



2023

YEAR IN REVIEW

# Our Three Pillars of Education

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The unique pedagogy of Maitripa College centers on three core aspects of our education: Scholarship, Meditation, and Service. Combining rigorous academic study with meditation and community service requirements results in a superior, integrated education in Buddhist Studies. Our programs are designed for students seeking an in-depth understanding of Buddhist thought in the context of both traditional and academic scholarship.



## Scholarship

Courses in philosophy, logic, engaged Buddhism, history, tibetan language, and more provide a rich academic foundation for Maitripa College students working toward MA and MDiv degrees, as well as continuing education students.



## Meditation

Public retreats and practices, along with formal academic meditation classes, provide a range of opportunities for students to receive authentic meditation instruction from qualified teachers.



## Service

Students integrate Buddhist perspectives into modern techniques of working with the mind in the classroom and through community service projects as part of their degree course requirements.

# Mission Statement

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Maitripa College is a Buddhist institution of higher education offering contemplative learning culminating in graduate degrees. Founded upon three pillars of scholarship, meditation, and service, Maitripa College curriculum combines Western academic and Tibetan Buddhist disciplines. Through the development of wisdom and compassion, graduates are empowered with a sense of responsibility to work joyfully for the wellbeing of others. We serve our students and the region through diverse and relevant educational, religious, and community programs.

Dear Friends of Maitripa College,

Since our founding in 2005, we at Maitripa College have seen many triumphs and equally as many losses. We, alongside all of you, have lived through economic catastrophe, political upheaval, and a global pandemic. This year, in particular, has been a heart wrenching one, as we lost not only the pillar of our Tibetan Language program, Dr. Bill Magee, early in the year, but also, weeks later, our Spiritual Director and Teacher, Kyabje Lama Zopa Rinpoche, unexpectedly passed from this life. The impact of these losses has touched every aspect of Maitripa College.



And yet, amidst such great loss, we continue, and we close another year of educating others through scholarship, meditation, and service, deeply inspired by the examples of our teachers, joyful, and with courage.

In recognition of this, our theme for year-end this year has been resilience – inspired by our teachers, we seek the light in the darkness, we rejoice in our capacity to **transform difficulty into the path, and we take action based on our confidence that we have the will and capacity to bring about change.** Without all of you, none of this would be possible. So we thank you for your continued support, and we invite you to look through this report and rejoice, and stay connected to us at Maitripa College.

Please enjoy this report on 2023, and I hope to see you very soon.

With love and Happy New Year,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Namdrol'.

Namdrol  
Dean of Education

# Lama Zopa Rinpoche (1946-2023)

Lama Zopa Rinpoche is the Spiritual Director and a Founder of Maitripa College. Rinpoche was a Tibetan Buddhist scholar and meditator who for over 30 years oversaw the spiritual activities of the extensive worldwide network of centers, projects and services that form the Foundation for the Preservation of the Mahayana Tradition (FPMT) which he founded with Lama Thubten Yeshe.

On April 14 at 10 p.m. Nepal time, Lama Zopa Rinpoche entered his final meditation. Here, in the words of the leaders of his organization, FPMT, are a few words about Rinpoche's incredible life:



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Lama Zopa Rinpoche (1945-2023) was a Tibetan Buddhist scholar and meditator who, for 39 years, oversaw the spiritual activities of the extensive worldwide network of centers, projects and services that form the Foundation for the Preservation of the Mahayana Tradition (FPMT), which he founded with Lama Thubten Yeshe.

Rinpoche has set in motion a host of Vast Visions for the FPMT organization that will span generations to accomplish. These include the proliferation of many charitable projects and beneficial activities. Among many projects dear to Rinpoche's heart are the two Maitreya Projects: under Rinpoche's guidance, FPMT plans to build two large statues of the future Buddha, Maitreya, in Bodhgaya and Kushinagar in India; The Sera Je Food Fund, which offered three vegetarian meals a day to all 2,500 monks studying at Sera Je Monastery in south India for twenty-six years, culminating into a large endowment fund, which now covers all the cost of food for all the monks for as long as the endowment fund remains; Animal Liberation events around the world, at which creatures, big and small, are freed from immediate harm or blessed every year— with hundreds of millions of animals liberated to date (by Lama Zopa Rinpoche or those inspired by him), and counting! Rinpoche was also utterly dedicated to fulfilling the wishes of His Holiness the Dalai Lama wherever and whenever possible and held this to be an utmost priority for FPMT. (from [www.fpmt.org](http://www.fpmt.org))

## *Lama Zopa and Maitripa College*

Since the founding of Maitripa College in 2005, Lama Zopa Rinpoche visited Maitripa College regularly and offered great support for the vision of the college, the potential it has to bring to the western world, and, in particular, for the good works of Yangsi Rinpoche, who has been closely connected with Rinpoche and Lama Yeshe since his childhood.



*Yangsi Rinpoche, Lama Zopa Rinpoche, and Lama Yeshe doing puja (spiritual practice) at Kopan Monastery, Nepal, 1976. Photo by Jon Landaw.*



*Blessing the new Jokhang Meditation Hall (2006)*



*Teaching in the Jokhang (2007)*



*Community Practice on Mount Hood (2009)*



*Public Teaching in the Jokhang (2019)*

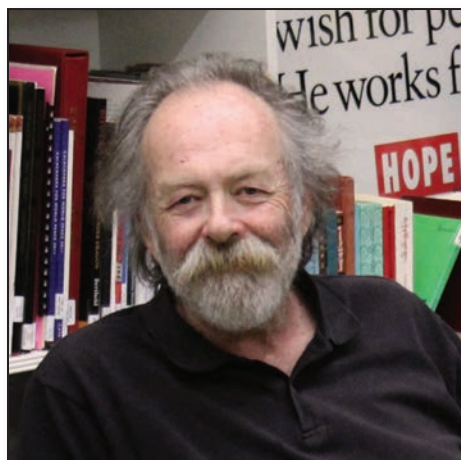


*Prayers being made around Rinpoche's holy body, Kopan Monastery, Nepal, April 2023*



*Yangsi Rinpoche at Heruka Lama Chopa at Kopan Monastery, Nepal, April 19, 2023.*

# William (“Bill”) Magee (1949-2023)



On February 20, 2023, Professor Bill Magee passed away in the sunset hours. During the last days, Bill had visits and prayers from teachers, friends, and community members all week, and Yangsi Rinpoche and Venerable Yönten were able to be with him shortly after he passed at home. All reports were that Bill’s passing was very quiet, loving, and peaceful.

Maitripa College welcomed Bill to our faculty in 2018. Bill completed his PhD at the University of Virginia (UVa), taught at universities in the U.S. and Dharma Drum Buddhist College in Taiwan, and was the Vice President of Jeffrey Hopkins’ UMA Institute for Tibetan Studies. He published several books on Geluk philosophy, a Tibetan language textbook, and numerous translations.

In all areas of teaching at Maitripa College (Tibetan language, History, and Philosophy with Yangsi Rinpoche), Bill was known for integrating the study of Buddhist logic and debate, as well as modeling a kind, generous, and insightful mind and heart. His connection to Maitripa brought the study of Classical Tibetan language, for practical use in reading and translation, as well as a pedagogical approach, to the forefront of our curriculum development.

*The following is from the foreword of a recent publication by his friend and colleague Dr. Jeffrey Hopkins:*

Honoring William A. (“Bill”) Magee: He is my colleague known well during his eleven-year multi-faceted stint as Vice President of the UMA Institute for Tibetan Studies 2011-2022. But far more so as close friend for several decades, illustrated so well by a short tale: An evening thirty-one years ago, I suddenly felt that I should put his phone number into the speed-dial and asked my partner to dial it when needed. The next morning, I told him to push the button. Bill arrived from Charlottesville at the foothills of the Blue Ridge, long before the ambulance. Without him, this translation also would still be on a dark shelf!



*Bill (center) with students in a Tibetan class at Maitripa.*



*Memorial practice for Dr. Magee in the Maitripa Jokhang*

# *New Beginnings:* Our New Space

In early 2023, Maitripa College expanded its offices and primary classroom to include the second floor of its urban campus building in Inner Southeast Portland, Oregon, in the Pacific Northwest of the United States. Maitripa College has co-owned this building with the Foundation for the Preservation of the Mahayana Tradition (FPMT) since 2020. This expansion allowed Maitripa College to increase our offering of space for our student body, our local friends and colleagues, and our ever-growing family of brothers and sisters in FPMT, in Dharma Centers, and in the national and international community.

We are very happy to share that, in addition to our exquisite Jokhang Meditation Hall and a brand new classroom, our facilities now include an expansive space for our finely curated Library of books and resources in support of Buddhist and Tibetan Studies in English (over 10,000 volumes and counting!); an intimate, lovingly adorned “FPMT Gompa” where the sound of our precious teacher, Lama Zopa Rinpoche, chanting can be heard 24 hours a day; and brand new offices, lounge areas, and study spaces for our dedicated staff and students!



*Yangsi Rinpoche teaching in the new classroom*



*James A. Blumenthal Library (JABL) new space*



*The new “FPMT Gompa” room in use for interviews during Khandrola’s 2023 visit.*



*Students and community members now have several new options of inviting spaces to gather for conversation and meal breaks during classes and public events.*

# New Faculty and Staff

In 2023, Maitripa College was joined by a number of new faculty and staff dedicated to ensuring the continued and developing mission of the college.

## Bhikshuni Lozang Yönten Chaplain and Lecturer of Buddhist Studies

Venerable Yönten joined Maitripa in the beginning of 2023. She has been a nun since 2003. Buddhist since her teenage years, Ven. Yönten moved to Australia and studied extensively under Gyurmé Khensur Rinpoche Geshe Tashi Tsering (at Chenrezig Institute, AU) from 2002-2009 before moving to India to study at Thosamling Institute 2010-2011. In 2012, she became an accredited In-Depth Registered Teacher with FPMT and was requested to become the Resident Teacher at Kunsang Yeshe Retreat Centre in New South Wales, Australia where she remained for three years and frequently visited up until the pandemic.



From 2015 onwards, Ven. Yönten was mainly based in New Zealand at Mahamudra Centre. During that period, she divided her time between leading retreats in New Zealand and teaching Philosophy at Human Spirit: Buddhist Psychoanalytic Training Program in Israel, as well as offering classes and retreats in various parts of Europe, until she moved back to the USA in 2021. Prior to joining Maitripa College, Yönten-la offered retreats and courses at Vajrapani Institute and Land of Medicine Buddha – both in California. She also has experience in hospice work and palliative care, as well as a deep commitment to social justice and a love of animals.



## Patrick Lambelet, PhD

Patrick Lambelet, PhD– Patrick Lambelet joined us at Maitripa in Fall of 2023. He has been a student of Tibetan Buddhism since 1995. He completed the FPMT Masters Program in Buddhist Studies at Lama Tzong Khapa Institute in Italy, studying the major philosophical and tantric subjects of the Geluk tradition. Following a decade of teaching Buddhist courses and leading retreats, he received an MA in religious studies at the University of Chicago. He earned his PhD in religious studies from the University of California Santa Barbara, where

he completed a dissertation under the guidance of José Cabezon. His dissertation focuses on Atiśa Dīpaṅkara and the reception of Vajrayāna doctrines in Tibet. His research interests include Mahāsiddha teachings and literature, Tibetan Buddhist biographies (namthar), and Buddhist approaches to contemporary ethical issues. Patrick has worked as an editor of both general and scholarly books and articles on Buddhism and other topics, and he works as a translator from Tibetan for the 84000 Project.

# New Faculty and Staff (continued)

## Sam Go

Sam Go— Sam has been with us at Maitripa for many years, first as a student and now, happily, as an Instructor and a Staff member. Sam is a Maitripa College MDiv alumnus. He also holds a BSBA in Accounting and a Master's in Accountancy from the University of Nevada Las Vegas. Sam was first introduced to Buddhism after reading a book he thought asked him to meditate—however, he was surprised to find that was not what it was saying at all! After this experience, Sam became interested in understanding how his mind worked. In 2015, following a recommendation from a friend, Sam began attending Shantideva Center in New York City. Since that time, Buddhism has been an integral part of his life. Sam learned Classical Tibetan Buddhist language from the late Dr. Bill Magee at Maitripa College and has felt passionate about the study of Tibetan ever since. Sam has been a great support to the Tibetan program and to Community events at Maitripa since 2023, and will also be supporting the continued development of financial matters at Maitripa in accordance with ethics and sustainable and responsible business practices beginning in 2024.



## Maria A. Garcia

Maria has been a longtime Maitripa College Board member and is among the founding administrators of the college. Maitripa was honored to have her join us for 2023—both as an extensive support for the expansion of the Maitripa College facilities to the 2nd floor of our building, and as the lead on creating the physical environment and administrative infrastructure for the Maitripa Tara School. Maria has enjoyed an extensive career in the field of Montessori education since 1978, and, along with her education, her experiences in Montessori evolved within the classroom, in bi-lingual and culturally diverse communities, working directly with children. Along her career she has also worked as an administrator, as well as offered continued education seminars and mentoring to teachers in both the private and public sectors. Maria has also offered orientations and lectures to parents in Montessori Pedagogy and Human Development. As a long-time student of Tibetan Buddhism she has enjoyed a deep personal relationship with Maitripa Institute since its inception, served as Center Director in her home town in San Juan, Puerto Rico for several years and also served in the administration team and Board of Directors of Maitripa College.



## Vanessa Laws

Vanessa joined the Maitripa family in Fall, 2023. She started her professional life as a ballet dancer, graduating from the Bolshoi Ballet School, in Moscow, Russia. She developed her 20 yearlong artistic career dancing, teaching children and professionals, as a rehearsal director and administrator in the United States and Europe, and, after the birth of her daughters, and inspired by her parenting journey, she returned to her Montessori legacy roots as a daughter and student, receiving her Association Montessori International (AMI) Diploma in Assistance to Infancy (0-3) in Prague, Czech Republic. She also holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts as well as a certification as a Movement Lesson LLC. Practitioner – Functional Movement Teacher. In the spirit of the development of the good heart and following a strong calling for service and sharing, Vanessa's inspiration is to support children and families during the beginning of life and to create the best conditions for their journey together. Vanessa is currently the Director of Family Relations at the Maitripa Tara School.



# James A. Blumenthal Library (JABL) at Maitripa College



*Linda Brown, MILS, Librarian*

Consistent with our mission and degree program requirements, The James A. Blumenthal Library at Maitripa College maintains and provides access to library and information resources with a level of currency, depth, and breadth to support academic programs and services. The library's mission is to support the broader mission of the College by providing the highest standard of electronic, archival, and print resources in Western and Buddhist languages relevant to Buddhist Studies for scholars, faculty, and the interested public.

The library provides physical facilities to encourage individual and collaborative education, promote engaged discourse and active exchange of ideas, and offer training in information resources and research tools. Library resources are current and well-distributed among the fields in which Maitripa offers instruction. Our fields of study are focused and well-supported by the depth of our collection in these areas as evinced by several thousand titles in our collection in the field of Buddhist studies, with recent growth and acquisition focus in supporting areas of chaplaincy, ministry, and ethics.

The James A. Blumenthal Library at Maitripa College has an active curatorial management of collection growth, wherein the most relevant and necessary items are purchased in support of degree programs. Titles reviewed favorably in professional journals, subject bibliographies, renowned scholar authors, and requests and recommendations from faculty, staff, and students are determinative factors in acquisitions.



*In 2023 the Library relocated to a beautiful new space in a central location on the second floor.*



*The new Tibetan Language Center on the first floor houses Tibetan and Sanskrit texts, and offers students a dedicated space for translation work, language studies, small group work, and quiet study.*

# Maitripa College Representation in the Academy

Central to our mission of becoming an accredited Buddhist university in the west is participation in the academy of higher education in the United States. Maitripa College faculty and administrators do this in multiple ways. Among them: participation in academic organizations, on committees, and in publications related to knowledge generation and dissemination in our respective fields, as well as training and development to increase our own expertise related to the same. Especially as we near a likely regional accreditation application in 2025, this aspect of our development takes on great importance.

In 2023, these are some of the highlights of our work to bring this about:

## Spring

- Maitripa faculty member Dr. Leigh Miller joins esteemed colleagues in contributing to the published volume *Refuge in the Storm: Buddhist Voices in Crisis Care*, which offers a discussion of contemplative practices and spiritual principles to help individuals, families, and communities in crisis and the care of providers who support them.
- Maitripa faculty member Dr. Namdrol Miranda Adams hosts a live Webinar on Buddhist Theological Education with José Cabezón and Chenxing Han, under the auspices of the American Academy of Religion, which seeks to determine common ground, interrogate existing challenges and opportunities, and asks, with an eye to the context and settings of their institutions and others, what is “Buddhist theological education?” and whom and/or what purposes should it serve?



*Leigh Miller, PhD*

## Fall

- Members of the Maitripa College faculty travel to Barre, Massachusetts to attend a planning meeting for the annual Buddhist Ministry Working Group meeting planned for Spring of 2024. This collaborative effort entering its 9th year of existence was founded under the auspices of the Buddhist Ministry Initiative at Harvard University, and takes as its main focus the furthering of the fields of Buddhist Chaplaincy and Buddhist Ministry. Maitripa College is a founding member of this group.
- Members of the Maitripa College faculty attend the 2023 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion (AAR) in San Antonio, Texas. Faculty focus during these meetings was learning and connecting with colleagues, particularly in the field of Buddhist Chaplaincy, Spiritual Care, Buddhist Theological Education, and Contemplative Studies. Learn more about the AAR and the Annual Meetings here: <https://aarweb.org/2023AnnualMeeting/Home.aspx>



*Namdrol Miranda Adams, EdD*

Additionally, beginning in the Fall term, Maitripa College faculty began meeting regularly for meals, and for faculty sharing and development, with particular emphasis on creating an intentional faculty culture, learning opportunities, and future faculty capacity building at Maitripa College. In 2024 we plan to expand this work with the growth and establishment of a Center for Teaching and Learning at Maitripa.

# 2023 Academic Highlights

In 2023, Maitripa College continued offering core and supplementary courses in support of our two degree programs, a Master of Arts degree and a Master of Divinity degree. In addition to our regular rotation of courses, we were happy to offer a new course introducing Tibetan Medicine, which will continue into the spring of 2024.

Additionally, we celebrated our 14th Commencement Exercises, and graduated five more students with degrees from Maitripa College.



2023 Commencement

## Course offerings in 2023 included:

~ History of Buddhism in India and Tibet ~ Introduction to Buddhist Thought ~ Mahamudra Philosophy: Realizing the Nature of Mind ~ Introduction to Buddhist Meditation ~ Mahamudra Meditation ~ Techniques of Meditation: The Wind Element ~ Introduction to Classical Tibetan Language ~ Seminar in Tibetan Translation ~ Introduction to Tibetan Medicine ~ Engaged Buddhism ~ Foundations of Buddhist Service ~ Empathy in Communication: Mindful Listening and Compassionate Response ~ Buddhist Ministry and the Spiritual Caregiver in Buddhist / Spiritual Communities ~ Lojong, Calm-Abiding, and Your Community ~ Death, Loss, and Grieving ~ Advanced Mind Training and Service as Spiritual Practice ~ Systemic Suffering and Collective Liberation: Awakening to Race, Dharma, and Ourselves ~

## Some highlights from our graduates:

Andrew Hughes has relocated to Dharamsala, India, where he has enrolled in the Lotsawa Rinchen Zangpo Translator Program, a leading program in the formation of specialized interpreters and translators from Tibetan. Andrew is using the pedagogical and philosophical basis of his study at Maitripa College to deepen his work with the Tibetan language and to bring it into the world.

Sam Go remains with us in Portland, and joined Maitripa's team as an Instructor in 2023. He has used the Tibetan and philosophical training he received at Maitripa College from the late Dr. Bill Magee and from Yangsi Rinpoche to inform his work introducing Maitripa College students to the Tibetan language. In 2024, Sam will expand his work at Maitripa College to include advising and design of financial matters at the college in accordance with ethics, care, and sustainable and responsible business practices.

Several Maitripa College alumni began yearlong CPE residency positions as staff chaplains in training: Sonia Arion and Vicki McArdle (Legacy Emmanuel Medical Center), Scott McEachern (Portland Providence Medical Center), and Daryl Dunigan (Veterans Association Medical Centers). We also extend congratulations to those alumni who commenced new professional chaplain jobs this year: Kate Brassington, Jyoshin Clay, and Jane Robeson. Maitripa College alumni use the basis of their theological education and their focused training in loving presence from Maitripa College to inform their work as Chaplains, attending to the stories and values of those confronting change in their lives, and supporting them in their experience.

# 2023 Community Highlights

In 2023, after a number of years of near-total hiatus due to pandemic restrictions, Maitripa College returned to a full schedule of community offerings. These included regular Sunday morning teachings and community gatherings focused on Loving Kindness and Compassion, led alternately by Yangsi Rinpoche, Venerable Lozang Yönten, and students and community leaders; Tara Retreat Days; a Saka Dawa Nyung Nay retreat; monthly Spiritual Support groups open to all; Tsa-tsa making workshops, Discovering Buddhism sessions; celebrations of holidays, auspicious days, and special occasions; celebration of the Winter Solstice with Children; and more!

In addition, in 2023, Maitripa College and Yangsi Rinpoche were honored to participate in a Long Life Puja Offering for His Holiness the Dalai Lama in Dharamsala, India by the FPMT organization, on May 24th. Three hundred and fifty members of the FPMT organization, including 150 who joined the event from abroad, participated in the hugely successful event.

Also, in June, Maitripa College hosted an extensive three-day event: Creating the Conditions for Our Teacher's Swift Return. This weekend of practice and learning in community was highlighted by the visit of Khandro Tsering Kunga Bhuma (Khandro-la) to Maitripa College. The intent of this weekend was to create auspicious conditions for the swift return of our teacher, Lama Zopa Rinpoche, to guide us all. Hundreds of people gathered from around the country and world, including alumni, old friends, and new community members, as well as representatives from local Buddhist groups, and respected FPMT teachers, who led community practice and conversation sessions. Maitripa College offered vegetarian meals to all over the four days, opening the first floor of the college and providing a gracious space for old and new friends to connect between events.



*Tara offerings during regular retreats and practices this year.*



*Yangsi Rinpoche attended the Long Life Puja Offering for His Holiness in Dharamsala in May; the event (offered by FPMT) was joined in person and online by many in the Maitripa College community*



*Khandro Tsering Kunga Bhuma (Khandro-la) during the June weekend of practice attended by hundreds. A full photo gallery of the many events can be viewed on the Maitripa College website.*

# Maitripa Tara School

In 2023, the Maitripa Tara School was launched as a project of Maitripa College. Details about this project are as follows.

## Developing the Good Heart

Maitripa Tara School was founded to bring a unique frame to modern education, to invite children and families to become part of a learning community, and to support them in preparation for life. Our main campus is in the Maitripa College building in Southeast Portland, and we are rapidly developing our program offerings to include further curricula in our neighborhood, and at Tara Farms, a local farm campus in Corbett. Tara School is unique because it offers research-based curricula in an intimate, family-centered learning environment. Inspired by the Tibetan Buddhist tradition as embodied by the Dalai Lama, an education at Maitripa Tara School focuses on the development of a good heart at its core.



*One of the new classroom areas*

method, and a permaculture approach to care for and connect to the natural world and to oneself and one another, relying on diversity, stability, and resilience.

In 2023, Maitripa Tara School benefited from the expertise of long-time Maitripa Board member and founding administrator Maria A. Garcia, who is also an experienced Early Childhood Montessori educator for over 40 years and a longtime student of Yangsi Rinpoche and of Tibetan Buddhism. Under her direction, the Maitripa Tara School classroom was created as a beautiful, inviting, and thoughtfully arranged space that embodies each element of Maria Montessori's revolutionary approach to early childhood education. The physical space of the classroom is designed to encourage preschoolers to explore and discover, to collaborate with their classmates, and to take ownership of their education. This approach encourages self-directed learning that promotes self-confidence, independent thought and action, and critical thinking, while fostering social-emotional and intellectual growth.



*Good Heart Education area*

In 2024, the school will focus on completing documentation and processes for licensure, on developing a sustainable business model for the school, on marketing and community development, and on opening the classroom of Maitripa Tara School for children in the Fall. In 2024-2025 the school will be assessing further grant opportunities to support current and upcoming projects.

Meanwhile, the school offers a very warm and special thanks to the Maria Garcia and to the Blumenthal family and the James Blumenthal Trust for their ongoing and dedicated support of the Maitripa Tara School.

# Maitripa Rabjungma Community

In 2023, The Maitripa Rabjungma Community was launched as a project of Maitripa College. Details about this project are as follows.

## Nurturing Our Future Leaders

The Maitripa Rabjungma Community is dedicated to the empowerment of Buddhist women into service and leadership through an education based in scholarship, meditation, and service within a monastic and practice-based community.

A project of Maitripa College in Portland, Oregon, and situated at Tara Farms in nearby Corbett, this experiential program will include a three-year period of monastic ordination and training (with options to extend that timeframe). During this time, the nuns-in-training will learn and be supported in offering Buddhist spiritual care for the community on the basis of the integration of Mahayana Buddhist philosophy, with a focus on an in-depth and living practice of the bodhisattva vows, lojong (thought transformation techniques), and deep meditation practice.

On this basis of a formal practice of ethics, the Maitripa Rabjungma nuns-in-training will undergo a rigorous program of study and practice, beginning with training in Buddhist philosophy, meditation, and service as presented in the Maitripa College curriculum, enhanced with further in-depth study and practice under the guidance and direction of Yangsi Rinpoche and Bhikshuni Lozang Yönten, among others.

In addition to traditional Buddhist training and practice, the nuns-in-training will learn competencies to help support their communities and the world, including pedagogy, Buddhist spiritual care, meditation and ritual support, and support for the healing arts. They will also learn techniques of self-care in order to enable lifelong dharma practice and service, and will cultivate and explore a connection with the earth as a lived understanding of interdependence and sustainability.

Learn more about this project at:  
<https://rabjungma.org/>



*Yangsi Rinpoche and Bhikshuni Lozang Yönten*



*Tara Farms, the location of the project*



*Yangsi Rinpoche and Khandro Tsering Kunga Bhuma (Khandro-la) perform puja at the Farm to bless the land and the project (June 2023)*

# Financial Overview

As in past years, in 2023, donors and supporters of Maitripa College continued their generous support of the college's operating budget, funding over 30% of our operating expenditures of approximately \$725,000. Other sources of funding included investment income and tuition.

At the same time, our operating expenditures by category remained consistent, with operating expenditures falling into the following categories:

- Program Expenditures (includes faculty, administration, and student services)
- Office Administration, Overhead
- Fundraising and Community Development

In 2024, as Maitripa College prepares for a 2025 accreditation application, we plan to focus with renewed vigor on our financial model, hoping to continue to perfect and articulate a model that demonstrates an ethic of affordable tuition, care of faculty and personnel, and sustainable and responsible business practices.

## Our Dedicated Team

### 2023 Maitripa College Board of Trustees

Pamela Cayton, MA—Chair

Alberto Fournier, PhD

Jose Cabezon, PhD

Nicholas Ribush, MD

Yangsi Rinpoche, Geshe Lharampa

Scott South

Mark T. Waller

\* Maria A. Garcia, MA (Inactive in 2023)

### 2023 Maitripa College Educators

Yangsi Rinpoche, Geshe Lharampa, President, Professor of Buddhist Studies

Bhikshuni Lozang Yönten, Chaplain and Lecturer of Buddhist Studies

Namdrol Miranda Adams, EdD, Dean of Education, Professor

Leigh Miller, PhD, Director of the MDiv Degree and Chaplaincy Program, Professor

Patrick Lambelet, PhD, Professor

Roger Jackson, PhD, Visiting Professor

Tiffany Patrella Blumenthal, Director of Student Services

Alfredo Piñero, Director of Technical Services

Linda Brown, Librarian, Registrar

Louise Light, Webmaster, Design Director

Alexandria Levy, Community Life Coordinator

Sam Go, Tibetan Instructor

Sunitha Bhaskaran, Subject Specialist, JAB Library

# Looking to the Future



Heading into our 19th year, in 2024, Maitripa College will focus on strategic planning for final preparations for a 2025 Regional Accreditation application with the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

In order to bring this about, among other things, we will focus on documentation of all existing policy; articulation and assessment of all aspects of our service to students and internal infrastructure and systems of accountability for all faculty, administrators, and students; and perfecting and articulating our unique financial model.

Also in 2024, we look forward to beginning to see the seeds of our efforts in children's education (with the Maitripa Tara School and further collaboration with the children of the Northwest Tibetan Association), and the Maitripa Rabjungma Community begin to bear fruit.



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Affiliated with FPMT  
(The Foundation for the Preservation  
of the Mahayana Tradition)  
[www.fpmt.org](http://www.fpmt.org)