

THE ART OF CONVENING™

Authentic Engagement in Meetings, Gatherings, and Conversations

PRINCIPLES OF CONVERSATION

Ideals that inform how we gather and meet

Respect the call to gather

We all *choose* to be present, everyone... no exceptions.
Hold each to the responsibility of their own freedom.

Know that you belong & everyone belongs

Each is needed and has come to contribute to the outcome.
There are no mistakes or outsiders.

Listen to and evoke each other's stories

with curiosity, wonder & attention
with respect for all voices
without fixing, problem-solving, advice giving.

Suspend Judgment, Holding the Space for Difference

Be aware of your judgments.
Notice how "what you know" may get the best of you.
Invite and honor all points of view while seeking common ground.
Seek to understand rather than persuade.

Explore new ways of thinking and being

Listen for the unquestioned assumptions we all hold.
As explorers, we are interdependent as we journey.
Be open to possibilities.

Seek sincerity and brevity

Speak what has personal heart and meaning.
Speak from your own awareness & truth.
Make your words count.

Slow Down the Inquiry

As the silence between notes creates music..... Allow for pauses between speakers to create the space for collective genius to emerge.

Trust that what we are creating is a living system

More than a collection of ideas.

Our lives and the world can be transformed through essential conversations

The gathering of people with the intent to speak and act authentically from a collective vision is a transformational force and can indeed change the world.

