

DUFF, the Down Under Fan Fund 2014 ballot

Founded in 1972, and supported by contributions from all over the world, DUFF sends a delegate from North America to Australia – New Zealand, or the other way, in alternating years, attending the World Science Fiction Convention if it is on the receiving side, otherwise the national convention, with any further fanish travel that can be managed, meeting fans, making friends, radiating goodwill, publishing a trip report, and becoming the DUFF Administrator in turn until the next cycle on the delegate's home side. Trip reports are sold to support the Fund.

In 2014 the DUFF delegate will go west. The 53rd Australia natcon is Continuum X, Melbourne, 6-9 June; the 35th New Zealand natcon is Conclave II, Auckland 24-27 April.

Nominations were accepted until midnight 6 Jan 14 Pacific Standard Time. Three NA nominators and two ANZ nominators were required for each candidate, also a written platform of about 100 words and a donation of at least US\$25 or C\$ equivalent.

No candidates said they could attend both the Australia and New Zealand natcons. DUFF will send the winning delegate to Continuum X; each candidate wishes to visit New Zealand also if elected, as we shall attempt.

Votes will be accepted until midnight 31 Mar 14 Pacific Standard Time, and must be accompanied by a donation of at least \$5 Australian, Canadian, United States, or \$7 New Zealand. Anyone active in fandom on or before 1 Jan 14 may vote. "Active in fandom" means a natural person involved in fanish pursuits in our community, such as participation in clubs or conventions or fanzines, singing, costuming, social life, physically, electronically, or otherwise. Ballots must include the voter's name, paper-mail address, and any further needed contact information. Paper ballots must be signed. Voters who think they may not be known to an Administrator should include the name and contact information of someone who knows them and who will be known.

DUFF uses the preferential system of balloting, which yields an automatic runoff if needed and assures a majority win. The voter ranks choices in order of preference, e.g. 1, 2, 3. If there is no absolute majority for one choice after a first count of votes, first-place votes for the lowest-ranking choice are dropped and the second-place votes on those ballots are assigned to the choices named. This goes on until one choice has a majority. It can therefore be important to vote preferences other than first place, although this is not required.

Mail this ballot with your donation; or by PayPal state preferences and voter information with the Personal tab.

The Candidates

Aurora Celeste (Norristown, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.)

NA nominators Warren Buff, Chris Garcia, Jesi Pershing

ANZ nominators Norm Cates, Rose Mitchell

Platform: Costumer and con runner. Currently Vice-President, International Costumers Guild. Involved in running conventions from the second one attended, acting as head of guest relations, ops, treasurer, and chair in various years for NaNaKon (4000+ people *animé* con in Kansas City), programming for Costume-Cons and Worldcons. Kansas City for 2016 Worldcon bid committee. Regretfully Conclave II conflicts with duty as Program Head for Costume-Con XXXII. In copious spare time reading a lot of YA SF/F.

Added by NA Administrator: Best in Show at last two Worldcon Masquerades (Chicon VII, Lonestarcon III); judges' clerk at Renovation; Director at Costume-Con XXVIII & XXXI, judge too (no small task that) at XXVIII, MC at XXV; awards at Archon, Arisia, *Animé* St. Louis. Costume programming for Lonestarcon III. Upon hearing of fanzines promptly contributed to *The Drink Tank* 358.

Juanita Coulson (London, Ohio, U.S.A.)

NA nominators Sue & Steve Francis, Joyce & Arnie Katz, Murray Moore

ANZ nominators Bruce Gillespie, Paula McGrath

Platform: Have done fanzines, filksinging, pro writing. Happy to make friends and break stereotypes. Now in London, ready for Melbourne. Love to bring back opal. May illustrate own trip report. Taught Devra Langsam to hand-cut mimeo stencils, kept my styli which make nice kitchen tools. Sang at Old Ship Inn after Regency Dancing at Brighton Worldcon; lucky some Scots who'd heard Filthy Pierre in hotel bar sing unwise verse of 'God Save the Queen' arrived then and realized no murder needed. Very fond of rum-pots, crack-pots, and how are you, Mr. Wilson?

Added by NA Administrator: Big Heart Award. Fan Guest of Honor at Reconstruction. Co-edited *Yandro* 33 years with late husband Buck; 1 Hugo, 10 nominations. With him Fan GoH at L.A.con I. Brighton trip report in *Yandro* 250. Filk Hall of Fame; 1 Pegasus, 17 nominations; known as a Den Mother. Helped Bjo Trimble invent Art Shows. Eighteen books, 10 shorter stories.

How to Vote

A. Voter's preferences

Aurora Celeste
Juanita Coulson
Hold over funds
No preference
Write in

The easiest way to participate in this year's DUFF race is via PayPal, where you can both vote and pay at least the minimum donation of \$5.00 in U.S., Canadian or Aussie dollars, or \$7.00 New Zealand. Simply enter DUFF followed by your preferences in the PayPal narration, e.g. "DUFF 1 <selected voter's preference> 2 . <selected voter's preference>, etc." for up to five preferences listed on the Ballot Form.

If you vote and pay via PayPal, there is no need to return your completed ballot form, but it would be useful if you did. For PayPal voters, the Ballot Form tells you about the candidates and gives you the e-mail addressee for PayPal voting, depending on your country of residence.

Please download this Ballot Form, log into PayPal and vote now.

Alternatively, write a check, and mail it with your completed ballot form.

B. Voter's information

Name
Signature
Street address
City
State or Province
ZIP or Postal Code
Country

Phone number

E-mail

If you think you may not be known to an Administrator, the name and contact information of a fan who knows you and who will be known are:

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C. Donation

in US\$: by PayPal to Jeanne Bowman <jeannebowmanduff@gmail.com> noting this is a DUFF payment; or by check (made out to "Down Under Fan Fund") sent to John Hertz, 236 S. Coronado St., No. 409, Los Angeles, CA 90057

in C\$: by PayPal to René Walling <cybernetic.nomad@gmail.com> noting this is a DUFF payment, or by cheque to him, 431 Church St., Beaconsfield, QC H9W 3R9

in A\$: by PayPal to Bill Wright <bilw@iprimus.com.au> noting this is a DUFF payment; or by cheque (made out to "Down Under Fan Fund") sent to Australian Science Fiction Foundation, P.O. Box 215, Forest Hill, VIC 3131

in NZ\$: ask Norm Cates for details <norman.cates@gmail.com> or P.O. Box 13574, Johnsonville, Wellington 6440

D. Your preferences, voter information, and donation must all go to the same place.

North America DUFF Administrator

Australia – New Zealand DUFF Administrator

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John Hertz, Bill Wright,