

Our Hallows Eve story is a modern telling of the myth of Baba Yaga. An ancient Slavic Goddess, She is a Goddess of Birth, Death and Rebirth. Baba Yaga is a shaman, guardian, and often seen as a wild old crone. While fierce and fearsome to look upon, Baba Yaga has a kind side, singing while She sprinkles the dead, their corpses, with the Water of Life so that they may be reborn. But as a manifestation of nature, she can be frightening as a force of all that is wild and untamed.

In this year of New Directions we traveled through the seasons and reclaimed our intuition—Vasalisa's Doll, our own unique voice; Pan's Flute, our inner guide; Sarasvati's Lotus Candle of Creativity; and now our Skull of Wisdom.



**Special Thanks:** Phoef Sutton & Dawn Bodnar Sutton for *oh so much*, Fenton & Nancy Ann Jones, Ana Diaz-Ruiz for your continued generosity and our Temple of the Goddess sound system, Anne Gauldin, Jaime Zuniga and Miller Sherwood Printing for program printing, Debra Mason of Debra Mason Designs for TOG logo, Fritz Heede & John Banks of Artek Images for TOG website opening movie, The Flintridge Foundation, Church of Truth Center for Awakening Consciousness and their welcoming congregation, Rev. Donna Byrns, and Gary Mortimer.

#### **2014 Rituals**

Spring Equinox - March 22  
Summer Solstice - June 28  
Autumn Equinox - September 20  
All Hallows - November 1

#### **Temple of the Goddess Staff**

Founder & Temple Director: Rev. Xia  
Secretary & Treasurer: Pythia  
Director of Religious Services: Kamala  
Director of Clergy Services & Ministry Development: Ananda  
Board of Directors: Rev. Xia, Pythia, Briana Murray, Kamala,  
Charles "BeautySeer" Elliott, Kitty McCormick, Haize Hawke Rosen

***Remember your tax-deductible donations  
keep the temple doors open  
and our work growing and thriving.***

**For information about Temple of the Goddess go to:  
[www.TempleoftheGoddess.org](http://www.TempleoftheGoddess.org)**



## Celebrating the Seasons: Hallows Eve November 2, 2013



Vasalisa and Baba Yaga

*Into the Forest: Facing the Dark*

*"The seasons and all their changes are in me."  
—Henry David Thoreau*

# Hallows Eve Ritual

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## Facilitators

Ananda	Anne Gauldin
Anya Bershatsky	Bodhi Rosen
Briana Murray	Brita Richardson
Caitlin	CandyJo Dahlstrom
Carolyn Potter	Chokaé
Christine Papalexis	Essence Williams
Haize Hawke Rosen	Ira Bershatsky
Isis Silva	Jeaninne Payne
Joanne Elliott	Kamala
Kathryn Payne	Kitty McCormick
Lianna Nakishima	Mark Bershatsky
Pythia	Satori Rosen
Tanya Baumgardner	Xia

## **Enter the Temple in Sacred Space**

*Pre-Ritual Activity.* Honoring our ancestors. What message would you like to send to your loved ones? *Go to the Ancestor Altar:* Light a candle, leave a photo, memento of, and message on the Ancestor Altar. Altar Priestess: Caitlin

## **Welcoming/Grounding Prayer** – Xia

## **Grounding** - Chokaé

## **Casting the Circle** -Zero by Wendy Rule

Sung by Ananda and Temple Choir  
Temple Musical Ensemble

East	Anne and Lianna
South	Jeaninne and Kathryn
West	Ira and Mark
North	Brita and Anya
Center	Pythia

## **Guiding Principles of Temple of the Goddess**

Led by Tanya, Everyone (Text - Page 4)  
Singing Bowl - Ananda, Lighting Altar Candles – Xia

## **Dark Wings** by Wendy Rule

Sung by Ananda  
Dancers: Haize and Briana

## **I am Courageously Embracing Life's New Directions**

Spoken Word Goddess Liturgy by Rev. Xia  
Call and Response (Text – Page 5)  
Celebrant: Kathryn

People: **I am Courageously Embracing Life's New Directions**

## **Witches' Rune** by SJ Tucker

Sung by Temple Choir  
Temple Musical Ensemble

## **Communion** - Xia, Everyone

Communion Cookies lovingly baked by the Richardson Family

We partake of Her body and give thanks,  
in remembrance of Her never-ending Circle of Life.

## **Requiem** by Eliza Gilkyson

Sung by Temple Choir

## Temple of the Goddess Choir

Ananda	Carolyn Potter
Christine Papalexis	Hannah Petrie
Kitty McCormick	Lianna Nakashima
Mnajdra	

## Temple Musicians

Donnar, Ananda

## Temple Production Staff

**Ritual Director:** Kamala

**Ritual Producers:** Kamala, Pythia, Xia

**Ritual Planning Committee:** Ananda, Adele, Briana,  
Pythia, Caitlin, RA, CandyJo, Kamala

**Media Director:** Caitlin

**Marketing Director:** Charles "Beautyseer" Elliott

**Social Network Director:** Joanne Elliott

**Ritual Art Directors:** Adele, RA

**Programs:** Miller Sherwood Printing, Mnajdra, Xia, Pythia

**Altar Artist:** Caitlin

**Music & Choir Director:** Ananda

**Sets, Costumes, And Make-up, Masks (SCAMM):**

Adele, Tanya, Brita, CandyJo, RA

**Goddess Throne Created by:** Nancy Ann Jones, Fenton Jones

**Sacred Offering Giveaways by:** Pythia, CandyJo

**Assistants:** Isis Silva, Essence Williams, and Prophet Silva

**Media Artists:** Les Nakashima, Roger Nolan, Charles Elliott

\* Tonight's myth is based on Clarissa Pinkola Estés version of "The Doll in Her Pocket: Vasalisa the Wise" in *Women Who Run with the Wolves*.

Temple of the Goddess Liturgy  
Call and Responses

**Opening the Circle**

Temple of the Goddess Liturgy: Call and Response  
Celebrant: Ananda  
People: **"Blessed Be You"**

Spirits of Earth, the North  
We honor your gifts  
Blessed be You  
**Blessed Be You**

Spirits of Water, the West  
We honor your gifts  
Blessed be You  
**Blessed Be You**

Spirits of Fire, the South  
We honor your gifts  
Blessed be You  
**Blessed Be You**

Spirits of Air, the East  
We honor your gifts  
Blessed Be You  
**Blessed Be You**



Words by Ananda  
Music: EPITAPH OF SEIKILOS  
(Greek Skolion from a Greek grave stele from the first century CE)

**Offering Thanks**

Temple of the Goddess Liturgy: Call and Response  
Celebrant: Ananda  
People: **"We Remember You"**

We offer our thanks  
Our hopes and our dreams  
To heal ourselves  
To heal the Earth  
We Remember You  
**We Remember You**

In gratefulness  
In thankfulness  
To heal ourselves  
To heal the Earth  
We Remember You  
**We Remember You**

Words by Ananda  
Music: Classical Liturgy

**Prosperity Blessing** Xia, Everyone

"Today, I celebrate my harvest.  
I nurture the new seeds I wish to grow.  
Mother Earth gives of Herself as we give to Her.  
I pray for happiness, wholeness, and abundance  
for myself and all living beings.  
Goddess provides everything.  
We feast at a bountiful table,  
and we offer this gift in thanks. Blessed Be."

**Wondrous Love** Traditional: Arranged by Jim Scott  
Sung by Temple Choir

**The Dead Are Not Dead** by Birago Diop  
Read by Briana

**Darkness, Darkness** by Youngbloods  
Sung by Donnar and Ananda

**Into the Forest: Facing the Dark, Vasalisa and Baba Yaga**  
\*Written and directed by Kamala, Contributing Writers: Xia and Nesdon Booth; Baba Yaga: Kamala; Dusa/Mother: CandyJo; Shaman: Christine; Vasalisa: Isis; Soundscape: Ananda and Donnar; *Vasalisa* by Wendy Rule; Sung by Ananda and Donnar; Choreography: CandyJo; Baba Yaga's House: Designed and Built by Adele and Tanya

**Ritual Enactment Through Drum & Dance** (outside)

As the myth comes to an end we take our personal items and gather outside under a waning crescent moon. You are invited to join us in dancing, visiting our Mythic Guides, or sitting in contemplation. Meet Baba Yaga and Vasalisa in the Dark Wood and receive a blessing and your own fiery skull token to remind you of the cleansing fire of your own growth and authority. Go to the Altar of Truth, name your fears and transform them with sacred smoke. Join us as we dance in remembrance of our ancestors. Dance the fire that burns with your personal authority!

**Grounding - Cauldron of Changes** by Lindie Lyle  
Sung by Temple Choir

**Opening the Circle**  
Temple of the Goddess Liturgy: Call and Response  
Celebrant: Ananda  
People: **"Blessed Be You"**

**Offering Thanks**  
Temple of the Goddess Liturgy: Call and Response  
Celebrant: Ananda  
People: **"We Remember You"**

**Merry Meet and Merry Part** - Traditional  
Everyone

Guiding Principles  
Temple of the Goddess

- ◆ We believe that every person is the living embodiment of the Divine.
- ◆ We respect that every person is their own spiritual authority and no one can define the Sacred and Divine for any one else.
- ◆ We recognize that there are many paths to the Divine, symbolized by the many "goddesses" and "gods" of all cultures and all lands.
- ◆ We support an ideology and spirituality of partnership of relations based on equality, reciprocity, and caring.
- ◆ Though we recognize the Divine in many forms, the focus of that which we call the Divine is manifested in the feminine as "Goddess".
- ◆ We respect and love Mother Earth, Gaia, as a sacred entity who is part of and connected to a vast living cosmos. She is immanent in all of nature, life, and the cycles of life.
- ◆ We believe the emergence of the feminine consciousness, in balance with the masculine, is the greatest hope for humanity and the planet.
- ◆ The feminine consciousness is the ability to create, nurture and enhance life.
- ◆ We accept the abundant goodness of creation which purports that all beings are meant to live in joy, love, and harmony.
- ◆ We believe in a morality and ethics in which the primary imperative is to harm none.

I Am Courageously Embracing Life's New Directions  
Call and Response  
Spoken Word Goddess Liturgy by Rev. Xia

Celebrant: Priestess or Priest

People: **I Am Courageously Embracing Life's New Directions**

I Am Courageously Embracing Life's New Directions  
The Wheel of the Year turns, Nature renewing Herself  
I surrender and the Seasons transform me  
Restored, Resurrected, Reborn

**I Am Courageously Embracing Life's New Directions**

I Am Courageously Embracing Life's New Directions  
Turning my gaze from yesterday, the past  
I joyously bless all that has led me here  
Open, Seeking new paths, Unimagined possibilities

**I Am Courageously Embracing Life's New Directions**

I Am Courageously Embracing Life's New Directions  
Like dream seeds planted at Spring  
In the nurturing dark of the Earth  
I am bursting forth, Revivified, Reborn

**I Am Courageously Embracing Life's New Directions**

I Am Courageously Embracing Life's New Directions  
The Summer Sun calls, beckons me to arise  
Rays of warmth penetrate, transfuse, and resurrect  
Inviting growth, evolution, continual renewal

**I Am Courageously Embracing Life's New Directions**

I Am Courageously Embracing Life's New Directions  
Autumn's scintillating colors seduce me  
Enticing, luring me across the threshold  
With new opportunities, new possibilities, new blessings

**I Am Courageously Embracing Life's New Directions**

I Am Courageously Embracing Life's New Directions  
Nestled in the dark womb of the Mother  
Winter bids me rest, suspended, trusting in the stillness  
Awaiting rebirth, my destiny, I am poised to begin again

**I Am Courageously Embracing Life's New Directions**

I Am Courageously Embracing Life's New Directions  
The Wheel of Life turns once more  
Reborn with strength, love, and belief in self  
I follow the Divine Bread Crumbs to a glorious new world.

**I Am Courageously Embracing Life's New Directions**