

“Bioneers is central to the re-imagination
of what it means to be human.”

- PAUL HAWKEN



BIONEERS

REvolution from the Heart of Nature



© ANDRES AMADOR

RE-IMAGINING CIVILIZATION IN THE AGE OF NATURE

“We’ve been borrowing from the future, and the debt has fallen due. The science says we have physically entered a period of great change, a synchronized, related crash of the economy and ecosystem. We have the opportunity to build a society that represents our highest capacities... that works with rather than against nature. The Great Disruption... presents what may be a ‘once in a civilization’ opportunity for a step change in human evolution, but one driven consciously rather than biologically. We are the people we’ve been waiting for.

This is the time.”

- PAUL GILDING,
THE GREAT DISRUPTION

AS THE STATE OF THE WORLD has hurtled from urgency to emergency, we can move from breakdown to breakthrough. We can shift our course to re-imagine how to live on Earth in ways that honor the web of life, each other and future generations. The years between now and 2020 will be the most important in the history of human civilization, the decisive window to make the shift.

Bioneers highlights and helps realize the profound transformation already taking hold around the globe: the dawn of a human civilization that partners with the wisdom of nature’s design. It practices values of justice, diversity, democracy and peaceful co-existence. Around the world in diverse fields of endeavor, social and scientific innovators have been developing and demonstrating far better technological, economic, social, and political models inspired by the wisdom of the natural world. Human creativity focused on problem solving is eclipsing the mythology of despair.

This shift also inspires a change of heart that honors the intrinsic value of all life and our human diversity. It's a revolution from the heart of nature and the human heart. Over and over, it's the story of how great a difference one person can make, and how community makes the difference.

This Age of Nature calls for a new social contract of interdependence. Taking care of nature means taking care of people — and taking care of people means taking care of nature.

The ecological debt we've incurred is dire. Climate change has crash-landed into the present. The hyper-concentration of wealth has captured our political systems, impoverishing humanity, nature, and democracy. The bottom line is we're living beyond our means and the collection agency is at the door.

Fortunately nature has a profound capacity for healing, and we can work with nature to heal nature and our human communities. Resilience is the grail — enhancing our ability to adapt to dramatic change and design our ways of living for the long haul in concert with nature and each other.

As Bioneers has shown since 1990, the solutions are largely present, or we know what directions to head in. The seed forms of the vibrant, life-giving world we want are here now — in the breakthrough solutions, models and practices manifest throughout the Bioneers community.

Bioneers gathers and cross-pollinates a unique network of networks to engage people to implement these large-

FOR 25 YEARS, BIONEERS

has acted as a seed head for the game-changing social and scientific vision, knowledge and practices advancing this great transformation. We do so through our annual national conference, award-winning media, local Bioneers Network conferences and initiatives, and leadership training programs.

WE DISSEMINATE the voices of breakthrough innovators with practical and visionary solutions for people and planet, connecting people with solutions and each other. We provide communications and networking platforms for diverse voices inclusive of those often marginalized or excluded.

WE PROVIDE compelling holistic education for action to the public and educators.

WE SUPPORT and engage with local community resilience action networks to spread successful models, community building and public education to build resilience from the ground up locally and regionally.

WE CULTIVATE leadership development at a time we're all called upon to be leaders. We focus on the leadership of women, indigenous peoples and youth.

WE INSPIRE a change of heart, sense of wonder and reverence for the genius and gifts of nature and human creativity.



Dr. Jane Goodall at Bioneers

scale shifts from a systems perspective. We continually grow our community by connecting diverse issues, movements, cultures, and people from many backgrounds and walks of life: professionals of all types, civil society groups, educators, entrepreneurs, public servants, the media, emerging and established leaders, and global citizens.

We're working to rapidly spread, adapt and scale the abundant models and solutions that already exist and help shortcut innovation. Like a prism channeling sunlight, Bioneers is focalizing this treasure trove of community wisdom, skillfulness, vision and values into beams of action to help realize this global shift.

It's bottom up and top down — all hands on deck to generate the biggest and fastest economic, industrial, political and cultural transformation in history. It comes down to growing the national and global movement of movements, which Bioneers reflects and helps connect and influence. It's going to take you and every one of us. In this time, we're all called upon to be leaders — and leadership resides in community.

In 1990 Bioneers put forth the proposition that the solutions are largely present. Twenty-five years later, it's impossible to keep up with the avalanche of authentic solutions, creative responses, and radical transformation occurring in global consciousness. There's as much cause for hope as for horror.

But time is not on our side. As the cycle of breakdown and breakthrough accelerates and escalates, this shift needs to take hold rapidly. If we act now, we may still dodge catastrophic climate disruption, and have time to restore the vital ecological services and social justice essential to sustain human civilization and the web of life on which our human lives depend.

Together we can move the world from breakdown to breakthrough. It's showtime.

Please join with us in this revolution from the heart of nature and the human heart. Future generations are counting on us.

“The conference is known for its eclectic mix of topics and personalities, and for bubbling up disruptive green ideas that find their way into our mainstream culture a few years later.”

– REUTERS SYNDICATED, 2009

AS A COMMUNITY OF LEADERSHIP, BIONEERS IS helping disrupt our current failed institutions by offering people better choices. We show a compelling vision, models and “the how.”

- ◆ We can radically increase energy conservation and ramp up distributed renewable energy with off-the-shelf technologies to reach 100% clean energy.
- ◆ We know how to feed the world using ecological agriculture that sequesters carbon, restores natural capital and builds local economies and jobs.
- ◆ We’re rapidly learning how to apply nature’s designs with biomimicry, green chemistry, cradle-to-cradle production, living buildings, smart growth and traditional indigenous knowledge in a next industrial revolution.
- ◆ We know how to use water wisely and fairly, and protect our watersheds.
- ◆ We’re reinventing governance that challenges corporate constitutional rights and institutes rights for nature.
- ◆ We’re creating models of finance that democratizes ownership and access.
- ◆ We’re addressing racial and gender justice, supporting women’s leadership, and building beloved community in a culture of pluralism.
- ◆ We’re cultivating a global wisdom culture and an expanded sense of kinship that embraces human diversity and celebrates the oneness of all life.

“Bioneers has been a venue where leaders of color within the environmental justice movement are bridging historical racial gaps in the environmental movement to share grounded strategies and new visions with the promise of creating a healthy, just and sustainable multi-racial society.”

– CARL ANTHONY & M. PALOMA PAVEL, BREAKTHROUGH COMMUNITIES

TURNING VISION INTO ACTION

Communicate, Connect, Catalyze

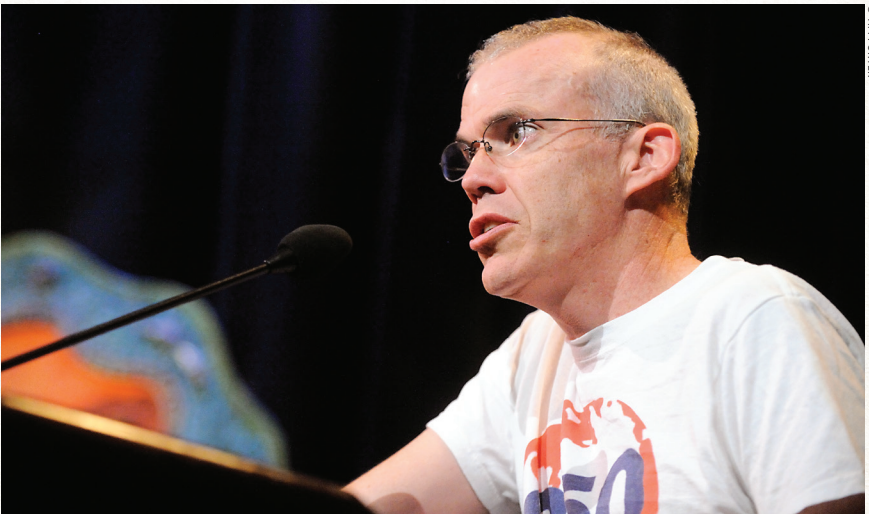
"[Neo-conservative economist] Milton Friedman said that only a crisis, actual or perceived, produces real change, and when that crisis occurs, the change depends on the ideas that are lying around. That is our basic function, he said: 'To keep the ideas ready until the politically impossible becomes politically inevitable.' So what are our ideas lying around?"

- NAOMI KLEIN, AUTHOR, *THE SHOCK DOCTRINE*, BIONEERS 2008

OUR ROLE & PROGRAMS

THE CORNERSTONE OF BIONEERS IS TO INSPIRE, INFORM AND engage global citizen action with actionable knowledge, successful models and networks. We communicate, connect and catalyze.

We spread inspiring visionary and practical knowledge through our acclaimed annual national Summit conference, media, events, and Resilient Communities Network local conferences and initiatives. We foster models of leadership that touch the deepest levels of human potential, consciousness and values.



© TIM PORTER

Bill McKibben at Bioneers

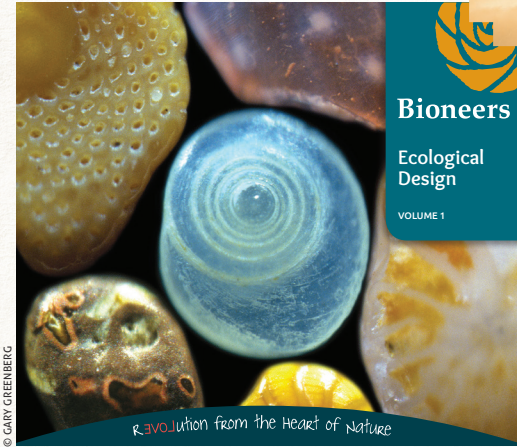
WE FOCUS ON THREE SYNERGISTIC INITIATIVES:

Changing the Mindscape: Public Education and Media Outreach

We produce award-winning solutions-focused media across multiple media

“When stories change,
the world changes.”

– THOM HARTMANN,
BROADCASTER AND AUTHOR



Bioneers Media Collection

formats and platforms: our acclaimed annual national Summit conference, award-winning radio series, TV broadcasts, books, media collections and digital and online communications platforms and interactive pathways for engagement. The kaleidoscopic Bioneers framework uniquely provides innumerable entry points for people with diverse interests and backgrounds. As a producer,

publisher and distributor of original and aggregated content, we're reaching ever-larger audiences through conventional and new media channels.

Resilience From the Ground Up: The Bioneers Resilient Communities Network

Since 2001, Bioneers has directly supported the inevitable movement toward greater re-localization as an ecological, economic and political imperative. The program supports a strategic decentralization and greening of our infrastructures, and a greater distribution of political power to local and regional levels. Bioneers provides a substantive, actionable portfolio of breakthrough ideas, practices and tools. We serve as a vehicle to build community, collaboration and networks. We're cultivating a learning-and-action

“The way we'll hold it
together is to hold it
— together.”

– SARAH CROWELL, DESTINY
ARTS YOUTH PROGRAM

network of communities that act as living laboratories of practice growing local and regional resilience, in alliances with parallel networks and initiatives.

A Community of Leadership: Women, First Peoples and Youth

Our institutions are not designed to meet the magnitude and complexity of today's challenges. Today's wicked problems are too complex and interrelated for any individual or single discipline to solve. These daunting realities require new forms of leadership and organization anchored in collaboration, teamwork, diversity and network organizing models. By engaging visionary leaders across the differences that tend to divide us, these new models employ inclusive, collaborative leadership from diverse sectors, disciplines, ethnicities, generations and walks of life. We focus on the uniquely important leadership of women, indigenous peoples and youth.

Raise up your leaders."

- CHIEF OREN LYONS,
IROQUOIS SIX NATIONS

◆ **OUR EVERYWOMAN'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAM** highlights and promotes feminine-centered leadership frameworks that are relational, collaborative, culturally diverse, intergenerational and appreciative of differences. It operates at the nexus of gender equity, racial justice, cultural diversity and inner awareness. It's informed by nature as mentor. It highlights living models and practical solutions through the inspiring narratives of women leaders. It cultivates blended leadership that values the virtues of both feminine and masculine qualities, and invites the support and partnership of men. If there's one single trim tab that will change everything, it's supporting the leadership of women, and restoring the balance of masculine and feminine qualities inherent in all of us and in our institutions and society.

◆ **OUR NATIVE-LED INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE PROGRAM** supports the leadership of First Peoples, in a partnership with indigenous leaders and organizations including The Cultural Conservancy and Indigenous Environmental Network. As a complement to Western science, Indigenous knowledge provides critically important leadership and insights through Traditional Ecological Knowl-



Cultivating Women's Leadership training



13 Indigenous Grandmothers at Bioneers

edge (TEK) and the “Original Instructions” of human, societal and land ethics and values. Protection of Native land rights, human rights, global biodiversity and bio-cultural diversity are imperative for planetary health and justice.

◆ **OUR YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM** builds intergenerational relationships with structured opportunities for young people to develop their vision, skills and connections to pursue their passions to heal nature and our human communities. We’re building a community that brings together leaders, youth and mentors from diverse fields and backgrounds. Building this intergenerational infrastructure creates an essential support network for mutual mentorship across generations.

ADAPTIVE ACTION ADVANTAGE

AS THE COMPLEXITY AND VULNERABILITY OF OUR PHYSICAL and social systems make the world ever more unstable and unpredictable, it’s necessary to abandon a focus on predictions and control. We need to shift into rapid prototyping and experimentation so that we learn quickly about what actually works. It may be a moving target requiring constant adaptation, such as climate disruption.

Key strategies needed to evolve in the face of radical change include adaptability, experimentation, rapid responsiveness, and resilience. These strategies support Bioneers’ effectiveness, sustainability and growth. We’ve defined our core initiatives to embrace these approaches to meet conditions and opportunities as they arise, shift and expand.

As a uniquely holistic nonprofit organization of mutually enhancing initiatives, Bioneers views our primary measure of success as Return on Engagement (ROE). Our goal is to effectively help engage a critical mass of people with reliable visionary and practical approaches and points of entry for the great work of the Age of Nature: restoring nature, our human communities and reverence for the sacredness and mystery of creation.



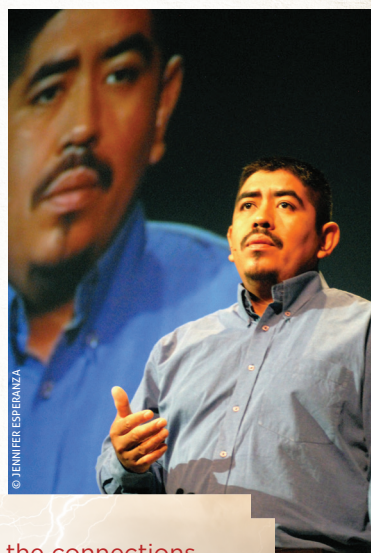
THE FUTURE IS HERE NOW... IN YOUR HANDS

THE WORLD WE WANT IS HERE NOW — IN THE MODELS, practices and stories embodied in the Bioneers community of leadership. We know and have much of what we need to succeed.

In 2020, we want people to tell the stories of the unique roles the Bioneers community of leadership played in helping make this epic transformation.

We invite you to join with us to make the impossible inevitable.

- ◆ Attend the annual Bioneers Summit conference.
- ◆ Participate in local Bioneers Resilient Community Network conferences, events and initiatives.
- ◆ Spread Bioneers media and educational materials by becoming a Media Pollinator as an individual, company or organization.
- ◆ Help bring Bioneers media and educational materials to schools and community centers.
- ◆ Participate in a Cultivating Women’s Leadership training and women’s network.
- ◆ Be inspired and create your own projects, connected with the resource of the Bioneers networks.
- ◆ Support Bioneers financially!



“The knowledge I gained, the people I met, the connections I made have made my life richer, my work more productive, and my future as a youth of this planet brighter.”

– KAI NEANDER, JANE GOODALL INSTITUTE ROOTS & SHOOTS,
NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

DOUBLE DOWN ON BIONEERS

Make a Difference that Really Makes a Difference

“The Bioneers community has had a significant impact on my work, introducing me to the visionary work of people like Joel Salatin and Paul Stamets. Every time I go, I learn something and invariably find a few gems.”

MICHAEL POLLAN, AUTHOR *OMNIVORE'S DILEMMA*

AS WE CELEBRATE BIONEERS' 25TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2014, it's a golden moment to double down on your support to ensure and optimize Bioneers' ongoing contributions to help turn the tide at this once-in-a-civilization moment.

We invite you to deepen your investment or start now to generate a Return on Engagement that harvests 25 years' of visionary leadership, practical experience and actionable knowledge. When you support Bioneers, you're leveraging our entire community of leadership — a movement of movements.

We thank each and every one of you who has helped us reach this remarkable milestone. Every single gift — large and small — has helped bring us to where we are today.

Play big. Make a difference that really makes a difference by generously supporting Bioneers. Please contact: give@bioneers.org or 415-660-9305. To learn about our Kinship Circle of engaged higher donors, and about our Legacy Giving program: Bioneers' Executive Director, Joshua Sheridan Fouts, at Josh@bioneers.org or 415-660-9302.

With your generous support, our greatest legacy is yet to come.



“The work you're doing is fantastic.”

– HELEN ÅGREN, DIRECTOR,
MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT,
SWEDEN



Photos clockwise from top left: Kenny Ausubel with Girls Gone Green, Chief Almir Surui, Jodie Evans and CodePink, Lucas Benitez, all at Bioneers.

BIONEERS



Founders Kenny Ausubel & Nina Simons

“This is kind of a seasonal ceremony, Bioneers. If we were migrating birds, this would be our staging ground, where we come and talk about what we hatched this year and what breeding was like.”

— JANINE BENYUS, BIOMIMICRY INSTITUTE, FOUNDER

“Bioneers has inspired us year by year to continuously improve our performance. Keep up the great work, Bioneers.”

— CHARLES MCGLASHAN, MARIN COUNTY BOARD OF ADVISORS

“It’s a forum where the idea that ‘It’s all connected’ is vividly illustrated. Somehow, this group manages to relate electoral politics to enlightenment, choreography to solar panels, Zapatistas to constitutional law, the South Bronx to recycled paper and global warming to beauty... This is the Bioneers flavor: a mixture of heady abstraction with on-the-ground solutions, wonking with hipness, politics with passion.”

— GREGORY DICUM, “IT’S ALL CONNECTED: BIONEERS GATHERS THE ECO-TRIBE”, SF GATE (ONLINE SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE)



Bioneers | Collective Heritage Institute
1607 Paseo de Peralta, Suite 3, Santa Fe, NM 87501
www.bioneers.org