

2020 DUFF Ballot

North America to Australasia

Please read the entire ballot before voting.

The Down Under Fan Fund was created for the purpose of providing funds to bring well-known and active fans familiar to those on both sides of the ocean across the Pacific. It is a daughter/sister fund to TAFF, which has been bringing fans across the Atlantic since 1953! Since 1972, DUFF has regularly brought North American fans across the Pacific to Australian and New Zealand conventions and Australian and New Zealand fans to North American conventions. It exists solely through the support of science fiction fandom; the continued generosity of fans is what makes DUFF possible. Thank you for supporting DUFF!

Who may vote?

Voting in the 2020 race is open to anyone active in fandom before January 2018 who donates at least \$5 (USD) to DUFF (larger donations are **very** gratefully accepted). Voting is by secret ballot: one vote per person, and you must provide your name on the ballot. You may change your vote at any time prior to the deadline. All votes must reach the administrators by 11:59pm (Eastern US time) on Friday, March 27, 2020.

Donations:

DUFF gratefully accepts your freely given money, material for auction and other relevant donations; such generosity has sustained the Fund for decades. Please contact your nearest administrator for details.

Candidates:

Each candidate has posted a bond of \$20 US promising to travel, if elected, to ConZealand, the 78th Worldcon, 2020, in Wellington, NZ. Each candidate has three nominators on their side of the Pacific and two on the other, each of whom has personally contacted the administrators with their nomination. Each candidate has also provided a platform of up to 100 words. Anyone active in SF fandom can run for DUFF as long as they fulfill these criteria for the relevant race; contact your administrator about future races!

Voting system:

DUFF uses a preferential voting system similar to the system used in voting for the Hugo Award. Voters should rank candidates in order of preference. This allows for the lowest-ranked candidates to be eliminated from the race and those votes redistributed according to the next ranking until one candidate has a clear majority. A candidate must also receive at least 20% of the first-place votes on both sides of the Pacific to win. Any candidate failing to receive this minimum percentage on either side will be dropped, and the second-place votes on their ballots counted as first-place votes in the next ballot count. (Note: In years with more than three candidates, like this race, the "20% rule" is not applied until after the candidates with the fewest votes have been eliminated and there are just three candidates left.) Votes will be counted according to a voter's contact address, not where they send their ballot. Votes from fans not resident in either Australasia or North America will not count towards either side of the Atlantic for the purpose of this rule.

"Hold Over Funds":

This choice, like "No Award" in Hugo balloting, gives you the chance to vote for no TAFF trip this year, should you feel none of the candidates deserve your support. "Hold Over Funds" is exempt from the 20% requirement: if it receives a majority of the votes on the final ballot, no trip will be held this year.

"No Preference":

For voters who prefer not to choose between candidates, but don't want the trip held over and simply are voting and donating to help support the fund.

How to vote:

Vote by emailing a copy of this ballot to both the Administrators. Pay using PayPal or by Credit Card to Paul. You can also fill in your contact details and your ranked voting preferences in the comments section of a PayPal payment. The minimum donation to vote is \$5 (USD).

Donations should be made to the North American Administrator, below.

North America: Paul Weimer- jvstin@gmail.com

Australasia Marlee Jane Ward. marleejaneward@gmail.com

If you wish to pay by Credit Card, please visit the Donation Button at

<https://www.princejvstin.com/buy-a-print-or-image/down-under-fan-fund-voting-payment>

The 2020 DUFF Candidates

Richard Auffrey

Send the Passionate Foodie to New Zealand!

I've attended SFF conventions for 40 years, including 2 World Cons. Each year, I read 250+ books, including many genre novels, highlighting my favorites each year in my blog. In addition, I've previously interviewed numerous SFF authors for my Alcohol, Authors and Accolades series. I'm also the author of the Topsy Sensei series, supernatural thrillers about a Sake expert encountering creatures from Japanese folklore. In addition, I've been a role-player for 40 years, usually as a Game Master, covering a diverse blend of games. It would be an honor to represent U.S. fandom.

Shaun Duke

I'm a host for the two-time Hugo Finalist podcast, The Skiffy and Fanty Show, and a global SF enthusiast. In 2014, I created the World SF Tour to celebrate non-US SF/F through interviews and discussions; at each of the three international Worldcons I have attended (London, Helsinki, and Dublin), I have recorded podcasts to highlight SF/F from around the world. If selected as the DUFF delegate, I will continue that mission by more deeply exploring fandom and SF/F in New Zealand and Australia at ConZealand. I've got a handheld recorder, a geeky mind, and a hankering for ocean crossings!

James Davis Nicoll

I would like to stand as a candidate for the 2020 DUFF. I have been an avid reader of speculative fiction for almost sixty years. I have attended cons, written thousands of reviews, served on diverse award juries, and provided the world with valuable safety hints [1]. If I am selected, I vow to embrace tradition and attempt to produce a humorous journal in the tradition of Walt Willis' *The Harp Stateside*[2].

1: Persons concerned about sending me to a geologically active nation like New Zealand can rest assured that the Hawaii incident was probably a fluke.

2: With footnotes.

Erin Underwood

I'm a con runner and fan editor/writer from Boston, Massachusetts, USA, whose passion for science, fandom, and SF/F drives me to bring new voices to publications and convention programs. While I've worked pre-con for many Worldcons, I could only afford attending a few conventions that I helped to create. I'd love to attend ConZealand, sharing my passion for SF/F with New Zealand and Australian fans, while also learning from those communities. I'm editing a special edition of the fanzine *Journey Planet*, highlighting New Zealand and ConZealand, and will promote fandom and DUFF through blogging, social media, and a summary report.

Please rank candidates with 1, 2, 3, etc. where 1 is your first preference:

<input type="checkbox"/> Richard Auffrey	<input type="checkbox"/> James David Nicoll
<input type="checkbox"/> Shaun Duke	<input type="checkbox"/> Erin Underwood
<input type="checkbox"/> Hold Over Funds (No Candidate)	<input type="checkbox"/> No Preference

Your Name:

Address:

Email/phone:

If you think your name may not be known to the administrators, please provide the name of an active fan (not a fan group, a candidate, or one of their nominators) who is known to the administrators and who can vouch for you being an active fan, eligible to vote.

Name: _____

DUFF may contact you over this race. We will publish a list of voters, but will not reveal how you voted or pass your data to any other organization.

All votes must reach the administrators by 11:59pm (Eastern US time) on Friday, March 27, 2020.

Reproduction of this form is encouraged. It is the official voting vehicle and must be reproduced verbatim. Anyone reproducing this form should substitute their name here: