

The Center for Aboriginal Vision and Healing



Declaration of Purpose

The purpose of the Center is to provide a home in the heart of the Pacific, in which the traditional wisdom of First Nations People can be shared with all the people of the world.

The Center will help the world remember the true relationship between humankind and the Earth, and our authentic relationships with each other.

Principles



Heritage of Wisdom

First Nations People live closest to the source of traditional cultures. They pass on the precious accumulated legacy of human experience, established over thousands of generations of learning and sacrifice. First Nations People endure on all the continents of the world, sometimes in their indigenous villages, sometimes interleaved with the non-traditional world.

The First Nations are guardians of a rich depth of wisdom that has been challenged in the past five centuries by industrial culture. Affirming this common birthright is vital to the survival of the First Nations. It is also vital to those who struggle for human dignity within industrial culture, which has lost touch with its roots, with the earth, and with its vision.

The elders, wise men and women, artists, healers, shamans, poets, teachers, visionaries, musicians and dancers of the First Nations keep this flame alive. They hold an essential key to the future of humanity, and to life on our planet.



Hawaii as a Center of Healing

The traditional Hawaiian people were the first to

arrive in the center of the Pacific; they maintain the tradition of aloha (welcome and healing) in trust for America, and for all nations.

Their unique position as stewards of the most isolated and environmentally vibrant place on earth, in the epicenter of the world ocean, gives the Hawaiian people the opportunity to provide rejuvenation, learning and sanctuary for First Nations Peoples from all the continents.

In the Center, all First Nations people will gather their inner strength once more, share their knowledge among themselves, and then express it for the benefit of all people.

The Center will be a place of renewal for the 21st Century -- where small groups representing all the people of the earth can gather in respect, to thoughtfully consider the next steps in the human adventure.





Shared Roots

The wisdom held in trust for the world by the First Nations includes:

an awareness of the importance of the patterns of the past, the accumulated stories and legends that encapsulate a path of meaning for people in all times;

a respect for the balance of the earth, and for all the elements surrounding her, as the source of challenge and nurturing to human beings;

the importance of honor for the elders of a community, as links to the collective memory, and for the young people of a community, as links to the future;



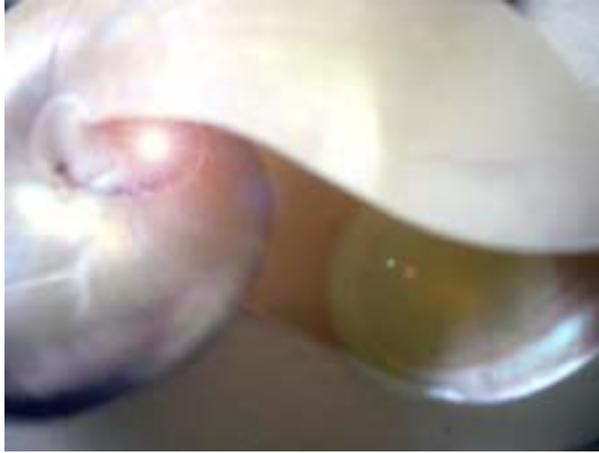
the need for a spirit of interaction that transcends words and language, that connects people across the barriers of history, geography and culture to find common bonds and the foundations for peace;

the central importance of the family and the village as the social body to which each individual contributes, from which we draw strength and understanding;



the knowledge that all people come from a common root, a common family; that we share elemental needs and hopes, a unified vision of purpose expressed in a myriad forms, each one precious as part of our common cultural ecology;

that the focus of life is transcendent, intuitive experience, in which inner vision lights the way to the future.



Personal Transformation

The Center will create an atmosphere of careful listening, trust, learning and respect between traditional cultures and the industrial world. We will set our feet on a fresh path together, free from the exploitation of the past.

Everyone begins this journey begin with an inner, personal transformation.



Actions

To express its principles, the Center will engage in the following actions:

1. Securing a section of land in the Hawaiian Island chain that allows for quiet connection with nature. The energy of this land will be the guiding force for all people who visit the Center.
2. Building a center on this land, in the style of a small traditional village, designed with sensitivity to ecological principles, using traditional knowledge from the Hawaiian culture and from other global traditions.
3. Fashioning spaces for universal assembly, for ritual and healing, for individual and group study, interaction, discussion, and providing simple living quarters for up to 100 people.

4. Careful use of selected appropriate technologies, such as solar power, wind power, micro-hydro, local wireless communications, satellite communications, water purification, traditional agriculture and more to connect the Center to the world in a non-intrusive way, to make it self-sustaining as far as practical, and to provide the base for a series of media and Internet enterprises that provide income for First Nations People.



5. The Center will extend its message to the world through research, publication, media production, Internet sites, the celebration of important seasonal cycles and festivals, the sponsorship of peace-building exchanges, the leadership of international conferences, and the provision of sanctuary, healing and retreat to the injured, sick and challenged.

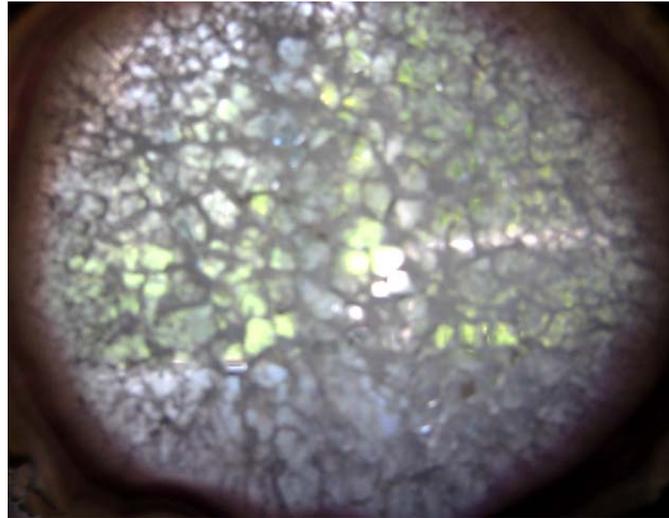


The Center will also host gatherings in which the methods of both ancient and modern traditions are taught, to reach deep into the hearts and souls of the people and provide an opening for deep transformation.

6. Leadership of the Center will be provided by dedicated people from the traditional Hawaiian community, who by blood and personal commitment hold the primary responsibility for stewardship of the land.

Other leaders will be drawn from among First Nations Peoples from all other traditional cultures in the world, wherever they may be found. People from the industrialized nations will provide advice, assistance and support to the Center, and may

serve in roles the First Nations leaders determine are best.



Essence

Through the Center, the deep divide between First Nations Peoples and industrial culture can be healed, and each will be empowered in interdependent ways.

Traditional peoples will enjoy true partnership with others, without losing or compromising their highly-valued traditions; they will be respected for their contribution to the survival of humanity, and to the protection of the earth and all its creatures.

The citizens of the industrial world will re-discover

a connection to the past, to the power of myth and legend. They will understand our responsibility to care for the earth and each other -- and will see many ways to build a possible future of respect, forgiveness and peace.

And according to their own tradition, the first people of Hawaii will deeply experience their purpose among the community of peoples, a purpose centered on the universal values of aloha -- welcome and healing -- and ohana -- family.

The Islands themselves speak this purpose to all who listen.



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