

Proposed WSFS Constitutional Amendments to keep the Fanzine Hugo non-professional and limited to words on paper or video screen.

(Note: strikeouts indicate proposed deletions and underlined text proposed additions.)

3.3.12: Best Semiprozine. Any generally available ~~non-professional~~ periodical publication devoted to science fiction or fantasy which by the close of the previous calendar year has published four (4) or more issues (~~or the equivalent in other media~~), at least one (1) of which appeared in the previous calendar year, and which in the previous calendar year met at least ~~two (2)~~ one (1) of the following criteria:

- (1) had an average press run of at least one thousand (1000) copies per issue,
- ~~(2) paid its contributors and/or staff in other than copies of the publication;~~
- ~~(3)~~ (2) provided at least half the income of any one person,
- ~~(4)~~ (3) had at least fifteen percent (15%) of its total space occupied by advertising,
- ~~(5)~~ (4) announced itself to be a semiprozine.

Audio and video productions are excluded from this category.

3.3.13 Best Fan Audio or Video Production. Any generally available non-professional audio or video production devoted to science fiction, fantasy, or related subjects which by the close of the previous calendar year has had four (4) or more episodes or podcasts, at least one (1) of which appeared in the previous calendar year.

~~3.3.13~~ **3.3.14: Best Fanzine.** Any generally available non-professional periodical publication devoted to science fiction, fantasy, or related subjects which by the close of the previous calendar year has published four (4) or more issues (~~or the equivalent in other media~~), at least one (1) of which appeared in the previous calendar year, and which does not qualify as a semiprozine. Audio and video productions are excluded from this category, as are publications that pay their contributors and/or staff monetarily.

Explanation of proposed changes:

- The “Best Fanzine” paragraph has an additional sentence at the end that specifically excludes any publication that is “professional” (i.e., monetarily pays contributors and/or staff workers) and also excludes any audio or video production (e.g., audio podcasts, videocasts and other video productions, YouTube series, recordings of folk songs, etc.). This change defines fanzine as a non-professional production that is meant to be read (i.e., words on paper and/or words on a video screen). For the purpose of this proposed change, “non-professional” is defined as only monetary payments FROM the publication to contributors and/or staff; monetary payments TO the publication (e.g., from subscribers and/or advertisers) do not necessarily result in the publication being defined as a “professional” one. There is also the addition of the word “periodical” as a descriptor of “publication” and a deletion of the parenthetical “or the equivalent in other media”. These changes reinforce the concept that a fanzine is a production that is published in discrete, individual issues (similar to a

magazine); the intention of these two changes is that blogs and websites would be excluded from eligibility in this category.

- A new Hugo category is proposed in the “Best Fan Audio or Video Production” paragraph. This would specifically include the podcasts, videocasts, etc. that are excluded by the changes proposed for the “Best Fanzine” category. The wording that defines this proposed new category parallels the language for “Best Fanzine”.
- The “Best Semiprozine” paragraph also has an additional sentence at the end that specifically excludes any audio or video production, in the same manner as described in the proposed changes for the “Best Fanzine” category. Semi-professional productions of this nature would be eligible either in the new “Best Fan Audio or Video Production” category, the existing “Best Dramatic Production, Long Form” category, or the existing “Best Dramatic Production, Short Form” category. There is also the addition of the word “periodical” as a descriptor of “publication” and a deletion of the parenthetical “or the equivalent in other media”; the reasoning for these proposed changes is the same as described in the proposed changes for the “Best Fanzine” category. Additionally, the second criteria that defines a Semiprozine is deleted; it is no longer needed, as it is incorporated into the proposed change to the “Best Fanzine” category.

This proposed amendment was previewed at the 2011 Midwestcon and has been signed by 10 members of Renovation, the 2011 World Science Fiction Convention.