

## How do you continue the Learning Journey?

Our live web chats take place on the Third Thursday of every month at 6pm GMT. Join the [Facebook page](#) to take part.

The following chat took place in May and looked at ways to continue the learning journey after taking a Creative Facilitation training.

**Silvia Giovannoni:** Today we'll be discussing how you can continue your learning journey and skill building as a facilitator once your training has finished so I am keen to hear your experiences...but first, would love it if you could quickly introduce yourself.



**Charlie:** Hi all, I am a co-founder of PYE and have been facilitating since before many of the folks I work with were born.

**Katie Jackson:** I'm Katie and I am the Head of Online Communication at PYE, so I help to bring people together online and head up the International Learning Network which offers extended opportunities for growth and learning after you have attended a PYE training.

**Josie Berezin:** Thanks for this web hangout! I am from Brazil and I have attended a PYE workshop in September last year with Charlie and Silvia and I am very happy I got to meet you guys! I simply love the PYE proposal.

**Charlie:** I would like to say in regards to the question about how continuing the learning journey after training has finished, that in a sense, training never finishes...in this realm of facilitation we are always learning, even me at my ripe old age.

**Silvia:** Well put Charlie. Indeed it is a life-long journey. Before I share some of the ways I have seen people connect and invest in their learning, do you have anything you'd like to share?

**Charlie:** I think that one of the things that helps create opportunities to facilitate is to be comfortable sharing our own enthusiasm for our work. Joy, enthusiasm and curiosity are infectious and our greatest allies in creating opportunity.

**Silvia:** In my experience, I've seen people really flourish in our trainings and find lots of inspiration to fuel their work. A lot of this energy comes from being part of a group of like-minded people where they feel safe to express their ideas.

I think staying in touch is a great incentive and in the groups in Brazil, people have organized supper clubs, informal meets, and created their own smaller Facebook groups. This has helped them share ideas with each other. In one very specific example one of our CF1 trainees used the informal meet up to test-run the performance she was working on. I have also observed our groups in Brazil create email groups where there is quite a lot of movement and exchange of resources.

**Nadia Chaney:** One way I continue my learning is by looking for activities from other kinds of work and adjusting them for my groups. It helps keep me fresh and on my toes. It also helps me build my networks and keeps me learning from people different than myself.

**Silvia:** Thanks Nadia Chaney – this is such good advice.

**Josie:** Collaborating is another way to stretch your creativity and continue learning. The act of collaborating and entering into partnership is a great teacher...

**Nadia:** Something else I've noticed that is very powerful is to create learning circles...when I lived in Vancouver I was blessed to have a big circle of social artists to learn with and from...and I know in India at **Dream a Dream** (one of PYE's partner orgs) they have an incredible team of facilitators that all keep each other on their toes, learning new things, and giving each other lots of constructive feedback...

**Silvia:** Yep. The learning circles are similar to the meet-ups and supper-clubs that folks in Brasil have been doing. Very enriching. I think staying curious is a tremendous tool for learning. Being genuinely curious about the new people you meet, the work they do and how they do it can be such a great way to enhance your own practice.

**Josie:** These learning circles seem to be pretty good to keep ideas fresh!

**Katie:** I agree – staying curious is always a good way to keep learning in all areas of life. On the PYE website we have some additional **workshop activities** and games that we have found to be great for group work, so looking at some of those and trying them out in your work is one way you can keep things fresh.

**Katie:** Also, I took both CF1 and CF2 and I found that in a very small step, just trying out the games with my young nephews when I babysit helps me to see what works and what doesn't with people who aren't afraid to show when they are getting tiered or bored. Children have that raw honesty that can be really helpful!

**Josie:** Katie, thanks for sharing the activities and games you have on PYE webpage, that will certainly be helpful for me and the Celulas team! We have been discussing about making a CF ourselves, in order to grow the PYE work in our project, and I'm thinking about taking my previous art experiences to put on it.

**Katie:** No problem Josie. We will be adding more in the coming months too so keep looking out. Trying new things is a great way to spark new ideas. If you have any activities of your own that you think we could add do share them with us!

**Josie:** Some courses that I have taken are social theatre and the Jacques Lecoq theatre technique, taught by Giulio Vanzan here in Brazil. They both have been inspiring courses and I believe they help motivate people to use their creativity! I keep studying it, as well as other forms to motivate people creatively...

**Paula Fonseca:** Thank you Katie Jackson, I think in this subject I am learning a lot still. It was really help full to see some ideas.  
I have being trying to contact people from this PYE groups and share ideas and see there work, after CF1 I realize that there is so much to learn and search in world that I better start moving... I think being curious and open mind to opportunities is the key to