

The Mountain Hermitage



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"Peace in the world begins with peace in our own minds. Wise and compassionate action in the world arises from wisdom and compassion within ourselves. The Mountain Hermitage will help water and nurture the seeds of peace, wisdom and compassion for those who practice there, cultivating the intention to benefit all."

— Joseph Goldstein

The Mountain Hermitage ...

will be a small retreat center founded according to the traditions of Theravada Buddhism and dedicated to supporting and sustaining a way of life based in principles and practices as taught by the Buddha. We are building a center to welcome students of the Dharma who have had sufficient experience to devote themselves to a period of intensive meditation practice for one month or longer.

Retreatants will follow a relatively independent meditation schedule, with the potential of time for study and occasional Dharma discussion. Practice guidance-interviews and occasional Dharma talks will be offered by the resident guiding teacher and other resident or visiting teachers. The Hermitage will develop a library of selected books and tapes that will be available to retreatants as a resource and support for their practice.

Our intent is to build up to seven small, simple, private cottages, with a separate central kitchen-dining, bathing and meditation hall complex. Teacher housing and staff cottages will be simple independent structures.

On Sunday mornings the Hermitage meditation hall will be open for a set amount of time to the larger community for meditation, a Dharma talk and discussion.

The Mountain Hermitage project is an active effort to support and enhance the deepening of each person's awareness of the deepest truths — to come to understand the truth of suffering and the liberation from it that is available to us all. The fruits of each person's meditation practice ripple out and touch the lives of many — making a difference in this world.

The Mountain Hermitage is dedicated to the inner cultivation and outer manifestation of wisdom, lovingkindness, compassion and peace ... a vision for deepening Dharma practice in the West. Our path towards peace in this complex world leads us to a place of simplicity and silence where our spiritual growth will be sustained and supported. The Hermitage will be a home for long-term spiritual practice in a quiet and beautiful mountain setting in the Taos, New Mexico area.

Our Vision

The world needs more people who have a wise and compassionate spiritual maturity. The Mountain Hermitage will provide the space and support for this maturity to grow and blossom.



Generosity

THANK YOU for your interest in The Mountain Hermitage. This project abounds with much inspiration and excitement, but your interest and support are essential in the realization of this vision. We will be keeping you up-to-date on the progress of the Hermitage periodically through a newsletter format. We welcome your feedback and deeply appreciate your connection and any support you are able to offer toward bringing this wonderful vision into full fruition.

MANY THANKS to all who have already so generously donated to The Mountain Hermitage. Our fundraising campaign is underway and beginning to take root. Most recently we have been awarded a seed grant from a small foundation. We are deeply grateful to all of you who through your generous support are helping the Hermitage dream become reality.

With much metta,
Marcia Rose
and the Board of Directors of
The Mountain Hermitage

Details About The Retreat Center

The principles of sustainable development and renewable energy will be the basis of our construction phase. Ecological responsibility and respect for the native environment — plant and animal life—will be a priority in all aspects of planning. Construction will be simple and aesthetic, of sound quality, using non-toxic materials wherever possible.

Our commitment to long-life, low maintenance costs and maintaining the natural beauty of the area will be a major consideration for both buildings and landscaping.

There are plans for a wheelchair accessible yogi (retreatant) cottage with full bathroom facilities, with other cottages dedicated for use by Buddhist monastics, those engaged in social service work such as hospice workers, environmental activists, those who work with inner city populations, and lay Dharma teachers. There will always be at least three to four cottages available at the Hermitage for any and all practitioners who qualify for long-term independent meditation practice.

We are deeply committed to keeping the operating expenses and the daily rate of the Hermitage as low as possible. There is also the intention to create support for those in need through a scholarship fund.

How Will We Succeed?

To realize the vision of the Mountain Hermitage, the first task is to purchase land and begin construction plans. We are seeking financial sponsorship from foundations, trusts, corporations, and individuals.

We welcome your participation in creating this sanctuary of wisdom, compassion and peace that will serve the world. Your personal interest and support are what will make this unique and significant vision manifest.

The Mountain Hermitage vision is one that will benefit a broad and growing range of people over time ... those who come to the Hermitage to practice and those who are touched by the many and varied ways that the fruits of Dharma practice work in the world. We invite you to join this vision by offering whatever financial support you can, however small or large. Please consider joining our spiritual community through a great and worthy act, the practice of generosity — the profound and sacred practice of Dana as taught by the Buddha.

We are seeking contributors to support various phases of the project.

Your personal connection, interest and support for any of the following will be deeply meaningful for many people over time.

Land Purchase

Wheelchair accessible cottage

Staff housing

Cottages for any qualified Dharma students

Cottage dedicated to social service workers and Lay Dharma teachers

Meditation Hall

Cottage for Monastics

Sustainable energy systems

Kitchen-dining room

Teacher housing

Library

Please contact us by phone, e-mail or postal mail
for more detailed information about any of the above.



“When I remember [my acts of generosity], I shall be glad.
 When I am glad, I shall be happy.
 When my mind is happy, my body will be tranquil.
 When my body is tranquil, I shall feel pleasure.
 When I feel pleasure, my mind will be concentrated.
 That will bring the development of the spiritual faculties in me and also the development of the spiritual powers and the enlightenment factors.”

— Visakaha: the Buddha’s Chief Patron

How You Can Help?

Your support is what will create The Mountain Hermitage. All donations in any amount or form are welcomed and deeply appreciated. The Hermitage is a 501(c)(3) non profit charitable organization as fully recognized by the IRS. All donations are tax deductible.

We look forward to talking with you, telling you more about the Hermitage and how it will benefit individuals and all beings.

Opportunities For Giving

- Supporters \$100 - \$499
- Friends \$500 - \$999
- Guardians \$1,000 - \$4,999
- Sponsors \$5,000 - \$9,999
- Patrons \$10,000 - \$19,999
- Benefactors \$20,000 - \$49,999
- Angels \$50,000 - \$99,999
- Devas \$100,000 - \$500,000

Yes, I would like to help

Name: _____

Organization (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Country: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

I would prefer to be contacted by: _____

- I would like to help financially by:
- ◆ A one time gift of \$ _____
 - ◆ A yearly gift of \$ _____
 - ◆ A quarterly gift of \$ _____
 - ◆ A monthly gift of \$ _____

I pledge the amount of \$ _____ to be paid

 (Date)

I would like to help with an in-kind donation of (please list):

I would like someone to contact me to discuss the plans for The Mountain Hermitage and how I may become a part of those plans. _____

Every gift no matter how great is meaningful to the creation of the Mountain Hermitage. Please remember us in your meditations.

Please return this form to:
 The Mountain Hermitage
 PO Box 807
 Ranchos de Taos, NM 87557
 505-737-2442



Who Will Be The Resident Teacher?



Marcia Rose

Marcia Rose is the resident guiding teacher for The Mountain Hermitage. She is also co-founder and guiding teacher for Taos Mountain Sangha Meditation Center.

Marcia has been practicing and studying the Buddha's teachings, meditation and related disciplines with Asian and Western teachers since 1970, primarily in the Vipassana-Theravada (Path of the Elders) and Dzogchen Buddhist traditions.

She was the resident teacher for staff at the Insight Meditation Society (IMS) in Barre, MA from 1991 to 1995 and continues to teach at the annual IMS three month retreat, as well as being a visiting teacher for the IMS Forest Refuge. Marcia also leads retreats throughout the U.S. and internationally.