

perseverance



Goddess Tree, Rio Caliente
La Primavera, Jalisco, Mexico

for our new year together

May we persevere in the protection and preservation
of the Planet, of Peace Makers,
of Promise Keepers and Questioners

Perseverance

for the best of each other
for the larger story waiting to be birthed
for flags airborne, rather than coffin-draped
for dance steps that celebrate
for human rights
for homecomings

Perseverance

for understanding, diplomacy
for listening, loving
for overcoming
for children
for elders
for Earth
for all of us

for tomorrow...

— amity foundation



Cheering for dad at triathlon finish line
Lerici, Italy, 2010

imprisoned nobel

peace laureates

awarded in absentia:

1935 Carl Von Ossietzky - Germany

1975 Andrej Sakarov - Russia

1983 Lech Walesa - Poland

1991 Aung San Suu Kyi - Burma

2010 Liu Xiabo - China

...our universe is one where there is no question at all,
but that goodness and laughter and justice will prevail...
In the end, the perpetrators of injustice and oppression,
the ones who strut the stage of the world — often seemingly
unbeatable — will bite the dust.

— Bishop Desmond Mpilo Tutu, Nobel Laureate
Retirement Speech, October 2010
Time Magazine

...no force can hinder people's desire towards freedom...
China will in the end become a country that holds human
rights as the law of the land... Freedom of expression is the
foundation of human rights, the source of humanity and the
mother of truth. To strangle freedom of speech is to trample
on human rights, stifle humanity, and suppress truth...

— Liu Xiabo
December 23, 2009
In open court prior to
11 year sentence

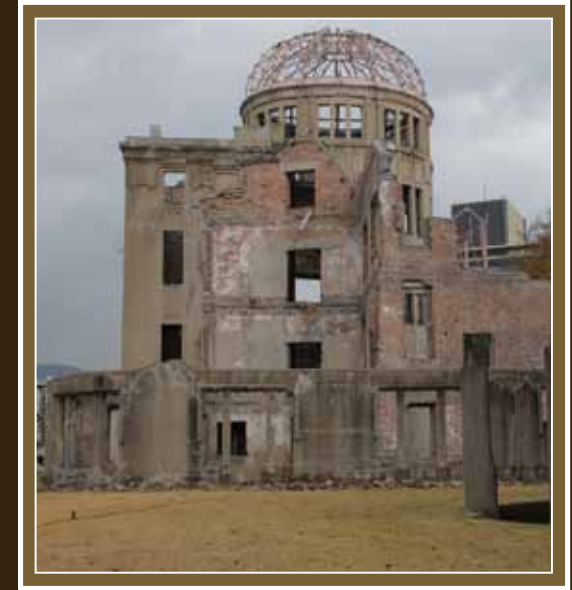
calling all grandmothers

We have to live
differently
or we
will die
in the same
old ways...
I call on all the Grand Mothers
of Earth
& every person
who possesses
the Grand Mother
spirit
of respect for
life
&
protection of
the young
to rise
& lead.
The life of
our species
depends
on it.
& I call on all men
of Earth
to gracefully
and
gratefully
stand aside
& let them
(let us)
do so.

— Alice Walker, 2010
excerpt from Hard Times
Require Furious Dancing



Aymara, Lake Titicaca, Puno, Peru



Peace Park, Hiroshima, Japan 2009

as we peer

into society's future, we, you, and I, and our government must avoid the impulse to live only for today, plundering for our own ease and convenience the precious resources of tomorrow. We cannot mortgage the material assets of our grandchildren without risking the loss also of their political and spiritual heritage...

Disarmament, with mutual honor and confidence, is a continuing imperative. Together we must learn how to compose differences, not with arms, but with intellect and decent purpose...

— Dwight D. Eisenhower
Farewell Address, January 1961



Taps, Korean War Memorial, Washington, DC, USA

perseverance of celebration

Festival of the Virgin of Candelaria, Puno, Peru 2009.

The people of the Altiplano surrounding, Lake Titicaca, gather yearly, and pave the streets with flower petal mosaics, they dance and carry the Virgin of Candelaria through the streets. It is believed that this festival is the melding of the Catholic tradition with that of the ancient offerings to Pachamama, or "Mother World", the benevolent goddess of the Inca Empire.



Procession of virgin of candelaria
showered in rose petals



100's of villagers send dancers
to this reverent celebration



Laying flower petal mosaics
in preparation of celebration

perseverance: our planet Mother Earth

Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, 2005

Rescue and evacuation efforts were a debacle of the
grandest proportions in American History...

Individuals and organizations had concerns about entering
the floodwaters due to diseases like Malaria...

However, there were the dragonflies...

They blanketed New Orleans, hovering just inches above the
smelly floodwater, they don't bite or sting humans...

As harmless as ladybugs, the females laid eggs in the
floodwaters, thousands hatched, devouring mosquitos, dive-
bombing with aerial acrobatics that made the Coast Guard
helicopters look clumsy... they protected Katrina's survivors
and its victims hovering above those who were lost...

— Douglas Brinkley, author
CNN interview with Anderson Cooper
2010



Lotus, peace and enlightenment and Dragonfly, messenger to the spirit world

God bless the grass that grows through the crack
They roll concrete over it to try and keep it back
The concrete gets tired of what it has to do
It breaks and it buckles and the grass grows thru

God bless the truth that fights towards the sun
They roll the lies over it and think that it is done
It moves through the ground and reaches for the air
And after a while it is growing everywhere

God bless the grass that grows through cement
It is green and it's tender and it's easily bent
But after a while it lifts up its head
For the grass is living and the stone is dead

God bless the grass that's gentle and low,
Its roots they are deep and its will is to grow
And God bless the truth, the friend of the poor
And the wild grass is growing at the poor man's door

And God bless the grass

— Malvina Reynolds
August 1900-March 1978



Child, Dragonfly Village, Amity Foundation, Tucson, Arizona, USA

perseverance for

listening

loving

for earth

for all of us

for tomorrow

Hózhǫ́nígo nasádo
Walk in Beauty



Steps, Vernazza, Cinque Terre, Italy

let us persevere

in our efforts to overcome

Prejudice is a burden that confuses the past, threatens the future, and renders the present inaccessible.

— Maya Angelou



perseverance furthers

— I Ching

amity foundation is dedicated to the inclusion and habilitation of individuals, children, and families marginalized by homelessness, poverty, addiction, crime, racism, sexism, trauma, and violence.

La Fundación de Amistad está dedicada a la inclusión y habilitación de los individuos, niños, y familias marginadas a causa de problemas de carencia de hogar, pobreza, adicción, crimen, racismo, sexismo, trauma y la violencia.

rainmaking

When the people gather with good intent
Wind collects spirit clouds
Rain falls nourishing Earth
Spring returns for all our relations

Haciendo la Lluvia
Cuando la gente se reúne con buenas intenciones...
Viento acopia nubes espirituales...
La lluvia cae alimentando madre tierra...
La Primavera florece en todas nuestra relaciones...

Amity
Foundation
when people gather with good intent



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editor, naya arbieter | photography, rod mullen
creative, barry m warne | production, leah mitchell