

Healing Our Movement Ecosystem

HOME JAM 2025

for Environmental + Climate Leaders

SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS, CA

August 17-22, 2025

The HOME Jam brings together 30 passionate, dynamic changemakers of diverse backgrounds and regions, from throughout the climate and environmental movements.

Join us for connecting, visioning, and learning together towards personal, interpersonal, and systemic transformation.

To learn more and apply, visit
yesworld.org/homejam2025

Priority Application Deadline: May 15, 2025

Final Application Deadline: July 1, 2025

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Since 2013, the HOME Jam has woven together the journeys of hundreds of leaders from across the environmental and climate movements—strengthening a synergistic ecosystem that powers our collective impact. As we face unprecedented challenges in our rapidly changing world, this year’s HOME Jam offers a powerful opportunity to connect, cross-pollinate ideas, and envision the regenerative world we know is possible.

We invite you—as a passionate advocate in the climate and environmental justice movement—to step away from your daily routine, breathe deeply, and realign with your whole self so you can shine even brighter in your work.

Let’s embody the healing we wish
to see in the world.

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Why Gather? Why Now?

Our environmental and social systems are under constant, intensifying pressure. Climate chaos is unfolding at home and around the globe, and the sixth mass extinction is well underway—leaving us with both profound grief and an urgent call to action.

The very ideologies that have harmed our planet are also fracturing our movement cultures. Across the environmental sector, we hear common stories of limited time, fractured trust, overstretched capacities, and competition for scarce resources. These pressures have led to misunderstandings, infighting, disenchantment, and burnout—threatening the strength and unity of our shared and interconnected missions.

Now more than ever, awareness is growing. People are recognizing the need to “move at the speed of trust,” build bridges across differences, and nurture cultures of belonging. These aren’t just “soft skills” but essential foundations for our movement’s vitality. This is exactly where the HOME Jam comes in.



The Purpose of the HOME Jam

As we face significant movement building challenges, new forms of learning and community are available to us to strengthen our ability to act collectively. We are guided by these inquiries:

- How could we generate more mutual support within and across the full spectrum of environmental activism?
- How does personal healing impact collective liberation, and vice versa?
- How can we apply our wisdom to strategically join forces across movement sectors to catalyze transformation?
- How do we protect our spirits and keep our hearts soft in these times?

What questions are alive for you? Bring them to the Jam!

The HOME Jam transforms on three interconnected levels:
personal, interpersonal, and systemic.



Receive Rejuvenation

We create space for restoration, healing, and inspiration so that each of us can nurture our transformative potential. Here, you're invited to take off your mask, explore your next growing edge, and connect your mind, heart, and spirit to your work.



Build Solidarity

We ignite a collective fire that forges strong relationships. Through exercises that stretch our comfort zones, we discover common ground and celebrate our differences. By honestly addressing our conflicts, we move beyond collaboration and allyship towards deep friendships that sustain us long after the Jam ends—as our elder Joanna Macy reminds us, the point isn't to “save the world” but to ensure that, even as the world falls apart, we don't turn on one another.



Foster Collective Liberation

We intentionally examine the tools and perspectives we use in our work to decolonize our imaginations. We explore how our individual liberation is intertwined with the freedom of the whole and learn practices we can bring home to transform our organizational and coalition cultures. We learn how we can weave our work together into an interconnected whole for larger systems change.

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What is a Jam?

In music, a jam is a creative, live gathering of musicians who come together to create an emergent new sound—where the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. Similarly, YES! Jams are spaces where diverse leaders and visionaries pool their passion, unique perspectives, and open hearts to heal fractures and build radically inclusive communities. To date, more than 200 jams have been held in 85 nations across six continents, forging connections that last a lifetime.



The Jam is about cultivating a culture of deep belonging with ourselves, one another, and the Earth. It's a collaborative space to imagine and live into the practice of a beloved community. Balancing structure with spontaneity, we come together to show up authentically and generously—sharing loving attention and creative gifts to embody the healing we wish to see in the world.



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“The Jam afforded us a unique opportunity to feel loved and to show love. This has lifted a heavy burden off my mind, and I am going back home knowing that I have a community of friends who share in my vision.”

Nehemiah Tetey Odjer-Bio, 40,
Program Coordinator (Forest &
Biodiversity), Society for Ecological
Restoration, Friends of the Earth
Ghana, Accra, Ghana
HOME Jam 2024

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How is the Jam structured? What will we be doing?

A Jam is not a conference, seminar, or typical meeting.

Together, we will explore seed questions through facilitated dialogue, visioning exercises, sharing circles, collective ritual, artistic expression, playful games, participant-led workshops, outdoor adventures, quiet spaces for reflection, and intentional free time for spontaneous magic-making.



Rather than trying to “solve the world’s problems” or produce specific programmatic outcomes (like counting trees planted or policies enacted), we’ll make space for simply being and belonging—to heal from burnout and build a community that moves at the speed of trust. The relationships, synergies, and partnerships we form here will sustain us long after we return to our day-to-day work.



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Who is invited?

We're creating a community of practitioners from across the environmental movement. To maximize our movement-building impact, we also encourage you to invite other individuals and organizations with whom you'd like to collaborate—ask them to apply, too.



We welcome diversity in:

- **Livelihoods & Perspectives:**
 - foresters
 - clean energy engineers
 - food justice advocates
 - social entrepreneurs
 - environmental lawyers
 - policy advocates
 - members of intentional communities/ecovillages
 - those affected by environmental racism
 - conservation biologists
 - community organizers
 - sustainable tech designers
 - climate art-ivists
 - and anyone eager to reshape how our environmental movement operates
- **Identities & Worldviews:** Class, race, religion, sexuality, gender, dis/ability, ethnicity, and more.
- **Age & Experience:** We embrace intergenerational participation, welcoming leaders above the age of 18.

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Dates + Venue

Sunday August 17 - Friday August 22, 2025

Ben Lomand Quaker Center:

Located 90 minutes south of San Francisco in the redwood forests of the Santa Cruz Mountains, the Quaker Center is a serene and magical retreat space away from the hustle and bustle of modern life. We will be staying in simple rooms and having delicious, plant-forward food prepared by our chef



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Cost of Attendance

Sliding Scale: \$300 – \$1200

We offer tiered pricing based on your financial situation.

The at-cost price per person for this Jam is \$1050—half of which covers food, our chef, lodging, and supplies, and the other half supports the honoraria for our organizers and facilitators.

We encourage you to seek support from your organization; many past participants have received professional development funds knowing they'll bring back valuable learnings and tools.

We also understand that even the lower end of our scale may be a significant expense, so please let us know your needs. And if you're in a position to contribute more, wonderful—the extra funds will help grow our scholarship pool for those in need.

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Your HOME Team

Shilpa Jain is currently rooting herself in Oakland/Berkeley, CA. For 11+ years, she served as the Executive Director of YES!, working with social changemakers at the meeting point of internal, interpersonal and systemic change, and aiming 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 served as coordinator of the Swapathgami (Walkouts-Walkons) Network. She has facilitated dozens of transformative leadership gatherings with hundreds of young leaders from over 50 countries. She is passionate about dance and music, organic and natural farming, upcycling and zero waste living, asking appreciative questions and being in community. A focus on healing, forgiveness, compassion, love and wholeness permeates all of her work



Avi Kruley (she/her) thrives in the liminal magic of transitions. Her diverse toolbox of experience and education empowers her to build bridges from our ideals to our daily life, putting intention into practice. She has been a passionate player in the world of intentional community for over a decade, when she first discovered the magic of this unique intersection of people, place, and purpose. With a dual degree MBA/MPA in Sustainable Management from Presidio Graduate School, Avi spent the first couple Covid years serving as Director of Community Well-Being at Mount Madonna Center until she took a leap of faith into following her dreams of co-creating a new intentional community. She is now a community consultant and facilitator for the non-profit she co-founded, The Next Big Step, and lives in The Sanctuary, an intimate community home in Oakland focused on sacred living.

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Originally from Asheville, NC, Jodi Lasseter is an educator, facilitator, organizer and ritualist who has been engaged at all levels of the climate justice movement. She founded and serves as the Co-Executive Director of the NC Climate Justice Collective (NCCJC), a statewide movement ecosystem of environmental justice communities doing popular education, civic engagement and cultural organizing. Through previous leadership positions at the Amazon Alliance, Engage Network, and Friends of the Earth, she has partnered with hundreds of communities in the US and abroad. She co-founded the HOME Jam and created the 4Rs of Social Transformation framework used by Yes! Jams all over the world. She also founded and leads Womyn of Wunjo, a women's training program in European earth-based spirituality and ecofeminism. Jodi has a BA from UNC-Chapel Hill and earned her MA as a Social Change Fellow at Clark University's International Development, Community and Environment program. She currently lives near Durham NC, where she delights in song circles, playing frame drums, and exploring the best local swimming holes.

www.ncclimatejustice.info



Born into a large, multicultural Mexican American family in Los Angeles, Marisa Villarreal (she/her) grew up surrounded by matriarchs who nurtured community through family, spirituality, and food. Shaped by these women, she sees herself as a nurturer, connector and cross-pollinator, working to bring more heart, joy, and spiritual/ancestral practices into the climate movement (and revolution). For over 15 years, Marisa has helped build and manage intersectional programs for organizations that aspire towards climate resilience, equity, and social justice. In her day job, Marisa works as a Program Director at GRID Alternatives, an organization advancing economic and environmental justice through renewable energy jobs and technology. The work that calls most to her soul is designing and facilitating spaces, like the Jam, for transformation, healing, dreaming, and play. She's called Oakland her home for the past 11 years, where she finds joy through cooking big delicious meals with and for her friends, surfing, and dance parties.

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Zihir Unique is a climate resilience and sustainability advocate dedicated to building greener, more equitable communities. With a background in program development, outreach strategy, and community education, they have led initiatives that reduce environmental disparities, increase urban canopy cover, and empower residents to take action in the face of climate change.

Beyond strategy and policy, they believe real change happens when communities are engaged, informed, and equipped with the tools to create lasting impact. From spearheading volunteer-driven environmental projects to designing public education campaigns, they bring a mix of data-driven solutions and people-centered approaches to their work.

When not working on sustainability initiatives, Zihir channels his passion for movement and connection into music and wellness. He crafts house, disco, and Afrobeats sets as a DJ, and is also working to make holistic health practices more inclusive to transmasculine people

At the core of everything they do is a commitment to fostering resilience—whether in ecosystems, communities, or individuals.



Elia Serras is an EcoSomatic facilitator and guide for individuals, groups and organizations. His work is to empower embodied belonging through Truth, Healing, and Wholeness. Contact with wilderness saved his life as a younger man and inspired him to live and learn in communities ranging from traditional villages to contemporary Ecovillages in 11 different countries.

Elia is a co-founding teacher of Great Earth School, and a facilitator on multiple Jam teams with YES! He has been working with men and masculinity throughout the US since 2018 with several organizations including Mankind Project, Sacred Sons, Kinhood, and Grieving Man.

He currently lives in a cabin in the woods on the Olympic peninsula, and can often be found singing, dancing or breaking bread wherever the village fire is burning bright. See more at EcoSomaBe.



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Apply today!

<https://forms.gle/LdzsVXGPWAPgXqJE9>

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Please feel free to contact us at
homeecojam@gmail.com if you have any questions.

We look forward to hearing from you!

With gratitude for who you are and all you do,
Avi, Elias, Jodi, Marisa, Shilpa, and Zi