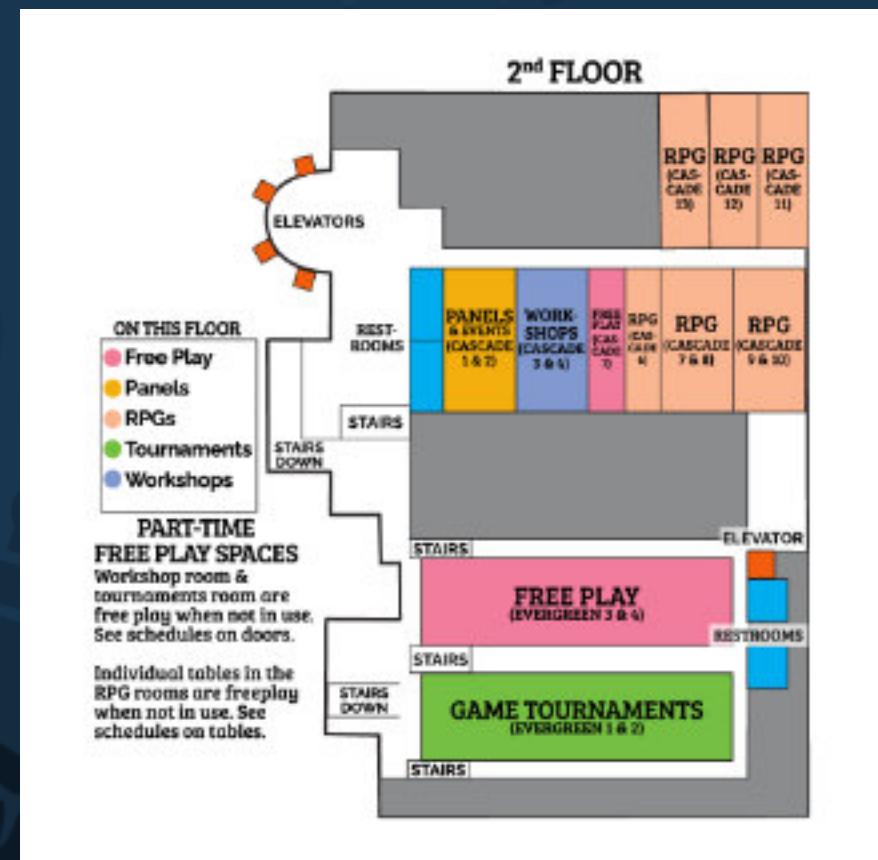
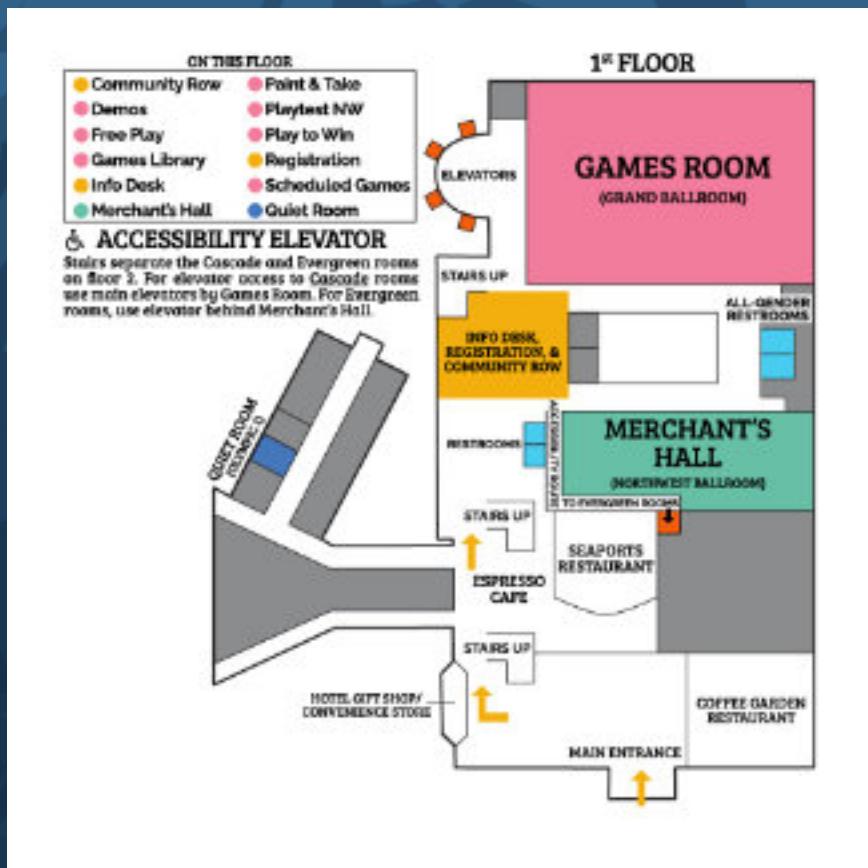




**Jan 9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>**

**DoubleTree Sea-Tac**

**Seattle, Washington**



WELCOME TO

# OrcaCon 2026



 Jan 9th - 11th, 2026

 DoubleTree by Hilton  
Hotel Seattle Airport  
SeaTac, WA

 Games Room Hours:  
Fri: 10AM to Midnight  
Sat: 10AM to Midnight  
Sun: 10AM to 6PM

 Merch Hall Hours:  
Fri: 10AM to 6PM  
Sat: 10AM to 6PM  
Sun: 10AM to 4PM

**24hr Overnight Gaming:  
Evergreen Rooms 1-4**



Scan the QR Code to:

- Sign Up for Games
- View our Schedule
- Review our Policies
- Download our Program

[www.orcacon.org](http://www.orcacon.org)



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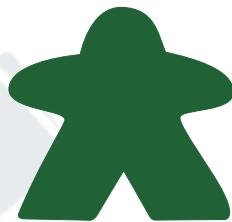
# What Is OrcaCon?

We are a cozy inclusive tabletop games convention with a focus in diversity, inclusion, and accessibility. We highlight marginalized voices in tabletop games, including people of color, the LGBTQ+ community & people with disabilities. We strive to create a welcome and inclusive environment for new and seasoned players. Join us for a weekend of your favorite board games, card games, role playing games, miniatures games, and more!



## Programming

Attend talks and participate in workshops by industry professionals! See our list of Special Guests and Events.



## Community

Meet games enthusiasts, and games creators while celebrating our love of games. Check out community row, which features local organizations and groups or browse our juried Merchant Hall to find new treasures!

OrcaCon is focused on creating a safe and welcoming space for promoting the tabletop games hobby, supporting diversity in tabletop games, and building a community of both novice and experienced game players.

Additionally, we stand united against white supremacy, neo-Nazis, and the "alt-right." We denounce their toxic hate, fear, and violence.



## Games

We highlight marginalized voices in tabletop games, including people of color, the LGBTQ+ community & people with disabilities. We strive to create a welcome and inclusive environment for new and seasoned players with both Open Play and Scheduled Games!



## Join us on discord!

Come on in and meet new friends, set up some online games, and ask us questions directly.

# Policies

## Mission Statement

*OrcaCon is a tabletop games convention, which includes board and card games, role-playing games, and miniature games. OrcaCon is focused on creating a safe and welcoming space for promoting the tabletop games hobby, supporting diversity in tabletop games, and building a community of both novice and experienced game players.*

## General Policies

### Animals

ADA working animals are allowed in the convention space. Non-ADA animals are not permitted. Our full Accessibility policy is on page 9.

### Badges

Badges must be worn chest high and be visible at all times. Individuals without badges will not be granted access to convention space. A fee will be charged for replacing a lost badge.

### Drinking

If you drink, don't drive! Please have a designated driver. Individuals must be 21 to consume alcohol in the United States. This also applies to our international Members. Serving alcohol to minors is against United States law. Individuals who appear to be intoxicated will not be allowed into the convention space.

### Flyers

OrcaCon will have a message board available at the Info Booth for people to post information but it must be approved by info booth staff to be posted. Please do not post any flyers on the doors or walls of the convention space; they will be removed. Please make sure flyers are family friendly.

### Food & Drink

No outside food or drink is allowed in the convention space. Only food purchased within the convention space. No food/drink is allowed in the Merchants Hall and no food is allowed in the panel/workshop rooms, for accessibility and the comfort of our attendees/guests participating.

## Special Guests

OrcaCon's Special Guests have taken time out of their busy schedules to attend our show. While all of our guests welcome meeting fans and players, please respect their privacy during meals, or while they are in the middle of a game. They'd love to talk to you, but not at the expense of the gamers at their tables or while enjoying a quiet meal. Please remember they are working and deserve down-time just like our attendees do.

## Harassment and Assault

OrcaCon does not tolerate harassment. As OrcaCon strives to create a safe environment where all are welcome the following will not be tolerated:

- Any form of intimidation, threats, or violence towards others, whether verbal, physical, or electronic.
- Any form of sexual harassment, including inappropriate or unwanted touching, unwanted sexual language or gestures, covert or inappropriate photography, and inappropriate use of nudity and/or sexual images in public spaces.
- Any form of hate speech, including any slur or remark intended to disparage, intimidate or harm any race, gender, sexual identity, age, race, color, ethnicity, nationality, religion, disability, physical appearance, veteran status, or interest in any specific fandom.
- Disruptive, destructive, or unsafe behavior that disturbs or endangers staff, attendees, guests, sponsors, vendors, or venue.
- Any illegal activity or act.

If you are subjected to unacceptable behavior, please contact a staff member or volunteer immediately. If a staff member or volunteer is not readily available or if you feel threatened in any manner, please proceed directly to Operations. You can read our extended Anti-Harassment and Anti-Racism policies on page 7.

## Liability

OrcaCon, and its affiliates are not responsible for any loss, damage, theft, or injury. Members are responsible for their individual actions and any repercussions that may result. Civil or medical emergencies are to be handled directly by the proper authorities.

## Minors

When minors pick up their badges, they must be accompanied by a parent or designated guardian. A designated guardian must have written permission from the minor's parent or legal guardian. All guardians must be age eighteen or over and a registered attendee of OrcaCon. All minors must have a parent or guardian on the premises at all times.

- **Minors age 12 and under:** All children age twelve and under must be accompanied at all times by a parent or guardian who is a registered attendee of OrcaCon.
- **Minors age 13 to 17:** All minors thirteen to seventeen must have a parent or guardian in the convention space at all times. All parents and guardians must be registered attendees of OrcaCon.

## Photography

Cameras and camcorders are not allowed in the Merchants Hall. Photography of all other aspects of the convention is allowed, as long as it does not disrupt events or the flow of traffic, and the subject does not object. Please be considerate and ask first before taking pictures of guests, other attendees, or the general public. **Video recording is permitted in panel rooms with permission from the speakers only.** Video recording of Special Guests, attendees, and volunteers near their personal hotel rooms is prohibited.

## Press

Press **MUST** check at the Operations Room for additional information pertaining to Press. OrcaCon reserves the right to grant or deny approval for all video recording requests. Permissions may be retracted at any time.

## Room Parties

**OrcaCon does not recognize or endorse room parties and the Doubletree Sea-Tac does not allow them.** OrcaCon does not allow advertising of room parties in any capacity. This includes flyers or email correspondence via any official OrcaCon channels. OrcaCon Operations Department Staff will work with the hotel to keep records of actions taken by hotel security, and will revoke convention memberships from individuals removed from a convention hotel site by hotel security.

## Sleeping in Convention Areas

Do NOT sleep in the convention space or public areas, including the Quiet Room. Read our full Quiet Room policy.

## Smoking

Washington State law prohibits smoking (including vaping and marijuana use indoors and within twenty-five feet of doorways and building ventilation access. If you are caught smoking/vaping inside the hotel or convention space, we will revoke your membership and escalate to Hotel Security. They may cancel your hotel stay and ban you from the premises.

## Theft

Any OrcaCon Member caught in the act of shoplifting or stealing will be handed over to the authorities, have their membership revoked, and refused service into all future OrcaCon events. No exceptions.

## Revoking of Memberships

Should a membership be revoked, the Member can appeal the circumstances to the OrcaCon Convention Director. Criminal actions are referred to local law enforcement and will lead to immediate ejection from the convention, with no appeals allowed.

*The Doubletree Sea-Tac security and staff do not have general responsibility for any aspect of the convention, but can choose to respond to any disruptive action. If the security or staff from the Doubletree Sea-Tac should choose to remove an individual from the hotel, the convention will immediately revoke said individual's badge. OrcaCon Operations reserves the right to revoke attendance and eject anyone at any time from the convention without a refund.*



## Weapons

No Members will be permitted to carry any kind of functional projectile weapon. This includes individuals who possess a weapons permit or concealed weapons permit. Anyone found in possession of such a weapon will immediately have their attendance revoked and escalated to the Hotel Security Team. Individuals caught in the illegal possession of a functioning projectile weapon will be reported and turned over to the proper authorities. All other items that could be used as a weapon MUST be peacebonded.

You must have your props submitted for peacebonding by our Operations Team. Complete this action BEFORE entering convention space in costume, or you will be asked to leave the convention until you visit Operations for peacebonding. Government issued photo ID is required at peacebonding to have your prop peacebonded. Members seventeen and under must have their guardian or accompanying adult with them to have their prop peacebonded.

- **Bladed Weapons:** All weapon props made out of metal and designed to represent a blade (including, but not limited to, swords, daggers, kunai, and scythes), with an edge a quarter of an inch in width or narrower and/or a sharply pointed tip) must remain sheathed. Additionally, it must be possible for peacebonding staff to securely zip-tie the prop into its sheath so that it may not be drawn. Ribbons, cloth, or tape wrapped around the blade do not qualify as sheaths. Weapons should never be waved around in a manner that may be construed as use of the weapon (this is considered brandishing).
- **Guns:** Gun props or other prop projectile weapons should not be pointed at anyone at any time. Prop pistols need to remain in a holster; prop rifles need to be slung. Permanently disabled cap guns and permanently disabled water guns are permissible.
- Drawing a weapon in the convention space, including parking lots, may result in immediate revocation of convention membership. Keep in mind, police will assume all drawn weapons are functional, and will act accordingly. If you are unsure whether your weapon is acceptable in the convention space, please ask OrcaCon Operations personnel.

Exotic weapons will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Do not bring weapons that OrcaCon Operations & Security cannot tell are fake from ten feet away.

No functioning or previously functioning projectile weapons, or functional portion thereof, including, but not limited to, Air Soft, Nerf, or pellet guns will be allowed.

- **Bows:** All props designed to represent a stringed weapon must be unstrung, regardless of the manner in which they were constructed. 'Unstrung' means that no length of cord, string, rope, or other flexible material may be connected from one limb of the prop to the other.

# Accessibility Policy

OrcaCon hopes to enable respect, dignity, and ability for all members of the con. Below are some examples of what that may look like in the OrcaCon setting.

## Ask to Help

Please ask if someone would like help before assuming they are incapable of helping themselves.

## The Mindset of “Capable”, NOT Incapable

Treat others as capable and with abilities rather than incapable and with disabilities. Do not assume individuals with disabilities want advice.

## Personal Boundaries

Please respect others' physical and emotional boundaries as you would wish for others to do to you. An example would be: do not touch someone's wheelchair without prior permission, even to move it.

## Respect Blue Zones (Blue Tape)

Please be respectful of any areas at the con marked with blue tape. Chairs or areas marked with blue tape are reserved for anyone that need to sit up front in order to lip read or effectively hear. Wheelchair spaces are also marked in blue. Blue zones at the con MUST be kept clear at all times to allow people to safely enter and leave the con. Be mindful of your surroundings when stopping to chat with others in the hallways and aisles.

## Keep Pathways Clear

Keep doorways unblocked and free of merchandise and/or clutter. This is for everyone's benefit as blocking walkways, through ways, and doors creates an unsafe situation, not just in an emergency.

## Air Quality

Smoke can be a big trigger of breathing issues and migraines. Please wash your hands if you smoke. Avoid wearing any type of perfume or cologne.

## Say Something

You can be an advocate for accessibility by speaking up if you see something that can be a barrier. For example if you see pathways blocked politely ask for them to be cleared or let Con staff know.

If you see any barriers to accessibility or have any ideas/concerns to help improve our con please contact our Accessibility Coordinator at [accessibility@orcacon.org](mailto:accessibility@orcacon.org) or drop by our Information Desk.



# OrcaCon's Anti-Harassment Policy

OrcaCon is dedicated to providing a great convention experience for everyone, regardless of gender, sexuality, disability, physical appearance, body size, race or religion. For this reason, we will not tolerate any form of harassment of convention participants. Con participants found to be engaging in harassment may be sanctioned or expelled from the con without refund. We expect participants to follow these rules at all convention venues and convention-related social spaces such as the hotel restaurant.

## What is harassment?

Harassment includes:

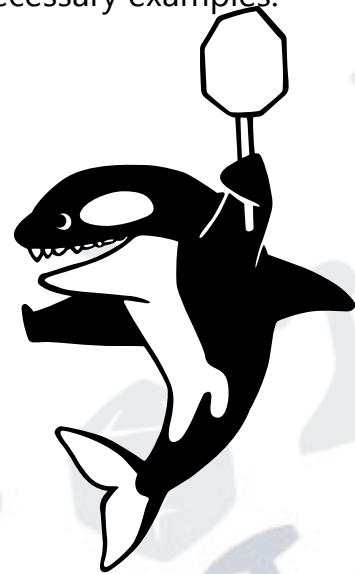
- Offensive verbal comments about gender, sexuality, disability, physical appearance, body size, race or religion
- Showing sexual images in public spaces. Discussion or images related to sex, pornography, discriminatory language or similar is welcome if it meets all of the following criteria: (a) organizers have specifically granted permission in writing; (b) it is necessary to the topic of discussion and no alternative exists; (c) it is presented in a respectful manner, especially towards women and LGBTQIA people; and (d) attendees are warned in advance in the program and respectfully given ample warning and opportunity to leave beforehand. This exception does not allow use of gratuitous sexual images as attention-getting devices or unnecessary examples.
- Intimidation, stalking or following
- Photographing or recording someone without their permission
- Sustained disruption of talks or other events
- Uninvited physical contact
- Uninvited sexual attention

Participants asked to stop harassing behavior must comply immediately.

## What should I do if I am being harassed?

You may find the harassment stops if you clearly say 'no' or 'please leave me alone', or simply walk away. We would appreciate it if a volunteer was still informed, to help us identify any repeat offenders.

If you continue to be harassed or notice someone else being harassed, please contact a volunteer immediately. Con volunteers will help participants contact venue security, provide escorts, or otherwise assist those experiencing harassment. The con volunteer will take whatever steps they can to assist you in feeling safe, and will put you in contact with or bring you to an appropriate staff member.



You do not have to give us details of the harassment. If you wish to report, we will take details of the harassment and work with you so you feel safe. It helps us maintain the safety of the wider convention environment, as well as enforcing our anti-harassment policy. If you report a serious criminal matter, please be aware that we may be obliged to contact the police. We would take into account any concerns you may have around involving them.

## Anti-racism Policy

Like society in general, racism permeates geek culture and geek spaces, making them less welcoming and safe for POC (People of Color). At OrcaCon, we want to prioritize the voices of people who are often spoken over or erased in geek spaces, and make OrcaCon as accessible as we can to people from all racial backgrounds. Problems POC attendees of geek events talk about include:

- People critiquing their cosplay costumes without being asked
- Being expected to be an authority on POC characters in various shows or comics
- Being talked down to or assumed to be less knowledgeable about topics being discussed.

### Hate Symbols and Associated Iconography:

As we strive to provide a welcoming, safe environment for all attendees, symbols associated with historical atrocities and current hate groups are strictly forbidden from the convention. This includes (but is not limited to) swastikas, Nazi uniforms, cosplays closely based on Nazi uniforms, and paraphernalia associated with these organizations.

**We stand united against white supremacy, neo-Nazis, and the “alt-right.” We denounce their toxic hate, fear, and violence.**

While in an ideal world, it would be easy to separate fictional characters who wear these items from real world events, in our current political climate we do not believe it is possible. Anyone wearing or displaying an item of clothing, prop, or other item considered a hate symbol will be asked to remove it from the convention and refusal to do so will result in ejection from the convention without refund.

**This sort of behavior will absolutely not be tolerated.**

(Thanks to Trae Dorn from Nerd & Tie for the updated language)

# First-Timer's Guide to OrcaCon

So, it's your first time at OrcaCon and there's a lot happening! We would like to welcome you and offer some first-timer tips. First up is important info. Next, some cool things you might not know that OrcaCon has going on. And lastly, games (of course) and how to play them!

## About OrcaCon

OrcaCon is a registered 501c3 and completely volunteer-run. We hope you enjoy your time at OrcaCon and meet lots of amazing people! You can join our Discord here – Join the OrcaCon Games Convention Discord Server!

## Doubletree by Seattle Airport aka Sea-Tac Information

OrcaCon's home is one of the closest hotels to Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (aka SeaTac).

- 18740 International Blvd, Seattle, WA 98188, USA
- Parking is \$16.00 per day (not including state and local taxes and fees) for OrcaCon attendees
- Hotel Check-In is on the 1st floor
- OrcaCon registration is on the 1st floor

## Getting to OrcaCon via public transit

The Doubletree is easily reached by bus from Seattle, Tacoma, and the surrounding areas. If you can access the Sound Transit's Light Rail, you can get off at the Seattle Airport Station and hop on the Rapid Ride bus to a stop right outside the hotel.

## Registration & What to Expect

When you get to OrcaCon, come into the hotel via the first floor. Walk to your left past hotel registration. At the hotel shop, turn right and walk down the long hall and OrcaCon registration will be right past the Coffee Stand Cafe.

OrcaCon does not require masking, but for the safety of event attendees and hotel staff, we hope you will wear a mask in OrcaCon-designated spaces. We provide masks and hand sanitizer if you need them.

## OrcaCon Badges

OrcaCon badges don't come with your name on them. Instead, we have a station with sharpies so you can sign your name/nickname, and decorate them up yourselves! We also have pronoun ribbons and communication buttons, all free to you. Our volunteers can answer questions about these things.

You can also stop by our Info Booth, which will have extra masks, plenty of information for directions and such. The Info Booth will also have a First Timer ribbon, so come by and get them and say hello to our friendly volunteers!

## Info Booth

Our Info Desk is on the first floor near Registration and Community Row. Friendly volunteers there will give you directions, hand out masks (if you need a new one), and answer any questions you have about OrcaCon or the surrounding area. The Info Desk also has free First Timer ribbons, so come by and say hello. We love welcoming newcomers!

## Online Event Schedule

All OrcaCon's scheduled games and other events appear on our Tabletop.Events page. Here, you can see what's happening when, sign up for games or workshops, and even post your own games and invite players.

- Go to <https://tabletop.events/conventions/orcacon-2026>
- Click **Attend**
- Click **Events Schedule**

There's a lot on the schedule! To find specific games or events, you can sort and filter the list by type (Demo Game, Panel, Tournament, Workshop, etc.), start time, or name. You can search for specific events. You can see everything as a timeline. If you're a spreadsheet junkie, you can even export the schedule as a .CSV file!

## Special Guests

We are very excited to have Special Guests again at OrcaCon! You can visit our list of the 2026 Special Guests at <https://www.orcacon.org/panels/special-guests/>

## Panels, talks, and events

When you're not in a game, check out our Panel, Workshop, & Event rooms. Our Special Guests and other speakers have some great things planned, panels and workshops about the game industry, designing & developing games, the social aspects of gaming as a hobby, Actual Plays, crafting, Special Events, and more. Our full listing appears on our [Tabletop.Events](#) page — see the Online Event Schedule section above for more advice on using it.

## Merchant Hall

OrcaCon has a great Merchant Hall with returning favorite vendors, and a few new ones joining us at this show. You'll find games, game accessories, dice, art, books, and more! Our Merchant Hall is located in the Northwest Ballroom, which is located near the Info Booth. Our volunteers can point you to the ballroom! See our current 2026 list of Merchants here: [orcacon.org/merchant-hall-exhibitors-2026](http://orcacon.org/merchant-hall-exhibitors-2026)

## Community Row

We love Seattle area's local communities, charities, and other non-profit organizations, so we feature some of the best at OrcaCon! You'll find a mix of game groups, other local conventions, and charity organizations in Community Row.

## OrcaCon Merchandise

You can purchase official convention shirt in our OrcaCon booth in the Merchant Hall. We also have hoodies, playmats, dice, enamel pins, beanies, and more. You'll see our booth right when you walk in the main Northwest Ballroom doors.

## Quiet Room

Our Quiet Room (on the 1st floor in Olympic 1) offers puzzles, coloring books/pages, and a nice place to relax. View the rules for the Quiet Room here: <https://www.orcacon.org/quiet-room-policy/>

## Comforts & Compassion

All our designated OrcaCon restrooms have Menstruation Stations and Scent-Free soap. Please let a volunteer know if you notice a restroom is running low on supplies — we'll get it restocked!

## And finally...GAME GAMES GAAAAAMES!!

We have SO many games! Here are the many ways you can play games at OrcaCon

Scheduled Games – All scheduled games and other events appear on our Tabletop.Events page. You'll find all the scheduled games on our Tabletop.Events site — see the Online Event Schedule section above for more advice on using it.

If you need assistance at the con, find our Games Admin table in the first-floor main ballroom. The lovely volunteers will help you find games on the schedule and answer any questions!

**Open Games Library** – Also in the first floor ballroom is our library of free-to-play games, any of which you are welcome to check out games with our games volunteers. Take them to any official OrcaCon play spaces and bring them back when you are finished. You can find our current open play library catalog here: <https://tabletop.events/conventions/orcacon-2026/library>

**Play & Win Library** – Visit our Play & Win library to discover new games and possibly take one home! Our volunteers help you pick games, check them out, and then enter you in a drawing to possibly win the games you played. They can even teach you to play! Read more about Play & Win here: <https://www.orcacon.org/play-win/>

**Demo Tables** – We have several tables set aside for companies demoing their games! Our [TableTop.Events](#) schedule lists such demos under Demo Game – see the Online Event Schedule section above for more advice on using it.

These games are all walk-ups, though, so you don't need to sign up for anything. Just drop by at your leisure.

**Open Play tables** – OrcaCon has open play tables in the main ballrooms and in some of the smaller ballrooms.

**Note:** At OrcaCon, we pride ourselves on being good neighbors, including to other people staying at the hotel. If you're playing near hotel rooms or in a hotel atrium, please be considerate of other guests, especially to those who are not attending OrcaCon. If you're playing at night, please play quietly so other folks can sleep!

Speaking of games...



# Games

OrcaCon 2026 will have around-the-clock gaming, starting at 10:00am on Friday, and ending at 6:00pm Sunday. We will have a Play & Win Library, an Open Play Library, Scheduled Games, Tournaments, and Demo Tables.

## Open Play

A huge amount of OrcaCon is all about people playing games with their friends, or playing games with other attendees. We have a lot of open play tables both in some ballrooms and scattered around the hotel in the wings.

Our Games Admin Tables in each Ballroom are there for you to get assistance helping you find a great game or more players. We'll have LFG (Looking for Group) signs, so you can get more players when you bring your own games or borrow something from one of our libraries.

## Scheduled Games

OrcaCon supports around-the-clock gaming, starting at 9:00am on Friday, and ending at 6:00pm Sunday. We offer tournaments, for both the beginners and experienced gamer alike. This is a small sampling of the kinds of games you will find at OrcaCon.

- **Board/Card Games:** CATAN, Splendor, Wingspan, Sycthe, Cascadia, and more
- **Tabletop Role-playing Games/Story Games:** Dungeons & Dragons, Pathfinder, Mutants & Masterminds, Call of Cthulhu, Lady Blackbird, etc...
- **TCG/CCG/LCG:** Trading Card Game/Collectible Card Games (Magic: The Gathering, Lorcan)
- **Miniatures Wargaming:** Warhammer 40k, X-Wing, Saga, Star Wars Legion, etc...

Scheduled games and signups for those games are managed through [tabletop.events](https://tabletop.events).

## Demo Games

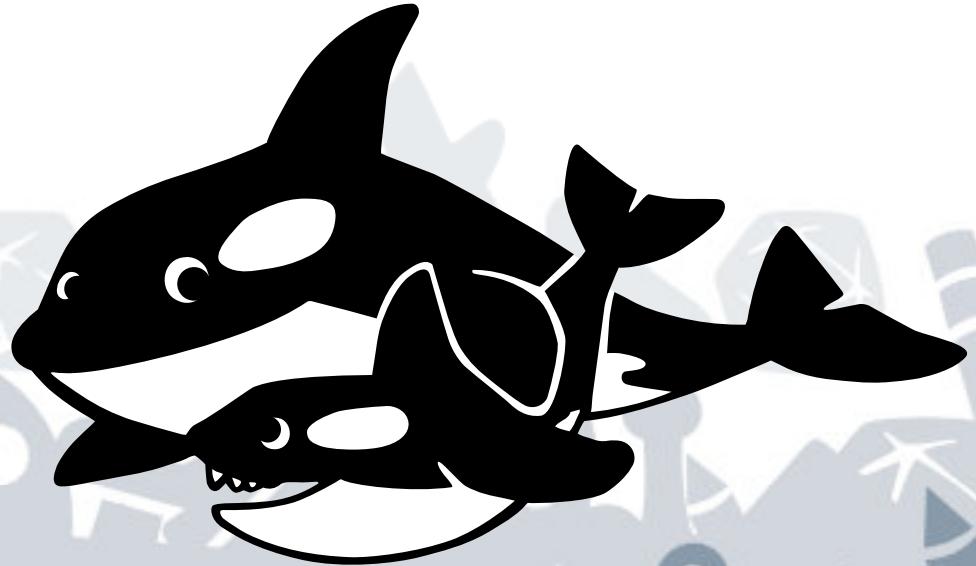
If you're a game developer or publisher interested in securing a table to demo your game, check out our Demo Table page for more information.

## Games Library

If you are a game publisher or creator and want to donate your game(s), please contact us at [games@orcacon.org](mailto:games@orcacon.org) and we'll coordinate getting your games in our library. Our amazing Game Hosts will be happy to learn your games and teach them to our attendees.

Due to the inclusive nature of our convention, we do not allow the following games in the public convention spaces, due to their content or theme:

- Cards Against Humanity
- Secret Hitler
- Tanto Cuore
- Kingdom Death
- Commissioned
- Lamentations of the Flame Princess
- Reality Check: The Game of Privilege
- Virtue Signal: the Game of Social Justice



# CATAN National Championship Local Qualifier Tournament



OrcaCon is hosting an official CATAN United States National Championship Local Qualifier Tournament. You must register for the convention before you sign up for the tournament. Got questions? You can email us directly at [info@orcacon.org](mailto:info@orcacon.org)

**Registration Information:** <https://www.orcacon.org/registration-info/>

We will have a full 64 seats available at this Qualifier tournament. The first 3 preliminary games will happen on Saturday, January 11th. The top 16 players will play again in the Semi-Final, single elimination to the Final game.

The Qualifier Winner will win a guaranteed seat at the Merchant Regional Preliminary event in Summer 2026, specific date and location TBD. The top 4 at each Regional Preliminary event will earn seats at the 2026 CATAN United States National Championship.

The 2026 United States Champion will compete in the 2027 World Championship, location and date TBD. The 2026 United States champion will also compete in the 2028 CATAN Americas Championship.

**Tournament rules:** <https://catanevents.com/cnc-rules>

**ELIGIBILITY:** All participants must be residents of the United States and be 18+ years of age by the date of CATAN Nationals. Winners of 2025-2026 season Regional Qualifier Tournaments are not allowed to play in additional Qualifier events in the same Region. Please contact CATAN Studio at [op@catanstudio.com](mailto:op@catanstudio.com) if you have questions regarding these policies.

## Play & Win

OrcaCon is happy to announce that we will be hosting another Play & Win library with our friends at Double Exposure, Stonemeier Games, CATAN Studio, and more! Play & Win is an easy way to take home a new game by doing what you are already doing: having fun playing games.

It works like this —Get a Library Card from the check out desk and check out a demo copy of one of the eligible games in the Grand Ballroom. Our friendly volunteer will scan all players' Library Cards to enter them into our drawing. Keep your Library Card and use it to check out games all weekend

Time go have fun playing the game with your friends!

When you return the game, you will have a chance to scan Library Cards for anyone who joined your game later. You can play as many of the Play & Win games as you desire.

When we hold the drawing for the winners, we will use the number on your Library Card barcode. All of the games you win will have your Library Card number. Bring your winning Library Card to the Grand Ballroom check out desk to pick up your games.

To ensure that as many folks as possible go home with a prize we ask that you limit the number of games you win to two—at least until we have given everyone a chance to get a game. It's as simple as that!

To see the games in our Play and Win Library, you can sort our OrcaCon Library by PTW (Play to Win). Clicking on a game will even show you if it's available to check out.

## Black Shield Productions

Black Shield Productions is a storytelling group that runs various interactive storytelling events throughout the pacific northwest. Black Shield has been running continuous drop in role-playing events at conventions for the past decade, events designed to expand the role-playing community and allow a large group to tell a story together. Our season this year is "2026 Apocalypse" with our main continuous game being Beyond the Gates, a magical exploration of multiple worlds banding together to face a galactic threat.

Black Shield is always trying to find different ways for people to tell stories together with events like the continuous drop-in game, live action role-playing and rpgs with multiple GameMasters interweaving storylines.

# Special Guests

## Amanda Wong

*She/Her*

I am an omni-gamer who loves to showcase a variety of board games and their creators with a diverse group of people. I live stream on Twitch & Youtube, review games on the Five By Podcast, and am the host of the BGG Podcast.



[Panda8ngel](#)



[@panda8ngel](#)

## Brian Cortijo

*He/Him*

Brian Cortijo is a writer, designer, and lore-wrangler who's been tinkering under the hood in the Forgotten Realms for over two decades. He has written for Green Ronin, Paizo Publishing, Wizards of the Coast, working on such projects as Second Darkness: Descent into Midnight, Aldis: City of the Blue Rose, Sword Coast Adventurer's Guide, and Shadow of the Dragon Queen. In addition to his contributions on the page, he's been a panelist and guest at PAX Unplugged, OrcaCon, and Gen Con. He believes fervently in many things, like equity, justice, and serial comma.



[@briancortijo.bsky.social](#)

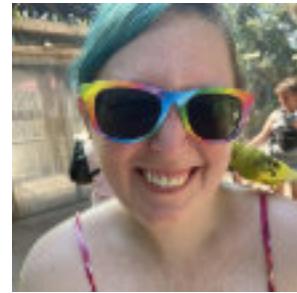


[@briancortijo](#)

## Carla Kopp

She/Her

Carla Kopp is a designer, developer, and publisher. She runs Weird Giraffe Games, which has board and card games, and Quirky Bird Games, which focuses on RPGs. She's passionate about making the gaming community welcoming and weird, with a focus on inclusivity and mental health.



[Weird Giraffe Games](#)



[@weirdgiraffegames](#)



[@weirdgiraffegames.com](#)

## Chris Pramas

He/Him

Chris Pramas is an award-winning game designer, writer, and publisher. His best-known game designs are the Dragon Age RPG, Fantasy AGE RPG, and Warhammer Fantasy Roleplay, 2nd Edition. He was a D&D designer and creative director at Wizards of the Coast and wrote a series of books about fantasy warfare for Osprey Publishing. He is the founder and President of Green Ronin Publishing, whose roleplaying games include Blue Rose, The Expanse, Mutants & Masterminds, and Fifth Season (based on N.K. Jemisin's Broken Earth Trilogy). Green Ronin celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2025.



[@chrispramas.bsky.social](#)

## Cody Pondsmith

He/Him

Born to game and raised to design, Cody Pondsmith is the Creative Director at R.Talsorian Games and the Line Lead of the Shadow ScarTRPG. When he isn't hiking the backwoods of Washington State or tormenting his RPG group with devilish traps, bitter nemeses, and awkward in-character conversations, Cody can be found in his office working hard to build great games for great people.



## Eric Yurko

*He/They*

Eric is a writer and reviewer for What's Eric Playing?, a board game review and photography website and a member of the American Tabletop Awards Committee. An avid gamer and photographer, he focuses on the latest and greatest games for new and returning gamers of all ages.



[@whatsericplaying.bsky.social](https://whatsericplaying.bsky.social)



[@whatsericplaying](https://www.instagram.com/whatsericplaying)

## Estefania Rodriguez

*She/Her*

Estefania is an Argentinian-American Game Producer, Graphic Designer, and Game Designer in the tabletop industry. She has worked with many brands such as Funko, Disney, Lucasfilm, Asmodee, WizKids, Violet Daisy Games, Rose Gauntlet Foundation, Keymaster and more! She designed an 80's inspired card fighting game called, PopCats Fighter.



## Fertessa Allyse

*She/Her*

Fertessa Allyse is a Seattle-based designer who has worked on several games such as Cascadia Junior (Kinderspiel nominated), Menagerie, Wicked & Wise, Mansplaining, and Star Trek Cryptic. In the last five years she has worked with Prospero Hall as well as Flatout Games. In her free time she loves watching K-dramas and anime while playing with her puppies. Please say hi if you see her!



## Jacob Mundell

*He/Him*

Jacob is an actor, playwright and stand up comedian. He is also a member of the LGBTQ community and an artist of disability, he was born with one hand. Jacob's most notable role was Erich on Season 5 of The Expanse on Amazon. Most recently, he produced his own one-man play entitled, Into That Darkness in Chicago in 2023. Jacob loves Catan and plays several games on his Nintendo switch with his husband, including Animal Farm, Hogwarts Legacy, Pokemon Violet and Dynasty Warriors.



[@jacobdmundell](#)

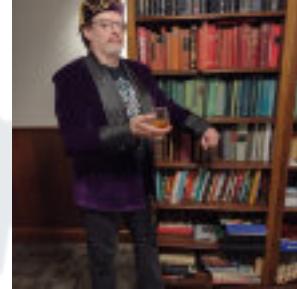


[Jacob Mundell](#)

## Jefferson Dunlap

*He/Him*

Graphic Prepress Manager for Wizards of the Coast for 30 years. Lifetime gamer & all-around geek who loved doing demos of D&D, especially for the Sec of State office.



[@darklament.bsky.social](#)

## John Bultena

He/Him

John Bultena is a continuing lecturer in the Merritt Writing Program at the University of California, Merced. There he has been teaching a course on TTRPGs since 2020 that enables students to approach these games from interdisciplinary perspectives. He is also the producer and Game Master of Abraxas' Precipice, The Expanse RPG Actual Play and the owner/operator of Cauldron & Tower.



[onlyplaywizards](https://www.onlyplaywizards.com)



[@OnlyPlayWizards](https://www.instagram.com/@OnlyPlayWizards)



[@OnlyPlayWizards](https://www.twitter.com/@OnlyPlayWizards)



[@onlyplaywizards.com](https://www.onlyplaywizards.com)



[OnlyPlayWizards](https://www.twitch.tv/OnlyPlayWizards)



[@onlyplaywizards](https://www.youtube.com/@onlyplaywizards)

## Simon Berman

He/Him

The Brush Wielders Union is a passion project created by Union General President, Simon Berman. Simon has been a wargamer since 1993 and has worked in the tabletop games industry for over fifteen years. He was formerly a staff writer and social marketing manager at Privateer Press where he contributed to WARMACHINE, HORDES, and the Iron Kingdoms Full Metal Fantasy Roleplaying Game. These days he's a freelancer who has contributed to a number of roleplaying games like Eclipse Phase, Dune: Adventures in the Imperium, and Unhallowed Metropolis, runs his own publishing company, Strix Publishing, and paints more miniatures than he can keep track of. He lives with his partner in Tacoma, Washington along with a number of cats and a pack of wiener dogs.



[brushwieldersunion.com](https://brushwieldersunion.com)



[Brush Wielders Union](https://www.facebook.com/BrushWieldersUnion)



[@brushwieldersunion](https://www.instagram.com/@brushwieldersunion)

## Joseph Senese

He/Him

Joe a.k.a PhantomMeeple originally from Staten Island, NY is a Washington State based variety streamer on Twitch streaming both video game and tabletop content. I first ventured into tabletop gaming in 2013 when I played my first game of Pandemic.

I enjoys all kinds of games but has an affinity for medium to heavy weight games like 18xx, anything by Vital Lacerda, and Hansa Teutonica but definitely not opposed to trying and playing all kinds of games! If you see me around the con, please ask to play a game, I'll even teach sometimes if needed!

When not streaming I love watching hockey and anime, cooking all kinds of food (especially Puerto Rican Food), hanging out with his fiancée and occasional co-host Abby and our kid, and enjoys having (a rather large) knowledge and love of game shows!

Joe is a big proponent of maintaining and curating a welcoming, inclusive, safe space and community that folks can be comfortable being a part of and being in.



[@phantommeeple](https://www.twitch.tv/phantommeeple)



[@phantommeeple](https://www.instagram.com/phantommeeple)



[@phantommeeple](https://www.youtube.com/c/phantommeeple)



[@phantommeeple.bsky.social](https://bsky.social/@phantommeeple.bsky.social)



[@PhantomMeeple](https://twitter.com/PhantomMeeple)



## Joseph Z Chen

He/Him

Joseph Z Chen has been attending OrcaCon since 2018! He is an active member of the Seattle area game designers community and is the designer of Fantastic Factories and HoneyPot. He is also a member of the Flatout Games CoLab team and has done development on titles such as Cascadia: Alpine Lakes, Knitting Circle, Propolis, Point Galaxy, and more



[@fanfactories.bsky.social](https://bsky.social/@fanfactories.bsky.social)

## Ruel Gaviola

He/Him

Ruel Gaviola is a showrunner, producer, and host for several board gaming channels, including Good Time Society and Rahdo Runs Through. He has created gaming content in various formats and platforms for over a decade. Ruel currently serves on the committees for the American Tabletop Awards and Tabletop Writers Guild, and is part owner of Play to Z Games.



[ruelgaviola](#)

## Stefan Pokorny

He/Him

Stefan Pokorny is a classically trained painter and sculptor. In 1996, he founded DWARVEN FORGE, a first of its kind modular miniatures terrain company that would go on to fund many hugely successful Kickstarter campaigns. Game Tiles were the FIRST modular 3-D painted tiles and continue to be the gold standard of the modular terrain space. Dwarven Forge's most recent KS topped 4 million dollars in funding! He has been invited to run his Theatrical D&D games at countless conventions, including Lucca Comics and Games, Essen Spiel, Gen Con, Gary Con, GameHole Con, HawaiiCon, KublaCon, TotalCon, ConnectiCon, and many others. He has run and been a player in countless livestreams including Founders and Legends, Nerdbaughery, Actoroke, Jaspers game day, and others. He has been featured in several documentaries: "The Dungeons and Dragons Experience" by Jesse Spiro and "Enter the Dungeon" by Richard DiNardo. In 2016 he was the subject of Josh Bishop's Documentary Film: "The Dwarvenaut" (now available on: Amazon, AppleTV, Vudu, Vimeo, Googleplay, YouTube, KinoNow) ). Due to the success of The Dwarvenaut, he has been mentioned or has been the subject of articles in Forbes, New York Magazine, NY Daily News, and The Brooklyn Paper, and has been invited to talk at the Barney School of Business, and AOL talks. He is the original creator of the fantasy world of Mythras and the City of Valoria. He was co-creator of the module: Tapestry of Deceit. He has published a book of Cartographic Maps and Dungeons. His latest ongoing endeavors are to release the Mythras Campaign sourcebooks to the world, design his own RPG system, and to launch his personal website: The Dwarvenaut Chronicles.



[dwarvenforge.com](http://dwarvenforge.com)



[@stefanpokornyzaltar](#)

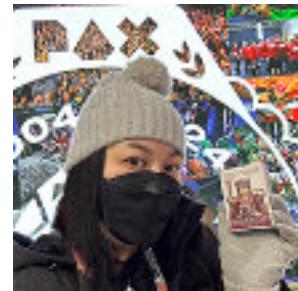


[@stefanpokornydf.bsky.social](#)

## Su Mon Han

She/Her

Author of the upcoming GADIA novel series and game designer of the LEGENDS OF GADIA card game, Su Mon grew up obsessed with JRPGs and aspired to be a manga artist until she realized writing prose is \*way\* faster than drawing. Her first game, LEGENDS OF GADIA, released on September 30, 2025 and basically boils down to a 1.5-year writers' procrastination ploy to avoid working on her books. Su Mon (back to writing furiously now) lives in Bothell, Washington and can generally be found abiding in quality boba tea shops with her nose buried in a book or typing furiously away on her laptop.



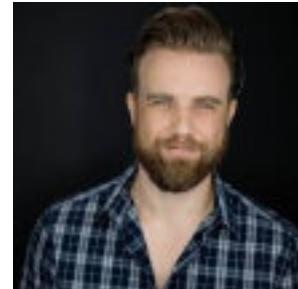
[@gadia\\_official](https://www.instagram.com/gadia_official)

## Thor Knai

He/Him

Thor an actor, game designer, and veteran with a special passion for D&D and the collaborative and emergent storytelling it so wonderfully creates!

Originally from Norway, "Thor" and the "Knai" family name are both ancient and steeped in folklore, and roaming around castles and forests in Europe was his childhood. The feel of old magic is real there, and he'll make sure to weave it into your stories in a way that would make even the mystical "Sorcerer of Knai" proud. He has 25 years of DM-ing and almost 20 years of acting under his belt (Rebel Moon, DC's Legends of Tomorrow, Reign, The Outpost ++), and he's confident you'll will be able to tell your stories together in a memorable way.



He has run private games with some fairly illustrious players in Hollywood on a regular basis (Joe Manganiello, Vince Vaughn, Tom Morello, Craig Mazin, Dan Weiss, Kyle Newman ++), and although he absolutely encourages player participation, which you can imagine these folks are very good at, each table plays it's own way. Everyone enjoys different aspects of the game, from voices, dramatic descriptions and morally challenging choices, to the thrill of battle, tactics, and great teamwork. Thor loves it all!



[Thor Knai's Bio](https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0730123/)



[Thor Knai](https://www.facebook.com/thorknai)



[@thorknai](https://www.instagram.com/@thorknai)

# Merchant Hall



Alchemical Press



Around the Table



Art by Erika Rae Heins

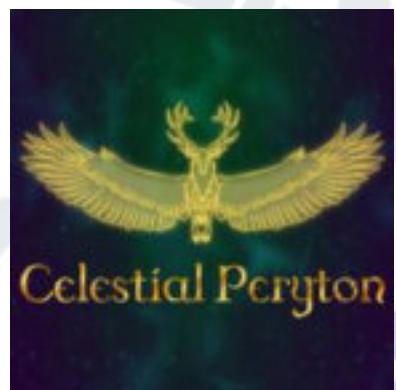
Art by Erika Rae Heins



Bird Brain Dice



Brandi York Fine Art  
and Random Geekery



Celestial Peryton



Charlie's Charmory



Coven of Whimsy



Found Family  
Adventurecrafts



Fox Fern Books



Friday Afternoon Tea



GamerSusan



GingeryArtistry



Gritsilk Games LLC



Inclusive Imagination



Legends of Gadia



Matt Youngmark  
(Chooseomatic Books)



Optimystical Studios



PantsOnFireBusy



Pink Tiger Games



Primaeval Press



SewCherie



Sketch Sauce



SmallRiniLady



**The Game Shelf**



**The Nailon Realm**

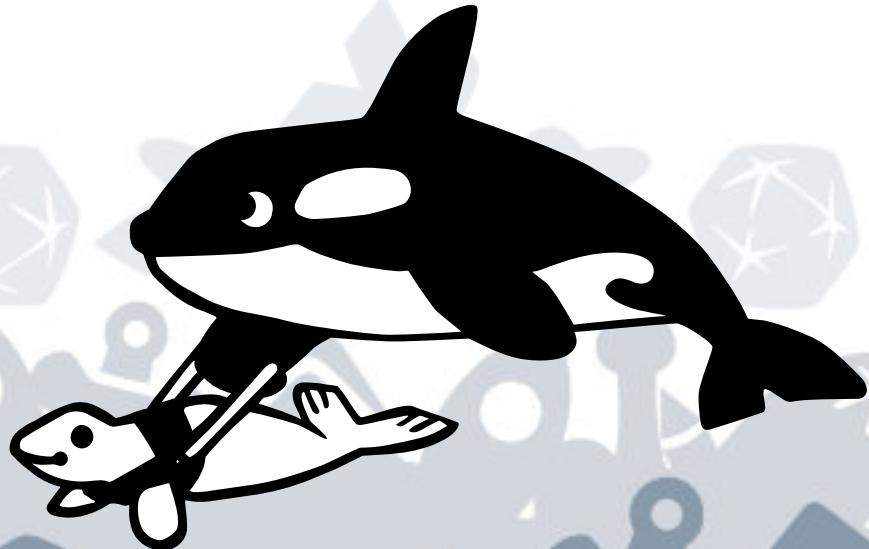


**The Salty Wench**



**Wild Magic Bags**

To see bios and links for each merchant, scan the QR code or go to [orcacon.org/merchant-hall-exhibitors-2026/](http://orcacon.org/merchant-hall-exhibitors-2026/)



# Meet the Team

## The Board

### Donna Prior, Executive Director

*(they/them)*

Donna is the Community Director at Catan Studio and is the Executive Director of OrcaCon. They have spoken about building communities, diversity, harassment, and accessibility at the Game Developers Conference, PAX / PAXDev, Gen Con, Mensa AGs, NorWesCon, and the Community Manager Conference in Leipzig, Germany. Donna is a gamer and a food geek, often combining both hobbies while teaching new people to game and eat tasty nomz. They also insists they are NOT a Hobbit.



### Tanya DePass, DEI Consultant

*(she/her)*

Tanya DePass is the founder and Director of **I Need Diverse Games**, a non-profit organization based in Chicago, which is dedicated to better diversification of all aspects of gaming. I Need Diverse Games serves the community by supporting marginalized developers attend the Game Developer Conference by participating in the GDC Scholarship program, helps assist attendance at other industry events, and is seeking partnership with organizations and initiatives. Tanya is a lifelong Chicagoan who loves everything about gaming, **#INeedDiverseGames** spawn point, and wants to make it better and more inclusive for everyone. She's part of the Rivals of Waterdeep live play stream on [twitch.tv/dnd](https://twitch.tv/dnd), a partnered Twitch variety broadcaster; and often speaks on issues of diversity, feminism, race, intersectionality & other topics at conventions.



## Steve Hobbs, Advisory Board Member

*(he/him)*

When Steve isn't busy running elections as Washington's Secretary of State, he's rolling dice, reading comics, and championing the tabletop gaming community. Through his office, Steve has helped bring D&D to public libraries, introduced therapeutic D&D programs in state prisons, and led trade missions to open international markets for Washington's indie game developers. As a founder and board member of OrcaCon, he's proud to support a convention that celebrates inclusive gaming. Steve also serves in the Washington Army National Guard and still finds time to play D&D with friends—because being a nerd is a lifelong adventure.



## Ben Evans, Venue Coordinator

*(he/him)*

This is Ben. He's super busy with a game launch. He's got no time for bios, even though he's a rad dude. It's because he's awesome, that we're writing this out for him.



## Paul Anderson, Treasurer

*(he/him)*

When Paul volunteered at the first OrcaCon he knew nothing about board games or conventions. He just wanted to help his friends make a thing and really liked how OrcaCon was focused on inclusiveness and diversity. Now he's a board member, plays D&D weekly, is a host of the Geeks of Cascadia podcast/YouTube channel, and loves all kinds of tabletop gaming.



# Board Members Emeritus

## Barry Wilson, Head of Games

*(he/him)*

Born of Hippies in the uncharted backwoods of the Pacific Northwest, Barry Wilson was literally raised by wolves. He is often found in the company of cats, and is known to be handy with tools of all sorts. Among his passions are games, sharing his love of gaming with others, and general shenanigans. He currently resides in Greater Pugetopolis, equidistant from sea, mountains, forest, and the hustle and bustle of city life.



## Chip Nolan, Design Coordinator

*(she/her)*

Chip has been volunteering for conventions for decades now, and she considers working at nerdy events as part of who she is. Also part of her identity is being a mom to a toddler, and being a freelance graphic designer. She contributes her time and talents to OrcaCon by running the graphic design team (She made the original OrcaCon logo!)



# OrcaCon 2026 Staff

## Fran Stewart, Special Guest Liaison

*She/Her*

Fran writes and edits almost anything. She prefers fantasy, SF, and game content. Lately you can find her work in Cyberpunk Red, the Witcher, and Curseborne. She is friendly the way a big, clumsy dog is friendly, and got this job because she can spell "liaison." Fran is married to the indomitable Sarah Stewart.



[morelikethisindustries.com](http://morelikethisindustries.com)

## Jesse Ferguson, Publications Lead

*He/Him*

Jesse is a software developer by day, and an amateur game designer & filmmaker by night. He is a time travel expert & TTRPG mentor, and has taught workshops on the essential parkour to use in the zombie apocalypse.



[@jesseferguson.bsky.social](https://@jesseferguson.bsky.social)



[@TheDapperDM](https://@TheDapperDM)

## Josie Costa, Accessibility Coordinator

*He/Him*

Josie is an elementary public school teacher and author of the Halloween children's book "The Shadow who Lost its Boy". In his spare time he enjoys writing music, playing board games, and geeking out about the X-Men.



[josiecosta.com](http://josiecosta.com)



[@josiecostabooks](https://@josiecostabooks)

## Kit, Games Admin Lead

*They/Them*

Kit is a crafty nerd. They can usually be found with a craft in one hand and a good book in the other.

## **Sarah L. Stewart, Programming Coordinator**

*They/Them*

Sarah L. Stewart (aka Ketina) is a tabletop RPG developer, writer, editor, and tie-in novelist. They primarily do freelance writing for R. Talsorian Games (the Witcher) and Onyx Path Publishing (Scarred Lands) and is among the Scarred Lands fan community is sometimes referred to as *The Sage of Scarn*. Sarah is also an avid geek and gamer and loves teaching games and running tabletop RPGs. Their wife and co-writer is the exuberant Frances (aka Fran) Stewart.



[morelikethisindustries.com](http://morelikethisindustries.com)



[@Ketinas1](https://discord.com/users/100000000000000000)

## **Shannon Wick, Volunteer Coordinator**

*She/Her*

Shannon is a fan of all things fantasy and scifi, but has a large affinity for Doctor Who and Lilo and Stitch. She enjoys DMing for D&D and learning new boardgames. She is the Volunteer Coordinator for the con but she has been a project manager in real life and hopes to bring her skills with herding cats(aka engineers) to play in keeping the volunteers running smoothly.

## **Taya Steere, Quiet Room Coordinator**

*She/They*

Taya is a life long game fan and neurodivergent trans girl. She is a strong advocate for cons providing quiet places for people to relax and recharge without leaving the site, even if they didn't book at the hotel.

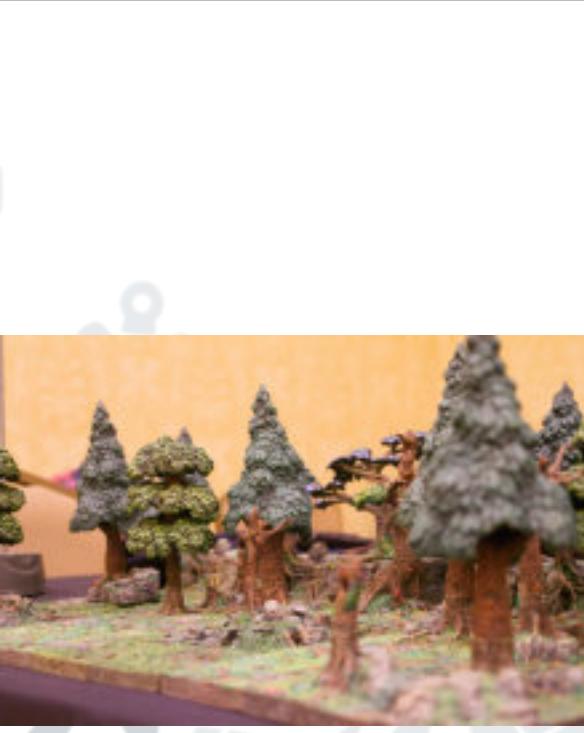


[@tayatranscends.bsky.social](https://bsky.social/@tayatranscends)



[@goblinlore.bsky.social](https://bsky.social/@goblinlore)







# Notes

Thank you for joining us at OrcaCon 2026. We hope to see you next year!





10  
YEARS