Foundation Focus

The Krishnamurti Foundation of America
including Oak Grove School and the Krishnamurti Educational Center

Understanding Ourselves

Most of us do not want freedom inwardly, in the deep sense of that word, because it implies that we must stand completely alone, without a guide, without a system, without following any authority; and that requires enormous order within oneself. Most of us want to lean on somebody, and if it's not a person then it's an idea, a belief, a way of conduct, a pattern established by society or by some leader or so-called spiritual person...

A man who seeks truth has no authority of any kind, at any time, and this freedom from authority is one of the most difficult things for most of us to grasp, not only in the Western world but also in the East, because we think that somebody else will bring about order in our life—a savior, a master, a spiritual teacher—which is absolutely absurd. It is only through our own clarity, through our own investigation, awareness, attention, that we begin to learn all about ourselves; and out of that learning, out of that understanding of ourselves, come freedom and order.

– J. Krishnamurti

From Insights into Education, to be published in November

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Executive Director

Let me begin by thanking all our donors for supporting us so generously this past year. It is your support that makes the work of the foundation possible.

For the coming fiscal year we are preparing various projects. We have two new publications ready for print centered on education: the second volume of *Unconditioning and Education* and *Insights Into Education*. You will find an article about the latter title in this issue of the Foundation Focus. We at the KFA feel a great urgency to communicate Krishnamurti’s vision of a different kind of education to the world at large.

Our archives department is planning a major update of the data servers. This update is long overdue and involves the movement of hundreds of Terabytes of data.

With the assistance of several architects and consultants, we are formulating in detail our plans for an improved Educational Center campus, an important part of which is constructing a commercial kitchen that will allow us to prepare meals for guests and workshop participants. This project also includes expanding the accommodations for residential students and staff, plus building a facility to collect rain water.

Internet and social media are increasingly important in our efforts to disseminate Krishnamurti’s teachings. To a large degree we aim these endeavors towards the newer generations unfamiliar with Krishnamurti. Those of you who follow our social media efforts can expect several new initiatives in the coming months, which may coincide with the planned launch of the new jkrishnamurti.org website in October.

Jaap Sluijter
Executive Director

Head of School

In my first year as head of school I’ve been struck by many moments that show what is possible here in this remarkable place. Our school asks its students to cultivate awareness, flower in goodness, and awaken intelligence. These were all qualities abundantly on display during our recent graduating seniors’ transition activities.

Our school’s founder, Jiddu Krishnamurti, wrote, “Understanding comes only through self-knowledge, which is awareness of one’s total psychological process. Thus education, in the true sense, is the understanding of oneself, for it is within each one of us that the whole of existence is gathered.” This notion of understanding oneself is a core focus during the senior transition process.

The highlight of that transition process is the Gateway presentation, where seniors reflect on their time and learning at Oak Grove. Listening to them, I was struck by how confident, unafraid, funny, genuine, honest and vulnerable our students were. It occurred to me that all of them, in their unique ways, had that sense of inward freedom Krishnamurti pointed to… the freedom that comes from understanding oneself.

The way I see it, Oak Grove is a human, deeply human place, with its flaws and quirks, where students are surrounded by a community of colorful people who make them feel known and cared for, and give them the sense that they matter. A school that inspires students to discover what they are passionate about, that invites them to reflect on how to give meaning to their lives and to impact the world, and that urges them to find a measure of freedom within.

It’s been a rich and wonderful first year at this remarkable school that dares to ask the impossible questions. I invite you to watch our graduating senior speeches on our blog: www.oakgroveschool.org/blog.

Willem Zwart
Head of School
An account on how a manual, meant for teachers at Krishnamurti schools, became a very compelling collection of Krishnamurti quotes on education, to be published in November in book format as *Insights into Education*.

The story begins in January 2005. A new project had been initiated at Valley School, Bangalore, and I was keen to find out what it was all about. I knew for a fact, because she told me herself, that as far back as the 1970s Krishnaji had asked Ahalya Chari, an eminent Indian educator and later principal of the Rajghat Besant School, to start a Residential Teacher Training Program. It looked as though it was about to happen.

Two experienced teachers from Rishi Valley, Alok Mathur and his wife Chandrika, had taken on the task of developing the project. Also involved, though at some distance, was the Director of the Valley School, Dr. Satish Inamdar, and, more closely, Kabir Jaithirta, living on campus with a group of post-school students in what was, in effect, a *gurukula*. It was thus always intended to be a shared endeavor, building on the experience of several educators and requiring, at all times, that we “think together”. Having been one of a team of teachers at Brockwood for whom this element was absolutely vital, I was aware of its potential and eager to participate.

We had in mind a residential program lasting roughly ten months and aimed primarily at young graduates. We had grand schemes for implementing the program: a conference to be held later in the year; a library of all Krishnamurti books on education as well as those of alternative educators such as Ivan Illich and A.S. Neill; provision for a pedagogical dialogue so that the participants themselves helped generate the content—an other way of using the thinking-together “tool”—and did not feel they were being lectured at.

We wrote to teachers in the Indian Krishnamurti schools, inviting them to submit a paper which proposed an inquiry-based approach to their subject—not just the facts of biology, for instance, but what is biology? (bios = life).

One fine morning we put our heads together—Alok, Chandrika, Kabir and I—and asked, what would a trainee teacher need to read in order to acquaint themselves with the basics of the teachings? We considered two levels of engagement: that of the teacher with the students, and that of the teachers with each other. These were known, respectively, as the *Dialogue* and the *Metadialogue on Education*. It was decided to publish the whole text as the *Teacher Education Manual*.

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The original cast of characters fades and 2005 seems a long time ago. The sole surviving brain-child of that time, intended as an in-house document, has now come of age as a publication and is ready to go forth not just to Krishnamurti schools, but to educators everywhere.

"*Insights into Education is a vigorous, challenging tour de force comprising most, if not all, of Krishnamurti’s teachings on what lay closest to his heart: education.*"

It does not now, nor did it ever, purport to be a comprehensive selection from the teachings. The criterion of the “ACKI think tank” was its applicability to the teaching/learning situation; like any manual, or handbook, it is made for task. It is also intended to stimulate inquiry, and the selections were made with this in mind. There may, for example, be more eloquent, and certainly more lengthy, *exposés* on freedom, but the point is to challenge, to get the readers launched on their own journey of self-understanding.

In light of this, it is perhaps ironic that the manual has now become a book, because a book is naturally a more finished kind of thing. What now appears as *Insights into Education* is a vigorous, challenging *tour de force* comprising most, if not all, of Krishnamurti’s teachings on what lay closest to his heart: education.

*Insights into Education* will be published in November this year.
The Grove

The Drought
by Michael Inaba  |  Arborist

The Oak Grove, which is sometimes called The Grove, is adjacent to the Oak Grove School, and is the place where Krishnamurti had given public talks from 1923 until 1985.

From the book Knocking at the Open Door by Mark Lee: “He [Krishnamurti, 1979] said, in effect, it was sacred land and needed protection from animals (horses and dogs) and should not be used by the school students as a playground. He then asked: ‘What can we do to protect this sacred place?’ Not waiting for an answer, he went on to say: ‘We should put up a fence around the grove as soon as possible, a fence that would last hundreds of years; a fence that could be seen through but wouldn’t allow dogs to wander there.’ He ruled out chain-link fencing and a stone wall, both very common in the Ojai Valley. We decided that it would be best if he could walk the land with us and together we could decide the parameters. We agreed to meet that afternoon at 4 pm in the grove and pace out the limits of the fence. I took a dozen rose stakes with orange ties and a hammer and met Krishnamurti and Theo Lilliefelt at the appointed time.

Krishnamurti began to stride around the perimeter of the grove in a most unusual fashion. He took long steps and darted among the trees. Some trees he pondered over and included them inside and others he purposefully passed as being outside. I hurried along with the stakes and saw no rhyme or reason for his selections. Clearly, twelve stakes were not enough so I was reduced to tying orange ribbons on the trees that were inside the fence limits. At the end, back near the cars parked on Besant Road, Krishnamurti asked how soon I could put up the fence. I didn’t want to sound negative but I had to tell him we had no money for erecting such a fence, which would be more than 1000 feet in length. He shrugged his shoulders and said: ‘Well, let’s raise the money as soon as we can.’ On that note, we left.”

This upcoming year, 37 years after Krishnamurti talked about this, we are planning to build the new fence to replace the temporary fence that was put down at the time.

The New Fence
by Mark Lee  |  Trustee

Last year’s Spring issue presented the topic of unprecedented drought, and how it might affect management of The Grove and neighboring properties. While we prepared for potential flooding and storm related damage, the El Niño didn’t bring the rainfall we hoped for. We received roughly half of the average annual rainfall this past winter. Locally we remain in Stage D4 (Exceptional Drought).

Around the Ojai Valley, some trees are performing well while others are dying back. While drought impacts are greatly reduced in the northern parts of California, locally we’ve never seen this scale of oak woodland decline. By conservative projections, we have not yet seen the worst of it. This unprecedented drought requires cool heads and commitment to meet the challenges of continued environmental change. The dramatic woodland decline is, at first, shocking, especially for those who care deeply for memories of The Grove as it was. But The Grove will continue to adapt. The fear that it will completely die out is unfounded, even though more trees are likely to be lost.

I won’t deny that we’re very limited in what we can do to curb tree loss. We’re also facing the threat of new exotic pests. But what we’ve seen in every case to date: These natural forces affect most, but not all trees. Some affect many species, but not equally. While ecology will change dramatically, it continues to seek a “dynamic equilibrium”. Lately, that dynamic balance is unsettling. Rather than a “new normal”, we’re likely seeing a short lived and intense adjustment to changing climate and land use. This is an invitation to observe and record what was and what changed toward a better understanding.
Why Dialogue?

By Holly Johnson | Residential Student Coordinator

The weekend and weeklong programs at the Krishnamurti Foundation provide participants an opportunity to approach Krishnamurti’s teachings through the medium of dialogue. With the support of our community, dialogues are held year-round with staff, students and visitors throughout the campus in Pine Cottage, the Events Pavilion and the Archives Building.

As a staff member of the Krishnamurti Foundation, I have the good fortune of being able to dialogue weekly. I was first introduced to dialogue in 2001 at the Oak Grove School. It felt natural, somehow, to sit with people I’d just met and begin to look at what Krishnamurti was speaking about.

“**Our thoughts, when held up to the light of inquiry, are revealed for what they are: fragments mistakenly taken for the whole.**"

Previously, listening to and reading Krishnamurti was something I’d done alone. Exploring his teachings in this format was inspirational. Listening to others question their assumptions and beliefs provided an opportunity for me to do the same.

Much has been written on what dialogue is and is not. When asking other participants their understanding of dialogue, it has been described as, “When everything you say is a new perception. The benefit of looking together is that it allows things we wouldn’t normally see to be revealed.” It’s also been pointed out to me that it is one thing to have read Krishnamurti’s works or listened to his talks, it is quite another thing to experience that to which his words are pointing. What does it mean, to have an experience of the teachings? To move into a space beyond thinking, beyond concepts? When we follow the pointing, as it were, when we see thought in operation, it can be quite illuminating to experience for oneself. Our thoughts, when held up to the light of inquiry, are revealed for what they are: fragments mistakenly taken for the whole.

So, why dialogue? Could one benefit equally from sitting alone with the teachings? And what does it mean to be a light unto oneself? Does being a light unto oneself imply that we go it alone? Is it possible that a group of people, with a shared intent, could affect change beyond what could be registered at the level of the individual? David Bohm explores this possibility when he says this about dialogue:

“Now, you could say that our ordinary thought in society is incoherent - it is going in all sorts of directions, with thoughts conflicting and cancelling each other out. But if people were to think together in a coherent way, it would have tremendous power. That’s the suggestion. If we have a dialogue situation - a group which has sustained dialogue for quite a while in which people get to know each other, and so on - then we might have such a coherent movement of thought, a coherent movement of communication. It would be coherent not only at the level we recognise, but at the tacit level, at the level for which we have only a vague feeling...Thought is emerging from the tacit ground, and any fundamental change in thought will come from the tacit ground. So if we are communicating at the tacit level, then maybe thought is changing.”

You may have sat in dialogue circle several times. Or you may be new to exploring what dialogue offers. For those of us who have been at it awhile, is it possible to meet something familiar to us with fresh ears and fresh eyes? Are the questions we ask, of ourselves and each other, driven by a need to find a resting point, a ground on which to stand? And do we find ourselves willing to defend this ground at all cost? These questions and more continue to present themselves. Dialogue then extends beyond the circle we create when we sit together. It becomes an engagement with life that is all encompassing.

To find out more about upcoming dialogues hosted by the Krishnamurti Foundation of America, visit our website at [www.kfa.org/events-calendar](http://www.kfa.org/events-calendar)
Recurring Events at KEC

Weekly Dialogue
Every Tuesday, 7:00-8:30 PM
This free weekly dialogue event consists of a brief introductory presentation of Krishnamurti material – textual, audio or video – followed by dialogue exploring the questions raised.

Monthly Video / Dialogue:
Looking, Listening, and Shared Inquiry
4th Saturday of every month, 6:00-10:00 PM
This free program starts with a video of Krishnamurti, then seeks to explore the topic of the video via the medium of dialogue.

Exact dates online: www.kfa.org/recurring

Study-Intensive Retreats
These unique 7-day programs, offered three times per year (January, April and August) are designed to provide an opportunity for a deeply immersive study of the life-changing teachings of J. Krishnamurti, within a nurturing atmosphere of encouragement, affection and support.

August / September / October

- Yoga & Inquiry Retreat: Direct Engagement with Life through Self-Inquiry
  August 5 - 7, Friday - Sunday (2 days)
  Program Fee: $165 / Room Fee: $165

- Study Intensive & Retreat: Aloneness & Solitude - A Life Lived in Wholeness
  August 21 - 28, Sunday - Sunday (7 days)
  Program Fee: $750 / Room Fee: $575

- In-Depth Study Program: Science & Self-Inquiry
  September 19 - 24, Monday - Friday 2:30 - 5:30 PM (5 days, meals not included)
  Program Fee: $100 / Room Fee: $330

- Explorations Into Freedom Intensive: Death & Rebirth Beyond Time
  October 9 - 16, Sunday - Sunday (7 days)
  Program Fee: $750 / Room Fee: $575

November / December / January

- Weekend Retreat: How Is Radical Change to Be Brought About?
  November 4 - 6, Friday - Sunday (2 days)
  Program Fee: $165 / Room Fee: $165

- Oak Grove School Open House and All-School Showcase
  November 5, Saturday, 1:00 - 4:00 PM
  Free Event

- Weekend Retreat: Death – Looking Together Into the Unknown
  December 2 - 4, Friday - Sunday (2 days)
  Program Fee: $165 / Room Fee: $165

- Oak Grove High School Showcase
  December 9, Friday, 7:00 - 9:00PM
  Free Event

- Study Intensive and Retreat: Change that Cannot be Sought
  January 6 - 13, Friday - Friday (7 days)
  Program Fee: $750 / Room Fee: $575

- Yoga and Inquiry Retreat
  January 27 - 29, Friday - Sunday (2 days)
  Program Fee: $165 / Room Fee: $165

India Night
For the past 20 years, Oak Grove seniors have spent the end of December and the majority of January visiting sister schools in India as well as traveling to cities and rural communities. Students present their experience during this evening of community and inspiration.

Teacher Education Program
Starting with the questions that we grapple with in our daily lives as educators, this 7-day program, offered each July, builds on the insights participants come to from their own inward looking and shared inquiry during the program. We shift from seeking answers to finding key questions that transform the way we see (and respond to) our educational challenges. By uncovering the underlying values of teaching and learning, we re-envision school, classroom and other learning environments. In re-orienting the act of teaching to one of learning, we awaken the craft of teaching.

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Annual Gathering
We invite you to our Annual Gathering at the KEC. Friends both local and from around the world come to listen to speakers, participate in discussions and dialogues, attend workshops, and connect with friends old and new. Several talks and workshops occur at the same time, offering playful choices, as well as events more scholarly in nature.

The program takes place on Saturday and Sunday, with lunch available for purchase both days at the KEC campus. No charge to attend, no reservation necessary.

Explorations Conference
This 3-day conference occurs the weekend before the May Gathering. The intent of the event is to bring together a panel of scholars to delve into the various questions raised by Krishnamurti, from different angles and in new ways. The event starts on Thursday evening with an opening session, then continues all day Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Lunch is available for participants.

Study-Intensive Retreats
These unique 7-day programs, offered three times per year (January, April and August) are designed to provide an opportunity for a deeply immersive study of the life-changing teachings of J. Krishnamurti, within a nurturing atmosphere of encouragement, affection and support.
High School Showcase
The event features music performances by Oak Grove's high school, as well as the student paintings, photographs, installations, videos, and ceramics. Be a part of this celebration!

High School Graduation
What are the benefits of a Krishnamurti education? Hear from the graduating Oak Grove seniors themselves at this wonderful celebration.

Alumni Gathering
Reconnect with friends and family for this summer kick-off event at Oak Grove School. Current and former students, families, and staff are invited.

Open House and All-School Showcase
Discover the art of living and learning at Oak Grove School! View student work, enjoy performances, find out more about the progressive college-preparatory high school, boarding program, junior high, elementary, and early childhood programs.

February / March / April

- **Weekend Retreat: What's Love Got to Do with It, Actually**
  February 10 - 12, Friday - Sunday (2 days)
  Program Fee: $165 / Room Fee: $165

- **India Night at Oak Grove School**
  February 24, Friday, 7:00 - 9:00 PM
  Free Event

- **Weekend Retreat**
  March 3 - 5, Friday - Sunday (2 days)
  Program Fee: $165 / Room Fee: $165

- **Study Intensive and Retreat**
  April 2 - 9, Sunday - Sunday (7 days)
  Program Fee: $750 / Room Fee: $575

- **Explorations Conference**
  April 27 - 30, Thursday - Sunday (3 days)
  Program Fee: $225 OR $85 per day (lunch included)

May / June / July

- **Annual Gathering: Understanding Ourselves**
  May 6 - 7, Saturday & Sunday (2 days)
  Free Event / Lunch available for purchase

- **Oak Grove High School Showcase**
  May 26, Friday, 7:00 - 9:00PM
  Free Event

- **Oak Grove High School Graduation**
  June 7, Wednesday, 6:30 PM
  Free Event

- **Oak Grove School Alumni Gathering**
  June 10, Saturday, 11:30AM - 2:00PM
  Free Event

- **Explorations Into Freedom Intensive: A Glimpse into Total Freedom**
  June 18 - 25, Sunday - Sunday (7 days)
  Program Fee: $750 / Room Fee: $575

- **Teacher Education Program**
  **Re-envisioning Education, and the Craft of Teaching and Learning**
  July 16 - 23, Sunday - Sunday (7 days)
  Program Fee: $600 / Room Fee: $575

Explorations into Freedom Intensives
This 7-day intensive program, offered twice each year, is a new approach to working with Krishnamurti's teaching that emphasizes the transformational potential of direct seeing and listening. Through shared interactive dialogue, participants are encouraged to go beyond pre-conceived ideas in order to explore the potential of setting into motion dynamic, fresh perceptions, an 'aliveness' that can flush out previously unexamined resistances, fears and contradictions. This work will help to realize the possibility of sensing the energy of love that is beyond the conditioned mind.

Yoga and Inquiry Retreats
Participants explore the connection between mind, body and life, through yoga and dialogue. This is an opportunity to examine Krishnamurti's work through a fresh lens as one engages the body and brings the full self into inquiry.

Weekend Retreats
Weekend Retreats are for people eager to inquire into fundamental questions in an atmosphere of togetherness and openness. These events are suitable for those already acquainted with the teachings as well as those new to them. The events start on Friday evening and end on Sunday afternoon.

Communication Calendar
Monthly Email - news, events, quotes, publications and more.
Visit [www.kfa.org/signup](http://www.kfa.org/signup) to sign up.
Annual Report - August 2016
Annual Appeal – September 2016
Bulletin - November 2016
Foundation Focus - February 2017
Spring Appeal - March 2017

Study-Intensive Retreats
These unique 7-day programs, offered three times per year (January, April and August) are designed to provide an opportunity for a deeply immersive study of the life-changing teachings of J. Krishnamurti, within a nurturing atmosphere of encouragement, affection and support. During these programs, participants enter into exploratory, intensive and sensitive inquiries multiple times each day, and view videos of Krishnamurti's talks and dialogues.
Dr. Vandana Shiva Speaking at Oak Grove School’s Earth Day Gathering

- A private school with a public purpose

Working with three other non-profit partners in the Ojai Valley, last April Oak Grove hosted Ojai’s Earth Day celebration. 2,300 people were on site for the event. The gathering featured environmental presentations, food, free family activities, music, and great ideas for sustaining the natural beauty of our valley. Dr. Vandana Shiva was the keynote speaker. She started her speech talking about her experience with Rishi Valley School (which her son attended), and about Krishnamurti and K Schools in general. She spoke at length about the responsibility we all have for our planet and environment, and told the crowd, “I hope every one of you will become the solution in this hopeful time.”

Former Oak Grove parent, mountaineer, and advocate Rick Ridgeway (Vice-President for Environmental Affairs at Patagonia), introduced Dr. Shiva to the large crowd. To listen to the speeches please visit www.oakgroveschool.org/blog

2016 Graduating Class

- Freedom is in the beginning, not the end.

On Wednesday, June 8th, Oak Grove School honored the 2016 graduating class: Chloe Bassuk, Andrew Berkovitz, Alessandro Cardona, Li Han, Brooks Hope, Killian Hu, Jasmine Johnson, Avery Lopez, Catalina Niessen, Kiran Sahgal, Griffin Schraeder, Edward Sher, Piper Stump, Brody Swanner, Vid Yadav, and Lucia Zabilla. In their particular ways, each student is genuine, humorous, creative, and unafraid. During their trip to India, their campouts across the west, their music concerts, their in-depth discussions, and their commitment to service, this class shines with courage and compassion.

“Don’t waste your precious time here always seeking what’s coming next. Let the future come when it comes, but most importantly enjoy what is happening now,” says Griffin. “It’s a frequent occurrence to be uncomfortable here,” claims Chloe, “You get regularly challenged and it’s okay to be uncomfortable!” Li writes that “Once I stopped looking outside for security, and began to find it in myself, I then began real friendships.” Piper reflects that “My whole life before Oak Grove was a competition... a fight to get to the top. But here, I have learned to be the best that I can be, just for me. I discovered who I was here, with no need to hide.” We honor these young adults and are eager to see how their adventures unfold. View student speeches, keynote addresses, and more at www.oakgroveschool.org/blog

Providing access for more students

The Patagonia, Liana Fiedeler, and the Art of Relationship funded scholarships, along with general donor support, enabled Oak Grove to provide over $500,000 in financial aid in 2015 – 2016. Thank you for allowing us to offer this educational experience to families of all incomes.
Good morning. My name is Mark Lee. I was the first director of Oak Grove School. Once upon a time there was a sleepy little town nestled in the hills at the far edge of a big country. Its people were peace-loving and cared for the land where they grew fruit and food for their tables. They lived their lives in quite ordinary fashion until one day a man came to visit, and sitting under an oak tree, pointed out that underneath their calm and ordinary exteriors were many problems and issues they avoided. They were not paying attention to how their children behaved; they were not always kind to each other; they ate food that made them sick even though it tasted good; they couldn’t sleep well at night because of worry and confusion; and, most serious of all, they waited for someone to come to wake them up and tell them how to solve their problems, many of which they were not even aware of.

But here the tale becomes real and like all good tales there is a real live story behind the tale. That is what we are here today to celebrate—that real live story.

That visitor to this valley about 90 years ago, loved this place and settled here as an almost permanent guest. His name was Krishnamurti, but let us call him K for this morning. K came and went for many decades until he died here almost 30 years ago. Forty-three years ago K asked me, along with my wife, to start a school here in the Ojai Valley. We worked very hard for two years before the school opened: Interviewing teachers, and families, buying books and supplies, creating a curriculum, and getting the property ready for that big, special day when the first children would arrive.

On that first sunny and cool morning we all sat on the lawn of the house. I opened by telling the students the purpose of the school—that we were all there to learn—and I read a few lines on education from the founder K. It was all very simple and the morning was peaceful but exciting. After that three pine trees were planted in the garden.

The school grew slowly and in 1977 moved from the east end to this campus on Lomita, using this Pavilion, the first building on the land. We held classes under these oaks and ate lunch picnic style. When the middle school was built two years later we buried a time capsule in the foundation cement. It contains one treasure from each of the students at the time but is not to be opened for many years yet.

The Oak Grove School is not an institution, it is you, each and every one of you. I did not envision I would live long enough to see the school flower into the beautiful and intelligent people you are. Congratulations to all the students and staff over the 40 years, and the several Directors for this unique, beautiful, extraordinary, and profound learning place that is Oak Grove School.
These are excerpts from Professor Krishna’s presentation at this year’s May Gathering. Professor Krishna has been a long-term trustee of the Krishnamurti Foundation India, and also head of the Krishnamurti Rajghat School in Varanasi for many years. He has published a recent memoir, *A Jewel on a Silver Platter*.

Krishnamurti makes a rather startling statement in *Commentaries on Living*: that thinking cannot solve our problems. It’s startling because all over the world human beings are using thought as best as they can to find solutions to problems. We also know, both from history and through our newspapers and magazines, that there are perennial problems which we have not been able to solve. They are the creation of thought, but in spite of all of our knowledge, in spite of all of our expertise, our so-called intelligence of thought, we have not been able to solve them. Like the problem of religious division, the problem of national division, the problem of war, and now, more recently, that of terrorism…and so on. Apparently these kinds of problems are not amenable to the kind of intelligence we are cultivating in our schools, colleges and universities.

Krishnamurti talked of a different kind of intelligence, and we should inquire into what he meant by *intelligence*. He said, “There is no intelligence without compassion.” He didn’t accept what we normally call *intelligence* in society as intelligence at all. I want to investigate that statement, but I find that when I do that many people think that I’m interpreting Krishnamurti. There have been people who have said that to me about my book as well, because the second part of the book talks not about Krishnamurti the person, but about my own investigation of his teaching. I respect their view but I would like to take this opportunity to say that I’m not trying to interpret him and not claiming that I’m an authority on Krishnamurti.

“In illusions are not facts. They don’t have an actual existence in nature, they have existence only in our imagination.”

In this quest for truth, authority has no place whatsoever. Even in regards to Krishnamurti himself. If you make Krishnamurti into an authority, you won’t come upon the truth. You will come upon the knowledge of what he considered to be the truth. That’s not the same thing—because truth, as he himself pointed out, lies at the level of perception and not at the level of ideation. Ideation, knowledge, and the intelligence of thought do not transform consciousness, therefore they are not part of the religious quest. We use them as tools for communications…but thought is not a reliable instrument for the investigation into truth.

Illusions are not facts. They don’t have an actual existence in nature, they have existence only in our imagination. They are constructs of thought—thoughts which we may have received as propaganda, or as values from our culture, and so on—and we have accepted them as true. That is why thought is not a reliable instrument, and that is how I understand Krishnamurti’s statement that thinking cannot solve our deeper problems of life.

In a way, all thinking is based on assumptions, and you have not questioned those assumptions. Those assumptions may contain many things which are false, as assumptions often do. Then your thinking will be based on false assumptions, and therefore the thought goes wrong; it doesn’t take you towards the truth.

Watch the full Professor Krishna presentation online by visiting this link: [www.kfa.org/kfa-videos](http://www.kfa.org/kfa-videos)
Maintaining the Archives are an essential aspect of the Foundation’s mission. The intent is to preserve the work of Krishnamurti in unaltered form and to make it available around the world for many generations to come. Put simply, you could trace the process of the Archives and Publications work through three main initiatives: digitization, preservation, and dissemination. Below is a little update on these three activities, and our current progress with various projects.

Earlier this year we completed a large transcript printing project. Each verified transcript was printed on an archival quality paper and stored in a unique envelope for preservation in the core vault. Since then, we have moved on to a new project capturing missing elements of our audio recordings from a selection of cassette tapes of discussions that occurred in Ojai in 1970-1980.

The Archives are preparing for our next large digitization project. Before audio technologies were mainstream and available to record Krishnamurti’s talks, stenographers were present at the gatherings to record the talks by hand. These original records were not printed on archival quality paper, so it is important that we capture the information digitally in high-definition, to be able to transfer the information to an archival material. This work is a high priority, as these records are the only records for this period of Krishnamurti’s early talks. We are excited to be planning for this project and hope to begin later this year. With the number of records involved, we estimate that to complete this project will take a minimum of a year.

There still remains a large quantity of film materials in the Archives that are yet to be identified and digitized. Many of these materials are secondary footage, filmed during the creation of various large film projects. Some are talks and small discussions in Southern California, and others we have yet to identify clearly. Identifying, digitizing and preserving these film materials is also a high priority for the Archives.

The online Krishnamurti Publications catalog is currently being redesigned. This catalog is the portal for publishers, translators, and agents to access the various Krishnamurti titles that are available for translation and publication worldwide. Updating this catalog and the functionality of the website will make it easier for us to partner with publishers to continue to print Krishnamurti’s work throughout the world. Cory and Jaap will be attending the Book Fair in Beijing this August, and will be meeting with many of our publishing partners there to talk about upcoming translation work in China and around the world.
Foundation Focus

The Krishnamurti Foundation of America

including Oak Grove School and the Krishnamurti Educational Center