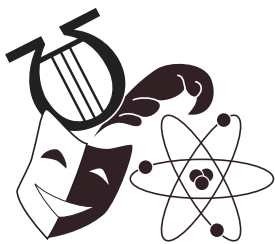


MUSECON

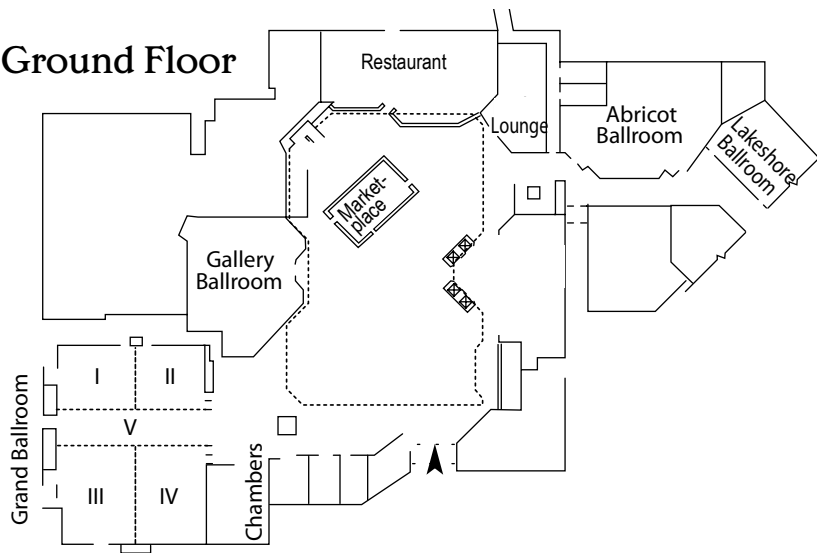
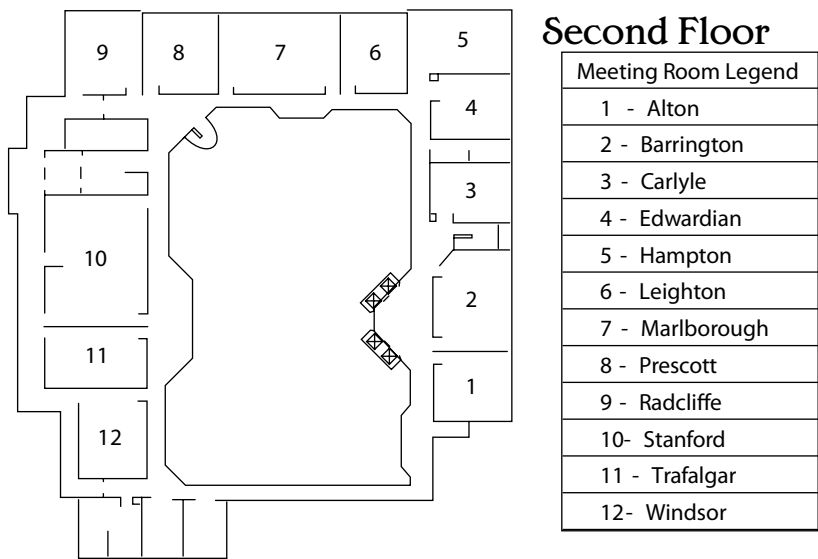


OUR
MUSES
MAKE
A DEAL



With our Guest of Honor:
CATHERYNN E M. VALENTE

HOTEL MAP



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INTRODUCTION

Bwah ha ha ha ha! Our esteemed Chair, Andrea Hawkins-Kamper, has been slightly incapacitated by the process of becoming a cyborg zombie, leaving me, your slightly deranged program book editor to craft this year's introduction!

But more seriously, a big thanks to Andrea, who has soldiered on despite being more or less immobile!

And a big thanks to the rest of our staff, guests, and instructors. I could repeat all the names, but we're careening closer and closer to press time, I'd probably forget somebody lurking in the background doing work I don't know about, and I don't want to do that - they're all great people.

VOLUNTEERING

Be a Part of MuseCon!

Do you want to:

- Teach a class?
- Participate on a panel?
- Keep attendees fed?
- Herd cats?
- Throw parties?
- Organize panels & classes?

There's plenty of room to help in all these ways and more.

For general questions or to be added to the Programming and/or the general planning (Convention Committee) e-mail lists, drop a note to our Convention Chair at: apollo@musecon.org.

As part of Closing Ceremonies (3:00-4:15 pm on Sunday in the Lakeshore ballroom) we will have a feedback session to listen to your suggestions for next year.

You're always welcome to drop in on one of our meetings. Please see our website at www.MuseCon.org for the meeting schedule.

Feedback options will also be available at www.MuseCon.org after the convention.

OPERATIONS

MuseCon Operations is here to help you with whatever it is you need. Our official space is at Registration, but we'll probably spend most of our time roving around. After Registration hours, please call:

312-945-MUSE (312-945-6873)

Operations is also in charge of our MuseCon Gophers. If you want to help out, but not sure how much time you can give, consider being a Gopher!

Gophers

Gopher shifts are generally an hour long, but we'll be happy to have your help for however much time you have. Gophering includes all the little jobs that crop up during the convention, anything from lending a hand in the hospitality suite to getting copies made.



REGISTRATION

Registration has relocated to between the main doors and the Grand Ballroom. During the convention, Registration will sell convention memberships and course enrollments (including registration for free classes), as well as MuseCon T-shirts.

Your badge is needed to enter convention programming and hospitality spaces.

MuseCon memberships are transferrable at any time before the badge has been picked up. Once a badge has been picked up, the corresponding membership can no longer be transferred and may only be used by the person named on the membership.

Proof of identity will be required to pick up or transfer a badge.

Your badge remains the property of MuseCon. Attendees violating convention or hotel rules or engaging in illegal behavior will have their membership revoked and be asked to surrender their badge and leave the convention. No refunds will be granted for revoked memberships.

Registration Hours

Friday: Noon - 8:00 pm

Sat 8:30 am - 8:00 pm

Sun 8:30 am - 2:30 pm
(MuseCon 8 memberships available)

Outside of Registration hours, please contact Operations at:
312-945-MUSE (312-945-6873)

Credits & Copyright

Photos by Teresa Prah and Ronald Winsauer, Jr.

All artwork and photos used with permission or under license.

MuseCon wordmark and MuseCon logo courtesy of J.D. Illiad Frazer.

The Wallace & Gromit Filmfest films are shown by special permission from Aardman Animations; thanks to Dave Ifversen.

All other content Copyright 2017 MuseCon, Inc. All rights reserved.

MuseCon supports the intellectual property rights of our contributors, and we are grateful for the use of their work.

Many thanks to Mary Otto for proofreading; any errors still lurking about are the editor's!

HOSPITALITY

MuseCon Munchies

If you need a break, or are hungry or thirsty, MuseCon Munchies (consuite), in room 404 (same corner, but we've moved up a floor!), is the place to be! We've got food and drinks, as well as space to relax and chat.

Please inform the consuite staff (wearing blue aprons) of any dietary restrictions. We have marked food items to the best of our ability, but will be keeping certain items separate to avoid cross-contamination. We do our best to create an environment in which everyone can find something to eat.

A fajita bar buffet will be available on Saturday evening (6-7 pm), and we'll have bacon, bacon, and more bacon for breakfast Saturday and Sunday, and lunch on Saturday; quantities are limited, so please plan accordingly! When the buffet items are gone, they are gone. An area restaurant guide will be available in both MuseCon Munchies and downstairs at Registration.

Additional seating will be available in Rooms 403 and 405.

We ask that any gaming be restricted to room 403, and that gamers understand the limited space available and pack up their games during mealtime and any other busy times as requested by consuite staff.

Snacks and drinks will be available during the following hours:

Friday: 2:45 pm – 1 am

Saturday: 8:30 am – 1 am

Sunday: 8:30 am – 3:00 pm



CODE OF CONDUCT



MuseCon exists for the benefit and enjoyment of all convention attendees. You agree to voluntarily abide by these rules of conduct, and you understand that MuseCon, Inc. (MuseCon's parent corporation) is relying on your cooperation, courtesy, and good judgment.

Any action or behavior that causes excessive discomfort to other attendees, adversely affects MuseCon's relationship with its guests, its venues or the public, breaks any applicable law, code, or regulation, or causes significant disruption to convention operations is strictly forbidden, and may result in MuseCon asking you to leave the convention and possibly asking you not to return in future years.

The following policies are not intended to be an exhaustive list. Please use common sense and good manners.

Legal Matters

Please remember, anything illegal outside the convention is illegal inside the convention.

Alcohol

The state of Illinois and the City of Itasca are very serious about alcohol laws. Knowingly serving alcohol to anyone under the age of 21 is illegal, and will

result in immediate revocation of convention membership and a report to the local authorities. You agree to drink responsibly if you drink at all.

Weapons

No real or realistic-looking firearms are permitted in convention spaces. All other weapons must be peace-bonded and may not be drawn in public areas. If there is a question on the definition of 'realistic', please contact Operations for a ruling.

Any item used as a weapon, or in a threatening manner, will be

treated as a weapon and will be confiscated. In addition, the wielder may be asked to leave the convention.

If you are required to carry a firearm or other weapon by law or employment policy, please contact Operations immediately upon registering at the hotel to present your credentials.

Code of Conduct

General Rules

Badges

Please wear your badge. Without it, you will not be allowed into convention events or places like the Hospitality Suite. Please turn in found badges to Operations or the Registration Desk, and check there if you lose yours. (We may ask for ID – please don't be offended if we don't recognize you.)

Parents & Children

Please supervise (or provide supervision for) your children. Although MuseCon is family-friendly, classes and workshops may include the use of sharp or otherwise dangerous tools and materials, and some activities may not be appropriate for participation by all ages.

Children are not miniature adults, and their behavior can surprise even their parents; please be understanding. Parents and caretakers, please be considerate of the effect of children's behavior on others.

Emergencies

In the event of fire, medical emergency, or other critical situation, please call 911; do not wait for convention staff. In the event of fire, if no one has sounded an alarm, you should do so. If possible, also report the incident to Operations, Security, or any other convention staffer.

Miscellaneous

Useful Information

Convention membership does not exempt you from complying with hotel rules.

This is a family-friendly convention; please keep your clothing, costumes, and public behavior within PG standards.

While many items at MuseCon are interactive and meant to be touched/handled, this is not universally the case. Please respect others' possessions—ask before touching, and put it back where you found it.

Don't be a jerk: practice all the good-behavior skills we learned in grade school.

Code of Conduct

Harassment

Harassment is generally any behavior that annoys, alarms, or threatens another person or group. This includes (but is not limited to) unwanted physical contact, following someone around in a public area without their consent, or threatening to physically attack someone.

Play nice with others. This includes respecting personal space, both physical and emotional: “No” means No. Don’t touch without asking and receiving permission. If you approach someone and they tell you “no” or ask you to leave them alone, your business with them is done. Back off and leave them alone. If you fail to honor their request, they may have a legitimate complaint of harassment.

If you feel you are being harassed, please contact Security or Operations to report the incident. Operations, or any convention staffer, for that matter, will be able to contact the Convention Chair at any time of the day or night. Every report is taken seriously and will be investigated, and appropriate action taken. Please remember that we need to know about any incidents during the convention in order to take action.

If you feel that you have been the victim of criminal conduct, please notify the local police immediately and, if necessary, seek medical attention. Please contact Operations, Security, or hotel staff if you need help seeking emergency services.



THE EMPORIUM

Our 2017 MuseCon Emporium will run Saturday from 10:30 am until 7 pm in Leighton on the 2nd floor. Stop by to see what sort of deals you can make - we'll have treasures to use in your creations as well as the fruits of others' inspirations.

As of press time, our Emporium Vendors are:

Canticles Productions

Music, media, and literature.

Fused Glass by Kathie

Kathie makes Fused Glass wall art, sculptures and jewelry. "I love organic shapes and utilize contour fusing to create a 3D effect. I never know what my kiln will present me with, but when it all comes together just right, it's like Christmas."

Jackdow Creations

(in Marlborough)

Beaded jewelry and other fancies. Fiber delights, yarn, beads, and craft supplies. Also our hand spinning instructor.

Otter Necessities

Lace knitting patterns from past Special Guest Sharon "Crazy Lace Lady" Winsauer, alpaca yarn, and knitting needles. Leatherworking kits and tools.

Stormsister Designs

DIY beading supplies - beads, cabochons, findings, and stringing material.

WoolWeed

facebook.com/jdswoolweed

Needle felted sculptures, needle felting kits, wool spinning kits, roving, spindles, and more fiber arts related items.



CATHERYNNNE M. VALENTE

Guest of Honor



Catherynne M. Valente is a New York Times Bestselling author of fantasy and science fiction novels, short stories, and poetry. She is the winner of the Andre Norton, Tiptree, Prix Imaginales, Eugie Foster Memorial, Mythopoeic, Rhysling, Lambda, Locus, Romantic Times' Critics Choice and Hugo awards. She has been a finalist for the Nebula and World Fantasy Awards. She lives on a small island off the coast

of Maine with her partner, two dogs, two enormous friendly cats and one less enormous, less friendly one, five chickens, a red accordion, an uncompleted master's degree, a roomful of yarn, a spinning wheel with ulterior motives, a cupboard of jam and pickles, a bookshelf full of folktales, an industrial torch, an Oxford English Dictionary, and a DSL connection.

SPECIAL GUEST

Loren Damewood



Loren Damewood has spent most of his life tying knots. The fascination began with knots his older brother learned in the Navy. While many people would see only string, Loren saw beauty as well. Growing up, he was surrounded by people who constantly made things – tools, decorations – whatever was needed, with whatever was at hand. So it was no surprise that Loren used his knot work as decoration. The road from fancy knot work

in string and rope to the unique jewelry he makes today was not a short one. His first attempts at rings went slowly as he taught himself about working with wire. Loren frequently makes his own tools from chopsticks and coat hangers and even draws his own wire. Loren not only has mastered the art of knot-work in wire, he still works in string and cord, and teaches the creation of intricate knotwork in both fiber and wire.



FOR MORE INFO

STAFF

Executive Board

Liana Winsauer
Mary Otto
Dale Sulak
Betsey Langan
Andrea Hawkins-Kamper

Convention Chair

Andrea Hawkins-Kamper

Treasury

Dale Sulak

Technical Services

Network & Web Administration:
Dave Ifversen

Audio, Visual, & Lighting:
Dave Ifversen

Public Relations

Guest of Honor Liaison:
Josh Esler

Hotel Liaison:
Pete Richardson

Logistics:
Robin Winsauer

Marketing:
Xap Esler

Gary Johnson
Rachel Esler

Publications & Signage:
Liana Winsauer

Photography:
Teresa Prah

Member Services

Operations, Security & Gophers:

Isaac Armstrong
Katie McNatt
Penelope Skrzynski
Jillian Denise

Marketplace:

Xap Esler
Liana Winsauer

Registration:

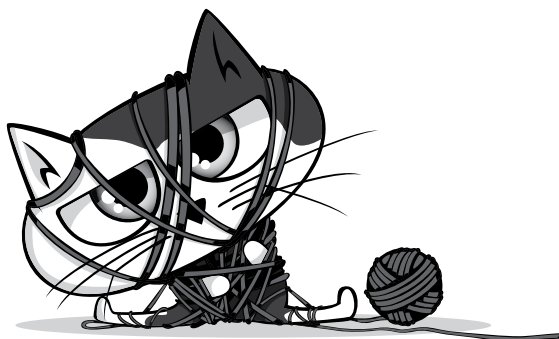
Head: Betsey Langan
Second: Rachel Tucker
Kelley Trombly-Freytag
Eric Wessig
Chris Wallis

Hospitality Suite:

Head: Karen Edwards
Second: Kathy Horning
Melinda Beck
Marie Denise Czech
Joseph Deer
Maria de los Santos
Jan DiMasi
James (Zach) Fulkerson
Jessica Rich
Elsbeth Richardson
Cally Soukup

Programming

Chair: Angela Karash
Pat McManamon
Dwayne Forsyth
Dale Sulak
Ward Christensen



PROGRAMMING

Class Registration & Kits

Some sessions are limited in size or have limited materials available, and may include a fee (set by the Muse). We have noted these sessions; please sign up at the Registration desk or online.

Reminder: if you did not register for a class with that requirement you may not attend without prior approval by the Muse/session host.

Kits/materials will be distributed by the Muse at the relevant session; these are **not** available at Registration or Operations.

A Note on Allergies

A special note to people with allergies: As a small, volunteer-run convention, we do not have a lot of space. This means that all of our sessions and events occur in limited shared places throughout the weekend. If you are allergic to a particular substance please understand that MuseCon cannot ensure that you won't be exposed to that substance during the convention. We ask that you carefully read the descriptions for the

sessions that you are interested in attending – if you are allergic to wool, for example, please do not sign up for a workshop to create an object made with wool components!

Additionally, if your sensitivity is particularly strong, we recommend that you check the schedule for the rooms that your sessions will be in to see if something occurring prior could leave traces that might lead to problematic exposure.

Give Us Your Feedback

Please take a few moments to let us know how things went! Survey forms are available in each function room, at our main Operations desk, and through

the link on our website. Completed paper forms should be placed into the boxes located at the back of the Lakeshore Ballroom or Operations. 13

Canticles & World-Building

Canticles is celebrating its 2nd year as a premier Subscription-Based Production Company. Releasing new literature, music, art and media in a singular and unique High-Fantasy Universe, Canticles brings its viewers and subscribers into a world you've never seen before, alongside lovable characters and a mythology extending four-thousand years.

At MuseCon this year, Matthew R.R. Morrese, Creator of Canticles, is running an entire track tailored to World-Building in a High-Fantasy setting. While the panels create a cohesive lesson plan if you attend them all, each panel can be taken as a singular educational experience if you think you just need a little help developing one aspect of your world. Come join us for help in origination, character development, location creation, and so much more!

Muse Salon

Welcome to the Muse Salon! From fiber to traditional art, jewelry making, and just about anything else you can imagine, we're happy to have it in Marlborough. The center of the Salon features an open format "come as you are" setup where you can grab a chair & knit, sketch, braid, etc., while hanging out with fellow creators and crafters. We'll also have a variety of equipment and technique demonstrations going on, including spinning, calligraphy, chainmail, and costume repair. As a backdrop to this dynamic environment we will be featuring displays of completed projects from our Muses as well our guests and

Which includes you! If you've made something in one of our sessions that you'd like to share & show, bring it to our Muse Salon and display your work for all to see. There are no reservations required, but display space is somewhat limited so will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Muse Salon will be open:
3:00 pm - 9:00 pm Friday
9:00 am - 9:00 pm Saturday
9:00 am - 2:00 pm Sunday.

(note: all displays must be picked up by 3:00 pm Sunday afternoon)

Open Programming

Not all of the opportunities at MuseCon run on a schedule; in fact some don't even have a specific "home base"!

MuseCon's Open Programming consists of the Solder World Workshop and Salon gatherings, "DIY Session" opportunities, and "Ask Me About..." assistants!

In addition to Solder World, Stanford will host our Open Workshop, featuring space to gather and work on your own tool-intensive projects in a friendly and helpful environment. Meanwhile, Marlborough plays home base to our Salon Group, a likewise-helpful and friendly gang of fiber, textile, and visual arts folk. Come play with us and let your creativity loose!

Open Programming Workshop & Solder World

Solder, heat, creation! Stanford is the place to work on projects in stained glass and build blinkies.

What's a blinkie, you ask? Why, those cool badges made of circuit boards and LEDs. There's a free beginner blinkie building session in Stanford from 9:00 – 11:45 am Saturday morning, featuring the Atomic MuseCon blinkie, and the room will be open for blinkie construction most of the weekend.

We have stained glass kits in a variety of skill levels and sizes. Techs will be available most of the weekend to guide you through the steps needed to turn your kit into a piece of art.

In the spirit of the free for all, one free atomic MuseCon blinkie, bird house, catapults per membership to be built in the workshop room. We have no problem selling additional ones, as those monies will go toward making additional kits available for others who want to try their hand at soldering and assembling blinkies.

Note: Stanford hosts projects involving solder. Please keep this in mind if you have relevant sensitivities. Due to the extensive use of solder and flux, food and open beverages are **not** allowed in Stanford.

Open Programming Ask Me About...

Looking for a simple way to get a bit of help on a topic but missed the class? Having trouble with a technique not covered this year? Or there's just this one quick question on how that thing over there works... Our solution? Look for someone wearing an "Ask me about" badge sporting a ribbon for your topic. Whether you have questions about particular topics, or MuseCon itself, these are people who will be happy to work with you!

Like many things at MuseCon, this is a community effort. Do you have skills & knowledge you're willing to share with others? Please stop by our Operations & Registration area for more information and to request your own badge, plus ribbon(s) to show what **you** can advise on. We're always looking for more contributors.

OPEN PROGRAMMING

Build an Arduino Robot

Stanford

\$30 material fee

Limited no. of kits

Build a robot that is either a "line follower" or controllable with your smartphone. We could have done a crowd sourcing effort, but we'd rather work on actually creating the kit. We love it, and we know you will too. Obligatory disclaimer: smart phone not included.

2D Kits

Build a Blinkie MuseCon Atom

Stanford

Limited no. of kits

This super-easy blinkie is 3.25" by 3.0" Made from thin, lightweight, double-sided circuit board, it has a pin, or you can wear it on a lanyard. The atomic blinkie supports 3 smart LEDs in a variety of colors. This blinkie was designed specifically for MuseCon and introduced in 2012 that's been so popular that we've had runs in red, blue, white, black, and green. A special thanks to MSKIrvin for the artwork!

Our Blinkie Overlords

Open Programming

**Hot Glass
Frit Fusing**
Stanford
\$10 material fee
Limited no. of kits

We're going to cast glass! We even have some special UV-flourescing frit (crushed glass). We'll supply a mold and various types of frit to customize your medallion. We have limited space in the kiln and time, so sign up to ensure your place, and ***you must complete your medallion by Saturday at 3:00 pm***, as time will be needed to fuse the glass and begin cooling.
Teri Prael, Dale Sulak

Maskerade
Stanford
Sat. 1:30-4:15 pm
Limited materials

When making bargains at the crosroads, it's often best to go masked. We have a variety of blank mask forms for you to decorate to suit your fancy. Ribbons, baubles, sparklies, and any anything else we can come up with. (Mask blanks are a legacy from recently-deceased long-time costumer and fan Bill Dunbar) For kids of all ages. This is an open session until we run out of mask blanks.
Wendy Zdrodowski

Flower Crowns!
Stanford
Sat. 3:00-4:15 pm
\$5 material fee
Limited materials

Take a few flowers, some glue, a simple band and voila! You've got a beautiful flower crown!
Becky Trombly-Freytag

**Handspinning
201: The Spinning
Wheel**
Marlborough
Special times
Limited class size

If you've taken a handspinning class and are ready for the next step, learn how to spin on a wheel. These 1-on-1 sessions will include an introduction to the spinning wheel, types of wheels, wheel care, set up, spinning a single, and plying. A beginning hand spinning class is not a prerequisite, but students should be familiar with basic concepts (twist, ply, draft).

30-minute slots are available throughout the weekend, at one of two wheels. Sign up in advance, then choose your time slot in the Salon beginning Friday. Fiber will be provided for student practice, with additional fiber available for purchase.

Jeanne DeVore

Open Programming

Woodworking:

Bat House

Stanford

\$15 material fee

Limited no. of kits

Do you like bats and hate mosquitos? Then, you need this 2-chamber cedar bat house; easy to build and easy to mount. Will bats actually take up residence? They did in Dale's!

2D Kits

Woodworking:

Free Bird House

Stanford

Limited no. of kits

This year we are bringing back the immensely popular wood kit project, the bird house!

Dwayne Forsyth

Woodworking:

Free Catapult

Stanford

Limited no. of kits

A table-top catapult! We typically think of a catapult being used in the Middle Ages to destroy the walls of a castle, but we know you just want to build one to launch mini marshmallows and dominate all those who oppose you!

Dwayne Forsyth

Stained Glass

Workshop

Stanford

Limited nos. of kits

Oooh! Shiny, colorful, require molten metal to build! All stained glass kits come with pre-cut glass, copper foil, solder, and as much, or little, help as desired. Each kit for the larger panels feature different colors and textures of glass, choose from available options at pickup.

Stained Glass:

MuseCon Mask

Stanford

\$12 material fee

This is a nine piece, roughly 2.375" x 2.75" kit that you can use as a suncatcher or pendant. This is the comedy portion of the mask set one would see in conjunction with theater, with its history rooted in ancient Athens.

2D Kits

Stained Glass:

14" Panel with

Beveled Insets

\$45 material fee

This is an impressive 14" square panel with beveled insets.

2D Kits

Stained Glass:

Engraved Center

Bevel Panel

\$45 material fee

This is our largest stained glass kit at 19 pieces, to build an 8.5"x11" panel with a 5"x7" center bevel.

2D Kits

FRIDAY

Friday, 3:00 - 4:15 pm

**What are They
Circling For?**
Barrington

What are those “circles” that appear late night on con schedules? Why are they circling, are they open to everyone? Yes MuseCon has music circles every night (and a NecroMuse on Sunday to close out the con). Music or Filk circles are about sharing your creative side. Do you have a song you need to share but don’t play an instrument, don’t sing but have a poem, or play an instrument. Come learn about music circles styles, etiquette, and participating in these great collaborations.

Pat McManamon

**Smashbook:
MuseCon Edition**
Carlyle

Smashbooks are a mash up of collage and scrapbooking, and are a fun way to journal. See examples of Smashbooks, then make your own! We’ll start with a blank book, decorate the cover, make a pocket, title page, calendar page, and a collage page. Learn how to insert handouts in different ways, create sections, and more. All materials provided. This is a judgement-free zone, where creativity is encouraged, and artistic skill is not a requirement, because messy is beautiful.

Mary Otto

**World Building:
Where do I Start?**
Trafalgar

Ever started to create a new world, then stop because you just didn’t know where to start? In this panel you’ll learn all you need to know about organizing your world building process.

Matthew Morrese

Friday, 4:30 - 5:45 pm

**Drum & Dance
Circle**
Lakeshore

Feel the Rhythm! Come join us in a celebration of the heartbeat of music itself. Bring your drums, marimbas, shakers, bells, hands, feet, movement and smiles. All levels of drummers and dancers are welcome.

Cathy McManamon, Jason Neerenberg

**String Bracelets
for All Ages**
Carlyle

Referred to as “sailor” or “friendship” bracelets, these are circular braids tied in cotton twine using a printed guide wrapped around a form. Teen or adult aides for those under age 8 recommended.

Loren Damewood

**Beginning
Knitting**
Edwardian
Limited class size
\$5 materials fee

You’ve always meant to learn how to knit but never quite got around to it. Here’s your chance to learn the basics – casting on and the basic stitches.

Andrea Ewing

I Void Warranties
Hampton

Ever wondered what’s inside of things like DVD players and speakers? Disassemble some tech and find out! Kids, bring an adult along to help with tools.

Josh Esler

Friday, 7:30 - 8:45 pm

**Opening
Ceremonies**
Lakeshore

Welcome to MuseCon 7! We will meet our Guest of Honor Catherynne Valente and find out what’s in store for the weekend.

Catherynne Valente, Loren Damewood, Andrea Hawkins-Kamper, Staff

**The Art of
Storytelling**
Barrington

Whether we watch a movie, read a book or listen to an audio... There is a certain artistic nature which goes into creating an enjoyable story. This panel is designed to take a look at what this artistic nature is and how it varies from one medium to another.

Travis Clemmons

Friday, 7:30 - 8:45 pm

Badge Bling-out *Carlyle*

At this Make-and-Take you can drop in and deck out your badge with all the creativity that is the soul of MuseCon. A wide array of embellishments will be offered buffet-style, when make your way to the assembly station for “expert” help gluing it all together. Wear your creation with pride for the rest of the con! **Mary Otto**

Open Gaming *Edwardian* Until 11:45 pm

We’ve got lots of space and tables for gamers. Bring your favorite games and friends!
You!

World Building: Do I Need a Past, Present & Future? *Trafalgar*

Yes, you do need a timeline! Ever wonder just how much story is too much story? In this continuation of the World Building track, you’ll learn how to weave the webs of time in your universe, and how much you need to show versus tell.
Matthew Morrese

Friday, 9:00 - 10:15 pm

Moonshine Concert *Lakeshore*

Moonshine is an acoustic group playing folk, pop, blues, and original music. In addition to a variety of coffee houses and cafés around the Northwest suburbs of Chicago, Moonshine can be found shedding its light at music festivals, the filking events of science fiction conventions, open mics, and private events.
**Margie Dziadzka, Pete Dziadzka,
Jim Multra, Alfredo Uribe**

Make & Take Fan Craft *Carlyle* Limited materials

In this Make-and-Take you can drop in and make a keychain souvenir! Choose from a variety of musecon logo designs or make your own design on the spot. See how you can make your own fannish jewelry using simple craft supplies with images you print on your home printer. Limit one per person. Available until supplies run out.
Mary Otto

Friday, 10:30 pm - Dawn?

Friday Open Circle

Lakeshore

Come one, come all, whether you sing, play an instrument, have a spoken piece, or just want to listen to the wonderful music. At times we'll be jamming, at times we'll all be listening to a wonderful number. A bit of filk, a bit of folk, a bit of rock...all are welcome here. Whether it's your first time, or you're an old hand, come and participate.

You!

Friday Alternate Music Space

Barrington

More space for singers, instrument players, and listeners to gather and do their thing. As with the Open Circle in Lakeshore, at times we'll be jamming, at times we'll all be listening to a wonderful number...a bit of filk, a bit of folk, a bit of rock – all are welcome here.

You!

SATURDAY

Saturday, 9:00 - 10:15 am

Silver Celtic Knot Bracelets

Edwardian

Until 11:45

Limited class size

\$50 material fee

This is a silver cuff-style bracelet that Loren uses to teach the management of wire in knot-tying. The work is done in two dimensions, and instructions and tools are available, along with the instructor's close attention.

Loren Damewood

Youth Pool Meetup

Pool

Who wants to meet in the pool for some splash-time fun? Big kids welcome, too. No lifeguard/staff on duty! You **must** provide supervision for your kids!

Rachel Esler

Saturday, 10:30 – 11:45 am

Home Recording *Lakeshore*

Life's a lot easier these days for those of us who don't have the time, energy, or funds for a recording studio and an engineer/producer to help us get our music out into the world. Want to learn about affordable gear and digital recording programs that you can use in your coat-closet recording studio? Learn tricks for getting yourself in the zone to record no matter where you are, where and how to start, and where to go from there.

David Ifversen, Bill Roper

Journeying to Fairyland *Barrington*

The Fairyland series by our Guest of Honor Catherynne Valente began as a book much beloved by a character in another of her books. It wound up becoming a real book – The Girl Who Circumnavigated Fairyland in a Ship of Her Own Making. Come hear the amazing tale of September's Journey.

Catherynne Valente

Dye a Scarf with Kool-Aid!

Carlyle

Limited class size

\$8 material fee

Kool-Aid is a non-toxic permanent dye that can tint wool and silk. We'll dye silk scarves using Kool-Aid, and then heat-set them in the sun. This is a two-part class: in the first, we'll dye our scarves, then they'll "cook" overnight in a car. In the morning we'll rinse them, and they'll be ready to take home, to dry, or to rinse again. You get a silk scarf blank, Kool Aid, baggies, equipment, and supplies to dye one scarf. Additional scarf blanks may be available for purchase. Disposable gloves will be provided but wear clothes you're not afraid to get dye on – remember, Kool-Aid is permanent! Kids under 10 must be accompanied by an adult.

Jeanne DeVore

Saturday, 10:30 - 11:45 am

Music Theory 101 *Hampton*

If you've always wanted to be able to read music but never got around to taking instrument lessons, here's your chance! Bring a pencil and your pattern-finding skills—music is a more consistent language than English, it just has more symbols. Treble/bass clef, note/rest values, time signatures, key signatures, and major scales will be covered.

Jen Midkiff

World Building: Characters! *Trafalgar*

This panel will focus on creating captivating characters for your world – from protagonist to antagonist to the red-shirt.

Matthew Morrese

Saturday, 1:30 - 2:45 pm

Random Fractions Concert *Lakeshore*

Take some folk, some filk, rock, guitar, bass, vocal harmony, add a pinch of fantasy, fantastic creatures, and faraway places, and what do you get? Random Fractions! They'll be playing songs from their newly released CD and classic favorites, so come join them on a musical journey to here and there and back again.

Cathy McManamon, Jason Neerenberg

Alternative Funding of Creative Projects *Barrington*

Patreon, Kickstarter, subscriptions and pay as you go – the creative artist now has many ways to connect to their audience and help fund their artistic creations. Our panel will discuss some of the ways they've used and the pros and cons of each.

Catherynne Valente, Matthew Morrese, Jen Midkiff

Saturday, 1:30 - 2:45 pm

An Introduction to Color Knitting

Carlyle

Limited Class Size

You've looked longingly at beautiful Faire Isle knitting patterns but found working with more than one color to be a lesson in frustration. This workshop will help you get going with two color knitting by starting with a simple wristlet pattern. You should be comfortable with double point needles and basic knitting techniques such as casting on/off. Bring double point needles suitable for working with worsted weight yarn.

Mary Peed

Beginning Arduino

Edwardian

Limited Class Size

What's an Arduino, and what can I do with it? Learn about the open-source microprocessor platform widely used for hobbies, art, science, and music. We will put together a couple simple circuits and programs.

Garrett Hartwig

A Portable Photography Studio

Hampton

There are times when a Media Professional needs to walk into a Business Office, a Conference Room or a Hotel Suite and be ready to shoot Photographs or Video with less than one hour of setup time. So what are the bare essentials needed for helping the project be both good and fast?

Travis Clemmons

Saturday, 3:00 - 4:15 pm

Choose Your Own Improv Workshop

Lakeshore

We'll begin with a few basic improv warm-ups and exercises, and then participants will vote for what they would like to focus on: playing "Whose Line is it Anyway?"-style short form games, the basics of long-form scenic improv, or working on developing teambuilding and listening skills through improv. Participants will be interacting and moving around, so please wear comfortable clothing and come prepared to play, have fun, and say "yes and"!

Brian Sebby

Saturday, 3:00 - 4:15 pm

Finger Picking *Barrington*

A specific style of guitar playing brought to life! Whether you've been finger picking for years or have never heard of it before, here's your chance to learn tips and tricks to help you get to the next level of your playing.

Chas Somdahl

Play with Clay *Carlyle*

Limited class size
\$5 material fee

Polymer clay feels and works just like kids' modeling clay, but doesn't dry out until you want it to, and it can be used to make very detailed, colorful jewelry and sculptures. We'll learn about various kinds of clay, how to work with it, then get busy with basic techniques to make surprisingly sophisticated beads and pendants. I'll bake your creations after class so you'll have durable, finished pieces to take home. Some experience with polymer clay (Sculpey or Fimo) is helpful but not necessary. We'll be working with razor blades and other implements of slicing and poking, so children must have supervision. Cost includes several colors of clay and a few basic supplies needed for the techniques we learn.

Leslie Larkins

Chain Mail **Workshop**

Edwardian
Limited class size
\$5 material fee

Learn to create jewelry starting from just little rings. We'll be using the helm chain pattern to make a pendant or earrings. The fee covers the rings, findings, and printed instructions. Please bring 2 pairs of small pliers. The instructor has extra for loan during the class, but not many.

Jason Betts

The History of **Cheironomy**

Hampton

Cheironomy, the practice of using hand gestures to conduct vocal music, history and demonstration

Kerri-Ellen Kelly

Saturday, 3:00 - 4:15 pm

**World-Building:
Societies,
Environments
& Creatures!**
Trafalgar

How unique is too unique? Learn how to fill your world with unique yet familiar designs on society, environment, creatures and the overall lay of the land with this next stop in the World-Building track.

Matthew Morrese

**Nature Walk for
Kids of All Ages
Outdoors!**

We'll explore the extensive park-like grounds outside our lovely hotel. Meet in the hotel lobby by registration.

Jen Midkiff

Saturday, 4:30 - 5:45 pm

**MuseCon's
Eternal
Ukulele Summit:
2017 Edition**
Barrington

We're still at it! Bring a uke, borrow a uke, teach a song or learn some new ones. Absolute beginners welcome; also hipsters, guitarists who seek the light, actual Hawaiians, and we who know vaudeville can never die so long as we carry four strings and the truth.

Lisa Golladay, Bill Higgins

Knit a Cat Hat!
Carlyle
Limited class size

You've seen them at protests and maybe wanted one for yourself. We'll learn the Kitchener Stitch, which is the secret to neatly finishing off, and start a mini-cat hat. You'll get yarn for a hat and a simple pattern that you can size to fit any head and accommodate any kind of yarn. You should be comfortable with double point needles and basic knitting techniques such as casting on. Yarn provided, please bring size 7-8 double point needles, 5" preferred.

Ange Karash

Saturday, 4:30 - 5:45 pm

Flat Spiral Bead Stitch

Edwardian

Limited class size

Free to \$5, see notes

Now that you're hooked on beading learn the flat spiral stitch that creates a flexible design that's great for necklaces and bracelets. We'll make a 2-inch sample which can be used as a gauge swatch. No charge for the lesson, if you take nothing home. Other options: \$2 to take home your sample, \$5 for a bead mat, bead scoop, needle, & sample. Beading experience not required, 12 years and older please. Please bring a magnifier if needed.

Jan DiMasi

Saturday, 7:30 - 8:45 pm

In the Cities of Coin & Spice

Lakeshore

Join our Guest of Honor Catherynne Valente as she reads from some of her best known works, which in turn inspired wonderful music.

Catherynne Valente

A Tribute to Peter Sallis: A Wallace and Gromit Filmfest

Barrington

Until 10:15 pm

Peter Sallis, the distinctive voice of Wallace in the Wallace and Gromit films, left us this year. MuseCon pays tribute to the actor in a viewing of many of the Wallace and Gromit films.

A big thank-you to Dave Ifversen for contacting Aardman Animations for permission to show the films!

Shawn the Sheep?

Open Gaming

Edwardian

Until 11:45 pm

We've got lots of space and tables for gamers. Bring your favorite games and friends!

Gaming People

Competing Photography Religions: Nikon vs Canon vs Sony??

Hampton

Just like a human being, a brand of camera has its own personality. And like making a friend or embracing a religious belief, a large part of finding the right camera depends on how good a job the individual and the machine do when it comes to understanding each other.

Travis Clemmons

Saturday, 7:30 - 8:45 pm

**World-Building:
You Can't
do it Alone**
Trafalgar

No, you really can't. When creating an entire universe that's new and unique, don't do it alone! In this panel, you'll learn how to balance creative control, how to look for the right collaborators and how to truly understand this single concept – a world is not a single person with a single idea; it is a Creator that shares a story which others want to be a part of.

Matthew Morrese

Saturday, 9:00 - 10:15 pm

Swing dancing!
Lakeshore

Join our master of knots, Loren Damewood, for some good ol' swing dancing! No experience necessary! Come and show off your moves!

Loren Damewood

Saturday, 10:30 pm - Dawn?

**Saturday Open
Circle**
Lakeshore

Come one, come all, whether you sing, play an instrument, have a spoken piece, or just want to listen to the wonderful music. At times we'll be jamming, at times we'll all be listening to a wonderful number. A bit of filk, a bit of folk, a bit of rock...all are welcome here. Whether it's your first time, or you're an old hand, come and participate.

You!

**Saturday
Alternate
Music Space**
Barrington

More space for singers, instrument players, and listeners to gather and do their thing. As with the Open Circle in Lakeshore, at times we'll be jamming, at times we'll all be listening to a wonderful number...a bit of filk, a bit of folk, a bit of rock – all are welcome here.

You!

SUNDAY

Sunday, 9:00 - 10:15 am

MuseCon

Meetups!

Barrington: Fiber

Arts & Knitting

Carlyle: Tech &

3D Printing

Edwardian: Jewelry

Hampton: Writing

& Visual Arts

Leighton: Music &

Performing Arts

Grab a quick breakfast then meet up with other attendees sharing the same interests. The MuseCon class rooms will be taken over for members to gather, chat, and show and tell about their projects - past, present or future. Completely informal and social, these meetups are a chance to talk with people from experienced experts enthusiastic newbies, and to connect with other people who get it. Bring your stuff to show off, or to put your head-scratcher problems to the collective wisdom. All are welcome regardless of experience.

Sunday, 10:30 - 11:45 am

Modifying Cheap

Microphones

Carlyle

Looking for that perfect microphone? Pick up some cheap large diaphragm condenser microphones. They sound OK, but there are some problems. A discussion of how simple modifications can improve the sound and appearance of these microphones.

David Ifversen

Chain Mail

Workshop

Edwardian

Limited class size

\$5 material fee

Learn to create jewelry starting from just little rings. We'll be using the helm chain pattern to make a pendant or earrings. The fee covers the rings, findings, and printed instructions. Please bring 2 pairs of small pliers. The instructor has extra for loan during the class, but not many.

Jason Betts

Sunday, 10:30 - 11:45 am

Music Theory 102 *Hampton*

So you can read music and maybe even play an instrument. But you want a little deeper understanding of how music is constructed and maybe even want to try your hand at creating your own. In this workshop Jen will explore music theory further and how it can improve your musical skills. Bring a pencil.

Jen Midkiff

Beginning Arduino *Leighton* *Limited Class Size*

What's an Arduino, and what can I do with it? Learn about the open-source microprocessor platform widely used for hobbies, art, science, and music. We will put together a couple simple circuits and programs.

Garrett Hartwig

World-Building: Longevity and Goals *Trafalgar*

In this last panel in our world-building track, we will discuss the longevity of your world, and what your goal is for its future as Creator.

Matthew Morrese

Sunday, Noon - 1:15 pm

Chanting & Singing *Lakeshore*

How is chanting different from other kinds of singing? Why repeat the same 1-4 lines over and over? Learn simple chants from all over the world, how and why they are used, and how to make them dynamic and fun by adding harmonies, descants, and simple instrumentation. Participation is expected and all ages are welcome.

Cathy McManamon, Jason Neerenberg

Broadside Ballads *Barrington*

Come for an exploration and examples of Broadside Ballads of the 16th and 17th centuries. We may do group participation if desired.

Kerri-Ellen Kelly

Sunday, Noon - 1:15 pm

Giant Weaving Group Project *Carlyle*

Four to six people will gather around a table and weave a rug using giant rope-like yarn. At the end of class, a drawing will be held at each table, and the winner will take home the finished rug! Weaving experience helpful but not required.

Mary Otto

Staying Out of the Frog Pond *Edwardian*

Every knitter has been there – you look at your current WIP (work in progress) and realize you’ve made a mistake somewhere. It might be the wrong color, a slipped stitch or a drunken-looking cable. Do you rip it out? Do you try and fix it – and if so, how? In this panel Mary will discuss some common mistakes and how to fix them, as well as tips for preventing them with samples and examples to look at. Bring your own knitting problems as well!

Mary Peed

The Story Chapter: What a Concept! *Hampton*

When writing a novel or crafting a screenplay chapters are the building blocks which need to be properly assembled in order to create an entertaining story. Like the mile markers of a marathon, chapters help the author chart a steady pace to ensure that the story finishes when it should, instead of simply rushing to the end or appearing to drag on forever.

Travis Clemmons

Catherynne Valente’s Latest Works *Leighton*

Our Guest of Honor Catherynne Valente will read excerpts from some of her latest works.

Catherynne Valente

Sunday, 1:30 - 2:45 pm

Jamming Workshop *Lakeshore*

Have you ever wanted to join a music circle that's banging away, but weren't sure how, or felt like your skills weren't up to snuff to play with the people around you? Come for a friendly, inclusive environment where we'll discuss etiquette, confidence, and enjoying what you bring to the jam! Bring an instrument, bring a drum, bring your voice, and join in.

Chas Somdahl

Smashbook: Show and Tell *Carlyle*

Come and show off your book, add some more things and trade ideas with others.

Mary Otto

Knitting with Double Point Needles

Edwardian

Limited class size

\$10 material fee

Get started knitting with double point needles. Jen will walk you through casting on, arranging your stitches and those awkward first few rounds. Soon you'll be on your way to creating seam-free socks, mittens and hats.

Jen Midkiff

Sunday, 3:00 pm - 4:15 pm

Closing Ceremonies & Klingon Pop Warrior Concert *Lakeshore*

It's been a fun weekend at MuseCon, but now it's time to show off what we've learned and say good-bye, followed (3:30-ish) by a special performance by the Klingon Pop Warrior! The Klingon Pop Warrior is a unique and fun experience for audiences of all ages, featuring tongue-firmly-in-cheek humor as the best of today's popular music is brought to you in the original Klingon.

Catherynne Valente, Loren Damewood, Klingon Pop Warrior, Andrea Hawkins-Kamper, Staff

Sunday, 6:00 pm - Midnight

Necro-Muse Post-Con Party *Barrington*

Come to our Necro-Muse post-con music party on Sunday evening – we'll be in the last room open, starting when everything else closes, as the creativity carries on for one last circle! 33

Friday Programming

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Friday	Lakeshore	Barrington	Carlisle	Edwardian	Hampton	Trafalgar	Other
3:00 - 4:15 pm		Music Circles	Smashbook: MuseCon Edition	\$R Beginning Knitting		Worldbuilding: Starting	
4:30 - 5:45 pm	Drum & Dance Circle		String Bracelets		I Void Warranties		
6:00 - 7:15 pm	Dinner Break						
7:30 - 8:45 pm	Opening Ceremonies	The Art of Storytelling	Badge Bling-Out	Open Gaming		Worldbuilding: Timelines	
9:00 - 10:15 pm	Moonshine Concert		Make & Take Fan Craft				
10:30 - 11:45 pm	Friday Open Circle	Alternate Music Space					

\$ = Material fee, see description R = Limited class size, pre-registration recommended

Saturday Morning-Afternoon Programming

Saturday	Lakeshore	Barrington	Carlyle	Edwardian	Hampton	Trafalgar	Other
9:00 - 10:15 am				\$R Silver Celtic Knot Bracelet			Youth Swim
10:30 - 11:45 am	Home Recording	Journey to Fairyland	\$R Kool-Aid Scarf		Music Theory 101	Worldbuilding: Characters	
Lunch Break							
Noon - 1:15 pm							
1:30 - 2:45 pm	Random Fractions Concert	Alt Funding of Creative Projects	R Beginning Color Knitting	R Beginning Arduino	Portable Photography Studio		
3:00 - 4:15 pm	Choose Your Own Improv!	Finger Picking	\$R Play with Clay!	\$R Chain Mail Workshop	History of Cheironomy	Worldbuilding: Societies	Nature Walk for Kids of All Ages
4:30 - 5:45 pm		Ukulele Summit	R Knit a Cat Hat	\$R Flat Spiral Bead Stitch			
6:00 - 7:15 pm	Dinner Break						

\$ = Material fee, see description R = Limited class size, pre-registration recommended

Saturday Evening Programming

Saturday	Lakeshore	Barrington	Carlyle	Edwardian	Hampton	Trafalgar	Other
7:30 - 8:45 pm	In the Cities of Coin and Spice	Wallace & Gromit Film Festival		Open Gaming	Competing Photography Religions	Worldbuilding: You Can't do it All	
9:00 - 10:15 pm	Swing Dancing						
10:30 - 11:45 pm	Saturday Open Circle	Alternate Music Space					

Open Programming - Stanford, unless noted

\$R Build a Blinkie*

\$R Build an Arduino Robot

\$R Handspinning 201: The Spinning Wheel - Marlborough, special times

\$R Hot Glass Frit Fusing

\$R Make a Flower Crown, Sat. 3:00 - 4:15

* Free blinkie session Saturday morning, general Build-a-Blinkie all weekend

\$ = Material fee, see description **R** = Limited class size, pre-registration recommended

Maskerade, Sat. 1:30 - 4:15

\$R Stained Glass Workshop

\$R Wood Kit: Bat House

R Wood Kit: Birdhouse

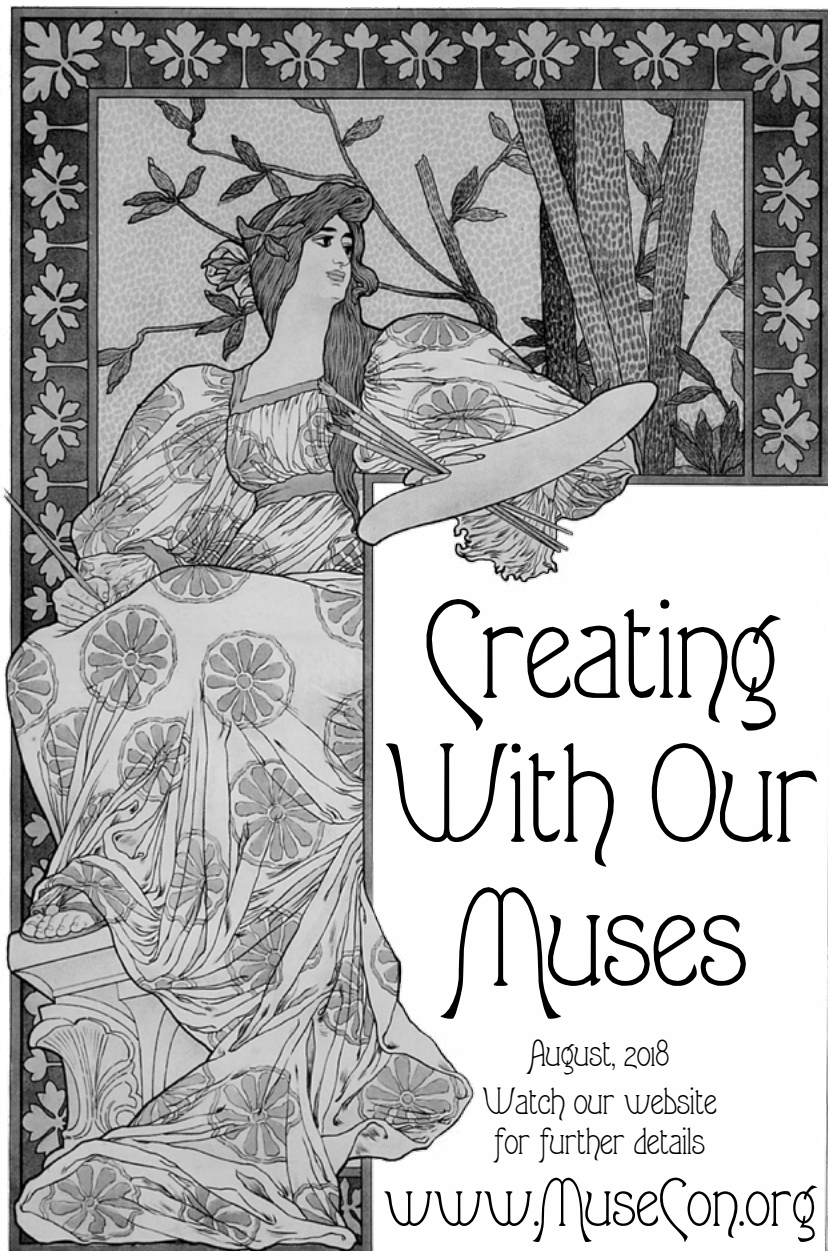
R Wood Kit: Catapult

Sunday Programming

Sunday	Lakeshore	Barrington	Carlyle	Edwardian	Hampton	Leighton	Trataigar
9:00 - 10:15 am		Fiber Arts & Knitting Meetup	Tech & 3D Printing Meetup	Jewelry Meetup		Performing Arts & Music Meetup	Writing & Visual Arts Meetup
10:30 - 11:45 am			Modding Cheap Microphones	\$R Chain Mail Workshop	Music Theory 102	R Beginning Arduino	Worldbuilding: Longevity & Goals
Noon - 1:15 pm	Chanting & Singing	Broadside Ballads	Giant Weaving Group Project	Staying Out of the Frog Pond	The Story Chapter: What a Concept!	Catherynne Valentine's Latest Works	
1:30 - 2:45 pm	Jamming Workshop		Smashbook Show & Tell	\$R Knitting with Double Points			
3:00 - 4:15 pm	Closing Ceremonies & Klingon Pop Warrior Concert						
6:00 - ?		Necro-Muse Music Circle					

\$ = Material fee, see description **R** = Limited class size, pre-registration recommended

MUSECON



Creating With Our Muses

August, 2018

Watch our website
for further details

www.MuseCon.org