

Subject: CoKoCon 2018 - Beth Cato, Charities and Workshops
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31 Aug - 3 Sep, 2018

CONKOPELLI

COKOCOCON

COPPERCON

Phoenix, AZ

[CoKoCon](#) Update for Monday, July 30. We'll be updating you weekly up to the con! Note: attendance will be **capped at 500** so get your membership soon!

BETH CATO

Last week, we focused on Harry Turtledove, our Author Guest of Honor, who will be travelling in from California for CoKoCon. He's written over a hundred books in his four decade career and won a slew of awards.

We're also very happy to honor Beth Cato as our Local Author Guest of Honor. While her career is more recent and she has less books to her name than Harry, she's really making that name noticed and you will surely see it more and more as the years move on.

Her debut was *The Clockwork Dagger*, a steampunk adventure for an orphan turned medician called Octavia Leander, which was a finalist for the Locus Award for First Novel. The second half of the story, *The Clockwork Crown*, was an RT Reviewers' Choice finalist, and *Wings of Sorrow and Bone*, a novella set in Octavia's world was a Nebula Award nominee.

Her new *Blood of Earth* trilogy begins in 1906 in a fantastic alternate San Francisco, where a headstrong young geomancer named Ingrid Carmichael finds herself caught up in intrigue, murder and folklore in such a way that leaves her and the city vulnerable to attack. *Breath of Earth* and *Call of Fire* are published, while *Roar of Sky* will finish up the story in October.

In addition to her dedicated spotlight panel and signing, Beth will be keeping herself busy at CoKoCon with a whole slew of panels on magic systems, trickster gods and childhood favorites, among other highly varied topics. She'll also help lead a discussion of the novel, 'The Long Way to a Small Angry Planet'.

Beth is a native of Hanford, CA but she 'writes and bakes cookies in a lair west of Phoenix'. Both books and cookies are always in demand at signings and other appearances!

EVENT CHARITIES

While CoKoCon is run by two 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations, we're also helping to raise funds for other charities.

The WesternSFA is sponsoring a book drive to benefit the Children First Academy of Phoenix, a charter school which supports poverty-level and homeless children in grades K-8. Please bring any books you might have to spare, especially juvenile fiction, and pop them into the Harry Potter donation box at CoKoCon. There will also be a box for hygiene items like soaps or shampoos you've picked up at hotels.

CoKoCon is also sponsoring a non-perishable food/pet food drive to benefit the Joshua Tree Feeding Program, a 501(c)(3) non-profit food pantry for the HIV/AIDS community in Maricopa and Pinal counties.

And then there's our actual convention charity, the Y-Achievers, which is a YMCA workforce program for disadvantaged young adults. 100% of proceeds from our Charity Auction and Sketch Off will go to them.

Many items have already been donated to our Charity Auction and the details are on [our website](#). More donations of items to auction off are always welcome and also tax-deductible. Alternatively, show up to the auction on Sunday at 1.00pm. And don't forget the Sketch Off, in which the audience picks the topics for Steve Rude (our Artist GoH), Gilead and Mark Greenawalt to draw, after which their artwork will be sold to the highest bidder.

Whether you're at the Charity Auction or the Sketch Off, bid high and bid often!

WORKSHOPS

We'll have an incredibly varied selection of workshops and demos at CoKoCon to scratch your creative itch.

Most are free with your membership, while some workshops include a fee to cover the materials you'll use to create what you'll take home with you.

If you're a kid, learn how to fight with a balloon sword or construct a treasure map! And, if you're not a kid, learn how to make your own mustache wax or mix up a variety of cordials! The latter is 21+.

We'll have demos on how to build with EVA foam, how to swim like a mermaid and how to fight with a cane like Sherlock Holmes using the lost Victorian martial art of bartitsu!

We'll have workshops on how to make *Doctor Who* charm bracelets or *Game of Thrones* dragon necklaces and steampunk hair fascinators or lapel pins.

And we'll have sessions where you can learn how to draw like Gilead or design games like Eric Wile, our Gaming Guest of Honor.

There's something for every creative soul at CoKoCon 2018!

GENERAL

CoKoCon is a general sf/f convention jointly sponsored by CASFS and WesternSFA.

Our 2018 event will be held over the four day Labor Day weekend (Aug 31 to Sep 3) at the DoubleTree by Hilton Phoenix North (MetroCenter off I-17 at Peoria Ave).

GoHs are Harry Turtledove (Author), Steve Rude (Artist), Beth Cato (Local Author), Cheshire Moon (Filk) and Eric Wile (Gaming).

Adult memberships (over 12) are currently \$50 with children (7-12) half price and Kids-in-Tow (under 7) free (limited to 2 per adult). Memberships will be capped at 500.

Hotel rooms are \$92 and suites \$102.

All details can be found on our website:

Website: <http://www.cokocon.org>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/CoKoCon/>

Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/cokocon1/>