

Birthingways

Fall 2010 Volume 15, Issue 3



The Newsletter of Birthingway College of Midwifery

First say to yourself what you would be; and then do what you have to do.

-Epictetus

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Graduation 2010

Birthingway's graduation ceremony was held on the eve of June 3rd at the beautiful Leach Botanical Garden. Lovely music played by **Liz Collins** (extension student) and her friend, **Mark**, accompanied the procession. Next, **Marina Anderson** (extension student) read an original poem and a bit later **Chelsea Campbell** (first year student) and **Derrick Martin** rocked us with an original folky version of "How it Feels to Fly" by Alicia Keys.

So much thanks goes out to them.

The graduates were eloquent as they introduced themselves, speaking of their accomplishments and acknowledged those who helped them along the way. The ceremony ended with a stirring commencement address by Holly and audience members speaking to their special graduate(s) with moving words of awe and respect for the hard work they have done to become midwives. We finished the evening off with champagne, beautiful cakes made by MaryJane's Cakery, and warm feelings from all.

We are proud to announce the following graduates for 2010:

Allison Casler Brandee Grider Lorell Miller Mirra Nerenberg Katherine Sanderson Angela Truby



Calendar

Fall Community Registration Day	8/13
Fall Community Registration Deadline	8/27
First Day of Fall Term	9/16
Midwifery Program Application Deadline	10/15
Meet and Greet	11/19
Fall Term Ends	12/10

9 Physiological demands of Holly's tests

By Anonymous

- 1. Brain growth and dump
- 2. Thumb and forefinger edema
- Carpal tunnel
- Exophthalmos
 (exophthalmos [also
 called exophthalmia or
 proptosis] is a bulging of
 the eye anteriorly out of
 the orbit)
- 5. Increased urinary output
- 6. Elevated blood sugar
- 7. Elevated pulse/blood pressure
- 8. Polydipsia (polydipsia is a medical symptom in which the patient displays excessive thirst)
- Phagia (-phagia or phagy

 the eating of a specified substance of in a spcified manner: dysphagia)

Birthingway Credit Workshop: Description: 4 credit hours. Twelve Sessions. Satisfies Anatomy **Human Anatomy & Physiology** and Physiology prerequisite for Birthingway Midwifery Program and the Anatomy and (HAP141q) Physiology requirement for the Lactation Program. Instructor: Bonnie McAnnis, BA, LMT Date / Time / Location: Wednesdays, September 22 - December 8, 2010 ~ 5:00pm - 9:00pm Birthingway College - Carlton House, 12108 SE Carlton St., Portland, OR 97266 Cost: \$1400 (\$350 per credit hour X 4 credit hours) Registration Deadline: August 27, 2010. After this date, an additional \$75 late registration fee (non-refundable) is required. Sorry, no walk-in registrations on the first day of class will be accepted. Required Course-pack / Reading Memmler's Human Body in Health and Disease, Text and Study Guide, 11th edition, 2008. You are responsible for providing your own textbook. Cancellation Clause and Refund Policy: Should you decide to cancel this agreement in writing within three business days, you are entitled to a full refund of all fees and tuition. After the three-day cancellation period, should you decide to cancel your registration and not attend, refunds will be made per refund policy. You are expected to attend all classes for which you register. If you do not attend or stop attending and do not drop this course within the refund period, you remain responsible for all tuition and fees. For credit courses, you may cancel registration by providing signed and dated written notice to Birthingway and receive a refund of tuition per refund schedule below. Registration and technology fees are non-refundable. Please allow four to six weeks for receipt of refund. WITHDRAWAL DATE **TUITION REFUND** WITHDRAWAL DATE **TUITION REFUND** On or before 1st day of term 22nd day through 28th day of term 2nd day through 7th day of term 29th day through 35th day of term 30% 86% 36th day through 42nd day of term 8th day through 14th day of term 72% 16% 15th day through 21st day of term 58% Day 43rd through end of term No Refund Please detach registration form here. Fall 2010 Human Anatomy & Physiology (HAP141q) Registration Form ~ Registration Deadline 8/27/10 Human Anatomy & Physiology (HAP141q) 4 credits x \$350 per credit = \$1400 \$1400 Registration fee per term \$50 (non-refundable) \$ 50 Technology fee per term \$15 (non-refundable) \$ 15 \$ \$75 Late Registration fee (non-refundable) if registering after 8/27/10 **TOTAL** Payment method: (please circle) Check/Money Order Cash PayPal (see below) SSN (required for 1098T) Name (First, Last, Initial) Address Phone **Email** We must receive this completed registration form AND full payment to register you for this workshop. Please make check/money order payable and mail to the address below. Credit card payments are accepted through PayPal - please go to http://birthingway.edu/payment.htm for details. You don't need a PayPal account to pay with your credit card. The name on the credit card/PayPal account must match the person taking this workshop. Sorry, no exceptions. OFFICE USE ONLY

Date/time/payment/initial_

Method:

Amount needed to clear registration: \$__

Please route in this order: _____ FIN _____ REG ____ FIN ____ LRC ___

Reference #:

Amount Paid: \$ ____



Community News



Matriculating Class of 2010

At the time of the last newsletter printing, we had not yet confirmed our newest cohort of midwifery students who have now finished their first term here. They have done much bonding already, not only by having classes and studying together, but also with other events they've planned such as a roller skating party and a tea party. It is always a delight to see the meals they heartfully prepare for each other every week as well.

We are thrilled to welcome our first year students:

Rose Bickett Calina Brooke **Katrina Bubas-Stevens** Chelsea Campbell **Dana Comperchio Isabel Crosby** Calla Maria Davis-Boozer Mychael Garcia **Courtney Holmes Tara Kolberg Karen Lencke Emily Padua Molly Riesterer Raina Steenson Cindy Stumpf** Susannah Wright

Course Instructor Needed to Teach Psychology of Childbirth

This is a course on the emotional and mental aspects of childbearing, including its transformational nature.

Masters degree or equivalent required and experience working with women and families on birth related issues preferred.

For more information or to apply, send cover letter and resume to Jena Novotny, our Faculty Coordinator. jena@birthingway.edu.

Attention Book Buying Students

Anne Frye is going to start bringing her textbooks to the school to sell each term. You will get to meet her and have her sign your books. She can accept checks, cash and credit cards. This event will take place in the school library at a time that will be announced and posted each term.

You can also obtain her books by dropping by her house (call first: home 503-255-3378 or cell 503-944-9487). Anne is self-published. Buying your books directly from her is the best way to support her work.

Donation Thank You's

Birthingway would like to thank

Jacqueline Meyer, Calina Brooke and

Aaron Selmanson for donating

various items to the school.

Both Jena Novotny and Cascade Healthcare have added wonderful books to our growing library.

Next, we would like to thank **Holly Scholles** for donating candy and **Danielle Keogh** for donating a
placenta for our students to examine.

All these donations help us continue to provide quality education for aspiring midwives while keeping tuition as low as possible. A special thank you goes out to Polly Gottesman, Lyn Jacobs and numerous student volunteers.

Birthingway made over \$600 from our successful Annual Plant Sale that was held the first weekend of May!

New Teaching Additions to the Birthingway Community

Martha Von Reis, MS, CD grew up in the woods of Northern California to home birthing parents, but never considered that birth would become such a passion until after the home birth of her first daughter. Martha moved to Portland to get her BA in Biology from Reed College. After finishing her Master of Science Degree from Oregon State University and having her first of two children, she began to pursue her interest in birth by training as a doula at Birthingway. She was certified as a birth doula in the fall of 2009 and she is now combining her passion for birth and her background in science as our Human Genetics teacher. She, her two daughters and her husband enjoy gardening, cooking, hiking, and kayaking.

Carrie McCormick, MPH was with the first group of women in the "living room study group" which eventually evolved into Birthingway. She has had many incarnations within the Birthingway community: student, preceptor, faculty, staff, board member, guest speaker, and veinlender for IV practice! Carrie is a midwife and has an MPH focusing on international maternal/child health. Over the past 15 years she has worked with many Portland area midwives and has lived and worked in Africa, Eastern Europe and the Middle East. She will be teaching International Midwifery in fall term 2010.

Childbirth Educator Workshop

Birthingway's distinctive biodynamic approach to childbirth

*Please note: This is also offered as a credit course (more work required). If you would like to take the credit course, please use the Community Student Registration Form.

Description:

Examines the history of childbirth education and preconceptions about birth, while building tools for developing a childbirth education series based on Birthingway's biodynamic model. This course constitutes one step towards Birthingway's Childbirth Educator Certification. Instructor: Nichole Reding, MA, CD and Stacey Marshall, PCD, BC, CD (DONA)

Date / Time / Location:

Fridays - 10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 11/5, 11/12 and 12/3/10 ~ Time: 9:00am - 5:00pm Birthingway College - Carlton House 12108 SE Carlton St., Portland, OR 97266

Cost:

Workshop fee: \$595

Registration Deadline: September 17, 2010. After this date, an additional \$75 late registration fee (non-refundable) is required. Sorry, no walk-in registrations on the day of the workshop will be accepted.

Course-pack / Required Reading:

Course-pack fee (non-refundable): \$40 Course-pack will be available for pick-up at Birthingway College Monday - Friday from 8:30am - 4:30pm after the registration deadline. Course-pack must be read before the first class session.

Refund Policy:

Written notice of refund request must be received no later than seven days prior to first day of class to receive a 95% refund, then 80% of the course or audit fee will be refunded up to the first class day. No refund or credit voucher will be made on or after the first class day. Sorry, no exceptions. Late registration fee and course-pack fee is non-refundable. Minimum class is 5 students. If the minimum class enrollment is not achieved, the class will be canceled and all fees will be refunded.

Please detach registration form here.

Fall 2010 Childb	irth Educator Workshop	Registration Fo	orm – Registration Deadline 8/27/	10	
Childbirth Educator Workshop fee	\$ 635				
Please send the course-pack to m	\$				
\$75 Late Registration fee (non-ref	iundable) if registering af	fter 8/27/10		\$	
			TO1	AL	
Payment method: (please circle)	Check/Money Order	Cash	PayPal (see below)		
Name (First, Last, Initial)					
Address					
Phone		Email			

- We must receive this completed registration form AND full payment to register you for this workshop.
- Please make check/money order payable and mail to the address below.
- Credit card payments are accepted through PayPal please go to http://birthingway.edu/payment.htm for details. You
 don't need a PayPal account to pay with your credit card. The name on the credit card/PayPal account must match
 the person taking this workshop. Sorry, no exceptions.

OFFICE USE ONLY					
Date/time/payment/initial					
Please route in this order: FIN	REG	FIN	_LRC	OPS	SPPC
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Specialized Programs

Childbirth Educator Program

Our winter workshop was jammedpacked with wonderful information and wonderful students (community and midwifery!).

A community student, **Sophie Colin-Smith**, is currently in our Childbirth Educators practicum. We look forward to announcing her certification soon.

Register now for the fall training.

Labor Doula Program

Our Labor Doula program continues to grow to meet the needs of the communities it serves. We would like to welcome these amazing student labor doulas to our program:

> Christine Evans Amy Embler Valerie Schlaht Caitlin Black Corie Keller Priscilla Fairall

Check out their pictures and bios on our website, <u>birthingway.edu/sld.htm</u>.

We continuously receive birth leads and inquiries from health care providers, community health nurses, non-profit agencies and mamas. All have heard wonderful things about our labor doula program and the doulas who serve in it. This proves the biodynamic way to give birth is gaining ground in our beautiful city.

Thanks to the following doulas who have committed to Birthingway College of Midwifery by way of certification:

Sarah Krebs Endre Eckers Richard Crystalyn Tadano

Congratulations on being certified doulas. We wish you years of success serving the needs of birthing families!

Postpartum Doula Program

Birthingway College of Midwifery's postpartum doula program practicum has been given a major overhaul to sync up with our other programs. It is an exciting time to be able to provide professional support to families directly after birth.

A warm welcome to **Chelsea Campbell** who recently joined the practicum. Chelsea is a midwifery student and a lactation consultant student. Go Chelsea go!

If you or someone you know is interested in any of our programs, please check out our website or visit our Facebook page.

Lactation Program

Here are some community courses that meet IBCLC requirements being offered at Birthingway in fall 2010:

Anatomy and Physiology Breastfeeding I Spanish for Birth Professionals Working Cross-culturally

All of the necessary registration material for these courses are included in this newsletter.

Birthingway is one step closer to

offering an Associates of Science degree in Lactation Consultation. In June, MEAC accredited our ALC degree program!

We are very excited about this step and encouraged that MEAC sees the essential connection between breastfeeding support and midwifery education. Thank you MEAC!

Keep your eyes open for further developments.

Breastfeeding Center

Our Breastfeeding Center model continues to change to meet the



needs of our community. Currently, we are receiving several calls a week on our support line, however, we have not had enough need to hold a full day of clinic hours. If you want an appointment or home or phone support, please call our **Breastfeeding Helpline:** 503-762-1632.

We will connect you with a knowledgeable student or IBCLC (International Board Certified Lactation Consultant) as necessary. We will continue to adapt as the needs change. Please keep the referrals flowing.

Come join us and get together with other breastfeeding mamas! We offer a comfortable, warm environment with full-kitchen access. We have breastfeeding supplies for sale, a baby clothing exchange and a knowledgeable staff person to help answer parenting questions. We meet every Tuesday from 10am – 1pm at Birthingway College of Midwifery's Breastfeeding Center located at 12108 SE Carlton St.

Birthingway is now on http://www.meetup.com/Birthingway s-Parent-Support-Group

Please email breastfeeding@birthingway.edu for more information.

The Labor Doula

Assisting Women with Birth

Description:

Lecture, readings, and practical skills for providing emotional and physical support for women in labor and immediate postpartum. This course constitutes one step towards Birthingway's Labor Doula Certification and also meets the prerequisite for admission to our midwifery program. Instructor: Adrienne Fuson, BA, IBCLC, LMT, CD

Date / Time / Location:

October 2, 3, 23 and 24 ~ 9:00am - 5:00pm Birthingway College - Carlton House, 12108 SE Carlton St., Portland, OR 97266

Cost:

Workshop fee: \$485

Registration Deadline: September 3, 2010. After this date, an additional \$75 late registration fee (non-refundable) is required. Sorry, no walk-in registrations on the day of the workshop will be accepted.

Course-pack / Required Reading:

Course-pack fee (non-refundable): \$67 Course-pack will be available for pick-up at Birthingway College, Monday - Friday, from 8:30am - 4:30pm after the registration deadline. Course-pack must be read before the first class session.

The following books must be read prior to attending the workshop (but are not required to be owned):

Kitzinger S. The Complete Book of Pregnancy and Childbirth. 4th ed. Alfred A. Knopf, Inc; 2003.

The following books will be read during the workshop (but are not required to be owned):

- England P and Horowitz R. Birthing from Within. Albuquerque: Partera Press; 1998.
- Gaskin IM. Ina May's Guide to Childbirth. Bantam Dell Publishing Group; 2003.
- Renfrew M, Fisher C, Arms S. Bestfeeding How to Breastfeed Your Baby. Celestial Arts; 2004.

Refund Policy:

Written notice of refund request must be received no later than seven days prior to first day of class to receive a 95% refund, then 80% of the course or audit fee will be refunded up to the first class day. No refund or credit voucher will be made on or after the first class day. Sorry, no exceptions. Late registration fee and course-pack fee is non-refundable. Minimum class is 5 students. If the minimum class enrollment is not achieved, the class will be canceled and all fees will be refunded.

Please detach registration form here.

Fall 2010 Labor Doula Workshop Registration Form – Registration Deadline 9/3/10 Labor Doula Workshop fee: \$485 + \$67 course-pack fee (non-refundable) = \$552 \$ 552 Please send the course-pack to me. I have included \$6 postage and handling. \$ \$ 75 Late Registration fee (non-refundable) if registering after 9/3/10 \$ TOTAL Payment method: (please circle) Check/Money Order Cash PayPal (see below) Name (First, Last, Initial) Address Phone Email

- We must receive this completed registration form AND full payment to register you for this workshop.
- Please make check/money order payable and mail to the address below.
- Credit card payments are accepted through PayPal please go to http://birthingway.edu/payment.htm for details. You
 don't need a PayPal account to pay with your credit card. The name on the credit card/PayPal account must match
 the person taking this workshop. Sorry, no exceptions.

OFFICE USE ONLY						
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Poems

Home

The city of roses, Portland.

The big city with that small town feel.

Multiple smiles are unavoidable in this diverse stretch of land.

Encompassed by our beautiful mountains and towering firs. This is my home.

Wander east to hike the breathtaking waterfalls or travel west to sink your toes into our sandy beach.
Sip a local microbrew in the summer's heat to quench that thirst and pull up a chair so you can enjoy the sounds and smells of winters rain.

Home of Burgerville – a reason to never leave the northwest. This is my home.

Despite the rain, we're still outside, gardening, hiking, swimming, biking and camping. We are intense and so in love with this luscious land.

Also on our agenda - recycling, reusing, composting, planting and green technology.

This is my home.

Our city, where everyone is welcome and the weather is unpredictable, so be prepared to carry both your sunglasses and rain jacket. Hop onto our public transportation to take in the colors, smells and smiles and see for yourself why our motto is *keep Portland weird*.

Join us at Saturday market or first and last Thursday to see how we do creativity.

This is my home.

There will always be a special place in my heart for Portland and even if I leave, I will eventually be pulled back to its captivating landscape, and this beautiful community of people.

If you're envious, come breathe our fresh air...

If not, that's fine. It will remain our best kept secret. This is my home.

A Midwife's Eye

As I gaze at your roots, tangled yet beautiful, I feel I am peering into your vulnerable insides. I get in close, I breathe with you, I smell you I look into the dark depths hidden to the world I see secrets of old that you trust me to behold. I am so honored to touch to speak with your legs spread out exposed, I sit at your feet. You are my teacher. Your wisdom I reflect back to you, In every way you are beautiful, and I am grateful to be alive.

Divya Za (2nd year student)

Brittany Schleiff (Staff)



At times life fills one with grief If allowed to feel our grief completely, something amazing happens. We see the lessons which allow us to grow

May lessons of grief bring acceptance and growth May growth inspire ourselves and others May inspiration bring deeper understanding

Through these things comes love

Mia Crupper (Microbiology, Microbiology Skills and STI Theory Instructor)

Birthingway Puzzle

tagsdcompass hdezil e p a sr 0 0 AT Example e d g e gknow e o o a t S c na t u a t p p 0 S a t h o 9 h c t a C b n 0 d a d U n y d b 0 m a b t U n n T i m S wma 8 n a m c 8 t 0 n t b w m r b a mceg D t b h S t У У a b h a 0 C n d 9 U S b p t d h b a n C me Q n

baby breastfeeding cnm cpm healer knowledge midwifery passion relationships tools baby catcher care comfortable doula health lactation mother personalized respect traditional

biodynamic childbirth communication education honor Idm natural postpartum skills with woman birthingway choice compassionate families individualized love newborn pregnancy support woman



One of our beloved alumnae and faculty member, **Jennifer Warnock**, passed away from stroke complications on the morning of Tuesday, Februrary 23. In addition to being an active midwife in the Portland community, Jen co-taught Pelvic Floor Health at Birthingway with Pamela Echeverio in the fall term 2009 and guest lectured on dance movement in Childbirth Education.

She is survived by her partner, Michael, and two daughters, Ruby and Pele. A whole community ceremony to celebrate her life was held on March 16 at Portland's First Unitarian Universalist Church.

Angels Among Us

I believe

Angels live among us.
Sometimes staying for years
Blessing our daily round.
Often appearing as a shooting star,
Leaving a whisper on the wind.
Bringing us lessons of

Hope

Faith

Love

Teaching laughter through tears
Facing our fears
Finding joy each day and
Peace at night.
Blessed be the hearts that are
Open to the
Angels among us.

Marina Anderson - (extension student) 2003

Date / Time / Cost / Location

Pharmacology ~ \$120

Legend Drugs and Devices Initial Education Curriculum

Pharmacology ~ Medications by Injection ~ Suturing ~ Treatment of Shock (including IV therapy)

Description:

All Direct-Entry Midwives must complete state or Oregon recognized Suturing, Medications by Injection, Pharmacology, Treatment of Shock including IV Therapy, and CPR/Neonatal Resuscitation courses prior to licensing. This course meets the Oregon state requirements for initial education for Legend Drugs and Devises endorsement for licensure as a Direct Entry Midwife. LD&D must be renewed every 4 years. Maternal and Neonatal Resuscitation are taught separately. Please call for information about upcoming resuscitation workshops.

Medications by Injection ~ \$30

Friday, November 5, 2010 ~ 9:00am - 5:30pm	Friday, November 5, 2010 ~ 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Suturing ~ \$160 Saturday, November 6, 2010 ~ 9:00am - 5:30pm (10 minute brown bag lunch) You must bring the following equipment to participate: One needle holder - 6" preferred Either one 6" Russian tissue forceps OR a 6" regular	Treatment of Shock Including IV Therapy ~ \$320 (includes IV kit) Theory of shock; non-invasive treatment of shock; intravenous fluid therapy; purpose of IV fluid therapy; equipment; appropriate sites; procedure; rate of administration and care of equipment.
tissue forceps with 2x3 teethOne Suture scissorsTwo hemostats	Thursday, November 4 and Sunday, November 7, 2010 9:00am - 5:30pm (30 minute brown bag lunch) Students will be placing and administrating IVs on each other.
One more needle holder or hemostat All workshops held at Birthingway College of Mi	dwifery - 12113 SE Foster Rd., Portland, OR 97266
Registration Deadline	awnery 12113 52 1 oster Rail, 1 or daile, or 77200
Registration Deadline: October 22, 2010. After this date, an ad Sorry, no walk-in registrations on the day of the workshop will	
Required Course-pack / Equipment:	
No course-pack requirement.	
Refund Policy:	
audit fee will be refunded up to the first class day. No refund will be made class is 5 students. If the minimum class enrollment is not achieved, the class	prior to first day of class to receive a 95% refund, then 80% of the course or on or after the first class day. Late registration fee is nonrefundable. Minimum ass will be canceled and all fees will be refunded.
	tion Registration Form – Registration Deadline 10/22/10
Pharmacology \$120	\$
Medications by Injection \$30	\$
Suturing \$160	\$
Treatment of Shock / IV Therapy \$320	\$
\$75 Late Registration fee (non-refundable) if registering after	
	TOTAL
Payment method: (please circle) Check/Money Order	Cash PayPal (see below)
Name (First, Last, Initial)	SSN (required for your transcript)
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	9 ,
OFFICE USE ONLY	
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Please route in this order: FIN REG FIN	
Amount needed: \$ Amount Paid: \$ Date/Time:	Method: Reference #:



Wedding Bells

Second year student, **Divya Za**, is getting married to her sweetie, **Lawrence "Flow" Reynolds**. They will have a full moon ceremony next summer (2011).

We are also happy to announce that classroom teacher and preceptor, Heather Hack, married her sweetheart, Austin Sullivan in their backyard on June 18th. Their four children, chickens, and many friends of all ages were there to celebrate them.

Stephanie Sherman (Alma midwife and Birthingway graduate) is ecstatic to marry Katie Stine-Hodges on Sunday, August 29 at Edgefield. They will follow up their celebration with some off-call time in Italy for their honeymoon.

Sarah Heany (third year student) recently married her dear friend of 14 years, Joshua BenAvides. Sarah says they "were joined biodynamically within a variety of traditions and nontraditions. It was a beautiful wedding atop Burdoin Mountain in the Columbia River Gorge." Sarah wants to give a special thanks to those of you who helped in purchasing her dress as well as those who showed up in the bathroom and helped her get pretty for the big moment. In particular, classmates Maura, Serena, Cassandra, Melanya, Jocelyn, Terra, Tzipora and Mindy.



Sarah Heany and her sweetie Joshua BenAvides

A first year student, **Chelsea Campbell**, proposed to her love, **Derrick Martin**, in 2009 and they will be sealing the deal on August 14th with friends and family in a forest wedding. Chelsea and Derrick shout (or we should say sing, as they are musician partners in their band "Saint Frankie Lee") Hooray for Love!

Melissa Boyd (Birthingway graduate and midwife in Ashland, OR) was getting married on July 17th to Eric, her sweetie of 13 years, at McMenamins Edgefield in Troutdale, with lots of family and friends coming in from far away. Two midwives, Katherine Sanderson and Shauna Kenealey, from her 2005 matriculating class, are among those standing up for her.

Julia Reid (Birthingway staff) is marrying her long-time love and dance partner, Kirk Jansen, this August 14th on Sand Lake in New Auburn, Wisconsin. Their ceremony and reception will include music by an accordion duo called "Squeeze This". Wedding guests will stay over at the lake to attend the "Leisure Olympics" the next day. This will include: badminton, a hula hoop contest, a chip and putt golf contest, and lots of other fun and silliness.

We celebrate all of these wonderful people in their hugely important life events.

Clinical Training News

Many new student/preceptor relationships have been born during this term. Here are the excited students who will soon begin, or have already begun, attending births.

Emily Kearns (third year student) is now working with **Pamela Echeverio** and **Monica Wood** of **Partera Midwifery**.

Amy Jo Rist (extension student) is working at Vivante Midwifery with

midwives **Linda Glenn, Wendy Gordon** and **Sarah Hainley**. Having been their office manager for some time, Amy Jo is so happy to have taken on this new role!

Cassandra Hodge (second year student) is thrilled to be a student midwife at Alma Midwifery with preceptor (and Birthingway graduate)
Stephanie Sherman. She wants us to know that she loves it there!

Kim Wilson-Widdecombe (extension student) is happily paired with Kate Howe, (yet another midwife and Birthingway graduate) at Alma Midwifery.

Whitney Stolman (second year student) is also doing her clinical training at Alma Midwifery. She works with midwife Kori Pienovi. Whitney says she is delighted to be at this point on her path and truly feels she is in the right place.

Megan Felling (second year student) is glad to have begun working with midwife, Kellie McIntosh in her homebirth practice, Full Bloom Midwifery.

Nichole Reding (extension student and, also, staff and faculty member at Birthingway) is working with Dana Shibley at Andaluz Waterbirth Center. It is a particularly sweet match for her because Dana (also Birthingway graduate) was the student midwife at her 9 year old daughter Tess' birth.

Jasmine Marotta-Jaenecke (extension student) is also very pleased to be doing her clinical training in the busy practice of Dana Shibley at Andaluz.

Lindsay Jetton (second year student) is excited that she just firmed up a student/preceptor alliance with Heather Hack, midwife and Birthingway faculty member (also, once again, a Birthingway graduate!).

Continued on page 13

Legend Drugs and Devices Renewal

Description:

Course includes 8.5 combined hours of theory, skills, and testing for Suturing, IV Skills, Medications by Injection, and Pharmacology. This course meets the Oregon state requirements for <u>renewal</u> of the Legend Drugs and Devices endorsement for licensure as a Direct Entry Midwife. LD&D must be renewed every 4 years. You must have completed the 40 hour LD&D sequence in order to take this workshop. Maternal and Neonatal Resuscitation is NOT covered in this workshop. Please call for information about upcoming resuscitation workshops. Instructor: Holly Scholles, MA, CPM, LDM

Date / Time / Location:

Friday, November 12, 2010 ~ 9:00 am - 6:00pm Birthingway College of Midwifery - 12113 SE Foster St., Portland, OR 97266

Cost:

Workshop fee: \$115

Registration Deadline: October 29, 2010. After this date, an additional \$75 late registration fee (non-refundable) is required. Sorry, no walk-in registrations on the day of the workshop will be accepted.

Required Course-pack / Equipment

None

Refund Policy:

Written notice of refund request must be received no later than seven days prior to first day of class to receive a 95% refund, then 80% of the course or audit fee will be refunded up to the first class day. No refund will be made on or after the first class day. Late registration fee is nonrefundable. Minimum class is 5 students. If the minimum class enrollment is not achieved, the class will be canceled and all fees will be refunded.

Please detach registration form here.

Fall 2010 Legend Drugs a	and Devices Renewal Wo	orkshop Registr	ation Form – Registration Deadline	10/29/10			
Legend Drugs & Devices Renewal Workshop fee: \$115							
\$75 Late Registration fee (non-ref	undable) if registering a	fter 10/29/10		\$			
			TOTA	L			
Payment method: (please circle)	Check/Money Order	Cash	PayPal (see below)				
Name (First, Last, Initial)			SSN (required for our transcript)				
Address			,				
Phone		Email					

- We must receive this completed registration form AND full payment to register you for this workshop.
- Please make check/money order payable and mail to the address below.
- Credit card payments are accepted through PayPal please go to http://birthingway.edu/payment.htm for details. You
 don't need a PayPal account to pay with your credit card. The name on the credit card/PayPal account must match
 the person taking this workshop. Sorry, no exceptions.

OFFICE USE ONLY					
Date/time/payment/initial					
Please route in this order: FIN	REG		LRC	OPS	SPPC
Amount needed to clear registration: \$	Ar	mount Paid: \$		Date/Time:	
· -	Reference #:				



Clinical Training News cont.

Jules Moon (extension student) finished her coursework last spring and has moved to Hawaii to do her clinical training with Claudia Brown. Ahhh, the lovely thought of some aloha-style midwifery!

Mindy Harshman (second year student) will be working with midwife, Amanda Feldman, in Seattle for the summer. She is really excited to be getting this hands on learning experience.

Sahara Foster (third year student) feels she has two perfect matches as preceptors. She is doing clinical training in well-woman care with nurse practitioner, Dana Moser and will be joining midwife, Ellie Legare's team as a student midwife.

Ayla Dunn (extension student), who is well into her clinical training with Creative Space Midwifery, has added something else to her plate. She is now, also, happily working with Alisha Madrone, CNM doing wellwoman gynecology.

Maura Jansen (3rd year student) is working with Celeste Kersey and Susan Moray of Northwest Community Midwives.

Congratulations to all of you and many blessings on you and the mamas and babies that you serve.

Babies

Mirra Nerenberg (Birthingway graduate and junior midwife at Alma Midwifery) gave birth at home to the beauteous **Adar Neshamah** in the early hours of the morning on April 26th with husband, **Danny**, at her side.

Janine Dale (third year student) had a beautiful waterbirth at home on May 8th. Janine, her husband, Elihu, and son, Amadeus, are elated to welcome their new little jewel, Eleora Sabbath Dale to the world.

Making a Difference in Haiti

Pamela Echeverio traveled to the city of Jacmal on Haiti's southern coast in May 2010. She spent 21 days at the Bumi Sehat birth center now called Mother Health International, where she attended 18 births including breeches and twins. She was pleased that the center followed and honored the midwifery model and biodynamic model of care.

If you would like to learn more about the organization, please visit http://motherhealthinternational.org/ or contact Pamela directly.

A few other Birthingway College graduates and preceptors also traveled and worked in different areas of Haiti.

We are all proud of their tireless efforts to support disaster relief to women and their families.

(See Aerlyn's related story on page 19)

Birth of a Midwife

Mother of mothers, sister of women,
Daughter of the ancients,
You sing anew the old song of creation,
Of beginning, of life.

Bearer of light in a dark age, You teach us to release our fear, Overcome our resistance, To trust, to open.

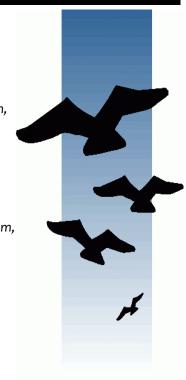
Fill your bowl from the eternal spring of wisdom, Guide us along the paths That we may drink of these waters And be made whole.

Mother of mothers, sister of women,
Daughter of the ancients,
You sing anew the old song of creation,
Of beginning, of life.

by Seth Truby For Angela on the occasion of her graduation from Birthingway College of Midwifery, June 3, 2010

BELLY MODELS

All through fall term, our students will need tummies to touch and listen to so they can practice their midwifery skills. If you (or someone you know) will be at least 20 weeks pregnant by September, are available on Wednesday afternoons from 3 – 5pm, and would like to earn \$20 a session with our very gentle and loving students, call the school at 503-760-3131.



Maternal and Neonatal Resuscitation

Description:

Birthingway certification in neonatal resuscitation including use of bag/valve/mask. AHA Healthcare Provider level CPR certification includes use of AED, infant, child and adult resuscitation. Instructor: Denise Clark, EMT-P

Date / Time / Location:

Maternal Resuscitation Friday, December 3, 2010 ~ 9:00 am - 12:00pm Neonatal Resuscitation Friday, December 3, 2010 ~ 12:00pm - 5:00pm Birthingway College of Midwifery - 12113 SE Foster St., Portland, OR 97266

Cost:

Maternal Resuscitation Workshop fee: \$50 Neonatal Resuscitation Workshop fee: \$50

Registration Deadline: November 19, 2010. After this date, an additional \$75 late registration fee (non-refundable) is

required. Sorry, no walk-in registrations on the day of the workshop will be accepted.

Required Course-pack / Equipment

None

Refund Policy:

Written notice of refund request must be received no later than seven days prior to first day of class to receive a 95% refund, then 80% of the course or audit fee will be refunded up to the first class day. No refund will be made on or after the first class day. Late registration fee is nonrefundable. Minimum class is 5 students. If the minimum class enrollment is not achieved, the class will be canceled and all fees will be refunded.

Please detach registration form here.

laternal Resuscitation Workshop fee: \$50							
leonatal Resuscitation Workshop fee: \$50							
\$75 Late Registration fee (non-refundable) if registering after 11/19/10							
			TOTAL				
Payment method: (please circle)	Check/Money Order	Cash	PayPal (see below)				
Name (First, Last, Initial)			SSN (required for your transcript)				
Address							
Phone		Email					

- We must receive this completed registration form AND full payment to register you for this workshop.
- Please make check/money order payable and mail to the address below.
- Credit card payments are accepted through PayPal please go to http://birthingway.edu/payment.htm for details. You don't need a PayPal account to pay with your credit card. The name on the credit card/PayPal account must match the person taking this workshop. Sorry, no exceptions.

OFFICE USE ONLY				
Date/time/payment/initial				
Please route in this order: FIN REG	FIN	LRC	OPS	SPPC
Amount needed to clear registration: \$	Amount Paid: \$		Date/Time:	
Method: Reference #:				



Library News





Great news! During the spring,
Birthingway was granted a
technology improvement award
from the National Library of
Medicine, National Institutes of
Health, and Department of Health
and Human Services through the
National Network of Libraries of
Medicine Pacific Northwest Region
for our **Sharing the S.T.O.R.E.**Project. We are already working to
create digital access to Slides,
Thesis, Our Recordings, Etc. in our
collection to share with you!

Visit Birthingway Library online http://birthingway.edu/library.htm
and login with Birthingway's favorite password, that 5 letter name that starts with a *d* for women who provide labor support. Send an email to the librarian to place a hold on items so they will be ready for you to pick up.

New Books:

Elizabeth McCracken. An Exact Replica of a Figment of My Imagination: a Memoir. 2010.

Ananda Lowe and Rachel Zimmerman. The Doula Guide to Birth: Secrets Every Pregnant Woman Should Know. 2009.

Jacqueline Kelleher. Nurturing the Family: the Guide for Postpartum Doulas. 2002.

Nicholas D. Kristof, and Sheryl WuDunn. Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide. 2009.

Randi Hutter Epstein. Get Me Out: a History of Childbirth from the Garden of Eden to the Sperm Bank. 2010.

Suzanne Scurlock-Durana and John E. Upledger. Full Body Presence: Learning to Listen to Your Body's Wisdom. 2010.

Debra Snyder and Paul Coleman. Intuitive Parenting: Listening to the Wisdom of Your Heart. 2010.

Bingham, Sara. The Baby Signing Book: Includes 350 ASL Signs for Babies & Toddlers. 2007.

New DVDs include:

Laboring Under an Illusion: Mass Media Childbirth vs. the Real Thing.

Guerrilla midwife featuring Ibu Robin Lim in Bali.

Sign with Your Baby: How to Communicate with Infants Before They Can Speak.

Baby Signing Time.

Summer Library Hours:

Tue – Wed 10am – 6pm Thur 10am – 5:30pm

Please call ahead and/or check the home page calendar of the website for holiday or vacation closures.

Regular Library Hours

Mon 12pm – 6pm Tue – Thurs 10am – 6pm

Regular hours will resume September 13, 2010

Community Library Cards

Everyone is welcome to come browse the library, read a book, or watch a video. Community members who'd like to borrow materials may purchase a community library card:

\$15 for three months \$25 for six months \$40 for the entire year



COMMUNITY COURSE OFFERING – Fall 2010

>> Please see the <u>Community Student Registration Form</u> for required course-packs, lab fees, and required texts. <<

♦	Botanicals II (BOT332q) 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: Botanicals I (BOT331q). Ten sessions. Materia medica for fertility, pre	conception, pregnancy,
	intrapartum, postpartum, infancy and well-woman gynecology. Instructor: Mindy Cash, ND	
	<u>Date</u> : Monday afternoons on 9/27, 10/4, 10/11, 10/25, 11/1, 11/8, 11/15, 11/22, 11/29, 12/6/10 <u>Time</u> : 1:30pm – 4:30pm	Location: Foster House

- ♦ Breastfeeding I (BRF211q) 1 credit hour. Four sessions. Using lecture, discussion, visual aids, and small group activities, this course provides students with basic information about topics including the normal breastfeeding physiology of mother and baby, properties of human milk, risks of formula feeding, recommendations regarding breastfeeding initiation, duration and normal parameters of nursing in the first two weeks, politics of breastfeeding, and influences of culture and birth practices on breastfeeding. Instructor: Adrienne Fuson, BA, IBCLC, LMT, CD

 Date: Monday mornings on 10/18, 11/1, 11/15, 11/29/10

 Time: 9:30am − 12:30pm

 Location: Carlton House
- ♦ Breastfeeding III (BRF313q) 1 credit hour. Prerequisite: Breastfeeding II (BRF222q). Four sessions. Case studies and development of protocols deepen students' knowledge of breastfeeding counseling. Students focus on more complex situations including failure to thrive and infant hypoglycemia, as well as professional issues such as scope of practice, ethics, and credentials. Adrienne Fuson, BA, IBCLC, LMT, CD

 <u>Dates and Times</u>: Mondays: 9/20/10 and 10/4/10 from 9:30am − 12:30pm, 10/18/10 and 11/8/10 from 1:30pm − 4:30pm.

 <u>Location</u>: Carlton House
- ◆ Breastfeeding Skills (BFS411q) 1 credit hour. Prerequisite: Breastfeeding II (BRF222q). Four sessions. Students have an opportunity to develop their hands-on skills by working with nursing women and their babies to demonstrate breast exams, practice supporting a successful latch, and how to use a variety of equipment such as breast pumps and nipple shields. Instructor: Rita Aparicio, MA.

 Date: Friday afternoons on 9/17, 9/24, 10/1, 10/8/10 Time: 1:00pm − 4:00pm Location: Carlton House
- Childbirth Educator (CBE241q) 4 credit hours. Six sessions. Examine the history of childbirth education and preconceptions about birth, while building
 tools for developing a childbirth education series based on Birthingway's biodynamic model. Instructors: Nichole Reding, MA and Stacey Marshall, CD,
 PCD, CBE, BC

<u>Date</u>: Fridays on 10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 11/5, 11/12, 12/3/10 <u>Time</u>: 9:00am – 5:00pm <u>Location</u>: Carlton House

Communications II (COM312q) 1 credit hour. Prerequisite: Communication I (COM321q). Four sessions. The second course in the communication series continues the development of self and one-on-one communication skills. The emphasis in this course is on working with preceptors and clients. Instructor: Celeste Kersey, BA, CPM, LDM

<u>Date</u>: Friday mornings on 10/1, 10/15, 10/29, 11/12/10. Make up on 11/19/10 <u>Time</u>: 9:00am – 12:00pm <u>Location</u>: Foster House

Ethics (ETH421q) 2 credit hours. Five Sessions. This course is a survey of philosophical foundations of contemporary ethical models. We explore problem solving of ethical dilemmas that may occur in a midwifery practice. Some topics include autonomy and informed choice, relationships, and justice. Instructor: Nichole Reding, MA

Date: Monday evenings on 9/20, 9/27, 10/4, 10/11, 10/18. Make up on 10/25. Time: 1:30pm – 5:30pm Location: Carlton House

- Human Genetics (GEN431q) 3 credit hours. Ten sessions. Covers basic genetic concepts, genetic screening, pregnancy counseling, and common genetic disorders such as sickle cell, Tay-Sachs, and trisomy disorders. Instructor: Martha von Reis, MA
 Date: Monday evenings 10/4 12/6/10 for 10 weeks Time: 5:45pm 8:45pm
 Location: Foster House
- ◆ International Midwifery (ITL311q) 1 credit hour. Four sessions. We explore midwifery abroad from developing countries to other industrialized states. This course examines legal, health, social, economic and political topics. Instructor: Carrie McCormick, MPH
 <u>Date</u>: Tuesday evenings on 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/19/10
 <u>Time</u>: 5:30pm 8:30pm
 <u>Location</u>: Foster House
- Plant Medicine II (PLM322q) 2 credit hours. Prerequisite: Plant Medicine I (PLM321q). Seven sessions. Learn about topical applications, preparation of herbal baths, hydrosols, succi, salves and creams. This course includes a field trip. Instructor: Cari Nyland, ND
 <u>Date</u>: Wednesday afternoons on 9/22, 9/29, 10/6, 10/20, 11/3, 11/17, 12/1/10
 <u>Time</u>: 1:00pm 4:00pm
 <u>Location</u>: Carlton House
- Research Methods (RSM411q) 1 credit hour. Prerequisite: Understanding Statistics (STA221q). Six sessions. Tools, methods, and techniques for designing and implementing a research project. Instructor: Kathryn H. Constant, MLS
 Date: Thursday evenings. 9/16/10 5:30-7:30; 9/23/10 5:30-8:00; 9/30/10 5:30-8:30; 10/14, 10/21, 10/28/10 5:30-8:00
 Location: Foster House
- ♦ Spanish for Birth Professionals (SPA311q) 1 credit hour. Four sessions. An introduction to basic vocabulary and phrasing for birth professionals. Instructor: Rita Aparicio, MA, IBCLC

<u>Date</u>: Friday afternoons on 11/1, 11/15, 11/22 and 11/29/10 <u>Time</u>: 1:00pm – 4:00pm <u>Location</u>: Carlton House

Working Cross Culturally (WCC411q) 1 credit hour. Four sessions. Using lecture, discussions, guest speakers and student presentations, this course covers general principles of working with someone from a culture other than your own, with focus on specific religious and ethnic groups, and their beliefs and practices in the childbearing year. Instructor: Holly Scholles, MA, CPM, LDM
 Date: Monday mornings, 10/25, 11/8, 11/22, 12/6/10 Time: 9:00am – 12:00pm Location: Foster House

Birthingway College of Midwifery ~ Fall 2010 Community Student Registration Registration Start Date: AUGUST 13, 2010. Registration Deadline: AUGUST 27, 2010.

Tuition: \$350 per credit. Audit Fee= \$300 per credit**		·	
Botanicals II (BOT332q) 3 credits X \$350 per credit + \$64 course-pack =	\$1114 for credit	€I wish to audit**	\$
Breastfeeding I (BRF211q) 1 credit X \$350 per credit + \$25 course-pack = This is the first course of a 4-part sequence required to complete Birthingway's AARC approved 45 hour lactation consultant program. To be in the program, you must register for all four separately.	\$ 375 for credit	€I wish to audit**	\$
Breastfeeding III (BRF313q) 1 credit X \$350 per credit + \$21 course-pack =	\$ 371 for credit	€I wish to audit**	\$
Breastfeeding Skills (BFS411q) 1 credit X \$350 per credit + \$34 lab fee =	\$ 384 for credit	€I wish to audit**	\$
Childbirth Educator (CBE241q) 4 credit X \$350 per credit + \$40 course-pack =	\$1440 for credit	€I wish to audit**	\$
Communications II (COM312q) 1 credit X \$350 per credit =	\$ 350 for credit	€I wish to audit**	\$
Ethics (ETH421q) 2 credits X \$350 per credit + \$22 course-pack =	\$ 722 for credit	€I wish to audit**	\$
Human Genetics (GEN431q) 3 credits X \$350 per credit + \$27 course-pack =	\$1077 for credit	€I wish to audit**	\$
International Midwifery (ITL311q) 1 credit X \$350 per credit + \$44 course-pack =	\$ 394 for credit	€I wish to audit**	\$
Plant Medicine II (PLM322q) 2 credits X \$350 per credit + \$28 Lab Fee =	\$ 728 for credit	€I wish to audit**	\$
Research Methods (RSM411q) 1 credit X \$350 per credit +\$44 course-pack =	\$ 394 for credit	€I wish to audit**	\$
Spanish for Birth Professionals (SPA311q) 1 credit X \$350 + \$24 course-pack =	\$ 374 for credit	€I wish to audit**	\$
Working Cross Culturally (WCC411q) 1 credit X \$350 per credit + \$20 course-pack =	\$ 370 for credit	€I wish to audit**	\$
т	ECHNOLOGY FEE	(non-refundable)	\$15.00
RE	GISTRATION FEE	(non-refundable)	\$50.00
LATE REGISTRATION FEE \$75 (due in addition to the Registration Fee if registering aft	er August 27, 201	0. Non-refundable.)	
Full Payment and completed Registration Form is required to be reg	istered.	TOTAL	

**Auditing a course: You may audit a course for \$300 per credit hour. Please indicate in the checkbox if you would like to audit. You will not receive college credit. You are not required to do homework or take tests when you audit a course. Instructors will not review any homework or tests that you choose to complete. Course-pack purchase is not required when you audit. If you would like a course-pack, please indicate on your order form and include the course-pack fee.

	ere are the required textbooks for the above courses. You are responsible to supply your own on Amazon.com for these books. Please visit www.birthingway.edu for the Amazon Wishlist link.	Mfg. Retail \$		
Botanicals II (BOT332q	Gladstar R. Herbal Healing for Women: Simple Home Remedies for Women of All Ages. 1993.	\$16.00		
Breastfeeding I (BRF211q)	Lauwers J. Counseling the Nursing Mother: A Lactation Consultant's Guide. 5 th ed. 2010.			
Breastfeeding III (BRF313q)	Lauwers J. Counseling the Nursing Mother: A Lactation Consultant's Guide. 5 th ed. 2010.			
	Cadwell K. Case Studies in Breastfeeding. 1st ed. 2003.	\$51.95		
Breastfeeding Skills (BFS411q)	Genna C. Supporting Sucking Skills in Breastfeeding Infants. 1 st ed. 2007.	\$53.95		
Communications II	Rosenberg MB. Nonviolent Communication: A Language of Life.			
(COM312q)	Connor J, Killian D. Connecting Across Differences: A guide to Compassionate, Non-violent Communication. 1st ed. 2005.	\$24.50		
Ethics (ETH421q)	Foster I, Lasser J. Professional Ethics in Midwifery Practice. 1st ed. 2010	\$49.95		
Human Genetics (GEN431q)	Department of Human Services. Handbook: Help me understand Genetics. 2010. *DO NOT BUY*	Download		
	DeCrepspigny L, Chervenak FA. <i>Prenatal Tests: The Facts</i> .1st ed. 2005.	\$29.95		
	Zuckoff M. Choosing Naia. 2003.	\$16.00		
International Midwifery (ITL311q)	Kristof N, WuDunn S. Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide. 2010.	\$15.95		
Plant Medicine II (PLM322q)	Green J. The Herbal Medicine-Maker's Handbook: A Home Manual. 2000.	\$22.99		
Spanish for Birth	Qualls R. McGraw-Hill's Spanish-English Student Dictionary. 2 nd ed. 2008.	\$8.95		
Professionals (SPA321q)	Harvey W. Spanish for Health Care Professionals. 3 rd ed. 2008.	\$12.99		
Working Cross Culturally (WCC411q)	Giger J, Davidhizar R. <i>Transcultural Nursing Assessment and Intervention.</i> 5 th ed. 2008.	\$54.00		

PLEASE COMPLETE THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM

	First name	Middle Initial	Social Security Number (for 1098T if taking credit courses
Mailing address		City	State	Zip
Phone			Your email address may be us ion about your school account	
Course packs are av			on deadline at Birthingw	ay College. Please
are entitled to a full re	efund of all fees and cancellation perio	tuition. Suturing Kits w d, should you decide	eement in writing within till not be refunded after the to cancel your registra	Registration Deadline.
ATTENDING AND FAIL FEES. For credit cours and receive a refund of fee will be refunded up fee will be refunded up made on or after the	TO DROP WITHIN THes, you may cancel rof tuition per schedul pon written request, p to the first class day rist class day. Reg	IE REFUND PERIOD, YO egistration by providin le below. For non-credit up to seven days beforey. No refund for non-credit istration fees, Techn	nich you register. IF YOU DO U REMAIN RESPONSIBLE FO g signed and dated written t or audited courses, 95% of re the first class day. 80% of redit or audit-only courses of lology fee, course-pack to weeks for receipt of refund	or ALL TUITION AND notice to Birthingway of the audit or course or the audit or course or workshops will be fees, lab fees and
WITHDRAWAL DATE On or before 1st day of to 2nd day through 7th day of 8th day through 14th day of 15th day through 21st day	f term 86% of term 72%	22 nd da 29 th da 36 th da	DRAWAL DATE y through 28 th day of term y through 35 th day of term y through 42 nd day of term through end of term	TUITION REFUND 44% 30% 16% No Refund
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Tu Touche La Femme

Today I was once again moved by my experience in Haiti and this time in such a positive way. It has been a blessing to continue to be inspired by our experiences with Haitian women.

After the earthquake, I like many other midwives in Portland, joined with Midwives for Haiti and went to work in Hinche at the chaotic, desperate, understaffed hospital. I spent just two weeks in Haiti-enough time to see many women birth beautiful babies and to hold space while a few women gave birth to babies whose spirits were no longer with us.

For me, Haiti seems a place where joy is hidden. Although there may be laughter and smiles, the joy lives under a thick layer of sorrow and grief, poverty, illness, and hunger. You have to look deep into someone's heart and soul, behind the sorrow in people's eyes to, find it.

Looking at one of the photographs of a woman who had a beautiful birth with us, I am surprised at her obvious happiness. Most of the women seemed so checked-out and indifferent about their labor, birth, and the new baby. This birth was one of a few that felt like a triumph-like the experience was lead by the laboring mother and not by the doctors, or society, or our fears, or tragedy. It was so heart-warming to witness a birth where nothing went wrong. She had been told by the doctors that she would have to have a cesarean the next day, because she was 41 weeks, and was frustrated about her options when I first saw her. The other midwife and I were able to reassure her that her



baby was doing well, that she herself was healthy, and I knew in my heart of hearts that we could get her into labor. She had already had two rounds of cytotec, although she didn't think it was working. With some midwifery tricks-of-the trade we got her into labor, and she birthed beautifully and with such strength, to a perfect baby boy--chubby, 8 lbs, and healthy.

It has been wonderful to see the photos of that joy-to be reminded of that triumph. It is a triumph, I think, for more than just her and I and the other midwife present. I think these healthy births, empowered births, where women can get off their backs and into squats or whichever position they like, I think these are triumphs for Haiti.

About a week after I got home, I received an email from Reina, a longer-term volunteer with Midwives for Haiti. Reina said that a beautiful mama had come in

looking for me. Reina said she was absolutely radiant. Radiance wasn't something I saw a lot of in the Haitian hospital. It makes me teary just to think about---she was still happy and proud and radiant. She is the reason I want to go back and do more work like this. Having someone listen to her and help her and allow her to labor in her own way, it made a difference. I believe that with that birth we created a ripple effect--we felt empowered, she felt empowered, and she spread that message--about her happiness, her triumph, her strength. I think she has become a voice of change.

Today I read the following saying, "Tu touche la femme, tu touche la famille," when you touch women, you touch the family.

But I think it goes beyond that... Maybe it is possible to change the world, one birth at a time. Maybe when you touch a woman, when you help her find her radiance, maybe that is when you change the world.

Aerlyn Pfeil (Graduate)

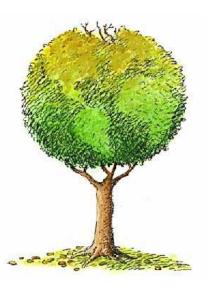


Birthingway College of Midwifery12113 SE Foster Rd.
Portland, OR 97266

Phone: 503.760.3131

Fax: 503.760.3332

E-mail: info@birthingway.edu



If you are receiving this newsletter via email and you would prefer to receive by mail, please contact the college at info@birthingway.edu, or at 503-760-3131.

Also, don't forget! You can download all registration forms at:
www.birthingway.edu



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