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**Have you registered yet?**

Don't delay--register today! Register [on-line](#) in the DONA Boutique or mail or fax your completed registration.

Reserve your room early. DONA International conference room rates are \$160 USD plus tax and service rates. Save money--share a room with friends or indicate your desire to share a room on the registration form. Visit our personalized event page on The Westin Peachtree Plaza's [web site](#).

On-site self-parking is available for \$19 plus tax per day or \$23 plus tax per day for valet parking.

Advertise your business or product with registration packet inserts. There is still time to meet the June 30 deadline. [See the prospectus](#).

Visit the 2009 DONA International Conference [web page](#) often.

Dear DONA International,

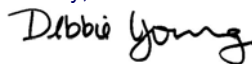
I am getting more excited everyday, looking forward to the 15th Annual DONA International Conference in Atlanta. It will be August 6-9, 2009 and is sure to be a wonderful time for fun and growth. I've stayed in the hotel - the Westin Peachtree Plaza. It is a unique, completely round hotel. You can see so much of Atlanta from almost every floor. It is right downtown, only one block from the MARTA, the public transportation that comes directly from the airport.



Looking at the line-up of speakers, I am not sure which sessions to attend in person and which I will order to listen to after the conference is over. There are so many good choices! I am also looking forward to seeing what the exhibitors brought with them to add to my library, birth bag, closet and jewelry box. This year we have a wonderful birth comedian for our special Saturday night entertainment. I have heard her before and I just have to warn you to use the bathroom before she begins speaking, especially if you are as old as me and have many babies because she is side-splitting funny, if you get my drift.

If you have never been to a DONA International Conference before, we think you will be impressed with the format and caliber of speakers. We hope to see you there and that you will also plan to be with us in 2010 at the Albuquerque conference.

Warmly,



**Feature Story**

**DONA Trainer Training Fellowship Program**

By Nicole Heidbreder, CD(DONA), PCD(DONA)

DONA Director of International Development

New York, NY

DONA International has launched a pilot Trainer Training Fellowship Program. This Program is a unique effort to identify women outside of the United States who would train to become DONA International approved birth or postpartum doula trainers. This Program seeks to increase DONA International's trainer diversity so that workshops in countries outside of the United States are facilitated in the most culturally appropriate manner. Additionally, this Program seeks to support individuals in the international community wishing to create labor support programs within their own communities.

Qualified applicants will join us in Atlanta, Georgia this August to attend the 15th Annual DONA International Conference, the birth or postpartum doula workshop, and also the birth or postpartum doula teacher trainer workshop.

A PDF document describing the Program, desired qualifications for applicants

Quick Links...

[DONA International](#)

[DONA Boutique](#)

[2009 Conference Info](#)

**Volunteer Opportunities**  
**DONA International needs you!**

#### **Board and Committee Positions**

Want to make a difference on a global level? Volunteer on one of DONA International's many committees, as a state/provincial/area rep or as a member of the Board of Directors. The Get Involved page on the [web site](#) has all the details.

#### **eDoula Newsletter Editor**

It's very satisfying to play a major role in connecting DONA doulas around the world--all through the ease of the Internet. Contact [Publications@DONA.org](mailto:Publications@DONA.org) to find out about this volunteer position.

#### **International Doula Associate Editors**

Reading, writing and editing (forget arithmetic!--that's what it's all about! Contact [Publications@DONA.org](mailto:Publications@DONA.org) for more info on how to be involved with the production of our fabulous quarterly magazine!

#### **Conference Volunteer**

Did you check, "I am interested in volunteering at the Conference" when you submitted your registration form? If not, you can still help to maintain DONA International's reputation for well-run conferences by volunteering a little of your time while you're there. Contact [Rosemary](#) to find out how.

Please visit the [Get Involved](#) page on the [web site](#) to learn more about available volunteer positions.

and a description of the application process is available on the home page of the [web site](#) under the heading, "Plan now for the 2009 conference in Atlanta, Georgia."

Contact Nicole Heidbreder, DONA Director of International Development, at [InternationalDevelopment@DONA.org](mailto:InternationalDevelopment@DONA.org) for additional information.

*Extra! Extra!*

*News Briefs*

#### **U.S. Maternity Health Care Reform**

Childbirth Connection prepared a press release detailing the high cost of maternity care and the overuse of costly childbirth procedures, culminating in their "8 Steps to Reform Maternity Care." Find it on the Childbirth Connection web site, [Press Release Archive link](#), and share it with pregnant women, new parents, healthcare policy makers and anyone interested in healthcare reform.

#### **Water immersion helps women cope with labor**

A review of 11 randomized controlled trials involving over 3,100 women showed that water immersion during first stage labor resulted in significantly less pain and requests for local analgesia/anesthesia with no adverse effects to mothers or babies. [Read more.](#)

#### **Newborn outcomes following elective cesareans**

A study published in the June issue of Obstetrics & Gynecology compared the health outcomes of babies born after elective cesarean with those born by VBAC after one cesarean and evaluated the cost differences. Newborns born after elective cesarean had more health issues and incurred greater costs than those born by VBAC. However, newborns born by cesarean after a failed VBAC attempt incurred the greatest overall costs. [Read it here.](#)

#### **Defensive medicine and the rise in cesareans**

A study reported at the ACOG 57th Annual Clinical Meeting acknowledges that fear of litigation is a motivating factor for the increase in cesarean sections in the U.S. and suggests that steps should be taken to reduce liability issues. [Read more.](#)

*Just do-ula it!*

*PROFESSIONAL  
Development*

#### **Educational Opportunities**

#### **15th Annual DONA International Conference August 6-9, 2009, Atlanta, GA**

Have you checked out all the fabulous speakers and topics being offered in the conference brochure that was mailed to you? A PDF of the conference brochure is also conveniently available [on-line](#). If you have not attended your birth or postpartum doula workshop, you can do so immediately following the conference, too.

**Please note when filling out your registration form** that sessions **106** and **302** were switched from what is shown on the original brochure you were mailed and

### Quick Tip

By Kathy Chinn, CD(DONA)  
St. Paul, MN

If you are going to attend a birth in a hospital that you are not familiar with, call the L&D floor well in advance of the due date. Explain that you would like to familiarize yourself with the facility and ask if you could come down right then (or schedule a better time for the staff) to ask relevant questions (where they keep warm blankets, if doulas can get drinks, heat packs, etc.). You will feel much more confident if you already know a bit about the ins and outs of the facility.

*Share your Quick Tip with us. If yours is chosen, you'll be rewarded with a gift certificate to the DONA Boutique. [Send Your QT!](#)*

### TomDoulery!

By Dani Johnson,  
CD(DONA)  
Reynoldsburg, OH

After my daughter, Michaela, attended her kindergarten orientation the teacher told me she had given a funny answer when asked about her parents' jobs. To my chagrin, Michaela told the teacher that I sold babies for a living! She confused my sales job with my job as a doula and somehow combined the two!

*Share your funny stories with us. If yours is chosen, you'll be rewarded with a gift certificate to the DONA Boutique. [Send your TD!](#)*

### Thanks!

Thank you in advance for supporting others just like you who have a strong passion for families, whether

the PDF brochure on the web site. However, the separate PDF Registration Form on the [web site](#) has been corrected. The revised schedule is: 106 - Healing the Doula: Recovering From Our Clients' Losses and Disappointments; 302 - The Mother-Baby: Love, Bonding and the Roots of a Thriving Society.

### DONA Doula Workshops and Continuing Education

Birth and postpartum doula workshop listings can be found on the web site at the [Find a Doula Workshop link](#). Advanced doula trainings for continuing education can be found on the web site at the [Continuing Education link](#).

### Congratulations!

**Jennifer Rokey-Mayeux, CD(DONA)** of Rogers, Arkansas, currently serving as the DONA Southern US Director, was elected to the position of DONA President-Elect for the term October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2011, at which time she will assume the position of DONA President. Jennifer can be reached at [SouthernUSDirector@DONA.org](mailto:SouthernUSDirector@DONA.org).



**Loree Siermachesky, CD(DONA)** of Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada accepted the position of Managing Editor for the *International Doula*. Loree can be reached at [IDEditor@DONA.org](mailto:IDEditor@DONA.org).



### Congratulations to our newly certified postpartum doulas from April 1 to April 30, 2009:

**CANADA: Ontario:** Maryline Fetiveau (Ottawa), **NORTHERN IRELAND:** Megan Blinn (Belfast), **UNITED STATES: California:** Elizabeth Cantor (Los Angeles), Joan Sheehan (Oakland), Katherine De Bel (Petaluma), Kim Yvette Brantley (Temecula), **Colorado:** Bernadette Desiato (Arvada), Lauren Spivey (Boulder), **New York:** Regina Iaccarino (Freeport)

### Congratulations to our newly certified birth doulas from April 1 to April 30, 2009:

**CANADA: Alberta:** Carmen Fuller (King) (Calgary), Anna Williamson (Rocky Mountain House), **British Columbia:** Tara Mehrer (Erickson), **Manitoba:** Aviva Cipilinski (Winnipeg), **Ontario:** Melissa Nowell (Orangeville), Mona Mathews (Sutton West), **ISRAEL:** Rachele Oseran (Jerusalem), **KOREA:** Hyun Jung Bae (Busanjin-gu), Soon Sang Jang (Sangdang-gu), Yea Kyong Kim (Heungdeok), Young Hee Lee (Changwon-si), Jai Hyoung Cho (Younin-si), Kyong Hwa Kwak (Yong-In), Kyong Hee Yoon (Songpa-Gu), Heasook Kim (SongPa-Gu), **UNITED STATES: California:** Angelique Boynton (Costa Mesa), Sarah Burns (El Cajon), Sara Faith Jacobsen (Oakland), Wendy Lynn Drewelow (Redlands), Krista Ghaman (Studio City), **Colorado:** Mandy Detwiler (Denver), Kristine Newell (Golden), **Hawaii:** Chasity Drobena (Kamuela), Illinois: Nancy Cowans (Evanston), **Indiana:** Amy Beck (Bloomington), Kansas: Laura Estes (Wamego), **Maryland:** Elena Varipatis Baker (Baltimore), Sara Baum (Garrett Park), Stephanie Firestone (Rockville), **Michigan:** Samantha Elzinga (Bay City), **Minnesota:** Cindy Austreng (Bloomington), Marina Block (Chanhassen), Christy Jaros (Hermantown), Lorna Johnson (Hutchinson), **Missouri:** Susan Longenecker (St Charles), **New Hampshire:** Stacey Longmuir (Hooksett), Stephanie Cottrell (Northwood), **New York:** Katie Legare (Brooklyn), Bronwyn Losey (Lansing), **Oregon:** Abby Osborn (Portland), **Pennsylvania:** Beth Becker (McMurray), Barbara Cremeans (Yardley), **South Carolina:** Darci Kenagy

they are your local doula colleagues and birth professionals or those located far, far away. Share your passion in writing by contributing your thoughts, ideas, doubts, concerns and positive energy to be published in the *eDoula* as Quick Tip items, TomDouleury amusement, news and info or feature stories.

Keep sending items in to us [via e-mail](#). We appreciate the support and enthusiastic feedback that we have received about your *eDoula*.

#### *eDoula* Editorial Staff

Open Position, Newsletter Editor

Sunday Tortelli, Director of Publications

(Pelion), **Texas:** Carolyn Fickle (Bedford), Christine Knefley (Dallas), Tara Dawn Pembroke (Fort Worth), **Utah:** Rachel Britton (Herriman), Angela Allred (Salt Lake City), **Vermont:** Natalie Baker Merrill (Brattleboro), **Virginia:** Christie Russell (Clarksville), Leah Paul (Fredericksburg), Cindy Curtis (Lignum), Janie Hinkley (Virginia Beach), **Washington:** Judi Hull (Ellensburg), Lisha Peacock (Puyallup), **Wisconsin:** Rhonda Gearing (Osseo), **Wyoming:** Amber L Battista Olson (Casper)

#### ***Congratulations to our recertified postpartum doulas from April 1 to April 30, 2009:***

**UNITED STATES:** **California:** Sabine Henrie (Berkeley), **Massachusetts:** Sharon Watstein (Sharon)

#### ***Congratulations to our recertified birth doulas from April 1 to April 30, 2009:***

**CANADA:** **British Columbia:** Nicole VanWoudenberg (Aldergrove), Julia Nichol (Surrey), **UNITED STATES:** **California:** Cheri Masek (Los Angeles), Stephanie Franz-Rivera (Woodland Hills), **Connecticut:** Angel Fredricks (Bethel), **Idaho:** Becky Orchard (Hayden), **Kentucky:** Candace E. Robinson (Lancaster), **Maine:** Katie MacGregor (Whiting), **Massachusetts:** Tara L Poulin (Haverhill), **Michigan:** Gretchen Worcester (Alto), **Minnesota:** Cassandra Cheatem (St. Paul), **New Jersey:** Mary Gangeri (Park Ridge), Vivien Bates (Pittsgrove), **New York:** Anna Westley (Andes), Susan Tapley (Astoria), **Oregon:** Rhonda Davis (Gresham), **South Carolina:** Angela-Kay Fogle (St Matthews), **Virginia:** Reid Byrne (Chesterfield), **Washington:** Kathryn Hahn (Seattle), **Wisconsin:** Dana Churness (Herbster)

*Please forgive us if we missed your name! [Let us know](#) and we will be sure to include it in the next International Issue of *eDoula*.*