

Surfing the *creative edge*

BY MELISSA MICHAELS

with Youth



IF EVER THERE WAS AN URGENCY for humanity to acknowledge the interconnect- edness of all life, it is now. The children of the world are calling to us from every corner of the globe, seeking nourish- ment, connection and hope. Over twenty years ago, I returned to the United States from a village in South India with a burning question: How do we build bridges between these diverse and rich cultures, through and for the children of this world? My response to that question was to create an international youth creativity camp in Boulder, Colorado, where each summer roughly forty young people from 14-28 gather to dance, drum, sing, paint, make masks, but most of all to uncover and share the essence of their creative souls in what becomes a holy and inspired, co-creative community, focused on awakening and service.



▲ KALYA

I have had the privilege of working closely with hundreds of young people who are courageously looking at the current condition of our planet and are thoroughly committed to serving our collective unfoldment. Their quest is passionate. Although they seem to realize that their elders have not col- lectively been by their sides to welcome them across the

threshold into young adult- hood, they have not given up, and they retain a deep longing for compani- onship, guidance and blessing.

Young people hold essen- tial keys to our planetary transformation, and they know this, and they aspire to fully embody the truth of who they are. May we welcome these young peo- ple home to themselves and invite them into the council of leadership.

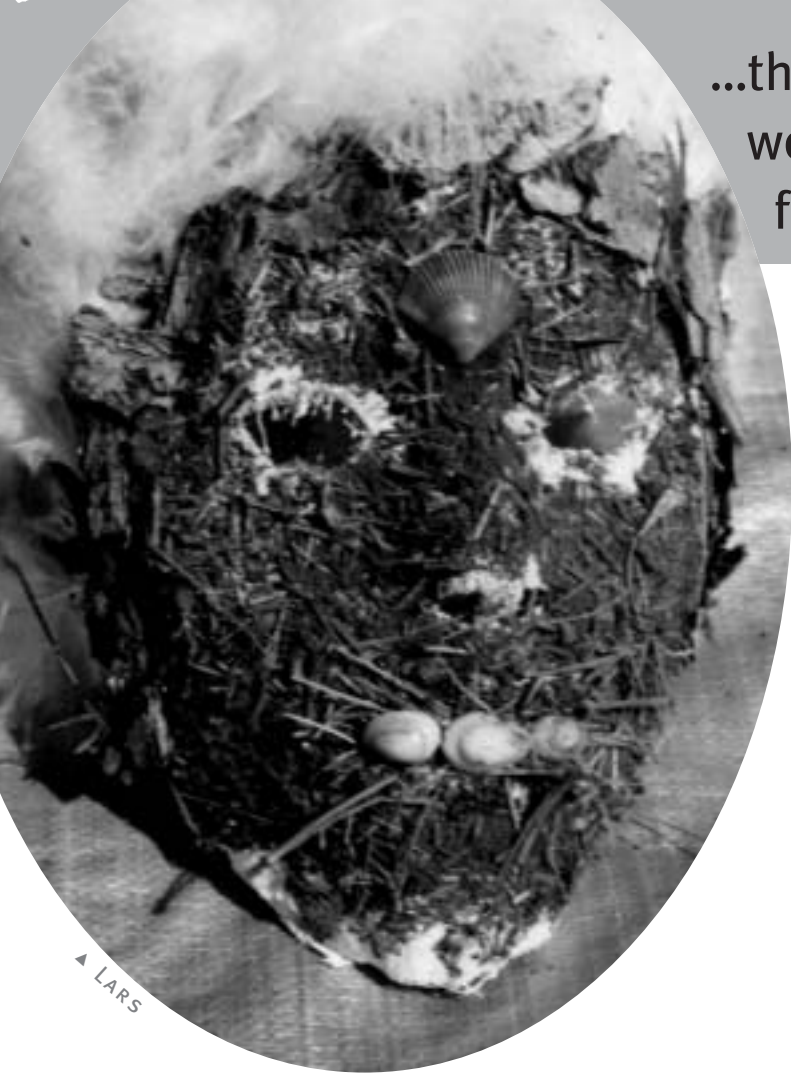
◀ TALIZA



I am Spirit too. I am part of this Great Mystery, and that is not just something out there, but I can feel and know it deep in my core.

—Lana Shea

▲ JEREMY & JOHNATHAN



▲ LARS

...the truth is,
we're of the same blood,
formed by the same mud,
breathed by the same air,
all connected to the earth here.

J. Artos Roske

This work is for me what the developer in a darkroom is. It is constantly helping me realize who I am and who I am becoming, slowly bringing into focus the true colors of myself.
—Heather Sills

▼ JOANNA



▲ MARK



**SURFING THE CREATIVESM
INTERNATIONAL YOUTH PROGRAMS**

*Dedicated to Our Collective Renewal
Through the Liberation of the Creative Spirit*

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