

Branching Streams

2019 Conference

Monday, September 16 - Thursday, September 19

Hosted by Milwaukee Zen Center – Kokyo-An (Lake Mirror Hermitage)

Welcome! We are looking forward to meeting you at the Branching Streams Conference this Fall.

We are excited about the the theme of the conference:

EXPLORING JUSTICE FROM A BUDDHIST PERSPECTIVE

Speakers **Michaela Bono, Tonen O'Connor, and Stephanie Kaza** will address **restorative justice, prison justice and climate justice.**

The conference includes many opportunities to explore other topics of interest to Branching Streams sangha leaders and members.

The conference begins with dinner on Monday, September 16th and ends with lunch on Thursday, September 19th.

Location and Accommodations

The conference site is Siena Retreat Center, 5637 Erie Street, Racine, WI 53402, about 30 minutes from the Milwaukee airport. <https://www.sienaretreatcenter.org>

Siena Retreat Center is located along the shore of Lake Michigan, with its own beach and sweeping grounds. It is owned and run by the Racine Dominican Sisters, who also live on the premises.

“The welcoming community of Siena Retreat Center provides retreats and programs that renew lives and deepen holistic spirituality in an environment of peace, joy, and beauty. In the spirit of the Racine Dominicans, we seek to be a catalyst for a more just and compassionate world.” -Siena Retreat Center Vision and Mission

Each participant will have their own fully-equipped room with bath. There are elevators to the bedroom floors, and the ground floor is handicapped-accessible. Linens and towels are provided. Meals will be vegetarian, with beverages and snacks provided.

Given the changing weather conditions, you will need to be ready for sunshine and rain, heat or cold. Since the lake is swimmable, you may want to bring a swimsuit, and you may also want sturdy shoes for hikes.



Transportation

Please let us know if you will be arriving by car. There is plenty of free parking available. Please visit <https://www.sienaretreatcenter.org/directions> for directions.

For those participants arriving at Milwaukee's General Mitchell International Airport, we have arranged a shuttle to bring you to and from the Siena Retreat Center. You will have to arrange your own transport if you fly in and out of Chicago's O'Hare International Airport.

Post-Conference Activities

There will be a reception at Milwaukee Zen Center (Kokyo-an) after the close of the Conference on Thursday around 5 p.m. We can provide rides from Siena Retreat Center to Kokyo-an. A free tour of Milwaukee can be arranged for the following day, Friday, September 20, however you will need to arrange for your own lodging in Milwaukee.

Registration

The **Registration Form** is attached. Please complete and return one registration form per person, especially if more than one person will be attending from your Branching Streams Affiliate. All registrations and payments are due by **Wednesday, July 10**. Please limit the number of registrations to three from your Branching Streams Affiliate. If space is still available after July 10, additional registrations may be accepted.

Please indicate if there is any other information you want us to know on the back of your registration form.

Payment and Mailing Address

We ask for a donation of \$200 per attendee. Your payment will help defray the costs involved. **However, the cost of the conference is significantly more than the suggested donations will cover.** If you are able to offer more, it is most welcome and always appreciated. The remainder of the cost for the conference is covered by Branching Streams funds. If you need financial assistance, you may ask for a partial scholarship.

We need your registration by July 10th. Please send a check via regular mail with the attached form to:

Milwaukee Zen Center
Attn: Branching Streams Meeting
2825 N. Stowell Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53211-3775

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Registration (due by Wednesday, July 10)

Name: _____

Branching Stream Association: _____

I have my own car: Yes No

I need a ride from Milwaukee's Mitchell International Airport: Yes No

Arrival airline and flight number: _____

Arrival date and time: _____

Departure airline and flight number: _____

Departure date and time: _____

Traveling with (if applicable): _____

Mobile phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Emergency contact name: _____

Emergency contact phone: _____

All meals will be vegetarian. Please indicate if you have any special dietary restrictions:

Payment and Mailing Address

A check for \$_____ made out to Milwaukee Zen Center is enclosed.
Please complete and return the form with payment to:

Milwaukee Zen Center
Attn: Branching Streams Meeting
2825 N. Stowell Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53211-3775