



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



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Sci-Fi TV Writer and Showrunner Morgan Gendel Teams
with Legendary Author David Brin, NASA Heliophysicist
Alex Young and Planetary Science Institute Astrobiologist
David Grinspoon as The Museum of Science Fiction Launches
Escape Velocity Extra, An Ongoing Online Sci-Fi Event**

*First Event THIS Friday, June 19, 8:00 – 9:15 p.m. ET,
Also Featuring Stars of the CW Network Hit TV Show “The 100”*

Washington, DC (June 18, 2020) – Television writer and showrunner **Morgan Gendel** will team with award-winning scientist and science fiction author **David Brin**, NASA Heliophysicist **Alex Young** and Planetary Science Institute Astrobiologist **David Grinspoon** when the Museum of Science Fiction in Washington, D.C. launches **Escape Velocity Extra (EVX)** a new series of online programs that will bring sci-fi stars of television, film, books and the arts to a large interactive audience. The show will kick off, online, this **Friday evening, June 19, from 8:00 until 9:15 p.m., ET.**

Featuring actors **Richard Harmon**, **Ty Olsson** and **Christopher Larkin** from the popular CW Network TV Show **“The 100,”** the first episode of the series will focus on the overarching theme of Life in a Post-Apocalyptic World. The program will begin with a 30-minute panel discussion with Gendel and Brin essentially reflecting the theme of the TV show, which is presently in its seventh and final season. The show will continue with Gendel leading a 30-minute exchange with the three actors, followed by a 15-minute Q&A chat session with fans. All three actors will be available after the show for one-on-one three-minute fan interactions.

While best known for having written "The Inner Light," one of the most popular and critically acclaimed episodes of *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, for which he won a Hugo Award for Best Dramatic Presentation, **Gendel** has also served as a writer and producer on several highly-lauded television series including *The Dresden Files*, *Law and Order*, *Nash Bridges*, *Spider-Man* and *V.I.P.* He also served as co-executive producer of *The 100* during the show's fourth season. His debut sci-fi novel, *PLANET 6*, was recently published and is available on Amazon.

Winner of Hugo, Locus, Campbell and Nebula Awards, **Brin** is a scientist and a prolific author, having written dozens of books spanning several genres, the most prominent of which are clearly science-fiction focused. His novel *The Postman* was adapted as a feature film and starred Kevin Costner in 1997. Brin's nonfiction book *The Transparent Society* won the Freedom of Speech Award of the American Library Association and the McGannon Communication Award. Roughly half of his works take place in Brin's Uplift Universe. Which has twice won the international Science Fiction Achievement in the Best Novel category. His Uplift novels include *Sundiver* (1980), *Startide Rising* (1983), *The Uplift War* (1987) and his Uplift storm trilogy compendium, which includes *Brightness Reef* (1995), *Infinity's Shore* (1996) and *Heaven's Reach* (1998).

Dr. Young is the Associate Director for Science in the Heliophysics Science Division at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, where he directs their Education and Public Outreach team. He has given dozens of lectures, television and radio interviews for NASA/TV and participated in several Discovery Channel documentaries.

Rounding out the panel will be **Dr. Grinspoon**, Senior Astrobiologist at the Planetary Science Institute. His research focuses on comparative planetology, with an emphasis on climate evolution on Earth-like planets and implications for habitability – a great skill to have when seeking a new place to live after your world has been wiped out.

The opening session with Gendel, Brin, Young and Grinspoon will be open to the public and free of charge. The panel featuring the actors will require a \$5 donation to the Museum and the one-on-one sessions with the actors will cost \$40.

For additional information, or to register for the program, please visit <https://escapevelocity.events/evx>.

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 additional information, please visit: www.museumofsciencefiction.org.