



**Tai Sophia
Institute**

For Immediate Release
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Tai Sophia Institute Holds 2010 Commencement Ceremony

Evening Celebrates Accomplishments of the Wellness Practitioners and Leaders of Tomorrow

June 7, 2010 (Laurel, MD) – Tai Sophia Institute, an accredited graduate school for wellness studies, will celebrate the accomplishments of the 90 practitioners and leaders of the Institute's 2009-2010 graduating class at its annual commencement ceremony at the **Jim Rouse Theatre in Columbia, MD, this evening at 7:00 p.m.**

James S. Gordon, M.D., world-renowned expert in mind-body medicine, author, Founder/Director of [The Center for Mind-Body Medicine](#), and Harvard-educated psychiatrist will deliver the keynote speech, "The Healer's Path," in which he will reflect on the stages of the journey to becoming a healer – questioning life, choosing from the heart, finding balance, discovering community, and serving others – a journey which he says the graduates have already begun.

"Tai Sophia is an institution, or more accurately, a community, that is helping to set the standard for the health care of the future – balancing rigorous science with transformational personal experience," said Gordon. "Tai Sophia is graduating thoughtful, compassionate professionals who are not only questioning the inadequacies of our health-care system, but are helping to create an example of what it could be."

"Tai Sophia graduates will bring a new set of traditional healing skills honed by modern science into health-care organizations and systems that urgently need what these graduates have to offer," added Gordon. "The courage and imagination that has characterized their education will help them create new syntheses of Eastern and Western medicine, of individual treatment, personal growth, and community responsibility." Gordon is a distinguished guest lecturer in Tai Sophia's four newest graduate programs in Health Coaching, Herbal Studies, Medical Herbalism, and Wellness Coaching.

Tai Sophia President **Robert M. Duggan, M.Ac. (UK), M.A.**, who co-founded Tai Sophia in 1974 with Tai Sophia Chancellor **Dianne M. Connelly, Ph.D.**, will also address the graduating class. "For 35 years, Tai

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Sophia Institute has educated and informed leaders in health, wellness, and sustainable living through transformative and relationship-centered programs infused with a philosophy that integrates the timeless teachings of nature, global healing and wisdom traditions, and modern science,” said Duggan. “I’m deeply impressed and inspired by each candidate and how they will use their unique gifts to serve the world.”

Added Duggan, “Through our outstanding and newly broadened academic programs, Tai Sophia is educating the wellness workforce of tomorrow, and preparing a new generation of practitioners, leaders, and citizen-advocates for these prominent roles.”

The evening will honor 90 candidates as follows:

- 61 will receive a **Master of Acupuncture**
- 18 will receive a **Master of Arts in Applied Healing Arts** (This degree program has recently been renamed Transformative Leadership and Social Change.)
- 11 will receive a **Master of Science in Herbal Medicine**

Prospective new students can learn more about Tai Sophia Institute by visiting the Institute’s Web site, calling the Office of Graduate Admissions at 410-888-9048, ext. 6647, or attending a Graduate Programs Open House on Saturday, June 19, or Thursday, July 22. Tai Sophia is now enrolling for all programs with start dates in September 2010, and January and April of 2011.

[ABOUT TAI SOPHIA INSTITUTE](#)

Founded in 1974, Tai Sophia Institute is a nonprofit, accredited educational institution for wellness-based studies. The Institute is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. Tai Sophia offers [master’s degree programs](#) in Acupuncture, Herbal Medicine, and Transformative Leadership and Social Change; [graduate certificate programs](#) in Chinese Herbs, Health Coaching, Herbal Studies, Medical Herbalism, Transformative Leadership, and Wellness Coaching; as well as community wellness programs,

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continuing professional education, and [clinical services](#). Each year, Tai Sophia Institute students, faculty, and staff donate more than 15,000 hours of community service and Tai Sophia practitioners provide more than 35,500 treatments and consultations. Tai Sophia's 12-acre main campus houses the Natural Care Center clinic, The Meeting Point Bookstore, a library, the Himmelfarb Gallery, and herb and meditation gardens – all of which are open to the public.

(NOTE TO EDITORS: Professional photographs from the ceremony available by request.)

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