

What is your next level of leadership that serves your community?



An Invitation

The Art of Hosting and Convening Meaningful Conversations:

Applied Practice in Change Leadership

May 7-10, 2008

DaySpring on the Manatee River
(Near Tampa Bay, FL)

The Art of Hosting is a combined experiential training, learning lab, and retreat for all who want to create and apply practices of working effectively with groups during times of change. This will be the FIRST sponsored event in the southeast United States. These trainings are offered periodically in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, North and South America – www.artofhosting.org.

We welcome fellow leaders – trainers, teachers, consultants, politicians, managers, social workers, entrepreneurs, social innovators, youth workers, community builders, hosts. Leaders are people who want to help, who are willing to step forward to create change in their worlds. We know that the leaders we need are already here.

Be ready to be surprised and delighted by the people, experiences and opportunities that await you in this peaceful space among Florida's natural gifts, as early summer unfolds.

Sponsors of this Training

The Berkana Institute and The Connection Partners invite you to be part of a small group of inspired leaders, who are expanding the role of leading through conversation.



The Berkana Institute
(www.berkana.org)
connects and supports
pioneering, life-

affirming leaders around the world who strengthen their communities by working with the wisdom and wealth already present in its people, traditions and environment.

The Connection Partners, Inc. links people, resources and ideas by synthesizing global perspectives, harvesting the pearls and catalyzing local communities to optimize sustainability.

Why This Training Now?

There is a new story emerging among us that brings the best of what we've learned, trusting we will find ways of living that are more sustainable and nurturing to ourselves, our families, communities and Earth.

Art of Hosting offers a taste of that as we experience the wisdom that is within individuals and the group. All levels of our humanness show up and we feel a deep togetherness.

The Art of Hosting is itself a collaborative, a community of practice, exploring together how to best host the conversations and changes that matter in our communities. The network of friends includes: The Shambala Institute, The World Café, Open Space, Berkana, PeerSpirit and Pioneers of Change.

How It Works

Experience and learn models of conversation that engage people at a deep level about topics they really care about – families, organizations, communities - and that foster actions to make a difference. These tools offer paths to guide us through duality and polarization toward a more civil society.

A core team of facilitators, steeped in the process, open the circle. The team expands throughout the weekend to include all who want to practice hosting. There are many levels of participation.

Doing is balanced by being. Frontier science and ancient wisdom offer ballast. Conversations and personal experience, rather than lecture, is the practice. There are designated times for individual, group and team learning with space to "get" what surfaces in periods of silence, play, nature walks and canoe trips.

The time is now; we are the ones.
Hopi Elders

This Training Is Not for Spectators

Our learning will grow out of participant contributions and presence—we will support one another as co-learners.

We will learn by observation, experience and practice, using interactive processes to build a safe, challenging, and inspiring learning environment.

Take a chance to experiment and apply these tools to your own projects in progress, as well as develop and continue a new practice and a new community of co-learners that will last well beyond this training.

Develop competence in several interactive processes – World Café, Circle, Open Space Technology, Appreciative Inquiry -- that produce learning, creativity and shared commitment to action.

Learn to design and lead meetings and conversations that result in clearer thinking, intelligent solutions, and group coherence.

Experience the Art of Hosting as a fundamental organizing pattern that invites profound shifts in how we might live and work together

Are you asking these questions?

- How do I / we create authentic involvement that leads to wise and sustainable implementation?
- How do I / we engage others in vibrant and creative learning?
- How can I / we create full ownership of the learning and action of the people I / we work with?
- What if I / we practiced the art of opening the collective intelligence in my organization and networks?
- How do I / we develop confidence in working with the chaos and fear I / we experience in groups?

This training is for you.

Context & Background

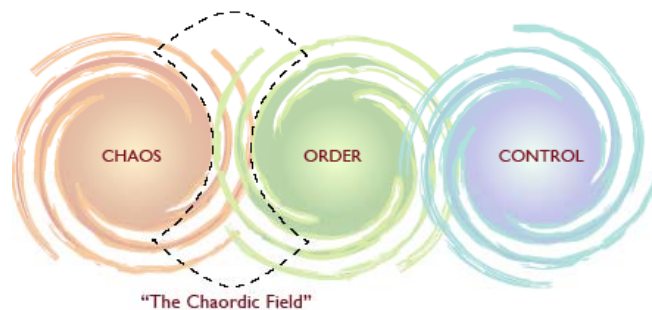
We are inspired by what happens when people meet with the purpose of learning and developing their own competences in relationship with others.

We have discovered that the principles of **self-organization, participation, ownership, and non-linear solutions** are the keys of both individual and collective discoveries.

This is different and complimentary to more traditional ways of working, that are often based on rational planning and full control of the process, in order to secure results are met.

We are especially inspired by what happens in the **creative tension**

between chaos and order – just enough chaos to make creation of newness possible and just enough order to bring ideas into wise action.



The Art of Hosting is built on the assumption – and experience – that change for the common good calls for involvement, collective intelligence, and co-creation to discover new solutions and build powerful systems of influence.

- It is a response to a world that is becoming increasingly complex and fragmented, where true solutions and innovations lie not in one leader or one viewpoint, but in the bigger picture of the collective intelligence.
- It is learning to lead from the perspective of the whole system, the field of the emerging future.
- It is a response to a time when institutions and democracy itself are failing to address the increasing chaos in our world.
- It is an experimentation ground for new, effective, and healthy patterns for organizing, innovating and interacting.
- It is a place for those who are interested in being part of a shift to sustainable, resilient and thriving organizations and communities across the world.

The Hosting and Calling Team



Sharon Joy Kleitsch
The Connection Partners
St. Petersburg, Florida

I am a meta-networker at a planetary level, passionate about translating the principles of quantum theory to strengthen the life of communities. I have a unique vision for seeing

potentials and transforming them into action-oriented solutions. I entice key leaders from their organizational silos to play in a sandbox of possibilities. Heart-centered communications arise, shaping conscious collaborations to address concerns such as diversity, education and the environment. Life is relationships - with others, with situations, with ideas, and with one's self. Relationships change the world.



Francis Baldwin
Designed Wisdom
Atlanta, Georgia

My work with individuals, groups and corporations is to facilitate a move toward coherence in self, relationships and performance; and the realization of more organic and humane

environments. A common denominator across all of my services centers on the ability, and will, to bring a compelling presence to both tasks and relationships. My professional experience has taken me through the realms of rational, scientific, spiritual and generative ways of thinking and being. Some integrated embodiment of this learning journey helps me to be an effective resource and partner to my clients. I have been an executive and consultant over a period of more than 35 years. Now I am an experiential learning partner, who enjoys, helping people to translate concepts into the most informed actions for their current and future aspirations and needs.



Chris Corrigan
Host and Consultant
Bowen Island, British Columbia
www.chriscorrigan.com

I am a facilitator of conversation in the service

of emergence. My business is supporting invitation: the invitation to collaborate, to organize, to find one another and make a difference in our communities, organizations and lives. I work with organizations seeking to improve their work, communities seeking to improve their future, people looking to improve their lives. I hold and care for process - the ways in which we work together - to encourage people to make their best possible contributions. I have an unflagging belief that the answers and leadership we need arise out of collaboration and conversation. By facilitating dialogue, I do my best to hold space for futures to emerge.



Peggy Holman
The Open Circle Company
Bellevue, Washington
www.opencirclecompany.com

I convene and host conversations that matter, inviting people and systems to gather around the

issues most important to them. By growing their capacity to step into mystery using generative processes that call forth the best of who people are and can be, I have been honored to witness organizations and communities unleash the energy and wisdom to move dreams to action. The vastly expanded second edition of my book, The Change Handbook (Berrett-Koehler, 2007), co-edited with Tom Devane and Steven Cady, has been warmly received as an aid to people wishing to increase resilience, agility, collaboration, and aliveness in their organizations and communities. My current inquiry is into how we take to scale the gifts that the art and practice of process bring to shifting our collective capacity for living well together.



Tenneson Woolf
Host and Consultant
Orem, Utah
www.berkana.org

My work is leadership and community development – hosting spaces for co-created insight and solutions. I work in partnership with clients, colleagues, friends, family, and community to integrate learning and action of self, team, and community. A few of my current partnerships include:

The Berkana Institute, where I am helping to co-create more availability of the hosting pattern through client systems and open enrollment trainings; *The Salt Lake Center for Engaging Community*, where I support and design local dialogues on living in healthy community; and formerly, *The Dyer Institute for Leading Organizational Change*, where I worked with university students, faculty, and managers on practices of change.

Logistics

The Art of Hosting and Convening Meaningful Conversations: Applied Practice in Leading Change

May 7, 6:00 pm – May 10, 4:00 pm
DaySpring (Near Tampa Bay, FL)

Location – DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center (www.dayspringfla.org) was created by the Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Florida in 1983 to serve as a conference and retreat center for the diocese. Almost immediately, it took on a much larger role in the spiritual life of Southwestern Florida, as the doors opened to all denominations, hospice groups, camps for homeless children and teens living the joys of their differences. It holds a magical feeling. Extended stay may be possible – please contact DaySpring directly at 941 776 1018; 8411 25th St East, Parrish FL 33222.



Beginning and Ending Times – We welcome you on the 7th to register and settle in beginning at 4:00. We will eat dinner together at 6:00 and meet in our opening session at 7:00. Our closing session on the 10th will end at 4:00.

Registration Deadline is April 10, 2008 – This is a residential course with spaces for 35 participants. Spaces tend to fill quickly. If you live nearby and wish to commute, please note that evening times are typically rich with conversation, connection, coaching, and informal learning opportunities. *Registration is not confirmed until payment is received.*

Online: <http://www.berkana.org/aoh>

Phone: Lizzie Riesenberg, 509 835 4228 (Washington – Pacific Standard Time)

Email: Lizzie Riesenberg, lizzie@berkana.org

Cost – For Profit Organizations: \$1,050 (Tuition, Materials) + \$350 (Accommodations, Meals)
Not for Profit Organizations: \$850 (Tuition, Materials) + \$350 (Accommodations, Meals)

Note: Most rooms are shared accommodations. Single rooms \$105 additional.

We request that every participant take to heart the invitation to "pay what you can--and a little bit more...." This means we count on:

- Participants that cannot afford this price step forward and speak the cost that they can pay.
- Participants with financial ease or organizational backing to consider a contribution beyond the registration fee to support others.

In The Art of Hosting we draw on three principles:

- we rely on human goodness
- we depend on diversity, and
- we live from a spirit of generosity.

We price events to modestly support a hosting team and pay the cost of the facilities, registration, and materials.

Thank you for your support on behalf of the larger community, its dreams and possibilities ready to be born.

More Information – Sharon Joy Kleitsch, kleitsch@verizon.net, 727 550 9660 (Florida – Eastern Standard Time) or Tenneson Woolf, tenneson@berkana.org, 801 376 2213 (Utah – Mountain Standard Time).