

The Worship Associate Experience

In support of our UUCD community, being a Worship Associate challenged me to take deep dives below surface knowledge and experiences, shape-shifting hidden prejudices and perceptions into greater compassionate awareness and belonging. —Kirk Ridgeway

Taking on another commitment in my hyper-busy life might have seemed at odds with a new emphasis on self-care, but saying yes to being a worship associate was a great move. I've loved every minute of the challenges, growth, and camaraderie; the intentionality of time for study and writing; the opportunities to delve deeper into faith, theology, and creativity, and the overall deepening of my connection to this church and its people.

—Autumn Labbé Renault

Being a Worship Associate birthed me into a new perspective within my UUCD experience. Participating in the creation of Worship Services brought me into a closer relationship with musicians, worship leaders, other Worship Warriors, the congregation and myself. I cherish opportunities to explore intriguing topics, practice my writing craft and both deepen and expand my spiritual journey.

—Karen Klussendorf

Being a Worship Associate gives me a feeling of making a contribution to the church community—and being a part of it—in a special way. And it challenges me to express my thoughts and feelings in a way that would speak to my listeners. Working with Beth and

Morgan is a gift, and I've learned much from them about how the worship service is created.
—Elli Norris

For me this experience has been a beautiful awaking to my own vulnerability. I've received a profound connection to our church family and I truly feel like I'm cared for and supported... Not only myself but my whole family.
—Tamara Range

The greatest gift was the confidence to write down some of my stories. My worship associate experience gave me a written record of a selection of reflections and stories deeply meaningful to me.
—Stacie Frerichs

Worship Associate Applications are due by April 30, 2018.

You will receive a note acknowledging your application. That communication will also tell you the date when you can expect to hear the outcome of your application and how you will be notified.

Rev. Elizabeth Banks, Senior Minister
Rev. Morgan McLean, Assistant Minister
Unitarian Universalist Church of Davis
27074 Patwin Road, Davis, California 95617
530.753.2581
office@uudavis.org ♦ www.uudavis.org

*Our mission is to welcome each and all,
cultivating the spirit,
serving others in our quest for justice.*



Worship Associates

A program for those who experience Worship as their Spiritual Path



Unitarian Universalist Church of Davis

*Good worship is allowing
the imprisoned spirit to escape.*

—Robert Browning



Responsibilities

There are eight positions in our Worship Associate program, giving each person an opportunity to present at approximately one service every two months. There are one and two-year commitments available, and if an Associate wishes to continue beyond two years, it is possible to reapply after one year has passed. This allows others to experience this unique relationship with the congregation.

The Worship Associate is part of a worship team and each Associate works with support. Approximately one month prior to their chosen service, the Associate and Minister each contribute personal reflections and research. The Associate is responsible for writing significant portions of the Sunday service. During the second year, an Associate may be responsible for cooperatively creating an entire service for a guest speaker or giving the sermon.

Who Is Considered?

- ◆ Those who are representative of the **diversity** of this congregation.
- ◆ Those who **work well as a team** because everything about worship is teamwork.
- ◆ Those who are excited about engaging in ongoing **reflection and dialogue**.
- ◆ Those who are interested in **learning the dynamics of worship**.
- ◆ Those who see worship as their **spiritual practice**.
- ◆ Those who want to practice seeing **life through the lens of Unitarian Universalism**.

To Whom Are Associates Accountable?

The Associates are most directly accountable to Senior Minister, Rev. Elizabeth Banks. Ultimately, they are accountable to the membership of the Davis congregation.

The congregation is invited to direct comments concerning services to the Associates or to the Senior Minister. We are interested in learning through dialogue.

Mandatory Training Sessions

Training is worshipful, educational, interactive, and reflective, with opportunities to write and share our work in a supportive environment.

During our sessions, we have worked with seminary faculty, writing coaches, voice instructors, published poets, and dance leaders.

Throughout the year Associates continue to gain skill and insight as worship leaders.

Training Sessions: *Library*

Saturday, August 25, 10am-4pm

Sunday, August 26, Worship & Celebration Lunch

Saturday, November 3, 1-4pm

Saturday, March 2, 1-4pm

Saturday, June 8, 9am-1:30pm, Review & Celebration at Beth's home



APPLICATION for WORSHIP ASSOCIATE

Please return to the church office on or before

April 30, 2018.

Please print or type all information.

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail: _____

Day Phone: () Evening Phone: ()

A mandatory Worship Associate Retreat. Before applying, be sure you can attend the training sessions listed in the brochure.

I. How have you been involved in this congregation or another?

2. A guest attending the church asks, "What are the important messages you hear in this church?" You speak for several minutes and say this: (about 300 words)

3. Do you have any previous religious affiliations? Often these historical connections enhance our perspective.

4. Why would you like to serve as a Worship Associate?

5. What's important to you about worship?

6. What would you like to learn from your involvement?

7. Anything else you'd like us to know about you?

Thank you for taking the time to apply and fill this out.

Please return this form to the UU Office on or before April 30, 2018.

Or email to RevBanks@uudavis.org Attn: Worship Associate

Application, UUCD, PO Box 73710, Davis CA 95617