

Monks From Drepung Gomang Monastery in Kansas City

March 25 - April 17

We are so fortunate to have Tibetan monks from the Drepung Gomang monastery returning, once again, to the Rime Tibetan Buddhist Center . During their three week stay, the monks will create a sand mandala, educate people about their culture, sell precious hand made items and conduct blessings to raise much needed funds for the refugee community in India . Below is a listing of the various events that are being planned for them. Please contact Marisa or Michele at: teammonk@gmail for more information.

Pot Luck and Dharma-INGO, Friday, March 27, 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Rime Tibetan Buddhist Center, 700 West Pennway

Come and meet the monks at the Rime Center for a shared pot-luck dinner and game of Dharma-INGO. As a special welcome to the Rime sangha we will all join together for dinner and games. Please bring something for the pot luck and prepare to play a “Dharma-INGO” a bingo-like game created using Buddhist words. Many fun prizes are available!

Contemplative Art: Sand Mandala: March 29 - April 4
Kansas City Public Library, Kirkwood Hall

The monks will construct a Chenrezig (compassion) sand mandala in Kirk Hall at the Central Kansas City Public Library.

The sand mandala construction begins at **2 p.m. on Sunday, March 29**, in Kirk Hall. The mandala is on display to the public every day until 5 p.m. throughout the week. A closing ceremony at **2 p.m. on Saturday, April 4**, will include the free distribution of the blessed sand used.

Dalai Lama Renaissance, Friday, April 3, 7:00 p.m.
Tivoli Cinemas in Westport

Join us for the debut of the movie, *The Dalai Lama Renaissance*. The monks will perform a blessing for world peace before the showing. Afterwards, they will be on hand to answer questions.

Tibetan Art and Culture Night, Saturday, April 4, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Rime Tibetan Buddhist Center, 700 West Pennway

Come try your hand at the Sand Mandala! The Monks from Drepung Gomang will be on hand to teach you a variety of activities such as prayer flag printing, tsa tsa mold making, butter sculpture, even a little dancing. To round out the evening a play by your Children's Dharma School. Suggested donation of \$20.00 per family.

Empty Bowls Art Auction and Dinner, Saturday April 11, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Rime Tibetan Buddhist Center, 700 West Pennway

Artists from the Kansas City area will donate beautiful one-of-a-kind handmade soup bowls for the event. At the dinner each guest can purchase their favorite bowl and fill it with delicious traditional soup made by the monks. At the end of the event, guests get to take their bowls home as a reminder of hunger relief in our community.

In addition, this fundraiser will include a silent auction items donated by local artists and businesses and the band Dog Tree will be performing. A variety of donations are needed for this event that will help raise awareness about hunger locally as well as raise funds for the Drepung Gomang monastery and Harvesters.

Suggested Donation based on bowl chosen: \$15.00 to \$50.00

Workshops

Cooking and Language Workshop Sunday, April 5, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Kansas City Community Kitchen in Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral

At this intimate event, participants will have the chance to interact one-on-one with the monks. Participants will work along side the monks and prepare a Tibetan vegetarian soup. After all your hard work, you will be invited dine with the monks, as an added benefit, extra soup will be made to serve lunch to the hungry that week.

Suggested donation \$100, space is limited.

Local Food Cooking Workshop, Monday, April 6, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Bad Seed Farmers Market in the Crossroads 1909 McGee

If you'd rather not dine in a restaurant and want something different, we suggest an instructive and pleasant alternative: prepare some delicious food in our cooking workshop! This is hands on event participants use a variety of local foods to make momos at the urban-organic farmers market Bad Seed. Momos are tasty dumplings that are popular in Tibet , Nepal , Bhutan and parts of India bordering the Himalayas and we will be creating both, the meat filled and vegetarian varieties.

Suggested Donation for this workshop 50.00, space is very limited.

Kansas City Clay Guild Art Workshop, Thursday April 9, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Kansas City Clay Guild at 200 W 74th Street

The Kansas City Clay guild is opening their doors and polishing their wheels to present a rare, hands-on workshop in clay with the Monks where you will be able to learn the delicate art of Tibetan butter sculpture. Space is limited, so don't miss your chance for personal instruction in Buddhist sacred sculpture techniques that you may take home or add to the larger sculpture! Pre- Registration and more information at www.kcclayguild.org

Pujas

Experience the monks chant mystical prayers of healing and spiritual wisdom, while contributing to the preservation of the endangered Tibetan culture. Puja is a Sanskrit word that means "offering." The monks chant prayers and perform rituals specific to the type of prayer being offered. Prayers are addressed to

Buddha's, bodhisattvas and deities. Their primary purpose is to overcome negativities that may be obstacles in obtaining release from suffering and to promote spiritual, emotional, mental, and physical well-being.

Sunday, March 29, 2009

9 a.m. to 10 a.m.	Unity Temple - Plaza (Myrtle Filmore Chapel)	Peace Puja
11 a.m. to 12 a.m.	Unity Temple - Plaza (The Sanctuary)	Peace Puja
5 p.m. to 6 p.m.	Grace and Holy Trinity	Peace Puja
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.	Aquarius	Fire Puja

Tuesday, April 7, 2009

7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	White Light	Peace Puja
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Thursday, April 9, 2009

9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	Johnson County Community College	Peace Puja
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Friday, April 10, 2009

7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	Aquarius	Healing Puja
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Tuesday, April 14, 2009

7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	White Light	Purification of Negativities and Obstacles
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Sunday, April 12, 2009

10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Rime Buddhist Center	Peace Puja
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There are still ways that you can get involved

While in Kansas City , the monks will also be available to answer questions about their culture, visit classes and enjoy time getting to know Americans. There are a variety of ways that you can get involved!

- **House and business blessings-** A blessing for your space is a beautiful way to weave prayer and ritual together to create a sense of comfort and harmony. House or business blessings include the opportunity to rid the environment of any disharmony or past negative influence and also express gratitude.
- **Donations for Empty Bowls dinner, silent auction and other events** - food-safe clay bowls, silent auction items: art, gift certificates, etc. See Michele or Marisa for a list of needed items
- **Monetary donations**
- **Food, catering or hosts for meals-** The monks have a variety of days that incredibly packed with events. We need your help to make sure that the Monks are able to accomplish everything planned and have a well balanced meal. See Marisa or Michele about their specific dietary restrictions.



CONTEMPLATIVE ART:
Sand Mandala
CONSTRUCTION

A touring group of Buddhist monks from the **Drepung Gomang Monastery** in India constructs a sand mandala, an ancient art form that represents a perfect world and serves as a map toward enlightenment

Opening Ceremony:
Sunday, March 29, 2009
Program: **2 p.m.**
Central Library, 14 W. 10th St.

In cooperation with the **Rime Buddhist Center**, the Kansas City Public Library welcomes a touring group of Buddhist monks from the Drepung Gomang Monastery in India for **Contemplative Art**, a weeklong visit focused on the construction of a **sand mandala** that starts on **Sunday, March 29**, at **2 p.m.** in Kirk Hall at the **Central Library, 14 W. 10th St.**

A sand mandala is an ancient art form of Tibetan Buddhism that replaces paints with millions of grains of colored sand in creating a three-dimensional representation of the world in its divine form, which also serves as a map toward enlightenment.

The sand mandala construction will be preceded by an **opening ceremony** at **2 p.m.** on **Sunday, March 29**, in **Kirk Hall** – during which the visiting monks will consecrate the site by chanting mantras and employing horns and other musical instruments.

The visiting monks will continue building the Chenrezig (Compassion) mandala every day from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. throughout the week, allowing for informal conversation and socializing. Drepung Gomang monks will also be selling unique hand-crafted Buddhist charms, with proceeds supporting their worldwide travels.

A closing ceremony at **2 p.m.** on **Saturday, April 4**, in **Kirk Hall** will include the free distribution of the blessed sand used in the mandala construction.

Admission is **free** for all activities surrounding this exhibit.

Drepung Monastery was founded in 1416 near Lhasa, the capital of Tibet. In 1959, before the Chinese invasion, Drepung Monastery had more than 10,000 monks. In 1969, 62 of the surviving Gomang monks were given 42 acres of land in Mundgod, south India. There they started to rebuild Drepung Gomang Monastery in its present location. Today more than 1,700 monks live on these premises.

The Rime Buddhist Center is a non-sectarian Tibetan Buddhist center dedicated to the cultivation of wisdom and compassion as well as promoting a harmonious relationship of understanding between both Tibetans and Westerners.