



**The Berkana Exchange  
invites you on a  
Parent/Child Learning Journey  
to Southern Africa**

**August 2-16, 2008**

Southern Africa is one of the most dynamic regions on the planet. People are stepping forward in many ways to create communities that work in the midst of incredible challenges.

In South Africa, more than a decade after the end of apartheid, people are working together to build a path to a new future. In Johannesburg, the Greenhouse Project is working with communities to help them regain their own leadership and to become more self-reliant – especially important work as the country continues in an economic tailspin.

**Berkana Learning Journeys** are an opportunity for people to reflect on their own lives and their work in the world. Being in cultures in southern Africa often opens up a space for those big questions about what's important. This learning journey will be particularly powerful because it brings together parents and their children to explore what matters most in the world right now. Our intent is to create a spacious circle in which people learn about Africa, themselves and each other.

## How do I sign up?

We can accommodate 20 people. To learn more or to sign up, please contact Lauren Parks at [lauren@berkana.org](mailto:lauren@berkana.org) or (617) 868-0445, extension 104.

## How do I get there?

Participants should arrive in Johannesburg no later than August 1 and depart from Johannesburg no earlier than the evening of August 16. Travel in southern Africa is included in the Learning Journey price.

## How much does it cost?

The price of this journey is \$3350/person. That includes lodging, most meals, transportation in Africa for the journey and entrance fees into planned venues. It does not include your international flight or trip insurance (recommended). The GreenHouse Project in Johannesburg is part of our global network of learning centers and one of our hosts, Silas Lucias, is from Kufunda Learning Village in Zimbabwe, another learning center. It is our hope that once you have seen the profound changes these leaders are creating, you will be moved to support the Berkana Exchange. We will be asking you toward the end of the retreat to consider making a contribution.

## How do I know if this is right for me?

This journey is a first of its kind. We have had interest from parents in their forties who want to bring their early teen children and we have had interest from children in their forties who want to bring their seventy year old parents! The journey will be truly intergenerational. We'll talk with each family about the parent-child mix and help you address any questions or concerns. We will work to ensure that the range of activities is engaging for everyone.





## Program Itinerary

We have adjusted the itinerary of the trip because of the current political situation in Zimbabwe. As an alternative we will take the train from Johannesburg to the Cape through the Karoo Desert, spend a little more time in Cape Town, travel to Durban (where Berkana works) and finish off in a game reserve in the Natal region near Durban.

### Johannesburg

We will come together as an intergenerational learning community to learn about each other and the leadership we have to offer. Together, we'll visit Joubert Park and non-profits there, including the Greenhouse Project, and have learn with arts for social change groups. We'll also go to the Apartheid Museum and speak with activists and leaders from Johannesburg to help us understand what is growing there.

### Cape Town

Off the coast of Cape Town is Robben Island, the prison island where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for more than twenty years. We will also see the central Cape Area, include Table Mountain. Our hosts for two nights will be the South Africa Fisherwomen's Association, who have come from around Cape Town to make a living wage as fisherwomen who use their spare time to create gardens, soup kitchens and other projects.

### Durban

From Cape Town we will proceed to Durban where we will spend time with community based organizations working in the INK area – three adjoining townships with 600,000 people and the greatest concentration of poverty in Durban. One of these townships – Inanda – was home to three men who changed history at the beginning of the last century. Most people don't realize what a formative time Gandhi's 10 years in Durban was. In this one small township, Gandhi was doing the work that became the Indian Freedom Party on one hill; nearby, John Dube was doing the work that led to the African National Congress, and around the corner Isaiah Shembe was starting what became the largest African Christian Church. After Durban we will close the learning journey with two days in a game park in the Natal region near Durban.

## The Hosting Team

In South Africa, the journey will be hosted by Berkana's Co-President, Bob Stilger, his daughter Annie Virnig, Dorah Lebelo the Director of Green House Project and Silas Lusias, one of the key members of the Kufunda Learning Village. Cyndie Wiggins, a veteran of one Berkana Learning Journey to southern Africa, and her daughter will be part of the hosting team as well.

In Zimbabwe, the team will be joined by Marianne Knuth, the founder of Kufunda.



## About The Berkana Institute and the Berkana Exchange

The Berkana Institute works in partnership with a rich diversity of people around the world who strengthen their communities by working with the wisdom and wealth already present in their people, traditions and environment. As pioneers, we do not deny or flee from our global crisis. We respond by moving courageously into the future now, experimenting with many different solutions.

The Berkana Exchange connects pioneering leaders throughout the globe around their shared commitment to making a difference in and beyond their communities. These leaders are developing the capacity to solve their most pressing problems—such as community health, ecological sustainability and economic self-reliance—by acting locally, connecting regionally and learning trans-locally. Today, Berkana is working with learning centers in Brazil, Canada, Greece, India, Mexico, Pakistan, Senegal, South Africa, the U.S. and Zimbabwe.

