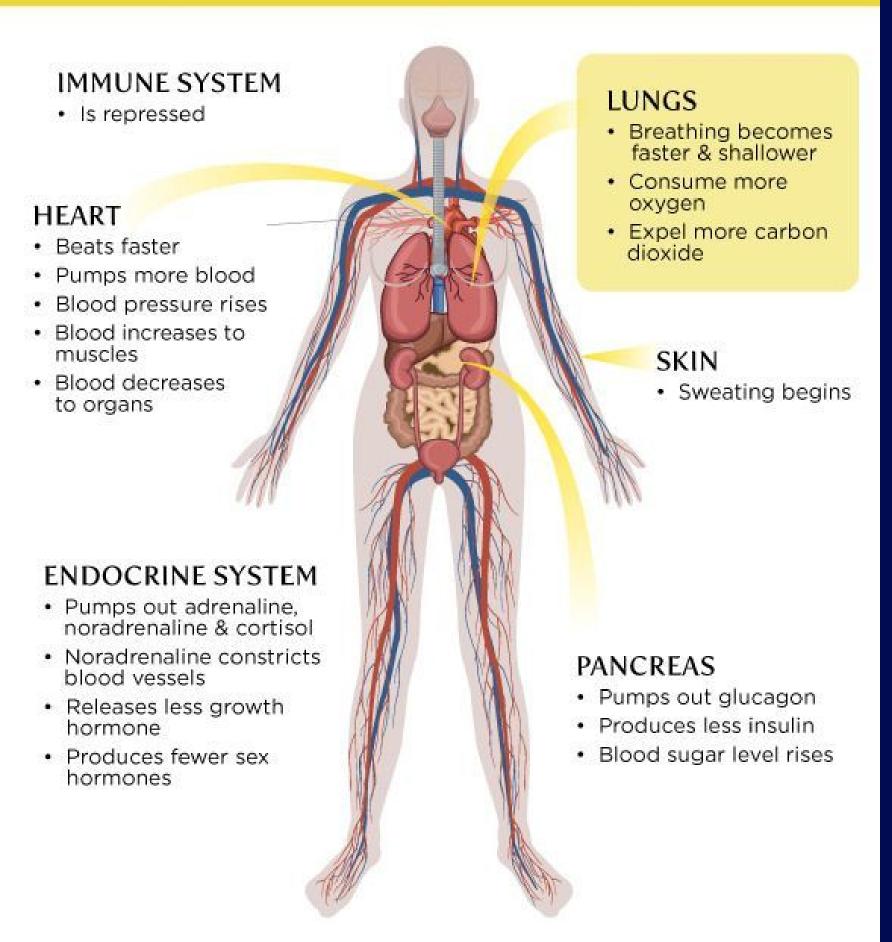


### Fight-or-Flight Response



Under stress, the body releases a hormone called **CORTISOL**, which triggers the **FIGHT** or **FLIGHT** response.

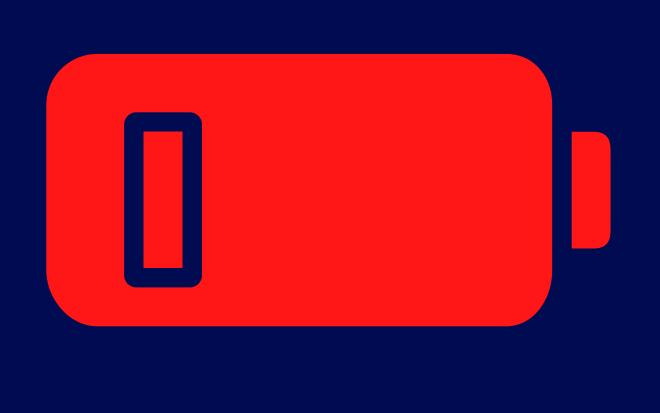
- Manages how your body uses carbohydrates, fats, and proteins
- Keeps inflammation down
- Regulates your blood pressure/hyoertension/heart disease
- Increases your blood sugar (glucose)
- Controls your sleep/wake cycle
- Boosts energy so you can handle stress and restores balance afterward

### Cortisol levels can go whack under too much stress, which

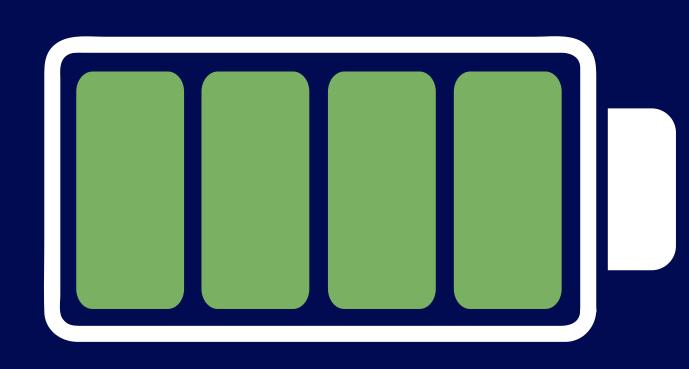


- impedes memory, focus, and concentration
- limits social connectedness
- constrains relationships
- kills brain cells
- triggers an energy crisis that obstructs our ability to learn new things
- anxiety and depression
- 60-80% of diseases are aggravated, if not caused, by stress

P.S. Forcing the mind to relax DOES NOT WORK!



# when the energy is low...



# when the energy is high...

# Solution?

# Just breathe.

You can actually influence your emotions through the BREATH.



# Benefits of S.K.Y.

- decreases cortisol
- is as effective as standard anti-depressive drug therapy, is cost-effective and free from side effects
- enhance brain functioning
- increases beta brainwave activity associated with heightened alertness and increased focus
- lower cholesterol
- boosts immune function
- relieves anxiety
- enhances well-being and positive emotions
- increased productivity, concentration, learning ability, and success

# 

Campus Happiness Program







### WHO WE ARE



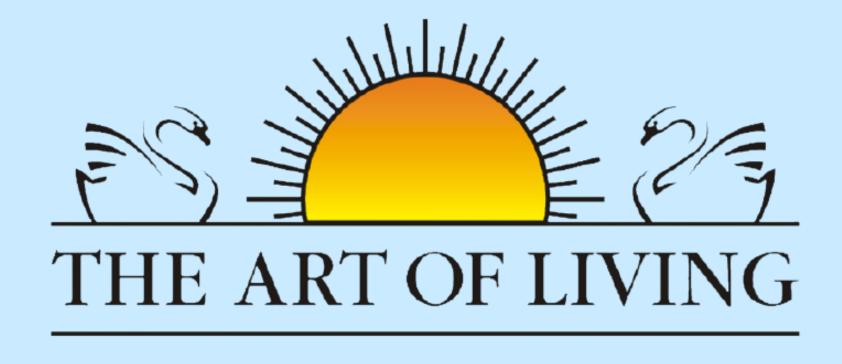


is a multi-faceted approach for university communities which empowers students and staff with tools for sustainable happiness, resilience, and mindful leadership

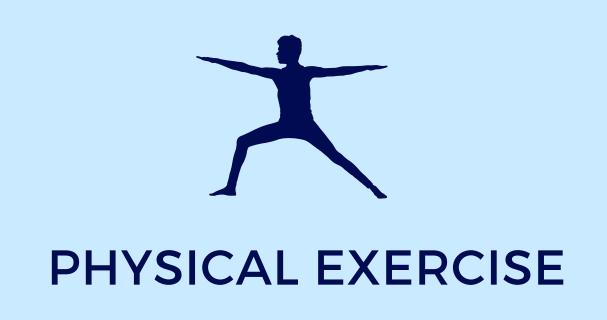
### WHO WE ARE

### a collaboration between





# What is SKY?







S.K.Y. BREATHING









LOTS OF FUN



UNIQUE EXERCISES



SERVICE PROJECTS

### BENEFITS OF SKY FOR STUDENTS



Stress Reduction



Relief from Anger and Anxiety



Relief from Depression



Trauma Relief



Increased Mental Focus



Improved sense of community and belonging



Increased Clarity of Mind



Improved attitude of service

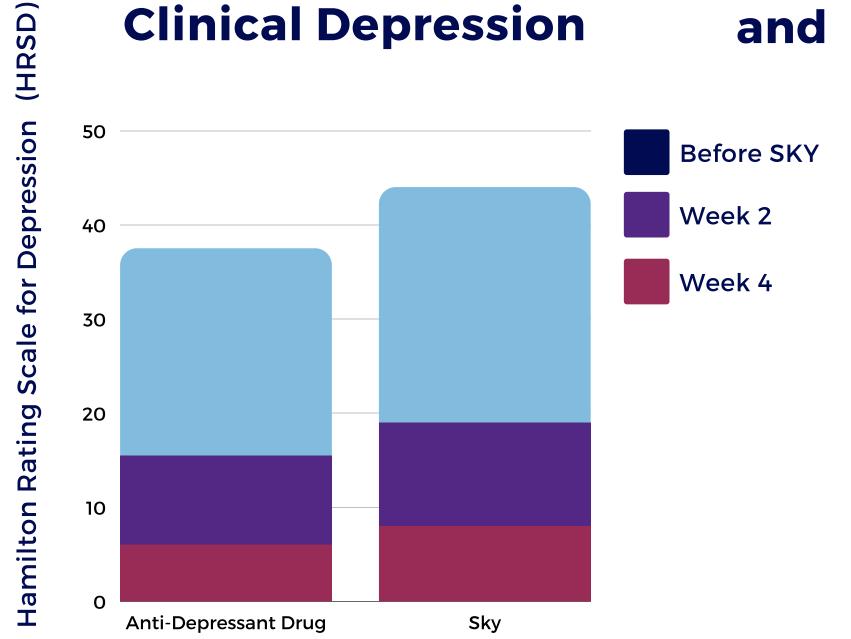


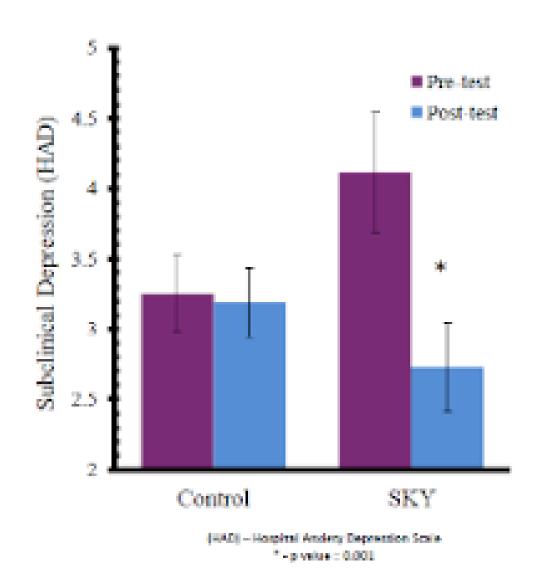
Improved memory and focus



# SKY and Depression







# SKY and Anxiety

# Significantly reduces and N

### **Clinical Anxiety**

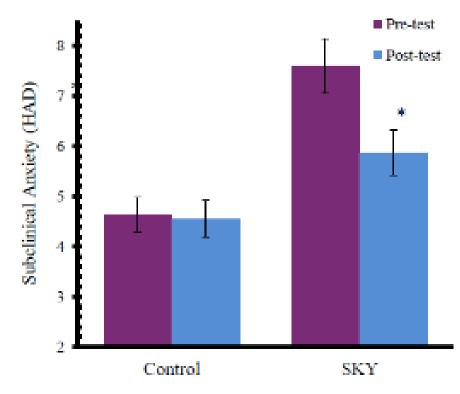
# 120 Control 100 SKY 80 40 20

73% of individuals suffering from Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD) who were not helped by standard psychiatric care experienced reductions in anxiety, and 41% achieved full remission 4 weeks after learning SKY.

(\* - p value < 0.01)

Katzman MA et al., Int J Yoga 2012;5:57-65

### **Non-Clinical Anxiety**



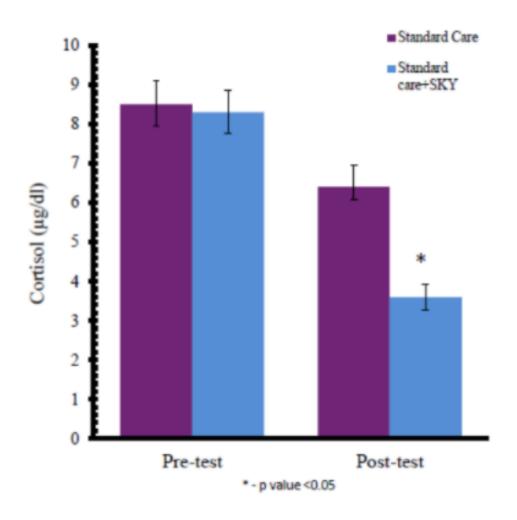
SKY significantly decreases everyday worry and anxiety

(HAD) - Hospital Anxiety Depression Scale \* - p value < 0.01

Kjellgren et al., BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine 2007, **7**:43

# SKY and Stress Levels (Cortisol)

### Significantly Decreases Stress Hormone Levels

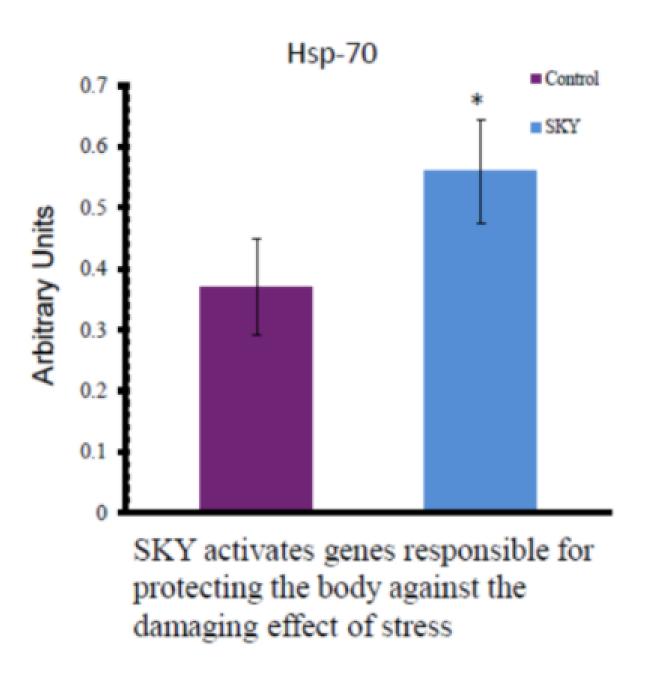


Adding SKY to conventional treatment for individuals in recovery for substance use was twice as effective in reducing stress hormone cortisol levels as conventional treatment alone

A.Vedamurthachar et al. (2006)

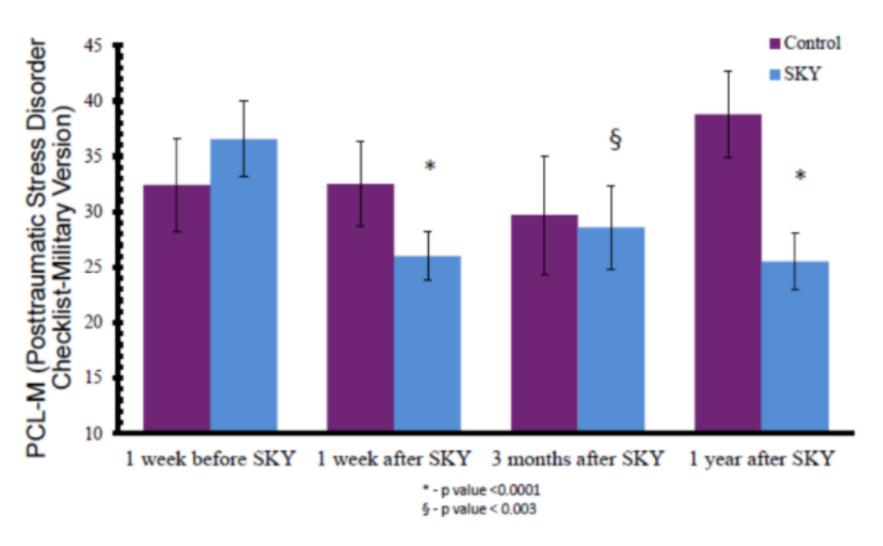
# SKY and Immunity to Stress

### Significantly Activates Genes that Protect against Stress



# SKY and PTSD

### **Significantly Reduces PTSD**

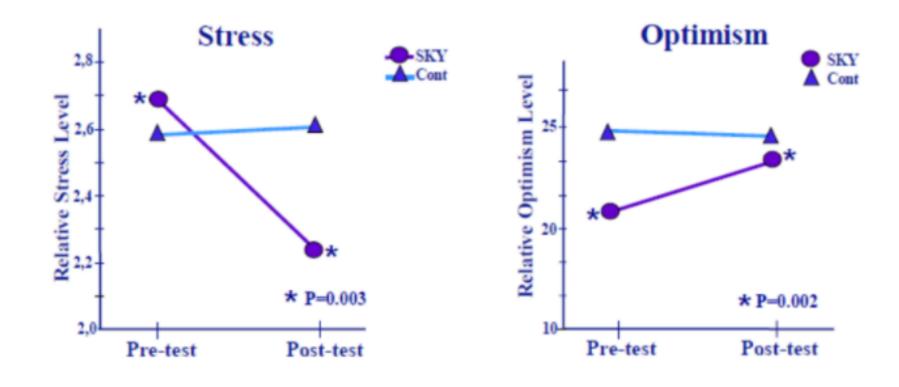


Iraq and Afghanistan veterans who practiced SKY had significant reductions in PTSD symptoms after just one week of SKY practice. Results persisted for one year with no follow-up sessions, demonstrating long term benefits.

Seppala et al. (201

# SKY and Well-Being

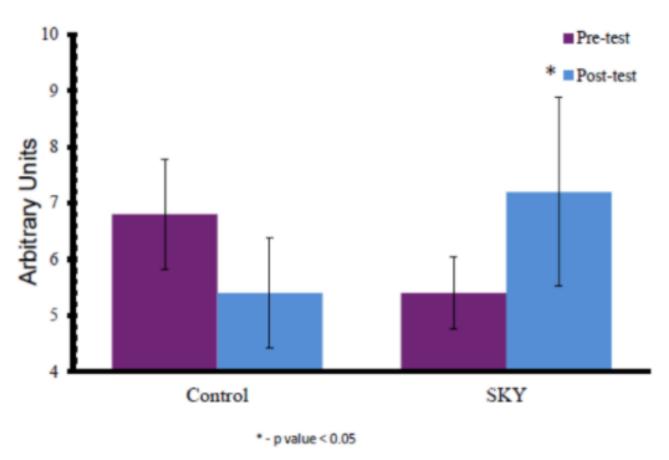
### Significantly increases well-being



SKY significantly decreased stress and increased levels of optimism (a key indicator of wellbeing) in healthy adults, indicating improvement of wellness.

# SKY and Well-being (Prolactin)

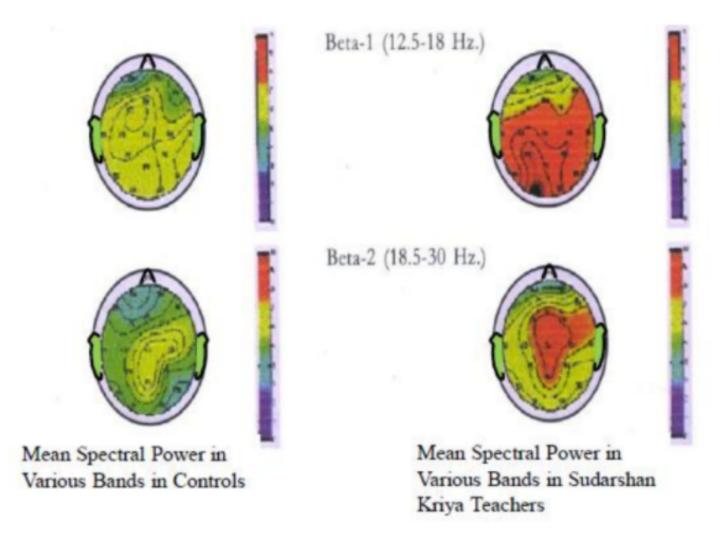
### **Significantly Increases Prolactin**



Prolactin, a well-being hormone is abnormally low in depressed individuals. Depressed patients experienced 33.3% increase in their Prolactin levels after their very first SKY session.

# SKY and Mental Focus & Clarity

### Significantly Greater Mental Focus in Sky Practitioners

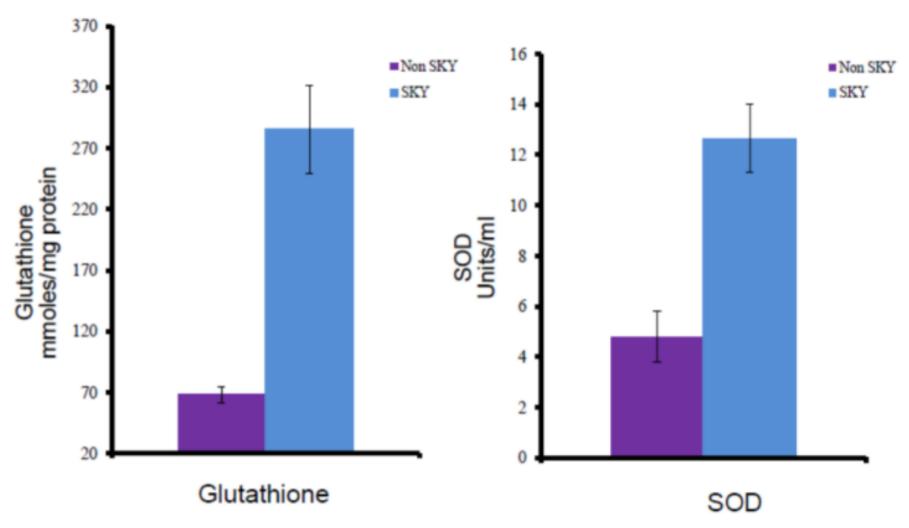


EEG measures electrical brain activity. In this study, SKY practitioners demonstrated significantly greater (P<0.05) EEG Beta wave activity than controls, which is indicative of heightened alertness/ mental focus.

Bhatia et al. (2003)

# SKY and Antioxidant Production

### Significantly Increases Antioxidant Production

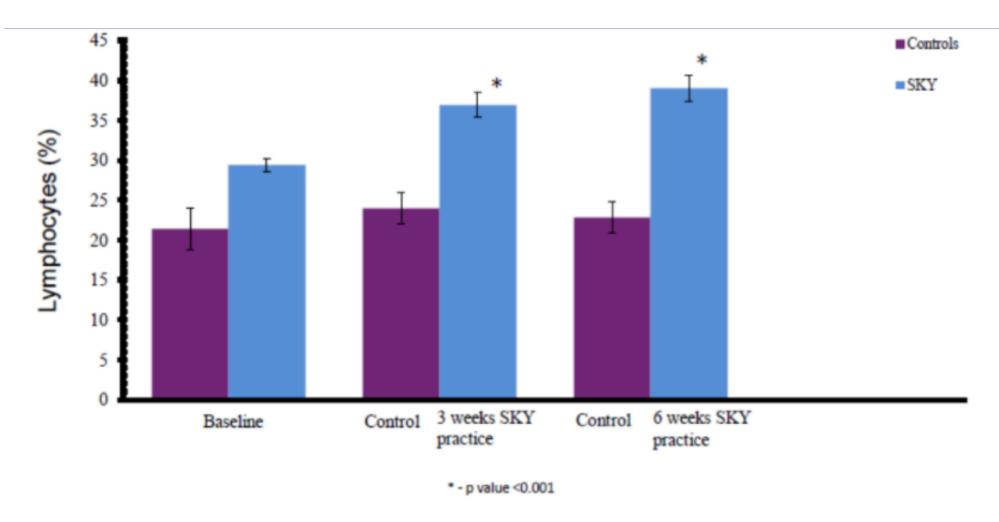


Antioxidants protect cells from free radical damage, which is responsible for many diseases and the aging process. SKY practitioners exhibited more than twice the levels of the 3 major antioxidants, Glutathione, SOD and Catalase as controls.

Sharma et al., Biol Psychol. 2003 Jul;63(3):281-91

# SKY and Immunity

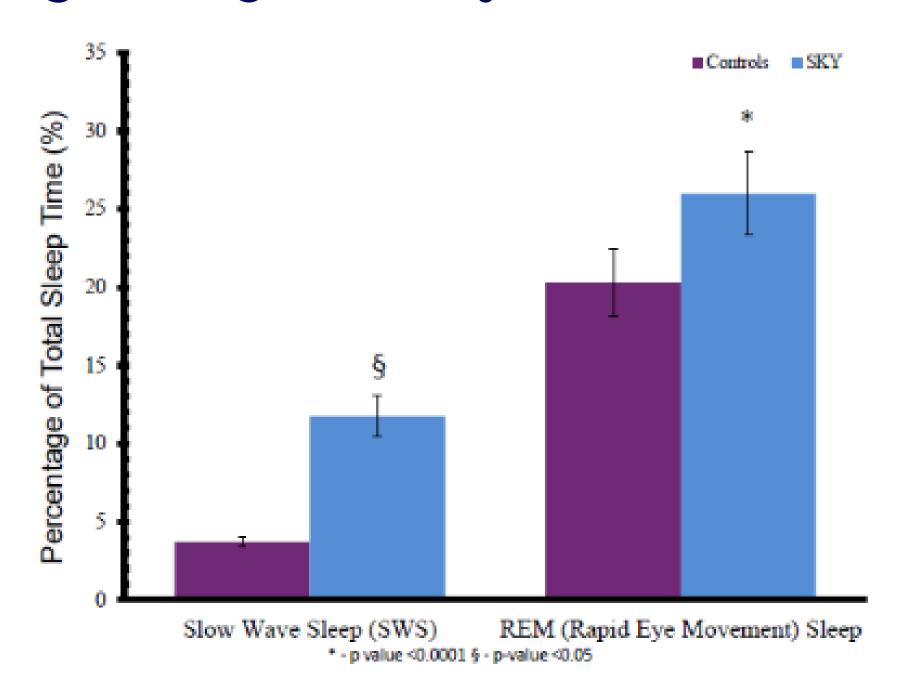
### Significantly Enhances Immunity (Lymphocyte count)



Approximately 70% of all immune cells are lymphocytes. SKY significantly increased lymphocyte count by more than 50% compared to controls, suggesting enhanced immune function.

# SKY and Sleep

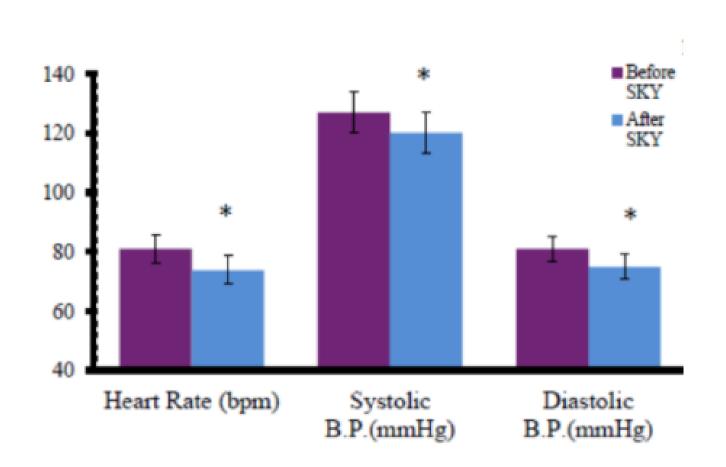
### SKY Program significantly enhances restful sleep



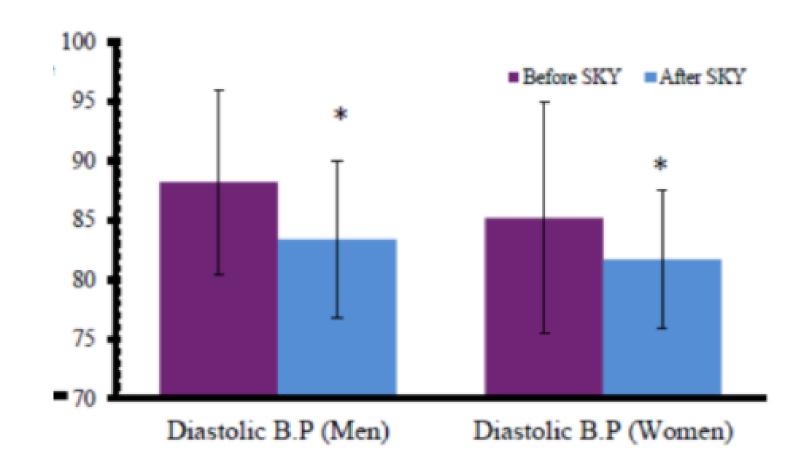
### SKY and Heart Rate & Blood Pressure

### **Lowers Heart Rate and Blood Pressure in**

### **Healthy Individuals**

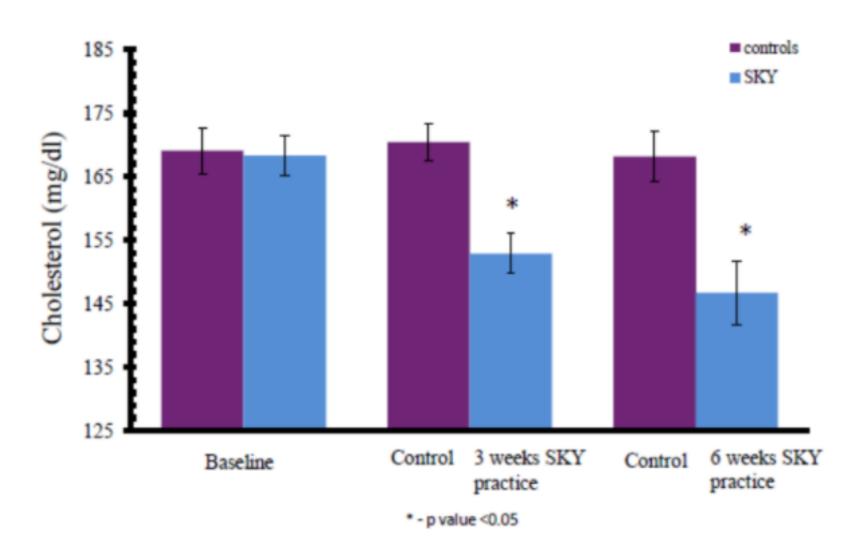


### Hypertensives



# SKY and Cholesterol

### **Significantly Reduces Cholesterol**

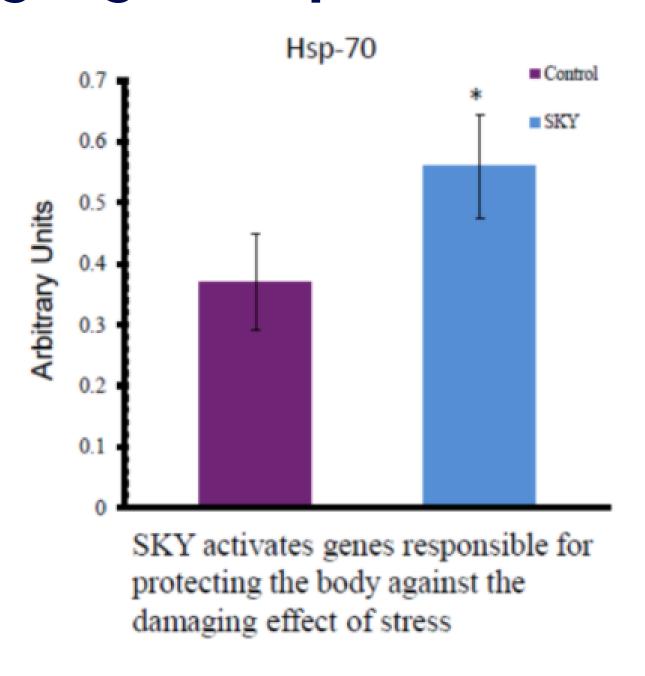


SKY significantly **reduced cholesterol**, with no change in diet in just 3 weeks, even under stressful conditions.

# SKY and Gene Expression

### Rapidly changes gene expression

\*97 genes are expressed



### UNIVERSITIES THAT OFFER \$K



- Ohio State University
- Purdue University
- University of Minnesota
- Cleveland State University
- John Hopkins University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Northeastearn University
- University of Southern Maine
- University of North Carolina Charlotte
- University of North Carolina Greensboro
- Georgia Technical College
- University of Florida Gainesville
- Florida International University
- University of Texas Dallas
- University of Texas Arlington
- University of Texas Austin
- Texas A&M University
- Indiana University Bloomington
- University of New Mexico

- Tacoma Community College
- Stanford University
- San Jose State University
- University of Southern California
- Arizona State University
- University of Maryland
- University of Illinois Urbana
- Champaign University
- North Carolina State University
- University of New England
- SUNY Binghamton
- University of Cincinnati
- University of Florida Tampa
- University of Pittsburgh
- Appalachian State University
- NOVA Southeastern University
- Columbia University
- Texas State San Marcos
- Springfield College
- Emory University

- University of California Los Angeles
- University of Washington
- University of Oregon
- University of California Santa Barbara
- Colorado University Boulder
- University of Alaska
- Harvard University
- Carnegie Mellon University
- UC Irvine
- Drexel
- Wayne State
- University of California San Francisco
- UC Berkeley
- University of Arkansas

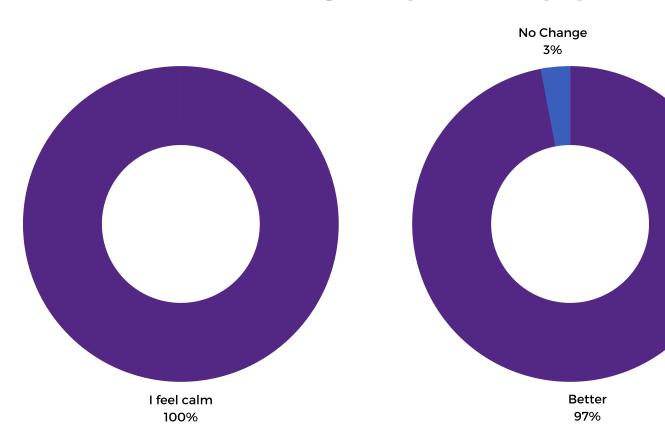


# SKY Campus Happiness Retreat

Stanford University Survey Results

### **LEVEL OF STRESS**

### SLEEP, FOCUS, AND CONCENTRATION

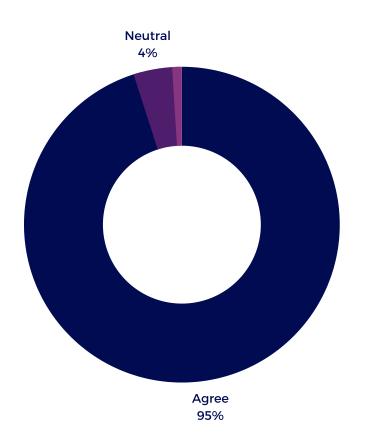


"I FEEL CALM"

Better: 100% No Change: 0%

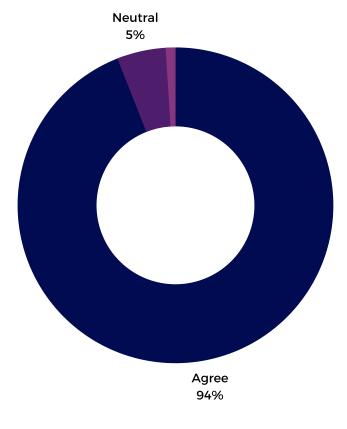


Better: 97% No Change: 3%



"MY SLEEP IS..."

Better: 68% No Change: 32%



"MY FOCUS AND CONCETRATION IS..."

Better: 92% No Change: 8%

# SKY Campus Happiness Retreat

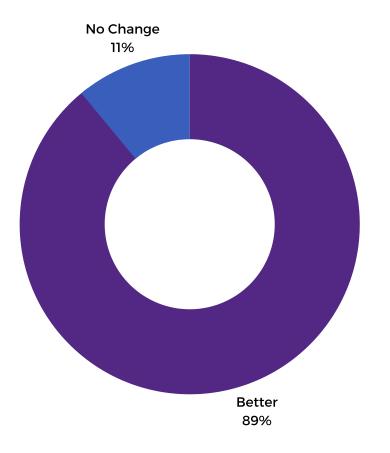
Stanford University Survey Results

### ANGER, FRUSTRATION, AND EMOTIONAL STATE



"I FEEL BETTER"

Better: 100% No Change: 0%



"MY ANGER AND FRUSTRATION IS..."

Better: 89% No Change: 11%



### **OSU The Lantern**

Meditation helps struggling students get back on track

### **Huffington Post**

Why Students At Elite Colleges Are Turning to Meditation

### <u>USM</u>

Free Press: YesPlus helps students relieve stress

### Penn Medicine News

Yogic Breathing Helps Fight Major Depression, Penn Study Shows

### <u>Stanford</u>

Stanford Researchers: The secret to overcoming the opioid crisis may life partly in the mind



### Yale News

To improve students' mental health, Yale study finds, teach them to breathe

### **Forbes**

How To Decrease Back To College Anxiety: Just Breathe

### **Harvard Business Review**

Research: Why Breathing Is So Effective at Reducing Stress

### **PopSugar**

If Traditional Meditation Makes You Anxious, You Need to Try SKY Breath Meditation

### Yoga Journal

Can Yoga and Meditation Fix the College Mental Health Crisis?

## To know more, reach us through:







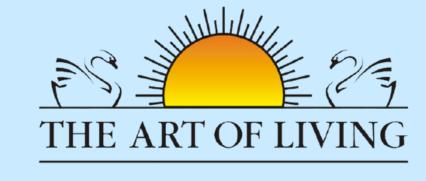


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