



**3rd ANNUAL 2012 TEXAS YOGA CONFERENCE
AND MUSIC FESTIVAL TO BRING YOGA LEADERS AND
MUSICIANS FROM AROUND THE WORLD TO HOUSTON
FEBRUARY 17-19**

*Includes live performances by nationally and internationally renowned recording artists, **Desert Dwellers, David Newman, Sean Johnson and the Wild Lotus Band** and celebrated local artist, **Tyagaraja Welch***

*Classes with celebrated master-yoga teachers **Ana Forrest, Michele Herbert, Christina Sell, David Regelin, Moses Love, Les Leventhal** and others to take place during the 3rd annual **Texas Yoga Conference***

(HOUSTON, December 2011; source: Juice Consulting LLC) - Houston prepares to welcome yoga students and professionals from around the world as the third annual **Texas Yoga Conference and Music Festival** approaches. It will be held at University of Houston's Recreation and Wellness Center (4800 Calhoun, Houston, TX) on **February 17-19, 2012**. Over 60 fun and informative classes and workshops will be led by yoga teachers known worldwide including some Texas-based instructors, with special performances by national headlining artists **Desert Dwellers, David Newman, Tyagaraja M. Welch, and Sean Johnson and The Wild Lotus Band**. Houston-based and nationally recognized instructors including **Robert Boustany, Jennifer Buergermeister, Melissa Smith, Julie Byrd, Amy Garratt, Ann Hyde and Catherine Allen** join the all-star line-up of seasoned instructors from around the nation.

Local music artists and performers **DJ Sun, Tyagaraja Welch and Gunjen Mittal** join internationally known musician, **Rara Avis** from **Desert Dwellers**, and will spin live during several of the asana practices. Other national imports for the conference include **Hemalayaa Behl, David Regelin, Moses Love, Christina Sell, Leann Carey, Les Leventhal, Dana Flynn** and *Yoga Journal* favorite **Ana Forrest**.

Registration is **299 USD** for a weekend pass, **145 USD** for a day pass, and half-day passes are available for **80 USD**, which will provide access to workshops either 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. or 1 - 6 p.m. All Day Friday Intensives are **108 USD**. Desert Dwellers performance on Saturday night is a separate fee from the conference pass, tickets are available online for **25 USD**. Early-bird 3-day passes are available for **250 USD through January 15**. To register, please visit www.texasyogaconference.com or call **713.839.9642**. Students receive a discount on all music events and day passes to yoga classes and workshops.

This year's theme, "Yoga Rocks Texas" was chosen to encompass over 60 presentations with over 20 different styles of yoga being taught for all to enjoy, including all day Friday intensives with top yoga teachers from the USA. **Jennifer Buergermeister, a founder of the Texas Yoga Conference**, states, "My vision for Texas has always been BIG...just like our state. I envision this year's conference as being an event that simply rocks with fun! Yoga has something to offer everyone, at all stages of life. Yoga simply makes life more enjoyable - mentally, emotionally and physically. Some would even agree spiritually! We have a lineup of incredible teachers from all over the nation to bring Houston the most comprehensive and fun yoga conference yet. Yoga ROCKS Texas, now a yoga mecca of the USA."

Breakfast Yoga Club, an organization of local yogis dedicated to creating community in Houston and beyond, will host a special "after dark" event on Thursday at the UH Recreation Center to get the yogic juices flowing and will feature instructors from around Houston and Texas teaching a donation-based community yoga class to benefit the Africa Yoga Project (www.africayogaproject.org).

Tyagaraja Welch and Gunjen Mittal will kick off the festivities **Friday night at 6 p.m.** with the Bhakti Bash, followed by David Newman and Sean Johnson and the Wild Lotus Band concert in the UH Recreation Center. Sean Johnson and The Wild Lotus Band's music is part of a trend that brings mantra music into the mainstream -- giving the ancient sounds a contemporary voice that transcends musical, cultural and sectarian boundaries. The practice of Kirtan, a powerful chant-based music, has been steadily gaining popularity in the west and has been featured recently in *The New York Times*, *Time Magazine*, and NPR's *All Things Considered*.

Saturday night, 7:30-10:00 p.m., features a performance by **The Bhakti House Band** followed by the new and innovative sounds of **Desert Dwellers** at the UH Recreation Center.



Desert Dwellers has its roots in the Southern California dance collective known as Moontribe ... and tribal dance rituals at magical locations deep within the vast expanses of the New Mexico, Mojave, and Black Rock Deserts. A longtime collaboration between electronic music

pioneers Amani Friend and Treavor Moontribe, Desert Dwellers is a “virtual band,” using the internet as a collaborative space in which concept albums are created with cutting edge techniques that blend the modern edge of electronica with the ancient sounds of cultures past.

Desert Dwellers has grown from its initial duo-based roots to now include Rara Avis and Craig Kohland of Shaman's Dream. The talents of these four sound alchemists have been combined using the magic of cyberspace, resulting in the prolific production of genre blending dance tracks and downtempo grooves that make for truly memorable experiences.

Desert Dwellers has released its work on its own digital labels Yogi Tunes & Desert Trax as well as on such labels as White Swan, Omnis, Iboga, System, Flow, Six Degrees and Native State. Skillfully blending deep bass, earthy percussion, etheric voices and culture-crossing instrumentation into sonic incense for mind and body, Desert Dwellers offers a spellbinding hybrid with echoes of our tribal past and future.

Sponsors for the 2011 Texas Yoga Conference include: **002 Magazine, I Love Yoga, 3rd i Print, lululemon athletica, Yoga Month, Yoga Recess, Yogini Cleanies, Shining Shakti, Natural Awakenings, Yoga 4 Kids, Hail Merry, Luna Bars, Yoga Rasa, Manduka, Kulae, Body Mind & Soul, Jennyoga Studios, YogaOne Studios, Texas Yoga Association, Luke's Locker, Yoganonymous, Breathecure, Veronica Books, One Yoga USA, SATYA, Web Designs of Houston, Big Yoga Houston, The Yoga Institute, Young Living Oils, Retreat in the Pines, BYB Yoga, Minawear, Kingwood Yoga, Sage PR, Yama Talent, Soulshine Photography, Vitamin Water, Namomi, Yoginos: Yoga for Youth, Off the Matt, Into the World, Roger Rippy, Attorney at Law and Juice Consulting LLC.**

About Texas Yoga Conference 2012

The Texas Yoga Conference was founded in 2009 by a group of Houston area yoga studio owners including Jennifer Buergermeister and Roger and Albina Rippy, who were passionate to represent and support Texas yogis and inspire the general public to learn more about the many branches of yoga. We believe yoga is an art for the body, mind and spirit to express living fully in the present moment with peace and wellness. Our objective is to educate others about the many benefits of yoga and lead fitness and health seekers toward a better quality of life – Texas style. For the conference schedule and more information, please visit: www.texasyogaconference.com.

For media inquiries: Please contact **Amber LaFrance** at 469.877.1533 or amber@juiceconsulting.net or **Heather Wagner Reed** at 713.208.3891 or heather@juiceconsulting.net.