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Greetings!

The Readers Studio is right around the corner and we look forward to seeing you in a few weeks. This letter is to confirm your registration and give you some very important information that you will need prior to the event.

👉 **NOTE: This letter has additional information not contained in your email confirmation.**

DIVINATION DAY REGISTRATION and the Merchant Faire open at 9:00 AM on Thursday, April 25th.

If you have enrolled in Divination Day on Thursday, please check in at the registration table in front of the Grand Ballroom. You'll receive all your conference materials at this time and will not have to check in again on Friday if you are also attending Readers Studio.

READERS STUDIO REGISTRATION and the Merchant Faire open at 9:30 AM on Friday, April 26th.

Please try to be seated in the Grand Ballroom by 10:45 AM. Arrive as early as you can, register as early as possible, and eat a good breakfast!

Attending the 11:00 AM Opening Session is extremely important!

The initial reading everyone will do during the Opening Session will serve as the foundation for the work that will be done for the rest of the conference, and will be revisited at the Practice Session on Sunday.

Please bring:

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|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) a tarot deck | 4) extra spending money for the merchant tables, celebrity readings & study groups | 6) a nice outfit, Ren Faire garb or tarot costume for the banquet! (This is optional. You can dress any way you like.) |
| 2) a notebook and pen | 5) all your usual travel stuff | |
| 3) money for meals | | |

★ *THE HOTEL:*

The New York LaGuardia Airport Marriott
102-05 Ditmars Blvd. East Elmhurst, NY 11369
(718) 565-8900

Check-In: 4:00 PM (If you're arriving on Friday, you can check in early if there's an available room. Be sure to ask at the front desk and tell them you're with The Readers Studio!)

Checkout: 12:00 PM

You can check your luggage with the hotel if your room isn't ready before the start of class. They will also hold your bags after check-out on Sunday until you are ready to leave.

www.ReadersStudio.com

★ TRAVEL:

By Air:

If you're flying in to **LaGuardia Airport**, there is a complimentary 24-hour airport shuttle which leaves every 15 minutes. There is a bank of courtesy telephones for your convenience.

***NOTE: Be sure to take the Red and White New York LaGuardia Airport Marriott Shuttle!**

If you're flying in to **JFK International Airport**, take a taxi to the hotel (approximately \$30).

By Bus or Train:

If you're coming by public transportation from Manhattan, take the #M-60 Bus from anywhere on 125th Street to LaGuardia Airport. Then catch the hotel shuttle (see above).


You can also take the E, F or R train (subway) to the Roosevelt Ave. stop in Queens, and then get the #Q-33 or #Q-47 bus to LaGuardia Airport and catch the hotel shuttle.

If you're taking a New Jersey Transit or Amtrak train to Penn Station (7th Ave. & 32nd St.), catch a Golden Touch Airport Bus to LaGuardia Airport (\$12-15 one way) from the corner of 8th Ave. & 34th St. (A Golden Touch agent sells bus tickets on the sidewalk by the bus.) Then take the hotel shuttle from the airport.

By Car:

If you're driving, please visit the hotel website for directions here:

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/maps/travel/lgaap-new-york-laguardia-airport-marriott/>

 **Parking:** Parking is **FREE** for all Readers Studio attendees who are driving in, whether or not you're staying at the hotel. This is a special conference rate so be sure to mention you're attending "The 2024 Readers Studio" to the front desk. **Make sure they give you a ticket that allows you to go in and out during the day or evening.** If you have a problem, see someone at the front desk in the lobby.

The Concierge's Desk can provide help with questions regarding transportation to Manhattan if you'd like to visit.

MEALS:

The Thursday evening Cocktail Party, Friday Luncheon Buffet, and Saturday Dinner Banquet **are included** in your conference fee. If you are planning to have a non-attendee join you for the buffet and/or banquet, there is a fee for that person. Contact us in advance.

- The hotel breakfast buffet is approximately \$25 + tax and tip (or you can order à la carte from the menu), and is complementary with your hotel stay. You may bring your food to the Ballroom for Breakfast Roundtables.
- Coffee and Tea will be served twice on Thursday, on Friday at the Opening Session and luncheon, at the Saturday and Sunday morning sessions, and at the dinner banquet. The hotel charges event organizers more than \$90/gallon(!), so if you need more than that, we suggest you bring a thermos for the coffee you'll find in your hotel room, or purchase a cuppa from the bar.

Don't forget you can purchase meal tickets for the rest of your dining needs on our website as we will be offering dinners and lunches for our attendees.

The on-site *Ditmars Bar & Grill* will be open for its regular hours (see their website for details). There are many nearby local eateries available for local dining during the dining hours. You may also wish to get a group together for dinner in Manhattan or a nearby restaurant (see the Concierge for suggestions). **For the most economical taxi ride, take the hotel shuttle to the airport and catch a yellow cab from there. But if your schedule is tight, have the Bell Captain call car service to come to the hotel.**

Keep reading for lots more information!!!

The 2024 Readers Studio

April 25th – Sunday, April 28th

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

- Thursday, April 25th* **DIVINATION DAY**
- 9:00–10:30 AM Registration & Merchant Faire Open
 - 10:45–11:00 AM Welcoming Remarks
 - 11:00 AM–1:00 PM Session #1: Laetitia Ante Delictum**
 - 1:00–2:30 PM Lunch Break
 - 2:30–4:30 PM Session #2: Gina Jean**
 - 4:30–5:00 PM Break
 - 5:00–7:00 PM Session #3: Mitchell Osborn**
 - 7:00–7:15 PM Closing Remarks
 - 8:00–9:30 PM Cocktail Reception** (Bayside)
 - 9:00–11:00 PM Study Groups (Room assignments to be announced)
- Friday, April 26th* **READERS STUDIO – DAY 1**
- 9:30–11:00 AM Registration & Merchant Faire open
 - 11:00 AM–1:00 PM Opening Session – Meet the Instructors / Foundation Readings
 - 1:00–1:15 PM First-Timer Welcome Ritual w/ Ethony
 - 1:15–2:30 PM Luncheon Buffet
 - 2:15–3:15 PM Opening to Wisdom Ritual (Meditation Room)
 - 2:30–3:30 PM Break / Hotel check-in (4 PM)
 - 3:30–6:00 PM Master Class w/ V.**
 - 6:00–9:00 PM Dinner Break
 - 7:30–9:00 PM Ghost Stories by the Fire with Sasha Graham
 - 9:00–11:00 PM Study Groups (Room assignments to be announced)
 - 9:00–11:00 PM “Celebrity Psychic Fair” (Reading Room)
- Saturday, April 27th* **READERS STUDIO – DAY 2**
- 8:00–9:15 AM Breakfast Roundtable w/ Arwen Lynch Poe (Ballroom)
 - 8:00–8:30 AM Morning Meditation w/ Carolyn Cushing (Meditation Room)
 - 9:30 AM–NOON Master Class w/ Liz Dean**
 - NOON–3:00 PM Lunch Break
 - 12:45–1:45 PM Showcase: The First Occult Tarot w/ Robert M. Place (Jackson Heights)
 - 1:45–2:45 PM Showcase: The Awakening Tarot w/ Monica Bodirsky (Ridgewood)
 - 3:00–5:30 PM Master Class w/ Sasha Graham**
 - 5:30–6:45 PM Break
 - 6:45–10:00 PM Dinner Banquet and Fashion Show** - Dress: fancy or casual, ren faire garb or tarot costume—it’s all good!
 - 10:00–MIDNIGHT “Readers Studio Disco” Dance Party (“Nightclub” in Bayside)
 - 10:00–MIDNIGHT “Celebrity Psychic Fair” (Reading Room)
- Sunday, April 28th* **READERS STUDIO – DAY 3**
- 8:00–9:15 AM Breakfast Buffet & Roundtable w/ Al Juarez (Ballroom)
 - 9:30–10:30 AM Practice Session – Foundation Readings revisited
 - 10:30 AM–NOON Tarot Incubators w/ Cheryl Ryder & Co.
 - NOON–2:45 PM Lunch Break and Hotel check-out
 - 12:30–1:15 PM Integration Ritual (Meditation Room)
 - 1:30–2:30 PM Showcase: Mystical Dream Tarot w/ Janet Piedilato (Ridgewood)
 - 1:30–2:30 PM Fun with the Tarot Coloring Book w/ Theresa Reed (Jackson Heights)
 - 2:45–3:00 PM Final Prize Drawing**
 - 3:00–4:30 PM Closing Session, What’s Next?, Certificate Ceremony, Close and Farewells

★ GIVE-AWAY BONANZA:

All weekend, we'll be giving away valuable prizes donated by our favorite tarot publishers, Merchant Faire vendors, and creative members of the community. If you'd like to contribute something to the pile of goodies, please leave it on the gift table onstage. Attach a note with your name so we can acknowledge your generosity!

★ CELEBRITY PSYCHIC FAIR:

On Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings (and other times by appointment), a number of current and past Readers Studio instructors will be available downstairs in the Reading Room (Whitestone) for private readings. *There will be sign-up sheets on the registration table with rates and available time slots.* It's your chance to sample the different reading styles of your favorite authors, teachers and deck designers!

★ ELECTIVE CLASSES:

In addition to the workshops that form the core curriculum of Readers Studio, here are several opportunities to learn even more!

☞ Divination Day:

If you are arriving on Thursday (or live nearby), you are cordially invited to attend Divination Day. **This full-day, stand-alone event begins at 9:00 AM on Thurs. April 25th in the Grand Ballroom and costs \$150 for Readers Studio attendees. (All others pay \$250.)** Advance registration is encouraged but "at the door" registrations will be accepted.

☞ Breakfast Roundtables:

Join **Arwen Lynch-Poe and Al Juarez** for lively discussions and tarot fun over breakfast in the Ballroom on Saturday and Sunday mornings. **The Roundtables are free!** Breakfast fare will be available on Saturday and Sunday at the hotel's Ditmars Bar & Grill if you're hungry (if you're staying at the hotel, breakfast is complementary).

☞ Study Groups:

Check the program book in your registration packet for your Guide to Study Groups! You'll find all the details on intriguing and informative elective classes offered by experts from the tarot community. Study Groups meet in breakout rooms during the Celebrity Psychic Fair (locations to be announced). Look for the sign-up sheets on the registration table beginning Thursday afternoon. **Tuition is \$35 payable directly to the Study Group leader at the time of class. (Cash is preferred - check with the Study Group Leader for options.)**

★ MERCHANT FAIRE:

Located in the Grand Ballroom, the Readers Studio Merchant Faire features a dazzling array of tarot goodies, art, learning materials, decks and magical supplies — many you won't find anywhere else! This year there will be 24 fabulous merchants for a great shopping experience.

☞ **NOTE: Only merchants who have paid for table space may sell in the Ballroom! (It's only fair.)** We have a very creative community and you may find some additional treasures, which the creators are welcome to sell privately in the public areas of the hotel or from their "Artist's Loft" (their room).

★ MEDITATION ROOM:

We know that the high level of energy at Readers Studio can get a little intense sometimes. So we've created a special retreat where you can rest and relax whenever you like, without having to run off to your room. Take a few minutes to sit quietly while being bathed in soft light and gentle, healing music. You'll find our peaceful and serene Meditation Room in the Forest Hills Room.

☞ Altar of Remembrance:

A special feature of the Meditation Room is the Altar of Remembrance. If you have a loved one (human or animal) whose spirit you would like to honor during the conference, please feel free to inscribe their name(s) in the *Book of Honored Dead* or place a photo or token on the altar. Just remember to take it home with you at the end of the weekend.

★ READERS STUDIO LOUNGE & READING ROOM:

Located downstairs in the Woodhaven and Whitestone Rooms respectively, is our very own space to gather, exchange readings, eat and hang out. Enjoy!

★ SPECIAL TABLES:

- A **Literature Table** will be available if you have any tarot-related brochures, flyers or business cards you would like to distribute. *Please Do Not leave non-Readers Studio material on the tables in the ballroom. Thank you!*
- One person's trash is another's treasure — Bring any decks, tarot books, or new age tchotchke you no longer want to the “**Free Deck & Book Swap Table**” and perhaps find a treasure to take home! The table will be located in the Readers Studio Lounge (Woodhaven). Past attendees have been totally delighted with the tarot gems they've found there!

★ PRE-CONFERENCE CONTACT:

If you have any last-minute questions, give us a call at 925-337-0620 or email us at: directors@ReadersStudio.com

We thank you for attending the 2024 Readers Studio and look forward to having a wonderful weekend!

Looking forward to seeing you soon,

Michelle, Roger, and the Readers Studio Event Team

P.S. Keep reading for a useful “Survival Guide.” Even if you've attended before, a refresher might be a welcome reminder!

READERS STUDIO SURVIVAL GUIDE

Attending Readers Studio can be a wonderful, thrilling and sometimes life-changing event. It's a ton of fun, too! But for some people, the swirling energy (psychic and otherwise) can be a bit overwhelming. Here are some handy suggestions to help ensure you have a great time:

- **Don't try to do it all** – Just because it's on the schedule, doesn't mean you have to be there. You may want to, but it's best to monitor your energy and pace yourself. If you need to skip something or take a nap, that's what you should do. We have classes and activities scheduled from early morning to late at night to accommodate both early birds and night owls. You're certainly invited to attend them all, but please make sure you follow these additional tips if you do!
- **Hydrate!** – Hotel air is notoriously dry. Make sure you drink plenty of fluids so that you don't become dehydrated (which will just add to any fatigue you may experience). We provide a steady supply of water and Emergen-C just outside the ballroom. The latter is especially useful for keeping your energy up and boosting your immune system. Coffee and tea will also be served from time to time (see the Meals section of this letter).
- **Dress Comfortably** – This probably goes without saying, but we'll say it anyway. It's also a good idea to dress in layers or bring a sweater or shawl as the temperature in the ballroom may vary.
- **Meditate, Relax and Restore** – Make sure to visit the Meditation Room at least once a day, even if it's just for 5 minutes! You may be surprised what a difference it will make in helping you to stay centered.
- **Eat** – Food is very grounding. If you have a favorite snack, bring along a supply. Make sure you don't get light-headed because you got too wrapped up in something to stop and eat. This is especially important if you have blood sugar issues.
- **Tarot Ambassadors are there to help** – These are seasoned Readers Studio attendees who know the ropes and have volunteered to be there for you and help you feel at home. Talk to them, ask directions, let them know what you need. They can be great friends! (Just look for the Ambassador buttons.)
- **Find an Energy Worker** – The community is a great resource filled with sensitive, friendly, and creative people – and many of them are trained healers. Some will offer Reiki, qigong or other type of energy work for free, and some will charge a fee. Most attendees will know someone who can help you if you need this kind of support – just ask around!
- **Frequent the Readers Studio Facebook Group** – It's a great way to get to know people before you arrive and stay on top of the latest Studio news. If you're not already a member, just ask to join – we'll be happy to see you there!
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ReadersStudio/>

- **Bring workhorse deck(s) and a notebook** because you'll be reading and absorbing for 3 or 4 days straight.
- **Toss a couple of trade decks in your luggage** for the swap table. **(NOTE: Tarot decks packed in checked bags are subject to search and possible damage. Always carry on valuable decks!)**
- **Leave room in your luggage** because you will buy things you weren't planning to. A rare out of print deck you've been wanting that someone is selling for a great price, or a stack of autographed books, or an etching that's perfect for your parlor.
- **Leave even more room in your luggage** because you will take home more free decks and pouches and books and gifts than you can imagine.
- **Come with a of couple questions/topics you want to have readings about** because you will have people reading for you a LOT over the course of the weekend.
- **If you have a business card, bring a big stack** because you'll want to be able to give it to people. They will ask and offer in kind.
- **Plan to take an evening Study Group** and sign up early, even if you're only curious. These evening classes fill up quickly and they are often the most explosive and epiphanic and magickal. Seriously. Some of my dearest RS friends and contacts and experiences came from evening classes.
- **Enjoy Every Second** — Readers Studio is an unbelievable opportunity to meet, mix and mingle with people who are as passionate about the art of Tarot as you are. Soak it all up!
- **Integrate** — The greatest gift of Readers Studio is what you learn. Sharing ideas and insights with the readers in attendance opens new levels of understanding. The master classes offer many new ways to work with Tarot. All of this inspiration adds up to an experience that, integrated into your practice, makes your Tarot work soar to new heights.

Thanks to Kelli Schaap and Shawn Nacol for their useful contributions to this guide!

