

April 3, 2015

Dear Friends,

Spring always feels like movement—a time when things shift, and grow.

In that spirit, we're celebrating some exciting changes:

New board member jumps in! An attorney with experience in real estate and a passion for nonviolent social change, Bruce Levinson joined us in February. Welcome Bruce! We're also thrilled that Peter Muste is back on the board following a leave of absence.

New board chair steps up! Martha Thomases, former vice chair, was elected chair in February when Jim Cole handed over the post after nearly two years of dedicated service. Martha is supported by Brian Drolet as vice chair, Nina Streich as treasurer, and Robert Taylor as secretary. A great team!

A.J. Muste Staff Union is born! Formally recognized by the board in December, the union upholds our shared values and honors A.J.'s labor activist legacy.

Peace Pentagon on the move! Our building is being marketed for sale or co-development, and we're in the final stages of determining a way forward. Our goal? To strengthen support for social justice organizing around the world, and to host a newly energizing space in New York City where nonviolent activists can work, meet, collaborate and make real change.

Can we count on you to sustain this work?

We appreciate every gift you make. Check out page 3 to see where your money goes, and please help us celebrate spring, and change, by renewing your support today.

Sincerely,

Heidi Boghosian
Executive Director



VOL. 22, NUMBER 2/3

SPRING 2015

Internships “Honor the Person Doing the Work”

The Muste Institute supports interns working at the War Resisters League (WRL) office by funding their stipends through the Freeman Internship Endowment and the Sara Bilezikian Peace Internship Endowment. Bilezikian intern Seelai Karzai (SK) and Freeman intern Leani Auxilio (LA) were interviewed in December 2014 by Muste Institute Administrative Assistant Sky Hall.

How did you become interested in interning with WRL?

LA: Seelai! She told me there was an internship position open and so I looked into it and I liked the tasks and what the War Resisters League is all about.

SK: We were organizing with AF3IRM, the transnational Filipina feminist organization, and we met through there. I thought she'd be a great person for the Freeman internship and just to have Leani here at WRL would be a blessing.

What are some exciting things you have been involved with at WRL?

LA: There's an anti police-militarization workshop in the works and the organizers have asked me to help with the design of their resources. We've got the flier down, and we are working on some videos so we'll see how that goes

SK: In addition to working on the campaign development of what is now being called “Demilitarize Health and Security,” I've also been working on updating a counter-recruitment brochure called “What Every Girl Should Know” that's geared toward primarily young women of color. I am excited that it's going to be out soon.

How do you see WRL's focus on anti-militarism and revolutionary nonviolence connecting with what's happening in the world today?

LA: It's a nice change, with how the world views militarization. I come from the Philippines so we all, I would say, “worship” the military there... and then when the U.S. soldiers come in it's like “woohoo! They're here to save us!” but it's not really. They're just messing

continued on page 2

PHOTO: ERIK MCGREGOR



Reclaiming MLK Day

January 2015: Members of YA-YA Network (Youth Activists-Youth Allies) march from Harlem to the United Nations to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by demanding an end to racial and economic violence. The Muste Institute sponsors YA-YA's youth-driven activist training and leadership work.

A Steadfast Resister: Albon Man, 1919-2014

Longtime anti-war activist, World War II conscientious objector, and Muste Institute supporter Albon Platt Man IV died at age 95 on October 22, 2014, at his

home in Palisades, New York.

During World War II, Albon was sentenced to three years in prison for refusing induction into the Army. In prison he and other objectors went on strike against racial segregation in the mess hall. "We were promptly put in a separate wing of the prison, locked up in individual cells with solid doors and solid walls. So we had to communicate with each other by lying on our stomachs on our cell floors and hollering through the cracks under the doors," Albon wrote years later. "After about four months we won the strike and we were let out into the general prison population."

Following the war, Albon served for a time as executive secretary of the Committee for Amnesty for All Objectors to War and Conscription. He later worked in publishing and raised two children



Albon Man in October 2009, at age 90, participating in a weekly anti-war vigil sponsored by the Rockland Coalition for Peace and Justice.



Albon Man and Yolanda Abruzzi Man being married by A.J. Muste on August 23, 1947, in A.J.'s apartment in New York. At Yolanda's side is Vivien Roodenko Lang, who worked with Albon in the Amnesty Committee.

Internships

continued from page 1

around with us. I should know first hand because my father was a victim. So that happened and then I come here and I see that: "Oh, some people are actually resisting in the U.S. about all of these policies." It's cool. What WRL is doing is cool.

SK: I think there is really great potential for War Resisters League and their anti-militarism to build with international coalitions who are actively working against not only U.S. occupation but all sorts of occupation outside of the borders of the United States. That for me is really hopeful and inspiring. Thinking in terms of where my parents are from, which is Afghanistan, and the more than decade-long occupation there—I think there is a lot of great hope with building international communities already resisting occupation and militarism.

Can you say something about the importance of having stipends and how this makes it possible to do the work you are doing with WRL?

SK: Living in NYC, it's already so tough financially for a lot of people, and I think stipends are one of the ways that an organization can show their appreciation for the work, and honor the person who is doing the work. I think it's really important for an organization to be able to sustain doing that work down the line. I help pay the bills for my parents so I don't think I could have done that without having a stipend. That's just one example.

LA: For now, my mom's out of work so I am the only one who can provide for us right now. It's kind of scary but at least there's a stipend.

Any parting words?

SK: I am really grateful that I have had this opportunity. A lot of people don't have the time and space to learn about

politics and how you can build movements. That takes a lot of dedicated time. I am really privileged to have this political education that I have been going through. Of course that's a life-long process, but to be able to be supported in that process through brilliant organizers such as Ali Issa and Tara Tabassi and the staff at the War Resisters League—it's been a great opportunity and a really great experience, and something I will carry with me forever.

LA: WRL is a fun place to work. It's awesome.

A.J. Muste Memorial Institute

339 Lafayette Street, New York, NY 10012

phone (212) 533-4335 fax (212) 228-6193

email: info@ajmuste.org

website: www.ajmuste.org

Board of Directors

Susan Kent Cakars	Ellen Luo
James A. Cole	David McReynolds
Bruce Cronin	Matt Meyer
Rodolfo Diaz-Reyes	Peter Muste
Brian Drolet, Vice Chair	Jill Sternberg
Carol Kalafatic	Nina Streich, Treasurer
Bernice Lanning (Emeritus)	Robert T. Taylor, Secretary
Bruce Levinson	Martha Thomases, Chair

Staff

Heidi Boghosian, *Executive Director*
 Jane Guskin*, *Program Manager*
 Sky Hall*, *Administrative Assistant*
 Salvador Suazo*, *Superintendent*
 Eric Bachman, *Program Associate, INTF*
 *Represented by the A.J. Muste Staff Union



Leani (front row on the left, with glasses) and Seelai (front row, second from right) at a meeting with other members of AF3IRM, a transnational feminist organization and Muste Institute sponsored project. Since last November, AF3IRM's New York/New Jersey chapter is sharing an office in the Muste building with several other groups.

PHOTO: HEIDI BOGHOSIAN



New York to Ferguson

As thousands protested violence and abuse by police in Ferguson, Missouri, in New York City, and across the country, the Muste Institute collaborated with artist Carlito Rovira of the Campaign to Bring Mumia Home to produce this 50-foot banner. Shortly after the banner went up on the Muste building in late December, the news website *Common Dreams* published an opinion piece about it by Muste Institute executive director Heidi Boghosian titled “Grassroots Message Against Police Violence—and All Violence—Stands Firm.”

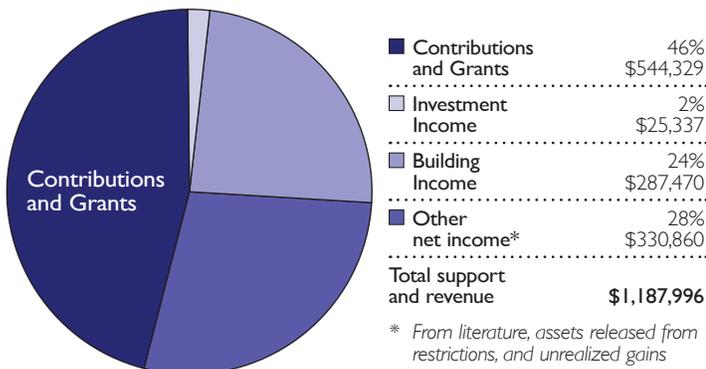
Colombia: Resisting Impunity

March 6, 2015: Members of MOVICE Valle del Cauca commemorate a day of dignity for the victims of state crimes with a vigil in the Colombian city of Cali. MOVICE was founded in 2005 by family members of people killed by the Colombian armed forces, in order to demand justice and defend human rights. The Muste Institute’s Social Justice Fund granted \$2,000 in December 2014 for MOVICE’s work generating collective spaces and materials for its members in the Pacific coast city of Buenaventura to strengthen their organizing for memory and against impunity.

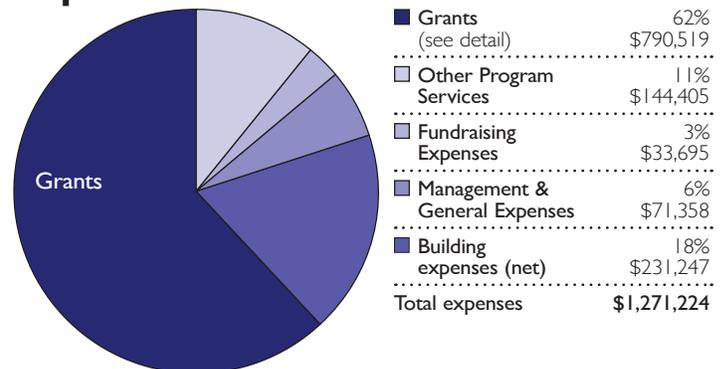


Where Your Money Goes—Year Ending June 30, 2014

Revenue



Expenses



2014 Grants—What You Helped Support

Social Justice Fund – 17 grants (\$32,158) in the U.S. and beyond for community peace-building; nonviolent activist networking; women’s empowerment; environmental justice; education about the cost of war; and nonviolent resistance to occupation, mass incarceration, displacement, and torture.

International Nonviolence Training Fund – 5 grants (\$17,349) for nonviolence trainings in Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda, Ecuador and Western Sahara.

Sheltering Fund – 7 grants (\$35,655) to tenant groups in the Muste building for undocumented youth organizing, media justice, anti-war and anti-militarism education, labor solidarity, tenant advocacy and related work.

NOVA Fund – 3 grants (\$45,000) in Peru, Costa Rica and Mexico for indigenous rights and empowerment, environmental organizing, and peace education.

Sponsored and endowment grants – \$660,357 in support for 17 projects in the U.S. and beyond promoting feminism, self-determination, human rights, international justice and nonviolent resolution of conflicts; opposing war; militarism, imperialism, occupation and displacement; educating about climate change, nuclear power and the environment; and organizing immigrant street vendors in NYC.

For full financial reports and detailed grant descriptions, check out our website at ajmuste.org.

A.J. Muste Memorial Institute
339 Lafayette Street
New York, NY 10012

NON-PROFIT
ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NEW YORK, NY
PERMIT NO.
02030

ESSAY SERIES ON NONVIOLENCE

A.J. Muste Memorial Institute
ESSAY SERIES

#1: Martin Luther King, Jr.
— America's leading apostle of human dignity — *Loving Your Enemies; Letter from a Birmingham Jail; Declaration of Independence from the War in Vietnam.* Also in Spanish — see #13.

#2: Barbara Deming — the feminist connection to nonviolence — *On Revolution and Equilibrium*

#3: Henry David Thoreau — the original architect of resistance — *On the Duty of Civil Disobedience*

#4: Jessie Wallace Hughan — suffragist, peace activist, founder of the War Resisters League — *Pacifism and Invasion; On Duelling*

#5: Emma Goldman — fiery orator, anarchist, agitator for peace and liberation — *Preparedness: The Road to Universal Slaughter; The Individual, Society and the State*

#6: Rosa Luxemburg — courageous leader of Germany's democratic socialist movement — *Prison Letters*

A.J. Muste Memorial Institute
ESSAY SERIES

#7: A.J. Muste — foremost 20th Century Pacifist theoretician and activist, minister, socialist — *Who Has the Spiritual Atom Bomb?*

#8: On Wars of Liberation — the essays on pacifism, from struggles to armistice, including analysis of Gandhi's position

#9: Aldous Huxley — Twentieth Century visionary — *Temporarily Out of Print: Liberty and Peace*

#10: Paul Goodman — pacifist, anarchist, activist — *The Morality of Scientific Technology; The Psychology of Being Powerless*

#11: Some Writings on War Tax Resistance — thoughts, poems, tales from resisters, including Juanita Nelson, Allen Ginsberg and Pete Seeger

#12: Sidney Lens — peace and labor activist, socialist, occasional political candidate — six articles spanning three decades on the state of the U.S. labor movement

#13: (Spanish) Martin Luther King, Jr. — Spanish language translation of *Loving Your Enemies, Letter from a Birmingham Jail and Declaration of Independence from the War in Vietnam.*

A.J. Muste Memorial Institute
ESSAY SERIES

#14: Jeannette Rankin — first woman in Congress, suffragist, pacifist — *"Two Votes Against War" and Other Writings on Peace*

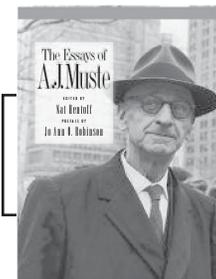
Your Enemies, Letter from a Birmingham Jail and Declaration of Independence from the War in Vietnam.

#15: David McReynolds — longtime activist with the War Resisters League, Socialist Party presidential candidate — *A Philosophy of Nonviolence*

#15: David McReynolds — longtime activist with the War Resisters League, Socialist Party presidential candidate — *A Philosophy of Nonviolence*

Peace Agitator: The Story of A.J. Muste, by Nat Hentoff. A 250-page biography with many photos, profiling the 'grandfather' of the U.S. peace movement — minister, labor activist, pacifist and resister. Introduction by Larry Gara.

Wear Your Peace Shirt. Muste Institute t-shirts are black cotton with a four-color geometric design and the words: "There is no way to peace, peace is the way — A.J. Muste" Available in large and extra large. Shirts are made in the U.S.A.



The Essays of A.J. Muste
Edited by Nat Hentoff, preface by Jo Ann O. Robinson. Originally issued in 1967, this 500-page edition includes Muste's "Notes for an Autobiography," plus essays on pacifism, civil rights, trade unionism and foreign policy, written between 1905 and 1966.

IF YOU USE THIS FORM, SHIPPING IS FREE—SEND IN YOUR ORDER TODAY!

Essay Series	Quantity	Pamphlets (total qty:)	_____ x \$2.00 each (\$1.40 each for 20 or more)	\$ _____
1 Martin Luther King, Jr.	_____	Sampler Pack	_____ x \$20.00 (one each of all 13 available pamphlets)	\$ _____
2 Barbara Deming	_____	<i>The Essays of A.J. Muste:</i>	_____ x \$20.00 *	\$ _____
3 Henry David Thoreau	_____	<i>Peace Agitator.</i>	_____ x \$5.00 *	\$ _____
4 Jessie Wallace Hughan	_____	T-Shirts: (L) _____ (XL) _____	_____ x \$15.00	\$ _____
5 Emma Goldman	_____			
6 Rosa Luxemburg	_____			
7 A. J. Muste	_____			
8 On Wars of Liberation	_____			
9 Aldous Huxley	_____			
10 Paul Goodman	_____			
11 War Tax Resistance	_____			
12 Sidney Lens	_____			
13 Martin Luther King, Jr. (Spanish)	_____			
14 Jeannette Rankin	_____			
15 David McReynolds	_____			

I am enclosing a tax-deductible contribution for the Muste Institute's work promoting active nonviolence and social justice: \$ _____
* for bulk rates, contact the Muste Institute office

SHIP TO _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please make check or money order payable to AJMMI and send to:
A.J. Muste Memorial Institute
339 Lafayette St.
NY, NY 10012