

Please return ballot to:

LAcon V 2026 Hugo Awards Administration
c/o Warren Buff
12406 Kinship Turn
Bowie, MD 20715
USA

THIS BALLOT MUST BE **RECEIVED** by: **Aug 7, 2026**

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For more information about the 2026 Hugo Awards, please visit our web page at lacon.org

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**THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE 2026 HUGO, LODESTAR,
AND ASTOUNDING AWARDS!**

The Hugo Award® is the leading award for excellence in the field of science fiction and fantasy. The Hugos were first presented in 1953 and have been awarded every year since 1955 by the members of the World Science Fiction Society (Worldcon members) at the World Science Fiction Convention (Worldcon).

The winners of the 2026 Hugo Awards, Lodestar Award, and *Astounding* Award for Best New Writer will be announced at a formal ceremony to be held in Anaheim, CA, USA on the evening of Sunday, August 30, 2026. Full voting results will be published at that time.

Eligibility to Vote:

You may vote for the 2026 Hugo Awards, the Lodestar Award for Best Young Adult Book, and the *Astounding* Award for Best New Writer, if you are an LAcon V member.

How to Vote:

- Mark your choices in each category in order of preference. “1” for first place, “2” for second place, and so on.
- Unranked means that you are not ranking the finalist.
- A lower preference is considered only if all the candidates ranked higher have been eliminated.
- You are **not** required to rank **all** the finalists in any category.
- If you decide not to vote in any given category, leave it blank.
- “No Award” is **not** an abstention. It means that none of the finalists should be given the award in question.
- If you give preference votes to finalists below your ranking of No Award, your vote will count for those finalists if all higher-ranked preferences, including No Award, are eliminated.
- If you indicate a preference for No Award and leave other finalists blank, your vote will not count for or against those finalists at all.

When the ballots are counted, all the first place votes will be tabulated. If no finalist receives more than half of the votes, the finalist with the fewest first place votes is eliminated, and their votes are transferred to the finalists with the next preferences on those ballots.

This process of elimination of the last-placed finalist and redistribution of their votes to the next available preference continues until one finalist has more than half of all remaining votes, at which point that finalist becomes the winner (except under specific conditions described in Sections 3.6 and 3.12 of the [WSFS Constitution](#)).

Ballot for the 2026 Hugo Awards, Lodestar Award, and *Astounding* Award

VOTER ELIGIBILITY
PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE CLEARLY
THIS SECTION IS MANDATORY AND MUST BE LEGIBLE.

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**ALL BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY:
August 7, 2026**

SIGNATURE (MANDATORY)

Ballot is invalid without a signature and will not be counted.
To purchase a membership, please visit: lacon.org

2026 Hugo Award Ballot

Best Novel

- _____ **A Drop of Corruption** by Robert Jackson Bennett (Del Rey; Hodderscape)
- _____ **Death of the Author** by Nnedi Okorafor (William Morrow; Gollancz)
- _____ **Shroud** by Adrian Tchaikovsky (Tor UK; Orbit US)
- _____ **The Everlasting** by Alix E. Harrow (Tor US; Tor UK)
- _____ **The Incandescent** by Emily Tesh (Tor US; Orbit UK)
- _____ **The Raven Scholar** by Antonia Hodgson (Orbit US; Hodderscape)
- _____ No Award

Best Novella

- _____ **Automatic Noodle** by Annalee Newitz (Tordotcom)
- _____ **Cinder House** by Freya Marske (Tordotcom; Tor UK)
- _____ **Murder by Memory** by Olivia Waite (Tordotcom)
- _____ **The River Has Roots** by Amal El-Mohtar (Tordotcom; Arcadia UK)
- _____ **The Summer War** by Naomi Novik (Del Rey US; Del Rey UK)
- _____ **What Stalks the Deep** by T. Kingfisher (Nightfire; Titan UK)
- _____ No Award

Best Novelette

- _____ "Kaiju Agonistes" by Scott Lynch (*Uncanny Magazine*, Issue 62)
- _____ "Never Eaten Vegetables" by H.H. Pak (*Clarkesworld*, Issue 220)
- _____ "Rapport: Friendship, Solidarity, Communion, Empathy" by Martha Wells (*Reactor*, July 10, 2025)
- _____ "The Girl That My Mother Is Leaving Me For" by Cameron Reed (*Reactor*, April 2, 2025)
- _____ "The Millay Illusion" by Sarah Pinsker (*Uncanny Magazine*, Issue 67)
- _____ "When He Calls Your Name" by Catherynne M. Valente (*Uncanny Magazine*, Issue 65)
- _____ No Award

Best Short Story

- _____ “10 Visions of the Future; or, Self-Care for the End of Days” by Samantha Mills (*Uncanny Magazine*, Issue 63)
- _____ “In My Country” by Thomas Ha (*Clarkesworld*, Issue 223)
- _____ “Laser Eyes Ain’t Everything” by Effie Seiberg (*Diabolical Plots*, May 16, 2025)
- _____ “Missing Helen” by Tia Tashiro (*Clarkesworld*, Issue 226)
- _____ “Six People to Revise You” by J.R. Dawson (*Uncanny Magazine*, Issue 62)
- _____ “Wire Mother” by Isabel J. Kim (*Clarkesworld*, Issue 229)
- _____ No Award

Best Series

- _____ *Emily Wilde* by Heather Fawcett (Del Rey US; Orbit UK)
- _____ *October Daye* by Seanan McGuire (Tor US; DAW)
- _____ *Old Man’s War* by John Scalzi (Tor US; Tor UK)
- _____ *The Chronicles of Osreth* by Katherine Addison (Tor US; Solaris UK; Subterranean)
- _____ *The Craft Wars* by Max Gladstone (Tor; Tordotcom)
- _____ *White Space* by Elizabeth Bear (Saga Press; Gollancz)
- _____ No Award

Best Graphic Story or Comic

- _____ **Absolute Wonder Woman Vol. 1: The Last Amazon**, written by Kelly Thompson, art by Hayden Sherman and Mattia de Iulis, coloring by Jordie Bellaire, lettering by Becca Carey (DC Comics)
- _____ **A Girl and Her Fed**, written by KB Spangler, art by Ale Presser (www.agirlandherfed.com)
- _____ **A Wizard of Earthsea: A Graphic Novel**, written by Ursula K. Le Guin, adapted and art by Fred Fordham (Clarion Books; Walker UK)
- _____ **The Invisible Parade** by Leigh Bardugo and John Picacio (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers; Orion UK)
- _____ **The Power Fantasy Volume 1: The Superpowers**, written by Kieron Gillen, art by Caspar Wijngaard, lettering by Clayton Cowles (Image Comics)
- _____ **The Space Cat**, written by Nnedi Okorafor, art by Tana Ford (First Second)
- _____ No Award

Best Related Work

- _____ **Colourfields: Writing About Writing About Science Fiction** by Paul Kincaid (Briardene Books)
- _____ **Inventing the Renaissance** by Ada Palmer (University of Chicago Press US, Head of Zeus UK)
- _____ ***Last War in Albion*: "The Cuddled Little Vice (Sandman)"** by Elizabeth Sandifer (Eruditorum Press)
- _____ **Positive Obsession: The Life and Times of Octavia E. Butler** by Susana M. Morris (Amistad)
- _____ "Ragnarök vs the Long Night" by Ashaya and Aziz (History of Westeros Podcast, August 10, 2025)
- _____ **The Hugo Spreadsheet of Doom**, maintained by Renay (Google Spreadsheet)
- _____ No Award

Best Dramatic Presentation, Long Form

- _____ ***Andor (Season 2)***, written by Tom Bissell, Dan Gilroy, Tony Gilroy, and Beau Willimon, directed by Ariel Kleiman, Janus Metz, Alonso Ruizpalacios (Disney+)
- _____ ***Frankenstein***, screenplay by Guillermo del Toro, directed by Guillermo del Toro (Netflix)
- _____ ***KPop Demon Hunters***, screenplay by Danya Jimenez & Hannah McMechan, Maggie Kang and Chris Appelhans; directed by Maggie Kang and Chris Appelhans (Sony Pictures Animation for Netflix)
- _____ ***Mickey 17***, screenplay by Bong Joon Ho, directed by Bong Joon Ho (Warner Bros. Pictures)
- _____ ***Sinners***, screenplay by Ryan Coogler, directed by Ryan Coogler (Proximity Media, Warner Bros. Pictures)
- _____ ***Superman***, screenplay by James Gunn, directed by James Gunn (DC Studios)
- _____ No Award

Best Dramatic Presentation, Short Form

- _____ ***Doctor Who***: “The Story & the Engine”, written by Inua Ellams, directed by Makalla McPherson (BBC One, Disney +)
- _____ ***Murderbot***: “All Systems Red”, written by Paul Weitz & Chris Weitz, directed by Roseanne Liang, based on the book **All Systems Red** by Martha Wells (Apple TV)
- _____ ***Murderbot***: “The Perimeter”, written Chris Weitz & Paul Weitz, directed by Paul Weitz, based on the book **All Systems Red** by Martha Wells (Apple TV)
- _____ ***Pluribus***: “We Is Us”, written and directed by Vince Gilligan, directed by Vince Gilligan (Apple TV)
- _____ ***Severance***: “Cold Harbor”, written by Dan Erickson, directed by Ben Stiller (Apple TV)
- _____ ***The Wheel of Time***: “The Road to the Spear”, written by Rafe Lee Judkins, directed by Thomas Napper, based on the book **The Wheel of Time** by Robert Jordan (Amazon Prime Video)
- _____ No Award

Best Game or Interactive Work

- _____ *Blue Prince*, developed by Dogubomb, published by Raw Fury
- _____ *Citizen Sleeper 2: Starward Vector*, developed by Jump Over the Age, published by Fellow Traveller
- _____ *Clair Obscur: Expedition 33*, developed by Sandfall Interactive, published by Kepler Interactive
- _____ *Dispatch*, developed and published AdHoc Studio
- _____ *Hades II*, developed and published by Supergiant Games
- _____ *Hollow Knight: Silksong*, developed and published by Team Cherry
- _____ No Award

Best Editor Short Form

- _____ Scott H. Andrews
- _____ Jennifer Brozek
- _____ Neil Clarke
- _____ Lee Harris
- _____ Michael Damian Thomas
- _____ Sheila Williams
- _____ No Award

Best Editor Long Form

- Carl Engle-Laird
- Jaymee Goh
- Lee Harris
- Jenni Hill
- Joe Monti
- Diana M. Pho
- No Award

Best Professional Artist

- Lulu Chen
- Kelly Chong
- Dave Kellett
- Tran Nguyen
- John Picacio
- Tom Roberts
- No Award

Ballot continues next page

Best Semiprozine

- _____ *Escape Pod*, editors Mur Lafferty and Valerie Valdes, assistant editors Kevin Wabaunsee and Phoebe Barton, hosts Tina Connolly and Alasdair Stuart, producers Summer Brooks and Adam Pracht, and associate editors Marcus Tsong, Filip Hajdar Drnovšek Zorko, Ewen Ma, Christine Amsden, Rick Danforth, Michael A. Pepin, EA Crawley, Abhijeet Sathe, Sarah Loch, Phoenix Alexander and Casey Lawrence
- _____ *khōréō magazine*, by team khōréō (publisher Aleksandra Hill; editor-in-chief Zhui Ning Chang; editors Kanika Agrawal, Isabella Kestermann, Danai Christopoulou; audio Lian Xia Rose, Jenelle DeCosta, Grayson Norman, Aaron Kling, E.B.; marketing M.L. Krishnan, Ashley Thompson; art Ambi Sun; copyeditors Jeané Ridges, Eleanor Glewwe, Derek Yen, Ariya Bandy; proofreader Cyrus Chin; first readers Adialyz Del Valle Berríos, Sanjna Bhartiya, Kelsey Costa, Merulai Femi, A.R. Frederiksen, Yuvashri Harish, Zohar Jacobs, Lynn D. Jung, Phoebe Low, Katie McIvor, Adil Mian, Katarzyna Nowacka, A.W. Prihandita, Helena Ramsaroop, Jin Hui Saw, Aditya Sundararajan, Sophia Uy, Madeleine Vigneron, Aaron Voigt, K.S. Walker, Akilah White, MJ Woods, Kelsea Yu, Lilia Zhang, Tina Zhu)
- _____ *On Spec: The Canadian Magazine of the Fantastic*, published by the Copper Pig Writers' Society; managing editor/art director Diane L. Walton; poetry editors Colleen Anderson and Bob Stallworthy; fiction editors Barb Galler-Smith, Ann Marston, Virginia O'Dine, Constantine Kaoukakis, Susan MacGregor, Alyssa Kulchisky, Amanda Wells, Ashley Alton, Lorina Stephens, Lareina Abbott, Matthew Stobie Jackman, Cheryl Merkel, Dan Gyoba, Ethan Zou, Jade Mah-Vierling, Jessica Zdril, Kathleen Phul, Krystle McGrath, Thomas Schwarz, and William Thompson; interviewers Roberta Laurie and Cat McDonald; proofreaders Ashlin McCartney, Isaac Calon, and Mya Colwell
- _____ *Strange Horizons*, by the Strange Horizons Editorial Collective
- _____ *The Deadlands*, publisher Sean Markey, editor in chief E. Catherine Tobler, poetry editor Nicasio Andres Reed, nonfiction editor David Gilmore, necromancer Amanda Downum, art director Cory Skerry, copy editors Laura Blackwell and Annika Barranti Klein, proofreader Josephine Stewart, designer Christine M. Scott, and social media skeleton Felicia Martínez
- _____ *Uncanny Magazine*, publisher and editor-in-chief: Michael Damian Thomas; managing editor Monte Lin; poetry editor Betsy Aoki, podcast producers Erika Ensign and Steven Schapansky
- _____ No Award

Best Fanzine

- _____ *Ancillary Review of Books*, editors Jake Casella Brookins, Misha Grifka Wander, Bianca Skrinýár, Zachary Gillan, Cynthia Zhang, Lyz Bush-Peel
- _____ *An Unofficial Hugo Book Club Blog*, editors Olav Rokne and Amanda Wakaruk
- _____ *Galactic Journey*, founder Gideon Marcus, editor Janice L. Newman, staff David Levinson, Jessica Dickinson Goodman, Tam Phan, Andi Dukleth
- _____ *Intergalactic Mixtape*, edited by Renay
- _____ *Journey Planet*, edited by Allison Hartman Adams, Jean Martin, Steven H Silver, Christopher J. Garcia, James Bacon
- _____ *nerds of a feather, flock together*, editors Roseanna Pendlebury, Arturo Serrano, Paul Weimer; senior editors Joe Sherry, G. Brown, Vance Kotrla
- _____ No Award

Best Fancast

- _____ *A Meal of Thorns*, presented by Jake Casella Brookins
- _____ *Eating the Fantastic*, hosted by Scott Edelman
- _____ *Hugo, Girl!*, presented by Haley Zapal, Amy Salley, Lori Anderson, and Kevin Anderson
- _____ *Octothorpe*, presented by John Coxon, Alison Scott, and Liz Batty
- _____ *The Coode Street Podcast*, presented by Jonathan Strahan and Gary K. Wolfe
- _____ *Worldbuilding for Masochists*, presented by Marshall Ryan Maresca, Cass Morris, and Natania Barron
- _____ No Award

Best Fan Writer

- _____ Jay Brantner (a.k.a. "Tar Vol")
- _____ Alex Brown
- _____ James Davis Nicoll
- _____ Roseanna Pendlebury
- _____ Jason Sanford
- _____ Örjan Westin
- _____ No Award

Best Fan Artist

- _____ Terri Ash
- _____ Geneva Bowers
- _____ Sara Felix
- _____ Richard Man
- _____ España Sheriff
- _____ Yuumei
- _____ No Award

Best Poem

- _____ “Care for Lightning” by Mari Ness (*Uncanny Magazine*, Issue 62)
- _____ “Hex Supply Customer Support Log” by Elis Montgomery (*Strange Horizons*, Issue 25 August 2025)
- _____ “How to Become a Sea Witch” by Theodora Goss (*The Orange & Bee*, Issue 5)
- _____ “Landing: Seattle” by Brandon O'Brien (Seattle Worldcon 2025 Opening Ceremony)
- _____ “The Mourning Robot” by Angela Liu (*Uncanny Magazine*, Issue 66)
- _____ “The World to Come” by Jennifer Hudak (*Strange Horizons*, Issue 22 December 2025)
- _____ No Award

Lodestar Award for Best YA Book

- _____ **Among Ghosts** by Rachel Hartman (Random House Books for Young Readers)
- _____ **Coffeshop in an Alternate Universe** by C.B. Lee (Feiwel & Friends)
- _____ **Holy Terrors** by Margaret Owen (Henry Holt; Hodderscape UK)
- _____ **Oathbound** by Tracy Deonn (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers)
- _____ **Sunrise on the Reaping** by Suzanne Collins (Scholastic Press)
- _____ **They Bloom at Night** by Trang Thanh Tran (Bloomsbury US; Bloomsbury UK)
- _____ No Award

Astounding Award for Best New Writer (sponsored by Must Read Books)

_____ Sophie Burnham (2nd year of eligibility)

_____ Kamilah Cole (2nd year of eligibility)

_____ Antonia Hodgson (1st year of eligibility)

_____ Molly O'Neill (1st year of eligibility)

_____ H.H. Pak (2nd year of eligibility)

_____ Jared Pechaček (2nd year of eligibility)

_____ No Award