



This Fall,
*Help Us Bring STORY Youth to The Bay for
Leadership Training*

10/06/06, *The Harvest Moon*

Dear Friend,

Happy autumn! We are enjoying chilly evenings on the Olympic Peninsula, and the foliage colors in Vermont are peaking, but in November the whole team is converging on the San Francisco Bay for an intensive youth leadership training for our **STORY program (Strategy, Training & Organizing Resources 4 Youth)!**



We are so excited to bring our youth trainers and STORY Board together in person for an intensive train-the-trainers session and leadership retreat, and **we need your help!** We have to get our STORY Board youth plane tickets, and fast!

SmartMeme is a national strategy center for holistic movement building founded in 2002. *SmartMeme's story-based strategy* frameworks integrate organizing, messaging, and strategy using storytelling and memes to re-frame debates and offer vision. The STORY Program is our youth-based initiative to nurture the next generation of story-based strategists, and support youth movements for peace, justice, and ecological sanity.

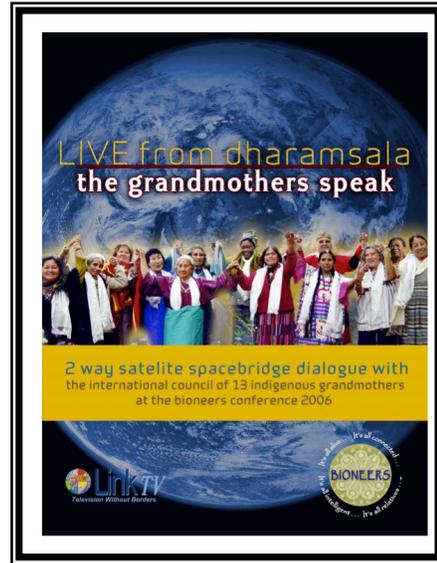


STORY had a busy summer working to build alliances for peace through our historic youth *Peace Collaborative* with Iraq Veterans Against the War at the Highlander Center. We've just been to Immokalee, Florida to work for farmworker justice and *fair food* with the Student Farmworker Alliance. Now we're revving up for a day-long training with young eco-activists at *Bioneers 2006* that will put us on a "space bridge" to speak with a council of indigenous grandmothers in Dharamsala, India! (No Way!)



We are also busily preparing for our upcoming **story-based strategy training for trainers event** at the Center for Third World Organizing (CTWO) in Oakland, California from November 9-12. New and returning STORY Boarders will join *smartMeme* founders for an intensive facilitator training and strategy session. And in order to pull it off, **we need your help!**

Our vision is to create an intergenerational, collaborative strategy center for social change. This Fall's groundbreaking event will significantly further that goal and seed a core of youth trainers in the Bay Area. The price tag: **\$5,000**. *We are hoping that you will make a gift of \$100-500 to cover transport and lodging. Your charitable gift (or frequent flyer miles!) will bring STORY Board members from New York, Philly, Washington, and elsewhere to Oakland for 4 days.*



STORY cannot fully fund the expenses of the youth coming from across the country without your support. Your solidarity will make all the difference. The STORY board is a truly promising team of young change agents, working to stop sweatshops, win livable wages, end the war, and protect the environment. They are a source of great hope, vision, and promise. We hope you will join us in nurturing their leadership, and invest in the future of the struggle for a better world.

Yours in Solidarity,

The smartMeme Collective
Doyle, Katie, James, J, and Patrick

PS: Today is an exciting time for *smartMeme*, as we celebrate the official recognition of our organization as a tax-exempt under IRS Section 501c3! Your gift is entirely tax-deductible. Give online today @ www.smartMeme.com