

The Listening Well—

The Art and Practice of Circle and Storycatching

Leadership includes the skills to elicit and respond effectively to the stories of those around us.

Discovering people's stories is essential to sustaining relationships, residing in community, and working together. Story provides the foundation for how we organize ourselves to get life's business done. In an increasingly complex world – where texting and email are often our primary means of communication – the practice of sitting down together and putting ourselves intentionally into a narrative context is now an essential leadership skill.



Circle is the practice of creating space where every voice is heard. It is the study of listening as much as it is the practice of speaking.

Story offers us a way to hear what's really being said; a means to recognize and appreciate the essence of identity; and a way of knowing that we know each other.

Woven together, circle and story facilitate a deep shift in how we come together in groups to hear each other, especially in times of change and transition.

Please join us – a circle of colleagues from Ontario – who have invited CHRISTINA BALDWIN (author and co-founder of PeerSpirit Inc.)– to guide a weekend of practice and skill-building in the art of circle and story.



We invite you to attend this workshop to:

- ☞ Experience – Circle and Storycatching as two complementary methodologies that can be powerfully woven together;
- ☞ Learn - The essence of each methodology and the art of adapting circle and story in different contexts;
- ☞ Extend – The network of practitioners throughout Ontario who are utilizing these methods and supporting one another in furthering their use.

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Your hosts for this weekend are:



Christina Baldwin - founded the journal writing movement with her first book in the 1970s and she has been an explorer of story as leadership throughout her career. This weekend is based on two of

her titles: *The Circle Way, A Leader in Every Chair* (co-authored with Ann Linnea), and *Storycatcher, Making Sense of our Lives through the Power and Practice of Story* (required reading). She is a world elder in circle and story who has taught in North America, Europe, Africa, and is heading to Australia later this fall. See her websites: www.peerspirit.com & www.storycatcher.net.



And, Ontario colleagues:

- **Sylvia Cheuy** – is a co-founder of Mandala Associates, a firm that uses circle and story to support the transformation of individuals and communities. Sylvia has more than twenty years of experience bringing together people from across sectors to forge shared visions and collaborate in realizing them.
- **Holly Greenwood** – is a co-founder of Mandala Associates. Holly incorporates circle and story into her counselling work with individuals, couples and groups, and as a technique in community collaboration.
- **Sharon Faulds** – is a facilitator and storycatcher with a passion for healthcare leadership development. The wisdom and experience gained in over 30 years of varied leadership roles in health care has sustained her passion for helping people realize the emerging possibilities in our world.
- **Cheryl Lyon** – is an experienced group leader with a background in municipal administration and human services who is convinced that circle and story are crucial practices for the renewal of true community in our times.

HOW TO REGISTER:

To ensure a quality learning experience, enrollment at this event has been limited to a maximum of 25 participants.

- DATE:** 4:00 p.m. Thursday October 21st, 2010
To
12:00 p.m. Sunday October 24th, 2010
- LOCATION:** [Geneva Park Leadership Training & Conference Centre](#)
Orillia, Ontario
- COST:** \$ 990.00 CAD
(This fee includes the cost of tuition, meals, and accommodation)

To register please contact Holly Greenwood at hollygreenwood@sympatico.ca



Life & Leadership through Circle, Quest & Story

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