



# CLOCKWORK ALCHEMY



## PROGRAM GUIDE

MAY  
23-26, 2014

SAN JOSE, CA



## Welcome



### Thatch Durbin (Chair, Clockwork Alchemy)

When I got involved in the local steampunk community six years ago, I never imagined that I would stand on the brink of a third year as Chair of Clockwork Alchemy. Yet, here I am, and I stand in amazement at what has been accomplished by the efforts of so many in the steampunk community. Working so closely with so many has been enlightening and I find that as Clockwork Alchemy changes and grows it mirrors the lives of those who volunteer so much of their time to make it happen.

As we grow and change we hope to embody the spirit and hope that are steampunk. We invite you to partake in these while continuing to enjoy all that you have come to love about Clockwork Alchemy. We have taken over the onsite Club this year for Friday night's Cabaret and various events and lessons throughout the rest of the weekend. Other changes this year will include having two live bands at Emperor Norton's Ball, live jam sessions with the musical guests, a full-blown fashion show, an expanded Artist's Gallery, a larger room with new sets for The Alchemist Tea Parlour, the expansion of the Martial Arts track into a larger space (now dubbed The War Room), and a myriad of new fixtures and sets to inspire and entertain.

With this year's theme, Alternate Empires, we hoped to embody some of the diversity and the creative culture of the steampunk community. We are honored to be joined this year by many creative and talented individuals. Among them are our Maker Guest of Honor, Dr Brassy Steamington (her timeless and elegant designs earned her a nomination for Jewelry Designer in the Steampunk Chronicle Awards); our Author Guest of Honor, Harry Turtledove (the Master of Alternate History); and our amazingly talented Musical Guest of Honor, Post Modern Jukebox (who offer inspired reinterpretations of modern songs). In addition we have the great pleasure of having The Nathaniel Johnstone Band and Jody Ellen, both of whom have chosen to release their new albums at Clockwork Alchemy this year, as well as Vernian Process and their guest members from the Clockwork Dolls. And, of course we can not overlook the return of fan favorites Unwoman and Lee Presson and the Nails.

We would like to thank everyone for their support and feedback over the last year. And now I invite you to experience, as we have, that steampunk is not only a journey in discovering who and what we are, but also who and what we wish to become. Step out of the everyday routine and into the Alternate Empire that is Clockwork Alchemy.

### Clockwork Alchemy 2014 Staff List

Thatch D. (Head)

#### Registration

Ariel I. (Co-Head)  
Jaime M. (Co-Head)  
Adam S. (Co-Head)  
Thien L.  
Tam N.  
Vicki R.  
Ryan R.  
Cassandra T.  
Michaelina Z.

#### Info Desk

Chelsea K. (Head)  
Rose T. (Second)  
Barbara C.  
Taylor K.  
Dani N.  
Charlotte N.

#### Logistics

Sara S. (Second)  
Kirsten H.  
Mike L.  
Jonathan L.  
Marisol S.  
Karl S.

#### Content

Ruth S. (Head)  
Anastasia L.

#### Creative

Dave H. (Head)  
Gretchen K.  
Cynthia L.  
Galen W.

#### Tech

Sabrina R. (Co-Head)  
Jason P. (Co-Head)  
Nicholas I.  
Mark R.  
Alan R.

#### Web

Vernon P. (Head)

#### Panels

Kory D. (Co-Head)  
Gene F. (Co-Head)  
Thena M. (Co-Head)  
Sharon C.

Jay D.  
Daphne D.  
Louise C.  
Chris F.  
Joshua F.  
Joseph F.  
Amy G.  
Bill G.  
Corey H.  
Megan J.  
Eoin J.  
Leo L.  
Kate M.  
Rich M.  
Gwynn T.  
Nichoel T.  
Jakob T.

#### Programming

Christofer N. (Head)  
MP S.

#### Special Events

Alyssa R. (Head)  
Laura O. (Second)

Jennifer A.  
Brian G.  
Emily G.  
Stacy H.  
Shawn M.  
John S.  
Gregory S.  
Erik S.  
Linnea S.

#### Airship Racing

Quentin T. (Head)

#### ConOps

Peter R. (Head)  
Christina P. (Second)  
Linda A.  
Judi F.  
Nathan K.  
Bethany K.  
Alex P.

#### Tea Parlour

Melanie D. (Head)  
Christina J. (Second)  
Wendy B. (Second)  
Brad B.

Lori P.  
Robin V.

#### Video

Stephen C.  
James C.

#### Gaming

Shelley H. (Co-Head)  
Michael P. (Co-Head)  
Sarah H.  
Douglas L.  
Michelle V.  
Tony V.

#### Artist's Bazaar

Sandra F. (Head)  
Jessie H. (Second)  
Jenni C.  
Meghan M.  
Carrie S.  
Alexus T.  
Jon B.

#### Artist's Gallery

Kathleen P. (Head)  
Joseph M.

#### Steampunk LARP

Suleiman A. (Head)  
Vivian H.  
Brian M.  
Mike R.

#### The War Room

Thomas B. (Head)  
Fred K. (Second)  
Brooke B.  
Matthew C.  
Ruth M.  
Tom M.  
Christopher V.  
Maureen W.  
Ian W.

#### Bobbies

Cassie K. (Head)  
Marshall C. (Second)  
Mary A.  
Mike A.  
Tom B.  
Christine C.  
Eddie C.  
Terisa C.

David D.  
Christopher F.  
Thad G.  
Nicole G.  
Giang H.  
Jason L.  
Jon M.  
Thuy N.  
Tam N.  
Tom P.  
Chirag P.  
Matthew P.  
Leslie P.  
Jacob S.  
Anton T.  
Nathan W.

#### Volunteers

Dorothy-Diane W. (Head)



# Guests of Honor



## Author Guest of Honor – Harry Turtledove

Harry Turtledove earned a PhD in Byzantine history from UCLA, which taught him that history is weirder than anything you could possibly invent. He writes science fiction (including a lot of alternate history), fantasy (much of it historically based), historical fiction, and, every once in a while, even mainstream fiction. He has won a Hugo Award, two Sidewise Awards for alternate history, a Hal Clement Award for YA science fiction, a Prometheus Award, and the John Esten Cook Award for Southern Fiction.

Harry Turtledove has published under the names Eric G. Iverson (his first publishers were convinced no one would believe ‘Turtledove’—he expressed his opinion of the pen-name by adding the middle initial G., which stood for ‘Goddam’), Harry Turtledove (his real name—Lester del Rey insisted that the four books of The Videssos Cycle be published under Harry Turtledove because he thought people would remember it), and H.N. Turteltaub (which he often uses as a pen-name when writing historical fiction—Turteltaub was Turtledove’s family name before it got anglicized by his grandfather). Some of his best-known books are Every Inch a King, The Guns of the South, and In the Presence of Mine Enemies.

His wife is science-fiction/mystery writer and Broadway maven Laura Frankos.

They have three daughters, Alison, Rachel (also a published writer—it runs in [or perhaps after] the family), and Rebecca, and one granddaughter, Cordelia. The Turtledoves live with the inevitable writers’ cat, a handsome beast who has no brains because he stood in the line for tail twice instead of getting them.



## Maker Guest of Honor – Dr. Brassy Steamington

She walks it, she talks it—Dr Brassy Steamington lives and breathes steampunk. She’s been called ‘The Goddess of Gears’ and ‘The Queen of Brass.’ Her motto is, ‘If you can dream it—I can steam it.’ From the steampunk home where she lives with her maker partner, Professor Aether Pendragna, to her appropriately steamy garb, to her making magic as the owner of Dr Brassy Designs, her life IS steampunk.

Brassy’s very first Mechanical Pocket Watch Guts Earrings were made and sold at Linda Flynn’s Boutique in San Luis Obispo, CA, in 1987. She sold her art sporadically at art events throughout the 1990s, and burst into the steampunk scene in 2008. Brassy works in wood, leather, clay, metals, glass, and wirework, sews, and is very handy with both small and large power tools. Her line includes jewelry (including her signature Sightmares™ © work), hats, lamps, home decor, and sculptures and contraptions of all sorts.

Her media credits include appearances on Mythbusters and BBC TV’s Wizards and Aliens, and as a zombie in a League of S.T.E.A.M. Webisode. She also graces the pages of magazines such as Makezine, Gothic Beauty, and Dark Beauty. She and her creations appear in the music videos for Mike Diva’s ‘Savant’ and Acid PopTart’s ‘There Will Be Blood.’ She’s been featured in books such as International Steampunk Fashion, Steampunk Fashion, and Steampunk Jewelry. Dr Brassy counts as highlights of the past few years her work on the Creative Team of The World of Steam and with Michael Rooker of The Walking Dead and the Mythbusters crew (Rooker owns a one-of-a-kind zombie Sightmares™ ©).





## Guests of Honor

### Musical Guest of Honor – Postmodern Jukebox



Postmodern Jukebox's Scott Bradlee has long had a love/hate relationship with pop music. Growing up as an aspiring jazz pianist, he wasn't interested in listening to anything that might please a less than refined palette of musical taste. But what he found is that, despite his initial aversion to the stuff he was hearing, he was unable to truly categorize this as "bad music" without first defining a set of arbitrary criteria. Furthermore, the fact that such a rigorous vetting process exists for the output of major labels indicated that these songs and artists RESONATED with the culture of our times—no easy feat, in and of itself. He then found that by simply altering the context of such songs he could find artistic merit inside of them. Scott's goal with Postmodern Jukebox is to get his audience to think of songs not as rigid, ephemeral objects, but like malleable globs of

silly putty. Songs can be twisted, shaped, and altered without losing their identities—just as we grow, age, and expire without losing ours—and it is through this exploration that the gap between "high" and "low" art can be bridged most readily. He wants to contribute to the pop music lexicon in the best way that he can. He wants to encourage others to push the boundaries of genres, and gives them the tools to do so. Together with their listeners, Postmodern Jukebox wants to create an alternate universe of popular song.

## Featured Guests



### The Aether Brigade

The Bay Area's very own Aether Brigade is a collective of comedians and artists who work to create an interactive experience: meet the (nearly) heroic crew of the Time Ship Simultaneous! A top secret project of definitely-not-evil corporation AetherTech Industries, assembled at the request of Queen Victoria herself, the Brigadiers are ethanol-fueled monster hunters and time travelers. With period-inspired props and costumes, the performers utilize an improvisational technique inspired by commedia dell'arte. Find out more at <http://aetherbrigade.com>



### Jody Ellen

Hailing from Seattle, WA, Jody Ellen is gaining momentum as a local pop/alt-rock artist and has been compared to the likes of Amy Lee (Evanescence), Hayley Williams (Paramore), and Adele. Jody Ellen is a full-time performer, musician, and singer/songwriter, and her music has touches of dark rock, punk rock, and soul, mixed with catchy pop melodies. She is best known for her work as the former female singer in the world-renowned steampunk band Abney Park. See more of Jody Ellen at <http://www.jodyellen.com/>



## Featured Guests

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### **Nathaniel Johnstone**

The Nathaniel Johnstone Band hails from Seattle, WA, led by multi-instrumentalist Nathaniel Johnstone (violin, viola, banjo, mandolin, and guitar). Their vibrant sound crosses boundaries and borders, resulting in a blend of European, Middle Eastern, and South American music with jazz, rock, surf, folk, gothic, and steampunk influences. Joining the band on stage is world-renowned bellydance fusion artist Tempest, adding another incredible level to the band's dynamic stage show. All together, they deliver solid, reliable music and high-quality entertainment—all while getting folks up and dancing! See more of Nathaniel Johnstone at <http://nathanieljohnstone.com/>



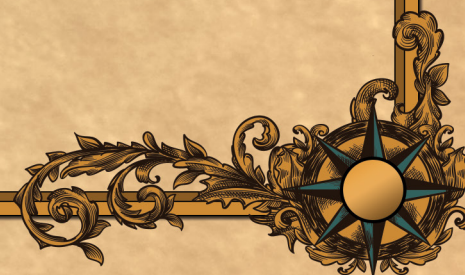
### **Paul Tosetti**

Coach Paul Tosetti of the Tosetti Institute of MMA and Fitness in Redwood City has been teaching martial arts since 1996 to students aged 4 to 74. He has trained with some of the most famous Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) coaches in the world, such as Greg Jackson, Eddie Bravo, and Greg Nelson. Coach Paul is a former international forms and fighting champion and has trained with the legendary Shaolin Monks at the Shaolin Temple in China. He has studied Western Martial Arts (WMA) with coaches such as Steve Reich, Paul McDonald, and Tom Leoni. He has also studied the work of European Masters such as Johannes Liechtenauer, Giovanni Dall'Agocchie, and Achille Marozzo.



### **Laura Frankos**

Laura Frankos is an author of mysteries, fantasy, and science fiction stories. She has published one mystery novel, *Saint Oswald's Niche*, and one non-fiction book, *The Broadway Musical Quiz Book*. Frankos also writes the Broadway history column *The Great White Wayback Machine* and has published numerous trivia quizzes about Broadway plays. Her published short stories include (among others) 'A Beak for Trends,' 'The Garden Gnome Freedom Front,' 'The Great White Way,' and 'Hooper.'





## Featured Events

### Wind-Up Cabaret



On Friday evening, music and performance mix in a spectacle worthy of your fantasies. Our musical guests for the Wind-Up Cabaret include Musical Guest of Honor Postmodern Jukebox, Featured Guest Nathaniel Johnstone, and:

#### Unwoman

Unwoman is a San Francisco-based solo cellist-singer-songwriter. With timeless songs about love gone wrong and classic covers, Unwoman has been a featured favorite at major steampunk, goth, and sci-fi-related events all over North America. She received the 2013 Steampunk Chronicle Reader's Choice Award for best solo musician. In addition to solo work, Unwoman has performed with Amanda Palmer, Voltaire, Abney Park, Rasputina, and Vernian Process. She has released seven albums. See more of Unwoman at <http://unwoman.com>

### Emperor Norton's Ball

Some have said the pinnacle of a steampunk convention is its ball. Emperor Norton has made congenial arrangements for this time-traveling ball to feature all of the best dancing from Victorian times, the swing era, and an alternative today. On Saturday evening, Clockwork Alchemy will hold a ball of epic proportions with seven hours of music and dancing! Our musical guests for Emperor Norton's Ball include Musical Guest of Honor Postmodern Jukebox, as well as:



#### Lee Presson & the Nails

Lee Presson and the Nails (LPN) are an award-winning big band out of San Francisco. Led by the manic Lee Presson, LPN has been pounding out their peculiar brand of sinister swing since 1994. They are, if we are to take their word for it, the "wildest swing band in the Great 48!" They have been warmly embraced by the steampunk community despite their frequently expressed confusion as to how and why this might have occurred. See more of LPN at <http://www.leepresson.com/>



## Featured Events

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### Clockwork Fashion

Steampunk fashion puts a twist on late-Victorian and Edwardian fashion (1850 to 1910), so Clockwork Alchemy's inaugural fashion show (to be held on Sunday afternoon) also has a twist: our models are real people who have bodies like our convention members', from slender to not so slender. Come see how good you can look in fashions for men and women of any size. Our designers' offerings include ladies' fashions by Butterfly Frillies, men's fashions by Mr. Alan Jeffries, and millinery fashions by Strawbenders.

The fashion show's presentation style will be a combination of the earliest fashion parades' salon style mixed with some of the theatrical elements that people associate with runway fashion shows. You'll be able to see these fashions up close and personal as well as being entertained by the antics of the Aether Brigade. You'll then be able to purchase the designers' wares in our Artist's Bazaar to make your steampunk fashion dreams come true. You could be wearing what looks like a whole new outfit for the Aural Alchemy concert in the evening.

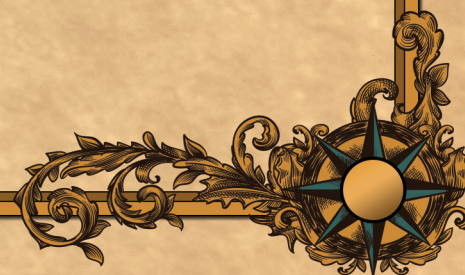
### Aural Alchemy

Perhaps steampunk was originally a literary genre, but today its influence is felt throughout the musical spectrum. Our Sunday night concert brings together some of the most vibrant examples of this musical genre! Our musical guests for Aural Alchemy include our Musical Guest of Honor Postmodern Jukebox, Featured Guests Jody Ellen and The Nathaniel Johnstone Band, aforementioned guest Unwoman, and:



### Vernian Process

Since its inception in 2003, the San Francisco-based band Vernian Process has embraced a fusion of past and present. Instruments traditionally suited to symphony floors and roving carnivals grace the stage alongside their technologically advanced counterparts. The band's classical approach to modern genres such as darkwave, post-punk, and trip-hop sets the stage for new eras and directions in the musical timeline. Vernian Process will launch several offerings from their new album, *The Consequences of Time Travel*, in addition to fan favorites and a few surprises. See more of Vernian Process at <http://www.vernianprocess.com/>





## Featured Exhibits

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### Artist's Bazaar

Clockwork Alchemy's Artist's Bazaar is an artist-only venue where handcrafted one-of-a-kind finery and frippery are offered for sale next to fantastical instruments and armaments. You are warmly invited to wander the aisles of a Bazaar more wondrous than any found in standard reality or dreamed of in Arabian nights. There, you will discover everything from fairy relics, hats, spats, corsets, crinolines and other apparel and accessories, to clever creations to be used and enjoyed in the home, and much, much more. All visitors are sure to find something to amuse, bemuse, delight, or strike their fancy. Come sample the fruits of the astonishing talents of the steampunk community's makers and dreamers!

### Artist's Gallery

Above all else, Clockwork Alchemy is an event for artists, makers, dreamers, and doers. We have chosen to honor such intrepid souls by putting the fruits of their labor on display in the Artist's Gallery, a cornucopia of fantastic oddities constructed by steampunk artists and artisans from all walks of life. From paintings and sculptures to costumes and props to toys and inventions, if a steampunk can make it more awesome you're likely to find an example of it here. Feast your eyes, feed your imagination, and inspire your own creativity by observing what can be accomplished with a little ingenuity and a lot of imagination.

## Panels

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### Workshops

Over the course of the weekend, Clockwork Alchemy will be presenting workshops where you can learn to make your own steampunk accessories and props. Learn how to take ordinary hardware and dime store items and turn them into amazing steampunk goggles, rayguns, and more. Planned workshops include Pewter Casting, Calligraphy, and Sewing with Circuits, to name just a few of the skills our instructors will pass on to you.

### Panels

Clockwork Alchemy has enlisted the aid of some very talented writers, filmmakers, fashionistas, makers, and experts in 19th century culture, etiquette, technology, and the world of steampunk. They bring panels and presentations that will help you create your steampunk persona, plus history that never was but might have been. Please consult your Pocket Guide for a detailed panels schedule.

### Dance Lessons

Clockwork Alchemy is offering dance lessons throughout the weekend, provided by Swing Goth ([www.swinggoth.com](http://www.swinggoth.com)) and other friends of the convention!





## Events & Exhibits

### Alchemist Tea Parlour

Fancy a spot of tea? All citizens of Alternate Empires, be they temporal travellers, fairy queens, Lords, Ladies, or airship mechanics, need a place to figuratively put up their feet. While at Clockwork Alchemy you are cordially invited to discover delectable chemistry, and to enjoy a cookie or two, while being served by our friendly staff. The Alchemist Tea Parlour is a wondrous place to engage in stimulating conversation with other wayfarers of time between panels and workshops, or just to take some time to relax.

### Astonishing Air Races

Who doesn't love airships? At Clockwork Alchemy, we certainly do! In fact, we love them so much that we are conducting our very own dirigible races. No, these will not be the full-size, manned airships that you'd see in steampunked skies. Rather, they'll be a special, smaller, indoor variation. At the end of the convention, someone will be declared "Master of the Dirigible"—there can only be one!

### The Authors' Salon

Clockwork Alchemy hosts an incredible set of steampunk, historical fantasy, and sci-fi fantasy authors, who will be sharing their tricks of the trade and showing us how to not reinvent the wheel as a writer. You'll find them in the Monterey Room, renamed The Authors' Salon. Many of our authors are releasing their latest works at Clockwork Alchemy, so a special BOOK RELEASE PARTY will be held in The Authors' Salon on Friday evening from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Meet the authors, get your books signed, and see the latest in print and on the web.

### Caravan Tent

Featuring floating veils, flying carpets, and all the mysteries of the near and far east, the Caravan Tent is host to belly dancers and other performers on Saturday and Sunday afternoons in the Gateway Foyer. Exotic, enchanting and elegant, these performers will spirit you away to an alternate place and time where genies, sultans and viziers ruled the Silk Road and only the bravest adventurer dared travel.

### Steampunk Film Festival

Gas lamps up! Kinetoscope to speed! Quiet on the set! And... ACTION! Join us in a history that never was but

might have been as works of independent filmmakers are showcased alongside favorite steampunk and steampunk-inspired films. After dark, let Al Omega (the alpha and omega of all things science fiction and horror) bring you the best of the worst and the worst of the best of steampunk-flavored sci-fi, fantasy, and horror films.

### Gaming

Throughout the weekend of Clockwork Alchemy, various RPGs, board games, and other activities of a steampunk nature will be presented for your pleasure. There will be a special Poker Tournament on Friday night. The poker tournament is for attendees aged 18 and above; it is included in the cost of your badge and does not require a buy-in.

### LARP

Live Action Role-Playing (LARPing) allows you to create a new persona or character, dress the way your character would dress, and act out adventures with other players. It's been compared to improvisational theater, but with no audience to make you feel self-conscious. Great for kids and anyone who refuses to grow up, it's a little bit more involved than the make-believe games we used to play on the playground—but not by much.

### Telegraph Office

The Aetheric Message Machine Company offers free telegram service within Clockwork Alchemy. Text a message to our office, and it will be printed on our antique brass and glass machines and delivered by one of our messengers at no charge! Pick up one of our cards at any Info Desk for details, or find the Telegraph Office just off the lobby. Come by and visit. We always have the latest news.

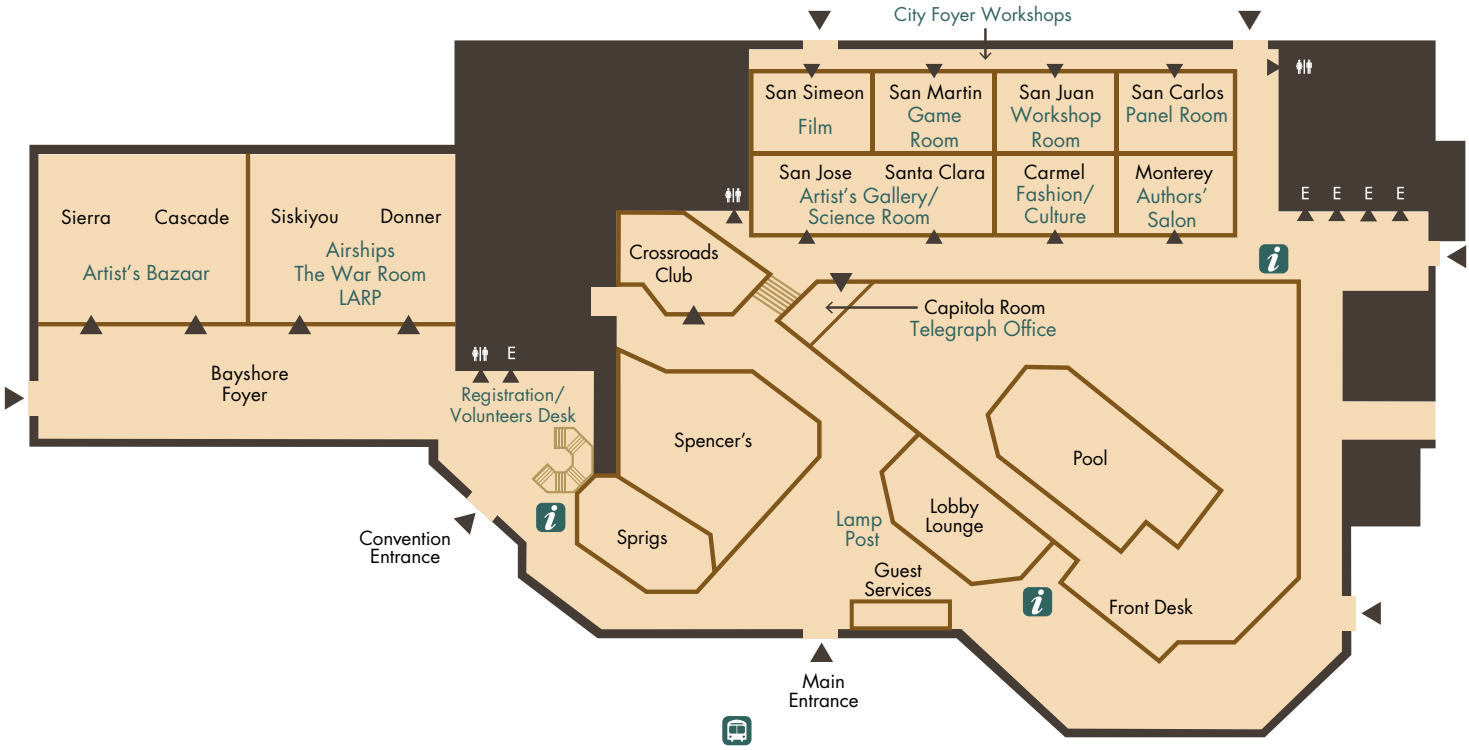
### The War Room

Royal Airship Kamehameha's War Room at Clockwork Alchemy 2014 will feature hands-on instruction in a range of Martial Arts from around the world. Some of lessons and demonstrations presented this year will include 19th century Cossack fighting systems, The Feminine Arte of Defense, and even tomahawk, as well as the return of old favorites such as cane and parasol, defending your airship, and the historic Edwardian mixed martial art of Bartitsu!



# DOUBLETREE HOTEL

## LOWER LEVEL



## UPPER LEVEL

