People’s Conference
A Better World Is Possible!

Monday, July 2, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
Logan Heights Public Library: 567 South 28th Street, San Diego
• Workers Rights/Outsourcing/WalMart & Gentrification

Tuesday, July 3, 6:00 – 9:00 pm
Centro Cultural de la Raza: 2125 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92101
• Intellectual Property, GMOs, Healthcare
• Women and the TPP

Thursday, July 5, 6:00 – 9:00 pm
Centro Cultural de la Raza: 2125 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92101
• Geopolitics and Empire
• Indigenous People’s Rights: Decolonization or the TPP

Thursday, July 5, 6:00 – 9:00 pm
World Beat Center: 2100 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92101
• Local Economies and Sustainability
• Biodiversity & Global Climate Change

Friday, July 6, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
Peace Resource Center: 3850 Westgate Place, San Diego, CA 92105
• Food Freedom or NAFTA on Steroids
  Come and Meet Ben Burkett, President of the National Family Farm Coalition
  Discuss the Significance of Food Sovereignty and Food Justice

Saturday, July 7, 3:00 – 5:00 pm
Peace Resource Center: 3850 Westgate Place, San Diego, CA 92105
• Fukushima Anti-nuke Activist in San Diego

See next pages for Panelists Names and their Biographies. (Speakers as of 6/29/2012)
People’s Conference: A Better World Is Possible!

Monday, July 2, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
Logan Heights Public Library: 567 South 28th Street, San Diego
• Workers Rights/Outsourcing/WalMart & Gentrification

Panelists

Benjamin Prado – Member of Union del Barrio, San Diego

Celeste Drake – Celeste Drake has been a Trade & Globalization Policy Specialist at the AFL-CIO since May 2011. She has been actively following TPP negotiations, having attended recent rounds in Dallas, Chicago, and Lima, Peru. She also covers issues related to the World Trade Organization, economic development, manufacturing policy, and global worker rights, among others. In January 2012, she testified before the Executive Branch’s GSP Subcommittee on worker rights violations in Georgia, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka.

Christian Ramírez – Christian Ramírez is long-time human rights advocate. He has been invited to speak on human rights and border issues in international, national and local forums. He’s currently the director of the Southern Border Communities Coalition, that brings together 60 community groups from San Diego to Brownsville, Texas. He has lived in historic Barrio Logan for over 10 years.

Colectivo Zapatista – A representative

Genoveva Aguilar – Genoveva Aguilar is with Casas de Vecinos Organizados & Service Employees International Union.

Petra Mata – La Fuerza Unida – Petra Mata is co-director and co-founder of Fuerza Unida. She was a part of the initial organizing after the closure of the Levi Strauss company. Her involvement in the San Antonio labor rights community spans over 20 years and allowed her to become the recipient of the Alston/Bannerman Fellowship for longtime activists.

Viola Casares – La Fuerza Unida – Viola Casares is co-director and co-founder of Fuerza Unida. She was also involved in the initial organizing after the closure of the Levi Strauss company in San Antonio, TX. Viola is a recipient of the prestigious Ohtli award given by the Mexican government for her dedication in helping organize local, national and international communities for the past 20 years.
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Tuesday, July 3, 6:00 – 9:00 pm
Centro Cultural de la Raza: 2125 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92101
• Intellectual Property, GMOs, Healthcare
• Women and the TPP

Panelists

Francisco Vera – Francisco Vera is the Vice President of the ONG Derechos Digitales (aka The Digital Rights NGO) in Santiago, Chile. Derechos Digitales is an independent non-profit organization focused on protecting human rights in the digital environments, and they have been fighting TPP for years. He does research on Copyright, Privacy and Free Speech topics, besides coordinating with other civil society groups.

Kevin J. Green – Professor of Law at Thomas Jefferson School of Law. Professor Greene was the first legal scholar to examine the treatment of African-American art forms, such as the blues, under intellectual property law.

Maira Sutton – Maira Sutton is the International Intellectual Property Coordinator at the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF). She leads EFF’s activism campaigns on intellectual property reform around the world, fighting legislations and trade agreements that regulate IP in a way that restrict Internet freedom, such as free speech, privacy, and digital innovation. EFF champions the public interest in every critical battle affecting digital rights, ranging from issues regarding free speech, privacy, and innovation online.

Sanya Reid Smith – Legal Advisor & Senior Researcher, Third World Network, Penang, Malaysia.

Cathy Mendonça – Cathy Mendonca is a Residential Advocate at the YWCA of San Diego’s Becky’s House and is the newest member of Af3rm San Diego, an anti-imperialist, transnational feminist women’s organization, evolving from the organization formerly known as GABNet, and 20 years of women’s organizing, activism, and struggle.

Kathy Sorrel – Occupy San Diego

Petra Mata – La Fuerza Unida – Petra Mata is co-director and co-founder of Fuerza Unida. She was a part of the initial organizing after the closure of the Levi Strauss company. Her involvement in the San Antonio labor rights community spans over 20 years and allowed her to become the recipient of the Alston/Bannerman Fellowship for longtime activists.

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Thursday, July 5, 6:00 – 9:00 pm
Centro Cultural de la Raza: 2125 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92101
- Evening begins with a Kumeyaay Blessing by Robert Wallace
- Geopolitics and Empire
- Indigenous People’s Rights: Decolonization or the TPP

Panelists

**Arnie Saiki** – Coordinator of Moana Nui. Director of Imipono Projects.

**Dave Gapp** – Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Air Force (Ret). Pilot and International Affairs Officer, Member of Veterans for Peace, Occupy San Diego, and SD 9/11 Truth

**Enrique Davalos** – Enrique Davalos is a Professor of Chicano Studies at San Diego City College. Enrique is Active in the San Diego Maquiladora Workers’ Solidarity Network, and Colectivo Ollin Calli, an organization in Tijuana providing support and advice to Maquiladora workers.

**Herb Shore** – Retired professor from San Diego state University. Herb Shore grew up in a labor union family in New York City (ILGWU), active in social justice causes from about 1960. Current major activities: San Diego Maquiladora Workers’ Solidarity Network and Democratic Socialists of America. He will speak on: the tijuana-San Diego Region, globalization, NAFTA and cross-border solidarity.

**Kuusela Hilo** – ILPS-US Chapter Country Co-Coordinator and member of the International Coordinating Committee of the ILPS. Hilo has been involved in the fight for social justice for more than a decade. She has been fighting against imperialism and war since her undergraduate years at Stanford University.

**Victor Menotti** – Executive Director of International Forum on Globalization

**Gustavo Esteva** – Leading critic of the development paradigm, author of a dozen books, a founder of the Universidad de la Tierra in Oaxaca, Mexico. He is also a former corporate executive, a former guerrilla, a former high-ranking official in the government of President Echeverria, and an advisor with the Zapatista Army for National Liberation (EZLN) in Chiapas for the negotiations with the government.

**Mahina Rapu** – Health practitioner and independent activist from Rapanui (Easter Island).

**Manlio Cesar Correa** – MA on Latin American Studies, PhD candidate on Global Development, is a binational business consultant and advisor to many migrant grassroots and community organizations. Director of Binational Relations and Social Enterprise, Fuerza Mundial Board of Directors.

**Paul O’Toko** – Executive Director, Indigenous Stewards International

**Stan Rodriguez (Invited)** – Professor, Kumeyaay Community College

**Steven Newcomb** – Steven Newcomb (Shawnee/Lenape) is the author of “Pagans in the Promised Land: Decoding the Doctrine of Christian Discovery” (Fulcrum, 2008), and co-founder and co-director of the Indigenous Law Institute. He has researched the foundations of U.S. federal Indian law and international law since 1981, and has worked in advocacy on behalf of and in solidarity with the traditional governments of Indigenous nations and peoples. Mr. Newcomb is currently the Indigenous and Kumeyaay Research Coordinator for the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation.

**Theresa Jaranilla** – Theresa Jaranilla is the Southwest Coordinator for BAYAN-USA, an alliance of progressive Filipino groups in the U.S. She is also the Education Officer for Anakbayan Los Angeles, a Filipino youth and student organization that aims to educate, organize, and mobilize Filipino youth to address important issues in the U.S. and the Philippines.
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WorldBeat Cultural Center: 2100 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92101
• Local Economies and Sustainability
• Biodiversity & Global Climate Change

Panelists

Andrea Carter – Andrea lives in Southeast San Diego in a housing collective. She works for a non-profit doing communications and event planning. She is very interested and involved in community building, land use planning, cooperatives, particularly worker coops, farming, homesteading, and all things DIY.

Esteban del Río – Esteban del Río is an Associate Professor in the Department of Communication Studies at the University of San Diego. He earned a PhD in the Department of Communication at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. A media and cultural studies scholar, del Río’s research examines how meaning and power operate in situations of ideological conflict in transnational public and popular culture. His current work focuses on Latino media studies and the representation of dissent.

Jane Kelsey – Jane Kelsey is a professor of law at the University of Auckland, in New Zealand, and a prominent critic of globalisation. She is a key member of the Action Resource Education Network of Aotearoa (Arena), and is actively involved in researching and speaking out against the World Trade Organisation, the International Monetary Fund, free trade and corporate-led globalisation. She is also actively involved in campaigning for the New Zealand Government’s full recognition of the Treaty of Waitangi.

Jeeni Criscenzo – Jeeni Criscenzo is the founder and currently Executive Director of Amikas, a non-profit focused on meeting the basic needs of homeless people and addressing the basic causes of homelessness, including unemployment. She will be talking about one way to solve that problem by adding a complementary currency to the local economy and the web tool she’s built to make it happen.

Murtaza Baxamusa – Dr. Murtaza Baxamusa is Director of Planning and Development for the Family Housing Corporation of the San Diego County Building and Construction Trades Council, and Adjunct Faculty with the Sol Price School of Public Policy at the University of Southern California. He is a certified planner by the American Planning Association. He has over 10 years’ experience in economic development and sustainable urban planning works with nonprofits to expand affordable housing in the San Diego region.

Ben Burkett – Ben F. Burkett is president of the National Family Farm Coalition (NFFC) in the U.S., and a cooperative-marketing-specialist member of the Federation of Southern Cooperatives Land Assistance Fund. Ben is a former Indian Springs manager of 16 years and current director of the Mississippi Association of Cooperatives, the local arm of The Federation of Southern Cooperatives. Ben is a farmer and community activist. Ben represents NFFC on the Via Campesina Food Sovereignty Commission and is a board member of the Community Food Security Coalition (CFSC).

Holly Hellerstedt – Field Director, Canvass for a Cause, Board member California Student Sustainability Coalition

Ilana Solomon – National trade representative for the Sierra Club.

Lori Wallach – Lori Wallach is Director of Public Citizen’s Global Trade Watch division. A Harvard-trained lawyer, Wallach has promoted the public interest regarding globalization and international commercial agreements in every forum: Congress and foreign parliaments, the courts, government agencies, and the media.
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- Food Freedom or NAFTA on Steroids
  Come and Meet Ben Burkett, President of the National Family Farm Coalition
  Discuss the Significance of Food Sovereignty and Food Justice

Snacks will be served.

Guest of Honor

Ben F. Burkett is president of the National Family Farm Coalition (NFFC) in the U.S., and a cooperative-marketing-specialist member of the Federation of Southern Cooperatives Land Assistance Fund. Ben is a former Indian Springs manager of 16 years and current director of the Mississippi Association of Cooperatives, the local arm of The Federation of Southern Cooperatives. Ben is a farmer and community activist. He is a board member of the Community Food Security Coalition (CFSC).

Ben represents NFFC on the Via Campesina Food Sovereignty Comission. La Via Campesina is the international movement which brings together millions of peasants, small and medium-size farmers, landless people, women farmers, indigenous people, migrants and agricultural workers from around the world. It defends small-scale sustainable agriculture as a way to promote social justice and dignity. It strongly opposes corporate driven agriculture and transnational companies that are destroying people and nature. La Via Campesina comprises about 150 local and national organizations in 70 countries from Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas. Altogether, it represents about 200 million farmers. It is an autonomous, pluralist and multicultural movement, independent from any political, economic or other type of affiliation.
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• Fukushima Anti-nuke Activist in San Diego

Guest of Honor

Ms. Chieko Shiina – experienced activist and dedicated organic farmer in Kawamata village of Fukushima before March 11th, 2001. One of her major contributions to Japan’s national anti-nukes organizing is that she organized the sit-in in front of the Ministry of Economy and Industry from September 11th, 2011. Further, she organized 100 women from Fukushima to set up “Women’s 10 months and 10 days sit-in” from late October, which later became both a symbolic and physical space where women from all over Japan came to communicate and organize. Co-sponsored with San Diego Veterans for Peace.