

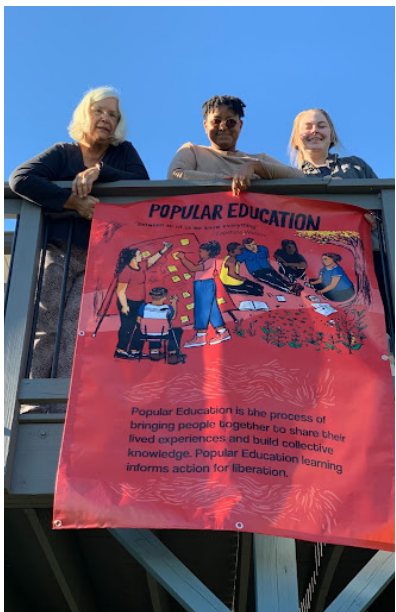
HIGHLANDER METHODOLOGIES

The Education Team partnered with artist [Gabriela Hurtado-Ramos](#) to create these beautiful one-page education tools spotlighting each of Highlander's methodologies. Download them at www.highlandercenter.org in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) and use them as you wish, and share them out!

Education Team Coordinator: Trina Jackson trina@highlandercenter.org
Education Team Administrative Assistant: Anna anna@highlandercenter.org



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HIGHLANDER
LIBRARY

DEMOCRACY & FREEDOM IN THE MAKING

WINTER 2022-23



HIGHLANDER OVER TIME

In 2022, the Highlander Research and Education Center celebrated 90 years addressing the needs of the people we serve in the United States South and Appalachia. In the words of Co-Executive Director Allyn Maxfield-Steele, "Highlander lives in the past, present, and future every day." Since 1932, Highlander has centered the experiences of directly-impacted people in our region, knowing that together, we have the solutions to address the challenges we face in our communities and to build more just, equitable, and sustainable systems and structures. Our workshops and programming bring people together across issues, identity, and geography to share and build skills, knowledge, and strategies for transformative social change.

This work has created strong movement infrastructure in the South and Appalachia, building networks and organizing efforts that advanced the labor movements of the 1930s and 40s, the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 60s, and environmental, economic, and racial justice organizing across decades.

Today, this work is fortifying movement in the 21st Century by building the leadership of youth, LGBTQ+, and Black and Brown organizers; advancing solidarity economies to dismantle capitalism and extractive industries in our region; creating capacity for movement organizations through fiscal sponsorships and hands-on network support to groups like the Movement for Black Lives and the Southern Movement Assembly; shifting resources to build power within our region; and making sure Southern freedom fighters not only have a seat at decision-making tables, but are leading national and global efforts to shift systems and structures that all too often have incubated oppression and exploitation in our home communities.

CONNECT WITH HIGHLANDER

Be sure to visit our website www.highlandercenter.org, follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) and [sign up for e-newsletter](#) to stay up to the date on the latest news and programming



PROGRAM UPDATES

SEPTIMA CLARK LEARNING CENTER

The [Septima Clark Learning Center](#) is the home of Highlander's new library and archive, bringing new opportunities for visitors to engage with movement history and learn from our many resources.

Since reopening in 2022, staff librarian archivists Ashby Haywood and Susan Williams have been excited to host and facilitate workshops both in-person and online with organizers seeking to deepen their movement history and archiving skills. They've also been busy digitizing Highlander materials and expanding our online book collection with a new digital archive on Soutron - [check it out here!](#)

We celebrated this new era for our archives with a dedication at our 90th homecoming that included members of Septima Clark's family and by launching an ongoing project creating a digital history timeline to celebrate our 90th anniversary.

Learn more and connect with the Learning Center:
Contact: Susan Williams, susan@highlandercenter.org,
Ashby Combahee Haywood, ashby@highlandercenter.org.

SEEDS OF FIRE

Our youth organizing program [Seeds of Fire](#), is led by staff members Rosemary Paz and Teddy Lee along with an Advisory Committee made up of youth organizers who have previously participated in programming.

This year's Advisory Committee took a leadership role in planning youth programming for Highlander's 90th Homecoming, building fundraising, facilitation, and workshop planning skills while hosting workshops on Reproductive Justice and Healing Justice.

Seeds of Fire also supported skill-building and network-building with 22 young people who participated in our 2022 East Tennessee Fellowship, providing direct support and resources to youth organizing on the ground.

Seeds of Fire participants are currently putting their skills to work by building out a healing justice curriculum they're excited to share in the coming months.

Connect with Seeds of Fire:
Rosemary Paz, rosemary@highlandercenter.org,
Teddy Lee, teddy@highlandercenter.org



CULTURAL ORGANIZING

Highlander [Cultural Organizer](#) Je Naé Taylor is building on the collective work and impact of Highlander's cultural work examining the "Recipes for Culture" with the upcoming launch of a new toolkit in 2023 sharing lessons and strategies gathered over the last three years. Digital resources will be shared out monthly through Highlander's social media and newsletter, but we will mail physical copies if you'd like to join our mailing list! Email jenae@highlandercenter.org for more info.

Je Naé also led several exciting partnerships and collaborations in 2022, including a popular education session and cultural performances with Damon Locks and the Black Monument Ensemble, and partnered with Regina Taylor to host a reading of her play "A Seat at the Table" about civil rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer as part of Highlander's 90th Homecoming.
Stay updated by visiting:
<https://highlandercenter.org/cultural-organizing/>.

Contact: Je Naé Taylor, jenae@highlandercenter.org.

ELECTORAL JUSTICE

"Highlander's Electoral Justice programming, led by Denzel Caldwell, supported communities across the U.S. South in defending and protecting democracy this year.

The "People Practicing Power" series convened 100 grassroots organizers in 15 southern states to ensure our folks were equipped to protect themselves during this year's election season, know who is running and what's at stake, and begin experimenting with ways to build power between election cycles.

Our Community Governance Mapping Project also gathered input from 13 local and statewide organizations who are interested in carrying this work forward by creating a learning community to reground ourselves in civics, continue to build out our own policy platforms from the ground, and implement political education programs in our communities to continue to strengthen our collective people power. Denzel also authored an article for International Day of Democracy - [read it here!](#)

Learn more:
Denzel Caldwell, denzel@highlandercenter.org.



HIGHLANDER'S 90TH HOMECOMING

Highlander celebrated our 90th anniversary with a hybrid event in Fall 2022, with thousands of organizers across the globe joining us both in-person and online to honor and build on Highlander's 90 years of strengthening Southern freedom movements. Our theme "There's a New World Coming" was inspired by the amazing song written and performed by Dr. Bernice Johnson Reagon and guided our vision throughout the weekend, grounding us in the hope and revolutionary joy that fuels our resistance and radical imagination in building the world we know is possible and that we deserve.

[Revisit the weekend's workshops and sessions on our Vimeo page to watch and share the recordings!](#)

CHILDREN'S JUSTICE CAMP

[Children's Justice Camp](#) invited youth aged 6-12 to Highlander Homecoming this year for a full weekend of "Building A New World: Dreamscaping" where participants created art sharing their ideas for better schools, neighborhoods, amusement parks, transportation and the whole world! Through maps, zines, poetry, plays and art, they culminated the weekend in a show and tell inviting all Homecoming attendees to learn about their better world.

Children's Justice Camp was held at Highlander in Summer 2022. Our theme this year was "Replanting Our Roots – Grounding Yourself!" exploring culture, ecosystems, mythology, and all the identities that affirm our existence.

Camp is open to young people ages 6-12, with young people ages 13-15 serving as Youth Directors, Shadow Directors, and Junior Educator team members. Our young people mentor one another's leadership, while creating and facilitating camp experiences that impact young folks for a lifetime!

Learn more:
Email HLDR.CJC@GMAIL.COM to reach Stewarding Director Cherizar , Youth Directors Temo, Macaiah, Leilani, and Mason, or Shadow Directors Daniela and Yaretzi.



FUTURE STORIES

To commemorate our 90th Homecoming theme "There's A New World Coming", our Communications team invited staff, program participants, and organizers across the Global South to share their Future Stories in a digital storytelling project that collected radical visions for our collective futures.

Through the stories of the world we are building together in our organizing work, participants wove together a collage of hope and determination, illuminating the path that will get us to the future we know is possible and that we deserve.

Check the montage video on [Highlander's Vimeo here](#) in English and Spanish subtitles.

Learn more: Elizabeth Wright, elizabeth@highlandercenter.org.

RADICAL HOSPITALITY

Highlander's Workshop Center team is ready to welcome your group to the Hill! Click here to learn more and book a visit. Highlander Chef Chris Robinson is working to expand food justice and access on the Hill while continuing the work of nourishing bodies with healthy, local food.

Chris and the Radical Hospitality crew have been tending to Highlander's garden and expanding our homegrown options, with plans to offer a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) option for staff in 2023 as a first step toward building more local relationships and increasing access to healthy, locally grown food in Highlander's surrounding community.

Chris also partnered with Marxist Mushrooms at Highlander's Homecoming in a workshop focused on the history, relationships, foraging, and cultivation of fungi and mushrooms. Participants will soon receive a follow-up mailing to help them apply what they learned by cultivating mushrooms at home!

Learn more: Brandi Augustus (Workshop Center Coordinator and Bookings), brandi@highlandercenter.org,
Chris Robinson (Chef), chris@highlandercenter.org



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