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The Roddenberry Foundation Becomes a Major Funder of the Omega Sci-Fi Awards for Emerging Science Fiction Writers

Los Angeles, CA (December 3, 2021) -- As the new major funder of the nonprofit Omega Sci-Fi Awards, The Roddenberry Foundation will make it possible for diverse emerging science fiction writers to share their stories and unique perspectives.

For seven years, the Omega Sci-Fi Awards has fostered exceptional, original science fiction storytelling with programs for high school students across Los Angeles County, and for writers aged 16 and older in nations worldwide. Now, these programs will reach more writers with free writing workshops, talks, and support with the help of funding from The Roddenberry Foundation.

"I, Rod Roddenberry on behalf of The Roddenberry Foundation, am honored to sponsor the Omega Sci-Fi Awards. The organization has made significant strides in providing opportunities for writers to share their art and I am impressed with their work and the impact the organization has made in the world of Sci-Fi," said Rod Roddenberry, son of Gene Roddenberry, Chief Executive Officer of Roddenberry Entertainment, and founder of The Roddenberry Foundation.

The Roddenberry Foundation states that they, "...are committed to advancing Gene's faith in humanity by finding and supporting remarkable people and organizations who can disrupt existing dynamics, challenge old patterns of thought, and discover new ways to help us move towards a better future."

"Demand is rising for the hope, imagination, and reflection on what it means to be human that science fiction can bring us. The Roddenberry Foundation's funding comes at just the right time," said Rosalind Helfand, Omega Sci-Fi Awards Director.

The Omega Sci-Fi Awards offers free sci-fi creative writing workshops to Los Angeles County high school students, encouraging youth to test the limits of their imaginations and explore the issues they care about through science fiction writing. The Awards also seek to overcome historic racial, social, and cultural biases and increase the diversity of emerging writers worldwide. Global outreach includes free workshops with well known writers such as Steven L. Sears (Xena: Warrior Princess).

The Omega Sci-Fi Awards offers two prizes for Los Angeles County high school students: The Tomorrow Prize and The Green Feather Award -- an eco-themed sci-fi prize co-sponsored by the Nature Nexus Institute. For writers age 16 and older, there are The Roswell Award and the Feminist Futures Award -- a feminist themed sci-fi prize co-sponsored by *Artemis Journal*.

Submissions are open through December 21, 2021 at 11:59pm. Finalists' stories will be read by celebrity guests live in May 2022 and the winners will receive cash prizes. It is free to submit. More information is available at bit.ly/omegascifiawards

The Omega Sci-Fi Awards is a program of the Pasadena based arts and education nonprofit, Light Bringer Project, and Sci-Fest L.A. Additional sponsors include vfxNova, B5 Events, UCLA Extension Writers' Program, *L.A. Parent Magazine*, Nature Nexus Institute, and *Artemis Journal*.

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MORE INFO:

Gene Roddenberry brought us Star Trek: The Original Series. The Roddenberry Foundation will now support emerging sci-fi writers from teens in Los Angeles to writers in dozens of countries worldwide!