

LEARNING EXCHANGE PROTOCOL

Artistic Representation(s) of Learning

Note: All protocols have multiple origins. The strength of a protocol is in the ability of facilitators or planners to adjust/revise for use in your context. <http://www.nsrharmony.org/free-resources/protocols/a-z> is a good source of multiple protocols for school, district, community and organizational use. See ArtCorp www.artcorp.org

A collective experience in creation always helps to cement learning and offer a way to be joyful together. As you participate in this experience, remember to breathe, look for ways to connect and be open to multiple ideas before getting attached to your own, and make sure there is equity of voice and experience in the final product.

Directions: The multiple ways of artistic expression help us analyze our work from another perspective and celebrate our collective commitments to action. These represent our shared vision, our shared experience, and our shared commitments of *how* we can get to the ideal – fully breathing joy and justice into schools and communities. Reference all that we learned through the LLE to create representations.

We are offering four possibilities, but there may be innovations on these. These will be loosely facilitated, but members should take primary responsibility. We are asking that there be no more than 10 people per group so that everyone has a chance to participate. Thus, depending on size of total group, there may be more than one type of each group i.e., two poetry groups or two mural groups. **You will have approximately 30 minutes to complete the collective artistic representation. Then the LLE group will experience the art together.**

- **Collective Songwriting** Write a song lyric) that exemplifies the feel of all the songs we have used to bolster our courage and resolve as does the Marge Piercy poem of being in this work together. All of you in the group will sing the song for full LLE group.
- **Collective Action Mural** (Co- Develop a visual map that bridges our transition strategies toward our ideal of having more joy and justice in our work in schools and communities. Keep in mind: key actions and intersections - use compelling images. The mural should tell your story and be clear to observers. The other LLE groups will observe your mural for about 3-4 minutes and then ask questions. Decide who primary respondents are.
- **Collective Solidarity Poetry** Write a collective poem that can serve as a roadmap to building true solidarity relationships. Each person free-writes for 10 minutes a letter to a potential ally – what do you need them to know and do? Each person shares their writing and then compiles writing to craft a collective poem. Decide who will present poem to the full group.
- **Collective Theater or Performance Piece** Create a short performance piece that brings together the many experiences of the three ecologies of self, organization, and community that we have experienced in the LLE. The piece should be no longer than 5 minutes.

Conclude with group reflection on the experience of artistic representations for collective work. NOTE: Customize the four possibilities to 2 or 3 if necessary. Also customize to the goals that you have designed for your learning exchange.