




H.O.M.E. JAM 2022

**Healing Our Movement Ecosystem (HOME)
Environmental Changemakers mini-Jam**

February 3, 4, 5
on Zoom



The HOME Jam brings together 25-30 environmental change-makers from diverse backgrounds, passions, ages and regions for three days of connecting, dreaming, cross-pollination and deep (un)learning. Since 2013, the annual HOME Jam has woven the journeys of leaders from across the environmental and climate movements, strengthening the synergistic ecosystem of our greater movement, and healing fragmentation through deep community building. This Feb 2022 mini Jam will be held virtually due to the COVID19 pandemic, and will provide opportunity for international community building. It will also plant the seeds for an in-person gathering later in 2022.

→ As **individuals** we gather to restore the transformative potential at the heart of our own projects, so often under tremendous stress, pressures and vulnerable to burnout.

→ As a **community** we gather to build relationships, to strengthen our ability to trust, bridge, and act collectively across lines of difference.

→ As a **culture**, we gather to change the systemic crisis at the root, through questioning our own assumptions and world-views. We strive to take our learnings home to transform our organizations.

We invite you as a key leader in this movement to slow down, to step away, to dream, to build, and to reconnect and realign with your whole self. Let's practice being the healing world we wish to see.

FINAL DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS:
JANUARY 25TH

What is a Jam?

In music, a jam is a creative, live gathering of musicians who together spontaneously create a new sound, where the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. Similarly, YES! jams are places where diverse leaders and visionaries bring together their passion, openness, and unique perspectives. We weave layers of experience, wisdom, heart, and spirit to create some real magic. To date, more than 185 jams have been held on six continents, bringing together young and intergenerational leaders from more than 85 nations.



Purpose of the HOME Jam

The related pressures on our environmental and social systems in this time are unprecedented and intensifying. Climate chaos is raging at home and impacting relatives around the world. The Pandemic continues to unravel lives, and our collective challenge in adapting to it is deepening division and polarization among people. Intensifying fires, floods, and weather patterns are reshaping ecosystems and how and where human communities live. Animal and plant communities are disappearing.

Some of the same rigid, separatist ideologies that are compromising both the Earth's living systems and our own ability to persist are also manifest in our movement cultures, creating misunderstandings, infighting, disenchantment and burnout. Our own professional experiences as well as the stories of past Jam participants across the environmental sector reveal common challenges: lack of time, lack of trust, overstretched capacities, limited resources.

And yet awareness is mounting; around the need for alternatives, for profound reorientations, for re-assessment of values and priorities, for coherence, and for belonging. There is an emerging call for renewal at every level - we need new venues, new modalities, and new conversations to lift up disparate and marginalized voices, catalyze the collective, and re-imagine solutions for our planet together. This is where the Jam comes in.

The "Healing our Movement Ecosystem" Environmental Changemakers Jam is co-organized by a diverse group of leaders working in service of environmental justice, with the support of YES! In the HOME Jam, we share in a lived experience of the transformative potential at the heart of ourselves, our organizations, our movements, and our world. We are inspired by our elder, Buddhist eco-philosopher Joanna Macy who explains that the point of this work is not to save the world, but to ensure that as the world falls apart, we don't turn on each other.

Testimonials from participants:

"In sixteen years of participating in and facilitating group processes, I have never experienced such a well-designed and effective transformational program."

- Megan Toben, Founder, The Eco-Institute at Pickards Mountain, Chapel Hill, North Carolina



"There is not one person here that I did not find this incredible unique luminosity in, and that sense grew throughout the days. The Container created felt authentic, safe, and strong. I felt excited about going deep and becoming vulnerable within the group. The forest was incredibly essential to integrating my personal healing."

- Megan Szrom, Director, Indigenous Wisdom & Permaculture Skills Convergence and Teacher, University of New Mexico, Taos, New Mexico

Thank you for helping me find my deepest grief and fiercest joy. I feel more healed. The Jam allowed me to be a witness of the necessity of giving and receiving authentic LOVE."

- Bevelyn Afor Ukah, Youth Food Systems Coordinator, the Center for Environmental Farming Systems, Greensboro, North Carolina



In the jam we will address three interconnected levels of transformation:

REJUVENATE

At the internal level, we aspire to give ourselves space to reflect on our personal stories, learn and unlearn, take off our masks, seek our next growing edge, recharge, and renew. We want to nurture our own spiritual and emotional health, to fire our activation and work in the world.

BUILD SOLIDARITY

At the interpersonal level, we make time for authentic conversations to emerge, to discover common ground, and to celebrate differences. By taking an honest, loving and transformative look at our conflicts, we seek to move beyond collaboration and allyship towards deep friendships that will sustain us over the long-term.

FOSTER COLLECTIVE LIBERATION

At the systemic level, we aim to link issues that are not commonly linked, to find new intersection points and to gain a clearer vision of the whole. We want to critically examine the tools and lenses we apply in our work in order to decolonize our imaginations and to examine the ways in which our individual liberation is contingent on the liberation of the whole, and vice versa.





We hope to emerge from the Jam renewed: bringing back grounded passion, spiritual fortitude, new relationships, and re-imagined solutions for our home communities and projects.

HOW IS THE JAM STRUCTURED?

A jam is not a conference, seminar, or a typical meeting. It offers multiple opportunities for deep, holistic exploration, in which each person has something to offer and something to receive.

An in person Jam explores our seed questions through facilitated dialogue, visioning exercises, sharing circles, collective ritual, artistic expression, hilarious games, participant-led workshops, outdoor adventure, space for solo reflection, and intentional free time for spontaneous interactions amongst the participants.

Our virtual mini jam will use similar tools adapted in creative ways for the online format. Numerous jams have taken place online, and it has been incredible to witness how deep we can go, and the international connections that can form through the online portal.

Ultimately, a jam is the fire where connections are forged. The support of genuine and deep community allows us to forego intellectualization and allows us to explore the depths.

WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?



We are looking for leaders in the environmental sector, to create a group of participants with diversity in:

- **Livelihood & Perspective** - We welcome indigenous voices, members of displaced communities, environmental resource managers, clean energy engineers, food justice advocates, social entrepreneurs, environmental lawyers, policy wonks, members of communities affected by environmental racism, conservation biologists, community organizers, biomimicry designers, sustainable technology professionals, queer ecologists and anyone who wants to be the change in how the environmental sector operates. We look for a vibrant diversity in:
- **Age** - we aspire for intergenerational participation, approximately between the ages of 20-70.
- **Identities and worldviews** (e.g. class, race, religion, sexuality, gender, age, dis/ability, ethnicity, etc.)
- **Experience** (from “just starting out” to “been at it for years”)
- **Roles** (from “person on the ground” to “founder and director”)
- **Passions & focus** (waters, forests, wildlife, energy, economy, climate change, waste, etc.)

**To leverage the movement-building impact of the jam, we encourage applicants to identify other individuals and organizations with whom you would like to collaborate more effectively and encourage them to apply as well.

WHO IS ORGANIZING THIS YEAR'S HOME JAM?



DR. RENE HENERY

Dr. Rene Henery is an ecologist, eco-geographer, and artist who holds a joint position as California Science Director for Trout Unlimited, the US's oldest and largest salmon and river advocacy organization, as well as part time research faculty with the University of Nevada, Reno, Global Water Center. Rene's work embraces water, diversity, connectivity and equity as pathways to resilient communities and ecosystems in his home state of California and beyond.



TIANNA ARREDONDO

Tianna Arredondo (t/they/them) is the California and Hawaii Regional Organizer for 350.org, working to support local leaders to create structures and processes of accountability that center the needs of people of color within the non-profit industrial complex/various climate justice spaces. Tianna centers collaborating with clear intention and processes of accountability to support the evolution of a climate justice movement that is led by black, brown, and indigenous - centered narratives. Tianna's current work is focused on co-creating community care models, interdependent relationships, and processes for healthy disturbance.



SHILPA JAIN

Shilpa Jain is currently rooting herself in Oakland/Berkeley, CA, where she serves as the Executive Director of YES!. YES! works with social changemakers at the meeting point of internal, interpersonal and systemic change, and aims to co-create thriving, just and balanced ways of life for all. Prior to taking on this role, Shilpa spent two years as the education and outreach coordinator of Other Worlds and ten years as a learning activist with Shikshantar: The Peoples' Institute for Rethinking Education and Development, based in Udaipur, India, where she worked on a number of urban sustainability initiatives. She is passionate about dance and music, organic and natural farming, upcycling and zero waste living, asking appreciative questions, and being in community.



KYLE LEMLE

Kyle Lemle (he/him) is a Masters in Forestry candidate at Yale School of Environment, focusing on the power of forests to mitigate climate change, solve the biodiversity crisis and secure indigenous land tenure. He is a Wyss Scholar for Conservation in the American West, and a Kerry Fellow, serving Special Envoy on Climate Change John Kerry. As a forester, organizer, facilitator, strategy consultant and musician working to catalyze the impact of organizations across the world who work at the intersections of environmental justice, forest restoration, and spiritual ecology. As a climate organizer, Kyle helped mobilize tens of thousands of people as a leader of CA RISE for Climate, made international headlines as a SustainUS UN Climate Talks delegate, and helped build the international multi-faith climate movement as Director of Distributed Organizing with GreenFaith. Channeling art & spirit into movement work, Kyle has transformed guns into shovels as Co-Founder of Lead to Life, and brings music & harmony to the streets as the founder & co-director of Thrive Choir.

[kylelemle.com]

ELIAS SERRAS

Elias is an organizational consultant, event producer, and facilitator who is passionate about systemic transformation. He works with a variety of communities and practices that are grounded in creative resilience, intercultural collaboration, and ecological wisdom. Having spent much of the past decade living and learning in Ecovillages around the world, he is always seeking ways to apply lessons learned on the fringes to more mainstream and urban contexts. He has also followed interests and done work in the realms of Men's Work, Rites of Passage, Mindfulness and Humanistic Psychology. Originally from upstate New York, he has lived in many places picking up stories and perspectives. He currently is working with YES! to develop community learning and partnership initiatives and for NewStories as an associate.



GABI JUBRAN

Gabi Jubran is a community weaver, systems thinker and storyteller committed to the shift from a system built on extraction to one designed for regeneration. He seeks to unify social movements around a shared purpose of supporting our individual and collective well-being. He is Founder/Executive Director of HAPPI (Helping Awesome Parents Parent Intentionally) which intends to cultivate healthy communities that help parents and kids be present, be themselves and be happy. Gabi is passionate about dancing and music, having deep and/or silly conversations, smiling and helping people see the best in themselves :D

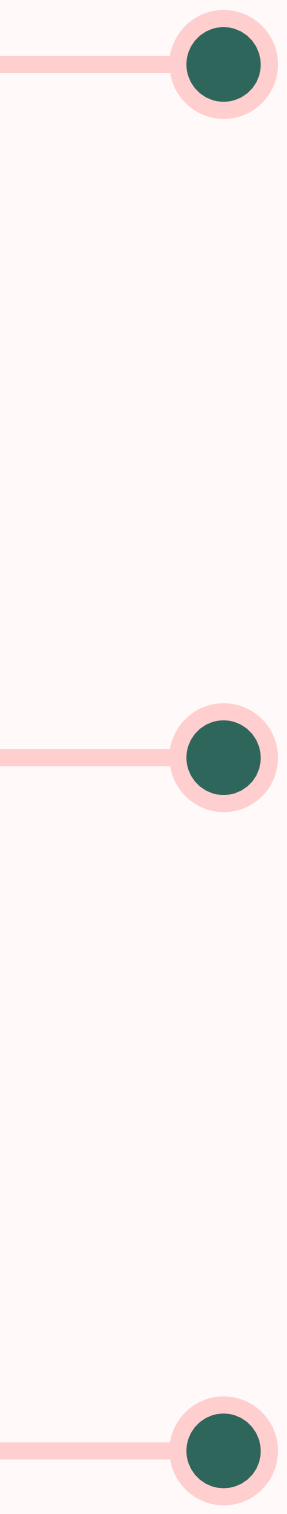




Dates & Venue

The Mini Jam will be held across three days with all-group zoom sessions from 9 - 11 am Pacific Standard Time (PST) and optional 30 minute hangout afterward. We also anticipate spontaneous participant-led sessions over these days and beyond. February 3, 4, and 5, 2022 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday) - please keep your days open and spacious so we can co-create!

We are planning an in-person jam in Northern California later in 2022, depending on the pandemic. Stay tuned.



It requires resources to put together this event, in terms of organizing and facilitation time. For that, we ask that participants contribute on a sliding scale between USD \$50 - \$200 to participate in the HOME mini-Jam on Zoom.

This may be still a significant expense for many people, and we do not want money to be an impediment to your participation. **So nobody will be turned away for lack of funds.** We can offer a monthly payment plan to make it work for you.

We also encourage applicants to seek support from their organizations. Many participants have been able to receive professional development funds as they have been able to bring back their learnings and experiences from the Jam to their organizations.

And, if you are in a position to contribute more, wonderful! The extra amount will go towards our scholarship pool for those in need.



Contributions

[APPLY HERE:](#)

[HTTPS://YESWORLD.ORG/HOMEJAMAPP/](https://yesworld.org/homejamapp/)

FINAL DEADLINE: JANUARY 25TH, 2022

Please feel free to contact us at
<homeecojam@gmail.com> if you have any
queries. We eagerly look forward to hearing
from you!

With gratitude for who you are and all you do,

Tianna, Kyle, Shilpa, Rene, Elias, and Gabi

