**Subject:** Virtual CoKoCon 2021 - T Minus Two Weeks **From:** CoKoCon Mail <mailadmin@cokocon.org>

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<u>CoKoCon</u> is your general science fiction/fantasy convention in the Phoenix, AZ metro area with a focus on authors! Here's your update for Sunday, August 23.

## **TWO WEEKS TO GO - DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER!**

Virtual CoKoCon 2021 will be held in our CoKoCon Discord server, with some panels in Zoom, from September 3-6, 2021. It's FREE to attend, but you do need to register. We recommend you do that soon on our website:

Register: <u>cokocon.org/2021/members.html</u>.

Those who purchased memberships to CoKoCon 2020, which have been rolled automatically to CoKoCon 2022, are already registered. Please feel free to fill out the form if your information has changed.

If you're unsure if you already have a membership (COVID definitely does that to our brains), please contact us at banker@cokocon.org.

#### PROGRAMMING IS ALMOST FINAL

Our <u>mobile friendly online program schedule</u> has been live throughout the year but it's been fleshed out massively over the past month by our hard working programming team.

We wouldn't say that it's absolutely final, because there are always last minute tweaks, but the vast majority of it is set in stone for all to see.

Whether you're looking to connect with our burgeoning community of authors as they discuss their work; learn about the latest missions and discoveries in science; sit back and enjoy concerts from award-winning filkers, be astounded by live drawing from a talented artist; find out how to make amazing creations out of surprising household items, or simply have fun at our trivia contests and interactive light hearted panels, there's something at Virtual CoKoCon 2021 for everyone.

We also have half a dozen featured panelists, who are highlighted with a tag on the schedule. Don't miss Steven Barnes talking about martial arts and writing fight scenes; Seanan McGuire and others exploring the dark side of fantasy; Margaret and Kristoph performing in concert; Linda Addison and others talking about writing for major franchises like *Star Wars* and *Black Panther*; and Bruce Davis connecting the worlds of writing and surgery.

Participants: <a href="mailto:cokocon.org/2021/participants.html">cokocon.org/2021/participants.html</a>.

Program Schedule: <a href="mailto:cokocon.org/2021/program/">cokocon.org/2021/program/</a>.

### <u> ZOOM</u>

Due to solid interest in our programming, we've decided to move some of our larger panels and events over to Zoom, where the room limits are higher.

We'll still be fundamentally based in Discord and most of our programming will still happen there. That's also where our Charity Auction will take place; where you'll find our virtual Art Show and Dealers' Room; all our Gaming; a ConSuite where you can chat with others throughout the convention; and a virtual kiosk containing all the information you might need, including links to the panels that will be taking place in Zoom.

### **REGISTRATION**

Discord is also where you'll start out. When you arrive at our CoKoCon server in Discord on the day of the convention, you'll be in Registration. Say hi and let us know who you are, so our Registration team can assign you the role, a sort of virtual badge, that you'll need to get into the convention.

Then the whole thing will open up for you and you'll be able to wander around at your leisure. We'll be sending out a brief guide to Discord to all registered members shortly before the convention, so make sure that you've signed up.

### **CHARITY AUCTION**

One of the highlights at any CoKoCon is the Charity Auction which, as always, is being run by Cathy Book. She's added a whole bunch of new items to the list, all of which are detailed on the website with multiple pictures that you can click on to zoom in.

There are lots of books, as always, some listed as individuals and some in grab bags, some collectable and some signed.

There are also games, tarot decks, DVDs, jewellery, art prints and even some gorgeous 3D printed dice towers.

What's more, there are instructions on how to register for the Charity Auction, so that you can bid and win. Check it all out at the link below:

Charity Auction: <a href="mailto:cokocon.org/2021/charityauction.html">cokocon.org/2021/charityauction.html</a>.

All proceeds will go to the Joshua Tree Feeding Program.

### **ART SHOW AND DEALERS' ROOM**

Our Virtual Art Show and Dealers' Room are online and starting to flesh out with artists and dealers. If you want to join them, at absolutely no cost, don't forget to fill out the form on the appropriate page below:

Art Show: <u>cokocon.org/2021/artshow.html</u>.

Dealers' Room: <u>cokocon.org/2021/dealers.html</u>.

### **CONVERSATIONS IN CONSUITE ON AUGUST 29**

We're still holding our monthly socials on our Discord server, which are great opportunities to check out what we're building for Virtual CoKoCon 2021 and get a feel for how Discord works. Or, of course, to just sit down and chat with other fans, just like it was a regular ConSuite.

The next Conversations in ConSuite will be held on **August 29**, from **2pm to 6pm** Arizona time (MST not MDT). Everyone is welcome to join us during that window for good company and good conversation, but you'll need to visit the CoKoCon server in Discord to do so.

This will be the **final Conversations in ConSuite before Virtual CoKoCon 2021**, so it's a great opportunity to log into Discord and see how things work before you show up for the convention itself or to ask us any questions you might have.

Most people access Discord by <u>downloading the Discord client</u> and installing it. There are versions for Windows, Mac, Linux, Android and iOS, so you ought to be covered, whatever device you're using.

If you've been to the CoKoCon Discord server before, just click on our big neon C to go back there.

If you haven't, then run Discord and <u>click on this invite link</u> to get there.

If you don't want to download the client, just <u>click on the same invite link</u> to visit us in your browser with reduced functionality.

However you attend, you will need a Discord account to get to Conversations in ConSuite or to Virtual CoKoCon 2021 itself.

We'll be in the Con Suite Video room. See you there!

### **CASFS BOOK SOCIAL IN PERSON**

CASFS's monthly book social successfully met in person in July and August and will do so again in September, with an additional Zoom stream for those who want to attend virtually.

The date is Tuesday, September 21, from 7.00pm.

The venue is the Denny's at I-17 and Dunlap, where it has been held for years. The full address is 9030 N Black Canyon Hwy, Phoenix, AZ 85051.

September's book choice is *Remnant Population* by Elizabeth Moon.

## THE NAMELESS ZINE AND CALENDAR

Don't forget that we're maintaining a calendar of all CoKoCon events, as well as others from our sponsoring bodies, CASFS and WesternSFA.

The WesternSFA's monthly e-zine, The Nameless Zine, published its August issue on Sunday, August 15 at <a href="mailto:thenamelesszine.org">thenamelesszine.org</a>, including many sf/f book reviews.

Don't forget to check it out to see what we've reviewed this month.

Our full calendar is on the CoKoCon website at <a href="cokocon.org/calendar.html">cokocon.org/calendar.html</a>.

## **DON'T FORGETS**

Don't forget that we now have a YouTube channel for CoKoCon, so check that out and like and subscribe to ensure you don't miss future content.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMVs NTbHzdjunawywAbovw

Also, if you have any videos of our convention that you're willing for us to post to this channel, please let us know at <a href="mailto:info@cokocon.org">info@cokocon.org</a>.

Sunday morning's Book Discussion is around the award-winning Mary Robinette Kowal novel, The Calculating Stars, so don't forget to pick up a copy and read it before that discussion.

If you're interested in being a GM in our Games Rooms during Virtual CoKoCon 2021, please fill out the form

Gaming: <a href="mailto:cokocon.org/2021/gaming.html">cokocon.org/2021/gaming.html</a>.

We're still looking for volunteers to help man the Virtual ConSuite at CoKoCon, which will be open throughout the convention for anyone who wants to chat in between or instead of programming. If that sounds like your sort of thing, do please let us know by filling out the Volunters form on the website:

Volunteers: <a href="mailto:cokocon.org/2021/volunteers.html">cokocon.org/2021/volunteers.html</a>.

#### **GENERAL**

CoKoCon is a general science fiction/fantasy convention jointly sponsored by CASFS and WesternSFA. Our 2021 event will be held over the four day Labor Day weekend (September 3-6, 2021) virtually. Memberships will be free and we'll roll all current paid memberships to a future year. All details are on our website.

Website: <a href="https://www.cokocon.org/">https://www.cokocon.org/</a>

Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/CoKoCon/">https://www.facebook.com/CoKoCon/</a>
Twitter: <a href="https://www.twitter.com/cokocon1/">https://www.facebook.com/CoKoCon/</a>

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMVs NTbHzdjunawywAbovw

Address: PO Box 67457, Phoenix, AZ 85081

History page and archive of newsletters: <a href="https://www.cokocon.org/history.html">https://www.cokocon.org/history.html</a>.

# **NOTE**

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If you wish to unsubscribe, you can do so in the CoKoCon Subscribers section of our <u>main Mailing List page</u>.

To ensure that you get all our updates, please add us to your whitelist.