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## **The Spark, May 5, 2025, Edition 44**



# **When the Fire Rages, We Rise**

The Charter for Compassion invites you to join us for two extraordinary days designed to replenish your compassion tank, ignite your courage, and inspire new ways to transform the world—together.

In a time when, as author Ian MacLaren reminds us, "Be kind, for

everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle," we recognize that the fires outside are raging—and yet, we are also the steadfast holders of hope, dreams, and possibilities. This conference is not just about listening—it's about empowering one another to act with renewed strength and creativity in our everyday lives.

Throughout these two days, you will experience the wisdom, passion, and practical insights of an incredible array of global voices:

- **The Interfaith Amigos**—an imam, a rabbi, and a pastor—will share down-to-earth, heartfelt wisdom about compassion across traditions.
- **Sue Cooper, founder of MOMMS in the UK**, will ignite your spirit with stories of ordinary people empowering their communities through creativity and compassion.
- **María Cervera**, Colombian psychologist, eco-spiritual leader, and advocate for regenerative futures, will inspire us with her work in spiritual ecology, emotional resilience, and youth empowerment.

And this is just the beginning. You'll hear from dozens of extraordinary individuals and organizations who are reshaping their communities—and our world—with compassion at the center.

Best of all, our conference platform ensures you won't miss a thing. Every session will remain available online for months following the event, so you can return, re-listen, reflect, and re-energize as often as you like.

**Meet new allies.**  
**Start new conversations.**  
**Bring bold ideas home.**  
**This is purposeful networking with heart.**

Come fill your well. Come find your courage. Come transform the world with us.

With warmest regards,

Marilyn Turkovich

**Register today**

## News, Programs, and Webinars



### Harmony of Humanity: Exploring Common Ground Through Music with Marilyn Turkovich

**Every Wednesday, through July**  
**8am PDT / 9am MDT / 10am CDT / 11am**  
**EDT / 4pm UTC / 5pm SAST / 8:30pm IST**

Music has been an integral part of every culture throughout history, reflecting the unique characteristics and traditions of different societies. From the rhythmic beats of African drums to the intricate melodies of Indian ragas, music provides insight into the lives, histories, and identities of people around the world. By studying various musical traditions, we gain a deeper appreciation for the diversity and richness of global cultures.

[Learn More and Register Here](#)



**Join us on May 14 & 15, virtually, for our "Compassionate Action Conference: Transforming the World Together"**

# Everyone is Welcome!

***Thank you to our Founding Conference Partner, Manitoba Council  
for International Cooperation, [Fund for Innovation and  
Transformation](#).***

**Learn More and Register Here**



## **EdNet Forum: Prison Narratives: A Practice Of Empathy And Human Dignity with Natalie Updike from Shorecrest Preparatory School**

**Thursday, May 15**

**7:30am PDT / 8:30am MDT / 9:30am CDT /  
10:30am EDT / 3:30pm UTC / 4:30pm SAST  
/ 8pm IST**

In English 12 Honors: Prison Narratives at Shorecrest Preparatory School in St. Petersburg, Florida, students enter a semester-long, senior elective to investigate twentieth- and twenty-first century autobiographies by imprisoned and formerly imprisoned people in the United States—the country with the highest imprisonment rate in the world.

**Learn More and Register Here**





## Global Read: Sage Warrior by VALARIE KAUR

**Monday, May 19**

**2pm PDT / 3pm MDT / 4pm CDT / 5pm EDT / 10pm UTC  
(MAY 20) 7am AEST / 9am NZST**

How do we find the wisdom to envision a new world and the courage to fight for it?

How do we survive seemingly apocalyptic times?

In a world on fire, how do we find love and joy?

We are not the first to ask these questions—in fact, seeking answers to them forged one of the world's great wisdom traditions. In a time riven by caste, conquest, and cruelty, Sikhs blazed the path of the sant sipahi, the sage warrior. The sage radiates love and Oneness; the warrior activates that ethical power to fight for humanity. These energies empowered the first Sikhs to survive near-annihilation in South Asia nearly half a millennium ago. The sage warrior is the essential archetype for our time of turmoil—one we can all embody to cultivate our souls and transform the world.

**Learn More and Register Here**



## **Planting Seeds of Compassion: A Guide on how to Start Your Compassionate Community Initiative**

**May 20 & 27 Morning for Pacific Time**  
**8am PDT / 9am MDT / 10am CDT / 11am**  
**EDT / 4pm UTC / 5pm SAST / 8:30pm IST**  
[REGISTER HERE FOR AM SESSIONS](#)

or

**May 21 & 28 Afternoon for Pacific Time**  
**4pm PDT / 5pm MDT / 6pm CDT / 7pm EDT**  
**/ (May 22 & 29) 9am AEDT / 11am NZST**  
[REGISTER HERE FOR PM SESSIONS](#)

You're ready to make a difference—and we're here to help you take that first step.

No matter where you live or what your community looks like, the principles of starting a compassionate community initiative are the same. It all begins with building a team, anchoring your effort in trust, shared values, and a collective vision.

Join us for this two-part global course, designed to meet the needs of changemakers in every time zone. Each session is 90 minutes and offered at two different times to ensure accessibility for participants around the world.



## Compassion Circle: The Charter Sangha

**Saturday, May 31, at 9am PDT / 10am MDT  
/ 11am CDT / 12pm EDT / 5pm UTC / 6pm  
SAST / 9.30pm IST**

On the last Saturday of every month, the Charter for Compassion offers a 90-minute practice of people coming together to be in a Circle, a Sangha.

[Learn More and Register Here](#)



## On The Blog: Reflections on CBCT by Merida McCarthy & Anum Mulla

Read about Cognitive-Based Compassionate Training (CBCT) and the experiences both Merida and Anum gained while teaching to Charter for Compassion's Volunteers, staff, and members of the Board of Trustees.

[Read This Blog Entry Here](#)



## ICYMI: In Case You Missed It!

**April 30**

[Allies in Action: Florida Chat](#)

[Community Collaboration Ambassador  
Follow-Up Meeting w/ Laura Hansen](#)

**April 29**

[Allies in Action: UK Chat](#)

**April 23**

[Global Read: Becoming Wise with KRISTA  
TIPPETT](#)

## From our Partners



### WorldPride 2025 + OUR PRIDE Shorts & Arts Fest

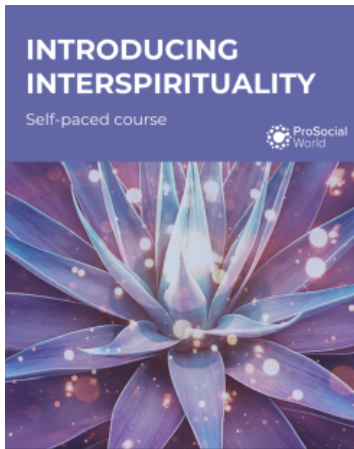
**May 22nd - June 30th, 2025, Online!**

Faced with rising challenges, Charter for Compassion partner organization Rainbow Advocacy is launching Voices of Solidarity, a worldwide arts and social justice initiative.

The program includes the Voices of Solidarity 2025 Global Gatherings, a series of free virtual events throughout June coinciding with major Pride celebrations, featuring creative works and discussions from the LGBTQIA+ community and allies. The Gatherings are part of the larger OUR PRIDE Shorts & Arts Festival, which offers paid access to a diverse collection of international short films and artistic expressions from May 22nd to June 30th. Both initiatives aim to empower marginalized voices and foster connection across the globe.

**[Learn More and Register Here](#)**





## **New Virtual, Self-Paced Course: Introducing Interspirituality with ProSocial Spirituality**

Are you seeking a deeper spiritual connection?

ProSocial Spirituality blends scientific wisdom with spiritual traditions to create meaningful transformation. Start your journey on your own time with our introductory self-paced course. This course explores Wayne Teasdale's Nine Elements of Universal Spirituality, providing a self-paced journey for personal growth and inner transformation.

[Learn More and Register Here](#)



## **GoldenRuleism Ambassadors**

A GoldenRuleism Ambassador is anyone committed to positively impacting their community and the world. This role is not defined by status or position but by the willingness to practice empathy and kindness in everyday interactions. Whether you are a community leader, educator, student, or simply someone who believes in the power of GoldenRuleism, you can become an ambassador.

[Learn More on How to Become a GoldenRuleism Ambassador](#)

*If you are a Partner organization, or belong to a registered Compassionate City/Community with us, and want to promote your events in The Spark, the Charter for Compassion's newsletter, email [contact@charterforcompassion.org](mailto:contact@charterforcompassion.org)*



*If you'd like to be featured in the LIVE show,  
email [felipe@charterforcompassion.org](mailto:felipe@charterforcompassion.org)*

## Featured items on the Store



## Baby Onesie

**US\$22**

Dress your baby to the nines with this 100% cotton one piece. It has three snap leg closure for easy changing, a comfortable envelope neckline, and a beautiful print that's bound to get the baby all happy and giggling.

[Shop Baby Onesies](#)

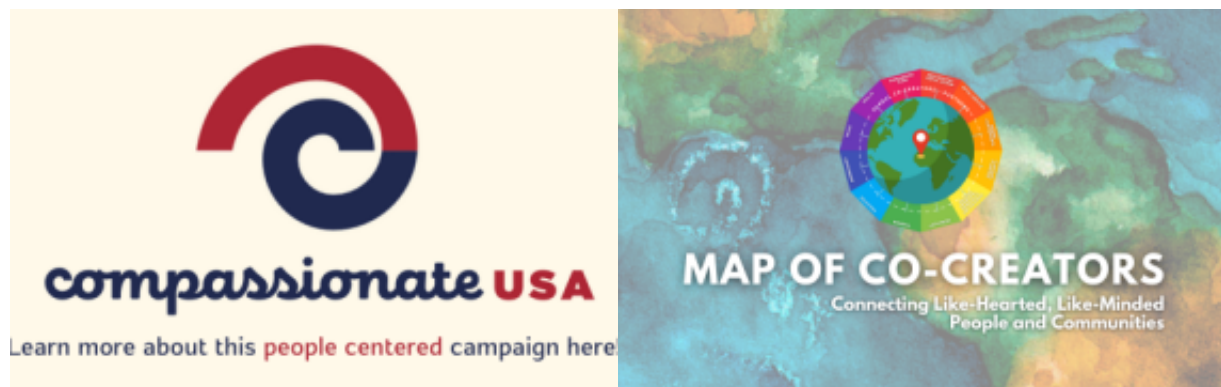


## Stainless Steel Water Bottle

**US\$25**

This 17-ounce, double-walled stainless steel water bottle is perfect for your daily outings. It will keep your drink of choice hot or cold for hours. It also features an odor- and leak-proof cap.

[Shop Water Bottles](#)





Charter for Compassion, 2025

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