

GRAND-BUDDIES CAMP

FERRY BEACH

14-20 AUGUST 2010

Youth is a gift of nature

Aging is a work of art

What do you get when you connect an elder with a young person? A mutual blessing of wonder and creativity, wisdom and spontaneity, insight and stories, stories, stories! This camp is for elders - grandparent types - who have experienced a Sage-ing® conference at Ferry Beach (or other venues) and their grandchildren - aged 4-12 years -who are related biologically, culturally or congregationally.

The precious nature of grandparent - grandchildren relationships is in the gifts given and received from generation to generation. Grandchildren often have a very different relationship with their biological/cultural/congregational grandparents than with their parents. Grandparents who are freed from a parenting role can offer a different kind of support, empathy and understanding - making them trusted confidants and compassionate companions for their grandchildren. The gift of STORIES is a key to the GRAND-BUDDY experience. Grandparents offer the stories of their lives and connections to the past, sometimes spanning five generations in histories of families, cultures, and congregations. Grandchildren bring stories out of their wondering, questioning and imaginations helping elders find new meanings, more hope and amazing joy.

Morning programs are separate: *elders* focusing on legacies, mentoring, memoir writing and storytelling; *children* focusing on family identity, heritage, adventure and storytelling. After lunch and quiet time, **Afternoon programs** are *intergenerational* with Buddy Choice Times offering arts and crafts, nature exploration, beach play, and more. **Evening programs** highlight grand-buddy stories around the campfire, skits and music, and cooperative games.

This is a NEW conference and one bound to become a Ferry Beach trademark camp. Space is limited to 32 participants: 12 grandparents and up to 20 grandchildren, with a maximum of two (2) children per grandparent. To give and receive beautiful gifts across the generations, sign up early and come ready to be a GRAND BUDDY!

Coordinators: Pat Hoertdoerfer, CSL and Paulette Geller, CSL