

Daughters of the Goddess Newsletter



Fall 2004 to Spring 2005
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A Dianic, Womyn-only Goddess Temple dedicated in the Spirit of Aloha to the preservation and perpetuation of Goddess culture, public ceremony, ritual and Womyn's Mysteries.

E onipa `a...i ka `imi na `auao

Be steadfast in the seeking of knowledge

We gather together, dressed in blue and white, in shells and glitter, sparkling like the Sun. The heartbeat of the waves keeps the rhythm for our stories. "I am Jesa, daughter of Margaret, daughter of Angela, daughter of Ona. I am Jesa, daughter of Leilani, daughter of Zsuzsanna." Each womyn shares the names from her Mother's lineage, going back as far as can be remembered. Yemaya beckons to us and we can sit no longer. We process down to Her foamy shore, singing Her praises. A crowd gathers but we take little notice. It is time to thank Her for our lives, for our Sisters, for our triumphs and gifts. She receives our gratitude and washes Her strength down over us, holding each womyn in Her salty embrace.

)) Jesumyn Angelica((



Aloha Daughters of the Goddess,

There are so many things happening in the world right now, including the upcoming Presidential election here in the States. We want change and a lot of energy and effort is going on to make that happen.

Leadership and the styles of leadership we want are big issues. It has become clear to me that the things I see as obvious about my role as High Priestess might not always be as transparent to others. I would like to shed light on my own style of leadership here in our Temple.

In the past eight and a half years as High Priestess of Daughters of the Goddess, I have worked through the issues women have had working with me and seeing a woman "in her power". Trust and intimacy become issues. I know we all carry around pain from past hurts and betrayals that we experienced with those seen in places of "authority": father, priest, teacher, husband. The leadership of our country is a current example of how this pain and hurt is alive and well.

Being raised by a Hawaiian mother, I feel I have had an advantage. In our culture, powerful women and inter-dependency are seen as assets and necessities—not threats. I look to the Spirit of Aloha to help weave together the varying backgrounds we all come from as we seek to build the community we crave. I know this is hard work!

I have intentionally chosen to use the title High Priestess with the understanding that this term sometimes triggers women. I ask you to dig deep within and find what it means to face a woman in power, and to feel that reflection. I use the term "High" to represent my connection and dedication to Spirit and the mystical realm. I do not use this word to invoke power over others. The title "Priestess" in this context is used to indicate my service to Goddess and Her women. Thus, I acknowledge my work and service to Her by the use of the term High Priestess as well as to indicate my ordination by Z Budapest.

As High Priestess of our Temple, I hold the prayers, spells and intentions that women make in circle in a very soulful and mindful way. I hold them until they come to fruition—long after the circle is opened and women have gone home. Often it is years before the transformation and manifestation of women's prayers come into actualization. I am here to see this magick through. This is the primary service I offer to women who choose to do their magickal work here. I am here to hold you and help you build yourself up. I am willing to sit and midwife your journey as long as you are willing to be here. I believe that when we put our magick together it is far more powerful.

I practice a leadership model of Aloha, co-operation and inclusiveness. I give my appreciation/Mahalo to all of you who have gifted me with the opportunity to hold your prayers and share your magick and I look forward to meeting those of you I am still to circle with.

A me ke aloha pumehana and Blessed Be, *)) Leisani((*



Daughters of the Goddess Ritual Schedule

Leilani Birely, Hawaiian Dianic Priestess and ceremonialist brings ancient Hawaiian healing and Goddess wisdom to the community. She is a graduate of the Women's Spirituality Masters Program at New College, San Francisco and ordained High Priestess of Northern California by ZSuzanna Budapest. Leilani gives thanks and honor to her teachers: Luisah Teish, Yoruban Chiefess and author of *Jambalaya*; ZSuzanna Budapest, author of *Grandmother of Time*; Vicki Noble author and co-creator of Motherpeace tarot; Starhawk, author and founder of the Reclaiming Collective, and Kumu Hula Patrick Makuakane and Mahea Uchiyama.

OPEN TO ALL SERIES: These 9 circles are open to all womyn desiring knowledge and experiential work with the multi-faceted aspects of Goddess in ritual. While these are NOT drop-in circles, you can confirm with Daughters of the Goddess on the day of ritual if you want to attend. **Gathering time is 7:30 p.m for all rituals unless otherwise noted.** See below for cost and contact information.

Tuesday, November 9th, Celebrate Hi'iaka, Hawaiian Goddess and Spirit of the Dance. Waning Moon in Libra.

*****Sunday, February 6th, Daughters of the Goddess Dedication Ceremony**, *by invitation only*. Moon in Capricorn. **Free ritual.*****

Friday, November 19th, Celebrate Laksmi, Hindu prosperity Goddess, with a money pouring ritual. Waxing Half-Moon in Aquarius.

Thursday, February 17th, Celebrate Ceibhfhionn, Celtic Water Goddess of Inspiration, Intelligence, Creativity, and the Well of Knowledge. Waxing Moon in Gemini.

Thursday, December 2nd, Celebrate Sekhmet, Egyptian lion-headed Goddess of Justice and Courage. Moon in Capricorn.

Tuesday, March 1st, Celebrate Sedna, Inuit Sea Goddess of fishing, water animals, and beauty. Moon in Scorpio.

Sunday, December 19th, Winter Solstice, celebrate the return of the Sun and longest night of the year. Waxing Moon in Aries.

Friday, March 18th, Spring Equinox, celebrate the return of Spring and the feast of Holi, Hindu Goddess of fertility and purification. Waxing Moon in Cancer.

Thursday, January 6th, Motherpeace Tarot with Karen Vogel. Moon in Sagittarius.

Thursday, April 14th, Celebrate Kuan Yin, Goddess of Compassion. Moon in Gemini.



DEEPENING SERIES: is for womyn who would like to be a part of creating a more in-depth experience with the technique and magick of ritual in conjunction with the open series; **attendance at a minimum of 6 rituals in the Open Series is required.** You must sign up for all of the Deepening rituals to participate; attendance at all rituals in the series is strongly recommended. Limited to 11 womyn. This is not a drop-in circle and you must sign up prior to the first ritual. See below for cost and contact information.

GET OUT AND VOTE!!! Daughters of the Goddess Womyn's Temple reminds you to exercise your right to vote on Tuesday, November 2nd. This election is critical for womyn's rights, the environment, First Amendment rights, and many other key issues. Please make a serious effort to find out about the candidates running and then to **go out and vote!** Together we can turn the tides.

GOOD VIBRATIONS BAST CREATIVITY BUD IN FEBRUARY 2005! Daughters of the Goddess Bast Creativity Bud is pleased to announce an upcoming sexuality Bast Bud to be held this February, in conjunction with Good Vibrations. Come and join us for an evening of self-discovery and fun! Good Vibrations products will be for sale, just in time for Lupercalia! More information is forthcoming. Please call or email us with your questions or comments.

DON'T FORGET ABOUT OUR ONLINE NEWSLETTER! Our expanded content newsletter is also available online on our beautiful website located at www.daughtersofthegoddess.com. Don't forget to check out some of our past issues while you are there!

Courage in women is often mistaken for insanity. —Author unknown

Packages	Exchange
Newcomer Discount 1st 3 Rituals	\$30 each/please mail check to us
1 Open Ritual	\$40/please mail check to us
6 Open Rituals	\$195/due at first ritual attended
All 9 Open Rituals	\$245/due at first ritual attended
Deepening + 9 Open Rituals	\$495/due 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 DG ritual. Partial work exchange, payment plans, student and crone discounts available. **No one turned away due to lack of funds.** Sorry—no refunds. Call or email Leilani at the contacts listed on the front page. Individual consultations, healings, rites of passage and Temple Priestess training available upon request.

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

Dps 11/4 12/6 Δ 10/18 1/29 2/6 3/10 4/25