



# CULTURE GARDEN

**YOUTH LEADERSHIP FOR COLLABORATION**

**4TH-12TH MAY 2022  
MOFFAT, SCOTLAND, UK**

**ERASMUS+ TRAINING COURSE  
KA1 MOBILITY OF YOUTH WORKERS**



## **INFORMATION PACK**



In this pack is information about the course, it's objectives, the venue, the training team, project partners, participating countries, travel, costs, reimbursement, and more! To go straight to the application: [bit.ly/culturegarden2022](https://bit.ly/culturegarden2022)



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

# PROJECT SUMMARY

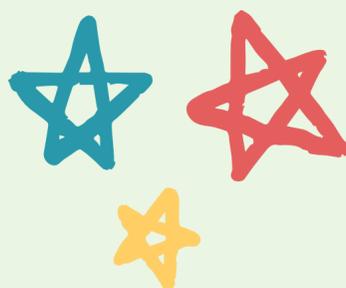
"Culture Garden - Youth Leadership for Collaboration" is a new 7-day residential training course for youth workers, social workers and educators, funded by the Erasmus+ programme and promoted by the UK NGO Coyote Initiatives. Participants will develop advanced 'culture gardening' skills of connection, creativity & collaboration designed for youth work, with an experienced team, combining approaches such as group reflective practice, storytelling, play, somatics, psychology, and group cultural systems awareness.

The project will take place in Scotland, UK, in the town of Moffat, which is 50 miles south of Edinburgh. The venue is The Well Road Centre, a large Victorian building which was once a boarding school, and now hosts trainings, events, youth groups and other events. The training runs from the 4th-12th May 2022. It will involve 27 participants and 3 trainers from 10 different European countries (Italy, Czech Republic, Hungary, Estonia, Slovakia, Spain, Greece, Slovenia, Turkey and United Kingdom).

The programme provides essential tools and practices, as well as opportunities for individual and group self-reflection, which empower young people to successfully connect, create and collaborate in their school, employment, and community contexts. The program engages with leadership, not as a quality held by one person or by a select few, but as a whole-group phenomenon. The governance practices a group uses; the ways that conflict, feedback, and communication are navigated; a group's relationship to creativity and self-expression; its economic paradigms, and more, inform what kind of leadership it potentiates and responds to.

In the programme, participants are given experiential opportunities to learn and build confidence using the "cultural tools" that enable true connection, creativity and collaboration, while learning new ways to support youth to awaken to their own potential, curiosity, and inner motivation.

The final assignment for each participant is to prepare a creative presentation of their own particular leadership style (including strengths & weaknesses) and to design their own "ideal leadership environment," which incorporates a personalised selection of the paradigms and practices they have learned.



## CONTACTS



**PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR**  
**Breigen Brown**  
culturegarden2022@gmail.com



# THE COURSE



In this Culture Garden training course, we will combine these main elements:

- Critical analysis of the phenomenon of **group culture** and an overview of the frameworks, tools, and practices that support **collaboration**;
- Individual and whole-group **experiential learning & practice**;
- Creative/expressive and embodied activities to cultivate **self-reflection, self-awareness and resilience**

In order to:

- **Empower** young people to become more active participants in their local governments, economies, and communities, and to shape their local cultures towards a more collaborative ethos;
- **Equip** young people with the core skills and frameworks to succeed in the volatile and emergent conditions that are becoming the norm worldwide;
- **Cultivate** personal & group resilience in the face of change and uncertainty

## OUR APPROACH

In today's world, the need to respond to complex social, economic and environmental challenges is bringing people together across lines of difference, and calling for new ways to organise and act together in service of our local communities and the world. The need for practical and versatile skillsets for collaboration – with our friends, families, colleagues, and communities – is greater than ever. However, cultural expectations are developed and carried beneath our conscious awareness and are often more “felt” than “known.”

Culture Garden helps groups to learn the skills and practices required to understand and engage with this hidden landscape: to identify the dynamics, needs, and issues at play in their cultural field; to compassionately release patterns that no longer serve their wellbeing; and, to become active participants in co-creating healthy group cultures that express their values and empower their work in the world.

Simultaneously, we support groups to plan and enact the structural and systemic changes over time which allow their healthy group cultures to flourish. This is a multi-dimensional process which can include governance and decision making systems, strength based mapping of the organisational assets and needs, action planning, and role/task descriptions & supportive review processes to name a few structural supports. A healthy culture functions best when it is in a reciprocal and harmonious relationship with these more formal group processes.

We call this practice **Culture Gardening**.

# PARTICIPATION & DISSEMINATION

By applying to this course, participants commit themselves to actively participate in the whole process, including:

- to read all the information carefully
- to communicate timely with the organisers
- to prepare adequately for the training course
- to take actively part in the full duration of the activities
- to participate in the evaluation process after the course



Dissemination is a crucial area of the E+ project lifecycle. It gives the opportunity to communicate and share outcomes, thus extending the impact of a project. Sharing results, lessons learned, outcomes and findings will enable a wider community to benefit from a work that has received EU funding. You will be encouraged and required to actively take part in the dissemination of the project during and after the course. We will offer you tips and space for coming up with ideas and planning.

# TEAM OF TRAINERS



## MADELANNE RUST-D'EYE

Madelanne is a facilitator, experiential educator, and body-based psychotherapist. She delights in creating body-informed programming to support collaboration in group cultures. She provides organisational and leadership consulting for agile and effective teams, and has a Master's degree in Somatic Counselling Psychology from [Naropa University](#) (Colorado, USA), with specialisations in Dance/Movement Therapy and Body Psychotherapy. She believes passionately in the transformational potential that body- and movement-based group paradigms hold for global culture. She developed and teaches Body-Informed Leadership.

[www.BodyIntelligence.ca](http://www.BodyIntelligence.ca)

## JAMES WOOD

James is a Community Development specialist and a gifted partnership-builder, engaging in international & multi-cultural settings with governments, charities, businesses and community groups since 1998. He leads strength-based, holistic action planning processes to support common-ground solutions to local, regional, and global challenges. James holds an Interdisciplinary Master's Degree in *Sustainability and Public Policy* and a Bachelor's Degree in *Social Anthropology & Community Economic Development* (CED) from Simon Fraser University. James believes that collaboration and co-mentorship are powerful keys to creating healthy local & global cultures. [www.JamesWood.ca](http://www.JamesWood.ca)



## INEZ APONTE



Inez Aponte is a facilitator, educator and consultant in the Human Scale Development Approach, working with individuals and communities seeking to improve their quality of life in balance with the Earth's ecology. With a background in art and performance, she focuses on the interplay between language, storytelling and behaviour change to help groups cultivate their 'radical collective imagination' - a capacity she believes is vital for the creation of a socially and ecologically just world. She has worked with a wide range of international audiences, including refugees, business leaders, community organisers and students from institutions such as Schumacher College, the Centre for Alternative Technology, London School of Economics and Lille Institute of Political Studies. She is an accredited Trainer for the Transition Network and a fellow of The Schumacher Institute. [www.GrowingGoodLives.com](http://www.GrowingGoodLives.com)



# ACCOMMODATION

---

The training course will take place in Moffat, a small town 50 miles south of Edinburgh. The venue is The Well Road Centre ([www.wellroadcentre.com](http://www.wellroadcentre.com)). The accommodation will be in shared rooms of between 4 and 10 people. Showers and toilets are shared. Linen will be provided, **but you must bring your own towel**. The course is residential, so we will stay together in the venue for the whole time. Our group will be responsible for living together during the course. This is a normal part of our educational approach and encourages community spirit, responsibility and sharing. Everyday tasks will be shared by participants, as part of the community living experience.

You can arrive at the house anytime after 14.00. Dinner will be at 19.00 and there will be a short evening programme starting at 20.00. The end of the course is scheduled on the 11th of May with a farewell party, so that all of us will leave on May 12th after breakfast. We have to leave the venue by 09.30 at the latest. Our programme includes half a day free and we will provide information about the local area. No trip will be organised to visit Edinburgh. If you want to have some leisure time you can take 2 days before OR after the course for your own plans (2 days in total), and still be eligible for a travel reimbursement. We cannot reimburse travel outside of this limitation. Any accommodation costs for those extra days will be fully up to you.

We will give more detailed information about travel, reimbursement etc once you have a place on the course.



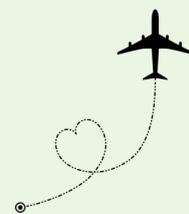
**WE ARE VERY SORRY TO SAY THAT THE VENUE IS NOT ACCESSIBLE.**

There is no elevator, and all accommodation is on the 1st and 2nd floors, accessed only by stairs. We were unable to secure an accessible venue, and we apologise for this.

ATTENDANCE FOR THE WHOLE COURSE - FROM THE 4th-12th MAY - IS ONE OF THE BASIC CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION, SO PLEASE ARRANGE YOUR TRAVEL TO BE THERE ON TIME. IN CASE OF ANY COMPLICATIONS, PLEASE LET US KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

# TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

---



The course is co-funded through the Erasmus+ European programme. We can reimburse only the cheapest transportation possible and only public transport, and only standard or 2nd class fares. We cannot reimburse any Taxis or Private Cars.

For the reimbursements, we will need:

1. An invoice with the **itinerary** of your trip including the **names of the passengers** and, very important, the **price of the ticket**. Usually all this information is available on the e-tickets for flights or on the confirmation email.
2. All your original travel tickets and receipts (**train and bus tickets**) which you wish to have reimbursed. We cannot provide reimbursement without the **original documents**, so it will be your responsibility to take good care of them.
3. All boarding passes. This can be original printed boarding passes, or any mobile passes, printed out.
4. All exchange rates for the project are set by Erasmus+ and any calculations to Euros will follow the official set project rates.

The following list is the maximum allowed per person for a full return (2-way) journey, and we will not refund more than this.

---

**HUNGARY, SLOVAKIA, SPAIN, ITALY,  
CZECH REPUBLIC, ESTONIA, SLOVENIA: €275**  
**GREECE: €360**  
**TURKEY: €530**  
**UK: €180**

---



## IMPORTANT:

In terms of where you are from, for the purposes of qualifying for this programme, it is where you live, not where you are from. Your country of residence, not your nationality.

For example, we can accept a person living in Italy, as long as they travel from, and return to Italy, no matter what nationality is shown on your passports. Please, don't ask for exceptions ("I'm originally from Italy, but now I live in Belgium - can I travel from there?") as these are the rules set by Erasmus+ and unfortunately we cannot change them!

The reimbursement will be done after the end of the project, after we successfully get all the tickets and boarding passes from you - including any return passes, tickets etc. We will make the transfers once we have all the tickets from everyone, and no later than 6 weeks after the course has finished. Instructions and forms will be provided during the training course.

# COURSE FEE

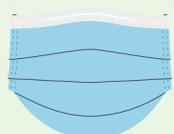
---



The Erasmus+ funding does not fully cover the course. We work with the venue, training team, project coordinator and ourselves to provide subsidised rates for this course. This, along with your contribution of the above fees, and the time and effort put in by our partner organisations for free, allow this course to take place and all act as co-funding of this project.

A participation fee of €60-€150 (£50-£120) based upon your own, and your organisation's situation, is required for the course. Please contact us for further information if this is a barrier. We can take this fee in cash during the course, or we can deduct this from your travel reimbursement payment.

Please note - If your travel costs are €200 and your participation fee is €100, your reimbursement payment would be €100.



# COVID-19

---

The U.K. national agency will not refund any costs due to Covid, including all flights and travel costs. If you wish, please fully insure your own travel as we will not be able to reimburse any missed flights for any reason.

We will run our course in line with the current guidelines in Scotland. More information will be shared before the course start date. It is your responsibility to ensure you meet the requirements to travel and enter Scotland and the UK.

If the entire course has to be cancelled due to Covid restrictions, we will seek to re-organise the course at a later date or investigate an online option. We hope this will not happen!

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

---



It is the participant's responsibility to obtain full insurance for themselves.  
This includes travel insurance, medical insurance.

Any pictures, videos, images taken at the course, as well as the materials produced during the activities, can be used to document the activity in reports, on websites or social networks, or for promotional material.

The course will include light outdoor activities Please pack clothes which also suitable for outdoor activities.

Internet is available at the venue, but the quality is low when there are many people using it, so we ask that you organise your own mobile wifi / phone wifi for your time at the venue if you need it, as we cannot guarantee wifi signal.

We will ask you to provide any dietary requirements and mobility requirements prior to the course. This does not remove the participant's personal responsibility for ensuring their own health and safety.

**The Venue is not an accessible venue. We are very sorry about this, and apologise unreservedly.**

Pack your own phone & laptop chargers, and ravel adaptors according to the local standards.

You will need to provide your own Towel and personal toiletries etc.

# PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

---

**Coyote Initiatives** (UK) - Host  
[coyoteinitiatives.com](http://coyoteinitiatives.com)

**Muovimento Societa Cooperativa Sociale** (Italy) [muovimento.it/en](http://muovimento.it/en)

**Vice Versa** (Czechia)  
[viceversa.cz](http://viceversa.cz)

**Yaygin Egitim Merkezil Dernegi**  
(Turkey) [yegitim.org.tr](http://yegitim.org.tr)

**Biodiversa** (Spain)  
[asociacionbiodiversa.org](http://asociacionbiodiversa.org)

**EduEra** (Slovakia)  
[eduera.sk/en](http://eduera.sk/en)

**Zavod Voluntariat** (Slovenia)  
[zavod-voluntariat.si/en](http://zavod-voluntariat.si/en)

**Ecoservice** (Hungary)  
[okoszolgalat.hu](http://okoszolgalat.hu)

**Inter Alia** (Greece)  
[interaliaproject.com](http://interaliaproject.com)

**MTU Link** (Estonia)

---

## APPLY HERE

[bit.ly/culturegarden2022](http://bit.ly/culturegarden2022)

---



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

