



OMEGA SCI-FI PROJECT

Message from the Director:

The Roswell Award and New Suns Climate Fiction Award Placed on Hiatus

January 1, 2024

Dear Omega Sci-Fi Project community,

Nearly 10 years ago, Sci-Fest L.A. founded two short science fiction story writing competitions: The Roswell Award for writers age 17 and older worldwide and The Tomorrow Prize for high school student writers in Los Angeles County. These competitions are each home to an environmentally-themed special prize: the New Suns Climate Fiction Award and The Green Feather Award. We have been honored and thrilled since the program's founding to engage with incredibly diverse and fabulously talented writers across the globe, as well as an extraordinary group of judges and readers who volunteer their time.

Several years ago, the Pasadena, California-based education and arts nonprofit, Light Bringer Project, became the new home of the Omega Sci-Fi Project. Their fantastic team, along with our Board of Directors, continues to be the core of this project. Many, many others continue to volunteer their time, as well. For a two-year time-bound contribution, we also enjoyed the financial support of The Roddenberry Foundation for both competitions.

We are sorry to update you that we were not able to renew enough funding to support both competitions this season. Funding must cover both the annual costs of staff time and hard costs for running the program. Because of this, we had to decide on where to focus our efforts. Due to the Omega Sci-Fi Project being based in Los Angeles County, our highest level of ongoing financial and volunteer support is tied to The Tomorrow Prize and The Green Feather Award for local high school students.

Therefore, we made the very tough decision to focus on our local competitions this season, and to place The Roswell Award and New Suns Climate Fiction Award on hiatus. We hope to bring these awards (and all of the accompanying annual programs, including our writing workshops) back soon, but this will depend on the level of support we secure. We will send out updates and press releases once we resume them (the Tomorrow Prize and The Green Feather Award local teen competitions will continue, with a Feb. 13, 2024 deadline).

In the meantime, thank you so much for all of your support, engagement, and truly extraordinary writing since our founding!

Sincerely yours,

Rosalind Helfand
Director, Omega Sci-Fi Project