

HONORING SPIRITS OF PLACE:

The Second Annual Conference of the Earth Medicine Alliance



OCTOBER 22ND-23RD, 2011
SAN FRANCISCO, CA

This is the conference program for the second annual conference of the Earth Medicine Alliance. The weekend includes nearly 20 panelists, presenters, and ceremonial leaders from different earth-honoring ways of life.

FEATURED PRESENTERS INCLUDE:



CHARLENE SUL
Councilwoman
Ohlone Nation
www.ohlonenation.org



UKUMBWA SAUTI
Diviner, Spiritual
Counselor, Sound Healer
www.ukumbwa.com



T. THORN COYLE
Magic worker, Singer,
Teacher in Feri Tradition
www.thorncoyle.com



TOM PINKSON
Psychologist, Ceremonial
Leader, Shaman
www.drtpinkson.com

On Saturday we'll gather at the Unitarian Universalist Center of San Francisco, and on Sunday smaller breakout groups will offer co-created earth healing ceremonies on public lands in and around San Francisco. We invite you to join us in the spirit of interfaith dialogue and earth healing. Registration is \$65 before Oct 1st and \$75 after. Spaces are limited. **To register please visit:** www.brownpapertickets.com/event/183067

*The **Earth Medicine Alliance** is a network of individuals and communities who share a deep love of this Earth and the many beings here. We believe that efforts to mend our relations with the rest of the natural world can bring together people of diverse ancestries, spiritual traditions, and ways of life for healing and celebration. We are a tax-exempt 501(c)3 religious non-profit in California.*

For more info visit www.earthmedicine.org or contact info@earthmedicine.org

HONORING SPIRITS OF PLACE: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22ND

DAY ONE of the conference will be an interactive day of teaching, ceremony, and interfaith dialogue. Attendees are welcome to arrive as early as 8:00am to enjoying being in community and to help set up for our day together. Please try to arrive by 9:15am for the opening ceremony and keynote address. All conference sessions will begin and end on time. Please arrive with cell phones silenced. Feel welcome to bring your lunch to eat on site. We need to be out of the space by 7:00pm, and we welcome support with that transition. This is our Day One program:

	Starr King Room	MLK Room	Fireside Room	Murdock Room
9:00-9:30am	Doors open, early arrival encouraged.			
9:30-10am	Opening Ceremony			
10-10:40am	Keynote Address & Dialogue on Honoring Spirits of Place, Daniel Foor			
11am-12:30pm	Native American Ceremonial Preparation, Practices and Protocol Charlene Sul and Carmen Saldivar	Radical Joy for Hard Times Trebbe Johnson	Honoring Place through Wilderness Questing Tom Pinkson and Maria Owl Gutierrez	Pilgrimage and Prayer: Honoring Place and Person through Shakta Tantra Chandra Alexandre
12:30-2:00pm	Lunch Break			
2:00-3:30pm	Dancing the Seven Sacred Directions T. Thorn Coyle	Honoring Ancestors as Spirits of Place J. Phoenix Smith, Atava Garcia Swiecicki, Charlene Sul, Catherine Herrera	Dagara Wisdom and the Power of Place Ukumbwa Sauti and Rebecca deGraw	The Faery Folk and the Ecology of Power in the Land Morpheus Ravenna
3:45-5:15pm	Embodying a Life of Prayer and Ceremony Hua Anwa	The Presence of Spirit on the Earth Craig Chalquist and Ginny Anderson	San Francisco Bay Area as the Holy Land Daniel Foor	Olokun: Honoring the Spirit of the Deep Ocean in Ifa/Orisha Tradition J Phoenix Smith
5:30-6:00pm	Day One Completion Circle and Dialogue			
6:00pm-on	Clear out of space by 7pm. Sign-ups for Informal Evening Dinners.			

9:00-5:30 Silent Auction and Voices of the Earth Project in Kincaid Room. For details on the silent auction, please see the detailed description at the end of the following section. The Voices of the Earth interview project aims to make earth-honoring wisdom accessible to all in the form of a free, online interview archive: www.earthmedicine.org/voicesoftheearth. We will be showing a selection from these interviews with diverse elders in the Kincaid room that will run throughout the day.

SATURDAY, OCT. 22ND PROGRAM

Opening Ceremony, 9:30 am-10:00 am. *Starr King Room*

In the interfaith spirit of our conference, the opening ritual will be a collaboration of conference presenters from diverse traditions and lineages. Co-leaders will offer song and prayer to the ancestors, the spirits of the land here, and Mystery/Spirit. Attendance is strongly encouraged as we weave together a sacred vessel for our gathering. We will begin promptly at 9:30am.

Keynote Address: Honoring Spirits of Place, 10:00 am-10:40 am. *Starr King Room*

In addition to our human sisters and brothers, spirits of place include the ancestors of the land, rivers and mountains, the spirits of animals, plants, and fungi, deities or forces whose bodies are the elements, and many other beings for whom we often have no names. By shedding the conditioning that encourages objectification of the natural world, we are invited back into conscious connection with our many local relations. What supports this journey of remembering, and what are the responsibilities implied by these other kinds of interpersonal relationships? Time for questions and dialogue. **Presenter: Daniel Foor.**

Native American Ceremonial Preparation, Practices and Protocol, the Hummingbird Way!

11:00 am-12:30 pm. *Starr King Room*

Charlene Sul (member of the Ohlone Nation) and Carmen Saldivar (Mescalero-Apache and Mexican-Spanish) are members of the 1,000 Hummingbirds Women's Council. The mission and devotion of the Hummingbird Women is to heal and sustain the well-being of Earth that includes the indigenous traditions of many nations. This work can only be accomplished when we as individuals build personal relationships with the places we encounter. This will be an open discussion regarding ways in which local Native Americans build relationships in nature and prepare for ceremony. The discussion will include ways in which one might support those who hold and teach Spiritual ways. **Presenters: Charlene Sul and Carmen Saldivar**

The **Earth Medicine Alliance** recognizes that our conference is being held in traditional Ohlone and Coast Miwok territory. We encourage all participants to become familiar with the human history of this land and the challenges facing Ohlone, Coast Miwok, and other Native peoples. The Alliance supports Ohlone efforts to obtain federal tribal recognition as well as the rights of Bay Area Native peoples to steward sites of cultural importance (e.g., burial sites, shellmounds, former village sites). For more info see: www.ohlonenation.org, www.ohloneprofiles.org, and www.indiancanyon.org.

Radical Joy for Hard Times, 11:00 am-12:30 pm. *Martin Luther King Room*

Creating a sustainable, thriving future on Earth depends on opening our hearts to the natural world in its brokenness as well as its splendor. When the places and species we love are damaged, we hurt, too. Yet by acknowledging our grief about what's happening to the planet and becoming willing to see the world as it truly is, we discover surprising beauty, reconnect even more deeply with the places we love, respond in empowering ways, and yes, even experience joy. **Presenter: Trebbe Johnson.**

Honoring Life Transitions: Sacred Rites for Sacred Times, 11:00 am-12:30 pm. *Fireside Room*

Almost all cultures and people across the globe have indigenous ancestors who practiced ritualized Rites of Passage to honor major life transitions. Modern times are also sacred times and transition rituals remain a powerful vehicle for integration. In what ways have you acknowledged these threshold experiences in your own life? Maria and Tomas invite you to join them for an experiential exploration of modern day Rites of Passage. You will be invited to consider what passage you are currently crossing through and, through drumming, journey to connect with spiritual and earthly resources for support.

Presenters: Dr. Tom Pinkson and Maria Owl Gutierrez.

Pilgrimage and Prayer: Honoring Place and Person through Shakta Tantra,

11:00 am-12:30 pm. *Murdock Room*

In the weavings of Tantra's radically non-dual philosophy, as well as a Goddess-centered and Earth-centered the(a)ology, the role of pilgrimage and prayer take center stage in the quest for liberation. Come join this experiential presentation to gain insight and practical skills for invoking, involving and growing the self toward empowerment, freedom, and right relationship with all beings. **Presenter: Chandra Alexandre.**

BREAK FOR LUNCH 12:30 PM-2:00 PM

Dancing the Seven Sacred Directions, 2:00 pm-3:30 pm. *Starr King Room*

Orient your soul to the sacred. Using meditational movements, together we will chant and dance to call upon Air, Fire, Water, Earth and the Spirit that connects them all. These infuse the Seven Sacred Directions used by many traditions: East, South, West, North, Above, Below and Center. Come move, dance, breathe, and celebrate the Divine flow. The movements are simple, and designed for non-dancers. Those who do not wish to dance can help us sing. All are welcome. **Presenter: T. Thorn Coyle.**

Honoring Ancestors as Spirits of Place, 2:00 pm-3:30 pm. *Starr King*

Humans have inhabited the San Francisco Bay Area for at least 10,000 years, and many members of the nations present at the time of European contact (e.g. Ohlone, Miwok, Wappo, Southern Wintu) continue to actively honor the resting places of their ancestors. Over the past two centuries this land has also become the final resting place for people of European, African, Asian, and other blood ancestries. How are ancestors also spirits of place, and how can we live in conscious and respectful ways with these local powers and relations? Time for questions and participant dialogue. **Presenters: Catherine Herrera, J. Phoenix Smith, Atava Garcia Swiecicki, and Charlene Sul.**

Dagara Wisdom and the Power of Place: An Active Relationship with Tenbalu, 2:00 pm-3:30 pm. *Fireside Room*

This workshop will engage the dynamics of the Spirit of earth, Tenbalu, the Dagara cosmology and the Ancestors as definitive to a healthy and harmonious physical and spiritual relationship with the earth. Participants will gain information about and explore the Dagara perspective on earth energy and consciousness and rituals that support creating and sustaining balance with the earth and our place on it. The presenters will facilitate a sacred connection with Tenbalu through their Dagara Spiritual Awareness practice. **Presenters: Ukumbwa Sauti and Rebecca deGraw**

The Faery Folk and the Ecology of Power in the Land, 2:00 pm-3:30 pm. *Murdock Room*

The Good People, the People of Peace, the Shining Ones: Throughout history, many cultures have recognized the presence of Faery beings. Who are these Otherworld beings, and what is their relationship to the natural world and human communities? In this workshop we will explore the role of the Faery folk in the ecology of life force as it moves through the Earth and living beings. We will also discuss their relation to sacred and haunted places in the land, along with methods for engagement with Faery allies, from traditional lore and personal experience. **Presenter: Morpheus Ravenna**

BREAK FROM 3:30 PM-3:45 PM

Embodying a Life of Prayer and Ceremony, 3:45 pm-5:15 pm. *Martin Luther King Room*

Clan Mother Hua Anwa will explore how practices of prayer and ceremony can help us to establish a strong connection to Creator while still living our modern daily lives. Through teaching, dialogue, and light ritual, she will also share how the traditions of indigenous people are the vessel for the memories of the land and how these traditions view the topic of spirits of place. Together participants will explore traditional protocols of respect on how to approach places where humanity's intrusion has left a major impact as well as places that are sacred and still occupied by guardian spirits or deities. **Presenter: Hua Anwa.**

The Presence of Spirit on the Earth, 3:45 pm-5:15 pm. *Murdock Room*

As we open to the presence of spirit on the Earth, many sentient beings take part in unfolding our personal stories. During this process, the web of life is lovingly woven, our interdependence revealed. Tools from depth psychology, weavings from myth, from song, the land's memories, and biomimicry, offer paths to explore as we find ourselves engaged in reciprocity that sustains all nature. **Presenters: Craig Chalquist and Ginny Anderson**

San Francisco Bay Area as the Holy Land, 3:45 pm-5:15 pm. *Fireside Room*

Now home to over eight million humans, the Bay Area remains a land of tremendous abundance and magic. How can we harmonize our personal histories with the specific needs and temperament of the spirits here in the Bay Area in 2011? What

types of rituals and practices can help us to embody ideals of conscious relationship with our other-than-human kin? Participants will be invited through direct visioning/trance work to engage one or more spirits of place in the Bay Area, possibly in preparation for Sunday rituals on the land. Time for questions and dialogue. **Presenter: Daniel Foor**

Olokun: Honoring the Spirit of the Ocean in Ifa/Orisha Tradition, 3:45 pm-5:15 pm. *Murdock Room*

Lucumí Santería and other Yoruba-based religions bring together a deep veneration for ancestors and for the natural world. After a brief introduction to this living wisdom tradition, participants will engage with Olokun, the ancestral Orisha (deity) of the Deep Ocean and the all those ancestors who have died at sea. Through stories, song, and group dialogue we will get to know some of the medicines and gifts of Olokun. The following day along the West Oakland shoreline we will offer an *aván* ceremony for Olokun to cleanse and pray for ourselves, the ancestors, and the local waters. **Presenter: J. Phoenix Smith.**

Completion Circle from 5:30 pm-6:00 pm. *Starr King Room*

All participants are invited to gather for this completion for the first day of the conference. We will offer up any closing prayers, and review the plan for Sunday circles on the land. We will also be announcing the winners of the Silent Auction. After we close, we'll clear out of the conference space together. Everyone is welcome to join one of the smaller evening breakout groups for dinner. **Moderator: Daniel Foor.**

Silent Auction and Voices of the Earth Project 9:00 am-5:30 pm. *Kincaid Room*

In our silent auction, we will feature art from local artists and healing services from our extended community. Please come by the Kincaid Room between sessions and at lunch and consider supporting in this way the work the Earth Medicine Alliance. Featured items include one day/night for two at Orr Hot Springs, a 10-class pass at Laughing Lotus Yoga Center, and a beautiful hand-crafted ceremonial drum. Checks and cash only please, winners announced in closing circle.

SPONSORS OF THE EARTH MEDICINE CONFERENCE HONORING SPIRITS OF PLACE

The Earth Medicine Alliance would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous support:

J. Phoenix Smith, EcoSoul Wisdom, www.ecosoulwisdom.org

Kelley Rainwater, Chapel of the Divine Mother, www.chapelofthedivinemother.org

"Artemis" Diana Halfmann, Elemental Wisdom, www.ElementalWisdomSF.com

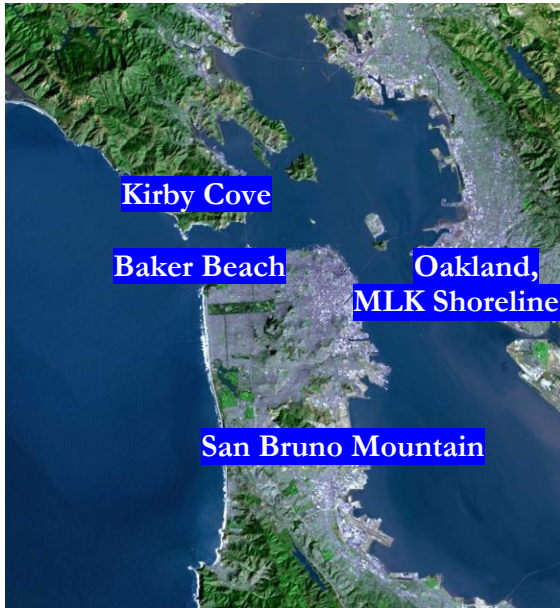
Daniel Foor, Ancestral Medicine, www.ancestralmedicine.org



The Earth Medicine Alliance is a tax-exempt 501(c) non-profit sustained by charitable donations.

SUNDAY, OCT. 23RD PROGRAM

DAY TWO of the conference will be from 11am-3pm in one of four locations around San Francisco. These concurrent rituals aim to put into practice the conference theme of relating with spirits of place.



All conference participants are encouraged to join one of the four ceremonies on the land on day two. Circles begin promptly at 11am on Sunday and complete by 3pm. This includes a group lunch together on the land after ritual from 2-3pm.

Please arrive on time and plan to stay for the duration. There is sufficient parking at each site with the possible exception of Kirby Cove. Carpool is encouraged and detailed directions will be available at the conference.

Although each ritual has its own intent, we hold the four concurrent rituals as a collective offering and prayer for the well-being of the ancestors, the land and waters here in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Please make sure to dress for the weather, including sun exposure and coolness. We'll still meet if it's raining. See below for details on what to bring for each ritual. If you are not able to attend Day One of the conference, you are still welcome at Sunday rituals, by donation.

(East Bay) Awan Ceremony for Olokun, West Oakland Shoreline

Honored for more than 700 years in West Africa and the Diaspora, Olokun is the owner of the sea and lagoons. Experienced both as male and female, s/he is also strongly associated with the ancestors, especially those that died during the Middle Passage or who worked at sea. We will gather at Middle Harbor Shoreline Park in the isolated and neglected community of West Oakland where residents, mainly communities of color, face five times more pollution than others in Oakland. We will offer prayers for ecological restoration, social justice, health, and prosperity for all. **Ritual co-leaders: J. Phoenix Smith and Michael Atwood Mason.**

(Peninsula) Sharing the Spirit of Place, San Bruno Mountain

The wisdom and beauty of each place we walk upon is held not only by people, but also by the all the living beings who share that space, by the ancestors both human and non-human, by all the thought-forms created by actions and by dreams. Together we will weave filaments to honor the ancestors of the land and other local relations whose presence continues to weave the strength of San Bruno Mountain. **Ritual co-leaders: Ginny Anderson, Charlene Sul, and Hua Anwa.**

(San Francisco) Exchanging Gifts of Beauty, Baker Beach

Earth gives beauty abundantly, in pristine wild places, oceans, even urban wastelands. In this ceremony, which takes place within sight of the Golden Gate Bridge at Baker Beach, we honor the gifts of the place and the beings, seen and unseen, who live there. Then, in response, we co-create a ceremony full of our heart song and embodied wisdom to give back beauty as an aspect of our love, devotion, and reverence. **Ritual co-leaders: Chandra Alexandre and Trebbe Johnson.**

(North Bay) Ritual of Reconciliation and Water Honoring, Kirby Cove

In the Dagara tradition of Burkina Faso, West Africa we are currently in a water year. Some of the medicines of water include healing, forgiveness, and reconciliation. We'll circle near the base of the Golden Gate Bridge, the meeting place of sweet and salty water, and offer song and prayer to invite healing and open-heartedness into our relationships with the Earth, with one another, and with the specific spirits of this place. Feel welcome to bring natural biodegradable offerings (e.g., flower petals, incense, ash), rattles, and hand drums. **Ritual co-leaders: Ukumbwa Sauti, Rebecca deGraw, and Daniel Foor.**

Please Note: The walk to and from the Cove is about ¾ mile each way along a mildly sloped gravel service road. We will meet at 11 am down at the Cove and finish below by 3 pm. Please try to carpool for this gathering as parking can be a challenge along Conzelman Road.

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

CHANDRA ALEXANDRE was initiated in 1998 into the mysteries of the dark goddess Kali in India. She is the founder and a spiritual leader of SHARANYA, www.sharanya.org, a federally-recognized church dedicated to engaged spirituality for social justice and transformation. As adjunct research faculty at the Institute for Transpersonal Psychology, Chandra is known for her passionate engagement of theory and practice through courses on women's spirituality, tantra, ecofeminism and leadership. She is actively committed to the empowerment of women and girls through service work. Chandra is conjurer of "The Aghori Bakery: Everyday Spiritual Conversations" (forthcoming)

GINNY ANDERSON is an eco-psychologist, licensed therapist, practitioner of shamanism and feminist spirituality, and leader of rituals of personal and community transformation. An as elder deeply involved with transformation of consciousness, she weaves diverse threads of influence from Andean shamanism, Stanford University, Buddhist meditation, and story-telling traditions. Her book, *Circling San Francisco Bay: A Pilgrimage to Wild and Sacred Places*, provides a template for exploring places of power and expanding perceptual awareness. Ginny guides journeys to sacred sites, leads workshops in earth spirituality, speaks to groups and organizations, and offers shamanic healing services. www.eco-psychology.com

HUA ANWA is a Metis Elder, a teacher of mixed Mayan and Cherokee descent and an adopted Chumash. She has been leading ceremony on the Central Coast for nearly thirty years, including an annual Women's Long Dance, now in its 21st year. She is the spiritual leader of Circles of Empowerment, a non-denominational organization on the Central Coast of California that honors the many sacred traditions of Turtle Island and our Earth Mother. Early on, Hua answered Spirit's call to be a shamanic healer. She removes "dark arrows" and other attachments, performs soul retrieval and offers counseling. www.huaanwa.com and www.circlesofempowerment.org

CRAIG CHALQUIST is a core faculty member in the Department of Consciousness & Transformative Studies at John F. Kennedy University and an adjunct research instructor for the California Institute of Integral Studies. He has worked as a family therapist, conflict resolution facilitator, lecturer, and group facilitator. Some of his extensive publications include: *Terrapsychology: Reengaging the Soul of Place, Deep California*, and *The Folly of Repetition and the Wisdom of Remembrance: 30 Crucial Neglected Lessons of History*. Craig is also a Certified Master Gardener through the University of California Cooperative Extension with certificates in Sustainable Landscaping and Permaculture Design. www.chalquist.com

T. THORN COYLE is a magic worker. An internationally respected teacher and mentor, she is the author of "Kissing the Limitless" and "Evolutionary Witchcraft", hosts the Elemental Castings series, writes a popular weblog, Know Thyself, and has produced several CDs of sacred music. Her spiritual direction practice – which includes soul reading, and body/spirit coaching – reaches people all over the world. Pagan, mystic, and activist, she is founder and head of Solar Cross Temple and Morningstar Mystery School and lives by the San Francisco Bay. www.thorncoyle.com

REBECCA DEGRAW, MA, BC-DMT, Dance/Movement Therapist, Diviner, is a Cloth Diviner and Kontomble Diviner in the West African Dagara tradition. She completed the 2-year training facilitated by Malidoma Some', Alwyn Thomas and the East Coast Village Dagara Elders in Indigenous African Spiritual Technologies. She is a member of East Coast Village and facilitates communal ritual work there and in the Boston area. She has developed the class, *Womb Wisdom Dance and Ritual*, empowering women and men in creating sacred space to reclaim and heal the balance of feminine and masculine energies. www.funplay.org/index.html

DANIEL FOOR has studied world religion for 15 years with an emphasis on diverse forms of shamanism and indigenous wisdom including the earth-honoring traditions of his Northern European ancestors. He leads trainings and offers individual sessions focused on ancestral healing, ritual work in nature, clarifying personal destiny. www.ancestralmedicine.org. Daniel is passionate about embodying earth-honoring wisdom in inclusive, heart-centered ways that emphasize our capacity for service and our innate joy. He is also the founder and executive director of the Earth Medicine Alliance, www.earthmedicine.org.

MARIA OWL GUTIERREZ is the founder of Ancient Path Vision Quests, a Bay Area group leading 9-day wilderness fasts to the Sierras and local day-long rituals focused on re-establishing the sacred, intimate relationship between humans, Soul, nature, cosmos and the numinous. Maria is a practicing Marriage-Family Therapist Intern and is a spiritual counselor and healer in her private practice. She also serves on the board of directors of the Earth Medicine Alliance. To learn more about her work go to: www.mariaowl.com

TREBBE JOHNSON is the founder and director of Radical Joy for Hard Times, a non-profit organization devoted to finding and making beauty in ecologically wounded places. She's the author of *The World Is a Waiting Lover: Desire and the Quest for the Beloved* and the director of Vision Arrow, offering journeys worldwide that combine the mythic journey and the quest for insight through nature. She lives with her husband in rural northeastern Pennsylvania. www.radicaljoyforhardtimes.org/ and www.visionarrow.com/

MICHAEL ATWOOD MASON was initiated by traditional Lucumí elders in Havana in 1992. Born from Yemayá-Olokun, the goddess of the sea, he has long apprenticed with famed Obá Ernesto Pichardo of the Church of the Lukumí Babalú-Ayé and leading elders in Cuba. Beginning in 1996, Michael initiated the first four Oricha priests in Washington, DC and later performed the first legally recognized marriage by an Oricha priest in the world. He is also the author of *Living Santería: Rituals and Experiences in an Afro-Cuban Religion* and the blog *Baba Who? Babalú:* www.baba-who-babalú-santeria.blogspot.com/

TOM PINKSON is a psychologist, ceremonial leader, sacred storyteller, musician and songwriter who completed an eleven year apprenticeship with Huichol shaman in Mexico in 1992. He serves as a bridge builder of indigenous wisdom into mainstream consciousness. Tom helped start the second hospice in the United States, worked with terminally ill children for thirty two years, founded Wakan, a nonprofit using indigenous spirituality to help restore awareness of the sacred in daily life. He is the author of *Shamanic Wisdom of the Huichol: Medicine Teachings for Modern Times.* www.drtpinkson.com/

MORPHEUS RAVENNA is a spiritual worker, artist, teacher, and initiate of the Anderson Feri tradition of witchcraft. Her interests include folk magickal traditions, working with Otherworld powers, and Celtic heroic spirituality. Her work at Stone City Pagan Sanctuary helps provide a space for Pagan and nature-based community in northern California, and she recently appeared in the documentary "American Mystic." She can be reached through her website at www.beansidhe.net, or through Stone City at www.thestonecity.org.

CARMEN P. SALDIVAR, Isdzan Itsa Ijii (Eagle Heart Woman) became involved in community activities at a young age, working alongside her mother, as well as Dolores Huerta and Cesar Chavez. At age 42, she learned that she was $\frac{3}{4}$ Apache and began learning from an Apache elder. Since then, she has been working with spiritual elders from White Mountain and with Mescalero. A council member of 1000 Hummingbirds, Carmen has gathered Native American mentors for Native childrens' after school programs. Carmen has worked on San Jose's Native American Heritage Commission and Northern California Apache Council. Please visit www.1000hummingbirds.concarino.org

UKUMBWA SAUTI, M.Ed., is an initiated Elder in the West African Dagara tradition and a diviner, numerologist, spiritual counselor, sound healer and speaker/presenter. Ukumbwa is also a teacher of higher education in the areas of cultural media studies and video production. Ukumbwa has trained with Malidoma Some', Alwyn Thomas and the East Coast Village Dagara Elders in Indigenous African Spiritual Technologies and serves on the board of the Ancestral Wisdom Bridge Foundation. Ukumbwa facilitates the Gatherings of Gratitude and Dagara Spiritual Awareness practice sessions and other ritual events in the Boston area. Visit his website at www.ukumbwa.com/

J. PHOENIX SMITH, MSW, is a practitioner and a student of Earth-honoring wisdom with a focus on African diasporic-centered teachings and ways of life rooted in the wisdom of her diverse ancestors and the Lucumi and Ifa Orisa traditions. She is an initiated Priest of the Orisa Aganyu, and has developed and managed health and wellness programs for African Americans. She is the founder of EcoSoul, an ecotherapy and social justice organization that works to facilitate a deeper connections with nature and intergenerational healing for personal and community wellness. www.ecosoulwisdom.org

CHARLENE SUL was born and raised in San Jose, CA, and members of her family have lived in this 50-mile radius for hundreds of years. She is founder of the Confederation of Ohlone People www.ohloneation.org whose mission is to organize Ohlone people and their supporters, and she also co-leads the 1000 Hummingbirds gatherings, now entering their fourth year www.1000hummingbirds.concarino.org. She is an accomplished textile artist and acrylic painter and also serves as CEO for Sul and Associates. Charlene is interested in empowering others to serve their own communities.

ATAVA GARCIA SWIECICKI, MA, RH (AHG) is inspired by the healing traditions of her Polish, Hungarian, Mexican and Navajo ancestors. She is a clinical herbalist, bodyworker, dream group leader and teacher. She received her undergraduate degree in Feminist Studies at Stanford, her graduate degree in Indigenous Mind at Naropa University, and has studied with many indigenous healers and elders. She is the owner of Ancestral Apothecary in Oakland and has created her own line of herbal products. She also teaches classes in herbal medicine, healing dreamwork and ancestral recovery work in the Bay Area and beyond. www.ancestralapothecary.com.

DIRECTIONS, PUBLIC TRANSIT, PARKING, AND NEARBY RESTAURANTS

The conference is located at the First Unitarian Universalist Church and Center, 1187 Franklin Street, S.F., CA 94109. For more information, including online directions, visit: www.uusf.org. For information on public transit in the Bay Area, please visit: www.511.org.

From the East Bay: Take the Bay Bridge (80W) into San Francisco. Follow 101 N towards the Golden Gate Bridge. Take exit 434A to merge onto 101N/Mission Street towards the Golden Gate Bridge. Turn Left onto South Van Ness Ave. Turn Left at Turk Street. Take the first Right onto Franklin. The church will be on the left, between O'Farrell and Geary.

From the South Bay/San Francisco Airport: Take 101N towards San Francisco. Take exit 434A to merge onto 101N/Mission Street towards the Golden Gate Bridge. Turn Left onto South Van Ness Ave. Turn Left at Turk Street. Take the first Right onto Franklin. The church will be on the left, between O'Farrell and Geary.

From the North Bay: Take 101S across the Golden Gate Bridge into S.F. Turn Right at Gough. Turn Left at Starr King Way/O'Farrell. Turn Left at Franklin. The church will be on the left, between O'Farrell and Geary.

Parking in San Francisco can be an adventure. Meters are often only good for 2 hours. We recommend finding a secure garage for the day. There are several parking lots in the area (prices vary):

- **1000 Van Ness Garage:** 950 o'farrell st (between Van Ness and Polk), San Francisco
- **Central Parking System:** 1150 Post St (at Van Ness), San Francisco
- **US Parking, Inc.:** 1375 Sutter Street (at Franklin), San Francisco

Restaurants. The following restaurants are within walking distance (less than 1/3 mile) of the Unitarian Church and open during lunch and dinner hours:

- **Tommy's Joynt.** American diner-style. 1101 Geary Boulevard (at Van Ness), (415) 775-4216
- **Maharani's Restaurant.** Indian. 1122 Post Street (at Polk), (415) 775-1988
- **Kyoto Sushi.** 1233 Van Ness Ave (at Daniel Burnham Court/Hemlock Street), (415) 351-1234
- **Cilantro Mexican Restaurant.** 1035 Geary St (at Van Ness), (415) 931-6065
- **Alborz.** Middle Eastern. 1245 Van Ness Ave (at Sutter), (415) 440-4321
- **Village Pizzeria.** 1243 Van Ness Ave (at Sutter), (415) 673-7771
- **Van Ness Bakery/Café.** Bakery & Sandwiches, 1122 Van Ness Ave (at Geary), (415) 673-5000
- **Wok Shop Café.** Chinese. 1307 Sutter St (at Van Ness), (415) 771-2142

The Earth Medicine Alliance is a tax-exempt 501(c)3 non-profit guided by the following mission:

We invite humans to remember their unity with the living Earth and to nourish alliances with our other-than-human relations. We accomplish this through teaching and supporting earth-honoring religious traditions, spiritual practices, and ways of life.

We also have a monthly e-newsletter and an Earth Medicine Alliance page on Facebook. To learn more about our **Voices of the Earth Project** or find out ways you can support the Alliance, please visit our website or be in touch.

Thank you for your support of the conference!

www.earthmedicine.org