

EAGLE DANCE 2018

Centre for Shamanic Arts of the Sweet Medicine Sundance Path



JUNE 8-11 2018

SUFFOLK

The Eagle Dance is a traditional and powerful ceremony of renewal. We fast and dance to the Tree of Life to connect with our higher vision and purpose for the year ahead. We dance from dawn 'til dusk to the powerful rhythm of traditional chants and once the sun has set we end the day with a purification lodge and feast of celebration.

The ceremony begins on Friday 8 June at 7.00pm with a whole camp gathering and opening pipe. We then work together on Saturday to do the build up for the dance. There will be a purification lodge before the dance to prepare ourselves. We dance all day Sunday and after another purification lodge we enjoy a celebration feast. On Monday we will all help with the take down, leaving the land even more beautiful than we found it. The ceremony will end with the closing of the pipe.

The Eagle Dance land belongs to Myles and Lorna Jackson who are generously welcoming us again this year.

There is an opportunity to be on the land in service as a dog soldier. They are the keepers and guardians of the space, the ceremony and the people. They provide practical support and protection, especially during the dance. No experience is necessary. If you have completed your 4 dances for 3rd Gateway we ask you to consider this option of being in service.

You need to be on the land to register by 5.00pm Friday 8 June. If you are not there you will not be allocated a lane and will not be able to dance.

If you wish to be part of the preparation crew to build the infrastructure you need to arrive by the evening of Thursday 7 June.



Preparations Before the Eagle Dance

Before the dance, you need to prepare the following:

- ✓ Shield depicting your vision for the year ahead. A shield is normally made of something from the plant and animal worlds, e.g. a willow hoop and a leather base. Acrylic paints work well and are weatherproof.
- ✓ Forked stick to be set in the ground to hold your shield. The 'V' of the fork should ideally be at the level of your heart when standing while the stick is planted 6 to 8 inches into the ground.
- ✓ Hokkshideh bundle (contact Pete Edwards if you don't have one, on 01433 651769, well ahead of time. Cost £10).
- ✓ SunDance Regalia comprising:
 - Long fringed skirt, mid-calf-ankle length
 - Sash or wide belt.
 - Ribbons to hang on your shirt (with safety pins) from both shoulders including: 4 direction colours (red, black, white, yellow) with (optional) the 'as above' & 'so below' colours (blue & green) or rainbow colours
- ✓ Medicine blanket to carry over left shoulder
- ✓ Eagle whistle and 2 eagle plumes (usually made of turkey 'ground eagle' bone and fluff) If you need these please contact Pete Edwards ASAP on 01433 651769
- ✓ Corn paho (blue corn meal) available for purchase at the dance.

Camping

You are responsible for providing your own camping equipment and food. The infrastructure on the land is basic. There is a toilet and water tap. We recommend that you get together in small groups to share cooking equipment and sheltered areas. Communal tea/coffee and washing up facilities will be available.

Please note: no alcohol or drugs are allowed on the land

Children

No formal provision is made for the care of minors. Any persons under the age of 16 must be properly cared for and supervised by parents or guardians at all times for the duration of their stay on the land.

If you are thinking of bringing minors to Eagle Dance please discuss this with Gill well in advance and BEFORE completing a registration form

Please DO NOT bring pets onto the land



If you are a drummer and want to drum at this dance please phone Gill (0114 248 0524 / 07587 144 942) as soon as possible.

To register and for further information please contact Gill – gill.eakins@uwclub.net or phone 0114 248 0524 / 07587 144 942

Costs

Dancers - £160

Drummers - £120

Dog Soldiers - £85

Early bird rates - if you pay before Friday 11 May 2018 are
Dancer £130 Drummer £90 Dog Soldier £55

NB No charge is made for ceremony. Each person brings tobacco for their ceremonial intent and a medicine gift for the Dance Chief to honour the energy exchange.

Useful Contacts

Registration; Drum -
Gill Eakins 0114 248 0524 or 07587 144 942
gill.eakins@uwclub.net

Hokkshideh bundles; plumes and whistles - Pete Edwards
01433 651769
moonsnake@peec.fsnet.co.uk

Emergency contact on the land
Gill Eakins 07587 144 942