

## CHRISTIANITY

Near the end is a pair of rocks within a boundary shaped like a fish. The whole represents the scene of the resurrection of Jesus, the Christ. The large stone has a cave-like inclusion. The small stone is rolled back to show the empty tomb.

Beloved, let us love one another;  
For love is of God,  
And he who loves is born of God  
And knows God.  
He who does not love  
Does not know God; For God is love.  
There is no fear in love, for  
Perfect love casts out fear.  
- I John 4:7-18

## FOUR TRADITIONS

If you start again from the top at the pond and take the left or western-most path, a large boulder is on the left. It holds symbols for four religious or philosophical traditions.

### BAHAI



The utterance of God is a lamp  
Whose light are these words:  
You are the fruits of one tree  
And the leaves of one branch.  
Deal with one another with the utmost  
Love and harmony,  
With friendliness and fellowship.

- Bahai:  
Epistle to the Son of the Wolf

## ZOROASTRIANISM



He who sows the ground with care  
and diligence acquires a greater stock  
of religious merit than he could gain  
by the repetition of ten thousand prayers.

- Zoroaster

## JAINISM



The symbol represents the Sanskrit AHIMSA :  
“Peace to all beings”

Friendship to all living forms,  
Delight in the qualities of the  
virtuous ones,  
Unlimited compassion for all  
suffering beings,  
Equanimity towards all who  
wish me harm,  
May my soul have these dispositions  
now and forever.

- Jain Prayer

## SIKHISM



The One God pervades all  
And seeing Him,  
I am wholly in bloom.

- Adi Granth

## CONFUCIANISM



Next on the left is a stone with the symbol for Confucianism. The symbol means total harmony and righteousness, in your own life and in your relations with your neighbors.

Try your best to treat others as  
you would wish  
To be treated yourself, and you will  
find that this  
Is the shortest way to goodness.

- Mencius

## INDIGENOUS

To the north, down the path and off to the right is an array of small stones representing the four directions. This ancient form depicts various indigenous and shamanic traditions. The whole revolves in a clockwise direction. On the central axis is the sacred pipe.

Treat the earth well,  
It was not given to you by your parents,  
It was loaned to you by your children.

- Indian Proverb

At the conclusion of this journey, around the curve on the right, a fountain reflects the Buddha's compassion for the suffering of all beings.

# SANCTUARY

## of Connections

Krotona Institute's Sanctuary of Connections provides a quiet place where those of diverse or no faith can walk the links connecting each tradition. With an occasional pause for reflection, a feeling of unity may arise in the heart. The boulders along the way are nodes in the network of religious or teaching traditions. Each has a representative symbol. The order or size of each stone or icon has no particular relevance. Quotations represent core values of each tradition.



## THEOSOPHY

As you enter the sanctuary, on the right is the seal of the Theosophical Society. It is an amalgam of ancient wisdom symbols. Theosophy is not defined, but its essence is in its Sanskrit motto:

**SATYAN NASTI PARO DHARMA**

Translated:

There is no teaching higher than truth.

Its view is also in Annie Besant's mantra:

O hidden life, vibrant in every atom;  
O hidden light, shining in every creature;  
O hidden love, embracing all in oneness.  
May all who feel themselves as one with thee  
Know they are therefore one with every other.

## THE LIONESS



Just ahead appears the Lioness,  
inviting participation in a simple  
healing ceremony.

*Touching the forehead of the lioness,  
Speaking the name of one who suffers,  
Forming the connection to nature,  
Embrace healing powers.*

## TAOISM



Beside the lotus pond is the icon of Taoism.

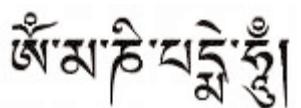
The Tao that can be expressed is not the  
Eternal Tao. ... Nevertheless,  
something there is, formless yet complete.  
In the beginning it existed.  
Its name is not known,  
but it is called Tao.  
It is the Mystery of Mysteries.  
- Lao Tzu, Tao Teh Ching

## BUDDHISM



On the right, is the perimeter of the Buddhist stupa. The eight spokes of the turning wheel of the dharma represent the Noble Eightfold Path.

Encircling the stupa is the Mani mantra in Tibetan script:



Translated:

OM MANI PADME HUM

While circumambulating the stupa clockwise, one traditionally recites the mantra.

## KRISHNAMURTI

Exiting on the right or east side path, the first stone holds the famous statement of the teacher Jiddu Krishnamurti when he renounced his imputed designation as "The World Teacher." He declared:

## TRUTH IS A PATHLESS LAND

Perhaps he echoed the teaching of the Buddha on emptiness when he said:

As the cup which is empty  
Can be filled up,  
So the emptiness  
Within can be filled up  
With that which is Everlasting.

## HINDUISM



Next on the left is the boulder for Hinduism. Its symbol is the Sanskrit letter OM.

In the Tandy Maha Brahmana, it is written:

In the beginning was the only  
Lord of the Universe. His Word  
OM  
Was with him.  
This Word was his second.  
He contemplated. He said,  
"I will deliver this Word so that  
She will produce and bring  
Into being all the world."

## JUDAISM

Bearing to the right after the fork is the stone for Judaism. Upon it is a Mezuzah, a small scroll of parchment with biblical passages including one commanding Jews to keep God's words constantly in mind. On the back of the scroll, the word Shaddai ("Almighty") is written



When placed in its case, only the first letter of His name ("shin") is visible.

Surrounding the stone are four species of trees: citron, palm, myrtle, and pepper. These plants represent different parts of the body. Holding the four species' branches in hand and waving them, Jews recite a blessing thereby acknowledging His omnipresence.

Be still and know that I am God.

- Psalms 46:10

## ISLAM



Next, on the right is the stone holding the symbol for both Islam and its esoteric sister, Sufism. Since Islam prohibits symbols per se, a stylized version of the Arabic word for ALLAH is presented. (Copyright by E. Korkmaz).

Central to Islamic thought is the profession of faith in Allah supported by the concept of jihad. The Prophet Muhammad emphasized jihad as an internal, individual, spiritual struggle toward self-improvement and moral purification.

Whichever way you turn,  
There is the face of God.  
- Quran

## SUFI

Whether you love the One  
Or another human being,  
If you love enough,  
In the end you will come into the  
Presence of Love itself.

- Rumi