

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Omega Conference Seeks to Catalyze Meaningful Change on Environmental Issues in the Hudson Valley & Beyond**

*Vandana Shiva, Ralph Nader, Maude Barlow & More to  
Present Seeds of Change: Cultivating the Commons –  
October 9–11 With Free Live Online Event on Food Justice*

RHINEBECK, NY—For the past several years, the [Omega Center for Sustainable Living's](#) conferences and programming have pushed the envelope by exploring solutions to the most pressing environmental issues of the day, bringing together change agents from near and far to increase vital collaboration in the Hudson Valley and beyond. This year Omega continues the conversation with its conference, [Seeds of Change: Cultivating the Commons](#), October 9–11.

“The lens of the commons instills an understanding and awareness of the value of both the natural and cultural resources that we all share,” said Robert “Skip” Backus, chief executive officer of Omega. “This individual change in awareness is crucial in helping to bring about the sort of cultural shift we need, a shift away from consumption and depletion so we can move toward regeneration.”

In light of the important national conversation on GMO labeling and access to quality food for all, Omega plans to offer a free live stream of the Sunday morning session: [Food Justice From Seed to Market](#). Renowned environmental activist Vandana Shiva will be joined by Hudson Valley Seed Library cofounder Ken Greene, cofounder of Freedom Food Alliance Jalal Sabur, author of *The Color of Food* Natasha Bowens, CEO of Growing Power Will Allen, Ojibwe activist and economist Winona LaDuke, and many regional leaders and organizations advocating for GMO labeling and equal food access.

### Conference Highlights Include:

Friday Evening: Seeds of Change: *Vandana Shiva*

Saturday Morning: Water of Life: *Skip Backus, Maude Barlow, and John Todd*

Saturday Afternoon: Speaking Truth to Power: *Winona LaDuke and Ralph Nader*

Saturday Evening: Living in a Time of Transition: *Vandana Shiva, Ralph Nader, Winona LaDuke, Maude Barlow, and Skip Backus*

Sunday Morning: Food Justice From Seed to Market: *Vandana Shiva, Ken Greene, Jalal Sabur, Natasha Bowens, Will Allen, and Winona LaDuke.*

Omega invites participants to be part of a growing community coming together to protect and care for the commons, including the pivotal right to save and share seeds, the necessity of stewarding water resources, as well as transparency in labeling and access to healthy food.

The program begins Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m. and ends Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. Join in person for the whole weekend, or watch live online Sunday morning 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Eastern Time.

Omega is offering tiered pricing for this program. [Scholarships are also available](#). To register visit [eOmega.org](http://eOmega.org), or call 800.944.1001.

A limited number of media passes are available. To apply for a media pass, visit [eOmega.org/press](http://eOmega.org/press).

Join the conversation on [Facebook.com/Omega.OCSL](https://www.facebook.com/Omega.OCSL) and on Twitter [@omega\\_institute](https://twitter.com/omega_institute) #OCSL.

#### **About Omega Institute for Holistic Studies**

*Founded in 1977, Omega Institute for Holistic Studies is the nation's most trusted source for wellness and personal growth. As a nonprofit organization, Omega offers diverse and innovative educational experiences that inspire an integrated approach to personal and social change. Located on 250 acres in the beautiful Hudson Valley, Omega welcomes more than 23,000 people to its workshops, conferences, and retreats in Rhinebeck, New York, and at exceptional locations around the world. [eOmega.org](http://eOmega.org)*

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