

Call for Papers: Intelligences: A Speculative Fiction Across Media Conference 2023
presented by EagleCon

Dates: Wednesday, October 18th through Saturday, October 21st

Locations:

Oct 18 (Wed) & Oct 19 (Thu): Cal State LA, 3rd floor of the University-Student Union.

Oct 20 (Fri) & Oct 21 (Sat): Courtyard Los Angeles: Monterey Park

Attendees can stay at the Courtyard throughout the event, as it is only a 10-minute rideshare away from campus.

Theme: The theme for this year's event is **Intelligences**. For centuries, scientific discourses and speculative genres have used an array of assumptions about intelligence and sentience to create hierarchies of species, races, genders, and cultures. Speculative genres have also proven to be especially powerful in challenging these assumptions and hierarchies. Intelligence has served in stories to justify expropriating resources, to argue for equal rights, and to warn about threatening creations such as Artificial Intelligence (AI).

The organizers welcome proposals for 12- to 15-minute presentations on intelligences in speculative genres of any medium (including art, music, comics, games, television, film, and literature). In keeping with the tradition of EagleCon, we also welcome proposals for 12- to 15-minute presentations on any aspect of diversity in speculative genres across media. In addition to proposals for individual presentations, we will consider proposals for panels of two to four people.

Submissions and Deadline: The conference will accept proposals on a rolling basis until the deadline on August 31, 2023. Acceptance decisions will typically take 7 days from the day of submission. The first draft of the program will be posted on Sept 10. For more information on submissions, see the submissions portal here:

<https://forms.gle/UGwdALJBB4U3kJLb6>

Registration: For graduate students and low-income attendees, conference registration is \$60. All other attendees must pay a conference registration fee of \$100. The event is free for members of the Cal State LA community and members of the Art Directors Guild.

Accommodations: The conference room rate at the Courtyard Los Angeles: Monterey Park is \$169 a night plus tax. For more information about the hotel, see the website

here: <https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/laxmp-courtyard-los-angeles-monterey-park/overview/>

The Conference: EagleCon at Cal State LA is devoted to the examination and celebration of diversity in science fiction, fantasy, and speculative genres across media. Founded by the Cross-Cultural Centers at Cal State Los Angeles (the Golden Eagles), EagleCon is sponsored on campus by the University-Student Union and the College of Arts and Letters. Our Founding Sponsor is the Art Directors Guild (IATSE Local 800), who annually provide panelists, staffing, and an exhibition of artwork for the event.

As a part of its 10th anniversary celebration, EagleCon is launching the first annual Speculative Fiction Across Media (SFAM LA) conference. This event will bring together creators from the entertainment industries of Los Angeles with scholars from around the world to discuss and explore the history and current state of diversity in speculative genres. On Oct 18 & Oct 19, there will be one stream of entertainment industry panels and one stream of scholarly presentations in one-hour blocks that match the university class schedule. On Oct 20 & Oct 21, there will be one stream of industry panels and three streams of scholarly presentations in blocks of one hour and fifteen minutes. The event as a whole will provide unique opportunities for scholars to interact with artists and creators who have worked on such properties as *Star Trek*, *True Blood*, *The Walking Dead*, *Star Wars*, *Lucifer*, *Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings*, and many more.

As a part of the event, EagleCon gives four awards that are designed to acknowledge outstanding contributions to the entertainment industries:

- **Octavia E. Butler Memorial Award:** this award is given out in honor of Cal State LA alumna Octavia E. Butler to celebrate a creator whose oeuvre exemplifies the spirit of her work. Previous awardees are Tananarive Due, Nalo Hopkinson, Steven Barnes, Nnedi Okorafor, and John Jennings.
- **Prism Award:** this award is given to honor outstanding contributions to diversity in science fiction and fantasy. Previous awardees include George Takei, Brandon Easton, Natalie Chaidez, Cheo Hodari Coker, and Michael and Denise Okuda.
- **Imaginator Award:** this award is given to honor wondrous achievement in visual conceptualization in the art departments of film and television. Previous awardees are Oliver Scholl, Rick Carter, Wynn Thomas, and Dawn Brown. The 2023 awardee will be graphic designer Martin Charles.
- **Lemonade Award:** created by Nalo Hopkinson, this award is for acts of kindness by individuals and organizations that further science fiction community.

Previous awardees are K. Tempest Bradford, Jaymee Goh, and The 501st Legion.