



Greetings!

Thank you for your interest in applying to the Kohenet Hebrew Priestess Training Intensive! We hope that you have fully read the Kohenet description ([www.kohenet.org](http://www.kohenet.org)) and are clear that it is right for you to commit time, effort, and resources to this program and to becoming part of the Kohenet sisterhood.

Please read the following information carefully, answer the questions as fully as you can, and submit your application to [holly@kohenet.org](mailto:holly@kohenet.org). Within 3 weeks of receiving your application, you will be contacted by Holly or Jill for a brief phone interview. Please feel free to be in touch with either of us with any questions you may have at any time during the process.

Many blessings, and hoping to create sacred Kohenet community with you,

Holly and Jill

#### **Retreat Dates and Themes:**

The Kohenet Hebrew Priestess Training Intensive gathers for four weeks over two years. Sessions will take place in late summer and winter at Elat Chayyim Jewish Retreat Center ([www.jewishretreatcenter.org](http://www.jewishretreatcenter.org)). The center is moving, so our first week will take place in Accord, New York, and the next three will take place at Camp Isabella Freedman in Connecticut ([www.isabellafreedman.org](http://www.isabellafreedman.org)).

Each weekday during the retreat will open with morning prayer celebrating the sacred feminine and a morning learning session with the whole group centered on themes of the week. There will be sharing circles to help us build community. Afternoon sessions will be with guest teachers (there will be a choice among two to four classes each week for afternoon sessions) on some aspect of text, art, theology or sacred skills. Each week will culminate in a celebratory Shabbat experience centered on the Divine feminine. Guest teachers will include theologian and author Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb, artist Shonna Husbands-Hankin, kabbalist and peacemaker Rabbi Melissa Weintraub, musician and ritualist Rabbi Rayzel Raphael, and others.

#### **Aug. 14-20, 2006:**

##### ***Women of Beginnings: Telling Our Stories, Dancing our Journeys***

Cultivating our connection to the Divine feminine through stories of our journeys and the journeys of our foremothers, we will explore the Maiden, the Midwife, the Prophetess, and the Fool.

#### **January 15-21, 2007:**

***Women of the Life-Force: Finding Spirit, Sustenance, and Creativity***

Exploring how to nurture and heal ourselves and our community, employing tools for strengthen our creativity and honoring our connection to the sacred, we will engage the archetypes of the Mother, the Lover, the Wise Woman, and the Keeper of Sacred Space.

**Aug. 13-19, 2007:**

***Women of Strength and Vision: Making Boundaries, Becoming Vessels***

Deepening our inner strength, our insight into the hidden world of the spirit, and our visions of the Shekhinah, we will embrace the Matriarch, the Spirit Walker, the Seeker, and the Woman Who Comforts.

**Winter 2007, Dates TBA:**

***Women Weaving Together: Integration and Initiation***

Weaving the insights of our two years of study and experience, we will create our ceremony of initiation, and embody the energy of the Weaver, the one who winds our paths into a tapestry of light.

**Conference Calls:**

Conference call sessions between our in-person meetings will serve to deepen our learning and strengthen our community. Optional elective telecourses on Shabbat, holidays and life-cycle rituals also may be offered.

**Requirements:**

Participants are expected to participate fully in each in-person gathering and in all phone sessions.

Priestesses-in-Training are expected to:

- \* prepare for each session by completing pre-readings and assignments
- \* create and develop a unique project with the guidance, feedback and support of Kohenet trainers
- \* participate actively in the Kohenet community
- \* cultivate their Hebrew reading/language skills over the course of the training
- \* cultivate and nurture their own chosen priestess-work in their home communities.

**Phone Interviews:**

During your scheduled phone conversation with a Kohenet facilitator, be prepared to discuss your application essays, ideas for an individual project and a plan for learning Hebrew skills, ideally skills sufficient to read and understand basic prayerbook and biblical Hebrew over the two-year program.

**Hebrew Skills Acquisition:**

Kohenet recommends beginning and intermediate Hebrew classes at a university or synagogue as most useful, but suggests Prayerbook Hebrew The Easy Way (a book series available on Amazon) or FoundationStone.com's Online Hebrew Tutorial as alternates for those who cannot take a Hebrew class. If there is interest, we will connect you with another Kohenet trainee for support in your study. If you have questions or concerns about requirements, please do not hesitate to contact us.

**Initiation:**

At the culmination of the two-year Kohenet Intensive, trainees will have the opportunity to engage in initiation as a *Kohenet* with the blessing of their community. Apprentices will be invited to continue for a two year advanced training toward a deeper *Kohenet/Priestess Ordination*, to move more fully into teaching and training others.

**Program Costs:**

The program cost for the two-year Kohenet Intensive is \$1400, payable to Elat Chayyim (if you are accepted to the program, you must go to [www.jewishretreatcenter.org](http://www.jewishretreatcenter.org) to register).

The fee scale for room and board during the retreats can be found at: <http://www.jewishretreatcenter.org>. Some financial aid may be made available by Elat Chayyim for those who need it.

**Application:**

To apply for Kohenet, please complete the following application and send to [holly@kohenet.org](mailto:holly@kohenet.org). We hope to see you at the Kohenet retreats and share this new-ancient tradition with you!

**Kohenet Application Form**

Name:

Hebrew Name (if you have one and wish to share it):

Phone Number:

E-mail Address:

Mailing Address:

Questions:

Please describe what led you to apply to the Kohenet program.

Include a description of your spiritual path up to this point as well as your current spiritual practice.

Please describe your Jewish background (family experience, education, etc.) and your current relationship to Jewish community, Jewish religious practice, etc.

With which of the thirteen priestess-archetypes do you most resonate and why? Which one seems most foreign or frightening to you? Which one would you like to explore in the future?