

2016

WOYP Press Release

## The 13th Annual World on Your Plate Food and Sustainable Living Conference

Friday and Saturday, October 7 & 8, 2016

Daemen College, Wick Campus Center, 4380 Main St, Amherst, NY 14226

This October, World on Your Plate will be celebrating its 13th annual conference, once again hosted by Daemen College. We look forward to an eventful weekend surrounding the many food-related issues from soil quality to food's impact on our individual bodies as well as the entire earth. Many workshops, vendors, informational tables and entertainment are planned.

Friday Evening promises to be an exciting adventure into the future of organics in NYS. A light dinner will be served at 5 pm followed by the program. Elizabeth Henderson and Liana Hoodes of the Northeast Organic Farmers Association-NY (NOFA-NY) will lead a roundtable on NY Organic Action Plan (NYOAP) (<https://www.nofany.org/take-action/new-york-organic-action-plan>). NYOAP's goal is to develop an action plan for a food and farming system that is socially just, environmentally resilient, and ripe with economic opportunities. Prior to the roundtable, we will hold a panel discussion with a farmer (Jim Bittner, owner of Bittner-Singer Farms), grocer (Tim Bartlett, General Manager of Lexington Coop), school-lunch representative (Bridget O'Brien-Wood, Buffalo Public School Director of Food Service), farmers' market representative (Erwin Rakoczy, board member of Clarence Hollow Farmer's Market), Ken Parker (Food is Our Medicine, Healthy First Nations) and Leonel Rosario of Mariachi D'Oro Mexican Grill representing farm workers. The panel will be facilitated by Tom Szulist of Singer Farms Naturals. The panel discussion will give the rest of us a better idea of all that is involved from farm to table. What sometimes appears to be an easy solution to the outsider turns out to be rather complicated. This will provide a variety of perspectives. If you have an interest in the production of organic food, this is the place to be!

We are very excited with this year's featured Saturday speakers.

- Petra Page-Mann, farmer & co-founder of Fruition Seeds, will present the morning keynote: **"Resilient Seeds in a Changing Climate"** (<http://www.fruitionseeds.com/category-s/1843.htm>). The topic of saving seeds is of particular importance today as agribusiness is gobbling up patents on seeds, adding snippets of genetic material to existing seeds, and generally taking away our inherent right and ability to save seeds, thereby also greatly diminishing our biodiversity.
- Frances Moore Lappe will present our afternoon keynote address: **"The Solutions on Your Plate"**. She also spoke at our 2006 conference, and we are delighted to have her speak once again. Her recent books include: *Democracy's Edge*, *Getting a Grip*, *EcoMind*, and, most recently, *World Hunger: 10 Myths*. Currently, she is at work on a new book with Small Planet Institute Fellow Adam Eichen on Living Democracy, under the working title, *The Thrill of Democracy*.

Registration: Friday Evening: \$10 preregistered, \$15 at the door

Friday and Saturday or Saturday Only: \$35 at the door, \$30 pre-registered, all preregistered students (with id) are free - this includes school aged children and college students. Financial assistance is available.

For more information: [www.worldonyourplate.org](http://www.worldonyourplate.org), [info@worldonyourplate.org](mailto:info@worldonyourplate.org), or 716-741-8815. Written correspondence and checks can be sent to WOYP, in care of Riverside-Salem UCC, POB 207, Grand Island, NY 14072.

### WOYP Mission Statement

- To restore the earth by promoting sustainability for farmers, farm workers & consumers;
- To advance education and action on issues of food safety, security, and sovereignty; and
- To create a table where all are welcome.

This is the International Year of the Pulses (dried legumes)! Come join the fun, browse, learn a lot, eat well and enjoy good company & networking! We look forward to seeing you there!