



INSTITUTE OF WORLD CULTURE, 1407 CHAPALA STREET, SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101

<http://www.worldculture.org>

The Institute of World Culture aims to contribute fresh thinking and conversation about pathways to a transformative future.

To stimulate imagination and creative discussion, the theme for shaping Institute programs for 2022 will be:

## Opening Doors through Non-Violence and Magnanimity

*MAGNANIMITY: Greatness of mind; that elevation or dignity of soul, which encounters danger and trouble with tranquility and firmness, which raises the possessor above revenge, and makes him delight in acts of benevolence, which makes him disdain injustice and meanness, and prompts him to sacrifice personal ease, interest and safety for the accomplishment of useful and noble objects.*

– Noah Webster, Dictionary

While stress, loss and uncertainty have challenged us for over a year, there is opportunity now for a transition into a new paradigm of individual and social values. Efforts to develop and practice nonviolence and magnanimity offer a fundamental foundation for a world culture that nourishes human potential and establishes constructive social harmony. Persistent violence throughout the world has magnified social and economic divisions, intensified psychological suffering and left millions homeless and vulnerable. A creative transformation of human values and action through non-violence and kindheartedness is needed. Thereby, the emerging global interdependence of the last century will reveal its promise for significantly promoting the welfare of all life and of nature. All the aims in the Declaration of Interdependence recognize the possibility of an emerging world culture that reflects these virtues (qualities). *Aims number six and nine offer particular relevant focus: Aim 6. To promote forums for fearless inquiry and constructive dialogue concerning the frontiers of science, the therapeutics of self-transformation, and the societies of the future. Aim 9. To assist in the emergence of men and women of universal culture, capable of continuous growth in non-violence of mind, generosity of heart, and harmony of soul.*

