



# YES!

# 2013-2014 Annual Report

## 24 YEARS of TRANSFORMATION

[www.yesworld.org](http://www.yesworld.org)



### Southern Jam

May 27 to June 1, 2014, Marshall, NC, USA

"Thank you for offering the Jam to me and inviting me to offer myself to the Jam. **I carry back with me gifts of authenticity, deep community, honest listening, and uplifting the gifts inherent in the individual and the collective.** Thank you for our collective vision of connecting and inspiring changemakers. I share this vision. I honor this offering. I honor myself for choosing to show up as I am. I am so grateful and excited that our paths have joined and now we are forever a part of each others' journey."

- Mattice Haynes, 36,  
The Art of Community,  
Decatur, GA, USA



### HOME (Healing Our Movement Ecosystem) – An Environmental Movement Jam -

November 15-19, 2013, Santa Fe, NM, USA

"The Jam for me was just the beginning of the next phase of education and exploration within this movement. It seems that mountains hold a sacred place in the hearts of most. **I am inspired to expand our work to deep within our local communities as well as outward to the communities around the world that rely on the natural and spiritual resources our mountains provide.** The YES! network and my fellow Jammers are all part of that community and I am deeply grateful for their presence in this world and for my new connection to them."

- Elise A. Keaton, 33,  
Keeper of the Mountains Foundation, Charleston, WV, USA

YES! connects, inspires and collaborates with changemakers to join forces for thriving, just, and balanced ways of life for all. We work at the meeting point of internal, interpersonal, and systemic transformation.

We support leadership in three main ways: direct facilitation, organizing, and funding of Leadership Jams and similar programs; coaching and mentoring Jam alumni and other young and intergenerational leaders; and co-sponsoring programs with like-minded individuals, organizations and movements to weave a stronger web for social change and manifest the world we want.



### Middle East Youth Leadership Jam

October 4-11, 2013, Wadi Rum, Jordan

"The Jam made a lot of changes in my personality and showed me clearly the way of life. **I can see better and for the first time I know what I have to do.** I was challenging my community alone to make this positive change and sometimes I say 'This is enough, I give up'. But now I feel stronger than ever before, NO ONE can stop me from following my dreams. I learned that I have care about myself and love myself. Before I came, I sacrificed myself to help people; it is good to care about people but I have first to care about myself."

- Maria Difallah, 24,  
Medical Doctor, and Member Researcher,  
Islamic World Young Scientists Academy,  
Algeria

## India Youth Leadership Jam

January 26 to February 2, 2014,  
Bangalore, India

"The Jam has been exhilarating in the sense that it has just created that beautiful web of nurture for my seed of "DOING" to sprout and to soar for the sky. **I have finally found the connection between my inward and outward journeys and now I am the threshold of an exciting journey of exploration and social expansion.** The Jam has been a catalyst and I hope to drive the momentum I have gained from here towards my vision and goals."

- Kaushiek Pranoo, 24,  
Sustainable Energy Solutions,  
Chennai, India



## Nova Scotia Gaels Jam

April 29 to May 4, 2014,  
Mabou, Nova Scotia, Canada



"The experience has meant so much to me, it has helped me to become a better person, friend, family member, partner and a more considerate and productive member of society. The Jam(s) have provided me with a confidence that is not easily shook, it helped me realize that my support network of family and friends are a safety net that will never fail me and it has given me tremendous bravery. **It is truly remarkable how much more productive and happy we can be when walking through life with the knowledge that we are loved, appreciated and most of all deserving of that love...** Most of all, I learned that I am my most valuable when I'm filled up and happy and what creates that for me is having genuine and meaningful relationships with people and being a service to others."

- Patrick Bennett, 31,  
leader in Gaelic language revitalization,  
Nova Scotia, Canada

## Anatolia Youth Leadership Jam

June 22-29, 2014,  
Bayramic, Turkey

"Before the Jam, I could not feel myself for a long time. I could not open the doors inside me and could not talk about who I am. I could not sing aloud and could not talk about my dreams. The Jam touched me, lifted my hand to the sky and put my hand to my heart. And **by feeling my heart, my hands combined with other hands full of love, and my heart unified with the other hearts.** I felt the being of my ancestors and Anatolian ancient wisdom, and belonging to here."

- Nur Findik, 27,  
researcher and social entrepreneur,  
Istanbul, Turkey





## Arts for Social Change / ARTivist Jam

July 2-7, 2014,

Watsonville, CA, USA

"I came in insecure if I even counted as a "legitimate" artist or change agent. Through the tools and experiences from the Arts Jam the types of questions I ask have changed, from "Who am I to want to do this?" to "What is my next step as I continue to do this?" My identity as an artist is now wrapped up in who I am. The Jam helped me see who I am in groups and who I am over the evolution of a project, which deepens my capacity to show up in my power and be patient with my process... We were expertly brought through a transformative healing arc with space for real life issues to arise and get worked out. Because of this, the learning is exponentially deeper and resounds far after the Jam itself is over. I did not expect to learn what I learned, and **what I learned is still teaching me and guiding me every day.**"

- Annie-Rose London, 24,  
growth coach and environmental educator,  
Hoboken, NJ, USA

## Toronto Jam

May 7-11, 2014,

Cobourg, Ontario, Canada

"I felt lucky to witness the courage and bravery that we all displayed over the last few days, the changes in people, and the ways we all pushed. The structure of the Jam and the very strong culture of warmth and love exuded within it made it hard not to get "sucked in" (in a positive way) and get overcome with love and compassion."

- Bozena Hrycyna, 30,  
community organizer in food movements,  
Toronto, Canada



## North America Jam

August 17-24, 2014,

Quaker Center, Ben Lomond, CA, USA

**"What a gift, not just to talk about sustainability and community care but to get to live it for a week, to actually feel it in my bones and in my soul.** Without that lived experience, a lot of conversations I have been having on the issue of helping movement builders remain healthy and joy-filled would remain in the realm of speculation. I have met people, both younger and older, whose wisdom will shape both the pace and very fabric of the work I am doing. I am so grateful to have them now as a permanent part of my accountability and support network. I believe this week will sharpen the purpose of the OPC richly. I am eager to participate in creating on OPC Jam so we can grow together in ways that will support us, strengthen our bonds and transform our community radically."

- Sandhya Jha, 37,  
Director, Oakland Peace Center,  
Oakland, CA, USA

## Evolving + Emerging Economies Jam

June 8-13, 2014,

Ben Lomond and Oakland, CA, USA

"It felt to me like we spent the majority of the time connecting around the 'people that we are'. It is certainly important to know the work that we each do and I appreciate that there was time to learn that over the course of our time, but I further understand now that **it's that "people that we are" connection that has the potential to serve each of us so much more deeply...** The EEE Jam affirmed for me that love is integral to the Shift. Really listening to understand, not just to respond, and that takes time and attention."

- Yvette Holts, 50,  
Founder, Cowrie Village: Barter to the People,  
Berkeley, CA, USA



# Additional Programs

## Social Venture Network Fall Conference

October 17-20, 2013,  
Baltimore, MD, USA

"I LOVED the Women's Circle, and saw it was listed as a highlight on several conference evaluation forms. I found it especially rejuvenating, since I arrived at the Circle feeling flat-out exhausted and left feeling uplifted. **You provided many different ways for women to connect and relate to themselves and others... physically, emotionally, spatially, etc.** I loved the two new women I spoke to in my small circle of three. Thank you for the many ways YES! supports us and the SVN community."

- Deb Nelson,  
Executive Director, Social Venture Network,  
San Francisco, CA, USA

## New Facilitation Manual

YES! Is thrilled to announce the newest edition of our activities manual for Jams and other types of co-learning experiences. Weighing in at a whopping two pounds and 256

pages, it is chock full of tools, games and processes for self-awareness, community-building, visioning, healing across divides, and more. Order a copy today and/or check it out on-line on our website!

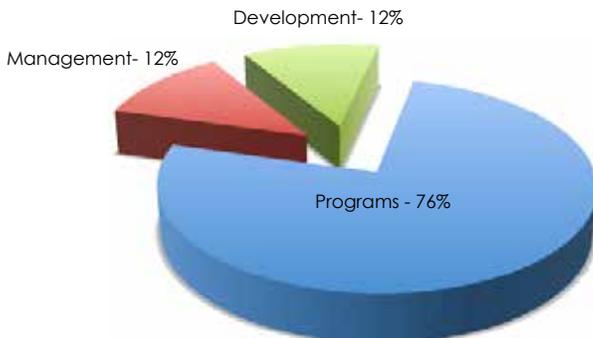


## Alumni Network Survey

YES! has an extensive support network of over 1500 alumni around the globe. We are engaging them in many different ways, in both real and virtual spaces, with support, tools, and concrete resources to impact their lives and work. As one respondent to our 2014 longitudinal alumni survey shared: "**Since the Jam, I have been more authentic to myself and with others. It has given me courage to make my own decisions** and given me the confidence to be neutral towards them. The tools, agreements, speaking from the "I", have been very powerful for me to deal with situations in the workplace and at home. I have been more aware of how I am reacting to situations, what energy I am picking up and how I am feeling. It makes me more present and appreciate small things in life."

To view more findings from our 2014 survey, please visit our website.

## YES! Annual Expenses - \$308,411 Oct 1, 2013 – Sept 30, 2014



Unaudited numbers indicate a balanced budget, and an unrestricted general reserve funds balance (as of September 30, 2014) of \$171,969. Our general funds, along with our restricted funds, are held in our local social justice-focused community credit union. If you would like to see a more detailed statement of activity, please contact us.

We could not share all the details of our work with you in this Annual Report, as we aim to minimize paper consumption. To read more information about our past and upcoming programs, please visit [www.yesworld.org](http://www.yesworld.org) and remember to sign up for ongoing updates and news

## Stay Tuned for 2014-15 Jams and other programs

- **Egypt Youth Leadership Jam**, October 30 - November 3, 2014, Fayoum, Egypt
- **Middle East Youth Leadership Jam**, November 7-14, 2014, Wadi Rum, Jordan
- **Facilitators and Organisers Retreat**, November 26-30, 2014, Bangalore, India
- **India Youth Jam**, February 2015, Maharashtra, India
- **New England Jam**, February 25 to March 1, New Hampshire, USA
- **Morocco Jam**, March 12-16, 2015, Tafoughalte, Oujda, Morocco
- **Hebrew Leadership Jam**, Spring 2015, Ramat Hanegev Desert, Israel
- **Pakistan Youth Jam**, Spring 2015, Karachi, Pakistan
- **HOME (Healing Our Movement Ecosystem) – An Environmental Movement Jam**, April 7-12, 2015, Pipestem, West Virginia
- **Facilitators and Organisers Retreat**, April 16-20, 2015, Bayramic, Turkey
- **Law and Social Change Jam**, April 29-May 3, 2015, San Francisco Bay Area, CA

## And More to Come...

**BIG THANKS** to the many generous people, foundations, partners and participants who co-created this fantastic year! For a complete list of 2013-14 contributors, please visit our website.



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