## Mythmoot for Beginners

Congrats! You've done the most important part and registered for Mythmoot (hopefully, if not registration is located on our <u>webpage</u>).

Now - what's next?

Your Mythmoot ticket covers food and all associated activities, but not your lodging. Either sign up for lodging at the conference center (the link to do so is on its way), hit up some friends local to Leesburg area, or look up those hotel and Bed and Breakfast websites. I highly recommend the National Conference Center (NCC) because driving back and forth can just be a bother, but to each their own (and their own budget, single rooms are \$83 and suites \$110, both + taxes).

As Mythmoot gets closer and closer think of what to pack and what not to pack. There will be an auction and vendors so plan to leave some bag space so you can haul home your new found treasures. If you are flying in from outside the US remember to bring a converter for charging your electronics (USA uses A & B sockets, 120 V and 60 Hz)! There will be accessible wireless internet, but cell service can be a little spotty.

Wondering what clothes to pack? Summer in Virginia can get pretty warm and walking from building to building means going outside even though the inside remains nicely chilled by air conditioning. So summer clothes and a light sweater should both be on the list. Saturday night everyone brings their best to the Masquerade Dance. The Masquerade will include dance lessons that keep you on your feet and a costume contest! Assemble a jedi uniform, a Victorian ball gown, or bits and pieces of Boromir's regalia and parade around with fellow fans - although fair warning, the NCC frowns on live weapons so perhaps leave your exact replica of Andúril safe at home?

The NCC sprawls and leaves you feeling like you have entered a hobbit hole with turns and halls that seem to lead nowhere. Exploring can be great fun, but that means plenty of walking between the Mythmoot rooms, your rooms, and the dining area. If you need a cane or a wizard walking stick, be sure to come prepared. A map is provided, but feel free to find a buddy and start exploring early on so you have a good mental map of the building! When you arrive, be sure you check in at the front desk with the NCC before proceeding to check in at Mythmoot itself. Again, you are responsible for your lodging even if you are in the Mythmoot block at the NCC.

Mythmoot starts Thursday night, but if you cannot attend until Friday or the weekend no worries, just do a partial registration! Thursday night leans towards the informal with meeting and

greeting fellow attendees from all over and a casual game of Pub Trivia. Friday's and Saturday's schedules start with breakfast and breakout sessions presented by conference attendees with our Guests of Honors' events and speeches sprinkled throughout. Signum's graduation also happens on Saturday evening, and the Room of Requirement has its doors open for wandering in and out as you will for arts and crafts, games, or a quieter space if a break is needed throughout the regular conference hours. Bring your own crafting supplies (markers, knitting, get creative) and some supplies are provided by local <u>Tangent Artists</u>. Snacks are provided between meals. The evening options vary from the Masquerade, to a LotRO run, and of course - fire pit discussions!

The outdoor fire pits keep burning until 2 AM and groups of Signumites are often found intensely and gaily discussing a multitude of topics until the fire stops. The Olive Bar at the NCC also serves as a gathering spot for those wishing to stay indoors. Get ready to visit Mythmoot, where you can meet academic fans, fans of the academic, and fellow purveyors of all thing Signum!

If you have any questions about Mythmoot, please direct all inquiries to <a href="mailto:events@signumu.org">events@signumu.org</a>. We look forward to celebrating with you!