Educational Track Leads

Lisa A. DeVore
Lisa A. DeVore has over 10 years’ experience in training and change management. Her background includes designing and facilitating executive meetings and training courses, developing skills assessments that have resulted in large change efforts, and leading change initiatives for healthcare and government organizations. As an Organization Development Consultant with PricewaterhouseCoopers, Lisa has assisted clients in organizational structure assessment and design, strategy, facilitation, and training.

Lisa Heft [www.openingspace.net]
Facilitator Lisa Heft’s work on five continents has included consulting for conflict resolution teams in Northern Iraq, engaging interdisciplinary thinking between housekeepers and managers at a luxury resort facility, teaching interactive learning methods to health monitoring specialists from developing nations, and facilitating learning and dialogue with prison inmates.

Melinda Henning
High Stakes Presentation Consultant Melinda Henning’s one-day class – “Speaking with Conviction: How to Be an Advocate for Your Cause” - enables you to prepare a persuasive speech in record time, and deliver it convincingly, with minimal dependence upon notes.

Jack Miller [www.africajack.org]
This past March, Jack Miller left corporate America and moved to the Bay Area with his partner. They formed the AfricaJack Foundation where he is the Executive Director. Jack brings over 15 years sales and executive management experience of small and large companies within the Human Resource and Health Management fields.

Scott Rains [www.RollingRains.com]
Scott Rains’ nonprofit experience spans decades and continents. Currently he co-coordinates the Turismo para Todos initiative of the Instituto Inter-Americano sobre Deficiência & Desenvolvimento Inclusivo and serves as a senior advisor to the start-up television/IPTV channel [with]TV.

Ava M. Square-Levias [cdtconsults@yahoo.com]
Performance artist, teacher, videographer, director, choreographer, drummer/musician, poet, and dancer. The gift she shares: joy of ecstatic union with spirit through performance. Ava’s group, Ojala, provides exciting, moving drumming/dance to inspire, heal, and transform. Watch for her one-woman show, and a book of poetry.
Vicky Valentine
Vicky Valentine is an Oakland native and a fiery youth worker with five years experience as a workshop facilitator and health educator. She preaches and practices Youth Development, Anti-Oppression, and Harm Reduction, and loves to network with other nonprofit workers. She also has serious Scrabble skills.

Sue Walden
Sue Walden is the founder of ImprovWorks, an organization dedicated to building Life Skills through Improvisation. Her experience includes a BA in Education, 25 years of teaching, performing, adapting, and widely applying improvisation skills. Author of Working with Groups to Enhance Relationships, Sue’s current passion is training trainers and helping facilitators/coaches design interactive learning programs.

Jason Wyman [ydpn.bay.area.googlepages.com]
Jason Wyman is the Project Manager of the Youth Development Peer Network, a peer-led organization dedicated to increasing the quality of youth development through worker-centered activities including networking, skills building, and rejuvenation and self-care and ensuring a worker voice in efforts of professionalization. He recently got married to his beautiful husband.
Educational Co-Facilitators

**Erik Beach-Rehner**

Erik Beach-Rehner started facilitating corporate and professional groups when he was just 17-years-old as an intern with the Adventure Education Center. He continued to hone his craft working with the YMCA and American Humanics Non-Profit Management Institute. Currently he is working for the YMCA of the East Bay and is going back to school this fall to pursue his MPA.

**Sarah Clark**

Sarah Clark graduated from UC Berkeley in 2006 with a B.A. in Public Health and Peace and Conflict Studies. At UC Berkeley, she helped develop the Conflict Resolution and Transformation Center. She presently volunteer mediates and facilitates for East Bay Community Mediation.

**Aaron Gilbert** [www.sjetc.org]

Aaron Gilbert runs an outdoor leadership program for high school students and lives in a cooperative. When he is not working and not at home, he can be found riding his bike all over San Francisco and Marin or climbing at the local indoor crag. Aaron is a little bike-obsessed and loves the outdoors, travel, and photography.

**Craig Horangic** [horangic@surewest.net.]

Craig Horangic is an independent OD consultant based in Sacramento. His consulting practice is built on a foundation of Cognitive-Edge Sensemaking principles. Craig provides meeting facilitation, change management, strategic planning, and executive coaching services in a variety of nonprofit, for-profit and governmental settings.

**Yolanda McGary-Beitia**

Yolanda McGary-Beitia is an innovative, enthusiastic, community-focused trainer and speaker. Her career has been in the juvenile justice field where she witnessed the lack of services available for detained youth and determined to launch ‘N’ The Classroom (NTC): Restoring the Community, a community training organization. NTC provides professional development training to staff and workshops for youth in the foster care and juvenile justice systems.

**Alice McKeon** [homepage.mac.com/aliciemckean/]

Alice McKeon wants to work in a place that does cutting edge research and development. Her life purpose is to save lives and the environment by raising standards of living. The Peace and Justice Committee at her church explores social justice and the environment. Alice loves plants, medicine, fine art, languages, and classical music.

**Melanie Schwartz**

Melanie Schwartz attributes her interest in leadership development and team building to her involvement in Girl Scouting and student council organizations. Her interests include increasing the transference of skills learned in a novel environment back to the routine environment of the participant. She is also very interested in the use of the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, and the role of psychological safety in both real and virtual teams.
Networking Hosts

**Dietmar Brinkmann** [www.dreamfish.org]
Dietmar Brinkmann MFA, is a co-founder of Dreamfish Social Network and co-designer of Dreamfish projects. His expertise is to engage groups in experiential learning using improvisation, somatics, art, and process facilitation. Dietmar also facilitates groups for interpersonal learning and leadership development at Stanford Graduate School of Business.

**Laura Burgdorf**
Laura Burgdorf has over 15 years of experience working with the nonprofit and disadvantaged sectors. Over the years, Laura has developed an affinity for change management, process improvement, facilitation, and team building. Laura earned her Ph.D. and Masters in Forensic Psychology from Alliant International University, and is cross-trained in both clinical and research psychology. She obtained a B.A. in Psychology from California State University Stanislaus.

**Dikla Carmel**
Dikla Carmel facilitates learning groups at the Stanford Graduate School of Business, and at the Law School. Currently she develops her practice as a co-active life coach. Before engaging with group work, Dikla owned a textbook editing company. She holds a B.A. in Cooperative Literature from The Hebrew University in Jerusalem and an M.A. in Editing from Bar-Ilan University.

**Susie Chang** [www.mapyourself.org]
Susie has over four years of experience in program management and strategic planning with nonprofit organizations and educational institutions. She has worked overseas in Afghanistan, China, and Tajikistan, and is pursuing work with an international focus. Currently involved in several start-ups, Susie is developing a new organization and website facilitating individualized, positive social change and global awareness.

**Nanette Cowardin-Lee**
Nanette Cowardin-Lee, or “Nan” of Doing Organization Differently@DifferentLee.com combines organizational psychology with over 25 years business experience as a broad generalist in a variety of roles and professions. Currently a doctoral student at Alliant International University, Nanette is researching multicultural and intercultural leadership dynamics, adult learning strategies, and human network potentials in change management.

**Jim Dowling** [www.fanasylum.com]
Since 2000 Jim has worked to convert his years of management, organizational and team building skills into a burgeoning Organizational Development career. He has facilitated for the Marin Bicycle Coalition, Peninsula Community Foundation and the Lifes Work Center. Jim currently serves as Board Program Director at the Lifes Work Center. He is a dynamic trainer, a poised facilitator, and a deeply effective coach.
Networking Hosts cont’d

Urusa Fahim
Urusa Fahim, Ph. D. Faculty, Transformative Studies department, California Institute of Integral Studies and core faculty, St. Mary’s College of California.

Louise Goeckel [www.letsgoforward.biz]
Louise Goeckel, Career Consultant and World of Work Expert, leads individuals and facilitates groups to finding their life purpose. With a Master’s degree in counseling and 20+ years of experience providing Business and Professional Development consulting, Louise shares her warm style and quick wisdom. She enjoys shepherding for the group’s integrity, the meeting’s objectives, AND the delight and fun of people becoming comfortable being themselves.

Valerie Higgins
Valerie Higgins is an enthusiastic and experienced urban youth advocate and community developer. She demonstrates leadership in various communities and is a Certified National Student Leader. Valerie wears various hats as an African-American mother, recent Coca-Cola Scholar, founder of the San Francisco Youth Breakfast Program, and Case Manager at the Bayview Hunters Point Foundation.

Robert E. Horn [www.stanford.edu/~rhorn]
Robert E. Horn is currently a Visiting Scholar at Stanford University. He mostly deals with social messes with new group process and visual methods. Social messes are interconnected wicked problems and often other messes. They are complex; ambiguous; constrained; contain different worldviews and value conflicts of economic, social, political, cultural, factors. His recent projects include: climate change, energy security, nuclear waste, health care, avian flu.

Ralph Kindred
Mr. Kindred is a Master Capital-Strategist who uses his expert knowledge and experience in Business, Law, Technology and the Social Sciences to help social entrepreneurs develop the Capital-Means (resources) necessary to achieve their important Missions. Using his 4-Capitals Nonprofit Strategic Resource Framework: Financial – Intellectual – Human – Social Capital, Mr. Kindred helps organizations develop meaningful missions, create impact, and achieve community and social objectives.

Azure Kraxberger
Azure Kraxberger, PsyD is a recent graduate from the Marshall Goldsmith School of Management at Alliant International University. In her dissertation project she created a manual to assist small business owners with step-by-step instructions on how social responsibility into their business practices. She earned her M.A. in Organizational Psychology from Alliant International University and her B.S. in Psychology from Northern Arizona University.
Sue Klein Lebeck [www.svii.org]
Sue Lebeck is Program Director for the Silicon Valley Innovation Institute, a not-for-profit company dedicated to helping organizations build their innovation capability. Sue is the creator of Working-Arts®, a set of programs designed to bring artistic sensibility to the workplace. Her career includes nearly fifteen years in networking communications infrastructure design and technology leadership, and over five years in expressive arts program development and education.

Susan L. Lubeck, JD
Susan Lubeck has been facilitating groups to reach sustainable agreements since 1993, and has worked as an organization development consultant and workshop leader since 1999. She was trained by Community At Work of San Francisco, with whom she is an affiliated consultant. Particular interests include capacity-building, social enterprise, public policy, and peer-based learning.

Elisa Levias [aereinvestments@ yahoo.com]
Elisa Levias’ fifteen years of social service include founder and CEO of Raising the Quality of Life (group home for pregnant and parenting teen mothers); Admissions Director for Marin Services for Women, and CPR workplace instructor and trainer. Elisa is also a commercial real estate investor and developer.

Pamela Mays McDonald [www.culturalcrosscurrents.com]
Innovative, award-winning multicultural facilitator Pam McDonald is an international expert at bringing diverse people together through culture and the arts. Pamela McDonald is the recipient of numerous awards, including a Fulbright award and a National Science Foundation Fellowship. She has served on numerous boards, and her commentaries have been published in several languages and broadcast on radio and television.

Devon McLaughlin
Devon McLaughlin is an independent consultant for nonprofits. For the past 6 years she has facilitated meetings and retreats that lead to improved processes, collaboration and problem-solving in organizations and work groups.

Cathy Moyer [www.v-o-cal.org]
Cathy Moyer is Founder and Executive Director of Volunteers for Outdoor California. Ms. Moyer has extensive experience in community and political organizing, is a successful entrepreneur with a professional background in software design and development, and has over 20 years of volunteer trail-building experience. Her entrepreneurial experience and community organizing makes a powerful combination.

Anastasia Nicole
Anastasia Nicole is a Sustainability Consultant, with a background in recycling, composting, Permaculture, solar energy, conservation, and improv theatre. She has participated in Cohousing and consensus decision-making, and will soon complete a 2-year intensive Facilitator Training in Cohousing. She seeks opportunities to apply her facilitator skills to social change.
Networking Hosts cont’d

Julie Norton [www.v-o-cal.org]
Julie Norton is an enthusiastic leader with a talent for working with people. She brings experience in non-profit, private and public sector marketing. Norton is a graduate in Instructional Technology from CSU, Chico. Raised in Santa Cruz, Norton is passionate about community, nature, and technology. Julie is the Director of Outreach and Marketing for Volunteers for Outdoor California.

Sunny Sabbini [growing-collaborations.com]
Sunny Sabbini brings her training as a psychotherapist and organizational development consultant to her work of creating healthy human systems. Through coaching, facilitation, and consulting, Sunny works with mission-driven organizations to build their capacity to work collaboratively and achieve meaningful and complex goals.

Jean Spurr [www.lifeprintsvideo.com]
Jean Spurr is from LifePrints Video. They are storytellers at heart, and specialize in creating videos for Nonprofits that let people feel and see how amazing your work is and how it makes a difference! Jean is an MSW and has managed Bay Area nonprofits for over 25 years.

Sean Sullivan [www.covdove.org]
Sean Sullivan is the Director of Development and Community Relations for Covenant House California, where he has worked in various capacities since 1996. Sullivan has worked on two successful capital campaigns in Newark, NJ and Washington, DC for Covenant House. Sullivan has spoken around the country often on advocacy, discrimination, youth exploitation, youth programming and fundraising for nonprofits.

Sami Sunchild [www.redvic.com]
Sami Sunchild received her Ph.D in Transformational Art and Societal Change from Columbia Pacific University. She founded the Red Victorian Peace Center in San Francisco in 1978 and remains its Director today. The purpose of the Center, and of Peaceful World Travel Club, which she also founded, is to model the kind of travel and intercultural contacts which use independent travelers and travel as world peace makers.

George Tinker
George Tinker has an MA in Psychology and has worked for over 20 years in the Bay Area as a Psychological Counselor and Group Facilitator with adolescents and adults in a variety of settings--from in-patient psychiatric units to community programs. George gains fulfillment in helping others to grow. His background includes both Western therapeutic practices and Eastern thought and disciplines.

Tiffany von Emmel [www.dreamfish.org]
Tiffany von Emmel, PhD, is the Executive Director of Dreamfish, a social network for catalysts that want to make the world thrive. Named a “force of nature”, Tiffany is on a mission to increase society’s capacity to collaborate for sustainability through social networking. An artist, a facilitator for Stanford Graduate School of Business, and scholar, she is renowned for profound collaboratories and good hugs.