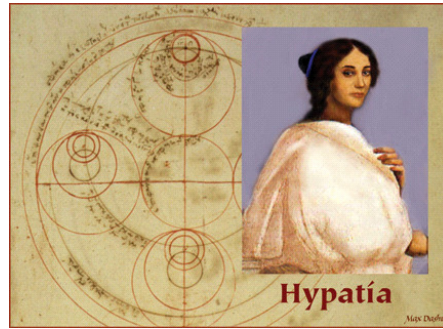


AGORA PARTY

How to support Cherry Hill Seminary as a party host



In Advance

- Pick the date and time you will invite friends over to your home to watch Agora.
- Contact CHS@cherryhillseminary.org to have the CHS tabletop display sent to you. You must give us 3 weeks notice.
- Decide how many you are comfortable having, then invite about 50% more people.
- Consider what kind of refreshments you'd like to serve; plan to have food, napkins, ice, cups, etc., ready the day before, or at least several hours prior to your party.
- Send written invitations, using either your own or the postcards in this kit. Email invitations are a great follow-up.
- Call each invitee 3-5 days prior to your event to remind them of it, ask if directions are needed, get an rsvp, etc. Be prepared to give directions, and/or send by email.
- Have a place at your event for our CHS tabletop display and brochures.
- Check your DVD player to be sure the movie will run properly at your party.

Day of Your Event

- Put the Agora Party sign outside your door to help first-time visitors to your house know they have reached the right place.
- Set up the CHS table display in a place it will be easily seen all evening. Put out CHS brochures and the sign-up sheet in front of it.
- Set up a laptop, open your browser, and click on this link so it is ready for anyone who wants to join The Hypatia Society online using a debit or credit card before they leave the party.
- Have all refreshments ready to serve just before arrival time, and plates, napkins, etc., laid out, so that you are free to greet their guests when they arrive.

At Your Event

- Be ready for guests to arrive 30 minutes prior to the stated time of your event.
- Help everyone feel welcome and relaxed; encourage mingling and refreshments for about 30 minutes.
- Gather everyone for viewing the movie.
- Share very briefly:
 - You are hosting the party because you believe in what CHS is trying to do
 - Agora was the top movie in Spain in when it was released in 2009, but American distributors were so afraid of religious controversy that no one would show it in the U.S. for another 8 months, when it had a brief run in a limited number of cities.
 - Agora is the fictional retelling of real events, people and religious history. The destruction of the library at Alexandria was a blow to western civilization from which some say we have never recovered.
 - Hypatia, the main character in Agora and a very real historical figure, is the Guardian Ancestor for Cherry Hill Seminary, the world's first and only Pagan seminary.

After the Movie

- After the movie, invite everyone to take a break, then gather again in ten minutes to discuss the movie using the Agora Party discussion guide.
- Pass out The Hypatia Society brochures to everyone present. Tell your guests that you are a member and that you very much hope that each person will join that night. They may write a check to Cherry Hill Seminary, or show them your laptop where they may join online using a debit or credit card.
- Collect THS membership forms and checks from all who pay in that way.
- Thank everyone for attending!

Next Day Follow-Up

- Send your guests an email the next day thanking them for helping to make it a great party.
- IMPORTANT: Put any forms and checks you have been given in the envelope provided, plus the sign-up sheet, and mail it to CHS the following day.
- We also appreciate hearing from you about what worked, what didn't, what we could do to make future Agora Parties easier and more fun, and any other special notes you may have to share with us.

We sincerely thank you for your willingness to assist Cherry Hill Seminary in such a meaningful and powerful way.



Cherry Hill Seminary

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