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# The Theosophical Society in Detroit

Chartered in 1916 as a Branch of the Theosophical Society in America

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## DECEMBER 2016

We are happy to continue our Friday night meetings.  
Movies or lectures will be presented, followed by thoughtful open discussions.

**Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Programs begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. \$5 Suggested Donation**  
**From 6:30 to 6:55** is time for socializing, browsing through the bookstore and library,  
and enjoying light refreshments.

### Dec 2 **SECRETA SECRETORUM**

Lecture by Chris Fessler

*Secreta Secretorum: Renaissance Theosophy and the Birth of Modern Science.* The Hermetic and Neoplatonic academies of Renaissance Italy were the source and inspiration of the new intellectual impulses that inspired Sir Isaac Newton, René Descartes, Gottfried Leibniz, Francis Bacon and many other founders of our modern scientific world. Learn how the Ancient Wisdom of the Secret Schools gave birth to the future and its mysteries.

### Dec 9 **The Ethics of an Understanding Heart**

Video - Joy Mills (Facilitated by Mary Jo Kokochak)

The theosophical world view presents us with the only valuable alternative to humanity - one which depends completely on our relationship to others. It lies in the human heart, the understanding heart. The choices that we make daily, the manner of our living, our behavior, do determine tomorrow and the day after and all the days to come.

### Dec 16 **Awake: The Life of Yogananda**

Movie starring George Harrison and Anupam Kher (Facilitated by Carl Anderson)

*Awake: The Life of Yogananda* is an unconventional biography about the Hindu Swami who brought yoga and meditation to the West in the 1920s. Paramahansa Yogananda authored the spiritual classic *Autobiography of a Yogi*, which has sold millions of copies worldwide and is a go-to book for seekers, philosophers and yoga enthusiasts today (apparently, it was the only book that Steve Jobs had on his iPad). By personalizing his own quest for enlightenment and sharing his struggles along the path, Yogananda made ancient Vedic teachings accessible to a modern audience, attracting many followers and inspiring the millions who practice yoga today.

Filmed over three years with the participation of 30 countries around the world, the documentary examines the world of yoga, modern and ancient, east and west and explores why millions today have turned their attention inwards, bucking the limitations of the material world in pursuit of self-realization.

## WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION Tuesday, December 20 — 7:00 – 9:30 PM

Join us for a winter gathering for TS members, family and friends.  
Potluck vegetarian supper, gratitude ceremony, blessing tree, and friendship circle.  
For friendship circle, bring something you enjoy sharing for the winter holidays:  
a poem, prayer, story or song.



**CLOSED 12/23/2016 and 12/30/2016**

### Jan 6 **The Secret of the Adepts.** Video James Phillips (Facilitated by Gary Contesti)

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27745 Woodward Avenue  
Berkley, Michigan 48072-0906

## ONGOING ACTIVITIES

If you have any questions or comments about our ongoing activities,  
please call (248) 545-1961 or email [tsdetroit@inbox.com](mailto:tsdetroit@inbox.com)

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**MONDAYS: 2ND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH 7:00 PM**

**BOOK STUDY**

**NEXT MEETING IS DECEMBER 12**

***The Divine Plan* by Geoffrey A. Barborka**

*The Divine Plan* was written in the form of a commentary on H.P. Blavatsky's *Secret Doctrine* expressly for those who wish to read and gain a deeper understanding of the Secret Doctrine – presenting an exposition of the Doctrines of Esoteric Philosophy.

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**TUESDAYS: 7:00 PM TO 9:00 PM**

**MEMBER'S STUDY**

***The Ancient Wisdom* by Annie Besant**

Theosophy is the wisdom underlying underpinnings of all religions when they are stripped of accretions and superstitions. It offers a philosophy which renders life intelligible and demonstrates that justice and love guide the cosmos. Its teachings aid the unfoldment of the latent spiritual nature in the human being, without dependence or fear.

Annie Besant (October 1, 1847 - September 20, 1933) was the President of the Theosophical Society of India from 1907; founded Home Rule League in 1916 and demanded self rule in India. She became first woman president of the Indian National Congress. She was a prominent Theosophist, social reformer, political leader, women's rights activist, writer and orator. In the 1890s She wrote an enormous number of books and pamphlets on theosophy. She traveled (1926-27) in England and the United States with her protégé Jiddu Krishnamurti. Annie died in India in 1933 at the age of 86.

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**WEDNESDAYS: 7:00 PM TO 9:00 PM SHARP**

**OPEN DISCUSSION**

***Open Forum facilitated by Gary Contesti***

Gary Contesti is continuing the grand tradition of the Wednesday night open forum. Meetings involve a wide ranging exploration of theosophical writings and ideas, Christian Mysticism, astrology, Rosicrucian thought, and more.

***Theosophical Society in Detroit parking is limited. . .***

The **good news** is. . .the Vinsetta Garage restaurant (next door) offers **free valet parking** for people attending our programs. Just tell the parking attendant that you are attending a program at the Theosophical Society of Detroit.



**BOOKSTORE HOURS**

**TUESDAYS**

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

