The Red Nation presents
Native Liberation Conference
August 11-12, 2018
Health Leadership High School
1900 Randolph Rd SE, ABQ, NM, 87106

This year’s Native Liberation Conference focuses on global solidarity and decolonization in the heart of empire, bringing together Native, Black, undocumented, and Palestinian organizers. In this time of terrible danger, we must work together to build a better world—the future of the planet is at stake.

The Native Liberation Conference is an all-ages, free, and open to the public event held in an alcohol- and drug-free space. Childcare and youth activities will be provided, and coffee and snacks will be provided by the John Brown Breakfast Club. For more information, visit: TheRedNation.org

Send your submissions for monthly newsletter to monthlycalendar@abqpeaceandjustice.org by the 20th of the month prior to your event. Send submissions for web calendar to web@abqpeaceandjustice.org. Contact Coordinator at abqpeaceandjusticecenter@gmail.com.
Regularly Scheduled Events—**held at the Peace Center unless otherwise noted**

**MONDAYS**
350NM.org 1st & 3rd Mon. 5-7pm, 4th Mon. 6:30pm. 350-6000  
Veterans for Peace ABQ 2nd Monday, 5:30-8pm, 271-9274.  

**TUESDAYS**  
Swing Dance weekly, 7-10:30pm, Heights Community Center, 823 Buena Vista SE. 256-0668  
ABQ NOW 4th Tuesday, 6-7:30pm, 459-9860  
Race Dialogue 4th Tuesday, 5pm, 917 Vassar NE, 272-5085  

**WEDNESDAYS**  
Chair Yoga weekly, 1:30-2:30pm, ilsebiel@icloud.com  
Nuclear Issues Study Group 1st Wednesday, 7-9pm, 879-8547  
Grassroots New Mexico Community Radio Action Calendar, weekly, 3:57pm on KUNM 89.9FM.  
The Water Groups 1st Wednesday, 3pm @ SRIC, 243-6174  
Notable Healing 3rd Wednesday, 6-8pm, 717-2402  

**THURSDAYS**  
Americans United for Separation of Church & State-NM 1st Thursdays, 6pm, 296-8073  
Peace Center Coordinating Council 2nd Thursdays, 5:30-7:30pm. All are welcome, 268-9557  
Biotecture Planet Earth 3rd Thursdays, 5:30pm, jewalker@sweep.com (best to confirm)  
ABQ Move to Amend 4th Thursdays, 6-7:15pm, 339-6314  

**FRIDAYS**  
Sierra Club & Root Beer 1st Friday on odd months, 6:30-8pm, 243-7767  
Transformative Communication (NVC) 2nd and 4th Fridays, 11:30am-1pm, 400-2709  

**SATURDAYS**  
Good Food Distribution Weekly, 9am, 315-4167  
Sitting for Peace Weekly, 9-10am, Bataan Park NE corner, 3407 Lomas NE, all welcome in silence, 265-2178  
Tulane St. Peace Rally Weekly, Noon-1:30pm at Central & Tulane, 440-7372  
St. Mary Magdalene Community Mass, Weekly, 5-7pm, First Congregational UCC, 2801 Lomas NE. 345-3677, 977-4661.  
SURJ-ABQ 1st Saturday, 10:30-Noon, surjabq@gmail.com  
Grandmother’s Council of NM 2nd Saturday, 1:30-3:30pm, 610-8258  
Diné Bizaad Study Group 2nd/4th Saturday at 1pm  
Cottonwood Medicine Collective herbal clinic, 3rd Saturdays 11am-3pm, cottonwoodmedicine@gmail.com  
Economic Reform Advocacy Group 3rd Sat., 10:30am - 2:30pm, 1st Unitarian Church, Carlisle/Comanche. 323-0364.  
Gray Panthers 4th Saturday, 1-2:30pm at Highland Senior Center, 131 Monroe NE. Contact: 266-8823  
Peña Cultural / Coffee House Monthly, 7-10pm, Bandido Hideout, 2128 Central SE, 385-3670.  

**SUNDAYS**  
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Weekly, 11am-noon. Potluck on 5th Sunday, 11am-2:30pm. 440-6688.  
ABQ IWW 4th Sunday, 1-3pm, abqiww@gmail.com  
Blessed Oscar Romero Catholic Community Weekly, 11am at St. Paul’s ELCA, 1100 Indian School NE, 352-4061.  
Generation Justice weekly, 7-8pm on KUNM 89.9FM  

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**Bail Out Call Out: P&J Yard Sale to Raise Money for Bail Fund**  
Please donate good, clean, usable items for the annual **Peace Center Yard Sale** this year, the proceeds will bolster the Center’s Community Bail Fund, established by Peace and Justice veteran Sally-Alice Thompson and local lawyer Larry Kronen. The Peace Center took over management of the fund last year. The **P&J Bail Fund Yard Sale will be Saturday, Sept. 29, 9am**. You can **drop off donations for the sale Friday, Sept. 28 from 9am-6pm** in the Peace Hall. To arrange a possible earlier pick up, contact Ilse via ilsebiel@icloud.com or (505)507-4940 Use the same contact details to receive more information on the structure of the bail fund, or to offer help in organizing the day.

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**PEOPLE OF THE PEACE CENTER**

Coordinating Council  
Samia Assed, President  
Frank Quintana, Vice President  
Janice Devereaux, Treasurer  
Heather Ailes, Secretary  
Charles Klinhenn  
Peaches Blackbird  

Administrative Committee  
Maureen Wright, Kent Zook  
Charles Klinhenn, Mollie Wilkie  
David Drezner  

Finance Committee  
John Ellig, Jim Mackenzie, Charles Klinhenn  

Newsletter Mailing  
Susan McKinstry, Ellen Robinson  
Mandy Pino, Ilsa Garduño  
Sally-Alice Thompson, Pam Harris  
Dorie Bunting, Meredith Bunting  

Grassroots New Mexico (KUNM)  
Cal McManus, David Lopez, Aathira Suresh  

Staff  
Susan Schuurman, Outreach Coord.  
Katherine Ceja, Administrative Coord.  
Derek Caudwell, Newsletter  
Rick Keeney, Cleaning Services  

Website: Derek Caudwell  

Web Design: Melody Mock  
Social Media: Ilse Biel  
Information Technology  
Jim Mackenzie, Steve Mills  

Web Calendar:  
Michelle Meaders, Renee Wolters  
Building helpers:  
Don Meaders, John Walker  

Art Exhibit Coordinator: Amy Sedillo  
Front Desk Volunteers  
France Daniels-Thompson, Maureen Wright, Michelle Meaders, Kent Zook, Matt John, Eliza Schmid, Sarina Carruthers, David Drezner, Cyrus Moses, Sharyn Kaye, Aztatl José Garza, Danny Kesner, Charlie Klinhenn, Aathira Suresh, Justin Gomez, Julia Oviedo, Trevor Hyde, Fernando Pizarro, Lauren Brown  
Canines: Sasha, Pepie  

Swing Dance Door Volunteers  
John Ellig, Renee Wolters, Kent Zook, Michael Gallagher, Katherine Ceja, Mollie Wilkie  

Students/Interns:  
Cody Slama, UNM P&J Studies  
Alexandra Kesich, UNM  
Denise Brown
Wednesday, Aug. 1, 6-8pm
Nuclear Issues Study Group hosts a free screening of Silkwood (1983), a biopic of nuclear whistleblower Karen Silkwood’s life and death. Snacks and drinks available for purchase; money raised will support the work of NISG. Monthly meeting (before film) at 5pm. More info: 879-8547

Friday, Aug. 3, 6-8pm
The Sierra Club (2215 Lead Ave SE) hosts the First Friday Art Opening “Nature at its Best: Photographs by John Boedeker.” Refreshments provided. Contact Heather Kline, 577-2798. Work is up through September, and 30% of sales benefit the Sierra Club.

Friday, Aug. 3, 6-10pm
Mothership Alumni & 1st Friday Street Cypher present a Summer Block Party at the Downtown Contemporary Arts Gallery (105 4th St. SW). This free, all-ages event is co-sponsored by the P&J, and features live music and art, T-shirt screen-printing, skate competition, vendors, open dance cyphers, and more. Info: facebook.com/mothershipalumni.

Friday, Aug. 3, 7pm
Sound Art by Southwest: diverse experimental music from NM/AZ sound artists Jeph Jerman, Steve Jansen, TAHNzzz, and Wm. Fowler Collins. Deep listeners and donations very welcome. More info: ribexibalba.com/jj; deek@unm.edu

Saturday, Aug. 4, 2pm
15th Annual Commemoration and Vigil for Hiroshima & Nagasaki, at Ashley Pond, downtown Los Alamos, NM. More info: Ellie, ellievout@gmail.com; (505) 474-8557 or Ken, kenmayers@vfp-santafe.org; (505) 466-6954.

Saturday, Aug. 4, 6pm
Alternative Radio presents a lecture by Michael Parenti: “Democracy” on KUNM 89.9FM, online at kunm.org/listen. Info: alternativeradio.org

Monday, Aug. 6
The Peace Center will be closed in commemoration of Hiroshima Day. Previously scheduled events will still take place; call 268-9557 with questions.

Monday, Aug. 6, 8:30am
Pre-trial hearing for three arrested at the sit-in at the Roundhouse (Susan Schuurman, Sr. Marlene Perrotte and Eleanor Chavez) to reunite separated migrant children. At the Santa Fe Magistrate Court, 2056 Galisteo St., Santa Fe. For more info: 702-4203, see also Noticias, pg. 5.

Wednesday, Aug. 8, 6-8pm
Rebeca Jasso-Aguilar, PhD lectures on “A Surprising Landslide: An Analysis of López Obrador’s Victory in Mexico’s Recent Presidential Election” at the Peace Center. Info: r.jasso.aguilar@gmail.com, and see also Noticias, pg. 6

Wednesday, Aug. 8, 6pm
350NM Speaker Series: “Moving NM to 100% Clean Renewable Energy” at Range Café meeting room, 925 S. Camino Del Pueblo, Bernalillo. Info: facebook.com/350NM

Friday, Aug. 10, 4-6pm
SWOP’s NM Con Mujeres Gender Justice welcomes Jennifer Denetdale, speaking on “Decolonizing Gender” at SouthWest Organizing Project, 211 10th St. SW. For more info, email beva@swop.net.

Friday, Aug. 10, 6:30pm
Cinema Aztlan will screen the biopic Selena (1997), starring Jennifer Lopez and Edward James Olmos, at the Peace Center. This is a free screening, donations welcome at the door. Snacks and other merchandise will be available for purchase. More info: cinema.aztlan@gmail.com

Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 11-12:
The Red Nation hosts the 3rd Annual Native Liberation Conference at Health Leadership High School, 1900 Randolph Rd. SE. See Front Page for more info; also (505) 238-5190, therednation.org or facebook.com/therednation.

Saturday, Aug. 11, 9am
Center for Social Sustainable Systems (CESOSS) and South Valley Regional Ass’n of Acequias (SVRAA) host Acequia Talk & Walk Series at Los Padillas Acequia, Malpais Rd. SW. Questions? info@cesoss.org or facebook.com/Cesoss.

Saturday, Aug. 11, 6pm
Alternative Radio’s Celebrate Chris Hedges month begins with his lecture, “Captain Ahab & U.S. Empire” on KUNM 89.9FM, online: kunm.org/listen. Info: alternativeradio.org.

Saturday, Aug. 11, 6-9pm
Please join us to celebrate longtime activist Allen Cooper’s 80th birthday with a potluck gathering at the Peace Center! For more info: Allison.l.frank@gmail.com.

Sunday, Aug. 12, 2-4:30pm
Kickoff celebration/fundraiser for “Telling My Story: Bridging Two Worlds,” an interactive storytelling theater event centered on the lives of Women of Color. At Aux Dog Theatre X-Space, 3011-3015 Monte Vista Blvd. NE, with live music, slam poetry, storytelling, raffle prizes and a silent auction. For more info: storytellersofnewmexico.com/support-this-project.html.
Wednesday, Aug. 15, 6-8pm

**Notable Healing Resiliency Workshop:** “Yinning Ourselves Back to Sanity” at the Peace Center. Healthy snacks provided; please be fragrance-free. This workshop is free, with donations gratefully accepted. RSVP appreciated, text Sheila: (206) 898-5090. More info in Noticias, pg. 6

Friday, Aug. 17, 6-8pm

**P&J Movie Night:** Caterwaul & Birdnoise present *Exile Nation: The Plastic People* (2014, 75m), about U.S. deportees dumped in a Tijuana Cartel warzone, often in a freefall to rock bottom. Filmed often illegally and under great threat, this gutsy film documents a common result of U.S. anti-immigrant policies. Free to all, donations welcome, light refreshments available. More info: vimeo.com/92165892, deek@unm.edu.

Sat. Aug. 18, 3-6 pm

**Transgender Resource Center of NM** presents *Raising Zoe*, followed by discussion with the director and the film’s subject, at UNM Continuing Ed. Bldg. $20 admission benefits TGRCNM. Buy tickets online at raisingzoe@bpt.me. More info: bit.ly/TGRCNM-RaisingZoe.

Saturday, Aug. 18, 4:30-6:30pm

The Peace Center presents the first of 3 monthly **Anti-Racism Workshops:** “Who’s at the Table?” by trainers Sera and Frida Miles, discussing how privilege, particularly in terms of race, functions in the U.S. When we know better, we do better. At the Peace Center, RSVP optional. More info: 268-9557. Free but donations accepted.

Saturday, Aug. 18, 6pm

AR’s **Celebrate Chris Hedges** month continues with a lecture on “Extraction Industries & Sexploitation” on KUNM 89.9FM, online at kunm.org/listen. Info: alternativeradio.org.

Monday, Aug. 20, 7pm

**From Standing Rock to Colombia: Christian Solidarity, Nonviolence and Accompaniment;** a speech by Rev. Emily Brewer at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church (5301 Ponderosa NE) about the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship’s nonviolent accompaniment work for struggles worldwide.

Tuesday, Aug. 21, 6-7:30pm

Denise Brown, a recent UNM graduate and member of Nuclear Issues Study Group, presents research and site visitation experience, exploring the notion of whiteness in regards to **nuclear reactor additions to Plant Vogtle** that impacts a predominantly black community in Georgia, at the Peace Center. More info: Noticias, pg. 5

Saturday, Aug. 25, 11am-2pm

The **NM Faith Coalition for Immigrant Justice** holds its 2nd annual Major Fundraiser at Hotel Andaluz, 125 2nd St. NW, which includes lunch, music, a silent auction, immigrant stories and important updates. Online tickets at nmfcij-event.org; last year the event sold out!

Saturday, Aug. 25, 1-2:30pm

**United Nations Assn. ABQ**’s “Welcome Back and Move into Fall” meeting at the Special Collections Library, 423 Central Ave NE. More info: uma.in.abq@gmail.com or facebook.com/unaabq, and see also Noticias, pg. 6

Saturday, Aug. 25, 6pm

AR’s **Celebrate Chris Hedges** month continues with “Moral Imperatives” on KUNM 89.9FM, online at kunm.org/listen. Info: alternativeradio.org.

Sunday, Aug. 26, 3-5:30pm

The Peace Center presents “Discerning and Using Your Strongest Voice in the Service of Change,” an experiential workshop facilitated by **Judy Bierbaum** and designed especially for activists. At the P&J, newcomers welcome, donations accepted for the trainer. RSVP appreciated but not required. More info: 268-9557.

Friday, Aug. 31, 7-9pm

**New art exhibit** goes up Friday, Aug. 24 for **Rewilding Bodies** by Cathy Rowsome. Opening night reception is the 31st, with live music, poetry and refreshments, at the Peace Center. For more info, see Back page.

**Save the Date:**

**Monday, Sept. 3**

**The Peace Center will be closed for Labor Day.** Previously scheduled events will still take place; call 268-9557 with questions.

Saturday, Sept. 18

Francine Cronshaw, Colombia Solidarity Committee of NM, and Maria del Pilar File present a talk on the **Colombian Peace Process** at the P&J. Contact: cronshaw@nmia.com

Friday, September 21, 4pm.

**Help create a human peace sign** on UNM’s Johnson Field for the U.N. International Day of Peace, followed by a Peace Party at the P&J including music, a mural project, root beer floats and brief presentation. Info: gpolk05-nm@yahoo.com or abaplaceandjusticecenter@gmail.com.

Sunday, Sept. 23 10am-2pm

**Peace Day at Railyards Market**. P&J is seeking volunteers to work our table. Call 268-9557 if you can help.

Saturday, Sept. 29, 9am-TBD

**P&J Bail Fund Yard Sale**, with donations of good, clean, usable items on Friday, Sept. 28, 9am-6pm in the Peace Hall. More info: ilsebiel@icloud.com, 507-4940, and see also the article on page 2.
Civil Disobedience Action at the Roundhouse to Reunite the Separated Migrant Children

Fifteen activists were arrested at the Roundhouse in Santa Fe on June 28th to send a message to Governor Susana Martinez, demanding that the nearly 3,000 children who have been separated from their parents seeking asylum under the Trump Administration's Zero Tolerance policy be reunited immediately. The action was organized by the NM Women’s March. Two of those arrested included Samia Assed, P&J Coordinating Council president, and Susan Schuurman, P&J Outreach Coordinator. Sue was one of three held overnight, along with Sister Marlene Perrotte and Eleanor Chavez, in the Santa Fe County Jail, and all three face four misdemeanor charges including resisting arrest, trespassing, disturbing the peace, and interfering with a public official. Samia was handcuffed, only to be released after the crowd demanded police release her, being the only Muslim taking part in the action. She was very moved by the solidarity shown by the protesters. Twelve others were arrested and given citations for trespassing. A pre-trial hearing for Sue, Eleanor and Marlene is scheduled for Monday, August 6 at 8:30am in the Santa Fe Magistrate Court, 2056 Galisteo St., in Santa Fe. Everyone is welcome to attend to show support. To donate to the Peace Center Bail Fund, mail a check to the P&J with Bail Fund in the memo line, or donate online at abqpeaceandjustice.org/index.php/donate, noting that it’s for the P&J Bail Fund. Thank you.

Some of Our Demands to Gov. Susana Martinez: Demand that Pres. Trump immediately reunite every child that was separated. Assist the 50 women in the Otero County Jail to find their children. Do not allow any children detained in tent cities here in New Mexico. Immediately recall all NM National Guard troops from the border. Guarantee family separation as applied in the zero tolerance policy will never again be tolerated in the state of New Mexico.

Plant Vogtle: A Nuclear Legacy of Whiteness

A Talk by Denise Brown

The Nuclear Industrial Complex appears to centralize nuclear facilities in specific spaces. Often times such entities target spaces that house people of color and poverty-stricken communities. That the construction of additional units to the Vogtle nuclear reactor facility, Units 3 and 4, are within close proximity of Waynesboro and Shell Bluff, GA—communities that house predominantly black residents, is no coincidence.

Denise Brown, as part of her American Studies program, has conducted and structured her senior thesis Research surrounding the construction of nuclear reactor Units 3 and 4 and how said space represents a racialized consciousness towards the black bodies that are situated next to the site. Within this work, the unveiling of whiteness becomes a presence that threatens the livelihood of the black communities of Waynesboro and Shell Bluff. In addition to this research, Denise was given the opportunity as part of the Nuclear Issues Study Group to attend a local site visit from the organization Georgia WAND and a member of the Shell Bluff community. Denise will provide a personal experience overview of impressions regarding scholarship and first-hand activism.

A full presentation and Q&A will be held on Tuesday August 21, 6-7:30pm. All are welcome to attend. For more info, contact Denise Brown at thedefend7@gmail.com.

In Memoriam: Lilly Otto, May 30, 1930 - July 7, 2018

We were saddened to learn of the passing of long-time Peace Center member Lilly Otto. She had moved away to Minnesota but would write us often to tell us to keep up the good work, and share reactions to articles in our monthly newsletter. Here is a brief description of her life sent to us by her family:

Lilly Otto, 88, lived in the Twin Cities of Minnesota; Albuquerque, NM; Yogyakarta, Indonesia; Guatemala City, Guatemala; Puyo, Ecuador; and Berlin, Germany. She died in hospice from a brain tumor on July 7, 2018... Born in Hitler’s Germany, Lilly spent her life opposing war, racism, and social injustice, and championing immigrants and refugees. She spoke five languages. She was a special education teacher in three countries. She was a member of the Peace Corps (two terms), the ARC, the U. of M. International Center, the Weavers Guild, the Twin Cities Recorder Society, the ABQ Center for Peace Justice, and many more. She financially helped several young people become educated and succeed, and she supported dozens of charities monthly. An artist, musician and world traveler, she surrounded herself with folk art from many countries and was learning new things and challenging others to do more to promote peace and justice until her very last days.

...continued on next page
Lilly has requested that memorial donations be made to International Rescue Committee, www.rescue.org.

Her son tells us that there will be a small celebration in Albuquerque in the near future honoring her life, and if we want to be notified of the date, to email him (Shawn Otto) at shawn@shawnotto.com.

**Yinning Ourselves Back to Sanity…**

*By Sheila Fox*

…is the theme of the August Resiliency Class. Do you find yourself continually trying to catch up on things, feeling like you have too much to do every day and can’t seem to find calmness? Our culture is very yang, very external. We have become “Human Doings,” instead of what we really are, Human Beings. Take a breath and feel into the physical sensation of these words just for a moment: “There’s nothing you have to do, nowhere you have to be, nothing you have to know, nobody you have to be.” Can you allow yourself this moment to feel into that mindset? If we are to be effective change agents we need to operate from a place of calm and connectedness. To do this, one needs to take internal time each day; to turn off the busy mind if only for a few minutes.

Come to “Yinning Ourselves Back to Sanity” aka Resiliency Class on **Wednesday, Aug. 15, 6-8pm at the P&J Center**. It’s free and donations are gratefully accepted. Ages 8-98. RSVP is nice; text/call 206-898-5090 or email notablehealing@gmail.com. You will receive Acutonics Sound Healing; learn acupressure points and holds to manage stress, anxiety, pain and insomnia; sing a song to lighten up; eat healthy snacks; and leave feeling relaxed, more sane and a little more yin. Until then, for an 8-minute Peacefulness Meditation visit www.notablehealing.com/recordings.

**UN Assn. ABQ “Welcome Back and Move into Fall” Meeting**

The United Nations Association Albuquerque Chapter invites anyone interested in global efforts to promote understanding, protect refugees, and defend human rights to get together and share our energy and concerns on **Saturday, August 25, 1-2:30pm at Special Collections Library, 423 Central Ave NE**.

Together we will:
- prepare for UNA Albuquerque’s participation in the annual International Day of Peace (Sept. 21) events,
- plan how UNA ABQ can work with the City of Albuquerque to promote human rights, equity, right relationships and sustainability,
- begin planning our annual Trick-or-Treat-for-UNICEF (scheduled for Sat. Oct. 27), and
- build awareness and support for the 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Please join us! There is a role for everyone and we need your help! Find us at facebook.com/unaabq or email us at una.in.abq@gmail.com.

**A Surprising Landslide:**

*An Analysis of López Obrador's Victory in Mexico's Recent Presidential Election*

On July 1, 2018, leftist candidate Andrés Manuel López Obrador (AMLO) of the political party MORENA (Movimiento Regeneración Nacional, or National Regeneration Movement) won the Mexican presidential election with results of historic proportions: he carried 31 of the 32 states; over 65% of the electorate went to the polls, over 53% of those voted for him; MORENA won five of eight governorships including Mexico City, and a large number of mayoral positions at stake; MORENA also won majorities in the federal and local Congresses and Senates. The birth of the *lopezobradorista* movement, which later became MORENA, can be traced back to the impeachment of López Obrador in 2005.

MORENA as a political party emerged in 2014. How were these overwhelming results achieved in such short time? What are the challenges ahead? What does this victory mean for U.S.-Mexico relations? These and other related questions and issues will be examined in this talk by **Rebeca Jasso-Aguilar** on **Wednesday, Aug. 8, 6-8pm at the Peace Center**.

Rebeca Jasso-Aguilar has a PhD in sociology from UNM and is affiliated to this institution as a visiting scholar by letter of appointment. For more information email r.jasso.aguilar@gmail.com.
Volunteers are finishing up the first phase of construction now, but to finish the project, they are going to need more funding and more volunteers. “The veterinarians would like to have it done by September. We’re hoping to raise about $75,000,” said Parker... It will be open five days a week and services will be free for Zuni residents. The second phase will include the installation of a solar energy system and finishing the interior of the building. They are starting to look for donations and volunteers now. To help out: biotectureplanetearth.com/zuni.

This article by Sara Yingling was originally published on KRQE’s website, www.krqe.com.
Rewilding Bodies: New Art Exhibit by Cathy Rowsome

Queer and chronically ill artist Cathy Rowsome presents a celebratory exploration of resilience and transformation through illness, a project that came out of a residency with collaborator Eileen Shaughnessy at the Santa Fe Art Institute. The pair began by exploring the links between chronic illness and environmental destruction. “We found through exploring our own relationships with illness, and talking to other chronically ill people, that disconnection from healthy ecosystems, and living as part of poisoned or struggling ecosystems was at the root of our chronic illnesses in complex ways. We found that our inquiry quickly turned towards questions about colonialism: How has our position as white settlers on Turtle Island, whose ancestral roots and land-based traditions are far away, both geographically and generationally, influenced our relationship to the land here? How do our bodies carry the weight of the violent history of colonialism on this land, and how have our bodies internalized colonial misogyny going back to the ‘burning times’ in our ancestral homelands?”

The works on display will feature interviews with four chronically ill women and non-binary folks, pictured within landscapes through which they have found healing connection. Using a mixture of printmaking and various drawing and painting media, the pieces tie together landscapes and ecosystems within the human world as well as in the realm of spiritual healing.

The opening night will feature live music and poetry from Eileen, Cathy and several of the project participants. Join us Friday, Aug. 31, 7-9pm at the Peace Center for an intersectional and nuanced exploration and celebration of being chronically ill in the world today.