

*Stop! Behold the Eternal Now.... an
exploration of being*

with Asha Greer

August 18-20, 2017

*Happy Valley Conference Center,
Santa Cruz, CA*



All are welcome and no experience is necessary!

3 Full Days of Dances of Universal Peace, Zikr, Meditation, Sufi practices, teachings, & sesshin.

CAMP TEACHERS -

Murshida Asha Greer - special guest teacher

Julie Jilani Esterly - spiritual director

Brad Anwar Silling - zikr

Alima Chris Inaya - laughter yoga

Vanessa Hafiza Ragan - fairy minstrel

Kim Molloy - crystal bowl sound journey

Fehrunnisa and Junayad Moore - healing and esoteric practices

Lori Gitanjali Rivera - "Singing and Moving The Elements"

and other local leaders

Questions not answered below? Contact Mary David, Camp Manager, bluewindharper@gmail.com or (408)499-4665

Schedule - Camp starts at 10 am on Friday and ends at 5 pm on Sunday. Registration is not yet open.

FEES:

Commuter fees have risen. Happy Valley has imposed a \$10 per person per day commuter fee. Previously commuters paid only for meals, a good deal for us but not a good business model for Happy Valley. We had no choice but to pass this cost on. However, we do not want this increase to keep anyone away from camp. We will have partial scholarships available on a first come, first served basis. You can apply for a partial scholarship to cover this fee increase.

Note two changes this year. No walk ins are allowed for evening dinners. You must prepay if you want to join us for the dinner before the evening programs. You may still walk in for the evening program only. No late registrations will be allowed onsite after Saturday morning at 9:30 am.

(All rates include meals)

Shared Room (2 to 3 people/room with shared bath)

\$259 Early Bird to 7/20

\$310 Regular 7/21 - 8/7

\$370 Late 8/8 - 8/18

Single Room (shared bath)

\$309 Early Bird to 7/20

\$370 Regular 7/21 - 8/7

\$445 Late 8/8 - 8/18

Tent or RV (bath house available with hot showers)

\$219 Early Bird to 7/20

\$260 Regular 7/21 - 8/7

\$315 Late 8/8 - 8/18

Commuter

\$199 Early Bird to 7/20

\$239 Regular 7/21 - 8/7

\$287 Late 8/8 - 8/18

Friday Only

\$88 Early Bird to 7/20

\$108 Regular 7/21 - 8/7

\$128 Late 8/8 - 8/18

Saturday Only

\$99 Early Bird to 7/20

\$119 Regular 7/21 - 8/7

\$139 Late 8/8 - 8/19

Sunday Only

\$69 Early Bird to 7/20

\$83 Regular 7/21 - 8/7

\$99 Late 8/7 - 8/18

Special one-evening rate (program only): \$15-\$20 sliding scale

One evening with dinner: \$33 prepaid by August 7th, \$40 prepaid by August 17th, not available at the door.

Some partial scholarships are available on a first come, first served basis. Applications will open with registration.

Inquire for YOUTH (26 and under) or SENIOR (70+) DISCOUNTS

CANCELLATIONS after 8/07/17 incur \$102 Fee.

If you are a DUP certified leader or musician wanting to lead or play at camp, please email Vanessa Hafiza at towardtheone@ymail.com at least one week before camp.

ABOUT ASHA GREER:

Asha is a lifelong student of the human condition. She is often intoxicated with awe, fascination, or bafflement about the nature of reality. Her "her-story" includes a lifelong interest in comparative religion and its influence on the brain, thought, and behavior. She was a co-founder of the Lama Foundation, an ecumenical spiritual community which has been thriving for nearly 50 years in the mountains of New Mexico.

She raised four daughters, and has spent years as a school teacher, a school principal, and a hospital nurse. She is a practicing artist and has created a deck of meditation cards from paintings she has done, as well as a book illustrating each day of a forty day retreat; see Asha's Art. She is a practitioner of the Japanese Tea Ceremony and hosts solitary retreats in her tea house in Virginia. Her nature is optimistic and hopeful though she sees these as states rather than beliefs in a positive future. "I do not know" is her position about dogma, fairness, and reward and punishment during and after life, although she feels 99% sure that there is Consciousness everywhere out of which everything emanates. Tuning into it is among her favorite pastimes. Her teaching focuses on awakening to the awesome nature of Reality both inside and out and through the process integrating the inner and outer life.

ABOUT SHEIKHA JILANI:

Dr. Julie Jilani Esterly has been traveling the Sufi path since 1973. All of her great life influences have focused on breath, embodiment, and liberating the natural light inherent in all beings. She functions as a senior guide and Cheraga (minister) for the Sufi Ruhaniat International (SRI), by leading classes, ceremonies, and retreats in the US and abroad. Her contribution was published in the book *Caravan: Biographies from the Sufism Symposium*. She also serves as a liaison for the SRI Youth Council. A chiropractor for 39 years, her healing practice at One Medicine in Santa Cruz, California helps patients experience their full energy and light. Dr. Esterly is a member of the Sensory Awareness Leader's Guild and integrates this somatic mindfulness practice into her classes and private sessions. Catalyzed by a profound journey to Egypt, she recently entered a new cycle of life in which interdisciplinary solo and collaborative projects are unfolding. She lives with her husband in the foothills of Santa Cruz and is the mother of a 24 year old daughter.

ABOUT THE DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE:

Participants join hands forming a circle with the Dance leader and musicians in the center. The leader teaches the sacred phrase, melody, and movements for each Dance and perhaps some context about that particular Dance. Most Dances are only four lines long and repeated many times, so learning is usually quick and easy - within ten minutes dancers are moving, singing, and sharing together. The Dances include themes of peace (both inner and outer), healing (the Earth, individuals, and the global family), and the celebration of life's great Mystery. Dancers focus on the truth contained in the sacred phrase or

other text set to music and movement in the Dance. Dancers commonly experience a collective peace, harmony, a sense of solidarity and community, and insight into the underlying universality of all the spiritual traditions of the Earth. A greater understanding and appreciation of other cultures, as well as one's own path or religion, is often gained. The mood of the Dances is infinitely variable, evoking feelings of love, joy, peace, compassion and ecstasy. The focus is on the sacred phrase, which often points to truths about life which cannot be put into words. The dancers' experience flows out in the context of sacred presence to one another and to the group as a whole. An experience of the Unity of the human family with all of Life and a taste of one's essential nature are among the gifts the Dances bring to so many who come in contact with them.

www.dancesofuniversalpeace.org

ABOUT ZIKR:

Zikr can be translated as Remembrance. On the surface, a moving zikr circle appears much like a very simple Dance of Universal Peace, but it's origins are of a traditional ecstatic practice of the Sufis: The Sufi Ceremony of the Remembrance of God. We sing very old sacred phrases in Arabic (e.g. Bismillah - "We begin in the Name of Divine Unity "La illaha illa'llah - "All of Reality is contained within Divine Unity "Hu - "Divine Unity is constantly vibrating into all forms, in all times and places."). This practice is noted for producing strong expansion of consciousness. It was one of the central practices of the Persian poet Rumi, allowing him the divine expansion and insight from which he spoke his inspired poetry. Both beginners and those with experience can gain enormous benefit from zikr. The Sufis frequently refer to Divine Unity as the Friend, and seek an ongoing relationship of extreme intimacy with the Friend.

ABOUT THE SUFI SESSHIN:

The Sufi Sesshin is a time when we alternate doing Dances with 15-20 minute periods of meditation. This format allows us to go deeper with each dance as we take the energy it generated into our meditation, which in turn allows us to go deeper during the next dance. The Sufi Sesshin will be held at camp from 10:00am to 5:15pm on Friday and 1:30 to 3:30pm on Sunday.

ABOUT HAPPY VALLEY CONFERENCE CENTER:

Beautiful location in the middle of the Santa Cruz redwoods.

Tent, cabin, and commuter options available, full or part time. Single (shared bath) and shared-rooms (2 or 3 people) with semi-private bathrooms. All rooms have twin bunks; there are some double beds for couples or families.

NOTES:

The swimming pool will NOT be available to us this year.

MEALS:

Vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free meal options are available if you register in advance.

WHAT TO BRING:

Sleeping bag, bedding, towels, toiletries.

Ear plugs if you're sensitive to roommate noise.

Clothing for hot and cool weather.

Dressier clothes for evening dance and Zikr.

A special item (e.g. picture or trinket of a loved one, teacher, etc.) for the Ancestors Table.

Cash to make purchases at the Sufi Art Mart, as well as to give Dana to the teachers.

What NOT to bring:

Scents, pets, drugs or alcohol

A BIG THANK YOU TO THOSE IN SERVICE BEHIND THE SCENES:

Jilani Julie Esterly (Spiritual Director and Hostess)

Mary David (Camp Manager)

Kimball Barton (On-Site Manager and Sufi Art Mart Liaison)

David Dreisbach (On-Site Manager)

Freesia Raine (Registrar)

Adora Deva (DUP leader & Head Temple Builder)

Diana Antonucci (Registration Assistant)

Jelehla Ziemba

(GGSC Treasurer and incredible support to our camp!)

Hadi Marlin Brown (GGSC Liaison)

Shafee Howard Ballinger (our GGSC internet guru)

Golden Gate Sufi Circle (Our faithful sponsor)

Happy Valley Conference Center

...and our dedicated year-round Planners:

Mary David, Jilani Julie Esterly, Freesia Raine, Adora Deva, Kimball Barton, David Dreisbach, Vanessa Hafiza and Hadi Marlin Brown

We are One!

We pray that all our thoughts, all our actions,
our creativity, our work be for the benefit of all.

May all beings be happy.

May all beings be free

Posted by: bluewindharper@gmail.com

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With 4.5 stars in iTunes, the Yahoo Mail app is the highest rated email app on the market. What are you waiting for? Now you can access all your inboxes (Gmail, Outlook, AOL and more) in one place.

Never delete an email again with 1000GB of free cloud storage.

If you have a message you would like to share with the group, send your message via-e-mail to: santacruzsufis@yahoo.com

A moderator will need to approve your message before it is posted, which can sometimes take a few days.

Please note that we post announcements for Sufi-related events first and foremost, spiritual or nonprofit events/information/activities, and posts for people in the community who have experienced some calamity and need help, etc.

If you would like to post an ad for jobs, housing, services, products, etc., please join our sister group, the Santa Cruz Community Bulletin Board:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/santacruzbulletinboard/>

Also note, when you reply to an announcement, you are replying to the whole group. We do not usually post replies. Double check who the actual sender was and contact them directly.

If you wish to stop receiving these e-mails, please click on the UNSUBSCRIBE link in the bottom right hand section of this notice. If you would prefer to only receive special notices posted by the moderators, remember that you can change your settings of your yahoogroup membership to do so. You can also change the frequency with which you receive e-mails.

To see a monthly calendar of events, go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/santacruzsufis/cal>

Please note that this calendar is not always accurate. Yahoogroups has some bugs in this regard and things sometimes get moved around when their format changes, when daylight savings happens, etc, and we cannot always keep up with it.

Join us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=131071536910550>

or do a FB search for Santa Cruz Sufi Caravan

Toward the One, United with All!

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