## "Calling" Concept for KOF '08

Our life on this planet, given the grand scheme of the universe, is very brief, and may even seem insignificant. Yet we all long to make a mark, to have an impact on those around us, to express our uniqueness, and to be remembered for what we most treasured and valued about ourselves or our lives. Spiritual and religious leaders remind us that it is the awareness of our mortality that inspires and energizes us to live fully and authentically – to do what we were meant to do, and be who we were meant to be, in our short lifetime here. This awareness of why we have been brought here even for a short while is what we sense as our calling. We develop vision to know where we are headed, we reflect on our purpose to be clearer about what we want, and we attend to our calling to get a better sense of our place in the universe.

When we follow our calling, we find that we are expressing an innate urge to share our best gifts in ways that benefit others or the world. We don't need external motivation, or recognition, or approval. We do what we do, and we are who we are, because we feel naturally pulled to do so, or to be so. We feel we are simply being ourselves, our best selves, our most authentic selves. Our heart leads, and we follow. In fact, we often feel that we have no choice, that we are compelled to be as we are, or do as we do, even if others discourage us, or there's not much money in it, and no tangible reward. We are moved by our passion and our inner voice.