

### 2.1.4 Short Title: Performers Are Fans Too

*Moved*, to amend Article 3 of the WSFS Constitution to add a new category for the best fan performer or performance group, by amending as follows:

By inserting a new section:

**3.3.X: Best Fan Performer.** A performing artist in any medium whose work has appeared at conventions or through other public, non-professional display during the previous calendar year.

Provided that unless this amendment is re-ratified by the 2019 Business Meeting, Section 3.3.X shall be repealed; and

Provided further that the question of re-ratification shall automatically be placed on the agenda of the 2019 Business Meeting, with any constitutional amendments awaiting ratification.

**Commentary:** Fan performance has a long tradition in Fandom as old and storied as fan conventions themselves. Early conventions had filksongs (which, like fan writing, predate the convention), masquerades, and fannish plays. But fan performance has never had a Hugo; justifiably so, as the nature of performance is audiovisual, and until recently, it was unreasonable to expect a significant fraction of fandom to have experienced the same performances or even performers – it was prohibitively expensive to record performances, and even more expensive to distribute those performances. This is no longer the case. Your average fan now carries the means, in the form of a smart phone (often among other devices), to record and distribute AV performances at no effective cost and little difficulty, or to, at any time, appreciate others' distributed performances. Due to this changing technology, not to mention changes in the composition of fandom, performance has become increasingly relevant and universal to the fannish experience. Far more than ever before, our lives are enriched by the same filks, masquerade presentations, plays, Hugo presentations, fan videos, panels, and other performances, and those performers and performances are, due to webcasting, available to a far greater fraction of fandom. More, even when the same performance is not witnessed by enough of fandom to justify an award, gifted and dedicated performers are often noticeable and recognizable across broad swaths of fandom.

This award would reward and encourage excellence in fan performance - and provide validation and inclusion to fans whose fan activity is largely performance-based, rather than written or visual-art centered.

Proposed by: Joshua Kronengold

Seconded by: Warren Buff and Aurora Celeste