



Foundation for World Education

April 2015

NEWSLETTER

Volume 14, No. 1

FOSTERING INTEGRAL YOGA IN AMERICA

The Sri Aurobindo Association is much like water for fish or air for birds for the Sri Aurobindo community in the U.S. Through quiet, selfless, and indefatigable service it has provided a number of matrices that allow and promote connection, communication, and action. The FWE has a long history of collaboration with the Sri Aurobindo Association and we are happy to focus this issue on our sister organization.

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SRI AUROBINDO
ASSOCIATION

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SRI AUROBINDO ASSOCIATION:

Facilitating knowledge and synergy in the Integral yoga community



SAA Board Members from left to right: Ananda Billington, Lynda Lester, Margaret Phanes and John Robert Cornell

The Sri Aurobindo Association of America (SAA) is a California nonprofit organization whose mission is to be of service to groups and individuals devoted to realizing the vision of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother. SAA carries out this mission by making the teachings of Integral Yoga available to interested seekers and by facilitating knowledge and synergy in the Integral Yoga community.

In doing so, SAA pursues an array of activities that include publishing, website hosting, sponsoring conferences, supporting online discussion forums, and channeling donations.

One of SAA's principal commitments is to publish the journal *Collaboration* three times a year. *Collaboration*, which was started in 1974 by Eric Hughes of Matagiri, is the only Sri Aurobindo-related publication with a uniquely American voice. In the past 40 years *Collaboration* has come out with a wealth of rich and fascinating articles and given many sadhaks the opportunity to publish their own writings and artwork. SAA maintains a *Collaboration* Facebook page and is currently in the process of making all past issues available online.

A second major focus of SAA is website hosting. SAA has taken over the legacy website *Miraura.org*, launched in 1995 as the first Integral Yoga website in the world, and is currently developing the website *Collaboration.org* into an in-depth information source for the knowledge, practice, and community of Integral Yoga in North America. Sections of *Collaboration.org* are devoted to the All USA Meeting (AUM); *Collaboration* journal; multimedia materials such as study guides and videos; and contact information for Integral Yoga centers, organizations, and study groups. Eventually the comprehensive biographical and literary information from the *Miraura* site will be incorporated, and plans call for an Integral Yoga blog as well.

SAA has also been a long-time supporter of the annual AUM Integral Yoga conference, offering loans and sponsorship, maintaining a bank account for the AUM Continuity Team, providing an AUM planning manual, managing an AUM Facebook page, and giving substantial AUM web support. SAA members have organized numerous AUMs, both collectively as a board and individually as members of local AUM teams.

Another service SAA offers is hosting the *aurobindo.org* email lists and online discussion groups. These include *Auroconf*, a well-known and much-used electronic forum in which hundreds of people from all over the world have free-flowing conversations about Integral Yoga; *Auroinfo*, an email list for program information and other announcements; *Quotes*, which mails out short quotes daily

“Through these endeavors, SAA aspires to build new infrastructures for consciousness, forging instrumental channels through which Mother’s force may flow.”

Funding the evolution of consciousness around the globe...

LETTER FROM VILNIUS, LITHUANIA

Dr. Daiva Tamošaitytė describes a blossoming of consciousness in Eastern Europe and offers gratitude to the many around the globe who have nurtured and supported its growth.

To the readers of the FWE newsletter I would like to say that our country, Lithuania, restored independence from the Soviet regime in 1991. Lithuania was the first of the occupied



East European countries to start the collapse of the Soviet Union. We have a long and great history as a Baltic nation and deep roots in Indo-European culture. Lithuania, like India, gained its independence by peaceful means.

In 1988 I was introduced to the political thought of Sri Aurobindo as well as to his ideas regarding the future ideals of humanity and his philosophy and yoga. His example was so inspiring to my friends and me that after the breaking of the

“iron curtain” we started to look for a connection with the Sri Aurobindo Ashram. In 1991 Sri Gopal Bhattacharjee visited us in Lithuania. Then in 1993-94 I lived in the USA and visited the East-West Cultural Center in L.A., participated in an AUM conference, and met many exceptional people like Anie Nunnally, Debashish Banerji, Jeanne and Gordon Korstange, Mary and Robert Dane, Surama and Wayne Bloomquist, Bina Chaudhuri, Gene Maslow, Prasun De, Diane Arias, Vikas Bamba, Manjari De, Stuart Schoen, and others. Also, I visited Matagiri in Mt. Tremper, N.Y. and made

the acquaintance of Eric and Sam. In New York City, Miriam Boxer and Mr. and Mrs. Subbarao were wonderful, and they helped me meet other people who were interested in Integral Yoga.



Writer and former Sri Aurobindo Ashram Trustee, Manoj Das is an authority who opened the doors for us to the Ashram. Kazimieras Seibutis, who always

was and still is the *spiritus movens* (moving spirit) of our Aurobindonian circle, went to the Ashram in 1994 and spent a year working on a spiritual project with Dr. Maheshwari. When I visited Kazimieras in 1995, I became a friend of Nirodbaran, his niece Dolly, Esha, Arabinda Basu, Richard Hartz, Galina, Christof and Sebastian Pitoeffs, Dimitri von Mohrenschildt, Suresh Chandra Dey, R. Y. Deshpande. I also met Pranab, K.D. Sethna, Sunil, Jayantilal, and Manoj das Gupta. With some of them I had remarkable meetings and conversations on literary work, on

the journal, *Mother India*, and on other themes like classical Indian music theory or psychology. Subsequently, in 2002 I translated A.S. Dalal's book, *Psychology, Mental Health and Yoga* into Lithuanian.



My next trip to Pondicherry took place in 1998. An outstanding feature of my adventure was a relationship with Nirod-da, who took care of me and showed me various sides of Ashram life. About my relationship with him I have written the article, *Among the Rishis*, which was published in *Nirodbaran: Divinity's Comrade*. In 2014 I translated into Lithuanian and published his book *Twelve years with Sri Aurobindo*. FWE financed not only this project, but also gave a scholarship for my post-doctoral studies at the Sri Aurobindo Archives at the Ashram in 2010. In 2009 I had defended my doctoral thesis, *The Feminine Principle of Shakti in Sri Aurobindo's Concept of Indian National Identity*, in Lithuania at the Culture, Philosophy and Art Institute. Peter Heehs and Debashish offered helpful suggestions.

For about twenty-five years in Lithuania we have had the *Sri Aurobindo Cultural Center (Sri Aurobindo Kulturos Zidiny)*. People come to study Sri Aurobindo and the Mother's works, celebrate Darshan Days, and do other cultural and spiritual work. For us the collaboration with the followers of Sri Aurobindo, especially in India and the USA, is of great importance. My task is to introduce the concept of Integral Yoga to an academic audience and common people, to reveal the inner ties between different cultures in various fields, including in politics and social life, and to try to propose spiritually based ideas for the future.



— Daiva Tamošaitytė Ph.D. is a co-founder and board member of the *Sri Aurobindo Kulturos Zidiny* (*Sri Aurobindo Cultural Center*) of Lithuania. She is a publicist, music critic, and philosopher. A research fellow at the *Lithuanian Culture Research Institute*, her areas of study include *Lithuanian cultural heritage, Indology, and contemporary philosophy*.

SUGGESTION BOX

What do you think about the work of the FWE and the projects we support? We welcome your comments, suggestions and a thoughtful dialogue. Your comments will be shared with the board members—Just drop a note to:

info@FoundationForWorldEducation.org

Long-term giving to transform the earth.

GUIDELINES FOR GRANT APPLICATION

The Foundation for World Education invites grant applications from individuals, programs and groups who share the vision for a transformed world espoused by Sri Aurobindo and the Mother. **All proposals must be presented to the FWE through the auspices of a nonprofit organization** and are subject to review by members of the board before a decision is taken. Proposals must be received by the board **four weeks in advance** of a scheduled meeting. Please email your proposal to the secretary. If your organization is submitting a proposal for the first time, please include a copy of its nonprofit tax exemption status. See below for upcoming application due dates.*

PROPOSAL FORMAT

- **Summary/overview:** Name of your project/program and brief explanation of what you plan to do.
- **Need/rationale:** Justify the significance of your project /program in relation to your organization's mission and the work of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother.
- **Program implementation and schedule:** Explain how you will implement this project. Include a time line and statement of the future viability of this project. Is it self-sustaining after initial seed money from the FWE, or will there be future requests to support the program?
- **Personnel:** Names and qualifications of groups and individuals directly responsible for project.
- **Project's contribution:** What is the duration and extent of influence your project will have for Sri Aurobindo and the Mother's vision of the Integral Yoga? How is your project related to other organizations or individuals currently engaged in the work of the Integral Yoga?
- **Current and future funding:** List sources of income and/or other funding sources for your project.
- **Budget:** Detail income and expenditure.
- **Final and progress reports:** Indicate method proposed to evaluate effectiveness of the project/program while in progress; written final report to be submitted within one year of completion of the grant or grant renewal. Indicate name of person who will prepare the final report.

* DUE DATES FOR NEW GRANT APPLICATIONS:

- SEPTEMBER 8, 2015
- JANUARY 7, 2016 (for main granting session)

THE FOUNDATION FOR WORLD EDUCATION FUNDS:

- The Eleanor Montgomery Endowment Fund
- Mickey's Fund (bequest of Eugene "Mickey" Finn)
- Ron's Fund (bequest of Ron Anastasia)
- Anuradha Sapru-Kohls Dedicated Fund

GRANT ALLOCATIONS 2014

Grants \$45,087.86

Auroville (via the Projects Coordination Group).....	\$29,198.00
- Visitor's Center Permanent Exhibition.....	\$5,148.00
- Seeds of Change Waste Management.....	4,000.00*
- Unity Pavilion Projector/Screen.....	3,200.00
- Africa House Electricity & Water Tank.....	3,000.00
- Management, Training & Development.....	3,000.00
- Eluciole Circus Teacher.....	3,000.00
- Higher Education Scholarship Fund.....	3,000.00
- AV Film Festival Educational Outreach.....	2,000.00
- Aikiyam Peace Education Training.....	1,850.00
- Foreign Language Teaching Materials.....	1,000.00
Antioch-Auroville Teacher Exchange.....	4,500.00**
Awareness through the Body Video.....	3,100.00
Sadhana Forest Kenya Dormitory Roofing.....	3,002.00
AUM 2014 Conference Scholarships.....	3,000.00
Aikiyam School Writing Workshop.....	800.00
"Transforming Lives" Book by Larry Seidnitz....	600.00
Mickey's Fund Disbursements	887.86
- Matrimandir.....	\$443.93
- Matagiri.....	292.99
- Sri Aurobindo Center of Boston.....	154.94

* (this grant was sponsored by Ron's Fund)

** (this grant given in memory of Olive Louise Orton)

The FWE thanks the following non-profit organizations for their role in sponsoring grant recipients during 2014:
Matagiri and Sri Aurobindo Sadhana Peetham.



FWE Board Members from left to right: Jerry Schwartz, Heidi Watts, Margo MacLeod, Bhuvana Nandakumar, John Schlorholtz, Dakshina Vanzetti.
Absent: Paula Murphy



Advisory Board Members: Anie Nunnally and Rudy Phillips

Founder: Eleanor Montgomery

We invite you to participate ...

The Foundation for World Education allocates annual grants through disbursement from its endowment. Since grant requests keep growing, we are able to fund only a portion of the worthy projects we consider each year. We therefore seek to grow in our ability to give grants by increasing the endowment.

The FWE encourages donations, bequests, long term giving, and tax advantaged estate planning. We also welcome the establishment of designated funds for areas of special interest--see our website for further details. As we are a 501(c)3 non-profit foundation, contributions within the U.S. may be partially or fully deductible for income or estate taxes. Please consult with your own tax advisor to determine the specific tax benefits that may available to you.

Your gift to the FWE is a gift to future generations and to conscious evolution in diverse fields of human endeavor.

Foundation for World Education

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