



NORTHERN FOREST Connections

November 15 & 16

Center convenes Northern Forest Community Leadership Exchange

The Northern Forest Center invites you to join with other regional leaders from across the Northern Forest for a working Leadership Exchange at Dartmouth College on Nov. 15-16, 2002

The Northern Forest Community Leadership Exchange is intended for citizen leaders working at every scale, from the smallest community to the entire region, and on issues ranging from community development to the arts, education, health care, economic diversification, forest products, land conservation, government, and more.

The event builds on the foundation of the Northern Forest *Wealth Index* and an emerging vision of the

Northern Forest as a place that supports a healthy forest ecosystem, vibrant cultures, caring and effective communities, and diversified, sustainable economies.

It will not be a traditional conference, but a true working session for people who want to get things done, who are prepared to listen to others and to add their own experiences, and who want to develop new and expanded partnerships and capacity to increase the well-being of the Northern Forest region. Participants will reflect on changes taking place across the region, share and celebrate successes, work together to describe where we want the region to be heading, and develop strategies and do-able action steps to help us get there.

The Northern Forest Center is presenting the Exchange in partnership with the Dartmouth College

Department of Environmental Studies, Tuck School of Business, and Genesis Consulting—an international consulting firm specializing in organizational transformation—along with numerous co-sponsors.

Outcomes will include:

- Key elements of a shared vision, values, and principles to guide sustainable development in the region;
- A set of actions and work groups to advance the well-being of the region;
- Outlines of a regional network for sharing information and implementation; and
- Strategies for increasing capacity and resources to advance this action agenda.

Program promotes goods "Handmade" in the Northern Forest

The Northern Forest Center is working with Businesses for the Northern Forest (BNF) and a dozen local and regional organizations to inventory and promote businesses and other enterprises creating and selling handmade objects and materials in the Northern Forest.

Modeled on the successful "HandMade in America" program in western North Carolina, "HandMade in the Northern Forest" is designed to educate visitors and residents about the region's rich handcraft traditions while promoting related businesses as a vehicle for sustainable economic development.

Through BNF, and with the support of the National Endowment for the Arts, the Center is surveying enterprises involved with handcrafts in the region. Survey results will help shape a regional marketing campaign and a web- or print-based promotional guide to HandMade in the Northern Forest.

For more information, or a copy of the survey, contact Sarah Carrier of Businesses for the Northern Forest at 802-223-5256, or scarrier@bnfinfo.org. The survey can also be found online at www.business-northernforest.org/HandMade.html

See www.northernforest.org for registration and program details, or contact Mike Wilson at 207-824-8263 or mwilson@northernforest.org

Northern Forest Exhibition

National Endowment for the Humanities grants Center \$300,000

In August the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) awarded the Northern Forest Center a \$300,000 grant to begin work on a multifaceted traveling exhibition and education program. "*Ways of the Woods: People and the Land in the Northern Forest*" will comprise a mobile exhibit of the region's history and culture, as well as community- and school-based education programs, live music and storytelling performances, and demonstrations of traditional crafts and folkways.

Nancy Rogers, director of the Division of Public Programs at the NEH, described the planned exhibition as a model of grassroots humanities programming. "We applaud the extensive outreach to, and collaboration with, rural communities," she said, "*Ways of the Woods* is an imaginative, bold and engaging exhibition project that will spark important community conversations about people's changing relationship to the forest environment."

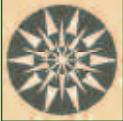
The NEH's review panelists, includ-

ing humanities scholars and public programming specialists from diverse institutional, regional, and cultural backgrounds, were highly complimentary of the Exhibition plan.

The Center was one of only 13 organizations to receive implementation funding in the museums and historical organizations category, and the only group to receive the highest possible funding level of \$300,000. The NEH had awarded the Center a planning grant in July 2001 to fully develop its Exhibition concept.

"We are thrilled—not only with the funds, but with the tremendous vote of confidence the NEH and its project reviewers have given to our concept and planning," said Center President Steve Blackmer. "This grant brings us about a third of the way to funding the Exhibition, and we're eager to get it on the road."

The Center will move ahead aggressively now with final designs, production and fundraising, with the goal of piloting the Exhibition next fall.



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Bethel, Maine: 207-824-8263
White River Junction, Vermont: phone number pending
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NORTHERN FOREST Connections

Building
a public consensus
to conserve and
enhance the wealth—
cultural, civic, economic
and ecological—
of the Northern Forest.

Annual Fund

Center seeks support for regional programs

The Center relies on a mix of foundation, corporate and individual donations to sustain the exciting growth of our programs—and we're asking for your support.

The budget for our *Partnerships for a Healthy Northern Forest* program, which will culminate this year in the November Leadership Exchange, is more than \$170,000. This includes building ongoing relationships with an ever-increasing number of partners and collaborators, holding the Exchange itself, and supporting specific projects that arise from this work.

The price tag for *Ways of the Woods* is steeper: the fabrication and pilot tour will cost nearly \$1 million by the end of 2003; the operational costs through 2005 will surpass \$2 million.

We need your help! Our efforts to raise contributions, grants, and sponsorships from individuals, foundations, and corporations are stepping up dramatically as these programs take off. If you, your business, friends, or family are interested in supporting these groundbreaking programs toward a sustainable Northern Forest, please send a tax-deductible contribution to the Northern Forest Center, or contact John Sieracki, director of development, at (603) 229-0679, ext. 2, or jsieracki@northernforest.org.

We appreciate your support!

November 22 & 23

Education conference explores *The Promise of Place*

The Northern Forest Center, in partnership with Shelburne Farms, will present a conference for educators: *The Promise of Place: Community-Based Education in the Northern Forest Region*, Nov. 22 and 23 in Jackson, New Hampshire.

This conference marks the first opportunity for educators from across northern Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York to meet specifically in support of place-based education in the Northern Forest. Place-based educators may be found in schools, museums, parks, nature centers, or historical societies, but they all share the goal of helping students develop an understanding and appreciation of the places in which they live.

Practitioners will gather to strengthen a shared vision, build knowledge and skills, expand the place-based education network, and develop ideas for advancing this methodology in the region. By promoting education rooted in local communities, we are working toward vibrant, sustainable communities and environment throughout the region.

Educators from a wide variety of settings and disciplines are invited to attend the event, which will be held at the Eagle Mountain House, an historic

Educators! See full details & registration information at www.northernforest.org

inn in the White Mountains.

Conference sessions will range from hands-on workshops to participant-led dialogues and panel discussions. A sampling of topics includes reading the landscape, GPS mapping, oral history, journaling, service learning, community heritage, program evaluation, and developing standards-based curriculum. Singer-songwriter Jon Gailmor from Vermont will lead the entertainment Friday evening.

Additional organizations involved in the conference include Antioch New England Institute, Appalachian Mountain Club, Adirondack Museum, Community Mapping Project, Fairbanks Museum, Maine Mountain Counties Heritage, Maine Project Learning Tree, National Park Service, National Wildlife Federation, Vermont Community Works, Vermont Folklife Center, and Vital Communities.

If you are interested in being a conference sponsor, please contact John Sieracki at 603-229-0679, ext. 2; sieracki@northernforest.org.

Ford Foundation awards grant to Center

The Ford Foundation has awarded \$120,000 to the Center for research and project development on the uses of market-based financing to advance sustainable forestry and forest products in the Northern Forest. The grant also will allow the Center to explore mechanisms for expanding sustainable forestry activities in low-income communities. With the grant, the Center has established Sustainable Forest Futures to develop partnerships with community development corporations, timber investors, and traditional lenders.