



Power of the Circle

Call for Participants

Power of the Circle will be a training course with a strong sense of community.

We invite you join with us this summer in co-creating a community of learning to explore the idea and uses of circles in education and personal development.

19th to the 26th August of 2017 in Slovakia

What might you gain from this experience?

- Experiencing the many ways that circle forms work in education and how this can help everyone involved in the process of learning.
- Inspiration and the confidence to think outside of the box in educational settings.
- The chance to help create an international and diverse community of enquiry.
- The skills to be able to facilitate circles in personal and professional life.
- Knowledge and new ideas through sharing of our educational practice.
- Reflecting on applying what we learn in the service of our communities, our professional and our personal life.

Target group

Youth workers, trainers, guides and teachers from formal and non-formal fields of education. Diversity of practitioners can only strengthen our learning on this course.

Eligible countries

Austria, Czechia, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Slovakia, Turkey

Location

Ecocenter, Univerzitná 1790/2, 01001, Žilina, Slovakia (some pictures from the Ecocenter: <http://ekopark.sk/fotogaleria/>), the accommodation is in rooms of 4-7 people.

Organizer

Preles, <https://www.facebook.com/EkocentrumLesopark/?fref=ts>

What do we mean by circles?

A specific shape, form, room or setting in which learning takes place. A shape that comes with its own modes and culture of communication with rules based on interest in one another; respect and appreciation to diversity; respect and appreciation towards nature; self-awareness and responsibility for our own boundaries; truthfulness with ourselves and freedom.

Why circles?

- Circles are inclusive. In circles everyone sees everyone – everyone has an equally good starting position to share their story or their point of view. The circle opens the door for better understanding of social, language and cultural diversity and it gives new techniques to react on them. Therefore circles are great as a tool to deal with heterogeneous groups as well as to show diversity within a seemingly homogenous group.
- Circles can connect us to the nature and even reveal some ancient magic.
- Circle strengthens you(th). When this less hierarchical form of communication is used in communication between youthworker and young person, it creates a space where the self-esteem and responsibility of the young person can flourish. Settings with less hierarchy also enable age differences to vanish in the sense that everyone is equal and elders can learn from the young as well as the young from the old.

Financial conditions

The programme, food, accommodation and travel expenses will be covered from Erasmus+ grant. There will be a floating participation fee from 50 to 150 Euro.



If you are interested to participate, apply here by June 6th of 2017:

<https://goo.gl/jlivci>

If you find this offer later, you can still apply, we will inform you about the current situation.

You can contact us on circle.zilina@gmail.com

More about organisers and trainers:

Helena Kosková

Helena is active in field of education, nature guiding and facilitation of group processes within Natural Spirit platform. She works with individuals and groups also as a psychotherapist using body and emotions based method Pessio-Boyden System Psychomotor. Her third working focus and passion is gardening. You can often find her sitting in a circle, deepening Way of Council, or walking, exploring pilgrimage as a tool for learning, development and change.

More about her activities can be found on: www.naturalspirit.cz



Richard Irvine

Richard has been an outdoor educator for 24 years, working with a wide range of clients in a variety of environments. He is a qualified Secondary school Geography teacher who escaped from the classroom and the formal curriculum to pursue experiential education in the forests and coastline of his home in the southwest of England. As well as running outdoor programmes with children and young people, he now runs training courses to enable teachers, playworkers, youth-workers and early years educators to become qualified Forest School leaders.

More information on his work can be found here: www.richardirvine.co.uk

Jana Randa

Jana has a passion for education. Since over 10 years she works in the field of non-formal education mostly with youth, youth workers and teachers. Jana is mother of 2 children (1,5 and 4 years old) and her motherhood is currently shaping her activism in the field of education – together with her husband she started an EcoCenter in Žilina, Slovakia. In the same town is a forest kindergarden which they started with other parents. She organizes meetings for homeschool parents and tries to build a community interested in new approaches in education.



Fb event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/452034711795791/>