



## Human Capacities Training and Development

The last forty years has seen a revolution in the understanding and application of the human potential. Part of this understanding comes from scientific research and part from cross-cultural studies. Students will learn to apply a portion of the inventory of human capacities as they have developed around the world under different environmental and social conditions. How Africans walk and think and celebrate spirit, how the Chinese teach and study and paint, how the Inuit experience vivid three dimensional inner imagery, how the Balinese learn to perform any manner of artistic endeavor so rapidly and with such high craft, how a tribe along the Amazon raises happy and nonneurotic children, why certain children in India raised amidst traditional music develop extraordinary skill in mathematics--these are capacities no longer limited to place and culture. In this new world of hybrid vigor, all these potentials once nurtured in separate societies are now available to the entire family of humankind, and the students of this school will be the beneficiaries of this knowledge as well as the scientific studies upon their own growth and development.

There is no question but that we are coded with potentials few of which we ever learn to use. It is as if we had in our body and mind a vast orchestral range of a million keys, and we have learned to play but a small fraction. This module of the school is devoted to discovering what these missing keys are and how they can be applied to social betterment. As part of this course, participants will learn to think, feel, and know in new ways, to become more creative, more imaginative, and to aspire within realistic limits to a much larger awareness, one that is more finely equipped to deal with the many challenges of modern life. They will learn to make conscious use of the complex wisdom of the body and thus achieve an orchestral experience of the self and its many ecologies which technological enhancement can never give. This training in human capacities will show the learners that they are much richer, deeper, stronger than they know. It will school them in their own unknown and hitherto unused depths and latencies. Their energies, powers, stamina, and moral force will come to seem limited only because the habitations and expectations of their several cultures have set limits. Therefore, the program in all its parts and modules works to create a new culture in which the consensual reality states that the horizon of the limits is greatly expandable and more becomes possible. Needless to say this training will give its learners a critical advantage in their practice of Social Artistry.

Essential to this is learning will be the art of interpersonal relations, finding ways of crossing the great divide of otherness, stepping out of stereotypes and into seeing and honoring each other deeply. The varieties of empathic experience will be taught. Storying is fundamental to this process. It allows the best of what we are to come together--reason and intuition, empathy and understanding. Story opens the window of direct perception and lets the clear light of human connection stream through. This greater sense of and use of their own potentials should be so rewarding in itself to motivate the student to continue with those practices needed to maintain states of being which are manifestly more pleasurable as well as being conducive to those larger goals critical to becoming a social change agent.