



BY ADAM ROGERS

 MARTIN VENEZKY

# DRINK TO THE FUTURE AWESOME BAR, EPIC LIBRARY

**THE FOLKS AT** the Long Now Foundation think deep thoughts about humanity's future—their to-do list includes building a clock that'll keep time for 10,000 years. But in the meantime they've built something more practical: a very nice bar. Located at San Francisco's Fort Mason, the new lounge, called the Interval, will host events and discussions, and it'll feature plenty of steampunk treats: custom-designed bottles of spirits stored in overhead racks, a robot that writes specials on a chalkboard, and another that dispenses the botanicals for your gin. But the real attraction will be the library. The Long Now crew calls it the Manual for Civilization—thousands of books recommended by foundation members and more than a dozen celebrity thinkers. So no matter what happens, from climate change to killer asteroids, whoever's left can rebuild. Or at least have something to read while sipping house-aged whiskey.

## STEWART BRAND

Founder: Long Now Foundation, Whole Earth Catalog

### HIGHLIGHTS

*The Iliad and The Odyssey* by Homer (trans. Robert Fagles)

*The Prince* by Machiavelli  
*The Foundation Trilogy* by Isaac Asimov  
*A Pattern Language* by Christopher Alexander, et al.

### APPROACH

"I'm particularly interested in the continuity of civilization and how it gets better and more refined. It's better to keep civilization going than to count on it stopping and starting in an interesting way."

## VIOLET BLUE

Journalist, sex educator

### HIGHLIGHTS

*Guide to Getting It On* by Paul Joannides

*X: The Erotic Treasury* by Susie Bright  
*Book: The Curious Coupling of Science and Sex* by Mary Roach  
*Love and Sex With Robots* by David Levy

### APPROACH

"I wanted timeless books that would help people with a topic that's been one of the most divisive, political, scary, thrilling, empowering, intimate, shunned, exploited, and smile-inducing aspects of being human."

## DANNY HILLIS

Inventor, engineer

### HIGHLIGHTS

*Democracy in America* by Alexis de Tocqueville  
*Principia Mathematica* by Alfred North Whitehead and Bertrand Russell

*The Feynman Lectures on Physics* by Richard Feynman  
*SR-71 Blackbird Pilot's Flight Manual*  
*Grimm's Fairy Tales*

### APPROACH

"I tried to avoid just putting in my favorite books. The question I asked myself is, what books have information in them that took humanity a while to figure out?"

