

## Michael Nagler Lecture "Peace From Within" Monday, July 24 at 7 p.m.



**Michael Nagler** came to Berkeley in 1960, and is now Professor Emeritus of Classics and Comparative Literature. Here he founded the Peace and Conflict Studies Program in which he still teaches the upper-division nonviolence course as well as meditation and other courses. Michael has spoken and written widely for campus, religious, public and special interest groups on the subject of peace and nonviolence for many years, especially since 9/11.

In addition to his many articles on peace and spirituality, he is the author of *The Upanishads* (with Sri Eknath Easwaran, Nilgiri Press, 1987) and *The Search for a Nonviolent Future* which won the 2002 American Book Award and has been translated into Italian and Korean. His most recent book is titled, *Our Spiritual Crisis*.

Michael is a student of Sri Eknath Easwaran, founder of the Blue Mountain Center of Meditation, and has lived at the Center's ashram in Marin County since 1970. He gives presentations frequently for the Center's meditation program around the world, and will be offering us some insights and instruction on how to follow this increasingly popular technique, along with Carol Flinders from the same community. Suggested \$5 donation.

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### Report from the Committee for Fund Raising

Don Kemp, Treasurer of Gualala Arts, along with the Finance Committee, has determined that though our income most often covers all the direct expenses incurred in operating our many programs, there are occasional shortfalls. In addition, since the building was completed in 1997, there has not been a single year when we generated enough funds to cover the year's allocated cost for eventual building replacement. At the May Board of Directors' meeting, Don demonstrated that Gualala Arts is therefore essentially operating at a loss each year of about \$60,000 – an amount which he designated as a "structural deficit" since it is built into our regular operations and funding.

Don went on to say that this situation is not unusual among art organizations – most have deficits at least this large that can not be covered through operational income – thus they therefore need regular fund raising. In reviewing this situation, the Finance Committee concluded that it is necessary to both raise funds and to put substantial money into an Endowment Fund that will generate the regular income needed to assure that Gualala Arts is financially sound in the future. In order to put Gualala Arts on a financial track that allows it to continue to meet its objectives, the Finance Committee proposed the goal of raising \$3,000,000 over the next 10 years. This amount would be allocated as follows: \$320,000 for planned Capital Projects (for making additions to the existing building), \$280,000 for the \$60,000 a year Structural Deficit for about five years and \$2,400,000 for the Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund will be invested in order to generate investment income to cover the ongoing structural deficit as well as to fund additional programs in the future. While the primary objective of the Endowment Fund is to generate investment income, the Committee added a provision that Endowment Funds can be also used in case of an organizationally threatening event; and then only by a 75% vote of the Board of Directors.

Bruce Jones reported that since the May Board meeting a Planning Committee has been working on a ten-year plan for Gualala Arts. As part of their work, they have been developing a procedure for defining, approving, and managing new capital projects. Valid projects must have a person designated as Project Lead, an approved budget based on a detailed project plan, and Board approval.

Russ Hardy, Chairman of the Fundraising Committee, reported on the Committee's plans, which include annual mailings, personal solicitations, and expanded fund-raising events. The ten-year goal for the campaign is \$3,000,000, with an annual goal of \$300,000. Donna Blum has agreed to Chair the Events committee, and Michele Marshall will serve as the Board Representative to this group. Members of various organizations associated with the Arts Center have been contacted regarding their participation in the campaign.

Russ went on to explain that to achieve these goals all GAC fund-raising efforts will need to be concentrated through the Fund Raising Committee, which will, with Board approval, coordinate, approve, and direct all direct solicitations and charitable fund-raising events. The annual Chamber Music fund-raising drive will be coordinated with the Capital fund drive. He emphasized that while these financial goals were ambitious, they could be reached if all the supporters of Gualala Arts lend their assistance, including the Board, the members, associated organizations, and the community at large. To this end the Board has agreed to pledge 100% financial participation in the capital campaign.

The Board heard and discussed these presentations and then unanimously passed a motion approving a unified ten-year fund-raising program for the Gualala Arts Center. The Board directed the Fund Raising Committee to begin this program in this fall.