

SCHEDULE

The Society of American Magicians 97th National Convention

Appleton, Wisconsin | June 30–July 4, 2026

*Off-site

Start Time	End Time	Event	Room / Location
TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 2026			
6:00 p.m.	- 8:00 p.m.	EARLY REGISTRATION OPEN	Foyer by Lawrence Room
8:00 p.m.	- 9:30 p.m.	HOUDINI SÉANCE HISTORY, DISCUSSION and METHODS Featuring Dorothy Dietrich and Bruce Kalver	Empire Room
WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2026			
8:00 a.m.	- 9:30 a.m.	S.A.M. MAGIC ENDOWMENT FUND MEETING	Briarwood / Ebony
9:00 a.m.	- 5:00 p.m.	REGISTRATION OPEN	Foyer by Lawrence Room
9:00 a.m.		YOUTH ACADEMY	Bond / Oak Tag
9:45 a.m.	- 10:45 a.m.	S.A.M. ASSEMBLY LEADERSHIP TRAINING - Joel Zaritsky & Frank Monaco	Briarwood / Ebony
10:00 a.m.	- 4:00 p.m.	VISIT HOUDINI COLLECTION @ HISTORY MUSEUM at the CASTLE Free Admission All Day for Convention Attendees	History Museum 330 E. College Ave.
12:00 noon	- 4:00 p.m.	HOUDINI COLLECTION & ARCADE - Across from Dealers	Rosewood / Linden
11:30 a.m.	- 5:00 p.m.	DEALERS ROOM	Salon C-D
11:00 a.m.	- 1:45 p.m.	DOUBLE HEADER LECTURE 11:00 a.m. - Christopher Hart 12:30 p.m. - Shawn Farquhar	Empire Room
2:30 p.m.	- 4:00 p.m.	HARRY AND BESS HOUDINI WELCOME PARTY Music by 1-3-5 Trio - Matthew Crabtree, John Sturk, Dan Rodriguez Show produced by Rick Morein with Wisconsin magicians Charles Arkin, Daryl Rogers, Scott Hanneman, Bob Rath, Julie Sobanski, Kevin Koehn and Kahlan Sherg	Courtyard
Start loading @ 3:45 p.m.		BUSES to THEATER (Group RED)	Hotel Entrance
5:00 p.m.	- 7:00 p.m.	THE HER SHOW (Group RED) Featuring Lyn Dillies, Tiffany Sauvage, Alyx Hilshey, Cydney Kaplan and Julia Dryas	Theater @ Winnebago County Fox Cities Campus 1478 Midway Rd., Menasha
Start loading @ 6:45 p.m.		BUSES to THEATER (Group BLUE)	Hotel Entrance
8:00 p.m.	- 10:00 p.m.	THE HER SHOW (Group BLUE) Featuring Lyn Dillies, Tiffany Sauvage, Alyx Hilshey, Cydney Kaplan and Julia Dryas	Theater @ Winnebago County Fox Cities Campus 1478 Midway Rd., Menasha
THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2026			
8:00 AM	- 9:00 a.m.	REGISTRATION OPEN	Foyer by Lawrence Room
8:30 a.m.	- 10:20 a.m.	ESCAPE EXPERIENCE @ HOUDINI PLAZA WORLD RECORD CHAIN ESCAPE with Convention Attendees MILK CAN ESCAPE with Dean Gunnarson STRAITJACKET ESCAPE with Houdini II	Houdini Plaza (One Block from Hotel)
10:30 a.m.	- 12:00 noon	REGISTRATION OPEN	Foyer by Lawrence Room
10:45 a.m.	- 11:45 a.m.	HOUDINI FAMILY INTERVIEW Bruce Kalver interviews grandnephews and grandniece of Harry and Bess Houdini Jeff and Debbie Blood, George Hardeen, Deborah Hardeen Bloom	Empire
11:00 a.m.	- 4:00 p.m.	VISIT HOUDINI COLLECTION @ MUSEUM at the CASTLE Free Admission All Day for Convention Attendees	History Museum 330 E. College Ave.
11:00 a.m.	- 4:00 p.m.	DEALERS ROOM	Salon C-D
11:45 a.m.	- 4:30 p.m.	EXPLORE ON YOUR OWN - More Information at Registration Desk Visit Houdini Collection @ Museum at the Castle - FREE admission Houdini history walking tour	Various Locations
11:50 a.m.	-	TROLLEY PICKUP for LIFE MEMBERS EVENT (Life Members+1 Only) Drive, carpool or take the trolley	Hotel Entrance by Parking Garage
12:00 p.m.	- 2:00 p.m.	LIFE MEMBERS ONLY LUNCH @ STONE ARCH BREWPUB Extra Pay Event \$30 Guest Speaker - Dean Gunnarson Trolley rides back to Hilton Hotel with stop at Metamorphosis Statue and Museum	STONE ARCH BREWPUB 1004 S. Olde Oneida St.

THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2026			
12:00 noon - 3:30 p.m.	FREE TROLLEY PICK-UP TO/FROM HOTEL AND MUSEUM		Hotel / Museum Entrance
12:00 noon - 4:00 p.m.	HOUDINI COLLECTION & ARCADE – Across from Dealers		Rosewood / Linden
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	REGISTRATION OPEN		Foyer by Lawrence Room
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	SCREENING OF THE LOST HOUDINI FILM: THE GRIM GAME Hosted by Dorothy Dietrich. Music accompaniment by John Sturk		Empire
4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	CLOSE-UP CONTEST & HOUSE OF MAGIC PEOPLES CHOICE AWARD		Salon A-B
7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	STAGE CONTEST & BRADLEY JACOBS PEOPLES CHOICE AWARD		Salon A-B
9:45 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.	HOUDINI HISTORY INTERVIEW & PRESENTATION Mike Cavenny and John Cox		Salon A-B
FRIDAY, JULY 3, 2026			
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	REGISTRATION OPEN		Foyer by Lawrence Room
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.	S.A.M. NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING		Briarwood / Ebony
9:00 a.m. -	YOUTH ACADEMY		Bond / Oak Tag
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	VISIT HOUDINI COLLECTION @ MUSEUM at the CASTLE Free Admission All Day for Convention Attendees		History Museum 330 E. College Ave.
11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	LECTURE – Boris Wild		Salon A-B
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	HOUDINI COLLECTION & ARCADE – Across from Dealers		Rosewood / Linden
11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	DEALERS ROOM		Salon C-D
1:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	DOUBLE HEADER LECTURE 1:00 p.m. – Jonathan Neal 2:30 p.m. – Daniel Garcia		Salon A-B
Start loading @ 3:45 p.m.	BUSES to THEATER (Group RED)		Hotel Entrance
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	MAGIC OPERA (Group RED) Mike Cavenny, Shawn Farquhar, Christopher Hart, Puck, John Shryock & Mari Lynn		Theater @ Winnebago County Fox Cities Campus 1478 Midway Rd., Menasha
Start loading @ 6:45 p.m.	BUSES to THEATER (Group BLUE)		Hotel Entrance
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	MAGIC OPERA (Group BLUE) Mike Cavenny, Shawn Farquhar, Christopher Hart, Puck, John Shryock & Mari Lynn		Theater @ Winnebago County Fox Cities Campus 1478 Midway Rd., Menasha
10:30 p.m. - 12:00 midnight	CREATIVE COACHING PANEL Host Bruce Kalver with Celebrity Guest Panel		Salon A-B
SATURDAY, JULY 4, 2026			
7:45 AM - 9:00 a.m.	HOUDINI FUN RUN – (Sign-up in advance. \$20 includes shirt)		Meet @ Hotel Entrance by the Parking Garage
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	REGISTRATION OPEN – 2027 ATLANTIC CITY CONVENTION		Foyer by Lawrence Room
9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	ALL-STAR AWARDS & RECOGNITION SHOW Contest winners, recognitions, achievements, and installations Hosted by Dan Harlan		Salon A-B
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	DEALERS ROOM		Salon C-D
11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	LECTURE – John Shryock		Salon A-B
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	SPEAKEASY CLOSE-UP SHOW Featuring Shawn Farquhar, Boris Wild, Daniel Garcia, Dale Penn, Alyx Hilshey Music Accompaniment – John Sturk		Empire
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.	PRESIDENTS RECEPTION		Courtyard
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	HOUDINI BANQUET (Extra Pay Event \$100) Chicken, beef, or vegetarian option Dan Rodriguez – Master of Ceremonies Presidential Transition Ceremony Collectible gift for banquet attendees		Salon A-B
7:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.	THE JONATHAN NEAL SHOW – Open to all convention attendees Starring Jonathan Neal & Liane		Salon A-B

Events and times are subject to change.