FISM
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés Magiques
International Federation of Magic Societies

FISM Newsletter

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To all Presidents of the FISM member societies and Delegates in the General Assembly

Dear President, Dear Friend in Magic,

It's a pleasure to keep you informed on our latest developments and projects.

FISM NORTH AMERICA CHAMPIONSHIP OF MAGIC (FISM NACM) 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

FISM NORTH AMERICA BOARD MEETING

Dallas, USA – On August 31st, 2024, the FISM North America Board Meeting was held at the Hotel Loews Convention Center, with the attendance of FISM International President Andrea Baioni and FISM International Vice President Peter Din.

FISM North America President Renée-Claude Auclair welcomed the attendees, apologizing for the absence of Dal Sanders, who was busy managing the FISM North America Championship of Magic and the S.A.M./TAOM convention, and introduced the board members and their two guests.

Andrea Baioni thanked all the board members for their efforts in advancing the main objectives of FISM on the North American continent and expressed hopes for continued productive collaboration with the other continents; he also pointed out the importance of unity within the global magic community, highlighting how the exchange of ideas, talents and experiences between regions strengthens the magic art form as a whole.

After that, Renée-Claude Auclair, reaffirming her dedication to full cooperation with FISM, revealed the name of the organizer and venue of the next FISM North America Championship of Magic: I.B.M., in Las Vegas in 2027.

The meeting concluded with a renewed sense of commitment to fostering collaboration and excellence within the magic community. Finally, President-Baioni invited all the board members to actively promote the FISM World Championship of Magic 2025 in Torino, Italy, expressing his hope to see everyone there for what promises to be an extraordinary event in the North of Italy.

THE BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT: RENÉE-CLAUDE AUCLAIR (CANADA)



Renée-Claude Auclair has been involved in magic since 2008, first as a mentalist assistant on stage with her husband Pierre Hamon. In 2011, they founded the first magic festival in Quebec City: The Festival de Magie de Québec which will celebrate its 13th anniversary in 2024. More than 100 000 people attended the public event in 2023 and more than 150 international magicians have performed for it since its inception.
Renée-Claude also founded the provincial Club de magie du Québec in 2016.
For three years from July 2018 to 2021, she served as Regional V-P for Canada at the Society of American Magicians (S.A.M.) and from July 2020 to 2023, she was President of the Canadian Association of Magicians (CAM) of which she is still a board member. Besides she played the role of President and co-organizer of the 2022 FISM WCM in Quebec City welcoming close to 2000 magicians from 57 different countries. A first for the FISM WCM to be held in America. Finally, she has been serving as FISM NA President since 2020 and organized the FISM NACM in Quebec City in 2021.

VICE PRESIDENT: DAL SANDERS (USA)



Dal Sanders has been studying and performing the art of magic as a full time professional for over forty-five years and has put his entire heart and soul into the job. He is the Past National President of the Society of American Magicians and Past President of the Texas Association of Magicians; he is also a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, a member of the Academy of Magical Arts (The Magic Castle), and he was awarded M.I.M.C. with a Gold Star with London's famed society The Magic Circle.
As President of the S.A.M., Dal was instrumental in convincing the United States Congress to recognize Magic as an Art for which he received an Award of Merit from the Academy of Magical Arts

BOARD MEMBER: JOAN CAESAR (CANADA)



Joan Caesar is Founder and Past President of the Canadian Association of Magicians and is now its FISM representative. She is a Past President of the International Brotherhood of Magicians too and has contributed several cover stories to their publication, *The Linking Ring*. Joan is also co-organizer of the invitation-only close up 4F convention in the United States.
In addition, she has judged or stage managed at FISM conventions in China, South Korea, Sweden, as well as conventions in England, Italy, France and the United States. Finally, Joan was one of the organizers and Chair of the Stage Jury for the 2008, 2014 North American Championships of Magic, ~~was~~ as well as Chair of the 2017 North American FISM competition and Jury Chair for the 2024 edition.

BOARD MEMBER: TRIXIE BOND (USA)



Trixie Bond, a native of Houston, Texas, is a second-generation magician. She had an amazing 40-year career performing for families and venues including the Magic Castle, Magic Island and the White House.
Trixie has served as president of the Texas Association of Magicians (TAOM,) the Society of American Magicians (Houston Assembly #19) and the International Brotherhood of Magicians (Austin Ring 60). She was also a founding member of Kidabra. Besides, Trixie is one of the few female magicians to have earned a “Doctorate in Magic” from the “Fechter’s Finger Flicking Frolic, (FFFF).”
In addition to performing, Trixie has judged both on-stage and close up competitions for TAOM and at Abbotts Magic Get Together. Finally, she attended the FISM competitions in Italy (2015) and Quebec City (2022) and understands the rigor and importance of judging.

BOARD MEMBER: JOEY CRANFORD (USA)



An actor, director and marketing executive, Joey Cranford founded the Chicago Magic Lounge in 2015. In 2002, he moved to Chicago to train with *The Second City* and began performing with I.O. and the *Annoyance Theater* while traveling with a national touring improv group, *Mission Improvable*. He transitioned into Film and Television, with credits including *Man of Steel, Batman v Superman, Chicago Fire* and *Better Call Saul*. He has had many other careers in a short timeframe, ranging from a Probation Officer to a Double-Decker Tour Guide. Most recently, he helped launch Big Bus Tours in Chicago as their Sales and Marketing Director. During that time, he was producing a passion project about the history of Chicago-style magic, which would eventually lead to the creation of the beautiful Chicago Magic Lounge. He now works as CEO of the Chicago Magic Lounge with a dedicated team of the best magicians in the country.

BOARD MEMBER: MIKE CAVENEY (USA)



Mike Caveney is a life member of the Academy of Magical Arts and on two occasions he was voted Stage Magician of the Year by members of the Magic Castle. He is a member of the Inner Magic Circle in London too.
He has performed on The Orient Express, at the London Palladium and has attended the last sixteen FISM conventions. In addition, through his publishing company, Magic Words, Mike has written a dozen books on the history, theory, and practice of magic that include biographies on The Great Leon, Servais Le Roy, Harry Kellar and Carter the Great. All the magic that he performed through his long career is explained in his works *Wonders, The Conference Illusions* and *The Final Conference Illusions.* Besides, there are now four volumes of his *Classic Correspondence from Egyptian Hall Museum*, as well as a 450 pages history of *Sawing A Lady in Half* called *Sawing. Finally, Mike also* co-authored *Magic 1400s - 1950s* published in six languages by Taschen Books. For these considerable efforts, FISM presented Mike with their award for History & Research.

BOARD MEMBER: ERIK TAIT (USA)



Erik Tait is the I.B.M. representative for FISM North America. A FISM champion himself, he has taken a keen interest in supporting the competitors and the efforts of artists on the world stage as well. When not working with competitors around the world, he is a passionate teacher and educator in the art of magic for Penguin Magic, the world's largest magic retailer.

COMPETITION

The FISM NACM 2024 featured 6 stage competitors, 9 close up competitors and 3 invention candidates. 2 (1 stage and 1 close up) of them got direct wild card entries to the FISM World Championship of Magic (WCM) 2025 in Torino. No inventions were recognized and no award was given to the Most Original Act.

Important elements were implemented in the ceremonial, such as the parade of all participating competitors.

We believe there is a real opportunity to enhance the stage setup and technical equipment used during the FISM NACM competition to better meet the high standards expected at such prestigious events. Continuous improvements in these areas will significantly contribute to providing an even more exceptional experience for the competitors and audience alike.

NEXT FISM NORTH AMERICA CHAMPIONSHIP OF MAGIC



FISM NORTH AMERICA – N.A.C.M. 13-16 July, 2027, Las Vegas - USA

NEXT FISM CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP OF MAGIC

FISM ASIA - A.C.M.: 24th to 29th September, 2024, Shenzen City - China

NEXT FISM WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP OF MAGIC

FISM WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP OF MAGIC - WCM: July 14th to 19th, 2025, Torino, Italy

All information about the venue, convention center and hotels can be found on the organizer's website.

The FISM and the organizing committee of the FISM WCM 2025 Italy, Masters of Magic, have agreed on a special promotion for the presidents of our federation.

By registering 10 new people at the convention 2025 - standard or VIP registrations - you are entitled to receive an additional complimentary standard pass to the WCM 2025.

To obtain the code related to the promotion, please send to Angela Signoretti:

- the list of the ten new participants who will register on Vivaticket platform within a month.
- upon verification of the ten registrations on Vivaticket, Angela will send you the code for the complimentary pass.

FISM WCM Awards updated

We are pleased to announce that the **FISM Winners section** on the official FISM website has been fully updated. This was made possible thanks to the dedicated research of Aldo Ghiurmino, a member of the "FISM 75th Anniversary" Consultancy Group, and to the contributions of many others, including, in particular, Peter Damn.

Best regards,

Andrea Bajoni

FISM International President

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