

Anthroposophy Atlanta Newsletter February 2016

Dear friends,

Today brings the last full moon of winter. With spring approaching, local activities are picking up. We have several events coming up that you will find listed in this month's news. You will also find invitations to imagine future possibilities as our community continues to develop. In this newsletter, we begin by taking a look back at an inspiring historical Atlanta figure, Maynard Jackson. We look back as well to this date, February 22, in its relationship to both the White Rose and to Ita Wegman.

As always, thank you all for your participation and interest in the life of anthroposophy in Atlanta.

In service,
Elizabeth Roosevelt, for Anthroposophy Atlanta

Courageous Beginnings

Maynard Jackson: A Man for the Season

~ Linda Brooks-Cooper

In salute of Black History month, I have chosen to highlight the fascinating career of Maynard Jackson, Mayor of Atlanta, 1974-1982, 1990-1994.

Mayor Jackson graduated from Morehouse College in 1956, when he was only 18 years old. He then attended Boston University Law School for a short time, but finished his law degree at North Carolina Central University.

When he appeared on the political scene, Maynard was a political force to be reckoned with. He was incredibly bright, ambitious, stoic in his resolve, and always held the thought that equality was meant for everyone. His political life began to take shape and be defined by greatness.

He was the first of many things: the youngest mayor of a major city in the United States, the first African American mayor of a large Southern city, and the first African American to run for statewide office in Georgia since the Reconstruction.

A true politician with great foresight, he displayed courage in his efforts to appoint women and minorities to high offices. He created an affirmative action joint venture program that he championed through city contracts in infrastructure, transportation, urban planning, and citizen participation.

Maynard Jackson had a luminous personality; he could inspire “folks to listen” whether they disagreed or agreed. What a man does in ordinary life comes from his feeling and emotions, his natural urges, his desires. The way they are expressed is his personality.

For Maynard Jackson, the words liberty, equality, justice and brotherhood were words that inspired moral and ethical ideas. In the present age, men adhere to ideas, but in most cases what they do in the name of liberty, brotherhood, and justice bears all the characteristics of abstraction and distractions. What the majority of people grasp of these motivating words can only narrowly be defined, because most/many people can understand so little of the true ideas of these words. In many instances, the feelings found for these words often lack the full-blooded vigor of our personal life, our personality. We attribute greatness to individuals in whom the idea of liberty, equality seem to have become an outstanding force, but for the most part we don't see greatness. However, Maynard had it laid out before him like a light force which he was committed to following, his destiny.

This was the case with Maynard Jackson, he had an outstanding, out-streaming force for justice, equality, and liberty. This streaming force coincided with the beginning of momentous developments in the city of Atlanta. Maynard Jackson opened the city contracts bidding up to include minority contractors. He oversaw the building of the massive new terminal at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, with significant participation by minorities and, in his own words, “ahead of schedule and under budget.”

Maynard just didn't increase the number of minorities who participated in municipal contracts, but emphasized the need for neighborhoods to be more involved in their planning. He wanted the citizens of Atlanta to participate in “their” government. Accompanied by his big personality, his strong will, and courageous ideas, Maynard forged a legacy in Atlanta, GA, that will forever remain with the city “too busy to hate.”

Maynard faced his future with forceful living ideas because he had seen it before. He had seen what courage looked like when his mother was one the first black teachers of French at Spelman College.

He knew what segregation looked like, because he lived it. He knew a level of love and trust from his grandfather, John Wesley Dobbs, and he knew what faith and courage looked like because he had seen it in his fellow citizen, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Upcoming Events

How to Know Higher Worlds

with Lilith Dupuis

How to Know Higher Worlds is often the first text that is taken up in Foundation Studies courses. If you are considering Waldorf teacher training one day or are just interested in learning more about anthroposophy, this is a good starting point. Even long-time anthroposophists revisit this book, so all are invited to attend.

This 4-class series will meet on Monday nights, February 22 – March 14, 2016 from 7pm to 8:30pm.

\$100 tuition. \$16 book fee if you don't already have a copy.

Email Angela at adulteducation@waldorfatlanta.org

Occult Science: An Outline

Workshop on *Occult Science: An Outline* by Rudolf Steiner
led by Lilith Dupuis

Saturday, February 27, 2016 from 10am to 3pm

Our day will include a discussion of where humanity has come from, where we are today, and how we can approach what is coming toward us from the future. Wear comfortable clothing, as Lilith will lead us in eurythmy as well.

Snacks provided, potluck lunch. \$100 tuition.

Lilith Dupuis is a eurythmist from Santa Cruz, CA. This is her second visit to our community. She will again be leading a month-long eurythmy block for the high school students at Academe of the Oaks. We are pleased to welcome her back and so grateful that we can benefit from her study, experience and enthusiasm.

Email Angela at adulthoodeducation@waldorfatlanta.org

Steiner and Kindred Spirits

Friday night, March 4, 7:30 pm

Frederick Amrine: "The Beauty of Anthroposophy: What is Scientific about Spiritual Science"

Saturday, March 5, 9:30 - 2 pm

9:30am - 12 pm: Robert McDermott: "Steiner and Kindred Spirits"

Lunch Break ~ light fare provided

12:45pm - 2:00 pm

Frederick Amrine and Robert McDermott: "Working toward a Culture of Altruism"

All events will be held in the Hospitality Room at the Waldorf School of Atlanta.

Professor Frederick Amrine is visiting from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. His research specialties include Goethe, Novalis and German Idealism. He travels widely to lecture and teach on Waldorf Education and Anthroposophy. This is his fourth annual visit to our community.

Robert McDermott, Ph.D, is president emeritus and chair of the Philosophy, Cosmology and Consciousness Program at the California Institute of Integral Studies. Dr. McDermott is the founding chair of the board of the Sophia Project in Oakland, California. He has published many books including *The New Essential Steiner* (2009) and his newest, *Steiner and Kindred Spirits* (2015). Copies of these titles will be available for purchase at WSA.

To register or for more information, please email Angela Foster at adulthoodeducation@waldorfatlanta.org. This event is co-sponsored by Anthroposophy Atlanta, the Anthroposophical Society in America, and WSA.

For the rest of the Southeastern events, see [here](#).

Anthroposophical Lending Library of Atlanta (ALLA)

Thanks to generous donations from individuals and support from the Anthroposophical Society, Atlanta has the beginnings of a lending library dedicated to the service of Anthroposophy. Currently our collection of around 200 items is housed at the home of Angela Foster in Decatur, and contains many of Rudolf Steiner's writings other materials of interest to students of Spiritual Science. Melissa Grable has volunteered to help with cataloging, and we hope to complete the process this spring. We plan to post a listing of ALLA's holdings soon, and we are on the lookout for a more publicly-accessible home for the collection. For now, if you are interested in browsing the collection or borrowing materials, please contact Angela Foster.

Please join in by thanking these individuals for their donations to the becoming of our local lending library:

Frederick and Margot Amrine (of Ann Arbor, Michigan)
Helene Burkart (of Auburn, Alabama)
Nelson Fredsell
Katherine Jenkins
Lisa Majoros
Daniel McKinley
Jeff Powell
Elizabeth Roosevelt

If you have questions, interest in volunteering, or donations, please contact Angela at afoster@thirdbody.net

February 22



The White Rose

On this day in 1943, Sophie Scholl, Hans Scholl, and Christoph Probst were executed. They were members of the White Rose, non-violent resistance group in Nazi Germany.

Sophie Scholl	(May 9, 1921 - Feb. 22, 1943)
Hans Scholl	(Sep. 22, 1918 - Feb. 22, 1943)
Christoph Probst	(Nov. 6 1918 - Feb. 22, 1943)

Report from a guard: "Everyone who still had contact with them in those days—fellow prisoners, prison chaplains, guards, even Gestapo officials—were extremely impressed with their bravery and their dignified behavior..."

'I didn't know dying could be so easy,' said Christoph Probst, and then he added, "In a few minutes we will see each other again in eternity.' Then they were led off, the girl first, unblinking. We didn't understand how it was possible. The executioner said he had never seen anyone die like that."

From Goethe's *The Awakening of Epimenides*, Act II, Scene 4:

SPIRITS:

Though he who has boldly risen from the abyss
Through an iron will and cunning
May conquer half the world,
Yet to the abyss he must return.
Already a terrible fear has seized him;
In vain he will resist!
And all who still stand with him
Must perish in his fall.

HOPE:

Now I find my good men
Are gathered in the night,
To wait in silence, not to sleep.
And the glorious word of liberty
They whisper and murmur,
Till in unaccustomed strangeness,
On the steps of our temple
Once again in delight they cry:
Freedom! Freedom!



Ita Wegman

Feb. 22, 1876 - Mar. 4, 1943

Today also marks the birthday of Ita Wegman, close collaborator of Rudolf Steiner, who crossed the threshold in 1943. She was a member of the first executive council of the Anthroposophical Society, founded at the Christmas Conference of 1923/1924.

“Ita Wegman is not only an inspiring genius of anthroposophy; she is also a healing genius of anthroposophical medicine. Perseverance, courage, greatness mark her being.”

~ Emmanuel Zeylmans van Emmichoven

“She was truly a regal creature! This does not mean that she was unapproachable reserved, or indifferent to the needs and happenings around her. She was regal, but still exuded deep sisterly love. To her, all people are equal. Whether she looked after a sick child, a screaming lunatic, a Prussian general or a young English count, a young doctor or a medical student, a nurse, a gardener or a beggar—all of them she addressed in the same way: as a sister speaks to a brother. And still, she was regal and she had style...”

~ Karl König

Into the Future

In 1924, Rudolf Steiner asked a group of young people, “What do you imagine humanity’s world should be like in about 1935 if there is to be room in it or what you are now longing for as a young person?”

In imagining the birth of a new America, Travis Henry takes this question as his inspiration at the beginning of his book, *The Idea*. He brings this question into our own times, encouraging us to imagine the world we’d like to see in about 10 years. Responses “could be written, drawn, painted, carved, danced, chanted, whispered, enacted.” But there’s no saying, “It’s impossible.”

Now, what if we make this game local?

☆ What do you imagine Atlanta should be like in about 2026 if there is to be room in it for what you are now longing for as a human being?

Can you share your imagination with a friend?

Can you build it together?

What's Living in You?

All of you have seeds in you. I'd like to cultivate the space for sharing them in community. I imagine regular informal gatherings (monthly?) where different people take the initiative to bring forward an offering out of their own interest. These would be peer-to-peer sharings.

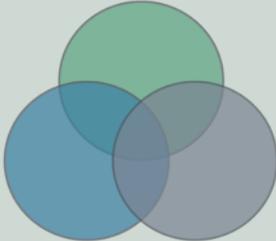
Each time, the person/people taking the lead would decide the content and form. It could be a creative offering or a seed thought. Something you've created or encountered. Your event could be presentation/performance-based or more interactive. It could be as simple as hosting a conversation about a sentence that caught your attention.

Location and date to kick off to be determined...

If you have something stirring that you'd like to share, email Elizabeth at anthroposophyatlanta@gmail.com.

Looking Ahead

This newsletter seeks to offer a picture of the activity and voices of anthroposophy in Atlanta. To contribute to future issues, contact anthroposophyatlanta@gmail.com. More about our branch can be found on our [website](#).



Reimagining America
A Threefold Working Conference
JULY 8 – 10, 2016, Kimberton, PA

co-sponsored by the Social Sciences Section
and Council for Anthroposophic Organizations

There is a new order emerging that is based
on a spiritual understanding
of the human being and society.

We invite participants who are ready to co-create in the spirit of renewal.
This event is a collaborative research meeting to take up the burning questions of our time.
Can we meet these challenges by turning them to the good,
bringing forth a reimagination of America?

Registration is open!

admininstitute.net/conferences/reimagining-america/
Questions: info@admininstitute.net