

## Media Release #6

Dublin 2019 - An Irish Worldcon Dublin, Ireland August 15-19, 2019 press@dublin2019.com

## \*\*\*\* EMBARGOED UNTIL 11 PM DUBLIN / LONDON TIME 6 PM NEW YORK TIME 3 PM SAN JOSE (PACIFIC) TIME, MONDAY, AUGUST 20 \*\*\*\*

Monday, August 20, 2018

## Dublin takes over as host of next World Science Fiction Convention

Dublin 2019 - An Irish Worldcon will be the next World Science Fiction Convention, to be held August 15-19, 2019.

Activities at the Dublin Worldcon will include the 2019 Hugo Awards, the world's leading awards for excellence in science fiction and fantasy, as well as the spectacular Masquerade costume display. There are typically 650 to 800 separate programme items, including author readings and autograph sessions, films and videos, academic presentations, and panel discussions on speculative literature and other media, many involving fans and audience.

The World Science Fiction Convention (Worldcon) is a five-day event that has been held annually since 1939, apart from a four-year break during the Second World War. Dublin 2019 is the 77th Worldcon, the first to be held in Ireland and the eleventh in Europe.

Dublin 2019 - An Irish Worldcon will be based at the Convention Centre Dublin, known to locals as "the tube in the cube." Approximately 6000 people attended the 75th Worldcon in Helsinki in 2017, and 7000 attended the 72nd Worldcon in London in 2014.

"It will be a pleasure to welcome fans from around the globe to this beautiful country that is steeped in storytelling," said Dublin 2019 Chair James Bacon, who accepted the gavel from Worldcon 76 Kevin Roche at the closing ceremonies in San Jose. "We're looking forward to the diverse discussions and celebrations of imagination that Worldcon will bring."

The Dublin convention will host the first-ever Worldcon Fringe programme. The Fringe programme will enable additional events to be organised "outside the box" of convention centre spaces, including special performances that showcase Irish legends, art, music and landmarks.

More than 2500 people have already signed up as members of Dublin 2019. The Dublin 2019 organisers are working to enlarge participation through the con's own FANtastic Dublin fund as well as the Con or Bust scheme.

Guests of Honour for Dublin 2019 include YA author Diane Duane, and screenwriter and Hugo winner Ian McDonald, as well as game designer Steve Jackson (Melee, Chaos Machine, Munchkin) and editor Ginjer Buchanan. Science Guest of Honour will be Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell, who discovered radio pulsars in 1967 as a postgraduate student. Bill and Mary Burns will be fan Guests of Honour.

More information and membership registration for Dublin 2019 are available at <u>https://dublin2019.com</u>. Follow us on Twitter at <u>@dublin2019</u>.

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## ENDS

"World Science Fiction Society," "WSFS," "World Science Fiction Convention," "Worldcon," "NASFIC," "Hugo Award," the Hugo Award Logo, and the distinctive design of the Hugo Award Trophy Rocket are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.