



LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATIONAL
SERVICES COMMITTEE

2025-2026 Course and Program Catalog

**New York
Masons**

WHERE MEN BUILD MEANING

Masonic Hall, 71 West 23rd St., New York, New York 10010



Prepared by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York through the
Leadership and Educational Services Committee and its Subcommittees
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Ver. 7.23.25

Assembled by Leadership and Educational Services
Right Worshipful Daniel J. Di Natale – Chairman
Right Worshipful Robert Drzewucki – Vice Chairmen – Education
Right Worshipful William Edwards – Vice Chairmen – Masonic Leadership Initiative

From the Chairmen

My Dear Brother,

The work of a Mason is never finished, for our quarry is the lifelong pursuit of light. The courses in these pages are not simply programs or requirements; they are opportunities to deepen understanding, strengthen our Lodges, and prepare us to serve the Craft with wisdom and integrity. Masonic education is not an end in itself—it is a living process that shapes character, sharpens leadership, and binds us more closely to one another. To study, to reflect, and to serve through these offerings is to honor the legacy of those who came before while preparing the way for those who will follow.

From the earliest days of our fraternity, Masons have understood that learning is a lifelong pursuit that deepens our bonds of Brotherhood and strengthens the Lodges we serve. The Lodge System of Masonic Education (LSOME), one of our oldest programs, reaches back to the 1920s and reminds us that education has always been at the heart of Masonry. Reimagined now for a new generation, it continues to guide candidates and Brethren alike, ensuring the journey through the Three Degrees is rich with reflection, mentorship, and growth. The Masonic Development Course 2.0 (MDC 2.0) expands this vision, offering a modernized, conversation-driven approach that supports both new and seasoned Masons in discovering deeper meaning in the Craft.

For those preparing to lead, the Road to the East (RTTE) and The Master's Chair provide the foresight and wisdom needed for Lodge leadership—programs designed not merely to occupy a station, but to cultivate vision, harmony, and decision-making rooted in Masonic values. The forthcoming Master's Roundtable will extend this preparation further, giving Worshipful Masters the tools to plan their year with clarity and confidence, supported by Brothers walking the same path.

Beyond leadership, our educational journey continues. The Master Scholars Program calls us to scholarship and reflection, challenging us to contribute to the living body of Masonic thought. Likewise, Your Work in the Quarry will provide comprehensive guidance to every officer of the Lodge, reminding us that the success of the whole rests upon the diligence of each part. Even our experience-based programs in Masonic culture and esoterica invite Brothers to gather in fellowship, explore profound questions, and engage in the timeless practice of shared discovery.

Together, these offerings embody the mission of Leadership and Educational Services: to equip Masons with the knowledge, skills, and vision to lead with integrity, uphold our traditions, and strengthen the bonds of Brotherhood. Each course, discussion, and moment of reflection is an opportunity not only to advance yourself but to build a stronger Lodge and a stronger Craft. In embracing this work, you join generations of Masons who have committed themselves to the quarry of learning—shaping not only stone, but character, and leaving a legacy of light for those who will come after.

I will see you in the quarry,

Bro. D

Right Worshipful Daniel J. Di Natale
Chairman
Leadership and Educational Services Committee
Grand Lodge of the State of New York



MASONIC
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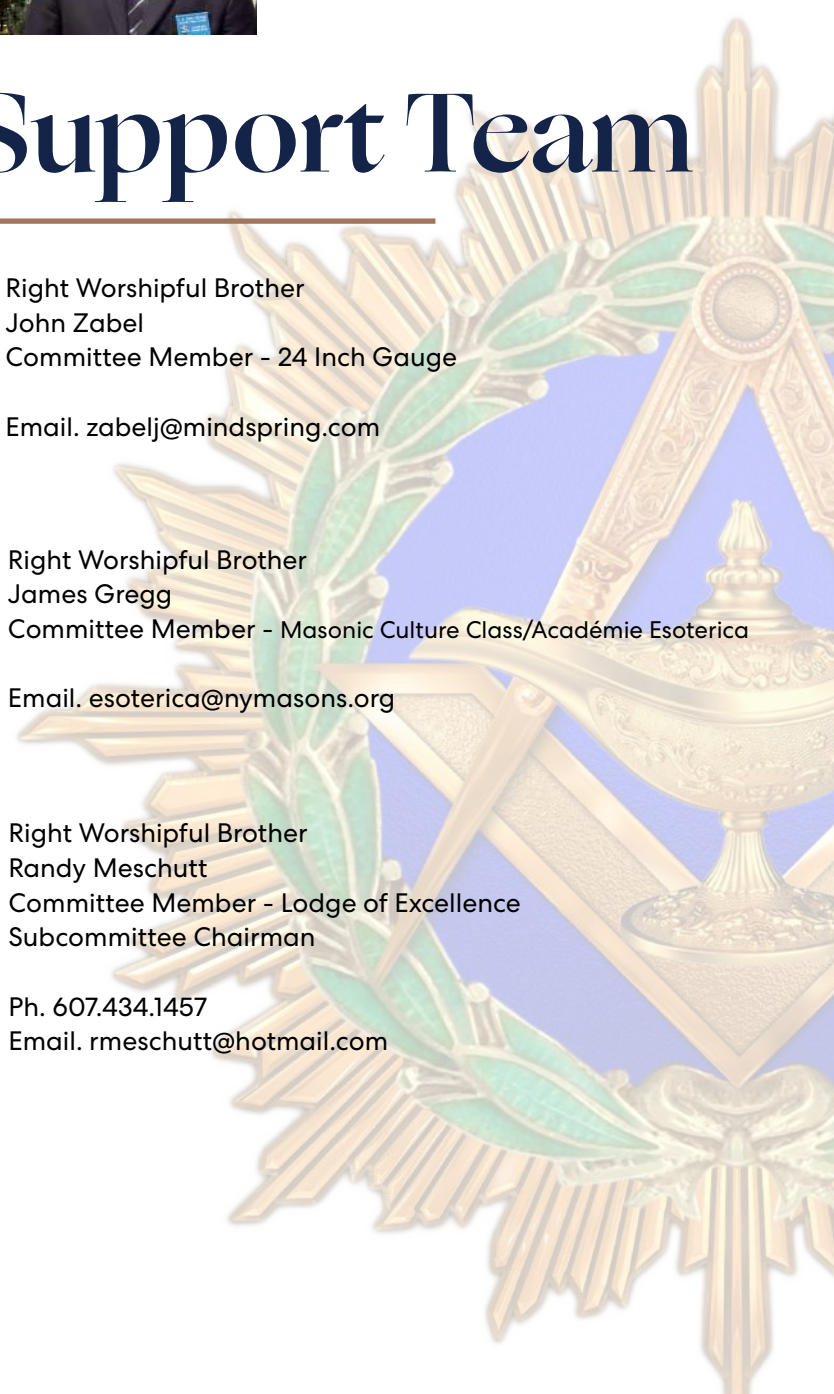
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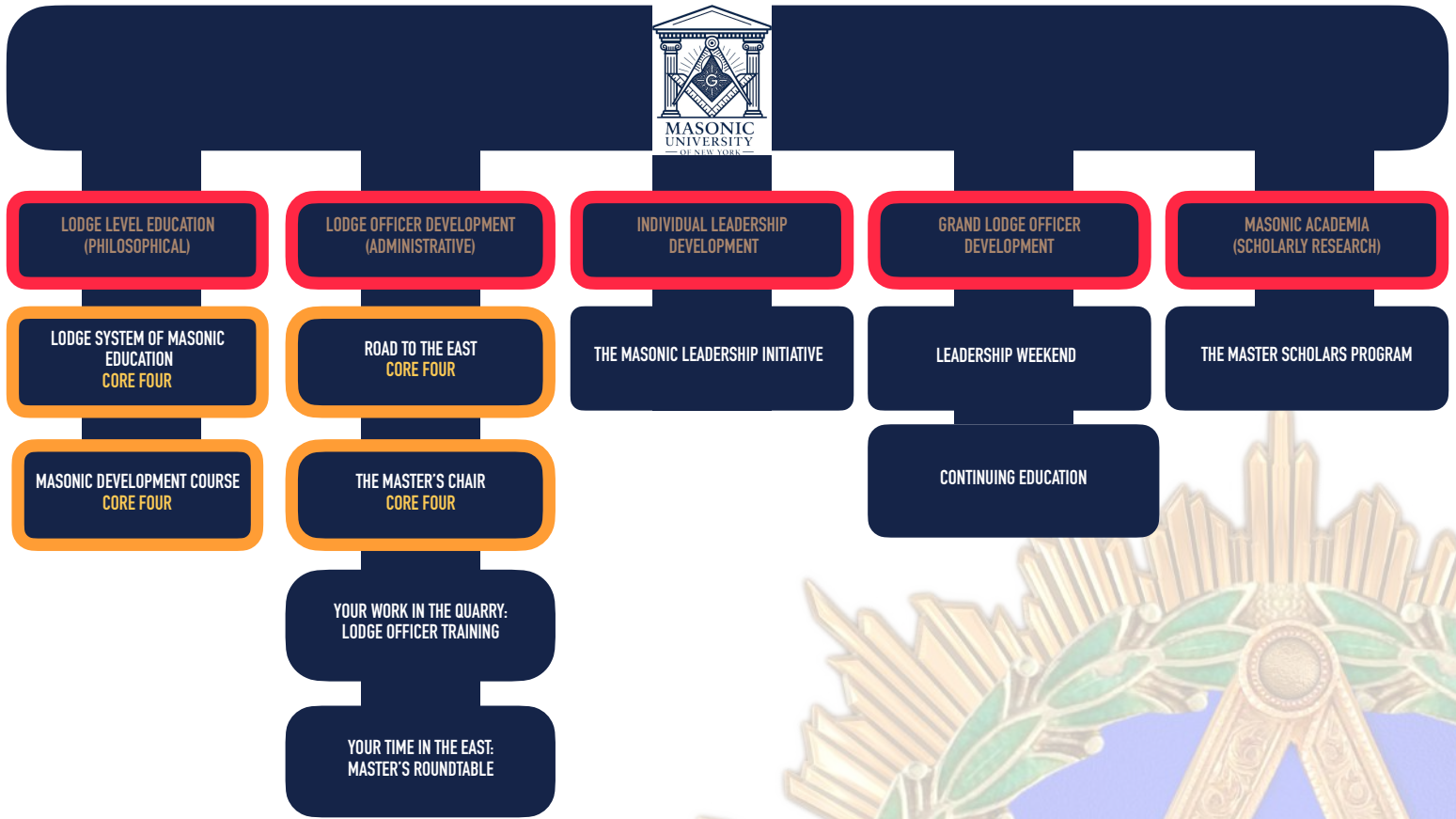
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Our Mission: The Leadership and Educational Services Committee is committed to developing strong Masonic leaders and fostering lifelong learning. Through training, mentorship, and educational programs, we equip members with the knowledge and skills to lead with integrity and uphold Masonic values. Our mission is to preserve and advance Masonic teachings, promote personal and professional growth, and strengthen the bonds of brotherhood within the fraternity.



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2025 Courses L and E

LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

HIRAM



ONLINE LEARNING



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Lodge of Excellence

Program Overview

The Lodge of Excellence Program, developed by the Leadership and Educational Services Committee of the Grand Lodge of New York, is designed to promote excellence in lodge operations by focusing on key areas critical to Masonic success and sustainability. Rooted in the core values of Freemasonry, the program encourages lodges to go beyond minimum requirements by excelling in categories such as Ritual, Education, Social Engagement, Communication, Charity, Administration, and Traveling.

Lodges earn points across these program areas—except Compliance, which is a mandatory requirement for participation. The goal is to support lodges in building strong, vibrant communities of Masons who are active, educated, and engaged, thereby strengthening the Craft and ensuring its future.

Program Categories

- Compliance (Required, 0 points): This is a mandatory prerequisite for participation. Lodges must be fully compliant with Grand Lodge regulations, including timely reporting, financial obligations, and adherence to Masonic Law. Non-compliance disqualifies a lodge from recognition.
 - Ritual (20 points): Lodges are evaluated on their ability to competently open, close, and confer all three degrees without outside assistance. Bonus points are available for smaller lodges (under 75 members), and the quality of protocol, etiquette, and candidate experience (including the Drama) are considered.
 - Social Engagement (20 points): This area recognizes lodges that build strong fraternal bonds through meals, post-meeting fellowship, family-oriented events, and social gatherings that include candidates and prospects.
 - Education (15 points): Points are awarded based on the completion of Masonic Development Courses (MDC), participation in advanced educational programs like the Road to the East and Master's Chair, regular presentations during meetings, and the quality of mentoring provided to new Brothers.
 - Communication (15 points): Lodges must demonstrate strong internal and external communication practices, including consistent outreach through texts, emails, social media, and the timely publication of Trestle Boards to engage members and the public.
 - Administration (15 points): This area encourages operational excellence through structured officer training and the separation of business/administrative functions from regular lodge meetings to ensure effectiveness and clarity in governance.
 - Charity & Community Service (10 points): Lodges are rewarded for actively supporting charitable and community initiatives, whether through financial contributions, volunteerism, or promotional efforts via media and social platforms.
 - Travel and Brotherly Interaction (5 points): Points are given for participation in district and Grand Lodge events, visiting other lodges, and fostering Masonic unity through travel and collaboration.
- Together, these areas form a strategic framework for lodges to strive for excellence, with the program offering both recognition and a pathway for continuous improvement. The Lodge of Excellence designation is more than an award—it is a testament to a lodge's vitality, commitment to tradition, and service to its members and community.



LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Masonic Leadership Initiative (MLI)



MASONIC LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE



The Masonic Leadership Initiative (MLI) is a groundbreaking leadership development program created for New York State Masons who are committed to personal growth and transformational leadership. Developed by the Grand Lodge of New York's Leadership and Educational Services Committee in partnership with the Excelsior Project of the New York State Council of Deliberation, AASR, NMJ, the MLI represents a first-in-the-nation collaboration between a Grand Lodge, the Maxwell Leadership organization, and the Scottish Rite. This historic partnership brings world-class leadership training — typically reserved for corporate executives — directly to the Craft, free of charge.

Its your Grand Lodge's investment in you.

At the core of the program is the globally acclaimed John Maxwell Leadership Methodology, a system rooted in values-based leadership, personal development, and ethical influence. Dr. John C. Maxwell, a best-selling author, speaker, and coach, was named the #1 leadership and management expert by Inc. Magazine and has trained millions across the globe. His principles, centered on integrity, service, and communication, resonate deeply with the Masonic ideals of self-improvement and building better communities.

Through the MLI, Brothers participate in virtual "Learn and Lead" sessions and statewide "Master Mind LIVE" workshops that explore powerful Maxwell titles like Developing the Leader Within You 2.0, Everyone Communicates, Few Connect, and Sometimes You Win, Sometimes You Learn. Certified Maxwell facilitators — who are also Masons — guide participants through practical, engaging, and impactful lessons that can be applied in the Lodge, in the home, and in professional life. Coupled with the Excelsior Project's library of online lectures and leadership media, the MLI equips Masons with the tools and inspiration to lead with excellence in every aspect of life.



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Masonic Culture Class

What is Masonic Experience based Education?

Not all education offered by Leadership and Education takes place in the classroom. Our Experience-Based programs create opportunities for Brothers to explore topics through open conversation and shared fellowship. By connecting participants directly with subject-matter experts, these sessions become engaging, thought-provoking, and deeply personal — a modern expression of the timeless Socratic tradition of learning together

Course Abstract

The Masonic Culture Class (MCC) was established to meet the evolving needs of brethren across the jurisdiction—especially current and aspiring Lodge officers. Developed by the MCC Committee, the education track features a rotating curriculum of interactive lectures, panel discussions, and skill-building workshops. Topics include lodge culture, operational best practices, leadership development, and personal growth. The goal of these classes is to inspire and prepare the next generation of Masonic leaders.

Audience

Available to all Masons throughout the State of New York. The Masonic Culture Classes are live education sessions which are available via online registration through Eventbrite, and recorded content can be accessed through the Grand Lodge Hiram Education Portal.



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Académie Esoterica



Course Abstract

Académie Esoterica was inspired by our Grand Master, Steven Adam Rubin, who wanted to bring the next level of education to the Brethren of New York. This course explores the deep roots of personal and spiritual development that are present Freemasonry; helping participants understand the patterns and customs of Western initiatic traditions that exist in our Craft, how they affect us physically, spiritually, and mentally, and how to use the mindstate of the Initiate to build a more perfect self. Through in-depth contemplation and discussion on the various aspects of ritual, this course helps the individual Brother to better understand his connection to Divinity, and how to achieve balance between their material and spiritual selves. Through both direct lectures and more open-style Salon discussions, this approximately 6 year course is designed to create a safe and sacred space for Brothers to explore the deeper and more profound concepts that are sparked from an esoteric view of our Masonic Work, and to understand how to apply that knowledge in their daily lives.

What is Masonic Experience based Education?

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Audience

Available to all Masons throughout the State of New York, with some restrictions for particular courses dealing with specific Degree content. Académie Esoterica live education sessions are available via online registration through Eventbrite, and recorded content can be accessed through the Grand Lodge Hiram Education Portal.



LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATIONAL
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Lodge System of Masonic Education (LSOME)



Course Abstract

The Lodge System of Masonic Education (LSOME) was one of the original educational programs developed by the Grand Lodge. As early as the 1920s, publications similar to the Short Talk Bulletins were widely circulated and used for Masonic instruction across generations. The program was reinvented in the 1990s with a popular video series and corresponding educational materials that brought renewed attention to its value. Now, LSOME is entering a new era as we modernize and redevelop its offerings to meet the evolving needs of today's Lodges. Stay tuned to what is coming as we build a LSOME for a new generation of Masons.

Time Expectations

LSOME is currently delivered in stages—beginning before petitioning and continuing before and after each Degree. It is intentionally designed to be a progressive experience, aligning with the Brother's journey through the Degrees.

LSOME is not a one-day session and is not intended to be delivered as such. Each individual session is meant to be brief, lasting approximately 30 to 45 minutes, including the accompanying video.

Audience : All Masons

Once LSOME is relaunched, it will provide tools to support Lodges and their programming—from the moment an interested man first knocks on the door, to when he becomes a seasoned Master Mason. In its current form, LSOME specifically focuses on guiding the candidate through the process of the three degrees, beginning with his initial inquiry and continuing through his journey in Freemasonry.

Course Requirements

While the use of LSOME in its current form is highly recommended, it is not mandatory. The videos included in LSOME are strongly encouraged for use throughout the degree process, as they offer valuable guidance and support. Additionally, the Northstar Project and the Grand Lodge Retention Program provide updated and insightful materials designed to enhance the mentoring experience and support candidate development.

Current Version

LSOME was updated in 1994, this is the only acceptable format.

Course Credit

Currently, LSOME course credit is reported to the Grand Lodge Staff Officer upon completion at the Lodge or district level. The Staff Officer will submit a Certification Letter to confirm completion. Once received, Grand Lodge will record the credit in Groupable and issue a certificate of completion to the participant.



LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATIONAL
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The Masonic Development Course (MDC 2.0)

Course Abstract

The Masonic Development Course 2.0 is a modernized and engaging approach to Masonic education designed to enhance the journey of new and seasoned Brothers. Built around meaningful conversations rather than reading comprehension MDC 2.0 emphasizes personal growth, reflection, and practical understanding of the Craft. It equips Entered Apprentices, Fellowcrafts, and Master Masons with a deeper connection to Masonic values through guided discussion, mentorship, and interactive learning. This updated course fosters Brotherhood, encourages active participation, and supports lifelong learning within the Lodge.

Time Expectations

Designed for the Newly Initiated

MDC 2.0 is specifically designed to accompany the pre- and post-Degree experience for new members as they progress through the Craft. For new Masons, it is not recommended to deliver the course in a single-day session. Instead, it should be presented as seven individual sessions, strategically aligned with the moments before and after each Degree.

Each session is intended to be conversational in nature and should not exceed 60 to 90 minutes in length, ensuring an engaging and manageable experience for both the candidate and the facilitator.

Delivery to Seasoned Members

It is highly recommended that both new and experienced Masons receive the MDC in the same format to ensure consistency and shared understanding.

If a separate session must be held—such as for experienced Brothers—two sessions of approximately four hours each may be sufficient due to the depth and volume of material. However, this condensed format is not recommended, as it may reduce the conversational and reflective nature of the course.

Audience: All Masons - Especially new members as they progress the Degrees.

All Masons, regardless of rank or station, are eligible to take the Masonic Development Course (MDC). The course is specifically designed to accompany the cycle of the Three Degrees, supporting a Mason's progress at every stage of his journey. It is suitable for both newly initiated Brothers and those who have long been part of the Craft.

Course Requirements

All those seeking to serve at the Grand Lodge level must complete the Masonic Development Course (MDC) prior to advancement - this must be the most current version of the course. Additionally, Masters of Lodges are required to complete the MDC prior to being elected to the East.

Current Version

The MDC 2.0 was updated in 2025 and this is the only acceptable format.

Course Credit

Course credit is granted to all who completed prior versions of the Masonic Development Course (MDC) before March 2025. For completions after that date, credit will only be granted to those who complete MDC 2.0.

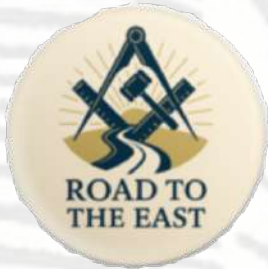
The MDC is designed to be delivered at both the Lodge level (strongly encouraged) and the district level. Upon completion, the Grand Lodge Staff Officer will submit a Certification Letter to confirm participation. Once received, Grand Lodge will record the credit in Groupable and issue a certificate of completion along with a commemorative pin.

Credit is permanent once granted. While retaking the course is encouraged for continued growth, there is currently no requirement to do so after successful completion.

Those seeking Grand Lodge office, appointed or elected, are required to have taken current course version.



LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATIONAL
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The Road to the East

(RTTE)

Course Abstract

The Road to the East is a cornerstone Masonic education course designed to prepare Brothers for leadership within the Lodge. Focused on the journey toward becoming Worshipful Master, the program explores the essential responsibilities of governance, ritual excellence, Lodge operations, and member engagement. Through structured lessons, practical tools, and guided discussion, participants develop the knowledge, confidence, and foresight needed to lead with purpose and uphold the traditions of Freemasonry. This course is often seen as a key step for those aspiring to take on greater roles within the Craft.

Time Expectations

The Road to the East (RTTE) is the most comprehensive administrative education course offered by Leadership and Educational Services. The curriculum is expansive and detailed, and as such, it cannot be effectively delivered in a single-day session.

Session planning tools provided to Grand Lodge Officers recommend dividing the course into either two six-hour sessions or three four-hour sessions to ensure proper pacing and participant engagement.

RTTE is a rigorous program that includes homework, reading assignments, and interactive activities. These elements require preparation outside the classroom to ensure participants gain the full benefit of the course.

Current Version

The RTTE was updated in 2024 and the 2024 version is the only acceptable formate.

Audience: Masters Masons Only

The Road to the East (RTTE) program is open to all Master Masons. It is specifically designed for those currently serving in, or aspiring to, **leadership and administrative roles** within the Lodge and beyond.

Course Requirements

All those seeking to serve at the Grand Lodge level must complete the Road to the East (RTTE) program prior to advancement, and it must be the most current version of the course. Additionally, Masters of Lodges are required to complete RTTE before being elected to the East. It is strongly recommended that any Brother taking the course for the first time while serving as a Lodge officer do so before assuming the role of Senior Warden, to ensure proper preparation for senior Lodge leadership.

Course Credit

Course credit is granted to all who completed prior versions of the Road to the East (RTTE) before March 2025. For completions after that date, credit will only be awarded to those who complete the current version of the course. Credit is granted to all Master Masons that complete the course.

RTTE is a Grand Lodge-sanctioned program and must be delivered by a current Grand Lodge Officer. Individual Lodges may not offer this course independently, and credit will not be granted for sessions not facilitated by a Grand Lodge Officer.

Upon completion, the facilitating Grand Lodge Officer will submit a Certification Letter to confirm participation. Grand Lodge will then record the credit in Groupable and issue a certificate of completion to the participant.

Once granted, credit is permanent. While retaking the course is encouraged for continued personal development, there is no requirement to repeat it after successful completion.

Those seeking Grand Lodge office, appointed or elected, are required to have taken current course version.



LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATIONAL
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The Master's Chair

Course Abstract

The Master's Chair is an advanced Masonic leadership course designed for incoming and current Worshipful Masters. This program delves into the practical, philosophical, and strategic dimensions of Lodge leadership, focusing on effective governance, ritual proficiency, conflict resolution, member engagement, and long-term Lodge vitality. It encourages Masters to think beyond the gavel—developing vision, fostering harmony, and building a sustainable future for their Lodges. Through discussion, mentorship, and real-world application, participants leave better prepared to serve with wisdom, dignity, and purpose in the East.

Time Expectations

The Master's Chair is designed to be interactive and conversational, presented within a lecture-style format. Unlike the Road to the East (RTTE), it is intended to be delivered in a single-day session, not to exceed six hours in total duration.

Audience : Newly elected Masers and Wardens

The Master's Chair is open to all Master Masons, with specific focus on Junior Wardens, Senior Wardens, and current Masters of Lodges.

Course Requirements

All those seeking to serve at the Grand Lodge level must complete the Master's Chair prior to advancement, and it must be the most current version of the course. Additionally, Masters of Lodge are required to have completed this course prior to the start of their term.

Current Version

The Master's Chair was updated in 2025 and the 2025 version is the only acceptable format.

Course Credit

Course credit is granted to all Wardens or Masters-Elect who complete The Master's Chair within one year prior to first ascending to the East.

If a Brother is re-elected to the East for multiple terms, it is encouraged—but not required—that he attend the current year's session. However, if a Brother has previously served as Master but did not complete the course within one year prior to his (re)election, he is required to retake it.

The Master's Chair is a Grand Lodge-sanctioned program and must be delivered by a current Grand Lodge Officer. Individual Lodges are not authorized to offer the course independently, and no credit will be granted for sessions not facilitated by a Grand Lodge Officer.

Upon completion, the facilitating Grand Lodge Officer will submit a Certification Letter to confirm participation. Grand Lodge will then record the credit in Groupable and issue a certificate of completion to the participant.

Once granted, credit is permanent, but it is only valid for service as Master of a Lodge if the course was completed within one year prior to ascending to the East.



LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATIONAL
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Coming in 2026

Your Time in the East: Master's Roundtable

Course Abstract

This interactive roundtable workshop is designed for incoming Worshipful Masters seeking to chart a successful and impactful year in the East. Using the Your Time in the East Degree Guide, Budget Guide, Official Visit, and Yearly Planning Workbook, participants will engage in facilitated discussion, peer learning, and hands-on planning exercises that transform intention into action. Topics will include crafting a compelling Trestleboard, executing meaningful degree work, building a sustainable budget, organizing lodge communications, and leading with purpose. Worshipful Masters will leave the session with a personalized annual plan, practical tools for execution, and a supportive network of peer leaders. This course is ideal for Masters-elect, first-time Worshipful Masters, and returning leaders looking to enhance their strategic approach to lodge governance and ritual excellence.

Time Expectations

The Master's Roundtable is a leader-led, interactive workshop and roundtable discussion designed to help incoming Worshipful Masters plan their upcoming year in the East. The session offers a structured environment for collaboration, idea-sharing, and strategic planning. While the duration may vary based on attendance, it is recommended that the session run for a minimum of four hours. Participants should arrive with a draft outline of their intended trestleboard for the year to ensure meaningful engagement and productive dialogue.

Current Version

The Master's Roundtable will launch for incoming Masters in 2026.

Audience: Newly elected Masers of Lodges and Wardens

The Master's Roundtable is for incoming Worshipful Masters, or perspective Wardens of Past Masters that will likely serve in the East in the next Lodge election cycle.

Course Requirements

Those who will be serving their Lodge as Master are required to attend this session as an extension of the Master Chair.

Course Credit

Course credit is granted to all Wardens or Masters-Elect who complete The Master's Chair within one year prior to first ascending to the East. If a Brother is re-elected to the East for multiple terms, it is recommended he attend each session of this course prior to the start of the Lodge's Masonic year. The Master's Roundtable is a Grand Lodge-sanctioned program and must be delivered by a current Grand Lodge Officer. Individual Lodges are not authorized to offer the course independently, and no credit will be granted for sessions not facilitated by a Grand Lodge Officer. Upon completion, the facilitating Grand Lodge Officer will submit a Certification Letter to confirm participation. Grand Lodge will then record the credit in Groupables for the year completed. Once granted, credit is permanent, but it is only valid for service as Master of a Lodge if the course was completed within one year prior to ascending to the East.



LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATIONAL
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Limited Offering 2025

The Master Scholars Program



Course Abstract

Designed to develop Masonic thinkers, writers, and researchers, the program mirrors graduate-level academic rigor with structured readings, mentor guidance, and graded scholarly analyses. Participants will progress through five certification levels, culminating in a publishable research project and the distinguished title of Master Scholar, reaffirming Freemasonry as a lifelong pursuit of light and learning.

Program Overview

Highlights

- The Master Scholars Program includes three academic levels with required and elective work
- Receive mentorship from experienced Masonic scholars to guide your academic journey
- Earn Masonic Education Units (MEUs) and receive a certificate upon completion of each level
- Complete a final capstone project to earn the title of Masonic Scholar

Three Certification Levels

- Level I – Critically analyze and produce 1 required Masonic Publication
- Level II – Critically analyze and produce written assessments of 3 required and 5 elected Masonic Publications
- Level III – Critically analyze and produce written assessments of 3 required and 5 elected Masonic Publications
- Level IV – Critically analyze and produce written assessments of 5 Required Masonic Publications and 4 elected, submit a final research paper, and earn the title Master Scholar

Elective MEU Opportunities

- Earn MEUs through additional book analyses, article reviews, and reflections on Masonic events.
- Whether your passion lies in Masonic history, philosophy, symbolism, or ritual, this is your opportunity to pursue serious Masonic scholarship and contribute meaningfully to our Grand Lodge's body of Craft knowledge.

Learn More & Stay Informed

Email: MasonicUniversity@nymasons.org



LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATIONAL
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Coming in 2026

Your Work in the Quarry

Course Abstract

Launching in 2026, Your Work in the Quarry is a comprehensive Masonic officer education course designed to prepare Brethren for leadership within the Lodge. This program will provide an in-depth study of the roles, responsibilities, and best practices required of each elected and appointed officer. Through structured instruction, practical guidance, and discussions rooted in Masonic tradition, participants will gain the tools needed to serve their Lodge with confidence, competence, and dedication. The course emphasizes not only the duties of office but also the collaborative spirit necessary for the success of the Lodge as a whole.



Audience: Lodge Officers

Your Work in the Quarry is designed for all Lodge officers, both elected and appointed—from the Senior Warden through the line—as well as the Secretary, Treasurer, and Trustees. It also serves Brothers who wish to better understand how these roles function as they prepare for future service.



Course Requirements

Brothers, whether newly elected or long-serving in their office, are strongly encouraged to attend this learning session to gain a clearer understanding of their responsibilities. While attendance is not currently mandatory, it is highly recommended.



Course Credit - Tentative

Course credit is granted to all Master Masons who attend. Participation is not limited to those elected or appointed to office — all Master Masons are welcome.

Your Work in the Quarry is a Grand Lodge-sanctioned program and must be delivered by a current Grand Lodge Officer, assisted by experienced Past Masters or tenured officers serving in the role being presented. Individual Lodges are not authorized to offer the course independently, and no credit will be granted for sessions not facilitated by a Grand Lodge Officer.

Upon completion, the facilitating Grand Lodge Officer will submit a Certification Letter confirming participation. Grand Lodge will then record the credit in Groupable for the year completed. Once granted, credit is permanent. However, it is strongly encouraged that Brothers retake the class if elected or appointed to a role they have not held within the past three years.

Time Expectations

Your Work in the Quarry is designed to be delivered in dedicated sessions for each Lodge officer position. Each session is dynamic, combining lecture and activity-based learning, and will generally require no more than four hours for most officers. Sessions for the Secretary, Treasurer, and Trustees may require additional time due to the complexity of their responsibilities and the varying experience levels of the participants.

Current Version

Your Work in the Quarry will launch for incoming Officers in 2026.



LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATIONAL
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Leadership Weekend

The Grand Lodge of New York's Yearly Personal Development Summit



Event Description

Leadership Weekend is the premier annual personal development summit of the Grand Lodge of New York, held at the historic Masonic Care Community in Utica. This transformative weekend brings together Brothers from across the state for an immersive experience of growth, learning, and fellowship. Leadership Weekend is designed to sharpen skills, broaden perspectives, and renew purpose. Through keynote sessions, interactive workshops, and shared dialogue, participants are challenged to reflect on their own leadership journey while gaining practical tools to strengthen their Lodges, districts, and communities. Beyond the curriculum, the weekend provides space for inspiration, connection, and the kind of fellowship that reminds us why we lead: to serve with wisdom, compassion, and vision. Leadership Weekend is more than a training—it is a celebration of Masonic brotherhood and a call to action for every participant to return home empowered to lead with light.

Time Expectations

Leadership Weekend is held annually, typically in March, as a two-day summit spanning Friday and Saturday. The program is designed to be intensive and highly interactive, with each day consisting of 6 to 8 hours of sessions, workshops, and fellowship. This immersive format ensures that participants are fully engaged in both learning and leadership development throughout the weekend.

Audience: Grand Lodge Officers or Aspiring Leadership

Leadership Weekend is an invitational summit, mandatory for all currently serving Grand Lodge Officers. Select Brothers from outside the appointed or elected Grand Lodge may also be invited, recognizing their leadership and potential. This blend ensures the event prepares future officers while inspiring Brothers across the jurisdiction.

Course Requirements

The Grand Lodge provides all meals and educational materials for the sessions. Travel and lodging arrangements, however, are the responsibility of the attending Brothers.

Course Credit

Credit is awarded to all Grand Lodge Officers who attend Leadership Weekend. In cases where health, family, or business obligations prevent attendance, a Brother may request an excusal from Grand Lodge Leadership. Attendance is actively recorded and verified by the Leadership & Educational Services Committee, which maintains official records of participation. Following the conclusion of the program, attendance reports are submitted to Grand Lodge Leadership for confirmation and archival. The conference is held yearly and Grand Lodge Officers are expected to attend.



LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATIONAL
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Continuing Education

Leadership Development Throughout Your Term of Service and Beyond



Time Expectations

Continuing Education sessions take many forms, depending on the needs of the current leadership body. Live, in-person sessions are typically held at regional locations within a day's drive and rarely exceed six hours in length. Online sessions are designed to be short, focused, and impactful, generally lasting no more than 45 minutes. There is no fixed number of sessions each year; instead, the schedule is determined by what will best serve the ongoing development of Grand Lodge leadership.

Event Description

The Lodge for Continuing Masonic Education is a Grand Lodge initiative dedicated to the lifelong learning and development of Grand Lodge Officers. Established under the direction of Leadership and Educational Services, this program provides structured opportunities for Brothers to deepen their understanding of operations, administration, leadership skills, and Masonic Ritual. Through courses, workshops, and discussion forums, the Grand Lodge Leadership teams fosters a culture of study and reflection, ensuring that education remains at the heart of the Craft. By engaging in continuing Masonic education, Brothers not only enrich their personal journeys but also strengthen their Lodges and communities, preparing themselves to lead with wisdom and integrity.

Audience: Grand Lodge Officers or Aspiring Leadership

Continuing Education is mandatory for all currently serving Grand Lodge Officers. Past Grand lodge officers are also encouraged to attend. Select Brothers from outside the appointed or elected Grand Lodge may also be invited, recognizing their leadership and potential. This blend ensures the event prepares future officers while inspiring Brothers across the jurisdiction.

Course Requirements

The Grand Lodge provides all meals (when offered) and educational materials for the sessions. Travel arrangements remain the responsibility of the attending Brothers. In most cases, when events are held in person, they are scheduled at regional centers to minimize travel burdens and typically do not require an overnight stay.

Course Credit

Credit is awarded to all Grand Lodge Officers who participate in Continuing Education sessions. Unlike a single set program, these sessions may take different forms—periodic online learning modules, assigned readings with assessments, or live regional workshops. The purpose is to provide flexibility while ensuring every officer continues their personal and leadership development. The annual conference remains the cornerstone event of the program, and Grand Lodge Officers are expected to attend as part of their duty to the Craft. In cases where health, family, or business obligations prevent participation, a Brother may request an excusal from Grand Lodge Leadership. Attendance at all sessions is actively recorded and verified by the Leadership & Educational Services Committee, which maintains the official records. Upon completion of each program, attendance reports are submitted to Grand Lodge Leadership for confirmation and archival.

New York Masons

Right Worshipful Brother
Daniel J. Di Natale

CHAIRMAN

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GRAND LODGE OF
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK



August 2, 2025

TO: All regular Masons of the Grand Jurisdiction of New York, Not for Social Media Distribution

Greetings Brother, and welcome to HIRAM!

The Hiram System is a Learning Management System (LMS) developed to support your Masonic journey. It contains a wide array of courses and reference materials essential for developing a deeper understanding of New York Freemasonry. In addition to educational content, Hiram serves as a comprehensive documentation and forms library, providing quick access to procedures, operational guides, degree conferral protocols, and best practices regarding Masonic decorum.

You will also find resources geared toward District Officers, leadership development, and other areas of Masonic work that will continue to expand over time.

As a newly raised Master Mason, it is customary for your District Staff Officer or his appointee to enroll you in one of the upcoming Masonic Development Courses (MDC) scheduled in your District. The MDC is a vital next step after receiving the Three Degrees of Masonry and studying with the Brothers of your Lodge. It deepens your understanding of the forms and ceremonies of the Craft, and introduces you to the esoteric and philosophical teachings that enrich our ritual work and Masonic experience.

The Hiram System operates similarly to learning platforms used by colleges, universities, and professional training programs—particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, when LMS platforms became essential in delivering education remotely. Today, most major employers also use LMS systems for onboarding, compliance, and continuing education.

While the need for pandemic-era remote learning has eased, the value of flexible and accessible learning endures. The Grand Lodge of New York recognizes that this technology enhances convenience, availability, and efficiency for Brothers with varied work, family, and Lodge responsibilities.

Hiram enables Brothers to engage with instructional material and media at their own pace, making better use of in-person class time for discussion and reflection. It supports both individual study and structured group learning, helping you build a stronger foundation in the ritual and teachings of Freemasonry.

The Grand Lodge of the State of New York has adopted the Hiram System to bring our educational resources into the modern age. It ensures that all Brothers—especially those newly raised—have access to the tools needed to grow in knowledge, understanding, and proficiency in the Craft.

Welcome once again. Your journey of Masonic light continues here.



Here are the key aspects of learning through the Hiram System (the Learning Management System (LMS) of the Grand Lodge of New York):

1. Centralized Educational Platform

HIRAM is a custom-built LMS by New York Masons, for New York Masons, combining course delivery, reference materials, and forms into one unified, modern platform

2. Structured Course Pathways

The platform includes various tiers of learning, such as the Masonic Development Course (MDC) 2.0, which consists of seven core modules organized around each degree (Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, Master Mason), including pre- and post-Degree sections, and a Personal Trestleboard section

3. Instructor-Led & Limited Self-Paced Learning

HIRAM is designed for instructor-led group instruction, blended with self-paced reading and quizzes. After receiving a course key from your District Staff Officer, you'll register, complete an introduction quiz, and track your progress through the system

4. Rich Content Library

HIRAM hosts a wide range of media—including recorded presentations such as Masonic Culture Classes and other recorded lectures—enabling continual learning and leadership development

5. Tools for Lodge Operations & Ritual Practice

In addition to ritual forms, the system provides access to operational resources and decorum guidelines to help with Lodge functions, degree conferral best practices, and governance procedures

6. Learning Progress Tracking & Quizzes

Learners register using their district-issued course key, complete a sample quiz, then follow guided modules with built-in assessments. HIRAM tracks completion status, quiz results, and progress to help both students and instructors monitor achievement

7. Continuous Updates & Expanding Content

The Grand Lodge is committed to building and enhancing HIRAM's offerings over time—adding new courses and resources regularly. Users are encouraged to check back often for updates

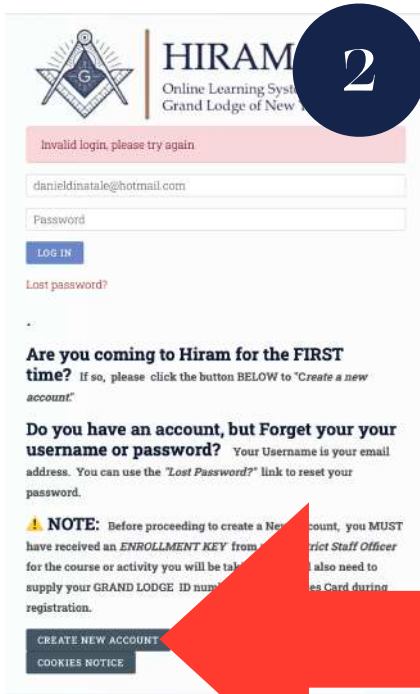
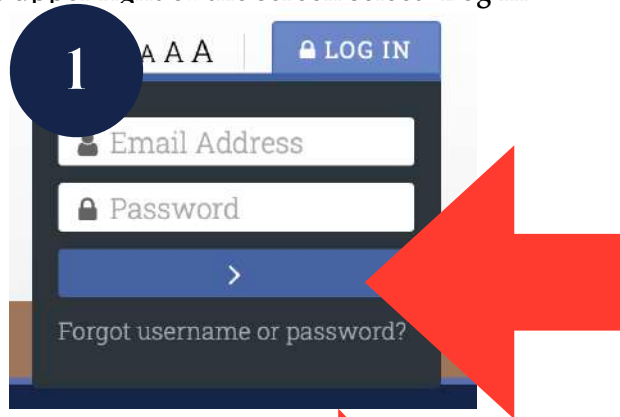
8. Integration with Leadership Training

Through partnerships like the Masonic Leadership Institute (MLI) and Maxwell Leadership curriculum, HIRAM also supports leadership training—such as Learn & Lead Sessions and internal logistics for Master Mind LIVE workshops held across New York



Hiram Enrollment Instructions

1. Editable template for minutes are located via HIRAM under "Lodge Resource"
2. Follow the QR code below or <https://hiram.nymasons.org/moodle/>
3. First time users need to register. In the upper right of the screen select "Log In"
4. Click blue arrow button (Dia. 1)
5. Click "create new account". (Dia 2)
6. Follow Arrows on Diagram 3.



YOUR EMAIL IS YOUR USER NAME

GENERAL KEY MM2024

CLICK TO CREATE

New account

Email Address

The password must have at least 8 characters, at least 1 digit(s), at least 1 *, ., or #

Password

Enrolment key

Email address

Email (again)

First name

Surname

City/town

Country
United States

Masonic Info

Grand Lodge ID

Masonic District (Primary)
Choose...

CREATE MY NEW ACCOUNT CANCEL

Our Vision

As New York Masons, we bring men of integrity together in brotherhood. Our common bond is the shared belief that every man can-and should- step into his best self and make a difference in the lives of others.

Our Core Principles



Brotherly Love: Fraternity is our backbone and our lifeline. We sustain each other with unwavering support, push each other toward excellence, care for each other's loved ones in times of need, and embrace our many differences.



Relief: We cannot grow as individuals or as brothers if we let those around us fall. Acts of charity, community service, and good deeds are expressions of our love for humanity and a path to self-improvement.



Truth: Wisdom is a precursor to excellence. We are steadfast in our pursuit of education and the free and open exchange of ideas in order to gain the knowledge and insights we need to be better leaders, community members, and countrymen.