



## RE-IGNITING THE SACRED POWER OF CREATION: Essential Knowledges for Transformative *YOUTH* Action

*panel presentation bringing together Indigenous teachings and Traditional Knowledge from around the world to address complex global environmental challenges*

### Speaker Bios:



**Dan Longboat** is Mohawk from the Six Nations of the Grand River. He is Director of the Indigenous Environmental Studies Program at Trent. Dan is known for his Traditional Haudenosaunee knowledge and has taught Mohawk culture at Trent in addition to his work in Indigenous Environmental Studies. He was the first Director of Studies of the Ph.D. program. Dan completed his Ph.D. in Environmental Studies at York University.



**Dr. Manulani Aluli-Meyer** is the fifth daughter of Emma Aluli and Harry Meyer. Her family hails from Mokapu, Kailua, Wailuku, Hilo and Kohala on the islands of Oahu, Maui and Moku O Keawe. The Aluli ohana is a large and diverse group of scholar-activists who have spent their lives in Hawaiian education, justice, land reclamation, health, cultural revitalization, arts education, prison reform, transformational economics, food sovereignty, Hawaiian philosophy and most of all, music.

She is a world-wide keynote speaker and has published extensively on the topic of native intelligence and its synergistic linkages to quantum sciences, transformational evaluation practices, and to liberating pedagogy.

Her background is in wilderness education, experiential learning and ecological literacy, and she has been an Instructor for the Outward Bound schools, Wilderness Hawaii, Hawaii Bound, and other alternative learning programs. Dr. Aluli-Meyer championed the Hawaiian Charter School movement in Hawaii, worked within the prisons, and developed Hoesa Ea and Kaiao Garden for the Hawaii Island Food Sovereignty movement. Manu is also a wahine kalai pohaku - stone carver - and a recluse living in a public sphere who is passionate about ho'oponopono – family healing method - and its role in planetary awakening. Ho'oulu lahui o Hawaiiinuiakea.



**Sylvia Plain** is a community ambassador from Aamjiwnaang First Nation. She is also a water walker, canoe-building apprentice, student-researcher and founder of the Great Lakes Canoe Journey – which brings together youth to build canoes and paddle the rivers and lakes within Ontario.

Over the years Sylvia has worked with the Ontario First Nations Young Peoples Council, the Anishinabek Nation Youth Council, the Native Students Association at the University of Toronto and continues to work with the National Aboriginal Caucus, and is a member of the Canadian Federation of Students to advocate for student rights.

In 2012, Sylvia helped build a birch bark canoe and paddled in the Puget Sound in Washington State, and in 2013, she paddled down the Hudson River into Manhattan to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the Two Row Wampum Belt.

### ***PENDING Confirmation***



**Dr. Vandana Shiva** is an environmentalist, prolific author, feminist, philosopher and activist, and renowned for her work to protect heritage seeds from genetic engineering, and challenging how we think about development and sustainable agriculture in the face of increasing globalization. In 1991 she founded '[Navdanya](#),' a movement to protect the diversity and integrity of living resources, especially seeds, and to oppose the aims of the World Trade Organization agreement, which would have all seeds susceptible to genetic modification patents and becoming intellectual property. Dr. Shiva believes that biodiversity is intimately linked to cultural and knowledge diversity and subsequently recently launched a movement called '[Diverse Women for Diversity](#).'

She holds a M. Sc honors degree in particle physics from the University of Punjab, and a doctorate in philosophy from the University of Western Ontario. She has received honorary doctorates from universities in Paris, Oslo, and Toronto, among others. In 1993, Dr. Shiva received the Right Livelihood Award, often called the alternative Nobel Prize, for her activism on behalf of ecology and women. *Time*, the *Guardian*, *Forbes*, and *Asia Week* have all placed her on lists of the world's most important activists. In 2010, she was awarded the Sydney Peace Prize for her commitment to social justice and her tireless efforts on behalf of the poor. Dr. Shiva has written over 300 papers published in leading scientific journals as well as over 20 book-length publications.

***Please note that Winona LaDuke has informed us that she is no longer able to participate in the conference weekend.***