“The creator of time is the self, the consciousness of the ‘me’ and the ‘mine’: my property, my son, my power, my success, my experience, my immortality. The concern of the self over its own state creates time. The self is the cause of ignorance and sorrow, and its cause and effect is desire, the craving for power, wealth, fame. This self is unified by the will of desire, with its past memories, present resolutions, and future determinations. The future then becomes a form of lust, the present a passage to the future, and the past the driving motive. The self is a wheel within a wheel of pleasure and pain, enjoyment and grief, love and hate, ruthlessness and gentleness. These opposites are created for its own advantage, for its own gain, out of its own uncertainty. It is the cause of my birth, my death. Thought is held by the will of desire, by the will of self, but sorrow and pain begin their work of awakening thought; and if this awakening is not maintained, thought slips into comforting beliefs, into personal fantasies and hopes.

But if the slowly awakening thought begins to gently and patiently study the cause of sorrow and so begins to comprehend it, it will find that there is another will: the will of understanding. This will of understanding is not personal; it is of no country, of no people, of no religion. It is this will that opens the door to the eternal, to the timeless.

The study of the self is the beginning of right thinking—the self that is held in the will of desire. This self creates continuity by craving for immortality, but with it comes the everlastingness of sorrow, pain, and the conflict of the ‘me’ and the ‘mine’. There is no end to this save in the will of understanding, which alone dissolves the cause of sorrow.”

– J. Krishnamurti, *The World Within*
Dear Friends,

This Summer closes a busy fiscal year for the KFA. We have been reflecting on the past year, making plans for the coming year, and have finalized the 2014-15 budgets for all departments of the organization.

A lot of our efforts surround the functional aspects of our organization: archives, school, publications, the adult education center and outreach. At the same time, Krishnamurti challenged the foundation to be more than functional; sometimes he formulated this as “invite the highest” and other times as “ask the impossible”. This is where our learning exists as an organization: to be alive and sensitive in this balancing act between the functional aspects of our work and meeting this challenge. This learning extends to our personal lives, as well. The intent to “change human consciousness” appears so outlandish and far away that there is a constant risk of settling for the doable and achievable. In a meeting with a small group of trustees in 1981, Krishnamurti talked about the importance of inviting “something tremendous,” or else become like any little ashram.

This past May, the KFA hosted an International Trustee Meeting at our educational center in Ojai. Almost 35 trustees and staff from the International Krishnamurti Foundations participated for five days in dialogue and meetings around this them: “Caring For and Sustaining the Spiritual and the Organizational”. These meetings strengthened our connections and intent, and brought fresh ideas to our collaboration on international projects.

As some of you know, we have an Intern Student Program at the Krishnamurti Educational Center. Up to five students from all over the USA stay for one year on our campus in a program of work, study, dialogue and inquiry. We would like you to help spread the word about this program with anybody who could benefit from it. The program is geared towards young adults who have finished high-school or university, or who intend to take a gap year in the midst. The next enrollment date is November 1, 2014. For more information visit our website at www.kfa.org/intern-program.

We would like to thank you for your gracious donations to our Spring Appeal. Your gifts had twice the impact, reaching a total of $70,000 - all thanks to your support and the generous matching fund. This allows us to care for both the functional aspects of the foundation as well as to create space and opportunities where the impossible may flower. Thank you for your ongoing support of this important work.

Jaap Sluijter
Executive Director
This fall, HarperCollins will release the new edition of *The Ending of Time*. In this expanded edition two more dialogues have been added to the thirteen in the previous book. This complete edition also contains, in an appendix, two later dialogues entitled *The Future of Humanity*, which David Bohm described in a foreword as both amplifying and possibly serving as an introduction to those in *The Ending of Time*. The editors felt, however, that the distinction made between brain and mind in the second of these dialogues could most usefully conclude the whole series. This new edition will be available this fall at krishnamurtibookstore.com.

Following the release of *The Ending of Time* will be a book called *The World Within*. Never before released material, *The World Within* is a compilation of Krishnamurti’s handwritten notes from his personal diary that explores topics discussed in personal interviews with the people around him. These writings allow us an intimate look at deep and provocative themes. Sample chapters include: The Voice of Reality, Society’s Barbarous Game, Re-Educating the Parents, and Disturbing Dreams. This book will be available at the KFA bookstore later this year.

Also, the publications team has been working on a new platform to share the work of Krishnamurti. With the help of BiblioLabs, we curated various themed anthologies of Krishnamurti’s work that are now available through this exciting application. We have organized the material thematically to make the teachings more accessible for those with specific interests and to facilitate a more directed study of the work. Download the *BiblioBoard Consumer Application* from the App Store on your tablet or e-reader to access the anthologies for free. The BiblioBoard Library also works in conjunction with public libraries to make these anthologies available to library patrons. See if your public library subscribes to BiblioBoard Library so you can access the material locally.
New International Website and Internal DVD Production

And how all that works together - by Kelley Singer O’Mara, Communications Director

7am on a Friday morning. Here in Ojai, each member of the website team was preparing for a 7:30am conference call. With still-glassy eyes and full of excitement, we signed on to GoToMeeting and met the friendly faces of our team on the computer screen. The reason for the early meeting was that, in this same moment, these team members were in London, at 3:30pm and India, at 8pm.

This was our Friday tradition, every week for almost a year, as we prepared for the new, international website, sponsored by Vishwanath Alluri (who was also a part of these weekly meetings). This website is a joint effort of the foundations in putting forth Krishnamurti’s teachings online. The conversation began with theory and grew, over time, to choosing design and development companies, and then viewing and selecting layout elements. The website is in its final stages, and we hope to bring it online by the beginning of 2015.

This description of our weekly meetings and activities really demonstrates how technology is impacting the foundations today. We are able to work together in ways that would have been impossible 10 years ago, collaborating on a project that requires day-to-day communication as we survey all of the small details that go into creating a large website.

As a result, those who are new to Krishnamurti’s work will find a home for their interest and studies online, complete with a vast compilation of texts, audio, and videos, as well as information about worldwide foundations, schools, centers, and projects. While the KFT has been working to prepare many of the previously unreleased teachings to be published online through the new website, they have also been working with the KFA to create a new internal DVD production press, now located in the archive building. This will allow us to make much of the previously unpublished video footage available through the store of the new site.

Over 40 years ago, representatives met at Brockwood Park to discuss the future of the foundations. In his later report on the meetings, Krishnamurti wrote, “We were together for about ten days and during the discussions their responsibilities and functions became clear. It was important to have met and shared together the various problems of the work. We all felt that the foundations should not be fragmented but work together as a whole, with the same intention and seriousness. This is what we talked about.”

This past May, international trustees and staff met in Ojai, at the KFA. While much of the conversation was business-oriented, the larger discussion at hand was similar to the one that took place 40 years ago: centered around the goal of all of the Krishnamurti foundations working together as one, to make the original teachings as accessible and available as possible.

The meetings took place over five days, and the trustees shared not only meetings but meals and recreational experiences with one another. It was an important time for everyone to be together and collaborate, so we closed the gates to visitors during these meetings. Each of the individuals in attendance have been deeply moved by the teachings, and have dedicated a large part of their lives to the work of preserving and disseminating them, ensuring that they continue to be available. These moments to meet in person and talk to one another are very special, and fosters the ongoing and growing collaboration between the foundations.


For updated information about the international website visit: kfa.org/international-website
A Message from Meredy Benson Rice, Head of School

Greetings and warm wishes from the students and staff at Oak Grove School! After an incredible year of learning and growing, students and teachers get to change the pace a little and take time with family and friends during the summer. Meanwhile, much important work at the school continues. Admissions is still hopping as we continue to meet, greet, and interview families who are interested in joining us. And of course, summer is the time that we attend to the many maintenance and construction projects so important in caring for our buildings and grounds. This year, we are completing a beautiful patio extension to the existing art building, re-roofing Besant House, and converting what has always been a small residential kitchen into a full commercial kitchen to better provide our vegetarian hot lunch program. The continued support of donors is much appreciated as it helps to fund this important work. Thank you!

In June we graduated ten seniors – a stellar group of young people – and enjoyed a very special graduation where the students shared their experiences of attending Oak Grove School. You can watch these on our blog at oakgroveschool.org. Prior to the graduation ceremony seniors also presented their “Gateway Exhibitions.” This is a new component of the senior year, where students spend four to six weeks deeply reflecting on their learning and preparing a public exhibition for family, teachers, fellow students, and members of the greater school community.

Giving our students the opportunity to share with us their own understanding of their education here at Oak Grove is the most authentic way for us to seriously assess whether we are “walking the talk.” Our students, time and again, express their appreciation for a school environment that gives them a voice and allows them the opportunity to deeply reflect. This year, like most years, the students inspired us. I feel confident that these students will, in the words of Krishnamurti, “bring a blessing to the world.”

A Note from the New Manager: Julien Griffault

What is a retreat? This is a question I am often asked by curious visitors. From what I have been fortunate to observe since arriving at the Pepper Tree Retreat that there is no single reason to come to retreat. It may be to decompress, to spend a holiday in dialogue with others, to reconnect with nature, or to just simply Be.

Perhaps the countless hours of attentive exchanges between Krishnamurti and hundreds of individuals on this same property are still resonating here, assisting each of us to stop and simply observe. As you sit, relax and perhaps enjoy a delicious orange you just picked from our grove of over 300 trees, you might see a majestic hawk fly above you, hear the soft buzz of bees collecting pollen from the pepper trees, or admire the acrobatic flight of a passing hummingbird. Observing nature’s beauty, your vision may clarify, non-essentials may fall away effortlessly, creating space and a fresh perspective.

Come to retreat for an hour, a week or a month. You are always welcome.

peppertreeretreat.org
Study Intensive and Retreat: The Timeless Mind
Eight-Day Event - Sunday, August 3 - Sunday, August 10, 2014
Program Fee: $750 / Room Fee: $575

Yoga and Inquiry Retreat: Truth is Found Moment-to-Moment
Five-Day Event - Wednesday, September 3 - Sunday, September 7, 2014
Program Fee: $400 / Room Fee: $345

Theme Weekend: On Death
Two-Day Event - Friday, September 19 - Sunday, September 21, 2014
Program Fee: $165 / Room Fee: $165

The Krishnamurti Educational Center
Events Calendar
2014/2015

All program fees include breakfast, lunch and dinner at the Pepper Tree Retreat.

Event registration:
www.kfa.org or call (805) 646-4773
mon - fri, 10am –1pm and 2– 6pm

Study-Intensive Retreats
This unique 8-day program, offered three times per year (January, April and August) is 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 the program, participants enter into intense, probing, sensitive inquiries multiple times each day, and view videos of Krishnamurti’s talks and dialogues.

Annual Gathering
We invite you to our Annual Gathering, on May 2nd and 3rd. Friends both local and from across the United States come to listen to speakers, participate in discussions and dialogues, attend workshops, and simply relax with friends old and new. The offerings will take place at the KEC campus, Krishnamurti’s former home.

Parallel Programming
Several talks and workshops occur at the same time, offering playful choices for young people, as well as events more scholarly in nature.

Logistics and Times
The program takes place on Saturday and Sunday, with lunch provided both days on the KEC campus.

Theme Weekends
Theme Weekends 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 fairly new to them. The playing of Krishnamurti video and/or audio recordings will be followed by open dialogue, which often has been found to be helpful in deepening one’s understanding of day-to-day issues. The Theme Weekends start on Friday evening and end on Sunday afternoon.

Theme Weekends: Who Am I?
October 10 - 12, Friday - Sunday (2 days)
Program Fee: $165 / Room Fee: $165

Think on These Things
Exact Dates TBD (3 days)
Program Fee: $150 / Room Fee: $150

Special Event: Explorations with Krishnamurti about Death with Ravi Ravindra
October 28, Tuesday 7:30 - 9:00 PM
Program Fee: $20

Oak Grove School Event - Open House
November 1, Saturday, 1:00 - 4:00 PM
(Applications for Oak Grove School open for Fall 2015 enrollment)
**Communication Calendar**

Monthly Email - news, events, quotes, publications and more. Email info@kfa.org to sign up to receive these messages.

- Annual Report - August 2014
- Annual Appeal - September 2014
- Bulletin - November 2014
- Foundation Focus - February 2015
- Spring Appeal - March 2015

**Explorations Into Freedom Intensive: Stepping into the Mystery of Not Knowing**
November 2 - 9, Sunday - Sunday (8 days)
Program Fee: $750 / Room Fee: $575

**Yoga and Inquiry Retreats**

Five-day events where participants explore the connection between mind, body and life, through yoga and dialogue. This is an opportunity to examine Krishnamurti’s works through a refreshed lens as one engages the body and brings the full self into inquiry.

**Teacher Education**

Starting with the questions that we grapple with in our daily lives as educators, this seven-day program offered each July, builds on the insights participants come to from their own deep 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.

**Think on These Things**

This three-day program will include in-depth discussions, videos, and plenty of activities. Our intent is to create an environment where one can inquire into oneself and one’s relationship with the world in a safe and introspective way. This program is intended for young adults between 18 and 30.

**Oak Grove School Events**

- **Open House** - View student work, enjoy student performances, find out more about our progressive college-preparatory high school, boarding program, junior high, elementary and early childhood programs.
- **Earth Day** - Working with three additional non-profit organizations, Oak Grove School hosts Ojai’s annual Earth Day celebration. More information: www.oakgroveschool.org

**Monthly Parent Dialogues**

2nd Wednesday of the month (Sept. - May), 10:00-11:30 AM
In these monthly dialogues, parents are invited to join in watching a video, or listening to a dialogue, then engaging in discussions around education, parenting, life, and other essential themes as they become relevant.

**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

**December / January / February**

- **Theme Weekend: Facing a World in Crisis**
  December 5 - 7, Friday - Sunday (2 days)
  Program Fee: $165 / Room Fee: $165

- **Study Intensive and Retreat: Self Inquiry and the Mirror of Relationship**
  January 11 - 18, Sunday - Sunday (8 days)
  Program Fee: $750 / Room Fee: $575

- **Theme Weekend: The Challenge of Sorrow**
  January 30 - February 1, Friday - Sunday (2 days)
  Program Fee: $165 / Room Fee: $165

- **Yoga and Inquiry Retreat**
  February 18 - 22, Wednesday - Sunday (5 days)
  Program Fee: $400 / Room Fee: $345

**March / April / May**

- **Theme Weekend: Is It Possible to Live in Peace?**
  March 13 - 15, Friday - Sunday (2 days)
  Program Fee: $165 / Room Fee: $165

- **Study Intensive and Retreat: Death, Renewal and the Creative Mind**
  April 12 - 19, Sunday - Sunday (8 days)
  Program Fee: $750 / Room Fee: $575

- **Oak Grove School Event - Earth Day**
  April 18, Saturday, All-Day Event

- **Annual Gathering: The World Within**
  May 2 - 3, Saturday and Sunday, (2 days)
  Free Program

**Explorations Into Freedom Intensive: Stepping into the Mystery of Not Knowing**
November 2 - 9, Sunday - Sunday (8 days)
Program Fee: $750 / Room Fee: $575

This intensive program is designed for those who want to go beyond pre-conceived ideas 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**

This three-day retreat 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.

**Teacher Education**

This intensive program is designed for those who want to go beyond pre-conceived ideas 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.

**Monthly Parent Dialogues**

2nd Wednesday of the month (Sept. - May), 10:00-11:30 AM
In these monthly dialogues, parents are invited to join in watching a video, or listening to a dialogue, then engaging in discussions around education, parenting, life, and other essential themes as they become relevant.

**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

**Explorations Into Freedom Intensive: Stepping into the Mystery of Not Knowing**
November 2 - 9, Sunday - Sunday (8 days)
Program Fee: $750 / Room Fee: $575

This intensive program is designed for those who want to go beyond pre-conceived ideas 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**

This three-day retreat 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.

**Teacher Education**

This intensive program is designed for those who want to go beyond pre-conceived ideas 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.
The word “retreat” comes from the early 15th century Old French word _retret_. It is the past participle of _retrere_, meaning “to fall back from battle.” It can be traced further back, to its 13th century Latin root _retrahere_. _Trahere_ means “to draw,” and the prefix _re-_ means “back.” To draw back. To retreat.

In the quotation on the cover of this Focus, Krishnamurti says, “The self is the cause of ignorance and sorrow, and its cause and effect is desire, the craving for power, wealth, fame. This self is unified by the will of desire, with its past memories, present resolutions, and future determinations. The future then becomes a form of lust, the present a passage to the future, and the past the driving motive. The self is a wheel within a wheel of pleasure and pain, enjoyment and grief, love and hate, ruthlessness and gentleness.”

This cycle is like a battle; the fight for fulfillment in one form or another. The word _cycle_, in itself, implies that there’s no end to the thing. It ends where it begins, and starts again. And yet a wheel relies on motion to spin.

To draw back, to retreat... To rest. What is possible when we take pause?

**Educating the Educator**

Krishnamurti suggested that “education can be transformed only by educating the educator, and not merely creating a new pattern, a new system of action.” The intent of these programs is for participants to question and make visible their assumptions about teaching and learning, and to start from scratch to practically design schools, classrooms, and other learning environments. We engage in self-reflective and shared inquiry involving the close observation of school and classroom activities with hands-on and minds-on experiences of teaching and learning.

**Explorations into Freedom Intensive**

At the end of his life, Krishnamurti pointed to pure impersonal ‘seeing’ and ‘listening,’ “with that sense of intense aliveness,” as the factor that could radically change our perception, that would allow us to experience what lies beyond our sense of limitation, personal suffering and conflict, so that we can glimpse the limitless energy and potential of what it actually means to be alive.

**Study-Intensive Program**

This unique seven-day Study-Intensive Program is 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.

**Yoga & Inquiry Retreats**

A five-day event where participants explore the connection between mind, body and life, through yoga and dialogue. This is an opportunity to examine Krishnamurti’s works through a refreshed lens as one engages the body and brings the full self into inquiry.

For more information visit kfa.org/programs
The New Gazebo

Three months ago, the gazebo in the orange grove was a grand idea with only schematics and material plans to show for itself. The entire staff participated in clearing the grounds for the structure, forming our first-ever work party. For most, it was a break from the day-to-day activities that make up working in an office together; lifting large debris (sometimes whole trees) and carrying them, by hand, from one end of the medicinal garden to another.

Now, three months later, the gazebo is complete and more beautiful than any of us could have anticipated. The hexagonal gazebo has windows on five sides. Sliding glass doors open to let in fresh air and the smell of orange blossoms. Looking out one can see a flourishing medicinal garden, blooming orange trees, pink mountains and the expanse of Ojai Valley to the West.

The process of planning the new structure offered an opportunity to beautify the land around it, so a meandering path was built from the parking lot leading up to both the garden and the gazebo. This path is cut into what was once a mildly steep hill, so that these meditative spaces are accessible to everyone, including those who will access them by wheelchair. The path and surrounding hillside is currently being landscaped to make the walk up even more enjoyable.

The gazebo was outfitted with a projector, speakers, in-ground microphone hookups and wifi, making the space available for future dialogues and events. Plans to hang the Krishnamurti Exhibit are underway, which places the trajectory of Krishnamurti’s life and teachings in the context of 20th century world events, and will be available for individuals to view during KEC visiting hours.

On Wednesday and Saturday mornings, yoga classes are offered to guests. In September, a Yoga & Inquiry Retreat will take place mostly in the gazebo, called “Truth is Found Moment-to-Moment.” It will be facilitated by Laura and Kelley Singer O’Mara.

For more information about the retreat visit: kfa.org/yogainquiry.
A Note from the Program Director: Amanda Lezra

Three years ago, Think on These Things was founded with the intention of creating an atmosphere in which young adults could explore fundamental questions and topics that resonated with their day-to-day life—questions that exposed and challenged implicit assumptions they sustained about themselves, their relationships, and the world around them.

Last spring, during the East Coast Tour, we had the opportunity to sit down and talk with college students from Orange County Community College in upstate New York, as well as the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester. The ongoing theme of the East Coast Tour was “Unconditioning Through Education.” Relatedly, each of the five Think on These Things discussions were based on questions such as, “Why are you being educated?” and “How is your education relevant to your daily life?”

The students responses were very moving, and it was surprising how frequently the topic of fear surfaced throughout these discussions. Students spoke about feeling overwhelmingly pressured to lead successful lives, and talked about experiencing a consistent, deep-seated anxiety that propelled them to earn their college degrees, work hard and succeed. Together, we looked at this shared fear and began to observe how it stems from our very thinking—from the assumptions, ideas, and expectations we impose on ourselves, perhaps without being aware of the daily distress they create. What it would take for us to be free from this psychological fear?

In order to have discussions of this nature, Think on These Things seeks to create a space where one does not automatically draw from familiar areas such as knowledge, memory, experience, analysis, and given opinions on a subject. We want to create a space in which we are free to approach what is alive and true for us, free from judgment and with a fresh perspective.

Therefore, within these discussions, the intention was not to evaluate the students’ responses, or solve or negate the feelings that arose; rather, to create an

My Two Cents
by Student Intern Jake Averson

Thoreau famously wrote, upon retreating to his cabin on Walden pond, that “I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to confront only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived.” It is a passage I have loved since I first read it and it comes to my mind now, as I sit at a table, grass between my toes, birds singing orange now, and I can’t help but feel the presence of the present always ineffable WOW. It courses through the thing.

The poet Bukowski wrote, with characteristic pessimism: “We live we die, right?....there’s no use in getting slick about all this,” and what he would seem to be pointing to is that we thrive on illusions of self-importance and love to figure things out. Or to think that we have figured things out. However, one of the most beautiful properties of the human mind seems to be its propensity to ask questions
environment in which they could feel safe to inquire into themselves, experience insights, and learn from one another. Talking with these students was a wonderful experience, and we are very grateful to the people who facilitated these connections.

Think on These Things has continued its steady growth. Last spring, we completed a comprehensive syllabus, which translates the core of Think on These Things into a program educators can utilize to facilitate similar discussions with high school and university students anywhere. This syllabus has been reviewed by educators throughout the country, and is in the process of being published. We anticipate that it will be available for general use beginning fall of 2014.

This year, we will continue to facilitate weekly high school discussions in Oak Grove School and are in the midst of planning our third East Coast Tour to take place during the spring of 2015, as well as our first West Coast Tour scheduled tentatively for fall of 2014.

As always, we fully welcome your support in expanding Think on These Things. If you, or someone you know, are interested in bringing the program to your community, please contact Amanda Lezra at amanda@kfa.org.

which the mind alone cannot answer. These questions, central existential questions relating to God, meaning, and the whole bit would seem to be vital to the inner growth of the individual. The whole functionality of a question typically lies in its answer; a question is merely a means to an end, yet what do we do with questions that do not have any clearly apprehendable answer? Perhaps these questions are merely the result of linguistic limitations and Wittgenstein was correct when he suggested that philosophy is the result of language not doing its job. The limitations of language seem indisputable, but these limitations do not negate the importance of formulating unanswerable questions. When delving into life’s central questions the value does not seem to lie in any conclusion, but is rather found in the act of inquiring.

Socrates was declared as the wisest man in Athens because he knew that he did not know what he did not know, and I wonder if we can let go of our lust for answers and our desperate need to feel in control. Exploring through the medium of language is one of the most beautiful parts of being a human being, yet what truly matters is how we live our lives. We cultivate a sense of familiarity in life and from this familiarity comes dissatisfaction, yet we do not live in the world as it actually is; we live in the world as we think it is. Jack Kornfield wrote that “in the end these things matter most: How well did you love? How fully did you live? How deeply did you let go?” Through the act of honest inquiry a natural negation seems to take place, and when we realize that we do not know what or who we are, then perhaps there are subtle shifts that are able to take place. When I realize that I do not know what a flower is then perhaps I can discover a completely new kind of fragrance. In any case, I suppose that’s my two cents.