**Prophecy, Divination, and Faith Healing**

“Religious” services on cable TV and after-dark infomercials steal billions of dollars from the gullible in our society promising healing, financial largesse, and advice on people’s love lives and futures.

Although their success rate is dismal, the money continues to pour in!

Why are people so committed to embracing such nonsense as faith healing, financial guruism, psychic predictions, and the like?

Magician and critical thinker **James Randi** has investigated the claims of hundreds of psychics, pseudoscientists and other purveyors of flim-flam, and has devoted his life to sharing his conclusions with millions through his many TV appearances, lectures, and writings.

**PAST SPEAKERS**

- Dr. Anthony Pratkanis
  *Selling FlimFlam*

- Dr. Eugenie Scott ([www.NCSE.org](http://www.NCSE.org))
  *Evolution vs. Creationism*

- Dr. Philip Zimbardo (Emeritus Professor, Stanford University)
  *The Lucifer Effect*

- Brian Dunning ([www.Skeptoid.com](http://www.Skeptoid.com))
  *Health Scams and Myths*

- Fran and Kim Peek
  *The Real Rain Man*

- Dr. Michael Shermer ([www.Skeptic.com](http://www.Skeptic.com))
  *Why People Believe Weird Things*

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- Why do people believe hoaxes?
- How are paranormal and pseudoscientific claims illusions?
- How are paranormal claims challenged?

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**James Randi**

**Prophecy, Divination, and Faith Healing**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 2012**

**7:00 PM**

$15 General
$10 with Student ID

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**This talk was made possible by a generous grant from the Associated Students of Ohlone College.**

For more information about the Ohlone College Psychology Club, visit: [ohlone.edu/psychology/speakerseries](http://ohlone.edu/psychology/speakerseries)

Ohlone College Psychology Department
[ohlone.edu/psychology](http://ohlone.edu/psychology)
"I regard Randi as a national treasure. One of the few remaining antidotes that may prevent the rotting of the American mind." Arthur C. Clarke

James Randi is a retired professional magician (The Amazing Randi), an author, a lecturer, and a tireless investigator of spurious and extraordinary claims. He is the founder of the James Randi Educational Foundation (JREF) which offers $1 million to anyone who can show, under proper observing conditions, evidence of any paranormal, supernatural, or occult power or event. After hundreds of attempts by various people to date, the prize remains unclaimed.

Randi is a world-renowned magician and escape artist, and has had his own TV specials in the U.S., Australia, Belgium, Canada, England and several other countries. He was a founding member of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal (CSICOP), a group devoted to the examination of para-normal, occult, and supernatural claims. Randi is the media's go-to guy on such claims, and serves the public through his column "Twas Brillig" as well as his SWIFT newsletter published through the JREF. That organization provides educational information, offers prizes and scholarships to students, conducts seminars and workshops, and funds and originates selected original parapsychological research. Randi hosts a conference — The Amazing Meeting — annually which features international speakers on a variety of topics in science and skepticism.

A SAMPLE OF JAMES RANDI’S AWARDS & HONORS:
- Visiting Magician of the Year, Academy of Magical Arts & Sciences (1977)
- Humanist Distinguished Service Award, American Humanist Association (1990)
- Isaac Asimov Lecturer, Asimov Seminar of the Rensselaer Institute of New York (1992)
- "Secrets of the Psychics" debut broadcast, PBS-TV "NOVA" (1993)
- Degree Honoris Causa, Doctor of Humane Letters, University of Indianapolis (1995)
- Named "One of the 100 Best People in the World," Esquire Magazine (1997)
- Presented with "Distinguished Lecturer" Award, Nova Southeastern University (2000)
- Presented with First Annual Richard Dawkins Award, Atheist Alliance International (2003)

Please visit the James Randi Educational Foundation at www.Randi.org

RANDI IS THE AUTHOR OF NUMEROUS BOOKS, INCLUDING:
- Flim-Flam! The Truth About Unicorns, Parapsychology & Other Delusions
- The Truth About Uri Geller
- The Faith Healers
- An Encyclopedia of Claims, Frauds, and Hoaxes of the Occult and Supernatural

EVENT PARKING
The most convenient parking for the Smith Center is in lots B, C, D, and E. Event parking is allowed with a semester parking pass or a one-day permit. Disabled parking is located in lot U above the Smith Center with a parking pass or permit. If you do not have a semester permit, you must purchase a $2 daily permit which is available from vending machines in parking lots C and D.
It is possible to drop your party off closer to the theater at Key B, and then rejoin them after parking the car.

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