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Ten Years & Counting...

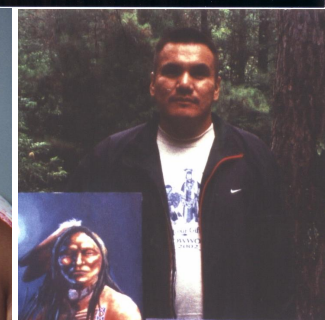
The Bridging Tree

Published by The Lifebridge Foundation, Inc.



The Lifebridge Foundation, Inc. was established for the purpose of supporting organizations and individuals who, through cultural, educational, and/or scientific means, are dedicated to creating bridges of understanding among all people by bringing to realization the concepts of one humanity and the interconnectedness of all life.

We support groups and individuals whose innovative projects reflect these concepts – whose work exemplifies a global vision, demonstrates a spirit of inclusiveness - and fosters transformative action in a changing world.



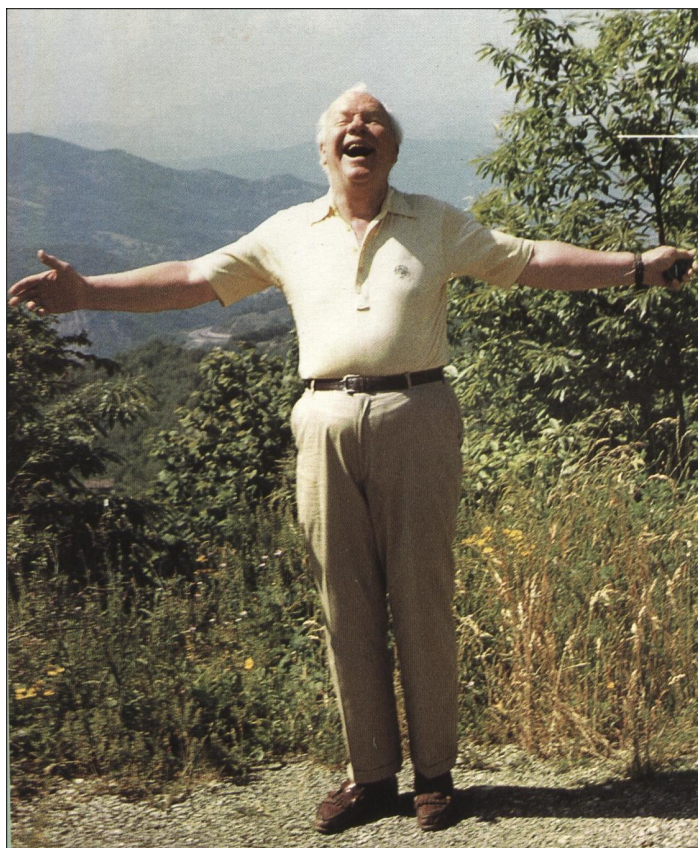
A Word About Beginnings

By Evelyn W. Hancock

Paul M. Hancock, principle donor and co-founder of The Lifebridge Foundation, loved flying and "sky talk" as he called it. He was also fascinated by the discoveries of Marconi and the legendary electrical genius, Nikola Tesla, so it was only natural that he gravitated into broadcasting, working first for Mutual and later at NBC.

In 1964 while at NBC, a timely "co-incidence" enabled him to acquire the franchise licenses for twelve rural towns in mid-Connecticut. Even then, he was aware of the possibilities of this emerging technology, demonstrating the prescience common to visionary thinkers. CATV (Community Antennae Television) as it was then called, was an early technological breakthrough which initially facilitated clearer television reception in remote and mountainous areas with poor channel reception and signal quality, clearly something desirable to the people in those areas. Fourteen years later in 1978, after countless hours of fundraising (mostly asking friends to invest as partners), New Milford Cablevision was born and started operations with only two employees. In late 1992, Paul sold his share of the business to Crown Media, and with a major portion of his share of ownership, The Lifebridge Foundation, Inc. was launched. Paul was then 78 years old.

Evelyn W. Hancock is Chairperson of The Lifebridge Foundation Board of Directors



Paul M. Hancock, Co-Founder of The Lifebridge Foundation

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Cover Photos: Top: Panel in Johannesburg, South Africa (WSSD); below left, Tawanna Kane, Executive Director of The Lineage Project, Bronx, New York; middle right Eugene Swifhawk, Art for Indigenous Survival; middle left, the United Nations building in New York from the East River; lower left, August, 2002 Grantee Gathering of The Lifebridge Foundation Group at Wainwright House, Rye, New York; lower middle, Steve Diamond, co-founder of One Day in Peace, January 1; lower right, Shelley Mitchell in *Talking With Angels*.

Ten Years And Counting...

By Barbara L. Valocore

The Lifebridge Foundation, Inc. was incorporated July 1992 and funded in December, beginning for us an absorbing and compelling journey into the relatively uncharted territory of what could be termed "holistic activism". The idea of the underlying planetary unity and the factual reality of a single human race urged us to find a way to foster these truths through our philanthropy and to provide opportunity for groups and individuals who were working along these lines. We knew that a wide and inclusive mission statement reflecting openness and breadth was key, so the early advice to create a narrowly focused statement of purpose was largely discarded. Our intuition indicated otherwise.

Early on, it became clear we needed to align ourselves with larger and more established organizations as a way to become known to the audience we were targeting. It was therefore natural to approach groups like The Institute of Noetic Sciences and The New York Open Center as a way to learn more about their networks. It wasn't very long thereafter that we were "known" and the letters came flooding in. Some even called us a "spiritual" foundation.

It soon became clear there was a pressing need for funders who were willing to support fledgling groups doing innovative and awe-inspiring work and who had the potential to reach large constituencies. For these people, a relatively small foundation grant or seed grant if you will, helped them

tremendously. It helped launch their work and position them to receive additional and often larger grants. We broke the ice as it were.

After about 5 years of operation flew by, it was suggested that we could add another dimension to our service and expand our work by association with the United Nations as an affiliated NGO (non-governmental organization). At first, this was quite a daunting prospect, we were so small and the UN is so big! However, in realizing that there is a large body of dedicated and volunteer based organizations who support the core mission of the UN, and who in essence, act as representatives of civil society, we felt we could be of service here. On December 10, 1997, Human Rights Day, we were awarded associative status with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations.

Our endowment grew quickly with the market boom of the late 1990's, and we kept pace by awarding more grants than in previous years. It seemed right to remain consistent with the market flow especially as there were so many pioneering, high quality projects coming our way. It was clear there was great need for this work and almost all of our grantees' projects met with resounding success.

Always looking for ways to enhance the field of "holistic activism", the topic of meetings and gatherings kept coming up. Our first small conference was inspired by one of our grantees, Rupert Sheldrake, who had a dream to host a conversation with thinkers representing a wide variety of disciplines on the incomprehensible concept of the consciousness of the Sun! We had always considered ourselves somewhat "on the edge" in the wider field of philanthropy, and this topic clearly kept us there! Why not? The conference was a huge success largely in part because no one had any "answer" to this unknowable question. All were on a level playing field and consequently could enjoy the debate. Some participants actually asked that their names be kept secret so as not to jeopardize their jobs in academia!

The relationships that flourished as a result of that unusual meeting in June 1997 (see page 27) confirmed that we could expand our work by offering meetings for groups of grantees for the purpose of networking and strengthening the overall field of interconnectedness. In 1999, we began holding small meetings for previous years' grantees and these loosely structured and inspiring gatherings confirmed our opinion that by simply bringing grantees together to talk, relax and network, much could be accomplished. People from widely diverse backgrounds and disciplines soon realized that they were all really doing the same basic work. Holistic activism was strong and growing.

In the winter of 1997 we launched *The Bridging Tree*, our semi-annual newsletter, which serves as a vehicle to report on grantees' activities, current holistic trends, and UN related activities. Also during the same period we put up our website which now receives several thousand "hits" per month.

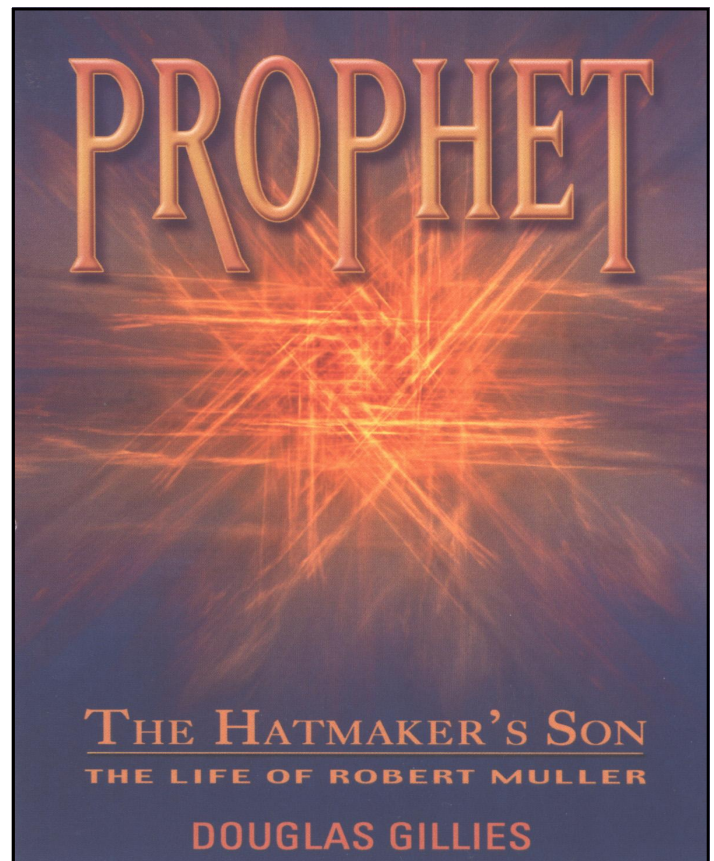
Today, as with all philanthropic institutions, our endowment has shrunk and our costs have risen, limiting the amount of grants we can offer. However, the "family" of grantees remains strong and we are continually inspired and nourished by the quality, dedication and perseverance of the groups and individuals we support. Additionally and happily, we have

noticed a growing number of foundations and wealthy individuals actively supporting this vigorous holistic movement which recognizes our single human family inhabiting the precious jewel called Earth.

We will continue to meet the future with renewed optimism and a deepened sense of purpose knowing there is an expanding and vibrant network of serving groups building a cohesive and lighted force for change and goodwill on the planet.

When I was a little girl, my father used to carry me around on his shoulders as we romped and played outside day or night, summer or winter. We both had great fun, much to the consternation of my mother who felt there was too much "rough housing". As I think of those moments now, far away in time, I feel our "family" of grantees elevating our world and inspiring us to be courageous in facing the challenges before us. We thank you for your dedicated work.

Barbara L. Valocore co-founded The Lifebridge Foundation with her father, Paul M. Hancock, in 1992. She has been President of the Board of Directors for ten years.



Prophet: The Hatmaker's Son – The Life of Robert Muller by Douglas Gillies (Hardcover: 288 pages) may be ordered through contacting East Beach Press: www.eastbeach.org or (1-800-942-7617). For more on Douglas Gillies, see page 21. For a review of this book, see page 30.

Some Good News Happening *by Larry Auld*

The Truth Is Out There

Recent and current news stories tragically point out what seem to be irreconcilable differences amongst world religions and cultures. In fact, there is a never-ending stream of bad news that could give pause to even the most optimistic of Pollyannas. Upheaval, chaos, war, and *fear* consistently grab the headlines — but what else is new? Is that the only kind of news out there?

Could we dare to imagine any kind of *good news* to brighten up the horizon - the kind of news that would give us hope by highlighting similarities rather than differences and peaceful dialogue as preferable to violence and war?

For the past ten years, the Board of Directors of The Lifebridge Foundation have been privileged to witness first hand a lot of this kind of good news happening — so the answer is yes, the good news is out there. It is being made everywhere — across disciplines, across cultures, across generations, between religions and races.

In the following pages, we celebrate some of the projects, organizations, and individuals who have been and are making this good news; not only because they should be celebrated, but because they *should be making the news*. And they are not simply “do-gooders”. These are passionate, creative people whose projects and organizations are totally dedicated to positive cultural and social change.

Although the newsworthy initiatives highlighted in this ten-year retrospective are categorized, many defy traditional labels and some even give new meaning to the labels they’ve been assigned. They are innovative, visionary, and above all, creative in their approaches. After all, creativity is not solely the provenance of “the arts”. Creativity crosses disciplines. Community service can be an art just as “the arts” can be a community service; just as science is most exciting when it begins with imagination, the creative spot from which many of history’s more astounding discoveries, inventions and cures have emanated. And truly, activism of any kind is most effective when it is creative, imaginative and hopeful, not destructive, violent, and angry.

We recently asked for updates from the creative, pioneering artists, activists, and community servants that Lifebridge has funded from 1993-2002, and we received far too many to publish in full, even in this double issue. So we’ve published excerpts from the reports and updates that arrived before our deadline, and we’ve posted the complete reports on the Lifebridge website at www.lifebridge.org. Please visit the site and click on the link *Some Good News Happening* to read them in full.

But Reality Bites

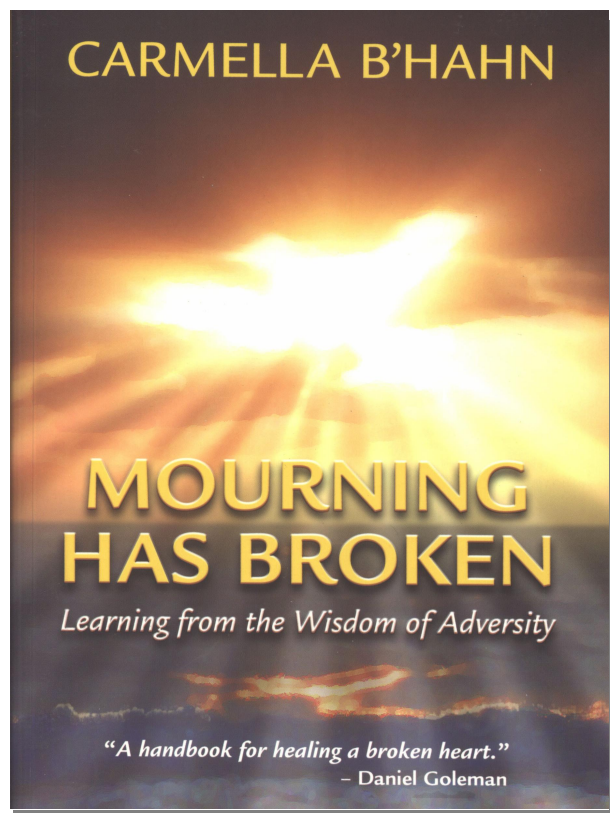
Another dose of news we’ve all had to digest recently has been the declining state of the world economy. The Lifebridge Foundation has not been immune to this, nor have the projects and organizations we support. A number of grantees have had to downsize their staffs, re-schedule their goals, and in some cases, even dissolve their organizations. (For more about some of these

problems, see the note bottom right on page 17.)

If anyone reading these pages is able to contribute to the work of any of the initiatives on the following pages, please do. Many emails and websites have been provided on pages 14-17 so that you can contact them directly for information on how to contribute. But the current financial climate has limited The Lifebridge Foundation’s general grant-making abilities as well, so your contribution to the Foundation would help us continue to support a wide range of culturally creative projects like the ones you see in this issue.

If you are able to contribute to The Lifebridge Foundation in any amount, visit our website (www.lifebridge.org), and click on Donate Now Through Network for Good to **use your credit card**, or **send your check** to The Lifebridge Foundation, P.O.Box 793, Times Square Station, New York, NY 10108 so we can help more and more “cultural creatives” all over the globe, and keep the good news happening.

Larry Auld has been Program Director and Secretary of the Board of Directors of The Lifebridge Foundation for ten years, as well as editor of The Bridging Tree since its inception in 1997.



See page 6 for more information on Carmella B'Hahn and on details for ordering Mourning Has Broken.



Reports from the Field – Arts & Culture

Dance

Based in New York City, **Jennifer Muller/The Works** is a 28-year-old, contemporary dance company that believes deeply in the healing and unifying powers of dance and the arts. The company is devoted to reaching out to as many individuals as possible to create a world-wide community that supports creativity in all its forms, personal expression, interconnectedness, understanding and unity through diversity as evidenced by the multi-cultural makeup of the company. The Works has performed its trademark style of dance/theater through tours to 37 countries/ 4 continents, 29 states in the U.S. and 17 New York City Seasons. Artistic Director, Jennifer Muller, hailed by the press as “brilliant”, “luminous”, “clever” and “spiritual”, has choreographed over 79 works. She has been commissioned for creations by the world’s leading dance companies including: Nederlands Dans Theater, Ballet Bat Dor, Ohio Ballet, Ballet Jazz de Montreal, Ballet Contemporaneo de Argentina and more. Ms. Muller’s newest creation, titled *NYStories*, marries dance, theater and live music to create an anecdotal, stream-of-consciousness form with collaborator/composer Marty Beller. The piece humorously and philosophically illuminates a variety of urban voices and their day-to-day experiences of living in a city like New York. Musicians and dancers share the stage as the piece takes the viewer on a journey through insomnia, power lunches, living alone or in partnership, and passion vs. drudgery.

Theatre

Since 1995, **Primary Stages** in New York City has offered free matinee performances to public high school students. Matinee audiences consist of students from all five boroughs and truly reflects the ethnic diversity in New York’s public high schools. Exposure to live theatre challenges and inspires adolescent minds with challenging stories and divergent ideas. For adolescents, experiencing live theatre stimulates their imaginations, enriches their intelligence, and better prepares them to face the challenges of the future, both personally and professionally. Project funding enabled Primary Stages to schedule four free student matinees for its 2001 production of John Henry Redwood’s *No Niggers, No Jews, No Dogs*. Given the historical and social relevance of this particular play, response from participating schools was overwhelming. All four student matinee performances were filled to capacity and unfortunately, hundreds of additional students had to be turned away. The play provoked animated classroom and post-show discussions that focused on the emotional impact of racism and prejudice. Primary Stages’ ongoing objective is to increase the number of student matinee

performances for each appropriate production, doubling or even tripling the number of students who can attend.

Talking with Angels is based on the book of the same name by Gita Malacz. It tells the story of some extraordinary inner life experiences undergone by four Hungarian friends (one of them Gentile and three of them Jewish) just before and during the Nazi occupation in World War II. **Shelley Mitchell**, who performs this profoundly moving piece, also adapted it from the book. *Talking With Angels* has been called “a mix between *My Dinner with André* and *Schindler’s List*”, and has received enthusiastic reviews in both San Francisco and New York. The month-long run in New York, which was funded almost entirely by The Lifebridge Foundation, led to a collaboration with [Lifebridge grantee] Parabola Magazine as its new fiscal sponsor. Shelley Mitchell says, “It has been extremely gratifying to be appreciated as an artist and actress, however the message of *Talking with Angels* continues to be the dominant force in my strategy as to how to promote the work. I feel that another run in New York would be important to achieve, as well as a run in London and Paris where the book is well known.” She welcomes any suggestions for further funding to bring “this incredible story of personal transformation that I have had the privilege to present” to more and more audiences around the world.

The Blue Apple Players in Louisville, Kentucky, was one of the first organizations to be awarded a grant from the Lifebridge Foundation in 1993. Blue Apple is dedicated to bringing professionally produced musical theatre to children in predominantly rural communities. Founded by **Paul Lenzi** and **Geraldine Ann Snyder** in 1976, the company plays to over 100,000 children each year. Their library of original musicals includes shows that deal with serious social concerns including childhood sexual abuse [*No More Secrets*], teenage pregnancy [*Consequences*], adolescent suicide [*Passing in the Night*] and violence [*Stop The Violence*]. Co-founder and Artistic Director Geraldine Ann Snyder writes book, music and lyrics for all Blue Apple musicals and has toured as part of the acting company for 27 years. The company is proud to have had six of Geraldine’s musicals published by Dramatic Publishing Co. and Samuel French Inc. Blue Apple is currently seeking funding partnerships to help convert their 36 original musicals for children to video for the general consumer market.

Print Media

From **Carmella B’Hahn**, author, *MOURNING HAS BROKEN*: In February 1992 my five-year-old son, Benjaya, slipped down a riverbank and drowned, shattering my reality in an instant. I was shocked to the core by my son’s death. Together with the awful agony, as if it resided in the same space, I felt an awe-filled wonder at the great mystery of death...[and] I experienced my deep pain as an initiation — an opportunity for a spurt in spiritual growth. Lao Tsu said, “What

the caterpillar calls the end of the world, the master calls the butterfly." I craved to talk butterfly-speak and to become masterful in the face of anguish. This craving became a quest supported by The Lifebridge Foundation, which thankfully spoke the language. I found and interviewed people from all walks of life, ethnic backgrounds and religious/spiritual persuasions, who had not just survived but had raised a phoenix from the ashes of their pain. In my book, I have shared the stories of these extraordinary role models, collated their wisdom, and created both blueprints for healing from adversity and an example of an emergent paradigm of consciousness that promotes more effective living. It is a paradigm for which there is a widespread hunger, especially after the life changing events of September 11th, 2001. Now the task begins of steering the book into the hands of those in need. Ideas for US publishers are welcome. **MOURNING HAS BROKEN: Learning from the Wisdom of Adversity** by Carmella B'Hahn (Crucible Publishers, England) is available in the US at www.reclaiming.com or by calling toll free 1-888-647-2532 to place an order.

From **Joan Steinau Lester**, author **FIRE IN MY SOUL**: We writers continually must balance the swing from believing, at nightfall, that our sentences will rip open the world—to finding our words, next day, as flat as yesterday's soufflé. Then once more we devise ways to charge ourselves up and float our ideas high into the air, set them loose, and watch as they float away; hoping these fragile strings of words will heal—or cut, if wounds need lancing. A writer hangs poised, flanked by community and solitude. Webs of connection nourish. Or drain. How to drink the juice and spit the husk is our daily struggle, though gnawing husk can be good for the soul. Should we visit an ailing mother-in-law? Or finish Chapter Ten, in a tale meant to patch the planet? Half a day at a peace demonstration, at a moment when a movement is reviving? Or strike a keyboard for another eight hours? Eager to inspire through the biographer's trade, saying: Here is a life of integrity and moral stature? I want both: to wrest words from heaven that will stir, and to link hands with sisters and brothers as we cry, Not In My Name! The Lifebridge Foundation is part of my writer's life web, though not a sticky one. Its trust tilts me to belief; my writing grows; it reminds me I'm part of a network, even while I sit alone creating. *The biography ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON: FIRE IN MY SOUL (Simon and Schuster January 2003) with a Foreword by Coretta Scott King, is now available in bookstores.*

From **Nancy Roof**, editor: After our journal **Spirituality & Reality: New Perspectives on Global Issues** was published and distributed to the international community connected with the United Nations, former Princeton University professor and contributor to "The Nation" Richard Falk, was interested in submitting an article for our "Post 9/11" issue on the two faces of religion. Then the Christian Science website, spirituality.com, invited me to facilitate a live chat on the subject of spirituality and global issues, and *The Christian Science Sentinel* followed up with an interview and an article published in their magazine. This was very encouraging for the work we are endeavoring to accomplish and for its wider distribution to an intelligentsia who ultimately can bring issues to the general

public. Our early 2003 issue is dedicated to Developmental Approaches to Global Affairs, including Ken Wilber's *Integral* and Don Beck's *Spiral Dynamics*. An article from noted international journalist Georgie Anne Geyser is also in this issue. The more we can get the intelligentsia involved, the more these ideas and ideals will spread. We continue to look for more funding to help us distribute the Journal and its focus on the need for spiritual values to shape the building of a new global civilization.

Broadcast

From **Scott London**, Journalist: I reached a critical turning point in my career as a journalist about ten years ago. As I traveled around the country, I heard many Americans talking about one set of issues and the news media talking about another. If anything, they were fed up with the tiresome refrain of conventional, he-said-she-said, left-versus-right, point-counterpoint news coverage. So I asked myself: How can I, as a journalist, be more faithful to new ideas, solutions, and perspectives? After wrestling with these questions for some time, I launched a weekly cultural affairs radio program called *Insight & Outlook* — a project funded in part by The Lifebridge Foundation — that aired on National Public Radio and Radio for Peace International. I spoke with frontier thinkers about the critical issues and ideas shaping our future and the series aired for over four years. When it came to an end two years ago, I was persuaded to write a book based on my conversations. The book — tentatively titled *Ten Ideas Whose Time Has Come* — tries to capture some of the most compelling insights from a broad-range of thinkers and practitioners. I've found that many of these insights are rooted in a common set of ideas and metaphors. They gather into their framework breakthrough insights from science, cognitive psychology, systems theory, technology and other fields while at the same time drawing on the wisdom of stories, myths, and traditions from around the world. I want to make these ideas more accessible because, as I see it, they offer a glimpse of an emergent worldview — a cosmology of tomorrow — that is likely to transform our society over the next century.

From **Robert Richter**, producer: **Richter Productions** produced the documentary *Five Days to Change the World*. It is about young rebels at the largest world peace conference in history (The Hague, 1999) who take charge of their own destiny. The video is now in distribution. One review describes it as "a riveting program that may inspire other young people to think about and perhaps take positive steps to achieve world peace." (School Library Journal) Another notes that "...the video conveys the earnestness of the young people, many of whom came from war-torn countries. In just a few days, they were able to influence the larger conference agenda...Highly recommended." (Library Journal) We're trying to get it telecast everywhere...and welcome any concrete leads that may make that possible.

Art

From **Shirley Frey McConahay**, Executive Director: **Art for Indigenous Survival** began teaching the art of soft sculpture to indigenous people with a trip to Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, followed by teaching expeditions to the Kekoldi in Costa Rica and to the inhabitants of Davis Inlet, Labrador. The sculptures made depend on the culture...so everything from 6 foot tall Sunflowers, to flying Toucans, leatherback turtles, and fabric Green Iguanas have been constructed. Since then we've taught on Turtle Mountain Reservation in North Dakota; Shiprock, New Mexico (the Navajo Nation); and at Tsali Senior Center in Cherokee, North Carolina. Working with the art professor at Oglala Lakota College, we decided to try *mentoring* two young Lakota artists. It has turned into a rich experience. We brought Eugene Swift Hawk and Shawn Zimiga to a local art show in North Carolina where they each sold two paintings and we were able to supply them with art materials, room, and time to paint. The outcome is a show of their work in February, 2003 at the North Carolina School of Math and Science! This has been an incredible life experience, and we have been told that "what we do is medicine to the soul." (www.aisart.org).

Film

From **Brenda Keesal**, writer/director: **JACK & ELLA** is a dramatic feature film that wants to provoke and inspire. The insane Everest climb of its making reflects the challenge of its issues (love, tolerance, liberation), though I sometimes wonder if the film's naked heart is not its greatest dare. *Jack & Ella* is about a group of burdened people and their desperate search for their own hearts. It is about transcending the legacy of racial hatred and loving other people. *Jack & Ella* was inspired by the haunted people I have met over my life. We are vessels of accumulated pain and in simple terms, we need to talk. We have just completed *Jack & Ella*, after years of dedicated work. My producing partner Vito Balenzano and I, have begun a slow, strategic search for domestic and international distribution in the theatrical, television and video markets. We have a brash and beautiful film to offer and welcome all suggestions! (www.jackandella.com)

From **Roger Blonder**, writer/ animator: It has been exactly 10 years since I wrote **The Common Sense of the Wisdom Tree**. Since that time, I have completed an 18 minute animated film based on the story, and by the time this is published, will have launched an "inTreeActive" web exploration to serve as an educational resource and alternative exhibition venue for the work. As I anticipate this culmination which holds the potential to deliver the project to an audience of millions, I have faith that in the cosmic order, the creative organization of information through effort and work which manifests itself as an emanation of light, matters more than the number of eyeballs which receive or minds that consciously absorb it. Ten years ago, when I wrote a story about a boy and a tree, I hadn't thought much about the interconnectedness of life, the transformation of

consciousness, or the evolution of humanity, although I imagine that the seeds of these thought journeys were planted in my soul before birth. I could not have foreseen at that time that the pursuit of the vision to share this story with the world would have led to the transformation of my life on so many levels. I suppose that is just the nature of the gifts that come when one tends the garden of a Wisdom Tree. Anyone interested in partaking of the fruits is invited to visit www.poemation.com.

In addition...

Artsgenesis, like so many arts organizations in New York City, struggled in the aftermath of September 11th, but its founders, Kathleen Gaffney and Roger Shea, have emerged stronger in their determination to enhance learning and bring healing through the arts. Their program "We, the Children" involved over 5,000 students last year in learning about what democracy truly means through creative drama. Future plans include an exciting program to expand exploration of the arts as a healing source. Likewise, **The Foundry Theatre**, winner of many Obie awards, has continued its work in downtown New York and with touring companies around the US and the UK, presenting productions like *And God Created Great Whales*, *Gertrude & Alice: A Matter of Loving*, *Lipstick Traces*, and more recently *Talk*, all controversial works that commercial theatre won't touch.

Similarly, commercial theatre is hard pressed to present classical plays of the sort that **The Pearl Theatre Company** (another multiple Obie-winner) produces at historic Theatre 80 on St. Marks Place in Manhattan. Although Shakespeare is always a part of the repertory, The Pearl also "unearths" marvelous gems like last fall's more-than-relevant *Nathan The Wise* by eighteenth century German playwright Gotthold Lessing. *The New York Times* noted that this play, "set during the Crusades, asks timely questions about religion and life," and called it "an eighteenth century plea for tolerance" that "resounds today."

Playwrights who have received grants include **Christopher Eaves**, whose **True Myth** is based on the life of New York artist David Wojnarowicz. It was produced in New York in 2002 and named one of the Ten Best Theatre Experiences by the national magazine, *The Advocate*. **Paul Selig's, Mystery School**, was produced in New York in 1998 and starred Tyne Daly whose work in the play was nominated for an Outer Critics' Circle Award. (See pg. 15) **Gabriella Oldham** was given a grant for the writing of **As Flowers Grow**, a musical for kids based on the diaries and letters of children who have experienced war through the years. Ms. Oldham is currently looking for a producer for this timely piece.

Two other New York City performing arts grantees whose work we are proud to have supported are the **Yara Arts Group** of New York, whose artistic director Virlana Tkacz has just published her book (with photographs by Alexander Khantaev) *Shanar, Dedication Ritual of a Buryat Shaman*, which

represents a great deal of the research and work Yara Arts has done in Siberia to bring the beauty and inspiration of the Buryat to the stage in New York City; and **Turtles, Inc. (Maritza Goshen's Earthworks)** which has just completed its dance/theatre cycle NOSTOS with the presentation of *Valley* at Dance Theater Workshop in New York and slated 2003 as the release date for a video based on this cycle celebrating sacred earth sites.

Further, from October through June, **Stuart Pimsler Dance & Theatre**, based in Columbus, Ohio will be holding its *Beauty in Difference* workshops integrating community dialogue and movement, as well as conducting its unique, community-oriented programs *Care for the Caregiver*, and *Out of This World/Life After Life* around the US. And working world-wide, **The Atomic Mirror** uses the performing arts to bring to awareness the ongoing dangers of nuclear power and weapons proliferation.

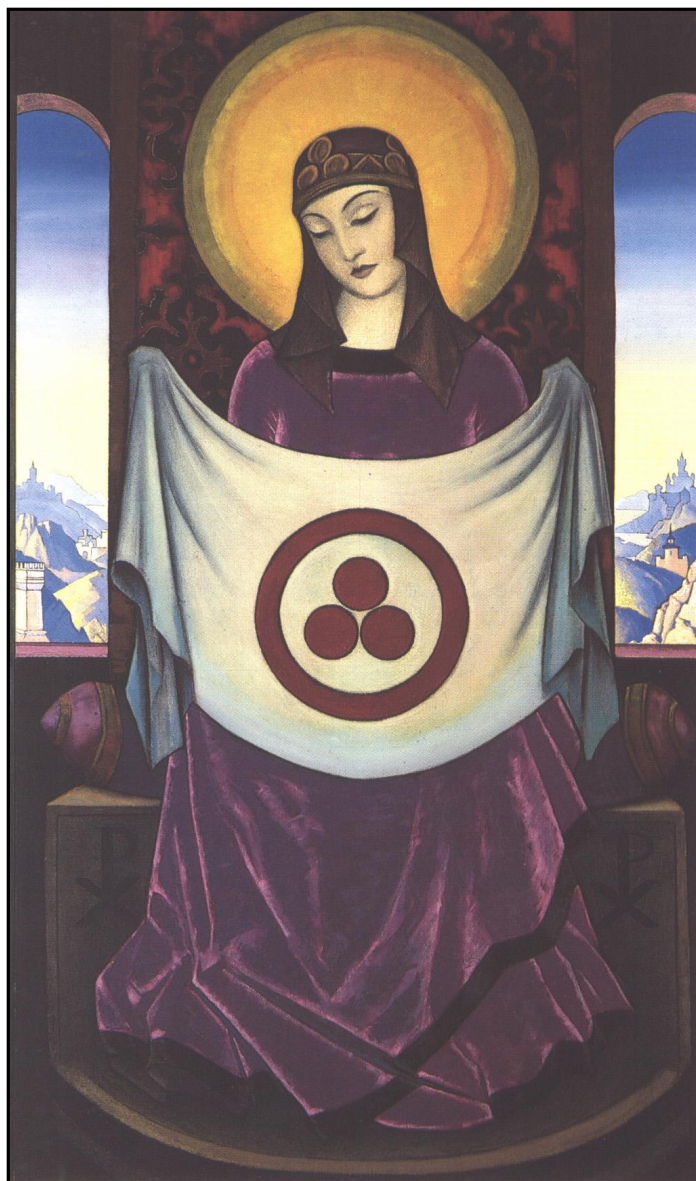
In the realm of film and video, Andrea Sadler's **Dragonfly Films** is presenting the inspiring environmental documentary *The Sacred Run* at festivals throughout North America; **Networks Productions'** *Home on Earth* TV series, as well as its video-in-progress *Builders Without Borders*, deal with many aspects of sustainable living; and Chuck Schultz' **The Rural Studio** examines a Habitat for Humanity-type curriculum at Alabama's Auburn University. Other meaningful video documentaries supported by Lifebridge include **Jack Hunter Cohen's** inspiring documentary *Messengers* and, a video examination of indigenous participation in the UN's 1992 Rio conference, *Yakoana*.

The visionary artist Alex Grey is engaged in a campaign to build a **Chapel of Sacred Mirrors** where his series of twenty-one panels celebrating and investigating the human body can be permanently displayed. (See "Praying" page 9, used by permission.) **The Nicholas Roerich Museum** in upper Manhattan, permanently houses the art of Roerich (See opposite, used by permission.) an early 20th century visionary artist also known for his promotion of *Pax Cultura*, the Banner of Peace Symbol; while contemporary artist **Meryl Ann Butler** continues to tour her startlingly beautiful quilted pieces of mythic art all over the world.

Grantees in the print media include the unique **Heron Dance** which has an ever-growing subscription base amongst cultural creatives; **Earthlight** a lively, up-to-date magazine concerned with the environment from a spiritual perspective; **Lapis**, a publication of the **New York Open Center**, which won the 2001 Utne Reader Award (see page 17 for more on *Lapis*); **Resurgence** magazine, published in England for over 25 years, which has begun a series of annual conferences at **The Omega Institute for Holistic Studies** in Rhinebeck, New York to launch the magazine in the US; and **Parabola** magazine which continues its tradition of publishing intellectually, spiritually, and visually exciting "theme" issues.

John R. Stowe has published two books through Findhorn Press and is now working on a third. His first book, **Gay Spirit Warrior**, a guide to spiritual empowerment for gay men, won the Lambda Literary Award and his second book, **Earth Spirit Warrior**, a guide to "authentic living" in harmony with the natural world, is now available in book stores. Lifebridge first

partnered with grantee **Phillip L. Berman** on his book *The Journey Home: What Near-Death Experiences and Mysticism Teach Us About the Gift of Life*. Mr. Berman was also a writer on *Reason for Hope*, a television portrait of scientist and conservationist, Jane Goodall, produced by grantee **Twin Cities Public Television** for PBS. Other authors who have received grants include Dr. William M. Kaufman whose book *The Transforming Power Of Illness, Healing Through AIDS*, is available through 1st Books Library; **Nancy Seifer**, whose *Song of the Russian Soul: The Resurgence of An Ancient Spiritual Quest*, is published in Russia and seeking American publication; noted Egyptologist **John Anthony West**, who is currently working on another book about the history of Egypt's ancient monuments; and **Paul Devereux**, whose latest book on shamanic landscapes, *The Sacred Place*, is now available in bookstores.



"Madonna Oriflamma" at the Nicholas Roerich Museum



"Praying" by Alex Grey



Reports from the Field Science

From Dr. Rupert Sheldrake

Since 1995, The Lifebridge Foundation has been supporting my research on unexplained human and animal powers and the work has proved extremely productive. The grants have enabled me to employ Pam Smart, who lives near Manchester, England, as a research assistant and together we have carried out many experiments which have shed new light on the interconnections between people and animals. Papers on this research have been published in peer-reviewed scientific journals and much of the research is summarized in my book *Dogs That Know when Their Owners Are Coming Home, And Other Unexplained Powers of Animals*. The book has sold 250,000 copies in the U.S. alone and has been translated into more than ten different languages, stimulating a great wave of interest in unexplained animal abilities throughout the world. Pam Smart and I have also been investigating the commonest form of human telepathy, namely telepathy in connection with telephone calls. Many people have had the experience of thinking about somebody who then rings, or knowing who is calling before picking up the receiver. Some of this recent research is summarized in my next book *The Sense of Being Stared At, And Other Aspects of The Extended Mind*, due to be published by Crown Books (New York) in March 2003. More details can be found by visiting www.sheldrake.org.

From Dr. Roger Nelson

An international collaboration of researchers created the **Global Consciousness Project** (<http://noosphere.princeton.edu>) in 1998 to study indications of the subtle reach of human consciousness on a global scale. The project has grown to include over 75 individuals around the world, who maintain a world-wide network of some 50 special instruments designed to produce random data. These instruments apparently are affected by human consciousness under special conditions, and we hypothesize that the continuous streams of data they produce will show unexpected structure associated with "Global Events" that generate a large-scale coherence of feeling. On September 11, 2001, the data also changed to show patterns where there should be none in several measures, apparently in correspondence with our intense engagement in the tragic events. A composite across all the individual cases shows a steadily increasing departure from chance expectation. The overall statistics for the project, after nearly four years of data accumulation and over 100 formal tests, indicate a probability of less than one in a million that the correlation of the data with global events is merely a chance fluctuation. We don't yet know how to explain these correlations between events of importance to humans and the GCP data, but they are quite clear. They suggest something akin to the image held in almost all cultures of a unity and interconnection that is fundamental to life. Our efforts to understand these complex and interesting data may contribute insight into the role of mind as a creative force in the physical world.

In addition...

The Lifebridge Foundation is privileged to have funded a number of cutting edge scientific research projects: **Anthony Podberscek** at Cambridge University in the UK and **Aimee Morgana** here in the US (animal consciousness); **Bruno Duroux** (remote viewing) and **Rene Peoc'h** (Tychoscope II) in France; author/theorist **Arnold Lettieri** (quantum energy), physicist **Dr. Ron Bryan** (see page 25) at Texas A&M; Intensive Care Unit nurse **Penny Sartori** in the UK (near death experiences), and long-term reincarnation researcher **Dr. Ian Stevenson** at the **University of Virginia** in the US.

We've also supported such scientific paradigm-shaking organizations as **Dr. Beverly Rubik's Institute for Frontier Science**, the now venerable **Institute for Noetic Sciences**, and **Dr. Robert Jahn's PEAR Lab** at Princeton University, as well as **International Consciousness Research Laboratories** and **Society for Scientific Exploration** in the US, and the **Scientific and Medical Network** in the UK. Finally, we have funded the **Olympia Project** conference in Greece and **Stichting Milieubewustzijn (Seeds of Wholeness Conference)** in the Netherlands, both of which brought together scientific and cultural creatives from across the globe to facilitate networking and an exchange of ideas for making a better, healthier world.



Reports from the Field – Community Service

From Bill Collins: After operating waist-deep in newspaper opinion pages for 4.5 years, **Minuteman Media** can perceive a slight shift toward more openness by many editors and publishers. At the least, 1,400 of them now take our progressive op-ed pieces and print them either every week or every month. Having 1,400 subscribers isn't bad. We started with only six. But that's just the opinion pages. The news pages of most papers, unfortunately, are drearier than ever. AP and Knight-Ridder grow ever more and more dominated by corporate and conservative interests, and their articles show it. Perfectly nice reporters have been trained to seek comments primarily from government and business establishments. Labor, reform, consumer, minority, environmental, and low-income spokesmen are widely ignored. Flag-wavers get lots of ink — peacemakers little. So while Minuteman's success in penetrating mainstream opinion pages is heartening, it seems that something stronger is also needed. America is desperate for a national newspaper representing the views of people of good will, not Wall Street. It also needs a cheap cable news channel, along the lines of a stripped-down BBC and NPR, where the events of the day and the world can be expressed in balanced format. Such ventures would no doubt require a coalition of many foundations, but it is hard to think of more important work. Meanwhile Minuteman is exploring the writing and distribution of balanced news articles to go along with its commentaries.

From Carrie Oelberger: The Jifunze Project began in a teacher's living room in Kibaya, Tanzania where secondary school students gathered to study late one night, eyes straining to read against the flickering flame of a kerosene lamp, and conjured up the idea of building the community's first education resource centre. This is where we still outline plans and priorities, where we share new visions, and where we collect and recommit ourselves when everything seems dark. People ask us how it's possible. The answer is simple: all it takes is a willingness to listen and a deep respect for those around you. We talk until we all agree on the same solution. The process is often painstaking and we have written no rule to say that all decisions must be unanimous. This strategy of problem-solving arose out of nothing but our mutual respect for each other's opinions and knowledge. It was not intentional, but it is what keeps our project running, what fuels its success, and what makes us all better friends. Five years ago we had hopes and dreams. Today, we have the basis, physical and ideological, for one of Tanzania's largest education resource centres. And when students begin filing through the doors on opening day, we listen once again: to the voices sharing ideas, to the sound of pages turning, and to the music of people questioning. And at the end of the day we will return to this living room where we all began and we will laugh at the mistakes we have made, contemplate the challenges that lie ahead, and remember how important it is to

listen.

Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility members have accomplished much through shareholder activism in the past ten years. The Gap (and other clothing manufacturers) were asked to address labor problems at the Mandarin International factory in El Salvador, which they agreed to explore and today there are non-governmental, independent monitors in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. Disney has developed a corporate code of conduct, outlining standards for Disney and its vendors, and strategies for attaining compliance, after dialogue with ICCR. Members pressed Abbott Laboratories for affordable medicines for HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria victims in Africa and Abbott announced that the company would lower the price of its HIV/AIDS drugs in Africa; members urged Cypress Semiconductor to diversify its Board of Directors and 43.8% voted in favor; members were even influential in recently persuading British Petroleum to give up using the name of the revered native American spiritual leader Crazy Horse for a drilling platform! JPMorganChase is now implementing goals for lending to low-income and minority borrowers and these goals are being monitored. When ICCR members requested that ExxonMobil promote renewable energy sources, the vote was 20.2% in favor, signaling a shift toward shareholder perception that climate change is an ecological issue with profound financial ramifications. ICCR efforts toward peace and justice through shareholder activism are ongoing.

From Bill Groom: Cynergetics Institute. Transforming criminal justice is the focus of our work. Our premise is that our individual worldviews absolutely determine our values and attitudes, which largely determine behavior and its results. Since many core beliefs are formed early in life, before language, we're probably not even aware of many of them. With prisoners, we use a combination of learning games, self-awareness instruments, and dialogue to help them become aware of faulty beliefs they may have and provide them with tools to modify those beliefs in accordance with their present reality. In 2000, we added a second focus to our work: restorative justice, an extraordinarily profound concept of criminal justice that is spreading around the world. Restorative justice seeks to repair the harm to the victim and restore the damaged relationships of the victims, offenders, and community. We believe transforming the criminal justice system from one of punishment and alienation to one of restoration and integration requires that all of the parties — victims, offenders, community, and criminal justice personnel — must be aware of their core beliefs about crime and criminals, and alter those that no longer serve us. This is the field in which we play.

The **Center for Visionary Leadership (CVL)** was founded in Washington, D.C. in 1996 to help people develop the inner

resources to be effective leaders and to bring non-denominational spiritual values into business and politics. Our approach honors the universal values found in all spiritual traditions and provides an environment of heartfelt dialogue with an intellectually stimulating community of professionals. Over the years, CVL has organized two major national conferences: *Spirit: The New Values-Based Productivity* and *Re-igniting the Spirit of America: A Summit on Values, Spirituality and Governance* and hosted citizen dialogues on themes such as Racial Healing, Interfaith Treasures of the Spirit, and A Spiritual Approach to the Terrorist Crisis. The Center completed a major research project to identify innovative "best practices" around the country that embody spiritual principles and are solving social problems such as violence, poverty, drug abuse, pollution, and rising health costs. These best practices are available on the Center's website under "Innovative Solutions," as well as in CVL's earlier *Guidebook to Best Practices: Celebrate the Spirit of Success*, written for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). CVL co-founders **Corinne McLaughlin** and **Gordon Davidson** were interviewed for stories on spirituality and politics in the *The Washington Post*, *The Washington Times*, *The Denver Post* and *Gannett* papers and on spirituality in the workplace by *U.S. News and World Report*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Washington Times*, *Newsweek*, CNN and Fox News. In the fall of 2002, CVL opened a new office of The Center for Visionary Leadership in the San Francisco area, while continuing to offer programs in the Washington D.C. office.

New Horizons Resources, Inc. continues to expand and to change the delivery of services for individuals with developmental disabilities living in the Hudson Valley Region of New York State. The four newest residences developed over the past three years are smaller and more individually structured to accommodate the very active individuals who live there. No longer does the big yellow bus come to the door to take everyone to a special workshop to spend the day and return together in the late afternoon. Most residents are gainfully employed in the community or are participating in on-going volunteer programs at local hospitals.

Through awareness, creativity and a state program called "A Home of Your Own", two people previously living in residences operated by New Horizons are now proud homeowners. What a sense of accomplishment and pride ownership brings to each of them. Rather than receiving full care they are visited by a staff person a few hours a week to assist with budgeting, banking, medications and other tasks as the needs arise.

New Horizons also provides services to individuals still living at home with their families and a Respite Program known as the Briggs Farm Bed and Breakfast. It takes place at Briggs Farm owned and operated by New Horizons. Guests arrive on Friday afternoon and stay until Sunday evening. Along with specially trained staff, those attending take part in a variety of activities over the course of the weekend. Trips to local sites, flea markets, community functions and the movies fill the calendar and their time away from home.

In addition....

Business Leaders for Sensible Priorities, creators of the **True Majority!** campaign, is an unusual mix of citizens – from former military brass and businesspeople to religious leaders and ordinary citizens – who believe America can have a more humane government, and who aim to create a political culture, grounded in spiritual and human values, that will not tolerate wasting billions of dollars on nuclear weapons. **First Nations Development Institute** continues to expand its incisive programs and strategies which focus on assisting "tribes and Native communities to control, create, leverage, utilize and retain their assets", working not only here in the US, but sharing their wealth of understanding with indigenous people around the world. **The Positive Futures Network**, dedicated to supporting people's active engagement in creating a just, sustainable, and compassionate world, publishes the dynamic magazine **YES! A Journal of Positive Futures**, engages in extensive educational outreach, and creates a variety of networking and conferencing opportunities, all of which help to "build the momentum for transformational change so needed at this critical time of danger and opportunity."

Other community service organizations whose work originates in the US, but whose reach extends beyond borders, include **Omega Institute for Holistic Studies** in Rhinebeck, NY, **New York Open Center** in New York City, **Foundation for Community Encouragement** founded by **Dr. M. Scott Peck** in 1984, and the **Rocky Mountain Institute** in Colorado.

Organizations focusing on particular communities include the **Friends House in Rosehill**, New York City, which provides residence and care for impoverished AIDS patients; **The Lineage Project** in the Bronx, rehabilitating imprisoned young people through meditation and yoga; **Gay Spirit Visions**, based in Atlanta, which facilitates gatherings for gay men to enhance spiritually-oriented individual and community growth; **Sacred Space**, in Washington, D.C., dedicated to working toward the "healing of humankind with an initial emphasis on unity among and between Red and Black peoples"; and **United for a Fair Economy** which provides media capacity, economic literacy education, and training resources to those who work to address the widening income and asset gap in the US.

Your contribution to The Lifebridge Foundation will help us help to the wide range of culturally creative projects you see in these pages. Visit our website (www.lifebridge.org), and click on **Donate Now Through Network for Good** to use your credit card or send your check to The Lifebridge Foundation, P.O. 327, High Falls, NY 12440. All donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. *The Lifebridge Foundation files IRS form 990-PF annually. These documents are on file at The Foundation Center or can be accessed free online at www.guidestar.org.*



Reports from the Field – Youth & Education

Global Kids, Inc. is a New York City educational organization dedicated to preparing diverse urban youth to become global citizens and community leaders. Through in class and after school programs at public high schools, citywide leadership forums, roundtables at the Council on Foreign Relations, international travel, professional development, and myriad other activities, Global Kids educates young people about the effects of public policy and international affairs on their personal situations and promotes social action on critical world issues. Grounded in a youth development philosophy and deep commitment to democracy and global education, our programs use experiential, cooperative learning techniques that tap students' interests and talents and develop skills in communication, critical thinking, negotiation, team-building, and peer education. Over the past year, the GK staff and team of 193 GK Leaders reached over 8,000 students and adults and an additional 4,500 through online programs.

Global Kids was founded twelve years ago by current executive director, **Carole Artigiani**, as a program of the Foreign Policy Association and became an independent nonprofit in 1993. A few highlights of our current work are:

- the *Power of Citizenry* leadership program, which annually involves 175 to 200 youth leaders in intensive educational activities, peer education, and social action;
- the *Annual Youth Conference*, organized and led by GK youth leaders and attended by over 600 youth and adults each year;
- the peer education team that researched, designed, and conducted scores of workshops on critical issues, including, over the past year, those specifically relating to the September 11 attacks and their aftermath;
- a skit troupe that last year performed at the United Nations World Conference on Small Arms and Light Weapons and at the UN Special Session on Children;
- the Human Rights Activist Project (HRAP), which involved GK youth leaders in organizing a campaign to reverse CUNY tuition increases for undocumented immigrants; and
- various online programs, including the acclaimed, *Everything After: A 9.11 Youth Circle*.

Our greatest challenges have come at times when the world situation has become confusing, unfair, or demoralizing to teens. At such times, the flexibility, knowledge, and skill of our caring staff and a strong commitment to a set of core values have been our greatest assets. Following the events of September 11, our programs provided a space for youth to understand how the world had changed, to discuss their fears about safety with peers and staff members, and to educate themselves and their peers. *Power of Citizenry* seminars and roundtables at the Council on Foreign Relations focused on the war in Afghanistan and American foreign policy, among other topics, and a group of student leaders organized and facilitated a series of workshops about Muslim stereotypes for students in their own schools and at a high school located near Ground Zero. Increased racial and ethnic tensions led to the Global Kids Annual Youth Conference being titled “Youth of Many Nations Confront Discrimination.”

Global Kids was also able to launch new initiatives after the tragedy. We designed a Web site, *Everything After: A 9.11 Youth Circle* (ea911.org) for youth to engage in discussions about the ongoing emotional and political impact of the terrorist attacks. Our program *Voices of Youth: Listening to the City* and the Urban Summer Institute, a for-credit month-long Civics course, gave students an opportunity to learn from community leaders about the myriad issues emerging out of the planning process for rebuilding Lower Manhattan, including environmental justice, sustainability, urban planning, and the decision-making process.

As we look toward the future, the challenges Global Kids faces are substantial. The current period of downturn in the economy has made fundraising difficult, while the anxiety created by the specter of war in Iraq and the continued threat of terrorism have made our programs more necessary than ever. Our most vital assets during this time will be our strong belief in our mission, ability to adapt to changing circumstances, and, in turn, empower our students to understand, explore and respond constructively to unexpected events. Their continued development as leaders and citizens with an optimistic view of the future will be the greatest indicator of our success.

From **Benjamin Quinto: Global Youth Action Network** began as the United Nations Youth Assembly Project in 1996 and it was dedicated to increasing the active and effective participation of young people within the United Nations system. During the project's development, young people identified the greater need for an information and communications clearinghouse for a global youth movement. Collaborating, organizations could serve the purpose of connecting up thousands of youth organizations worldwide, creating a shared resource database and a community joined in their commitment to positive action. In 1999 young leaders gathered from 12 countries in Sedona, Arizona to craft a plan that changed the Youth Assembly Project into a Global Youth Action Network. GYAN established headquarters near the United Nations in New York in 2000 and began communicating with young people in 120 countries. Today there are active partnerships with organizations in over 175 countries. Since 2000, GYAN has sponsored official youth delegates to the General Assembly, organized Global Youth Service Day with Youth Service America (one of the largest celebrations of youth contributions in the world with millions of participants) and, with funds provided by UNESCO's InfoYouth Network, has distributed more than \$10,000 in funding and awards to youth leaders who have changed communities. Now in partnership with Canada's TakingITGlobal, more than 10,000 youth members from 200 countries are using the center and database online, helping to create one of the largest shared resource databases on the Internet.

From Ingemar Wårnström of CANHELP in Sweden: If our troubled world is going to change into a humane society ruled by care, compassion and justice, there needs to be a fundamental change in the predominant understanding—or misunderstanding—of all aspects of reality and why we are here on Earth. The prevailing mechanistic world-view has, with disastrous consequences, reduced life to a random by-product of matter and hence removed much that is necessary and of most value for a meaningful life. What has been left is only matter and material values.

For our civilization to come to a new understanding, there must be a change in the foundations of science and of academic studies, because science is the religion of our times! Science is what people believe in, but very few are aware of the fact that the science we have had for the last few hundred years is based on some assumptions that are remnants from the seventeenth century.

This understanding was the starting point for us when in 1998 we started the **University for Global Well-Being**, now renamed **Holma College of Integral Studies**. We set out to create an educational program that is much more fascinating, that includes not only learning of "facts", but also brings a deeper understanding of spiritual values, such as reverence for life, to the students.

Holma College, situated in beautiful countryside in the south of Sweden, is now in its fifth year. It has been a great adventure and a wonderful experience, not only for the international students and for us who have been in charge, but also for the lecturers. These include several of the foremost names in new paradigm thinking, such as the eco-philosopher Henryk Skolimowski, physicist Amit Goswami, Beverly Rubik of the Institute for Frontier Science, David Lorimer of the Scientific and Medical Network, O. Fred Donaldson with his Original play, yoga philosopher Uma Krishnamurthy, and many others. It is thanks to the wonderful support of these eminent lecturers that Holma College has been able to create an environment that leads most of the students to say that their year at Holma College has been the best in their life.

We are particularly grateful for the generous support of the Lifebridge Foundation, which has enabled us to pull through during the first difficult years. There may be many foundations funding schools but seemingly there are few with the foresight that Lifebridge has, which sees the importance of what we are doing. In fact, we are attempting to build an educational program that can catch the wonder of life and bring to the students a deep meaning to life. We believe that on that basis a sustainable, caring world for all people can be created. Ingemar Wårnström Founder of Holma College, www.holmacollege.org and the HOPE Project, www.hope.se

In addition...

The **Active Element Foundation** builds relationships between grassroots youth organizers, donors, professionals and artists through grant-making, technical assistance and hip-hop culture.

Its most recent accomplishment has been the inauguration of the most comprehensive on-line database of youth activism and organizing in the US, www.future500.com, along with its companion book, *Future500*, which can be ordered from the website. **The CityKids Foundation** continues to provide safe space for creativity to thrive amongst urban youth in New York City, and successful CityKids alumni keep proving how powerful this program has been and still is.

On the West Coast of the US, both **The Power of Hope** initiative which began in conjunction with **The Whidbey Institute** and the **Wilderness Volunteer Corps** give urban youth new perspective, The Power of Hope through the arts and creative community, and WVC through direct contact with the natural environment.

Youth-led organizations continue to spring up all over and much thanks can be given to model organizations such as **Youth for Environmental Sanity (YES)**, one of the first to encourage youth participation and youth leadership in environmental and human rights issues. For the past few years YES has produced annual "International Youth JAMS!" which bring together some of the globe's most outstanding youth leaders for fellowship, sharing strategies, networking and organizing. Another organization, **I*EARN (International Education and Resource Network)**, was one of the first to acknowledge the importance of the internet for communication and project-sharing among international youth, while **Global YouthConnect**, like YES (above) physically brings together youth leaders from all around the world to network and share. More recently, **INIYA (Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Youth Alliance)** was formed by both urban and indigenous youth from diverse areas of the earth who are committed to caring for the environment and promulgating an awareness of interconnectedness.

In the field of education, **Schumacher College**, in Devon, England has long been at the forefront of progressive higher learning, attracting enlightened students and innovative, well-known international lecturers from many disciplines, and the **Center for Symbolic Studies** in New Paltz, New York conducts year-round programs for adults and youth, drawing on the work of Joseph Campbell as inspiration for enhancing the learning experience. But children can teach too, and this is the basis of **Cecily Miller's** book *Children's Messages to the World*, still being updated and compiled from communications with kids all over the world.

Web addresses for these and many other organizations and projects in this issue can be found on pages 14-17.

The Lifebridge Foundation would like to thank **The Tides Foundation** for providing fiscal sponsorship for a great many of the organizations and projects we have funded over the past ten years.

Representative Grantees of The Lifebridge Foundation 1993-2002

Arts & Culture

Organizations

Art for Indigenous Survival, Durham, NC
(www.aisart.org)

Artsgenesis, New York, NY (www.artsgenesis.net)

The Atomic Mirror, Port Hueneme, CA
(www.atomicmirror.org)

Blue Apple Players, Louisville, KY
(www.blueappleplayers.org)

Chapel of Sacred Mirrors, Brooklyn, NY
(www.sacredmirrors.org)

***Common Boundary**, Bethesda, MD

Dragonfly Films/The Sacred Run, Montreal, Canada

EarthLight Magazine, Oakland, CA
(www.earthlight.org)

***Fareta School of Dance & Drum**

The Foundry Theatre, New York, NY
(www.thefoundrytheatre.org)

Green Mountain Post Films, Turners Falls, MA
(www.gmpfilms.com)

The Hartley Film Foundation, Westport, CT
(www.hartleyvideos.org)

Heron Dance, Middlebury, VT (www.herondance.org)

Intuition Network / *Thinking Allowed, San Rafael, CA
(www.thinkingallowed.com / www.intuition.org)

Jack & Ella Productions, Montreal, Canada
(www.jackandella.com)

Jennifer Muller / The Works, New York, NY
(theworksnyc@compuserve.com)

La Vie Ensemble, Beverly Hills, CA

Media Arts Foundation, Indio, CA (mediaand@aol.com)

Mystery School/*En Garde Arts, New York, NY

Networks Productions, Kingston, NM
(www.networkearth.org)

New York International Children's Film Festival,
New York, NY (www.gkids.com)

New York Open Center / Lapis, New York, NY
(www.opencenter.org)

Nicholas Roerich Museum, New York, NY
(www.roerich.org)

Northwest Delta Choral & Arts Council, Sardis, MS

Parabola Magazine, New York, NY (www.parabola.org)

Pearl Theatre Company, The, New York, NY
(www.pearltheatre.org)

Primary Stages Company, New York, NY
(www.primarystages.com)

Reaching Out TV series, Moraga, CA
(www.reachingout.org)

Resurgence Magazine, Devon, UK
(www.resurgence.org)

Richter Productions, New York, NY
(www.richtervideos.com)



Dr. Edie: And I SEE myself standing on a mountain screaming out "WEND YOUR WAY BABIES!!" And I wave, and I clap, and I applaud for 'em all...Lord, make their paths WIDE. No narrow paths for MY young....But let them stay gentle. For gentleness is not weakness.

- Tyne Daly as Dr. Edie in Paul Selig's *Mystery School*, produced Off-Broadway in New York, 1998.

Society for the Study of Myth & Tradition, New York, NY
(www.parabola.org)

Spirituality & Reality (Center for Psychology & Social Change), New York, NY

Stuart Pimsler Dance & Theatre, Columbus, OH
(www.innerart.com/SPDT/)

Talking with Angels, Mill Valley, CA
(www.TalkingwithAngels.com)

Turtles, Inc., Sea Cliff, NY

Twin Cities Public Television, St. Paul, MN (www.ktca.org)

Yakoana, San Francisco, CA (www.yakoana.com)

Yara Arts Group, New York, NY (www.brama.com/yara/)

Individuals

Carmella B'Hahn, *Mourning Has Broken*, Devon, England

Roger Blonder, Animator, Woodland Hills, CA
(www.poemation.com)

Phillip L. Berman, *The Journey Home*, Penn Valley, PA

Owen Burdick, Musician, New York, NY

Meryl Ann Butler, Artist, Virginia Beach, VA

Jack Hunter Cohen, *Messengers* video, Santa Monica, CA

Paul Devereux, Glos., England – Book *The Sacred Place*

Christopher Eaves, *TrueMyth* theatre production,
New York, NY (www.eavesdrop.net)

William Kaufman, Author, Shepherdstown, WV
(www.intrepid.net/~kaufman)

Joan Steinau Lester, Biography, Berkeley, CA
(www.JoanLester.com)

Scott London, journalist, Santa Barbara
(www.scottlondon.com)

Gabriella Oldham, playwright New York, NY

Chuck Schultz, *The Rural Studio* documentary New York, NY

Nancy Seifer, *Song of The Russian Soul*, Falls Church, VA

John R. Stowe, Author *Gay Spirit Warrior/Earth Spirit Warrior*, Decatur, GA (www.goodweeds.com)

Gigi Van Deckter, Documentary, New York, NY

John Anthony West, Author, Athens, NY

Community Service

Organizations

Bread for the Journey, Mill Valley, CA
(www.breadforthejourney.org)

Business Leaders for Sensible Priorities, New York, NY
(www.truemajority.com)

Center for Visionary Leadership, Washington, DC
(www.visionarylead.org)

Challenge Day, Martinez, CA (www.challengeday.org)

Cynergetics Institute, Colorado Springs, CO
(cynerget@aol.com)

First Nations Development Institute, Fredericksburg, VA
(www.firstnations.org)

Foundation for Community Encouragement, Seattle, WA
(www.fce-community.org)

Friends House In Rosehill, New York, NY
(www.rosehill.org)

Gay Spirit Visions, Decatur, GA (www.gayspiritvisions.org)

***Healing Works**, New York, NY

High Tor Alliance, Spring Valley, NY (www.hightor.org)

Institute for the Study of the Afterdeath, Penn Grove, CA,
(shmiller6@attbi.com)

The Jifunze Project, Kibaya, Tanzania (www.jifunze.org)

The Lineage Project, Bronx, NY (www.lineageproject.org)

Minuteman Media, Norwalk, CT (www.opedresource.com)

New Horizons Resources, Poughkeepsie, NY
(www.newhorizonsresources.org)

Occidental Arts & Ecology Center, Occidental, CA
(www.oaec.org)

Omega Institute for Holistic Studies, Rhinebeck, NY
(www.eomega.org)

PET Southern Star Associates, Aotearoa, New Zealand

Pioneers of Change, Johannesburg, South Africa
(www.pioneersofchange.net)

The Positive Futures Network, Bainbridge, WA
(www.futurenet.org)

Rocky Mountain Institute, Snowmass, CO (www.rmi.org)

Sacred Space, Washington, DC (alolodi@bellatlantic.net)

Santa Cruz Barrios Unidos, Santa Cruz, CA
(barrios@cruzio.com)

Sirius, Shutesbury, MA (www.siriuscommunity.org)

Ti Ospaye, Wanblee, SD

United For A Fair Economy, Boston, MA
(www.responsiblewealth.org / www.ufe.org)

Vermont Healing Tools, Westminster, VT

***Whole Foods Project**, Brooklyn, NY

World Council of Elders, Morrison, CO
(www.worldcouncilofelders.org)

Individuals

Dorri Jacobs, psychotherapist, New York, NY
(www.ENDespair.com)

Patrick L. McNamara, creative consultant, Fredonia, NY

Patricia L. Ryan, psychotherapist, Lynchburg, VA

Environment

Organizations

British Trust for Conservation Volunteers,
South Yorkshire, UK (www.btcv.org.uk)

Co-Op America, Washington, DC
(www.coopamerica.org)

Eco-Village Project / Findhorn, Findhorn, Scotland
(www.findhorn.org)

Earth Celebrations, New York, NY
(www.earthcelebrations.com)

Earth Dream Alliance, Jupiter, FL

Green Belt Movement, Nairobi, Kenya
(www.geocities.com/gbm0001/)

Grupo Osanimi, Quito, Ecuador
(www.osanimi.org)

Innovative Frontiers in Philanthropy / Marion Foundation,
Marion, MA (marionfoundation.org)

Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility, New York, NY
(www.iccr.org)

**The International Collaborative for Science, Education &
The Environment**, Wayland, MA (www.the-icsee.org)

International Communities for the Renewal of the Earth,
Cross River, NY (danann0305@aol.com)

Interfaith Partnership for the Environment, Whippany, NJ

Indigenous Tourism Rights International, St. Paul, MN
(aka Rethinking Tourism – www.tourismrights.org)

Solar Electric Light Fund, Washington, DC
(www.self.org)

Trees for Life, Wichita, KS
(www.treesforlife.org)

Wilderness Volunteer Corps, Seattle, WA
(www.wawild.org/youthvolunteer)

Whidbey Institute, Clinton, WA
(www.whidbeyinstitute.org)



Ubuntu Village in Johannesburg, South Africa at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in September, 2002



Christina Gabriel and J. Carrie Oelberger of The Jifunze Project in Tanzania

Interdimensional

Organizations

Program for Extraordinary Experience Research,
Cambridge, MA (www.centerchange.org/peer)
Spring Farm Cares, Clinton, NY

Individuals

Martha Crampton, New York, NY
Peter Gold, Chinle, AZ
(www.ancientwaysproject.org)
Mark Macy (INIT-US), Louisville, CO (www.worlditc.org)

Science

Organizations

Cambridge University, Clinical Veterinary Medicine,
Cambridge University, UK
Institute for Frontier Science, Oakland, CA
(www.concentric.net/~Explore)
Institute for Noetic Sciences, Petaluma, CA
(www.noetic.org)
International Consciousness Research Laboratories,
Princeton, NJ (www.icrl.org)
Olympia Project, (The ICSEE) Kifissia, Greece
(eliot@start.gr)
Princeton Engineering Anomalies Research Lab,
Princeton, NJ (www.princeton.edu/~pear)
Scientific and Medical Network, Gloucestershire, UK
(www.scimednet.org)
Society for Scientific Exploration, Princeton, NJ
(www.scientificexploration.org)
Stichting Milieubewustzijn (Seeds of Wholeness),
JJ's – Graveland, Netherlands (www.seeds-of-wholeness.org)
University of Virginia / Division of Personality Studies,
Charlottesville, VA (www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/DOPS)

Individuals

Ronald A. Bryan, College Station, TX
Bruno Duroux, Boisseuil, France
Arnold Lettieri, Hopewell, NJ
Aimee Morgana / The N'Kisi Project, New York, NY
(www.sheldrake.org/nkisi)
Roger Nelson / Global Consciousness Project, Princeton, NJ
(<http://noosphere.princeton.edu>)
Rene Peoc'h, Bouguenais, France
Penny Sartori, South Wales, UK
Rupert Sheldrake, London, England (www.sheldrake.org)

World Goodwill

Organizations

Association for Global New Thought, Santa Barbara, CA
(www.agnt.org/)
Bridges To Community, Scarborough, NY
(www.bridgestocommunity.org)
Center for Ethics In Action, Portland, ME
Center on Violence and Human Survival, New York, NY
The Dandelion Trust, London, England
Door of Hope, Greensboro, NC (doh@nr.infi.net)
Fundación P.E.A. , Buenos Aires, Argentina
(www.fundacionpea.org)
Gaia Foundation, London, England (www.gaianet.org)
Growing Communities For Peace, Scandia, MN
(www.peacemaker.org)
Hague Appeal for Peace, New York, NY
(www.haguepeace.org)
Interfaith Center of New York , New York, NY
(www.interfaithcenter.org)
Intuition in Service, Paekakariki, New Zealand
(www.intuition-in-service.org)
La Casa de Maria Invitational 1996, Santa Barbara, CA
Lucis Trust, New York, NY (www.lucistrust.org)
Lydia Project, Edinburgh, Scotland (www.lydiaproject.org)
Millennium People's Assembly Network, New York, NY
(www.ourvoices.org)
M.K. Gandhi Institute of Nonviolence, Memphis, TN
(www.gandhiinstitute.org)
Network 2012, Asheville, NC (www.n2012.com)
Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, Santa Barbara, CA
(www.wagingpeace.org)
Operation Peace Through Unity, Wanganui, New Zealand
(www.isleofavalon.co.uk/manymany)
Pathways To Peace, Larkspur, CA
(www.pathwaystopace.org)
Peace Action Education Fund, Washington, DC
(www.peace-action.org)
Peace Tax Foundation, Washington, DC
(www.peacetaxfund.org)
Prayer Vigil for the Earth / Circle, Oakland, CA
(www.oneprayer.org)
Radio for Peace International, Santa Ana, Costa Rica
(www.rfpi.org)

Rainbow Ark Foundation, Ojai, CA (www.rainbowark.org)

Reverend Billy Project, New York, NY
(www.revilly.com)

Temple of Understanding, New York, NY
(www.templeofunderstanding.org)

The Tibet Fund, New York, NY (www.tibetfund.org)

The Tree of Peace Society, Hogsburg, NY
(www.treeofpeace.org)

TribalLink, New York, NY (tribal.link@mailcity.com)

We, The World, New York, NY (www.wetheworld.org)

Witness, New York, NY (www.witness.org)

World Citizen Diplomats, Princeton, NJ (LoisPeace@aol.com)

Women's International League for Peace & Freedom,
New York, NY (www.wilpfnymetro.org)

World Peace Prayer Society, Wassau, NY
(www.worldpeace.org)

Individuals

Rizal Bugarin Lozano, Human Rights Activist/Filmmaker
Davao City, Philippines (www.witness.org)

Fred Stern, The Rainbow Maker, Las Cruces, NM
(www.rainbowmaker.us)

Dr. Ida Urso, Jersey City, New Jersey (www.aquaac.org)

Youth & Education

Organizations

ACIAR (Asociación para la Integración y Acción
Regional), San José, Costa Rica (asociar@sol.racsa.co.cr)

Active Element Foundation, New York, NY
(www.activeelement.org)

CANHELP, Holma College of Integral Studies, Hoor, Sweden
(www.canhelp.nu / www.holmacollege.org)

Center for Symbolic Studies, New Paltz, NY
(www.mythmind.com)

The CityKids Foundation, New York, NY
(www.citykids.com)

East Harlem Tutorial Program, New York, NY
(eastharlemtutorialprogram.org)

Global Kids, New York, NY (www.globalkids.org)

Global Youth Action Network, New York, NY
(www.youthlink.org)

Global YouthConnect, Mountain View, CA
(www.globalyouthconnect.org)

I*EARN, New York, NY (www.iearn.org)

National Council of Teachers of English, Urbana, IL
(www.ncte.org)

Indigenous & Non-Indigenous Youth Alliance (INIYA),
San Francisco, CA (www.iniya.org)

Interfaith Youth Core, Chicago, IL (www.ifyc.org)

International Youth of Unity, Lee's Summit, MO
(www.unity.org/you/)

One Day Foundation, Sedona, AZ (www.oneday.org)

Oxford Research Group, Emerging Leaders, Oxford, UK
(www.oxfordresearchgroup.org.uk)

The Power of Hope, Bellingham, WA
(www.powerofhope.org)

Schumacher College Foundation, Devon, UK
(www.schumachercollege.org)

TakingIT Global, Toronto, Canada
(www.takingitglobal.org)

Youth for Environmental Sanity, Soquel, CA
(www.yesworld.org)

***Youthworks**, New York, NY

Individuals

Cecily Miller, Children's Messages to the World,
New York, NY (www.ChildrensMessages.com)

Kathleen Gaffney, Educator/Artist, Jersey City, NJ

*Grantees marked with an asterisk have unfortunately been unable to continue their work. **Common Boundary** gave its readers years of insightful articles on cutting edge issues; **Healing Works** offered free alternative healing services to the underserved, but was caught in the financial crunch in New York after September 11th; **Fareta School of Dance and Drum** and **Youthworks** provided invaluable community service and world goodwill but were caught in the wave of rising rents and higher prices in the city as was the **Whole Foods Project**, dedicated to preparing whole, fresh food to facilitate the healing of body and mind. Similarly, **Lapis**, an award-winning magazine (published by New York Open Center, see page 7) that monitors important trends in our changing culture, had to suspend publication. They are now searching for sufficient funding to resume. **Thinking Allowed**, the well-known TV series hosted by **Dr. Jeffrey Mishlove**, is no longer carried on PBS but can still be seen on the Wisdom Network. Dr. Mishlove is now looking to fund a series similar to *Thinking Allowed* for PBS audiences. **If you'd like to help these or any of the other grantees we've listed, please visit their websites or contact them by email as provided.** If no website or email is listed, please contact The Lifebridge Foundation at LifebridgeNYC@aol.com or call 212-757-9711 and we will do our best to pass along contact information.



Above, May, 2001: Gathering good-byes (see pgs. 27-28)



Reports from the Field - Environment

Wayfarer, the only way
is your footsteps, there is no other.

Wayfarer, there is no way,
you make the way as you go.
As you go, you make the way
and stopping to look behind,
you see the path that your feet
will travel again.

Wayfarer, there is no way –
only foam trails in the sea.

- Antonio Machado

From Daniel Martin: Perhaps one of the greatest learnings for **International Communities for the Renewal of the Earth (ICRE)** in recent times has been the realization that the way to truly address the challenges of an increasingly complex world is through focus and collaboration. Like so many before us in the NGO world we tended to define our work in the most grandiose terms, with the result that our energies have often become diffused and our efforts ineffectual. Thus we have begun to *focus* our cross-cultural work with the Green Belt Movement [a Lifebridge grantee] on exploring an approach that would benefit organizations in a better position to actually wield some real influence. Nothing of our past efforts will be lost; rather we will build on experience won and friendships made over the past six years of bringing groups to experience the Green Belt Movement in Kenya. We hope to bring together environmental, economic, health, religious and other cross-disciplinary representatives to engage in dialogues that will offer insights on how to approach North-South relations. And we can only do this kind of work if we are internally consistent: if we are modeling a collaborative approach at every level. So, this new stage will also be in **collaboration with another Lifebridge grantee, Bridges to Community** and a number of other groups – including we hope, the International Monetary Fund! If collaboration is the way of the future (and the increasingly globalized world suggests as much), then we all need to learn new skills. Our places of training teach us neither to think that way nor to develop the capacity to act that way. It makes it all a little scarier to realize that we are (always) stepping into the unknown, but it is also much more exciting.

From Felicia Young: **Earth Celebrations** fosters ecological awareness through the arts and grew organically out of the theatrical pageants to celebrate and preserve the community gardens that I founded in 1991 on the Lower East Side of New York City. I initiated the pageants as a means of raising awareness about the magnificent network of over 50 gardens in the neighborhood. At that time few people, even within the area, seemed to realize the gardens existed. Open space, parks, and gardens were often considered a luxury that these low-income neighborhoods in the city could not afford. The

gardeners have struggled to refute this premise, cultivating the community garden network of New York City, which now has become an internationally recognized model of ecological and social balance within the urban environment. My inspiration to respond to the endangered community gardens with a celebratory theatrical pageant grew out of my desire to engage a diversity of people beyond the art world in a creative experience that had meaning and purpose in their lives and that could effect change. The importance of the issue to the community and enthusiastic response of gardeners, artists, children, and residents after the first pageant in 1991, led to the continuation of the pageant as an annual event. In May 1999 Bette Midler, along with the philanthropic community, contributed 4.2 million dollars to preserve 114 gardens, and most recently, on September 18, 2002, Mayor Bloomberg announced the saving of 193 community gardens. There are still over 200 gardens that are proposed to be destroyed for development projects, and for the nearly 200 recently saved, there is work to be done to ensure that these gardens are not just temporarily protected, but permanently preserved for generations to come. For more information on programs and pageants visit the Earth Celebrations website (see page 15).

From Balbir Mathur: A new program of **Trees for Life** has a simple but ambitious purpose: unlimited education worldwide at no cost. The program is called **Global Circle of Knowledge®**. For nearly twenty years, Trees for Life has shared a formula for people to empower themselves and escape from poverty: *acquire the tools of knowledge and share them with others for the benefit of the whole community*. To demonstrate this formula, villagers plant fruit trees. The fruit trees not only provide a low-cost, self-renewing source of food for a very long time, but they also become a symbol of empowerment. Participants realized that while *the key to empowerment is education*, education for poor people in developing countries is often ineffective and inappropriate to their needs. Research demonstrated that this problem could be resolved if people could identify their own needs and solutions and communicate them in their own language, style and modes of learning. Based on this understanding, Trees for Life has developed a program that will allow people to:

1. Create their own multi-media educational materials in virtually any language to suit practically any mode of learning and intelligence.
2. Actively interact with such lessons at their own pace of learning.

These lessons can be used by individuals or presented to large audiences. The software will be made available on the internet. Global Circle of Knowledge® will also have an online library to share the best of the lessons prepared by the worldwide community. Educators in the United States and U.K. tell us that this program is just as appropriate for students in

developed areas as it is for the developing countries.

While computers and the internet are not available to the majority of the poor at this time, they are quickly spreading and the price is dropping rapidly. At the same time, solar power and wireless connections are quickly eliminating the need for expensive infrastructure. Both the software and the lesson library will be made available free of cost. The formula for empowerment remains the same. People acquire the tools of knowledge and share them with others for the benefit of the entire community. Only now the community is global.

In addition...

The long-time and well respected work of **Co-Op America** is indispensable for any person who is interested in sustainable living and environmental conservation; while **The Findhorn Foundation**, which grew out of the Findhorn Community in Scotland, continues its history of spiritual and environmental work with the **Eco-Village Project**, bringing together people from many corners of the earth to learn about sustainable community. Wangari Matthai's **Green Belt Movement** in Kenya promotes community development as well as environmental care through tree-planting, while Jonathon Miller-Weisberger's **Grupo Osanimi**'s mission is to provide rainforest protection and cultural renewal for the upper Amazon of Ecuador. Here in the US, the **Marion Foundation's Innovative Frontiers in Philanthropy** raises funds for projects like The Greenbelt Movement (above) and the **Solar Electric Light Fund** (an organization dedicated to providing safer, cleaner and more ecologically sound solar electric power to remote villages in developing countries). In association with UNEP, **Interfaith Partnership for the Environment** facilitated the publication of a beautifully realized book on the current state of the world's environment called *EARTH AND FAITH*. The **International Collaborative for Science, Education and the Environment** (the **ICSEE**) provides fiscal sponsorship for Lifebridge-supported programs like the **Jifunze Project** (see page 15,16) and **The Halki Institute**, an international symposium on religion, science, and the environment. **Rethinking Tourism**, now known as Indigenous Tourism Rights International, creates awareness regarding the impact of tourism on indigenous communities world-wide; and the **Whidbey Institute** near Seattle, provides a place where the ecological, social, and spiritual challenges of our time can be engaged on behalf of a more sustainable and just world. Their leadership retreats, environmental programs, leading-edge conferences, concerts and celebrations welcome the participation of anyone who is committed to a positive future for all.



Earth Celebrations' Costumed Garden Characters: New York City

Celebrating Our Donors

Paul M. Hancock, Principal Donor

Mary & John Baer

Dr. Pat Bradley

(in memory and celebration of
Harold Herrick, Bill Reinhardt,
and beloved animals, Peter, Fetcher, & Wall Street)

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Help Us Help!!

We invite you to join this group of generous donors.

See page 32 (back page) for more information on how to contribute.



Reports from the Field – World Goodwill

From **Barbara Bernstein**, Executive Director: Two of the **Association for Global New Thought's** ongoing projects have been supported by The Lifebridge Foundation: **A Season for Nonviolence** and **The Synthesis Dialogues**. Inspired by the 50th and 30th memorial anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1998, A Season for Nonviolence (January 30 - April 4) is now an annual 64-day educational, media, and grassroots campaign dedicated to demonstrating that nonviolence is a powerful way to heal, transform, and empower our lives and our communities. Based on the premise that *synthesis* is at the core of all genuine advances in knowledge and that it presupposes the interconnectedness, or unity of all reality, life, being, and other worlds of experience, The Synthesis Dialogues were convened in Dharamsala, India from September 11-16, 1999 at the invitation of the Dalai Lama. As a result of the first successful Dialogues in India, HHDL invited and participated in the next set of Dialogues which took place in Trent, Italy from June 27-July 2, 2001. His Holiness served as a participant and guide for the directions of our talks. Once called the "religion of healthy-mindedness" by the philosopher, William James, the New Thought movement was born almost 150 years ago. Planetary healing through self-realization and spiritually-motivated activism is the new promise of these teachings.

From **The Lucis Trust**: It's said that the hope of the future lies in the hands of men and women of goodwill. But that hope can only be realised as we begin to cultivate goodwill in our daily lives—in our family, our business, our nation and the world at large. An attitude of goodwill can be brought to bear upon situations large and small and prove the catalyst for solutions to long-festering problems and seemingly intractable situations. Goodwill sets loose an abundant, expansive and magnetic energy that makes possible the seeming impossible. It is not, for example, a purely religious response but can equally be demonstrated in the many and varied areas of human endeavour. There are millions of dedicated men and women who are nurturing goodwill throughout the world today in many fields of endeavour—the arts, science, politics, finance, education and religion. This group has no outer affiliation and works beyond the confines of sex, race, religion, nationality, class or politics. Through the work of these serving individuals, goodwill is spread abroad to minds and hearts everywhere. Goodwill is contagious and can prove the most powerful energy in the world. Its power has not yet been effectively harnessed and mobilised, so we have yet to realise its full potential. We all recognise the power of the forces of separation and hatred that are overwhelmingly apparent on all fronts. These forces easily manipulate and control human desire. But as Shakespeare wrote, "there is a tide in the affairs of men which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune; omitted, all the voyage of their life is bound in shallows and in miseries." In other words, timing is everything, and the time is now auspicious for the forces of goodwill to come upon the world stage. We are entering into a

new era. These changes can be ushered in upon a great wave of goodwill energy if humanity learns to stand with "massed intent", recognising that although we may appear powerless when working as isolated individuals, when united with others of like mind, we wield a mighty force. Mobilisation is a key concept when one speaks of goodwill. Goodwill exists within all people, within all situations, and it only needs awakening. When this happens the masses of people who are presently laden down with inertia, will find themselves being caught up in a spirit and an energy that can prove truly transformative and miraculous in its results. But this won't happen alone or unaided; it will only succeed through the collective actions of individuals and groups throughout the planet joining forces towards common objectives. And as this group energy grows in momentum so, too, does it grow in strength and power. World Goodwill of Lucis Trust exists to help mobilise this largely untapped reservoir. Through its regular newsletter and other literature, web site (www.worldgoodwill.org) and public meetings, it seeks to reveal the groundswell of creative goodwill activities that are springing up around the world. And it aims to clarify how goodwill could be and is being employed to transform major political, religious and cultural problems. By drawing attention to the fact that goodwill is not a sweet, ineffectual kindness, but a dynamic urge to transform society for the good, it encourages people to engage constructively with the major issues of our time. Among our core beliefs is the idea that for a person to become an effective agent of change, they must change themselves. As Gandhi said, "we must be the change that we seek to see in the world," [and Lucis Trust's] World Goodwill offers a number of ways of achieving this, whether it be through meditation on the power of goodwill; the use and distribution of a world prayer, The Great Invocation, available in over seventy languages; or through its sister activity, Triangles, participation in a worldwide network of prayer. All of these are ways in which the individual can link in thought with others of like mind and heart, and recognize the opportunities for world service in cooperation with others.

From **Anne B. Zill**: As the Director of the **Center for Ethics in Action**, I have been producing programs for six years now that highlight women's leadership and a different set of values than those predominating the way the US does business in the world at the present time. These programs have ranged from an Earth Charter Summit in my region of the country (New England), to democracy and leadership training projects for women from Croatia and Bulgaria, to the publication of papers and articles on outlawing violence and useful values. A little over a year after my participation in a Lifebridge gathering, I had a delayed lightbulb experience. At a retreat of my Board of Directors, the four women who were advising me asked rhetorically why I was not integrating my art expertise (I run a Gallery at the University of New England on the side and have curated exhibitions at the UN, etc.) more directly into my

public policy advocacy within the Center for Ethics in Action. Why not, indeed? After all, I had observed plenty of art and culture as well as values and vision at the Lifebridge weekend. (*For more on the Lifebridge Gatherings, see pages 27 & 28, Ed.*) And in truth, I already understood the need to meld head and heart, and to go beyond linear, literal and rational if a true jump in our consciousness, or behavioral transformation is desired. So I am now working on creating a series of public education programs around an art exhibition on Migrations, photographs by Sebastio Salgado. My Gallery will show the children in migration pictures and I am gathering the refugee community in Maine, the School system officials as well as federal, state and local resettlement officials. The aim is to improve the way we welcome the rest of the world. I have also just had a front page story in the Portland Press Herald on the pilot project I and a Nursing Professor at the University of New England have launched to teach students in the College of Health Professions powers of observation and communication (which are essential in the Health Professions) by 'deep viewing' exercises in the Art Gallery. Students in Nursing, Physician Assistant, Social Work, Occupational Therapy and Dental Hygiene programs have had course instruction in this Gallery of mine and their evaluations suggest this inter-disciplinary program is working. Other programs in the works: Whistleblowers as Heroes; Visions of Women Leaders; a traveling art exhibition of eco art and the Earth Charter.

From Fiona Williams Hulbert: The Lydia Project, based in Scotland, empowers women of Eastern Europe who have been excluded by the radical changes of the last ten years. The Eastern European economic situation is worse than in 1990. Monthly salaries of only \$30 to \$100 prohibit all but the basics and international support is still needed. In Lydia Project's Black Sea training of August 2002, the links and educational impact of learning crossed many, once hostile borders. Our venue was a revitalised monastery in the Romanian mountains. Twenty women (from Armenia, Georgia, Ukraine, Yugoslavia, Moldova, Bulgaria and Romania) came for three weeks, along with 8 facilitators, including Ukrainian, Transylvanian and Bucharest women, all of them working for change in countries struggling to climb out of impoverished and bankrupt societies. The training included gaining in-depth understanding of project development through examining accounts of organizations like the ARMES project in Bucharest, which reaches out to street children. It began with social work students supplying ad hoc sandwiches and tea and has grown into both a drop-in centre and a refuge, a building with work and play areas, a committed team including a doctor and educators, and meals for over a hundred a day. The treasurer and the psychologist at ARMES are earlier participants who met through the Lydia Project. For more information on ARMES and other Lydia Project organizations, visit their website: (www.ccpdurau.go.ro).

From Anthony & Gita Brooke: When we as founders gave our foundation the name **Peace Through Unity** (Sweden 1975), it became immediately obvious that we ourselves had to embark upon a pilgrimage of exploring and coming to understand better

what this might mean and how it might be applied and practised. We saw the sad consequences of forced unity, on national as well as personal scales, so we began to travel to many countries, visiting troubled areas and places of suffering, listening to people's stories, experiences and thoughts on how changes might come about. During our almost continuous ten-year travel (1978-88), we were convinced of the essential and enduring goodness of the human heart, a fire which nothing can extinguish but which nevertheless must be nurtured to grow and spread. Peace Through Unity has no membership, but many co-workers, and we support the potential of the United Nations to become a tool for unity and mutuality between us, the world's people. For instance, we organised a local "Children's Hearing" in the Wanganui District Council Chambers, chaired by the Mayor, and constituted by a panel of Government officials, UN, UNICEF and Maori representatives, which resulted in an enthusiastic Maori girl attending the 1992 Rio Summit. And in 1993, our Youth Forum gathered 21,000 signatures from New Zealand school students in support of the French proposal for an Antarctic Whale Sanctuary with one student handing it over to the International Whaling Commission at their meeting in Kyoto.

From Douglas Gillies: Six years ago, a grant from The Lifebridge Foundation allowed me to produce the La Casa Invitational conference with Jean Houston as host. Eighty invited friends spent three days searching for "the Grail of a new story" for our time. As I facilitated this discussion, I was convinced that a good story is one of the best ways to convey important information to a large audience. And I had a good story to tell. I kept thinking about former Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations Robert Muller, who had attended a La Casa Invitational two years before called *The Big Picture Summit*. At that conference we set out to build strategies that would speed up the evolutionary shift to holistic thinking in our culture. One of the participants, Barbara Gaughen, said "Let's write one idea for a better world every day between now and the year 2000. That will give us 2000 ideas." Nobody said a word until Robert Muller stood up and said, "I'll do it!" So he started writing down one good idea every day and by the end of 1999, he had published *2,000 Ideas and Dreams for a Better World* and he was well on his way to 3,000 ideas. (Visit www.robertmuller.org to read about them.) I knew a mind like Muller's could not have incubated on the lecture circuit or in a meeting room so I decided to find out where Robert Muller learned how to think – what his story was. Robert was born in 1923 in Alsace-Lorraine, a border region between France and Germany where the most civilized countries in the world had fought three horrendous wars within 70 years. His parents had been forged in the terrible carnage of WWI and as a child he heard Nazi slogans shouted across the narrow Sarre River that separated France from Germany. He tried to escape from Hitler's army: on a coal barge, on a late night trek—which landed him in a Gestapo prison—and finally on a midnight train. While thousands of people celebrated the liberation of Lyon wildly in the streets,

Robert stood alone in a remote field and swore that he would devote his life to peace. His father told him he was crazy. His sister stopped speaking to him. But his mother said on the eve of his departure to work for the United Nations, “Son, work for the only other family that matters—the human family.” So I had found my grail of a new story and six years ago began writing my first full-length book: *Prophet, the Hatmaker’s Son*—The Life of Robert Muller. (See pages 3 & 30)

From Michael Lightweaver: It has reached a time now where the world seems divided between those who have email and those who do not. How recently the internet has come into our lives and how quickly it has become indispensable to our work! This has certainly been true in the case of **Network 2012**. Since our focus is international networking and communication, the internet has been the biggest single change we have experienced since 1992. Communication that took weeks ten years ago is only a matter of minutes or seconds now. This has allowed us to really jump national, cultural, ethnic and political borders instantly to coordinate and collaborate with our counterparts around the world as we work toward a common goal of positive planetary transformation. 2002 has been a pivotal year for N2012. We have expanded beyond our initial networking mission to a pro-active position of promoting global leadership and consciousness through our new Leadership Institute, and most of this new energy is going towards creating National Institutes For a Positive Future around the world. The world seems to be moving through a particularly intense time right now. If our only source of news was the conventional media, we could be totally discouraged. But there are many thousands of local efforts all over the planet working for peace, human and economic development, freedom, and justice. So in the midst of the current intensity, I still have faith that a very beautiful new day is dawning. I suspect that this is a common feeling that those of us who have worked with The Lifebridge Foundation share.

From Steve Nation: **Intuition in Service** seeks to shine a light on the role that spiritual intuition plays in the process of creating a better world. Such knowledge, which has an entirely different quality to anything we learn through our rational, critical thinking processes, has the power to transform. During the past year our focus has been to spread awareness of the United Nations calendar of special Days, Weeks, Years & Decades. Through the **UN Days & Years Meditation Initiative** (see Page 31) we aim to encourage individuals and groups that value the power of thought (meditation, prayer, visualisation) to observe the rhythm and ritual of the UN calendar in their inner practices. During 2002 a global 24-hour Vigil of meditation and prayer was co-ordinated on International Day of Peace, September 21st.

From Lois Ann Nicolai : **World Citizen Diplomats (WCD)** started in 1991 with a three-week trip to Kazakhstan at the invitation of poet Olzhas Suleimenov, a Peoples Deputy and anti-nuclear activist. In 1992, WCD sponsored a 25-Day Peace Caravan across the US featuring young Kazakhstani artist

Karimbek Kuyakov, who was born without arms. He spoke to thousands about the dangers of nuclear radiation. WCD held its first conference at Rider University in 1994 where over 100 people from several nations organized the Peace 2000 Caravans. In 1996, three Peace Caravans traveled through the USA, covering 25,000 miles. The following year a similar Peace Caravan traveled through Canada and Alaska, and in 1998 WCD organized a citizen’s Peace Caravan (with participants from Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Canada and the USA) through ten Western European and Scandinavian countries, meeting with thousands of citizens. And from May 10-16, 1999, WCD presented speakers from many countries around the world at The Hague Appeal for Peace. Since 2000, WCD members have served as OSCE supervisors for first elections in Kosovo and Moldova, presented a course to train citizens as supervisors and observers in democratic elections, and held its 10th anniversary conference at Princeton University. WCD members have learned that peace is possible, and many avenues lead to it. Working for nuclear disarmament, breaking down barriers between nationalities, religions and cultures, and practicing conflict resolution are all worthy ways to promote peace. Most important is to do *something*. There are thousands of people all over the world who contribute, and the day everyone on earth — including our leaders — are “doing something” to bring peace about, peace will happen!

From Avon Mattison: **Pathways To Peace (PTP)** is an international PeaceBuilding, educational, and consulting organization. The mission of **Pathways To Peace** is threefold: To expand the comprehension and substantive expression of “PEACE” and peacebuilding practices at all levels; to build Cultures of Peace by uniting and enhancing the strengths of existing organizations and programs along eight paths of Peace (see pathwaystopace.org); to contribute, through consultation and direct participation, to the evolving mission of the United Nations and to citizens’ worldwide participation in the International Day of Peace. PTP has contributed to the establishment of the field of PeaceBuilding, formally adopted by the United Nations in 1992; expanded local/global participation in the International Day of Peace and direct participation of young people as official delegates to all UN conferences; coordinated the interdisciplinary five-year PeaceBuilding Inquiry for the 21st Century; and served on the committee for the drafting and adoption of the United Religions Initiative Charter and Organization. PTP also serves as International Secretariat for the “WE THE PEOPLES” INITIATIVE, which was granted “Peace Messenger Initiative” status by the UN. In all these areas of service, PTP fosters inter-organizational cooperation, working collaboratively with the UN Department of Public Information, UNESCO, UNICEF, NGO Committees and the UN Values Caucus. PTP’s greatest challenge is insufficient financial resources to carry on this work. But PTP’s operating principle-in-action is: *Acting in concert, we do make a difference in the quality of our lives, our institutions, our environment and our planetary future.* “Peace”, as it is defined by Pathways To Peace, is both an innate state of being and a dynamic, evolutionary process.

In addition...

Lifebridge has supported a great many initiatives that promote World Goodwill in a wide variety of ways. **Bridges to Community** (see ICRE report, page 18) offers educational, service oriented travel opportunities to Nicaragua and Kenya where they identify and support community initiated projects aimed at empowering the local communities. The **Center on Violence and Human Survival** at John Jay College in New York, seeks to stimulate research into and reflection upon general issues pertaining to violence in society, based upon the premise that violence is not only pervasive but also on the increase in the world and that many of its forms — individual, family, street, national, international — have subtle but vital interconnections. Since 1996 **The Dandelion Trust** has brought groups of children who have suffered terror, cold, hunger and loss of loved ones from Bosnia and Kosovo to Castlefranc, France to encourage and hearten them in facing the slow rebuilding of their country and themselves. **Dr. Sukie Miller** and **Dr. Edmundo Barbosa** have done a great deal of work in Brazil with former grantee **The Institute for the Study of the Afterdeath**. Now they have developed the Social Action Training Program (SATP) which is run by the Instituto Gaia (inigaia@uol.com.br). The SATP focuses on ecology and child welfare and begins by asking participants if they've ever had a dream as to how to make a better Brazil...because "dreamers" are most encouraged to apply to this program. **Fundación PEA** (Peace, Ecology and Art) in Buenos Aires, Argentina also promotes the dream of world peace and ecological conservation through cross-disciplinary educational means, while Minnesota's **Growing Communities for Peace** is dedicated to expanding, propelling and celebrating peace and justice in everyday life, mostly through work with children. **The Hague Appeal for Peace** has become an international network of peace and justice organizations dedicated to sowing the seeds for the abolition of war; while the **Interfaith Center of New York's** mission is to make New York and the World safe for religious difference. The **Global People's Assembly Network** (MPAN) is a global group of individuals and organizations who have long advocated a global and Permanent People's Assembly affiliated with the United Nations. The mission of the **MK Gandhi Institute of Non Violence**, located in Memphis, Tennessee, is to promote and apply the principles of nonviolence locally, nationally, and globally through research, education, and programming. The **Peace Action Education Fund** works to build an informed US citizenry on issues relating to nuclear weapons, military spending, and foreign policy and the **Peace Tax Foundation** was organized to inform the public about the concept of alternative tax payment programs that are based upon moral, ethical, and religious opposition to participation in warfare. The next annual **Prayer Vigil for the Earth** will be held on September 20-21, 2003 at the Washington Monument grounds in Washington DC. It grew out of a native American

call for peoples of many traditions to gather, to pray for harmony with the natural world, peace among communities, and the well-being of all Creation. Based in Costa Rica, the ultimate goal of **Radio for Peace International**, which transmits programs via short-wave and the Internet, is to create peace in hearts, homes, communities, and all nations of the world in order to foster a worldwide culture of peace. The **Temple of Understanding**, founded by "ordinary housewife" Juliet Hollister in 1960, who attracted the help of "First Lady of the World" Eleanor Roosevelt in launching the organization, promotes understanding among the world's religions, recognition of the oneness of the human family, and the achievement of a "spiritual United Nations". The **Tibet Fund's** primary mission is the preservation of the distinct cultural, religious and national identity of the Tibetan people, while **The Tree of Peace Society** builds cross-cultural understanding between Native and non-Native people, promotes environmental and social ethics, and works tirelessly to preserve the culture and languages of the Haudenosaunee tribes. **Witness** is a human rights program that attracts the eyes of the world and strengthens local activists by giving them video cameras and field training. Today, WITNESS unleashes an arsenal of computers, imaging and editing software, satellite phones and email in the struggle for justice world-wide. The Third International Congress of the **Women's International League for Peace & Freedom** in 1921 stated, we must "transform the economic system in the direction of social justice" and the **World Peace Prayer Society**, founded in Japan by Masahisa Goi in 1955, is dedicated to spreading the message and prayer *May Peace Prevail on Earth* all over the world. Finally, imagemaker **Fred Stern**, "**The Rainbow Man**" spreads this message and prayer in another way — by creating real live rainbows all over the world at events dedicated to a culture of peace. For more on Fred's current work, visit his website, www.rainbowmaker.us

Help us Help!!

Your contribution to the Foundation during these difficult financial times will help us to continue to support the wide range of culturally creative projects you see in these pages. Visit our website (www.lifebridge.org), and click on **Donate Now Through Network for Good** to use your credit card OR send your check to:

The Lifebridge Foundation, P.O. 327, High Falls, NY 12440

Reports from the Field Interdimensional

From **Mark Macy: INIT-US, Inc.** Instrumental Transcommunication (ITC) involves building communication bridges between our planet and other worlds flourishing with life. Strange as it may seem, this work is actively underway in many parts of the world today, as scientists and researchers use TVs, radios, computers, telephones, cameras, and other devices to get information from the "worlds of spirit" in the form of voices, images and text. You can hear and see samples of all these and other kinds of contacts on our website, www.worlditc.org. You'll also find many explanations and theories by frontier scientists on how these "miracles" might be made possible. Results of our work have been spread through the website, presentations at conferences, media interviews, and other means, and for a period of four years there have been organized annual meetings of ITC researchers from around the world.

From **Peter Gold:** Over three decades, I've studied ways of communicating the perennial values and lifeways of the world's ancient and indigenous peoples. As a result of this study, the **Ancient Ways Project** was born, a series of multimedia lectures, workshops and study journeys which communicate the worldwide legacy still available to us for becoming full human beings. The publication in three languages of *Navajo and Tibetan Sacred Wisdom: The Circle of the Spirit* led me to begin a new lecture/retreat program called *The Fifth Wisdom Vision: Picturing the Foundations and Possibilities of Our Shared Humanity*. I firmly believe that in this interconnected world we must act in cognizance of our shared humanity upon the foundation of perennial wisdoms-in-living, to manifest a "new key," an holistic, fifth wisdom vision of a positive and wholesome future world. I am now actively seeking a publisher and financial support for the writing of a full-length book on this subject.

In addition...

Dr. Martha Crampton presents workshops and continues her research into "subtle energy" healing and the body-mind connection, while the **Center for Psychology and Social Change's Program for Extraordinary Experience Research (PEER Group)** founded by **Dr. John Mack** in 1993 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, does ongoing research on consciousness-altering perceptions of reality. **Spring Farm Cares**, in Clinton, New York not only provides safe space for lost and abused animals but is also doing some of the most interesting work around in the field of interspecies communication.

For web addresses on many of these and other projects listed in this issue of *The Bridging Tree*, see pages 14-17. For more information, visit www.lifebridge.org, or call our office at 845-338-6418.

First Time Grantees - 2002

Arts and Culture

The Reverend Billy Project

Bill Tenet, Artistic Director
49 Bleecker Street, #507
New York, NY 10012
Tel: 212-982-3899
Email: revbilly@revbilly.com
Web: www.revbilly.com

The Reverend Billy Project is performance art as well as community activism. Bill Talen, aka Reverend Billy, and his ever-growing band of searchers for the truth, could show up in your town. You might well see them meeting at your local Starbuck's, but if you do, batten down the hatches. Reverend Billy preaches one good sermon!

Gigi Van Deckter

New York, NY

A Sense of Place: New York City. This video project is coordinated by Ms. Van Deckter and co-created by The Collective Unconscious Film Group, a dozen young, new filmmakers from around the world. The project seeks to understand the meaning and effect of "place" on diverse individuals, using New York as the focus.

Community Service

BALLE (Business Alliance for Local Living Economies)

Web: www.livingeconomies.org

National Co-Chairs:

Laury Hammel
524 Boston Post Rd.
Wayland MA 01778
508.358.7355 voice
508.358.5976 fax
Email: laury@livingeconomies.org

Judy Wicks
White Dog Café
3420 Sansom Street
Philadelphia PA 19104
215.386.9224 voice
215.386.1185 fax
Email: judy@livingeconomies.org

"Building economies for the common good." BALLE's mission is to create, strengthen and connect local business networks dedicated to building strong Local Living Economies. BALLE envisions a sustainable global economy as a network of Local Living Economies. Living economies sustain community life and natural life as well as long-term economic viability.

Bread for the Journey

Marianna Cacciatore, Executive Director
267 Miller Avenue
Mill Valley, CA 94941
Tel: 415-383-4600 Fax: 415-383-3836
Email: bjourney@pacbell.net
Web: www.breadforthejourney.org

Bread for the Journey believes that in all people and communities there exists what Thomas Merton calls a "hidden wholeness". This means we do not necessarily need to figure out how to fix everything in the world; rather, our task is to listen more carefully for what is already strong and good and whole, and put our heartfelt support behind it. They believe their work is to watch quietly in the midst of communities in need, and seek out those people who belong to those communities who are the most courageous, faithful and wise. There are now more than 15 chapters of Bread for the Journey, run mostly by volunteers, helping their communities.

Challenge Day

PO Box 1366
3237 Alhambra Avenue
Martinez, CA 94553
Tel: 925-957-0234 Fax: 925-957-9425
Email: office@challengeday.org
Web: www.challengeday.org

Challenge Day and its team are committed to stopping teen violence and alienation. Their award-winning programs are designed to tear down the walls of separation, inspiring participants to live, study and work in an environment of compassion, acceptance and respect.

Spirit in Action

Carolyn Cushing
274 North Street
Belchertown, MA 01007
Tel: 413-256-4612 Fax: 413-256-4613
Email: info@spiritinaction.net
Web: www.spiritinaction.net

The mission of Spirit in Action is to support the development of a movement of people who are unified by a vision of a world which values and embodies love, equality, justice, nonviolence, spirit, and respect for the earth. Spirit in Action's movement building work focuses on goal in four areas:

- creating collective visions of a positive future;
- including a connection to spirit, which we define as wholeness, in social justice work;
- healing division and creating cooperation across lines in difference.
- taking action for individual, cultural, and systemic change

The Center for Contemplative Mind in Society

Mirabai Bush
Executive Director
199 Main Street, Suite 3
Northampton, MA 01060
Tel: 413-582-0071
Fax: 413-582-1330
Email: info@contemplativemind.org
Web: www.contemplativemind.org

Works to integrate contemplative awareness into contemporary life in order to help create a more just, compassionate, and reflective society. The Center is grounded in the belief that integrating contemplative practice into personal and group life increases the potential for individuals and groups to identify the root causes of problems and to find creative solutions to them.

The Environment

Earth Charter Initiative

Mirian Vilela, Executive Director
c/o Earth Council
PO Box 319-6100
San Jose, Costa Rica
Tel: 506-205-1600 / Fax: 506-2490-3500
Email: info@earthcharter.org
Web: www.earthcharter.org

The Earth Charter is an authoritative synthesis of values, principles, and aspirations that are widely shared by growing numbers of men and women in all regions of the world. (See *The Bridging Tree, Vol.5 Issue 2*) The principles of the Earth Charter reflect extensive international consultations conducted over a period of many years. The principles are also based upon contemporary science, international law, and the insights of philosophy and religion.

World Goodwill

Gaia Foundation

Edward Posey, Trustee
18 Well Walk
Hampstead, London NW3 1LD
United Kingdom
Tel: 44-207-435-5000 Fax: 44-207-431-0551
Email: ed@gaianet.org
Web: www.gaianet.org

The Gaia Foundation is an international, non-governmental organisation (NGO) based in London. It works with grassroots movements, NGOs and policy-makers in Europe, Latin America, Africa and Asia, for the protection and strengthening of biological and cultural diversity. Their work includes 1) lobbying and advocacy 2) information exchange and publications; 3) support and funding for local and national initiatives in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Help Us Help!!

See page 32 (back page)
for details on how to contribute.

Nuclear Age Peace Foundation

David Krieger, President
 PMB 121
 1187 Coast Village Rd, Suite 1
 Santa Barbara, CA 93108-2794
 Tel: 805-965-3443 Fax: 805-568-0466
 Email: wagingpeace@napf.org
 Web: www.wagingpeace.org / www.napf.org

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's mission is to advance initiatives to eliminate the nuclear weapons threat to all life, to foster the global rule of law, and to build an enduring legacy of peace through education and advocacy.

Pioneers of Change

Marianne Bojer, Contact
 PO Box 197, Westhoven 2092
 Johannesburg, South Africa
 Tel: +27 83 663 5384 / Fax: +27 11 6224 2097
 Email: mille@pioneersofchange.net
 Web: www.pioneersofchange.net

Pioneers of Change is an emerging global learning community of committed, young people in their 20's and early 30's, from diverse cultural, social, and professional backgrounds.

Tribal Link Foundation

Pamela Kraft, Executive Director
 109 West 28th Street
 New York, NY 10001
 Tel: 212-564-3329 Fax: 212-431-6847
 Email: tribal.link@mailcity.com

Tribal Link was given a grant to help create a Sacred Site at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, which took place in Johannesburg, South Africa from August 26 to September 4, 2002. The Sacred Site was set up in nearby Ubuntu Village (see report page 29) where Indigenous leaders and members of various religious and spiritual communities helped lead Healing Circles for the Earth and many other ceremonies offering prayers, meditations, interfaith activities and tranquility zones for Summit participants.

We, The World

Rick Ulfik, Executive Director
 211 East 43rd Street, Suite 710
 New York, NY 10017
 877-We-The-World (938-4396) / 212-867-0846
 Fax: 212-867-0844
 Email: info@wetheworld.org
 Web: www.wetheworld.org

The purpose of We, The World is to dramatically increase public involvement in creating a peaceful, caring and sustainable world. We, The World's international strategy for achieving this goal includes: 1) Creating comprehensive and empowering global links between those working for peace, sustainability and transformation and 2) Utilizing these links in an ongoing series of highly publicized Public International Events to engage, inform and involve large numbers of people in this work.

World Council of Elders

Woody Vaspra, President
 PO Box 7915
 Boulder, CO 80306
 Tel/Fax: 877-750-4162
 Tel: 303-444-WCOE (9263)
 Email: wcoe4peace@earthlink.net
 Web: www.worldcouncilofelders.org

The World Council of Elders is a traditional council of indigenous wisdom-keepers from across the globe. These Elders are now willing to share ancient wisdom, and to integrate their spiritual insight and practical solutions with modern cultures and technologies. Their teachings will assist humanity in realizing peace, unification, full spiritual awareness and harmony with all peoples, our precious Mother Earth and all creation.

Youth and Education**Interfaith Youth Core**

Eboo Patel, Founding Director
 1111 North Wells, Ste 500
 PO Box 408865
 Chicago, IL 60610
 Tel: 773-960-0854 / 773-334-4480
 Fax: 773-506-2469
 Email: info@ifyc.org
 Web: www.ifyc.org

The purpose of the Interfaith Youth Core (IFYC) is to nurture a new generation of compassionate global leaders. Engaging diversity, connecting faith and action, and understanding the relationship between global trends and local issues are among the primary concerns of young people of faith. IFYC programs integrate intercultural encounter, social action and interfaith reflection.

TakingIT Global Youth Association

42 Charles Street East, 5th Floor
 Toronto, Ontario M4Y 1T4
 Canada
 Tel: 416-928-3362 X 4225
 Fax: 305-723-0410
 Email: earthlyouth@earthlyouth.net; info@takingitglobal.org
 Web: www.takingitglobal.org; www.earthlyouth.net

Inspire...Inform...Involve... TakingITGlobal (TIG) is about encouraging young people to believe in themselves and their ability to make a difference in the world. In partnership with the Global Youth Action Network (see page 12), TIG offers recognition and support for youth action. The Lifebridge grant was given to help launch the EarthYouth.net website. EarthYouth.NET is a network of young people taking action for a more sustainable planet. This site was also the one-stop portal for youth at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in South Africa in 2002.

The Lifebridge Gatherings 1997 - 2002



In 1997, The Lifebridge Foundation funded its first gathering, bringing together scientists, educators, artists, and esotericists, with Dr. Rupert Sheldrake as host. It was convened at Hazelwood House in Devon, England over the days of the summer solstice. This diverse group came together to consider the very intriguing question of whether or not the Sun might be conscious. The weekend-long discussion was at its core, of course, an examination of the nature of consciousness itself. (See Dr. Sheldrake's article on the weekend in Devon in Volume One, Number One of The Bridging Tree Online at www.lifebridge.org).



The success of this 1997 gathering (pictured above in Devon, England), in terms of inspiration and cross-disciplinary engagement, led to the manifestation of a series of grantee gatherings funded and hosted by Lifebridge. Since 1999, the Foundation has hosted nearly 150 grantees from five continents in gatherings designed to refresh, renew, recharge and inspire. Grantees are provided with roundtrip travel reimbursement plus room and board. During these long weekends, there is no pressure to produce, only the opportunity presented for committed, creative people to connect across disciplines and cultures. Participants usually continue to network long afterward and collaborations are often spontaneously sparked. The first three of these gatherings were held at CedarHeart Lodge in the Catskill Region and were facilitated by Julie Glover. Since then, they've been held at the Wainwright House on Long Island Sound in Rye, New York and have been facilitated by A. J. Puja Thomson.



Walking The Labyrinth at CedarHeart Lodge, August, 1999

Morning Circle at Wainwright House, June, 2002



The Board of Directors of The Lifebridge Foundation would like to extend its great appreciation to Julie Glover and Puja Thomson for their creativity and resourcefulness, to Melissa Anne Wood for her invaluable presence at each and every one of these gatherings, and to the staffs, current and former, of CedarHeart Lodge, Wainwright House, and The Lifebridge Foundation for their commitment to providing delicious food, great space, and fond memories of good times together.



From Diane Reed

The Media Arts Foundation is dedicated to producing media to benefit humanity. We are gathering funds to create a television program about people around the globe who are trying to create a better world. We have 36 segments planned and many of the people who will be on the program were grantees I met at The Lifebridge Foundation grantee gathering in August, 1999 (which I also videotaped) or are groups The Lifebridge Foundation has funded. After attending the gathering, I was able to write a proposal that actually formed this idea into a tangible vision. The gathering made an immense difference in our work!

Pictured Above: August, 1999 Gathering at CedarHeart Lodge

Global Wisdom Council 2001



Below right: May, 2000 Gathering at Wainwright House



From Dr. Ron Bryan

During a Lifebridge Grantee Gathering in Rye, New York at the Wainwright House in May, 2000 I heard Bill Groom, a lawyer, tell how he and his wife, Cynthia, visit jails and tell the prisoners that, no matter how much they have suffered, their identities or consciousnesses cannot be destroyed. Being a physicist, I immediately thought of electrons, because they cannot be destroyed either. Then I realized that the analogy might be even better, because electrons are really wavefunctions, so maybe consciousnesses are like wavefunctions. (Wavefunctions are kind of like mathematical ideas, which sometimes spread way out in space, as consciousnesses do sometimes!) If two electron-wavefunctions are in a state of zero angular momentum and afterwards separate at a great distance, and if one electron is detected and found to have spin up, then the other electron immediately assumes spin down, or vice versa. In other words, they seem to be conscious of each other. Similarly a human twin can sometimes INSTANTLY know that his or her identical mate has suffered a fatal accident even though the twin is far away. If consciousnesses really are wavefunctions, then everything is conscious because everything has a wavefunction: electrons, people, rocks, planets. And this suggests an experiment. Can a human, just using his or her consciousness, cause an electron to reverse its spin? That is, can the human's consciousness interact with the electron's consciousness to flip the electron's spin? After the Gathering, I wrote two scientific papers proposing this experiment, have sent off proposals and am cautiously optimistic that the experiment will be funded.

On October 11, 2001, working with grantee The Rainbow Ark Foundation and its founder Heather Foxhall, Lifebridge funded a gathering of a different type. In the wake of 9/11, concerned representatives from the arts and media came together aboard the Dutch tall ship Europa, (one of the only non-military ships docked in New York harbor after the attacks) for the first in a continuing series of Global Wisdom Councils (pictured above left). For more information on these, visit www.rainbowark.org.



UN Report
The Johannesburg Summit
 by Pauline E. Tangiora

Having attended the 1992 Rio Summit and Rio Plus Five, there were great expectations that attending the WSSD might provide a catalyst for the new millennium. Unfortunately, this was not to be so. The world continues to see issues only in isolation, looking at only what the urgency or demand of a year or two down the track require rather than long-term, over-arching solutions. It's time to make a broad-band, overall assessment from a holistic point of view. It was very disconcerting, at one stage, to see that not even the Statements of Rio were being reinforced. In the end many closed sessions were held to come up with a World Statement to satisfy just a few.

The conference's closed sessions made it very difficult for ordinary citizens of the world to have open participation. The heightened amount of security and the hour's drive between the NGO and government sectors made full participation in the conference very difficult. The whole situation was sad, as many groups worked hard to raise thousands of dollars to send their organizations to Johannesburg. But obstacles were put in the way of participation between NGO and government sectors. These sectors should work side-by-side and share together. If you have all these elements come together, it's only sensible that you should make them accessible to one another. Pointing out these negatives is not a condemnation that the United Nations holds these meetings. These meetings are important. However, it does make one question whether the UN is taking a neutral role within the international conferences it calls.

It was good though to see ordinary people within the NGOs working together. The World Forum of Fisher People (WFFP) had over a thousand people attending the conference at the beginning of the NGO sector's program, and ended their final day with a solidarity march to present to the conference. But, here again, security hampered attendance. The WFFP were told they couldn't demonstrate even though we told them we weren't protesting, we were celebrating. The march, a procession of people singing and dancing, was to culminate in a presentation of the results of their work to the conference. What was the problem with people celebrating with this march? Was it that WSSD was afraid that it was going to hit the press that the grassroots were organizing, or simply that this kind of celebration could be contagious?

A high point of the visit came on the Saturday of the conference. It was a privilege when an invitation came to me and two other Indigenous people to attend the ceremonies during which land was given back to the Bushmen community of the Kalahari living in the desert. It was great to see the singing and handing over of the land back to the communities. I believe it was one of Nelson Mandela's wishes that the land go back to the communities and this event was a peaceful coming of Mandela's vision. While we were there, we saw a living example of sustainable living within nature and its climates. These people – with their sparse resources – make art, jewelry, and crafts using whatever they can collect, whether it be a broken ostrich egg or the body of some dead animal, or seeds from plants. With the sale of these wares, they



Pauline E. Tangiora (left) and Rigoberta Menchu-Tum in Johannesburg

acquire money to purchase or exchange for other things they or their communities need.

Back in the Ubuntu Village that was set up as a microscopic version of a typical African village, it was also very humbling to participate in a spiritual village where indigenous women got together to think and pray for the success of discussions going on at Sandown where the world governments were trying to put together things that many people don't understand. As a fact, sometimes, the governments don't understand what is in the hearts of the people. So we had a great spiritual session where everyone was in tune with each other from around the world for the success of this conference and where women had brought waters from all countries which was then intermingled together.

If we are not part of the international circuit to help each other with some knowledge and history of the background of international work in conferences like this, it becomes very difficult for us to put forward the Indigenous, women's, and community perspectives. And still, these perspectives seem to get lost to people who can yell the loudest, and it was noticeable at this conference that the multi-national corporations were well and truly up front with their advertising of how "wonderful" a work they are doing for the environment. Their active campaigning at the conference once again raised questions about the UN's neutrality.

However, in terms of the Indigenous people's agenda, it is my belief that our lobbying was successful. Different governments were receptive to the role we played as the members of the Indigenous Organizing Group. Also, the final Indigenous Peoples Plan of Implementation on Sustainable Development was launched during the WSSD summit on the first of September 2002. These we believe will be a catalyst for changes if the world takes it onboard. Tena Koutou. Tena Koutou. Tena Koutou. Katoa —

Pauline E. Tangiora, Maori elder of the Rongomaiwahine tribe, is from Aotearoa (New Zealand). She is the Chairwoman of the World Forum of FisherPeople and is a respected activist for the world indigenous peoples. She has fifty grandchildren.

Prophet: The Hatmaker's Son
The Life of Robert Muller by Douglas Gillies
Book Review
By Robert Alan Silverstein

It's not always easy to keep a positive outlook, especially in times like these. The world's only superpower, my government, is constantly making decisions that are sending us giant steps backwards in the progress humanity has made in creating a more peaceful, just and sustainable interconnected global community. What keeps me hopeful is the knowledge that there are so many amazing people in this country and around the world who are helping, in little and big ways, to create a better life for us all. Although they are passionate about a diverse range of issues, this global army of volunteers and activists share a common dream for a better world, a world where peace prevails on earth. These workers for peace on earth – whether they are celebrities or ordinary citizens – are our real heroes.

One of my greatest heroes is a man that most people have never heard of. Robert Muller is one of the New Millennium's greatest minds for peace. He hasn't won the Nobel Peace Prize (although he has been nominated many times and has been honored by UNESCO with its Peace Education Prize), but he is a true visionary, having dedicated every waking and dreaming moment of the past 50 years to help the dream of a world at peace come true. His vision earned him respect as the Assistant Secretary General to three United Nations Secretaries General. It resulted in his co-founding the United Nations' University for Peace in Costa Rica, where he still serves as Chancellor Emeritus. It helped inspire Robert Muller schools all around the world that teach about peace and global education. It helped convince his friend Ted Turner to donate one billion dollars to the United Nations. And his many books and poems are filled with inspiration for all who wish for a better world. Robert Muller's vision is so clear that his *4000 Ideas and Dreams for a Better World* create an amazing blue-print that will inspire peacemakers for generations to come.

Douglas Gillies' new biography about Dr. Muller, *PROPHET: The Hatmaker's Son*, reads like an adventure novel. The book begins in 1972 when Robert Muller, at the time Director of the Executive Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, is summoned to accompany UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim in a momentous visit to China to meet with Premier Chou En-Lai. Muller had already played an influential role in helping the previous UN Secretary General U Thant advance the debate that in 1971 ultimately led to China's entry into the United Nations.

The book then goes back in time to 1929, when Robert was a child in the Alsace Lorraine region, which for centuries had been the center of a power struggle between France and Germany. His family album was filled with relatives in uniform - but the uniform they were depended on which country they were forced to pledge allegiance to at the time. As he grew up, Robert thought there had to be an alternative to the nationalism that sent

young men to kill and die. When World War II broke out, he daringly tried to escape across the border to France to avoid being drafted into the German army, was captured by the Gestapo, escaped to France, joined the French Resistance, and witnessed first-hand the unfathomable atrocities of war. The horrors of modern warfare convinced Muller that humanity could not continue to go on solving its conflicts this way and survive.

After the war, while working on his law degree, he won an essay contest, which then led to an internship with the newly formed United Nations. The book ends with Robert's decision to leave home to work for the United Nations and begin a life for peace.

With the United Nations and rumblings of war at the forefront of today's headlines, *Prophet: The Hatmaker's Son* is a timely, inspiring story. Robert Muller is one of the most inspiring peacemakers you may never have heard of until now and Douglas Gillies' riveting biography is a must-read for all who think that war is a reasonable option to settle disputes, as well as for all who wish for a world at peace.

Robert Alan Silverstein has been Communications Manager for The Lifebridge Foundation, Associate Editor of The Bridging

Spiritual Caucus at the United Nations

An Open Invitation

The Spiritual Caucus at the UN is composed of individuals from a variety of backgrounds and traditions who support the fullest expression of the goals and ideals of the United Nations as described in the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Anyone who is interested in supporting the work of the UN in this way is welcome to join us.

Evolving Mission Statement

We are committed to supporting and strengthening the spiritual principles and purposes of the United Nations. We feel it is essential that the endeavors of the UN system and its affiliates be balanced with inner reflection and stillness. We meet regularly at United Nations Headquarters to spend time together in silence. Afterwards we share our insights and reflections and we explore ways of using this inner focus in service of the work of the UN system. We invite groups and individuals who cannot be with us in person to connect with us in silence wherever they are on the first and third Thursday of the month.

Note: The Spiritual Caucus has an email list through which we announce the locations of meetings in NYC and relevant information about our activities. If you would like to subscribe to our list, please send an email to: info@spiritualcaucusun.org. If you would like more information about the Spiritual Caucus, please feel free to contact us at: UN Spiritual Caucus, 165 W. 95th Street, Suite 1 MedSo, New York, NY 10025, info@spiritualcaucusun.org. www.spiritualcaucusun.org.

The Meditation Room at the United Nations is located in the visitors lobby and is open to the public from 9-5 Monday through Friday

UN CALENDAR

International Years

2003 International Year of Freshwater

2005* International Year of Microcredit

January – June 2003: Special Days and Weeks

21 February	International Mother Language Day
8 March	United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace
21 March	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
21-27 March	Week of Solidarity with the Peoples struggling against Racism and Racial Discrimination
22 March	World Day for Water
23 March	World Meteorological Day
7 April	World Health Day
23 April	World Book and Copyright Day
3 May	World Press Freedom Day
15 May	International Day of Families
17 May	World Telecommunication Day
25 May-31 May	- Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories
27 May	International Day for Biological Diversity
31 May	World No-Tobacco Day
4 June	International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression
5 June	World Environment Day
17 June	World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought
20 June	World Refugee Day
26 June	International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking
26 June	International Day in Support of Victims of Torture

International Decades

1993-2003	Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination
1994-2004	International Decade of the World's Indigenous People
1995-2004	United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education
1997-2006	United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty
2001-2010	International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World
2001-2010	Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries
2003-2012	United Nations Literacy Decade: Literacy for All

*International Year designation for 2004 is still under discussion. Visit the website below for updates.

UN Days & Years Meditation Initiative, PO Box 58, Paekakariki, New Zealand.

www.intuition-in-service.org info@intuition-in-service.org



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If you are inspired by the kinds of vital, transformative projects that The Lifebridge Foundation supports, **you are cordially invited to make a contribution** to the general fund so that our grant-making abilities can continue unabated in these difficult financial times. A donation of any amount is welcome co-creative energy.

Our assets are **invested in a socially-screened portfolio**, bridging the gap between the existing corporate culture which calls for profit at any cost

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between the spiritual and
the so-called mundane...”*

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daily action...”*

The Lifebridge Foundation is associated with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations.

The Bridging Tree

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