



# TAFF NEWS

The bimonthly newsletter of the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund

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## What is this?

Welcome to the first issue of the newsletter specifically oriented towards the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund. Your current TAFF Administrators Anna Raftery (Europe) and John Purcell (North America) happily present this publication to the world of science fiction fandom. This newsletter is designed to keep fans apprised of developments in not only each year's races—and the 2018 East to West TAFF Race will be starting Very Soon — but also in any changes being made to hopefully streamline the nominating and voting process, and also to provide the eventual winners ample time to prepare for their journeys.

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS!

*The 2018 TAFF (Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund) race is now open for nominations for the East to West (Europe to North America) leg. The winning delegate will attend the 76th World Science Fiction Convention in San Jose, California, from August 16–20, 2018, and will thereafter become the next European administrator of TAFF. More details about TAFF can be found at David Langford's excellent website at [www.taff.org.uk](http://www.taff.org.uk). Nominations are open until the end of November 2017. If you're interested in standing for the 2018 TAFF election or would like to nominate some deserving fan, please contact John Purcell at [askance73 \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:askance73@gmail.com) or Anna Raftery at [Anna.raftery \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:Anna.raftery@gmail.com).*



## Outgoing Message from Curt Phillips (2014 TAFF winner), North American Administrator

Honestly, I don't really have any words of wisdom to offer to TAFF. Other than "step up close to the plate, keep your eyes on the pitcher's eyes, and consider taking the first pitch". This wisdom has made me the baseball player that I am today. May it serve you at least as well.



Past and current TAFF winners: L-R, John Coxon, John Purcell, Anna Raftery, Nina Horvath, Theresa and Patrick Nielsen Hayden.

## Incoming Message

Well, it is indeed an honor to be the new North American Administrator of the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund for the next two years. My goal is keep the bank balance nice and healthy on this side of the Pond, and get the word out about TAFF as much as I possibly can. I look forward to working with as many fine fen as I possibly can, so let's have fun doing this.

- John Purcell, new North American TAFF Administrator



Fandom as Collaborative Culture Panel at Worldcon 75 in Helsinki, Finland. Left to right are me, Alicia Fairborn, Anna Rafferty, and John Coxon.

# TAFF Info of Note

**The following information is from the unofficial TAFF website, maintained by Dave Langford (1980 TAFF winner): [www.taff.org.uk](http://www.taff.org.uk)**

### What is TAFF?

The Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund was created in 1953 for the purpose of providing funds to bring well-known and active fans familiar to those on both sides of the ocean across the Atlantic. Since that time, TAFF has regularly brought North American fans to European conventions and European fans to North American conventions. It exists solely through the support of fandom. That support, and the continued generosity of fandom, are what make TAFF possible.

### Who may vote?

Voting in the 2018 race is open to anyone active in fandom before April 2016 who donates at least £3.00 (GBP) or \$3.00 (USD) to TAFF (larger donations are very gratefully accepted). Voting is by secret ballot: one vote per person, and you must provide your name on the ballot. You may change your vote at any time prior to the deadline. All votes must reach the administrators by midnight (Eastern US time) on Saturday, March 4, 2018.

### Who may run?

Any European fan active in fandom before April 2016 who is known to the administrators may declare their candidacy for the East to West race in 2018. Each candidate must have three nominators on their side of the Atlantic and two on the other, each of whom has personally contacted the administrators with their nomination. Each candidate has also provided a platform of up to 101 words. Anyone active in SF fandom can run for TAFF as long as they fulfil these criteria for the relevant race; contact your administrator about future races!

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