April 2021: Spring is here but are we?

## Fresno Center for Nonviolence

We are currently CLOSED until further notice regarding the Corona Virus Pandemic.

We miss you already



Edited by Richard Gomez



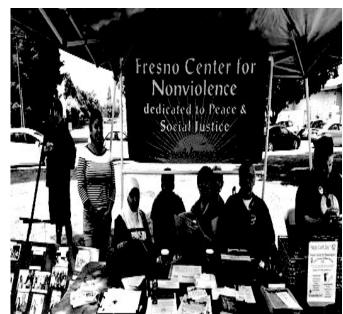
Dedicated to PEACE and SOCIAL JUSTICE through SIMPLICITY ~ JUSTICE ~ INCLUSIVENESS ~ NON-IN

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Earth Day Fresno is excited to bring you an online celebration on Thursday, April 22, 2021. Please check for updates at the Earth Day Fresno website https://earthdayfresno.org/. Starting at 10:00am via our website https://earthdayfresno.org/, we will begin with an opening ceremony and follow with a still-to-be-finalized schedule of music and other entertainment, activities, and climate or environmental related discussions.

Last year, we were forced to cancel Earth Day Fresno 2020 due to COVID-19 and resulting shutdown of all public activities. That decision to cancel last March seems so long ago, yet just like yesterday. Over the past year we have lost loved ones and dedicated Earth warriors whom we continue to mourn. The effects of a deadly virus and lack of leadership has been devastating. The loss to those left behind has been traumatic – we can see how lives will be changed forever. It is important to allow ourselves time to grieve all that we have lost. It is understandable that climate change might be the last thing on people's minds. Except that during the pandemic, we have watched Texans

deal with the direct effects of climate change. It is heartbreaking that people are forced to learn about the effects of climate change on the environment as they experience it firsthand. It is also painful to realize that much of nature has thrived without human intrusion. The Earth Day Fresno committee has always thought of Earth Day as a day of celebration of our planet and our efforts throughout the year. Throughout the year, we march, write letters to the editor, contact our legislative representatives, and do anything we can to advocate for the preservation of our planet. It is not always common for



The Fresno Center for Nonviolence at Earth Day 2019

like-minded groups in a community to work together. Not that the desire is not there, it is just not always feasible for one reason or another. Earth-minded groups in Fresno and surrounding cities have historically collaboratively worked together and supported one another's events and activities. We often must warn of the dangers to nature and the effect on humans and our way of life. It is critical we also express joy and gather for Earth Day is a time to celebrate and cheer each other on in our collective efforts. It is critical that express

Although restrictions appear to being lifting, the Earth Day Fresno committee feels strongly about conducting the majority of our festivities online. Therefore, starting at 10am on Thursday, April 22, 2021, we will begin the fun. Schedule of events is still being finalized, so please check earthdayfresno.org frequently for updates. For those that feel comfortable gathering in person, we are organizing a socially distanced gathering on Saturday, April 24. These plans are also being finalized, so check earthdayfresno.org for more details. Earth Day Fresno is also supporting the screening of Kiss the Ground film being shown on Friday, April 16, 2021, at the Alluvial Community Garden. Check our website for more details. We look forward to celebrating Earth Day with you all.

## Stir it, UP!

## Wednesday, April 14th at 3 pm

KFCF 88.1 FM



This month's our radio show will be hosted by Angela Price with her guest, Zeiad Abbas Shamrouch, Executive Director of the Middle East Children's Alliance. He is a Palestinian refugee from Dheisheh Refugee Camp in the West Bank and the cofounder of the Ibdaa Cultural Center in Dheisheh, Zeiad is also a filmmaker, journalist and educator who has worked with Palestinian and international media and has participated in the production of several documentary films. He completed his Master of Arts in Social Justice and International Relations from the World Learning School for International Training Graduate Institute. If you have any questions, please call the Center at 559-237-3223. Although we are closed, we do pick up messages and respond to them.

Our previous show in March was hosted by Josh Shurley and his guest, Gerry Condon and Helen Jacard of the Golden Rule and Veterans For Peace. Due to the constant sorrows with the weather we are still contemplating weather we can ask our guest back again on a more pleasant day.

## A Date to remember:

The Fresno Center for Nonviolence will have our Annual 28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this coming Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup> with special guest speaker Zeiad Abbas Shamrouch, Executive Director of the Middle East Children's Alliance. There will be the Way of Peace Awards, a Silent raffle, entertainment and light refreshments. Admission is FREE and we will be having it in Madera in the early morning to beat the afternoon heat.

