



## Buddhist Council of New York

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Dharma:

We are encouraged to invite you to this year's Buddhist Forum, whose theme is entitled, "What is Sustainable Sangha? -- Buddhist Perspectives on Environmental and Economic Longevity," to be held at the Brooklyn Zen Center on Saturday, March 20.

We are looking forward to this day, which includes two parts. The first is a morning presentation by Colin Beavan regarding his family's year-long experiment in New York City to live with, as he states, "as little impact on the environment as possible." His presentation will include excerpts from a recent film about this project, called "*No Impact Man*."

Our afternoon program will be an opportunity to engage in inclusive dialogue based on a format called "Open Space Technology (OST)." Three presenters or presenter teams representing different Buddhist traditions will speak briefly (10-20 minutes) on how their center engages the Forum's theme. These presentations will be followed by three simultaneous sharing circle groups (20 minutes), whose focus is framed utilizing the OST structure.

We also value socializing during breakfast and lunch together, both of which are freely offered. We look forward to these opportunities to connect and explore.

We are hopeful that as many people in your community as possible will be able to join us at the Brooklyn Zen Center to share ideas and delightful vegetarian food.

The responses we have received thus far have been very encouraging. We imagine this Forum to be a rewarding experience for all of us. We welcome the opportunity to connect with you and remain hopeful to see you there.

The information for the event is as follows:

**What: Buddhist Council of New York, Annual Buddhist Forum, 2010 "What is sustainable sangha? : Buddhist perspectives on environmental and economic longevity"**

**Date:** Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**Time:** 10:00am – 4:00pm (note: registration with light breakfast will begin at 9:30am and lunch will be served at 11:30am)

**Location:** Brooklyn Zen Center – 505 Carroll St. Suite 2A, Brooklyn, New York (between 3<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenues)

With respect and gratitude to all who have come before, we look forward to watering seeds of wisdom, compassion, and kindness for many generations to come.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact either Judy Chen at 914-469-3352 [siscuscus@yahoo.com](mailto:siscuscus@yahoo.com) or Judy Seicho Fleischman at [judy@sensingwonder.com](mailto:judy@sensingwonder.com).

With Metta,

Sunghae Sunim

President, Buddhist Council of New York