

The 24th Annual
**NATIONAL
 BIONEERS
 CONFERENCE**
OCTOBER 18-20



EVERYWOMAN'S LEADERSHIP AT THIS YEARS CONFERENCE

Nalini Nadkarni

Between Earth and Sky: Trees

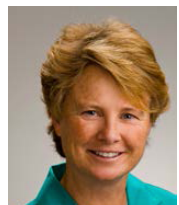


as Silent Teachers in Strident Times the "Queen of the Forest Canopy" has conducted

unique scientific studies of trees for three decades on four continents, revealing what the complex, diverse biology of rainforests can teach us about human connections and dynamics. She believes we can learn from arboreal example to begin to hear and heal across our differences, and in turn conserve these invaluable planetary ecosystems and their life-giving functions.

Janine Benyus

The Biomimicry Network Effect:



What Will We Solve Together? If we collectively consulted nature to solve a few key issues, imagine what a difference

we could make! The acclaimed biologist, innovation consultant, and author Janine Benyus illuminates how the Biomimicry community might collaborate, with nature's help, on a short list of challenges that just can't

wait. She will translate the latest scientific findings on Biomimicry, heralded by the Harvard Business Review as "one of the 20 breakthrough ideas in business," and on biological networks into an action plan for anyone wanting to spread good ideas organically. Introduction by

Phaedra Ellis-Lamkins

Motherhood and Leadership:



The Executive Director of Green For All shares her deeply personal journey of how the experience of becoming a

mother has created a new sense of urgency in her work to create a healthier and more just planet. She reveals how the challenges of parenting have stretched and transformed her approach to leadership.

Introduction by Nina Simons

Ilarion Mercurieff

The Womb At The Center of the Universe:



Women Will Lead Us Through This Pivotal Time This Aleut traditional messenger of-fers indigenous

perspectives—bringing ancestral wisdom to guide us through modern times. The elders say that the leadership of women is paramount if we are to successfully transform civilization to conserve Earth's capacity to sustain Life. Ilarion has served his people, and other indigenous peoples locally, nationally, and internationally for 35 years in diverse leadership capacities, including as the first Alaska Native Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Commerce and Economic Development.

Dekila Chungyalpa

Faiths for Conservation:



The Hope of A New Environmental Movement. The Sikkim-born Director of the World Wildlife Fund's Sacred Earth program

engages with faith leaders and institutions in Asia and around the world to address environmental decline and restore communities. Environmental advisor to the Dalai Lama, she works with communities in the Himalayas, the Mekong, East Africa and the Amazon, and helps mobilize Buddhist and interfaith collabora-

San Rafael, CA

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Creativity and Improvisation in Leadership, Education and Sustainability. An emergent conversation hosted by author and activist Anneke Campbell. With: Nalini Nadkarni, "the Queen of the Forest Canopy;" Matthew Fox, priest and theologian, leading exponent of Creation Spirituality; Alfonso Montuori, Director of the Masters Program in Transformative Leadership, California Institute of Integral Studies; Rose von Thater Braan (Tuscorora/Cherokee), co founder of the Native American Academy.

Entrepreneurship: Mission-Driven Companies. With: Matthew Engelhart, cofounder of Café Gratitude and Gracias Madre, co-author of Sacred Commerce; John Roulac, founder and CEO of Nutiva; Mary Waldner and Dale Rodrigues, founders of Mary's Gone Crackers.

Women as Democracy Builders: Reclaiming Our Commons from Corporate Power. Hosted by author and activist Anna Lappé. With: Leila Salazar-Lopez, Program Director at Amazon Watch; Kelle Louaillier, Executive Director of Corporate Accountability International; Lynne Twist, Pachamama Alliance co-founder, Soul of Money Institute founder.

Tools for Transforming Education: Whole Child, Whole Person, Whole World. Hosted by Cleary Vaughan-Lee, Education Coordinator for the Global Oneness Project. With: Mark Collin and Chuck Fisher of Dovetail Learning. *Interactive/Experiential*

Building Community Resilience from Detroit to Japan With: Gloria Rivera, Great Lakes Bioneers Detroit Coordinator; Carolyne Stayton, Co-Executive Director, Transition U.S.; Desa Van Laarhoven, Executive Director, Marion Institute and coproducer of Bioneers by the Bay; Bob Stilger, Co-President, New Stories.

Cultivating Women's Leadership: Alumnae Reunion and Sampler. Hosted by Nina Simons and Toby Herzlich, co-founders of Cultivating Women's Leadership trainings, with Co-facilitators Sarah Crowell, Artistic Director of Destiny Arts; Rachel Bagby, Improvisational Vocal & Social Artist.

Youth Leadership: Recognizing The Rights of Nature. With: Debra Weistar, Finding the Good and Synergia Learning Ventures.

Council: Restoring and Honoring the Sacred Feminine and Sacred Masculine. Facilitated by

Illarion Mercurieff, Aleut traditional messenger, and Sharon Shay Sloan, Council trainer and community steward. Interactive/Experiential (Double session)

Wiser Together World Café: Intergenerational Dialogue and Mentoring. With: David Shaw, Common Ground Center, UC Santa Cruz. Interactive

Networking: Facilitated daily networking focused on specific themes and/or geographic regions to build connection, learning and leverage in our fields. Themes TBA.

Connecting Across Difference Through Indigenous Learning Practices. An emergent conversation hosted by Melissa Nelson (Turtle Mountain Anishinaabe), President of the Cultural Conservancy/ professor at SFSU; with Rose von Thater Braan (Tuscorora/Cherokee), cofounder/ Director of the Native American Academy; Jeannette Armstrong (Okanagan), Executive Director of the En'owkin Centre.

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Narrative Medicine:

Building Peace Through Understanding How Others Perceive Their Worlds. With path-finding psychotherapist and Narrative Medicine facilitator **Shari Foos**, who creates workshops to heal organizations, businesses and at-risk youth. Interactive/Experiential.

Indigenous Forum.

Mother Earth – Father Sky:

Voices from the Spirit! Hosted by: **Tom B.K. Goldtooth** (Dine'/ Dakota), Executive Director, Indigenous Environmental Network. With: **Eddie Benton-Benai**, (Anishinabe Fish Clan), Grand Chief of the Three Fires Midewiwin Lodge; **Mona Polacca** (Hopi, Havasupai and Tewa), indigenous elder stateswoman, International Council of 13 Indigenous Grandmothers.

Walking Your Talk in the World:

Exploring Embodied Transformation. With **Suki Munsell, Ph.D.** Interactive/Experiential

Beloved Community: An Invitation. An emergent conversation hosted by: **Connie Cagampang Heller**, co-founder, Linked Fate Fund for Justice. With: **john a. powell**, Executive Director of the Haas Institute for a Fair and Inclusive Society at UC Berkeley;

Richard Healey, Executive Director, Grassroots Policy Project; **Catherine Lerza**, philanthropic advisor, organizer and consultant to Groundswell Fund.

Leadership Lessons from the Living Earth. With: **Toby Herzlich**, founder, Biomimicry for

Social Innovation and co-founder, Cultivating Women's Leadership trainings, and accompanied by a host of natural mentors. *Interactive/Experiential*

Indigenous Forum:

The Native Artist's Voice: A Commentary on Social and Environmental Issues. Hosted by: **Cara Romero**, Director, Bioneers Indigeneity Program. With: **Rulan Tangen** (Metis), dancer/choreographer; **William Wilson** (Navajo), photographer; **Kade Twist** (Cherokee), multi-disciplinary artist; **Tracey Rector** (Seminole), filmmaker and producer.

Spirit Moving into Form: The Sacred Dance of the Feminine and the Masculine in Today's World. With: **Pele Rouge Chadi-**

ma, **FireHawk Hulin**, **Lana Holmes**, co-founders of Timeless Earth Wisdom, Inc. *Interactive/Experiential*

Youth Leadership: Peaceful Warriors. Here's how to do vio-

lence prevention through movement, games, role-playing and conversation (all ages). Led by: **Sarah Crowell**, Artistic Director, Destiny Arts Youth Performance Company; **Rashidi Omari**, hiphop instructor; **Destiny Arts students.**

Council: Community

of Mentors: Intergenerational Reciprocity, Guidance and Mutual Exchange. Facilitated by **Ilarion Mercurieff** and **Sharon Shay Sloan**. *Interactive/Experiential*

The Crossroads of Art and Social Change. Performances plus discussion. With: **John Densmore**, iconic drummer of the legendary rock group, the Doors, author of *The Doors: Unhinged*, and **Riders on the Storm**; **Climbing PoeTree**, award-winning spoken-word activists; other TBA.

A Hero's Quest: Tapping Our Courage and Unleashing Our Ingenuity to Address Climate Change. With: **Betsy Taylor**, Breakthrough Strategies & Solutions; **John Neffinger**, KNP Communications.

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Exploring "Situatedness" and Power: Hosted by **Connie Cagampang Heller**, co-founder, Linked Fate Fund for Justice. With: **Richard Healey**, Executive Director, Grassroots Policy Project; **Jeannette Armstrong, Ph.D.** (Sylx Okanagan), traditional Okanagan knowledge keeper, cofounder and Executive Director of En'owkin Centre; **Claire Jean Kim**, Associate Professor of Political Science and Asian American Studies, UC Irvine.

Gender Reconciliation: Break-through in Healing Gender-Based Violence. With: **Will Keepin, Ph.D.** and **Rev. Cynthia Brix**, Co-Directors of the Satyana Institute and Gender Reconciliation International. *Interactive/Experiential*

Spiritual Ecology: A Spiritual Response to the Ecological Crisis. With: **Dekilah Chungyalpa**, Director of the World Wildlife Fund's Sacred Earth program; **Llewellyn Vaughan-Lee**, renowned Sufi teacher and

author; **Joanna Macy**, legendary activist and scholar of systems theory, deep ecology and Buddhism.

Gender Equality and Finding Balance: Diverse Approaches. An emergent conversation hosted by **Nina Simons**, Bioneers; With: **Ilarion Mercurieff**, Aleut traditional messenger; **Pat McCabe**, Dine (Navajo) writer, artist, activist, speaker and cultural liaison; **Will Keepin**, Co-Director of the Satyana Institute and Gender Reconciliation International; **Pele Rouge Chadima**, co-founder, Timeless Earth Wisdom, Inc.

Transforming Our Relationship to White Privilege to Co-Create Beloved Community. With: **Yeshi Neumann**, Rockwood Leadership Institute. *Experiential/Interactive*

Council: Initiation, Adulthood and the Resurgence of Community-Supported Rites of Passage. With: **Sharon Shay Sloan** and **Orland Bishop**, Executive Director of ShadeTree Multicul-

tural Foundation, Indaba leader and community healer. *Interactive/Experiential*

Campaign Connection: Mobilizing Women for Climate Solutions, presented by Women's Earth and Climate Caucus and International Women's Earth and Climate Initiative. With: **Osprey Orielle Lake**, **Sally Ranney**, **Claire Greensfelder**, **Atossa Soltani** of Amazon Watch; and a representative from the **Indigenous Environmental Network**.

Saturday evening performance by **Caroline Casey**: Change the Metaphor - Change the Culture! The popular radio host and stand-up astrologer delivers her "unique art of astro, mythological, political, guiding meta-story-telling".

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