

LINCOLN CITY CULTURAL CENTER
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FALL LABYRINTH WALK & DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE

LINCOLN CITY – The quarterly labyrinth walks at the Lincoln City Cultural Center are always something special. Volunteer labyrinth leader Darlene Muller creates a peaceful space around this painted canvas, complete with light refreshments, soft music and flowers, and invites the community to walk and meditate. But this Fall Labyrinth, set for Monday, Sept. 22, has even more to offer. It will mark the arrival of the Dances of Universal Peace to the LCCC.

The labyrinth will be open for quiet, meditative walking from 4 to 7 pm. Muller will be on hand to answer any questions, or provide guidance upon request. From 7 to 8:30 pm, accompanied by live music, Pierce will lead Dances of Universal Peace on the labyrinth. He will teach and guide participants through dances and sacred songs, sharing the origin and meaning of both. This event is all made possible by donations from the public, and the generosity of the Congregational Church of Lincoln City-United Church of Christ. There is a suggested minimum donation of \$2 for the walk and \$5 for the dance.

For more information, call the Lincoln City Cultural Center at 541-994-9994. The Cultural Center is located at 540 NE Hwy. 101, in the historic Delake School in Lincoln City.

ABOUT THE LABYRINTH

The indoor hand-painted canvas labyrinth is modeled after the one in Chartres Cathedral. In its simplest form it is a single winding path leading to the center and back out. The lotus in the center signifies a place for prayer, meditation, and reflection. The labyrinth is an ancient symbol, known in many cultures for thousands of years. All are asked to honor the silence and be respectful of others along the path. In addition to holiday celebrations, people are also known to walk in honor of loved ones who have passed on, to give thanks or ask for help, and to enter the mystery of life. There are as many reasons as there are walkers, and all are welcome.

“What I love about walking the labyrinth is it’s a different journey for each person each time,” said Darlene Muller, volunteer who coordinates the labyrinth experience with Alex del Vecchio, another volunteer.

The LCCC hosts labyrinth walks four times a year, near the solstice and equinox. The next labyrinth event will be held Monday, Dec. 22.

ABOUT DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE

The Dances of Universal Peace are simple, easy-to-learn movements and sacred songs honoring spiritual traditions from around the world including Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, Judaism,

Islam, Zoroastrianism, the Goddess, Celtic and Native American traditions. These dances are taught globally and serve as a way of promoting tolerance and respect for different religious and spiritual traditions. People attend the dances to learn and grow, for spiritual reasons, to have a relaxing, heart-opening and meditative experience or simply because they enjoy connecting with others thru song and dance. Stephen Pierce leads regular Dances of Universal Peace in Salem, Corvallis and Newport.

Starting in October, Stephen Pierce will be leading the Dances of Universal Peace at the LCCC on the fourth Monday of each month (Oct. 27, Nov. 24, Dec. 22 and Jan. 26) in the Dance Studio. Each event will begin at 7 pm at the LCCC, 540 NE Hwy. 101. All will be accompanied by live music. Admission is a suggested donation of \$5-\$10.

Dancers are welcome to attend regularly, or drop in on occasion. Folks are also welcome to attend all or part of the evening, and to participate in some dances while sitting out during others. No experience is necessary, although loose, comfortable clothing is recommended.

To learn more, contact Pierce at 503-936-5318 or Stephen@peacesong.org, or Facebook/Lincoln City Dances of Universal Peace.

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