**2014 YES! Alumni Survey**

A total of 96 surveys were filled out in Jan-March 2014 on Survey Monkey. Each statement below is preceded by the total percentage of those feel each statement is true to very true, per the survey responses. The narrative statements to open questions are included here in full as well.

**Perceptions of the Jam**

100% feel Jams are unique spaces for young changemakers to engage with each other.

98% feel Jams foster deep inquiry, healing and well-being.

98% feel Jams are effective in creating intentional spaces for love and spirit.

97% feel Jams seek and create transformation on the inner level.

97% feel Jams seek and create transformation on the interpersonal level.

87% believe Jams seek and create transformation on the community/global level.

97% feel their whole self is welcomed at the Jam.

**Perceptions of the Jam's Impact**

96% feel they made important and valuable contacts at the Jam.

87% feel they have sustained friendships and alliances created at the Jam.

97% feel they learned new skills or perspectives that enhance my life.

86% felt they learned new skills or perspectives that enhance my work.

71% feel since the Jam, they are more aware of connections between issues and movements in the world.

78% feel since the Jam, they see more benefit in collaborations between organizations and movements.

80% feel since the Jam, they more likely to seek collective intelligence and diversity of perspectives in their decision-making.

78% feel since the Jam, they have taken better care of their physical, spiritual and/or emotional health.

79% feel since the Jam, they have created more life balance to help them thrive in work/activism.

81% feel since the Jam, their relationships with others are more honest and/or meaningful.

81% feel they have greater capacity to resolve conflicts constructively after the Jam.

76% say their work/activism feels more intentional and effective after the Jam.

78% feel their work/activism is more congruent with their values after the Jam.

54% feel since the Jam, they have been a more effective fundraiser, administrator and/or spokesperson for their work.

**Your Perceptions of the Jam Community**

93% feel the Jam Community is a strong network of people and support.

94% feel the Jam Community is a wealth of information and resources.

80% feel the Jam Community influences their understanding of local and global issues.

59% feel since the Jam, YES! has been there to support them or their work in ways that have mattered.

81% feel since the Jam, other members of the Jam alumni community have been there to support them or their work in ways that mattered.

**What was the most practical and/or meaningful thing (insight, skill, awareness) that came out of the Jam for you?**

Top ranked responses: Self-awareness, love and presence (26); authentic relationships and communities (15); Specific facilitation tools 13 (secret angels, appreciative inquiry, zones, critic); Accepting and understanding differences (8); active listening (5); Speak from I (3) and gender/race conversations (3).

# Personal and planetary sustainability is a key value to YES!, and we seek to provide nourishing, balanced and delicious meals that are culturally respectful. What was your experience with food specifically at Jams, and can you provide a testimonial that we can share with others?

Three sample stories from predominantly positive remarks:

*The food was AMAZING!!! I am a vegetarian and usually resign myself to eating rolls and salad at conferences. Not at the YES! Jam! There was ample, delicious and nutritious food three times a day. Thank you!*

*I thought that the food was sensational, although the quantity was perhaps unnecessary. Also, I think that promoting the "personal and planetary sustainability" led me (and some others I have spoken with) to believe that this was a Jam about sustainability which was a little confusing. That could perhaps be a little clearer.*

*As someone who continually expects to not be able to eat the main meals provided at catered events due to a dietary restrictions based in health reasons, I literally cried tears of joy most days at the Jam upon seeing that not only was there more food for me to eat than one "alternative" meal plate, but also that this food was nourishing, delicious, and prepared with so much love. I truly felt my dietary needs were heard and respected in a way that made me feel cherished--not like a pain in the ass. Thank you to the Jam for your dedication to creating an inclusive space throughout the week, including the meals provided! :)*

# What is your current work and/or what are you planning to do in the future? How does your work impact your community and the rest of the world?

Three sample stories, from people working on many different types of issues ranging from education to economy to medical to food, and lots of environmental efforts too:

*I currently work on popular education programs on a variety of social and environmental justice issues in the Bay Area ranging from climate change adaptation, to urban planning, to restorative youth justice. I hope to continue to engage in these issues but I am also interesting in expanding my horizons. My perspective on systemic change has shifted from solving problems to healing wounds. I'm interested in learning from various healing arts and practices that I can apply to address social justice in the future. So far my work in the last few years has been focused on facilitating organizing campaigns and facilitating leadership developing in California low income communities of color.*

*I am a directress of Women's health Association of Ethiopia, a local organization working with more than 500 grass root women in nine regions in Ethiopia. I believe that If I play my role in changing my own community then the world will change with us. Empowering women is empowering the whole family and family is the basis of community. I want to continue my work with the grass root. But in 2014 I would like to have a more experiential learning programs within my project out in the nature. I want to develop a project that can enable people to experience how the nature and beautiful facilitation can change their life and their spirituality and connection to the inner self*

*I am a primary school teacher (elementary) in Aotearoa New Zealand. Currently, I am studying fulltime at university, working on a PhD that is about democratic education. Aspirations for the future - to help create change in the way people perceive schooling and education. To raise the profile of democratic education so that ultimately children will have more control over their own lives, more voice, more responsibility for their own lives, more empathy for others, more critical consciousness, more belief in themselves as being equal participants in society in helping create resolutions that will aid the common good, more respect for themselves and for others, the list goes on.*

# How many people do you reach directly through your work? How many people do you reach less directly or indirectly through your work?

Direct impact ranges from 6 to 200,000 people and average is 7,229 people.

Indirect impact ranges from 30 to 1,000,000 people and average is 44,314 people.

Based on 1,000 estimated Jam alumni (up from 672 in 2012) at this point, we can project YES! Jammers’ direct impact is 72,229 people and indirect impact is 44.3 million people.

# How many Jammers are you still in contact with and how often do you connect with them? How have these connections supported you in your life and work? Please share a story or two!

Jammers “still in contact” range is 1-50 and average is 14 (same number as 2012). Three story examples below:

*Some of the Jammers and I are in regular contact - I would say the friendships I made at the Jam have been profoundly meaningful. In particular, I connected with a group of women who have stayed with me ever since, sharing our journeys, and lending both social and very very practical support in various ways. I made friends in different parts of India which was also very valuable.*

*I'm in contact with all except Umut. Also I'm in contact with many previous Anadolu Jammers. Actually I became very closed with a few. A fresh story: I turned into 30 last week. In a way that week, I didn't feel so well, and called Yaprak, requested to be with her on my birthday. So that morning we went to the Maiden Tower, my favorite place in Istanbul together and had Turkish cafe. It feels so great (and honestly powerful) to have friends who care about you. In addition to Jammers, I guess Jam improved my "community builder" ability a lot. After Jam, I attended to a few camps for especially young social entrepreneurs. I continue to use what I learn in the Jam, and it really works! :)*

*Kiritapu and I are in contact regularly and jam together personally and professionally in Te RārangaTira. After the world jam, Igor Conde from Brazil invited me to go to Brazil, so I did. I spent a month there and checked out the projects he was working on and have invited him to come and check out similar projects in my community here to facilitate an exchange of knowledge. We also just hung out and had a great time. I tried to catch up with Daniel Pereira while I was in Mexico but events occurred that meant that was not possible. Overall, knowing that I have a wide network of jammers that I know and others that I do not know but feel I can confidently reach through YES! makes the world a much smaller and more connected place. I am planning future travels and will definitely make use of these connections to strengthen relationships created at the Jam.*

# How has YES! or the Jam Community supported you in your life and work since the Jam? How can YES! or the Jam Community better support you? And, let us know how you want to be engaged!

Top responses about how Jammers have felt supported: community building and getting personal support (11) from respondents ranging from Bay Area to Ethiopia. Many people (13) still seek ways to engage particularly around organizing their own programs and connecting to other alumni from East Coast/NYC to Toronto to Delhi to Mississippi. There were several stories about people who are involved with Turkey Jam and Nile Jam engagement and other Jam organizing underway. Three story examples:

*I am still cooking what I learned at the Jams. I am thinking about how the model of YES can be woven into whatever I do. At the core of change is connection, permission and love. How do I offer those in many different settings, so that my work is always strengthening our bonds, whatever the project or environment? Still feeling that one through...*

*The Jam marked a drastic shift for me in my life and work- it reminded me of my own self worth and necessity in taking care of my precious being! I think we're all really busy in Toronto and therefore not engaging in our jam community- but a mid year get together for all Jammers is something I would love to see. Its always such a pleasure to see a Jammer.*

*As someone actively involved in the Gaelic community -- which is often fraught and divided -- it is invaluable to have a group of friends who I can trust with my honest thoughts, and who will give me their honest reactions, without fear of reprisals or bad feelings. I have also drawn on some of them for help with a planned research project. I feel quite supported in my efforts, both by Yes! and by my fellow Jammers. But time is always the challenge -- I don't have the time I wish I had to support my friends and do all that I want to do in the Gaelic community. I suspect that this is the case for many of us who participated in the Jam together last year. But I do have faith that many of the Jam's greatest benefits have yet to be seen. I think the relationships built by the Jam have significant long-term potential.*