynette Eklund	Hyatt - Hartsfield	Sat 2:00pm

LYNETTE EKLUND SPECIAL EFFECTS



Lynette Eklund has been in the special effect industry since she was 20. Her work comes in all sizes, from stop-motion miniatures to full-size dinosaurs. With over 50 IMDb television and film credits to her name, she has contributed to Nightmare on Elm Street 5: The Dream Child, Beetlejuice, Species I & II, the Emmy Award winning miniseries The Stand, and Oscar-nominated The Lost World: Jurassic Park, among others, while working with the likes of Ben Kingsley, Jeff Goldblum, Gore Verbinski and Stephen Spielberg. For more information

check out IMDb.com

Lynette's skills have also been used on the Teddy Ruxpin talking teddy bear; commercials for McDonalds, Duracell, and Budweiser, along with many more commercials; Tokyo Disneyland, Epcot, Universal Studios and several other amusement parks around the world; mentoring her long-time Con-going friend Lance Ikegawa; and painting limited-edition collectables for Disney sculptor Terri Hardin.

In 2020 MFF interviewed Rachael for our Virtual Con event, here's what we talked about!

MFF - Geemo
What do you do? What is it that you're known for?

Lynette
That's always a good question! The simple answer is "monster maker." I put creature effects artist on my tax return as it's costuming, puppets or whatever. It kind of depends on the year, but it's always in that realm. Creature effects artist seems to kind of cover it.

MFF - Geemo
How'd you get started? How does somebody become a creature effects artist?

Lynette
Back in the days when I was getting started there wasn't the Internet and so for the most part, I got started because I was too dumb to know if I couldn't do it. I grew



people I met were monster makers! Then I realized, "Wait, I can make a living playing with fur and glue?" I never went the traditional costume route and instead went straight into the the fur-foam fabrication end of it. It was just by dumb luck that I ended up going that direction, but I've never regretted it. That was during the 80s when the creature effects movies were at their peak. I was riding a tidal wave, there was so much work to be had! I would have a full time job in a shop and then I would have anywhere from two to five moonlighting projects at home. Even then I was turning down three to five jobs a week, there was just so much of it. I was wallowing in glory, boy.

MFF - Geemo
When did you first move to Hollywood?

Lynette
February of '85.

MFF - Geemo
Did you have a job lined up, were you moving out there kind of just on your own?

Lynette
I didn't know anybody, I didn't have an apartment, I didn't have a job. I saved up three months of survival money based on what I knew rent cost. I gave myself three months to sink or swim. If I failed, I was gonna go back to Houston where I had been working at Lord and Taylor. I had three months to either catch my dream or give it up. I got my first job in six weeks.

MFF - Geemo
What was the first job? How did you get your foot in the door?

Lynette
Again, dumb luck you know. It's the old saying, "It's not what you know, it's who you know" and that gets you your job. Well, my

up in a small town i the Midwest and this was before there were all the 'how do you make it' videos. Since there was no Internet, nobody was teaching anybody how to do it. I knew I wanted to work in the film industry, but didn't know how to get myself there. I went and got a degree in Fashion Design, because I loved arts and crafts. I was the one making the alligator out of egg cartons and puppets out of styrofoam balls and stuff. I didn't know that was actually a career option. So I thought, if I go to get a degree in Fashion Design, then I can go out to Hollywood. I can do beadwork, armor, and that kind of stuff. That was as close as I can think of to an arts and crafts type of career.

I got my degree and went out there. The first

theory, my rule, is who you know will get you the job. What you know, keeps the job. I went out there, I didn't know anybody out there except for one comic book illustrator. I'd never met him, but I talked to him on the phone twice. He had a brother who lived in Houston that I had made a Victorian suit for. He's the one that told me roughly what rent would run and that kind of stuff. When I arrived he said, "a friend is having a party this weekend, you should go to it! You might make some connections, or very least make some friends." I walked into this apartment and it was the who's who of creature effects. This was during Dune, Ghostbusters, and Thriller. Those were the people at this party. I walked right into the middle of the royalty of the creature effects industry, just by dumb luck. That's when I realized on the spot what I wanted to do for a living. I got a referral to a

shop that did walk-around costumes. My first job was finishing heads of a Bob's Big Boy, but I only worked there for about two and a half weeks. During that time I was still making phone calls trying to find other work. I ended up landing a job over at a tiny little company, that only had a couple dozen people working for it at that time. It was called Alchemy II and it was doing the toy prototypes for Teddy Ruxpin. I ended up going there working for a year and eight months helping design and prototype Teddy. Talk about an instant claim to fame, Teddy Ruxpin was the king of toys for like three years running.

MFF - Geemo
Were you were you able to get your apartment from that? Were you moving up in the world from those leads?



Lynette
I couldn't afford to sign a lease because I didn't know if I would be there for a year. I talked this one lady into allowing me to just sign a three-month lease if I paid it all upfront. I gave her three months of rent so that I had a place to stay, then ended up working over there. At that time they were debating on whether to do a cartoon TV series of Teddy Ruxpin or live action. We made all the costumes for a live action TV pilot for Teddy Ruxpin. While I was working on that, the freelancers started hiring. They hired some of the biggest names in the industry. They hired Arden Ashley, who was the queen of walk-around suits. If she didn't like you, nobody liked you when it came to the walk-around suit industry back then. She kind of took me under her wing. She decided she liked me, thank God, and taught me a lot of things. I learned from her because she was brought into that shop. Next I learned from Brian, who was the Marshmallow Man for Ghostbusters, they brought him in for foam fabrication for some of these characters. Terri Harden, who had just got done working on Captain EO. They brought in all these freelancers to help with these costumes. While I sat in one place for work, everybody came and met me.

MFF - Geemo
And you knew who these people were at the time?

Lynette
I didn't! I met them as people first and realized who they were later. This was before there was all 'the making of' and all the 'how to' videos. I had no way of knowing these people's names unless you actually sat there and read the crawl of every film and memorized it. You didn't really have easy access to this stuff. You couldn't just go on the Internet and find

their names and read their bios. There was no such thing as an IMDB page yet. I would meet them and as we were sitting there just working along chit-chatting and I didn't even know I was supposed to be slobbering or impressed. They'd started mentioning what they worked on. Then I saw I started learning techniques from some of the big dogs right off the bat. After about a year and eight months at that company, then I decided I want to go freelance. My first film was actually a rubber monster called the Ghoulie God from Ghoulies II. I actually quit a full-time job for two weeks when making this ghoulie.

MFF - Geemo
Did you have to come up with a way to estimate



your hours?

Lynette
That's actually really tricky to do. You have to get very good at knowing how long it's going to take you. I'm a little OCD, I kept charts and stuff. Even if I was working for myself, I would have a budget on the back of a lot of envelopes. You'd get half at the beginning and half at the end, or three installments. I'd never started anything without a deposit. That's rule number one, never start without a deposit. No material should come out of your pocket. I would keep track of my hours. I'd give myself an hourly salary. After a few times of doing that, you start to see a pattern. You know about how long it's going to take you to foam scope, how long it's gonna take you to prototype. You can get really good at knowing yourself.

MFF - Geemo
How has that changed over the years? Have you developed new methods for figuring out how you should be spending your time, spending your budget?

Lynette
It hasn't really changed a lot. As much as I like Excel spreadsheets, to me, that's more of a reference thing. I don't really use it the way a business would, I still go by just paper and pencil. A lot of times, it's based on how fun the project is going to be. A lot of things are low budget but if it's really cool and I believe in it, or if I want to support that project or that person I'll do it. If it's somebody that I think has potential and they need that break. If it's something where I can learn a new technique, if somebody is willing to hire me to build something and allow me to experiment with a new technique. So that then too has value. It's not cash value, but it's still value. Not everything is based on the dollars. So especially now, as it was back then, you did the project that you wanted to do to pay the rent; that was your bread and

butter job. Then you did the project that you wanted to invest in, or the project that was just downright fun because your friends were on it, and you want to play with them. There's so many reasons to take a project where it's not always just money. As long as you're making enough to cover your bills, have some fun, too, you know?

MFF - Geemo
What sort of things do the clients bring to you, and then you kind of have to fill in the blanks?

Lynette
They usually send me a drawing. I'm a very geometric-based artist. When I look at somebody's face, I could take a ballpoint pen and tell you exactly where the seams and darts are gonna be. It's very shape oriented to me. From that picture, I have long conversations about what they're thinking. Are you looking at realistic or whimsical? Are you looking for that happy medium? The project I'm working on right now calls for semi-realism. If you took a cartoon and made it come to life, but it's not trying to be realistic, it is more of a live-action cartoon type of a vibe to it. It's in that semi-realism, which I love that spot, that's a sweet spot. I drill down and see what they're thinking as far as an end product. The main thing is having an honest front view, an honest profile, and an honest back view. By honest, and that is one of the hardest things to get clients to understand, is those are the most boring pictures in the world.

MFF - Geemo
What's the sort of things do you work with that? What are your tools of the trade?

Lynette
Good old tape measure is number one. And a measurement sheet that I've come up with myself, rather than trying to use one that's online. I've realized over the years, there are



some measurements that you don't need. There's other measurements that are not traditional, but you do need them to make it easier. I have my own measurement sheets that I use. It's just razor blades, barge cement, and Minicel L200 and L300. Minicel "Scott Foam", mattress foam, and an old reliable 1940s Industrial sewing machine. It's one of these old Singer sewing machines. It used to be on a slap belt so it didn't even have its own motor, but it's got a motor on it now. I bought that from the lady at the first job that I had. Remember when I was talking about my Bob's Big Boy gig? I bought one of her old sewing machines she was getting rid of and that's still the one I'm using today. I have two overlocks, because I hate rethreading overlocks. I put one with dark thread and one light thread so I don't have to rethread often. That way if one goes down, while it's being repaired I still have one running so I can leapfrog them. I had a couple times where it got really iffy on deadlines because my overlock went down and then it was going to take three or four weeks to get it fixed.



I'm out here in the boonies, so I have to take it into Indianapolis to get it fixed. They're going to be sitting on it for a while and so I bought a second one so that I didn't have that threatening deadlines, because I refuse to miss a deadline.

MFF - Geemo
Do you have more than one location you work in right now?

Lynette
Yeah, where I work is 600 square feet. This is my main one. If I fly out to LA, there's a friend out there that has a shop I use, that's basically the great room of a house. There's a soundstage I work on out there also. A lot of times if I fly out there I'm working at the owner's shop. My home base is a 600 square foot shop though.

MFF - Geemo
What's your work schedule like right now? In recent years, are you still working 90-95 hours a week?

Lynette
I'm swamped. No, I don't do 95 hours a week anymore because I don't want to. When we moved to the Midwest from LA I was allowed to settle down my hours. I tried to keep it to normal hours because I've paid my dues. I want to have a life too now so I want to be able to play more. I want to be able to go to conventions and do hobbies. I have three kids so I want to be able to follow their interests. I'm a baseball head and when they play baseball, I'm not going to miss a game. I actually schedule short weeks during baseball season.

MFF - Geemo
You've obviously given several other interviews. Have you been guest of honor at other events before?



Lynette
I've been guest at several conventions, but never a guest of honor and I'm very excited about this one. I've got to go to FurFest one time years ago. I was filling in for somebody who was supposed to have a 'how-to' workshop and they weren't able to make it. I went in their stead and it was a blast. I've been geeking out over you guys for years. I'm really thrilled for this one. I've been a guest at everything. Pop-cons, Dragon-cons, costume-cons, it varies so much because I have the fans of films. Some of the big budget fans are into the Raptors from Lost World. There's also the B-movie horror fans because of me working on puppet masters and those kind of things. There's the toy fans because Teddy Ruxpin. I still have my original Teddy Ruxpin. I bring him to conventions. I might as well bring Elvis with me. He is a king still and I'm so proud of Teddy, so he goes to conventions with me. At the pop-cons there's Disney stuff because Terri Harden, who is a Disney sculptor. She'll do limited edition of

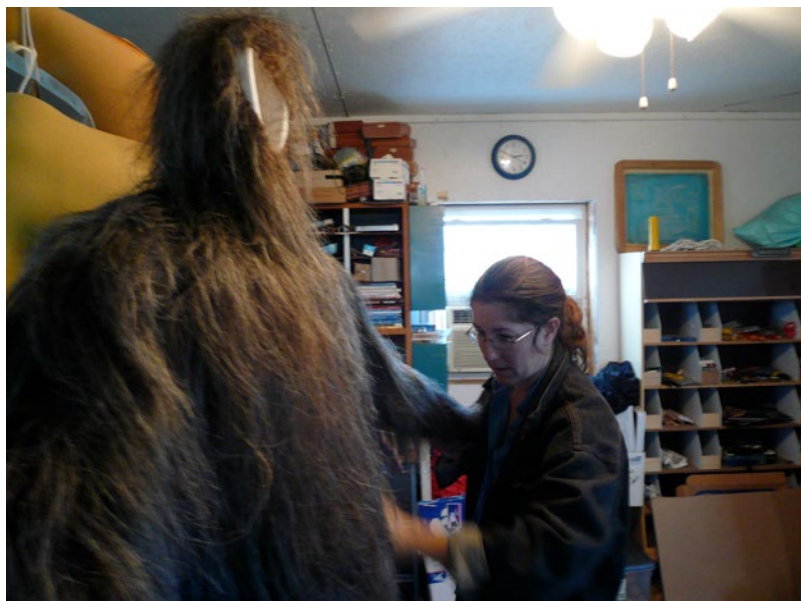
collectibles and some of her series, she sculpted them and I painted them. Obviously the furies and the fur cons are a lot of fun. I generally have a table signing autographs at the cons. The costumers are coming up to me so I get to check out their work and so it's great. I'm not trying to like fight through the crowd, they get to come to me and show off. I actually have a front row seat to being able to check out everybody's costume which I love.

MFF - Geemo

What plans do you have for the future? Are there things on the horizon that you could talk about?

Lynette

Well, I just got through a rebuilding ALF! Remember ALF? The TV series rebuilt him because we're talking about potential reboot on him. He just left my shop last week. Now I'm working on three different projects for a web series that, COVID permitting, we are



supposed to shoot next summer. If they do, then by December's Furfest, I'll be able to have all sorts of news on those. Those are the ones that have a semi-realism level of character. There's three different projects of those. Also my son who is in college now is studying filmmaking and directing. During COVID, we managed to film an entire feature length film, and it was no budget. I told him he had to work with this local actors on location here. I said, I will fund you one creature. You're not going to get insert pieces, you're not going to get mechanics, just one creature. So now that's in post-production. I'm actually trying to learn, a little bit at least, rough cut editing to help him get going on that. With him at college, I told him I said, "you're at college for filmmaking. Surely there'll be people there that know how to work an editing program." I've been swamped during COVID. There's a lot of conceptual stuff that's being done right now because there's the time. Everybody has lots of time right now. So there's a lot of concept work being done right now. I don't know what next year is gonna hold, but this year

has been pretty darn busy.

MFF - Geemo

Yeah, I was gonna say that's definitely better than the alternative. How exactly did you find the furry fandom?

Lynette

My introduction was probably Lance Ikegawa, who's known to the furry fandom because he does a lot of costumes for masquerades. He and I are friends. He will send stuff here for me to work on. He's the

one that actually introduced me to the whole fandom. That was 20 years ago, but at the time I didn't realize how big it was. It's blown up since those days. Even when I was working on films, a lot of times I would have a fur-fan suit to work on. That was part of the moonlighting, then later once I got introduced to it, it's never really completely left me. There's always some of that going on. It's neat. I cannot believe how much of a world of its own it has become over the years. It's really grown.

MFF - Geemo

Do you have any pets? Do you have anyone else in the family besides your kids, your husband?

Lynette

Certainly, I'm a dog person, my husband's a cat person. So guess what, we have both. We live on a farm now so we have two dogs and then we've got about six cats. Gotta do something to keep the mice down on an old farm house. I've got a donkey that has a goat for a pet. I do say that very clearly the goat is his pet. The goat is not my pet. The goat won't let me touch him. But he loves the donkey and the donkey lets me baby him. Then there's the chickens. I don't know if we can call them pets, but they don't know that they're not pets. We're just humoring them so that they stay nice. I've always been a pet person, even out in LA when I was in an apartment, I had a beagle. Before that I had a Burmese python. So I've always been a pet person, grew up with them and can't imagine life without them.

MFF - Geemo

Wonderful! You've been to Chicago before, I assume? Is there anything you were looking forward to this year?

Lynette

Pretzel bread and pizza. I'm going for the pretzel bread and pizza.

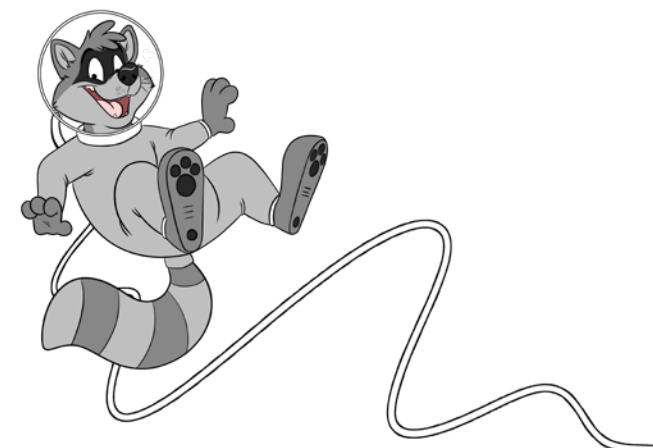


MFF - Geemo

Thank you so much for this interview. It's been wonderful talking to you. I definitely look forward to not only spending time with you, but introducing you to the other guests of honor, and just enjoying the event itself. So we thank you so much for accepting our offer for 2021. Anything else you'd like to add anything you'd like to say to your fans?

Lynette

I'm looking forward to it. And please don't postpone it another year. This is killing me. I was counting down and it's like, we're gonna get this we're gonna get it done. We're gonna be here.



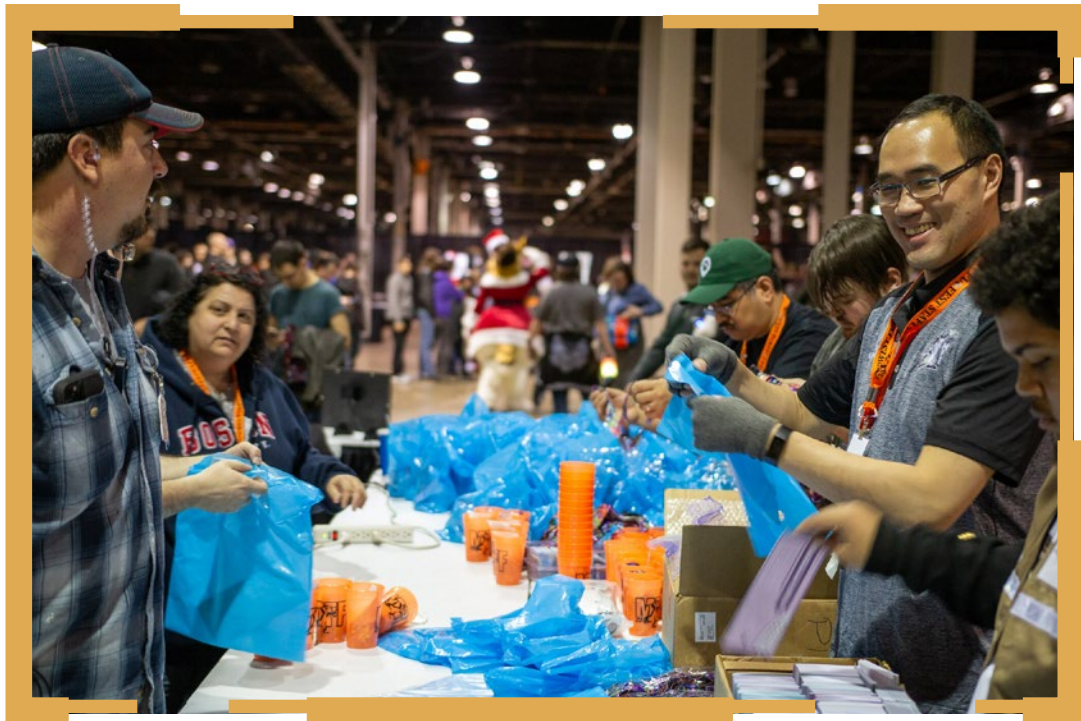
VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Come visit our Gopher Recruitment Station at the Dulles Room on the Lobby Level of the Hyatt Regency O'Hare. There you can sign up to become one of our awesome volunteers we call Gophers here at Midwest Furfest. They help us with numerous important and fun tasks to make our little interstellar invasion of a convention a success!

Some of the exclusive perks of being a Gopher include:

- An intergalactic regulations-approved Gopher ribbon to wear on your badge to proudly show you are part of the Gopher Space Team!
- A Team Gopher duty pin to proudly sport on your ensemble or wherever you can legally jab pointy objects after volunteering for 5 hours!
- An additional Deluxe Gopher Pin after volunteering for 10 hours!
- Free admission to the FurFest event next year after volunteering for 12 hours!

So even if you have a spare hour and just want something different to do, we welcome you with open arms!



FURSUIT PHOTOGRAPHY

Bring yourself and your friends down to the Fursuit Photoshoot!
Photos are free for all registered attendees!

Come find us in the La Guardia room in the Hyatt Regency O'Hare

Friday 2pm - 6pm
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VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

FURSUIT PHOTOGRAPHY

The Cygnus

By: Bruno Schafer

"Crew member: Arrow Gazenko," the brown and white husky mix said into the microphone. "Serial number: 60-19." A couple of seconds later and there was a series of beeps and the doors slid open with a loud burst of air.

Inside was a room filled with computers and several mixed breed dogs and primates of different species sitting in front of them. At the front of the room, staring out a large window into the blackness of space stood another husky mix with a similar fur pattern to Arrow's. The dog had a series of grey hairs that were starting to appear on her head and her eyes held the dark glint of a war veteran.

"Captain, you wanted to see me?"

"Have you and Squirrel finished the repairs to the communication relay?" The captain didn't even turn to look at her.

"Almost," Arrow said as she pulled out the portable holo-screen that each member of the crew was given and handed it to the captain. "We think that there might be some issues with the exterior relay tower."

"So, you're going to request access to airlock K-7?" The captain asked as she analyzed the hologram which displayed a long list of repairs that had already been performed and those that still needed to be done, most requiring exterior work.

"Yes Captain."

The captain then turned off the holo-screen, turned toward Arrow, and handed it back. The captain's eyes were like knives that seemed to cut straight through Arrow's soul. "Permission granted, the last thing we want is for us to lose contact with earth. You're dismissed."

Arrow nodded, gave a salute before turning and walking towards the bridge doors.

Once she had left the bridge and the door had shut behind her, she took the holo-screen back out and turned it back on. "Comm: Squirrel," she said as the screen flashed for a second before revealing the face of a small white dog who was still wearing the light-colored jumpsuit that was given to engineers.

"Captain's given us authorization." Arrow said, her left ear twitching at the thought of having to put on one of those suits. Sure, they had been modified for dogs, or at least they had a spot for the tail, but there was still no room for her ears to swivel around in, and the extension of the suit for the tail always seemed to feel like a guillotine by the end as the material dug into the appendage. That wasn't even beginning to mention the issues with being in a silent vacuum and the effects this had on dogs, whose senses of hearing required they be something to listen to. She had seen space walks be put on hold because of so-called "complications."

"Okay, we might be able to get the comms station working again sooner than I thought," Squirrel said with a level of relief that Arrow rarely heard out of her. "Is there anything else that Laika wanted to tell you?"

"She just wanted an update on the repairs."

"Okay, I'm heading to airlock K-7. See you there."

Arrow began walking down the labyrinthian corridor of The Cygnus. Glancing now and again at the bare patch below her front paw with the numbers: "60-19" written in black tattoo ink, a reminder of what she was. All the crew had these marks, all of which gave their serial number, or "product number," as she had heard a few of the more cynical crew members call it. It was meant for them to

identify themselves whenever one needed to use one of the communication devices as well as needing to get into one of the security locations on The Cygnus, such as the bridge or engine room.

Finally, Arrow arrived at the transit platform. She scanned the mark on the small terminal screen that stuck up in the front of the platform and typed in "K-7" on the screen, while muttering a thank you to the forward-thinking scientist that decided these bodies needed hand-shaped paws.

The platform gave a brief buzz as it began to turn on. Arrow, knowing what would happen next, grabbed one of the bars on the side of the platform as it suddenly began to move along the long tunnel at speeds that always felt like it could kill any passenger. However, it was the most effective means of getting around the ship.

Looking to the side of the platform out a series of large windows that showed nothing but the darkness of space that was dotted with stars. Sure, the scenery could be changed from the screen, but she always preferred the actual scenery of space to the fake projections, something about it always calmed her.

After a couple of minutes, the platform began to slow down as it approached its destination, before lurching as it finally came to a stop. Arrow glanced at the screen which gave the stop name: "K-7."

Arrow let go of the bar and walked over towards a security terminal and placed the marked part of her arm against it. A loud beep and the doors swung open. On the other side was a white room, crisscrossed by a handful of black lines to help prevent disorientation. Already in the room, her fur blending into the walls, was Squirrel.

She was older than Arrow by half a year and

she had been the one to help Arrow adjust after she had "awoken." She was smaller by a couple of centimeters, but she was the stronger of the two and would do more of the leg work, while Arrow would perform most of the tech work.

As the husky-mix approached the terminal to open the "dressing room," the screen turned on with a similar request as the transit platform. Arrow typed in her serial number and placed her paw on the scanner and the door retracted into the walls. On the other side of the door was a wall of spacesuits with the word "canine" above one set.

Taking the helmet off the hook as well as the suit, Arrow began to get the suit on, starting off with her feet and pulling it up over her body. Once her arms were in the suit, she rolled her arm over, revealing a series of square buttons. "You know, the humans developed the technology to uplift animals and to simulate memory, but they can't make suits that auto-adjust to the wearer's body."

This got a laugh out of Squirrel, who was struggling with a latch from the arm to the glove. "Too much of a needless concern," Squirrel said as she finally got the latch to work as a single pop came from it. "I'd settle for easy to latch gloves."

The entire process took around half an hour to complete as every part of the suit needed to be adjusted to match, as best as it could. In addition to the suit, Squirrel took a drill that she had been using on the lower deck and placed it onto her suit's belt, just as Arrow did with her holo-screen.

Squirrel and Arrow approached the airlock and prepared for the emptiness of space. Arrow tapped a button on her suit's arm as the soft melody of some classical piece of music that she couldn't recognize filled her helmet, one of the ways of preventing stress associated with working in such an environment.

Soundproof environments were more stressful for dogs than it was for humans, and for every second a human would spend in such an environment would be like 15 seconds for the dogs, at least that is what the medical staff estimated before the mission. As such, there were certain ways that the suit would allow for simulation of certain senses to help alleviate this.

Squirrel placed her own hand on the and together, they pushed it open and revealed the blackness of space with the occasional dotting of stars.

"Hatch door open, we are making our way to the comm tower." Arrow said into the microphone in her helmet, just so whoever monitored the walks could know what was happening.

The comm tower sat at the top of The Cygnus and the airlock they had just emerged from was along the side of the ship, but near enough to the top to allow ease of access for such maintenance walks. Along the side of the ship, was an extension series of thick wires that functioned as guidelines for the crew to attach themselves to, so they don't end up floating off into the void.

Emerging from the airlock, both dogs attached the strap to the guideline and began to walk along the side of The Cygnus. Placing one paw in front of the other, careful not to let go of the line. "The line clip may snap, or come off, due to being latched improperly, thus always use your hands," She could remember the instructors telling them.

Gazing out at the vastness, with the only sound being the music over the speaker and her own breath. She had been out here several times before, but it never ceased to amaze her. Back on Earth, she felt like she was at the center of so much, not helped by the reporter, instructors, scientist, and so many others who kept reminding everyone of the crew how im-

portant this mission is. Now that they were out here, all that was so far away, so insignificant.

"Always feels good to do these space repairs, what do you think?" Arrow asked.

"Not for me, always makes me feel like a speck. The ship is too big and space even more so.

"I think its peaceful, makes you forget your troubles, being out here."

Squirrel gave a snort of laughter. "Well," she said, "let's not forget this trouble. We still have a job to do, remember we aren't on a vacation."

Arrow gave an exasperated sigh, "Okay, I know." She was silent for a couple of seconds before a smirk emerged on her muzzle at the thought of a little bit of mischief she could get into. "Still think the ship should've been called The Sirius."

Squirrel groaned, "Please Arrow, not this again."

Finally reaching the top of the Cygnus, they saw the giant tower that they would be working at the base of. The comm tower rose above the Cygnus, creating a needle-shaped silhouette against the cosmic backdrop. Normally, a bright signal beacon would be flashing above it, but due to repairs the light was off. The superstructure was just the top of a much larger system that sat beneath its massive frame. The lower parts of the communication relay had been what they had been working on for the last eight hours before Arrow had been ordered to the bridge.

Approaching the comm tower, the two immediately made their way over to the systems control box at the base of the structure. Squirrel immediately set to work as she pulled the drill from the belt and began unscrewing the latches that held the cover onto the tower.

When all but the non-removeable security latches were removed, Squirrel opened the system control box, revealing a long series of wires. Moving aside to allow Arrow to begin diagnostics checks with the holo-screen. Connecting the base of the tablet to one of the wires that hung above a label reading: "Systems."

"So, what does it say is wrong?" Squirrel asked as she glanced over at her companion.

"There is still something causing one of the wires to misfire."

"Perhaps one of the wires is loose or snapped."

"Just what I was about to check," Arrow said as she unplugged the system maintenance wire from the tablet and placed it back in its socket. "It should be one of the system wires."

Arrow ran her finger over one of the wires to check stability. However, no sooner had she done that, then the wire seemed to snap out of its socket and began to float against the side of the interior of the comm tower.

"Damn!" Arrow said as she quickly plugged the holo-screen back in. "Turning off the electricity to the tower."

"What happened?"

"One of the wires came undone," Arrow said as the holo-screen changed to the dimmer setting to denote that what it was connected to was not receiving electricity. This was done by maintenance personnel without awaiting permission from the bridge. However, this was risky as it would only be temporary, for fear of other electrical problems occurring. "Listen, you'll need to plug it back in, as well as check the other wires for a similar issue, but you need to hurry."

Squirrel nodded as she moved past her companion and immediately set to work checking

the other wires. "How sensitive are the system wires to failing?"

"Usually they are stable, they need to be, and often have numerous redundant connections. However, most of these redundancies are for issues lower than this is."

"And I guess that was something we already checked?"

"Checked and fixed."

"Would have been nice to know what you were having me solder a couple of hours ago."

"I did mention it, but you must have been a little too focused on your work to hear me."

As Squirrel tapped the last wire, she found all of them secure except for the one that they already knew about. "Only one wire. How long do I have?"

"5 minutes."

"Okay, that should hopefully be enough time," The white dog said as she began pressing the wire back into the socket. However, each had the same results of the wire coming back out.

"3 minutes."

Squirrel tried to move to see if something was obstructing the wire from going in but found nothing.

"2 minutes."

She began looking for something she could use to help weigh the wire down but found nothing that would be of any help, and she hadn't brought anything that would have been useful for this purpose.

"1 minute!"

Figuring that it was all that she could do, she placed the wire into the socket and pressed down with all her force, hoping to get it back

inside. At last, she felt the wire finally going back into place. She pulled herself away, almost losing balance in the process, as she noticed Arrow's holo-screen signal light turned on, as well as the beacon on the top of the spire returning to life, signaling the power to the relay was back on.

"What does it say about the error?"

Arrow was silent for a couple of seconds as the diagnostic checks were run. Finally, she breathed a sigh of relief. "No error reported. Let's get this thing closed and get ourselves back inside."

Walking back, her paw still clenched on the guideline, Arrow gazed off in the direction The Cygnus was heading away from, back toward Earth. She couldn't help but wonder if they would ever return, and if they did, what would

it be like. They would have changed, and so would those who sent them. For all she knew, the discoveries they make out here might be met with adulation or indifference. Either, like Prometheus, bringing a new insight to existence, or indifference at any "discovery," they might make. Perhaps these would've been found by a new piece of technology not yet created when The Cygnus had left.

Still, she couldn't help but look forward to what was still to come. And, even if the journey turned out to have been for nothing, they could all take pride in what they had witnessed.



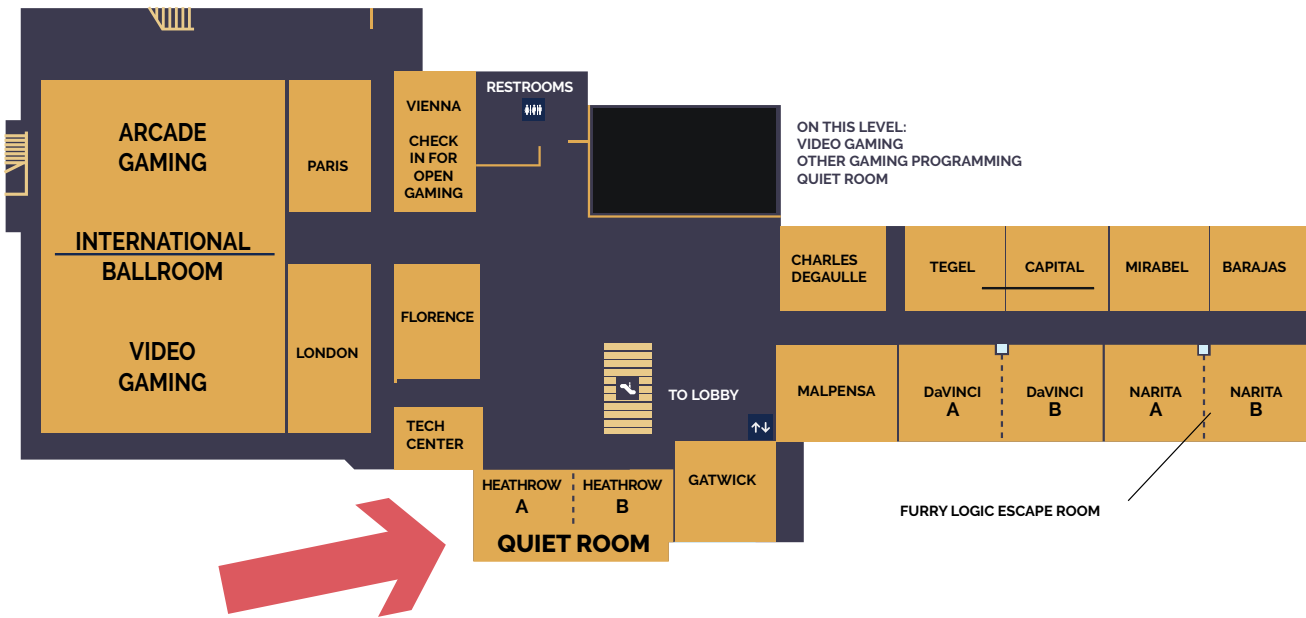
Space Buds by Nova Shrugs

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DESTINATION!

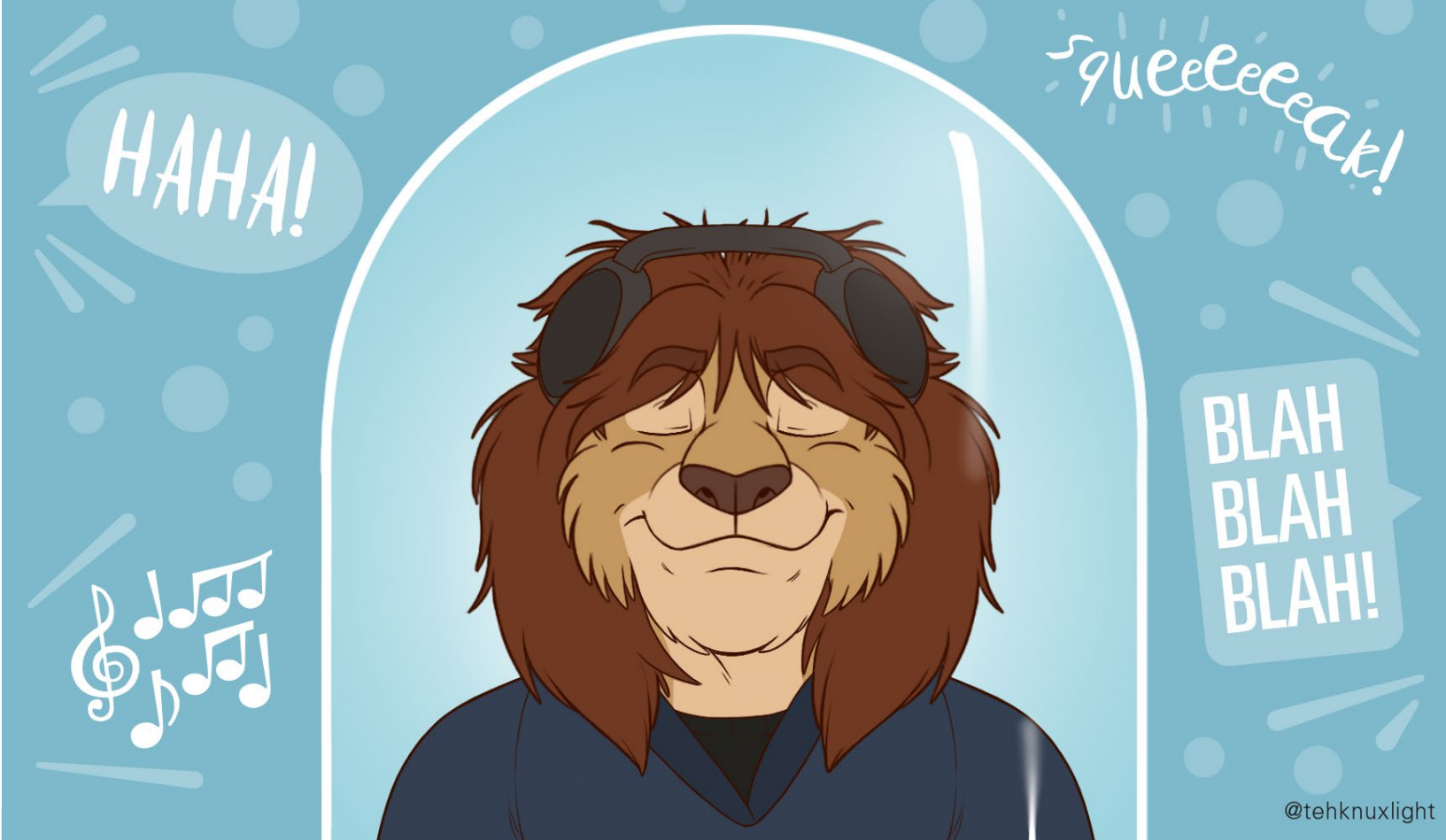
HYATT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL



FURFEST QUIET ROOM

Downstairs on the International Level in the Hyatt

ACCESSIBILITY



Seeking a bit of peace and quiet? Visit the

MFF Quiet Room

LOCATED IN THE HYATT : HEATHROW A/B ON THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

Friday 12pm-2am Saturday 12pm-2am Sunday 12pm-5pm

After its great success in 2019, Midwest FurFest will be again be offering a Quiet Room. This is a place where you can spend time away from noise, lights, and other stimuli of the convention.

Please be courteous to fellow attendees while enjoying your time in the space. The following rules have been designed to ensure a respectful and relaxing environment for everyone:

- Keep conversation volume and length to a minimum.
- Turn off the volume on all electronic devices, laptops, tablets and cell phones. Headphones are encouraged!
- If you have to make or take a phone call, please take it outside the room.
- Be mindful regarding perfumes and scented personal care products, which can trigger allergies or chemical sensitivities.
- No eating or drinking aside from water, which will be available in the quiet room at all times.
- You may rest your eyes, but napping is not permitted.
- Please do not take photos or videos inside the space.

ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION

REGISTRATION

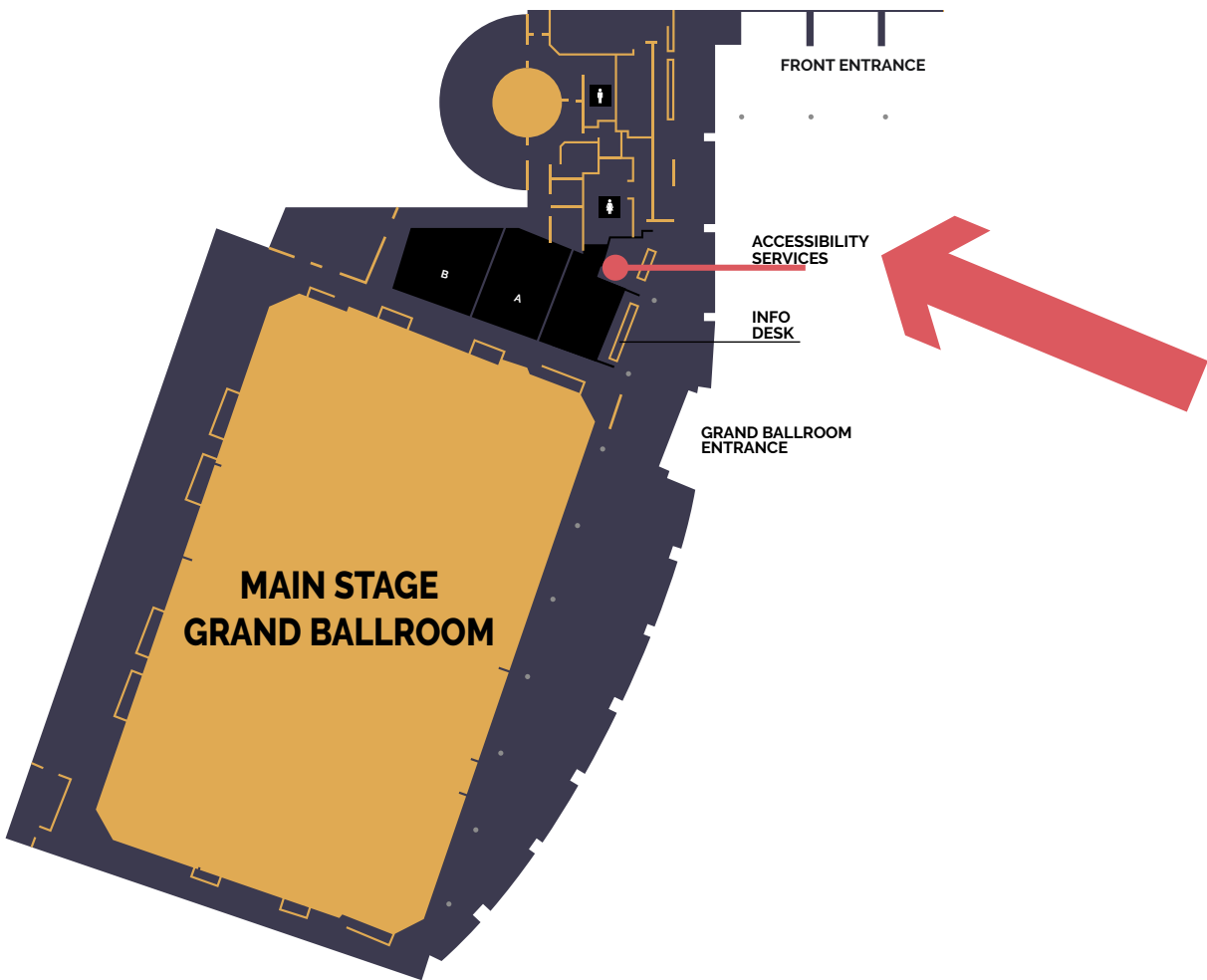
Registration will have a separate Accessibility entrance/queue for those who are unable to stand in long registration lines. Please follow the signs or locate a staff member if you need assistance.

Make sure to grab an **Accessibility Wristband** when registering!

WRISTBANDS

This credential will help FurFest Staff identify anyone who can be admitted to the front of event and elevator lines. Each wristband holder is allowed one (1) person to accompany them. Wristbands can be obtained at Registration during badge pickup, but will also be available at the Accessibility Services office during the convention.

Again, **Accessibility Wristbands** can be obtained by visiting the Accessibility Department or at Registration.



SERVICE ANIMALS

Midwest FurFest recognizes service animals as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Illinois Service Animal Access Act. A service animal must be trained to perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. At this time, that does not include emotional support animals, nor does it include service animals other than dogs and miniature horses.

Service animals must be leashed (unless prevented by their handler's disability or access need) at all times and under handler control. Service animals who are aggressive or disruptive may be asked to be removed from the convention space.

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION

ASL interpretation is provided for all major events. These include: Opening Ceremonies, Fursuit Dance Competition, Floor Wars, and Closing Ceremonies. A limited number of ASL interpreters are available for individual assistance, but must be requested at least 2 weeks prior to the convention.

ELEVATORS

To help out our non-furry neighbors, folks not attending the convention will be offered priority at all elevators. If you need assistance, you can request priority in the elevator lines by showing your **Accessibility Wristband** to staff at the elevators.

RESTROOMS

Gender Neutral bathrooms will be available at the event. If you need assistance, ask the Accessibility Department or any Info Desk. Please note that some public toilet facilities may use binary language such as "Men" and "Women".

QUESTIONS? NEED HELP?

The Accessibility Department is located next to the Hyatt Info Desk, just before the Main Stage.

Team members are available:

Friday: 10am to 2am
Saturday: 10am to 2am
Sunday: 10am to 5pm

If you need assistance outside of these hours, please speak with someone in Operations.

Color Communication Badges!



Pick up a set at FurFest 2021 Accessibility Services

New for 2021! These Color Communication Badges can be conveniently attached to your existing convention badge to help express your communication preferences quickly and non-verbally. The badges come in a pack of two and are double sided, so you can switch to whichever color/side you want at any time! These badges were adapted from guidelines provided by the Autistic Self Advocacy Network.

A person wearing a green badge is actively seeking interaction. They may have trouble initiating conversations, but it's okay to come up and start a conversation with them. Say hello! Ask about their fursona or how their con is going!

A person wearing a yellow badge only wants to talk to people they recognize. Unless you've met this person face-to-face before, please don't start a conversation with them. If they start talking to you, you're welcome to talk back with them.

A person wearing a red badge does not want anyone to talk to them. They may approach others to talk, in which case it's okay to respond. Unless you have been told otherwise, please don't start interacting with them. They probably need some space. They could be tired, stressed, or just want to enjoy some alone time.

Use of these badges is entirely a personal choice. If you see someone wearing a yellow or red badge, please respect their wishes. If you are wearing a red or yellow badge and someone is harassing you by not respecting your boundaries, advise a FurFest staff member right away.



FURFEST DANCES



////////////////////

THURSDAY

10-11: DJ Nightfire

Electro House, Bass House

11-12: Dune

Dubstep, Bass House, DnB



12-1: Dobermann

Electro House, Bass House, Techno

1-2: Midekai

DnB, Jump Up, Halftime

////////////////////



FRIDAY

10-11: Jake Tiggy
Tech House, Bass House

11-12: Tekfox
Trap, Dubstep, Riddim, Electro,
Midtempo

12-1: Oddy
Electro House, Bass House

1-2: ♡GOJII♡
Techno, Garage, Club, Footwork,
Rave



SATURDAY

10-11: GNAW

Top-40 Remixes

11-12: Recca

Electro House, Colorful house,
Progressive House, Melodic Dubstep

12-1: Fly To The Night

Hip-Hop, Trap, House, Bass Music

1-2: KIGU BOYS

Bass Music, Hip-Hop, House



DANCES

DANCES



SUNDAY

8-9: DJ Nightkat

9-10: RoWdY Razz-Katt
All that is Funky

10-11: DragonBoy
Breaks

11-12: Dox Drakes
Bass House, Breaks, Speed House, Trap

12-1: DJ Chieh
DnB, Bass House



WELCOME TO SCHED

A major challenge conventions face is a highly complex schedule that due to unforeseen circumstances panels may change times, change rooms or unfortunately be cancelled. The way we keep our attendees informed is through Sched.

Sched can function both on the web or through an app on your phone to keep you up to date with all the events of the weekend, but it can also do a few tricks if you are interested in getting it's full experience!



[Android Sched App](#)



[iPhone Sched App](#)



[Sched Website](#)

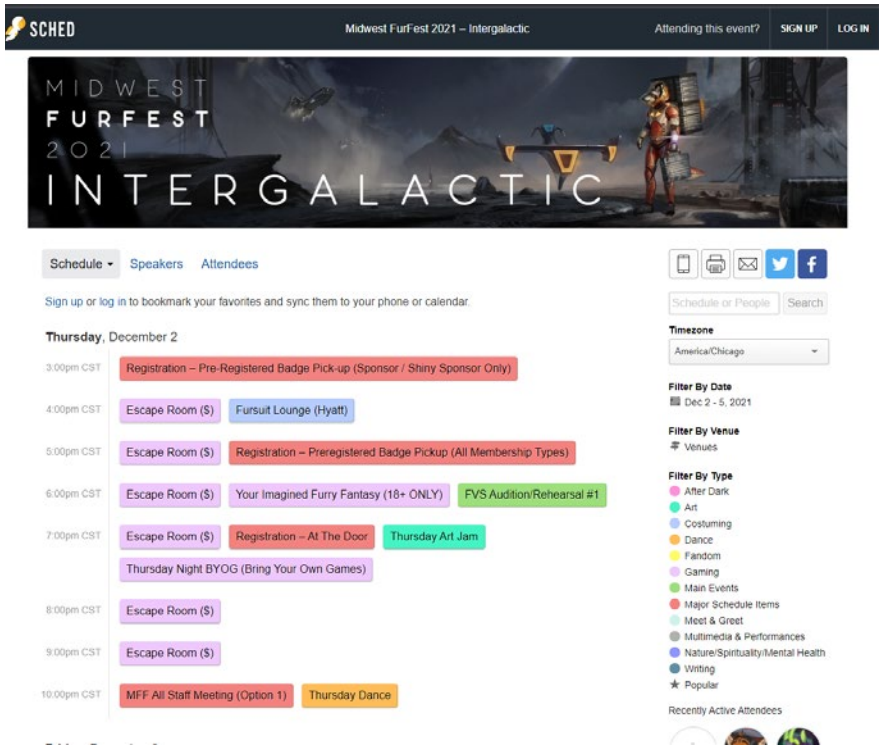


Sched
Sched LLC

Uninstall

Open

<https://mff2021.sched.com/>



Use the next pages to find panels you like, then click on their titles to jump directly to their sched link to find their most up to date locations and times!

FURFEST FURFEST

OPENING/CLOSING CEREMONIES FURRY VARIETY SHOW

A tradition for Midwest Furfest, come join us as we kick off the convention for the weekend! Learn a bit about the con from your Board of Directors and prepare for a weekend of fun!

At the end of the weekend we will come back together to recap the festivities bring up our charity to see how we helped them out.

Opening Ceremonies : [Main Stage / Hyatt Grand Ballroom: 11am Friday](#)

Closing Ceremonies: [Main Stage / Hyatt Grand Ballroom: 5pm Sunday](#)



Attend or Participate!

Want to watch fellow furs display their talents? Come to the FVS!

OR

Are you a fursuiter with a sketch or a song you'd like to perform to? Have you written a comedy sketch and want to see it come to life on stage? Are you musically inclined, do Flow Arts (Silks, Lyra, Poi, Acrobatics), or do you just have a special talent you want to show off? Then we want YOU to join the Furry Variety Show at Midwest Furfest!

The Furry Variety Show is a stage show consisting of independent acts performed by furry fans just like you! The fandom has an amazing breadth of talent and we want to showcase these talents as Vaudeville acts that are short and entertaining. See the web page for more details.



FURFEST

MAIN EVENTS



Charity Auction Mirko, MCP Rescue + Outreach

We've amassed a veritable hoard of artworks, commissions, gifts, curios, knickknacks, doodads, geegaws, baubles, bibelots, gimcracks, foofoos, wingwongs...you get it. Don't just watch furries bid for valuable...stuff, get in the action and help MCP Rescue + Outreach help the pibbles! Who knows what valuables you'll proudly pack for home. No FOMO! Get those credit

Floor Wars Last Fur One Crew

Floor Wars is back again for it's next installment with a new twist! Come enjoy one of the biggest events in the fandom and witness so incredible dancers battle it out to claim the top spot! Whether you're a dancer or a spectator this panel is sure to be a blast!

cards and check-books (wait, who still brings checkbooks?) ready!

Charity Whose Lion is it Anyway? Alkali, Draggor, Pandez

Come out and see some of the silliest people in the fandom performing in Improv games. This 100% off the cuff event will go to support our charity, so come one come all and see some of your favorite funny furs make fools of themselves. As with any Improv event, audience participation is bound to happen.

Furry Variety Show Robert King

Want to watch fellow furs display their talents? Come to the FVS!

The Furry Variety Show is a stage show consisting of independent acts performed by furry fans just like you! The fandom has an amazing selection of talents and we will showcase these as Vaudeville acts that are short and entertaining.

Master of Ceremonies: Socks

Fursuit Dance Competition

The time has come to see who's got the best moves and who can shake their tails the best! All attendees are welcome to come witness the finalists of MFF's Annual Fursuit Dance Competition show off their performances for dance supremacy to determine who will be declared this year's best fursuit dancers!

FVS Audition/Rehearsal #1 & #2 Robert King

The Furry Variety Show (FVS) is a cooperative short act show. This is the first audition and non-technical rehearsal. If you want to be in the show, you need to attend one of these.

This event is for performers and their assistants.

Neo-Futurists: The Infinite Wrench (18+ ONLY) Neo-Futurists

We are proud to welcome back one of the most talked-about events from last year's Midwest FurFest. The NeoFuturists are one of the most innovative theater groups in Chicago, and are the creators of the long-running play 'Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind'. 'The Infinite Wrench' is a rollicking, exciting, hilarious, thought-provoking, and at times interactive attempt to perform 30 plays in 60 minutes. The NeoFuturists will be preparing a performance specially tailored to Midwest FurFest and furry fandom; you don't want to miss it!

18+ ONLY. ID REQUIRED TO ATTEND

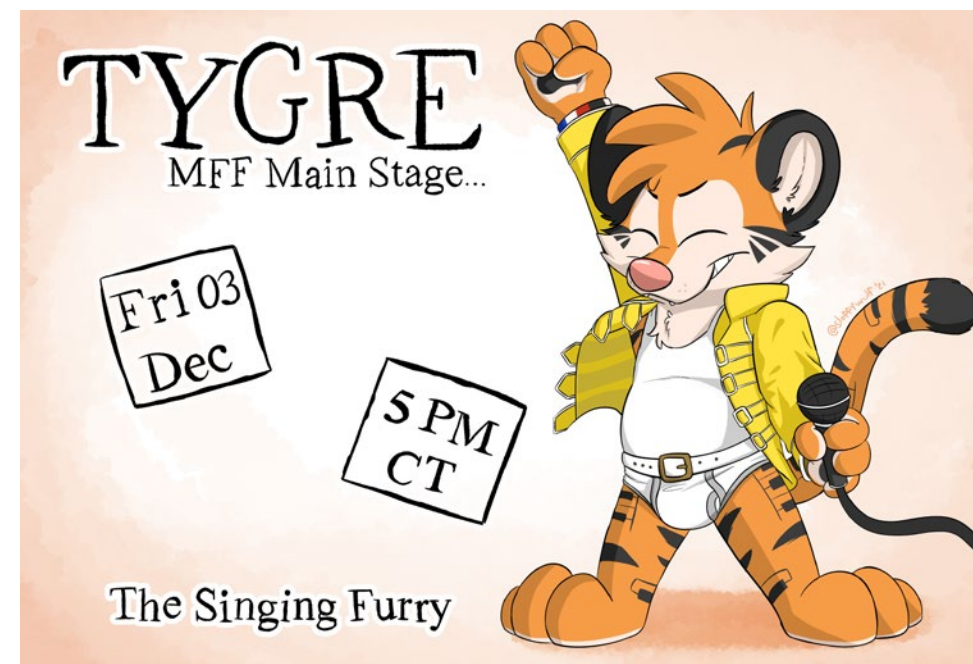
Shiny Sponsor Reception - First Mission/Second Mission

Midwest FurFest is pleased to welcome our Super Shiny Sponsors to a special reception in Ventanas, the breathtaking venue at the very top of the Hyatt! Meet this year's Guests of Honor, enjoy a drink and a light snack, and mingle with your fellow Shiny Sponsors.

To get to Ventanas, press the button marked 'V' on any Lobby elevator.

Trio Menagerie: Underated Classical Masters Trio Menagerie, Rory, Shost Dergon, Herr Wozzeck

Trio Menagerie returns to you live at MFF! Back at MFF, where it started, this trio of classical musicians that met through the furry fandom comes together to bring you their latest album featuring newly composed work from professionally working furry composers! This fandom has so much depth and so much to give, and we can't wait to show you what it's capable of!



Tygre, the Singing Furry Live! Tygre

I am a singer/songwriter with decades of experience and a background in professional performance of all types. I am now a fulltime content creator and I perform concerts on stream weekly. I sing originals and covers that will always get people shaking their booties and vibing to nostalgia.



FURFEST ART PANELS

Anatomy IO! Anarchy

Breaking down basics for anatomy! Bodies, poses, wings, hands, paws & more!

Collaboration Confuzilcation: A Furry Art Jam! Joe Strike

Can you draw, doodle or scribble? Are you quick-witted? Play well with others? Then join the Collaboration Confuzilcation!

Here's how it works: every player will receive a formatted, 4-panel sheet of paper; a word will be chosen at random and each player will have twelve minutes to draw a picture in the first panel based on that word.

THEN everyone passes their paper to the next person...a new word is selected and that person draws a picture in the next panel based on the new word...that also continues the story started in the previous panel! The challenge: each panel has to continue the previous panel's story - while drawing a picture based on the new word at the same time!

The process is repeated for the third and fourth panels, until the page is filled with a masterpiece of collaborative creativity (and weirdness!)

We'll supply that formatted drawing paper, but please bring your own pens,

pencils and erasers. Participation is limited to the first 36 people to arrive, but everyone is welcome to stay and observe.

Cutthroat Artist bcbreakaway

Four talented artists will compete in surprise, timed challenges and each round, one artist will be eliminated only we have a winner. The twist? Artists can bid on sabotages that they can unleash on their competitors in an effort to slow them down. Come watch and you may be selected to be the subject for our artists!

Scheduled to compete: Dingorooz, Koidel Coyote, Paco Panda & Mahrkale!

Drawing Adult Anatomy (18+ ONLY) Anarchy

Basics and draw-alongs for NSFW body drawings!

18+ ONLY. ID REQUIRED TO ATTEND.

General Auction for Art Show

What to do if lots people really want a particular piece of art from the art show? Hold an Auction of course! If any piece in the main Art Show fills all

eight slots of it's bid sheet, it will go to the Art Auction, and that's where the fun begins. A fast paced voice auction led by our fabulous team of Auctioneers, entertaining even if you're not bidding on art... but you really should cause you know, Art! - Open to All -

Hotel Key Card Trade N Swap MFF Swag Collectors

Come trade your hotel specific MFF key cards to complete your collection. We have cards from previous years as well!

How to 3D Scan Yourself Freeborn

Learn how to 3D scan yourself! Great for 3D printing, avatar creation, art, reference and more. All you need is a camera, computer and patience!

Introduction to Balloon Animals Tokoz

Learn how to make simple shapes with balloons. All materials provided.

Allergy note: Balloons are made from latex rubber.

Mature Auction for Art Show (18+ ONLY)

The art from the Mature Section of the Art Show that has achieved EIGHT bids, will move to this later night auction, and we'll see who can bid the highest and takes the pieces home. The auctioneers will be having fun and won't be shy, so the event will be ages 18+.

18+ ONLY. ID REQUIRED TO ATTEND.

Needle Felting: An Introduction to the Gentle Art of Stabbing Wolfie of My Arm Can Fly

Are you curious about needle felt-

ing? A little scared of needle felting? Come find out what it's all about! In this presentation a stabbing aficionado will share a mix of inspiration and technical info to help demystify this fascinating fiber art. There will be videos, sculptures to touch, and photos of sheep! What more could you want? Bring your curiosity, but don't worry aboWwut the safety of your fingers - this is NOT a live demo or class.

So You Want to be a Con Artist? Inanimorphs

Artists want to learn how to be a dealer at cons or improve your game? Join us as we discuss a myriad of topics on making a profession from convention vending from: networking, approaching different application processes,

the psychology behind booth display, traveling with your wares, what items sell, tax deductions, and more.

Thursday Art Jam

Your Commissioner and You: An Introduction to Transactions AzzyDrawsStuff, BlissfulHatred, Mafty, RisqueRaptor

In this panel, we go over the do's and don'ts of being an artist and a commissioner in the modern age. We will cover the basics of conduct and ethics to help artists and commissioners work together and try to help everyone get over the initial hurdles they may find in the process.



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FUR FEST FANDOM PANELS

20th Century Furry Publications Show and Tell Summercat

See and browse rare (these days anyway) old comics and zines from the 80s through the early 2000s, a curated collection from the Furry Library

Accounting for Fluffy Businesses Nico the Tanuki, CPA

Running a small business inside or outside of the fandom and left not knowing how to track revenue & expenses while preparing for tax filings? Come on in! We'll walk through tips and tricks to help prepare for tax time while also providing you with additional information throughout the year. This information will help you focus on running your business and not spending all of your time lost in the numbers.

Anthrocast Podcast Kobold Northcote, Odin Wolf

Howdy and welcome to the Anthrocast Podcast: a furry podcast run by none other than Odin Wolf and Kobold Northcote. Covering everything from convention disasters, weekly fandom news, and much lighter topics like BEASTARS and Zootopia, we cover and talk about it all! We had a blast at IndyFurCon 2021 with full attendance, so grab a seat early to make sure you can be here for all the shenanigans!

Beastmen, The Other Furry Fandom Justin the Cheetah

An in depth look at the Asian / pacific island / Kemono furry Fandom. A group of over half a million furs the West rarely interacts with. Celebrating their artists and explaining the cultural differences from country to country.

Charity Dance Workshop - Prototype Teaches Robotics and Animation! Prototype

Would you like to learn from one the of very talented Chicago dancers joining us as a guest judge for Floor Wars and the Fursuit Dance Competition? You can! To sign up for the charity dance workshop, stop by the Charity and make a minimum donation of \$10, and ask to sign up. You will be provided with a ticket that will allow you into the class. There will be limited availability, so don't delay!

Sign-ups may be available at the door, but this won't be on dancer time! Make sure to show up on-time!

Alex "Prototype" Malblanc has been a popper and animator since 2012. He is one of the founders of Shadow Puppetz, a Chicago based popping crew dedicated to spreading the dance, culture, and creativity. His workshop will be on robotics and animation.

Convention History - Form WorldCon to Online Cons Inanimorphs

Come learn the 80 year history of the convention scene from Worldcon all the way to the online events of the pandemic era. We break down major events in the con running scene from the introduction of filk to the influence of room parties on creating furry and anime cons. How did Comic Con get so big, and how influential were trekkies and bronies in the con scene? All this and more in a special preview of the Convention History book.

Floor Wars Qualifiers Last Fur One Crew

This event is NOT open to the public. All dancers and teams that have signed up online must participate in the Qualifier event to see who makes it to the main event on Saturday evening. Make sure you're on time, have everything you need, and get ready to battle!

Freedom of Form: Make It Real Zennith, Keiro

The Freedom of Form Foundation is working to support, undertake, and popularize scientific research that will enable freedom of one's physical form – biotech for self-expression. We're rising to the challenge, and our

outreach and research activities are already having a big impact.

We've talked with Anders Sandberg, Hugh Herr, Master Tailer, Liz Parrish, Max More, and other key opinion leaders (check out those interviews on our YouTube!). And, we've been hitting the gas pedal on research projects as well. Our 3D Anatomy project, Integument Review project, and others are getting strategically valuable results. We're excited to share our most recent updates with you.

Join us to hear what we've been up to, see where we're going next, and give your input as well. We want to hear your feedback and ideas!

Furry Lawyers' Horror Stories and Furry Businesses Syn

Never let someone else's crisis go to waste. Furry lawyers tell stories and use them to talk about issues furries should consider when they want to go into business.

Fursuit Dance Competition Prelims #1 and #2 Xepher Sicarius

This event is CLOSED to the public. Are you the best dancer in the fandom? Do you have it takes to shake a tail feather? Come prove that you've got the moves to take you to the top of MFF's Annual Fursuit Dance Competition! Fursuiters/dancers will compete against one another for a chance to perform on the main ballroom's stage at the Finals!

History of Armor and Shields Arabian Knight Armory, Adante McCoy, Alexa Cruz

From classical age Greeks to the 16th century Lanschnekt, learn all about the evolution of armor!

Intro to Sword Dueling Arabian Knight Armory

Have you ever wanted to learn how to really swordfight? We can teach you some sword and shield, rapier, greatsword, and even dual wielding!

Marten Microbiology Chise

Chise is a Senior Scientist specializing in Vaccine Development. With over 10+ years of education and experience she is here to answer all your questions related to health, science, and most of all VIRUSES and VACCINES!

Meet the Charity Mirko, MCP Rescue + Outreach

Join the volunteers of MCP Rescue + Outreach and hear about our charity's efforts to rescue and house misunderstood dogs in the Chicago area. MCP has saved hundreds of pitbulls and other breeds and mixes since 2016, and it takes resources to keep meeting the need for rescue, and you can help this weekend! MCP is also trying to establish and grow bonds between dogs and urban youth. You'll get to meet a few of their doggos as well!

Meet The Guests of Honor Geemo, Lynette Eklund, Kory Bing, Stuffed Panda Studios

Join us for a lively and entertaining Q&A session with this year's Guests of Honor! Lynette Eklund is a costume maker and special effects artist with over 30 years of experience working in movies and TV. Kory Bing is a comic artist and illustrator who loves dinosaurs, cryptids, and such. Her award-winning web comic Skin Deep explores a world of mythical creatures living in modern times. Rachael Bock is the creative force behind Stuffed Panda Studios. She is a costume maker and artist who specializes in

designing and building fursuits for toony and whimsical characters.

North American Cryptids with GOH Kory Bing Kory Bing

Join GOH Kory Bing as she discusses cryptids & magical creatures! Topics will include the origins and lore of different beings, where they live, biology, diet, and other fun facts!

Transformation with Mythimorph and Inanimorphs Inanimorphs

Join TF artists Mythimorph (Andraconix) and historian Inanimorphs (TransformARTive) as they discuss the topic of transformation. From a history of shapeshifting in art and fiction to the modern furry fandom, learn the diverse interests of why one likes transformations into powerful dragons the other likes transformation into inanimate objects.

Who Wants to Be a Voice Actor? TimberPuppers, Malcolm (Zeke)

From Bugs Bunny and the Warner Siblings, all the way to Legoshi and Bluey, anthropomorphic characters have been talking to us for our entire lives. Want to know more about the magic that goes into bringing these characters to life? Come join Timberpuppers and Malcolm (Zeke) for an hour of voice acting fun! The panel will begin with a Q&A session where you can ask any questions you'd like about anything related to voice acting! Then you can come up and take a crack at voice acting yourself, and read professionally written scripts featuring anthropomorphic characters!"

MEET & GREET

Around the Fur

Furry talk

Furry debate for furry topics

Aviation Furies

Toby SnowWolf

A discussion and panel for all those working in, or interested in, aviation.

BIPOC Fur Meetup

Blair

A meetup primarily around furs of color that anyone can participate in.

Colorado Furs Meet & Greet

Riley Winters

Doesn't it seem like every furry is moving to Colorado all the sudden? Well come meet all the locals from natives to those who just moved yesterday! Then join us for the 4th annual CO furs at MFF group photo!

DailyHyena's Yeen Meet & Greet

Snacks the Hyena, SiggYena

Want to meet cute spotty & stripey yeens and at MFF??? Come join the cackle congregation!

Mingle with hyenas of all varieties and meet the creator of DailyHyenas! All hyenas and hyena fans are welcome.

DEFCON Furs Rendezvous

Ginji Terrano

Have you ever made something work in a way that normally wouldn't occur to others? DEF CON is a gathering that celebrates this out of the box thinking and DEFCON Furs adds some tails to the mix. Learn a bit about DEF CON and its relation to both physical and virtual security; its history; and how DEFCON Furs came to be, what its mission is, and how to get involved. Afterwards stick around to boop some snoots, network, and show off your projects.

Enamel Pin Trading Post

Fursona Pins

Come swap enamel pins with other convention attendees! Don't have any pins? No problem! Grab your first pin here and start trading!

Feline Meet & Greet

Vaska

A gathering of all the felines. Come join and meet your favorite cat!

Furry Kids and Teens Meetup

Supermom

This meetup is for all kids and teens that enjoy the fandom, whether they fursuit or not. Come hang out with people that have similar interests and make some new friends! Parents are also welcome to attend, meet other parents and learn more about the fandom.

Furry Streamer Meet & Greet

MercyGRID

Interested in streaming or already do? Come meet others just like you and gain valuable tips, tricks, and insights into the world of Live-Streaming!

Furtrack (Fursuit Photography) Meetup

Sora

Furtrack.com is a photographer-oriented fursuit photo gallery website with a powerful tagging and searching system so everyone can track down their fursuit photos easier.

Ever fursuited but never found all those pictures taken at the con? Or accumulated hundreds of fursuit pictures but struggle to sort, identify and share them with their fursuiters and friends? That's what Furtrack is here to solve!

This is a meetup for our small but growing community to get together and talk about the site, fursuit photography and anything else.

We may adjourn to run around taking fursuit photos, bring your camera and/or fursuit!

G-Shep Meet and Greet

Blaze Shepherd, Cobalt Wusky

Gsheps come and meet, greet, chill, and get together for a group photo!

Inflatables Meet & Greet

Ipequey

Come bring and inflate your toys! Meet other people into the world of inflatables. Fursuiters encouraged to attend and get their pictures on the big animal toys!

Micro/Macro Meet Up

Equus Silvermane

Attention creatures of all shapes and sizes! Join us for a one-hour social event for the biggest and smallest folks in the fandom. Whether you're a giant wolf, a tiny tiger, huge hooper, or an enormous eel, you belong here!

Military Furs

Energize

For all branches of the military from every Nation come on down and tell your story of what crazy thing you have seen happen that you know only we could understand.

O. Canada (A meet up. eh!)

bcbreakaway, Tiggs

It's a meetup of those of us who hail from "America's Hat" aka "The Great White North" aka Canada! And, of course you know we'll be sorry that there will be so much awesomeness in one room. All are welcome, but Canadians will be revered! (Well, appreciated, at least.)

Otters, Ferrets, Weasels, Skunks, and Badgers Meetup

Summecat

A meetup of mustelids - otters, ferrets, skunks, weasels, badgers, martens, and all sorts of Slinkies and Stinkies (the panel name we self-rejected).

Sneak Peeks : A Sneaker Panel

Ringer & Friends

A look at the shoes that shaped 2021 (for better or worse). We'll also delve into the ins and outs and ups and downs of sneaker culture so whether you're submerged in shoeboxes or have yet to pick up your first pair, you're welcome here!

Sober/Teetotal Furs Meetup

Nikolai

If drinking isn't part of your lifestyle, come meet and support other alcohol-free furries.

Theme Park Furs Meet & Greet

EmberRoseLion

Are you an avid thrill seeker or a fan of building your own theme parks? This panel is for you! Come meet your fellow theme park furs who share the same passions as you for theme park rides, attractions, and more!

TikTok MFF Meetup!

Battle

Want to meet some of the biggest Furry Tiktokers around? Come to the MFF TikTok panel! We'll be having a meet and greets with our panelists, giving tips on how to grow your audience, finding what content works best for you, and doing a Q&A!

TN Furs Meet and Greet

Clementine

This is a Meet and Greet for all Furs in and around TN! All are welcome!

Transformation (TF) Meet & Greet

Zilepo

Curious about transformation and the TF Fandom more broadly? Well established and wanting to meet old or new TF friends? Head on down to the TF Meet and Greet to meet like-minded transformation fans and chat with people who share your unique sub-interest(s), or bounce between different groups and get exposed to some fresh new ideas! TF triggers may or may not be included with the panel.

Trash Animals Meetup, The 2nd One

MarbleSoup

The panel is back this year, come all trashy friends and scavengers, possums, rats, raccoons, bats and more. Meet and greet, folks, make friends, hookups, whatever. I made this panel mainly so uncommon species can meet others with similar interests, so just hang out, chill, and have fun.

VRChat IRL Meet & Greet

Sora

Meetup space for VRChat furs & creators to link up with their homies irl. Free for all mingling with short intros/shoutouts/announces. Colliders enabled, bring your own mirror.

FURFEST COSTUMING

Airbrushing & Dry Brushing with GOH Stuffed Panda Studios

Stuffed Panda Studios

Join Guest of Honor Rachael Bock with Stuffed Panda Studios as she discusses the airbrushing and dry brushing techniques she uses when building fursuits and costumes.

Behind-The-Scenes - Movie Magic with GOH Lynette Eklund

Lynette Eklund

Join our Guest of Honor Lynette Eklund as she shares a rare glimpse of what it's like to work in Hollywood as a professional costume designer and visual effects artist! She has nearly 40 years experience in the craft and credits on more than 50 movies and commercials. Her amazing career has included designing toys, puppets, collectables, building promotional walkaround suits, and yes, fursuits too!

Bringing Your Fursuit To Life - Acting!

Cy

Acting in fursuit is all about bringing your character to life for a viewer. Let's dig into different character traits and discuss how we can bring our fursuit characters to life when we act in them!

Costume Building 101

CosmellCosplay

Costume Building 101 is just what it sounds like, that basics of all costume building! We will be going over material like fursuits, cosplay, basic sewing, fabric, and other materials! This is a great chance for costume masters, and beginners, to all sit down and relearn our basics!

Designing Characters for Fursuits with GOH Stuffed Panda Studios

Stuffed Panda Studios

Join Guest of Honor Rachael Bock of Stuffed Panda Studios, as she discusses how to design characters with costume-making in mind. Topics will include creating reference sheets, color theory, markings, fur lengths, fabric and materials, construction techniques, and more!

Femme Fursuit Photo Shoot

Robert King, Angel Roberts

Do you have a feminine costume? Want our photographers to bring out your best?

Join our photo shoot for group and individual shots with a selection of poses and props. Cute and innocent, butch and powerful, curvy, round, or lithe -- all shapes, styles, and sizes are welcome. (this event is for costumers and handlers only)

From Fursona to Fursuit

Winter Nights, Dakken Pickenpaw

This panel is all about what to expect from making your own personal fursuit. This is NOT a fursuit making tutorial, but a mental preparation of what to expect before becoming a first time suitmaker.

Fursuit Charades

Victor Redtail, CCritt93, Sultz Z. Wolf

How much CAN you say, without really saying anything? Join us for all the fun and find out! Fursuiters are highly encouraged for this event!

Fursuit Games

bcbreakaway

Join a crew and be part of the Intergalactic Fursuit Games! Teams of fursuiters will compete in a series of astronomical challenges for bragging rights in the known universe. Spectators welcomed and encouraged - you may even get some free swag for being a part of the crowd!

Fursuit Making With Abzu

Abzu, torrent

Learn the basics of fursuit making with Abzu/Sibifursuits. From Fabric to foam you will be taught step by step on how to make a fursuit head.

Fursuit Photoshoot

Hyatt - La Guardia

Work that tail! Stop on by and mug for our camera, and get some wonderful fursuit pictures to remember the con by!

Check Sched for times.

Public Fursuiting 101

Sylox

Ever wanted to fursuit in public, host a fursuit outing or do both, but were unsure how to go about it? Come to this exciting (and sometimes humorous) panel and learn the ins and outs of fursuiting in public!

So You Want to Buy a Kemono Fursuit from Japan...

Nako

Do you want to get a Kemono fursuit but don't know of any options other than mochiri, Kemonokapi, and K-Line? Or maybe you are interested in Kemono suits but are concerned that the super small snouts associated with the style in the West would make it too difficult to breathe? This panel will go over various Japanese makers and their styles, which ones know English, and how you can get that kemono fursuit of your dreams.

Your Body Is Your Character with GOH Lynette Eklund

Lynette Eklund

Guest of Honor Lynette Eklund shares her creative process and techniques for translating a character into a costume. Join us for a unique workshop and Q&A session with our Guest of Honor as she demonstrates how to take ideas and bring them to life in the real world! The event will feature examples of working with concept art and profile pictures, planning, articulation, materials, and more. Recommended for fursuit makers and commissioners alike!

September 1-5, 2022
Hyatt Regency Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

GUESTS OF HONOR


AUTHOR GUEST OF HONOR
CHARLES DE LINT


ARTIST GUEST OF HONOR
FLOYD NORMAN


GUEST OF HONOR
ERLE KORSHAK


FAN GUESTS OF HONOR
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ANNALEE NEWITZ AND CHARLIE JANE ANDERS

PROGRAMMING : COSTUMING

80

COSTUMING

81

FURFEST GAMING & PANELS

Greetings everyone from the Fungeon!

Gaming has been slightly rearranged this year due to Covid. First, the bad news. Due to the inability to safely sanitize cardboard, we have closed the lending library for this year. Don't worry there will still be plenty of space for Bring Your Own Gaming (BYOG), including a dedicated space for 18+ games. Open gaming will also not be in the international ballroom, sorta. That is part of the good news though. We also have a lot of smaller rooms set aside for roleplaying and BYOG boardgame needs. So stop by at our new Gaming Info Desk for directions. VR is also not attending this year, at least as an organized separate room. Now for the good news!

Join us for the first ever
SILVER FANG CON

A virtual celebration
of the Ginga manga
& anime series!

February 19, 2022
con.silverfang.net



First, we have moved Arcade and Video Games into the International Ballroom to give us enough room to have both of them operate safely! This has allowed us to expand a bit both in size and hours. There will also be a bunch of tables as usual for folks to lounge and play games at; it might just be louder than usual. Second, there are a lot of smaller rooms set aside for roleplaying and BYOG boardgame needs. So stop by at our new Gaming Info

Desk for directions, and we'll get to set up somewhere, and you can leave a note at our Gamers-Seeking-Gamers table. Third, we have also added a dedicated Artemis setup for this year! So you can live all of your Star Trek bridge dreams shenanigans as if you were in Lower Decks. And last but not least, Mario has a few special things for you to do this year, one of which might get your heart racing.

So visit us on the International Level for all of your convention gaming needs!.

Albedo

SteelTheWarrior

The tabletop game inspired by and dedicated to the epic, sci-fi militaristic comic universe that Steve Gallacc created, which was actually a major influence in the initial coming-together of the Furry Fandom! Does your unit have the wit, grit and spit in order to overcome the invading Independent Lapine Republic forces that have come with xenocentric means of universal domination?

Beat Saber Tournament: Prove Yourself and Slash to the Top! Zeska, Latte

Do you love Beat Saber. Do you want to test yourself against other and battle it out to the top. Do you want to experience the rush. Perfect. This tournament will be using the top of line Headsets including Valve Index and Htc Vive. We will have a backup system using Oculus Rift.

Charity Poker Tournament Snowolf

Come one, come all to the incredible Midwest FurFest Poker Tournament! Whether you're a seasoned pro or a beginner, you'll compete for bragging rights and cool prizes in No-Limit Texas Hold'em! Admission is totally free and all proceeds directly support our char-

ity! Sign-ups begin at 3:00pm and the tournament will begin at 3:30pm.

Dragonstorm - Clearing out the Cobwebs Tarant

Please help us! We need to get the spiders out of our mill so that we can resume processing grain into flour! What? Why haven't we cleared them out ourselves? We would, but these spiders are the size of horses! (Materials Provided if you don't have them already)

Escape Room (\$) Furry Logic Escape Rooms

Furry Logic LLC returns to Furfest with Cyberpunk Escape, where players seek to uncover an evil megacorp's plans in a dystopian sci fi world, but must act swiftly before they are traced... and erased! Modified from its 2020 adaptation due to COVID-19, this 40-minute game will have players' adrenaline pumping as they race against the clock to solve puzzles and complete the challenges as a team before the timer runs out. Sign up online before the convention by visiting URL <https://forms.gle/dgSMoEF-N1BBEaZmv9> - or once at the convention, check it out at the bottom floor of the Hyatt in the Narita room. Tickets are \$20 per person, all games are private games (no strangers will join!), and part of all ticket proceeds will go to the convention's charity!

Family Feud: Furry Edition Tokens

On your marks....let's start...THE FAMILY FEUD! Join us for this furry fandom themed version of the classic game show with all the sights, sound effects, and music cues of the real show! Topics range from fursuiting, to artwork, pop culture, and everything in between! Ten members of the audience who wish to participate will be selected to play for the chance to win prizes after winning in the qualifying round!

Furry Language: The Game Show! CCritt93

Let your fur do the talking! In this twist on furry charades based on TV's "Body Language," teams of two use pantomime to convey clues to furry-themed puzzles. Winners receive a small prize and play a bonus round for charity! (Fursuiters, please note that every player has to speak at some point in the game.)



Hide and Seek

Tiller
"Me: "We are going to play a hotel wide game of Hide and Seek."
You: "Haha no, really what's the panel about?"
Me: "We"
[direct eye contact]
Me: "We're going to play a hotel wide game of Hide and Seek"

Full rules and regulations will be explained when we gather and begin, but it's kind of what it says on the tin.

Ironclaw Intro Game

Tarant
Generate characters and learn how to play the current version of IronClaw Anthropomorphic Fantasy RPG! A short adventure will be run after character generation to introduce the system!

IronClaw: Breakout!

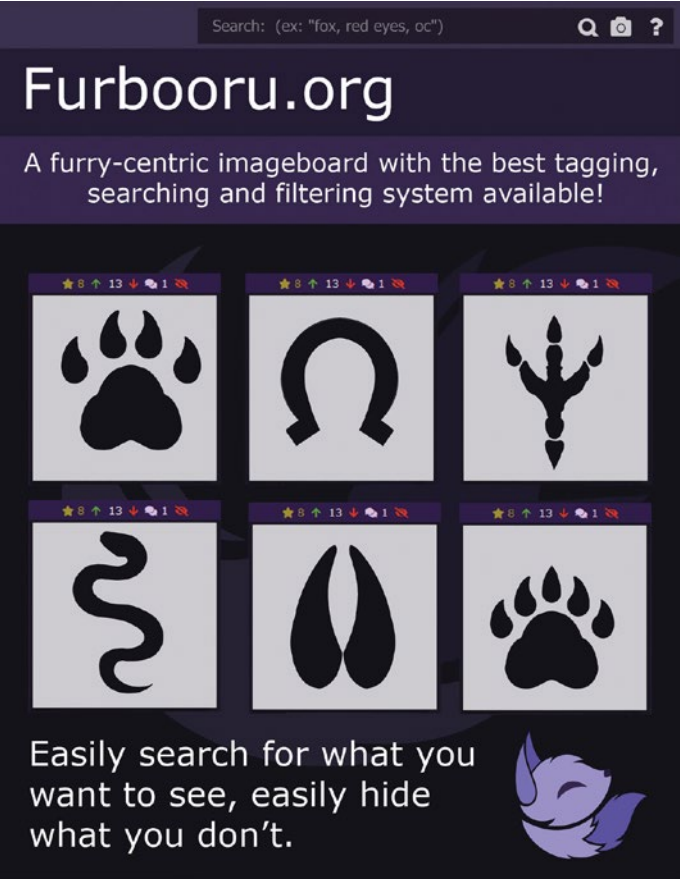
Tarant
The ruins of Sharktail Keep have stood for a long time, but it is possible that they are not totally abandoned! How is it possible that someone may be occupying the ancient fortress, and what secret could they be keeping? You've been summoned to a meeting with a mysterious figure that wants to hire you to find out these answers!

Ironclaw: The Prince's Whim 6

Tarant
Intrigue and conspiracies abound! Who could want the wonderful crown prince dead? Okay, that list is pretty long, but the latest assassination attempt may have roots within the Imperial Palace itself. Do we attack the problem head on, or shall we use a bit of subtle intrigue ourselves?

Ironclaw: Pirate Hunt

Tarant
Pirates are usually frowned upon, but it seems activity has been increasing lately. When the Guild-master of the Merchant Guild puts out a personal bounty on a particular group, however, everybody wants to get in on the hunt!



Just Dance Furs Meet- And-Greet

Nako
A panel where you can meet other Just Dance enthusiasts and enjoy playing Just Dance 2022!

Leopardy! bullsworth, rajjen

Leopardy! - A furry take on the classic TV game show. Come test

your trivia knowledge on all things furry and furry-related. Just remember to always answer in the form of a question!

Team sign-ups at <http://leopardy.games>

My Little Pony: Friendship is Ironclaw

Tarant
It's apple-bucking season, and the Apple family has an unusual problem. Their harvest is much larger than it should be! While there are certainly worse problems to have, it should be investigated to figure out what the hay is going on!

Name That RPG Tune! Sky Rune, Nikolai

Ever geek out over RPG or adventure game soundtracks? Come join your fellow game music fans for a sesh of "Name That Tune", RPG style! From

old-school to modern, from western to eastern, if you know the name of the game, you can win prizes!

Project X

SteelTheWarrior
Come test out a new Furry sci-fi game being written by SteelTheWarrior (Creator of Mass Effect: Unity, Freedom Fighters & Your Imagined Furry Fantasy) Choose from a massive assortment of species and genetic culture combinations and explore an immensely dynamic and complex new universe full of mystery, intrigue and betrayal!

VR World Development Jam

Righ, MEDS Fox
Come help us develop a zany virtual world for VRChat. Learn some Unity tips and tricks, meet fellow VR enthusiasts, and maybe win yourself a door prize! Whatever we create will be published to the VRChat servers for your hangout needs.

Your Imagined Furry Fantasy (18+ ONLY) SteelTheWarrior

This light-hearted RPG-esque system designed by SteelTheWarrior was borne of frisky fantasy, silly stories of over-the-top shenanigans and inspired by popular flash games like Corruption of Champions, Trials in Tainted Space and Flexible Survival! Gameplay gives players a different perspective on the psychology behind modern-day sexuality and taboo as they adventure in a world where just about everything is over-sexualized (including combat!) to offer silly-fun and sex-positive escapades!



FURFEST ESCAPE ROOM

Playing an Escape Room is like playing a video game, but instead of following a character on screen, you're playing in person, unlocking treasure chests and accomplishing the mission as a team before the timer runs out! Reserve a private game on the International Level of the Hyatt with the Furry Logic team - part of all ticket proceeds support the con's charity!



FURRY LOGIC
AT-EVENT ESCAPE ROOMS



See you in

Mention this ad to get a free pin wheel or sprout clip!

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FURFEST

Nature Spirituality Mental Health

Cons as a Sacred Space Gwynn, DaveQat

A sacred space is "a defined place, a space distinguished from other spaces. The rituals that a people either practice at a place or direct toward it mark its sacredness and differentiate it from other defined spaces." Furry cons can absolutely serve as a sacred space for attendees - join us for a discussion of how conventions and other gatherings of like-minded people can meet our spiritual needs of connectedness and belonging.

Emotional Support and Other Assistance Animals: It's more Complicated Than That Gwynn, Fuzzyfin

This informational panel will cover the important differences between service, therapy, and emotional support animals including where each can do and what businesses can/cannot ask about your animal.

Friends Guide to Self-Injury Gwynn

This educational panel will address what and where self-injury comes from and what friends need to know to best support their loved ones.
DISCLAIMER: This panel covers sensitive topics that are serious in nature including discussion of self-harm

Furry Psychology Theome, Fuzzyfin

Join our panel of psychologists and mental health practitioners to talk about all sorts of fun and furry topics from the lens of psychology. Come enjoy our professionally trained team's perspectives on topics such as what might motivate people to enjoy roleplaying or fursuiting, gender and sexuality, and more.

How to Avoid Anxiety At a Con Gwynn

No matter how much we love our cons they can also be stressful and anxiety producing. Come to this educational panel and learn some tricks to help you stay on top of your anxiety and not let it ruin your fun.

How to Find A Therapist Gwynn, DaveQat

This informational panel will give you the tools you need to find the therapist that is the right fit for you and your challenges as well as the knowledge to advocate for your rights as a mental health client.

In the Middle: Balancing Fandom Life and Real Life Lady Mae, Dev Mattoti

Convention life, furry life, the 9-5 grind... How do you balance it all? Come and listen to the tips, tricks, and life advice as we show you that you, too, can be a grown up and make that doctor's appointment all by yourself!

Spirit's Bounty
BOTANICALS WITH A GREATER PURPOSE

OVER 40 YEARS' EXPERIENCE USING HERBS, OILS, AND HOMEOPATHY
THE COMMITMENT FOR THE NATURAL CARE FOR OURSELVES & OUR PETS

-INSECT REPELLENT
-JOINT DISCOMFORT
-FIRST AID CREAM
-TATTOO BALM
-ANTIFUNGAL SPRAY



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Introducing Tarot Hru

You've always been curious to know about Tarot cards as a form of divination? Here's your chance to join us for our third year doing this panel. Find out what Tarot is all about and how to get started on your own.

Lost Furends and Family Fuzzyfin

Share memories and celebration of the lives of those gone before us.

The Hope Panel: What's Next? Hope Collie

The end of the con can get you down, but together, let's show you how to use MFF as the launching pad for your next big adventure!

Trauma: Facts, Myths, and Responses Gwynn, DaveQat

Trauma - believe it or not we all experience it. Come to this education panel to learn what trauma is, what the myths get wrong, and what exactly is happening in your brain during and after a traumatic incident.

Vulture Culture 72027

Come learn the ins and outs of vulture culture! Vulture culture is an online subculture and form of hobbyist taxidermy based on the collection and preservation of animal remains. It is 100% cruelty free and uses animals that died of natural causes as opposed to hunting. Learn about finding and cleaning skulls and bones,

preserving hides, taxidermy basics, pathology, and more. This panel will not show any imagery of gore.

What is Self Care and What Can It Look Like? Gwynn

Self-care is an easy to understand but can be hard to execute. Come learn what self-care is, really, in its multifaceted complexity and walk away with a better understanding of how to really take care of yourself.

Why You Need Career Counseling Orthrus Lion

How well is your job working for YOU? The average adult in the United States spends over 90,000 hours "at work" over the course of their lifetime. The only other activity we spend more total time doing is sleeping. So regardless of whether we "work to live" or "live to work", it's worth being thoughtful about how we want to spend all that time and energy. Your presenter, Orthrus (aka Ben Howard, MA, MAEd, LPC) has served as a college educator, academic advisor and career coach since 2011 and a mental health practitioner since 2018. Join us for a discussion of the career counseling process, the inclusion of values into work, and steps you can take right now to define and improve your professional direction and opportunities.



FUR F E S T

Writing

Actually Writing that (Adult) Story (18+ ONLY) Hru

You've been to panels on world-building, character development, even how to run the business side of being a writer. But now it's time to actually write a story. At this panel, we'll have an in-depth look at putting sentences together, figuring out story flow, and (by the time we're done) actually have a 3-page story done. Learn the craft by doing the craft.

18+ ONLY. ID REQUIRED TO ENTER

Characters and Relationships KC Alpinus, NightEyes

Characters are arguably the most important element to any story. What makes characters believable, memorable, and compelling? A big part of any characters is the relationships they have with other characters. Come join us as we discuss what makes good characters and relationships.

From "Nation" to "Planet:" Writing the "Furry Nation" Sequel Joe Strike

Joe Strike is a certified greymuzzle. He's been part of the Furry community since 1988 when he received a surprise invitation

to the very first east coast furry party.

After watching our subculture spread across the world, Joe wrote "Furry Nation," his 2017 account of Furry's birth, its earliest days and the first generation of furs who made it all happen.

Since then our community has grown ever larger; every day more and more people across the globe realize their furriness and launch their own conventions. With more Furry in the world than ever before, Joe is in the midst of writing "Furry Planet," scheduled for a 2022 release by Apollo Publishers.

Joe will describe the challenge of documenting our dynamic community, reaching people who have brought Furry to their own country, and the hurdles and rewards they faced along the way. "Planet" will also examine aspects of Furry overlooked in "Furry Nation:" furry authors, entrepreneurs and therians, as well as the increasing presence of anthropomorphism in popular and high culture, from superhero films to performance art. (Attendees are welcome to suggest additional topics for "Furry Planet" to explore.)

Let's Write a Terrible Story! Gre7g

Award-winning author Gre7g Luterman teaches you good writing technique by showcasing bad writing examples.

Making Furry Relevant: Not Humans in Fursuits Ocean Tigrox, Mwalimu

Making the animal nature of your

characters relevant so that they aren't just "humans in fursuits".

Plot and Conflict Joshiah, Hru

No matter how good your characters are, you'll need interesting things for them to do, or events they must react to. What makes for a compelling, perhaps riveting plot? One of the key elements in any plot is conflict. In this panel we discuss some of the different plots and types of conflict that can drive a story and keep your readers wondering what happens next.

Scene and Story Structure Ryan Campbell, Hru

Ever had a story idea in which you knew where you wanted to go but not how to get there? Or you have some pieces but aren't sure how they fit together? Or maybe it's a question of keeping the reader interested along the way. This panel will cover approaches to structuring your story, concepts like scene and sequel, pacing, and how to get elements of a story to fit together well.

Science Fiction NightEyes, Ocean Tigrox

Intergalactic furies have stories to tell, stories of space, technology, and time travel. There are many worlds to explore and to play in as we create

our stories, whether they be epic quests filled with wonder, exploring uncharted places, or clawing out an existence in a dystopian wasteland. Come sit with us as we discuss how to weave tales of science fiction.

Setting and World Building Robert Baird, Ryan Campbell

Stories can take place in a lot of different places and time periods, whether it's someplace in our modern world, a setting from our history, a futuristic alien society, or a magical world of fantasy. Join us as we discuss the possibilities and the pitfalls, the challenges and rewards of creating or choosing a setting where your characters live and their stories play out.

What It Takes to Write: Process, Discipline, and Lifestyle NightEyes, Joshiah

Writing can be very rewarding, but it takes time and discipline. How often have you heard someone say they can't find the time to write, or can't get their mind working in the right direction? As with any worthwhile goal, there are obstacles to be overcome and processes to be learned. In this panel we talk about how writers write, and the writer's lifestyle.

Writers Meet & Greet mwalimu

Writers and fans of furry literature, you are not alone! Come to the Meet & Greet where you'll have the chance to say hello and introduce yourself to other writers in the fandom. Perhaps you'll even meet a favorite author.

Writing 101 mwalimu, Gre7g

We all start somewhere, and it's no different for writing. Whether you hope to one day write the Great American Furry Novel, or just want to do better at the stories you share with friends, come and learn some of the basics of good storytelling and some of the pitfalls and common beginner mistakes to avoid.

Writing Erotica (18+ ONLY) Robert Baird, Joshiah

After dark is the time to turn up the heat in your story! In this panel we discuss adult writing, covering not only the basics, but also such matters as the difference between romance, erotica, and porn, how much detail to provide and how to pace your scenes, and how these enticing elements can work together with the plot, characterization, and setting.

Writing Transformation Smut (18+ ONLY) Summercat

Summercat shares his thoughts on different approaches towards writing transformation erotica and will convince the audience to do the same.

18+ ONLY. ID REQUIRED TO ATTEND.

Entangled Oaths

A dystopian sci-fi novel.



Read the first 3 chapters for free!

kindle vella

Katherine L.E. White

The battle between the wealthy and poor in Cago is escalating.

With the hybrid population of the ghetto demanding their place among the purebred, noble drought horse Davin Wainsporth finds himself conflicted as the city's Chief Diversity Officer.

For years, reindeer-canine hybrid Elke Sitorus has thwarted his efforts in keeping status quo for the ruthless governance of the C-Suite. As more citizens side with the hybrid resistance, can he stop change?

If he can, the bigger question is should he?

FURFEST

Multimedia/Performance

Budget Record Night (During the Day!) Tiller, Isaac/Marlowe

Isaac/Marlowe and Tiller, two professional improvisers from Chicago, buy budget records for \$1 that they've never heard of, then play them and find out what they got! We all get to learn some new music- and ABOUT some new artists- also jokes! It's the popular twitch show, but in real life!

Cassidy Civet in Concert! Cassidy Civet

Come join Cassidy Civet as she sings you some of her original furry music LIVE for the first time at MFF! Hot off the heels of her concert at BLFC, she's ready to make the MFF stage her own! All her music can be found online and she even has CDs out! Support the fandom's music scene and come on out!

Convention War Stories Alkali, Pandez, Woody

Come out and see what happens behind the closed doors of conventions. Sit back and listen to the stories that you were never meant to find out about from our panel of convention staff and board members. Enjoy the stories and find out why that cop was shaking his head well laughing.

Copey Reanimated Live Copey

Furraoke! wolfe_guardian

Come sing, yip, and howl with your fellow furs into the early hours!

Furry at the Opera Herr Wozzeck

We've all known that anthropomorphic elements have always been present in films, books, and TV for a long while, but what about opera? Come along with Herr Wozzeck as he takes you on a journey through anthropomorphism in opera, and the many forms it takes!

How To Make A Terrible Furry Business PK, Glitch, Vince

This is a comedy and entertainment panel where we will be putting together a terrible furry business idea, or multiple ideas. This is not a panel to educate people on how to actually start a business, rather it is to jokingly create a terrible business, for example, a furry pyramid scheme, or a website where people can pay for art via exposure. Over the top ideas.

Indie's Animation: Film Scoring IndieTimber

This panel will discuss about how to make background musics for films and videos.

Keyotter and Friends LIVE! Video Game Music Concert Key

Catch this live performance of music from your favorite video games! Featuring musicians Key the Otter on accordion, Rhubarb the Nidorino on violin and Cornel the Otter on trombone (lots of otts!). So kick back, put your paws up and get ready for video game music jams!

K-POP Random Dance! Bubbles

Want to join other K-POP fans in the furry community? We will be playing some of the biggest hits in K-POP and open the floor to you guys to shake some tail! Rules are easy: Jump in if you know the song and DANCE. If you don't know it just vibe with us! (in or out of fursuit)

Open Mic & Comedy Basics Alkali

Have a stand-up routine you want to try out? Want to tell a story you think will give us a chuckle? Come try it out at MFF Open Mic! One could not ask for a friendlier atmosphere. After your act, be ready to receive some helpful good natured critiques from the panel hosts. All performers are limited to 3 to 5 minuet sets depending on the panel turn out.

Original "Whose Lion is it Anyway?" (18+ ONLY) Alkali, Draggor

Based off the popular TV show "Whose Line is it Anyway," this is everyone's chance to get up on stage and improvise with their fellow furs! A completely interactive panel, Whose Lion will feature such games as: Questions Only, Who's Line, Party Quirks, and even World's Worst. Hosted by Alkali, this panel is sure to be a good time for all; so come on out, get up on stage, and show everyone how quick your wit is. Panel is 18+, and may not be suitable for minors. People with a heart condition should not have a heart attack during this panel as we will think you are acting. Panel has been known to cause uproarious laughter, fits of giggling, and diarrhea. Panel has been modified to be a more Covid safe atmosphere. See you there!

18+ ONLY. ID REQUIRED TO ATTEND.

Peter Griffin Explains The Joke For An Hour PK

A comedy panel in which the panel hosts comedically over-explain a simple joke, going into insanely great detail for an hour. For example, if the joke involves avocados, the panel hosts will explain the country of origin of avocados, the green color of avocados, and how the color green is mixed using paint, etc. This will be similar in style to lasagnacat's 07/27/1978 video on YouTube.

Skyla Silverstream Tunes BigBlueShiba

Just some enjoyable music from the one and only Skyla!

The 3 Headed Monster Alkali, Xanni the Blue, Pandez

Three 20 minute stand up shows combined into one! The Three Headed Monster is back once again to prove to themselves that stage fright can be overcome by persistence, practice, and tequila.

Trio Menagerie : Furry Classical Masters Trio Menagerie, Rory, Shost Dergon, Herr Wozzeck

Trio Menagerie returns to you live at MFF! Back at MFF, where it started, this trio of classical musicians that met through the furry fandom comes together to bring you their latest album featuring newly composed work from professionally working furry composers! This fandom has so much depth and so much to give, and we can't wait to show you what it's capable of!

Trio Menagerie : Nerdy Music for Nerds Trio Menagerie, Rory, Shost Dergon, Herr Wozzeck

Trio Menagerie returns to you live at MFF! Back at MFF, where it started, this trio of classical musicians that met through the furry fandom comes together to bring you their album Nerdy Music for Nerds. Come see our celebration of music from films, video games, and TV with a classical twist, with some new arrangements yet to be performed!

Xanni & Alkali Present: The Dragget Show Live Alkali, Xanni the Blue

Join Xanni the Dragon, Alkali the Ferret, and a special guest or two. These guys record a podcast LIVE at MFF! Come watch as they talk about anything and everything and nothing.



**PLEASE DON'T MAKE
ME INTO AN AD AT
MIDWEST FURFEST
-HUND THE HOUND-**

PAID FOR BY STAR RACCOON

FURFEST

After Dark

Baby Fur Meet & Greet (18+ ONLY)

Alex Radioactive, Citrine Husky

A meet and greet for cubs, baby furs, kid furs and those who are curious about them. General discussion and Q & A about the subculture of this part of the fandom.

18+ ONLY. ID REQUIRED TO ENTER

Care and Feeding of Shiny Critters (18+ ONLY)

Archer Wolf, Stormy Kittyhawk

Have you seen a shiny critter at a con or noticed an unusually glossy dragon online and wondered how you could become one yourself? Join us to learn the basics of obtaining and maintaining latex critter suits. We will cover health concerns involved with latex, how to create a unique character on every budget, how to make your suit last, and some recommendations for being shiny in public and at the con.

18+ ONLY. ID REQUIRED TO ATTEND

Kink Discussion Panel (18+ ONLY)

Stormy Kittyhawk, Toby Snow Wolf

A place to ask questions and discuss various ethical kinks in a safe and non judgmental environment. All experience levels and identities are welcome. This panel is discussion only

but will have some demos.

18+ ONLY. ID REQUIRED TO ATTEND.

Leopardy! After Dark (18+ ONLY)

bullsworth, rajjen

Leopardy! After Dark - A furry take on the classic TV game show, but this time including questions that we wouldn't ask with kids around. Come test your trivia knowledge on the dirty furry topics we can think of. Just remember to always answer in the form of a question! (18+ only)

Team sign-ups at <http://leopardy.games>

18+ ONLY. ID REQUIRED TO ATTEND.

Midwest Vore Fest Meet & Eat (18+ ONLY)

Cael Killara, Amicus Verum

In today's dog eat dog world, it's either eat or be eaten. At our Midwest Vore Fest Meet & Eat event, preds and prey alike can come hang out, chat with, and meet fellow furs who share an interest in eating, being eaten, or both! This 18+ event is intended to give vore furs of all kinds the opportunity to connect with one another and to help the more predatory furs among us find their next meal. So if you enjoy vore and would like to meet others who share a similar interest, then this event

is definitely for you!

18+ ONLY. ID REQUIRED TO ATTEND.

OwOcast Podcast (18+ ONLY)

Kobold Northcote, Odin Wolf

OwO, what's this? Come on in and kick your paws up, because these furs are about to start talking a little frisky! The OwOcast Podcast is hosted by YouTube's very own Nido Flow (Odin Wolf) and Kobold Northcote. With our world opening up more in the wake of the height of Miss Rona, a lot of us are getting our sexy back on, and what better place to do that than at the crown jewel of furry conventions! We will talk about it all from our own hook-up stories to some of our varying convention experiences. Get here early as at IndyFurCon we hit max capacity, and you definitely won't want to miss it!

18+ ONLY. ID REQUIRED TO ATTEND.

Pet & Handler Q&A Panel (18+ ONLY)

Pup Spike, Pup Red

Come join the Chicago Pet Patrol's discussion panel as we scratch the surface of Pet Play. We will discuss some of the basics of human animal role-play and answer any questions you have. It doesn't matter how you identify, everyone is welcome.

18+ ONLY. ID REQUIRED TO ATTEND.

Pet and Handler Meet 'n' Sniff (Meet 'n' Greet) (18+ ONLY)

Pup Spike, Pup Red

Are you a human pup? A pet? A handler? A furry? All of the above? What about a friend or curious individual about any of the above? Chicago Pet Patrol is sponsoring a pet, and handler meet 'n' sniff (meet 'n' greet) to encourage a crossover between all of our animalistic friends.

18+ ONLY. ID REQUIRED TO ATTEND.

Polyamory, Open Relationships, and Consensual Non-Monogamy - Explorations Beyond

Heteronormative Monogamy (18+ ONLY)

Orthrus Lion, DaveQat

What's the difference between an "open relationship" and "just sleeping around"? Is there such a thing as "ethical" non-monogamy? Are non-monogamous relationships healthy and can they last? Join Orthrus (aka Ben Howard, sex-positive psychotherapist and relationship counselor) for a presentation about what Consensual Non-Monogamy is, how it's been practiced in the past, and what it may mean for the future. Join in after the presentation for a group discussion and bring your questions!

+18 ONLY. ID REQUIRED TO ATTEND.

Shiba King Live (18+ ONLY)

Pikapetey

Come meet the cast and crew behind Shiba King series on Youtube.

18+ ONLY. ID REQUIRED TO ATTEND.

Shibari 101 (18+ ONLY)

Saturdaii, Princess Reese

Come learn the basics with an introduction to Shibari rope bondage.

18+ ONLY. ID REQUIRED TO ATTEND.

Yiff Review (18+ ONLY)

PK, Glitch, Vince

We will be reviewing NSFW art in the same way that one would review SFW art, but in a humorous and entertaining way instead of a serious way.

18+ ONLY. ID REQUIRED TO ATTEND.



FURFEST DEALERS DEN



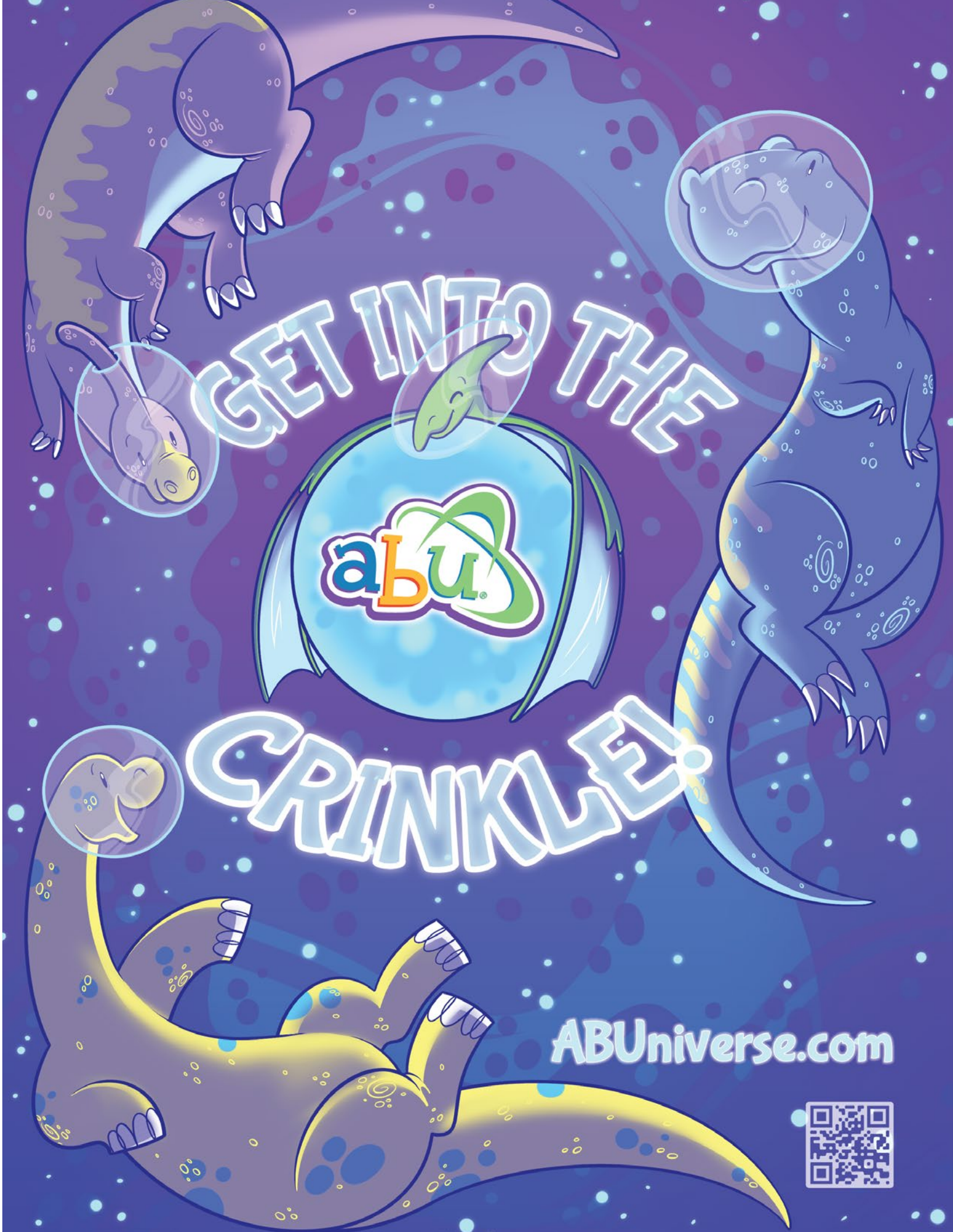
#FurFest 2019
Photo by: Yarrick

You've searched across the galaxy for the rarest treasures of the fandom. Merchants from around the universe have assembled together to offer some of the finest antiques for just a few mere credits. Artwork, commissions, books, figurines, tails, cd's from your favorite furry muscians, pins, jewelery or even fursuits, it's all here! Come give the dealer's den a browse to find that special thing you've been searching for! Don't forget gifts for your friends!

Please check out our website for the most up to date list of our dealers:



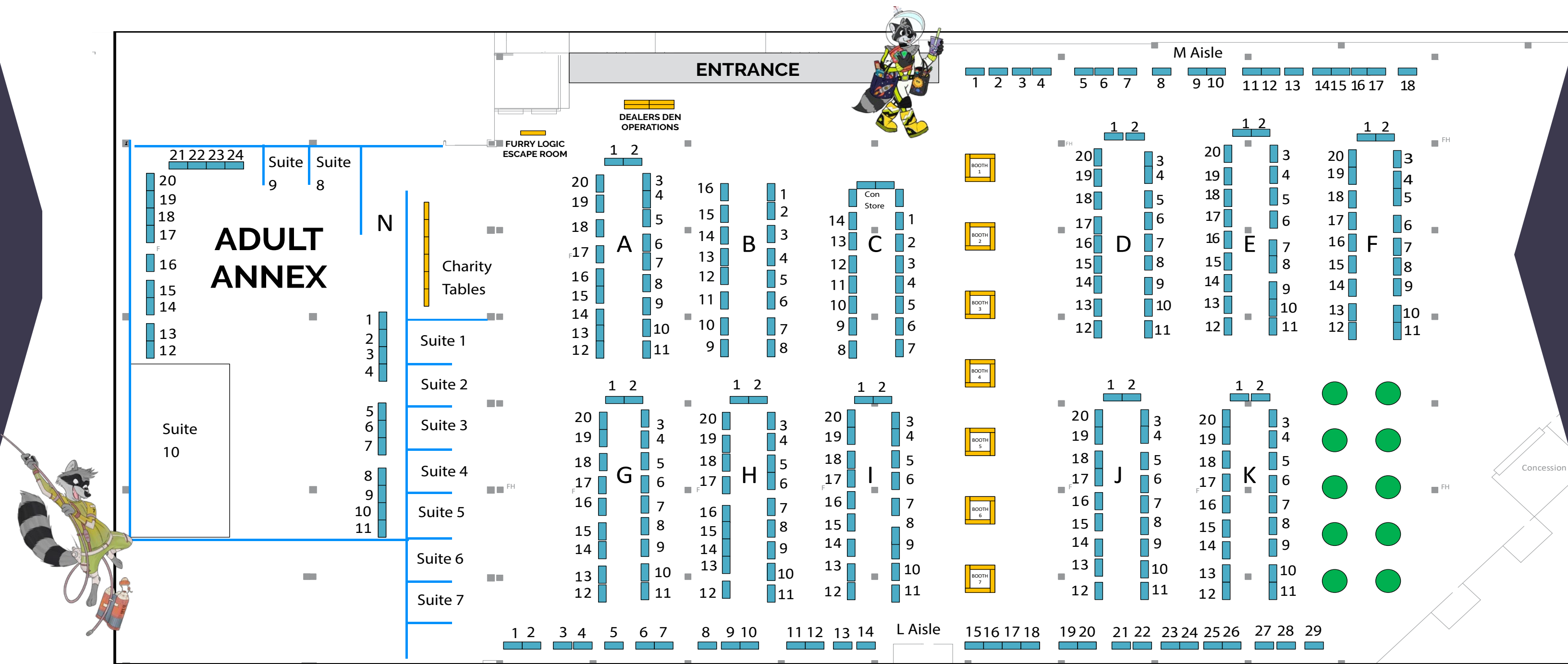
<https://www.furfest.org/dealers-den>



FURFEST

ART, EXPERIENCES, AND EVENTS
FROM ACROSS THE GALAXY

DEALERS DEN



A True Blue Artist	https://www.furaffinity.net/user/atrueblueartist/	Made to order traditional/original artwork badges and sketches, handmade crocheted toys and accessories, sewn lanyards and accessories, enamel pins, vinyl stickers, buttons, various accessory charms, and digital illustration and 2d animation services~	E 13
ABUniverse	Abuniverse.com	ABUniverse offers quality adult diapers and accessories for the ABDL community, and all of our crinkly friends. Whether you're a little, middle, big, or caregiver, we have crinkly diapers, and a selection of stealth gear to fit your needs.	N 14-15
Alexdals' Creations	www.alexdal creations.ca	Artisanal Crafts	N 16
Alletharia's Dwagons	https://allethariasdwagons.com/	Alletharia's Dwagons has all the cute dragons! From resin cast figures, necklaces and magnets, to pins, charms and stickers of all your favorites! Find the perfect gift for any dragon lover!	K 18
Anubis Studios	www.anubis.studio	Welcome to Anubis Studios! I am a single artist creating handmade plush, props, patches and more! I also offer a limited number of commissions to bring your sona to life in a cuddly plush form!	K 1
ApplePup Illustrations	ApplePup.com	I'll be selling two partials, fursuit flower crowns, stickers, mugs, prints and more alongside my art commissions!	H 3
APRILAPIN	APRILAPIN.com/artist-alley	Lo-fi horror. Unique and original artwork inspired by anime and horror.	G 3
AR.GI.BI. Creative Studio	https://www.argibi.art/	We're a couple of nerds selling our own original artwork featured on fine art prints, stickers, decals, enamel pins, face masks, patches, tote bags, cinch bags, fanny packs, sketchbooks, lanyards, wristbands, t-shirts, bandanas and more!	E 3
Art by D.Bruin	https://www.furaffinity.net/user/dbruin/	Original artwork, art collections, and enamel pins	F 8
Art by Sandy Schreiber	Www.sandyschreiber.com	Hand-drawn badges, sketches, original art, prints and hand-painted china	B 4
Art of Donryu	https://twitter.com/DonryuArt	Convention sketches, books and badges!	C 1
Art of Straya Obscura	www.artofso.com	Handmade paper crafts of designs, creatures and characters. Along with other merchandise like pins, charms, lanyards, etc.	L 15-18
ArtworkTee	https://artworktee.com/	Furry wares with designs by Fandom Artists	K 10-11
Avian Invasion	https://avianinvasion.com	Music, shirts, stickers and more from Avian Invasion and Mythimorph Labs.	H 18
Babirousa	https://babirousa.car rd.co/	Bright expressive work of cute little creepy crawlies and other critters!	K 15

Bad-Dragon	www.bad-dragon.com	Adult Toys, Merchandise, and Accessories	Suite 10
Berry Meat	berry meat.com	Berry Meat creates pins, keychains, apparel, badges, stickers, and so much more! We specialize in bringing cute and creepy together. We also offer unique custom and collectable trading cards!	J 14
BlindCoyote	https://www.blindcoyote.com/	Vibrant fantasy creature and character illustrations. Prints, Mousepads, Playmats, and Pins!	L 1-2
Blood Bay	bloodbaybags.com	Striking cuffs, collars, and harnesses for fashion or play. Durable and discreet bags for storing and carrying adult toys.	N 12-13
Blue Canary Gallery	https://www.etsy.com/shop/bluecanarygallery	Fursuit snap-and-go bandanas, custom badges and illustrations, cards and art prints, enamel pins, and stickers.	F 10-11
BoldEgoist	http://boldegoist.com/	A Detroit-based source for your cryptid and creature hugging needs! Check them out for dakimakura, buttons, charms, and more.	K 9
Boneitis Industries	www.boneitisindustries.com	Hand painted traditional comics and illustrations by the baddest ferret in all the land! Badges, prints, posters, wall scrolls, and original comic pages will all be on offer!	J 6
Braeburned!	braeburned.com	Original comics, art books, stickers, pins, prints, body pillows and more!	D 11
Bubbly Sheep Creations	https://savythundercat.wixsite.com/bubblysheep	Large selection of Charms, buttons, lanyards, prints, stickers, and commissions!	C 5
Bunneah	bunneah.com	Hats and headbands with removable magnetic ears. And tails.	G 10-11
BUTTSTEAK	https://twitter.com/itsabuttsteak	I offer custom artwork such as physical con badges and digital commissions! I also have merchandise such as shirts, keychains, enamel pins, stickers and much more!	I 5
CAMP HOWL	https://www.camphowl.com/	CAMP HOWL (formerly Lydiarts and Crafts) sells a variety of brightly colored apparel, including shirts, hoodies, face masks, and bandanas. They also sell accessories, including fanny packs, wallets, bracelets, lanyards, keychains, enamel pins, and more!	Booth 5
Camp Mustelid	https://www.campmustelid.shop/	Camp Mustelid is a nature inspired shop run by @nepeteaa and @melmorrel! We specialize in comfy apparel, fun accessories, and especially, MUSTELIDS!	B 11
Caramel Comics	https://ceschwierking.wixsite.com/caramelcomics	prints, keychains, stickers, fanny packs, jewelry, lanyards, pins, buttons, washi tape, pencil bags, dice, dice bags	D 12

CinnamonServal	Www.CinnamonServal.com	Making custom digital and traditional medium illustrations and con badges. Other crafts such as fursuit parts, stickers, prints, buttons and premade ready-to-wear badges will also be available.	H 1-2
Citrinelle	https://www.furaffinity.net/user/citrinelle/	Stop by for "shiny" holographic prints, Acrylic charms, Pins, Stickers, Backpacks and MORE. Merchandise themes range from cute cuddly critters to edgy 2010 deviantart-days inspired goods!	A 11
Clover Patch Studio	www.cloverpatchstudio.com	My artwork consist mostly of video game fan-art & some original designs!	G 7
CloverPuff	CloverPuff.com	We sell plush, apparel, backpacks, enamel pins, prints, and accessories all featuring our adorable original animal characters.	H 19-20
Cooner Arts!	http://cooner.johntoons.com	Con sketches and con badges; maybe some My Bigger Boyfriend merchandise!	C 2
Corey's Corner	https://coreyscorner.bigcartel.com/	Corey's Corner has a great variety of pride and furry items in acrylic charms, enamel pins, facemasks, and plushies! Known for the viral Pride Market Puns seen on TikTok.	J 3-4
CorgiBeans and Build A Fur	https://corgibeans.bigcartel.com/	"Build a Fur is brought to you by our furry merchandise business: CorgiBeans. We are known for our high quality plush toys of furry content creators and original characters! We have been producing plush collectibles since 2019 and have designed over 50 so far! We also offer original enamel pins, stickers, tees, prints, popsockets and so much more!"	L 29
Corgilope	corgilope.com	Footpaws, Tails, and Adoptable Characters!	D 10
Corviforms	www.etsy.com/shop/Corviforms	Furry and bird themed enamel pins, keychains, ita bag purses, prints, traditional art, and commissions.	D 13
CosmellCosplay	Cosmellcosplay.com	CosmellCosplay makes fursuits, cosplay, custom artwork, bandanas, costume parts, accessories, and more!	K 14
CoyoteYoteCreations	https://www.facebook.com/huskyhuskystudios/	We will be selling fursuit premades, tails, paws, feet paws, fingerless gloves, bandanas, fursuit sprays, fursuit repair kits, props, and neko ears.	E 15
Coyotic Trouble	https://www.etsy.com/shop/CoyoticTrouble	Plush toys, vinyl toys, 3D prints, LED badges, pins, prints, stickers, bandanas, comic books	C 4

Crazdude Art & Design	http://www.Crazdude.com	Crazdude specializes in realistic, semi-realistic, and toony SFW anthropomorphic and wildlife. She offers commissions for take-home as well as unique merchandise. Stop by for prints and printed products that all feature original designs. Whether you're hunting for small merch (like enamel pins, buttons and stickers) or apparel (like hoodies, T-shirts, and tank tops), Crazdude is a must see!	E 18-19
Crow Lore	Http://crowlore.carrd.co	Anthro-themed clothing and accessories hand-made from upcycled materials. They can be customized with teeth, horns, and ears right at the table.	E 4
Curlworks	https://www.curlworks.net	We're Curlworks- a Twin Cities based indie artist collab founded in 2015 that specializes in handmade custom kigurumis, plush accessories and critters, stickers and stationary, and other hand-crafted funky and original merch.	B 14
Daki Dreams	https://dakidreams.com/	We're a custom shop that works closely with artists and artisans of all sorts to make neat things. While we're currently mostly known for our Pillowcases and Blankets we're always looking to make new things! If you have any ideas, come on over and tell us what you want to make, we're always interested in doing cool projects!	L 8
Dapper Raptor Studios	https://www.etsy.com/shop/DapperRaptorStudios?ref=profile_header and https://www.instagram.com/dapperraptorstudios/?hl=en	Art dolls, resin replica horns and skulls, 3D printed horns and masks/bases, plushies, charms/pins/prints as well as at con commissions	F 18
Dead Bomb Art	Deadbomb.com	Home made Stickers, buttons, zipper bags and t-shirts as well as acrylic charms, blackets and pillow cases.	C 12
Denny N Art	dennynshop.com	Prints, Commissions, Charms/Keychains, and Stickers!	K 6
Diana Harlan Stein	naiadstudios.com	flat art, comissions at con, portfolio... I just started these cool resin cast eyes but not too many	B 3
DiZZiNESS	https://twitter.com/dizziness_art // https://twitter.com/thedizziness	"myth, magic, mystery... 100% artist-made traditional media and fiber arts: Sticker Sets, Small Plush, Enamel & Acrylic Pins,m, Pin-friendly fabric Lanyards, Collectables, Adoptables, Artdolls and Cummissions available"	B 5
Dragget Entertainment	https://draggetshow.wordpress.com/	Merch based off the Xanni & Alkali Podcast	G 18
Dragonmelde, LLC	dragonmelde.com	If you like vibrant art inspired by WW2 pin-ups and American traditional tattoos, then my art is for you!	E 17
DrakenByte	https://ko-fi.com/drakenbyte	Offering handmade dice, gaming accessories, and fantasy art doll friends to accompany you on your adventures!	B 6

Dreamvision Creations	Dreamvision-creations.com	DIY Fursuit building supplies and accessories. Resin/foam heads, eyes, jawset, noses, ears, pawpads and toes. Many accessories for cleaning and repairs plus cpu fans, leds and balaclavas	A 12-14
EmberRoseLion	https://www.furaffinity.net/user/averydraws/	My merchandise will consist of offering my commission servers for products such as custom convention badges along with my full character illustrations. I will also be selling original works in the forms of stickers, buttons, prints, and fursuit tails.	H 4
Emily Creative	https://rytteremilie.wixsite.com/emilycreative	A cute selection of foxes, wolves dragons and other beans! Find them on keychains, stickers, lanyards and more! Personal commissions are also available!	K 16
Emmacreatures	Www.twitter.com/emmacreatures	I make real leather fursuit accesories, bags, and more! Think of all kinds of collars, bow collars, cool backpacks and smaller works!	K 7
Entropy's Arts	Www.entropy-s-arts.com	Entropy sells a wide variety of merchandise, from shirts, to mousepads, to enamel pins and more! They are best known for their soft painting styled artwork and fascination with vulture culture and pastels.	E 16
Exotic-Erotics	www.exotic-erotics.com	Adult fantasy and sculpted animal toys	N 21-24
F-Class	http://fclassmerch.com/	Want to represent your furry team? We got you covered. Presenting furry jerseys by F-Class! Are you team Dragon or Wolf? How about team Cat? You pick your team, and we will help you represent your species! Not only will we have team jerseys, but also soft wall banners, hats, masks, and NFC tag wristbands! Just tap and share your social media instantly. And not to mention the LED Hydro Flasks...	L 13
Fantasy Author, Joseph Asphahani	http://joseph-asphahani.squarespace.com/	Paperback copies of my novel "The Animal in Man", posters of characters from the novel, hardback copies of D&D Campaign book I co-wrote through Apotheosis Studios "The Red Opera"	F 14
fautbarb	Http://etsy.com/shop/fautbarb	I sell purposely poorly drawn art on a variety of merch, as well as terrible badges drawn in pen and colored in crayon.	E 5
FelisRandomis	https://www.furaffinity.net/user/felisrandomis	digital badges, traditional badges, enamel pins, stickers, prints	J 9
Fenris Publishing, LLC	https://www.fenrispublishing.com	Fenris Publishing sells a large selection of books, comics, games, and tabletop game accessories from imprints including Fenris Publishing, Bewere Books, Rabbit Valley Comics, and many others.	F 19-20

Feral Candy Fursuits	feralcandy.carrrd.co	We sell a variety of premade and custom products such as fursuits, fursuit parts, fursuit props, plushies, and fursuit sprays! We also sell a variety of branded merch such as lanyards, keychains, buttons, and stickers.	J 13
FeretStudios	https://feretstudios.wixsite.com/feretstudios	I work largely with inkwork and digital coloring! I will selling many prints, holo and matte, along with original artworks! There will be buttons, enamel pins, grab bags, mousepads, and stickers! I have keychains, bookmarks and some magnets. I will be open for illustrations and badge commissions, and will be promoting my comic, Hidden Butterflies!	J 7
Fetish Zone	www.fetishzone.net	Premium handmade silicone adult toys, including our industry first wearable Cadejo Kg and Pegasus equine sheaths. Complete line of fantasy-based dildos, plugs, tails and muzzles including exclusive toys from the novels, Legacy & Heretic by Rukis Croax. Bondage, puppy and pony play gear, including hoods, collars, cuffs, harnesses and lube.	N 17-20
Fire Wolf Studio	Www.furaffinity.net/user/kazutokurama	High quality fursuits for an affordable price; ranging from just Handpaws to entire Fullsuits!	K 12-13
Fragmented Nostalgia	Fragmentednostalgia.com Facebook.com/fragnos	We sell only officially licensed merchandise including but not limited to: Pokemon plush (hundreds), imported Japanese blind boxes figures and keychains, specialty Pokemon Center campaigns, Pokemon Figures, Loungefly and Bioworld Mini Backpacks, lanyards, Cosplay accessories, wallets, blankets, other home goods, Magic/Pokemon/Digimon TCG, lots of other types of plush like Disney, Squish and more!	Suite 4
Fresh! By Flitt	https://www.etsy.com/shop/freshbyflitt	A colorful assortment of plushies and plush props! Also offering stickers, pins, buttons, and badges. Grab a treat and stay Fresh!	L 14
Full Moon Special	https://www.fullmoonspecial.com/	Creature arts and Couture	F 6
FurBakery	https://furbakery.bigcartel.com/ and https://www.instagram.com/furbakery/?hl=en	Femme and Unisex Clothing, Fursuits , Key Chains, Stickers and Accesories!	K 2
FurPlanet Productions	furplanet.com	FurPlanet Productions publishes a wide variety of novels, anthologies, comics, and art collections created by the best authors and artists in the fandom. Our catalog includes works by artdecade, Cheetahpaws, Demicoeur, Fluff Kevlar, Kadath, Kaylii, Kyell Gold, Mary E. Lowd, Rechan, Rukis, Scappo, Tsampikos, Ursula Vernon, and more. We also distribute works from a variety of other publishers both i	A 3-5

Furry Flags	http://www.furryflags.com/	Furry Flags is the premier flag art studio in the fandom, having created many unique and custom flags for fans and furs to fly their pride. We are the main producer of flags for many conventions, companies, and furry events. We are a proud promoter of LGBT identity and our mission is to make you proud to fly your pride!	J 1-2
Furry Logic Escape Room		Escape Room tickets and merchandise, including rechargeable LED Name Badges and Lanyards, Puzzle Boxes, and more! A portion of all ticket proceeds will go to the con's charity!	Lobby
Furry Mystery Box	https://www.furymysterybox.com/	Furry Mystery Box is an online subscription service. We'll be bringing an assortment of furry themed swag contained in our special boxes and bags. Every box comes with guaranteed T-shirt or specialty item! We'll have boxes and bags at various prices to fit any budget. Our Boxes will include such items as: Lanyards, buttons, key-chains, toys, and so much more!	G 14-15
Fursewna Studios // Zenophelion	Fursewnastudios.weebly.com	Fursewna Studios creates one of a kind Fursuits, Fursuit accessories, Enamel pins, stickers and props! Come by to check out all sorts of fuzzy goodies we have in stock!	D 19
FurSmoothie	https://instagram.com/soul_smoothie_?utm_medium=copy_link	Fursuit partials, handpaws, feetpaws, tails, as well as fursuit accessories (collars, tags, ect.).	G 19-20
Fursona Pins	http://www.fursonapins.com	Fursona Pins is the fandom's largest retailer of enamel pins, with hundreds of different designs! We also offer ItaBags, lanyards, t-shirts, wristbands, and lots of Pride merch to show your pride.	M 5-6
FursuitSupplies.com	https://fursuitsupplies.com	We are a one stop shop for all your fursuit making needs! We offer faux fur fabrics, balaclavas, cooling fans, and many other fursuit making supplies. We also carry a wide array of SAZAC Kigurumi (animal onesies), premade fursuit parts (ears, paws), plushies, animal face masks, and much more!	Suite 5
GAB SHIBA	gabshiba.com	An Apparel and comic book Grou of Artists, CROSS AND ZURDO, owners of the worldwide famous webcomic GAB SHIBA	B 16
Gideon's Corral	https://www.furaffinity.net/user/gideon/ https://www.patreon.com/gideonscorral	Original sketchbook art, digital and physical art folios, vinyl standees, posters	C 3
Gin No Ryuu Studios	https://www.etsy.com/shop/GinNoRyuuStudios / https://www.instagram.com/dresdencomplex/	Traditional Badge commissions, Fursuit accessories (collars and bandannas), Resin Crafts (keychains, collar tags, coasters, etc)	G 8
Glitzy Fox Studios	www.glitzyfoxstudios.com	Pre-made Fursuits, Fursuit Accessories such as balaclavas and belts, Stickers, Free Fursuit Repair, Plushies	C 13-14

Gneech/Suburban Jungle	SuburbanJungle.com	Furry art, comics, and stories by The Gneech and Sirfox.	A 20
Goal Publications	www.goalpublications.com	We are Eastern USA's furry publisher, selling books (novels, novellas, novelettes, and anthologies), tshirts, bookmarks, stickers, and reusable bags	A 6-7
Gold Ribbon Studio/ lilypawpads	goldribbonstudio.com + lilypawpads.com	Gold Ribbon Studio sells premade fursuits and fursuit tails and paws, fursuit accessories and props, soaps, sprays, and other fun scented things! Enamel pins and other merchandise is also available. lilypawpads is the artist behind the studio, and they will have enamel pins, buttons, and custom badges available.	L 28
Golden Druid	https://goldendruid.com/	Available are a variety of high quality prints, limited edition canvases, super soft shirts, cool vinyl stickers, and Ultimate Badge Lanyards.	D 20
Goth Mom Shop	Etsy.com/shop/gothmomshop	Goth Mom Shop provides a variety of merch to cater to all tastes. We have hand carved crystal sculptures, one of a kind, hand made plush and custom made art dolls and more. For those into the mythical and mystical, come visit our menagerie of mythical beasts, find your next favorite jewelry piece and pick up a one of a kind crystal animal to add to your collection.	M 9-10
Gre7g & Kyoht	https://gre7g.com	Art and books	D 18
Hearth & Home Woodcrafts	https://www.etsy.com/shop/hhwoodcraftsstore	Made from hand-selected pieces of wood, we create coasters, cutting boards, ornaments, and other engraved products. You can also find other surprises: hand-crafted pens and pencils, flasks, and water bottles. Come take a look and discover something new.	G 17
Heather Bruton Illustration	https://www.furaffinity.net/user/hbruton/	Furry and fantasy art prints, sketching services, stickers, bookmarks, art books	B 2
Hellocutecumber	https://www.etsy.com/shop/CutePopShop	Hello! This year at MFF I'm planning on debuting a lot of new work and types of merchandise from charms to dakimakura! I'll also have a few custom commission slots open so be sure to come say hi!	I 8-9
Hometown Comics & Games	www.hometowncomicsandgames.com	From Anime to Books, to Ocarina & Fur, something for all.	J 15-16
Houndsaint	https://www.kitvasey.com/	I sell limited-edition blockprints printed by hand, or using an etching press. I also sell blockprinted patches, embroidered patches, enamel pins, PVC keychains, lanyards, and bandanas.	A 17
HOWL OUT	howl-out.com	HOWL OUT! A striking furry streetwear brand featuring clothing to howl about, blankets to cozy up in, and so many wolf accessories! Come be apart of the pack	M 3-4

Imagination Boutique	www.imagination.boutique	Custom embroidered patches, badges, and apparel. We also have stickers, buttons, pins, and more!	I 15
Inanimorphs Transformation Central	https://www.inanimorphs.com/	Returning to FurFest, artist Inanimorphs returns with their popular transformation, shapeshifter, and werewolf themed merch with Transformation Central - Featuring some new TF art and products from the community. From shirts to pins, novelty potions to werewolf jerseys, comics to pool toy inspired merch, everything you need to satisfy that animal waiting to emerge from within you!	J 19-20
Inkmaven Art	https://www.inkmavenart.com/	Inkmaven Art sells colorful, furry-forward t-shirts, lanyards, pencil pouches, prints, stickers, wall scrolls and more!	I 16
Interlinked Jewelry	interlinked-jewelry.com	Chainmaille jewelry, dragon tails, and other fun metal shiny things! Design your perfect piece for every day wear or a special night out. Custom orders are available!	E 12
Ita-mals	https://itamalsbackpacks.com/	Ita-mals, backpacks that show off what you're into! Keep your collections safe with adorable animal themed backpacks.	H 11
ItsProbablyMars	ItsProbablyMars.com	Premade fursuit partials, OOAK plushes, prints, stickers, shirts, lanyards and pins	A 10
JayeCreations	https://jayecreations.wixsite.com/jaye	Hand knitted scalemail parts such as clawed gauntlets and tails, all with varying sizes and colors! We aim to bring a fun and comfortable option to the scalies in the community and anyone else who may want something new!	L 21-22
Jelly Stitch Studios	https://instagram.com/jellystitch_studios?utm_medium=copy_link	We make art dolls of all kinds along with plush goods, keychain, tails and even adoptable characters	H 17
JenKiwi	http://www.furaffinity.net/user/jenkiwi/	Conbadges, commissions, sculpted clay miniatures/figurines, prints and original art, and variety of buttons.	B 1
Joshiah's Written Works	https://www.amazon.com/~e/B01M10YQOP	Your one stop shop for all things literary, Joshiah's Written Works is the perfect place to pick up some new reading material! Whether you're interested in a whimsical adventure, a thrilling mystery, an impassioned romance or anything between, you're sure to find what you're looking for in our expansive collection. Multiple novels and novellas will be available for purchase at the table, along with a special block of story commissions for attendees.	B 7
JustaSuta Art + Design	justasuta.com	Kinetic and colorful art of your favorite fandom, fantasies and furies! We've got prints, stickers, charms, notebooks, commissions and more!	F 16
JVenture Art	http://www.jventureart.com	JVenture Art has original paintings & framed drawings, prints, accessories, apparel, commissions, and tattoo inspired works!	H 9

King Guro	KrisStarlein.com	A dark lowbrow artist selling traditional silkscreen and cyanotype prints, as well as apparel ranging from Hoodies, Tanks, Shorts, Hats, and Sweaters. Other merch including enamel pins, embroidered and printed patches, bottle openers, keychains, tote bags, sketchbooks, pencil pouches, bandanas, and stickers!	E 20
Kopes Kreations	https://www.deviantart.com/kopeskreations/gallery/all	"We make and sell gaming and pop culture plushies, resin koi ponds and jewelry, furry tails and ears, gaming character and pop culture themed hats, pillows, ita bags, amigurumi, steampunk goggles, bell collars, and much more."	M 2
Kory Bing		Skin Deep graphic novels, bandanas, enamel pins, prints, risograph zines	D 2
Lava Alley	https://www.etsy.com/shop/LavaAlley	Charms, Stickers, Buttons, Shirts, Prints, Commissions, and more!	I 10
Legion Printing/FIGS	legion-bhm.com	Board Games, Comics, Novels, On-site printing	L 23-24
Lemon-Creme Studios	https://www.etsy.com/shop/LemonCremeStudios	We create cute and fluffy kemono art! We illustrate and sell dakimakuras, mouse pads, keychains, prints, plushies, clothing, and more. We're also doing on-site commissions!	L 6-7
Lemonbrat Studio	https://lemonbrat.com/	We sell fursuit partials, full suits, kigus, hoodies, mask and more! We take custom orders on-site.	Booth 7
Lindsey "Rhos" Burcar Art	www.lindseyburcar.com	Fantasy illustration depicting dragons, creatures, landscapes, and fantasy characters sold as prints, playmats, mousepads, huge fabric banners, and more! Come by for your tabletop RPG or card gamer gear needs, including custom made dice bags, or stop by to snag a limited commission slot! A limited supply of grab bags are available, packaged in custom made dragon tote bags, full of mysteries!	L 3-4
Liongutss Custom Creations	Liongutss.carrrd.co	Liongutss Custom Creations offers one of a kind, handmade fursuits as well as custom digital and traditional art pieces ranging from badges and icons all the way to fullbody pieces with detailed backgrounds, as well as everything in between. Need a new badge? Twitter header? Maybe looking to bring a new fursuit home (we have premades!) Liongutss Custom Creations may just be the place for you!	M 8
Lizbie Cafe	www.lizbiecafe.com and www.furryzines.com	Cute collectable enamel pins, keychains and other small items. Also pretty illustrative zines.	I 14
Lycantasy	www.lycantasy.com	Chicago based Trans-owned adult toy company with innovated products made with inclusivity in mind.	N 5-7

Lynette Eklund	LynettePortfolio.com	Not so much dealer product, but photos and books for autograph signing; and display of some pieces I've built, and a few random costume/puppet pieces for samples or to sell.	M 1
Made Fur You	Http://www.madefuryou.com	Fursuits accessories and more!	Booth 6
MadshyArts	MadshyArts.com	MadshyArts has cute and nerdy goodies via prints, stickers, enamel pins, magnets, pre-made badges and handmade plush & bow ties! All art is original and family friendly!	D 8
Magpie Madness, LLC	https://www.magpie-madness.com/	Shirts, hoodies, hats, prints, lanyards, buttons, enamel pins, elastic bracelets, acrylic charms, tote bags, commissions, and on-site commissions	E 14
Mangopoptart	https://linktr.ee/Mangopoptart	I sell many things including but not limited too charms, lanyards, pins, blankets, pillows, tote bags, zipper bags, custom art and more!	I 7
Manic Mongrel	https://twitter.com/ManicMongrel?s=09	Manic Mongrel makes premade fursuits and head bases as well as a collection of original illustrations and weighted stuffed animals!	G 9
Mary Mouse - Certified Tags	http://www.certifiedfurry.com/	Come check out over 400 different Certified Tag themed ready-to-wear badges, stickers, and magnets featuring fun toony art by Mary Mouse! Express your species, personality, hobbies, job and more for an affordable price. There is something for everyone!	M 18
Melissa Mendelson Art	https://www.melissamendelsonart.com/furry-original-con	I create highly realistic fursuit masks and partials, as well as sell DIY realistic fursuit parts. I also create watercolor illustrations inspired by my love of sleddogs, wildlife, and fantasy; and I sell my illustrations as prints, bags, lanyards, pins, stickers, and more!	C 8-9
Melly Creations	Mellycreations.com	MiNi partial fursuits, paws tails, ears on headbands, acrylic charms,foam bases, fursuit bandannas, fursuit collars, eye blanks, articulated wings, horns, and collar accessories	H 10
Monster Cat Creations	Www.monstercatcreations.net	Premade fursuits, fursuit sprays, pins, tumblers, candles, soaps, bath bombs, shirts, ect	F 1
Moss	https://mossfox.com/ , https://www.furaffinity.net/user/pmoss/	Moss will be offering aa varaity of wares including: Enamel pins, stickers, lanyards, keychains and charms, as well as custom badges and commissions.	J 10
MousuArt	https://mousu.pw/artgallery	Enamel Pins, Torii Gate Itabag, Prints, Acrylic Charms, Body Pillow, and Apparel.	F 9

My Arm Can Fly	http://myarmcanfly.net	I bring all manner of wonderful, one of a kind creature companions to life as handmade needle felted sculptures! Come meet this charming array of little tricksters and familiars. These art dolls make wonderful friends and are happy on any cozy desk or bookshelf, ranging from just a couple of inches tall to over 30 inches long. I also have pins, stickers, and more! Custom work will be available!	B 10
Mystik Waboose	https://www.facebook.com/Mystik-Waboose-Clothier-109151045780060	Licensed Shirts from Sandra Santara, Ed Beard Jr. and other artists and media shows. Also fun geeky T-shirts and Polos. We carry all sizes from kids, up to a size 6X Polo and T-Shirts.	Booth 3
Mythimorph Labs	https://shop.mythimorph.com	Mythimorph Labs offers specialty services in design, costumes, illustration, & animation. I offer many customizable, unique products to help you better express your inner self including fursuits, shirts, hoodies, decals, pins, décor, & accessories.	H 18
Nancy Illustrations	https://nancywiebel2.wixsite.com/website/personalartwork	"Cute Pastel art in the form of; Prints, stickers, stationary, totes, zipper pouches, buttons."	G 4
Naomi Romero Art	http://naomiromero.com	Naomi Romero sells fine art prints, enamel pins, stickers, keychains, and more! They are the creator of "Anxiety Fox" and "Kaiju Corgi", which includes a line of designer plush toys.	C 11
Naughty By Nature	https://linktr.ee/Naughty_By_Nature	I provide commissions, Dakimakuras, prints, stickers and more!	G 16
Neon Culture	www.shopneonculture.com	Handmade cosplay neon glow masks and customizable LED products.	Booth 2
Neurotic Sphynx	https://www.etsy.com/shop/NeuroticSphynx	Ceramic mugs, hard enamel pins, and a variety of other furry and LGBTQ+ themed items.	G 1-2
Nightengale Needles LLC	http://www.nightengale.org	Handmade plush and apparel with a special focus on PRIDE merchandise and custom fursona commissions.	L 19-20
Niis	https://twitter.com/NiisBBB	Custom and hand made goods, along with digital and acrylic stands.	E 6
Nyagirl	https://www.angelacamille.com/commissions and ETSY.COM/SHOP/CAMCATSART	Cat themed aprons, keychains, and stickers. As well as in con badge commissions, illustrated commissions, and animated commissions.	H 12
Odin Wolf	Odinwolf.storenvy.com	Dakis, shirts, hats, popsockets, keychains, pins, stickers, wristbands, and more! General fandom merch like OwOuis Vuitton as well as Odin Wolf fan merch!	H 8

Onnanoko	https://onnanokoart.com/	An artist from the Pacific Northwest creating curvaceous cuties and cute merchandise! I'll be offering limited at-con commissions as well as an array of other merch; pick up prints, enamel pins, lanyards, vinyl stickers, keychains, etc. Please visit onnanokoart.com for more, thank you!	J 11
OrlandoFoxDraws	afoxdraws.com	I will be selling prints, stickers, and pins of my artwork, as well as offering traditional sketch commissions on-site!	A 18
Orth's Custom Leather	Orthscustomleather.com	Custom Leather and Biothane goods	Suite 6
OtterBear Studios	portfolio: https://sta.sh/2kzzhpgfom?edit=1	We make and sell fursuit parts, accessories and partials! Along with hand made plushie props and cute funny buttons!	Booth 1
Otterly Amazing	https://www.etsy.com/shop/OtterlyAmazingStudio	Hundreds of tails plus hand paws and ears	M 14-17
Our Mass Hysteria	https://www.furaffinity.net/user/ourmasshysteria/	Hand made faux fur adjustable ears, hats, tails, hand paws, feet paws, original plushies, premade partials and more. Custom commissions are welcome.	L 11-12
Owlapin	https://www.etsy.com/shop/owlapin	Face masks, pins, keychains, body pillows, prints, and wall scrolls.	I 6
Padunk	https://www.sixthelementstudios.net/padunk	t-shirt, hoodie, blanket, wall scrolls, stickers, pins, posters/prints	H 7
Panda Kitty Studios	https://www.etsy.com/shop/PandaKittyStudios	Handmade costume ears, tails, wings and horns, for a variety of species, and custom fursona art pillows.	F 4-5
Papaya Badger	Papayabadger.com	Papaya Badger is a vector artist that offers acrylic, laser cut commissions. Various other items are available for purchase as well such as tote bags, enamel pins, acrylic keychains and Bluetooth LED name badges.	I 11
Paw to Press	www.pawtopress.com	Body Pillow Covers, Nik-Naks, Bracelets, Lanyards, Mouse pads and more! From more than 25 different dealers.	E 9-11
Pawstar	Www.pawstar.com	Anime/Cosplay Apparel Accessories. Rainbow O fur variety of: Animal headbands, Tails, Paws, Leg Warmers, Cuffs, Hats and Hoodies. Leather Collars and Accessories, Cyber Modded Goggles and Masks, Rave/Cyber goth shrugs, Arm/Leg warmers , and skirts, Pawstar Character Buttons and Acrylic jewelry.	Suite 2
PepperCoyote	Peppercoyote.bandcamp.com	Original music CDs, Vinyls, Cassettes, and more, all written, recorded, and produced by fandom musicians. Come give it a listen!	G 18

Pinku's Crafty Cottage	Etsy.com/shop/pinkuscraftycottage	We offer a wide range of high quaintly tails and paws, pins, fursuit sprays, and on site repairs.	I 12-13
Pirate Artisans	Http://pirateartisans.com	We are the foremost piratical purveyors of wearable finery! We offer a broad array of tantalizing jewelry: medallions, pendants, earrings, signet rings, bracelets, and other "rare imports" (one offs) handmade personally by us in bronze, sterling silver and fine silver. Come discover your treasure!	B 9
Please Feed The Bear	PleaseFeedTheBear.com	Stickers, acrylic and enamel pins, prints, vinyl decals, custom badges and more!	K 8
Pop Heart Studios	Popheartstudios.com	Come to Pop Heart Studios for your anime needs, We have trading figures, regular figures, plush, Clap Fans, and so much more!	Suite 3
Primal Hardware	primalhardware.com	We sell adult novelties and fursuit-compatible nylon harnesses (both pre-made and made-to-order, on site). Our full list of products can be found in the catalog on our website.	N 1-4
Puillustrated	https://www.puillustrated.com/	"Pui Che is a fantasy illustrator. Together with the muses, Pui interweaves storytelling into each of his works, exploring philosophy and the spirituals. Each of Pui's originals, art print, canvas, tapestry, playmats, journal and stationary goodies are a diverse of visual adventure to be had."	K 19-20
Pyritie	https://etsy.com/shop/Pyritie	Kemono/anime-style goods and plushies	L 5
Quack Quack Honk	www.QuackQuackHonk.com	Whimsical depictions of anthropomorphic animals usually with food or drink.	B 8
Quailtea Goods	https://quailteaillustration.squarespace.com/	Quailtea Goods is a variety of items inspired by nature, history and mythology. We have a variety of goods to peruse, from t-shirts to washi tape!!	D 7
Queenashi Arts	https://queenashi.godaddysites.com/	Prints, postcards, acrylic charms, enamel pins	F 2
RAIZAP by Chu	http://raizap.com	Chu has cute t-shirts, lanyards, stickers, pins, and more for their RAIZAP line of merchandise, fanart posters and prints, as well as graphic novels and plushies for their award-winning webcomic series Slightly Damned.	D 3-4
Ratty Creations	https://linktr.ee/rattycreations	I Sell a wide varietyof products with my art including and not limited too, Commissions, Prints, wall scrolls,keychains, lanyards, pencil /tote bags, microfiber cloths, enamel pins, body/queen sized pillow cases, blankets, mousepads and much more.	I 3-4
RHPotter Light and Shadow	www.rhpotter.com	Original Japanese-inspired kitsune and animal art on prints, tote bags, stickers and more.	F 17

Ringtail Cafe Productions	www.ringtailcafe.com	Ringtail Cafe publishes furry themed comic books and table-top board games, made by furies, for furies! Our games include rpg books, cooperative and competitive board and card games all with unique furry art. Our comics include a range of genres including fantasy, sci-fi, action/adventure, and mystery. Furry merchandise will also be available including t-shirts.	G 12-13
Rio Sculptures	http://riosculptures.com	Rio creates handmade sculpture and resin figures/designer toys molded from their own clay prototypes as well as unique art dolls	C 10
Rising Sun Kemono	www.rskemono.com	We design and create only Japanese Kemono style fursuits. All our kemono suits are made by Rising Sun Kemono from scratch! We create all of our patterns, bases, eye balls, and ever intricate detail you see on our adorable suits. This makes our suits truly one of a kind. For our clients we can offer them pre drawn suit designs by our artists in our special edition showcase, or we also offer custom	D 14-15
Roamin' Bison Workshop	https://www.etsy.com/shop/RoaminBisonWorkshop/	Art deco inspired enamel pins of over 100 bird, mammal, and fossil species, as well as nostalgic prints, hundreds of sticker designs, and meme-inspired patches.	D 6
Rob Hogan Creates	www.robhogan.me	I sell pop culture and parody paintings and prints. Ai also do fursona painting portraits on commission.	K 17
Rocky Mountain Dragons	www.rmdragons.com	We offer a large variety of products to fit needs, wants and budget of our fursuit clients! We offer items anywhere between \$10-\$45 but nothing is over \$45. I know fursuiting can be an expensive hobby so we love to provide our clients with unique items to remember the convention at a low cost. For handmade we offer my hand sculpted art dolls (no two art dolls are ever the same! Each one we create	D 16-17
RogueRats	https://MidPrem.com	RogueRats offers Mystery Boxes ranging from general fur goods to anime, Pokemon, gaming, and My Little Pony. Enjoy a selection of lanyards, tote bags, posters, pins, and more, all featuring original art and designs.	J 17-18
Royalty	etsy.com/shop/RoyalGryphonShop	Selling acrylic keychains, enamel pins, zipper and tote bags, dakimakuras, art prints, and custom commissions!	I 19-20
Ruef n' Beeb	https://ruefnbeeb.com/	Ruef n' Beeb offer a plethora of eye catching and unique merchandise, ranging from gachapon machines to premade fursuit partials! They also offer custom badge commissions, dazzling enamel pins and stylish apparel!	A 15-16
Rukis	www.rukisart.com	Art, Comics, Novels and Merchandise by Rukis	A 1-2

Rysingson Accessories	https://squareup.com/store/rysingson-accessories	Wearable LEDs (Kanji badges, Bluetooth LED nametags, El Wire hoodies, LED collars, and lanyards). Hand painted pendants of foxes, wolves, dragons, and bears. and jewelry	A 19
Ryuu Daiga	www.ryuudaiga.com	Furry and insect themed merchandise including apparel, charms, enamel pins, tote bags, body pillow covers, and blankets	I 17-18
Saba illustration	www.sabaillustration.com	lots and lots of stickers, as well as enamel pins, buttons, custom art, coloring books and tshirts!	D 5
Sarahcat Fursuits	https://www.sarahcatfursuits.com/	High quality, beautiful and one-of-a-kind fursuits!	C 6
She-Jackal Arts	https://shejackalarts.carbonmade.com/	Original Sculpture, Art Dolls, Dragons,	C 7
ShinigamiGirl	https://www.furaffinity.net/user/shinigamigirl/	At con commissions, original art, loose and matted prints, enamel pins, acrylic charms, vinyl stickers and more.	F 3
Shlimaz	https://shlimazart.carrrd.co/	Prints, charms, stickers, and more!	A 9
Shy Custis	https://www.CoeYAndShy.com	A pair of occulty, macabre artists operating as a studio, producing both independent and collaborative work in the form of prints, pins, patches, art books, and more.	E 1-2
Sixth Element Studios	www.sixthelementstudios.net	We sell high quality Hoodies and Tshirts as well as Original Comics and Manga, Premium Blankets, Standees, Wall Scrolls, Prints, Charms, Mousepads and Keyboard Pads	H 5-6
Sky Railroad	https://shop.skyrailroad.com/	Home of the card game prance! It's a fast paced card game not too dissimilar to ERS, don't worry we'll teach you how to play. Dakimakura (SFW) , Pillows, Drinking paraphernalia and recopies, Lasered things, and oodles of other stuff as well!	J 5
Sleepy Thyme Art	sleepythyme.art	I make lovely and sweet merchandise that I design myself, ranging from apparel, stickers, stationary, pins, and more.	G 5
Snaggypeets	https://snaggypeets.weeblysite.com/	Stickers, Acrylic charms and pins, prints, postcards, sweatshirts, stickers	L 9-10
Sorbet Jungle LLC	www.sorbetjungle.com	Plush toys, figures, apparel, pins, keychains and other accessories of our cute original characters	Suite 1
Space Cat Creations		Fursuits and fursuit accessories that are out of this world!	F 12-13
SpectrumShift	https://www.artstation.com/spectrumshift/albums/821120	Prints of fantasy art, dragons, and pokemon	B 15

STABLERCAKE Art + Merch	http://mhodgkin.com	Fluorescent psychedelic animal merch and art! Apparel, stickers, patches, face masks, and much more!	B 12-13
Stray Toys	https://straytoys.com/	Feeling furociously fabulous? Enjoy our lineup of soft, cute animal themed hoodies, furry tails and ears, as well as cute collars and cuffs, complete with frills and bells. Make yourself howl with delight tonight with apparel from Stray Toys.	Suite 8
Stuffed Panda Studios	www.stuffedpandastudios.com	Fursuit making supplies (resin bases, eyes, paw pads, etc), fursuit partial(s), and printed merchandise like stickers, prints, enamel pins, etc.	D 1
Sweet Cream Arts	https://www.etsy.com/shop/SweetCreamArts	Artist-created Enamel Pins, scarves, masks, bandanas, patches, blankets, bags, shirts, charms, stickers and more!	K 4-5
Talenshi Studios	https://www.talenshistudios.com/	"- Handmade, magnetically refillable journals and sketchbooks. - Prints of my artwork - Self published works by me and my partner - Other handmade wooden and brass items like pendants and boxes"	J 8
Tartii Illustrations	tartii.carrrd.co	Body Pillows, Art Books, Acrylic Charms and Standees, Plush, Art Prints, Pins and more!	E 7-8
TastyPeachStudios	https://TastyPeachStudios.com	Tasty Peach Studios is an independent plush company focused on making hard times a little softer. Our most popular line is our mochi kittens, the Meowchi! They've recently gone global with Aurora World, and we couldn't be more excited! We also have the Ice Cream Nomwhals, so cute you just want to gobble them up! Plush not your thing? We also carry jewelry, apparel, wigs, and more!	Suite 7
That One Pink Dog Studios	http://thatonepinkdog.studio	Premade Fursuits, Small Suit Parts, Suit Accessories, Suit Making Supplies, Shirts, Enamel Pins, Charms, Stickers, Buttons, Decals, Magnets, Coasters	M 7
The Gryphon Generation	Gryphonbook.com	"My novel series, The Gryphon Generation, in hardback and softcover Jerseys Prints Stickers Plushies Pins"	I 1-2
The Knotty Fox Creations	https://www.facebook.com/theknottyfox/	We make custom plushies, custom character hats, custom kigus, fursuiter props such as cookies, ice cream sandwiches, animal leg parts, bones, etc. We also sell dragon figurines, statuettes, and tables.	L 25-26
The Seventh Age	https://seventh-age.com/	The Red Opera: Last Days of the Warlock epic 5E Campaign and The Seventh Age Series - Sarcastic Urban Fantasy about the end of the world.	F 15

TheUrbanKitsune	theurbankitsune.com	Enamel pins, acrylic charms, stickers, custom artwork, and more!	A 8
Third Eye Creations	https://twitter.com/ThirdEyeCre1	Fursuits and Fursuit accessories. Etc	M 13
Twin Tail Creations	www.twintailcreations.com	Artisans of premium adult toys and merchandise.	Suite 9
Two Tail Creations	www.twotailcreations.com	Handmade crocheted items that are themed after animals and pop culture characters	G 6
Victoria Rene Creations	https://victoriareneart.com	"We offer custom traditional and digital commissions as well as a wide variety of original merchandise! From lanyards to charms, dakis to tote bags we have it all!"	J 12
Viw's Art	furafinity.net/user/viwrastupr	I sell woodcuts, mousepads, playmats, shiny pins, keychains, prints and painterly pieces of pawed friends.	F 7
Weapons Grade Funk	https://www.drivethrurpg.com/product/270161/HCSVNT-DRACONES-Second-Edition	The creator of the HC SVNT DRACONES tabletop role playing game, selling beautiful full-color ttrpg books, accessories, and all things related to HSD, as well as some of Messi's other fun stuff! If youre a ttrpg fan, a sci-fi fan, a new player or a longtime follower, you'll want to be here!	K 3
Weasel Gear	www.weaselgear.com	Weasel Gear sells a variety of graphic T-shirts, hoodies, and other apparel including pins, lanyards, and plushes.	Booth 4
West's Custom Creations	Www.westscustomcreations.com	West's Custom Creations specializes in high quality fursuits, fursuit parts, accessories and more!	H 13-16
Wolfen Creations	https://www.furafinity.net/user/kigai	I offer a selection of stickers, original artwork (SFW and NSFW), at-convention commissions, and lycanthrope t-shirt!	L 27
Xenocat Artifacts	https://xenocat-artifacts.com/	100% Platinum Grade Silicone Adult Toys and Novelties. Alien and Monster themes. Inclusive and amazing designs, bold colors. Toys for everyone. Now the question is: Are you ready to Embrace the Unknown?	N 8-11
zenophelion	zenophelion.carrrd.co	One stop shop for detailed slimy badges, sketches, and merch	D 19
ZeroRemnants	https://www.etsy.com/shop/ZeroRemnants?ref=profile_header	ZeroRemnants is a single artist creating handmade fursuits, props and artwork! I will have a variety of fursuit related props/plushies available as well as premade partial fursuits and fursuit parts. I create sticker, magnet and print designs as well as having balaclavas, enamel pins and furry related face masks produced! Custom badge/artwork commissions will be open for the weekend!	M 11-12

For the most recent Dealer's room list,
you can always check the FurFest Website!

<https://www.furfest.org/dealers-den>



* This is a fake ad. Please DO NOT attempt to contact us if you happen to be battling an evil alien squid.
grizzpupinfo.carrd.co

Evil Alien Squid Repellant by Grizz Pup

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DEALERS DEN

DEALERS DEN

ARTISTS ALLEY

Artists Alley is a place for our attendees to peruse a daily rotating list of individual artists for pre-made and commissioned works. Sketchbook commissions, prints, or other types of creative and unique artwork are all available from these talented folks!

ATTENTION: The Alley/Marketplace wants to ensure that attendees and artists are as safe and comfortable as possible. To this end, this year we will be, reluctantly, making TEMPORARY changes to our layout to promote better social distancing. This will result in overall less seating for artists this year. We apologize in advance for the inconvenience we know this is going to cause some attendees during MFF 2021.

On the positive side, this will allow our artists a little more table space than they have had in past years, also temporarily. Please bear with us and understand that we are trying to have an event that is as safe as we can make it for both our artists and their customers. We look forward to seeing you all, and to restoring our full capacity in the near future.

RULES

THE SPACE

Artists must sign in before occupying a table and sign out when vacating their space. Artist assigned numbers must always be visible on their table. Artists that do not return their number to the staff desk WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE LOTTERY.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Due to the nature of the lottery system in the Alley, it is not required to form a line before 10AM on Friday the 3rd. Anyone wishing to enter the lottery will have ample time and equal opportunity before the first drawing, and attending artists should not feel obligated to spend more time waiting than is needed.

Artists must have the capability to and be actively engaged in producing original artwork while occupying their table. Artists who are only displaying items for sale who have no capability to produce art are not eligible for space in the Alley.

Artists are each allotted three feet of space at their table. All of their belongings must be kept on or under this space.

Within the allotted table space, Artists will be allowed a 14"x14"x14" display on which they may place merchandise or example work. They may also place display books or original art on paper freely within their three feet of space. Artists with larger displays will be asked to downsize or remove them.



Artists may have an overhang over the front of their table with their name or displaying some of their original artwork, so long as it does not interfere with the display of numbers or exceed their allotted space.

All belongings and trash must be removed by the artist when they leave their space. Failure to do so will result first in a warning, then removal of Alley privileges. The convention accepts no responsibility for items left unattended.

Midwest FurFest is unable to provide power in Artists Alley. Now that we are located in the convention center, the penalties for plugging a device into an outlet are severe and artists will be liable if they choose to violate the no-power policy. Portable batteries are encouraged. There will be a laminator at the staff table that is free for use, but artists must provide their own lamination sheets. Please note staff will not laminate for you, and is not responsible for any damage that may be incurred to artwork.

Items that generate an unacceptable noise level are prohibited. The Alley is a loud enough room without someone's personal item adding to it. This includes excessive volume of one's voice, personal stereos, computers, hand-held game units, ect. Displays that use distracting or flashing lights may not be used. Headphones are strongly encouraged for artists who want to listen to music. Repeated complaints will result in loss of Alley privileges. Be aware this is subject to the Artists Alley staff. Just because you think it is acceptable doesn't mean we agree.

Space behind tables is very limited and in many cases shared with the artist sitting behind you. Visitors and non-seated artists are not permitted unless it is to view or commission work. Unnecessary clutter is not permitted and aisles must be kept clear for people to walk.

Tip Jars or printed solicitations are prohibited. We prefer all charitable donations be made to the convention's selected charity. If a tip jar is set out, the artist will first be asked to remove it, then removed from the Alley themselves if they persist.

RATINGS & MINORS

The convention center Artists Alley space is one large room. Now that that is the case we must all be aware that there will now be minors able to go through all artist's work. Minor badges are clearly displayed and it is an artist's responsibility to ensure they are aware of who they are dealing with. Artists who sell, commission or display any adult artwork to a minor will be removed from the Alley for the rest of the convention. This is a zero tolerance policy.

Artists will keep their adult artwork covered/censored at all times and kept in clearly marked binders. Binders will be closed when they are not being browsed. The exception to this policy is when adult work is actively being created. The responsibility is on the artist to keep that work discreet to prevent purposeful viewing by a minor.

Underage artists must either be accompanied by a parent/guardian at all times, or have their parent/guardian discuss permissions with the Artists Alley Director.

Crafted items of an adult nature may not be displayed in the Alley space.

Be aware that the Artists Alley staff have the final say on what is or is not appropriate to display. We retain the right to require an artist to remove a specific piece from display at any time for any reason.

LEAVING THE SPACE

Artists must remain at their space at all times during open hours if they wish to retain it. We allow a fifteen minute break period for artists to utilize the facilities, quickly grab food, meet with commissioners or friends, or generally any brief break an artist may need to take. If an artist wants to leave for an extended period of time we request that they sign out of their table and place themselves back into the lottery. Note that extra time will be given to those with disabilities if they require it.

SALES & MERCHANDISE

Only artwork created by or featuring the seated artist may be sold. The Artists Alley is not a free alternative to the Dealers Den or Art Show. For that reason we cannot accept any agents reselling another artist's work. If there are any doubts that work is appropriate please contact the Artists Alley staff prior to the convention.

Artwork must be appropriate for a furry convention space and no more than half of displayed work may be non-fandom related.

Sales are only allowed in the Artists Alley. Artists may not make sales in any other convention spaces. This is a violation of both the Artists Alley policy as well as Midwest FurFest's Code of Conduct and may result in not only losing Artist's Alley privileges but also convention privileges, up to and including expulsion from the convention.

As the Alley is not a paid-for space, Midwest FurFest has chosen to limit the type and amount of merchandise that can be sold in the Alley space. These rules are revisited and may change on a year-to-year basis.

For 2021, acceptable items for sale include the following: Original Artwork produced before or during the convention (including sketchbook commissions), prints of original artwork, books of original artwork or writing and small crafted items to include buttons, stickers, handmade plushes, figurines, swag, magnets, and other small wearable items. Clothing and DVDs and CDs may be sold but are limited to two displayed designs. The Artists Alley staff reserves the right to interpret what is appropriate and what is not.

Important note: Original Artwork refers to art created by the seated artist. This can include collaborative work but may not be another artist's exclusive work. We understand that some work may be produced by others, and that may be displayed if it features the seated artist's work.

Art that is not acceptable for sale in the Artists Alley include: Fursuit and costuming parts to include heads, tails, paws, armor, and masks, consumables of any kind (no food or drink), copyrighted/trademarked items of any kind including commercially produced plushes, clothing, buttons, toys, etc. This also includes items that are too large for the allotted display area.

If an artist has questions about the suitability of their merchandise, please contact the Artists Alley staff, preferably before the convention.

ARTISTS ALLEY

TAXES

Per Illinois law, any vendor selling items at Midwest FurFest is required to collect sales tax. The collection and remittance of taxes to the Illinois Department of Revenue is the responsibility of the individual artist. Information on filing can be found at the Illinois Department of Revenue's website (<https://www.revenue.state.il.us/>). Midwest FurFest is required to provide the names of all vendors to the Illinois Department of Revenue, and we are not able to offer assistance with tax questions. Required paperwork is available through the Department of Revenue's website. Please note: The city of Rosemont's sales tax is 10.25%.

Artists Alley staff will not answer any questions regarding taxes, except to direct artists to the information above

FOOD & DRINK

Only closed, sealed containers are allowed on tables. Beverages in cups or cans are not allowed. All drinks must be sealed when not being consumed to prevent accidental spills. No artist wants their work ruined by an accident.

Candy and other finger foods may be offered by artists, provided they are in wrappers of some kind. Open water cups or containers are permitted for the production of art.

COMMUNICATION

Artists Alley staff will post any announcements and/or policy changes at the administrative table during the convention, as well as be available for feedback and comments.

Please be aware that we will require at least one method of contacting our artists for the purposes of standby seating. www

Alley staff and Midwest FurFest cannot be held responsible for communications between artists and customers for any reason. Contact information provided by the artists to the Alley staff is confidential and will not be shared with attendees without the expressed permission of the artist. However, artists are expected to provide customers with an appropriate method of contacting them, whether it be business cards, website links, and so on. Artists who show a pattern of misconduct related to business conducted with customers in the Midwest FurFest Artists Alley will no longer be welcome in the Alley.

Questions before the convention can be addressed to the Artists Alley Director, Kelshin or the Art Track Lead, NallTWD, via email: artistsalley@furfest.org.

FINAL WORD

The Artists Alley Staff has the final say on anything not immediately covered by the rules in any section of this document and are responsible for resolving any disputes regarding it.



FURFEST ART SHOW

The Midwest FurFest Art Show is intended to be an opportunity for artists to exhibit and sell original artwork that is of a fantasy, science fiction, or fan'ish nature. especially with an emphasis on anthropomorphic animals.

Attendees may walk through the art gallery like atmosphere and place bids on pieces they are interested in obtaining, with the highest bid taking home the goods!

To register for the art show, please review the rules and then submit your application.

HOW TO BID

1. Bring photo ID and register for a bidder number with a friendly Art Show Guru.
2. Bid with your Name (Real or Badge. Just be consistent), Bidder Number, & Bid Amount in WHOLE dollar amounts, greater than the bid before you and/or the minimum bid
3. Bid before open of Quick Sales on Saturday to avoid Quick Sale snipes.
4. Defend your bid throughout the convention amd especially during the rolling closeout on Saturday.
- 5: Continue to defend your bid on any item that has 8 bids at the Mature Auction on Saturday in the location posted in the Art Show. Do the same for General Auction items at on Sunday.
6. Sunday come down to the Art Show to purchase items you are the winning bidder on. You can also do a Quick Sale on items that had no bids as of close on Saturday.

Quick Sale

To prevent the effect certain online auctions sites have on live auctions. We will be doing a Quick Sale option as well. Any item with a Quick Sale price and **NO BIDS** can be purchased for that price any time after Quick Sale opens on Saturday. (See Schedule)

After Quick Sale starts, if a piece has received **NO BIDS** and has been given a Quick Sale price, you can carefully bring the piece of art and the bid sheet to the Art Show Desk and pay for It. If you're not comfortable moving the art, please ask for a member of Staff for help. After paying for the piece (Cash or Credit) you may take the piece with you or leave it to be collected on Sunday with any other pieces you've won.



Artists

- Alastair Wildfire
- Antoinette Hawkins
- Arcane Owl Dice
- Ashley Smith
- BananaThief
- Bandrik
- BLUEHALO
- bluestonearcher
- Christy "Goldenwolf" Grandjean
- Chum Basket
- COMBVRO
- Crow Lore
- D.Bruin
- Dark Duck
- DaSueDragon Designs
- dester'edra
- Diana Stein
- Dragon BeadZ
- Dryw
- FeretStudios
- FishyBoner
- Fleeks
- Glovebox of Doom
- Golden Druid
- hibbary
- Inkmaven
- Jw Balsley
- Kess
- KoidelCoyote
- Kory Bing
- Lindsey "Rhos" Burcar
- LYCHGATE
- Lynette Eklund
- Mahrkale
- Mavie Mave
- MLW
- Naomi Romero x Anxiety Fox
- Oktavia's Creatures
- Othello Rysingson
- Paco Panda
- parfaie
- PookaClubs
- Quack Quack Honk
- Ray VanTilburg
- Rio Sculptures
- Ruben Avila
- Rukis
- Samoht Lion Creations
- Sandra SanTara
- Sandy Schreiber
- Sarah Clemens
- ShinigamiGirl
- Sibi Fursuits
- SINgrinz
- Theresa Mather
- TheRoguez
- Twilightsoma
- Victoria Rene Creations
- Wolfaya

ART, EXPERIENCES, AND EVENTS
FROM ACROSS THE GALAXY

FURFEST STAFF

This intergalactic voyage would not have been possible without the hard work from our dedicated crew. Remember that a convention is the sum achievement of the whole team working together to try to put on something great for the community and without such a strong team none of this would be possible. A big thank you to everyone to helped makeW FurFest 2021 a success!

🏆 =Convention leaders

Convention Chair

Data Hawk 🏆 Convention Chair
Back for another year.

Executive Vice Chair

Woody 🏆 Vice Chair
Midwest FurFest 2021 marks this urban mutt's eighteenth Midwest FurFest... That's one as an attendee, three helping everyone through the registration line, two dragging the convention out of storage and back, five balancing checkbooks, two as the Convention Chair, two chatting on Social Media and three as a Vice Chair. On top of that, he has spent the last twelve of those eighteen years serving on the Board. And in that time, he has seen the fandom change and grow in countless ways with this past year being no exception. He welcomes you back to Midwest FurFest 2021 and hopes this year's adventure is one that you remember, always.

Vice Chairs

Theome 🏆 Vice Chair
From co-organizing the Fursuit Dance Competition to running the Programming department to now being a Vice Chair, Theome has been working for FurFest for a while now. He is a dedicated roleplaying gamer and LARPer, pipe collector, and psychology buff. He also runs Session Zero, a psychology and roleplaying podcast, with one of his fellow psychology colleagues.

Nall 🏆 Vice Chair
Nall lives in WI with his wife, Nyxsiern, two young cabbits, a menagerie of animals, and a tiki bar. You'll find him dashing about the con in aloha shirts fixing all the things!

Duncan da Husky 🏆 Vice Chair
Duncan has been a part of Midwest FurFest from the very beginning, serving as Board Member, Chair, Registration Director, and Hotel Liaison over the years. These days he is happy to be middle management, working as Vice Chair to help coordinate departments across the organization

Leads

Syn 🏆 Lead for Registration & VIP
Spazz 🏆 Lead for Public Relations & Website
Metro 🏆 Lead for Tech Services & Charity
Kalendil 🏆 Lead for Logistics & Hospitality
Phor 🏆 Lead for A/V, Gaming & Programming

Corporate Staff

Aisu: Finance
Cheetah: Board Chair, President, Vice President - Contracts and Risk
Tawny coat, black spots, generally in a blur, and has been sighted at conventions since the Confurence days. Cheetah shepherds MFF's parent corporation,

attending to all the governance and contract details needed to make the convention go. If you can catch up, do say hello!

Crimson: Software Integration and Engineering
DataHawk: Board Member
JohnPham: Finance
Kieran: Software Integration and Engineering
Kitch Fox: Human and Critter Resources
Paradox Lion: Staff Counsel
Poomie: Contracts and Risk (Medical)
Rama: Board Member
Robert King: Board Member, Secretary, Parlimentarian
Spirit Bear: Software Integration and Engineering
Syn: General Counsel
Tiberious: Finance
Tiller: Board Member, Manager – Human and Critter Resources
Vince: Board Member, Treasurer
Woody: Board Member, Vice President - Operations



A/V

AvWuff
As one of the many blue huskies in furry, Av is happy to be here at MFF and help out the event. If you see him, give him a wave!

Dokha
Erro
Foxworth
Gabe The Collie

This dog barks!
Gabriel
Have always been drawn to the fandom as it is a place that inspires such beauty and love. Feel really lucky to be here, and to be able to help out a bit.

Guyver 4
Kay
Ladon DWolf
Leko
Maci
Midnight Wolf
Nepal Plush
Noobie
Null Fox
Oddy 🏆 Director A/V
Photonz
Rabbit
Retcon Cat
Rex Collie
Simon Fox
Shasta
Spuds
Terk Wolf
Video Monster
Virus

Accessibility Services

Amras
Clementine
Dozer 🏆 Director Accessibility Services
Dozer found the furry fandom in 1998, and it didn't take long for him to realize how much he loved serving his community. Although a native of Philadelphia, he calls Midwest FurFest home. He has volunteered for several convention departments, including Registration, Security, and Finance. This is his third year as Director of Accessibility Services. Dozer is a professional counselor by trade, and



both a member of and organizer within his local transgender community. He hopes to use his background in advocacy and social justice to make the convention enjoyable for everyone.

Fenryr

Keiro Ituralde

Keiro is a deaf activist, a writer and dreamer, part of Accessibility Services and seeks to help others and make friends!

Liru

Loopy Logic

Usually a giraffe and occasionally a cardinal, Loopy Logic returns for his fourth year on MFF staff but his first year with Accessibility Services. Look for him in the Quiet Room and wave hello!

Padfoot

Sunshine

Teakwood

Teak is a friendly otter who isn't good at writing bios! They're pretty sure they'll be in good company, though; nobody likes talking about themselves in the third person! They enjoy writing code for money, and music and ad-hoc literary criticism for fun.

Art Show

Akasuki

A hyper active snow leopard who tends to live in the art show until Hugmonster forces her to rest, have fun, and stop working.

Crossbow

Dave The Grumpicorn

David "Skippy" Stein, DI

dester'edra

Dryw

Greyse

Hugmonster



Director Art Show

A veteran of multiple convention art shows, Hugmonster did not seek her present position; she was Framed. She went to the Matte for the fandom again and again.

Jim Hayter

I work Art Shows because I spend almost all my time at Cons in the Art Shows. I've been collecting F&SF art for over 40 years and now furry art also since I was recruited to work the MFF Art Show.

KiggyLou

Mamasan

Moyen

Renegade-DI

"Sgt." Steve Simmons

Art lover, musician, coder, husband, grandfather, retired Unix sysadmin, and general all-around greybeard.

Tina

Artist Alley

Brian

Dewbell



Co-Director of Artist Alley

Kelshin



Co-Director of Artist Alley

Bomb disposal dragon and despoiler of sushi. Kelshin has been helping in the MFF Artist Alley for five years, and been active in the fandom for over a decade.

MLW

A mobile potato, doing the best they can.

ProxyByte

Saxxon Fox

Purple ears here writes purple code and music for purple fun and profit.

Zannah

Charity

Birk

Linnaeus

Mirko



Charity Liason

Something canine. Sells items to people who offer money and hands the money over to people who help doggos. Old.

Rou

Contracts/Risk

Poomie Puma

Medical doctor for 30 years. Graduated from Hollywood Upstairs Medical College. Classmates with Dr. Nick. Attended residency with Dr. Doogie Howser. Trained under Dr. Gregory House (hated it). Now offering free advice to MFF.

Crowd Control

ARC

Aru Huskwulf

Asuna Dreadful

Chewy

DeHaven

Deval Dragon

Equus Silvermane

Ezekiel Tyr

Here for a good time not for a long time.

Humble jack of all traits.

Faded

This gray and "burple" (blueish purple) hyena is sure to steal your snacks. They are still a little confused on how they got here, having joined the fandom right before the global panini, making this their first MFF! In their spare time, they dabble in fursuit making & professional Discord moderation.

Giantbluecanary

Hakei

Hakei joins the FurFest staff this year as part of Crowd Control, having enjoyed past volunteering experiences. Originally from the Midwest, FurFest is the first convention he attended over a decade ago, but it's far from the first time volunteering.

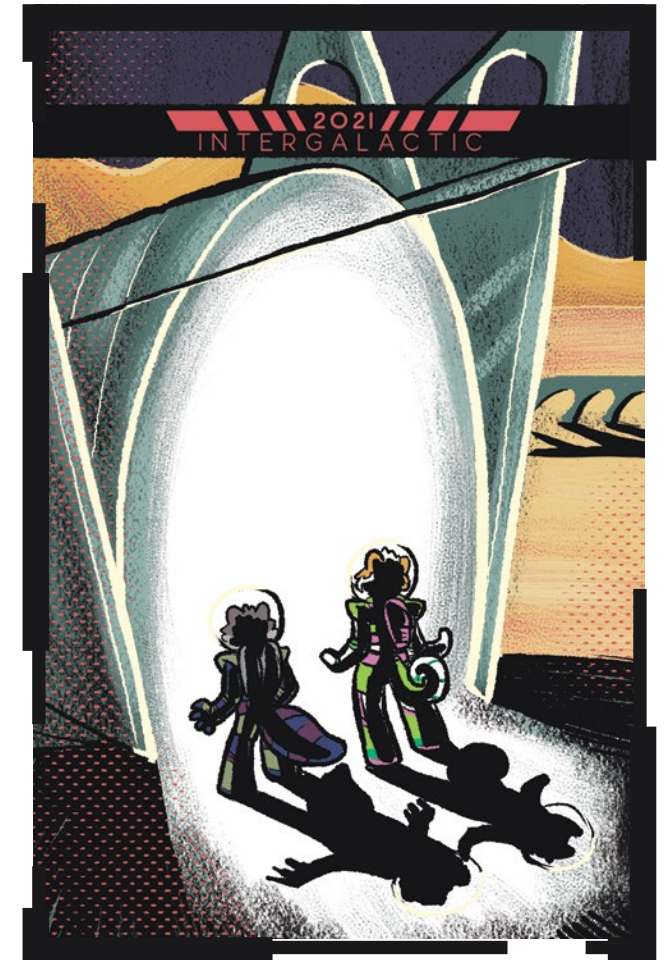
James as James

Kaiju Nellie

Lich_Kirby

Mikeh

Nova Shepherd



Oasus Plainsview

The booper of snoots. Oasus works in the Crowd Control department for MFF. Outside of the con, he works as a software developer and loves playing video games. Specifically Final Fantasy 14 and Resident Evil games..

Pup Rico

Rico

Shir

Sturmovik

Tahimorra

Tango



Director of Crowd Control

I'm here to help, and have been since 2004. Leader of Team Smurf.

VadaFox

Zulas

Mippt

Dealers Den

Aaeden
AI
Brendan Lonehawk Co- Director Dealer's Den

Brendan Has been herding dealers at Midwest FurFest since the beginning, when the room didn't sell out until the end of August (and boy he misses those days). He's also been active in SF fandom since the late 70's, and for a while even sold books at conventions. His two cats graciously allow him to feed them and keep up with the housework in exchange for occasional skritches.

Chumley
Draculion
Jazz The Rabbit
Kristy
Louisa
Marissa Robertcop
Sasho Windfeather
Sky High Husky

My first FurCon ever was MFF 2014 and since then I've been going every year. In 2017, I wanted to do more for my local con and joined the Dealers Den Staff Team. BEST TEAM EVER!!!

Wyldekyttin Co- Director Dealer's Den

Finance

Aisu
JohnPhamvAllOneWord Co-Director Finance
Tiberious

Vince Co-Director Finance / Treasurer
MFF 2021 marks Vince's 19th year at MFF. He started as a member of registration and now helps run the convention from many different positions; from a member of the Board to a director at the convention level. He loves being able to give back to the community, and streams for MFF's charity at https://www.twitch.tv/vincewuff. He's raised over \$1200 in charitable donations for the charity, and he can't wait to give back again next year again!

Gaming

Chad
Curus Keel
Game enthusiast, tabletop game staffer, and blue rawr. I care because you do.



DBYIO6698
Naturally found in the Video Game area, I can also be seen jumping through Desert Walkway, Ice World, and Warp Zone Elevators. If the song gets stuck in your head, I know the feeling... it's been following me for over 35 years.

DJ Snowfang
Retro video game collector, 5 star chef. Avid outdoors adventure.

Flash_Yoshi
Furyfire
Since he started going to MFF during the Westin days, he was dragged into Staffing by the now current Dungeon Master of Gaming, Sheltem.

Starting off as a the main Gopher of Video Gaming, Fury has moved up into the Second Position of all gaming in which he helps the DM in all his needs.

He continues to oversee the Fighting Game aspect of Video Gaming, and might even occasionally run a fighting game tournament if time allows.

Hex
Hic Fox

Hi, I'm one of the workers in Video Gaming, feel free to stop by and chat and check out our awesome room!

Kyanos
Uhh...meow?

Phenixy
Reality Warp
3rd year in videogaming. Fun loving Wolf/Rexouiium based in Denver, CO. Ask me anything about historic medieval combat, Steel Battalion, or Tribes.

Rich
Sheltem Director Gaming
The obsidian dragon overlord of amusement opens his horde of entertainment once again from his basement lair to delight con goers with board games, video games, Virtual Reality sets, and other various delights. And don't be afraid to enter this dragon's lair, happiness is best hoarded when it is shared.

Snowolf
Tarant
Tarant wandered into Chicagoland in 2000 to visit a particular GOH at this little convention. He then was invited to help run gaming at the same convention the next year. Since then, he's been part of the furniture in the Tabletop Gaming room, and was eventually asked to be staff. You can find him wearing his authentic fez, and if you ask nicely, he'll show you his dice he has that he guarantees are older than you.

TechnoAurora
Tevon Shadowcaster
Just a minotaur who helps out in the Gaming areas of the Convention.

Xeila

Hospitality

AquaFox
Brouxir
Corvus Swiftwing
Kieva Storm
Kommodore
Max Skunk Director of Hospitality
When this skunk started out as a gopher, he never back then thought he would be where he is now with preparing everyones food.He has always been happy to help people and tries his best to work towards the challenges needed to be faced with friend and fur alike.

Reaper

Sargash
Shownp
I'm Shown, I live in the notorious "con suite" I'm a happy rainbow cheetah here to make your days even happier

Hotel/Convention Center

Cala
Derecho
Dusk Dargent
The Washington Capitals are the 2018 Stanley Cup Champions.

Hino
Jen
Kyne/Rehli
Midnight
A blue catto that works in hotels for cons, including this one! He also leads Hotel at Furry Migration in Minnesota, even rated "Above and Beyond" during 2021. Mow!

Nowan
Pamf
Street Director Facility
Probably not, but defiantly maybe.

Human and Critter Resources

Tiller Corporate Department Manager
Tiller is big dogbear. He help make sure we have staff. Do you want to be on staff? We'd love to have you on staff if you're interested! It's a great way to get involved with the convention, make friends and help to assuage the anxiety around "oh god what should I do this weekend!?" Send email to hr@furfest.org and join staff. Tiller also likes musicals~

Kitch Fox
Duncan da Husky

Info Desk

Bandit Wusky
Barnaby
DaveQat Director Info Desk
DaveQat has been doing this for too damn long, along with his amazing husband and partner, and now kids! They all live in Chicago, and are ridiculously happy.

Elsinore
Irina



Lei lei
Pup Sins
Super Gwynn

Gwynn is a licensed therapist with six years experience. She specializes in trauma work as well as the queer community, self-injury, and mood disorders. She enjoys sharing her psychology knowledge at MFF.

Trax

Legal

Paradox Lion
Syn

Syn moved to Chicago in 2002 and attended his first Furfest that year. Somewhere along the line he started staffing and has kept going every year since. When not being a lawyer, husband, or dad, Syn enjoys tabletop gaming, tae kwon do, and 17th century rapier fencing.

Logistics

Bebop

"Blacker than a moonless night, hotter and more

bitter than hell itself... that is coffee."

Chad ☞ Assistant Director of Logistics
Dibbun
Edmon Star
GeO2
Hanzo Akazora
Kalendil ☞ Director of Logistics
Kinoborikun
Mala Moot
Nekomon
Ranger
Syri
The Man
Zack Geminus

Marketing/Theming

Ed B Collie

On Staff Artist

neokai

Rama

Resident of St Louis and former chair of Midwest Furfest and registration director. Extremely happy to actually see the event again.

RemyWolf

An artist with a biology degree!

Find me on Twitter at [@remy_wolf](#), or swing by my website at [remywolf.com](#)

Rosco ☞ Director of Theming

An active member of the fandom since the early 2000's, Rosco has professional backgrounds in marketing, photography, and audio production. He's contributed behind the scenes since MWFF's early days, but didn't officially sign on to staff until 2017.

Medical

Enigma

Fraye

Lahkoda Momma Bun

Pixx

RC Storm

Rhino ☞ Director of Medical

Sekhmet's Shadow

TearinyCatala

Wusky The Husky

Operations

Cyric ft. Damien

Edward Hyena ☞ Co-Director Operations

Legonnare ☞ Co-Director Operations

Marrok

Pierangelo

Stormy Kittyhawk

Tana Simensis

Thumper

Photography

Kehmet ☞ Team Lead

Pepper

Serg

tsudodog

Programming

Alkali

AlphaVamteary

Angel Roberts

Angel Roberts has been a part of fandom since 1986. She discovered the Furry Fandom in 2004 with her first furry con attended being MFF 2007. She has attended every MFF since save one year. She joined the staff in 2016 and has been with the staff ever since.

Angel has the nickname of Momma Angel as she is known to be a warm and caring individual. If you see her while you are attending the convention please feel free to come up and say hello.

Archer Wolf

bcbreakaway

bcbreakaway found the Furry Fandom in 2012, or more accurately, the Fandom found him. He went to his first MFF in 2013 & has been back nearly every year since. BC takes on the role of Costuming Track Lead after joining MFF Staff last year.

BetaBlackCat

When BetaBlackCat (she/her) was brought in to co-direct the Furry Variety Show four(ish?) years ago, she never would've guessed that she would find joining such a vast and varied community dedicated to such a beautiful and creative fandom. It is an experience she will never forget.

Blue Heeler SunFire

Brokken T-Wolf ☞ Track Head - Fursuit

Candis King

Candis helps her husband Robert with the FVS by

being Denmom and general problem fixer. She has helped with more SF conventions than she can count. Long ago she started an SF convention called DuckKon and that was the birthplace of MFF. She also likes Scrabble and investing in the stock market.

Fay V. ☞ Track Head - Art

FuzzyFin ☞ Track Head - Nature/Spirituality/
Mental Health

This is Fuzzy's fourth year as staff but first year as Assist Director to programming. She is also the track lead for Nature, Spirituality, and Mental Health and helps out on the "fire solvers" team. Her favorite thing to do at a con is run out of a room party after hearing a need for help on the radio. When not volunteering you can find Fuzzy as a fulltime relationship therapist in Ohio (and telehealth in Florida!). She also dabbles in art as a former fulltime zookeeper, with her art raising money for cool marine life charities through her art page [Whimseacaldesigns](#). She is engaged to a (probably) soon to be assimilated furry, Brandon. (His fursona is still unknown, feel free to offer suggestions)

Gale Frostbane

Just a lil saber kitty who loves to dance!

Ipequey

JD Puppy

Kataze ☞ Track Head - After Dark

Kataze is a striped skunk and Chicago native with a lot of love for the city. He's a cofounder of nearby con Fur Squared, and several local furmeets. He's trapped in California for a bit, but comes back to visit lots!

He hopes you have an excellent con!

martinisoft

mwalimu ☞ Track Head - Writing

Pacer

Panda

Panda is a fun loving and helpful bear from the San Francisco Bay Area, who has been assisting with supporting convention operations for many years. He will be helping support Programming this year! Feel free to reach out!

Phor ☞ Director of Programming

Joined the furry fandom in 2001, Phor has had many roles in convention entertainment events such as the concerts and dance competitions. Starting with TFF 2009 Phor has been an active performer in competing, hosting, organizing, and judging the competitions across the U.S. Hailing from Seattle, WA, Phor enjoys his time on the flightline or racetrack with a passion for things that go nyooooom!

R.C. Rabbitsfoot

A rabbit currently studying to become a vet technician. Loves raisin oatmeal cookies, music and drawing.

Rio Lepidoptera 🦋 Track Head - Meet & Greet

Robert King 🦋 Track Head - Furry Variety Show

An ur-furry, Robert started in SF and discovered furry fandom in 1987. At Confurence 2 he was inspired to start the Duckon furry track. When it grew too big, Robert spun off the Duckon furry track to become Midwest FurFest. Robert was conchair for the first two years. He remains a board member and is FVS lead.

Sheltem 🦋 Track Head - Gaming

Socks

MC of the Furry Variety Show, he also produces TikTok videos, makes the best tacos you'll ever have, and did not steal your bag of BBQ chips. You left them on the table near the couch.

SpORK

Taffy'sPlusOne

Taiko 🦋 Track Head - Performance Arts

Tayu

Just a writer wolf from Kansas City!

Tekfox

Wildfox

Long time member of the furry fandom living in Indiana and a long time staff member of this convention.

Xepher Sicarius

Public Relations/Social Media

@mmmatches / Ringer 🦋 Director Website

Decibel

Jasper Blue / Erik Rosengarten

Erik is part of the Social Media Department. Working as a designer, Erik's work includes coloring comics, designing collectable stickers, bandanas, pins, illustrations, and other fun projects.

Please visit www.bluecanarygallery.com to check out Erik's work online.

Kuna 🦋 Assistant Director Social Media

pjfoxes

SpazzFox 🦋 Director Social Media

Spazzfox is an avid, hyperactive fursuiter and member of the fandom since 2012, who has been attending Midwest FurFest ever since! Currently residing in Canada, owner of four dogs with his

wife Syberwuff — also assisting with her fursuit company Made Fur You.

Temba

Did you know the collective noun for the native Australian bird, the Kookaburra is "A Riot of Kookaburras"? You're welcome

Wiley

Xzadfor

Zilch

You might have seen this pink-nosed fox who wears a green turtleneck sweater and big dorky glasses trotting around! He also draws, sometimes, and is part of the Social Media team!



Publications

Aeon

ArtySkunk

An Industrial Engineer in the cornfields out west of Chicago. Fifth year on staff but first year in Publications. Several months ago I was told I'd be using InDesign and now you have a conbook in front of you. If you enjoyed this book then I love you. 🦨

D.Bruin

I enjoy multiclassing as staff and dealer, but I took two levels in druid so I can also wild shape into a bear.

Jaraszski

Plaguefox

Intergalactic planetary, planetary intergalactic.

Reno the Rabbit

Publisher in Chief of Rabbit Valley Comics since 1997. Makes silly videos for his niece and nephew as a character named Reno. Known associate of Andrew Rabbitt, husband. Wanted for bad puns and silly sales pitches.

StarDragon

Taktu The Caribou

Theway Mutt 🦋 Co-Director Publications

Theway is a Mutt from Chicago. Working in IT and Design, Theway is the co-chair of the publications department. Theway printed all the signs and banners that you see around the convention! He hopes everyone has a safe and fun year at Furfest this year!

WhiteFox 🦋 Co-Director Publications

Just a simple arctic fox out to make the world a better place one project at a time...

Registration

Alexa Fox

BelovedRex

Blithe 🦋 Director of Registration

Blithe hails from from Pittsburgh, PA: Home of the Pens as well as coleslaw and french fries on sandwiches. He enjoys working on home projects, his (unnecessarily) large hoard of cars, and petting his Shiba Inu, Suki. He also enjoys providing this shameless plug for one of his favorite Pittsburgh-local events, Western PA Furry Weekend: Check out the Western PA Furry Weekend! Oct 9-11, 2020, at the rustic North Park Lodge just north of Pittsburgh!

Food, beer, events, and fun!

Bursik Badger

Clemikou

D` Bandit

Daniel Skirtandzy

Deatheater87

Dodge

Ezra Moon Sutton

Fluffy rambunctious kitsune/fox. I help with registration and run around the convention as a multi-suiter.

Fyremane Foxx

A crazy three tail Kitsune with Green Fur, She pretends to be a responsible adult, and sometimes even human, she spends most of her year in the frozen tundra of Minnesota.

Garsupial

Grumble Lioness

HarleighDog

KeysTheDragon

A dragon striving to help make the world a little better. A proud USMC veteran and always looking to improve the community through kindness and good deeds.

-The best deeds are done without recognition.

Kirah Janae

Kyska

Levi

Magic

MuscleWolf

Night Howler

Nikki 🦋 Assistant Director

Ray Ting

Sazume

Selene 🦋 Assistant Director

As a corgi, and a member of a herding group, you can sometimes see me out in the wild herding my fellow furies into the events. But mostly, you'll find me herding everyone in Registration, making sure they get their badges as quickly as possible.

Spirit

Super Mom

Tauvix 🦋 Assistant Director

Tauvix is in his 6th year staffing, and 3rd year as Assistant Director of Registration. By day, an engineer for a tech company; by night, an avid board and video gamer, scifi and fantasy reader, and lover of house panthers (2 cats, 1 human).

Toshu


Vaska

Verdauga

Victor Redtail

Weisen

Security
Alex Radioactive
CameraObscura
Koopas
Kuma
Orthrus Lion

Pixie  Director of Security
Pixie is a feisty little Fennic that has been working with MFF and the community for 12 years and other fandoms for going on 21 years. She has been moving her way up in the Security department and going on her 6th year as the Department Head and is always excited to help in anyway she can. She has a passion for controlled chaos, helping others, pre planning and the constant challenge of thinking on her feet!

Platinum Wolf
Rainavera Selona
Workaholic snow leopard. If you see me at con, and you have questions, stop me and ask! If I'm on site, I'm on duty to help all of you have an out-of-this-galaxy experience!

Saina
Seal  Assistant Director of Security
I have been attending Midwest Fur Fest since 2008, having always been my hometown con back when I lived in IL. Enjoying how awesome it was to be able to enjoy a convention that was more than just close, but ever growing and expanding.

Then we had a bit of a shock in 2014, that same year I decided to join Security. Going from con goer to staff over night. Having watched what the community had gone through, I knew that I didn't want that to happen again. Its not always easy, but someone's got to do it.

Even as we've gotten bigger, it just shows how the community has grown, and I am excited to see what the future holds.

Shroom/Sum Fun Gi
SpaceHowitzer
Timber
Toby
Treble Vandoren

Hey Y'all! Just your local Corgi whom has been in the fandom since 2013. I enjoy everything from staffing fur cons, to running fur cons, and oh did I mention, working fur cons? XD Otherwise, Event Planner by day Corgi Sax day by night

zemming

Software Engineering and Infrastructure

Crimson
Crimson is a wolf who has spent an unhealthy amount of time managing systems that are used by 7% of the people here, as well as systems used by 97% of the people here. When he can can scrabble back time from the con, among other hobbies, bakes, builds things in metal, and writes furry stories, some of which you can buy in the Dealers Den.

kieran
awww, he thinks he's people!
Spirit Bear

Technology Services
CajunFox  Co-Director IT
Long time con goer, IT fox, pink/purple/blue Mohawk, Game nerd, retro computer nerd, metal smith.. Too many hobbies! Friendly! Come say hi!

Lyell Da Woof
Metro  Co-Director IT


VIP Services
Geemo  Director VIP Services
Recovering Florida Man, now lives in Milwaukee. Engineer, maker, Director of VIP Services.
Giza White Mage
Giza likes to staff conventions and dress up as a White Mage. He is definitely not a cheetah. Midwest FurFest will be Giza's 100th convention.

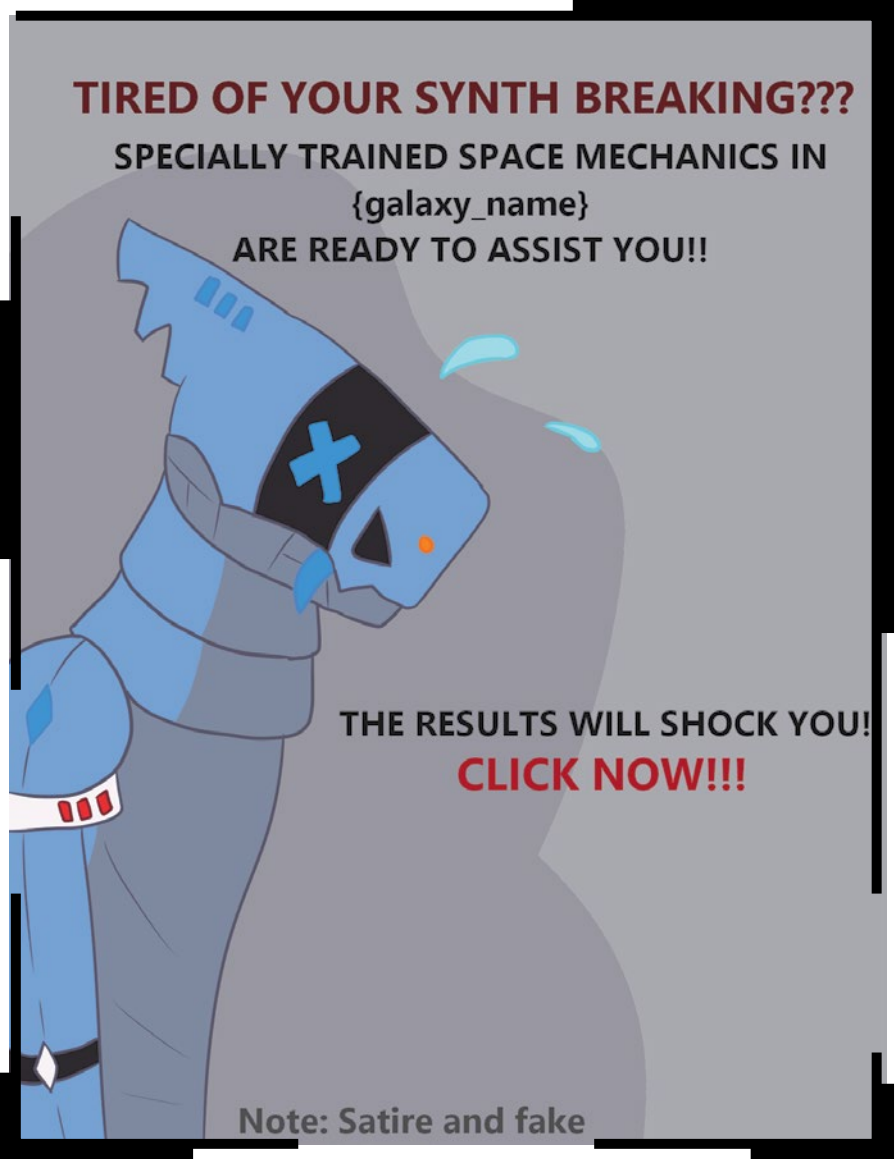
Kellic Tiger
Just a laid back tiger from Minnesota who's been working conventions since 2001. Looking forward being social again at cons and seeing folks again. I miss all you fuzzbutts!

Kitch Fox
Kitch (he/him) is an event and entertainment manager from Orlando, FL and loves telling his regular job he's galavanting off to "work at fantasy conventions filled with costumed attendees". He is excited to return to Chicago for his third year (plus 2020's virtual con). MFF | FWA | Megaplex.

Seritaph

Volunteers
Eiko Tsukida
Gigabit Dog

Kovrick Shukani
Tyler Jones
Piper  Director Volunteers
I'm a friendly raccoon from across the big cheddar curtain in in the sky: Wisconsin! I tinker with cars for fun, love listening to and playing music (DRUMMERS RULE!), and the color orange is the best color EVER!
Wave a paw and say hello!
Seajay
The General
Thunder Shymane
Tie Dar'Ha



Click Now!!!!
By NovaShrugs



ELEVATORS



PARKING



RESTAURANT



HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE



RESTROOMS



STAIRS



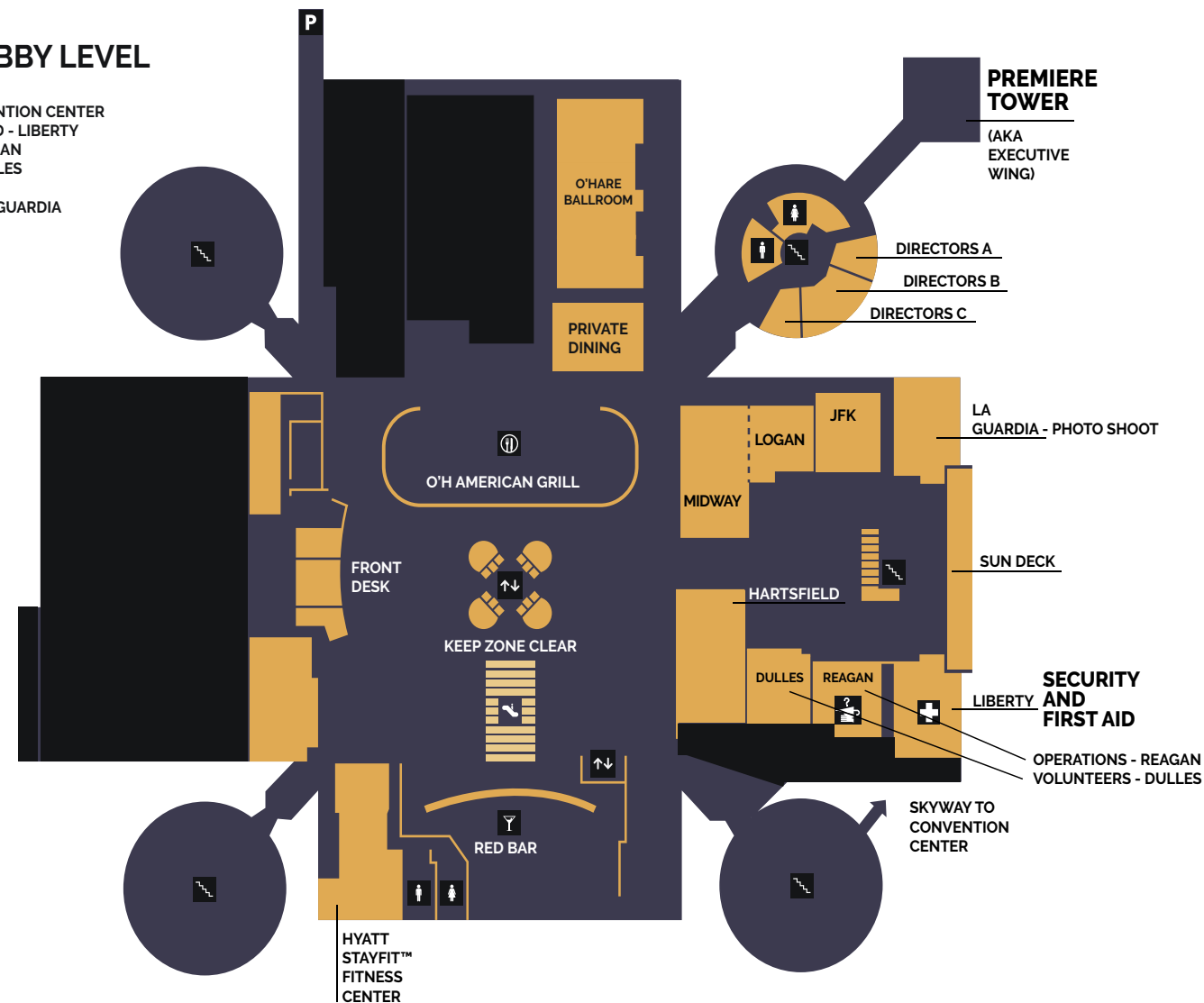
ESCALATOR



BAR

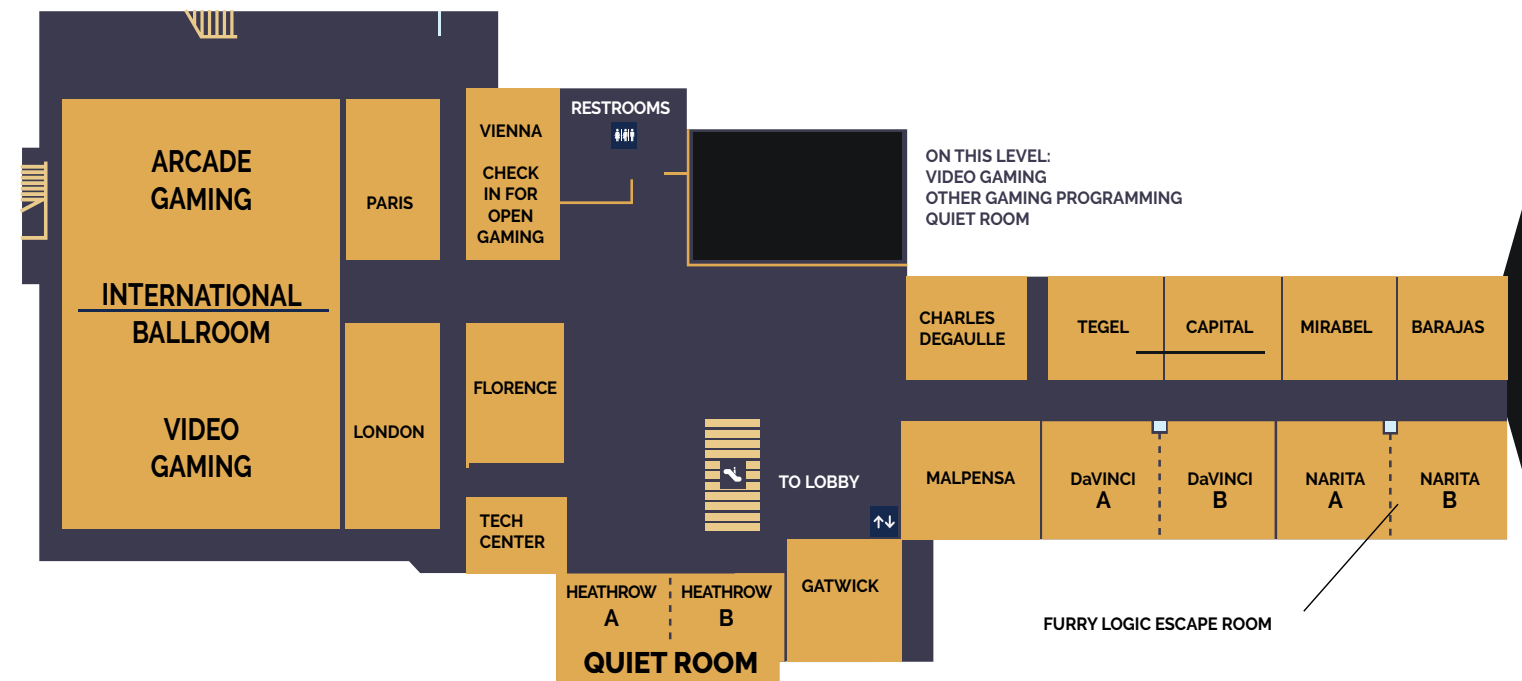
HYATT LOBBY LEVEL

ON THIS LEVEL:
SKYWAY TO CONVENTION CENTER
SECURITY/FIRST AID - LIBERTY
OPERATIONS - REAGAN
VOLUNTEERS - DULLES
PROGRAMMING
PHOTO SHOOT - LA GUARDIA



HYATT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

ON THIS LEVEL:
VIDEO GAMING
OTHER GAMING PROGRAMMING
QUIET ROOM





ELEVATORS



PARKING



RESTAURANT



HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE



RESTROOMS



STAIRS



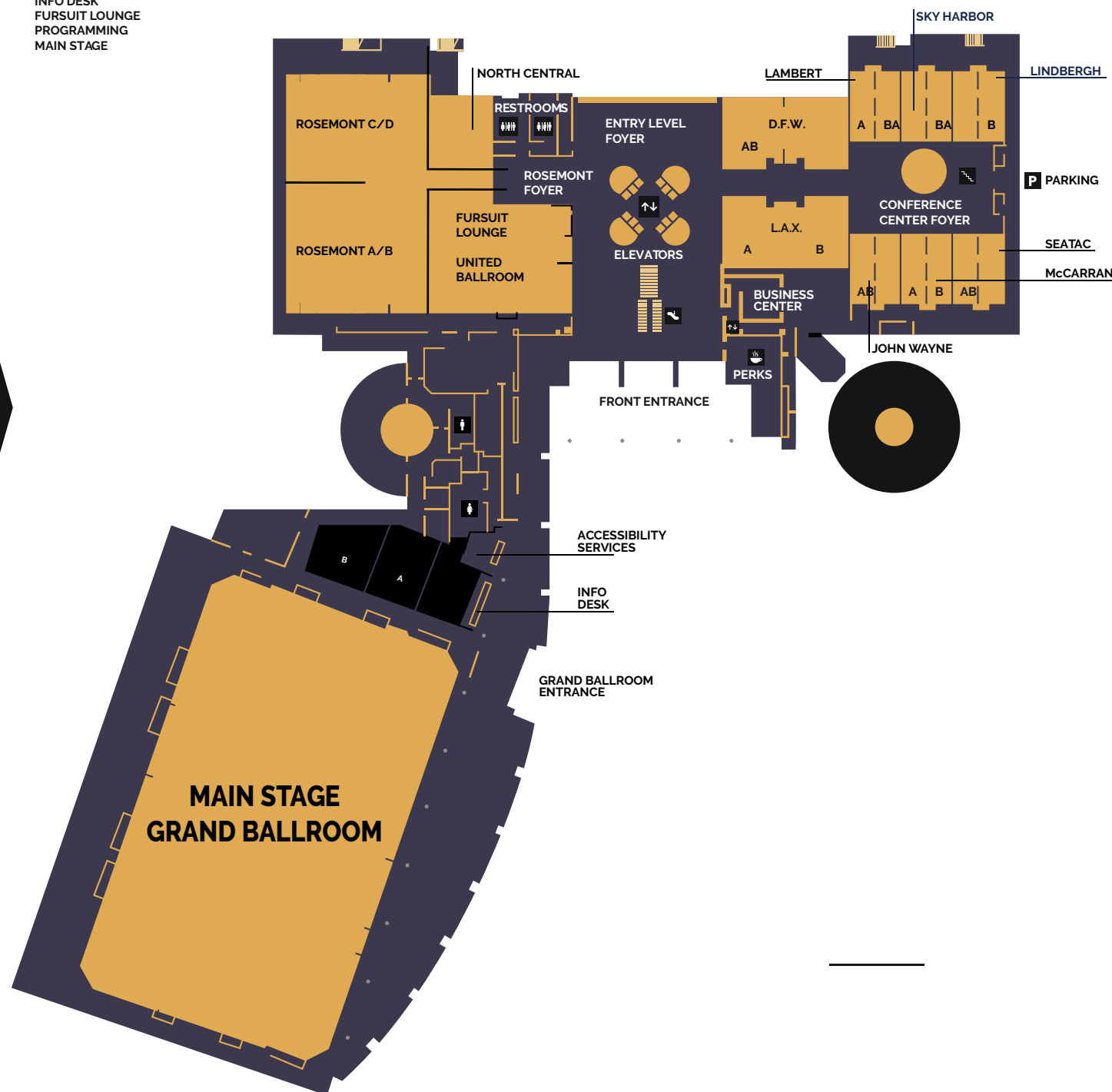
ESCALATOR



BAR

HYATT ENTRY LEVEL

ON THIS LEVEL:
ELEVATORS - USE THIS LEVEL TO ACCESS ROOMS
INFO DESK
FURSUIT LOUNGE
PROGRAMMING
MAIN STAGE



CONFERENCE CENTER LEVEL 2

ON THIS LEVEL:
CONVENTION STORE (DEALERS DEN)
INFO DESK
VOLUNTEER DESK
SECURITY

