

2017 Edition

Arisia

Family-Friendly Guide



Welcome to Arisia!

Whether this is your 10th year coming to Arisia, or your first time attending a con, attending with your family is a wonderful experience. Here are some things you should know:

The following is a summary of Arisia's Youth Policies, which can be found at <http://2017.arisia.org/youthpolicies>

CHILDREN UNDER 12:

- Ages 2-6 with full-paid membership and preregistration: Can attend Turtle Track (Childcare)
- Ages 6-12 can attend Fast Track Panels (see the Pocket Program).
- Children under 6 are welcome in Fast Track with a parent.
- Kids without paid membership can be a **Kid-in-Tow (KIT)**.

NOTE: Arisia Policy: one adult per three KITs.

- Under 8 must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

ROAMING RIBBONS:

- For children aged 9-12
- Paid Membership & Green Ribbon = allowed to roam on their own
- Paid Membership & Red Ribbon = no roaming without grownup
- Free-Roaming privileges can be revoked due to repeated inappropriate-behavior (see website for full details).

Turtle Track Location: See Ops Desk for location (Stone 2W)

Fast Track Location: Webster and Hancock Rooms (Lobby Level). See Pocket Program and handout for hours and programming.

Teen Lounge: A teen-run space dedicated for the teenage fan to hang out with others aged 13-20 only. Located in room 466/467. Hours: Fri 4-10, Sat/Sun 10-10, Mon 10-12pm.

Teen Unconference: A group of panels designed for teens, by teens. Information can be found in the hallway outside the Commonwealth Ballrooms on the Concourse level.

USEFUL INFORMATION

What is it?	Where is it?	What should I know?
The Watch (Security)	Stone 2W	Ext. 2252
• Text & Voice		617-858-9364
Lost & Found	Westin Front Desk	
Info Desk	Lobby Near Elevators	
Teen Lounge	466/467	Ages 13-20
Fast Track	Hancock/Webster (2W)	Ages 6-12
Turtle Track (Childcare)	See Ops for location (Stone 2W)	Ages 2-6

Youth Services Leadership/Contact Email

- Fast Track Area Head: Aimee Bouchard
fasttrack@arisia.org
- Turtle Track Area Head: Rev. Ocean Thundermoon
babysitting@arisia.org
- Teen Lounge Area Head: Lilia DeAngelis & Rheanna Early,
- Imogen Watts, Susan Fabijanic
teenlounge@arisia.org
- Teen Unconference: Catherine Borroughs
- Teen Unconference Advisor: Taylor Hartwin
- Division Head: Nicole Robinson
youth-services@arisia.org
- Assistant Division Head: Mieke Citroen
- Assistant Con Chair over Youth Services: Kris Pelletier
- Arisia 2017 Con Chair: Anna Bradley

On-Going Items



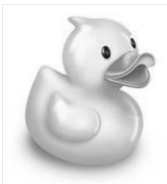
Arisia Art Show Harbor Ballroom II/III (3E) . Be sure to remind the young ones to look, but not touch!

Anime, Griffin (2W) and **Video**, Revere (2W). The full schedule, movie descriptions, and ratings are located in the Pocket Program.



Gaming—Tabletop Harbor I (3E). Scheduled games are listed in the Pocket Program. There are also open tables that can be reserved for a game.

Gaming—Video Carlton (3E). Families can find, and try, age appropriate games, and learn about different games and platforms. The older players and Game Underground (who runs the room) are very knowledgeable and patient with the little ones. Open 10am to 1am. Under 12 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.



Be on the lookout for rubber ducks around the hotel! If you find one of the waterfowl hidden for the annual **Duck Hunt** , bring it to Team Arisia Headquarters (Quincy) and get a reward!

MUSIC AT ARISIA

Filking, concerts, and dances, oh my! Consult the Program for musical-themed events and Programming.



Family-Friendly Programs & Events

This is not a complete list, just a guide to highlight some items you may not have considered for your family . If noted, see the Pocket Program for more information.

Friday

Fast Track Open Play Time

5:30 PM

Meet other kids and the Fast Track crew as we warm up for the weekend.

Hancock

Video Gaming Open Free Play

5:30 PM

Under 12 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Carlton

Drum & Dance

11:00 PM

Kids welcome if attending with adults

Grand Ballroom A

Saturday

Classic Cartoons

7:00 AM

(see Pocket Program for Details)

Arisia TV

Geeky Play Date

8:30 AM

See back of guide for details

Webster

Parents with Infants & Toddlers Meetup

10:00 AM

(see Pocket Program for Details)

Otis

Walk the Labyrinth

10:00 AM

Commonwealth ABC

Family Friendly Renaissance Dance

11:30 AM

Come learn Renaissance-era dances!

Commonwealth ABC

Family-Friendly Programs & Events

Saturday cont'd.

Fighting with Swords!

Come watch sword demonstrations

12:30 PM

Grand Ballroom A

Kamikaze Costuming

(see Pocket Program for Details)

1:00 PM

Webster

Chantey Sing!

(see Pocket Program for Details)

1:00 PM

Commonwealth ABC

"What's Good Y'all?" YA & All-Ages Comics

(see Pocket Program for Details)

2:30 PM

Marina 4

Princess Bride: Shadowcast Performance

(see Pocket Program for Details)

4:30 PM

Grand Ballroom CD

NERF Gun War

(see Pocket Program for Details)

5:30 PM

Webster

Family Friendly Pizza Party

\$5/person, come meet other fen families!

6:00 PM

906/907

Belly Dance Show

The floor in front of the stage will be cleared for little ones and their parents.

7:00 PM

Grand AB

Open Singing

Come listen and/or make music at this un-themed song circle!

10:00 PM

Paine

Family-Friendly Programs & Events

Sunday

Classic Cartoons

(see Pocket Program for Details)

7:00 AM

Arisia TV

Geeky Play Date

See "Youth Services Program" section for details.

8:30 AM

Webster

Kubo and the Two Strings

Great movie for the Family to start the day!

9:15 AM

Revere

Video Gaming Free Play

10:00 AM

Carlton

Fun and Games with Greykell

Come and get childish with our Fan Guest of Honor! We even have a parachute!

10:00 AM

Grand Ballroom CD

Walk the Labyrinth

10:30 AM

Commonwealth

Batman '66

Campy Caped Crusader Classic!

11:00 AM

Revere

Singing in the Pool

Sing along with the bouncy Rubber Ducky!

11:30 AM

Pool

Swordswomen Through the Ages

Discussion and demonstration of historical sword-fighting!

12:00 PM

Grand B

Family-Friendly Programs & Events

Sunday cont'd.

International Folk Dance

All dances taught

1:00 PM

Grand Ballroom ABC

Children's Filk Concert

(see Pocket Program for Details)

1:00 PM

Webster

How to Train Your Dragon

4:40 PM

Arisia TV

Ursula Vernon Book Signing

Come get your book signed by the Guest of Honor!

5:30 PM

Concourse

Introduction to Puppetry

A brief history of puppets, Discussion and questions

7:00 PM

Marina 4

Masquerade Viewing Party & Potluck

Come let the kids run around and play while adults watch the Masquerade on ArisiaTV!

7:00 PM

906/907

Star Wars, 2017 Edition

(see Pocket Program for Details)

8:30 PM

Marina 2

Puppetry Slam

(see Pocket Program for Details)

9:30 PM

Grand Ballroom AB

Family-Friendly Programs & Events

Monday

Classic Cartoons

(see Pocket Program for Details)

7:00 AM

Arisia TV

Geeky Play Date

(see Pocket Program for Details)

8:00 AM

Webster

Pokemon Go! Meetup

(see Pocket Program for Details)

11:30 AM


Paine

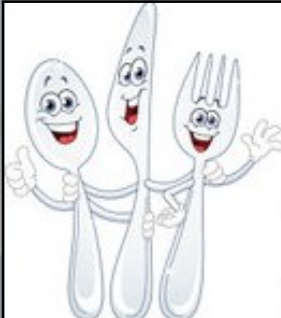
Dead Dog Open Filk

One Last Chance to sing, play, or listen

2:30 PM

Paine

	<p>HOTEL POOL HOURS</p> <p>Fri-Mon</p> <p>8AM—3AM</p> <p>Located on Mezzanine Level</p>
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	<p>Dining Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have snacks on hand for the kids.• The Con Suite (1E) is a place for snacks, not full meals.• MJ O'Connors has a great kids' menu!
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Youth Services Programs

Turtle Track (Childcare for ages 2-6)

Given the large number of families who come to Arisia, we are happy to be able to provide programming for our youngest fans. By prior registration, we provide supervised childcare for those too young to enjoy the convention on their own. All children using this service must have special Turtle Track memberships to the convention.

1. Who staffs Turtle Track?

On every shift you will find staff that are either professional child care providers or parents. There are a few teen volunteers, but every teen is paired with an adult and ratios of child to staff are designed to follow state mandates (which means there won't be more than 5 kids to any staff member).

2. Can I stay with my child?

Parents are ALWAYS welcome in Turtle Track. You are not required to leave your child nor are you committed to have your child with us every moment we're open; YOU set the pace for how much or little time your child spends with us - no one knows your Little One better!

3. What happens at Turtle Track?

Turtle Track is not a place where we hold kids hostage so parents have an opportunity to explore Arisia - Turtle Track is part of Arisia! There is a daily schedule of events with everything from Arts & Crafts to Yoga and Story Time. We are aware that Turtle Toddlers have short attention spans and have created the schedule to avoid overwhelming them. Again, the Quiet Room is also always staffed and always available. Further, there are usually two events taking place so a Turtle Toddler can opt for either one.

4. What happens if my toddler is cranky/sick/sad?

The policies for Turtle Track are handed out to caregivers when they bring in a Turtle Toddler for the very first time. Every childcare session will include a Quiet Room. This room will be used for children who need to relax in a mellower environment, children who miss parents/caregivers, children who are interacting with difficulty or children who are not feeling well. PLEASE be aware, in the case of prolonged crying, illness or violence toward staff or children, parent/caregivers will be contacted promptly. "Promptly" is subject to interpretation, but the guidelines are dictated by how inconsolable the child is and how the child's expression of emotion is impacting other Turtle Toddlers.

Turtle Track cont'd.

5. Does my toddler get fed at all?

We have formal Snack Time but we certainly wouldn't starve a hungry Turtle; they get snappy when they're hungry! Snacks will be made available at other times if needed. The staff is very concerned with good health so you can feel confident your child/ren will eat well while in our company – no high fructose corn syrup or red dye #72! There is, of course, one small exception to this (we like to make candy necklaces....and then EAT them!!) but for the most part, your lil' darlin' will be enjoying dried fruit, trail mix and organic, free range cookies. Parents are welcome to leave favorite munchies for their own Turtles, and are encouraged to do so in the case of particular dietary concerns.

PLEASE NOTE: Turtle Track is a nut-free zone to ensure the safety and health of our future fen.

6. Besides the schedule of events, what else can I expect for my child?

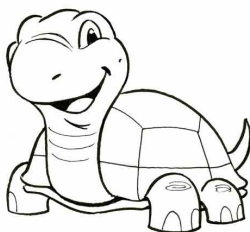
We have toys for our Turtle Toddlers, too, so they can take advantage of our "free play" times: blocks, trucks, dolls, tea sets, dinosaurs and animals and such.

7. What about security? I don't want my child being given to just anyone!

When you first arrive at Turtle Track, you will be asked to fill out a detailed registration form. Please make sure all questions are answered; this allows us to provide the best possible service. There is a line to enter a password. A password (like "melon" or "pigfoot") allows the caregiver to send someone for pick up who might not be on the initial authorized pick up person list (in case of emergency or convenience).

8. What if there's an emergency?

There are members of the Turtle Track staff that are CPR trained but parents and emergency services would be called INSTANTLY in any situation more serious than a little trip or bump. In the case of an evacuation emergency, all children will be bundled in warm attire (please bring coats to Turtle Track) and brought via the stairs to the location across the street. All other pick up protocol will be in place, e.g. checking IDs, asking for passwords.



Fast Track (Programming for ages 6-12)

Arisia's Kids' program, known as Fast Track, is designed as a con-within-a-con for our younger fen. With a purchased registration, they have access to a wide variety of program items, including crafts, costuming, a magic show, science, exercises, discussions, demonstrations, storytelling, and games. **We welcome teen volunteers!**

- Fast Track is **not** child care and **cannot provide snacks and meals**. Arrangements must be made to feed your children. No food is allowed into the Fast Track area for safety concerns.
- **Guardians - you are responsible for picking up your child** by the time Fast Track closes. Children with a red-ribbon may only be picked up by an adult listed on the release form. Children not picked up within a ½ hour of Fast Track's closing will result in the child brought to Security to follow procedure to ensure the safety of the child. Repeat offenses of not picking up your child on time will result in the revocation of the child's Fast Track membership to be replaced with a Kid-in-Tow membership.

Hours of Operation

Guardians or authorized adults may pick up and drop off their children at Fast Track any time during open hours.

Day	Morning		Afternoon
Friday			4pm-8pm
Saturday	10:00 AM- 11:30 AM	Closed for Lunch	1pm – 5:30pm
Sunday	10:00 AM- 11:30 AM	Closed for Lunch	1pm – 5:30pm
Monday	10:00 AM- 1:00 PM		

Attendance Policy

If you are a..	Your Fast Track access is...
Child under six (6) or Kid in Tow (KiT)	Only when accompanied by their parent/guardian or another adult or teen whose name has been provided to Fast Track
Child aged six to eight (6-8) with a Fast Track membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Allowed to attend unaccompanied ● CANNOT leave without an authorized adult.
Child aged nine to twelve (9-12) with a Fast Track membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Allowed to attend unaccompanied ● Allowed to leave without an adult IF guardian consent is given.
Adult wanting to volunteer	Allowed pending approval from Fast Track Area Head and Staff Services.
Adult to participate in an activity with a child	Allowed while accompanying a child.
Adult to participate in an activity without a child	No admittance.

Fast Track Memberships

Green Ribbon ("Comet", Free Roaming): 9-12 years old with guardian permission to roam the Con; does not require adult supervision in convention spaces.

Red Ribbon ("Satellite", Non-Roaming): Children with Fast Track memberships who may be unsupervised in Fast Track but may not leave without being signed out by an approved adult.

Any child who excessively misbehaves or engages in inappropriate, disruptive, or dangerous behavior is subject to having free-roaming privileges or their entire membership revoked.

Geeky Play Date (Sat/Sun/Mon Morning 8:30-10 AM)

Looking to meet up with other parents and kids at the con? Geeky Play Date is a casual, drop-in space for you and your children. Located in Fast Track, kids can bring their favorite toys and make new friends! Parents can do the same! Please note: this is NOT a babysitting service/venue, plan on tending to your children.

Day	Time	Location
Saturday	8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Fast Track
Sunday	8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Fast Track
Monday	8:30 AM-10:00 AM	Fast Track

Teen Lounge (Meeting space for ages 13-19)

Teen Lounge is a space for teens only; it is run by teens, for teens. The Teen Lounge can be used to hang out, meet other teens, play games, and generally relax and have fun over the course of the con in a safe, comfortable space.

The hours of Teen Lounge will be posted on the door. All members are asked to respect the rules posted in Teen Lounge, for the enjoyment of all the teen members. Teen Lounge is staffed by at least one teen volunteer at all times.

For more information on Teen Lounge, please contact teenlounge@arisia.org


Day	Time	Location
Friday	4:00 PM-10:00 PM	466./467
Saturday-Sunday	10:00 AM-10:00 PM	466./467
Monday	10:00 AM-12:00 PM	466/467

Teen Unconference (Panel Brainstorming: Friday Outside the Video Game Room in Carlton)

A con-within-a-con for teens! For the teen unconference, teens can propose their own topics and hold their own discussions on them. Stop by outside the Video Gaming any time on Friday evening to propose your ideas and see when things will be happening. Then come by starting Saturday afternoon to see the schedule and decide which events you want to attend! You can also keep your eye on the #arisiateens hashtag for updates.

Day	Time	Location
Saturday	11:30 AM	Adams
	5:30 PM	Hale
	8:30 PM	Hale
	10:00 PM	Adams
	11:30 PM	Adams
Sunday	4:00 PM	Hale
	8:30 PM	Otis
	10:00 PM	Otis
Monday	1:00 PM	Bulfinch

Helpful Dos and Don'ts

DO Read the Pocket Program (PP). It is your bible for all things happening at Arisia! Items that will be in the children-specific programs will be marked with a star symbol. 

DON'T Leave children unattended in areas that aren't dedicated spaces (Fast Track, Turtle Track). The Gaming Area(s), Con Suite, Anime and Film Rooms are not a drop-off for your young ones!

DO Make sure any toy weapons your child is carrying around are peace bonded by Arisia Security (located in Stone 2W).

DON'T Assume your child will be as interested in the same panels you are. If there is a chance they may be bored or cause a disturbance during the session, consider an alternate activity.

DO Be aware some panels are inappropriate for eyes and ears under 18. Arisia and its members should follow local and federal laws.

DON'T Forget to feed your child. Pick them up from Turtle Track and Fast Track for lunch and dinner. While Turtle Track has snacks, Fast Track does not.

DO Seek out and talk to other Fen Families! The Geeky Play Dates, Con-Suite, or other communal spaces are a great location to meet and chat.

DON'T Forget many of the costumes, the outfits the attendees will be wearing, and the displays in the exhibit areas may be made of delicate and easily damaged materials that your child should not handle without permission.

DO Provide suggestions on what you think would add to your family's Arisia Experience! Come to a Feedback Panel (PP), or post to an Arisia community on LiveJournal or Facebook.

DO Make sure your contact information is on your children's badges (even KITs) in case you get separated!