

New York City has become in so many ways the contemporary world capital. It needs to celebrate the largest possible vision of the human being.

Anthroposophy, which cultivates just such a vision of human growth and potential, is expanding its home and its work in New York City.



Building the Vision in New York City



The Vision:

Anthroposophy sees the human being in a new light

Rudolf Steiner’s anthroposophy has a deep value for individuals, for groups and organizations, and for social development in a global culture.

For individuals the effects are personal. Many say that it gives them a revolutionary new way of seeing themselves in the world, a way that is truly vast, wonderful and alive.

In groups and organizations anthroposophy illuminates the value and challenges of working together both *in* freedom and *toward* freedom. The community-supported agriculture movement is a good example, where

city folk seeking healthy food provide *in advance* the means for a farmer to develop a true “farm organism,” so that beast and human, soil and plant, are joined consciously with the life forces of the cosmos.

Anthroposophy offers clarity and hope for building a global culture worthy of us all, honoring both diversity and unity.

In Steiner’s words, anthroposophy is “the consciousness of one’s human condition”; from this consciousness we can both “grow ourselves” and grow to understand and cooperate with others.

Building the Vision

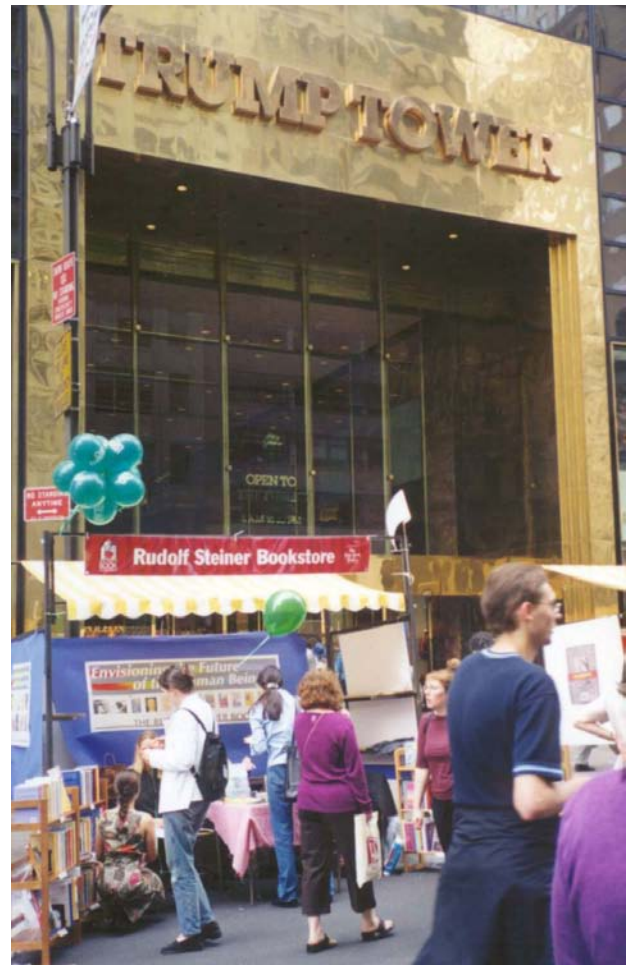
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Our booth (right) in the annual Fifth Avenue Book Fair lets us talk to scores of interested New Yorkers.
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The Place:

This vision must be increasingly active and alive in New York

New York was the first center of anthroposophical work in America (the St. Marks Group still meeting in New York is the oldest group in the United States) and was for almost sixty years the national center. In the generation since, the work here has focused on the particular needs of this city and region, and on communicating the key ideas and impulses of this work.

Today we are developing introductory programs that are suited to contemporary American experience under the banner of *The Threshold Center*. We continue our outreach with an annual *Threshold* publication, distributed free. We collaborate with other groups, and take part in the annual *New York Is Book Country* fair on Fifth Avenue. We are also working constantly to increase our involvement with the arts.



Photos on the cover:

Rudolf Steiner, left, and our expanding home at 138 West 15th Street. *Threshold* artistic designer and recent art exhibitor Dan Marshall stands on the front steps.

The Time:

9/11 makes the work we've been doing especially urgent

The viewpoints and methods arising out of anthroposophy are not dogma or ideology, but resources, a tool-kit, for individuals and groups. They are needed now in New York City as never before.

Home of the United Nations, Wall Street and the world's most vital arts community, headquarters of corporations, philanthropies and great universities and social services, New York is also an incredibly diverse, human city.

We were reminded of that in the weeks after 9/11, when the faces of the "missing" from the World Trade Center, people of many races and cultures, were posted in hospitals and subway stations and public squares around the city.

To balance great power with great needs, and to transform resources and power for humane purposes, – that is the challenge of New York City and America today.

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At right is a portion of the Parlor Room where Lydia Wieder and William Gardner worked for many years with artistic speech and eurythmy. The success of this campaign will allow us to restore it to use as an arts studio.
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in New York City



The Challenge: building a larger home for the vision

For over fifteen years, Anthroposophy NYC has had its home in the ground floor of a 19th century townhouse at 138 West 15th Street. We have a large meeting-and-arts space and a bookstore which also hosts smaller conversations and study groups.

In May of 2000, the death of a long-time friend and member who owned the other half of this building made it possible and necessary to acquire the remaining ownership shares. This purchase secures the value of our existing property, provides for rental income in the near term and opens the possibility of expansion of our own spaces in the future.

On July 31, 2001, a pledge loan from the Rudolf Steiner Foundation allowed us to become full owners of our building and to begin essential renovations and improvements.

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- **Our programs:** As this building campaign provides for the physical sheath of the vision, so its life and soul are programs. They include:
 - a yearly deepening of Christmas/New Year's, as counterbalance to the
 - intense commercialization of the season; a new arts intensive in the
 - summer; workshops on new health and medical models, the nature and
 - effects of our senses and temperaments, challenges of education and
 - child development, paths of personal growth, the confrontation with
 - evil, social questions, and much more. See www.nyanthroposophy.org
 - for current information, or write to us to be added to our mailing list.



The Goal:

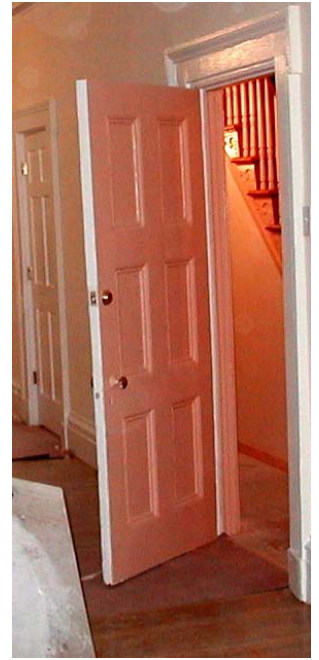
to raise \$1.2 million in gifts and pledges in 3 years

This second century capital campaign is our commitment to cultivating Anthroposophy in New York City. We cannot do this without substantial help from our friends, our community and all those who share this vision. And we approach it with the added seriousness of the changed world we now live in.

Our campaign goal of \$1.2 million consists of repaying an \$822,000 pledge loan from the Rudolf Steiner Foundation, interest on the loan of about \$108,000, architectural, development and other expenses of \$70,000, and campaign and related development expenses of \$200,000.

Your gift, large or small, will help us “build the vision in NYC” of a stronger center for anthroposophy.

All gifts are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.



The Deeper Meaning of Gifts

Among the important and challenging insights in anthroposophy, one concerns the three aspects of money and finance in its effect on human potential. *Purchases* and *loans*, which are so well studied, range from neutral to constraining in their effect.

Gift money, however, is an active stimulus to the inner vision – the mission of love – that human beings carry into this world.

The Rudolf Steiner Foundation has provided us with a special kind of loan – a pledge loan – that enables us to start work immediately with *loan* money while transforming the funding into *gift* money.

As that transformation is achieved through your donations and pledges, the campaign will begin more and more to free the work of anthroposophy to meet the needs of humanity in New York City.



Possibilities for the Future

As part of this campaign, architect Charles Rose has explored the potential of our site and identified its zoning and design possibilities. Drawings show how the building could be both raised and deepened (near right) and our bookstore opened out to the street (far right).

As our work in New York grows, we hope someday to be able to transform the whole site to include class rooms, arts studios, and therapeutic offices. By purchasing the building now, we keep these options open for the future.



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