

**THE GRAND YOUTH PEACE AND CULTURE FESTIVAL:
EMERGING BODHISATTVAS OF THE EARTH
POEM BY ORPHEUS RICHARDS (AGE 20), NEW YORK**

*Illuminated by the torch of leadership clasped in each hand
the eyes of the youth glowed with passion,
burned with the fierce heat of determination,
and danced jubilantly with the flicker of hope
The warmth of their lives permeated my being and embraced my soul.*

*We joined as one,
vowing to uphold the teachings of our mentor.
In harmony we chanted the words of the universe,
united we accepted the responsibility of kosen-rufu
In concert we rose,
knowing that in each of us lay the future,
that in every heart pulsed the life's blood of the twenty-first century,
that our human revolution would change the destiny of humankind*

*Our wisdom will be the foundation,
Our strength will be the stone,
A new world will be constructed with our daimoku as its anthem*

*Sensei's efforts will be perpetuated through us,
the youth,
no matter the ordeal or the hardship,
sansho shima is powerless to prevent the emergence of the millennium
our emergence,
from the earth,
as Bodhisattvas*