

Anthroposophical Society in America Rudolf Steiner Cultural Foundation

June 2019

Dear Friends of the Rudolf Steiner Library and Anthroposophy,

We write to announce the news that the ownership and operations of the Rudolf Steiner Library (RSL) have been officially and successfully transferred from the Anthroposophical Society in America (ASA) to the newly founded Rudolf Steiner Cultural Foundation (RSCF), effective June 1, 2019. Our Rudolf Steiner Library is now a legal, independent entity!

The General Council of the ASA and the RSCF have worked together for over a year and a half to organize this transfer and to settle the terms in ways that best serve the vision and mission of the library, along with the movement as a whole. You can imagine the many personalities and earnest ideas that contributed to this process! Under the terms of the transfer agreement, the Society will continue its financial support to the library for at least three years and Society members will enjoy library borrowing privileges at no charge other than reasonable shipping costs. After three years the ASA and the RSCF will re-visit continued support and borrowing privileges for ASA members.

You who have supported the Rudolf Steiner Library have kept this work alive with your recognition of the importance of having a central library devoted to Rudolf Steiner's work and ideas. We are so very grateful for your generous and on-going support. We hope that you who have expressed your interest in this work will continue to help the RSCF to sustain and protect the Rudolf Steiner Library into the future. Your participation in spirit as well as in practice is essential for this important cultural institution to continue.

One of the striking ways that the RSL serves anthroposophy in its geographic area is through its membership in the Capital District Library Council (CDLC), resulting in a remarkable increase in inter-library loans. Fully 25% of all CDLC inter-library loans of over 350 books originated from RSL in 2018. This organization appreciates the RSL's unique contribution to all the libraries in this region of Albany, New York, and the nation.

Continuing the RSL in its original location was recognized by the General Council of the ASA as unsustainable. In 2014, the library building in Ghent, New York, was sold. The current library quarters in a former Walmart building makes the RSL fully accessible and part of the neighborhood in Hudson, New York. By renting this economical space, RSL contributes to the rejuvenation of an empty box building, and there's plenty of parking! Kathleen Bradley and Martin Miller will continue to carry day-to-day library functions. RSL is open Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. ET. Come and visit or contact Kathleen and Martin when you can!

The board of the RSCF extends much appreciation to Harold Bush, who established the not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation for the RSCF and whose original vision of an auxiliary supporting organization for the RSL has continued throughout this transfer negotiation.

Rudolf Steiner Library, 651 Fairview Ave, Suite 620, Hudson, New York 12534
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Thanks are due to the support of the Rudolf Steiner Library Circle of Friends which has provided financial assistance to the RSL since its move to Hudson. The steadfast efforts of library employees Kathleen Bradley and Martin Miller, and until last year, Jennifer Locke, have been the very sustenance of the library's operations. Thanks are also due to William Furse from Camphill Triform, volunteer in the RSL for many years, who was responsible for the directional arrow that identified the empty Walmart building as a potential site, and who linked Judith Kiely to the landlord here. Most importantly, we recognize Judith Kiely, RSL staff member for years and years and later Librarian, who made it through to recent times, for her tireless focus through innumerable challenges and many building inspections. Judith Kiely's predecessor and mentor, Judith Soleil, was one of the most influential foundational blocks of the library. And before her, there was the father of the Rudolf Steiner Library, Fred Paddock. This collective work provides a continuing resource for everyone to have access to ideas that are changing the culture, visibly and invisibly.

In our world of chaos and polarized points of view, our task as supporters of Rudolf Steiner's unique ideas and ideals is, in large part, protection of these spiritual thoughts and realities from twisting and denigration. The articulated spiritual realities Rudolf Steiner brought are the future, after all. Together we are the bridges for his ideas into the fabric of our culture. The RSL gives us all a chance to read and ponder these inspired ideals. The survival of RSL is essential, and you have demonstrated the understanding of these things through your support and encouragement. Thank you!

We look forward to your continued support. Please join us in celebration of this significant juncture of positive change for the future.

With thanks and appreciation,



General Council Chair, for the General Council of
The Anthroposophical Society in America

Rudolf Steiner Cultural Foundation
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