

Daughters of the Goddess



Spring 2015 – Fall 2015
925.787.9247

www.DaughtersoftheGoddess.com
Leilani@DaughtersoftheGoddess.com

3527 Mt. Diablo Blvd. #353
Lafayette, CA 94549

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.

***Inā he nui kau ukana e lawe mai ana, aha ho'i no 'oe me ka ukana.
If you come down with a big bundle (from the mountains),
you are going home with a big bundle (from the sea).***

Six Aloha Dianic Witches reverently weave down Kamehameha Highway, flanked on one side by the Sacred North Shore and on the other by the Ko'olau Mountains. The wind in our hair smells of the ocean, of rain, of flowers, of fertility ~ of life Herself. It has been raining this day and the Mountains radiate the greenest green that our eyes have ever seen. As our souls engage with the peaks through our eyes, waterfalls let us see them. They are shy at first and not sure if we are worthy of witnessing their greatness. But slowly, they reveal themselves to us until there are too many to count. Glorious white water falling into the boundless green. Tears fall from our cheeks at the awesomeness of this sight, mirroring the waterfalls with each drop.

The mountains tell stories here, on O'ahu. The Nuuanu Pali welcome us with open arms day after day. They breathe life into our spirits, while taking our breath away. Living this dichotomy in Her arms is the purest perfection. We pray that we will never lose this feeling. We pray that these images will stay in our minds for lifetimes.

Yes, the mountains tell stories here. If you listen closely, the stories are set to Kumu Patrick's Ipu rhythm. It is alive in the background: beating with our hearts. No longer are our eyes seeing alone. Now our hearts see and our senses feel the energy of the plants, the volcano, the animals and the Kanaka Maoli. We know what they know, we feel it in our hearts, and we know that with them, we exist in a Solidarity of Spirit. The mountains soar above. The waves crash onto the shore. The Ipu sings. We can do nothing else than promise to tell the stories. Blessed is this moment in time.



Aloha Daughters of the Goddess,

The recent Hawai'i pilgrimage struck a deep chord within my soul and the women who journeyed to O'ahu this Winter. I flash on many of the things I saw while there.

Uncle Butch again graced us with his presence and wisdom at Ka'ala Farm, an ancient Hawaiian Ahupua'a/living and food district, that is actively preserving and resurrecting the land/aina. Much of this valley has been left without water as giant holes are bored into the mountains of what would otherwise be one of the rainiest areas of the island, so that water can be diverted to support hotels, resorts and tourist areas in Waikiki. As we stood witness to the great beauty still being preserved at the Farm juxtaposed with the dry, brown, water deprived area where many locals live in Wainae, Uncle Butch said, "This is an example of what you don't want your island to become".

Auntie Pahia greeted us at the Kualoa beach house on a cloudy, windy, tropical, winter day with lessons about right and wrong. She wore a Hawaiian Sovereignty t-shirt with President Clinton's 1993 apology to the Hawaiian people written on the back; she also had on a black and white spiral shell ring and pointed to it saying, "in Hawaiian culture there is black and white, right and wrong, there is no in between".

Uncles and Aunties draped in Hawaiian flags on their person and on flagpoles approached the US Army Military 'listening session' at the Fort Derussy Hale Koa hotel to discuss the removal of the military in Hawai'i. An Uncle who served as a Marine and was now a Vet said, "I was a pilot and I did what you asked, took your chemicals, agent orange and other things and dumped them where you asked me to, took the dollar that said, "In God We Trust" and donated it to the church. I trusted you, and you hurt me. Enough boots on the ground here in Hawai'i, we need our land back for agriculture, feeding people, and giving homes to the houseless".

In Kaka'ako, near Waikiki, there is a condo development going up. The developers are happy to let folks know that in an effort to give back to the island, they will be including affordable housing in the project: the lowest priced condo will cost \$2 million dollars and the penthouse will sell for \$20 million. Everywhere houseless roam the streets of 'Honolulu Town'. You would think you are in another country or a very impoverished area of the United States. Hawaii's Ali'i/royalty once lived here, but now Kalakaua Street is graced with Gucci, Louis Vuitton, Cartier and stores for many of the high end designer names. I roam the streets here and speak to the houseless I meet. They are distraught, scared, weakened. There is no lying down anywhere in Waikiki - It's the Law. The tourists have complained to the City of Honolulu that seeing the houseless lying around was a downer to their perfect pleasant Hawaiian holidays. I guess it doesn't go with the Prada handbags.

I am bummed, distraught, and enraged. I am heartbroken and feel myself transform these feelings into impassioned and fired up energy toward Justice for Hawai'i and her sacred children. I hear the call of the Ancestors everywhere while there: Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop, Princess Ka'iulani, Princess Ruth, Queen Lili'uokalani, Queen Kapiolani, compassionate leaders for the Native Hawaiians/Kanaka Maoli. Let the women know the truth. Let them hear the history of Hawai'i. May they take the stories back to the continent, see if the people care. Many visit the islands, enjoying themselves and not knowing what a desperate emergency situation is happening with the local people. The more you attend Daughters of the Goddess rituals the more magick and energy you put into this cause and justice on our planet. Mahalo for this time of listening.

Malama Pono and Blessed be,

Leilani

Daughters of the Goddess Ritual Schedule

Leilani Birely - Author, Hawaiian Kahuna, Ordained Dianic High Priestess, and Ceremonialist has been bringing ancient Hawaiian healing and Goddess Wisdom to the community for nearly two decades. Kahuna Leilani earned her M.A. in Womyn's Spirituality from New College in San Francisco. She started The Daughters of the Goddess Womyn's Temple in 1996. Kahuna 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.

OPEN SERIES ~ These 11 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 information.

Monday, May 11th, Celebrate May Day and Laka Hawaiian Goddess of Hula and the Forest. Waning Moon in Pisces.
Please note ritual time 11AM - 5 PM

Tuesday, May 26th, Celebrate Norwan California Wintu Goddess who is the Light Warm Air That Dances Across the Surface of the Earth, Making the Plants Grow. Waxing Moon in Virgo.

Tuesday, June 2nd, Celebrate Juno Roman Goddess of Family & Marriage & Temple Sacred Flame. Full Moon in Sagittarius.

Saturday, June 20, Celebrate Summer Solstice & Egyptian Goddess Sekhmet & Temple Sacred Flame. Daughters of the Goddess 19th Anniversary. Waxing Moon in Leo.

Thursday, July 9th, Celebrate Aine Celtic Goddess of Summer and Sovereignty. Waning Moon in Taurus.

Friday, July 31st, Celebrate Lunar Lamas & Mastor-ava Finno-urgic Earth Mother & Goddess of Agriculture, Earth/Nature and Health/Healing. Full & Blue Moon in Aquarius.

Friday, August 14th, Celebrate Flora Roman Goddess of Flowers, Earth, Nature, Time, Ceremonies & Magic. New Moon in Leo.

Sunday, September 6th, Celebrate Yemaya Yoruban Goddess of the Ocean with our Annual Pilgrimage to the Sea. Oh Yemaya! Waning Moon in Cancer. **Please note ritual time 11AM - 4 PM**

Tuesday, September 22nd, Celebrate Fall Equinox and Deohako Seneca Goddess of Agriculture & Corn. Waxing Moon in Capricorn.

Thursday, October 8th, Celebrate Syrian Mother Rusa, Guardian Goddess of the Supernatural. Waning Moon in Virgo.

Friday, October 23rd, Annual Womyn's Spiral Dance Celebrating the Ancestors & Crones.
Waxing Moon in Pisces.

DAUGHTERS OF DIANA GATHERING 2015 ~ October 29th through November 1st, 2015 Kahuna Leilani will be presenting. Make magic and meaningful fun in sacred play with your sisters in the mountains about 90 miles east of Los Angeles. Come dance and drum under the harvest moon, sing in sacred circle, walk the labyrinth, shoot Archery, listen to Goddess music and poetry by candlelight, and create ritual art, as we affirm our Sacred Selves and celebrate the sabbat of Hallows in community ritual. Cabins have comfortable sleeping quarters, modern bathrooms, and hot showers. Wheelchair accessible cabins are available. Other facilities include a hot tub and an archery range. Meals are served in the main lodge, where hot beverages are always available. For more information go to DaughtersOfDianaGathering.org.

DAUGHTERS OF THE GODDESS ALOHA WITCH SCHOOL 2016 ~ Has the Goddess been visiting you in your dreams? Do you long for a deeper understanding of Womyn's Mysteries? Delight in Daughters of the Goddess Witch School, a year of study in the Aloha Dianic Tradition. Beginning in February 2016 the class will gather for one meeting each month culminating in the student's Initiation as Aloha Dianic Witches in January 2017! If you are interested please contact Leilani@DaughtersoftheGoddess.com.

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. Deepening is for womyn who desire to be a part of sustaining the Temple and working magic for this purpose. We create an in-depth experience with the technique and magic of ritual in conjunction with the Open Series. This series meets once a month for Deepening Rituals.

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.

Packages:	Exchange:
*Newcomer	1st ritual \$15 or 3 for \$45
*1 Open Ritual	\$30/please mail check
*All 11 Open Rituals	\$275/due at first ritual
*Deepening + All Rituals	\$425/at first Deepening ritual

Financial programs are available for qualifying incomes/budgets. Sorry no refunds.

Individual consultations, healings, Rites of Passage, and Temple Priestess training available upon request. Please call or e-mail Leilani. Her 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.