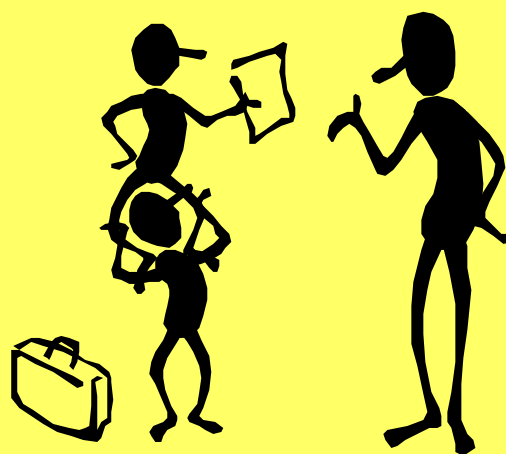




The Art of Hosting Conversations that Matter

A Youth Leadership Course
6-9 July 2006 – at Castle Borl, Slovenia



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NOVELUS

engage  interact

The Art of Hosting Conversations that Matter

Are you asking yourself...

How do we build synergies and sincere partnerships with our stakeholders and activate change?

How do I get myself and young people involved and committed to making a real difference?

How can I run programmes, meetings and trainings in truly interactive ways to unleash real innovative ideas?

How can we as young people create energy and bring out passion in our groups and organisations?



The Art of Hosting Conversations that Matter

The Art of Hosting is a training course to learn about and stimulate innovative youth leadership, through building competencies to host meaningful and strategic conversations



Through our work we have experienced that meaningful and strategic conversations are an opportunity to inspire passion and responsibility, bring out the greatness in people and create the futures we are longing for.

Hosting and convening such conversations is a leadership practice, where leaders do not give us answers, but help us discover answers together.



"If the group is an art form of the future, then convening groups is the artistry we must cultivate to fully explore the promise of this form."

- Jacob Needleman



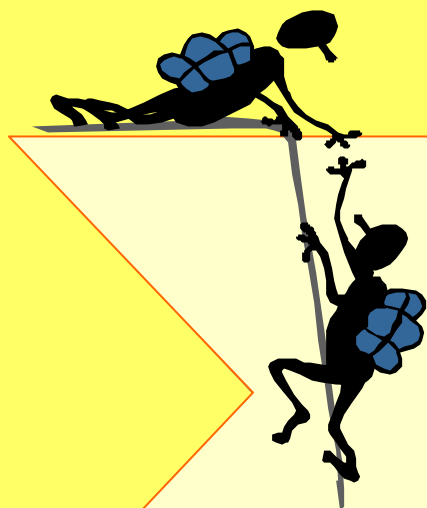
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We offer...

- **Skills-building** in hosting different conversation methods, such as: Circle Practice, Open Space Technology, World Café and Appreciative Inquiry
- **Development of cross-cutting competencies** related to hosting, such as: asking powerful questions, inviting diversity, working with divergence and convergence, and walking the path of change and transformation, in a dance of chaos and order (Chaordic)
- **Reflection on youth leadership practices** and increasing self-awareness and self-confidence through an integral and playful approach to leadership
- **The space and support to reflect** on your specific youth-related project, initiative or organisation; how it can be enhanced through applying your learning from the course and how to overcome possible “back-home” resistance to change



The Art of Hosting Conversations that Matter



This training is not for spectators!

Our learning will grow out of **participant contributions and involvement** – we will support each other as **co-learners** – learning through interactive processes to build a safe and inspiring learning environment.

Take a chance to explore – and experiment with – applying these tools to **your own** projects! This will help you to apply your skills, and develop a new leadership practice that will last well beyond this training.



Who is the Art of Hosting for?

- ✓ Emerging youth leaders, youth trainers, youth workers
- ✓ Young people (<30yrs) leading and running organisations
- ✓ Managers of youth-focused organisations and events/conferences
- ✓ Project coordinators working on youth engagement/development activities
- ✓ Young social entrepreneurs starting up youth-focused initiatives
- ✓ Camp leaders and counsellors

The Art of Hosting Conversations that Matter

Who are your Hosts?

We are all involved with organising, designing and hosting inspired spaces across the corporate, non-profit and public sectors. We support life-affirming and resilient leadership, participatory learning, organisational and social change. We have come together through the passion to bring this work to others – in particular to emerging youth leaders.

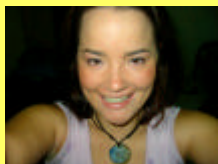


Alenka Zavašnik, Slovenia, Novelus, www.novelus.org

Alenka specialises in engaging participants in meeting processes where knowledge, experience, and intuition are shared in a collective effort; and individuals have opportunities to explore their personal leadership and growth. She has worked with youth on issues of employment, leadership and project development.

Arjen Bos, The Netherlands, Engage! InterAct, www.engage.nu/interact

Arjen has been actively involved with designing and facilitating learning programmes for a variety of European youth organisations. He is a facilitator of authentic learning and communication: get ego out of the way, contribute to collective intelligence and take your responsibility to apply it wisely!



Zoe Fitzgerald, Australia/Netherlands, Engage! InterAct apprentice

Zoe is a Diversity & Inclusion consultant with hosting & facilitation experience in international youth development. Zoe is passionate about engaging diversity to develop unity & creative solutions to common challenges and conflicts in organisations and communities.

Tatiana Glad, Netherlands/Canada, Engage! InterAct, www.engage.nu/interact

Tatiana has a background in programme development & management for social and environmental change, in various sectors. She has been active in youth leadership internationally, and has co-hosted learning programmes at Castle Borl over the past 4 years drawing on interactive social technologies that allow us to live our learning.



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The training will take place at: Castle Borl, Ptuj, Slovenia.

It is easily accessible by train or air (via Graz or Ljubljana). Budget airlines are available to both these cities. Upon registration, we are happy to provide you with more detailed information if required.

The course will takes place July 6-9, 2006. We ask you to arrive the evening of July 5th and depart the morning of July 10th. Only full participation is accepted.

The cost of the course is 650EUR. This includes meals, accommodation and materials for the course duration. *We don't want cost to be an obstacle to youth participation and diversity; scholarships will be made available pending available funding. We practice the principle of "Contribute what you can - plus a little bit more" so let us know as soon as possible what makes it possible for you to come. Through the registration form please inform us what is possible for you to afford.*

Donations to the Scholarship Fund are welcome!

To register please contact us for the registration form, you can also download it at www.engage.nu/interact under Courses & Services.

The deadline for registration is April 3, 2006.

Note: places are limited to a maximum of 30 participants; please submit your registration soon to secure a spot!

Need more information? Feel free to drop one of us a line:

alenska@novelus.org, tatiana@engage.nu,
zoe_fitzgerald@hotmail.com



The Art of Hosting Conversations that Matter

*There is no greater power
than a community
discovering what it cares about*



Ask "What's possible?" not "What's wrong?" Keep asking.

*Notice what you care about.
Assume that many others share your dreams.*

Be brave enough to start a conversation that matters.

*Talk to people you know.
Talk to people you don't know.
Talk to people you never talk to.*

*Be intrigued by the differences you hear.
Expect to be surprised.
Treasure curiosity more than certainty.*

*Invite in everybody who cares to work on what's possible.
Acknowledge that everyone is an expert in something.
Know that creative solutions come from new connections.*

*Remember, you don't fear people whose story you know.
Real listening always brings people closer together.*

Trust that meaningful conversations change your world.

Rely on human goodness. Stay together.

~ Margaret Wheatley