

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EVOLUTION OF YOGA SUMMIT POSTPONED

Due to concerns related to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak, Accessible Yoga and the Yoga Service Council have made the difficult but responsible decision to postpone the Evolution of Yoga Summit, in consultation with presenting partner Yoga Alliance, until a date yet-to-be-determined, but no earlier than June 2020.

“Our goal, first and foremost, is the safety of our Summit attendees, our co-chairs and presenters, our employees and volunteers, and other members of the community,” said Jivana Heyman, Director of Accessible Yoga. “Many health organizations have warned of the potential increase in COVID-19 cases and have advised businesses to take steps to protect against the spread of the virus. Understandably, these reports have caused concern amongst the yoga community and community at large. While we cannot eliminate all risk, we can take proactive steps to minimize risk and postponing the (Evolution of Yoga) Summit is one of those steps. We look forward to coming together in the near future for this important event.”

The Evolution of Yoga Summit, a collaborative project between Accessible Yoga and the Yoga Service Council, in partnership with Yoga Alliance, is a three-day event to have been held in two weeks, March 20-22, through the Yoga Studies Department at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, CA. The event has four tracks of inquiry, led by experts on those topics: Addressing Cultural Appropriation, Equity & Racism, Empowerment & Consent, and Increasing Accessibility.

“Yoga is a healing practice. We want it to remain as such. To have presenters and attendees fly across the U.S., and even from other countries, and then return to their communities to teach brings more risk than is necessary during this global health emergency,” said Rajni Tripathi, Executive Director of the Yoga Service Council. “We look forward to working with our co-chairs and panelists over the next few weeks to reschedule the Summit. We will also create conversations leading up to the rescheduled event so that the great work on the critical topics of cultural appropriation, racism, consent, and accessibility can continue, while honoring the safety of all involved during this period of concern.”

Attendees who have already purchased flights should consult with their airlines with respect to credits, change fees, and refunds. Attendees who have already registered for the Summit and would like to discuss a refund can contact info@accessibleyoga.org. Accessible Yoga, the Yoga Service Council, and Yoga Alliance encourage everyone to consult the World Health Organization and organizations such as the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the most up-to-date information and guidance on this situation.

“We thank Accessible Yoga and the Yoga Service Council for working collaboratively with Yoga Alliance in monitoring the spread of COVID-19 as we lead up to the Summit. Together, we have determined that the postponement of the event is the responsible decision to do our part in supporting the wellbeing of our global community,” said Shannon Roche, President & CEO of Yoga Alliance. “The health and safety of all involved with the Evolution of Yoga Summit and their home communities are of primary concern, and we look forward to working with our partners to reschedule this important event.”

The Evolution of Yoga Summit: Raising Questions, Exploring Possibilities, Inviting Change

For updates please visit www.evolutionofyoga.org