New Story: 2024: Initial Design of Multi-month Program

We in the New Story circle see ourselves as participants in reinventing the human at the species level. Through our monthly gatherings we have an opportunity to give life to and reflect on the specifics of what is involved in Thomas Berry's challenge to us. Seeing ourselves as participants in an evolutionary or "time-developmental" framework opens up many doorways for sharing, exploring and deepening what is already underway among us and around us.

With multiple, intersecting crises intensifying at all scales, we propose centering a multi-month program on (1) the origins and consequences of oppression, paired with (2) pathways to generative and reciprocal relations with each other and all forms of life. We intend to go beyond conceptual maps of oppression and tune into our hearts and guts as rich sources of knowing and experiencing the New Story. We're convinced that exploring key features of the New Story can help us uncover ways we can reduce/stop oppression and highlight alternatives.

Key features are emerging from our times together as well as our sense of the "new story":

- Connections to nature
- Participatory
- Belonging
- Creativity
- Resilience
- Falling apart
- Transformation
- Consciousness of our oneness
- Regenerative
- Emergent universe as context
- Interdependence

- Holistic evolution/holomovement
- Awe
- Micro Rhizomes
- Beckoning universe
- Coming home
- Deep contemplation and action
- Great value after billions of years
- Creating communities
- Identifying "what's next"
- Grounded
- Power with

Consistent with our intention, we draw on principles for designing each monthly session:

- Explore one or two key features as a way to make oppression and alternatives visible
- Model & convey our sense of living the New Story by
 - Being participatory
 - Drawing on heart, head and hand
 - Offering opportunities for all to share insights and knowledge
 - Building a supportive community
- Link to additional resources (e.g., videos, websites, books, essays...)
- Tap connections to the network of people and groups globally

New Story-related resources are here, [to be updated] here and here.