

**Blessings from the communities of EBMC
for all communities
from the
book celebration of *Awakening Together*
with Larry Yang**



May our internal and external awareness support our collective liberation ♥ May our community be safe, loved, and protected now and always.

May all of my students be safe and free from suffering.

May all Oakland youth be safe and free from suffering.

May the knots of greed, hatred, and delusion loosen and unravel. May all beings experience an opening to generosity, love, and wisdom. May all beings experience liberation.

May we soften our heart ♥ mind and release views, may we not cling. May our sangha listen and hear one another's views with respect and compassion. May aversion stay at bay to give us the pause needed to walk the Dharma together as one.

May your book and your many teachings and your communities continue to give people the awareness, the compassion and the brilliant model of ethical courage to turn towards all of ourselves and each other. So grateful for your example.

For the Dharma: my beloved Dedicated Practitioners Program sangha, my mother visiting me, my loving family in Texas and Mexico.

With deep gratitude for this beautiful diverse spiritual community and your leadership in opening up the larger sangha to this spirit of understanding and diversity. May there be many more thriving decades of this safe and spiritually transformative space for all communities. Wishing your book every success in reaching people from all walks of life and may it open heart and minds just as your work and EBMC's has done. With much gratitude.

I pray for our bodies, all of our different bodies. May our bodies be well loved and cared for.

And may the book be another path towards love for our bodies.

May the words of these writings reach the mouths and ears and hearts of people and communities everywhere and may it have a deep impact on the awakening and liberation of all beings.

May the legacy of EBMC and Larry's book lead to a time when EBMC no longer stands alone as "the most diverse sangha on the planet."



May our community awaken with a swiftness and with great ease.

May the light of awakening shine through every heart that reads this book and connects to this Center.

May the time, energy, commitment, and love represented in these sacred pages bless our EBMC community, the Dharma community worldwide, all being in Oakland, California, the U.S. and every nation. May it inspire others to engage in the messy and blessed process of diverse community-building. And may your life be blessed in unexpected, beautiful ways as you celebrate and release this expression from your heart-mind.

May all the wounds of all the wounded open to healing, light, and the flowers that are pushing through.

May this sangha love and be loved unconditionally.

May this book open hearts and minds so that we may work together to build respectful, multi cultural sanghas and communities. May the author of this book know that we stand with him in love and gratitude.

Blessings to you, Larry, and to the seeds planted, sown, and grown at EBMC.

Blessings to EBMC for holding, creating, and building a social justice spiritual refuge.

Deep ♥felt gratitude to us all for our ancestors.

May this book help bring about the sustained beauty of an inclusive, diverse, multicultural, multiracial, all bodies, any/all gendered sangha that flourishes and continues.

May the book be part of the leavening that causes what is difficult and resistant to soften—so that the fertile field that is the wisdom of all the peoples arises, is known, and contributes to the liberation of all beings.

May all beings be peaceful.

Thank you for being who you are and sharing who you are with us in a way that invites us to be who we are!

Chanting, singing loudly during the book blessing event got me in touch with screams in childhood that didn't have an outlet. May all beings find a refuge, healing (with support of the Three Jewels) turning towards pain.

That all my queer siblings (and myself) find the belonging, nourishment, and support in chosen family and community that we never knew or have known in blood family. Love to all who've learned they don't belong.

Thank you for this experience of space. I am a novice practitioner and this is a welcoming space. I look forward to learning more about building community. I got a lot out of Larry's talk and I look forward to coming back.

A blessing for all the ancestral energy, painful and joyful, that brought EBMC's community together, the energy that keeps us together, and moves us forward; for the energy that moves this beautiful message to our vast intersecting communities.

I ask blessings for the liberation of the minds of all those who are incarcerated, those who take responsibility for their misdeeds, those who suffer and are trying to find their way, those who wait to be exonerated, those who have somehow found compassion and love.
From the outside world to inside.

We belong to each other. Thank you.

And...May this book highlight next steps for EBMC in our ascension to new heights.

May the challenges we face separately build compassion for us as a whole....

May the words and feelings and sharings of this book awaken us ALL together!

May all our efforts, care, and insight, both within and without our communities of refuge, serve to create greater clarity of mind and openness of heart in all beings, in all realms.

Blessings for DPP6 sangha and teachers, all who are suffering, Jeanette Lazam, me as I delve into difficult emotions. ❤️

May the blessings of this book spread far and wide and ignite and illuminate the way for love and unity expressed in our diversity to be celebrated, fertile and alive, now and forever more.

May the light of EBMC shine a path for millions in this world.

May all beings' voices be heard and not be silenced. May we all support one another with courage and love to speak the truth. May this book open the voices and hearts of the community and the world beyond. May all beings awaken together and heal the heart.

I extend wishes and intentions of continued abundance, healing sustained social justice work, learning and unfolding wisdom. I bless this community with an ongoing sense of peace. It is a profound gift to be a part of this community. EBMC is revolutionary and your book is a reflection of the power of change.

May the EBMC sangha be aware and nourished by its collective beauty, wisdom, and strength—and may each being in the sangha know that they are an important part of this community, and what it's making happen in the world. ❤️

