

THURSDAY EVENING PROGRAMS

You are invited to join us on Thursday evenings for informative and diverse presentations on a wide range of topics. All programs are open to the public and begin at 7 p.m. Admission is \$10 for guests and \$5 for members (unless otherwise noted). Programs are wheelchair accessible.

Refund Policy: Payments are non-refundable. Cancellation requests made at least seven (7) days prior to workshop or class qualify for a full refund.

Please note: Cancellation of a program may be unavoidable especially in inclement weather. Please call or visit our Web site at www.theosophical.org for changes to the schedule

April

MYSTERY OF THE TAROT

APRIL 5, 2012

The Tarot is the most popular form of divination in the western world today. Why was the Tarot created? Why is it such a powerful intuitive gateway? And most importantly, how does it work? Tonight Vincent will explain the Tarot and take some of the mystery out of these curious cards. Through understanding our subconscious and the Tarot, can we become masters of our own destiny? Perhaps!

VINCENT PITISCI is a lifelong student of metaphysics and mysticism. He has been a professional psychic and Tarot reader since 1992 and is currently a house reader at The Theosophical Society's Quest Book Shop.



THE SECOND COMING OF CONSCIOUSNESS

APRIL 12, 2012

Why are we here? What is our purpose? Since the beginning, these questions have tormented humanity, but it's time for this journey of existential angst to come to an end. By exploring the search for meaning as it evolves from the notion of the separate self to the collective nature of our highest potential, we can discover the energy and creativity that will form a new society based on compassion and cooperation. Join Emanuel Kuntzelman as he shares his thoughts on why 2012 marks the beginning of the most important leap in consciousness in the history of humanity.

EMANUEL KUNTZELMAN is founder and president of the Center for Cultural Interchange, one of the world's leading cultural exchange organizations. He is an avid environmentalist, a skilled lecturer, writer, and spiritual seeker. Mr. Kuntzelman has spoken in the USA and Spain about cutting edge transformational theories for over 30 years.



THE DISCOVERY OF THE SACRED

APRIL 19, 2012

Each of us, at one time or another, wanders in the calm countryside or among the silent mountains where the air is unpolluted by factories and the atmosphere is not assaulted by urban noises. There, if the mind is quiet and sensitive enough, we find an unforgettable quality of being. If we do not let ourselves be carried away again too soon by the restless floods of materialistic life or surrender to worldly habits that keep us on the surface of things, we may come to ask questions about the nature of that which is sacred, about its relation to life, to the soul, and finally, about its discovery.

TRÀN-THI-KIM-DIÊU, a post-graduate of Pharmaceutical Engineering, has served in various capacities for the French Section of the Theosophical Society, the European Federation (EFTS), and the Naarden Centre (ITC). Since 1991 Kim-Diêu has traveled internationally conducting seminars and lecturing in Eastern Europe, including Russia and the Ukraine; TS branches in Europe, America, New Zealand, and Australia; summer schools, congresses, and conventions; the European School of Theosophy; the Krotona School; as well as the School of the Wisdom at Adyar and at Naarden. She is currently the chairperson of the Council of the EFTS and General Secretary of the French Section.



PLANTING SEEDS OF KINDNESS: DEMONSTRATING BUDDHA-NATURE AS MAITREYA AND MOTHER

APRIL 26, 2012

Is it possible to heal self, family, and communities with simple acts of kindness? An act of mindful kindness has been recognized in spiritual traditions east and west as the “remedy of remedies.” Demonstrating kindness in healing service is an opportunity for the active expression of the fruits of spiritual study, reflection, and meditation. Drawing upon ancient wisdom teachings on Buddha-nature as represented in the archetypes of Maitreya and Mother, Dr. Martha Libster will demonstrate examples of simple remedies that convey the essence of human kindness through mantra, ablution, service, and touch.

MARTHA LIBSTER, PhD, RN, has been a student of Theosophy since 1981. She has woven principles of eastern and western ancient wisdom teachings throughout her work and writings on the healing arts, nursing science, history, and botanical therapies. A featured speaker for organizations such as the World Health Organization, the Royal College of Nursing, and the International Association for Human Caring, Dr. Libster is director and chair of Nursing at Governors State University in Illinois and the Founding Director of The Bamboo Bridge International.



May

THE BUDDHA'S BIRTHDAY: THE MIRACLE OF BEING AWAKE

MAY 3, 2012

Millions of people around the world celebrate the Buddha's birthday on the full moon in May. Some traditions also believe that this full moon marks the Enlightenment, and eventual passing away of the Buddha. What is the significance of this event, and does it have any relevance for us today? That the Buddha realized enlightenment may be inspiring, but the knowledge that we have the same potential is what motivates us to continue on our own journey towards the “Highest Happiness”. Let us explore the nature of this great journey, and consider some of the important landmarks.

JOHN CIANCIOSI was born in Italy, raised in Australia, and lived in Thailand before coming to America. He is author of *The Meditative Path* (Quest Books, 2001) and a student of the late Venerable Ajahn Chah. Ordained a Buddhist monk in 1972, he served as spiritual director of monasteries in Thailand and Australia. John also is adjunct professor at the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn.

THE VALUE OF NOTHING

MAY 10, 2012

There is a singular experience that is mentioned in various ways in most mystical and spiritual traditions. Attempts to describe it use words such as ineffable, unknowing, emptiness, and silence. Defining characteristics of this state are that it is immediate, profound, and life changing. It is the all-pervading background for both everyday moments of life and the deepest spiritual experience. It is not found by seeking; cannot be bought or sold; nor given or taken; but completely available when we experience that moment of realization and recognize the value of “no-thing.”

TIM BOYD, president of the Theosophical Society in America, has been a student of the Ageless Wisdom since his encounter with Bill Lawrence in 1973 which led to the founding of a spiritual community that was active in Chicago for twenty-five years. He has also served on the national board of directors of the Theosophical Society and the Theosophical Order of Service.

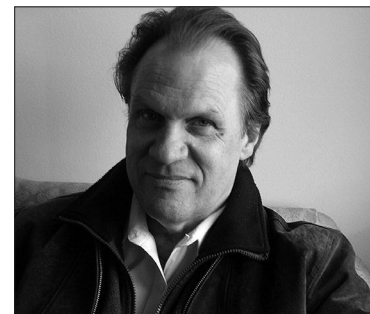


RIDING THE WAVES OF PLANETARY CHANGE: TUNING INTO THE ZEITGEIST

MAY 17, 2012

Every historical period possesses its own unique qualities, something philosophers refer to as the “zeitgeist” or “spirit of the age.” This program looks at some of the ways astrology can illuminate these shifting energies and explores how our personal horoscopes are intimately bound with the larger planetary trends affecting society. What does all the political, social, and natural turbulence in the world today mean for each of us, as individuals or in the broader context?

RAY GRASSE is a Chicago-based writer, musician and astrologer. He is author of *The Waking Dream* (Quest Books, 1996) and *Signs of the Times: Unlocking the Symbolic Language of World Events* (Hampton Roads, 2002). For ten years he worked on the editorial staffs of Quest Books and Quest magazine and has been associate editor for *The Mountain Astrologer* since 1998. He has lectured internationally on the topics of astrology, synchronicity, meditation, and hypnosis, and maintains an active astrological practice with clients from the United States and abroad.



G. I. GURDJIEFF: WAKING UP FROM THE SLEEP OF DAILY LIFE

MAY 24, 2012

Am I asleep? Many people have found themselves asking this question. The great spiritual teacher G. I. Gurdjieff said that human beings actually are asleep in day-to-day life, and that we habitually walk around in a low-grade hypnotic stupor. What is the nature of this waking sleep, and what is the way out of it? Gurdjieff's teaching, which he called the “Fourth Way,” tries to answer this question. In this engaging presentation, Richard Smoley will introduce Gurdjieff and his ideas and how they can help us awaken today.

RICHARD SMOLEY's latest book is *The Dice Game of Shiva: How Consciousness Creates the Universe*. He is also the author of *Inner Christianity: A Guide to the Esoteric Tradition*; *Conscious Love: Insights from Mystical Christianity*; and *Hidden Wisdom: A Guide to the Western Inner Traditions* (with Jay Kinney). The former editor of *Gnosis: A Journal of the Western Inner Traditions*, Smoley currently is editor of *Quest: Journal of the Theosophical Society in America* and of *Quest Books*.

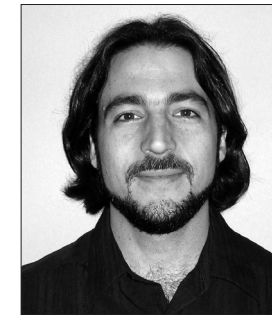


POP-THEOSOPHY: SPIRITUALITY IN GRAPHIC NOVELS

JUNE 7, 2012

Explore how Theosophy has permeated our culture through the undervalued art-form of graphic novels. The creators of these books, like many artists, find themselves compelled to express stories both personal and deeply spiritual. Many times they are underground publications, and often, the average comic book fan may overlook the more philosophical aspects of these stories. From the perspective of Theosophy, we will examine how these graphic novels are actually teaching profound truths, whether it was intentional or not.

JAMES LEFEVOUR has an M.S. in Written Communication from National-Louis University and a B.S. in Studio Art from Bradley University. He has been studying the world's religions and graphic novels for almost as long as he could read.



MEDITATION AND THE HIGHER CONSCIOUSNESS

MAY 31, 2012

Meditation practice has the potential to affect us on the physical, psychological, and spiritual levels. Simple techniques can produce relatively quick physical and psychological effects, such as releasing stress or improving our attention span and power of concentration. However, the mere practice of simple techniques may not be enough to reach our higher consciousness. Discover how meditation can become a means to move beyond the level of personal emotions and self-centered thinking to that of the transpersonal mind, as we finally become aware of our spiritual nature.

PABLO SENDER, Ph.D., became a member of the Theosophical Society in his native Argentina and has presented Theosophical lectures, seminars, and classes in India, Spain, and the three Americas. He has published articles in Spanish and English in several Theosophical journals. Pablo is also facilitator for the *Living Theosophy* series.

Put your meditation into practice—Join a team of presenters for a **Dzyan Theosophy Meditation Retreat**, June 1-3. **See Special Events!**

THE BUDDHIST NIYAMAS: FIVE COSMIC LAWS

JUNE 14, 2012

Many people believe that everything that happens in their present life is the result of past karma; however the Buddha's teachings on karma differ from those of other religions of Asia. The Buddha taught that there are five distinct laws at work in the cosmos that cause things to happen. They are called the Five Niyamas or Cosmic Laws. Our present circumstances are the result of countless factors that are always in flux—karma being only one. Let us explore the nature and range of these Five Cosmic Laws to arrive at a better understanding of life's experiences.

Venerable **OLANDE ANANDA**, the vice-patron of the Theosophical Society in Sri Lanka, is of Dutch origin, born in Amsterdam in 1948. In 1975 he was ordained as a monk in Theravada tradition and has since traveled worldwide delivering lectures on Dharma, teaching Vipassana meditation, and inspiring many seekers of truth. He presently functions as the resident teacher of the Pagoda meditation centre in Sri Lanka.



SOLSTICE GONG BATH AND LABYRINTH WALK

JUNE 21, 2012, 7 P.M.

Walk the labyrinth at 5:30 P.M.

Celebrate the Sun at this extraordinary vibrational experience that frees up, boosts, or shifts your energy for a spiritual and physical healing. Allow for a deeper experience by walking our outdoor labyrinth beforehand. Richard Rudis creates transformational waves of sound that bathe you with rising and falling rhythms, tonalities, and vibrations of a huge earth gong tuned to the sound of AUM, the universal cord. Bring a pillow and mat or blanket to lie on.

RICHARD RUDIS (SONAM DORJE) is a sound pioneer and a pilgrim of Eastern philosophy and Buddhism. He teaches Buddhist dharma and vibrational sound healing internationally.

\$20.00 per person (pre-registered)
\$25.00 at the door.

Space is limited. Register early to assure a space. Call 630-668-1571, ext. 315.



CONVERSATIONS WITH THE PRESIDENT

FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
APRIL 3, MAY 1, JUNE 5, 2012
7:00 P.M.

In today's world, attempting to live a spiritual life can be demanding and confusing. Gone are the days when one can retreat to the cave or forest. In the midst of job, family, finance, politics, and a host of other obligations is where we must develop our spiritual practice. Join Tim Boyd for these monthly open conversations on the spiritual life.

TIM BOYD, president of the Theosophical Society in America, has been a student of the Ageless Wisdom since his encounter with Bill Lawrence in 1973 which led to the founding of a spiritual community that was active in Chicago for twenty-five years. He has also served on the national board of directors of the Theosophical Society and the Theosophical Order of Service.



ONE WORLD . . . ONE BREATH . . . WORLD TAI CHI QIGONG DAY

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2012

The Theosophical Society will host T'ai Chi and Qigong teachers as they lead participants in their respective styles, creating a continuous wave of human movement focused on healing the planet as we heal ourselves. All are welcome! No experience required! Gather outside at 9 a.m. (indoors, if inclement weather) for this FREE EVENT!

9 A.M. INSTRUCTORS DEMONSTRATE FORMS
10 A.M. WORLD EVENT SILENT T'AI CHI PRACTICE
11 A.M. LABYRINTH WALK

Festivities hosted by the Lighthouse Center for Healing Arts, 165 S. Church Street, Winfield, IL, will continue at Creekside Park from 1:00-4:00 p.m. RSVP: 630.260.1084.

To learn more about World T'ai Chi and Qigong Day events, visit: www.worldtaichiday.org
- www.thelighthousecenter.org—www.facebook.com/WTCD.Chicago.



DZYAN THEOSOPHY MEDITATION RETREAT

FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 6:30 P.M.—SUNDAY, JUNE 3, 5:00 P.M.

Join this three-day meditation retreat and enjoy an inner journey of growth and discovery in a conducive and peaceful environment. With the aim of stimulating both self-knowledge and spiritual unfoldment, the retreat will offer teachings about our human nature as well as instruction in the practice of different methods of meditation. In addition, silent labyrinth walks and gentle sessions of Tai Chi and Yoga will be offered.

Pablo Sender will be joined by other presenters and instructors to guide us through this weekend retreat.

\$175 includes 5 retreat sessions, meals, and lodging

\$110 includes 5 retreat sessions and meals

\$20 for single sessions

Space is limited! To register, please call 630.668.1571, ext. 315 by May 28!



INTERFAITH PRAYERS FOR PEACE

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 2012,
11:30 A.M.

Please come and listen as representatives of several faith traditions share their prayers and perspectives. You are invited to stay for insightful dialogue exploring ways to develop a compassionate community with the help of our faith traditions as we enjoy a vegetarian lunch together.

MAZHER F. AHMED, born in Hyderabad, India and brought up in Bombay, is vice president of the Batavia Islamic Center in Illinois. She is involved in a number of interreligious endeavors, including Interfaith Prayers for Peace. Mazher has worked in association with the Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions since 1990 and currently serves on the Board of Trustees for the Council.

Please RSVP to Mazher Ahmed: 630-879-0889. There is no charge for this event, however donations are appreciated.

126TH SUMMER CONVENTION OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY IN AMERICA



INTERNATIONAL THEOSOPHY CONFERENCE: KARMIC CYCLES: WHEELS OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH

AUGUST 9-12, 2012

This year's International Theosophy Conference (ITC) will take place at the headquarters of the Theosophical Society in America for the first time. The objects of ITC include and support the original Three Objects as expressed in the writings of H. P. Blavatsky. The "radiant sun" logo corresponds to the ITC efforts devoted to unity among all students of Theosophy and to fostering communication among all Theosophical traditions.

The theme of the conference is "Karmic Cycles: Wheels of Spiritual Growth" and features speakers and guests from several different Theosophical organizations. There are also unaffiliated speakers on such subjects as psychology, astrophysics, and the world's great religions.

A limited number of rooms will be available on the Olcott campus. Most attendees will stay at the nearby Holiday Inn (150 South Gary Avenue, Carol Stream, IL 60188). Single rooms and suites range from \$80-\$100 per night. Call 800-315-2621 or 630-665-3000, or visit <http://hicolstream.com/index.cfm>. Please mention that you are part of the Theosophy Conference group. A shuttle van will run between the hotel and the Olcott campus.

All meals will be provided, and the cost of registration and meals together should be about \$200. Details have not been confirmed as of press time; for updated information, please visit the ITC Web site: www.theosconf.org or contact conference organizer Garrett Riegg at 510-535-2555; griegg@theosconf.org.

SCIENCE, HISTORY, AND HEALING: THE MANY FACES OF THE AGELESS WISDOM

JULY 20-24, 2012

Join us for an exceptional summer convention at TSA headquarters in Wheaton, Illinois. Speakers will include:

- Authors **JOY MILLS** and **MICHAEL GOMES** on Theosophical history
- Healer **ROBYN FINSETH** and **MARIA PARISEN**, director of the Krotona School of Theosophy, on healing
- Dr. **AMIT GOSWAMI** on quantum activism and creative evolution
- Dr. **ROLLIN MCCRATY** of the HeartMath Research Center on positive emotions and the intelligence of the heart

Enjoy the many activities taking place at our headquarters. Engage in discussions, ask questions, and explore the Henry Steel Olcott Library and Quest Book Shop. Delight in musical and theatrical presentations. Have fun while building bonds of friendship.

For more program and registration information, please visit www.theosophical.org or contact us at registrar@theosophical.org or 800-669-1571, ext. 328.

Courses

Pre-register for courses by phone 630-668-1571, ext. 315 or by mail.

Tuesday

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE TAROT

APRIL 10-MAY 1 (4 SESSIONS)
7-9:00 P.M.



It's said that a picture is worth a thousand words. If this is true, imagine for a moment how many words must be contained in these 78 pictured cards. Tap into the potential of the mind and the Tarot. Included in this course are an overall background of the Tarot, basic definitions of each card, interpretation techniques, and a breakdown of the Celtic Cross card spread and how to apply it in a reading.

All printed material will be supplied. Your own Tarot deck is helpful, but not required.

\$100 guests \$80 members

READING THE TAROT WITH INTUITION

MAY 8-29 (4 SESSIONS) 7-9:00 P.M.

The scope of interpretation of the symbolic illustrations of the Tarot is staggering. Go beyond book definitions and delve into the vibrations of others around you. This class explains how to tap into the critical connection of your psychic awareness to become part of the reading.

\$100 guests \$80 members

VINCENT PITISCI is a life-long student of metaphysics and mysticism. He has been a professional psychic and Tarot advisor since 1992 and currently is a house reader at the Theosophical Society's Quest Book Shop.



Wednesday

LIVING THEOSOPHY SERIES - THE ORIGIN AND CONSTITUTION OF OUR COSMOS

WEDNESDAYS, APRIL 4-25, 2012
7:00 P.M.

How did the universe come about? Was it created out of nothing? Of what is it comprised? Is there anything other than the matter we perceive through our senses? The topics in this series: Introduction, From Chaos to Cosmos, A Cyclic Model of the Universe, and The Seven Dimensions in Cosmos and Self, will explore these and other related questions as outlined by the Theosophical teachings.

These 40-minute lectures will be facilitated once again by **PABLO SENDER, Ph.D.** Pablo has presented Theosophical lectures, seminars, and classes in India, Spain, and the three Americas. He has published articles in Spanish and English in several Theosophical journals. The talks will also be Webcast live and made available online at the Media Library.



Ongoing Classes

Pre-register for classes by phone 630-668-1571, ext. 315 or by mail.



Wednesday

QIGONG & TAI JI FOR HEALTH & VITALITY

WEDNESDAYS, NOON-1 P.M.
APRIL 4-JUNE 27 (12 SESSIONS)
NO CLASS MAY 30

Qigong and Tai Ji are ancient forms of meditative movement based on Chinese traditional medicine using the mind and body to harmonize energy. These movements aid your immune system, improve mental clarity and mood, boost physical energy, and relieve stress.

RENEÉ RYAN, codirector of the Light-heart Center, has practiced the healing arts for 30 years and has studied Qigong and Tai Ji in the United States, China, and Korea.

\$96 guests \$84 members (or \$9 per class)

Saturday

HATHA YOGA

SATURDAYS, 11 A.M.-12:15 P.M.
APRIL 7-JUNE 30 (12 SESSIONS) NO CLASS MAY 26

Relax your body, mind, and spirit while you enjoy the extraordinary health benefits of yoga designed to help the body rejuvenate and strengthen itself.

ELLEN DUFF is a graduate of the White Lotus Foundation teacher training.

\$120 guests \$108 members (or \$12 per class)



Groups

Pre-register for classes by phone 630-668-1571, ext. 315 or by mail.

Sunday

MEDITATION GROUP

SUNDAYS, 11 A.M.

Each week, a topic related to meditation will be presented and discussed, followed by a brief guided meditation and longer silent meditation. Instruction will be provided for beginners, but practitioners of all levels are encouraged to share their path of meditation.

JIM BOSCO, a student of Theosophy and meditation for over 35 years, has studied at the Himalayan Institute of Yoga Science and Philosophy and the Temple of Kriya Yoga.

Donations are appreciated



Monday

SPIRITUAL ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

MONDAYS, 7-8:30 P.M.

All are welcome to participate in this topic-based discussion group exploring teachings common to all religions and spiritual traditions.

JIM BOSCO, a student of Theosophy and meditation for over 35 years, has studied at the Himalayan Institute of Yoga Science and Philosophy and the Temple of Kriya Yoga.

Donations are appreciated.

Wednesday

HEALING CIRCLE

WEDNESDAYS, 5-5:30 P.M.

Sponsored by the Theosophical Order of Service, this ceremony offers healing meditation in the service of those in need.

Donations are appreciated.

WHEATON-OLCOTT BRANCH MEMBERS STUDY GROUP

WEDNESDAYS, 7-8:30 P.M.

(Alternates with Living Theosophy)

This Theosophical study group meets to read from selected Theosophical works in a format designed to encourage discussion. Can't attend in person? Participate online through our webinar. For more information, contact Dan Smolla at dsmolla@theosophical.org, call 630-668-1571 ext. 304, or visit <http://theosophical.weebly.com/>.

There is no charge—monetary donations or vegetarian and alcohol-free snacks to share are appreciated.

THERAPEUTIC TOUCH PRACTICE CIRCLE

First and third Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.
APRIL 4, 18, MAY 2 AND 16, JUNE 6 AND 20

A Therapeutic Touch (TT) group for healing meets for practice and experience under the guidance of Sue Wright, RN, DNSc and Marilyn Johnston, EdD, RN. Both learned TT from Dora Kunz and Delores Krieger, the founders of this healing practice, and they each have been teaching and practicing TT for over 30 years. If you need healing or wish to practice this technique, come and join us!

Donations are appreciated.



Saturday

ORDER OF THE ROUND TABLE

THIRD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH, 2-4 P.M.

For children and young people

Through ceremony, games, story-telling, and creative activities, the Order of the Round Table helps youth grow as useful and happy members of society. It promotes awareness of unity, stimulates love of nature and animals, and encourages a life of harmony and compassion. For more information, e-mail: mroemmich@theosophical.org.



Olcott Art Gallery

The Olcott Gallery will host a retrospective exhibit of paintings by **Pamela Burt Lowrie**. She has been curator of the gallery for the past eighteen years and also taught art at the College of DuPage for twenty-four years. Lowrie's art has appeared on Quest magazine covers, and several of her works hang on the walls of the national headquarters.

NEW LIBRARY HOURS!

Henry S. Olcott Memorial Library

Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1 p.m.-5 p.m.

Tuesday-Thursday, 5 p.m.-7 p.m. (September-June)

Sunday and Monday-Closed

Quest Book Shop

306 W. Geneva Road, Wheaton, IL 60187

Hours: Monday-Friday 10-8

Saturday 10-5 and Sunday 1-5

GO GREEN!

If you would like to receive this program in electronic form only, please send an e-mail to TSAPublicity@theosophical.org with your name and address, or telephone 630-668-1571 ext. 329.

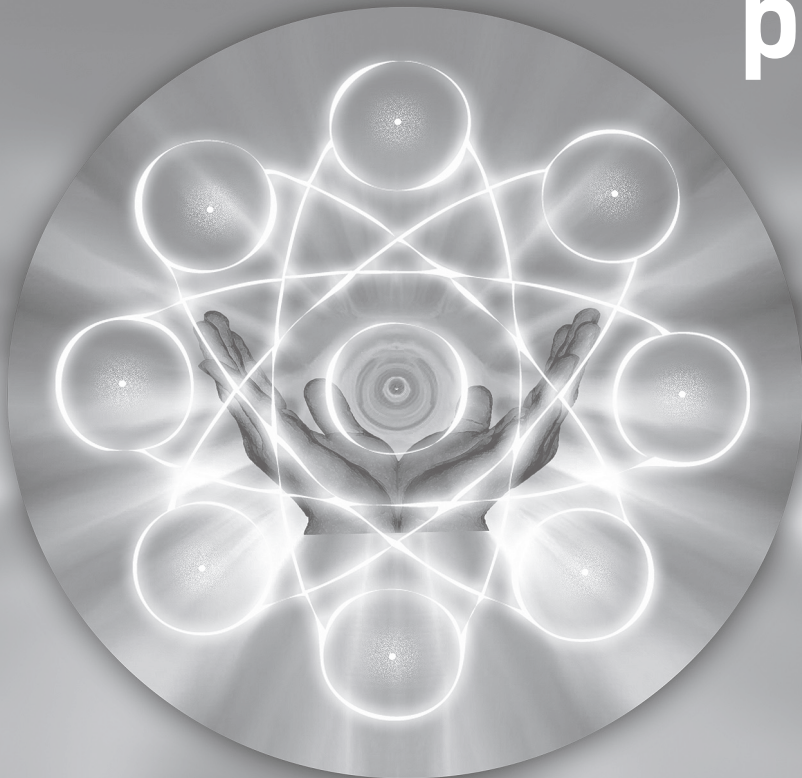
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spring & summer 2012 programs



OUR MISSION:

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY IN AMERICA ENCOURAGES **OPEN-MINDED INQUIRY** INTO WORLD RELIGIONS, PHILOSOPHY, SCIENCE, AND THE ARTS IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND THE WISDOM OF THE AGES, RESPECT THE **UNITY OF ALL LIFE**, AND HELP PEOPLE EXPLORE **SPIRITUAL SELF-TRANSFORMATION.**

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