Hello Friends,

November is Native American Heritage Month, and we are taking the opportunity to reflect on the legacy and endurance of Indigenous peoples. While we dedicate this month to celebrating the rich history, culture, and contributions of Native Americans, we must acknowledge the haunting similarities in the erasure tactics used against both Native Americans and Palestinians — highlighting the global interconnectedness of Indigenous struggles.

Our thoughts at MSC are with those worldwide who continue to battle the lasting effects of colonization. We stand in solidarity, especially with the people of Palestine, firmly opposing violence and advocating for love, mutual respect, and unity. Our message in this time of sorrow is clear: the time for a ceasefire is now. The critical situations in Palestine, Congo, and Sudan, and the ongoing colonial repercussions in Puerto Rico and Hawaii, emphasize the urgency and importance of the fight for freedom and justice.

Artists from various disciplines are rallying in support, calling for justice, a ceasefire, and freedom for Palestine. Their art casts a global spotlight on Palestinian struggles, inspiring change and collective action. Our ecosystem echoes this spirit of support and transformation. As Intelligent Mischief poignantly puts it, “one day, when people talk about the ancestors, they will be referring to us.” We carry this mantle,
Resonance Network holds close the reality that for “the children of Gaza, and children around the world surviving violence, imagination may be the only safety they can access.” This sentiment strengthens our resolve to advocate for these young lives who are caught in the crossfire.

We firmly believe that Palestinian freedom and Israeli safety are not contradictions and that true peace anywhere requires peace and security for all people everywhere. To deepen understanding and support, we encourage you to explore All Out for Palestine, a comprehensive toolkit for solidarity. The call from Funders4Ceasefire for an immediate ceasefire, the unimpeded passage of humanitarian aid, the cessation of funding and weapons to the Israeli military, and adherence to international laws by all parties, is one we echo and support. We also signed on to Funders4Palestine and are part of a climate justice community pledge in support of a ceasefire led by ecosystem friends Climate Justice Alliance.

HEAL Food Alliance offered a crucial reminder of our collective responsibility in the face of global injustice: “all systems of oppression are interconnected and … We all have a role to play in ensuring that these systems are dismantled.” This call to action is echoed by Beloved Communities Network: “We have the capacity to bring forth a future that is kicking to be born. We have the capacity to be that future, to be the power and strength of our vision, our purpose, and our relationships.”

Remember, “optimism is a political act.” We choose hope. We choose community. And we believe in a brighter, more equitable world.

Now, read on for some happenings from the MSC ecosystem:

Navigating Grief and Strength
Join Urban Peace Movement (UPM), an FSP of MSC, for Heal-R-Town, an enriching in-person event focused on ancestral emotional healing and wisdom. This healing circle is an opportunity to explore the depths of grief and draw strength from ancestral connections. Within a collective sharing space, this intergenerational experience is where personal and communal healing practices are shared and celebrated. Don’t miss this transformative gathering on Friday, November 17, at 6pm PST, at Third Eye Soul Kitchen in Oakland. Find more information here.

Briana Manning, Love Life Hero 2023
We’re thrilled to announce a remarkable achievement within the UPM family. Briana Manning, UPM’s Community Healing Program Coordinator, has been honored by Oakland City’s mayor Sheng Thao as one of the Love Life Hero 2023 recipients. The Love Life Hero Award honors and recognizes those who have demonstrated love, respect, kindness, grace, truth, understanding, humbleness, and forgiveness at the highest levels in the Oakland community. Join us in congratulating Manning on this well-deserved recognition by spreading some love in the comment section here.
Ten More Years of Healing

To celebrate ten years of transformative work, Healing Clinic Collective (HCC) recently brought together a vibrant community to celebrate at the Humanist Hall in Oakland on October 14. Our newest post on the Move Blog will transport you to this joyous celebration of food, laughter, dance, and healing. The piece also highlights some of HCC’s aspirations for their next ten years. You can dive into the full blog post here, and read more about HCC’s first decade here.

Help Wanted! The BIG We Foundation is seeking an Online Platform Coordinator to create a vibrant community for girls and womxn. Learn more and apply here.

Want to share an event or job in an e-newsletter or on MSC social media? Request a submission form by emailing communications@movementstrategy.org.

Follow our LinkedIn for jobs at and within the MSC ecosystem!