

## CALL FOR PAPERS Demeter Press

Seeking submissions for an edited collection entitled

Voices of the Ancestors Calling from Our Motherline: An Anthology Editors: Karen Nelson Villanueva and Annette Lyn Williams Deadline for Abstracts: December 15, 2016

The Motherline is an exercise in which one is asked to examine one's life and the life of one's mother and maternal lineage back as far as possible in order to bring up points of inquiry that one may not realize existed within one's family.

One premise of the Motherline is that most people are more familiar with their paternal ancestry than their maternal, which may have been true for women who were reared with a Eurocentric or patriarchally based mindset that defined early feminist writers. In this scenario, the mother's ancestry is lesser known and neglected as less important. However, for many later generations of women, especially women who identify as racial and /or ethnic minorities in Canada, the United States of America, and Europe and women raised in cultures with strong matrilineal influence, this scenario is no longer apt. For women outside this cannon the mother's family is generally better known than the father's. Another premise of the Motherline is that the stories of women are lost. Whether due to less emphasis being placed on the lives of women, the undervaluing of the importance of the oral tradition of sharing the tales of women's lives across generations, or a lack of importance placed on the life of an individual, what is known about the women of one's ancestry is often little.

This volume, Voices of the Ancestors Calling from Our Motherline: an anthology, will explore Motherline stories from a range of interdisciplinary perspectives and we encourage scholars from a variety of disciplines to submit abstracts. This work may also prove to be a valuable resource to those women and classrooms that delve into researching their own Motherlines.

## **Submission Guidelines**

Please send abstracts of approximately 250 words and include a 50-word biography by December 15, 2016
Please send submissions and inquiries directly to: Karen Nelson Villanueva at knvillanueva@buddhistministry.org and Annette Lyn Williams at awilliams@ciis.edu.

Submissions of 3000 to 5000 words are due by June 15, 2017 (including all references and endnotes). Manuscripts must conform to MLA style. Acceptance is contingent and will depend upon the strength and fit of the final piece.

## **DEMETER PRESS**

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