

SAVE THESE 30th ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE DATES!



October 7-11, 2026

As we closed out conference last year, our Board President, Christine Stewart, put forward a challenge to **come to this year's conference and bring someone with you!** We want you and need you to show up; we are exponentially and energetically so much more together than what we can accomplish individually!

After much consideration, our 30th anniversary conference will once again be a virtual event this year. We had hoped to meet in person, however we are returning to a virtual event. This was not an easy decision, but we believe it is a decision that is **fiscally responsible and allows participation from our Healing Touch community throughout the world.**

The following is how we made our decision:

First, we sent out RFPs (Request for Proposals) to multiple hotels in 3 pre-determined states. Once the proposals came in, we sharpened them and narrowed down the potential options. We then looked at contract obligations and associated benefits and risks.

Second, in determining our annual conference events, we look to the future with enthusiasm while also giving acknowledgement and recognition of the past. We look for **patterns and trends** within our organization and community, while also considering patterns, trends, and external events within our nation and world. We look at **risks vs. benefits** of location, time of year, theme, real and actual costs, and contractual obligations (such as food, banquets, audiovisual, space, cost for shipping, printing, and staff and speaker travel and housing, etc., which are significant!) for an in-person event. We seek locations and event dates that allow us to access the best hotel rates for our attendees and provide accessibility by land and air. We negotiate innumerable aspects within the event in order to achieve an optimal opportunity for our organization and community.

Our registration and hotel rates have been of **exceptional, cost-effective value for continuing education content** in comparison to many other association conferences. Typically, other organizations have been much more expensive to attend than our events, while our events have been acknowledged to be of equal or greater value at less cost.

We consider costs to our attendees: travel, hotel,

registration as well as ease of accessibility in a currently destabilized and unpredictable world.

In spite of the years of lockdown, in which we hosted virtual conferences and overall income streams were greatly reduced, our end of year financials still resulted in a net profit that significantly surpassed last fiscal year. Much of that had to do with the financial success of former conferences. Our 2025 in-person conference just barely broke even. And while we were **thrilled at the number of new attendees, we greatly missed our international community** that considered traveling into our country a personal risk that they did not wish to take. We have considered hybrid, live streaming options from our in person events; yet these are quite expensive. We thus made a decision, to hold a second 2025 conference which was virtual, following our in person event. It's important to recognize that that involves a doubling of energetic resources of staff and leadership to accomplish these back-to-back events.

To break it down even more, we simply require 50-100% greater attendance at our conferences in order to make them fiscally sound and to provide a cushion to take the risk of a future in person conference in these current times. Of even greatest importance is our wish to make this conference accessible to our full international community of students, healers, practitioners and instructors.

Taking all of the above into deep consideration, we have thus determined we will return to a virtual, interactive conference for 2026. Please **Save the Dates and plan to join our international community at this year's virtual conference.** Always know that you can participate at the level you desire, returning to watch "live events" at your leisure. Our attendees have been ever so pleasantly surprised at how **nurturing, educational and fulfilling** these collective gatherings have been. And...if we have a wonderful showing, we can once again look at gathering in person at a future event.

We will be arranging payment plans and announcing our theme, calls for workshop proposals, and opportunities for celebration in the very near future. Stay tuned! **We look forward to seeing you once again in October! And bring a Plus One!**