

The Future of SRF in Kansas City

Kansas City Meditation Group of Self-Realization Fellowship

The Kansas City Meditation Group holds readings, study and meditation services each week as well as frequent social activities for group fellowship. We host monastic tours and visits, regional retreats and other special events which draw devotees to Kansas City from around the Midwest. Some devotees who consider KCMG their spiritual "second home" visit regularly and attend various group retreats and events.

Our Sunday School and Teen Group teachers are guiding the next generation of SRF devotees to learn at an early age how to live happy, balanced lives. By sharing Paramahansa Yogananda's teachings with our youth, we are planting the seeds of love and devotion in young hearts to keep Gururji's Kansas City Meditation Group growing into the future.

"To spend a weekend in the warmth and hospitality of the Kansas City devotees in their beautiful chapel and to have the opportunity to meditate in the divine vibrations at Rajarsi Janakananda's crypt is like a mini-Caravocation to me... refreshing, uplifting, and inspiring!"
-J.E., Wichita, KS



"Though our home is hundreds of miles away, we can feel the devotion and fellowship of KCMG exemplifying and broadcasting the light and love of Master and the Gurus."
-D. and L.S., Marble Hill, MO

How to get Engaged

As part of our spiritual family, we invite you to participate through your prayers and/or financial support as we initiate the projects in our Firm Foundation Fund. Donations received in response to this appeal will be deposited into our local bank account and will be used as outlined above. Funds received beyond \$250,000 will be set aside for future improvement projects to be determined by the Managing Council. Any level of support is much appreciated. Below are the ways you can contribute:

- Online contributions on our newly redesigned website: www.KCmeditation.com
- Contributions by check or credit card.

A return envelope is enclosed. All contributions are fully tax deductible. Over the next 24 months, we will provide updates on our progress. In the meantime, we warmly invite you to visit Kansas City and Rajarsi's crypt.

In Divine Friendship and Gratitude,
Kansas City Meditation Group of SRF

Thank You!

The Firm Foundation Fund

Inspired by the divine example of Rajarsi Janakananda, who helped Master establish SRF through both his financial support and his ideal life, the Kansas City Meditation Group has established the Firm Foundation Fund to support three projects: the permanent altar, the parking lot replacement, and the mortgage payoff. We invite you to join us in supporting the new chapel and property as a permanent home for Gururji's family in Kansas City and surrounding Midwestern states.

Master and Rajarsi in Kansas City

In 1932 Paramahansa Yogananda came to lecture in Kansas City at the Athenaeum Auditorium for 13 nights, where James J. Lynn, a successful Kansas City businessman, met his Guru. Mr. Lynn, later called Saint Lynn by Paramahansa Yogananda, became Yogananda's first spiritual successor as president of Self-Realization Fellowship after Yogananda's passing in 1952. As Yogananda wrote to Saint Lynn in 1936, "It staggers one's imagination, and one is filled with the ecstasy of joy to recall the evening you walked like a child into the hall of my recognition in Kansas City."^{*}

The Kansas City Meditation Group is grateful that these recollections of our Guru were of events that took place in our hometown, where Rajarsi's crypt has become a pilgrimage site for devotees in the U.S. and around the world. We cherish this sacred history by weekly maintaining the crypt, providing floral offerings regularly during the year and for special holidays on behalf of SRF.

^{*}Letter from Paramahansa Yogananda to James J. Lynn, June 26, 1936, Rajarsi Janakananda, A Great Western Yogi



"Think, after a few years how many will walk and work in Kansas City and Los Angeles and India..."

-Paramahansa Yogananda



The Athenaeum Auditorium where Paramahansa Yogananda spoke in 1932

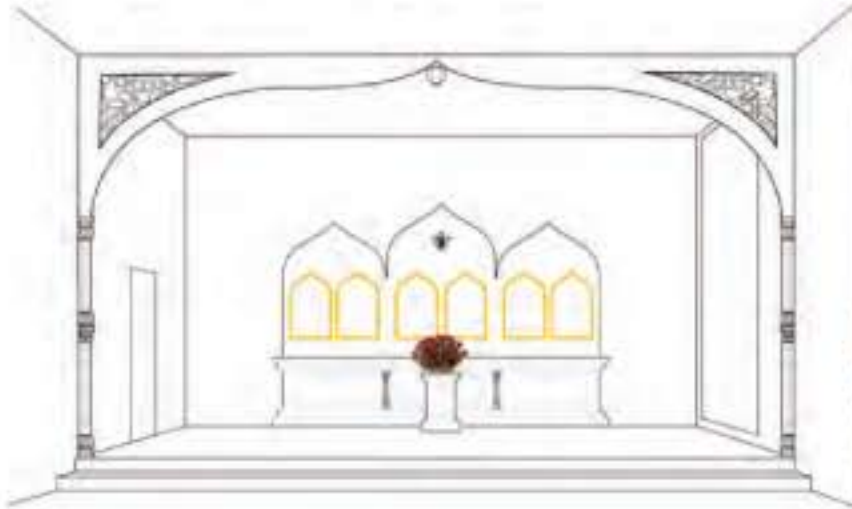


Forest Hill Cemetery - Kansas City, MO



We invite you to participate in the Kansas City Meditation Group's Firm Foundation initiative

The goal for the Firm Foundation Fund is to raise \$250,000. This would accomplish all three projects described below and establish the Kansas City Meditation Group on a firm foundation for the future.



PROPOSED SCHEMATIC



EXAMPLE OF COMPLETED ALTAR

The Altar Project

Our Altar Committee has been working closely with SRF's Planning and Building Department to design a proscenium arch and beautifully carved altar with special lighting for the photos of our Gurus. The new altar will complete the meditation space, which the Group has already renovated with a new roof, paint, carpet, sound system and meditation chairs.

Based on estimates from two local master carpenters and a devotee/craftsman who has experience with SRF altars, creating an altar to this high standard we will require approximately \$30,000. This permanent altar will serve as an inspiration to devotees and visitors for generations to come.

The Mortgage Payoff Project

Through Master's blessings and the generosity of many devotees, a permanent home was purchased in 2012 for \$249,000, a miraculous price considering it was once listed for over \$1,000,000. However, with that great reduction in price came considerable repairs and updating that needed to be done.

With the Guru's blessings, \$84,000 was raised for the down payment and the Group took out a mortgage of \$165,000, of which an additional \$43,000 has been paid. Hundreds of hours have been spent transforming the building into a chapel, two Sunday school classrooms, and a large fellowship hall with a small kitchen, a bookroom and a small library area. When the mortgage is paid, the 4000 square foot building on two acres will be deeded to SRF.



The Parking Lot Replacement Project

The chapel sits on two acres, including parking lots in front and back of the building. The Kansas City Meditation Group has repaired and striped the front parking lot, but the original surface of the back parking lot, dating back to 1960, is unsightly, broken and uneven, making safety questionable. Professionals have advised that it is not repairable and needs to be replaced.

The cost estimate is \$80,000, which includes replacing a broken front sidewalk near the entrance to the chapel. Donations of \$15,000 have already been received for this project, and plans are underway to use \$11,000 of these funds to replace the front sidewalk immediately.





Kansas City Meditation Group of Self-Realization Fellowship

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Master's work in Kansas City: Building a firm foundation

*"The Divine, having infinite capacity for doing good in His own creation, expects His children, made in His own Image, to do more than they think they can do. Think, after a few years, how many will walk and work in Kansas City and Los Angeles and India after Lynn and Yogananda are gone." **

Dear Self-Realization Friend,

We invite you to join our Guru's devotees in Kansas City "to do more than we think we can do" to build a firm foundation for Master's work here for generations to come. Kansas City has the unique history as the place where Paramahansa Yogananda and Rajarsi Janakananda first met and where Rajarsi's crypt is located, which continues to draw Truth-seeking souls from around the world.

In 2012, after holding weekly meditation services in homes and rented facilities for more than 30 years, members of the Kansas City Meditation Group were inspired to establish a permanent home for our Guru. We purchased a former church building and transformed it into an SRF chapel, with room for many more devotees who "will walk and work in Kansas City" in the future, as Master predicted.

This project has been a true labor of love. Devotees in Kansas City and across the Midwest contributed hundreds of volunteer hours and generously donated funds to convert the property into a sacred space for learning and practicing our Guru's teachings. However, there is still significant work to be done to complete the project and assure that it can serve Master's family well into the future.

Inspired by the divine example of Rajarsi Janakananda, who helped Master establish Self-Realization Fellowship on a firm foundation through both his financial support and his ideal life, we invite you to join hands with us to help establish a firm foundation for this work in Rajarsi's hometown.

We invite you to read our enclosed newsletter, which shares some special photos, mementos and history of Master and Rajarsi's beginnings in Kansas City, for more details about the Firm Foundation Fund projects and how you can be a part of Master's work in Kansas City.

In Divine Friendship,

Kansas City Meditation Group

*Letter from Paramahansa Yogananda to James J. Lynn, July 12, 1936, Rajarsi Janakananda, A Great Western Yogi

Kansas City Meditation Group of Self-Realization Fellowship

Yes! I would like to be part of building KCMG's Firm Foundation for the future

Please accept my contribution of: \$ _____

Method of Payment

(PLEASE INDICATE BELOW)



CHECK ENCLOSED

PLEASE CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD FOR THE ABOVE AMOUNT:

VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER AMERICAN EXPRESS

Thank You

for your generosity and thoughtfulness.
Your support of the Kansas City Meditation
Group work is greatly appreciated.

CARD NUMBER

EXP DATE

SECURITY CODE

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE