

**“Ziyong’s Ship of Compassion”:
Responding to Misogyny, Xenophobia, and Racism”
Public Talk by Sensei Amala Wrightson
Thursday, October 10, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
University of Louisville, Ekstrom Library, Elaine Chao Auditorium
2215 S. 3rd St, Louisville, KY 40208**



Human beings are hard-wired to be attracted to those we perceive to be like ourselves. As the adage goes, "Birds of a feather stick together". Resonating with those of like mind isn't a problem. What sours this healthy human tendency is when we attach to our group and reject those we perceive as "other". How do we transcend "other-ism" and wake up from the nightmare of Us vs. Them? How do we respond when face-to-face with "the other"?

Sensei (meaning 'teacher') Amala Wrightson will share stories from the Buddhist tradition that explore these questions to help us respond in ways that cultivate compassion and wisdom. More importantly, she will reveal through these tales how each of us can realize (that is, make real and functioning) the awakened life here and now by practicing Zen. A question and answer session will follow the talk.

This event is sponsored by Louisville Zen Center in partnership with UofL's Philosophy Department, The Commonwealth Center for Humanities and Society, and Interfaith Paths to Peace. It will be held in the Elaine Chao Auditorium at UofL's Ekstrom Library at 2215 S. 3rd St, Louisville, KY 40208.

Admission is free. Parking is available at the North Information Center lot at 1999 S. 1st Street (next to the School of Music at Cardinal Blvd), the West Information Center lot at 2301 S. 3rd Street, and other red lots on-campus. Pay parking is available in the Speed Museum Parking Garage at 2035 S. 3rd Street.



Sensei Amala Wrightson, Spiritual Director of Auckland (New Zealand) Zen Center, began Zen practice in 1982. She was ordained a Zen Buddhist priest in 1999 and has been teaching since 2004. She was sanctioned as a full Dharma heir of Roshi Bodhin Kjolhede, Abbot of Rochester (NY) Zen Center, in 2012. Sensei Amala Wrightson is a member of the American Zen Teachers' Association (AZTA).

Louisville Zen Center is honored Amala-sensei will conduct this free public talk (donations for the teacher will be gratefully accepted). She will also teach an Introduction to Zen Meditation workshop at Unity of Louisville on Saturday, October 12, and lead a day-long Zen meditation retreat giving one-to-one, private instruction at Heart of Perfect Wisdom Zendo on Sunday, October 13. For more information and a complete listing of events with Sensei, contact Louisville Zen Center at louisvillezen@gmail.com or (502) 276-5738 or visit <http://www.louisvillezen.org/guest-teacher.html>

Louisville Zen Center is a sitting group of Rochester Zen Center. We offer beginning and continuing meditation instruction, group sittings, work practice, retreats, and other activities and events to support our members and the wider community. For more about us, visit our website at louisvillezen.org and connect with us on Facebook.

For more about this talk, contact Julianne Chung at julianne.chung@louisville.edu or Louisville Zen Center at louisvillezen@gmail.com or see our Facebook event.

