

Women+ in Climate:

LEADING WITH LIGHT

PROGRAM GUIDE

Women+ in Climate:

LEADING WITH LIGHT

HOLLYHOCK
LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

WELCOME TO HOLLYHOCK

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE.

Whether it's your first time or your tenth, we welcome you with open arms into this container of care and possibility. Women+ in Climate is a space to reconnect with purpose, find rest, resilience, and relationships that nourish the work ahead.

THIS PROGRAM GUIDE IS YOUR VISUAL OVERVIEW TO THE GATHERING

A window into alongside the highlighted info in your Participant Emails, and everything in your Participant Portal, this is your sensory window into the people, practices, and possibilities we're shaping,

Here you'll find introductions to:

- **Program Agenda**
- **Presenters**
- **Hosts & Team**
- **Campus Offerings**
- **Travel**

CORTES ISLAND, BC

JULY 16 - 20, 2025

Wed July 16 DAY 1	Thurs July 17 DAY 2	Friday, July 18 DAY 3	Saturday, July 19 DAY 4	Sunday, July 20 DAY 5
	6:30am Self-guided meditation 7:00-8:00am Yoga	6:30am Self-guided meditation 7:00-8:00am Yoga 7:00-8:00am Guided seashore walk	6:30am Self-guided meditation 7:00-8:00am Yoga	6:30am Self-guided meditation 7:00-8:00am Yoga
	8:00-9:00am Breakfast 8:30-9:00am Garden Tour	8:00-9:00am Breakfast	8:00-9:00am Breakfast	8:00-9:00am Breakfast
	9:15 - 10:45am Centering Ourselves 10:45 - 11:15am BREAK 11:15 - 12:15pm Talk: The Moment We’re In (Rebecca Solnit, followed by discussion with Zainab Salbi & Osprey Orielle Lake)	9:15 - 10:45am Centering Ourselves Dharma Talk: Reverend angel Kyodo Williams 10:45 - 11:15am BREAK 11:15 - 12:15pm Talk: A Radical Act of Hope with Siila Watt-Cloutier	9:15 - 10:45am Interactive Exercise: Ancestor, Descendent, Doubter with Xiye Bastida 10:45 - 11:15am BREAK 11:15 - 12:15pm Open Space Sessions	10:00-11:00am Closing Circle 11:45am Charter group #1 departs with packed lunch
2:00pm Charter arrives 4:00pm Rooms available				
	12:30-1:30pm Lunch & Roundtables	12:30-1:30pm Lunch & Roundtables	12:30-1:30pm Lunch & Roundtables	12:30-1:30pm Lunch
5:30pm Welcome + Land Honouring 6:00pm Campus Tour	2:00-3:15pm Connection 3:00-3:30pm BREAK 3:30-4:30pm Integration Session: Yoga with Elizabeth Burr 4:45-6:15pm Closing Circle	Afternoon off <ul style="list-style-type: none">Kayaking (waitlisted)Forest Bathing (signup on-site)Lagoon Walk & Swimming at the Lake (signup on-site)	2:00-3:30pm Open Space Integration 3:30-4:15pm Integration Session: Yoga with Elizabeth Burr 4:30-5:30pm Closing Circle	1:15pm Charter group #2 departs with packed lunch
			5:30-6:30pm Oyster BBQ	
6:30-7:30pm Dinner	6:30-7:30pm Dinner	6:30-7:30pm Dinner	6:30-7:30pm Dinner	
8:00pm Orientation & Circle	8:00pm Free Time & Participant-Led Sessions	8:00pm Free Time & Participant-Led Sessions	8:00pm Open Mic	
9:15pm Tea for Night Owls	9:00pm Campfire	8:00pm Campfire & Oceanside Foot Scrubs	9:00pm Dance & Social Party	

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FACILITATOR



NIKKI SILVESTRI

Soil and Shadow
CEO and Founder

Nikki Silvestri is, first and foremost, a mother of two, wife, and sci-fi nerd. She's also a pioneering voice in leadership development, organizational transformation, and social innovation. As the Founder and CEO of Soil and Shadow, she leads a strategy lab that designs regenerative leadership models for an increasingly destabilized world.

With a career spanning executive leadership, policy innovation, and systems change, Nikki has served as the Executive Director of multiple organizations, including People's Grocery and Green for All, before founding Soil and Shadow. Nikki has shaped strategy as a trusted advisor to executives, government agencies, and global non-profits while also working on the ground with grassroots organizations and purpose-driven businesses. Her work integrates ecological wisdom with executive strategy, helping institutions build resilience, adaptability, and equity into their leadership structures.

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PRESENTER



REBECCA SOLNIT
Author & Independent Writer
Not Too Late

Writer, historian, and activist [Rebecca Solnit](#) is the author of more than twenty books on feminism, western and urban history, popular power, social change and insurrection, wandering and walking, hope and catastrophe. Her books include *Orwell's Roses*; *Recollections of My Nonexistence*; *Hope in the Dark*; *Men Explain Things to Me*; *A Paradise Built in Hell: The Extraordinary Communities that Arise in Disaster*; and *A Field Guide to Getting Lost*. A product of the California public education system from kindergarten to graduate school, she writes regularly for the *Guardian*, serves on the board of the climate group *Oil Change International*, and recently launched the climate project *Not Too Late*.

photo credit: Adrian Mendoza

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PRESENTER



SIILA WATT CLOUTIER

Citizen Advocate on Environmental,
Cultural and Human Rights
Author and Speaker

Sheila Watt-Cloutier is an Inuk leader from Kuujuaq, Nunavik (northern Quebec). She is deeply committed to environmental advocacy, Indigenous rights, and youth empowerment.

Raised traditionally in her early years before being sent south for school, as well as attending a government-run residential school in Churchill, Manitoba, she has spent much of her life working to bridge Inuit knowledge with global environmental and political negotiations.

Sheila worked with the Regional School Board in Nunavik as a Student Counsellor and Co-ordinator of Students Services. Later she was elected with Makivik Corporation, and has held numerous leadership roles, including serving as the ICC Canada President, and then the Chair of the Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC), representing 155,000 Inuit across Canada, Greenland, Alaska, and Chukotka, Russia. She has been a key spokesperson in global United Nations negotiations, particularly in advocating for the elimination of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) that impact Arctic food systems.

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PRESENTER



REV. ANGEL KYODO
WILLIAMS ROSHI
CEO, Founder, Author, Trainer
Transformative Change

Rev. angel Kyodo williams is a visionary author, strategist, founder of Transformative Change, and architect of the audacious Healing Race Portal. Called “one of our wisest voices on social evolution” by On Being’s Krista Tippett, Rev. angel is the second — and currently only living — Black woman to hold the most senior title in Zen Buddhism.

Her 30 years of multi-dimensional work and practice have pushed the boundaries of the way we talk about and experience transformation, expanding the possibilities of personal and collective liberation. Over the past 8 years, practices and technology catalyzed by Rev’s ground-breaking book, *Radical Dharma: Talking, Race, Love & Liberation*, have been the laboratory for healing race, a global effort she is now preparing to unleash across cultures and continents. She was made for these times.

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PRESENTER



XIYE BASTIDA

Founder and Executive Director
Re-Earth Initiative

Xiye Bastida is a climate justice activist, storyteller, and Executive Director of Re-Earth Initiative, a global youth-led organization making the climate movement more accessible and intersectional. Of Otomi-Toltec heritage, Xiye integrates Indigenous worldviews of reciprocity, interdependence, and intergenerational responsibility into global climate advocacy.

She began her activism after her hometown of San Pedro Tultepec, Mexico, experienced flooding and water contamination. Since then, she has become a leading voice in the climate movement, organizing climate strikes, speaking at global stages like the United Nations, and redefining storytelling through her upcoming film, *The Way of the Whale*.

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FOREST BATHING GUIDE



SOBHANA DILANI HIPPOLA

Certified Forest & Nature Therapy Guide
Forest Awakenings

Sobhanā Dilani Hippola is a Certified Nature & Forest Therapy Guide with the Association of Nature & Forest Therapy (ANFT) and specializes in relational forest therapy and forest reiki offerings on Cortes Island, British Columbia, in the territories of the ʔohos (Klahoose), ʔəʔamən (Tla'amin), and Xwémalkwu (Homalco) Nations.

After a professional career working in international climate policy and local environmental conservation, and a personal life devoted to deep spiritual inquiry, she found her calling in the Japanese-inspired practice of 'shinrin yoku', often translated as 'forest bathing'.

Forest Awakenings provides guided forest bathing and forest reiki sessions for individuals and groups, led by Certified Nature & Forest Therapy Guide, Sobhanā Dilani Hippola. The guiding mantra of the organization is: "the forest is the therapist; the guide opens the door". Come awaken to your true nature amidst the wisdom of elder cedars, the deep peace of grand fir trees, and the joyful company of salal and huckleberry bushes on Cortes Island, British Columbia.

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YOGA INSTRUCTOR



ELIZABETH CLAIRE BURR

Somatic Therapist, Craniosacral Practitioner,
Yoga & Meditation Teacher

Elizabeth has been studying the Vajrayana & Nature of Mind teachings in the Tibetan Buddhist Tradition directly with Mingyur Rinpoche since 2008. *She has taken the Bodhisattva vow, and her deepest aspiration is to support all beings with wisdom and compassion and to practice this in the world as best she can.

This has come to manifest in many forms; meditation and yoga teacher, cranial sacral and somatic therapist, founder/owner of a healing arts center, kirtan leader, doula, mothering, mentoring and sacred partnership.

She is an experience-based, IFS Informed, somatic and cranial sacral therapist with over 25 years of direct practice. Sessions are trauma informed, somatically based and transformational by nature. Her work is client led and focuses awareness on the subtle body level to address the root cause of the issues presenting.

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PRESENTER



KIRIN BHATTI

Founder
Brownswell

Kirin Bhatti is a multi-generational South Asian artist, mystic, and healer who channels her gifts into immersive, creative experiences that help individuals, leaders, and groups powerfully remember who they are beneath the roles and systems they've learned to survive.

She is the founder of Brownswell, a sanctuary for deeply feeling, cycle-breaking leaders seeking beauty, rest, and playful transformation. Her work bridges land-based ritual, relational healing, and systems change—supporting people and organizations to lead with clarity, care, interconnection and joy.

Our bespoke 1:1 and group experiences unfold in stunning, restorative landscapes offering mentorship, healing, teaching, or organizational healing. Brownswell is where you come to stop doing the work and begin to embody it through play, wonder, and deep care.

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YOUR HOSTS



Nikki Silvestri
CEO and Founder
Soil and Shadow



Tzeporah Berman
Intl Program Director - **Stand.Earth**
Chair - **Fossil Fuel Treaty Initiative**



Zainab Salbi
Co-founder
Daughters for Earth



Pat Mitchell
Co-founder & Managing Partner
Project Dandelion



Hafsat Abiola
Project Dandelion



Osprey Orielle Lake
Founder & Executive Director
WECAN International



Laurel Dault
Hollyhock Leadership
Institute



Orane Cheung
Hollyhock Leadership
Institute



Nicole Ebert
Hollyhock Leadership
Institute



Vanessa Sims
Hollyhock Leadership
Institute

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Campus Spaces

Hollyhock campus on Cortes Island offers an immersive retreat experience nestled between the Salish Sea and ancient forests, featuring beautiful gardens, multiple meeting spaces like Olatunji Hall and Raven, and inspiring ocean views. See all the Campus spaces [here](#)

Body Works

Restore yourself with our comprehensive Healing Arts offerings such as Massage and Craniosacral therapy.

To view our complete list of offerings and book, go to the following [link](#)



Spa and Sauna

In 2024, the campus added upgraded ocean-view hot tubs, a sauna, and an outdoor shower overlooking the sea, enhancing both relaxation and connection with nature. See the updated [Campus Amenities](#).

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Meals at Hollhock

For up-to-date info on the food available in our Restaurant, please check our [Restaurant webpage](#).

Food is served buffet style, and accommodations are arranged according to registration information that participants provided.

Activities and Exploring

Beyond scheduled sessions, there are many ways to slow down and connect with the land — from guided nature tours, to wellness offerings like astrology, massage, and more.

Discover all options for your stay [here](#).



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Participant Charter

Embrace Ease in Your Journey to Hollyhock and ride the **Women+ in Climate Participant Charter**.

Hollyhock organizes a charter to take you directly to Cortes Island with pickups in **Vancouver** and **Nanaimo**.

Limited seats available.

[Reserve your spot here](#)



Flying

If your time is limited, you can [register your interest](#) in flying direct from Vancouver Airport South (YVR-S).

Daily scheduled flights also run between Campbell River and Cortes Island, as well as YVR-S.

For full travel options and pricing, please [view our suggested itineraries](#).

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**Where bold ideas
meet brave hearts.**

Deep connection.
Radical collaboration.
Space to rest, rise, and reimagine.

To leave with renewed
purpose, expanded networks,
and tools to sustain the work.

If you have any questions,
contact us at hli@hollyhock.ca