

Daughters of the Goddess



Fall 2012 - Spring 2013
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A Dianic, Womyn-only Goddess Temple dedicated in the Spirit of Aloha to the preservation, perpetuation and promotion of Goddess culture, public ceremony, ritual and Womyn's Mysteries.

I ku ka makemake e hele mai, hele no me ka malo 'elo'e.

If the wish to come arises, walk firmly.

If you wish to come do not be hesitant, for you are welcome.

The hot Summer Sun sets behind Mt. Diablo, leaving the Earth warm and radiant beneath our feet. Sisters come from many miles away, some traveling from neighboring states to gather at Her altar. We are spiritual pilgrims on a quest, following the Fire to our gathering place, just as the Indigenous Peoples of the Southwest did 1200 years ago en route to Chaco Canyon.

In the presence of Nokomis ~ Grandmother of the Anasazi ~ She who provides all sustenance on Earth, reverent womyn sing and drum while others stir together the water, straw and clay soil that will become adobe bricks. In community harmony, we create bricks to symbolize our commitment to building our Temple and to maintaining the Goddess' altar for future generations. With mud caked into the creases of our hands, we smile, knowing that we are participating in an ancient and sacred act.

Nokomis smiles at Her daughters, pleased with our accomplishment and devotion. As the Fourth of July dawns, we sit in Sacred Sisterhood with mud under our nails and the corn of Nokomis in our bellies. We are transcendent.



Aloha Daughters of the Goddess,

Big changes continue as Jade is now in Barcelona this semester studying abroad and Eden has returned for her second year at Cal Poly. I now use my magick to transform the energy of 'empty nest' into nest filled with reflection, space and rejuvenation. I feel blessed by my daughters and also am a very proud mama!

As my life progresses, I am surrounded by some amazing women who are also my Sister Temple Priestesses in DG-- Patrice, Tami and Danielle. When I feel a warm fuzzy in my heart about their dedication and devotion to this Temple and Goddess, I see many similarities. The one thing though that stands out in my mind is that all three of them are 'local girls' as we say in Hawaii, born and bred in the San Francisco Bay Area with parents and grandparents that are also from here. In this transient metropolis, this is very rare and I am often amazed and captivated by their own stories of growing up here and the changes to this aina/land. I hear of times when the SF Peninsula was still surrounded by wetlands rather than landfill, of rolling hills, and open space dotted with farms.

I've had the honor of meeting their grandmothers, sisters, childhood friends, aunts, uncles, fathers and people from their lives they have known for over 30 years. I am amazed how they have woven their spiritual traditions and paths as Priestesses so openly with their families. I've seen their parents, sisters, children and aunts show up at the ceremonies they lead and in front of whom they have taken oaths to the Goddess. I have danced Hula at an intimate family memorial. None of these women were raised in pagan homes and how beautiful it is to watch them weave their spiritual lives openly and lovingly with Aloha alongside their personal and family worlds. I know that the Bay Area is a mecca for spiritual and soul journey and many leave behind those that do not accept them to be here and to have a better life. I applaud this.

I triply applaud the 3 Priestesses I get to work with who I believe hold what has been brought here to this land we now call the 'Bay Area' --through the vortex of energy called Daughters of the Goddess. It reminds me of the precious way Indigenous Natives hold the land and keep the ceremonies alive.

I was most honored to sit in circle at our annual Yemaya ritual with my daughter Jade. Around the circle we passed a blue candle into which we placed our blessings for her and Eden as they go on their next journeys. Jade spoke about what it was like to 'be raised in the Daughters of the Goddess'. I loved this and I love that there are other women willing to 'throw down' at the Temple altar to continue to create a place where we can grow and also that we can raise our daughters in. Mahalo and blessings to my Daughters, my Priestess Sisters and to this Temple!

Blessings to you as you walk gently on your path,

Aloha,

Leilani



Daughters of the Goddess Ritual Schedule

Leilani Birely – Hawaiian Kahuna, Ordained Dianic High Priestess, and Ceremonialist, brings ancient Hawaiian healing and Goddess wisdom to the community. Leilani gives thanks and honor to her teachers: Luisah Teish, Yoruban Chiefess and author of Jambalaya; Kahuna Auntie Pahia; Vicki Noble, author and co-creator of the Motherpeace Tarot; Starhawk, author and founder of the Reclaiming Collective; and Kumu Hula Patrick Makuakane and Mahea Uchiyama. She is a graduate and faculty of the Women's Spirituality Masters Program at the Sophia University.

OPEN SERIES ~ These 8 circles are open to all womyn desiring knowledge and experiential work with the multifaceted aspects of Goddess in ritual. These are NOT drop-in circles; please let us know in advance if you are planning to participate before the day of the ritual. Gathering time is 7:30 p.m. for all rituals unless otherwise noted. Please see below for exchange info.

Tuesday, November 27th, Celebrate Amilamia Basque Goddess of Goodness and Benevolence. Full Moon in Gemini.

Monday, December 10th, Celebrate Anahita Persian Goddess of Water and the Fertilizing Force of the Earth. Dark Moon in Scorpio.

Friday, December 21st, Celebrate Winter Solstice and Mayan Moon Goddess Ixchel. Moon in Aries.

Friday, January 4th, Celebrate Andraste Celtic/British Goddess of Victory. Waning 1/2 Moon in Libra.

Monday, February 11th, Annual Dedication Ceremony celebrating Bridgid, Laka, and Artemis. Moon in Pisces.

Monday, February 25th, Celebrate Bear Mother Northwest First Nations Goddess of Ceremonies, Magic, Hunting and Wild Animals. Full Moon in Virgo.

Tuesday, March 19th, Celebrate Spring Equinox and Hawaii Goddess Laka. Moon in Gemini.

Thursday, April 25th Celebrate Lunar Beltane and Auge Spanish Goddess of Heat and Fertility. Full Moon in Scorpio.

THE TITA SERIES ~ Full sign-up in the Open Series is required; you must sign up for the entire Tita Series to participate. Women who are Kokua, and/or Temple Dedicants are especially encouraged to attend. Please see below for exchange information.

Thursday, November 15th, Celebrate Lakshmi Hindu Goddess of Fertility, Abundance, Prosperity, Beauty and Health. New Moon in Sagittarius.

Friday, January 25th, Celebrate Concordia Roman Goddess of Peace, Harmony, and Domestic Concord. Moon in Cancer.

Monday, March 11th, Celebrate Tamara West African Goddess who is the Supreme Being. New Moon in Pisces.

THE SISTERHOOD OF THE DEEPENING is for womyn who are core members of Daughters of the Goddess, who are dedicated to the work of promoting the Mission of the Temple, and who have the Temple as a primary focus in their lives. This series is for womyn who desire to be a part of sustaining the Temple, working magic for this purpose, as well as to meet our own personal needs, meeting once a month for Deepening circles. Attendance in the Open Series, participation in Kokua, and prior circling with Daughters of the Goddess for at least one year is required; you must sign up for the entire series to participate.

SEKHMET RETREAT 2013 ~ Thursday, April 11th – Sunday, April 14th, 2013. We are planning our 3rd Temple retreat to the Sekhmet Temple in Las Vegas, NV. Imagine a 4 day retreat spent in sacred ritual space with spiritual sisters. A night time ritual, under the desert sky in an open roofed temple dedicated to Sekhmet; sacred fire holding the center with smoke wafting out on the gentle breeze. Limited to 13 womyn. The cost includes a house with a pool & hot tub. All meals are included. \$375 by November 1, 2012; \$450 by February 13, 2013. If you are interested please, contact Leilani at Leilani@DaughtersoftheGoddess.com.

The Daughters of the Goddess Newsletter is published and distributed via U.S. mail twice per year in September and March on the Equinoxes. The Newsletter is also posted on the DG Website. If you have been receiving the Newsletter via the postal service and would prefer to receive it electronically, please send an e-mail to Leilani@DaughtersoftheGoddess.com and we will make the appropriate change. We are always happy to reduce our footprint on the Earth. Of course, if you are a Sister who loves to receive this treasure through the mail, we are happy to continue mailing it as we always have.

Daughters of the Goddess is creating a Temple Membership option for those womyn who feel called to "join" the Temple in a more tangible form! For the fee of \$35 a year, Temple Members will receive a printed Membership card, a 1/4 page Remembrance in the annual Ancestor Keepsake Booklet, a 10% discount on purchases made from the DG store at Ritual Events, and one guest pass for the Ritual of your choice! If you are interested in becoming a Member of Daughters of the Goddess Womyn's Temple, please contact Leilani at Leilani@DaughtersoftheGoddess.com.

Packages:	Exchange:
*New comer Discount	1st ritual \$15 or 3 for \$45
*1 Open Ritual	\$35/please mail check
*All 8 Open Rituals	\$240/due at first ritual
*Tita Series+8 Open Rituals	\$300/due at first ritual
*Deepening + All Rituals	\$450/at first Deepening ritual

Please note...We offer significant package discounts to encourage regular circling. We offer a Newcomer Discount to any womyn who has never attended a Daughters of the Goddess ritual. Partial work exchange, payment plans, student and crone discounts are available. No one is turned away due to lack of funds. Sorry no refunds. Individual consultations, healings, Rites of Passage, and Temple Priestess training available upon request. Please call or email Leilani. Contact information is on the top of the newsletter.

Please bring a candle for the altar, rattles, drums, something to sit on & food to share to each circle.