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Local sci-fi fans host ninth annual movie charity event

Washington, D.C., June 10, 2014—Local fans of writer-director Joss Whedon will host an annual charity event Sat. July 19, at the Arlington Cinema and Drafthouse to raise money for Whedon’s signature charity, Equality Now. Tickets are \$18.00 and go on sale Wed., June 11. Tickets, apparel, and other event-related merchandise can be purchased online at scifioutpost.net.

This year’s event features screenings of Whedon’s 2005 film “Serenity” (based on Whedon’s cult television show ‘Firefly’) and “Dr. Horrible’s Sing-Along Blog”, a 2008 miniseries produced by Whedon for the internet. Two costume contests, a silent auction, raffles, and prize giveaways are also included, along with a special performance by the Washington Metropolitan Gamer Symphony Orchestra.

“We’ve raised well over \$25,000 since we started this event in 2005,” said 2014 event organizer Robert J. Burns. “It really shows how dedicated science fiction fans are to doing some good while indulging their geeky side.”

The event, “Can't Stop the Serenity”, was conceived nationally as a tribute to Whedon, by holding screenings of “Serenity” wherever supporters were able to organize local events. The bulk of proceeds from the events are donated to Equality Now, a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and promotion of human rights of women around the world.

Whedon's mother, Lee Stearns, helped launch Equality Now in 1992.

Burns' group, the Sci-Fi Fantasy Outpost, will also be donating a portion of the event's proceeds to Kids Need to Read, a non-profit children's literacy organization that purchases books for underprivileged schools and libraries. Kids Need to Read was co-founded by actor Nathan Fillion, who played the lead role of Capt. Malcolm Reynolds in “Firefly” and “Serenity”.

Find out more at scifioutpost.net.

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About Sci-Fi Fantasy Outpost

Founded in 2004, the Sci-Fi Fantasy Outpost (formerly known as the Northern Virginia Browncoats) is one of the largest and most active social clubs for science fiction and fantasy enthusiasts in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. The group meets several times a month for lunches, movies, concerts, conventions, and more. For more information, visit scifioutpost.net.