

# *Sudhana Center—DRBU's New Campus in Downtown Ukiah*

## 善財參學中心—法界佛教大學瑜伽市新校區

By Angela A. Justice / Chinese Translation by Gong Xi

安琪拉·嘉斯緹絲文 / 習恭 中譯



DHARMA REALM NEWS | 法界音

In June 2015, DRBA completed the purchase of an educational facility just a few blocks from downtown Ukiah, California, and about 3 miles West of the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas in Talmage, CA. While the DRBU undergraduate and graduate programs will remain located within the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, the new location will be invaluable for offering classes and short-term retreats to those interested in learning about Buddhism and deepening their cultivation.

Continuing Venerable Master Hsuan Hua's vision of bringing Buddhism to the West, the new campus will offer many classes and meditation retreats, primarily in English, to interested practitioners who grew up in the US, Canada, and Europe, and came to Buddhism as adults. There are also plans to support a local artist community devoted to the creation of Buddhist art and music. The new property encompasses five acres and includes buildings which contain a Buddha Hall, classrooms, dormitories, conference rooms, an auditorium, a small gym, a dining hall, and an art studio.

The property was most recently known as Trinity School until 2009, but has over the past hundred years been a refuge for young people and a center for education in the town of Ukiah under three different organizations. It was originally established as a Day School for local Catholic children by nuns of the Dominican order in 1903. A year after opening the school, they realized that there was a local need for an orphanage and accepted 23 boys to live in the school and named it the Albertinum. In 1923, they also began to accept girls. The school was later transferred to Trinity Youth Services, a private company, who ran the school from the mid-1980s till 2009.

The local Ukiah community has been very supportive of the establishment of a Dharma Realm Buddhist University branch campus close to downtown. When the first community meeting was held in 2014

2015年6月，法界佛教總會（法總）購置瑜伽市中心附近的新校區，距離萬佛聖城僅3哩路。法大大學部與研究所學生仍將在萬佛聖城目前的校區上課，新校區則為那些有興趣認識佛教並深入修行的人士，提供課程與短期修行活動。

為延續宣公上人將正法帶到西方的遠見，新校區將安排許多課程與禪修，主要以英語進行，招生對象以在美加歐洲等地成長並於成年後接觸佛法的人為主。計劃中還包括將在新校區成立本地藝術家社羣，創作佛教藝術與音樂。這座新校區佔地五英畝，建築物計有佛堂、教室、宿舍、會議室、禮堂、小型體育館、齋堂、藝廊等。

在過去百餘年間，曾有三個不同的組織使用此地，作為青少年教育與感化中心。2009年之前，此地原名「聖三學校」。但最早是天主教道明會的修女於1903年為本地天主教兒童所創辦的日間學校。創校一年後，修女們發現當地需要孤兒院，因此收養23名男孩入住，並將此處命名為「阿爾貝提努」。1923年起，也開始收養女孩。到了1980年代中期，轉讓給私人公司「聖三青少年服務」，直到2009年關閉。

瑜伽市民對於市中心附近將成立法大分校都表示十分支持。2014年第一次召開社區會議，說明法界佛教大學有意購置此處。當時將近100位民衆參加這項會議，他們都大力表示支

to introduce DRBU's intentions for the site, nearly 100 people attended the neighborhood meeting and expressed strong support. Several attendees asked to be informed about upcoming events and meditation classes once the new center is open.

In a brief ceremony on July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Dr. Susan Rounds, the President of Dharma Realm Buddhist University, transferred the crucifix in the existing chapel on the property to Father Alvin Villaruel of St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Church in Ukiah. Bhikshu Jin Chuan, Father Bijou, David Rounds, Professor Emeritus Ron Epstein, Ocean Epstein, Mrs. Cheng, James Roberts, Howard Zevely, and Adam Randall from the Ukiah Daily Journal were also present to witness the occasion. Dr. Robert Werra, the school's physician for fifty-five years, also attended the ceremony and gave a moving speech, sharing his experiences witnessing the transformation of students. He expressed gratitude that the former Trinity school "will continue to be a place of refuge and education".

**The editor of the Ukiah Daily Journal wrote the following editorial which was published in the Ukiah Daily Journal on July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015:**

We appreciate the sincerity and thoughtfulness behind the donation of the old crucifix from Trinity School chapel to St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Church by the Dharma Realm Buddhist University. The donation comes as the Buddhists are getting ready to take over the old Trinity campus and use it for their own university classes...

It also gives us an opportunity to say how much we appreciate the City of 10,000 Buddhas and all the good work they do in our town, including being a one-of-a-kind center for Buddhist studies that draws thousands of people to our community each year...

We are very excited that the Dharma Realm Buddhist University bought the old Trinity school campus and will be continuing its educational tradition. We think having world class teaching in the downtown area of our city can only be a good thing.

Finally, we are buoyed by the thought that people coming from such different faiths easily and without a lot of fanfare, came together in a simple act of kindness. A lovely thing."

Around 40 DRBA members went to the new property for purifying boundaries ceremony on August 16. Dharma Master Heng Liang led the group reciting *Great Compassion Mantra* in unison for an hour. The Buddha Hall, Classrooms, Gymnasium, Administrative Building, Men's Dorm, Women's Dorm, Dining Hall, and kitchen were all purified.

A short schedule of classes will be offered starting in Fall 2015 with the intention to expand offerings over the next couple of years to offer yearlong classes and retreats. Bhikshuni Heng Chih will be among the first teachers to offer classes in the new space. The new classes will be announced on the DRBU website: [www.drbu.org](http://www.drbu.org). Interested participants will also be able to register there. ☸

| 金剛菩提海 二〇一五年九月

持。其中幾位與會者還要求，一旦新的中心對外開放後，希望能將活動預告與打坐課程通知他們。

2015年7月6日，法大校長蘇珊·朗德博士在一項簡短儀式中，將新校區原有禮拜堂的十字架捐贈給瑜伽市聖瑪麗天主教堂，由艾文·維拉盧爾神父代表接受。比丘近傳、畢久神父、果舟居士、法大終身榮譽教授易果容、劉瑤仙、鄭居士、詹姆斯·羅伯茲、霍華德·齊維禮，以及瑜伽日報記者亞當·藍多爾等人都在現場觀禮。曾在聖三學校擔任校醫55年的羅伯特·維拉醫生也參加了這項捐贈儀式，並發表感人演說，分享他當年目睹學生的改變經歷。他很感謝前聖三學校能「繼續成為庇護與教育用地」。

2015年7月19日的瑜伽日報的社論中寫道：

「法界佛教大學捐贈聖三學校禮拜堂的舊十字架給聖瑪麗天主教堂，其背後的誠意與考量，令我們感激。而捐贈的時機，恰在佛教徒準備好接手舊的聖三學校校區，用於他們自己的大學教育。

這也給了我們一個機會，讓我們對萬佛聖城以及他們在本市所做的一切美好事情表達由衷的感謝，包括他們作為佛教研究的一個獨特中心，每年吸引成千上萬的人前來我們的社區……

我們十分樂見法界佛教大學買下前聖三學校校區，並延續其教育傳統。我們認為在本市中心地帶開設世界級的課程，只能是件好事。

最後，我們備感鼓舞的是，想到來自不同信仰的人們很容易地相聚，並非大張旗鼓，而是純粹基於慈悲，這真是美事一樁。」

大約40位法總成員特別於8月16日，前往這座新校區舉行灑淨儀式。在恒良法師帶領下，大眾齊聲念誦〈大悲咒〉一小時，將新校區的佛殿、教室、體育館、行政大樓、男眾宿舍、女眾宿舍、廚房、齋堂等建築物全部灑淨。

2015年秋季班開始，法大將在新校區提供短期課程。未來數年間，還將提供全年課程與打七。比丘尼恒持法師將是在新校區授課的首批老師之一。新課程將在法大網站[www.drbu.org](http://www.drbu.org)上公佈，有興趣修課的人，可上這個網站註冊。☸