

# The Art of Hosting and Convening Conversations

November 16-18, 2007

Kirkridge Retreat Center, 90 minutes from NYC or Philadelphia



**The Art of Hosting and Convening Conversations** is a training for all those who aspire to learn how to work with groups in more interactive, engaging and effective ways; nurturing collective intelligence, shared learning and effective action.

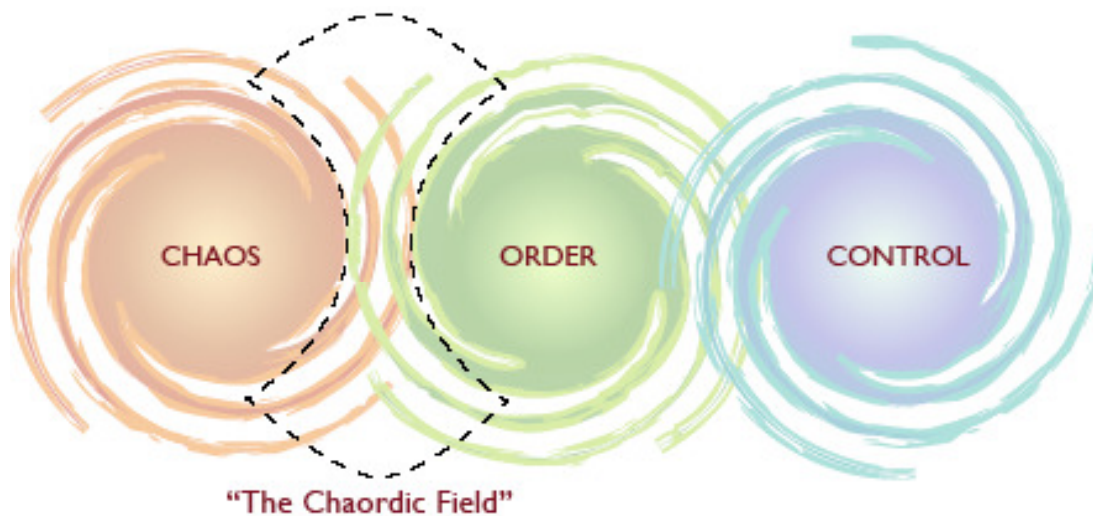
**We invite leaders**, trainers, teachers, consultants, politicians, entrepreneurs and social innovators – anyone who wants to practice leadership that invites collective creativity and intelligence and achieves better cooperation and results.

## The Art of Hosting is more than just a training:

- 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 those seeking to find 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.
- It is a practice ground for all who aspire to bring out the best in others. It is based on the assumption and experience that human beings have an enormous untapped wealth and resilience and there are simple and effective ways for bringing those out with authenticity to create innovative and comprehensive solutions.

### If you are asking the questions:

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



- It provides the basic theory and practices of the specific competences required to live and work in the tension between chaos and order - The Chaordic Field where learning and innovation take place and where wise and sustainable change can be discovered.

### **Participants in the Art of Hosting will:**

- Explore hosting conversations as a core leadership practice and skill set for leading change.
- Develop competence in several interactive processes that produce learning, creativity and shared commitment to action. We will explore Open Space Technology, Appreciative Inquiry, Circle, World Cafe, and other participatory methodologies
- Learn to design and lead meetings and conversations that result in clearer thinking, intelligent solutions, and group coherence. We will experiment with Chaordic Design, the Convergence and Divergence model as well as others.
- Explore how to apply these tools and to a project in progress, and determine how to develop your skills and practices well beyond this workshop.
- Experience the Art of Hosting as a fundamental organizing pattern that invites profound shifts in how we might live and work together.

**When you join the Art of Hosting you are joining a growing global community** of practitioners, supporting each other to explore and accomplish what we most care about. The Art of Hosting & Convening Conversations has been offered to hundreds of people in Europe, Africa, the Middle East and North America.

# The Hosting Team



## Angela Amel

*Streetworks  
New York, New York*

Angela Amel lives and works in NYC. She is an independent consultant working in the areas of program and leadership development through inclusive practices. She focuses on holding spaces to deepen the conversations and compassion between staff at all levels. She also spent 15 years running urban programs for homeless youth. In the past two years she has deeply immersed herself in the learning and participating of hosting practices. She now is fully involved in using all these practices in her work and life. She is thrilled to be bringing this program to the New York area!



## Nancy Fritsche Eagan

*People Potential and All My Sisters  
New York, New York*

I am a consultant working in New York City and jazzed to be bringing the Art of Hosting to NYC! I work to support and promote collaborative and inclusive practices in families, communities and organizations. I primarily work with public sector and not-for-profit organizations in this urban environment. My current projects seek to promote youth development, expand collaborative educational models with alternative high schools, support leadership development, and enhance community building. My emerging work with All My Sisters focuses on global women's economic and leadership advancement. Through practices of hosting I am exploring "What else is possible in our communities and our work together?"



## Christina Baldwin

*PeerSpirit  
Whidbey Island, Washington*

Christina is the author of *Life's Companion*, *Calling the Circle*, *The Seven Whispers*, *Listening to the Voice of Spirit*, and *Storycatcher*. Christina brings decades of experience in facilitation, teaching, speaking, writing, and leadership to this work. She is the co-founder of PeerSpirit, Inc, where the core of her work is teaching and leading council. "We believe council, or circle, to be the common root of all cultures, a tradition that can take us from the campfire to the future." Council facilitates conversation that allows groups of people to accomplish goals through an integrated experience of heart and mind. Through all of this work she brings a [connection to reflection](#) as the basis for wise decision and social action. [www.peerspirit.com](http://www.peerspirit.com)



## Chris Corrigan

*Host and Consultant  
Bowen Island, British Columbia*

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. <http://www.chriscorrigan.com>



## Teresa Posakony

*Host and Consultant;  
Seattle, Washington*

Teresa's work has led her beyond the bounds of corporate leadership and organizational development into the arena of community engagement and collective leadership. She is currently Chair of Berkana Institute's Board and deeply involved in the women's leadership initiative and the Berkana Exchange. Teresa is passionate about working with groups as they discover their shared purpose and work to create positive futures for their organizations and communities. She does this work globally with the Berkana Institute and locally through her consulting practice and programs such as the "Collective Leadership Circles of Practice" a team-based learning intensive to engage groups and organizations in unleashing their potential. [www.berkana.org](http://www.berkana.org)



## Tenneson Woolf

*Dyer Institute for Org. Change  
Provo, Utah*

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. Some of my current partners include: The Berkana Institute, where I helped to grow and steward a global network of leaders called, From the Four Directions; The Art of Hosting, where I continue to learn the deeper practices of co-creation; The Center for Engaging Community, where I support and design local dialogues on living in healthy community; The Dyer Institute for Leading Organizational Change, where I work with university students, faculty, and managers on practices of change. [www.dyerinstitute.byu.edu](http://www.dyerinstitute.byu.edu)

# Logistics

## The Art of Hosting and Convening Conversations

November 16 at 9am to November 18th at 4pm 2007

Bangor Pennsylvania, 90 Minutes from NYC or Philadelphia



### **The practice retreat will take place at Kirkridge Retreat and Study Center**

Kirkridge Retreat and Study Center is located on the beautiful Kittatinny Ridge of eastern Pennsylvania near the Delaware Water Gap and the Pocono Mountains region. Kirkridge is known for its hospitality, beautiful vistas and grounds. It is conveniently located 90 minutes from Philadelphia or NYC by car or by bus. We will help coordinate local logistics in support of those travelling via public transportation. (<http://Kirkridge.org>)

### **The session will take place Friday November 16 through Sunday November 18th**

We will begin at 9am on Friday and end no later than 4pm on Sunday. This is a residential course. The evening time is rich with conversations, connections, co-creation, formal and informal learning opportunities. The event begins with an optional dinner on Thursday night at the Kirkridge Retreat Center with the option to stay overnight.

### **To register, please complete a registration form:**

Forms can be found at <http://www.berkana.aoh> or requested via email to [lizzie@berkana.org](mailto:lizzie@berkana.org) or one of the contacts below. Please email completed forms to [lizzie@berkana.org](mailto:lizzie@berkana.org)

### **Registration and payment deadline: November 1, 2007**

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

### **The cost of the training is Tuition \$1050 USD; meals and accommodations \$345.**

### **We offer a reduced tuition cost of \$825 for participants from the not-for-profit sector**

**Note: Rooms are primarily shared accommodations.**

Note: If the price of the training is not affordable for you, let us know as we hold the following principle: "To be part of the Art of Hosting, everyone should contribute as much as they can and a little bit more".

### **Need more information on the workshop?**

Contact Nancy Eagan ([nancy@peoplepotential.org](mailto:nancy@peoplepotential.org)), Angela Amel ([aamel@att.net](mailto:aamel@att.net)) or Teresa Posakony ([Teresa@Berkana.org](mailto:Teresa@Berkana.org))