

Elder Recognition Options

Three Types of Elder Recognition Through New Dream



1. Elder Recognition for Men and Women

This recognition requires little preparation because it is primarily an acknowledgement of your life achievements. No questing is involved; however, you may choose to make your elder staff (with guidance from an initiated elder), create a vow of commitment as an elder, and be acknowledged by your spiritual community and/or the SpiritQuest community.

Requirements

- Submit Elder Recognition Application Part I by April
- Review preparation document
- Create your staff
- Prepare your elderhood vow
- Attend SpiritQuest or invite friends to your own elder recognition ceremony

2. Questing Elder for Men and Women

This recognition involves a traditional quest for your life mission, under the guidance of Reverend Misa at SpiritQuest, and monthly preparations with Elder, Reverend Ariann Thomas. You will be invited to make your elder staff and an optional personal medicine wheel. You will be invited to make a commitment of service to your spiritual community and/or the SpiritQuest community, and be recognized by this same community.

Requirements

- Submit Elder Recognition Application Part II by August
- Participate in a call scheduled by Ariann or Misa to assess your readiness for quest
- Attend a monthly tele-call to prepare you for your quest and elder commitment, (plus two additional, optional calls with Misa if you are creating your staff and/or medicine wheel) Wednesday evenings, September-June
- Spend up to three days in silence and some form of fasting or with minimal food in a silent quest during SpiritQuest
- Create your staff and optional personal medicine wheel, if you do not already have them
- Prepare your elderhood vow
- Prepare your service commitment to your community
- Attend SpiritQuest and invite friends to your elder recognition ceremony

3. Elders of the Water Circle for Women

This recognition involves an apprenticeship and traditional quest for your life missions, under the guidance of Reverend Misa at SpiritQuest, and twice-monthly preparations with Elder, Ariann Thomas. You will be invited to make your elder staff and an optional personal medicine wheel. You will be invited to make a commitment of service to your spiritual community and/or the SpiritQuest community, and recognized by this same community.

What makes this recognition unique is: 1) the depth of your relationship and commitment to the Sacred Feminine, 2) your commitment to the Path of the Sacred Feminine as a part of your spiritual practice and 3) your desire to become part of a Circle of Elders that support and sustain the practices within this path.

Requirements

- Submit Elder Recognition Application Part II and III by August
- Participate in a call with Ariann or Misa to assess your readiness for a quest and participation in the circle.
- Fulfill all the requirements for questing elders, and attend an additional monthly call, occurring every third Wednesday, focused on personal development through the Creation Meditation.
- Willing to do the Creation Meditation regularly for themselves and others, 2-3 times per week during your apprenticeship
- Willing to attend 6-9 of the monthly full-moon ceremonies and creation meditations during your apprenticeship.
- Willing to quest at SpiritQuest for your 3 life missions in service of your community
- Willing to receive a vision of your death
- Willing to develop a deep and recognizable relationship with the four Guardian Grandmothers on the other side of the veil that brought us this practice
- Ability and willingness to hold space for oneself for one's own transformation
- Ability and willingness to hold space for other's transformation
- Energetic connection to the cycles of the moon
- Willing to develop a deeper sense of the Divine Mother and feminine energy
- Willing to adopt a the Sacred Path of the Feminine, the Circle, and this Native practice as part of your spiritual practice
- Willing to receive support from your Personal Elder circle and the Elder Council members of the Sacred Path of the Feminine
- Willing to participate in mutual support and be held accountable for your actions by your Personal Elder circle and the Elders of the Sacred Path of the Feminine
- Willing to invite elders you respect to become members of a life-time Personal Elder Council (including one existing Elder from the Council for

the Sacred Path of the Feminine for you to provide you with support and accountability as you fulfill your missions; and to approve you as an Elder of the Sacred Path of the Feminine

Overseas Participants

Overseas Elders that wish to be honored in a Recognition Ceremony can follow the guidelines provided in the preparation document and create a Recognition Ceremony at home. *Elders wishing to quest must attend SpiritQuest in person or make travel arrangements for Misa to quest you in your home area.* In those cases, individuals overseas will be accommodated as best we can for the monthly calls. Skype is recommended so that elders can participate in the calls live whenever possible. When this is not possible, calls will be recorded and questions will be received by e-mail.

Dates

For Elder recognition without a quest, please submit your request for support by April.

For Elder recognition with a quest for men and women, please submit your request for support by August. Plan to attend monthly tele-calls on the first Wednesday of each month, September—June, plus extra calls with Reverend Misa, will be scheduled. Plan to attend SpiritQuest in the summer.

For Elder recognition to become an Elder of the Sacred Path of the Feminine for Women, please submit your request for support by August. Plan to attend monthly tele-calls on the first *and third* Wednesdays of each month, September—June, plus extra calls with Reverend Misa, will be scheduled. Plan to attend SpiritQuest during the summer.

Cost

Please visit the following page for information about appropriate donations.:
http://newdreamfoundation.com/elderhood_2010.htm

Limited scholarships are available for women with financial need and letters of request can be sent to HelpingHands@NewDreamFoundation.com

*If you decide to apply any of these elderhood recognitions,
welcome to the next part of your journey!*