

DAOIST ORGANIZATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

Compiled by Louis Komjathy
Boston University

The following organizations are those which identify themselves as Daoist and/or claim some connection to the Chinese Daoist tradition. The list is preliminary and tentative; it is by no means comprehensive and inclusive. In addition, most of the information comes from the organizations listed and therefore awaits further historical research. For the most part these are physically existing communities, not “virtual” organizations. Generally speaking, I employ the romanization utilized by the organization in question. Anyone wishing to contribute additional information on Daoist organizations in North America may contact me at komjathy@bu.edu.

The Abode of the Eternal Tao (AET; Yongheng dao zhi jia 永恒道之家) was established in 1993 by Solala Towler. Located in an octagonal building with a pagoda that was originally built by a Sufi community, The Abode of the Eternal Tao is a private Daoist shrine dedicated to the Three Pure Ones, Lü Dongbin, and a number of other Daoist figures. In addition to offering Qigong and meditation classes, this organization publishes *The Empty Vessel: A Journal Contemporary Taoism*. This journal was first published in 1993 by Solala Towler, who remains the main editor. In 2004, Towler, Rebecca Kali (Director, Qigong Alliance and former vice-president of the National Qigong Association [NQA]), and Michael Rinaldini (Director, Daoist Medical Qigong Center) formed the American Daoist Association (Meiguo daojiao xiehui 美國道教協會; ADA).

Founder: Solala Towler.

Director: Solala Towler

Address: 1991 Garfield St., Eugene, OR 97405.

Phone: (800) 574-5118.

Website: www.abodetao.com.

Email Address: solala@abodetao.com.

Membership: 1,000 subscribers to *The Empty Vessel*.

Composition: Mainly Euro-Americans.

American Daoist Association (ADA), still in its formative phase, was founded in February of 2004 by Michael Rinaldini (Daoist Medical Qigong Center), Solala Towler (Abode of the Eternal Tao), and Rebecca Kali (Qigong Alliance). It seems that an early version of the project was proposed by Mark Johnson (now of the Tai Chi for Health Institute), under the name American Taoism Association. In June of 2004, Michael Rinaldini resigned and was replaced by Robert Marchand (Healing Tao).

Founders: Michael Rinaldini, Solala Towler, and Rebecca Kali.

Directors: Solala Towler, Rebecca Kali, and Robert Marchand.

Address: Unknown.

Phone: Unknown.

Membership: Unknown.

Composition: Unknown.

American Taoist and Buddhist Association (ATBA) is a community-based Daoist temple in New York City. Founded by Hsien Yuen, an ordained Daoist priest from Taiwan, and his mother, the American Taoist & Buddhist Association (Meiguo daojiao fojiao lianhe xiehui 美國道教佛教聯合協會) was chartered in 1979 and was incorporated in the state of New York. ATBA is one of the only Daoist organizations in North America with legal standing as a church. The association

operates the North Pole Gold Temple (Beiji jindian 北極金店) and Temple of Transcendental Wisdom (Panruo yuan 般若院), which consists of two altars, one to a diverse Buddhist pantheon and the other to a Daoist one. These combined temples provide members and the surrounding community with a variety of rites and services, performing religious ceremonies and cosmic renewal (*jiao*) rituals. The association also offers intensive Daoist training with classes and seminars given regularly. In addition, ATBA offers community outreach and charity, including a free Sunday vegetarian lunch for those in need. This organization also previously published a newsletter entitled *Da Tao/The Great Tao* (Summer 1986-Autumn 1987). Some members of its early advisory committee included Norman Girardot (Lehigh University), Michael Saso (University of Hawaii), and Jeffrey Yuen (Swedish Institute).

Founder: Hsien Yuen (Xuan Yuan 玄元).

Director: Hsien Yuen.

Address: 81 Bowery St., 3rd Floor, New York, New York 10002.

Phone: (212) 226-8469.

Membership: Approximately 50, including 1 Chinese priest.

Composition: Mainly Chinese immigrants and Chinese-Americans.

American Taoist Healing Center. *No information available.*

Address: 396 Broadway, Suite 502, New York, NY 10013.

Phone: (212) 274-0999.

Membership: Unknown.

Composition: Unknown.

British Taoist Association (BTA) was formed by a group of people dedicated to the Daoist tradition with the aim of spreading Daoism to the West. The group includes six British priests, who were ordained in China, and three Chinese priests. This ordination occurred under the Longmen monk Feng Xingzhao of Leigutai Monastery (Shaanxi) in 1995. The association aims to share the traditional knowledge of these individuals with others in the West who are interested in Daoism. Although the founding members are priests of the Longmen (Dragon Gate) sect, BTA embraces all strands of Daoism. It aims to perform a networking function. BTA is connected with the Chinese Daoist Association and publishes *The Dragon's Mouth*, which has published the work of Ken Cohen, Stuart Olson, Solala Towler, and Eva Wong. Recently, it has established a presence in North America through the circulation of *The Dragon's Mouth*. In addition, Shi Jing 世靜 (Alan Redman) and Shi Dao 世道 (Peter Smith) have begun to conduct workshops in the United States, the most recent of which was co-taught with Ken Cohen.

Founder: Shi Jing.

Chairman: Shi Jing (Alan Redman).

Address: P.O. Box 2274, Buckhurst Hill, England IG9 5YQ.

U.S. Contact: Michael Rinaldini.

U.S. Address: 945 Dorthel Street, Sebastopol, CA 95472.

Website: www.taoists.co.uk.

Email Address: membership@taoists.co.uk.

Membership: Approximately 200, including 3 British priests and 3 Chinese priests.

Composition: Mainly British citizens, some Euro-Americans, Europeans, Chinese immigrants.

Center for Daoist Studies (CDS; Daoxue zhongxin 道學中心) was established in 2003 by Louis Komjathy (Kang Siqi 康思奇; Xiujing 修靜) and Kate Townsend (Tang Xiang'en 唐鄉恩). This center is currently a web-based resource, dedicated to offering opportunities for the study and practice of Daoism. CDS understands Daoism as a Chinese religious tradition in the process of

being transmitted and adapted to a global context. The Center for Daoist Studies intends to assist this transition by maintaining a connection with the Chinese Daoist tradition and providing relevant resources for interested students. At the present time, this center's primary activities include maintaining a website, distributing the *Handbooks for Daoist Practice*, and facilitating a Daoist Studies Group.

Founders: Louis Komjathy and Kate Townsend.
Directors: Louis Komjathy and Kate Townsend.
Address: 5030 NE 180th Street, Seattle, WA 98155.
Phone: (206) 417-3504.
Website: www.daoistcenter.org.
Email Address: komjathy@daoistcenter.org.
Membership: 10.
Composition: Mainly Euro-Americans.

Center of Traditional Taoist Studies (CTTS), formerly New England Center of Tao, is a non-profit religious organization established to promote traditional Daoist studies. Located in Weston, Massachusetts, the center offers classes in Daoist religion, philosophy, Qigong, and martial arts. It was originally founded in the 1970s by Alex Anatole, a Russian Daoist priest. The Center of Traditional Taoist Studies is dedicated to the practical application of Daoism. In 1994, the center formed alliances with Baiyun guan (White Cloud Monastery) in Shanghai as well as Shanghai University and Longhua hospital. It also houses a second-floor temple to a diverse Daoist pantheon.

Founder: Alex Anatole.
Director: Alex Anatole.
Address: P.O. Box 134, Weston, MA 02193.
Phone: (781) 899-7120.
Website: www.tao.org.
Email Address: info@tao.org.
Membership: 80-100, including 1 Russian priest.
Composition: Mainly Euro-Americans.

Chi Sin Buddhist and Taoist Association (Zhishan fodao she 至善佛道社). Located about a half block up from the Quong Ming Buddhist and Taoist Society, this association was established in 1976 by members of Quong Ming and the late Hong Kong Daoist priest Sing Chi Jsang (Zeng Chengchi 曾誠熾). The temple is affiliated with both the Man Jak Chi Sin Association of Hong Kong (Xianggang wande zhishan she 香港萬德至善社) and the Quong Ming Buddhist and Taoist Society. Catering to the needs of the San Francisco Chinatown community, this association performs ancestor rites, funeral ceremonies, and maintains an ancestor hall.

Founder: Unknown.
Director: Unknown.
Address: 1051 Powell St., San Francisco, CA 94108.
Phone: (415) 982-8175.
Membership: Unknown.
Composition: Mainly Hong Kong immigrants and Chinese-Americans.

Ching Chung Taoist Association (CCTA); Qingsong guan 青松觀) is a community-based Daoist temple whose source temple is a Hong Kong organization with the same name. The San Francisco branch, now no longer associated with the Hong Kong temple, was established in 1978 by Lily Lee and Wilson Lee (Li Dazhi 李達志), both Hong Kong immigrants, as a non-profit religious organization to preach and practice Daoism. CCTA is one of the only Daoist

organizations in North America with legal standing as a church. This temple identifies its “canonical essence,” traced to the Longmen (Dragon Gate) branch of Quanzhen (Complete Perfection), as follows: (1) Loyalty in carrying out duties; (2) Filial duty in supporting parents; (3) Chastity in leading private life; (4) Integrity in cultivating frugality; (5) Righteousness in dealing with all matters; (6) Truthfulness in conducting human relations; (7) Benevolence in treating fellow men; (8) Kindness in associating with people; and (9) Courtesy in fostering humility. Catering primarily to the Chinese immigrant community, CCTA performs memorial services, burial rites, and marriage ceremonies. It also houses a room of ancestor tablets. Each year the temple hosts and performs a number of activities and observances, including a Chinese New Year lantern festival, Ching Ming (Qingming) festival, birthday celebration for Lu Sun-yong (Lü Dongbin), Chung Yuen Festival, Dau Mo (Doumu) birthday celebration, and year-end thanksgiving. The main altar in the temple is dedicated to Lü Dongbin, Wang Chongyang, and Qiu Chuji. There are also sister temples in New York City, Vancouver, British Columbia, and Toronto, Ontario. The San Francisco branch also conducted the funeral service for Edward Schafer (1913-1991) and Anna Seidel (1938-1991), both principal members of the previous generation of Daoism scholars.

Founders: Lily and Wilson Lee.

Head Priest: Wilson Lee (Li Dazhi 李達志).

Address: 615 Grant Ave., 4F1, San Francisco, CA 94108.

Phone: (415) 433-2623.

Membership: 1 Hong Kong priest, 3 male Chinese-American priests, 1 female Chinese-American priest, 1 Ethiopian-American priest, and 300+ lay supporters.

Composition: Mainly Chinese immigrants and Chinese Americans.

Ch’ing-ning Tao Yuan Taoist Center is located in Hawaii and is associated with Duane Pang.

No information available.

College of Tao/The Shrine of the Eternal Breath of Tao/Universal Society of the Integral Way (USIW) are some of the organizations established by Ni Hua-ching. After his immigration to the United States in 1976, Ni began teaching Daoist cultivation techniques in the form of an ongoing seminar called the College of Tao. Located early on in Ni’s home in Malibu, California, the Shrine of the Eternal Breath of Tao was a small Daoist shrine dedicated to the Three Pure Ones. It is currently housed in the Yo San University of Traditional Chinese Medicine (Los Angeles, California). The Universal Society of the Integral Way (USIW) is the most recent outgrowth of Ni Hua-ching’s teachings. The publishing wing of the Ni organization is SevenStar Communications, also located in Los Angeles.

Founder: Ni Hua-ching (Ni Qinghe 倪清和).

Director: Maoshing Ni.

Address: P.O. Box 1530, Santa Monica, CA 90406.

Phone: (310) 576-1902.

Website: www.usiw.org.

Email Address: contact@usiw.org.

Membership: Unknown.

Composition: Mainly Euro-Americans.

Daoist Medical Qigong Center is an affiliate branch of the Bagua xundao gong Center (Beijing, China), which is connected to a certain Wan Sujian. This center is a workshop-based organization offering Qigong training programs with an emphasis on Chinese medicine and Daoist principles. Under the direction of Michael Rinaldini, the first-level Qigong system includes training in medical Qigong, Chinese medical models, Daoist classical texts, and Daoist meditation. In 2004,

Rinaldini, Rebecca Kali (Director, Qigong Alliance and former vice-president of the National Qigong Association [NQA]), and Solala Towler (Director, The Abode of the Eternal Tao) formed the American Daoist Association (Meiguo daojiao xiehui 美國道教協會; ADA).

Founder: Michael Rinaldini.
Director: Michael Rinaldini.
Address: 945 Dorthel Street, Sebastopol, CA 95472.
Website: www.hometown.aol.com/michaelrqi.
Email Address: michaelrqi@aol.com.
Membership: Unknown.
Composition: Unknown.

Deer Mountain Taoist Academy (DMTA) was established in 1975 by Paul Gallagher, a senior student of T.T. Liang. Originally located in Guilford, Vermont, the academy is now called the Deer Mountain T'ai Chi Health Academy and is located in Asheville, North Carolina. This academy offers classes on Taiji quan and various Qigong forms.

Founder: Paul Gallagher.
Director: Paul Gallagher.
Previous Address: RD 3, Box 109A, Guilford, VT 05301.
Address: P.O. Box 19835, Asheville, NC 28815.
Phone: 1-800-274-8197.
Website: www.totaltaichi.com.
Email Address: pgallagher@totaltaichi.com.
Membership: Unknown.
Composition: Mainly Euro-Americans.

Eastern United States Taoist Association is an organization in its formative phases. Based in New York City, it is under the direction of Jeffrey Yuen.

No information available.

Five Sacred Mountains Taoist Kungfu Association (FSMTKA) is a seminar- and retreat-based Daoist community located in San Diego, California. The goal of the Five Sacred Mountains Taoist Kungfu Association (Wu shengshan gongfu hui 五聖山功夫會) is to help foster a more “authentic” Daoist community by exposing people to various Daoist methods of cultivation, as well as by providing an opportunity for like-minded people to congregate and practice the Daoist arts of cultivation. Under the direction of Lie Feng, this association offers seminars and workshops on Daoist meditation, Daoist philosophy, tea ceremony, as well as a system of Taiji quan and Qigong identified as Lu Long Hsing Pai 錄龍行派 (Green Dragon Family Style), which is said to derive from the Lu 錄 family and be associated with Wudang shan 武當山 (Mount Wudang; Hebei). FSMTKA also maintains a message board entitled the Bamboo Grove. They are currently attempting to establish a temple in San Diego.

Director: Lie Feng.
Address: No physical location.
Phone: (619) 255-1360; (619) 523-0730
Website: <http://mywebpage.netscape.com/fsmtkfa/index.html>
Email Address: fsmtkfa@aol.com
Membership: Unknown.
Composition: Unknown.

Foundation of Tao/Tao University/Healing Tao Arts are organizations founded by and connected with Stephen Chang. The Foundation of Tao is a non-profit organization. Tao

University offers courses related to Stephen Chang's various publications, while Healing Tao Arts distributes Stephen Chang's herbal formulas.

Founder: Stephen Chang.

President: Nancy Worthington.

California Address: 2570 Ocean Avenue, Suite 134, San Francisco, CA 94132.

New York Address: 1 Union Square West, Room 815, New York, 10003.

New York Phone: (212) 242-1410.

Website: www.padrak.com/tao; www.taohealingarts.com.

Membership: Unknown.

Composition: Unknown.

Fung Loy Kok Taoist Temple (FLK) is a charitable organization dedicated to promoting Chinese culture and various aspects of the Daoist arts. Fung Loy Kok 蓬萊閣(Daojiao Penglai ge; Penglai Daoist Pavilion) traces its lineage from the Xiantian Wuji sect of the Huashan system and was founded in Hong Kong in 1968. The temple offers study programs and activities, including scripture study, lectures, discussion groups, chanting, meditation, classes in Qigong and vegetarian cooking, work-study retreats, and training in traditional Gongfu. The primary practice is the chanting of scriptures and invocations, which is mainly performed by elderly Hong Kong immigrant women. The central altar in Denver, Tallahassee, and Toronto is dedicated to the Jade Emperor, Guanyin, and Lü Dongbin. With its Western branches originating in Toronto, Canada, under the direction of Moy Lin-shin, FLK now has branches in Calgary (Alberta), Denver (Colorado), Edmonton (Alberta), New Territories (Hong Kong), Rotorua (New Zealand), South Wales (Australia), Tallahassee (Florida), Toronto (Ontario), and Western Australia. It is the religious arm of the Taoist Tai Chi Society (Daojiao Taiji quan she 道教太極拳社).

Founder: Eva Wong, with Moy Lin-shin.

Denver Address: 1060 Bannock Street, Denver, CO 80204.

Denver Phone: (303) 623-5163

Founder: Unknown.

Tallahassee Address: 1310 N. Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL 32303.

Tallahassee Phone: (904) 224-5438.

Original Founder: Moy Lin-shin 梅連羨(Mei Lianxian).

Toronto Address: 1376 Bathurst St., Toronto, Ontario M5R 3J1

Toronto Phone: (416) 656-2110.

Website: www.ttcs.org; www.taoist.org.

Email Address: comments@ttcs.org.

Membership: Unknown.

Composition: Canadian citizens, Chinese immigrants, Euro-Americans, and Europeans.

Genesee Valley Daoist Hermitage is a residential facility for serious students of self-cultivation. This community centers on sustainable farming, cooking, Qigong, and Daoist meditation. Located in rural Idaho, the Genesee Valley Daoist Hermitage provides a pastoral environment for Daoist self-cultivation.

Founder: Da-Jin Sun.

Director: Da-Jin Sun.

Address: P.O. Box 9224, Moscow, Idaho 83843.

Phone: (208) 285-0123.

Membership: Unknown.

Composition: Unknown.

Great River Taoist Center (GRTC) is mainly a martial arts center, emphasizing the practice of Taiji quan forms learned from Wang Yen-nien, T.T. Liang, and William C.C. Chen. The center teaches *neigong* meditation as well. This center has branches in Baltimore (Maryland), San Francisco (California), Moscow (Russia), St. Petersburg (Russia), and Estonia. Its director, Scott Rodell, is as one of the first Americans to be initiated into Jinshan pai 金山派 (Gold Mountain Lineage), a *neigong* school identified as a sub-sect of Longmen (Dragon Gate) and associated with Wang Yen-nien 王延年 (b. 1914), a former military leader in the Republic of China (R.O.C.) who currently resides in Taiwan and who is also associated with the American Yangjia Michuan Taijiquan Association (AYMTA; Meiguo yangjia michuan taiji quan xiehui 美國秘傳楊家太極拳協會; American Secret Yang Family Taiji quan Association). GRTC has acquired land in West Virginia and is working to create a Daoist retreat center there. The center is also affiliated with the Still Mountain T'ai Chi Center (www.stillmountain.net), which is under the direction of Bede Bidlack, a "Daoist Catholic" and former Benedictine monk of St. Anselm's Abbey (1997-2001) in Washington, D.C., who was initiated into Jinshan pai by Scott Rodell in 2000.

Founder: Scott M. Rodell.

Director: Scott M. Rodell.

Address: 1325 18th St. NW, Suite 210, Washington, D.C. 20016.

Phone: (703) 846-8222.

Website: www.grtc.org; www.sevenstartrading.com.

Membership: 60-80.

Composition: Mainly Euro-Americans.

The Great Tao Foundation of America is the name of Yiguan dao 一貫道 (I-Kuan Tao), a Taiwanese religious movement, which synthesizes aspects from Buddhism, Daoism, Confucianism, and Chinese popular religiosity. This organization is also known as World I-kuan Tao Headquarters (WITH).

Founders: Shi Zueng and Shi Mu.

Chairman: Chang Pei-cheng.

Address: 11645 Lower Azusa Road, El Monte, CA 91732.

Phone: (626) 279-1097.

Website: www.truetao.org/ikuantao; www.with.org; www.taoism.net.

Email Address: infor@with.org.

Membership: 10,000s.

Composition: Taiwan citizens, Chinese immigrants, and Euro-Americans.

Healing Tao (HT) is the national organization advocating and disseminating the Healing Tao System of Mantak Chia. Healing Tao originated in the Natural Healing Center established by Mantak Chia in Thailand in 1974. After Mantak Chia moved to New York in 1979, he opened the Healing Tao Center. Since then, Healing Tao centers have opened in many other locations including Boston, Philadelphia, Denver, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, Tucson, and Toronto. Groups have also formed in England, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Austria, Australia, and Thailand, among others. The Healing Tao System includes the Microcosmic Orbit practice, Fusion of the Five Elements, the Six Healing Sounds, Iron Shirt Qigong, and internal alchemy. Healing Tao now has a retreat center called the Tao Garden Health Resort, located in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Outside of the United States, Healing Tao is now called Universal Tao. Together, these organizations form one of the largest international movements.

Founder: Mantak Chia 謝明德 (Xie Mingde).

U.S. Director: Michael Winn.

U.S. Address: P.O. Box 24, Lodi, NJ 07644.

Phone: (888) 999-0555; (973) 777-4442.

Website: www.healingtaousa.com; www.healingdao.com; www.tao-garden.com;
www.universal-tao.com.

Email Address: support@healingdao.com.

Membership: 150 certified instructions; 10,000s of practitioners.

Composition: Mainly Euro-Americans and Europeans.

Hsien Taoist Monastery was a non-sectarian Daoist community founded in either the late 1970s or early 1980s by Jerry Shuey, with a background in martial arts and meditation, and Craig Andrews, who had a background in and taught religion at the University of California at Santa Cruz. It was setup as a non-profit corporation. The main practice was mindfulness in daily life, supplemented by meditation and Taiji quan. The group offered a public meditation on Sunday evenings and special occasions with tea and discussion afterwards, usually focusing on the *Daode jing* but also on Buddhist and other sources for personal cultivation. In the early years, there were also Wednesday evening meditations and other classes. Public classes were offered in stress reduction, meditation, the *Yijing*, and Taiji quan, and emphasis was placed on practical application of Daoist principles in daily life. The Hsien Taoist Monastery also published a local bi-monthly journal entitled *The White Iris* (later renamed *The Gate of the Moon*), a journal of contemporary Daoist thought that included commentary on the *Daode jing*, poetry, stories and articles from members and readers. Many of the illustrations were provided by a member named Robert Walther, who was practicing Chinese brush painting at the time, and who also wrote for, edited, and produced the magazine. This community also produced audio tapes of guided meditations and visualizations, a version of the *Daode jing*, and an original book by Craig Andrews called *Dragon-Fly, Sparrow-Song*. In 1985, the Hsien Taoist Monastery moved to a secluded, semi-rural lane in Aptos, California, near Santa Cruz, where it inhabited a somewhat non-descript family dwelling. It was around this time that the community was disbanded. There is no trace of the organization in Aptos or the surrounding areas.

Founders: Jerry Shuey and Craig Andrews.

Directors: Jerry Shuey and Craig Andrews.

Previous Address: 2696 Glen Canyon Drive, Santa Cruz, CA 95062.

Previous Address: 760 Cathedral Dr., Aptos, CA 95003.

Previous Phone: (831) 688-5514.

Membership: 6 primary members (3 residential), plus 50 journal subscribers.

Composition: Mainly Euro-American.

Living Tao Foundation (LTF) was founded in 1976 by Al Chung-liang Huang, a Chinese immigrant from Taiwan. Living Tao Foundation maintains a home office in Urbana, Illinois and provides seminars, workshops, and training programs. It emphasizes the practice of Taiji quan as taught by Al Chung-liang Huang in a broader humanistic psychology framework.

Founder: Al Chung-liang Huang.

Director: Al Chung-liang Huang.

Address: P.O. Box 846, Urbana, IL 61801.

Phone: (217) 337-6113.

Website: www.livingtao.org.

Email Address: info@livingtao.org.

Membership: Unknown.

Composition: Unknown.

Orthodox Daoism in American (ODA) was founded in 1986 by Liu Ming 劉明 (formerly Charles Belyea/Lao Ge 老哥) in Santa Cruz, California. Based in the earlier Da Yuen Circle of Yogic Taoism, ODA is a religious organization (non-profit church) dedicated to the study and

practice of Orthodox Daoism in America. Acknowledging and combining the earlier traditions of Chinese Daoism (the Tianshi sect and the Shangqing sect), its purpose is to provide spiritual guidance and education in the collective and personal practice and observance of Daoism. For this purpose, it sponsors and provides personal spiritual instruction, courses of study, public and private seminars, meditation retreats, guided pilgrimages and traditional rituals and initiations for interested individuals. It offers two main streams of spiritual involvement: (1) the personal practice of alchemical meditation (in the Shangqing or Supreme Clarity tradition) or (2) the collective practice of ritual (in the Tianshi or Celestial Masters tradition). Orthodox Daoism in America is one of the only Daoist organizations in North America with legal standing as a church. From 2001-2003, in cooperation with the Taoist Studies Institute, ODA worked to establish a Daoist altar (*daotan*) in Seattle, Washington, where Liu Ming also resided. At its high point, ODA, under the direction of Liu Ming, maintained three parishes, located in Santa Cruz, San Francisco, and Seattle. This organization also published the now-defunct *Frost Bell: The Newsletter of Orthodox Daoism in America* (Summer 1992-Summer 2002). It was also connected with the now-defunct on-line business Mulberry Grove (www.mulberrygrove.com). The relationship between ODA and TSI formally ended in late 2002. This was the result of a fissure in the Seattle parish, centering on questions concerning Liu Ming's actual standing as an ordained Daoist priest and his association with a specific Daoist lineage. As of July of 2003, Liu Ming moved to Oakland, California, where he currently teaches out of his house and at Yoga Mandala in Berkeley. In July of 2004, Liu Ming began another "investiture training program," with six members of the former Santa Cruz parish being hand-selected by him.

Founder: Liu Ming 劉明.

Director: Liu Ming.

Previous Santa Cruz Address: P.O. Box 2932, Santa Cruz, CA 95063.

Previous Seattle Address: 416 N. 68th St., Seattle, WA 98013.

Previous Seattle Phone: (206) 706-5236.

Oakland Address: Telegraph Lofts, 2633 Telegraph Ave., #402, Oakland, CA 94612.

Oakland Phone: (510) 444-0733.

San Francisco Contact: Scott Phillips

San Francisco Address: P.O. Box 210375, San Francisco, CA 94121.

San Francisco Phone: (831) 471-9518.

Website: www.northstarmartialarts.com/oda.

Email Address: odasfo@yahoo.com.

Membership: Approximately 50, including 1 ordained Euro-American priest, 1 Ethiopian-born Daoist priest, and 3 initiates.

Composition: Mainly Euro-Americans.

The Plum Tree Taoist Cloister was founded in 1980 in Chicago, Illinois. After relocating nine times, it was eventually established thirty miles south of Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Plum Tree was a hermitage, which consisted of two Euro-American Daoist nuns. They lived in a trailer on rented land and next to it was a plum tree, which produced abundant fruit. These circumstances provided the name for their "cloister," "press" and project. Before embarking on The Plumtree project, the elder woman was a Buddhist nun, while the younger, Sister Kate, was a Catholic nun. Their Daoist religious endeavors revolved around seclusion, simplicity, and quiet contemplation. Besides the continual recitation and transcription of the *Daode jing*, the nuns also dedicated time to studying the "Twenty-Four Essentials for Students" and the "Twenty-Four Secrets of Alchemy" translated in Thomas Cleary's *The Inner Teachings of Taoism*. In addition, The Plumtree began the journal *Taoist Resources*, of which they published the first two volumes (1.1 [1988] and 1.2 [1989]). In 1990, The Plum Tree transferred *Taoist Resources* to Livia Kohn (Boston University) and Stephen Bokenkamp (Indiana University) as editors, and *Taoist Resources* became the only Western academic journal dedicated to Daoist Studies. In 1990, the

elder nun died, which led to The Plum Tree being disbanded. Early contributors and advisers of *Taoist Resources* included Julia Ching (University of Toronto), Norman Girardot (Lehigh University), Jan Yun-hua (McMaster University), Whalen Lai (University of California, Davis), and Michael Saso (University of Hawaii).

Previous Director: Sister Kate.

Previous Address: Box 822, Peralta, NM 87042.

Qigong Research and Practice Center *see Taoist Mountain Retreat.*

Quong Ming Buddhist and Taoist Association (Guangming fodao yanjiu hui 光明佛道研究會) is a San Francisco Chinatown religious organization, which was established in 1967 by Beatrice Bak (Bai Xinyuan 白信源) and several other Hong Kong immigrant women. Several temporary locations were used before it settled at #17 Jason Court; these locations were personal apartments used as meeting rooms. Guided by Lü Dongbin (Chunyang [Pure Yang]; b. 798 C.E.?) through planchette writing, the society sought out and eventually appointed the late Hong Kong Daoist priest Sing Chi Jsang (Zeng Chengchi 曾誠熾), identified as a Longmen (Dragon Gate) priest, of the Man Jak Chi Sin Association of Hong Kong (Xianggang wande zhishan she 香港萬德至善社) as head priest and director of the organization. In 1974, the association bought a three-storey building at 1104 Powell Street, which is its current location. In 1996, again inspired by messages from Lü Dongbin through spirit-writing, the association established the Quong Ming Jade Emperor's Palace (Guangming daoxuan yudi gongdian 光明道玄玉帝宮殿), which is located across from the association in a building that previously housed the Korean Baptist Church. In addition to the Jade Emperor (Yuhuang dadi), this temple has shrines to Guanyin, the Protector of the Northern Dipper, and the Eight Immortals. It also contains an ancestor hall. Catering primarily to the Chinese immigrant community of San Francisco's Chinatown, this temple performs ancestor rites, funeral ceremonies, and offerings for communal welfare. The central altar is dedicated to the Jade Emperor, and the statue was carved by craftsmen from the Wong Sum Kee Wood Engravers in Hong Kong.

Founder: Beatrice Bak (Bai Xinyuan 白信源).

Director: Yuen Fung Chau (Zhou Xuanfeng 周玄豐).

Contact: Mildred Fung.

Association Address: 1104 Powell Street 3FL, San Francisco, CA 94108.

Association Phone: (415) 392-5087

Temple Address: 1123 Powell Street, San Francisco, CA 94108.

Temple Phone: (415) 421-8060.

Website: None.

Membership: Unknown.

Composition: Mainly Hong Kong immigrants and Chinese-Americans.

Quong Ming Jade Emperor's Palace *see Quong Ming Buddhist and Taoist Association.*

The Shrine of the Eternal Breath of Tao *see College of Tao.*

Sixth Patriarch Zen Center (Liuzu si 六祖寺), established in its present, permanent location in 1995, is associated with the Korean Son (Zen) teacher Hyunoong Sunim. Located in Berkeley, California, the center offers classes on Son meditation in combination with Sun Do 仙道 (Xiandao; Way of the Immortals), with includes Dantian (Elixir Field) breathing and other Daoist related practices. There are also frequent Dharma talks and energy analysis consultations.

Founders: Hyunoong Sunim and Jaguang.

Resident Teacher: Hyunoong Sunim.

Director: Jaguang (Ja Gwang; Audrey Kitson).
Berkeley Address: 2584 Martin Luther King Way, Berkeley, CA 94704.
Berkeley Phone: (510) 486-1762.
Seattle Address: Seattle Zen Center (formerly Dohn-o Zen and Taoist Center), 10303
Densmore Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98053.
Seattle Phone: (206) 526-1274; (206) 365-4698.
Website: www.zenhall.org; www.healingthesource.com.
Email Address: sixthpat@zenhall.org.
Membership: 150, with 50 active members. Includes 1 Korean Son monk, 1 Euro-
American Son nun, and 8 residential novices.
Composition: Mainly Euro-Americans, with some Korean-Americans.

Sun Do 仙道 (SD; Xiandao; Way of the Immortals), also known as Mountain Taoist Yoga Meditation or Mountain Taoist Breathing Meditation, is a body-mind-spirit practice combining stretching, meditation, and focused breathing, to promote deep relaxation and a centered way of being. Sun Do traces its lineage to the practice of Daoist hermits living in nature in the Korean mountains. It combines Son (Zen) meditation with qi circulation techniques. The main American instructor of Sun Do is Hyunmoon Kim, who oversees centers throughout U.S., including Boston, San Francisco, and West Hartford.

Founder: Hyunmoon Kim.
Director: Hyunmoon Kim.
Main Address: 45 S. Main Street, Suite 90, West Hartford, CT 06107.
Main Phone: (860) 523-5260.
Website: www.sundo.org.
Email Address: contact_info@sundo.org.
Membership: Unknown.
Composition: Euro-Americans, Korean immigrants, and citizens of Canada, Europe, Korea, Malaysia, Thailand.

Tai Hsuan Foundation/Tai Hsuan Foundation Temple (THF), formerly The School of the Six Chinese Arts, was established in 1970, by Lily Siou (Chang Yi Hsiang). The Tai Hsuan Foundation is a college of acupuncture and oriental medicine, but also offers instruction in a variety of Daoist practices. Located in Aina Haina, Hawaii, the temple was also founded in 1970 and traces its lineage to a Daoist monastery on Longhu shan (Dragon Tiger Mountain).

Founder: Lily Siou (Chang Yi Hsiang).
Director: Lily Siou.
Address: P.O. Box 11130, Honolulu, HI 96828.
Phone: (808) 947-4788.
Website: www.acupuncture-hi.com; http://home1.gte.net/espcompu/THF_home.HTM.
Email Address: taihsuancollege@cs.com.
Membership: Unknown.
Composition: Unknown.

Tan Yong Taoist Temple. *No information available.*

Founder: Unknown.
Head Priest: Unknown.
San Francisco Address: 410 26th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94108.
San Francisco Phone: (415) 386-2028.
Oakland Address: 324 13th Street, Oakland, CA 94612.
Oakland Phone: (510) 834-4825.
Membership: Unknown.

Composition: Unknown.

Tao Healing Arts *see Foundation of Tao.*

Taoism Center for Wellness is associated with the International Association for Spiritual Consciousness, Inc. (IASC), a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization of unclear origins. The Taoism Center for Wellness offers classes on Yang-style Taiji quan, Yoga, and meditation, among other things.

Founder: Unknown.

Director: Unknown.

Address: 410 W. International Airport Road #17, Anchorage, AK 99518.

Phone: (907) 344-5533.

Website: www.iasc-ak.org.

Email Address: spiritma@iasc-ak.org.

Membership: Unknown.

Composition: Unknown.

Taoist Arts Center (TAC) was established in 1990 by Susan Rabinowitz, a senior student of B.K. Frantzis and B.P. Chan. This center offers ongoing classes, weekend seminars, summer retreats, and private instruction, including classes on Wu-style Taiji quan, Qigong, and meditation.

Founder: Susan Rabinowitz.

Director: Susan Rabinowitz.

Address: 342 East 9th St., New York, New York 10003.

Phone: (212) 477-7055.

Website: www.taoist-arts.com.

Email Address: srab@taoist-arts.com.

Membership: Unknown.

Composition: Mainly Euro-Americans.

The Taoist Center/Zhi Dao Guan 至道觀 was established in 2002 by Alex Feng. Located in Oakland, California, the center is associated with the Wu Tao Kuan School of Martial Arts, founded in 1973 by Alex Feng. This school incorporates the Wu Tao Kuan School of Martial Arts with Traditional Chinese Medicine, painting and calligraphy, and meditation. It intends to offer a setting for the teaching and practice of Daoist precepts, internal Chinese martial arts, and healing with traditional Chinese medical practices, such as acupuncture, Qigong, acupuncture, herbology, and Tuina. Ongoing classes include Taiji quan, Judo and Jujitsu, Gongfu, calligraphy, Wild Goose Qigong, and Five Animal Qigong. The center also offers a Friday evening meditation, which occurs on the last Friday of each month and includes a discussion of Daoism. Its altar has Guanyin as the central icon, surrounded by various gods from other traditions such as Ganeśa and flanked by pictures of Feng's numerous teachers.

Founder: Alex Feng.

Director: Alex Feng

Address: 3824 MacArthur Boulevard, Oakland, CA 94619.

Phone: (510) 336-0129.

Website: www.thetaoistcenter.com.

Email Address: info@thetaoistcenter.com or infor@wutaokuan.com.

Membership: Unknown.

Composition: Mainly Euro-Americans.

Taoist Health Center is based in Stoneham, Massachusetts. *No information available.*
No information available.

Taoist Health Institute/Taoist Center was founded by Wu Jing-nuan (1933-2002) in Washington, D.C. in 1973. The institute was principally Wu's acupuncture clinic and art studio. Following Wu's death in 2002, control of the Taoist Center passed to Wu's daughter Elizabeth Yng-Wong, who is planning to move the center to Los Angeles.

Founder: Wu Jing-nuan.
Director: Elizabeth Yng-Wong.
Address: 5602 Shields Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817.
Phone: (301) 897-8090.
Website: www.wushealingart.com.
Email Address: TaoCtr@aol.com.
Membership: Unknown.
Composition: Unknown.

Taoist Health and Martial Fitness Center and the International Congress of Oriental Medicine and Martial Arts. This center teaches classes on acupuncture, herbs, Qigong, Daoist meditation, and internal martial arts.

Founder: Richard Lengyel, L.Ac.
Director: Richard Lengyel.
Address: 613 Bascom Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15212.
Phone: (412) 766-1881.
Membership: Unknown.
Composition: Unknown.

Taoist Mountain Retreat (TMR), now the Qigong Research and Practice Center, was established in 1981 by Ken Cohen. Located in the Indian Peaks Wilderness region of the Colorado Rockies, the Qigong Research and Practice Center offers lectures and workshops both in Colorado and throughout the world. Emphasis is placed on Qigong theory and practice.

Founder: Ken Cohen.
Director: Ken Cohen.
Address: P.O. Box 1727, Nederland, CO 80466.
Phone: (303) 258-0971.
Website: www.qigonghealing.com.
Membership: Unknown.
Composition: Mainly Euro-Americans.

The Taoist Institute (TI), formerly the Taoist Sanctuary, is located in North Hollywood, California. The Taoist Institute offers studies in Chinese philosophy, internal martial arts, Qigong, and Chinese medicine. It is currently under the direction of Dr. Carl Totton.

Founders: Khigh Dhiegh (Kenneth Dickerson) and Share Lew.
Director: Dr. Carl Totton.
Address: 10630 Burbank Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601.
Phone: (818) 760-4219.
Website: www.taoistinstitute.com.
Membership: Unknown.
Composition: Unknown.

Taoist Resource Center. *No information available.*

Founder: Unknown.

Director: Unknown.
Address: 2800 W. Victory Blvd., Burbank, CA 91505.
Phone: (626) 848-2935.
Membership: Unknown.
Composition: Unknown.

Taoist Restoration Society (TRS) is a web-based charitable organization dedicated to helping to preserve and restore China's Daoist heritage. This includes rebuilding and restoring Daoist temples and sites, subsidizing older, experienced Daoists in poor or remote areas, supporting research and academic study of Daoism, and creating a global Daoist community to support anyone with an active interest in Daoism. Under the direction of Brock Silvers, the society has helped to restore Daoist shrines on Hengshan, the Chaoyang Temple in Datong city, and the Qianyuan Temple at Maoshan. Its advisory board consists of Mark Csikszentmihalyi (University of Wisconsin), Terry Kleeman (University of Colorado), Livia Kohn (Boston University), and Michael Saso (Institute of Asian Studies [Beijing]). It also maintains a discussion-board.

Founder: Brock Silvers.
President: Brock Silvers.
Address: P.O. Box 29516, Honolulu, HI 96820.
Website: www.taorestore.org.
Email Address: trs@taorestore.org.
Membership: Unknown.
Composition: Mainly Euro-Americans.

Taoist Sanctuary, formerly located in Los Angeles, was founded in 1970 by Khigh Dhiagh (Kenneth Dickerson; 1910-1991) and Share K. Lew (b. 1918). The Taoist Sanctuary may have been the first Daoist organization in the United States to receive federal status as a church, and is thus one of the only Daoist communities in North America with legal standing as a religious organization. Now under the direction of Bill Helm, a Daoist priest and Chinese medical practitioner, the Taoist Sanctuary is a non-profit organization that offers classes on Taiji quan, Qigong, Daoist meditation, Daoist philosophy, and traditional Chinese healing methods. This institute also publishes an online newsletter called *Thunder Under Heaven*, first published in 2000.

Founders: Khigh Dhiagh and Share Lew.
Director: Bill Helm.
Address: 4229 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92103.
Phone: (619) 692-1155.
Website: www.taoistsanctuary.org.
Email Address: taosanct@cts.com.
Membership: Unknown.
Composition: Unknown.

Taoist Sanctuary. *No information available.*

Founder: Unknown.
Director: Unknown.
Address: P.O. Box 27806, Tempe, AZ 85282.
Membership: Unknown.
Composition: Unknown.

Taoist Studies Institute (TSI) was founded in Seattle, Washington in 1991. Originating in predecessor organizations such the Xuangu Taoist Research Association (founded in 1982) and the Northwest School of Internal Arts (founded in 1988), both under the direction of Harrison

Moretz, the Taoist Studies Institute (Meiguo dao jiao xue yuan 美國道教學院) is a not-for-profit educational institution dedicated to spiritual cultivation and personal transformation through Daoist training and studies. It is also the teaching arm of the Temple of the Mysterious Pivot (Xuanji guan 玄機觀), a Daoist altar dedicated to the Three Pure Ones. TSI offers classes and workshops on Yang and Chen style Taiji quan, Hunyuan gong, Chansi gong, and Daoist meditation. It also offers courses on Chinese medicine and dietetics. This institute publishes an online newsletter. From 2001-2002, TSI formed a connection with Liu Ming and Orthodox Daoism in America in order to establish and maintain a Daoist altar in Seattle. This association formally ended in late 2002, but the “altar project” continues under the direction of Harrison Moretz. The new altar is dedicated to the Three Pure Ones, with two other shrines to Zhenwu (Perfected Warrior), depicted in both his literary and military guises. Following Moretz’s acceptance as a formal disciple of Feng Zhiqiang 馮志強 (b. 1928) in 2002, TSI became something of a teaching arm of Feng’s Hunyuan taiji quan 混元太極拳 (Primordial Original Yin-yang Boxing) system.

Founder: Harrison Moretz.

Director: Harrison Moretz.

Previous Address: 8007 Greenwood Ave N., Seattle, WA 98103.

Address: 225 N. 70th St., Seattle, WA 98103.

Phone: (206) 784-5632.

Website: www.taoiststudiesinstitute.org.

Email Address: info@taoiststudiesinstitute.org.

Membership: 50-70.

Composition: Mainly Euro-Americans.

Taoist Tai Chi Society (TTCS; Daojiao Taiji quan she 道教太極拳社), called the International Taoist Tai Chi Society (ITTCS) since 1990, was established in the early 1970s by Moy Lin-shin (1931-1998) in Toronto, Canada. The Taoist Tai Chi Society (Daojia Taiji quan she) offers classes on “Taoist Tai Chi,” a Taiji quan system developed by Moy Lin-shin. Through its religious arm called Fung Loy Kok (FLK; Penglai ge 蓬萊閣), this organization maintains altars to the Jade Emperor, Guanyin, and Lü Dongbin. In addition to the founding center in Toronto, two major branches of TTCS/FLK exist in Tallahassee, Florida and Denver, Colorado. The International Taoist Tai Chi Society is now one of the largest non-profit Taiji quan/Daoist organizations in the world, with classes in 437 cities worldwide. Some TTCS/FLK center locations include Calgary (Alberta), Edmonton (Alberta), New Territories (Hong Kong), Rotorua (New Zealand), South Wales (Australia), and Western Australia.

Original Founder: Moy Lin-shin 梅連羨 (Mei Lianxian).

Toronto Address: 1376 Bathurst St., Toronto, Ontario M5R 3J1

Toronto Phone: (416) 656-2110.

Founder: Eva Wong, with Moy Lin-shin.

Denver Address: 1060 Bannock Street, Denver, CO 80204.

Denver Phone: (303) 623-5163

Founder: Unknown.

Tallahassee Address: 1310 N. Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL 32303.

Tallahassee Phone: (904) 224-5438.

Website: www.ttcs.org; www.taoist.org.

Email Address: comments@ttcs.org.

Membership: 10,000s.

Composition: Canadian citizens, Chinese immigrants, Euro-Americans, and Europeans.

Taoist Temple. *No information available.*

Address: 12 China Alley, Hanford, CA 93230.

Phone: (559) 582-4508.

Membership: Unknown.

Composition: Unknown.

Teen How Taoist Temple is located in Houston, Texas.

No information available.

Temple of the Mysterious Pivot (Xuanji guan 玄機觀) *see the Taoist Studies Institute.*

Tian Yuan Taoist Temple is located in San Mateo, California.

No information available.

Universal Society of the Integral Way *see College of Tao.*

U.S. Taoist Association (USTA) is a web-based organization founded in 2000 by Brock Silvers (Taoist Restoration Society). Still in its formative phases, it serves the Daoist community in the United States by publicly representing the views and concerns of its members. The goal of USTA is to increase global awareness of Daoist concerns and to provide a global outlet for Daoist voices. The U.S. Taoist Association was formed to give the Daoist community in the United States a collective voice. This association is an outgrowth of the Taoist Restoration Society and requires an annual “donation” of at least \$50 to become a member. Its board of directors consists of Ken Cohen (Qigong Research and Practice Center), Russell Kirkland (University of Georgia), Michael Saso (Institute of Asian Studies [Beijing]), Elijah Siegler (College of Charleston), and Guan-cheng Sun (Institute of Qigong and Internal Alternative Medicine; Seattle, WA). There is no current list of its members and there is as yet no outreach program to include the Daoists that the association claims to represent.

Founder: Brock Silvers.

Director: Brock Silvers.

Address: Unknown.

Phone: Unknown.

Website: www.ustaoism.org.

Membership: Unknown.

Composition: Unknown.

Wah Kong Temple is located in Liliha, Hawaii and is associated with Duane Pang.

No information available.

Western Reform Taoism/Western Reform Taoist Congregation (WRTC) is a virtual community founded by Michael J. Torley. It is part of a “web-ring” called the Circle of Wandering Daoists. The Western Reform Taoist Congregation has the following basic creed: “We believe in the formless and eternal Tao, and we recognize all personified deities as being mere human constructs. We reject hatred, intolerance, and unnecessary violence, and embrace harmony, love and learning, as we are taught by Nature. We place our trust and our lives in the Tao, that we may live in peace and balance with the Universe, both in this mortal life and beyond.”

Founder: Michael J. Torley.

Director: Michael J. Torley.

Website: www.wrt.org; www.westernreformtaoism.org.

Membership: 45.

Composition: Mainly Euro-Americans.

White Cloud Institute (WCI) is an eclectic spiritual center offering classes by a diverse group of teachers. In terms of Daoism, they emphasize the Healing Tao/Universal Tao system developed by Mantak Chia. Among the center's many affiliate teachers, there is Juan Li (b. 1946), born in Havana, Cuba, who was the senior illustrator for Mantak Chia's various books as well as for an early poster series from Healing Tao, now called the "Juan Li Collector Series."

Founder: Caryn Diel.

Director: Caryn Diel.

Address: 1221 Luisa Street, Santa Fe, NM 87502.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5151, San Fe, NM 87502.

Phone: (505) 471-9330.

Website: www.whitecloudinstitute.com.

Email Address: whitecloudnm@aol.com.

Membership: Unknown.

Composition: Mainly Euro-Americans.

Wudang Research Association (WRA) was founded in 1996 by Terri Morgan and Liu Yuzeng. It offers classes and publishes books on Taiji quan and Qigong forms associated with Wudang shan.

Founders: Terri Morgan and Liu Yuzeng.

Director: Terri Morgan.

Previous Address: 8229 Perry Street, Overland Park, KS 66204

Address: 2301 South Congress Avenue #1021, Boynton Beach, FL 33426.

Previous Phone: (913) 385-1975

Phone: (561) 733-1417.

Website: www.wudang.com.

Email Address: infor@wudang.com.

Membership: Unknown.

Composition: Unknown.

Wu Tang Ch'uan Association (WTCA) was founded by T. K. Shih in Kingston, New York. This association focuses on traditional Chinese healing practices, including martial arts and Qigong. Particular emphasis is placed on Wudang style Taiji quan.

Founder: T.K. (Tzu Kuo) Shih.

Director: T.K. (Tzu Kuo) Shih.

Address: 264 Smith Ave., Kingston, NY 12401.

Phone: (914) 338-6045; (203) 748-8107.

Membership: Unknown.

Composition: Unknown.

Zhi Dao Guan see *The Taoist Center*.