



*2nd Annual GFJI Gathering*  
**Food and Spirit - Cross Cultural Understanding  
for Systems Change**

**Friday October 30-Sunday, November 1, 2009**  
**Pre-Gathering Trainings-Wednesday October 28-Thursday October 29**

**Tommy Thompson Youth Center, WI State Fairgrounds  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin**



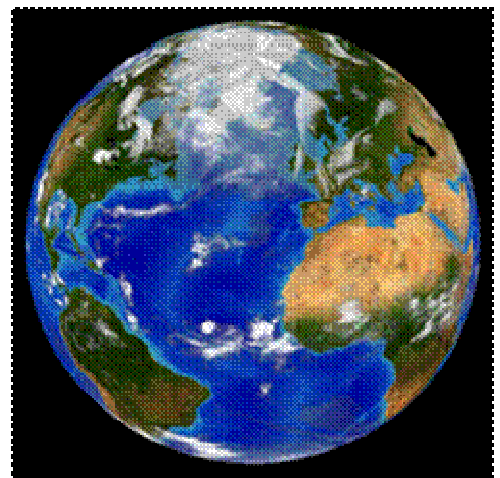
*(portion of mural by GFJI members at 1<sup>st</sup> Gathering, September 2008)*



## 2nd Annual GFJI Gathering Food and Spirit - Cross Cultural Understanding for Systems Change

**We** come together this year at our Gathering to continue our task as leaders working on the wide array of issues that have manifested as a result of injustice in the world and find a common bond and fellowship to specifically use the dismantling of racism in our food system as a powerful tool for healing our communities, our environment and ourselves. We ask that each of you consider your culture and the spiritual nature of your work.

During **Humanity's Historical Journey**, we have developed special relationships to specific food sources making them sacred. As events of major significance occurred, various personalities emerged representing the dominant expressions of this universal power for the life of any particular tribal people. Spiritual experiences, the foundation of religion and life-ways, have formed the basis of social, political and economic institutions. Food and Spirit is an element of the interdependency of all life on Earth that we invite you to focus your attention on during the Gathering, as we progress towards food sovereignty for all people.



We will be defining our mission, actions for 2010 and regional membership development and making commitments to the work of GFJI and to actions that lead to increased food sovereignty in our communities!



***Our goal is to return to our communities with a renewed sense of purpose and committed to: INSPIRE,***

**ENERGIZE, SUPPORT AND INFORM!**



# What is GFJI?

Growing Food and Justice for all Initiative is striving to create a network of activists who are working toward a just food system and world. We are a group of individuals, organizations and institutional partners aimed at dismantling racism and empowering low-income and communities of color through sustainable and local agriculture, but also linking with parallel social and environmental movements.



This comprehensive network views dismantling racism as a core principal which brings together social change agents from diverse sectors working to bring about new, healthy and sustainable food systems and supporting and building multicultural leadership in impoverished communities throughout the world.

The vision for this initiative is to establish a powerful network of individuals, organizations and community based entities all working toward a food secure and just world.

## **The gathering has several key goals:**

- ***To build networks and alliances between GFJI members and affiliates***
- ***To strengthen and support leadership prowess and confidence***
- ***To facilitate anti-racism, dismantling racism and multicultural alliance building workshops and trainings geared toward all levels of experience***
- ***To share stories, engage in dialogues and build community***
- ***To take actions that lead to food equity, sovereignty and increased mental, physical and spiritual health for all.***



## GFJI Pre-Gathering Trainings

### Pre-Gathering Workshop Schedule:

Wednesday, October 28 – Friday, November 1 2009

#### Intensive Leadership Facilitator Training (ILFT)

(at Tommy Thompson Youth Center)

Wednesday, October 28	8am-5pm
Thursday, October 29	9am-5pm
Thursday evening:	West African Bembe celebration
Friday, October 30(optional)	9am-11am

#### Growing Power Workshop

(at Growing Power's facility)

Thursday, October 29	8am-5pm
(at Tommy Thompson Youth Center)	
Thursday evening:	West African Bembe celebration



## Pre-Gathering Workshop Descriptions

### Intensive Leadership Facilitation Training (ILFT)

held at Tommy Thompson Youth Center

Wednesday October 28 8-5pm; Thursday October 29 9-5pm

Friday November 1 (optional) 9-11am

Designed to build a community of leaders and provide intensive training and dialogue for participants to facilitate anti-racist food justice trainings in their own regions/communities. The goal of this component of the conference is to build regional GFJI 'network chapters' that specifically address food justice and institutional racism.

Participants will be provided: (1) examples of institutional and structural racism and how it operates, (2) practical applications of facilitating change and becoming a change agent will be explored, (3) individual leadership styles/skills will be identified and an action plan for change will be developed.

Additionally a primary training tool the ILFT will use is *Theater of the Oppressed* as part of the workshop.



**Theater of the Oppressed FACILITATORS:** Jenny Wanasek and Mark Weinberg have been unlocking potential in individuals and groups for decades. They founded the Center for Applied Theatre in 2001. The techniques they use are the result of many years of intensive training with Nobel Peace Prize nominee, **Augusto Boal**, whose work has inspired and created actual change in communities and organizations around the world. They have taught interactive theatre techniques at the university level, and have facilitated workshops for a wide variety of groups with varying needs and approaches, including social service organizations, governmental agencies, NGOs, neighborhood associations, administrators, hourly workers, staff, students, and faculty.



**Session 1 – Theater of the Oppressed** facilitators will work with participants to develop a sense of community and to raise questions about their own habits of thought and their own perceptions about themselves and others. With this as a basis, topics to be examined will include:

- the notion of race and white privilege,
- the ways in which sexism and racism impact the organization, action and effectiveness of activist groups,
- and processes for constructive and creative leadership in and by those groups.

**Session 2 – Theater of the Oppressed** facilitators will focus on communication, both within groups and to the wider public, and strategies for dismantling racism and promoting social justice. Participants will be guided in the creation of an interactive performance through which they can share their concerns and questions with the rest of the conference – and animate conference participants to try out solutions to problems in implementing the mission of the organization.



**Performance** – The final piece of the workshop will be an **interactive performance** at the **Opening Event** of the conference on Friday, facilitated by Mark Weinberg.



## **Growing Power Workshop**

**Thursday October 30**

**8am-5pm All Day Intensive workshop**

**Held at Growing Power's facility**



**Workshop Facilitators: Will Allen and staff**



The Growing Power workshop is an intensive, hands-on, training workshop at the Milwaukee facility. This workshop offers diverse groups the opportunity to learn, plan, develop, operate, and sustain community food projects. Project participants leave the workshop with improved skills that they can take to their communities and pass on to others. This workshop is

appropriate for both rural and urban projects.

**Please visit [www.growingpower.org](http://www.growingpower.org) for more details!**

Please come prepared to get your hands dirty! Leave your dress shoes at home and wear your farmer duds. Bring work shoes and layers of clothing – the greenhouses are very warm and it can be cold outside.

Workshops Topics:

***Aquaponics***—Learn how to build indoor fish and plant systems for food production. Participants will set up a small scale Aquaponics system and learn how to maintain and monitor tilapia fish production in a closed loop/natural system.

***Living Biological Worm Systems***—An Innovative Approach to Sustainable Production. Learn how to develop a comprehensive and sustainable system for growing food year-round without heat.

***Vermiculture***—Learn how to construct and maintain a worm bin, how to use vermicompost for fertilizer and making money, and how plants and vermicompost remediate the soil.

***Composting***—Learn how to build indoor/small scale compost systems, and design and maintain outdoor/small and large scale systems. Discuss collection of waste streams in the city or on the farm.

***Year-round Greenhouse Production***—Learn the basics in seed starting, propagation and how to grow year-round greens of all types, herbs and micro greens. This is a great way to round out your farm operation and bring in profit and food security all year.





2nd Annual GFJI Gathering  
**Food and Spirit - Cross Cultural Understanding  
for Systems Change**

**2009 GFJI Gathering Overview**  
**Friday October 30<sup>th</sup> – Sunday November 1<sup>st</sup> 2009**

**Building and supporting a community of practice, purpose and action!**

Starting in November 2008, the GFJI Community Calls took on the form of a community dialogue initiated by a “seed germinator.” These calls have started some very interesting, heartfelt, and motivating discussions on the complexity of addressing racism and oppression in our food system and communities. They also



inspired the workshop format for this year’s gathering.

**Change Makers Workshops** are group conversations around an important question, theme or practical experience. Built on the format of our monthly GFJI Community Calls, Change Maker workshops will utilize dialogue as the tool for communicating. Dialogue provides an opportunity for each member in the group to contribute their ideas and perspectives while others listen openly. Most great

ideas and many strong relationships begin with a conversation.

**Tool Kit Building Workshops** will complement our deep listening Change Maker workshops. Tool Kit Skills Building Workshops. The idea behind the Tool Kit Workshop is to provide interactive sessions to introduce one or more activities that facilitators and community leaders can use to warm up, wake up, or open up a group, and also to put awareness into action!

**Open Space Dialogues:**

There will be space for participants to gather together and engage in dialogues about how racism affects our communities, food systems work and ourselves. These sessions are open ended and can be used to continue conversations that are sparked in workshops or by attendees wanting to informally lead a workshop. There will be space from morning through the evening for open space dialogue. Primarily held in the Lobby, but can be taken outdoors. Flip Charts and markers will be available at the registration desk.



**Group Visioning Project and Mask Making:**

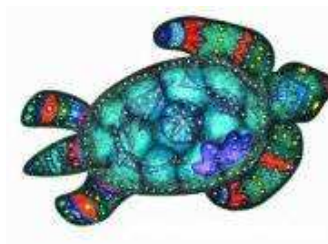
As part of the open space, a group art making project that embodies the spirit of the gathering will be created (at the first Gathering we invited all participants to create an image that reflects what their community, region, country or our world will look like as a result of dismantling racism). **Think Big!** Write, draw pictures, collage, create an image by yourself or with folks from your organization, community or someone you strike up an affinity with during one of the sessions. The images will be invited to be hung in the lobby to inspire us all. We encourage you to bring photos of your current projects and to use some of your time during GFJI Gathering to re-think/re-vision your work!



Also, materials will be available to make a “masquerade” mask for reflection and if you chose to wear for Saturday Night’s Dance (a \$5/donation for art supplies will be appreciated for this activity): all cultures use masks as forms of art, cultural expression and spiritualized metaphor, explore how we use ‘masks’ in our daily lives and in our work.

**Social Marketplace Exchange:**

The Marketplace provides space at this Gathering for networking and time to learn further about the efforts of our colleagues across the country. The Marketplace will be an informal Exhibit Hall and Poster Session. Participants are welcome to bring small displays, goods to sell or trade – or just flyers – or just themselves. We will provide tables, chairs, and signs for everyone. This will be a time for everyone to promote their organization, project, or vision and learn about others.







## **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual GFJI Gathering Schedule and Descriptions**

**Friday October 30<sup>th</sup> – Sunday November 1<sup>st</sup> 2009**

### **Schedule at a Glance**

**Friday, October 30, 2009**

**Sunrise walk – meet in lobby at 6:30am**

7:00 AM	Breakfast
Noon	Box lunches
1:00 – 3:00PM	Opening whole group session
3:00 - 3:30	Break
3:30 – 5:00	Break out discussions
6:00-10:00 PM	Grub Dinner and Kit distribution: hosted by IATP Social Marketplace Exchange



**Saturday October 31, 2009**

**Sunrise walk – meet in lobby at 6:30am**

6:30 – 8:00	Breakfast
7:00 – 10:00 AM	Tours
10:30 – 12:00	Whole group session
12 – 1:30	Lunch Chapter/Branch regional organizing
1:30 – 3:00	Breakout Sessions
3:00	Break and Snack
3:30 – 5:30	Breakout Sessions
6:00 – 7:30	Dinner
8:00 –	Masquerade Dance Party, Grandmother Moon Ceremony and Men's Drum Circle (see description)

**Sunday November 1, 2009**

**Sunrise walk – Meet in lobby at 6:30am**

7:00 – 9:00	Breakfast
8:00 – 9:00	Food and Spirit Multicultural/Non-Denominational Prayer Service
9:00 – 11:00	GFJI committee meetings
9:30 – 11:30	Community Food Project Grant Program Info & Resource Session

**11:30 – 12:00 Closing Celebration Lobby** (outside weather permitting)



## **Complete Schedule with Workshops**

### **Friday's Schedule, October 30, 2009**

7:00 – 9:00 AM Continental Breakfast (Banquet Room #2)

7:00 – 3:30 PM Registration Lobby

Noon – 1:00 PM Box lunches

#### **1:00 – 3:00 PM Welcome & Opening Session (Banquet Room #2)**

Will Allen, CEO, Growing Power

Gary Griggs, Chair of GFJI Steering Committee

Theater of the Oppressed presentation



**Culture and Spirit:** Opening, ancestral call, connecting food and spirit.

**Welcome, Tone Setting, Geographic:** Will Allen shares thoughts on the gathering, sets the tone and leads us through a geographical line up of where in the country we are from – E, N, W, S. We will move to relative areas of the room.

**Introductions:** Introduces guests/officials  
**GFJI Introductions & ILFT Update**

3:00 – 3:30 Hearty snack break

#### **3:30 – 5:00 PM Changemaker and Toolkit Building Sessions**

**Getting Leadership: Tools to make our work ethical, relevant and transformative...**  
 Classroom #1

**Ace of Spades: Tools for Social Reform...**Classroom #2

**Art Gardens to Create Sacred Earth Connections and Dismantle Racism..**Classroom #3

**Building a racially inclusive Community Garden....**Multi Purpose Room

**Good Food for All People of Color...**Banquet #1

**Open Studio – Visions for our community! Available throughout the Gathering..**Lobby



## Saturday's Schedule, October 31, 2009

Sunrise walk – meet in lobby at 6:30am

6:30 - 8:00 AM Breakfast

7:00 – 10:00 AM Tours- gather in Lobby at 7AM sharp buses will begin loading until filled to capacity

Tour #1: Growing Power Tour;

Tour #2: Milwaukee's response to the Food Desert (Food Apartheid) Crisis;

Tour #3: Urban Underground

10:30 – 12:00 **Whole group session – Regional Organizing and membership Culture & Spirit Opening:** connecting food and spirit.

**Roll Call:** Regroup into regional spaces – take some time to introduce each other and get to know those in your area.

**Member Discussion:** - Introduce specifics about what it means to be a member

**Introduce the Chapter component:** Discuss local and regional issues and commonalities

12 – 1:30 **Lunch Chapter/Branch regional organizing**

**Discussion:** Review documents and questions and statements to spark discussions.

**Reporting:** Share regional levels issues and interests and then see if we can pull together a more national agenda

1:30 – 3:00 **Changemaker and Toolkit Building Sessions**



**Bringing Fair Trade..Classroom #1**

**Corn as a Metaphor..Classroom #2**

**We are all Leaders!..Classroom #3**

**Using media to Grow Food Justice..Banquet #2**

**Transformation: Restorative artmaking as reflection for community leaders..Multi-purpose room**

**Open Studio – Visions for your community!  
Available throughout the Gathering Lobby**

3:00

**Break and Hearty Snack**



## Saturday's Schedule, October 31, continued

3:30 -5:30 Changemaker and Toolkit Building Sessions

**The Emperor Wears No Clothes: Breaking through neoliberal culture and rebuilding the real world..Classroom #1**

**Elevating Health and Spirit through Nutritional Food Colors..Classroom #2**

**Anti-Oppressive Change from Within Organizations ..Classroom #3**

**Culture, Food and Spirit..Multi-Purpose Room**



**Open Studio – Visions for your community! Available throughout the Gathering..Lobby**



6:00 – 7:30

Dinner

8:00 –

**Masquerade Dance Party,  
Grandmother Moon Ceremony and  
Men's Drum Circle (see description)**

**Sunrise walk – Meet in lobby at 6:30am**

7:00 – 9:00 Breakfast

8:00 – 9:00 Food and Spirit Multicultural/Non-Denominational Prayer Service  
Multi-Purpose Room

9:00- 11:30 **Breakout sessions and GFJI committee meetings**

**Communications Committee: Classroom #1**

**Membership and Regional Organizing: Classroom #2**

**Education Committee: Classroom #3**

**Fundraising Committee: Multi-Purpose Room**

**Gathering and ILFT Committee: Banquet #2**

**Community Food Project Grant Program Information and Resource Session**

*Banquet #1*

**11:30 – 12:00 Closing Celebration** Lobby (outside weather permitting)



## Strategy Session on a Campaign to End the World Food Crisis

Sunday, November 1, 12:30-2 PM

**GFJI - Gathering, Tommy Thompson Youth Center (Banquet Room #2)** Immediately following the GFJI gathering, join the US Working Group on the Food Crisis to build an inclusive and unifying campaign to end the crisis of our food system. The goal of the campaign is to bring attention to the underlying causes of the food crisis and to promote the real solutions needed to fix our broken food system. We aim to develop messages to amplify the voices of the many movements fixing the food system, and encourage stronger connections among US-based groups and international social movement allies.

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING the GFJI gathering (as you make your travel plans, please factor in a few extra hours). Participation is free and **lunch will be included!** For more information and to **RSVP**, contact: Stephen Bartlett, Agricultural Missions, [sbartlett@ag-missions.org](mailto:sbartlett@ag-missions.org).

## **GFJI 2009 Gathering - Workshop Types**

Change Makers Workshops are group conversations around an important question, theme or practical experience. Built on the format of our monthly GFJI Community Calls, Change Maker workshops will utilize dialogue as the tool for communicating. Dialogue provides an opportunity for each member in the group to contribute their ideas and perspectives while others listen openly. Most great ideas and many strong relationships begin with a conversation.



Each Change Maker workshop has a “**facilitator**” or **host**, to make sure all group members are heard and to promote dialogue; a “**germinator**”/**topic setter** to introduce the topic and set the tone for the discussion; and a “**harvester**”-**note taker/documenter** to record and capture the insights shared during the workshop for future learning and movement building.

All sessions are discussion based and signify a shift from the conventional ‘expert’ approach. Please come ready to participate!

### **Toolkit Skills Building Sessions**

Designed to complement our deep listening and dialogue centered Change Maker workshops, we are offering another type of session, Toolkit/ Skills Building Workshops. The idea behind the Toolkit Workshop is to provide interactive sessions to introduce one or more activities that facilitators and community leaders can use to warm up, wake up, or open up a group, and also to put awareness into action!



## **GFJI 2009 Gathering Workshop Descriptions**

Friday, October 30, 2009 3:30 - 5:00pm

### **Getting Leadership: tools to make our work ethical, relevant, and transformative** (*Change Makers*)

Friday, 10/30 3:30 - 5:00pm Classroom #1

Facilitator - Jennifer Carson; Germinator - Rafter Sass, Liz Falk, Feliz Wai; Harvester - Henry Harris

How do each of us, as emerging leaders in food justice activism, seek the leadership that will make our projects meaningful and effective? Where do we look for direction, for relevance, and for accountability? This workshop introduces a perspective and toolbox for creating a 'leadership strategy,' so that our projects can have the relevance that will make them impactful and transformative. We'll investigate this perspective through the lens of participants' - and our own - experience in food production and activism. Our focus will be on strategies for seeking and developing the relationships in which leadership can flourish. We ourselves, as activists, food growers, and educators from relatively privileged backgrounds, will emphasize the opportunities and challenges encountered as folks seek leadership - and relevance - from outside their primary historical community.

### **ACE (Awakening Challenging and Encouraging) of Spades: Tools for Social Reform Changemakers** (*Toolkit Skills Building*)

Friday, 10/30 3:30 - 5:00pm Classroom #2  
Presenters: Mary Hogan, Clarence Hogan and Ajibola Adepoju



This workshop will use videos and case studies on injustices and inequalities that exist in our community in order to **Awaken, Challenge and Encourage** participants. The participants will be given the opportunity to create a PSA (Public Service Announcement) as it pertains to these issues. The workshop as well as the PSA can be posted on the organization's website or a social networking site for previewing, discussion or more publication.

*The Igbo of Nigeria say a person doesn't die until the living stop remembering and stop telling stories about the person.*



### **Art Gardens to Create Sacred Earth Connections and Dismantle Racism**

**Friday, 10/30 3:30-5:00pm Classroom #3** (*Toolkit Skills Building*)

Presenters: **jim embry, Obiora Embry, Miranda Hileman**, Sustainable Communities Network

An interactive and participatory exploration and storytelling session about our experiences and the opportunities to engage children and youth in the delicious and delight-fun creation of Art Gardens that especially utilize recycled materials and sacred geometry symbols.

Linking art and gardens is a natural expression of the Earth. Engaging youth in art gardens can provide them with a grander sense of themselves and capacity to respond creatively to the racism that they face in their daily lives. Quantum Thinking can give adults a more inclusive perspective of our sacred interconnectedness.

The primary goals of this workshop are to have fun and mutually inspire each other; to have a working understanding of the theory and practice of Art gardening; to leave with examples and reference material to guide the development or expansion of Art Gardens; to have the opportunity to share ideas and experiences; and to participate in creative thinking.



### **Building a Racially Inclusive Community Garden**

**Friday, 10/30 3:30-5:00pm Multi-purpose room**

Presenters: **Melvin Giles and Tom Guettler**(*Toolkit Skills*)

The workshop's focus will not be on assimilating information or completing tasks, but rather on building relationships and trust among participants. This workshop will be participatory. Participants will be engaged in reflection and conversation—individually, in pairs and in small groups to better facilitate dialogue.

Participants of this workshop will learn culturally sensitive methods of communication; become more fervent listeners; cultivate observation skills to notice who is and is not participating in their garden; develop and exhibit multicultural leadership; and, build a true 'community' garden.

### **Good Food for All People of Color** (*Change Makers*)

**Friday, 10/30 3:30 - 5:00pm Banquet #2**

Facilitator - **Arnell Hinkle**; Germinator -**Bryant Terry**; Harvester -**Andrea King Collier**

Too often, communities of color do not have the opportunity to tell their own stories and reap the benefits from ideas that they have put into action. Join us for a conversation about how to highlight the work that people of color are doing in their



own communities to create a healthy food environment.

As current Kellogg Food and Society Policy Fellows we have been working to develop media and policy strategies that promote the “Good Food” [healthy, green, fair, and affordable] message. Yet, as people of color, we are very aware that many of these messages are not grounded in the real world experience of people living in historically under-served communities. We firmly believe that efforts to create community-based food systems should be owned and driven by the people living in those communities.

Participants will come away with ideas for how to work with the media, policy makers, and other Food and Society Policy fellows to promote work that is happening in their own communities. Also a list of their own specifics of what is needed in their community to insure that everyone has access to “good food”.

### **Saturday, November 1, 2009 1:30-3:00pm**



**Bringing Fair Trade Home***(Change Makers)*  
**Saturday 10/31, 1:30-3pm Classroom #1**  
Facilitator - **Marty Mesh**; Germinator - **Elizabeth Henderson**; Harvester: **Sally Lee**

Internationally, fairness is a basic principle of organic agriculture. The germinator will share stories of efforts underway in the US and other countries to combine organic agriculture and fair trade. We will brainstorm together about what it would mean in concrete terms to create domestic fair trade that allows a voice at the table for everyone who works in the food system from seed to table, while providing pricing that gives access to nutrient dense, organic, culturally appropriate, locally grown food to people of all income levels.

As participants in the Agricultural Justice Project, we have been working on social standards for organic agriculture for 10 years, raising the issue of fairness and trying to create a process that will bring all stakeholders to the table.

Participants will come away with insights into the complexities of taking concrete steps towards economic justice. Greater understanding of what fairness means for farmers, farm workers, other food system workers and consumers. Inspiration, courage and companions to take this huge job forward.





**Corn as a Metaphor** (*Change Makers*)

**Saturday, 10/31 1:30-3pm Classroom #2**

Facilitator and Germinators - **Jade Walker and Chris Bolden-Newsome**

This conversation will help build an analysis around systems of oppression that are relevant in our daily work and explore ways to challenge the systems of oppression within our work.



We call this space to offer corn as our metaphor for the good and evil in the food system. This workshop will open the space for people to fill in the world historical timeline with their experience of corn and build on that in light of historically connected themes including: Spirituality/Myth, Indigenous Growing/Preparation Practices, Colonization, Corn Today, NAFTA and its Results, Government Subsidies. The dumping of high

fructose corn syrup and other corn by-product infused commodity foods into prisons, public schools, and ghettos will also be explored.

Our objective is that participants in this conversation leave with the ability to see their work in a historical context as a vehicle for social change. The ideas handled in this conversation will help to grow an engaged understanding of corn that will contribute to a Food Justice Praxis.

**"We are All Leaders!" – Popular education, community media, creative tactics and alliance building: A farm worker community's recipe for cooking up a participatory and sustainable food system.** (*Toolkit Skills*)

**Saturday, 10/31 1:30-3:00pm Banquet #1**

Presenters: **Gerardo Reyes Chavez**, farm worker member, Coalition of Immokalee Workers and **Marina Saenz-Luna**, Just Harvest USA

Through creative activities and engaging dialogue, workshop participants will explore some of the key elements of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers' Campaign for Fair Food. This workshop will introduce participants to hands-on activity to demonstrate the difficulty of picking tomatoes by the piece rate for the corporate food system; learn about the use of popular education as an "animating" tool and create popular education pieces that depict key issues in our current food system; explore various aspects of community media and practice framing and messaging; analyze creative, savvy and smart campaign strategy along with a discussion of why it worked; and, gain alliance-building skills and learn about the "Alliance for Fair Food" as a model for systemic change.



These tools have been used in the Immokalee farm working community throughout the last 16 years to identify and confront the root causes of poverty and exploitation. The Coalition of Immokalee Workers has recovered tens of thousands of dollars in stolen wages as well as assist in the prosecution of seven cases of modern day slavery (involving over 1,000 agricultural workers). Since 2001 these tools have also been used in the CIW's Campaign for Fair Food, a national movement which has seen groundbreaking victories with the world's most powerful corporate food retailers.

### **Using Media to Grow Food Justice (*Change Makers*)**

**Saturday, 10/31 1:30-3pm Banquet #2**

Facilitator - **Andrea Godshalk**; Germinator - **Maureen Kelly and Susan K Woods**;  
Harvester - **Patricia Rojas**

This workshop will explore effective ways of utilizing the media, in particular web media, to educate and grow the movement of food justice and to center the local food movement on racial justice. This workshop will serve as a seed sharing/ network building session and will also build the foundation for ongoing exchange after the gathering to create a media platform committed to food justice.

Topics will include creating and promoting blogs and how blogging with other people is more effective; utilizing social media, video and websites to create networks of action and resource; and leaving a trail on the web. We will also explore ways in which GFJI can develop to serve as a hub for media of all types related to food justice.

The intent of this conversation is to provide space for creation of a network that grows the food justice movement by using media tools. As a result of this conversation people will come away with confidence and inspiration to make media and will build a network to support them in technical and personal ways.

### **Transformation: Restorative art making as reflection for community leaders**

**Saturday, 10/31 1:30-3:00pm Multi-purpose rm**

Presenter: **Erika Allen**, Growing Power-Chicago  
(art therapist) and others (*Toolkit Skills Building*)



This workshop will provide space for individual and group art making techniques to be used by leaders for personal reflection and healing and in the context of dismantling racism. Participants will be introduced to "open studio" process and will have the opportunity to create art within the space.

Following the open studio time, participants will share their experiences and discuss strategies for using art making as a tool for change in their projects and communities.



Saturday, November 1, 2009 3:30-5:30pm

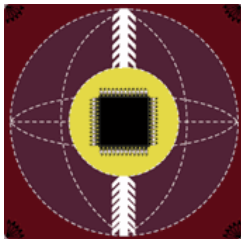
**The Emperor wears no clothes: Breaking through the illusion of neoliberal culture and re-building The Real World** (*Change Makers*)

Saturday, 10/31 3:30 -5:30 Classroom #2

Facilitator - Rachael Liener; Germinator - Henry Harris (HamBone); Harvester - Amy Frost

*The big vision is..... that everyone has moved out of the big cities, and into equitable, socially just, sustainable, anti capitalist communities. They are thriving, democratic, equitable, self-empowered cooperative networks, etc.*

Building on a shared vision of a just and sustainable food system, participants will utilize liberation theory to explore questions such as: How can we build in those directions? What work are we currently doing to support this movement and further its growth? What could we be doing specifically as part of each of our work to promote this vision and maintain this dialog? Together we will identify ways of bringing into specific focus a long range-vision of comprehensive equality and community self-reliance that can ground our work.



Participants will leave with a deeper understanding of each other and our aspirations for living in a way that supports human self-empowerment and sustained, healthy ecology for the rest of the world. We want people to remember that sometimes they believe we could all go all the way, and incorporate the desire to live in a just society more explicitly into the work they're doing.

**Elevating Health and Spirit through Nutritional Food Colors** (*Change Makers*)

Saturday, 10/31 3:30 -5:30 pm Classroom #3

Germinator - Iya Olatunde; Harvester - Asantewaa Gail Harris



Elder Iya Olatunde, the widow of famed Nigerian Master Drummer Baba Olatunde, will share her cultural wisdom regarding the spiritual and nutritional importance of food and culinary traditions. The color of the foods we eat is important, and can signify the nutritional impacts on the body and also has the potential to positively affect our health and spirit. She will also include the cultural connections between food color, spirit and organ health.



**Anti-Oppressive Change from Within Organizations (Change Makers)**

**Saturday 10/31 3:30-5:30pm Classroom #3**

Germinators: Cristina Rivera Chapman and Caroline Loomis

Facilitator: Caroline Loomis

Harvester: TBD

"How you gonna win when you ain't right within?" -Lauren Hill

Running a farmers' market, grappling for funding, and fighting for fair legislation take lots of time and effort. While we're working against racism and structural oppression in the food system, how can we also honestly address power and privilege within our organizations themselves? Can we align our day-to-day operations with our long-term visions for social justice? In this workshop, we will look inside our movement's organizations. How can we support each other to create organizations that are accountable and right within? Can these efforts actually contribute to our health and the health of our movement? Using a talking-circle format, we will share stories of success, big burning questions, and strive towards some new visions.

**Culture, Food and Spirituality (Toolkit Skills Building)**

**Saturday 10/31 3:30-5:30pm Multi-purpose room**

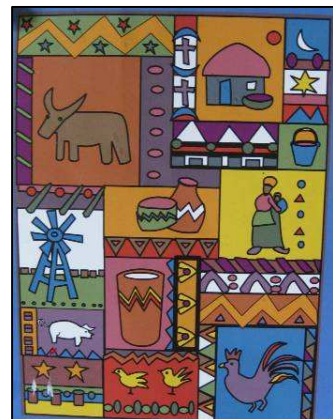
Presenters: **CeCi King, Ben Yahola and Jim Embry**

Participate in an interactive, music, creation and storytelling workshop that will include a history of the use of drumming in multi-cultures.

We will examine the connection to our cultural history, to spirituality, to food and agriculture. Building on the themes introduced at the beginning of the gathering, we will have an interactive session, where people share their culture, community practices and observations. This workshop will explore some of the values woven throughout the planning of the broader GFJI gathering.

We will dialogue about the interconnected relationship between agriculture and holidays, culture and feasts, spiritual and practice and explore how these connections interact between our committee work and dismantling racism.

Participants should bring instruments and artifacts that are connected with food, spirituality and culture including elemental representations.





## **GFJI 2009 Gathering - Tours**

### **Tour #1: Growing Power's Community Center!**

This two-acre farm is a training and production facility where people learn sustainable practices to grow, process, market and distribute food. This two-hour tour will feature an overview of a wide variety of active demonstrations including animal husbandry, aquaponics, beekeeping, living biological worm systems, vermiculture, composting, and year-round greenhouse production.



### **Tour #2: Milwaukee's response to the Food Desert (Food Apartheid) Crisis**

Visit three community responses to lack of healthy food and the opportunities to end nutritional red lining in communities of color.

### **Tour #3: Urban Underground**

Urban Underground is advancing a new generation of young leaders committed to building safe and sustainable communities. They advance their mission through effective and age appropriate programs, strategic partnerships, and youth-led civic engagement campaigns in the areas of health, education, public safety, and community justice.

## **Gathering - Culture, Food and Spirit Celebrations**

Spirituality will include the four elements: air, earth, fire and water. We will host an **ever burning fire; drumming circles; ancestral sunrise walks** to the indigenous burial mounds located on the state fair grounds, to honor those that went before us. We will hold a **Grandmother Moon Ceremony** honoring the full moon as indigenous women have been doing for centuries, while the men will participate in a drum circle. Another celebration of the spirit will be a Yoruba -Bembe, in celebration of the Orisas.



**The Fire—Begins Thursday, October 28th** The sunrise lighting of the Fire at Growing Food Justice for all Initiative Conference will provide the community a place for peace and thanksgiving which will burn during the gathering. Four bowls, each filled with tobacco, cedar, sweet grass, sage and other items, will be nearby. Individuals can put a pinch from each bowl with their thoughts, words or songs into the fire. The community will keep the small fire burning until the end of the event on Sunday.



### The Earth as our ancestor



The Walk to the Indigenous Mound: A quarter mile walk will be led each morning from the conference center to the last of four pre-historic mounds that originally populated the location. Built by the Indigenous (Woodlands era) People from 100 to 1000 CE. They contained artifacts dating to 8000 BCE, some of which can be found at the West Allis Historical Museum. The site of GFJI Conference is an ancient gathering place

Altar for the ancestors will always be on display. We ask all gathering participants to bring artifacts with cultural significance to be put on display or on an altar during the event. When we leave, the items will return home with the owners.

### Grandmother Moon Ceremony Saturday evening, October 31



Led by Dona Yahola, Ojibwe, Oneida

The Grandmother Moon Ceremony is an indigenous people's celebration of the new moon. The phases of the moon have been linked with agriculture since man began gathering and cultivating his food. This ceremony is for women but men are needed and welcome to tend the sacred fire away from the women's' circle during the ceremony. In the Ojibwe and Oneida cultures the moon is a female. She is given the responsibility to help the women by the Creator. Each month when she is in her fullness she is in her most powerful time of great healing energy. Women gather to honor the spiritual strength that she has to offer them at this time. It is a time that women also come together to honor each other and offer support and comfort through sharing in a talking circle. Sage, cedar, sweet grass and water are used during the ceremony for cleansing. Prayers ties are made with tobacco wrapped in yellow cloth and then offered to the grandmother moon by placing them into the sacred grandfather fire. A potluck feast is shared by both men and woman after the prayer ties have been offered. This ceremony is only to be facilitated in this way by a Native American woman, but the ceremony can be attended by women of every color.



Men's Drum Circle: Led by Anan Lololi  
If you are a drummer please bring your drum!

Masquerade Ball – Bring your favorite music, instruments, and dancing shoes!



### Locally Sourced Food

Locally sourced food will be featured at all the meals and breaks. In addition, we will collect the compostable materials from this Gathering and Growing Power will transform these waste materials to valuable compost—some of which will be used to grow the food for next year's Gathering!



## **GFJI Committees:**

**Steering Committee:** The working group that facilitates the day to day operation of GFJI.

Anyone willing to work on this committee is welcome to join. The committee meets monthly, usually on the first Tuesday of the month.

**Fundraising:** Listing potential sources of funds, planning which funders to approach, grant writing, etc.

**Membership/Regional Outreach:** Developing a membership policy, setting fees for membership, making sure that our efforts can reach all people interested in dismantling racism (and other related "isms") in a sustainable and socially just food system, etc. Forming guidelines for regional chapters and how they relate to the Growing Food and Justice for All Initiative

**Communications:** Develop website, do surveys, work closely with other committees (particularly Education) to have relevant and up-to-date materials available for the purpose of dismantling racism in a sustainable and socially just food system, etc.

**Conference/dismantling racism/training of trainers (TOT):** Developing conference scenario and logistics, developing dismantling racism trainings at all levels, developing a training of trainers program so that the initiative has well qualified trainers in all geographical areas that might require them, etc.

**Education:** Developing and making easily accessible any material that relates to the mission and vision of the initiative, working closely with the Communications committee, etc.

**NOTE:** Please keep in mind that the initiative is a work in progress and that your input is necessary and relevant. We all have the opportunity to work together to have our voices heard! Looking forward to your active participation!

To sign on to a committee, please do so at the Gathering or contact:

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listserv administrator  
Growing Food and Justice for All  
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[dianefaydodge@hotmail.com](mailto:dianefaydodge@hotmail.com)  
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