

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### DEMETER PRESS

Seeking submissions for an edited collection entitled

### **Pagan, Goddess, Mother**

Editors: Sarah Whedon & Nané Jordan

**Deadline for Abstracts: September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016**

Pagan spirituality and Goddess spirituality are distinct, yet overlapping movements and communities, each with much to say about deity as mother and about human mothers in relationship to deity. The purpose of this collection is to call categories of Pagan and Goddess mothering into focus, to highlight philosophies and experiences of mothers in these various movements and traditions, and to generate new ways of imagining and enacting motherhood.

What is distinctive about Pagan motherhood, what is distinctive about Goddess spirituality motherhood, and where is the overlap? How do these differ, and what does each have to learn from the other? How does study of these communities, philosophies, and practices highlight tensions and insights into gender, motherhood, and embodiment, more broadly? How do mothers in contemporary Pagan and Goddess movements negotiate their mothering roles and identities? What elements of these diverse contemporary traditions inform their experiences? How do theologies, theologies, and devotions to Mother Goddesses affect experiences of mothering? How do Pagan and Goddess mothers engage with ceremony, ritual, magic, and priestesshood? How do Pagan and Goddess mothers interface with interreligious dialogue, social institutions for children, community leadership, social justice, and the public sphere?

#### **Topics may include (but are not limited to):**

The specific theologies, theologies, mythologies, ethics, or practices of mothers in particular Pagan and/or Goddess traditions; theories of gender, motherhood, or embodiment in Pagan and/or Goddess traditions; Earth Mother, Great Mother, mother Goddess creation stories, eco-spirituality, or the maiden-mother-crone trinity; mothers' participation in ceremony, ritual, festival, magic, or priestesshood; the relationship between mother Goddess and human mother's empowerment; pregnancy, birth, early mothering, and beyond; Pagan and/or Goddess spirituality in mom blogging, custody conflict, religious freedom, children's religious education, or other social institutions; diversity and difference in Pagan and/or Goddess mothering including grandmothering, race, disability, or LGBTQ families.

Perspectives are welcomed from a wide range of disciplines and genres, including history, theology, theology, religious studies, anthropology, sociology, cultural studies, biography, spiritual autobiography, personal essays, life writing, poetry and artwork.

#### **Submissions Guidelines:**

Please send abstracts of approximately 300 words together with a short bio to

Sarah Whedon & Nané Jordan at: [pangangoddessmother@gmail.com](mailto:pangangoddessmother@gmail.com)

**by September 1, 2016.**

**Accepted papers** of 4000-5000 words (15-20 pages including references and endnotes) will be due **February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017**. Contributors will be responsible for ensuring that manuscripts adhere to MLA style.

#### **DEMETER PRESS**

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