

Fannish Inquisition Survey: Phoenix NASFiC Bid April 2013

NASFiC Bid: Phoenix

What are the proposed dates for which you are bidding? Thursday July 31 – Sunday August 3, 2014

What is your proposed convention host city? 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?

Tempe, Arizona, USA; Downtown Tempe (suburb of Phoenix, closest suburb to Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport); Options to downtown Phoenix: Light Rail (just outside hotel), Bus (stations nearby), Cab, Rental Car; Distance from downtown Tempe to downtown Phoenix: approximately 8 miles.

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

(As of April 2013): US\$395-425; Boston: US\$254-430; Chicago: US\$332-352; Detroit: US\$474-493; Houston: US\$491-495; Kansas City: US\$257-429; London: US\$1118-1143; Los Angeles: US\$154-174; Melbourne: US\$1341-1602; Mexico City: US\$524-641; New York City: US\$306-336; Orlando: US\$491-498; Philadelphia: US\$443-498; Raleigh: US\$392-462; San Francisco: US\$303-331; Seattle: US\$351-358; Toronto: US\$629-659; Vancouver: US\$445-483 (assumes 2013 dates via Travelocity.Com).

Do international flights, as well as domestic, fly into your local airport? Which airlines? If not, where is the closest international airport? Are direct flights from the cities above flown into your local airport?

International and domestic; Aeromexico, Air Canada, Air Trans, Alaska, American, British Airways, Delta, Frontier, Great Lakes, Hawaiian, JetBlue, Southwest, Sun Country, United, US Airways (hq), WestJet; Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport; Direct and non-stop.

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 and taxi from that airport/train station?

Distance from airport to con hotel is approximately 5 miles; Amtrak uses airport to connect; con hotel has free airport shuttle; light rail will connect airport to downtown Tempe by 2014 as well.

What hotel(s) are being used for the convention? How many rooms, what type, accessibility issues, etc.?

Con hotel is Tempe Mission Palms (www.missionpalms.com); 303 rooms (block is 280, the max they offer); Standard kings and double doubles, executive kings and double doubles, junior suites (kings only), one-bedroom suites (kings only), handicap kings and double doubles; all areas are accessible except the tennis courts on the second floor; overflow hotel is 1/4 mile with a possible new one by 2014 closer.

What are your hotel room rates? Do these rates include breakfast? Do they include internet in the room? How firm are these rates?

Main hotel is US\$99/nt, single-quad, including all suites, including resort fee, plus tax, including wireless high speed internet, including free airport shuttle, including free self-parking, including free valet-parking, including free fitness center and pool; breakfast is not included; rates are firm for main hotel; overflow hotel is not quoted yet.

What is the cost to *park* at the convention/hotel facilities?

Zero.

What is the distance from the main hotel(s) to the closest entrance of the convention site? What are the transportation options for those who prefer not to walk or who have mobility difficulties?

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Main hotel is convention site, so zero distance; transportation options for overflow hotel is hotel shuttle or contracted shuttle or short cab ride.

If using overflow hotels (or hotels not directly connected) what is the cost of a cab ride door-to-door with the convention center?

Closest hotel is 0.25 (1/4) mile from the main hotel, so less than \$5.

Please describe your convention site facilities. For example, the quantity and sizes of rooms, tech options, accessibility issues, etc.

Main hotel has most of function space on first floor, some on second floor; 9400sf ballroom divisible into up to six rooms; ballroom foyer for Fan Tables and Freebies; hotel lobby for Registration; six courtyard rooms ranging from 500 – 1100sf; four non-courtyard rooms approximately 600sf each; one boardroom, two small rooms (all approximately 300sf) upstairs/up-elevator; one room, divisible into two unequal parts, next to restaurant approximately 2500sf (incorrect on hotel map); one room, divisible into two unequal parts, north of restaurant approximately 3600sf with patio; all function rooms fully tech capable; no accessibility issues.

Where will your large events (i.e. Hugo Ceremony and Masquerade) be held?

Large events will be in part of the ballroom.

Please describe the restaurant scene near your site.

Main hotel has one restaurant (breakfast and lunch) and one lounge (lunch and dinner) and one cabana grill (near pool, seasonal); being located in downtown Tempe (college town) there are approximately 75 restaurants within 1/2 mile; Irish Pub and Sushi Bar across the pedestrian walkway next to hotel; many more restaurants within one block from chains to independents including at least one brewery.

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

Arizona is a smoke-free state for restaurants and bars within 20 feet of main entrances; patios can offer smoking areas if large enough, but indoors smoking is not allowed.

What type of weather can we expect at the time of year your convention is to be held?

Mostly sunny, indoor temps comfortable, outdoor temps during day hot with nights warm.

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

- Desert Botanical Gardens
- Heard Museum for Native American art and culture
- Phoenix Art Museum
- Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art
- Children's Museum of Phoenix
- Arizona Science Center
- Phoenix Zoo
- hiking and biking trails
- golf courses

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- spas
- unique shopping areas
- Taliesin West (Frank Lloyd Wright study center)
- Musical Instrument Museum
- Arizona Capitol Museum
- Arizona Historical Society Museum
- Arizona Jewish Historical Society
- Challenger Space Center Arizona
- Commemorative Air Force Arizona Wing Aviation Museum
- DeGrazia Gallery in the Sun (Tucson)
- Hall of Flame Firefighting Museum
- Heritage & Science Park
- Phoenix Police Museum
- Pueblo Grande Museum and Archaeological Park
- Rosson House Historic Museum
- Shemer Art Center & Museum
- Superstition Mountain Lost Dutchman Museum
- Wells Fargo History Museum
- Arizona Diamondbacks Major League Baseball
- Herberger Theater
- Orpheum Theater
- Symphony Hall

Who is on your committee? Who is your bid chair? What experience do they have in general?

Our Bid Team is made up of fans from around North America, currently over 40 in number, with a number of past Westercon Chairs, past NASFiC Chairs, and past Worldcon Chairs; Bid Chair is Mike Willmoth; Mike chaired World Horror Con 2004, World Fantasy Con 2004, and Westercon 62 in 2009; he's also worked as Division Head for Raleigh NASFiC 2010 (Programming & Events), Committee for LoneStarCon 3 (Art Night), Staff for Programming at Bucconeer 1998 / ConJose 2002 / Torcon 3 2003 / CascadiaCon 2005 / Lacon 4 2006 / Chicon 7 2012, ASFA Liaison for Lacon 4 / Denvention 3 / Anticipation / ReConstruction; Mike has been Hotel Liaison, Program Director and Treasurer for many local and regional conventions including Senior Staff for CactusCon NASFiC 1987; Bid Team has Worldcon, NASFiC, regional and local experience.

If known, who will be the chair of the convention? What experience do they have?

Mike Willmoth will be the Chair of Phoenix In 2014 NASFiC should the bid win; please see above.

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

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We have the entire hotel's function space; we also have all of the suites for parties or Consuite / Staff Lounge; corkage waivers cover all sleeping rooms.

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

Yes, we plan to offer discounts for Kids-in-Tow, Children, Teens, Military and possibly Seniors.