



The **Opportunity** Agenda

*Building the National Will
to Expand Opportunity in America*

**CREATIVE
CHANGE
2010:
A RETREAT IN
SANTA FE
AT THE
INTERSECTION OF
ARTS AND SOCIAL
JUSTICE**

August 23 - 27, 2010

Sponsored with the support of the Open Society Foundations, Ford Foundation, Lambent Foundation, Nathan Cummings Foundation, Time Warner Foundation, and anonymous donors.

Welcome to **CREATIVE CHANGE** **2010!**

Thanks so much for giving your time, ideas, and creativity to our growing community of change-makers. We hope you'll find Creative Change 2010 to be inspiring and rejuvenating, insightful and engaging, and most of all, fun. And we're certain that your perspectives and experience will enrich the discussion.

Creative Change is a safe and relaxing space that inspires newcomers, breaks new ground for returning alumni, and brings everyone together in constructive conversation. Participation is key to the realization of this community, therefore we encourage you to engage as much as possible. There are no wrong answers or dumb questions in this space. We won't always agree with each other, and that's more than fine, as long as we each bring mutual respect and a constructive spirit to the conversation.

Creative Change is a retreat, not a conference. That means that brainstorming, networking, recharging, and exploring are as important as the dynamic panels and moderated conversations we'll be sharing over the next few days. Our goals for the week are new ideas, new relationships, new insights, and new collaborations.

If you haven't visited Santa Fe before, you'll find it an ideal location for exploring how the arts and social justice come together in inspiring and provocative ways. Arts and culture are an integral part of New Mexico's activist tradition, from economic justice, to environmental protection, to native sovereignty, to immigrant inclusion, and beyond. Our surroundings are sure to provide fuel for discussion and are opportune for nurturing the creative mindset we need to move us forward. What's more, you'll have ample opportunity to experience the arts, culture, and environment of Santa Fe first-hand, through our group activities and on your own. So get ready for a wonderful adventure in which you are an important part.

Again, welcome and thanks for coming. I look forward to sharing the next several days with you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Jenkins', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Alan Jenkins
Executive Director

PROGRAM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

All day	Facilitation team and The Opportunity Agenda staff arrive
6:00pm	Staff Meeting (<i>Mesilla Board Room</i>)

MONDAY, AUGUST 23

All day	Participants arrive at Albuquerque and Santa Fe airports. Private transportation will be provided to La Posada.
8:00am - 9:30am	Breakfast for facilitation team and The Opportunity Agenda staff (<i>Foyer off from Canyon Room</i>)
9:30am - 12:00pm	Facilitation team and The Opportunity Agenda staff team meeting (<i>Canyon Room</i>)
12:00pm - 6:30pm	Registration table opens (<i>Rose Room, off from the La Posada de Santa Fe lobby</i>)
7:00pm - 9:00pm	Welcome reception with food and drink, remarks by Alan Jenkins and local hosts Diane Karp and Dr. Estevan Rael-Gálvez (<i>Lawn Court</i>)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24

7:30am - 9:00am	Breakfast (<i>Lawn Court</i>)
9:00am - 10:20am	Opening Session and Welcome with Alan Jenkins and Gibrán Rivera . Logistical update with Jason Drucker and Janet Dewart Bell (<i>Montana Ballroom</i>)
10:30am - 12:00pm	Session 1: Sharing our Stories of Arts and Activism (<i>Montana Ballroom</i>)

Exciting models have emerged in recent years for integrating arts, culture, media, and social justice activism. This discussion will highlight some dynamic and promising examples, exploring how they can be replicated, expanded, or improved. What are the key elements of effective creative change? How can the energy of multicultural and identity-based movements be reflected and channeled? How can we assess our progress in moving hearts, minds, and policy?

Presentations by **Mel Chin**, **Delia de la Vara**, **Laurie Jo Reynolds**, and **Yosi Sergant**. Facilitators at each table will serve as conversation catalysts between presentations.

12:00pm - 12:30pm	Working Lunch (<i>Foyer off from Ballroom</i>)
12:30pm - 2:00pm	Session 2: Sharing our Stories of Arts and Activism (<i>Montana Ballroom</i>)

Our morning session continues this afternoon with presentations by **Bryonn Bain**, **Ian Inaba**, **Cara Mertes**, and **Erin Potts**. Facilitators at each table will serve as conversation catalysts between presentations.

2:00pm - 3:00pm	Break
3:00pm - 6:00pm	Walking tour of downtown Santa Fe including the Museum of Contemporary Native Arts (with Ryan Rice), Georgia O'Keefe Museum, and local sites (<i>Leaves from Montana Ballroom</i>)

Please note that due to the full schedule, we make every effort to leave promptly on time for all events. Please arrive a few minutes before the scheduled departure times.

6:00pm - 9:00pm	Lecture on local foods, demonstration, and dinner at Santa Fe School of Cooking with James Beard Award-winning author and chef Lois Ellen Frank (<i>116 West San Francisco Street</i>)
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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

- 7:00am – 8:30am Breakfast (*Lawn Court*)
- 8:30am – 9:00am **Creative Awakening: Movement Session** with **James Faks** and **Rulan Tangen** (*Montana Ballroom*)
- 9:00am – 10:20am Session 3: **The Change Artist: Social Justice, Historical Context, and the Creative Process** (*Montana Ballroom*)

Where do truly creative ideas come from, and how do we translate them into art, communications, and action? How do we create the conditions under which they can flourish? How do artists understand their process and role in the new political context and “Post-Hope” era? This discussion explores the creative process across our collective fields and movements, from inspiration to expression, to social transformation.

Jeff Chang helps us frame the conversation, followed by presentations and reflection by **Rha Goddess**, **Wayne Kramer**, and **Elon James White**.

- 10:30am – 11:30am Session 4: **Media Justice** (*Montana Ballroom*)

How can we foster policies and systems that ensure a full and equal opportunity to communicate and receive ideas and expression? What should those policies and systems be, and what can we all do to make them a reality? What are artists, in particular, doing to create media conditions that advance social justice? In this session we’ll explore the issues, ideas, and movement known as Media Justice.

Loris Taylor helps us frame the conversation, followed by reflections from **Jean Cook**, **Amalia Deloney**, **Nishat Kurwa**, **Jeanette Lee**, and **Steven Renderos**.

- 11:30am – 12:00pm **Introduction to Open Space Discussion Format** (*Montana Ballroom*)

Gibrán Rivera will facilitate and introduce the concept of Open Space. Attendees will propose topics which the whole group will consider and select. Participants will self-organize according to their interests.

- 12:00pm – 12:30pm Working Lunch (*Lawn Court*)
- 12:30pm – 2:00pm Session 5: **Open Space** (*Montana Ballroom, Canyon Room, Mesilla Board Room*)
- 2:45pm Gather for off-site excursion — buses will leave promptly! Departure from La Posada lobby.
- 3:00pm – 10:00pm Visit to Poeh Museum and Pojoaque Pueblo (with **Vernon Lujan**), Abiquiu Art and Landscape tour, and BBQ dinner

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26

- 7:00am – 8:30am Breakfast
- 8:30am – 9:00am **Creative Awakening: Katy Chevigny** and **Roger Ross Williams** share excerpts from and reflections on their recent films (*Montana Ballroom*)
- 9:00am – 10:20am Session 6: **Building and Supporting the Pipeline of Arts/Culture Work** (*Montana Ballroom*)

What’s needed to grow and cultivate greater creativity and collaboration across activism and the arts? This discussion will focus on the pipeline that’s necessary to make creative change happen more often, more intentionally, and more effectively. How can we create projects and programs with the right support that moves our intention into action? Working from their unique vantage points, participants will reflect on what they recommend to help build and support the pipeline.

Fishbowl tag will begin with conversation catalysts including **Caron Atlas**, **Bruce Ferguson**, **Martín Perna**, **Lori Pourier**, **Catalina Ruiz-Healey**, and **Anasa Troutman**.

- 10:45am – 12:00pm Session 7: **Open Space** (*Montana Ballroom, Canyon Room, Mesilla Board Room*)

Topics will be discussed and announced during the morning session.

- 12:00pm – 1:00pm Lunch (*Lawn Court*)

1:00pm – 2:00pm	Closing Circle with Alan Jenkins and Gibrán Rivera (<i>Montana Ballroom</i>)
2:00pm – 7:00pm	Afternoon relaxation or optional guided art tours
2:45pm	Gather for optional visit to SITE Santa Fe and Santa Fe Art Institute. (Please sign up with Frances Pollitzer.) Departure from La Posada lobby.
7:00pm – 10:00pm	Closing Dinner at Gerald Peters Gallery (<i>1011 Paseo de Peralta</i>). Group will walk to the gallery, departing from La Posada lobby at 6:45pm.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

All day Departures to Albuquerque and Santa Fe airports.

Private transportation is being provided for you from La Posada. Please check in advance for your scheduled departure time. Please be checked out and in the lobby of your hotel, with your luggage, 10 minutes before your scheduled departure time.

If your departure information is incorrect or you have any questions about your departure, please call Marcia with Destination Services of Santa Fe at 505.699.3008.

7:00am – 10:00am Breakfast (*Lawn Court*)

AT YOUR ASSISTANCE

While you are at La Posada de Santa Fe, do not hesitate to call upon members of the hotel staff for assistance about your room, hotel facilities and services, or getting around Santa Fe.

On Arrival

Private transportation has been arranged for you from Albuquerque and Santa Fe airports to La Posada upon your arrival. Please alert us to any change in your travel plans. If you need to reach someone immediately, please contact **Marcia Skillman** at **505.699.3008**.

For All Other Matters

Members of The Opportunity Agenda staff are also available for assistance throughout the retreat; especially Jason P. Drucker, Emily Accamando, Frances Pollitzer, Micky Hingorani, Janet Dewart Bell, and Shannon Brunette.

Jason P. Drucker: 917.658.8800
Emily Accamando: 347.263.0204
Frances Pollitzer: 347.543.4640

Micky Hingorani: 917.825.9797
Janet Dewart Bell: 917.796.8803

Departure Information

Please check with The Opportunity Agenda staff the day before your departure to confirm departure time from La Posada de Santa Fe. Departure time is 2½ hours before your flight from Albuquerque and 1½ hours before your flight from Santa Fe. **Marcia Skillman** will be on site to see you off and can be contacted at **505.699.3008**.

Wireless and Computers

La Posada de Santa Fe provides high-speed wireless internet access in all rooms and common areas. For assistance, please see the hotel reception.

Sharing Your Photos

Creative Change participants are encouraged to take photos and share them with others. Please upload photos you take during our retreat to Flickr using the login information below. Be sure to tag your photos "Creative Change 2010."

Username: **theopportunityagenda**

Password: **internet**

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT SANTA FE

Santa Fe is located in the foothills of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, at approximately 7,000 feet above sea level. Because of the altitude, it is essential that you take care of yourself. Here are some tips:

- **Temperatures fluctuate** and a 30-degree temperature swing in one day is not unusual. While daytime highs can reach 90 degrees, nighttime lows sink to the mid 50s.
- **Dress in layers:** August in Santa Fe is hot and sunny with fairly low humidity and cooler evenings. Nevertheless, the occasional brief afternoon thunderstorm is not unusual. Come prepared for possible rainfall.
- **Apply and re-apply sunscreen** and lip balm to exposed areas; you are closer to the sun's rays at 7,000 feet than at sea level, which means faster sunburns.
- **A hat and sunglasses are recommended** to protect your eyes from the glare.
- **Drinking extra water** can help you adapt to the altitude.

If you have any symptoms of altitude sickness — including nausea, headache, or dizziness — please immediately alert a retreat organizer or a member of the La Posada staff.

We hope that you enjoy your time at the retreat and take advantage of the spectacular location in the foothills of the southern Rocky Mountains. Santa Fe is world renowned for the richness of its arts, culture, heritage, and natural environment. The oldest and highest capital in the United States, it is one of only two cities in the United States and nine worldwide designated a Creative City by UNESCO.

Along with the crisp mountain air and arid climate of Santa Fe County come responsibilities. Santa Fe is located in a drought-susceptible region; **water is precious**, and your participation in water conservation will help sustain the beauty of the local environment.

SPECIAL THANKS

Creative Change 2010 builds on the success of last year's retreat in Telluride. Therefore, special thanks go out to returning alumni, who participated in Creative Change 2009. Their contributions, artistic energy, and innovative brand of activism provided the inspiration and building blocks for this year's retreat.

Thank you to our Design Team for their ideas, support, and planning, including **Michelle Coffey, Lambent Foundation; Tim Dorsey, Open Society Institute; Diane Karp, Santa Fe Art Institute; Liz Manne, Work In Progress; Erin Potts, Air Traffic Control;** and **Elizabeth Richards, Public Theater.**

Gibrán Rivera, from Interaction Institute for Social Change, led the facilitation team and, working with **Caron Atlas, Katy Chevigny, Cheryl Contee, Tim Dorsey, Sarah Ingersoll, Taj Moteelall,** and **Loris Taylor,** ensured that sessions and group activities were a dynamic and productive experience.

Creative Change 2010 was designed and produced by staff from **The Opportunity Agenda: Alan Jenkins,** Executive Director; **Jason P. Drucker,** Director of Development & Operations; and **Janet Dewart Bell,** Director of Communications.

We also thank **Emily Accamando, Eleni Delimpaltadaki, Micky Hingorani, Frances Pollitzer,** and **Shannon Brunette** for their hard work leading up to the retreat and for providing on-site support in Santa Fe. **Jill Mizell, Christopher Moore,** and **Kisha Parks** provided logistical support from New York City.

Our invaluable consultant in Santa Fe was **Marcia Skillman** from **Destination Services of Santa Fe.** Finally, from **La Posada de Santa Fe,** we wish to thank **Bobbie Ferrell** and **Jenae Morales.** Thank you also to our tour guides: **Bruce Bannerman, Jerry Rightman, Monique Schoustra,** and **Peter Weiss.**

Special thanks also go to **Vernon Lujan,** Poeh Museum; **Brittney Dayes** and **Joanne Lefrak,** SITE Santa Fe; **Patsy Phillips, Ryan Rice,** and **Samantha Ferguson,** Museum of Contemporary Native Arts; **Diane Karp,** Santa Fe Art Institute; and **Dr. Estevan Rael-Gálvez,** National Hispanic Cultural Center.

About The Opportunity Agenda

The Opportunity Agenda was founded in 2004 with the mission of building the national will to expand opportunity in America. Focused on moving hearts, minds and policy over time, the organization works closely with social justice organizations, leaders, and movements to advocate for solutions that expand opportunity for everyone. Through active partnerships, The Opportunity Agenda uses communications and media to understand and influence public opinion; synthesizes and translates research on barriers to opportunity and promising solutions; and identifies and advocates for policies that improve people's lives. To learn more about **The Opportunity Agenda,** go to our website at www.opportunityagenda.org.

The Opportunity Agenda is a project of Tides Center



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