

★ TEXAS SMOFCON 2009 ★

SMOFCon Bid 27

December 4-6, 2009

WELCOME TO TEXAS, Y'ALL!

Now that you've met lots more Texans this weekend, we want to invite you to come on back to Texas for SMOFCon in 2009 for some good ol' Texas hospitality. Where in Texas? Why in Austin... home of great food, intelligent people and a constant source of entertainment what with the live music, the bars and the heckling of the Texas government.

SPONSORED BY ALAMO (<http://www.alamo-sf.org/>)

This bid will be supported by veterans Karen Meschke, Kurt Baty and Bill Parker and young whippersnapper, Kimberly Carrillo, as well as more Texan fans than you can shake a wookie cowboy at. Austin Literary Arts Maintenance Organization, Inc. or ALAMO, as we like to call it in these here parts, is a non-profit corporation organized for the purposes of promoting the understanding and appreciation of the literary fields of fantasy, science fiction and horror. In accomplishment of such purposes, the Corporation will promote, develop, and maintain interest in literacy and such literary fields by putting on regional, national and international fantasy, science fiction and horror conventions and providing a forum for the free discussion of ideas and concepts associated with the literary fields of fantasy, science fiction and horror and their respective conventions.

LOCATION

We are canvassing two hotels, both of which are located in the heart of downtown right by 6th Street: The Residence Inn and The Courtyard. Both hotels meet the needs of a SMOFCon bid and are very receptive to working with ALAMO to host the Secret Masters of Fandom.



WHAT THE HECK IS 6TH STREET?

The storied old buildings on 6th Street and the surrounding blocks now house numerous bars, a host of live entertainment venues, art galleries, casual cafes, upscale restaurants, and the elegant Driskill Hotel. Live music of every genre abounds. From jazz, blues, and country to rock, hip-hop, beat, progressive, metal, punk and derivations of these, there's something to whet everyone's musical palette. Great food is a staple on Sixth Street, featuring such regional staples as chili, ribs, and Tex-Mex plus steak, seafood, Cajun-cooking, and deli. West Sixth Street offers another surprise with antique stores, art galleries, hair salons, restaurants, and lot's of eclectic shops.

SOME LESSER KNOWN FACTS ABOUT AUSTIN

Austin is home to many speculative fiction authors among which are Aaron Allston, Neal Barrett, Jr., Bradley Denton, Julie Kenner, Katharine Eliska Kimbriel, Maureen McHugh, Howard Waldrop, and Don Webb.

The only other city in the US to have more restaurants per capita than Austin is Seattle, WA.



The world's first documented serial killer made his fame in Austin, TX in 1884, 3 1/2 years before Jack the Ripper. Some of the resulting light towers built during this time are still standing and are the only of their kind still in use.

Austin touts itself as the "Live Music Capital of the World" after studies in 1991 found out that it had more music venues per capita than New York City, Los Angeles, Nashville, Las Vegas or Memphis.

The longest-running concert music program on American television, Austin City Limits, is videotaped on the University of Texas at Austin campus.

Austin is, as of 2006, the largest U.S. city by population not to have a team in one of the big four professional leagues.

Tourists frequently gather on the Congress Avenue bridge at sunset during the summer months to witness Austin's Mexican free-tailed bat population (1.5 million) emerge from under the bridge for the night.

AVG. AUSTIN, TX WEATHER

Dec. 4	Dec. 5	Dec. 6
Sunny	Sunny	Sunny
HI 66	HI 65	HI 66
LOW 47	LOW 46	LOW 46