



Museum of Science Fiction  
Washington, DC  
USA: Earth: Sol: Milky Way

ESCAPE  
VELOCITY

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Museum Announces Prop Replica Design Competition

**Washington, DC (Oct. 17, 2018)** – The Museum of Science Fiction is excited to announce the launch of a new prop replica design competition. Registration for the competition opens today and runs through April 15, 2019. The competition is open to all students, designers, engineers, builders and artists. People from United States and abroad may participate.

“Props are an essential part of any production,” notes Dan Curry, competition judge and a veteran of over 100 feature films and television productions. Among other awards, Curry’s work has been recognized with seven Emmys (15 nominations) and a Visual Effects Society Award for Best Broadcast Visual Effects. Curry recently received a Visual Effects Society Fellow award and is currently working on a Marvel super hero show and co writing a book on Star Trek visual effects. Curry notes, “Props give characters something to handle and accomplish their tasks, as well as reflecting a character’s personality. Great props support the overall aesthetic of a production and can become iconic symbols. A few iconic examples include the Ghostbusters proton pack, Indiana Jones’ whip, Conan’s sword, Rambo’s knife by Gil Hibben, Jedi light sabers, and the Klingon Bat’Leth.”

Regarding authenticity, Curry states that “props need to look real, have the appropriate amount of wear and tear, and be ergonomically sound. Most importantly, props have to support the tone of a production – and the Museum of Science Fiction’s prop replica contest will give aspiring prop makers the opportunity to show their skill and artistry.”

Entries will be judged across a variety of criteria including crafting skill, materials, and accuracy to the presented design. Finalists will be selected based on photographs and illustrated concept art submitted by email. The final competition, including the presentation of fully constructed designs, is set to take place at Escape Velocity 2019 on May 24, 2019 where a jury of professional and experienced prop design professionals, including Dan Curry and Steve Dymso, CEO of Master Replicas Group, will select the winners.

“I am honored to be a judge in the prop replica competition,” says Dymso. “I have been building props and models since I was about five years old and literally never stopped. I often visit various modeling forums to see the array of incredible replicas that people have built. Even at my age, I still pick up tips and tricks from studying what other modelers and builders have

accomplished. Model building is a highly underrated art form and a tremendous opportunity for artistic self-expression. I look forward to participating in the Museum's 2019 prop replica competition."

Cash prizes will be awarded in two categories -- original content and prop replica -- and in two classes: masters and young adult/high school. For complete rules and entry requirements, please visit the competition website at: <http://www.museumofsciencefiction.org/prop-competition>

More information about this and other activities is available here:  
[www.museumofsciencefiction.org](http://www.museumofsciencefiction.org)

### **About the Museum of Science Fiction**

The nonprofit Museum of Science Fiction will be the world's first comprehensive science fiction museum, covering the history of the genre across the arts and providing a narrative on its relationship to the real world. The Museum will show how science fiction continually inspires individuals, influences cultures, and impacts societies. Also serving as an educational catalyst to expand interest in the science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM) areas, the Museum uses tools such as mobile applications and wifi-enabled display objects to engage and entertain. For a full press packet on the Museum of Science Fiction's vision and other information, please visit: [www.museumofsciencefiction.org/presspacket](http://www.museumofsciencefiction.org/presspacket)

### **About Escape Velocity 2019**

The Museum of Science Fiction and NASA are partnering to bring Escape Velocity 2019 to Washington, DC. The event is a futuristic world's fair to promote informal STEAM educational activities within the context of science fiction using the fun of comic cons and fascination of science and engineering festivals. Escape Velocity 2019 seeks to make a measurable positive impact to boost informal learning on the more conceptually challenging academic areas. Escape Velocity's mission is to attract young people to science, technology, engineering, art, and math by producing and presenting the most compelling, exciting, educational, and entertaining science festival in the United States using science fiction as its primary engine. Escape Velocity will achieve orbit on May 24-26, 2019 at the Marriott Gaylord Hotel and Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland, just outside of Washington, DC. For a full press packet on Escape Velocity, please visit: [www.escapevelocity.events/press-media](http://www.escapevelocity.events/press-media)

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