OUR MISSION
To foster practices that awaken connection with self, others and the natural world.

Council, the practice of listening and speaking from the heart, is at the core of all we do.

OUR VISION
A thriving, peaceful planet filled with community, connection and care.

CORE VALUES
Deep Listening • Relationship • Respect for All Life
Truth • Simplicity • Gratitude • Beauty
Service • Lineage • Story

GUIDING PRINCIPLES
Living Council ~ Living Community
Nature as Mirror ~ Nature as Teacher
Indigenous Knowledge ~ Wisdom Traditions
The Beauty Way ~ Regenerative Design
LISTENING TO EARTH, LISTENING TO WATER

Back in the 1970s and ‘80s, The Ojai Foundation’s founders made a deliberate choice to practice patience and to listen deeply before adding any structures, shrines or gardens. Silence on the Land, moving around the ridge, asking for guidance, observing the wildlife and sitting in circle to listen to each other, informed each decision to build, change or add to what was here. We bow in thanks to those who mindfully developed the Land so that those who visit may easily fall into the Land’s natural embrace—a safe place to let go, to shed old skin, to deepen, or to begin anew.

Building upon this original vision and canvas, The Ojai Foundation continues to improve the Land with keen attention to beauty and simplicity, and continues to offer a place of sanctuary, education and transformation to all who visit. The recent spin-off of our outreach programs, Council in Schools and Center for Council, has allowed us to refocus on land-based programming, Land and facilities improvements, and toward long-term visioning and planning. In the process, we have engaged many new volunteers and financial partners, served new audiences, grown our extended community, increased our earned revenue streams, and completed our fiscal year with ample reserves.

Beyond the Land here in Ojai, we continue to be a hub and a wellspring for an ever growing global community of earth stewards and peacemakers who are sowing seeds of council around the world. This year’s annual Gathering of Council Carriers brought over 70 council practitioners to the Land, and in 2017 we look forward to hosting the International Gathering, where council carriers from as far as Israel, Europe, Greece and Africa will come to drink from the source!

Looking ahead into the 2015-16 fiscal year and beyond, a strategic planning and Permaculture Master Plan process is under way to envision 3, 5, 25 years ahead. Together we are asking: What do we want the Land and the work to look like in 25 years? 100 years? In the face of climate change and drought, what can we learn from listening to the water and working with its flow? How do we balance patience and care with a sense of urgency? Can we respond to the times and also listen for what will be needed in the future? How can we become an even more vital model for a rapidly changing world?

It is with heartfelt thanks that we tell our story in these pages. We give thanks to those who came before us, and to those elders, staff members, teachers, volunteers and guests who have contributed heart and hand to the Land and mission, and to all our friends, far and wide, who support us with encouragement, wisdom, faith and resources.

With an overflowing well of gratitude,

Laura Whitney, President
Adam Rumack, Executive Director
Program Highlights

This last year, the Land was abuzz with visitors of all ages for a total of 272 program days. While we continue to serve the Crossroads School and New Roads School senior rite-of-passage trip as we have for over 30 years, many new schools and youth groups are now coming to the Land for rite of passage, leadership training, ropes course and nature-immersion experiences. Our adult programs continue to thrive, including Council Trainings, Permaculture and natural building courses, work retreats, and transformative workshops with a variety of guest teachers.

During their time here, each person gets a taste of simplicity, silence, community and connection. Living close to the land, one remembers what has been forgotten amidst the noise of modern life. Each visitor leaves with an expanded view of what’s possible in their own life and in the world, and with tools and practices for building a better future.

“Silence is valued, allowed, and appreciated by the community. Hidden areas that overlook the breathtaking valley allow for meditation and peace. For the spirit, I was able to let go, allowing my authentic self to run free from judgement, express with love, and forgive with grace. Laughter has filled my heart here. The community is pure love and acceptance. My time here has been magical. I do not want it to end.”

~ Iris

“Women Meeting at the Well.” Elder and wisdom carrier Chief Luisah Teish mentors young women at the Wisdom of the Ages Intergenerational Gathering, Fall Equinox 2014.

THE ART OF PILGRIMAGE, a 4-day sacred journey experience into the local wilderness areas co-led by Steven Harper and Adam Rumack.
Total program days: 272. Total groups: 124. Total people served: 3,145.

Land Stewardship Highlights

With our beautiful, earthen structures and our extensive solar energy systems, combined with the community building practices TOF lives and teaches, we continue as a living laboratory sharing ways to live in right relationship with each other and the earth.

Thanks to all those who supported our Stewardship & Sustainability Campaign, the following projects have been completed or are well under way:

- Restoration of original water well
- Upgrade of energy storage to return solar system to fully off-grid
- Restoration of Pottery & HeART Studio
- Regeneration of Council House living roof
- Resurfacing of access road for safety and dust mitigation
- Completion of “Maha Yurt” Council Hut
- Upper Kitchen and bathhouse expansion
“I have only positive things to say about my time at TOF, from the beauty of the grounds and landscape, the goodness of the people and staff, how comfortable and at peace I felt there and how inspired I was by the Land and the practice of council.” - Bethany

“I cherish my experience at The Ojai Foundation. I still day dream about going back. Maybe someday.”

- Kellie B.
It will take a village to raise the water.

We have begun consulting with experts locally and from around the world, including Rajendra Singh of India, and Bernd Mueller of Tamera, Portugal, to build a water retention landscape that will utilize the Land Sanctuary’s ideal terrain and annual rainfall to create ponds, regenerate springs, and awaken the creeks to flow again. We envision this effort in working with water catchment as an inspiring model for how Southern California and the world can address drought, climate change and desertification.

As we prepare for the El Niño storms, many hands will be needed to build the swales, small dams, and catchment basins to “slow it, spread it and sink it.” It will take a village to raise the water!

Join us as we regenerate a water-abundant landscape on and below our ridge, demonstrating what’s possible for a thirsty world.

Financial Report

Statement of Activity for Fiscal Year 2014-2015*

Revenue and Gains

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Service Fees</td>
<td>520,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council in Schools (special project)</td>
<td>147,060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Income</td>
<td>410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Earned Revenue</td>
<td>33,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue and Gains</strong></td>
<td><strong>701,150</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted Contributions</td>
<td>141,034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designated Donations</td>
<td>195,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Support</strong></td>
<td><strong>336,338</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Support and Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Support and Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,037,488</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Sanctuary</td>
<td>599,981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council in Schools</td>
<td>175,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Program Services</strong></td>
<td><strong>775,001</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General and Administrative</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>111,651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>8,526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,036,967</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Change in Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Change in Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>521</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This publication precedes the final FY2014-15 audit. For audited financials look for the IRS Form 990 on our website.

TOF’s Gigi Coyle with Rajendra Singh, “The Water Gandhi of India.” Coyle brought Singh to the Land and all were inspired by his vision of “many beautiful water bodies” at The Ojai Foundation.

We are never more than one grateful thought away from peace of heart.

— Brother David Steindl-Rast
Special Projects

The Ojai Foundation is proud to serve as the fiscal sponsor for a variety of kindred projects. For a full description of these projects visit: www.ojaifoundation.org/specialprojects.


Global Council Web (GCW). A resource hub in development which will connect council and circle-based practitioners globally. Projects under way are: translation of the book The Way of Council into German, Arabic, Hebrew, Spanish, Greek and Czech; a website; and the International Gathering of Council Carriers, the first of which will take place in 2017 at The Ojai Foundation.


Also, visit www.centerforcouncil.org to read about the Center for Council’s (C4C) success in bringing council to prison communities, social justice organizations, and peace & reconciliation projects both nationally and internationally.

1% for the Planet connects businesses that want to direct one percent of sales towards social and ecological good with 501(c)3 organizations making a difference. The Ojai Foundation is an approved beneficiary and is currently seeking corporate partners through this innovative program. Connect us!

Quiet friend who has come so far, feel how your breathing makes more space around you. Let this darkness be a bell tower and you the bell. As you ring what batters you becomes your strength. Move back and forth into the change.

— Rainer Maria Rilke

Doug Ellis Photography
In Gratitude

CIRCLE OF SUSTAINERS: Individual donors of $1000 or more

David Bryan
Rinaldo & Lalla Brutoco
Gigi Coyle & Win Phelps
Douglas Ellis
James Graham & Jeanne Dickenson
Idoline, Biddle, Ellie & Angie Duke
Rob & Kelila Heller
Mark Ivener
Krystyna Jurzykowski
Bo & Dawn Kaplan
Meredith Kaplan
Kris & Meenal Kelkar

David N. Lee
Caroline MacDougall & Jerry Isenberg
Roger & Margot Milliken
Max Milton
Michael Olsen
Jane Parkes
Jeannette Rothweiler & Thomas Dikeman
Faith Rumack
Idoline Scheerer
Julia Summers
Laura & Jim Whitney
Rosanne Ziering
Jack Zimmerman

CIRCLE OF SUPPORTERS

Doug Adrianson
Elaine Alexander
Camille Ameen
Matthew Auric
Lori Ellen Austein
Aubrey Balkind
Amber Bassett
Robert & Mary Bauman
Andrew Beath
Judith Belzer & Michael Pollan
Dena Belzer
Ruth Belzer
Leon & Glori Berg
George Berg
Aimee Bloom
Eugene Boutom
Mari Braveheart-Dances
Delia Brinton
John Broesamle
Ann & Tom Carr
Anne S. Carter
Charles Casey
Cantor Chayim & Marsi Frenkel
Caroline & Stephen Chinlund
Diana Conovitz
Harriett Crosby
Joy & C.S. Cummings
Lynn Darnton
Susan & Russell Davison
Lisa & Chris Deleau
John & Patricia Distad
Lily & David Dulan
Robyn Edwards

Christoph & Mary Enderlein
Karen & Bill Evenden
Noah Fischbach
Aaron Frederick
Mary Freed
Judy Gantz
Stephen & Ivy Ann Giles
Saranne & Jerry Gitnick
Cherna Gitnick
Sooz Glazebrook
Jerod Goldstein
Ginny & Mark Goodin
Jeff Grossberg
Hans & Annika Gruenn
Julie Sullivan Hahn
Susan Harper
Christie Hartman
Jackie Henderson
Jean Hewitt
James Hopkins
Kelly Horner
Nann & Dan Horton
Beverly Hoskinson
Sarah R. Huss
Ruben Jacobo
Bernie, Susan, Marni, Piper & Kamins Family
Loren Kaplan & Scott Packer
Courtney Karp
Mark Keatts
Susanna & Sonya Knittel
Gail & Tim Lappen
Hilary Leighton
Antoinette Levine

Kate & Andy Lipkis
Zack Lodmer
Lola & John Long
Armando Lopez
Rosemary Luke
John MacIntosh
Stephen & Kerry MacIntosh
Jeanne Maoggi
Ruthie Marks & Roger Conrad
Rae Markus
Eric L. Martinsen
Cindy Matarasso
Orpheo O. McCord
Philip McGrath
Bonnie Mennell & Paul LeVasseur
Larry Moss & Christine Page
Maureen Murdoch
Raymond Neutra
Anthony Ocone
Constance Packard
Nancy Lynne Paul
Paul & Donna Pekar
Ronald Phillips
Judy Piazza
Stanford Pollock
Denise Rabinovitch
Lise Randsell
Natasha Reeves
Robert Reins
Bob Riddle
Patricia Rosenberg & Bud Heumann
Michael Rosner

Ruth & David Rosner
Adam Rumack
Joe & Nancy Scheerer
Ken & Deb Schmitz
Matt & Taralee Schoen
Carl & Veronica Schwartz
Hiroji Sekiguchi
Taufeedah Shakoor-Curry
Wendy Simon
Judith Sims
Leif H. Skogberg
Sharon Sloan
Jim Sloan
Alexis Slutzky
Judith Ellen Smith
Ruth & John Souza
Brian Scot Stafford
Sean Stewart
Cathleen Straley
Tyler Suchman
Coline Tabrum
Bonnie, Russ & Amber Tamblyn
Kenyon Taylor
Stuart Valentine
Anthony Vollering
Marion Weil
Ronit Weintraub
Meg West
Ann Wheeler
Marcin Whitman
Nancy Whitney
David Winett
Cricket Wingfield
Ann Wolf
Deloria Zabriskie
Marni Zweig
With a special acknowledgement to Meredith Kaplan and Joshua Nelson, Doug Ellis Photography and the Happy Valley Foundation.

And much love and gratitude to the many volunteers who gave countless hours and boundless care toward our work and mission.

There are no shortcuts in creation. Things happen by the planting and sowing of seeds, and do not appear all at once. We must have the humility of spirit to recognize how small, in a sense, is the success we can achieve in a single lifetime. We cannot do it all. But what we can do is set things in their right direction.

— Laurens van der Post
Throughout the Land we place clay water vessels both to quench the thirst of the creatures we share the land with and also as a prayer for the return of water.

Consider nourishing the Land and people by making a financial contribution or by joining our community of volunteers. Invest in The Ojai Foundation’s work on behalf of future generations. Visit us online, dial 41-444 and text OJAI, or use the enclosed envelope.

THANK YOU!

THE OJAI FOUNDATION
P.O. Box 999
Ojai, California 93024
805.646.8343
contact@ojaifoundation.org
www.ojaifoundation.org