



Patricia Lee Masters will draw on her upcoming book *“Searching for Mary Foster”* (BSC Press), to provide an intimate look at the spiritual journey of an iconic Hawaiian visionary and her influence on Hawaiian Buddhism today.

The story of **Mary Elizabeth Mikahala Robinson Foster** is as much a mystery as it is a biography. Not only was she an enigmatic, secretive, mysterious person but the circumstances of her life have been shrouded and largely erased from public memory. How could a woman of means, who had such an impact on so many people, be so unknown, so unacknowledged, especially in her home in the Hawaiian Islands?

How is it that she is revered in India and in Sri Lanka and yet, few in Honolulu even know that Foster Botanical Gardens was her home and the seat of an underground movement in the late 1800’s.

How can it be that this woman provided for so many Native Hawaiians, sponsoring scholarships to Kamehameha Schools, buying beds at Kapiolani Hospital for those who could not pay, buying land in Kahana Valley about to be brought by *haole* speculators so Native Hawaiians could stay, selling land and donating funds to the Hongwanji temple and schools, **and nobody knows this?**

Why is it that her story is buried, unspoken of, left to disappear, even by her living relatives in Hawaii and on the continent? Get a preview of the Mary Foster story from Pat Master’s own unique perspective.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Saturday morning, October 1

- 8:30 Registration
- 9:00 Lecture: Dr. Patricia Masters
**Searching for Mary Foster
The Years of Discovery**
- 10:30 Discussion & Questions
- 11:00 Break
- 11:30 Lecture: Dr. Patricia Masters
**Searching for Mary Foster
The Years of Fulfillment**
- 12:30 Discussion & Questions
- 1:00 Closing

Doctor Patricia Masters

Patricia L. Masters, PhD, Political Science and Masters in Public Health, University of Hawai’i at Mānoa and MA, Buddhist Studies/ Asian Studies, University of California, Los Angeles, is Associate Director for the UH Mānoa Student Equity, Excellence, and Diversity Office. She is also a faculty member at UH Manoa.

A former Buddhist nun in India and Japan, she created and directed a Buddhist Studies Program in Japan for American university students in the 1990s. Patricia remains active in the local Buddhist community through involvement with Hawai’i Association of International Buddhists (HAIB), and Bodhi Tree Meditation Center.

Also, Dr. Masters has previously

served as Academic Dean for MacQuarie University (Sydney, Australia), Director of International Programs for Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, International Program Director at Antioch University in Ohio, and Director of the East Asian Center in Kyoto, Japan

Kenko Futaba

The Futaba Lecture Series is endowed by Dr. Alfred & Ms. Dorothy N. Bloom to honor the memory of friend and mentor, Professor Kenko Futaba. Dr. Futaba, a noted Shin Buddhist scholar, served as President of Kyoto's Ryukoku University from 1983 to 1995 and then became Chancellor of Kyoto Women's University.



A pioneer in what today is called "engaged" Buddhism, Kenko Futaba campaigned passionately for the rights of minorities and was a prolific writer.



Dr. Bloom fervently hopes that this lecture series will be a continuing inspiration for the nurturing of American Buddhism and for the social participation of Buddhists in the quest of social justice and peace.



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*NOTE: Lectures will be held at
**Buddhist Study
Center Classroom***

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Futaba Memorial Lectures
Sponsored by
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Searching for Mary Foster Hawaii's Buddhist Trailblazer



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October 1, 2016
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Honolulu, HI 96822***