

May 3, 2010

For Immediate Release

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## Weekend of the Elements

Benefit for the Center for Sacred Studies and the International Council of Thirteen Indigenous Grandmothers  
May 21 - 23, 2010 at various locations at the Russian River

Guerneville, CA. The **Center for Sacred Studies** and the **International Council of Thirteen Indigenous Grandmothers** present **Weekend of the Elements**, a benefit for the Thirteen Indigenous Grandmothers with a full schedule of events honoring the four elements: **Water, Air, Fire and Earth**. The weekend kicks off with a screening of Carole Hart's documentary about the Thirteen Indigenous Grandmothers Council, **For the Next 7 Generations**, on Friday evening. Activities on Saturday begin with a **Blessing of the Waters with Grandmother Flordemayo**, and Jyoti- Ambassador to the International Council of the Thirteen Indigenous Grandmothers will introduce the movie. & **"Paddling For Peace"** a guided river trip with Pomo native, Suki Waters. Air will be represented Saturday afternoon at the festivities surrounding the grand opening of the **Center for Sacred Studies' Samadhi Life Store** in Guerneville. There will a **Bonfire and Drum Circle** early Saturday evening and the event concludes with a **Guided Hike** in Armstrong Woods on Sunday morning. The event will be honored by a visit from **Grandmother Flordemayo**,

Events associated with **Weekend of the Elements** will take place on **Friday May 21<sup>st</sup> through Sunday May 23<sup>rd</sup>** at various locations in the Russian River area.

We are excited to announce that the 13 Indigenous Grandmothers Council and The Center for Sacred Studies are the designated beneficiaries of the **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Russian River Women's Weekend Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament**. The tournament will run from 6 -10pm at Buck's Restaurant at 4<sup>th</sup> & Mill in Guerneville.

**"For The Next 7 Generations"** will be screened at 7pm on Friday at the Composer's House at 16375 4<sup>th</sup> Street in Guerneville. Grandmother Flordemayo will introduce the movie. Suggested donation \$5-10. For those wishing to stay after the movie, **Seth Montfort** is launching **"Indigenous Fridays"** a classical program with African, Amazonia, Carribean, Incan, Javanese, Mayan and Zuni influenced music. "The American Indianists: Farwell, Cadman Troyer, Skilton, Cowell, Sas, Villa-Lobos, and Montfort's Temple to the Sun from the Aztec Piano Symphony. Indigenous Fridays is a benefit for SF Concerto with a separate admission fee.

Most of the events have a \$5-10 suggested donation; Paddling for Peace is \$85 per paddler or \$25 if you bring your own boat. Contact Valerie Hausmann at the CSS store for more information or to sign-up for the Elements Package or Paddling for Peace. Call her at (707)-604-7362 or email her at

[css.valeriehausmann@gmail.com](mailto:css.valeriehausmann@gmail.com)

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### **CSS Mission Statement:**

The Center for Sacred Studies (CSS) is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to sustaining indigenous ways of life through cross-cultural spiritual practices, ministry and education, and a commitment to peace and unity for all peoples.

[www.sacredstudies.org](http://www.sacredstudies.org)

### **About the Grandmothers:**

The International Council of 13 Indigenous Grandmothers represent a global alliance of prayer, education and healing for our Mother Earth, all Her inhabitants, all the children, and for the next seven generations to come. They are thirteen

female elders from the Amazon, Asia, Africa, Mexico, the Arctic Circle, the Northwest Southwest and Midwest U.S. and Central America. They came together for the first time in October 2004 in Phoenicia, New York and have committed to holding a council meeting every 6 months at each Grandmothers' homeland. They are deeply concerned with the unprecedented destruction of our Mother Earth and the destruction of indigenous ways of life. They believe the teachings of our ancestors will light our way through an uncertain future. They look to further their vision through the realization of projects that protect their diverse cultures: lands, medicines, language and ceremonial ways of prayer and through projects that educate and nurture our children. [www.grandmotherscouncil.org](http://www.grandmotherscouncil.org)

### **Schedule of Events: for Friday May 21<sup>st</sup> through Sunday May 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Friday:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Russian River Women's Weekend Texas Hold'em Poker Tournaments, Benefitting **The Grandmothers Council and The Center for Sacred Studies (CSS)**, 6-10pm at Buck's

**7pm to 8:30pm – The Grandmother Movie – “For The Next 7 Generations”** at the Composer's House (address). Grandmother Flordemayo and Ambassador Jyoti will introduce the movie. All Proceeds benefit CSS/The Grandmothers Council. Suggested donation \$5-10

**9pm: Seth Montfort:** Indigenous Fridays Classical program honoring the 13 Grandmothers with African, Amazonia, Caribbean, Incan, Javanese, Mayan and Zuni influenced music. “The American Indianists: Farwell, Cadman Troyer, Skilton, Cowell, Sas, Villa-Lobos, and Montfort's Temple To The Sun from the Aztec Piano Symphony.

#### **Saturday:**

##### **1st Element: WATER**

**8:30 to 10:30** - Open Brunch for package participants

**9am** - Blessing of the Water with **Grandmother Flordemayo and Ambassador Jyoti**

**10:30 to 1:00** - Paddling for Peace: A Guided Tour of the beautiful Russian River, with Suki Waters

##### **2<sup>nd</sup> Element: AIR**

**3:00-5pm** - Grand Opening **of the Guerneville office of The Center for Sacred Studies/ Samadhi Life Store** at 13550 Church Street, Guerneville. Celebration will include start with Poetry Readings by Poet Laureate Mike Tuggle and Judy Goldberg \* Live Music by Seth Montfort \* Screening of “For the Next 7 Generations” movie about the 13 Indigenous Grandmothers, and Book Signing by Grandmother Flordemayo.

##### **Element: FIRE**

**5:-30-7pm** - Drum Circle and bonfire at Mirabel Park...on the rivers edge.

**7:00pm** – Firewalk with Certified Firewalker Jennifer Lyson - Register online at <http://www.russianriverwomensweekend.org/firewalk> or contact Jen directly at [Jengoddess13@msn.com](mailto:Jengoddess13@msn.com)

#### **Sunday**

##### **Element: EARTH**

**10:00 to 11:30am** – Gentle Hike through our majestic Armstrong Woods State Redwood Preserve. Starting from Armstrong Woods Parking Lot at the end of Armstrong Woods Road

**Elements Weekend Fundraising Package** (does not include Firewalk) \$150.00 per person includes: Camping for Friday and Saturday. \* Screening of **For the Next 7 Generations** (Grandmothers' Movie) \* Light breakfast on Saturday \* Paddling for Peace \* CSS/Samadhi Life Grand Opening Festivities - Snacks for sale! \* Bonfire & Drum Circle \* Hike in a Armstrong Woods

**Fundraising Al la Carte:** Paddling for Peace - \$85 per person- \$25 if you bring your own kayak! These events have a suggested donation of \$5-10, however no one will be turned away due to lack of funds: (we do not charge or ask donations for prayer) Grandmothers Movie. Bonfire & Drum Circle; Grand Opening festivities; Hike in Armstrong Woods