

Guidelines for Artists

Creative Cronies invite women artists to send colour images for the 2021 Moon Calendar and Moon Diary. If accepted, Calendar artists are paid NZ \$70 per image, NZ \$150 for cover art. Diary artists are paid NZ \$50 per image.

Send artwork samples by email in CMYK, at minimum size 16 cms, at 300 dpi in tif, jpeg or raw psd format, or by mail on CD, or by mail as hardcopy quality laser prints, before 20 January 2020 to:

Arafelle Oné, Creative Cronies Moon Calendar,
1563 Diggers Valley Road, RD1, Kaitia 0481, New Zealand

Email Arafelle at: arafelleon@gmail.com

Artists payments are in October 2020. Any original artwork is returned.

Below are our notes for the 2021 theme. Not yet complete, still a work in progress. Hope this will give you lots of inspiration and tickle your wonderful imaginations. We are really looking forward to seeing some beautiful illustrations submitted by mid January 2020.

Aroha nui Minerva and Arafelle

INTRODUCTION to Earth Keepers and Sky Watchers Theme 2021

The knowledge and wisdom of indigenous people worldwide, passed down through generations of oral tradition, stories, ritual, ceremony and everyday living, has been ignored and eroded by the dominant 'progress machine' of the Western world for centuries. Now as we face so many crises of fundamental social, ecological, climatic and spiritual break down, this knowledge and wisdom is reemerging, being sought out and respected for its ability to point the way forward and offer sane solutions. At the root of the problem is a dualistic world view which divides us one from another, separates us from the natural world of planet Earth and ultimately from Life Herself and the Universe. This dualistic world view is not new, it has been growing in power and dominance for eons. Now, along with material consumerism and the ideas of ever expanding linear progress and growth it has taken over the world. The ancient wisdom of indigenous people worldwide is that of profound community and unity consciousness which does not necessarily deny diversity. Life is an intricate web of connection and respectful interspecies companionship. The health of individual people, plants, animals, ecosystems, communities and of Earth Herself depends on a detailed understanding of these intricate connections and the way in which they work together for the Whole. Weyakpa Najin Win (Woman Stands Shining) Pat McCabe is a Diné/Navajo medicine woman, international speaker, teacher and ceremonial leader who personifies an old/new way forward which steps beyond dichotomies to create Thriving Life. Global cooperation, collaboration and regenerative cultures are key.

One thing all Earth Keepers and Sky Watchers, past and present, have in common is attention to the four directions. For example, many early and current cultures prefer to place buildings and ritual practices that acknowledge the directions. The Sun, the Moon and all the wanderers - the rest of the

planets - rise in the East and set in the West, so for our ancient predecessors, who were more aware of the natural world, this was one of the most fundamental facts of Life.

In researching for this theme we asked what are the methods and tools used by indigenous and ancient people to promote unity, facilitate healing, spiritual understanding, growth and 'enlightenment'? Reverence for, and intimate connection with, the four sacred creative / destructive Elements of Fire, Earth, Air and Water, and sometimes recognizing a fifth central element of Spirit, are inherent to all the wisdom systems we studied. Basically, fire provides warmth and allows us to cook and transform various materials, water is essential for cleansing and nurturing, air is the stuff we breathe and share symbiotically with plants, earth provides our sources of food, sustenance and beauty. Spirit describes the invisible dimension from which everything comes.

Beyond our physical senses, or modern technologies attempts to measure the most enigmatic theories of quantum physics, basic structures emerge from 'spirit' energy into sound and then into other dimensional forms and templates for material manifestation. These basic structures can be accessed through dreams, trance, intuition and other shamanistic practices and are also described mathematically for instance in the fibonnaci sequence of numbers. In the physical world these basic structures exist microcosmically and macrocosmically as spirals and patterns in nature from the smallest particles through to the movement of galaxies and planetary bodies in the Universe.

Ancient people knew of the importance of these underlying structures of universal energy using them in their construction of buildings both domestic and monumental.

Descriptions of the web ... the sacred hoop, the wheel of life, the tree of life

Here are some of the places, tools and practices we plan to include from around the world

- * labyrinths, sacred sites, power points, stone circles etc ancient observatories, ancient calendars, tools of magic, natural earth elements, cauldrons, portals

- * shamanism, drumming, dancing, masks etc, invoking archetypes, animal totems and spirit guides pilgrimage, ceremony and ritualistic practices, astronomy, spirit travel, observing cycles of Nature, prayer, meditation, chanting, divining and oracles, tattoos and scarring, shape shifting, pilgrimage

- * honouring differences and using them for spiritual purposes – Two spirited people North American, Pacific Island and Maori Takatapui, Whakawahine etc gender bending, disabilities like shamans chosen from disabled people at birth (eg at Monte Alban, Mexico)

ARIES FIRE Methods of magic such as initiation, fire ceremonies and tools such as a ritual knife or wand may be used by present day witches, druids and people working with the energies at ancient power sites around the globe. Sacred initiation ceremonies and rites of passage involve individuals in an intense and sometimes painful, yet conscious, energetic process. Birth into a new role or status as a shaman or priestess, or a transition from childhood to sexual maturity is often a communal event from which the individual emerges transformed. England/Ireland Celtic

TAURUS EARTH Horns, vessels and pentacles are appropriate tools for Taurus. Methods may include sacred journeys through labyrinths and underworld caves, as well as honouring, appreciating and connecting with animal and plant guides. In a modern day context, offerings and sacrifices, such as meaningful give away ceremonies, help express gratitude for the gifts from Mother Earth. Indigenous Khentians (pre Ancient Egyptians) matrilineal culture, Isis/Hathor links horns and vessels

GEMINI AIR Star gazing has been a human preoccupation from the dawn of time in ancient observatories like Machu Picchu in Peru to modern astronomy ventures like the Dark Sky Project (Rehua) in Lake Takapō, Aotearoa. Acceptance of gender diversity such as in the multiple genders of Navajo culture, open a path to present day understanding of sexual and gender fluidity. Navigation by the stars, sky walking, trances and astral travel are methods that fit with Gemini, a universal tool is mask making. Ainu / Shinto Shamanism of Japan
Mask making and theatre Indonesia – Wayang

CANCER WATER Mantles, shields and cups are Cancer tools, while sacred springs, rivers, waterfalls and lakes are places that cleanse. Other womb like spaces provide a safe protective cloak. Midwifery and healing practices such as traditional / modern Māori Romiromi and Mirimiri massage techniques call on spiritual sources and ancestral guidance. Maori world view and modern tikanga practices
Poutama Rites of passage – Maori goddesses for modern teens, aiming to empower young Maori women.
Aotearoa/New Zealand

LEO FIRE Divination tools, such as tarot cards, and methods such as dance and theatre, tune us into human archetypes. They call on the creative impulses of Leo, appealing to the story telling and symbol recognition of our playful child selves. Candles used in the modern context contain a rich magic enhancing altars and intentional ritual practises. Fire walking requires courage, trust and a willingness to face the fears of modern life. Fire ceremonies activate transformation.
Basque (Matriarchal profile – <https://recoveryonthebeach.com/2018/09/01/basque-mythology-ancestral-religion-spirituality-and-modern-religions/>)

VIRGO EARTH

The language of crystals, sacred trees, the tree alphabet and plant medicine speaks through Virgo. Ancient calendars and understanding seasonal cycles appeal to Virgo's desire to describe the natural order of the Universe.

Shamanic dancing, drumming and invoking animal totems are potent ancient methods of entering hidden dimensions and sacred spaces that are being increasingly revived today.

Dancing (shamans of ancient Turkey, Bull dancers of Crete)
Crete, Turkey

LIBRA AIR

Drums, bull roarers, didgeridoos, rattles and any instruments used to create rhythmic sounds are powerful tools for Libra to induce trance states.

Chanting and singing can also be used to create altered states of consciousness. The Medicine wheel and the Sacred Hoop of Life from Native American cosmologies describe the underlying structure of and connections of all life.

Indigenous activism Standing Rock Sioux North America (including Alaska) and Canada

SCORPIO WATER

Tools – Cauldrons, tools of witchcraft, crystal balls and crystal skulls

Methods – Water ceremonies, Tattoos, scarring, trepanation, initiations, shape shifting, immersion in sacred rivers

Africa and Mexico Huichol Shamanism

SAGITTARIUS FIRE

Tools – Bardic stories, rock inscriptions and art, books of spiritual law and lore

Methods – Fire ceremonies, land navigation by the stars, oral teachings,

Australian aboriginal Songlines and Dreamtime

Australia

CAPRICORN EARTH

Tools and methods – Stone circles, standing stones and ancient stone monuments, sacred mountains, labyrinths,

Method – Pilgrimage

Hindu cosmology, Colombia and South America generally

AQUARIUS AIR

Tools and methods – Star travel, spirit guides and communication with deities

Vision quests and rites of passage, portals to other dimensions

Ancient observatories Nepal/Tibet

PISCES WATER

Tools and method – Scrying, meditation, healing and spirit travel

Water ceremonies, calling on ancestral guidance, mediumship and channeling, prayer

Pacific Islands and Papua New Guinea

5 CONTINENTS

Europe Aries (UK) Leo (Celts) Virgo (Crete)

Africa Taurus (Ancient Egypt) Scorpio (Africa)

Asia Gemini (Japan, Indonesia) Virgo (Turkey)

Australasia & Oceania Sagittarius (Australia) Cancer (Aotearoa) Pisces (Papua New Guinea)

North America Libra (Native America) Aquarius (Alaska, Tibet/Nepal)

South & Central America Capricorn, Scorpio (Mexico South America)