

DEFEND
THE SACRED

JOIN THE GLOBAL
ALLIANCE!

Defend the Sacred Manifesto

We know the world stood with us, so we come to stand with you.

LaDonna Brave Bull Allard

Standing Rock initiator

In August 2017, activists from around the world – indigenous elders and youth from North America, (including initiators from Standing Rock), Colombia, Israel, Palestine, Brazil, Kenya, the Philippines, Europe and 35 countries in total – gathered in Tamera Peace Research and Education Center in Portugal to collaborate and envision a global alliance to defend the sacred.

What was seeded by the peaceful opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline at Standing Rock in 2016 must grow into a planetary movement; one that is globally unified and that transcends cultures, borders and beliefs. It is clear this is not only an indigenous issue, but a world issue that affects all of us.

Mni Wiconi – water is life. Life is sacred. It is this sacredness that we defend. To secure our future, we have no other choice. We must protect the very things that our lives depend upon. Humans have begun to separate themselves from nature, and to stand as a dominant species that is trying to control the natural world, unleashing global devastation. The result of this fundamental separation is an environmental crisis and an inner crisis, violence against the Earth and interpersonal violence, which are two sides of the same coin. We now unite as a planetary community to stand together for the sacred; to midwife a transition to a world in which humanity will no longer dominate but cooperate with all life.

In creating a regenerative culture, we find profound orientation in the wisdom of indigenous peoples who still live in close communion with the Earth. Ironically, these are the most threatened ways of life. The dominating culture is determined to exploit the Earth, her waters, resources and people, until the capacity of the Earth to support human life is totally exhausted. And all for the short-term profit of a few. However, it is clear we will not survive as a species unless we respect the Earth and her rights. All beings, which are in the embrace of our living planet, form one unified, interdependent family. The future of our human journey depends on our commitment to honor and cooperate again with this sacred alliance of life.

Though it is difficult to see, there is an emerging and different vision for humanity. This vision foresees a world without violence as the next chapter of our collective evolution. It shows a future humanity inhabiting this planet as a network of interconnected, autonomous communities of trust.

This vision is clear. Yet standing between us and its realization we see a veil of collective trauma woven from millennia of unimaginable cruelty. This trauma has written our unconscious, automatic programming and will perpetuate itself in continued violence and separation until it is consciously addressed and healed.

Healing the wounds of the past is essential towards creating a culture of peace. This is why we collaborate on building communities of trust, on healing love and restoring the cycles of water. We support the emergence of research places to develop social, ecological and technological systems that realign the world we create with the world that has created us. (We can call them Healing Biotopes.)

We cannot defeat a system of domination using the methods of the dominators. We recognize there is a different power – the matrix of life that unifies and interconnects all that lives. By embodying this sacred matrix through thoughts, words and actions, we step into resonance with all beings. As we develop living systems compatible with this universal order, we help catalyze a global system change.

In the turbulent global transition in which we now live, it is critical to build diverse alliances between indigenous people, emerging Healing Biotopes, activists who resist injustice and people within the system who recognize the need for systemic change. Sacred Activism can help inspire and ignite the necessary unification of those who oppose injustice and are willing to work together for a fundamentally different, just world order. We stand ready to collaborate with everyone who shares this commitment.

We commit to defending the sacred – for the water, the earth, the air, for our children and all generations that will come after us.

José Arantes, founder, Horta do Zé
Sami Awad, founder, Holy Land Trust
Lawrence Bloom, secretary general, Be Earth Foundation
LaDonna Bravebull Allard, initiator, Sacred Stone Camp, Standing Rock
Fred Burks, White House whistleblower and spiritual activist
Saad Dagher, consultant, agro-ecology teacher
Dieter Duhm, co-founder, Tamera Peace Research Center
Scilla Elworthy, founder, Oxford Research Group & Peace Direct
Hellem Fernandes, musician, co-founder, Favela da Paz
Tiokasin Ghosthorse, founder & host, First Voices Indigenous Radio
Ivan Juric, advisor, Guerrilla Foundation
Vera Kleinhammes, coordinator, Global Campus
Jürgen Kleinwächter, physicist, inventor of decentralized solar energy systems
Svieta Lana, sacred activist, organizer of Hands Around Lake Merritt
Iris Lican, co-founder, Feminine Consciousness
Sabine Lichtenfels, co-founder, Tamera Peace Research Center
Diana Manneh, acrobat & founder, Kalliance
Pat McCabe, Diné spiritual activist
Gabriel Meyer, peace maker and musician
Claudio Miranda, musician, co-founder, Favela da Paz
Philip Munyasia, founder, OTEPIC permaculture school
Sofia Olhovich, co-founder, Inla Kesh community
Miguel Angel Paz, Paqo from Keros tradition
Betsy Pool, founder, Institute for the Mythology of Humanity
John Quigley, aerial artist, founder, Spectral Q
Maria Eduarda Souza, researcher, activist, artist
Andrea Toro, educator, Terrena-Bolivia
Benjamin von Mendelssohn, director, The Grace Foundation
Monique Wilson, global coordinator, One Billion Rising
Martin Winiecki, director, Institute for Global Peace Work, Tamera
Lori Woodley, co-founder, All It Takes

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