

# How to Vote in the Hugo Awards

The Hugo Award is the leading award for excellence in the field of science fiction and fantasy. The Hugo Awards are awarded each year by the World Science Fiction Society (“WSFS”), at the World Science Fiction Convention (“Worldcon”). The finalists for the 2018 Hugo Awards, WSFS Young Adult Book Award, John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer, and the 1943 Retro Hugo Awards were announced on Saturday, March 31, 2018, at 12:00 PM PDT. The announcement was made live to social media, including the Twitter and Facebook accounts of Worldcon 76, and via press release.

1813 valid nominating ballots (1795 electronic and 18 paper) were received and counted from the members of Worldcon 75, Worldcon 76, and Dublin 2019. 204 valid nominating ballots (192 electronic and 12 paper) were received and counted for the 1943 Retro Hugo Awards. Categories in which there were insufficient eligible works/people nominated were dropped, per WSFS constitution section 3.6.

The Hugo Awards will be presented at a formal ceremony on Sunday, August 19, 2018, at Worldcon 76, the 76th World Science Fiction Convention, in San Jose, California. We currently plan to continue the recent tradition of streaming the ceremony live via the Internet, enabling fans around the world to experience the event. The 1943 Retro Hugos will be presented on Thursday, August 16, 2018 at Worldcon 76.

The official website of the Hugo Awards is [thehugoawards.org](http://thehugoawards.org), where you can find the full history of the Hugo Awards as well as the names of past finalists and winners, information about the voting process, a gallery of past trophy designs, and more.

Worldcon 76 members will also be entitled to nominate for the 2019 Hugo Awards, WSFS Young Adult Book Award, John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer, and 1944 Retro Hugo Awards, which will be administered by Dublin 2019, the 77th World Science Fiction Convention. Nominations for the 2019 and 1944 Awards will open in January 2019.

## How to Vote

The Hugo Awards use an instant runoff ballot. To vote, mark your choices in each category in order of preference: “1” for first place, “2” for second place, and so on. You are not required to rank all the finalists in any category, and we recommend that you not vote in any category where you are not familiar with a majority of the finalists. If you decide not to vote in a given category, leave it blank.

Note that “No Award” is not an abstention; it means that you think none of the finalists should be given the award in question.

When the ballots are counted, all the first place votes will be tabulated. If no finalist receives more than half the votes, the finalist with the fewest first place votes is eliminated and its votes are transferred to the finalists marked “2” on those ballots. This process of elimination continues until one finalist receives more than half the votes, at which point it becomes the winner (unless the votes are outnumbered by “No Award” votes under specific conditions described in Section 3.11 of the WSFS Constitution).

Please note that second and further preferences play no part in the vote unless and until your first choice is eliminated. This is not a point system where the second choices of many voters can overwhelm the first choice of a few voters. We suggest that after marking your first choice, you proceed by imagining that it has disappeared from the ballot, and placing your “2” by the remaining finalist you most prefer, and so on. This mimics the way the ballots are actually counted. Thus, even if your heart is set on one finalist, don’t hesitate to give “2” (and other rankings) to other finalists you also consider worthy of the award.

Choose all your preferences carefully! If your top choices are eliminated early, your lower preferences could be the tiebreaker between the remaining finalists. No matter how much you dislike a finalist, if you rank it, the vote will be counted if all of your previous choices are eliminated.

## How to Submit Your Vote

Visit [www.worldcon76.org/hugos](http://www.worldcon76.org/hugos). In order to vote on line, you will need your membership number and your personal identification number (“PIN”) which was emailed to you and printed on the mailing label of Worldcon 76 publications. If you cannot find your information, email [hugopin@worldcon76.org](mailto:hugopin@worldcon76.org) to retrieve it. Ballots must be submitted before the deadline, and only the most recent submission is counted.

If you would like to vote by postal mail, fill in this form and mail it to Hugo Award Voting, c/o Dave McCarty, 2020 N. California Ave, Suite 299, Chicago, IL 60647 USA. Please mail your ballot in a secure envelope and do not staple it. Ballots must be received before the deadline.

## Eligibility to Vote

You may vote for the 2018 Hugo Awards, WSFS Young Adult Book Award, John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer, and the 1943 Retro Hugo Awards if you are an Attending, Young Adult, or Supporting member of Worldcon 76. Please complete the section below to confirm your eligibility, and do not forget to sign the ballot. If you are not already a member of Worldcon 76, please visit [www.worldcon76.org/membership](http://www.worldcon76.org/membership) to purchase your membership.

## Exclusions

The Worldcon 76 Committee has irrevocably delegated all Hugo administration authority to a subcommittee. Therefore, only Dave McCarty, Deb Geisler, John Pomeranz, Susan de Guardiola, Leane Verhulst, Sandra Levy, Linda Deneroff, Kevin Standlee, and Kevin Roche are ineligible for the 2018 Hugo Awards.

## Reproduction

Reproduction and distribution of this ballot is permitted and encouraged, provided that it is reproduced verbatim (including voting instructions), with no additional material other than the name of the person or publication responsible for the reproduction.

**This ballot must be received by  
Friday March 17, 2018, 11:59 PM PDT**

“World Science Fiction Society”, “WSFS”, “World Science Fiction Convention”, “Worldcon”, “NASFiC”, “Hugo Award”, the Hugo Award Logo, and the distinctive design of the Hugo Award Trophy Rocket are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.