

SHAMANIC PRACTICE

ADVANCED TRAINING

MASTER PRACTITIONER

2012

Next entry point: April 2012



Ikon Institute
Spirit of the Earth Medicine Society
The Australian Dreaming Project
Australian Association of Shamanic Practitioners

INTRODUCING ADVANCED SHAMANIC TRAINING

Ikon Institute, in association with the Spirit of the Earth Medicine Society [SOTEMS], has been conducting training in shamanic practice in Australia for 20 years. The programs offered have been based on world-wide experience, research and practice which embraces many cultures. To date, these programs have been aimed at providing participants with the fundamentals of shamanic practice in such a way that they are able to go forward, at the completion of courses, into the community to practice professionally. At the core of this process is the life enrichment, spiritual and personal growth which the students of this work experience.

Ikon has offered workshops, short courses and the very successful two-year Diploma of Shamanic Practice throughout Australia. Graduates of this latter program are currently making their mark in the community, offering an extensive range of healing and ceremonial services.

However, there is now a need to take this work further.... to offer advanced training and the parallel path of initiation into the shamanic vocation, following traditional lines.

What is offered draws upon many cultures but especially the work of the Spirit of the Earth Medicine Society [SOTEMS] and the joint Ikon-SOTEMS undertaking, *The Australian Dreaming Project*. The latter is a comprehensive attempt to develop a framework for an Australian spiritual practice in which shamanic work is central.

So, we are taking the very large step now to afford training experiences and skill development of a very high order and which will serve to create a new generation of practitioners and teachers.

We would like you to step forward if you feel you are ready for this exciting but challenging program.

THE PROGRAM

There are two strands to the Advanced Shamanic Practice training:

1. **Master Practitioner: Shamanic Practice**

This course is open to persons who have the following background:

- Completed an Ikon Diploma of Shamanic Practice or equivalent
- Or
- Traditional training in shamanism in any culture
- Or
- Other training and experience which can be assessed
- *It is largely a matter of whether applicants are interested, passionate and committed to shamanic work*

Assessment of applicant's eligibility is done on a case-by-case basis.

The training program contains the following modules:

Working with the worlds of Spirit and Nature: Mapping and navigating through shamanic worlds

Shamanism as liberation: The 5 gates to freedom and transcendence

Advanced Shamanic Healing: The medicines of many worlds

Mastery of States and Journeys: Accessing and using states of consciousness and being

Modules are:

- All held in the Central Desert via Alice Springs
- 10 days in duration

The training will involve intensive work in natural settings with occasional 'classroom' work. The Central Desert modules in September will be held in conjunction with the annual Vision Quest.

The course will be physically and psychologically demanding as it requires more than intellectual understanding; rather, it requires the commitment of the whole of one's being to the work. This creates significant personal change on all levels of existence.

2. Shamanic Initiation

SOTEMS has been operating in Australia for over 20 years. In that time, it has developed a strong community which is creating a medicine ways and shamanic culture across the country. This is not merely in terms of courses and workshops offered, or in terms of counselling and healing services available; rather, it is also in terms of there now being a substantial social, cultural and spiritual basis for shamanic practice. With this comes the opportunity to become an initiated shaman within the SOTEMS tradition.... *and it is now a tradition!*

The process is one of personal, traditionally modelled training and initiation through several stages. What this involves is as follows:

- a. Enrolment in the Master Practitioner program
- b. Being interviewed for shamanic training and initiation
- c. Where a person is accepted for shamanic training and initiation, they will receive personal training from Dr. Rafael Locke which runs in parallel to the Masters program. No disclosure of the content of this individual training is available; it is discrete and focused on the individual's needs, strengths and motivation, and personal path.

Since the next module is on the 18th-28th April, 2012, it is advisable to communicate your interest to us as soon as possible.