



2017

Guide to Study Groups

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Can't get enough fabulous Readers Studio tarot instruction? Here's a selection of great optional Study Groups to choose from! You'll find sign-up sheets at the registration table beginning Thursday afternoon. **Tuition of \$35 per Study Group is paid directly to the instructor.** **CASH ONLY! Please bring exact change – thank you!**



THURSDAY (9-11 pm)

Crystal Ball by Candlelight: Divination in the Depths

Instructor: Heatherleigh Navarre

One of the most maligned images in the litany of psychic stereotypes is the turbaned, crystal ball-wielding con artist, yet in truth, this scrying method has a long and rich history and can be a fruitful tool for personal meditation or predictive divination. Crystal scrying makes a perfect complement to the more systematic approaches represented in cartomancy.

Learn to try your hand at scrying and get a glimpse into the depths in this fun and interactive session, and see if this time-honored oracle might be calling out to you.

Heatherleigh will be demonstrating and teaching with her own crystal ball, “Lucille”, and will have crystal balls available for each participant to work with during the session. (If you fall in love with yours, you can purchase it to take home, and we'll include a small stand, and instructions, in a travel-ready pouch).

Heatherleigh Navarre is a renowned psychic medium, tarot reader and teacher, and meditation coach. Her tarot and divination work with clients and students is based on a strong belief that these skills can be developed by anyone, and can be integrated into daily life in a way that significantly improve one's effectiveness, relationships, and overall happiness.



Inspiring the Muse

Instructor: Jaymi Elford

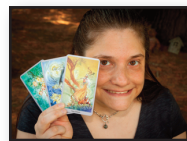
Interested in writing short stories or books? Want to combine your passion for words with your love of tarot? Let author Jaymi Elford show you how you can put spark into your writing life.

Inspiring the Muse guides you through the basics of using your deck to craft everything you need to write a complete story. Learn how the tarot can:

- > generate various plot elements
- > create well rounded characters
- > provide insight into settings

We'll even discuss how your decks can become your creativity coach during the writing and editing process! Bring your imagination, paper and pen, and your favorite illustrated tarot deck.

Jaymi “Innowen” Elford is part Muse (writing, editing, and graphic design) and part Magic (eclectic paganism and tarot). She believes that magic is a path one walks on, as well as a tool to help explore the world we live in. Her writings are featured in *The Cartomancer* and *The Tarosophist* magazines, Lo Scarabeo tarot decks, and in many Megalithica Books anthologies.



Soul Path Embodiment: Dare to Get Out of the Chair!

Instructors: Carolyn Cushing and
Jennifer Lucero-Earle

In this multi-sensory session, we will step into the Tarot's guidance for living from the fullest expression of our selves that harmonizes intellect, emotion, body, creativity, and the ability to embrace mystery. Through this exploration we'll find supports for walking our unique soul path. The practices and techniques offered can be used for personal development as well as be integrated into work with querents.

Key activities include:

- Explore the 3Ps - Path-Practice-Posture – as a reading template and dynamic process to support evolving practices for cultivating your soul self.
- Discover three essential movements that correspond to our feet, hands, and spine, bringing our soul path to life through our bodies. Yes, we will dare to get out of the chair and dance along our soul path.
- Have fun, recharge, and gather your energy and resources for making the most of the Readers Studio weekend ahead.

Jennifer Lucero-Earle lovingly and playfully facilitates movement, of the body, mind, heart and spirit. Merging over thirty years experience with tarot and movement, Jennifer is the creatrix of ArcanaDance, a transformative somatic divination practice that awakens and attunes the oracle of the body with the archetypal wisdom of the tarot. Whether or not you consider yourself a mover, she makes you feel safe to play, move, and explore the infinite wisdom of your body.



Carolyn Cushing is a passionate change maker and Tarot enthusiast who loves to work with people to make positive life transitions, grow spiritually, and develop creatively. In addition to working one-on-one with seekers, Carolyn has led meditation sessions and rituals at Readers Studios for many years; taught and co-facilitated Tarot classes and retreats throughout Western Massachusetts; and been a guest teacher on the Gaian Tarot Circle. She is a graduate of the Spiritual Life Center's Spiritual Direction Program and a co-founder of the Massachusetts Tarot Society.



Tarot Acting Class

Instructor: Scott Martin

As a theater teacher, I see a tarot deck as a play with a large cast of 78 characters. These characters can be understood in the same way that an actor hones his craft and develops his character in a play.

In this workshop, we will be playing theater games, and participating in improvisations and pantomimes that have been adapted to explore the inner lives of the cards and get into their skin. These exercises will also tap into that creative, spontaneous part of us that is so key when doing an effective, intuitive reading.

Come prepared to play, to have fun, and perhaps gain some insights about the cards that may be new to you! No acting experience necessary.

Shakespeare, in the voice of Hamlet said, "The play is the thing!" In this workshop, TO play is the thing! Let's break a leg!

Scott Martin has been involved in theater since he was a high school drama student. He pursued his interests in college, earning a B.A. in Speech and Theater and, in graduate school, an M.F.A. in Directing. He also studied acting at the Herbert Berghof Studio in New York City.



He taught theater and directed plays in New York City high schools for thirty-six years. He points with pride to many of his former students who are working professionally in the theater. He has also performed and directed in community and regional theaters, summer stock, and the Off-off Broadway theater.

After retiring from full-time teaching in 2002, Scott pursued his fascination with the tarot. This came naturally to him, since he saw clear connections between the figures illustrated on the tarot cards and characters in a play.

His studies began at The Tarot School with Wald and Ruth Ann Amberstone. He has also studied with Rachel Pollack, Ellen Goldberg, Elinor Greenberg, Robert Place and Mary Greer.

Currently, Scott works as a mentor in theater for the New York City Department of Education. His new book, *Bringing the Tarot to Life — Embody the Cards through Creative Exploration*, published by Llewellyn Worldwide, should be in bookstores soon.

Introducing The Raziel Tarot – The Secret Teachings of Adam and Eve

Instructors: Rachel Pollack and Robert M. Place

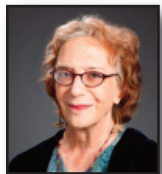
The Raziel Tarot is a deck co-created by writer Rachel Pollack (*78 Degrees of Wisdom*) and artist Robert M. Place (*The Alchemical Tarot*). Based on Jewish lore, traditional teachings, magical and mystical practices, it nevertheless embodies the universal theme of the soul's "exile" from knowledge of its true self, and its restoration, or re-union, with the Divine, the theme that many find underlies the Major Arcana of the Tarot.

The title comes from a medieval Jewish myth that an angel named Raziel ("God is my secret") gave a book to Adam and Eve that contained all the mysteries of the cosmos and the ability to predict all future events. This is the same great idea—knowledge and prediction—that has captivated devotees of the Tarot over the past 250 years.

The scenes draw on Biblical characters—King Solomon as the Magician, Adam and Eve as the Lovers—but also the classic Rider-Waite-Smith deck and the French Tarot of Marseilles.

At the 2016 Readers Studio, Rachel informally introduced the deck by doing one-card readings for people during the Sunday lunch break. This is a chance to get to know this special deck more fully for yourself. Copies will be available for sale.

Rachel Pollack is the author of 37 books of fiction and non-fiction, including two award-winning novels, and some twenty books on Tarot and related subjects. She is the author of *78 Degrees of Wisdom*, often described as "the Bible of Tarot readers." Together with Robert Place, Rachel created the Burning Serpent Oracle, writing the text to go with Robert's elegant, vivid pictures. She now is thrilled to be working with Robert again to create the Raziel Tarot. Her current projects also include writing a connected series of novellas about a contemporary magician named Jack Shade, to be collected in a book titled *The Fisher King: A Novel In Five Stories*. Rachel's work has been translated into 14 languages. She has taught Tarot all over the world, including Europe, China, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.



Robert M Place is the designer of many decks, including *The Alchemical Tarot*, *The Alchemical Tarot Renewed*, *The Tarot of the Sevenfold Mystery*, *The Facsimile Italian Renaissance Woodcut Tarocchi*, *The Tarot of the Saints*, *The Buddha Tarot*, *The Vampire Tarot*, *The Angels Tarot*, the *Marziano Tarot*, *The New York Lenormand*, a facsimile of an 1882 oracle deck and *The Hermes Playing Card Oracle*. He is the author of the books that accompany most of these decks.



He has also authored *The Tarot: History, Symbolism, and Divination*, which Booklist has said, "may be the best book ever written on that deck of cards decorated with mysterious images called the tarot." He is the curator of The Fools' Journey and the author of the catalog for an exhibition of Tarot art that originated at the LA Craft and Folk Art Museum in 2010. He was the guest of honor at the opening of the Tarot Museum in Riola, Italy in 2007. His Facsimile Tarocchi is included in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Tarot for One: The Art of Reading For Yourself

Instructor: Courtney Weber

"I can read for others, but I can't read for myself!"

Sound familiar? If you are one of those people who "can't read Tarot for themselves" or would like to learn new techniques to "self-read" even better, join me!

This class will focus on you, your relationship with your deck, and help you find the patterns the Tarot has uniquely for messages for you.

Join us for learning fundamental tools and techniques for your Tarot journey.

In this Study Group we will:

- discuss why reading for the Self is difficult.
- create personal associations for you with your cards.
- break through the trap of "Am I only seeing what I want to see?"

Please bring a Tarot deck, and a notebook and pen.

Courtney Weber is a Tarot reader with over twenty-years experience. She has an international clientele base and teaches workshops on the Tarot on both coasts.



Tarot of the Boroughs, a contemporary photographic Tarot deck set in New York City, and the author of *Tarot for One: The Art of Reading For Yourself*.

FRIDAY (9-11 pm)

Be the Image, Have a Tarot Revolution

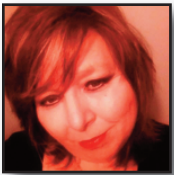
Instructor: Connie Kick

Learn how to become the card itself. You'll discover how during the darkest hours of my life, The Magician led me on the path of an Internal Tarot Revolution. Come Kick it Tarot Style with me and experience the image of the card (with props). I will show you why you and your clients do not have to be a psychic to get a deeper understanding of what the cards want you to know.

This group is an energetic, non-judgmental, sharing, caring and fun circle of experience. Make sure to bring a tarot deck with scenic pips, your imagination, and a camera.

Everyone who attends will leave with a gift from me as a token to remind you of the magic tarot brings us and to use what you learn to help others have a Tarot Revolution of their own.

Connie Kick — Tarot has always intrigued me and during the darkest hours of my life I had an internal Tarot Revolution which helped me find my fun-loving self again. I truly believe Tarot saved my life. As a result, I became very passionate in sharing it's magic. While I read for clients, I've discovered my real passion for teaching the magic. I host a monthly class in Kenosha, Wisconsin (aka Kenowhere, a city that is smack dab in the middle of Chicago and Milwaukee). The best part of this experience is seeing transformations occur in my students — knowing that The Magician's magic works!



Clearing and Affirming: Make Your Desires a Reality with Tarot

Instructor: James Wells

This rare in-person opportunity to experience James' most powerful *Tarot for Manifestation* method will unearth your deepest negative patterns, inspire a fresh life-giving narrative, and pave a royal road to your most cherished goals. Have an objective you would like to attain, then be prepared to employ a blend of images, affirmations, and stories to try on and map out how you can make it happen.

You will use this liberating process again and again for years to come. Will you live life by default or will you create your life consciously?

The choice is yours!



James Wells is a full-time tarot consultant and circle process practitioner in Toronto, Ontario. He is the author of *Tarot for Manifestation* and *Tarot Circle Encounters* as well as a contributor to various anthologies. In his one-to-one consultations, workshops, and teleseminars, James provides an experience of council mind



James enjoys trees, good food, reading, writing, and long walks.

Lenormand Inspiration: Creativity and Ritual with 36 Cards

Instructor: Ryan Edward Capogreco

Inspiration is priceless. Tarot has been a long standing tool to break through creative blocks and create magical ritual, but have you tried Lenormand? These 36 cards are packed with a descriptive vocabulary that serves as a concise muse, vocal critic, and honest colleague.

In this study group, you will learn techniques to use Lenormand for inspiration in two parts. First, use the essential meanings of the Lenormand cards to create guidance for creative projects. Whether visual art, performance, or poetry, use Lenormand's adjectives and descriptive keywords to help form a direction you haven't considered. Second, learn to devise simple, elegant rituals based on the common every-day items and happenings in these 36 cards. Bring whatever magical background you may (or may not) have to infuse with the Lenormand vocabulary to create your own brand of magic.

Ryan will share past real-life examples both of art/design projects, and simple ritual. Prepare to try your hand both at inspiring a creative project and devising a small ritual to perform while at Readers Studio. Please bring a Lenormand with you, Ryan will have some extras for those who didn't pack one.



Always curious, **Ryan Edward** is a designer from St. Louis. He has since turned his passion to cartomancy and card reading, both using cards to inspire creativity and recycling that creativity to make cards.

Ryan is the creator of The Maybe Lenormand and The Playing Marseille, with more to come.

Mediumship & Tarot: Divining the Unseen!

Instructor: Carrie Paris

A number of tarot diviners have had their readings interrupted by unseen visitors from the Other Side. For some this can be a terrifying experience, while others view it as their introduction to mediumistic work. In this Study Group we will explore the ins and outs of navigating disembodied visitors with compassion and a practice known as psychometry—a technique for divining the personal traits, messages and history from an image or object.

Backing our work will be a variety of antique photographs that we will overlay with the Relative Tarot and the latest Magpie Oracle: The Spirit Communication Kit, both of which were specifically designed for pinpointing and giving voice to the unseen. Supporting the journey will be rare, historical images of mediums at work, their stories, tools, and fascinating talent for delivering messages from the departed.

By the end of this Study Group you will understand how to recognize, illuminate and deliver messages from the realm of spirit with accuracy and compassion. Casting kits and Relative Tarot decks will be offered for use on a first-come, first-served basis. All levels invited and encouraged.



In 1993 **Carrie Paris** was jolted out of bed on the night her Grandmother, Caterina crossed over. This event inspired her to research and collect stories of mediums and spirit communication from around the world.

Since then Carrie created both the Relative Tarot and her latest casting kit, the Spirit Communication Kit, to help diviners anchor in medium and ancestral work with heart and smarts.

Carrie enjoys presenting her work globally, locally and online. She was in the first class to receive a Masters in the Cultural Study of Cosmology and Divination from the University of Kent, UK, is the creator of MyBirthCards.com, the Relative Tarot; Birth, Annual and Court Card Deck, the Magpie Oracle casting kits, the Sirens' Song Lenormand, Legendary Lenormand and is co-creator of the award winning Lenormand Revolution. Look for the release of Carrie's latest decks, the Tarot of the Sirens and the Dark Salon Lenormand to be released in 2017.

Secrets of a Card Reader

Instructor: George Koury

For beginners and pros alike. Bring your readings to life!

You will come away from this evening with great treasures. For those who aspire to read professionally, already do...or just want to read for themselves & friends.

Learn valuable secrets not found in any books or courses. These are simple gems, gleaned from years of reading and teaching Tarot professionally. When added to your readings, they can make the difference between dull or stilted readings and ones that are dynamic and truly helpful.

Here is a partial list of what you will come away with:

- THE most important part of the reading. Readers consistently overlook this. A simple step to improve your readings immediately!
- 3 easy things to do before a reading to ensure the best experience.
- Getting to know you. How to put yourself and those you read for at ease right away. (This is not NLP.)
- Before the reading starts. What to say. What not to say.
- The Magician's Spread. Insights into how to be a great reader.

Please bring a Tarot deck with you. Be prepared to have great fun and learn a lot!

George Koury is a Psychic Medium and Tarot reader. He got his first Tarot deck at age 16 and has been reading ever since. George teaches Tarot and other subjects. He works throughout the US and England and appears regularly on radio and television.



He is a guest instructor and demonstrator at Lily Dale, a 100 year-old village of Mediums in upstate New York. George has been a regular columnist for the "3rd I" a British magazine.

George began his work life as a professional clown with Ringling Brothers Circus. He was also an instructor for their Clown College.

He is respected for reading and teaching with love, compassion, accuracy, skill and a great sense of humor. He is dedicated to helping others lead happy and fulfilling lives.

Tarot Tools from Ancient African Oracles

Instructor: Andrew McGregor

People often suggest that tarot has ancient origins, but as we know history does not support this story. The divination systems used by Orisha practitioners on the other hand have been taught from one generation to the next for thousands of years.

This workshop will draw on approaches from both casting Obi, which involves throwing 4 pieces of coconut, and the system of using 16 cowries, called Dillogun, to share the most important aspects of divination – getting answers that help us evolve, solve problems, and find our happiness.

Though learning these systems themselves is really only for initiates there are tonnes of useful approaches within them that can be shared and that also apply to reading cards. Lukumi diviners are experts in crafting the question asked, giving yes/no answers, sorting what kinds of answers are possible, using proverbs to anchor the reading in the person's mind, and discerning between psychological and spiritual concerns. They are also predominantly solution-orientated and have a lot to say on what you need to know in order to find a solution.

Andrew McGregor's readings explore at the edge of old and new wisdom. They integrate magick, art, psychology, and science to help people find and live their whole selves. Andrew has been studying psychology and counselling for the last twenty years. Learning from modern western approaches, afro-cuban religious approaches, and western mystery traditions.



Andrew reads out of his store in Toronto, The Hermit's Lamp, and organizes a wide range of classes. He has published his own deck, Tarot Waiting to Happen, and two books on reading and living the cards. He also hosts a much acclaimed podcast.



April 27 – 30, 2017

Study Groups FAQ

Can anyone attend a Study Group?

You must be registered to attend Readers Studio and/or the Tarot & Psychology Conference. (Study Groups are not open to the general public.)

I'm only registered for RS17. May I still go on Thursday?
Yes!

I'm not coming in until Friday. Why can't they be held on Friday and Saturday nights instead?

We used to do that, but we discovered that Study Group instructors, staff and students were so concerned about making it to class on time that they couldn't enjoy the last part of the banquet. Saturday night is the height of social time so we added a dance, which has been a big hit!

Where are the Study Groups located?

In meeting rooms on the Lower Level. There will be signs by each door. The room assignments will also be listed in your program book. See the map for the exact locations.

What time are they?

9 – 11pm.

Why is there an extra charge?

Unlike some conferences, we pay our featured presenters. Our budget does not support paying an additional 12 instructors, but we feel they deserve compensation for the work they put into their classes. Rather than raise the price of the conference, which would affect all attendees — including people who don't wish to attend any Study Groups — having interested students pay the instructors directly works well for everyone.

They all look great! How can I possibly choose?

Here are a few suggestions:

- Pick the topic(s) that most interest you.
- Be adventurous and try something entirely new.
- Support a friend who is teaching.
- Accompany a new friend for a bonding experience.
- Ask the cards.

How can I teach a Study Group?

A call for proposals will be announced on the RS Facebook group page in mid-June. Slots are awarded on a first-come-first-served basis, provided all requirements are met. You'll find the Proposal Guidelines on the Readers Studio website. <http://ReadersStudio.com>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ReadersStudio>

ReadersStudio.com

