

LAIN 2026

A BID FOR THE 2026 WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION AUGUST 27-31, 2026 • ANAHEIM CONVENTION CENTER & ANAHEIM HILTON HOTEL



Name of Bid? LA in 2026

What dates would your convention run?

August 27-31, 2026

What is your proposed convention host city?

Anaheim, California, US

Is your convention site in a city center location or a suburb? If a suburb, what are the transport options into the city center? How far is the site from the city center?

Our site is not exactly city center, but pretty darn close. It is in the center of Anaheim's resort area. So, there is plenty to see and do within walking distance.

What are your main facilities? How far are your hotels from your main venue?

The Anaheim Convention Center (ACC) North, the ACC Arena and the Anaheim Hilton will all provide function space for the convention. The Anaheim Hilton will be providing the majority of our room block. We are in negotiations with the Anaheim Marriott to provide the remaining block. Both these hotels are around 500 ft or a few minutes walk from the entrance to the Anaheim Convention Center.

Who is your convention chair?

The Convention Chair is TBD. Our bid chair is Joyce Lloyd.

Who is on your committee?

Bobbi Armbruster Sherri Benoun Bert Boden Steve Cooper Linda Deneroff Taylor Deatherage Genny Dazzo Don Eastlake Jill Eastlake Bruce Farr Lea Farr Sara Felix Elizabeth Klein-Lebbink Joyce Lloyd Shaun Lyon Karin May Craig Miller Elizabeth McCarty Christian B. McGuire Helen Montgomery Elayne Pelz John Platt Jerome Scott Randy Shepherd Ben Yalow

What experience do they have in general?

Our committee is made up of former Worldcon chairs and local convention chairs. We have extensive experience in traditional convention support roles and have supported conventions both within the United States and internationally.

What experience do they have in running Worldcons?

Joyce Lloyd is the bid chair for LA in 2026. She is regularly involved with fan conventions with attendance from 100 to over 30,000. Her non-Worldcon experience includes being the Facilities for FanimeCon (2008 – present), Vice Chair for Anime Los Angeles (2010 – 2013, 2019 – present), Facilities Director for Gallifrey One (2003 – present), Vice Chair World Fantasy 2019, and Co-Chair of Loscon 35. She has been involved with Worldcons since 2006 (LA Con IV) where she was the Con Suite Second. Since then, she has worked as Hugo Administrator (Nippon 2007), Hotel Assistant (Denvention 3), Treasurer (Chicon 7), Facilities Division Head (LoneStarCon3), Finance Division Head (MidAmeriCon II), Timeline Assistant and Convention Center Liaison (Worldcon 76 in San Jose), Facilities Deputy Division Head (Dublin 2019), Exhibits Deputy Division Head (DisCon III), Facilities Division Head (Chicon 8), and is currently the Timeline Assistant for Glasgow 2024.

Some highlights for our committee include, but are not limited to:

- Bobbi Armbruster, Vice Chair, Chicon 7 (2012 Worldcon) and the 2023 Big Heart recipient
- Sherri Benoun, Co-Chair, World Fantasy Convention 2019
- Bert Boden, over 20 years of Worldcon and convention experience
- Steve Cooper, Co-Chair, Loncon 3 (2014 Worldcon)
- Genny Dazzo, over 30 years of Worldcon and convention experience
- Taylor Deatherage, Division Head Promotions and Marketing Chicon 8
- Linda Deneroff, Chair Lunacon 1980, WSFS Division Head for 2015 and 2021, WSFS Business Meeting Secretary many times since 2011
- Don Eastlake, Co-Chair Boskone 11, Chair Boskone 16, Presiding Officer or on the staff for the WSFS Business Meetings on several occasions
- Jill Eastlake, worked her first Worldcon in 1971 and hasn't stopped since
- Bruce Farr, Co-Chair, World Fantasy Convention 2019, 2001, 1991 and 1985. Chair 1987 NASFiC
- Lea Farr, Co-Chair, World Fantasy Convention 2001
- Sara Felix, Chair, ArmadilloCon 32, 2012
- Elizabeth Klein-Lebbink, over 40 years of Worldcon and convention experience
- Shaun Lyon, Co-founder & Program Director, Gallifrey One (34 years)
- Karin May, DH Staff Services, Chicon 8 (2022 Worldcon)
- Elizabeth McCarty, multiple DH level positions for various Worldcons
- Christian B. McGuire, Chair, L.A. Con IV (2006 Worldcon); Co-Founder & Chair (12 years), Gallifrey One

- Craig Miller, Co-Chair, L.A.Con II (1984 Worldcon)
- Helen Montgomery, Chair, Chicon 8 (2022 Worldcon); Vice Chair, Chicon 7 (2012 Worldcon)
- Elayne Pelz, over 40 years of Worldcon and convention experience
- John Platt, Deputy Division Head, Facilities, MidAmeriCon II (2016 Worldcon) Deputy Division Head, Facilities, Chicon 8 (2023 Worldcon)
- Jerome Scott, over 30 years of Worldcon and convention experience
- Randy Shepherd, Chair, LoneStarCon 3 (2013 Worldcon); Vice Chair, LoneStarCon 2 (1997 Worldcon)
- Ben Yalow, Co-Chair, Chengdu Worldcon (2023)

If applicable, have you agreed to participate in Pass-Along-Funds? Would you be willing to increase the percentage from 50% to 70%?

We absolutely will do pass-along funds if we are able and would consider increasing the amount.

What is the sponsoring organization?

Southern California Institute for Fan Interests, Inc. (SCIFI, Inc.)

Is the sponsoring organization a 501(c)(3) or otherwise a non-profit? If not a 501(c)(3) but a non-profit, please explain.

Yes, SCIFI, Inc. is a 501(c)(3)

Is the sponsoring organization tax-exempt for local taxes, especially sales tax?

No, not in California.

What is your website and/or Facebook group?

LAin2026.org (website)

Los Angeles Worldcon

@LAWorldcon

@LAworldcon (Twitter)

Who should people contact for additional information or questions (email preferred)? Info@LAin2026.org

TRAVEL

What is the typical current airfare to your closest airport from world cities such as London, Boston, Los Angeles, Tokyo, Melbourne, etc.?

The closest airport is John Wayne International (SNA), which is a 15 to 20 minute drive to the Anaheim Convention Center. We recommend Los Angeles International (LAX) for most who are traveling internationally.

All pricing is in US dollars and based on mid-August 2024 travel.

All airfare quoted is: coach, round trip, non-stop to LAX (direct flights to SNA are denoted).

Chicago	\$318 (SNA)	Victoria	\$356	Munich	\$898
London	\$726	Dublin	\$1047	Shanghai	\$3507
Paris	\$899	Montreal	\$412	Hong Kong	\$1479
Boston	\$373 (SNA)	Seattle	\$217 (SNA)	New York	\$345 (SNA)
Melbourne	\$1688	Helsinki	\$803	Tokyo	\$1152

Do international flights, as well as domestic, fly into your local airport?

Technically yes. John Wayne International (SNA) only services Canada and Mexico at this time and direct international flights are spotty.

Which airlines? If not, where is the closest international airport?

Los Angeles International (LAX) is the primary hub for international travel for Southern California, and is one of America's major airports. Direct flights are available from all major international countries and domestic cities. The majority of flights in and out are non-stops.

Are direct flights from the cities above flown into your local airport?

Yes, they were denoted with an (SNA) after their pricing above.

How far is your convention site from the nearest airport/train station and what is the likely cost of getting to the hotels by both public transport, shared ride service (Lyft/Uber/etc.), and a taxi from that airport/train station?

John Wayne Airport (SNA) 11.6 miles from site Uber/Lyft/etc. is @\$34 Taxi is \$45-\$55

The closest <u>Amtrak (train station)</u> 5.9 miles from site Uber/Lyft/etc. is @\$10-\$15 Taxi is \$22-\$28 Los Angeles International (LAX) 36.7 miles from site Uber/Lyft/etc. is @\$70 Taxi is \$140-\$180 What is the visa situation for citizens of foreign countries to attend your convention? What countries are eligible for ESTAs (Electronic Travel Authorizations which are generally a formality)? What countries would require visas? How long does it normally take to get a visa, and what does it cost?

Currently there are 41 countries participating in the Visa Waiver Program.

Andorra
Australia
Austria
Belgium
Brunei
Chile
Croatia
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Germany
Greece

Hungary Iceland Ireland Israel Italy Japan Korea, Republic of Latvia Liechtenstein Lithuania Luxembourg Malta Monaco Netherlands New Zealand Norway Poland Portugal San Marino Singapore Slovakia Slovenia Spain Sweden Switzerland Taiwan United Kingdom

If your passport is from one of the 41 countries listed you are eligible for ESTA, but it is generally not necessary. If the country you hold a passport from is not listed above, you will need to acquire a travel visa. The current fee for a visitor visa to the US is \$185 US and takes from 3 to 5 weeks to process.

FACILITIES

What hotel(s) are being used for the convention?

Anaheim Hilton and the Anaheim Marriott

How many rooms, what type, accessibility issues, etc.?

We are finalizing contracts currently, so our final numbers may vary. Expectations are 1300 Anaheim Hilton and 300 Anaheim Marriott. Both hotels meet both local and national ADA Accessibility Standards.

What are your hotel room rates?

The Hilton has offered a \$179 per night single/double and \$20 per person for triple/quad occupancy.

Presently the Hilton has a number of accessible rooms of various types and are planning on increasing that number with the upcoming remodel.

The Marriott has provided a quoted rate of \$199 per night single/double, but we are just starting negotiations.

Do these rates include breakfast?

No, breakfast is not part of the room rate.

Do they include internet access in the room?

Yes, the internet is included in the room.

How firm are these rates?

Firm, but until contracts are signed, some slight adjustments may be made.

What additional taxes and fees are there?

15% hotel tax plus approximately \$3 in other assessments at this time.

What does parking cost at your main hotel and/or convention center?

Anaheim Convention Center is currently \$20 per day and does not include in/out privileges. Anaheim Hilton is \$16 per day currently. In and out privileges are available if staying at the Hilton.

Do you have a signed (contingent) contract or letter of intent specifying the above?

The Anaheim Convention Center contract is ready to be signed, but they require a hotel contract to be in place prior to execution. The Hilton contract will be signed by the end of the year. Both should be in place by December 31, 2023. The Marriott contract will be executed in the first quarter of 2024.

What is the distance from the nearest door of your main hotel(s) to the closest entrance of the convention site?

530 ft, or a few minutes walk

What are the transportation options for those who prefer not to walk or who have mobility difficulties?

All our facilities are located in close proximity and we expect many members to walk between them. For those who may need assistance, we plan to offer scooter rentals to accommodate their needs.

Where will your large events be held?

As in 2006, the Arena at the Anaheim Convention Center will be utilized for our large events. Base seating is 7500 before stage allowances.

Please describe the restaurant scene near your site.

There are over 80 restaurants within a mile of the site. Japanese, Italian, Mexican, premium steak houses, the list goes on. There are many choices and price ranges available.

What arrangements will be made for evening socializing and party space? Do you have a corkage waiver?

We are currently negotiating for a corkage waiver. Parties and Con Hospitality are planned for the Anaheim Hilton, which currently has 93 suites. The remodel may affect this number. Most will be blocked for the convention per present plans.

Please describe the policies / laws regarding smoking in your hotel(s), convention center, and city.

All of Los Angeles and Orange County – this includes all our facilities – are 100% non-smoking facilities. Smoking is not allowed inside or within 20 feet of hotels, convention centers, or restaurants and bars.

MISCELLANEOUS

What type of weather can we expect during your convention? What is the average temperature during that time of year?

Typically, Anaheim is sunny in August, with daily temperature ranges between 86°- 66° F / 30°- 19°C

What are some of the main tourist attractions of your city?

Knott's Berry Farm, Universal Studios, Legoland, and many others. Disneyland is only a mile away from the convention center, and there is also a shuttle from the Anaheim Hilton for a small fee.

Our website also lists many local attractions and sites to visit.

Are you planning to have any membership discounts for certain demographic groups, such as historically marginalized groups, young adults, seniors, or military?

Yes, but it is a bit too early to elaborate. They will be similar to recent Worldcons.

How do you plan to recruit staff? Will there be a discount membership rate for staff? Do you plan crash space for staff? Etc.

A lot of begging 😌

Really though, we've already started and are currently talking with the people we've worked with prior locally or wherever in the world they might be. We are also asking all of those people for additional recommendations and are working to build the best team possible without actually being a seated Worldcon.

As for discounts and housing, it is a bit early for us as we are still developing a provisional budget.

What is your vision for your convention?

We want to present a Worldcon that is inclusive, diverse, exciting, and represents the fandom in southern California. One that incorporates all that is fantastic and wonderful in the realm of science fiction. We are already in the very early planning stages and are hashing out some ideas.

Adventure is out there and we are looking forward to being your guides!

How do you plan to make it happen?

Lots of elbow grease and clever recruiting.

What is a notable aspect of your local fan culture and how do you plan to incorporate it into your convention?

Los Angeles offers a unique perspective on science fiction. We are a community that creates the dreams, and we are a community that makes the dreams a reality.

We are known for our entertainment industry. It is a huge portion of our culture. Many of our fans are directly involved as writers, artists, costumers, programmers, or are indirectly involved with the day-to-day workings. Because of this we will have many people willing to share their hands-on knowledge of creating the illusions and the stories.

But we also have a large contingency of fans that make it their mission to take science fiction to science fact. We are home to such notable institutions as NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) and Northrop Grumman Aerospace in Los Angeles. Let's not forget that CalTech alone has been affiliated with over 70 Nobel laureates including 40 alumni and faculty members. We are blessed with several fans who are willing to share how they take fiction and make it a reality.

Do you have a code of conduct? If so, is it available online and if so, where?

We do not yet have a code of conduct for the convention, but will be working to develop one in the coming months and will have it available for review on the bid website prior to the start of site selection voting. We aim to have a code of conduct that makes it clear that people who have historically experienced harassment are not only welcome but will be respected at our convention, and that we have no tolerance for harassment and microaggressions, intentional or otherwise.

What do diversity and inclusion mean to you?

In the broadest sense, diversity is all the wonderful variations that make up an individual. Whether it is their race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, their thought process – every single nuance that makes up how an individual personally identifies in the vast spectrum that is humanity. As a convention, we aim to include people from as many walks of life and viewpoints as possible while prioritizing the inclusion of people from groups that have historically been marginalized by the community surrounding Anglophone Speculative Fiction Fandom.

How are you working towards your goals in these areas?

While the bid committee itself isn't all that diverse, we are looking to recruit participants and staff - including in high-performing roles of substance - that come from a variety of backgrounds. We will have a DEI team (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) that will look at ways to increase involvement from members of communities that have not always felt welcome at Worldcon and related fandom, and will outline principles that we expect all areas of the convention to follow, with regular check-ins to make sure that decisions made and executed continue to align with that mission.

Several members of our Bid Committee also participated in the Anti-Racism Training that was done for the Chicon 8 Committee, and also the Bystander Intervention Training for Public Workspaces that was held for all staff and volunteers of Chicon 8. We plan to provide similar training for our convention staff.

What would concrete achievements look like in these areas?

This is an excellent question that we are not yet able to answer. Should our bid win the right to host the 84th Worldcon, we will spend the first few months after the vote outlining principles that support our DEI goals for all areas of the convention to follow, including setting up goals and metrics for success.

What are your plans, if any, regarding handling the COVID-19 pandemic?

This will be addressed as we see how things are progressing closer to the convention dates.

The challenge that presents right now is that we have to remain flexible in our planning to make sure that we are protecting the health and safety of our members as required by the state of the world we are faced with then.

Have you planned for a virtual component to your convention?

We are considering virtual options for the convention, but it's too early to say for sure what will happen. We do anticipate that there will be some virtual aspect to the convention, but how much and what it would look like are decisions for later in 2024.

If applicable, are you prepared to run a site selection process should it be required?

Yes.

If applicable, how do you plan to facilitate the Hugo Finalists input to your convention?

The program will feature recent and current Hugo finalists and winners. Acknowledging the possibility of disconnects between teams, the Program and WSFS divisions will have processes in place to ensure that we do not inadvertently leave finalists off of the program. Program will solicit input from the finalists who are program participants as to what they want to do and make our best efforts to accommodate them.

Is there anything else you wish to add?

Site selection is coming up for 2026 at the Glasgow 2024 Worldcon. Make your opinion count!