



WestsideWizards!



S.A.M. ASSEMBLY 291, LOS ANGELES

NOVEMBER 2024

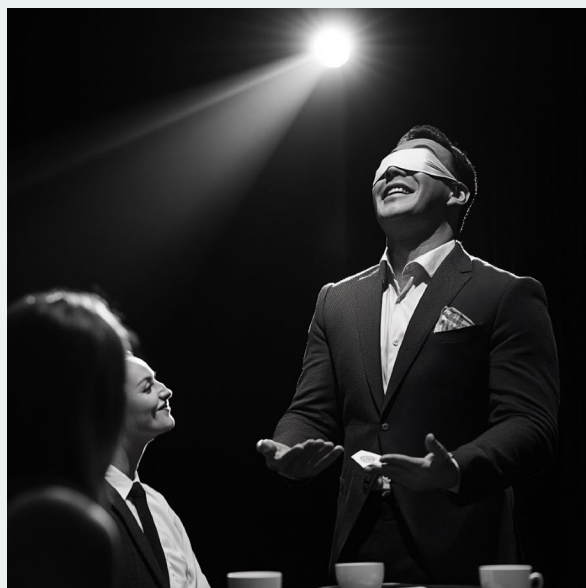
Next S.A.M. Meeting:
Tuesday, **November 12, 7:00 PM**
Theme: **Magic While Blindfolded**

Next S.A.M. Youth Meeting:
Sunday, **November 10, 4:00 PM (Zoom)**
Theme: **TBA**

Working Blindfolded!

Are you truly in tune with your magic? Are you ready to go beyond the visual cues and immerse yourself in the full spectrum of sensation?

As magicians, we often rely heavily on sight. But what if we had to perform without it? Imagine performing your act **blindfolded**, relying solely on your other senses to create and control the magic. How would you adapt to a world where touch, sound, and even scent become your primary tools?



At our upcoming meeting on Tuesday, November 12, at 7:00 PM, we'll challenge ourselves to perform magic without seeing. Bring a trick or two—whether it's part of your main routine, a classic effect, or something you've always wanted to try—and be ready to perform it blindfolded. This exercise will encourage you to explore your act in new ways, sharpening your awareness and helping you feel more connected to your surroundings.

Feel the textures, hear the subtle shifts, and tune in to the cues around you. This unique experience will help you deepen your intuition and awareness in every performance.

Don't miss out on this unique evening of magic, camaraderie, and the chance to refresh your collection. See you there!

Mark your calendar for **November 12, 2024 at 7:00 PM** and, as usual, we'll be meeting at OPICA (meeting location on the last page). **Note that OPICA requires masks.**

Upcoming Meetings

November 12: Magic While Blindfolded

November 10: SAMY TBA

December 10: Holiday Get Together

Using Zoom

If you don't already have Zoom installed, go to zoom.us/download to get the free Zoom application for your computer or download it from the App Store for your mobile device.

Note: Our meeting will start at 7:00 PM, but we will start letting Westside Wizards in around 6:45 PM before opening it up to the public at 7:00 PM.

This month's Zoom meeting info:

Meeting ID: 897 8805 1548
Passcode: 122851

[JOIN NOW](#)

Click on the link above and it will open Zoom and take you to the meeting. You will be then let in by the meeting host

PATCHWORK PROVES PERFECT

Wizards Bring Magic to Halloween Pumpkin Shoppers

As Halloween approached, the Westside Wizards devoted their October meeting to rehearsing for their third annual magic performance at a local pumpkin patch. The session proved fun for all, and informative for members prepping their effects, with everyone providing constructive feedback.

The following week, ten of the club's members gathered on a very busy Friday night at Shawn's Pumpkin Patch in West Los Angeles. The Wizards performed two shows at the center of the rectangular, building-side patch, the first a 7:15 show that was extended to a full thirty-minute performance upon request from the patch's management, and then a shorter, fifteen-minute show later in the evening.



Dan Cray greeted guests with a haunted bell, then magically refilled an empty, crushed soda can into a new, unopened soda. **Brian Schwartz**, undaunted when his request for a volunteer grew into an entire family of volunteers, easily made their randomly chosen book page vanish, then reappear elsewhere. **Alexander Scianna's** "spirit guide" sent and then retrieved silver dollars before completely transforming a young volunteer's silks into unexpected colors.

Les Cooper mis-made, and then remade, a skeleton to the delight of the crowd, and later drew amused gasps with his shrinking-and-growing head illusion. **Phil Goodman** enjoyed some good repartee with a volunteer who went silent with astonishment the moment she discovered Phil knew every word she had read from a Sherlock Holmes novel. Phil later rendered a volunteer unable to read, then visually reactivated that person's reading ability, to the crowd's delight.

Though **Howard Paris** drilled and sliced himself in shocking, Halloween fashion, he not only managed to survive but later made a giant tarantula appear from an empty tube. **Bill Dow** amazed the crowd twice, first by repeatedly pouring water from an empty bowl, then by producing a seven-foot-tall straw to sip the water. He later returned to cough up streamers and mysteriously vanish several silks.

The Wizards had the benefit of some advance scouting from Member-At-Large **Jim Witoszynski**, who lives near the pumpkin patch. They also had prep help from former president **Bill Bedecarre**, Treasurer **Doris Roach**, and **Jane Cray**.

Shawn and Ellie Wilk, the patch's namesake owners, were on hand to enjoy and participate in the magic. Their pumpkin-filled setting was perfect for magic, especially since Shawn's Pumpkin Patch is a local institution that has reappeared every autumn for 37 years. The Westside Wizards had so much fun, they are already contemplating their possible return next Halloween. – *Dan Cray*

Some Photos from Shawn's Pumpkin Patch



President's Message

A word from Dan Cray...



Hello Westside Wizards,

Don't look now but the year is winding down, with holiday season on the horizon. Audiences seem more receptive to magic (and often times fully charmed by it) when they're celebrating the holidays, so I'm looking forward to the season.

I'm also happy to say that last month's magic shows at Shawn's Pumpkin Patch, our third year in a row, were a hit once again. Many thanks to everyone who participated, whether by performing, organizing, or supplying constructive comments. The patch's owners, Shawn and Ellie Wilk, were so thrilled that they asked us to perform longer than planned, and afterwards Ellie said several customers made a point of telling her how much they loved the magic shows. Many thanks to them for being gracious hosts, and for placing us front and center at their patch.

As I mentioned in last month's column, my four years (two terms) as Westside Wizards president will wrap up at the end of December. I'll touch on that a bit more as we get closer. In the meantime, the club's Nominating Committee (Les Cooper, Bill Dow, and Jim Witoszynski) will present their recommended slate of board officers at our November meeting. So, if you're interested in running for a board position and haven't already contacted them, do so ASAP! We'll be voting at the December meeting.

In the meantime, I think we should declare the Dodgers' Freddie Freeman an honorary magician. No? Okay, maybe not, but I have a friend who claims to have placed a hex on the Yankees, and after seeing the magic Freddie performed in the World Series, I believe him.

In case I don't get the chance to say this at our monthly meeting, here's wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving! I'm thankful that we're all a part of this very magical group. See you on November 12, at 7 pm, for yet more magic!

Dan

Open Mic Magic!

Do you want to perform magic with magicians from around the world, including the United Kingdom, Canada, Iceland, India, Germany, and other locations?

Do you want to watch other magicians perform live?

You can sit back, relax, and watch a free magic show, or if you prefer, perform for other magicians from the comfort of your home.

Every Wednesday at Noon, local time (8:00 PM in the UK), Kevin Peel hosts OPEN MIC MAGIC via Zoom. Shows usually last a little over one hour and feature magicians performing with cards, coins, silks, some parlour and more. Here is the link to get your free tickets:

Tickets are FREE

Get your weekly dose of live magic in your home.

So, get your FREE ticket NOW! The link is:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/open-mic-magic>

Open to beginners, hobbyists, semi pros, professional magicians, and anyone who loves magic.

And if you are a magician, hang out with other magicians for lively discussions about magic after the Zoom show.

Hope to see you soon on Open Mic Magic!



IBM Ring 2100 invites all magicians to join them for the monthly meeting on **November 16, at 11 AM**, Los Angeles time. The theme is Self-Working Magic.

This is another Open House gathering, so all in the magic community, especially our friends in the Society of American Magicians, are welcome and encouraged to attend. Membership in the IBM is not required

Zoom information is below:

Saturday, November 16, 2024, 11am in LA / 2pm in New York / 7pm in London.

<https://zoom.us/j/95063172293?pwd=RjY1UkZaQW9zWW1FRnducTFuQUFKQT09>

Meeting ID: 950 6317 2293

Passcode: 2100

Hope to see you there to be part of the fun and magic.

The banner is divided into two main sections. The left section features the IBM Ring 2100 logo, which includes a globe and the text 'INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS' and 'LINKING MAGICIANS AROUND THE GLOBE'. The right section shows a magician's hat on a table with various magic props like a wand, cards, and a top hat. Below these sections, the text 'OPEN HOUSE' is written in red on a white background, and 'Self-Working Magic' is written in yellow on a red background. At the bottom, the date and times are listed: 'Saturday, November 16' and '11am LA / 2pm New York / 7pm London'.

Selected Upcoming Magic Events

November 2024

Nov 12-13 - **The Science of Magic** in Las Vegas, NV, Website: [Website: Science of Magic](#)

January 2025

Jan 12-14 - **The Session** in London, England - Website: <https://www.sessionconvention.com/>

Jan 25-27 - **MagiFest** in Columbus, Ohio - Website: www.vanishingincmagic.com/magic-conventions/magifest

February 2025

Feb 14-16 - **Blackpool Magic Convention**, Blackpool, England. Website: blackpoolmagicconvention.com

March 2025

Mar 10-12 - **Mystify Magic** in Las Vegas, NV. Website: <https://mystifymagicfestival.com/>

Other Los Angeles Area Magic Clubs

The Westside Wizards is not the only magic Assembly in the Los Angeles area. Several other Assemblies, Rings and clubs are in Los Angeles. Here is a list of other local organizations:

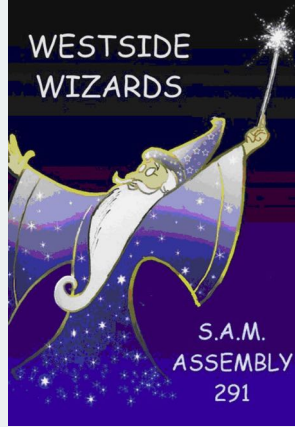
S.A.M. Assembly 22 (Duarte) meets on the third Monday of the month, sites.google.com/view/magicsam22/home

IBM Ring 21 (North Hollywood) meets on the first Thursday of the month. www.ibmring21.org

IBM Ring 96 (Seal Beach) meets on the third Saturday of the month. www.ring96.com

IBM Ring 280 (Santa Clarita) meets on the second Thursday of the month. www.ibmring280.com

Academy of Magical Arts (at the Magic Castle), www.magiccastle.com



The **Westside Wizards** was formed to give the West Los Angeles area a Magical presence and hopes that you will participate and be active in Assembly 291.

Westside Wizards Officers (2023-2024)

President	Dan Cray
Vice President	Phil Goodman
Treasurer	Doris Roach
Secretary	Brian Schwartz
Member at Large	Jim Witoszynski
Immediate Past President	Les Cooper
M.U.M. Editors	Dan Cray
Newsletter Editors	Phil Goodman & Dan Cray
Newsletter Proofers	Dan Cray, Les Cooper & Doris Roach



Westside Wizards Meeting Location
 Stoner Park OPICA Adult Day Care Facility,
 11759 Missouri Avenue
 Los Angeles, CA 90025

Between S. Bundy Drive and S. Barrington Avenue. Park off Missouri Avenue, next to the ball field

Past Presidents

2021-2022	Dan Cray
2015-2020	Les Cooper
2013-2014	Bill Bedecarre
2011-2012	Frank Padilla, Jr
2009-2010	Raul Fernandez
2008	Les Cooper

Contact us: WWW.WESTSIDEWIZARDS.ORG
INFO@WESTSIDEWIZARDS.ORG OR SYM@WESTSIDEWIZARDS.ORG FOR THE JUNIORS