

# 12<sup>th</sup> WORLD CONGRESS OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

## ***Toward Insight and Wholeness: Our Role in Shaping the Future***

23 to 27 July 2025, Venue: University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

### **Wednesday, 23 July**

- 7.00-9.00 AM Registration
- 9.00 AM First Nation's Welcoming  
Prayers of the Religions, Universal Prayer  
OPENING OF THE 12th WORLD CONGRESS  
Welcoming by the Hosting TS  
Address by Tim Boyd, *International President*
- 10.30 AM KEYNOTE ADDRESS  
"150 Years of Theosophy"  
Michael Gomes, *Theosophical Historian and Author, TS USA*  
Book release "H. P. Blavatsky Collected Writings Russian Serials"
- 3.00 PM DISCUSSION GROUPS
- 4.30 PM LECTURE "Wings of Becoming: The Journey Through Three I's"  
Shikhar Agnihotri, *TS India*
- Free evening

### **Thursday, 24 July**

- 7.00 AM Taj-Ji, Weiwei DU
- 7.30 AM Bharat Samaj Puja Mantra, Vijayalakshmi
- 9.00 AM LECTURE  
Vic Hao Chin Jr, *TS Philippines*
- 10.30 AM WORKSHOPS
1. "Nine Meditation Techniques According to the Yoga-Sūtra"  
Ricardo Lindemann, *TS Brazil*
  2. "Practical tools for working through the personality"  
Barbara Hebert, *TS America*
  3. "The Fundamental Work of the Theosophical Society"  
Pablo Sender, *TS America*
  4. "Theosophical Education -- The Inner Flowering"  
Sonal Murali, *TS India*
  5. "Compassion in Action: Basics of the Energetic Healing Method, Therapeutic Touch®"  
Leonie van Gelder, *TS America*
  6. "The Future of the Theosophical Society and the Work of its Young Members"  
Francis Lim and Leo Ta, *Singapore and Australia, WFYT*
- 3.00 PM INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE "Wisdom across borders: Toward a More Connected World"  
– Moderator Renee Sell, *TS New Zealand*
- Americas / Isis de Resende, *TS Brazil*
  - Africa / Narendra Shah, *TS Africa East & Central*
  - Indo-Pacific / Arni Narendran, *TS India*
  - Europe / Patrizia Calvi, *TS Italy*
- 4.30 PM CENTENARY CELEBRATION, TS CANADA  
"Philosophies of the West and East and how they are similar and different from Theosophy", Shawn Edenshaw (West) and Dallas Gus (East)
- 7.30 PM CELEBRATION CONTINUES  
Video on the history of theosophy in Canada  
"First Nation teachings and language", slideshow by Sonja Nahanee  
Dance show, *First Nation dancers*

## Friday, 25 July

- 7.00 AM Taj-Ji, Weiwei DU
- 7.30 AM Meditation, Juliana Cesano
- 9.00 AM LECTURE "Toward Insight and Wholeness: Our Role in Shaping the Future"  
Elizabeth May, *Author, Activist, Lawyer, Canada*
- 10.30 AM WORKSHOPS
1. "Nine Meditation Techniques According to the Yoga-Sūtra"  
Ricardo Lindemann, *TS Brazil*
  2. "Practical tools for working through the personality"  
Barbara Hebert, *TS America*
  3. "The Fundamental Work of the Theosophical Society"  
Pablo Sender, *TS America*
  4. "Transformative Education -- The Art of Living and Learning"  
Sonal Murali, *TS India*
  5. "Compassion in Action: Basics of the Energetic Healing Method, Therapeutic Touch®"  
Leonie van Gelder, *TS America*
  7. "The Future of the Theosophical Society and the Work of its Young Members"  
Francis Lim and Leo Ta, *Singapore and Australia, WFYT*
- 3.00 PM SHORT TALKS
- Moderator, Deepa Padhi, *Vice-President of the TS*
- "That which is always anew", Krista Umbjarv, *TS France*
- "Insight into Nature of Man: Part contains the Whole", Vibha Saksena, *TS India*
- "H. P. Blavatsky's heritage", Pavel Malakhov, *TS Russia*
- 4.30 PM PRESIDENT'S LECTURE "Next Steps"  
Tim Boyd, *International President*
- 7.30 PM "One Fire" – 150 Years Documentary of the Theosophical Society, *At AMS Theatre*

## Saturday, 26 July

- 7.00 AM Taj-Ji, Weiwei DU
- 7.30 AM Meditation, Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu
- 9.00 AM LECTURE "Theosophy and Art: Reviving a Transformative Legacy"  
Elif Kamisli, *Exhibition maker and writer, TS, Turkey*
- 10.30 AM "ROOTS & SHOOTS – 150 Years of Theosophical Movement"
- Tim Boyd, *International President of the TS, Adyar*
  - Jonathan Colbert, *Associate of the ULT, Member of TSA (Wheaton)*
  - Kenneth Small, *Point Loma Theosophist of the Eclectic Tradition, USA*
  - April Hejka-Ekins, *Professor emerita of Public Administration, Co-founder of Alexandria West, USA*
  - Eugene Jennings, *ULT, California, USA*
- 1.00 PM HALF-DAY OUTING
- 7.30 PM EVENING TOGETHER
- "Adyar, the Multiverse", Illustrated presentation, Catalina Isaza-Cantor, *TS Colombia/Adyar*
- "The divine union - a path to insight and wholeness", Dance by Suvralina, *TS India*

## Sunday, 27 July

- 7.00 AM Taj-Ji, Weiwei DU
- 7.30 AM Meditation, Betty Bland
- 9.00 AM LECTURE "The New Theosophy for the Coming Centuries"  
Stephan A. Hoeller, *TS America*
- 10.30 AM AN INTERVIEW: Tim Boyd, interviewed by Michael Gomes
- 3.00 PM WRAP UP: Workshops wrap up with the facilitators
- 4.30 PM CLOSING
- Words by the Host
- Address by the International President

## **WORKSHOPS – 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> July**

### **1. "Nine Meditation Techniques According to the Yoga-Sūtra", Ricardo Lindemann, *TS Brazil***

Blavatsky considered Rāja-Yoga to be synonymous with Practical Occultism. In this theoretical-practical workshop, at least nine classical techniques from Patañjali's Yoga-Sūtra will be presented to overcome distraction. These techniques, which are optional according to the tendencies or different temperaments of each practitioner, aim to reverse the nine obstacles or tendencies to distraction (vikṣepa), which will be studied as a diagnosis. Their objective is to avoid the projection of the mind outwards and thus enable the practice of Concentration, and later Contemplation and Ecstasy, which are the last stages of Rāja-Yoga in search of Liberation from human suffering.

### **2. "Practical tools for working through the personality", Barbara Hebert, *TS America***

Throughout the Congress, we will be addressing our journey Toward Insight and Wholeness. This interactive workshop will focus on one of the ways that will facilitate our movement in this direction. Using quotes from a variety of theosophical authors and traditional psychological sources, we will explore some practical tools to facilitate working through the personality. In so doing, our own inner strength expedites our movement toward personal insight and wholeness. Ultimately, our individual growth aids all of humanity as it treads the path of awareness and healing.

### **3. "The Fundamental Work of the Theosophical Society", Pablo Sender, *TS America***

*A Workshop on the Origins, Nature, and Spiritual Mission of the TS*

The Theosophical Society was founded not merely as a philosophical association, but as a living conduit for spiritual influence—intended to uplift human consciousness and prepare the mental and moral soil for the emergence of the new humanity of intuition. In this light, the Society is not simply an institution but a spiritual organism with an inner purpose.

What is the essential work of the TS? What is it expected to offer a world in crisis? And how may we, members of this Society, participate in its sacred mission? This workshop offers a reflective exploration of the TS—its founding impulse, spiritual principles, and the vital role it plays in the evolution of humanity.

### **4. "Theosophical Education - The Inner Flowering", Sonal Murali, *TS India***

Workshop 1 (24 July): Each child is a unique individual with extraordinary abilities who has come into this world to express that being in the best possible manner. The theosophical approach to education is to see that the uniqueness of each child is celebrated, drawn out and given wings to express freely in myriad ways. In this session, we will explore how theosophical education views the child and what inner flowering means. Theosophical education explores nurturing the inner being and awakening the spark within.

Workshop 2 (25 July) **"Transformative Education -- The Art of Living and Learning"**: A theosophical school is a place where the child is loved, nourished, and encouraged to have a deep connection with nature and oneself. An educator's role is to be an interface for the child to explore the inner and outer spaces. Like life, education is not an isolated process. It is a collaborative journey, where both the teacher and the student are learners as equals.

Self-directed and child-centred learning allows for nurturing curiosity, invoking a sense of wonder in children to help build creative thinking and experience the joy of learning and a lifetime of education.

### **5. "Compassion in Action: Basics of the Energetic Healing Method, Therapeutic Touch®", Leonie van Gelder, *TS America***

In this hands-on workshop, attendees will be introduced to the basic assumptions, uses and practices of Therapeutic Touch, an energetic healing method developed by lifelong Theosophist, clairvoyant and past president of the TS in America, Dora Kunz and longtime Theosophist and Professor of Nursing, Dolores Krieger Ph.D., RN. Incorporating the intentional and compassionate use of universal energy, Therapeutic Touch brings together the principles of the wisdom tradition and modern science with the insights and experiences of its founders. You will come away with practical skills of healing to help your family and loved ones.

**6. “The Future of the Theosophical Society and the Work of its Young Members”, Francis Lim and Leo Ta, Singapore and Australia, WFYT, World Federation of Young Theosophists**

There are many questions and concerns about the future of the Theosophical Society.

Some lodges worry about the declining number of members while some lose sleep over closing their lodge all together. Many passionate members put their heart and effort to popularise or bring awareness about Theosophy in hopes of sign ups. However, seeing the same disheartening outcome over and over again.

What do the young members bring to the table in the modern and technologically advanced society?

In this session, we will discuss about:

1. Concerns about the future of the Theosophical Society, lodges, sections and federations from all around the world.
2. The purpose of the WFYT (World Federation of Young Theosophists) with respect to those concerns.
3. The approach and contribution to the future and Work of the Theosophical Society.