

# One Spirit: Celebrating our Faiths Together

17 September, 2022

## Program

### Indigenous Spirituality

May Sam, blessing and song



Elder May Sam is from the Tsartlip First Nation and is a master Cowichan knitter and storyteller who has worked with UVic First Peoples House and Camosun College. May will be offering a Coast Salish blessing and song.

### Muslim Community

May Shihadeh, Scripture chanted in Arabic



May is also a member of the Sunni Muslim community and a board member of the Victoria Multifaith Society. She is currently doing a Masters of Art in Intercultural and International Communication at Royal Roads University. May will be chanting a verse from the Qur'an in Arabic.

### New Thought

Dre Lavack, Circle of Life by Elton John



Dré Lavack has been part of the New Thought community in Victoria for over 25 years, beginning with the Centre for Self-Awareness. He co-founded the Centre for Inspired Living a few years later. Dré is an artist, singer and enjoys creating videos, music and art. He will be singing Circle of Life by Elton John

## Bahá'í Faith

### Nooshin & Vafa Javanmardi, prayer chanted in Persian



Nooshin & Vafa are originally from Iran, although Vafa lived in India as a child. They immigrated to Canada in the mid-1980s, where they raised two boys and served the Bahá'í community in various roles. They will be chanting a Persian Baha'i prayer by Abdu'l-Baha, the son of the Founder of the Bahá'í Faith.

## Central Saanich United Church

### Amy Nold, Christian song with guitar



Amy Nold, from Central Saanich United Church, will offer Christian prayer & music. Amy is a lifelong musician and has been playing for Central Saanich United Church since 2012. She is also a dedicated Yoga student, teacher, and practitioner. Amy will be offering a song from the Christian tradition

## Buddhist Community

### Phil Rossner, Namó Avalokitesvara, voice and guitar



Phil Rossner (aka Avinash Tâm) has been a meditation practitioner and teacher for 35 years. His "root" teacher was the Vietnamese Zen Master, Thich Nhat Hanh, who passed away in January 2022. Phil will be singing *Namó Avalokitesvara - Homage to the Bodhisattva of Compassion*, in memory of his dear teacher.

## Hindu Community

### Chetna and Sonia Naimi, Hindu dance



Chetna Mehrotra Naimi is a public health professional who recently moved to Victoria from Boston with her husband and two daughters. Chetna and her daughter, Sonia, will be demonstrating the significance of the ancient dance of India, *Bharatnatyam*, as a powerful means to express devotion in Hinduism and how worshipping the elements of nature is foundational part of the Hindu religion.