



29th Nov. to 4th Dec  
Panchgani Maharashtra  
**INDIA ARTS FOR  
SOCIAL CHANGE JAM  
2016**

## Greetings! It is our honour to invite you to apply to the Arts for Social Change Jam.

After 5 years of the India Youth Jam in India, this is the first Jam for art activists. The India Arts for Social Change Jam is a joyful space to find the balance between art and service. India has always flourished in the arts. Over generations, we have skilled weavers, potters, painters, carpenters, actors, photographers, musicians, storytellers, writers, and more come from our local villages and cities to build and write some of the greatest in the world. Many of those faces have remained unknown, while some have gained international respect, like Rabindranath Tagore, and have used art as a way of changemaking.

A Jam is a transformative community building event for leading young changemakers. A Jam unites a group of 30 diverse young leaders who are working for a thriving, just and balanced ways of life for all. Participants come together for a week of networking, community building, and to gain support as people and as social change-makers. It is not about “creating the newest and best coalition.” It’s about nurturing community. It’s about helping you do what you already do even better. It’s about connecting the dots of the youth activist movement. Because maybe we don’t just need better ideas, maybe we need to understand how they’re all connected. Maybe in order to make real the world we dream of, we need to create and nurture deeper relationships.

## What is an Artist?

Artists are alive in all of us. They're the parts of us that create ways to express things we can't express any other way. Activists are alive in us, too. They're the parts of us that promote, impede, or direct social, political, economic, or environmental change in an effort to make improvements in society and to correct social injustice. There are many forms of artistic expression (music, dance, poetry, film, acting, painting, sculpting) and many forms of activism (writing letters to newspapers or to politicians, political campaigning, boycotts or preferentially patronizing businesses, rallies, street marches, strikes etc.).

Broadly speaking, if an artist is someone who finds ways to express things they otherwise could not and an activist is someone who takes an active role in shaping the world in which they live, we are looking for people who are called to Jam at the intersection of these two identities, where the power of their personal gift or calling connects to their altruism.

## Why Do We Call It a “Jam”?

When musicians come together to “Jam“ they bring their own unique instruments, skills and styles, and together create a collective sound that has never been heard before. This week, we will create a Jam of ideas, creativity, passion and commitment, where diverse visionaries and social change-makers will combine their talents, inspirations and skills to create something greater than the sum of our parts. The synthesis that takes place at Jams gives participants perspectives, insights and support that can change the nature and quality of the work they do. It is a place for deepening the root system that underlies who we are and what we do, and for linking up with others to create a movement that will grow stronger with the passing of time. By “Jamming” together, we will have the opportunity to learn, grow and deepen the sustainability and effectiveness of our lives and work.

On the **personal level**, it is a place for participants to reflect on our life journeys and what makes us who we are today. It is an opportunity to deepen our purpose, ask meaningful questions, unlearn our fears and blocks, access our hearts, and open our minds to move more boldly in the world.

On the **interpersonal level**, we come together to share our cultures, our creativity, our collaborative spirits, our stories and our struggles so we can deepen in our understanding of, and connection to, each other.

On the **systemic level**, we become clearer about the importance of our work in the world and its potential for even deeper, more meaningful impact.

# Why the Arts for Social Change Jam?

We are trying to build a resilient network for people who are working at the intersection of arts and social change. We come together to reflect, share our challenges and breakthroughs in our respective work, nurture ourselves, support and inspire each other, figure out ways to be more financially sustainable and find intersections for future collaborations.

## **Some of the themes that have been particularly reverberant at past Arts Jams are:**

Your own story as an artist

How to be sustainable in our lives and livelihoods

What does success look like to activists

Barriers you've encountered as an activist

How to monetize your art

How to collaborate as activists in a field that tends to be isolated/individualistic

How to cross-pollinate between different modalities

How do we create a support system that really supports us (friends, family, peers and patrons)

## When

November 29th to December 4th.  
Please arrive by noon on  
November 29th.

## Contribution

This Jam is being offered on a sliding scale, ranging from Rs 6,000 to Rs 8,000 to accommodate varied paying capacity of our participants. We believe that as we learn and grow together we take care of all those who offer us their gifts while also fostering a spirit of care for all the people in our communities. Therefore, we're offering a limited number of scholarships for those who find it challenging to pay the minimum amount. To apply for this scholarship, please specify it in the registration form.

## The Jam Site

The Redstone Eco Centre is based on a two acre organic farm, located between the twin hill stations of Panchgani and Mahableshwar in Bhoze village. Redstone is surrounded by grasslands and farms overlooking the Krishna river valley with several villages dotting the slopes and a range of majestic hills beyond , being part of the Sahyadri range of the Western Ghats of Maharashtra. It is a declared eco sensitive zone which lies in the uppermost watershed of the Krishna River basin. Access to a wide range of ecological habitats, a series of plateaus, ponds & streams, a lake, forests, grasslands makes it a favorable place to study these various habitats. A place ideal for walks, short hikes, paddling in streams, picnics, bird watching and nature trails. Recently an amusement park has mushroomed up in the vicinity. It acts as a grim reminder of the changing land use patterns in several of such pristine places and the urgency to protect them.



## Accommodation and Food

The spacious farm house has a unique blend of ethnic and old cottage design which exudes a sense of cozy comfort. A combination of beds and mattresses are laid out dormitory style on the wooden floor of the bedrooms. Spacious covered sit out areas, verandas, a covered terrace and a large covered deck make it suitable for experiencing the bracing climate and yet get protection from the elements. Most importantly the farm house stay will allow the participants to experience ecologically sensitive architecture, living styles and food processing. The well stocked library is open to participants.

We will aim to have as much tasty, healthy and natural food as possible during our stay. Food will be vegetarian but not vegan (milk products may be present). Please let us know well in advance if you have any special dietary needs.

## Address

The Redstone Eco Centre & Organic Farm

Village Bhoose, Panchgani –412805

Email:[redstoneorganicfarm@gmail.com](mailto:redstoneorganicfarm@gmail.com)

Telephone: (02168) 240566, (M) 9423866396

You can find the application form [here](#). You can either fill in the application online or send us your answers in a word doc to [indiaartsjam@gmail.com](mailto:indiaartsjam@gmail.com).

Last date for submitting the application is 9th October, 2016 (check with us as the date may be extended).

Please feel free to contact us if you have any queries. We eagerly look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions please contact [indiaartsjam@gmail.com](mailto:indiaartsjam@gmail.com)

Warmly,

Sukhmani Kohli, Chandigarh

Sweta Daga, Bangalore

Austin Willacy, San Francisco

Vartika Poddar, Kolkata

Vishal Singh, Udaipur

Cameron Martin Campbell, San Francisco