

General Information

The Labyrinth Society is an international organization whose mission is to support all those who create, maintain and use labyrinths, and to serve the global community by providing education, networking and opportunities to experience transformation.

Committed to bringing labyrinth enthusiasts together in order to share our interest, energy, and expertise, we hold our Annual Gathering, sponsor World Labyrinth Day, provide small grants for individual labyrinth projects, engage in joint projects with Veriditas, Inc., the worldwide labyrinth facilitator training organization and provide a whole host of other services to support the international labyrinth community.

The Labyrinth Society website contains:

- Educational and experiential resources
- A Calendar of Events where members and non-members around the world post their labyrinth events
- Information on membership
- Our Annual Gathering pages that include photos and synopses of past Gatherings
- <u>World Labyrinth Day</u> information and ideas
- <u>TLS Auction</u> page
- <u>The World-Wide Labyrinth Locator</u>, a global labyrinth database project sponsored by the Labyrinth Society and Veriditas, Inc.
- <u>The Labyrinth Society Marketplace</u> an advertisement venue for businesses owned by labyrinth enthusiasts
- Archived editions of TLS eNewsletter, Labyrinth Pathways (members only), Caerdroia (members only)
- Special Projects labyrinth grant opportunities for members
- Regional Reps our local "feet on the ground"
- Extensive research archives of labyrinth studies; abstracts of results
- Energy Keepers, a circle of love and support to members and nonmembers
- <u>365 Club</u>, a group of members and nonmembers dedicated to walking labyrinths every day of the year and telling their stories. There is a monthly eNews with ideas and inspiration available to all.
- Members Only section with archived TLS publications, member directory and handbook
- <u>Labyrinths For Our Time DVD</u>; A dynamic educational and marketing tool for any labyrinth enthusiast, this multi-faceted presentation features labyrinth experts from all over the world speaking about the value and benefit of labyrinths in public places including churches, prisons, hospitals, schools and universities, parks, and recreation areas.
- <u>Spanish</u> Streaming Video of *Labyrinths In Our Time* and pages coming soon

The Labyrinth Society supports a variety of social media formats, including:

- <u>The Labyrinth Society Facebook page</u> where viewers can find posts and comment about TLS activities and events, interesting labyrinths walked, intriguing labyrinth designs discovered and updates about TLS Special Project grant activities.
- <u>The Labyrinth Society Events Group</u> where members can post and comment about their own and each other's labyrinth events and activities.
- <u>TLS Twitter page</u> with tweets about current TLS labyrinth news
- <u>YouTube channel</u> where individual segments from our <u>TLS Labyrinth DVD</u> are posted. These informational segments include; <u>Churches</u>, <u>Prisons</u>, <u>Hospitals</u>, <u>Educational Settings</u>, Public <u>Locations</u>, and <u>History</u>.
- Instagram Page <u>https://instagram.com/thelabyrinthsociety/</u>

The *Labyrinth Society's Annual Gathering* is a conference-style experience with featured speakers, workshops, vendors of labyrinth products, and lots of labyrinths. It is a time for networking, learning, and celebrating. The location and theme changes each year, allowing us to visit many regions. The gathering also includes the annual business meeting where members are elected to the Board of Directors and have input into the activities of the organization.

World Labyrinth Day is a TLS sponsored global celebration where individuals and groups around the world are encouraged to "Walk As One At One" in a global expression of peace. World Labyrinth Day is always held the first Saturday in May and is now in its seventh year. The goal for 2015 is to have walks in all 50 US States and in at least 50 countries

Membership in *The Labyrinth Society* is open to all persons interested in labyrinths who feel that engagement and collaboration with one another is beneficial, stimulating and worthwhile. Member networking is encouraged through the participation in our Auction, contribution to our eNews bulletins, quarterly publication and updates, engagement in discussions on our FB and Twitter sites, volunteering on one of our standing committees and through attendance at our *Annual Gathering*.

Member Quotes

"The Labyrinth Society is a diverse, inclusive, nonsectarian, international community of labyrinth enthusiasts. We are broad spectrum, embracing all types of labyrinth, and we provide opportunities for networking and education, online and in person. Among our active contributing members are some of the world's foremost experts on labyrinths, as well as those very new to labyrinths. All voices are heard." Kay Whipple, President and Past Resources VP and Web Chair

"Research studies conducted in a variety of settings has consistently shown that walking a labyrinth reduces stress. In through regional and international events.." John W. Rhodes, Ph.D., Past-President and Past Research Chair

"A labyrinth is a pattern with a purpose, an ancient tool that speaks to a long forgotten part of us. Lying dormant for centuries, labyrinths are undergoing a revival of use and interest. They offer a chance to take "time out" from our busy lives, to leave schedules and stress behind. Walking a labyrinth is a gift we give to ourselves that leads us past our intellect to a deeper place within. Among the results some people have reported from walking labyrinths are insight and creative ideas, relaxation and stress release, happiness (and sometimes tears), connectedness, balance, and well-being." Robert Ferré, Founding Member and Master Labyrinth Maker

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