



Rural Assembly
Everywhere

A BIGGER PIE

Cultivating Abundance in
a Time of Scarcity

Hear from speakers,
artists, and community
leaders.

Plus, learn about rural
initiatives going on
around the country.

 **September 17, 2025**

 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Eastern

 **FREE** & virtual via Crowdcast

 4 in-person sites in MN, MT, PA, VA

Register now at :

<https://ruralassembly.org/everywhere/>



IN CONVERSATION

Natalie Baszile & Carlton Turner



HOW
EVERYWHERE
CAN BE HOME
FOR ALL

Ray Suarez



ESSENTIALS FOR POSITIVE
SUM THINKING: TRUST,
RELATIONSHIPS &
COLLABORATION



POET

Salaam Green



MUSIC

Larry & Joe



Rural Assembly Everywhere

Hear about rural initiatives and projects from around the country:

- Manoomin Arts Initiative
- Greene County, PA
- Letcher County, KY

In Conversation: Natalie Baszile & Carlton Turner

Natalie Baszile is the author of *We Are Each Other's Harvest* and *Queen Sugar*. In this conversation, she will discuss the importance of Black landownership and agriculture and how to embrace abundance even when up against a multi-generational legacy of discrimination and systemic lack of access to resources. Interviewing Natalie is Carlton Turner, who is Founder, Co-Director, and Lead Artist of Sipp Culture, the Mississippi Center for Culture Production; Carlton also works across the country as a performing artist, arts advocate, policy shaper, lecturer, consultant, and facilitator.

How Everywhere Can Be Home For All with Ray Suarez

Ray Suarez will join RA Fellows, Phillip Norman and Smmo Ozawa in conversation about how immigration is reshaping rural communities across the country and how intergenerational interdependence is critical to the success of the United States as a whole. Suarez is host of the new PBS television series, *Wisdom Keepers*, on air and online on PBS content services. He is the author of the recent book on the modern era of American immigration, *We Are Home: Becoming American in the 21st Century*. Norman and Ozawa have spent their fellowship with Rural Assembly working on an upcoming podcast about immigration in rural communities.

Essentials for Positive Sum Thinking: Trust, Relationships & Collaboration

Hear from a group of leaders based in rural Southwest Washington State and learn how respect, friendship, and constant collaboration can build abundance and community. Join Tiffany Oakes Turner (CEO of Adrift Hospitality), Jessika Tantisook (Economic Recovery Corps Fellow), Josh Phillips (small business owner and Executive Director of Washington's Evergreen Coast) and Madeline Matson (Rural Assembly Director) as they discuss how they've been impacted by scarcity mindsets and what strategies they use to work past it.

Salaam Green, poetry reading from *The Other Revival*

Birmingham, Alabama Poet Laureate Salaam Green will read from her recently released poetry collection, *The Other Revival*, which reclaims the Southern revival as a space for truth-telling and healing through oral tradition. Green uses poetry to create healing spaces grounded in Southern history and resilience. At a time when history is being erased, this book reminds us that the most vital archives live in people—in their voices, memories, and willingness to pass stories on.

Larry & Joe

Larry Bellorin and Joe Troop, of the latingrass duo "Larry and Joe" are versatile multi-instrumentalists and singer-songwriters on a mission to show that music has no borders. Larry hails from Monagas, Venezuela and is a legend of Llanera music. Joe is from North Carolina and is a GRAMMY-nominated bluegrass and old time musician. They met in 2021 as Larry was seeking asylum in North Carolina and Joe worked to help asylum seekers.



Rural Assembly
Everywhere

Workshops

Don't miss these follow up workshops after the Rural Assembly Everywhere!

Book Club: The Serviceberry, An Economy of Abundance by Robin Wall Kimmerer

September 23 | 7-8pm Central

[Register](#)

Join your neighbors from around the country online for a conversation about Robin Wall Kimmerer's book, *The Serviceberry: An Economy of Abundance*. This conversation will be facilitated by April Martin, founder of the Wild Rose Center on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. Together, we will discuss gift economies and how we can all lean into the example set by the serviceberry.

Navigating Difficult Conversations: A Two-Part Series on Conflict Management

September 25 & October 2 | 12-1pm Central

[Register](#)

This interactive series explores how to approach hard conversations with clarity, confidence, and compassion at home, at work, and in your community.

Session 1: Understanding Conflict & Taking the First Steps | Sept. 25

Conflict is a part of life, but it doesn't have to be destructive. In this session, we'll explore the common causes of conflict, its hidden benefits, and the real costs of avoidance. You'll learn three practical steps to help you initiate a difficult conversation with greater ease.

Session 2: Building Your Conflict Toolkit & Sharing Lessons Learned | Oct. 2

Deepen your skills by developing a personalized toolkit for navigating tough conversations. You'll break into small groups to exchange insights and strategies, and we'll close with a full-group discussion to reinforce learning and encourage continued practice.

Small Town Magic: Turning Possibilities into Real Change

September 29 | 3-4pm Central

[Register](#)

Discover real-life success stories and practical, easy-to-implement strategies to bring new energy to your community. Based on the inspiring book *From Possibilities to Reality: Save Your Small Town*, this free, live webinar will share proven ideas to fill empty buildings, spark creativity through the arts, engage youth, and support local businesses—even in times of scarcity.

Join us on September 29 to learn how other small towns are making magic happen—and walk away with tangible steps you, your friends, and neighbors can take right now to create lasting change in your own town.



Rural Assembly Everywhere

Join in person!

If you're in the neighborhood...

Danville, VA

Hosted by the Virginia Rural Health Association

[Register](#)

Join us at **The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research in Danville, VA** for a day of ideas, community, and fun as we watch the virtual Everywhere broadcast together and engage in our own, in-person conversations and activities.

Lunch will be served at 12:00 pm
Program Duration: 1:00 – 4:00 pm



Granite Falls, MN

Hosted by Department of Public Transformation

[Register](#)

Join DoPT and The YES! House on Wednesday, September 17th for a full day of connection, creativity, and community as we host a local watch party and live gathering for Rural Assembly Everywhere in Granite Falls!



Northern Cheyenne Reservation

Hosted by The Wild Rose Center

Contact assembly@ruralstrategies.org to attend

Join us at The Wild Rose Center on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation in SE Montana! If you're in the area, Rural Assembly can connect you with the organizers for more details!



Waynesburg, PA

Hosted by Greene County community leaders

[Register](#)



On September 17, 2025, we will host an in-person event across three locations: lunch in the cafeteria at Waynesburg, watch party at First Presbyterian Church, and then a follow up conversation at RGB Coffee. Our goal is to bring neighbors and community leaders together to reflect together and to look at ways we might collaborate together. You're welcome to come to any of the programs, or all of them!