

# The Art of Hosting

and Harvesting Conversations that Matter

September 22-24, 2014 —Timberlake Lodge, Grand Rapids

**The Art of Hosting and Harvesting Conversations That Matter** is a training for all those who aspire to learn how to work with groups in more interactive, engaging and effective ways.

## We Invite

Community leaders

Business people

Teachers



Elders

Students

Policy makers

## This training will provide participants with:

- teachings and practice on dialogue methods designed to facilitate participation and conversation such as World Cafe, Open Space Technology, The Circle Way, and ProAction Café;
- teaching and discussion on patterns in working with groups that we can recognize and be successful with;
- discussion on how the application of these practices and patterns can contribute to improved social and economic outcomes for your community;
- opportunities for partnerships and further action as a result of conversations conducted over the three days.

How can we move through the complexity in our lives and communities to create space for something new to emerge?

How can we work across generations and typical divides to find solutions for the common good?

What is the change I am inviting in myself and my leadership?

What could my leadership also be?

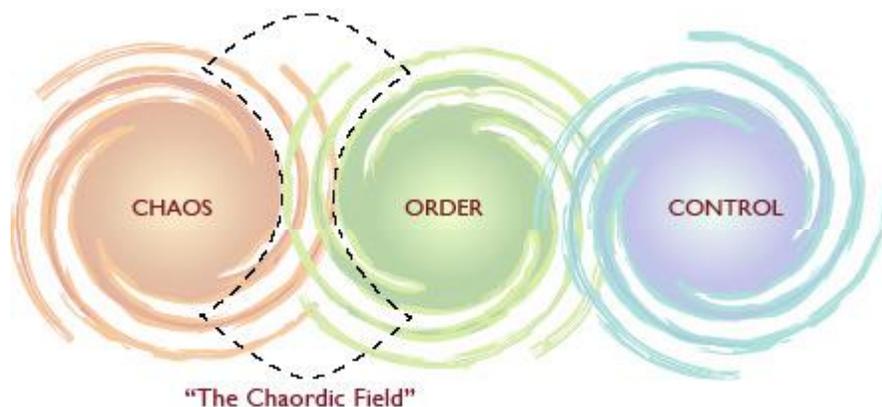
**What do you dream is possible when you create good conversations to improve social and economic conditions?** *Conversation is indispensable for the successful accomplishment of almost all activities between people, especially the coordination of work, the formation of collaborative relationships and for learning.*

Need to know more? Check out [www.artofhosting.org](http://www.artofhosting.org) for more information on the training process.

# The Content

## 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 our collective wisdom.
- It is an experience for all who aspire to learn and find better ways to work with groups; ways that nurture collective wisdom, shared learning and effective actions.
- It creates opportunities for ownership and responsibility where ideas are explored and solutions can be put into action.
- It is a practice ground for all who aspire to bring out the best in others. It is built on the assumption and experience that we need to find new solutions for the common good, whether in corporations, government, education, non-profits, social movements, communities, or families.
- It will enhance your skills to: understand the implications of your organization as a living system to deal with increasing complexity tap into the collective intelligence of your team, organization and/or community engage effectively with diverse stakeholders.
- It provides the basic theory and practices of the specific skills 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.



## Interactive!

Our learning will grow out of everyone's contributions—we will support each other as co-learners.

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



# Logistics

## The Art of Hosting and Harvesting Conversations that Matter September 22-24, 2014—Timberlake Lodge, Grand Rapids

This Art of Hosting training is funded by a grant from the **Blandin Foundation**, whose mission is to strengthen rural Minnesota communities, especially the Itasca County area.

The training will take place at **Timberlake Lodge** in Grand Rapids. Visit their website to learn more at <http://www.timberlakelodgehotel.com/>

We will start at 9:00 a.m. each day; end at 4:30 the first two days and around 3:30 p.m. on the third day. Lunch and a continental breakfast will be provided.

**Participation is Limited!** There is no cost to participate. Submit your registration soon to secure a spot. We ask that you participate all three days.

**Accommodations:** If you plan to stay overnight you are responsible for your lodging costs. Rooms are available at Timberlake Lodge: 866-800-2200 or visit [www.visitgrandrapids.com](http://www.visitgrandrapids.com) for additional options.

**To register, please complete the registration form at:**

<https://adobeformscentral.com/?f=awMyNvUfxZNAJUrfWn-y6Q>

If you would like additional information, please contact Jerry Nagel at: [jerry@meadowlark.co](mailto:jerry@meadowlark.co)



**Meadowlark Institute** is a rural Minnesota based non-profit organization engaged in leadership training and the convening or hosting of conversations for various community and business organizations utilizing the horizontal leadership practices of the Art of Hosting Conversations that Matter to spark innovative thinking and foster high value output.