



PYE Third Thursday Assembly
August 20th, 2015

***Peggy Taylor**

Welcome to 3rd Thursday assembly. This is Peggy Taylor, director of training of PYE. Today we are sharing ideas about using visual arts in facilitation. Our format includes goals and agreements. Please "like" them if you agree. And then we'll jump into a discussion and show and tell around using visual arts. We'll start with a check in question: please weigh in: If you were going to paint a picture to show how you feel today, what would it be?

GOALS:

- 1) To explore effective ways of using visual arts to increase group cohesion, personal motivation, and inner exploration.
- 2) To share our favorite ideas
- 3) To explore ways we as facilitators can encourage freedom with visual arts

COMMUNITY AGREEMENTS

- 1) No put downs of self or others. Keep a positive, lift-up vibe.
- 2) Share at your level; Everyone is welcome, no matter their level of experience as a facilitator or community organizer. All questions are important, and all answers (or further questions) are valuable. It is also okay and important to respectfully disagree with each other.
- 3) Show your presence, by LIKING and by responding to keep the flow. Ask questions, make comments, connect. The technical trick for this format is to REFRESH your browser fairly often. LIKING IS MORE IMPORTANT NOW THAN EVER SINCE FACEBOOK HAS CHANGED AND WE CAN NO LONGER SEE HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE READ A POST.
- 4) Answer any questions in the COMMENTS below the question to keep the conversation organized and readable. Only open NEW questions in new threads.
- 5) You can come and go as you please, take as long as you like to respond, and basically enjoy the text-format to make this work no matter whether you are just waking up, just going to bed, or on your lunch break (time zones unite!!) A pdf



PYE Third Thursday Assembly
August 20th, 2015

transcript of the conversation will be provided. Feel free to continue the conversation even after the 90 minute period has ended.

[Arindita Gogoi](#) I am in! Right on time! What luck! 😊

[Nadia Chaney](#) Wish I could join you! On a plane back to Ottawa...will try to keep checking the page!

[Jolene Cheryl Simko](#) Interesting! I was wondering how these forums work and they are text, rather than audio based. Neat!

[Kimi King](#) cool turquoise blues, deep blue water and fire

[Peggy Taylor](#) Hi Arindita, Nadia, Madhu, and [Simone Johnson](#)

[Peggy Taylor](#) Oh dang Nadia. So good to hear from you.

[Simone Johnson](#) Hi Peggy! Hi Everyone 😊

[José Bueno](#) Hi there I'm here with Ciça! But I have to leave in 20 minutes...

[Simone Johnson](#) I would paint myself sitting in front of a closed orange door with sunlight spreading through the door cracks

[Cecilia Zanotti](#) Hello dear friends!

[Peggy Taylor](#) Let's start with a fun activity. Please weigh in from 1-10 on how comfortable you feel with visual arts. ! means--I don't feel comfortable at all; 10 means--I love it.

[Cecilia Zanotti](#) 6

[José Bueno](#) 10

[Peggy Taylor](#) And let's also hear...what are the most powerful visual arts activities you use in your work as a facilitator?

[Simone Johnson](#) 7-8

[Jolene Cheryl Simko](#) 9 in a PYE-style setting, 7 anywhere else 😊



PYE Third Thursday Assembly August 20th, 2015

Simone Johnson I'm not a facilitator yet, but I really want to facilitate through murals! I've heard of many youth programs that use murals to work with youth

Jolene Cheryl Simko I don't think I have enough experience to rank my techniques yet. I've only led 1 workshop since my CF training and it didn't include visual arts

José Bueno I have been working with sumi-e, japanese watercolour, exploring different ways to express by using the brush and the black ink

Peggy Taylor I'm not talking about technique here. Just comfort.

Jolene Cheryl Simko Agreed Peggy - thats why I gave two answers smile emoticon I'll even change my answer to 10 in a PYE-style setting, 7 anywhere else

Peggy Taylor Very cool Bueno. Have you been doing that with youth as well?

Leif Hansen I'm a 3/10

Arindita Gogoi 10! Self portraits, storytelling through visuals, using photography. Mindfulness activities through thought bubble sketches!

Leif Hansen It's the primary art form I have resistance and some shame/embarrassment around. (Hi btw. Here for a bit.)

Amber Hescock Johnson I would paint a cloudy sky with lots of interesting swirls and texture.

Peggy Taylor Facilitation Challenge #1: You have set up a nametag table a few very stiff participants are completely holding back. What can you do to bring them into the game?

Peggy Taylor Jolene, what is it about the PYE type setting that brings you to a 10? That's another way of asking the question.

Cecilia Zanotti I just led a beautiful activity that I learned in the 2 days PYE camp in São Paulo we did in July with the NGO Bem Comum - You first create a window gluing 2 colored paper and cut a window inside and glue transparent film in the middle of the colored paper to be shown through the whole of the window. In pairs one will be the guide and the other the one who is going to draw. The guide take its pair to some scene or object and the other person goes with his or her eyes closed. When the guide find the scene or object that he likes in the environment, touches the elbow of the one who is going to draw and this person opens his or her eyes and draw in the film what she or he is looking through the film with CD markers. All the pairs come back to a table and writes in a paper this line: "When I opened my eyes, I saw..."and completes the sentence inspired by the drawing. after this we circulate the papers



PYE Third Thursday Assembly August 20th, 2015

and create a collaborative poem inspired by the drawings. It was really great. I will try to find a picture of the windows and post here.

Leif Hansen I'd paint a window with curtains half open to a partly
Cloudy day.

José Bueno Once I used with youth mixing body exercises and sumi-e paintings

Peggy Taylor Ceca: What a GREAT activity. Do you have a picture you can post? I think I saw a picture of this after your camp in Sao Paolo

Cecilia Zanotti Yes Peggy it was beautiful!!! In minute 1m28sec of this video you can see very well - <https://vimeo.com/135699256>



Acampye BemComum2015

This is "Acampye BemComum2015" by sussurro Filmes on Vimeo, the home for high quality videos and the...
vimeo.com

Leif Hansen Re: stiffies.

I'd probably start a project near them, showing how simple and silly mine are, and make a joke about mine or share vulnerably about my relationship visual arts.

Arindita Gogoi For the facilitation challenge #1

I would invite the participants to create a thought bubble and sketch all those things that they'd rather be doing right now. As many as possible...whatever comes to their mind. (This might ease them up a little and could be a good non-verbal ice breaker.)

Jolene Cheryl Simko Re **Peggy**: PYE style settings give *many* cues that it is a supportive environment where anything goes. examples: the "first idea, best idea" principle, opening agreements, encouraging the group to share and support each other and by the facilitator demonstrating that same level of support in all their behaviours and words

José Bueno Exactly a month ago we created an experience called LADOCE (side C) where all the participants were invited to try some kind of artistic experience. Cica led the activity she described above and I encouraged people to draw the nude models that were there. It was really awesome.



PYE Third Thursday Assembly August 20th, 2015

Peggy Taylor Jose--what an interesting idea. Connecting body movement with painting. you and Ceca did such an interesting session at the Catch the Fire Training where you started with body movement and then we got into singing.

José Bueno It was such a creative party and we are planning to repeat soon
<https://www.facebook.com/.../vb.../1136755126340113/...>

Simone Johnson Oh the link doesn't work. I love all of these ideas. I never would have thought about movement and painting together

José Bueno It sounds cool to move from painting to singing, from singing to dancing, from poetry to theatre ...

Amber Hescoc Johnson Just a reminder to REFRESH--also, Peggy is starting other strings with new posts.... (friendly PYE comms person here)...so glad to see all of you here, btw.

Arindita Gogoi Cecilia Junqueira, Sallowicz Zanotti Wow!!! What a beauuuuutiful activity!!!!Is it okay to use the idea in one of my facilitations?

Laurie Marshall I make Inner Landscapes with kids from 8-18. First I have them list the things they love and care about the most, their talents, their favorite plant and animal. Using luan plywood, they trace each other then use a jigsaw to cut out their figure. Then they paint their Inner Landscape. It's an Apollo Inner Space Program.



Leif Hansen José Bueno, I got "content not available" on your link.

Amber Hescoc Johnson Wow, Laurie Marshall! Thank you for sharing. Beautiful.

Simone Johnson ^^YESS!!

José Bueno (maybe will be better to join the LADOCE group to see the video and some pictures: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1141911722490871/?fref=ts>)

[LADOCE](#)



[Arindita Gogoi](#) [Laurie Marshall](#) This is such a brilliant idea! I am overwhelmed to see such amazing ideas today! [Peggy Taylor](#)

[Laurie Marshall](#) Thank you. Here's a movie about the Inner Space Program.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7nsScZcOAvY>



[Upward Bound Project 2](#)

Upward Bound students in Oakland, CA, make "Inner Landscape" wooden cut-out...
youtube.com

[Peggy Taylor](#) Laurie...these are absolutely stunning!!!

[Peggy Taylor](#) I can't wait to watch the video.

[Leif Hansen](#) Very cool [Laurie](#) ☺_

[Amber Hescock Johnson](#) Peggy, can you click on the title of the video and view it on YouTube?

[Peggy Taylor](#) I would think so.

[Jackie Amatucci](#) I'm on....how exciting ☺

Laurie Marshall I follow up the The Inner Landscape with "I Am" poems, ten lines where the students become the colors and images in their paintings. "I am my soul's river, which flows through my creativity."



Cecilia Zanotti beautiful!!!!

Peggy Taylor OMG. This is amazing.

Peggy Taylor Jackie, can you talk about how you do power sticks? I will post a photo

Peggy Taylor Jackie?

Leif Hansen (Jackie...tagging helps with so many thread smile emoticon)

Peggy Taylor It's very powerful to follow up a visual arts activity with poetry and performance as in the case of the Inner Landscapes

Laurie Marshall Woot. Woot! I love hearing your positive words. Here is another offering from <http://www.CreatePeaceProject.org> which is called the "PEace Dance" where everyone in the school makes their mark. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SbrZDAPVC4A>

Jackie Amatucci Yes, power sticks are sticks that participants gather (about 1inch in diameter and maybe 3 feet long or shorter) I begin by talking about the fact that we each have incredible strengths - like, joy, compassion, funny, each participant comes up with their own word.

Laurie Marshall We start off with every painting big simple shapes.



Partners for Youth Empowerment

PYE Third Thursday Assembly August 20th, 2015



Laurie Marshall We add a layer of patterns and then outline the kids and positive words, painting around them with the background color.



Leif Hansen This is fun stretch for me, as I mentioned that visual arts are not my usual MO. The ideas are inspiring and, being a 'meaning junkie', the way each of these projects have a very specific meaning/applied aspect, makes it easier for me to imagine doing (both participating in and facilitating.)

Laurie Marshall





PYE Third Thursday Assembly August 20th, 2015

[Leif Hansen](#) One art form I have enjoyed, and can imagine doing in CC, is assemblage. Just bringing tons of random scraps and "junk" and having people create sculptures from them with an applied twist like the inner-landscapes.

[Jackie Amatucci](#) We then paint the sticks with acrylic paints, or wrap the sticks with leather, or ribbons.....I drill holes at the top with my trusty Dremel and then participants hang, beads, ribbons, feathers - whatever they desire.....just to remind them of their POWER - it is totally symbolic.....I then explain that these sticks are to be treated with

[Jackie Amatucci](#) respect and not to be played with or handled by others. They are beautiful reminders of each person's inner powers!

[Amber Hescok Johnson](#) (Another friendly reminder from your PYE comms person: Be sure to scroll a bit to see Peggy's other posts and photos, and REFRESH once in a while ☺)

[Laurie Marshall](#)



[Cecilia Zanotti](#) Wow!! How beautiful!

[Arindita Gogoi](#) [Leif Hansen](#) I too have worked a lot with trash and even worked on activities that involve creating musical instruments out of junk.

[Simone Johnson](#) Wow [Laurie Marshall](#) this is awesome! I love murals and I have a strong interest in working with youth using murals. I'm supposed to work with a school later to this year to create a mural and maybe I can incorporate some of these ideas!

[Leif Hansen](#) [Arindita](#), oooh, like that...musical junk.

[Kimi King](#) Rag doll project. Bukave drc

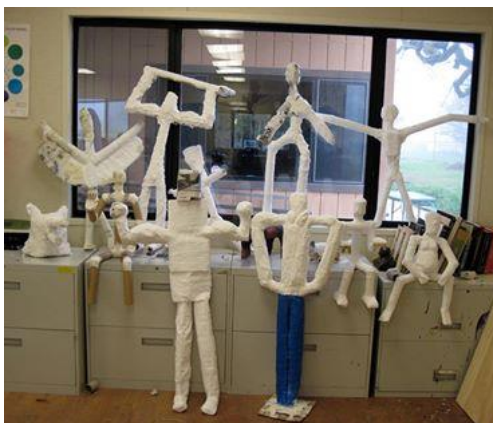


[Cecilia Zanotti](#) My dear talented friends! I have to leave and have lunch. It was great feeling you close again. Much love to you all ☺ and thanks for sharing such amazing activities!

[Arindita Gogoi](#) Thank you [Cecilia Junqueira Sallowicz Zanotti](#) for your valuable contribution!

[Peggy Taylor](#) By Ceca. Kimi--those are beautiful. Did the women in the rRepublic of Congo make these? Do they give them away? Or are they self-representational?

[Laurie Marshall](#) Love the dolls. Makes me think of the "We Are One Tribe" sculptures I've done with conflicting gangs, based on the Owerri Igbo tribe of Nigeria rite of passage. The kids chose an ancestor to honor or their unborn child or an animal totem. We use cardboard tubes for armatures and plaster impregnated gauze as the top, painted with acrylic.



[Arindita Gogoi](#) Goodness gracious! Today's wall is so full of creativity! I am so excited!



PYE Third Thursday Assembly August 20th, 2015

Laurie Marshall The Finished Piece, made with formally incarcerated youth belonging to different gangs.



Laurie Marshall I have to go as well, but I want to invite you all to participate in the Singing Tree project, which goes along with Peggy's idea of the youth putting their intentions on a leaf of a tree. Create Peace Project is making a forest of Singing Trees which are large collaged murals with the basic structure of a tree on the earth in space. Here's a movie that shows one way to make one: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kjv3tYNGnes>



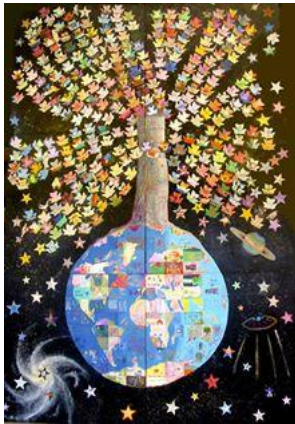
Madrone Singing Tree of Vision to Action2
[youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

Simone Johnson I have to go too. This was such a great assembly. I learned so much grin emoticon thank you for sharing all of your ideas. I look forward to reading the transcript! And as I write this more ideas that make me want to stay haha! Until next time folks!

Laurie Marshall Trees are a model of mutualism. They will save the human race. They are talking with us. Many artists are making powerful tree imagery. The root of the word Tree is the same as the word Truth. Each Singing Tree is a hosted conversation about an issue of importance to the community. Here is the Tulip Singing Tree, whose driving question is "How do I cope with pain without hurting my body or breaking the law." It was youth led, 12' x 8', 800 people contributed.



PYE Third Thursday Assembly
August 20th, 2015



[Laurie Marshall](#) The birds were made by young people in Peru who joined the conversation.



[Peggy Taylor](#) Laurie--these are amazing. I love the maple leaves. And the earth/tree. Can you tell us any more about how you set these up?

[Laurie Marshall](#) Details of the world. It's a giant puzzle - co-created beauty.



Partners for Youth Empowerment

PYE Third Thursday Assembly
August 20th, 2015



Peggy Taylor Beautiful.

Laurie Marshall Youth crave mastery, autonomy, purpose and connection. That is the work we do. I have to go now, but I'll come back and see what people have offered. Such a rich conversation. Thank you, Peggy Taylor and all you social artists.



Laurie Marshall Please feel free to use all the ideas I shared. Spread the goodness. Here is a link that explains the Singing Tree Project set-up and has a link to the 40 murals that have made so far. <http://www.createpeaceproject.org/.../the-singing-tree.../>

Hazel Courage Bell-koski This is all so amazing! I just popped because leif mentioned it was happening. I have to pop out....I love all this food for the soul! Hi Laurie!

***[Peggy Taylor](#)**

I am not a visual artist by training or by practice so I take a fairly pedestrian approach. How can we set up activities that give youth the opportunity to express their stories and inner values. I'll show you a few examples.

***[Peggy Taylor](#)**

Not sure this shows up very well. A welcome sign for a Power of Hope Camp.



[Peggy Taylor](#) Perfect. Handmade signs give participants the feeling that you care about them

[Madhu Shukla](#) that s really touching:)

***[Peggy Taylor](#)**



PYE Third Thursday Assembly August 20th, 2015

Please weigh in on this one: How comfortable are you with visual arts: 1 being TOTALLY UNCOMFORTABLE, 10 being, LOVE IT. And how do you coach yourself to get into doing it?

[Ella Cooper](#) 9 ☺

[Amber Hescock Johnson](#) 5

[Jolene Cheryl Simko](#) 10 in a PYE-style setting, 7 anywhere else

[Madhu Shukla](#) 6.. i visulaise thru doodles in my personal journal.. havent formally been coached to use visual arts

[Madhu Shukla](#) ofcourse PYE style coaching has happened!

[Ella Cooper](#) Oops didn't see the whole question...the way that I coach myself is practicing what it is I hope to share before offering it to a group. Also letting go of perfection and sharing that process

[Ella Cooper](#) I also take visual arts to include media arts

[Peggy Taylor](#) Hi Madhu..let's articulate. What is PYE style coaching? What are words, gestures, etc. you use to make people feel safe to go for it with visual arts.

[Peggy Taylor](#) A resource for doodlers: The Back Side of the Napkin is a great book that shows how to use doodling for presentation and critical thinking. it's easy, powerful, and anyone can do it.

[Madhu Shukla](#) first ground rule to establish- that the visual expression is for oneself... so not stress about how it should look or will others understand

[Simone Johnson](#) I'm 7-8 mostly because the visual art community I have been around is very welcoming to people who are new to drawing or painting. Someone told me it's all about self-expression and not who is better. I coach myself by telling myself a lot of things in life are about learning and there being a process. So I feel comfortable knowing, I can't draw this object now, but with practice I'll get there

[Leif Hansen](#) 3-4/7 on comfort and skill. My dad and grandfather were professional artists, I sometimes wonder if they sucked the gene out of me as I feel good doing just about every other art form.



PYE Third Thursday Assembly August 20th, 2015

[Peggy Taylor](#) Simone, great self-coaching. I wonder if we even do have to get good at it? Can we just enjoy it and surprise ourselves?

[Leif Hansen](#) I think it really is ultimately about just enjoying the process. Ironically, it's what my dad taught (or 30+ years), though I didn't actually grow up with him.

I think creating that initial safety and freedom, humor and humility and humanness (the HUM) is super key, to people just enjoying themselves and the process. I'm happy to report it's getting better.

[Simone Johnson](#) [Peggy](#) Thank you! And I don't think so, sometimes just seeing lots of colors makes me feel better! I feel like how Leif said about creating a safe space for people to create is important. But a lot of times when I work with my elementary students, the focus is on who is better. And I really want to learn how to take art-based activities out of the context of being better or not good enough into being about self-expression

[Jackie Amatucci](#) When we make collage forms, I encourage participants to not THINK about what they want to make....but to let words and colors

[Jackie Amatucci](#) Jump out and go with it. Creativity with the unknown brings beauty and surprise. I witness this over and over again at camps!

[Leif Hansen](#) Wish I'd spent more time with you in the art barn [Jackie](#), stretched past my blocks...next time smile emoticon

[Peggy Taylor](#) Any other ideas? How can you help elementary students move out of comparison mind?

*[Peggy Taylor](#)

Here is a basic activity we do early on in our camps. Everyone comes up with an intention for their time at camp. They then make an intention flag (or sometimes we do it as an intention tree and they make a leaf for the tree with their intention. One at a time, participants say their name, where they are from, say their intention and ask the group. "Will you support me?" The group replies (Name of person) we support you!



[Amber Hescoc Johnson](#) Beautiful!

[Simone Johnson](#) This is a really great idea

[Ella Cooper](#) Love the Intention Tree, at a past POH I participated in and a community arts jam I lead we also created the flags to celebrate and share skills with the each other. They hung throughout the day / camp so that people could learn more about each other and have one on one peer to peer learning experiences. I learnt Mandarin from one camper and shared dance photography tips with another person who approached me.

[Madhu Shukla](#) lovee the flags!!

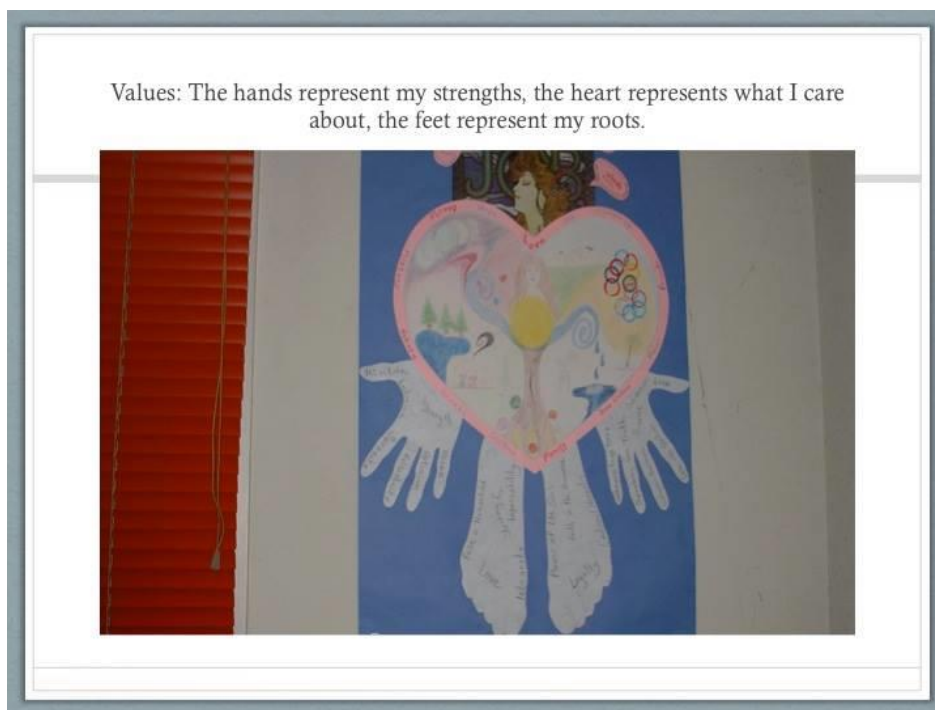
[Jolene Cheryl Simko](#) I have to go but I look forward to reading this transcript - [Peggy](#), do you give other answers to the challenges once everyone has given theirs?

[Leif Hansen](#) Love it.

[Leif Hansen](#) It'd be nice to do a check-in at the end of camp to see how those intentions went (we did that in our family groups at teen camp, for the intentions tree, so I'm guessing you probably have.)

***Peggy Taylor**

Here is an example of an art project from a local school that had a fabulous arts resource person. You draw or collage something to represent your body. On the feet you write your strengths and the influences in your life that have nurtured you. In the heart, you write what you care about. In the hands you write your gifts and all the way you touch the world. You can use other objects for this metaphoric activity such as a tree.



Ella Cooper Love this!

Leif Hansen Cool idea. Maybe in the head you could add the topics/ideas that you are most passionate about.

Peggy Taylor Great idea...you can riff on this metaphor in anyway you like.

Krafty Ann I like how this brings out sooo much inner space out into the open!

Hazel Courage Bell-koski Oh, this is fabulous!

***Peggy Taylor**

A woman named Hazel brought these beautiful prayer flags to our most recent camp on Whidbey Island. She then taught how to make prayer flags using silk screening. Once participants made a pattern, they made several flags to add to the collection.



Peggy Taylor They were hauntingly beautiful, hung in the woods in a place for quiet conversation or contemplation.

Amber Hescoc Johnson I brought my daughter to work to check out the camp and she got to see these--she was in awe (and so was I). Really striking.

José Bueno So beautiful !

Leif Hansen Hey Hazel, I know you're online right now, come join the convo!

Hazel Courage Bell-koski The flags hold amazing space...I have been making them in community for the past and a half years....this was the first summer I started hanging them together out in the forest.



PYE Third Thursday Assembly
August 20th, 2015

[Hazel Courage Bell-koski](#) The resonate field that they create is very powerful...even Rupert sheldrake was astonished! I am astonished every time...people become immediately quiet once they enter the space being held by the flags. The trees are happy. They are super easy to make...just a few steps....we use everything from sheets to t-shirts...people of all ages from 5 to seventy participated in making these flags.

[Hazel Courage Bell-koski](#) It is a blessing and honour to be part of this rolling flying community of flags...

[Hazel Courage Bell-koski](#) Have a beautiful day beautiful people....the flags will be on orcas island for imagine orcas sept 11th to 13th....we are in Vancouver currently making more! Contact me if you want to join in in the process!

[Leif Hansen](#) Wish I could make it to Imagine [Hazel](#), but I'll just be getting back from Boston.

[Joanne Lauterjung Kelly](#) These were so beautiful! Thank you, Hazel, for all you brought to the Gathering.

[Amber Hescock Johnson](#) [Hazel Courage Bell-koski](#) -- if you send me your email address I will send you the AMAZING photos that our pro photographer (Dave Estep) took of the flags. Just really great captures of the vibrance. I'm at amber@pyeglobal.org (one of the shots is PYE's twitter background right now)

[Adam Rosendahl](#) [Amber Hescock Johnson](#) - I'd love to see Dave's photos from camp!

[Amber Hescock Johnson](#) [Adam Rosendahl](#), I am on it! Stay tuned.

***Peggy Taylor**

Here are two examples of participant's symbols for the prayer flags. Hazel takes the flags around to communities to have conversations called "Spirit Matters."





PYE Third Thursday Assembly
August 20th, 2015

[Arindita Gogoi](#) Having been a part of this workshop, I can vouch for the brilliance of it all...seeing your prints sewn into prayer flags and seeing them waving with new resonance!

[Amber Hescock Johnson](#) How do these conversations begin? Is there a framework for "Sprit Matters"?

[Peggy Taylor](#) We have to ask Hazel.

[Amber Hescock Johnson](#) I will!

[Jackie Amatucci](#) The first flag (I love art) is my flag.

[Peggy Taylor](#) It's so beautiful. Jackie can you talk about making Power Sticks?

[Peggy Taylor](#) Marli. Nice to hear from you

*[Peggy Taylor](#)

Announcement. Jackie Amatucci, who was foundational in creating the art barn at power of hope

[Leif Hansen](#) Hi Jackie ☺
Wow [Peggy](#), you're going thread crazy wink emoticon

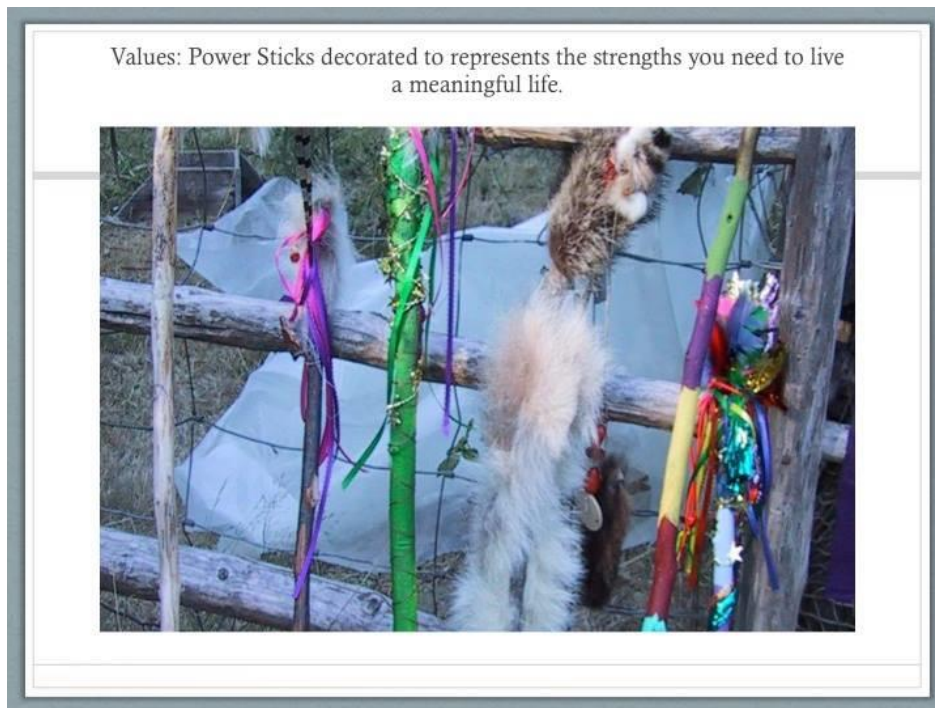
[Amber Hescock Johnson](#) I wish Jackie was my mom wink emoticon

[Peggy Taylor](#) Thanks for the heads up Leif.

[Leif Hansen](#) Was just teasin, it's actually kind of fun in an ADHD kind of way wink emoticon

***Peggy Taylor**

Here are Power Sticks made with Jackie at a Power of Hope Camp



Leif Hansen What suggestions are given? Colors to represent specific strengths, values, people? Words drawn on?, etc. smile emoticon Thanks Jackie.

Peggy Taylor Here is another favorite of Jackie's. Art Trading Cards. You make collage on recycled playing cards to make a statement or message and then share and trade with friends. You can see lots of examples of art trading cards on the web. Here are some from camp.

[Peggy Taylor](#) Art Trading Cards



[Leif Hansen](#) ([Jackie Amatucci](#), perhaps copy/paste your comments about the sticks in the other thread here?)

[Leif Hansen](#) My daughter loves the art trading cards...seems like they would be a great compliment to the idea of giving beads too smile emoticon

[Peggy Taylor](#) Do you have any pix Leif?

[Peggy Taylor](#) And yes, youth of all ages--and adults too love the art trading cards.

[Leif Hansen](#) I just asked her if she could look...

[Leif Hansen](#) She could only find this one...





PYE Third Thursday Assembly August 20th, 2015

[Peggy Taylor](#) That is lovely!!!

*[Peggy Taylor](#)

Facilitation Challenge #2: You are working with a small team of say 10 people. You want to do a group art activity that features their strengths and gifts and brings them together as a group. Ideas?

[Peggy Taylor](#) Here is an example of a paper quilt. You can do this with 10 to 150 or more people. Each person draws an image to represent a strength and includes the word for the strength in the picture. The picture can be literal or abstract. They need to put lots of color on the page. They then get into groups, share their pictures and tape them from the back to make a panel. You then tape all the panels together to make a quite.



[Arindita Gogoi](#) We can do the Quality Tree or Quality Iceberg.

Quality Tree: You have a cut out of the body of the tree and the participants have the leaves where they can write down their strengths and qualities and then the leaf is pasted along the branches to form a mega tree of qualities and strengths.

Quality Iceberg: Is more long duration. In the beginning of the camp you put sticky notes on the tip of the iceberg mentioning strengths and qualities that you know about. At the end of the camp you identify new strengths and qualities that form the rest of the iceberg below water.

[Peggy Taylor](#) A quilt. This is a group of youth workers: The Gifts We bring to our youth. We've done this as the culmination of team building workshops, and youth leadership workshops as well. The group is inevitably surprised, pleased, and empowered by the results.

[Peggy Taylor](#) Arindita--great idea. I would recommend that you try that by having the youth cut out their own leaves and decorate them. Same with the sticky notes. Any time they "art up" their offerings it goes deeper

[Arindita Gogoi](#) Thanks for the suggestion! I shall definitely do that smile emoticon

[Arindita Gogoi](#) Also a trash installation; where every person adds one item of trash (can be painted, altered, modified) and speaks out the speciality of that item and how it will contribute to the larger installation. The group as a whole can decide what is the design and concept behind the installation.

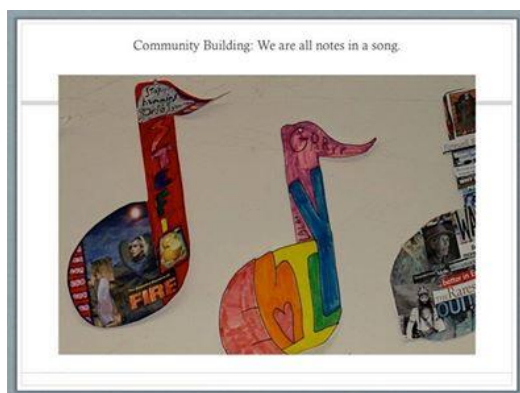
[Peggy Taylor](#) Any other ideas here?

[Leif Hansen](#) Group assemblage sculpture (from random junk)...maybe even, if environment works, have them go out and find the junk. Or, if out in nature, having them create a nature-based sculpture or mandala (like we did at last PoH camp) would work as well.

[Leif Hansen](#) One activity I do is tell everybody they have 1 minute to find ANY object at all and to not try and find something 'meaningful'. They then add those items to an altar one at a time and improvisationally say how it represents them, or represents an intention that they have for being there that day. The miraculous thing is how they discover that they needed no prep (the power of improv / the moment) and that meaning can be created for anything --the crumpled up paper = "I've throwing away my fears for the day" --the cup found "I'm coming with an open heart", the pencil "I'm here to learn new ideas", etc. ☺

[Peggy Taylor](#) Here's another idea for you. Choose a metaphor--such as a song, or a pearl necklace. Ask each person to make a small personal mandala that says something about their strengths. Put them together to make a group art piece: We are all notes in a song; or we are all

[Peggy Taylor](#) notes in a song



[Leif Hansen](#) (@Arindita, looks like we wrote ours above at the same time...re: my first post ☺)

[Peggy Taylor](#) Pearls on a necklace



[Arindita Gogoi](#) I remember the mandala activity prescribed by someone. Though it was an individual activity, it could be a group activity where as a group they can identify who are the people who form the core of the group, who form the outer defense wall and those create sustenance. And accordingly each group of people can start filling the giant mandala with colors.

[Arindita Gogoi](#) Thanks Peggy for these ideas. Very enriching for me smile emoticon

[Peggy Taylor](#) Arindita--that's an interesting idea.

*[Peggy Taylor](#)

The Power of Making Beautiful Signs, Whether a welcome sign or a sign for the name of the program, hand made signs really facilitate buy in.

This is from a program Alan Wong led for Culture Jam in Eugene, Oregon.



[Peggy Taylor](#) And you'll notice. You don't have to be an expert "artist" to make fun, colorful signs.

[Adam Rosendahl](#) agreed. I feel strongly about spending time making signs for any camp, event or program I lead.

[Nadia Chaney](#) I find the sign making moment so grounding. Love to decorate flip charts too

***[Peggy Taylor](#)**

We are coming to the close of our session. I am on an island in British Columbia, Canada, so my wife has been a little spotty. So I apologize if I lost some of the conversation strands. Thank you so much for all of the great ideas, projects, and thinking. Have a great day where ever you are on this fine planet. If you have any goodbye thoughts please say them here. And again thank you so much!