

# La Casa de María

AN INTERFAITH RETREAT AND CONFERENCE CENTER IN SANTA BARBARA

## *Persephone Rising: Awakening the Heroine Within*

With  
*Carol Pearson*

*February 5 - 7, 2016  
Friday, 7:30 pm - Sunday, 1:00 pm*



During the centuries that ancient Athens was inventing drama, science and democracy, everyone experienced an initiation rite based on a story of Demeter, the Earth Mother and her daughter, Persephone, who was abducted by Hades, the Lord of the Underworld with the permission of Persephone's father, Zeus. The mystery that ensues describes how Demeter gets her daughter back, how she is transformed from an innocent adolescent to the powerful Persephone, how Zeus becomes more respectful of the goddesses, and how the Eleusinian Mysteries were created.

The story of Demeter and Persephone is uncannily relevant to issues of women today; symbolically forming the journey that women and men can take together to gain access to the full range of human capacities: open hearts, healthy egos, connected souls, and collective joy.

This workshop will apply lessons from the Eleusinian mysteries and its stories to the lives of heroines today in the same spirit of joy and possibility that initiates demonstrated in the past. Through lecture, discussion, movement, and writing we will explore the archetypal characters and their application to the heroine's journey today. We invite you to experience this updated mini-initiation through what will surely be an empowering and enjoyable weekend.

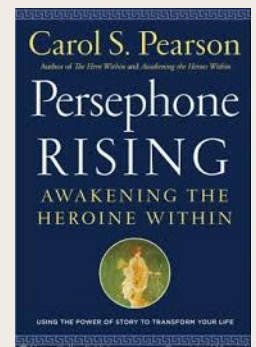


**Carol S. Pearson PhD**, former President of Pacifica Graduate Institute in Santa Barbara, is best known as an author of books such as *The Hero Within*, *Awakening the Heroes Within*, and *Persephone Rising: Awakening the Heroine Within*.

Guest facilitators include:

**Maureen Murdock PhD**, is a well-known author whose books include *The Heroine's Journey*. She teaches at both Pacifica and Antioch.

**Gabi Barysch-Crosbie**, is an expert in a variety of healing traditions.



### **Program Fee:**

\$390. Includes 2 nights lodging in shared room, meals and tuition. Single supplement \$100. *Limited partial scholarships are available, application required.* Commuter rate \$290. Includes meals and tuition.

### **Register online:**

lacasademaria.org or call 805.969.5031 ext. 206

