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Nimbus – 2003

Orlando, Florida

July 17-20, 2003

Nimbus is expected to be a recurring periodic symposium for the purpose of allowing adult fans of the *Harry Potter* books and universe to: gather; discuss the books and the fandom with other fans, scholars of literature and cultural studies, and professionals in related fields; and gain a new understanding of the *Harry Potter* phenomenon.

Program Details

● Keynote Speaker

Judith Krug, Director of the Office of Intellectual Freedom for the American Library Association, will be the Symposium's keynote speaker for the Friday luncheon. A founder of both the Freedom to Read Foundation and Banned Books Week, Ms. Krug will speak about censorship and book banning, particularly with reference to the *Harry Potter* series.

● Tracks

Proposals are sought for presentations, papers, moderated panels, and workshops on any topic relating to the *Harry Potter* novels and/or their fan community. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to, the following tracks:

● Academic

The Programming Committee welcomes submissions in the following areas:

- Gender roles in the series
- The role of authority in the series: rule-breaking and its consequences
- Themes in the series (particularly Harry as Allegory: Good versus Evil)
- Race, class, and other social issues in the series
- Religion in the series (as well as reactions of various religious communities to HP)
- Rowling's usage of myths, folk tales and legends
- Harry Potter: Classics for our Time?
- Comparative analysis of the series with other fantasy or children's literature authors (Tolkien, Lewis, Cooper, etc.)
- Harry Potter as Transcultural Phenomenon
- Translations
- Character analyses

Legal (application will be made for MCLE credit hours) – ½ day

- *Justice in the Wizarding World*
- *Fanfic and Intellectual Property*
- *Book-banning and the First Amendment: moderated panel discussion*

Educators and Librarians (application will be made for CE credit)

- *Hogwarts Professors' Lounge* (lesson plans and workshop proposals sought across the curriculum)
- *Ask Madam Pince: A Workshop for Librarians and Media Specialists*

● Fandom Culture

The Programming Committee welcomes submissions in the following areas:

Fanfiction

- Fantastic Characters and Where to Find Them (Canon & Originals)
- It's All a Matter of Interpretation: Balancing Canon and Fanon
- Writing in the Dark: Fanficcing an "Incomplete" Canon
- Women Writers, Male Characters: Gender and Fan Writing
- Crossovers

Fan Art

- The Mirror of Erised: Drawing Recognizable Canon Characters
- External Influences (anime, Disney, other)

Website Administration

- The Masters of All: Webmasters Share Their Secrets
- The Common Rooms: Message Boards and the Fandom
- Essential E-Mail Lists for the HP Fan; Yahoo! and its Role in Developing Online Fandom

General Fandom

- The Perilous Seas: Shipping the Series ("het", "slash", and "smarm")
- Where Generations Meet: Children, Teens, and Adults in Harry Potter Fandom
- All Things Being Equal: What makes Harry Potter different from or similar to other fan phenomena?
- What is Harry Potter Canon?: The Novels vs. Other Sources (Schoolbooks, Interviews, Film)

Additional proposals are welcome and we encourage members of the professional, academic, and fandom communities to participate.

● Informal Programming

The symposium will include varied informal programming for attendees, primarily scheduled in the evening hours (although it is expected that vendor booths and a game room will be open for browsing during the daytime programming hours).

● Time Blocks

There will be 2 days of programming. Proposals should specify the estimated amount of time needed for presentation and discussion: 60-, 90- and 120-minute time blocks are available. We also expect to be able to accommodate 3-hour time blocks for special workshops and panel discussions.

● Attendees

Registrants must be at least 18 years old or accompanied by a parent or guardian if ages 14-17. The Symposium programming is intended for adults; however, mature teenagers may find the discussions engaging and valuable. It is currently expected that childcare will be provided on-site (at additional cost) for the children of adult attendees.

Proposal Submissions

Proposal Submission Deadline: January 15, 2003

Proposals may take the form of a 500-word abstract or a completed conference paper (approximately 10 pages). Proposals should be sent via email (preferred), fax, or regular mail in advance of the submission deadline to the following:

Email submission: cfp@hp2003.org. Please use Nimbus – 2003 Proposal Submission in the subject line.

Regular mail: Harry Potter Symposium - 2003
Programming Committee
P.O. Box 18769
Rochester, NY 14618-0769

Fax Number: 407-540-9583

Internet: www.hp2003.org/cfp.html

This symposium is an unofficial event, and is not endorsed by Warner Bros., the Harry Potter book publishers or J.K. Rowling and her representatives.

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