

AWAKENING GLOBAL ACTION
August 1 - August 7, 2007

PODS

We will be dividing into small dialogue groups on days two and three (August 2-3) of the gathering. These groups will be based on your own interest in specific areas of global activism. We have included a list of these “pod communities.” Please indicate your first and second choices so that you can be placed in a group that reflects your own particular interests. We will try to accommodate your primary selection. Please indicate the first and second choice on your registration form.

1. Transformative Education, Social & Political Leadership

“World-mindedness” is no longer a luxury, but a necessity for survival in this new century. Diverse viewpoints and perspectives are critical for this generation of constructive change on a global scale. Pioneering global facilitators in this pod will connect around their shared commitment to making a difference in education, social services and political agendas and thereby initiate the transformation of perspectives and worldviews toward a sustainable, compassionate world.

2. Language of the Soul: Spirituality, Healing, Medicine, and Indigenous Wisdom

The majority of religions and cultural traditions consider disease and illness to be a fundamental part of the human condition. Spiritual factors associated with healing are increasingly being acknowledged. Illness is beginning to be deeply understood as a unique language to awakening or consciousness. This pod will explore healing, medicine, spirituality and indigenous wisdom as doorways to global healing as well as a tool for activism.

3. Media as Activism: Innovation, Art, Film, Journalism, Performance and Visual Arts

Culture is often defined by its media and art. Challenging mainstream media and building independent cultural voices are equally important components of media activism. This pod will explore how current and future art, performances and the use of media technology affect our world-view, senses and global cultural values.

4. Global World of Business and Nonprofits

Citizens and non-profit organizations can play an active role in shaping the future of our global economy. The emergence of a global civil society based upon partnership principles is now considered one of the real hopes to democratize the global political economy. In this pod we will work together to re-imagine global trade rules, how to inspire corporations to be accountable to people’s needs, exchange shared ideas for building strong and free labor, and how to promote fair and environmentally sustainable alternatives.

5. Deep Ecology, Environment and Sustainability Advocacy

The flourishing of human and nonhuman life on Earth has intrinsic value that should be shaping our environmental policies. Those who work for social change based on this recognition are motivated by love of nature as well as humanity. The Balinese emphasis on the relationship between humanity, the environment and spirituality is a model for our deep inquiry. In this pod we will explore how the needs of humanity can be balanced with environmental sustainability and survival of our shared planet.

