



SPECIAL ISSUE

SPRING, 1994

## BREAK THE BLACKOUT PRESS PACT

We hereby join the Break the Blackout National Survival Movement in the campaign to use all instruments of culture and communication - including theater, music, and other fine arts; electronic news media; alternative press; photo documentaries; and film, among many other things - to break the blackout, spread the word, and transmit news of varied survival struggles by poor and working people. These mediums are crucial resources in the collective struggle of an aggrieved class to rise Up and Out of Poverty Now! These mediums are crucial in the collective effort to save our race - the human race.

We recognize that the mass media has abdicated its responsibility to tell the truth. It has been compromised by the politics of expediency and the priority of profits.

We further recognize the struggles of cultural workers for survival, against censorship, and for full use of and access to the tools of their trade.

We pledge to use our instruments of communication to, in some way, chronicle the battles and add our strength to the gathering storm of victims of poverty who, each day, are pushed deeper into the bowels of this nation.

*The above Press Pact was signed in Kansas City on February 23, 1992 by approximately one hundred people from across the United States. They were attending the Break the Blackout Summit sponsored by the Alliance of Native Americans and the National Up & Out of Poverty Now Coalition. Present at the Summit were musicians, artists, writers, filmmakers, DJs, and photographers along with strong contingents of the homeless, the unemployed, and welfare recipients.*

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To sign on to the pact and to receive more information, please complete the below form, detach, and return to: Annie Smart Leadership Development Institute, c/o Dignity Housing, 7208 Germantown Ave., Phila., PA 19119.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_