

Pistis^Theos

New Earth Philosophical School

Call for Papers

**February
2023**

CALL FOR PAPERS

February 24, 2023

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To the Community:

It is my pleasure to announce the first Call for Papers for a new journal in the related fields of Philosophy and Theology. This work will focus on topics of interest to Transhumanist thinkers. It fills a void in the area of high-quality academic writing in this field that may later be used as research material in upper division religious education. We are only considering previously unpublished works.

Together we are building that future as co-creators with God that we and our children will be experiencing. This understanding of the nature of the relationship of man to God represents an advancement that can help bridge divides in Eastern and Western philosophy. This is a hallmark of Transhumanist philosophy.

Transhumanism is a uniquely American philosophy that has emerged as a result of the highly eclectic body politic that has come to make this land its home. Serious topics will be considered for inclusion; however we are hoping for an over-all uplifting tone that moves us all collectively beyond the reach of Dystopianism.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A.M. Harkey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

A.M. Harkey the Sender

Purpose

New Earth Philosophical School is extending a call for papers to the philosophical and religious communities. You do not have to identify primarily as a Transhumanist if your work touches somehow on the themes identified for this effort: the first Journal to be produced by the School. Some authors may be additionally invited to present on their papers at a future Conference to be held by the School.

Publications of the School will support the effort to improve the quality of religious education in the United States over-all. This effort demonstrates a commitment to academic integrity. This work of the School is intended to improve the minds of young people and adults alike.

We hope to spread the message that Christianity is indeed “for” intelligent people and that no one is obligated to speak untruth in the name of religion. Religion must update as new information becomes available or it will become obsolete. Traditions of the church should be included as aspects of Church history if and when they become outdated.

The full study of religion includes all the subjects that a minister would become familiar with at Seminary in order to be able to perform a proper exegesis of the text. These subjects range from history to literary analysis to linguistics and culture. Even archaeology and anthropology may inform a good-faith interpretation of the text.

This does not negate the potential for the seemingly miraculous; but rather ensures intellectual honesty. The “Golden Age” is not located at some time in the past but rather God continues to be an active and potent force in the world in the very present in which we live. God as the highest intelligence would (we presume) heartily encourage intellectual inquiry and the quest for truth represented by the academic and philosophic exercise.

New Earth Philosophical School asserts that the proper translation of Koine Greek “Theos” is the term “Brahma” as found in Vedic literature. This allows for full cross-cultural dialogue between Eastern and Western philosophical schools. We hope one day to end Holy War upon the face of the Earth by fostering understanding between Eastern and Western religions.

To put this in perspective, our first publication “Where Did We Come From?” is a YA Graphic Novel intended for grades 3–8 as a piece of literature to the purposes of religious education. It may also be worthily studied as literature to gain an understanding of folklore including myth, legend, and tall tale. It has significance in the field of philosophy as an examination of First Man/woman stories and their cultural purposes.

This effort focuses on our mission to locate and bring forward high-quality adult religious education. New Earth is aiming for “Christianity 3.0” and is Biblically-grounded; however we also acknowledge that there is but one “phenomenon-known-as God” and that those luminaries of other cultures that have had experiences of God have all been experiencing the same phenomena. Where differences arise these are likely the result of differences in language and custom.

Direction

We are not interested in publishing any works that hinge upon a “trick” interpretation of language that yields false results in an intellectual sense; or any other games of “one-ups-man-ship.” *Uncovering these in past arguments* is certainly allowed.

Guideline topics are provided in this advertisement; however, any serious work in Theology may be accepted. Preference will be given to any paper that includes ethics and/or new technologies as an aspect of the content. However there are many theological topics that are Transhumanist that do not include these core issues in specific. We are seeking to build a transformational theology that includes past, present, and potential future technologies (whether social or physical) toward the betterment of society and the improvement of the individual human.

No atheistic arguments or papers will be accepted.

Example Thesis:

“Transhumanism is an outgrowth of the Western philosophical drive to overcome human limitation represented by the Work of Christ on the Cross and without this cultural impetus Transhumanism as we know it may never have developed.”

Pistis[^]Theos

We want this first collection to focus on how faith impacts the experience of life on planet earth by human beings that are in relationship to God. If sensible to the subject matter, please include references to Biblical or other sacred writings.

Other “guideposts” for this issue include:

- Theos operating in Nature—Where do we find evidence of the phenomenon-known-as God at work in the mechanics of the world in which we live? This could be from any field in the sciences. New Earth expressly includes the “cyber” world—computer sciences and AI.
- The Work and the Cross—How does Christianity inform our sense of movement forward to some purpose or meaning in life? What is real today from the Bible in the field of ethics? How do we update Church tradition so that our organizations remain relevant? What is a Transhumanist to think about the Afterlife?
- Maps of the Soul—From simple to complex, how useful are the systems and theories advanced by past explorers of the mind in today’s world? Where are the overlaps and what are the differences? How do we incorporate these views as we move into a more online environment for mankind? Can any of these be used effectively to program an AI with a soul? What is the difference between a soul and a map?

- Aesthetics and Imprecision—What is the value of AI generated art as compared to human generated art? What (if anything) is the difference between “art” and “content?” Has the definition of beauty changed in the postmodern world, and if so how? How do we compensate artists in a world of nearly infinite capacity to generate?

The content should bring us ultimately back to the question of **“How now shall we live?”** in the present, grounding philosophy in the common “reality” in productive ways. While not required in every instance it is often helpful to ask this question of oneself when it seems the paper is written. Would the average reader be able to apply the content in some way to his or her everyday life? Or, conversely, how may the issues addressed in the paper ultimately change the views of the reader if it is meant to be a persuasive argument?

Length of the paper should be sufficient to cover the topic chosen by the author. Shorter papers are more likely to be included IF they explore the subject in a meaningful way and demonstrate voice of the author. Sourcing should likewise be sufficient to support the arguments made to the extent that such would be required in the field of interest.

Creative Writing & Art

A small number of creative pieces may be selected for inclusion, especially short poetry and memoir essay. Likewise a small number of visual arts pieces may be selected. In print versions of the journal these may appear as B&W or greyscale. Please submit accordingly. Color pieces that cannot be converted may not appear in all mediums.

Papers that tend heavily toward Theology will be expected to include references to sacred texts; and if at all possible Biblical references should accompany other source texts which are additional. *An exception will be made if the primary subject is some other religion besides Christianity.* However, if comparisons can be drawn to Biblical sources this is very helpful to the Western reader in order to contextualize.

Example: *The subject is Duty or Dharma. The source text is the Bhagavad-Gita. The story of Arjuna may be compared to that of David facing Goliath on several points. Both the verses from the Bhagavad-Gita and the Bible are included and the parallels noted.*

The Legalese

Your submission must include your full legal name; pen-name if any; and you may include a standard author bio of 1–2 paragraphs AND prior publications. By submitting materials you represent that you accept the contents of this agreement.

Please be considerate of usual, standard, and customary academic expectations as regard sourcing and plagiarism. We are asking that you use MLA formatting EXCEPT that sources should be included as footnotes.

This paragraph demonstrates the expected use of grammar for this publication (Doe 1933). On the first occasion that Doe's work of 1933 is referenced, the source shall appear in a footnote on that page where first the source was referenced (Matt. 1:1 KJV).

We prefer .odt documents (OpenOffice) as the use of free software removes barriers to entry for the disadvantaged. Please send your paper as a .odt or .pdf attachment to: NewEarthAction@gmail.com.

Submissions received by March 31st, 2023 will incur no reader's fee. See the submissions page at NewEarthAction.com for current schedule. Fee will be based upon the date of receipt according to the timestamp on the email submission. New Earth Philosophical School is not responsible for lost, late, stolen, etc. submissions.

Fees will be supporting the production of the Journal and other worthy efforts of New Earth Philosophical School. Every author that is accepted into the Journal will receive an electronic copy. Your submission represents your consent to appear in the Work at no additional compensation beyond one (1) electronic copy of the Journal for your own use.

Some participants may be invited to present their papers at a future Conference held by New Earth Philosophical School at the sole discretion of the organizers thereof. There is no guarantee of placement at the Conference on the basis of publication; however, no party that has not submitted a paper for inclusion in the Journal may be considered for the public presentation thereof which will likely consist of briefs of 20 minute length.

Why a Conference?

It has been the custom of this community to organize around conferences and symposia since its inception because the main concern from the start was the application of ethics to new technologies. This places the movement firmly in the field of philosophy - for good or ill.

Performance at or inclusion in the Conference represents the author's consent to the filming of said presentation and inclusion of these materials in any and all publications of New Earth Philosophical School without further compensation in any medium present or yet to be devised throughout the known Universe or any others which may exist or which may be discovered in the future.

If selected for inclusion at the Conference, presenters will be eligible for discounted passes. Travel, lodging, et al. shall be the responsibility of the presenter. The presenter may choose instead to self-film his or her presentation and this will be shown in absentia. This film may be included in New Earth Philosophical School materials as noted above as if the presenter had been present at the Conference.

Conference may be produced as an on-line effort if no other venue is feasible due to unforeseen circumstances. This shall in no way abridge any other portion of these agreements between the party which has submitted material and New Earth Philosophical School.

More details will be made available to those authors which are selected for inclusion in the Journal and as the Conference develops. Details will be made available through the School website at NewEarthAction.com.

That party submitting materials and otherwise participating in these efforts agrees to indemnify and hold blameless New Earth Philosophical School; its Founder; and any other representatives thereof for any and all losses associated with participation in these activities.

Film Inclusion

By submitting content for inclusion in the Journal entitled Pistis[^]Theos you also are submitting for potential inclusion in the documentary film, working title “New Earth: Making the Future” (hereafter “the Work”). Therefore, the the language regarding inclusion in that film is also herein included:

By submitting my materials in whatever medium to the above I grant to its producers the right to receive, edit, alter, copy, exhibit, publish, distribute and make use of any and all video, audio, or supporting written materials submitted by me or an appointee to be used in and/or for any lawful purpose expressly to include advertising.

I acknowledge that the Work is a promotional film in support of the religious organization New Earth Philosophical School during its founding phase.

This authorization extends to all languages, media, formats and markets now known or later discovered.

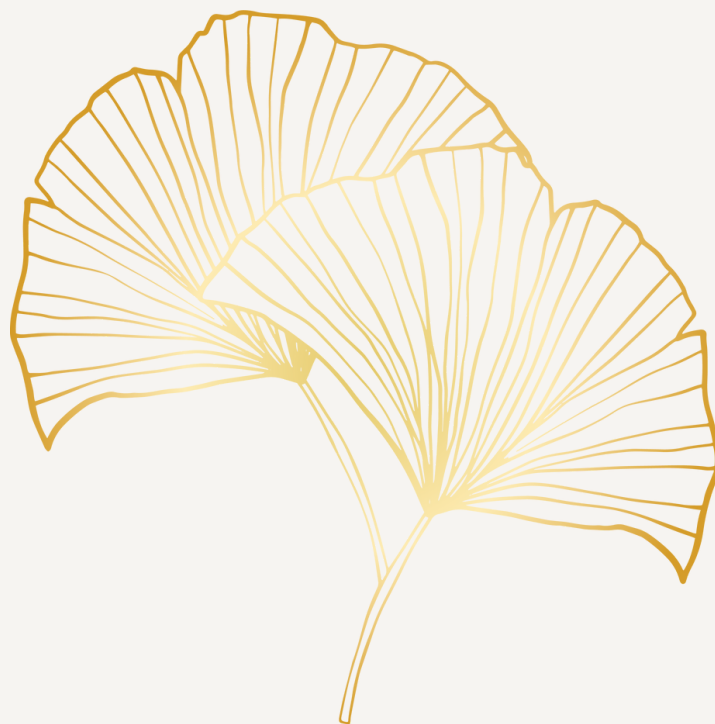
This authorization shall continue indefinitely, unless I otherwise revoke this authorization in writing prior to the publication of the Work.

I waive the right to inspect or approve any finished product in which my voice or likeness appears.

I agree that I shall not be compensated for this use of my likeness nor for production of materials. I waive any right to royalties or other compensation arising or related to the use of the video. The submitting party is granted the specific right to use of the finished work in presentations or self-promotions.

I understand and agree that these materials shall become the property of Katina F. Haaland-Ramer (Producer) and will not be returned.

I hereby hold harmless and release Katina F. Haaland-Ramer and/or New Earth Party from all liability, petitions, and causes of action which I, my heirs, representative, executors, administrators, or any other persons may make while acting on my behalf or on behalf of my estate.



**24 "For there will be no more false visions or
flattering divinations within the house of Israel,
25 because I, the LORD, will speak whatever
word I speak, and it will be fulfilled without
delay. For in your days, O rebellious house, I will
speak a message and bring it to pass, declares
the Lord GOD." (Ezekiel 12:24-25 BSB)**

