

**Journal #3072**

**from sdc**

**3.19.14**

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*Kurt Vonnegut Once Sent This Amazing Letter To A High School*

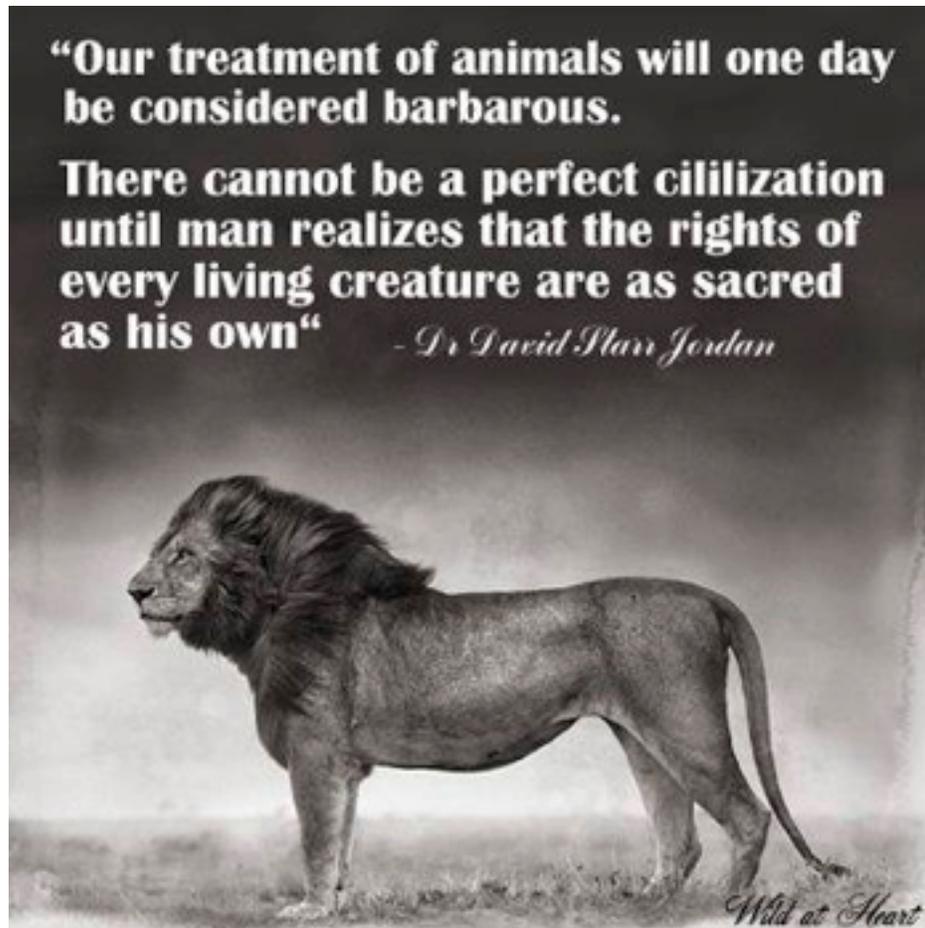


<http://>

[www.rgj.com/article/20140317/LIV0802/303170038/Critics-cite-Nevada-fracking-concerns](http://www.rgj.com/article/20140317/LIV0802/303170038/Critics-cite-Nevada-fracking-concerns)

“My concern is the sacredness of the water. Water is life to everything,” said Raquel Arthur of the Northern Nevada chapter of the American Indian Movement. “The way I see it is it’s going to destroy mother earth.” Additional workshops are scheduled by the Division of Minerals Wednesday in Elko and Friday in Las Vegas.

[International award for a couple of Maori researchers :](#)  
[University of Waikato](#)  
[www.waikato.ac.nz](http://www.waikato.ac.nz)  
[University of Waikato Pro Vice-Chancellor Māori Professor Linda Tuhiwai Smith and husband Professor Graham Hingangaroa Smith have been named 2014 fellows.](#)



**“Our treatment of animals will one day be considered barbarous.**

**There cannot be a perfect civilization until man realizes that the rights of every living creature are as sacred as his own“**

*- Dr David Starr Jordan*

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**Extract from “The Power of the Drum”**

**(News from Native California Winter 2014)(another stirring issue):**

The Supreme Court has determined that “convicted prisoners do not forfeit all constitutional protection by reason of their conviction and confinement in prison”. According to a study by the Navajo Nation Corrections Project, recidivism among American Indians is dramatically reduced by participation in traditional religious ceremonies.” Cultural and spiritual sustenance has been shown to contribute to inmates’ self esteem and dignity. Native teachings promote condolence, a path toward empathy essential for the rehabilitation of those who have transgressed against moral principles and harmed others. A society that endeavors to teach the value of the rule of law must demonstrate this by affording First Amendment rights to prisoners, within the legitimate concerns of safety and security in correctional facilities.

As I look around the room, I count the years search of these inmates had served or were bound to serve behind bars: twenty-eight, thirty-two, twenty-six, forty-two, twenty-two, sixteen, twenty-seven --- lifetimes --- and although I realize that their crimes robbed others of their precious lives, no matter the circumstances, and caused great pain for their families, I could not help but question the purpose of keeping these men in jail for decades without a way out. Through my volunteer work at San Quentin, I am convinced of the importance of helping

inmates make connections to traditional teachings, providing them the religious freedoms guaranteed by the constitution, facilitating bonds with their tribal communities and families, and allowing them to experience the benefits of their spiritual foundations.

*Philip Klasky is a writer and environmental justice activist who lives in the SF Bay Area. He teaches in the American Indian Studies and Ethnic Studies departments at SF State University and is a consultant to The Cultural Conservancy, a nonprofit indigenous rights organization*



**Can A New Twist On A Native American Tradition Help Solve America's Prison Crisis?**

**Extract:** Stories Matter Media. Courtesy Center for Council)

I'm taken aback by the speed with which these hardened convicts slip into poetic self-revelation. During a break, however, Seide tells me that Council's spell is usually fast-acting: "It comes naturally, by virtue of the choreography." By creating a sacred space and a sense of solemn ceremony, he says, Council triggers responses rooted in thousands of years of human culture.



<http://ojaifoundation.org/>

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**Teaching and Mentoring Indian Tarahat via Tataviam Education & Cultural Learning Department**

Sponsored ·

March 22nd @ UCLA | TAMIT's high school students will attend the Indian Youth Conference for campus tours, workshops, entertainment with lunch with 300+ other tribal youth. RSVP is required & 8th grade and community college are invited this year!

**UCLA Indian Youth Conference- Tataviam Education & Cultural Learning Dept**

Join Tataviam's Education and Cultural Learning Department as we attend UCLA's American Indian...

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**Society for California Archaeology      FREE Public Meeting**

Visalia Convention Center      Thursday, March 20, 2014      7:00 – 10:00 pm

Something of interest for all ages.

**Films:**

- Talking Stones, Documentary of the Rock Art of the Coso Range
- All Aboard! The Historical Life of the Agnew Tram
- Kumeyaay First People
- Torn
- Cultures and History of the Giant Sequoia National Monument

**Displays and Interactive Events:**

- Living History:

- Jackie Weiner as Mrs. Curtis
- Frank Helling as John Muir
- Amy King, Tulare County Mooney Grove Museum, interactive display
- Jeanne Binning, Flint knapping demonstration
- Evelyn Malone, Yokuts basketry display and weaving demonstration
- Woodlake High School Mexican Dance Troop
- Bureau of Land Management display
- California Archaeology Site Steward Program
- United States Forest Service display
- National Park Service

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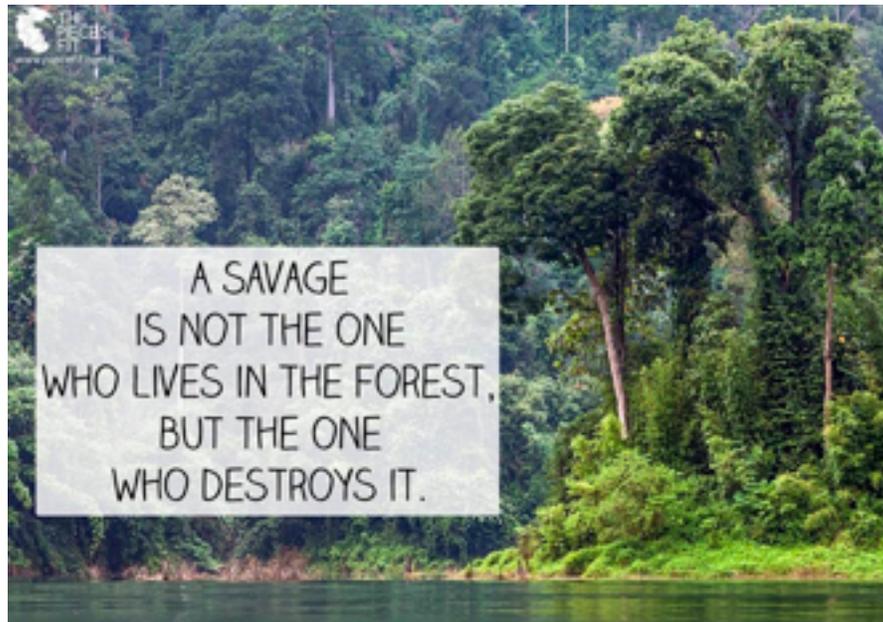
**Have a bright cleantech idea or product?**

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[www2.cleantechopen.org](http://www2.cleantechopen.org)

[Applications for the 2014 Accelerator are Now Being Accepted Have a bright cleantech idea or...](#)

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**Will Layha Spoonhunter be the first Native American President?** He sure hopes so!

Read our interview with this future leader - <http://www.powwows.com/2014/03/13/will-layha-spoonhunter-be-the-first-native-american-presid-he-sure-hopes-so/>

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People, Planet, and Peace  
Above Profit  
The Reno Climate Convergence

Earth Day to May Day 2014  
ED2MD

Social Justice groups,  
environmentalists,  
unions, community  
organizations, the  
99% in general.

Liberty,  
Equality,  
Solidarity,  
Sustainability.



Reno's part in the national and  
international emergency climate  
convergence. Nonviolent system  
change to stem catastrophic climate  
change. Mobilize the commons.

Rallying at the Mapes Plaza,  
also known as the City Plaza,  
also known as the Ice Rink on  
the River, 1 N. Virginia, daily  
from April22 through May 1.

**Spread the Word.**

**Join the Convergence!**

Dear Friend of People, Planet and Peace over Profit!

As we begin another year of unprecedented crisis and uprising, the demand for deep change is stronger than ever. Thank you for all you've done to bring us to this historic moment. To harness the growing force for transformation, we are writing to [invite you to join](#) in a groundbreaking new initiative – the [Global Climate Convergence for People, Planet and Peace over Profit. To join the Convergence network and receive email updates, go here.](#)

The Convergence is an education and direct action campaign that begins this spring, with “10 days to change course,” running from Earth Day to May Day. It provides coordinated action to multiply, amplify and build synergy across grassroots justice movements. It lifts up local fronts of struggle while calling for a solution as big as the crisis barreling down on us – an emergency green economic transformation, including full employment and living wages; 100% clean renewable energy by 2030; universal free health care and education; food and housing security; an end to deportations and mass incarceration; economic and political democracy; demilitarization; ecosystem restoration and support for the rights of Mother Earth; and more.

As you know, the movement for democracy and justice is sweeping the globe – from democracy revolutions to Occupy protests, movements for the rights of workers, students, immigrants, women and Indigenous peoples; resistance to NSA spying, endless war, prison

pipelines, tar sands, fracking, nuclear power, GMOs and more. The accelerating climate disaster – now predicted to dismantle civilization as we know it [as soon as 2050](#) – intensifies all these struggles, and provides new urgency for collaboration and unified action. Clearly there is no time to lose.

This is why we personally are going all in on the Convergence. It holds the promise of unprecedented collaboration – across movements and national borders – to harness the transformative energy and power we already possess as a thousand movements rising up against the global assault on our shared economy, ecology, democracy and peace. Earth Day-to-May Day 2014 will be the first in a series of expanding annual actions.

A number of organizations and individuals have come forward with resources to support direct actions, rallies, marches, festivals and protests. These resources include: Arts and culture (Hip Hop Congress, Poor People’s Economic Human Rights Campaign); free food from local, organic farms (Organic Consumers Assoc.); Civil liberties trainings and support to defend our rights in public gatherings, direct actions and civil disobedience (Civil Liberties Defense Center); Artful Activism, Creative Tactics, organizer toolkits, workshops, Action Brigades and Action Camps (Backbone Campaign); website and newsletter support (Popular Resistance); People’s Movement Assemblies (US Social Forum); an International Solidarity Fast (Yeb Sano, Alan Burns) and a Voter Power project. (See attached “Menu of Earth Day to May Day resources” for further detail.)

Resources to help get the word out (which you can adapt for your local action or event) are listed below, and are being posted on the new [Resources section of our website](#).

**To join the Convergence network and receive email updates, [go here](#).**

With your help, we can turn the breaking point we face into the tipping point we need, to take back the future we deserve – for People, Planet and Peace over Profit.

Upward together!

Here in Reno, we are building on the relative successes of past collaboration among the various communities in struggle with a system that throttles us all, in order to build a series of actions from April 22 (taking back Earth Day from the corporate greenwashers) to May Day (reasserting the leading role of the working class in building a society based on Liberty, Equality, Solidarity, and Sustainability). For Reno information please respond to this email or go to <https://www.facebook.com/EDMDR>.

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The registration for **AASLH’s Historic House Museums Issues and Operations workshop** scheduled for April 24-25 in San Francisco, CA, is now open at <http://resource.aaslh.org/view/historic-house-museum-issues-and-operations/>. **Register by March 20 to guarantee a seat and save on your registration fee.**

**April 24-25 - Historic House Museums Issues and Operations** at the Haas-Lilienthal House in San Francisco, CA. This two-day workshop offers an intensive look at the management and interpretation of historic houses taught by Max van Balgooy, Principal and Founder, Engaging Places, LLC, and Bethany Hawkins, Program Manager at AASLH. Topics to be covered include:

- Provocative Thinking: History, Historic Houses, Mission & Planning
- Governance and Management
- Marketing, Promotion, Fundraising, Membership & Earned Income

- Sustainability and Alternative Uses for Historic Sites
- Interpretation, Education and Learning

Cost: \$270 member/\$350 nonmember. \$40 discount if fee is received by March 20.

Please contact Bethany Hawkins, Program Manager at [hawkins@aslh.org](mailto:hawkins@aslh.org) or 615-320-3203 if you have any questions about these or other upcoming workshops.

American Association for State and Local History 1717 Church St. Nashville, TN 37203  
615-320-3203 [hawkins@aslh.org](mailto:hawkins@aslh.org)

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[Carolyn Harry](#) shared [dont touch my hair, face or phone.](#)'s photo.

Someone snapped my Winter Challenge from afar..wth...



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**Where Food Comes From** by *Nicole Arsenault*

Through a week’s summer training session, I developed lesson plans linking food, farms and the community to help children understand the connection between Vermont’s farms and their lives. Along with six other teachers, I took field trips to the local Intervale to establish connections with local farmers, visited the Ethan Allen Homestead to learn about the history of Burlington, and experienced many other hands-on learning experiences to bring back to our classrooms.

I did not know at first how I was going to fit this into my intense full day kindergarten curriculum. I did not want to create another “add-on” to an already overwhelming teaching day. With literacy in full force, letters and numbers to be learned, and children adjusting to school, how would I ever be able to reach the goal of the program, which is to educate children on the importance of healthy eating and the process by which food is grown and harvested? [read more](#)

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**Building Community from an Empty Classroom** by *Anne Tewskbury-Frye*

I teach at Lawrence Barnes School in The Old North End of Burlington, Vermont. Barnes is a small neighborhood school of approximately 165 kindergarten through fifth grade students. One hundred percent of the children receive free breakfast and lunch each day. Only fifteen percent of

the families in the neighborhood are homeowners. Several languages and dialects from worldwide communities are spoken here. It is a culturally rich, economically deprived, densely populated neighborhood—an amazing inner-city island in generally rural Vermont. It is precisely because of the school’s uniqueness that I wanted to build a classroom as we built our community. My students needed community because they were not experienced in belonging to one that worked well. We all needed to build one together.

My goal for the year was to help my 4th and 5th graders feel empowered to make a difference, to tackle projects they would not ever try on their own, and to become a close-knit community. Along the way I wanted them to become problem solvers, discover their role in other larger communities, and develop a sense of social justice. I wanted them to find new possibilities within themselves so that they would have choices. The stage was set. The classroom was empty.

We rolled up our sleeves and dove in. [read more](#)

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**Barn raising - Workshop for agricultural business planning**

By [Sage Leehey](#) This article was published on [03.13.14](#).

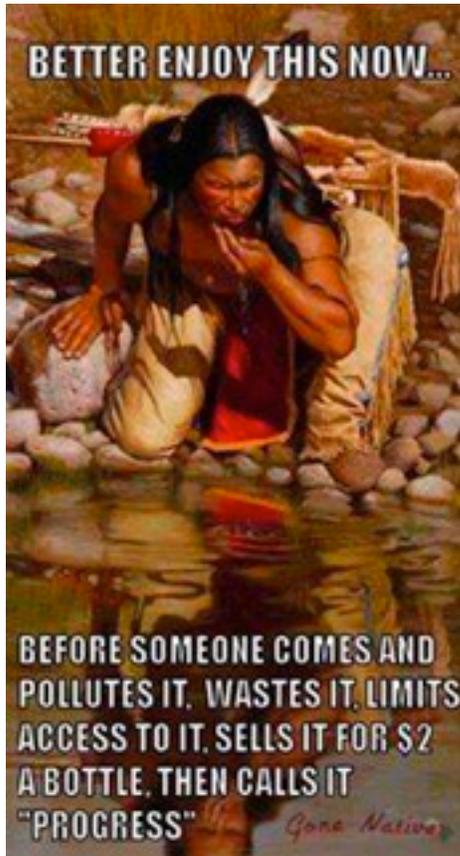
To register for the workshop, visit [bit.ly/1fenPbv](http://bit.ly/1fenPbv). Register by Saturday for a reduced price of \$35. It will be \$45 after March 15.

**Small farms and ranches are sprinkled all over northern Nevada. Some keep their products for their families, some sell to restaurants, some sell to farmers’ markets—there are about as many different business plans as there are farms.**

**6th Annual Sacred Visions Competition Pow-Wow**  
**"TE NANUMU MAGODYUKU"**  
 "Bringing the People Home"  
 July 18 - 20, 2014  
 Big Bend Ranch, Wadsworth, NV  
 Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe  
**HOST DRUM**  
**Cree Confederation**  
 Edmonton, Alberta Canada  
 MC - Anthony Bluehorse, Tulalip, Washington  
 AD - Carlos Calica, Warm Springs, OR

<b>GRAND ENTRY</b> Friday 7pm Saturday Noon & 7pm Sunday Noon All Events open to Public FREE Admission FREE Camping Crowning of Royalty - Friday Fun Run/Walk - Saturday Host Hotel: Comfort Suites, Fernley (775) 980-6514	<b>**CATEGORIES**</b> Golden Age **Senior Men & Women Adult Men & Women Teen Boys & Girls Junior Boys & Girls Tiny Tots Feast on Saturday Native Arts & Crafts Food Vendors For more information contact: Nathan Dunn, Chairman (775)686-3257 / ndunn@sipi.net.us email: sacredvisions@clearville.net facebook: sacredvisionspowwow	<b>**SPECIALS**</b> Single Iron Woman Special Traditional Buckskin Special Teen Girls Fancy Special Hand Drum Contest Drum Contest Hand Game Tournament Horse Shoe Tournament Vendor Contacts: Angey Dunn (775) 412-8624 angey@ryvi@yahoo.com Royalty Contacts: Colette Auguh (775) 842-2007 coletteauguh@yahoo.com Sacred Visions Powwow Committee, PL Veterans, MSP1 & Sumunumu Programs Sacred Visions Powwow Committee P.O. Box 897 Wadsworth, NV 89442 Drug & Alcohol Free Event. Committee not responsible for short leashed leashes, theft, damage or injuries. No weapons, firearms or fireworks permitted.
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If you're looking to get that plan drawn out, the University of Nevada, Reno's Center for Economic Development is hosting an Agricultural Business Plan Development workshop on March 22 at Western Nevada College's Fallon campus. It's from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and participants will leave with their new business plan in hand.



Marie Gibson is the speaker and will be working hands-on with participants to get their plan nailed down. Additional goals will be assigned weekly for four weeks after the workshop to make sure the plan is complete.

"You don't just sit and listen to me yada yada—I'm good at yada yada—but it's a class where we have workbooks, and we actually work through worksheets, budgets, all kinds of marketing ideas, we work through a lot," Gibson said. "It's a full day of intense planning, so they better come prepared to be tired."

The workshop is meant for new farmers and existing farmers who want to expand or change up their style. It will be customized to fit the needs of those who attend. She wants to show farmers they can make a profit and the different options they have for selling their products.

"What are your options to sell something?" Gibson said. "Where are you going to sell it? We'll explore those. Some farmers haven't even really zeroed in on who they want to be when they grow up. What does it look like for them? What's their vision? Do they want to stay small? Do they want to grow large? Do they

want to have what's called agritourism, where people come to their farms? Is their purpose to specifically be an organic farm? Is it just to provide food for themselves and for a few close friends? Is it where they actually want to make money? Do they know how much that is?"

Gibson helps farmers develop business plans often and has come across two common obstacles in this process. One of these is that hobby farmers don't seem to think it's right for them to make a profit.

"It's OK to make money off of something you enjoy doing," Gibson said. "We always think farming is this great, esoteric thing and farmers are always going to be poor—well, why? Why don't we say that it's OK for farmers to earn a healthy return on their investment of money and time and effort and energy and anguish?"

The other is that many farmers truly don't know the costs behind their crops and sell them for less than their cost. Gibson said developing a business plan helps eliminate that.

Even with the many farms existent in this area, Gibson believes there's plenty of business out there for each to make a profit with correct planning.

“Healthy eating, healthy lifestyle choices, healthy food—whether it’s organic or non-organic, whatever you choose—there’s never going to be enough of it,” Gibson said. “There’s always room for farmers and farming to grow.”

<http://www.takepart.com/video/2014/03/13/water-war-robert-redford-and-will-ferrell-are-fighting-literally-save-colorado>

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## UNIFY LoveWater

On March 22nd, World Water Day, we invite you to UNIFY with us at a Sacred Body of Water in your region. No Water, No Life. Know Water, Know Life. UNIFY.org ...  
youtube.com/By UNIFYMEDIA2012

### Jaxon Kochamp's photo.

“97 percent of the earth’s water is salt water, 3 percent is fresh water.”(Blue Gold: World Water Wars) While the latest commodity, oil, is fading into the sunset, water is has and always be the most sought after commodity. Water was even recognized as a sacred medicine to the North American occupation that they derived the word Pah (water) and Ute to create the term Paiute for categorizing the Numa of the Pyramid Lake area. Water has not become a new commodity, rather, it has started to become been exploited on a global scale. Indigenous nations of the North American continent are threatened by the exploitation of their natural resources. In light of the economic development of these nations is the underlying precedent set by Federal Indian Law. Federal Indian Law in and of itself, is designed to chip away at the sovereignty of Indian Nations. By utilizing the Doctrine of Discovery, issued in papal bulls handed down from the Pope himself, Indian Nations have and continue to be under attack from the ten elements of discovery.

Now being that the Pyramid Late Paiute Tribe PLPT has resided on these lands thousands of years before the United States was even formed, shouldn't it be right that they maintain as much water as possible to insure that what little that they have left of



their culture doesn't get taken away along with the water that is being stolen now?

It is the responsibility of PLPT members to question why water is being diverted from the upstream Truckee River that is the main watershed feeding Pyramid Lake.

Things to ponder about as if you were the Stone Mother.

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## **Kurt Vonnegut Once Sent This Amazing Letter To A High School**

The Huffington Post | by [Rebecca Klein](#)

In 2006, a group of high school students asked celebrated author Kurt Vonnegut to visit their school. He sent them the absolute perfect response.

According to [Reddit user Alxmog1](#), students at [Xavier High School in New York](#) wrote to their favorite authors as part of an assignment. Vonnegut was the only one to respond, and while he said he would not be able to make a visit, his inspiring letter made up for it with wit and charm.

Here's what the letter says:

Dear Xavier High School, and Ms. Lockwood, and Messrs Perin, McFeely, Batten, Maurer and Congiusta:

I thank you for your friendly letters. You sure know how to cheer up a really old geezer (84) in his sunset years. I don't make public appearances any more because I now resemble nothing so much as an iguana.

What I had to say to you, moreover, would not take long, to wit: Practice any art, music, singing, dancing, acting, drawing, painting, sculpting, poetry, fiction, essays, reportage, no matter how well or badly, not to get money and fame, but to experience becoming, to find out what's inside you, to make your soul grow.

Seriously! I mean starting right now, do art and do it for the rest of your lives. Draw a funny or nice picture of Ms. Lockwood, and give it to her. Dance home after school, and sing in the shower and on and on. Make a face in your mashed potatoes. Pretend you're Count Dracula.

Here's an assignment for tonight, and I hope Ms. Lockwood will flunk you if you don't do it: Write a six line poem, about anything, but rhymed. No fair tennis without a net. Make it as good as you possibly can. But don't tell anybody what you're doing. Don't show it or recite it to anybody, not even your girlfriend or parents or whatever, or Ms. Lockwood. OK?

Tear it up into teeny-weeny pieces, and discard them into widely separated trash recepticals [sic]. You will find that you have already been gloriously rewarded for your poem. You have experienced becoming, learned a lot more about what's inside you, and you have made your soul grow.

God bless you all!

Kurt Vonnegut