

From: [Zohar Lavy](#)
To: [Lavy, Zohar \[US-US\]](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: From Zo - Thank Earth Jan 2024 Update (and Clay event Summary)
Date: Monday, January 22, 2024 7:54:36 PM
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From: **Zohar Lavy** <thankearth1@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Jan 9, 2024, 7:05 PM
Subject: From Zo - Thank Earth Jan 2024 Update (and Clay event Summary)
To: <zohar.lavy1@gmail.com>

Hey guys!

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and had some time to slow down and chill with friends and family!

As far as our group goes – Wow! – what a great start to the year with pre-activity Yoga with Melissa and the Geo-time and Transition Pottery and Sculpting workshop! Thoroughly enjoyable, enlightening, moving, and inspirational!

A bit of an email here but as I have done with our previous events, I will provide a short summary of the clay workshop below and share some information which was discussed. I am adding a link to the Thank Earth website below (still under construction – though may be useful for checking on dates and using the chat room feature to communicate with each other). Again, please let me know if you have any friends or family who are interested in joining the group (please just send me their email address and I will add them to the email list).

Below:

- Summary of Clay Workshop
- Upcoming Events
- Future Events on the radar (anyone know someone with a maple tree on their property who may want to partake in syrup?)
- Seed Bank - seeds for next year
- Thank Earth Website

Summary of Clay Workshop:

Absolutely magnificent! We created boats that symbolize the voyages that we take through transitions/changes/phases which we go through in life as sentient beings (with personal/cultural filters – some of those filters more opaque than others, thought, consciousness, etc) but also as lifeforms who are innately connected to this planet, solar system, and beyond. The physical medium (clay) which we were molding into our imaginative carriers was in itself fundamentally a product of transition/change/phases; originating from the inevitable weathering of silicate rich rock, increasing in plasticity over time ultimately becoming a clay (hmmm - my new resolution – increase brain plasticity over time!).

We took a short walk to a near-by brook to collect stones that we resonated with and incorporated them in our voyager. These rocks symbolized various things for different people – some looked at the stone as an un-weathered form of themselves; others saw the stone as their ancestors who's laughs, knowledge, and memory were important to bring along on the

journey – cradled as a treasure within the descendant (clay being the descendant of stone). Discussions of comparative time scales, presence, connection to earth, and the science of pottery were awe inspiring and left me wanting more!

So..

Simon and I have been discussing a workshop series which will be split into 4 parts (I think we will call it Ground to Kiln + Table):

1. We will have a walk to a local NJ area to grab some clay from the ground – we will pick a time in early May when the weather is warmer
2. We will have a clay prep session which sounds like fun for adults and kids where we walk, jump, and shimmy on/through the clay – with a mandala style splash art using various color liquid clays
3. We will have a sculpting session similar to the recent one however this time would be bowls and cups
4. Firing – we would bring our bowls to a local kiln where we would ash dip and fire the bowls

..the Table part is where we all get together for a feast and fill our bowls (and cups) with harvested, foraged, picked, hunted, raised, canned, brewed, vinified, and prepared local goodness which we will learn about (and teach about) during these Thank Earth workshops.

For those interested in placing your voyager on display as part of the Zeitseelen (spirits of time) Inclusive Installation (and possibly having it sold) at the Flemington DIY, please see enclosed and below. Also, you may be interested in checking out the tea ceremonies and Clay Dance that Simon will be doing at DIY as part of the LessISmore exhibit:

[Flemington DIY](#)

Upcoming Events:

1/21/24 - Microgreens:

- 1200am - 1250am - Yoga with Melissa at the YMD Studio on Reimer
- 1pm to 3pm - Microgreen training session with Dave Grieco. Dave will teach us about the benefits of microgreens and show us how easy and cool it is to grow them in our own homes. You can find out more info and sign up [Here \[signupgenius.com\]](https://signupgenius.com)

2/6/24 – Jazz Night:

Jazz Night in downtown Somerville (6:30-9:30 pm). Thank Earth, Fresh Restorations, and Connies Music Shop will be sponsoring a fundraiser for the SHS Music program. Somerville High School Jazz Band musicians will be groovin/funkin/jazzin it up at Fresh Restorations on Meadow St. There will also be a raffle for something from Connies Music Shop. This will be a \$20 ticket and all proceeds (after rental costs) will go to the SHS Music Program. It will be a BYOB event with some light refreshments and snacks.

You can find out more info and buy tickets at [Jazz Night](#) - flier is also enclosed.

Future Events on the Radar:

- Copper Pipe Sweating group art project – Either 2/25/24 or 3/3/24 – folks will learn how to sweat pipe
- Possibly a mapling session in early March (I'm trying to get a list of folks who have sugar maple trees on their property and would be interested in tapping)
- Lawn Mower Repair workshop (with local expert lawn mower repair man “Rolley” who has lawnmower parts in his blood) – Some time in mid March. Bring your mowers and tools.

- Garden Group walk – early April
 - Laying Chicken raising series (start in mid April with little chicks)
 - Honey making/Bee Keeping 101 with Neil Schaffer – this would be sometime mid spring – I would need to provide him with an RSVP a couple weeks in advance
 - Clay recovery as 1st workshop in the “Ground to Table” series – some time in early May
- **If you have a skill which you would like to share with the group, please let me know and we can plan a date.**

Seed Bank:

The very next day after the garden walk, April inherited many seeds from her lab and has graciously offered to give seeds to the group. Just so everyone understands, when April says many seeds, she means A LOT of seeds:

1 lb of yellow zinnia, 1 lb of amaranth, 3 lbs of carrot (4 varieties, Danvers, scarlet nantes, tendersweet, imperator), 2lbs of Utah tall celery, 1lb daikon radish, 1lb cherry Belle radish, 1lb of cilantro, 1/4 lb hamburg rooted parsley, 1lb giant Italian parsley, 1lb curly parsley, 1/4 lb red creole onion, 1/4 lb each regular and garlic chives, 1/4 lb bouquet dill, 1/4 lb blue curled scotch kale, 1 lb Copenhagen market cabbage, 1lb golden acre cabbage, 1 oz bibb lettuce, about 1/4 oz catnip... and there is almost a full pound of broccoli microgreens (cultivar name is agnostic which made me LOL) which will be great for microgreens workshop.

If anyone is interested, let me know and I will coordinate with April for a way you guys can get them.

Thank Earth Website:

So guys, this is a work in progress and is definitely still in construction however there are some decent things there so far:

- Workshop summaries
 - Event dates
 - Chat room (old school) where we can all discuss and communicate - [Chat Room](#)
 - [\[thankearth.org\]](#) - You will need to create an account/sign on to the site in order to participate in the chat.
 - More on the way – just need to get some things in order
- [Thank Earth Site \[thankearth.org\]](#)

Thank you and Thank Earth!