



# THE SHIMMERING SOUNDS FOUNDATION

## 2015 Annual Report

### **Board of Directors**

Jeannie Busalacchi

Bob Mandich

Leigh Ann Phillips, Executive Director

### **Staff**

Scott Schumacher, Virtual Assistant

Renee Thonhoff, Accounting Consultant

# 2015 - Greetings from Makaha - The Gateway to the Sun

*“Simplicity, patience, compassion.*

*These three are your greatest treasures.*

*Simple in actions and thoughts, you return to the source of being.*

*Patient with both friends and enemies,*

*you accord with the way things are.*

*Compassionate toward yourself,*

*you reconcile all beings in the world.”*

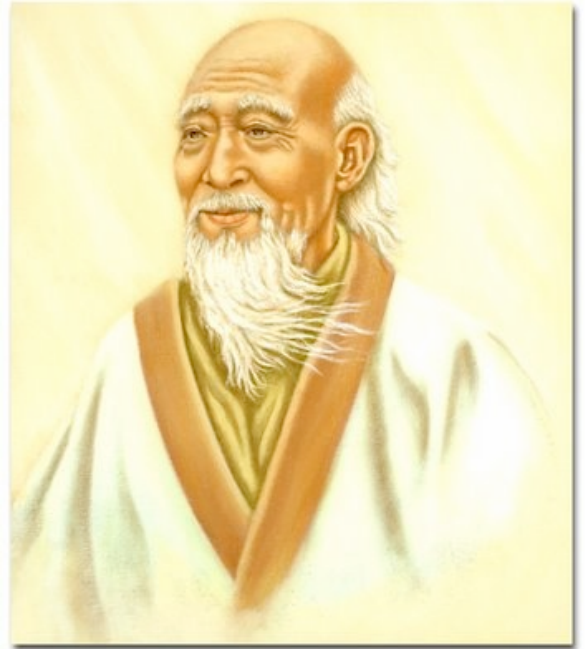
– [Lao Tzu, Tao Te Ching](#)

Dear Friends of the Shimmering Sounds Foundation,

In these times, I have taken this poignant quote straight to the flame within my heart. I can still feel the gentle sting of the etheric arrow.

So many people are leaving the planet these days. There is a visible wave of souls that are choosing to complete their mission on Earth. If one read the news daily, it would appear there is darkness that is leaving a noticeable shadow. Darkness is not always the absence of light. At the same time, I feel the greatest potential for good that I ever have. That is what I would like to share with you today.

Personally, my husband, Robert, and I have been through rounds of letting go and starting over. My husband and I love Colorado, and we still have the Dragon House Sound Sanctuary in Crestone, just east of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains in the San Luis Valley. However, we felt a strong pull to move to Hawaii, where Robert had lived for 20 years before we met. This was in 2012, where we landed in Honolulu to make it easier to meet the community. However, after almost three years of living near Diamond Head, we were wanting more space for ourselves, as well as for the sound.



So we packed our bags, and drove the 50 minutes to Makaha, Oahu, with our beloved 21-year-old cat, Princess. (She also enjoys the sounds of the bowls). And yes, we packed a lot of bowls with us!

The word, “Makaha” means, Gateway to the Sun.” This is where the fiercest warriors have resided in the islands, and that reputation still carries to these western waters. We really felt called to be here. It helps to have my best friend on island down the street, along with her husband, who has been life-long friends with my husband. We leaped, took a chance, and purchased an acre of land in Makaha Valley. We have planted dozens of palm trees, avocado trees, and even a Dragon Tree. All are thriving, growing and strong. I share this, because this is where my architect husband and I plan on building a small house, and a sound temple that can host people for workshops, ceremony and musical gatherings. We feel, after more moves than I can count, that we have come home to Makaha. It has been fun to watch Robert design and redesign our dream. What he is rendering does not have a lot of straight lines. There is much sacred geometry that is coming into play. It has been fun watching him be in the creative driver’s seat.

In the meantime, there are still sounds emanating from the Dragon House. Nate Scarritt and his amazing Sound Chamber are still there in Crestone, where he does research as well as private sessions with his Egyptian-style sound chamber, assisting people in raising consciousness and wellness through sound and vibration. You can find Nate on Facebook.

With the move to a new area once again, The Shimmering Sounds Foundation has a new shingle up, right on the ocean. I was given the blessing of being able to steward a sweet “sound shanty by the sea” where the bowls are set up for workshops and teaching private students. I am taking a



break from doing private sound healing sessions while I work on my book on sound healing and the connection to the Living Soul. My intention is to finish this book this year, and continue working with larger and larger groups. After giving a talk and playing the bowls to 400 people in Singapore last year, I can feel that is the direction to continue moving in. Still, The Sound Shanty is a sweet blessing, as this is the first time I have been able to consistently hear the primordial sounds of the ocean as I am playing the bowls and singing for students and groups. It is a profound gift. I had a lot of fun fixing up the place with beautiful glass vintage cabinets from Taiwan, as well as Tibetan silk paintings, and of course lots of gemstone mandala bowls.

Besides moving and setting up shop, we also decided to meet our new community. The Foundation gifted over 50 John of God crystal bed sessions, as well as donated sound healing sessions and group work on island as well as internationally. Since we were the new kid on the block, it felt important to get to know our neighbors and share the sound locally. This included playing the

bowls for the homeless in Honolulu, and sharing the sound at key events for the nonprofit, The Women of Waianae. This dynamic group of women raises scholarship funds for women who have struggled to get ahead in life, but have the heart and will to do what it takes to create living dreams. We also donated sound at local hospitals, hospices, as well as working with people on the healing journey with cancer.

We also took the sound to Asia. I have been humbled over and over again by how much I learn when I have the honor of sharing the sound in other countries. This past year, the sound took us to China, Singapore and Malaysia. Each country was a jewel of connection, and each very different. In Singapore I performed with the bowls in front of the Minister of Culture. It was a joy to have him experience this for the first time. You could tell from his expression he was intrigued. The Shimmering Sounds Foundation joined forces with a local nonprofit, giving sound healing sessions for people healing from cancer, as well as donating teaching time in Malaysia with another nonprofit organization.

The one story I would like to share with you was my journey to a Zen Buddhist monastery, working with the sweetest group of nuns and “Dharma Protectors.”

Dharma Protectors are the people that physically care for the temple, donating their time, money, flowers, or moral support. Without these people, there would be no way to run the monastery on the funds given to them by the Chinese government. This particular monastery was over a thousand years old, and had been through several rounds of destruction through war and revolution, and then rebuilt after each cycle. There was one original pagoda, wrapped in iron fence, that was still standing. This place felt surreal as it was so ancient and yet vibrant with the life of the nuns and Dharma Protectors. This was a real deal monastery, where the nuns would chant and drum at four in the morning. The last time it had been through a resurrection was after the Revolution, which was still fresh in the people’s hearts through what appeared to be old trauma. This place struck me so strongly, like waking up from a lucid dream. Somehow I knew this place, and wanted to give back. Some of the nuns there felt like long lost sisters. I was not alone in this recognition. When it was time to say goodbye in 2014, some of the nuns, speaking Mandarin loudly to me, in hopes if they spoke in a grander volume, with tears gliding down their cheeks, that I would understand more clearly. And so, from a series of dreams of the place, I felt compelled to come back. Well, this time, I did understand more. I still could not speak much, but it was much easier to understand what people were saying. The dreams centered around a particular nun, who I had met in 2014. It felt like she was reaching out to me for support.



These images stayed strong; strong enough to make the journey to what almost felt like home.

And so it was, less than 24 hours after arriving at the retreat center in Shaoxing, my faithful friend and translator, Rita Chao, and Zhiyi, a student of Zen Buddhism and now my dear friend, drove Rita and I the three hours to the remote monastery. The last time people were lined up outside, waiting for us. This time some of the nuns were visiting families because it was a national holiday. It was a smaller group, but still grateful and enthusiastic to receive us. With smiles on their faces, and bowing, we were ushered into the majestic tea room, decorated with rosewood furniture. The tea room has the most exquisite Kwan Yin statue I have ever seen. She is so precious that she is in a glass case, even though she is a few feet tall, colors and gold streaming through the light of the glass. I was given two large decorated boxes filled with flower medicinal tea. This tea was so special it came with a golden scroll in Mandarin, explaining the origin of the tea. Some day I hope to be able to read it.

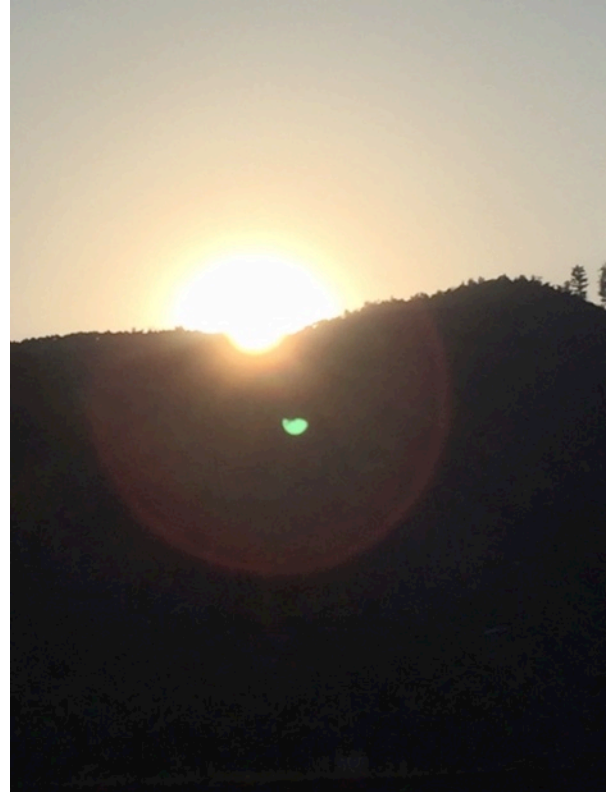
We were then escorted to the kitchen where I sang a greeting song to the kitchen staff. China is kind of a serious place, so I found part of my job was to sing and even dance a little, to bring a bit of life and joy when I could. That is part of the sound, to support joy in life!

We had a scrumptious supper of noodles, rice, vegetables from their organic garden, and homemade organic tofu. Organic food is considered a treasure in China. I had to watch that the Dharma Protectors did not put too much food on my plate. In China, each grain of rice is considered precious, and it is important etiquette to eat every single grain of rice and piece of vegetable on your plate. That can put on a pretty pound if others are scooping lots of food into your bowl, as is the custom to greet guests in China!

And so the sun set glorious golds and reds over the thousand-year-old pagoda. Shades of pink fell from the sky, speckling light across the courtyard. It was the first sunset I had seen since leaving Hawaii. Gorgeous and rich, as it faded to night, we set up the bowls for the sound healing circle on the third floor of the women's dormitory, up in a large room that only housed an antique Chinese daybed for meditation. Working with nuns is fascinating. Some of them have never had their feet touched or rubbed, so placing bowls on them is a big deal. It is considered full-on touch. In China, people automatically help and work in groups, so before I could say "xie xie" the room was ready to go. There were crimson pillows on the wooden floor, and a comfortable makeshift bed in the middle. I brought tingshaws, faery bells (which the nuns loved so much I left one for them) as well as tuning forks and about seven crystal mandala bowls that I nested into one case. I also brought three Tibetan brass bowls. One of them, a very old one



that was gifted to me, wanted to stay with them. The monastery had an exquisite Japanese Rin bowl in the main Meditation Hall, but they did not have a brass bowl. It was clear they needed that bowl to stay with them. And so it did. After twilight, the circle began. Each nun and Dharma Protector had an opportunity to be in the center of the circle, lie down, let go and receive the sound, filling their physical body with physical vibration. The nun that I saw in the dream-time, who was the catalyst for me coming back, took her turn. She laid down and we covered her with a warm blanket. I placed my hand on her shoulder, and said in English, what a beautiful soul she was. Even though she did not understand English, she could feel the energy current in my voice. At that point, tears started streaming down her face. She started to sob. She started to let go. The entire room was silent. In that one long second of a moment, I realized that this is why I had come back to this ancient monastery. It was for the connection, to dance within the singing waves of sound, where language is not needed, and the space between the notes is where we exist.



I share this poignant moment with you, for this is truly my passion, for people to feel so connected to one another, which allows the ease of connecting with the natural world, that we let go of the illusion that we are separate. The more people can engage in the higher emotional states of love, joy, passion and compassion, the easier it is to fulfill the life. The lower emotional states of chaos, pain and suffering are what many are expecting and are used to in the daily life. I shared the Lao Tzu quote for this very purpose. It is in the simplicity that we find many answers, and many solutions. Being in the body, and in the moment, allows for all possibilities. My wish for 2016 is that the sound continues to be a catalyst for the evolution of the Soul, that sound allows body, mind and spirit to integrate. As above, so below. I truly love music, sound and vibration. It probably saved my life as a child. As so in the spirit of healing, connection, growth, and the expansion of consciousness, I am inviting each of you to be a part of the dance we are creating. An organization is the soul of a group of like-minded people that want to make a difference in the world. Contrary to popular belief, a small group of people can make a significant difference. This is my wish and intention. Each day I do a little bit to make that dream possible. Last year it took the Foundation to the Orient. This year we have been invited back, and of course, there is much to do at home. We look forward to both.

We, as an organization, have been shy about asking for donations. However, at this point, we are open to receiving anything you would like to donate that can help move this mission forward, whether it is time, money, or even sound healing tools. As a 501C3, we can give you a tax-

deductible receipt for your kindness. Though I will be focusing inward for the first half of the year as I work on my book on sound, we encourage people interested in investing in the sound to come forward. There is much to do.

The Foundation's intention is multifold. We envision more people signing up as active members, benefitting from us knowing who you are, so we can refer you work in your area. There are more benefits you can read about on our website under membership. However, for now, know we are excited about 2016, how we can serve you, and how you, if you choose to accept this mission, can raise the vibration of the planet, through sound, music and vibration.

Mahalo e nui loa  
Aloha e nui loa,

*Leigh Ann Phillips*

### ***2015 Financial Report***

The Shimmering Sounds Foundation is a Colorado registered non-profit organization in the United States. Our tax ID number with the IRS is 45-2076948. We are a federally recognized 501(c)3 tax exempt organization.

The Shimmering Sounds Foundation filed its 2015 form 990-N Postcard tax filing on February 4, 2016 - Tax Submission ID: 7800582016035k415103

As a small 501c3 nonprofit organization, The Shimmering Sounds Foundation receives less than \$50,000 in annual contributions.

If you are a donor or member in good standing with The Shimmering Sounds Foundation, you may request a full 2015 financial report by written request with attention to:

Leigh Ann Phillips, Executive Director  
The Shimmering Sounds Foundation  
PO Box 761  
Crestone, CO 81131

## ***2015 Outreach and Activities Summary***

*The following activities were conducted by board members and volunteers as a contribution to the efforts of The Shimmering Sounds Foundation in 2015. Though not a complete listing, collectively, our board, members, and volunteers complete hundreds of hours each year in support of the mission of The Shimmering Sounds Foundation. Through our own exploration of the diverse applications of sound and vibrational healing, it is our hope and passion to inspire practitioners and individuals to discover their own applications and integrations of sound in their own healing practices.*

**Over 50 free John of God Crystal Bed sessions were donated.  
(average of 1 per week in Honolulu, Hawaii)**

**Several introductory workshops donated to The Women of Waiane (Waiane, HI)**

**50+ sound healing sessions donated to individuals in hospitals, hospice, and to those homeless in Honolulu, HI**

**Outreach travel by Leigh Ann Phillips to China, Malaysia, and Singapore - sharing sound healing workshops, individual sessions, and sound healing performances.**



# *The Shimmering Sounds Foundation*

## *Our Mission:*

- *To merge music, sound, and vibration to open perceptual doors, allowing for a marriage between logic and intuition, permeating the boundaries of the unconscious heart.*
- *To advance the research, education, performance, and practical application of music, sound, and vibration as a complimentary therapeutic modality - to bring about a passion for life, beauty, well being, peace, and promise to all people and to the Earth.*

## *Our Board of Directors and Staff:*

Robert Mandich, Board Member  
Leigh Ann Phillips, Executive Director  
Jeannie Busalacchi, Board Member

Scott Schumacher, Virtual Assistant  
Renee Thonhoff, Accounting Consultant