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Womyn's Wheel

An Initiatory Path in Pillar Goddess Tradition

Womyn's Wheel is an initiatory Goddess spirituality path that merges concepts and ethics of the 9 Sacred Pillars with Goddess energies. It is designed to foster and develop a woman's sense of her own sacredness, self-esteem, power, and creative capacity and her immediate sense of connection to the Sacred Feminine Creative Force.

The Womyn's Wheel program is open to all women interested in developing their sense of the Divine Feminine and attracted to the ecocentric ethics and ecotheosophical elements of the Path of the 9 Sacred Pillars¹. The Womyn's Wheel is a four year initiatory program that moves students through the fourfold face of the Divine Goddess: Maiden, Mother, Crone, and Dark Maiden–Mother. At the conclusion of the Mother year, women become Priestesses of the Goddess. At the conclusion of the Dark Maiden–Mother year, women become High Priestesses of the Goddess and may formally hive off to begin their own women-centered teaching.

Each year is comprised of 9 lessons whereby students learn about the pillar energy in conjunction with Divine Goddess energy that is tied to these pillars. Throughout each year students explore a wide range of myths of specific goddesses of each lesson, engage in Goddess-based pillar prayer days, daily Goddess-based prayer rituals, and participate in lunar, solstice and equinox rituals. The **Maiden Year** specifically provides students with foundational learning both in the pillars and in Goddess-based rituals and practice, as well as explore the specific skills of several Maiden Goddesses. During the **Mother Year** students develop their capacity to create, lead lunar rituals, are introduced to herbal and healing work, as well as develop creative-based skills. The **Crone Year** sees students developing their capacity to lead solar rituals, engage in divination, and mentor women at earlier stages in the tradition. Finally the **Dark Maiden–Mother** year students engage in depth work and master healing and divination skills.

¹ Interested individuals should read the brochure for the Path of the 9 Sacred Pillars program.

Women interested in applying for the Womyn's Wheel program may apply online at <http://www.OceanSeminaryCollege.org/Admissions.html> or may email Dr. Katherine MacDowell for further information: oceanseminary@verizon.net. Students admitted are required to complete their Pillar Constellation. Once this is reviewed, students may elect to begin formal study. Students studying the Womyn's Wheel may elect to obtain a degree from any other program at Ocean Seminary as well as pursue another initiatory program. Additionally students may withdraw from the program at any time for any reason. Students may additionally study this tradition as it merges within three additional initiatory paths: The Path of the 9 Sacred Pillars (contemporary shamanic path); Pillar Seiðr (a Norse-based, women-only path); and the 9 Sacred Trees (a Druidic Pillar path).

About Dr. Katherine MacDowell. Dr. MacDowell holds a masters degree in Counseling Psychology and is presently completing her doctorate in Health Psychology. Additionally, she holds two theology doctorates and has studied the initiatory path of Dianic Witchcraft with Z. Budapest and eclectic Wicca with High Priestess Lady Raven Moonshadow. She is the founder of the path of the 9 Sacred Pillars and has been practicing this tradition for more than 25 years. She is also a professional writer and produced, award-winning playwright and composer. She is the president of Ocean Seminary College and has been teaching adult learners for more than 8 years. In addition to her theological work, she has worked as a professional psychotherapist and addictions counselor for more than 10 years. She is the author of *Sacred Groves, Ethics & Professional Practice for Neopagan Clergy*, and *Introduction to the Path of the 9 Sacred Pillars*, which are slated for publication in Summer 2009. Her research on the psychological and health effects of Eminent Domain is currently in revision for publication.