



World Cafe Harvest Report

Wiser Together Cafe: Partnering Across Generations For The Common Good

8th International Conference on Positive Aging
Capitol Hilton, Washington DC | August 26, 2016

With Moira Allan (Pass It On Network), David Shaw (Common Ground Center, UC Santa Cruz),
Stephanie Brown (Graphic Recorder), Juanita Brown & David Isaacs (Co-Founders, The World Cafe)

[CLICK HERE](#)

[to get updates about our online Wiser Together World Cafe in September 2017
and join the Wiser Together email list](#)

The Invitation



WISER TOGETHER CAFÉ: PARTNERING ACROSS GENERATIONS FOR OUR COMMON FUTURE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26, 2016, 2:15-4:15 PM

INTERNATIONAL POSITIVE AGING CONFERENCE | CAPITAL HILTON, WASHINGTON DC

How can we access the unique contributions of all generations to foster wise and committed action for life-affirming futures—for our organizations, our communities and our beloved planet?

Join us for this pioneering World Café-style dialogue among 40 invited older and younger leaders. This promises to be an innovative and exciting intergenerational conversation like you've never had before!

All of us, whatever our generation, are alive together at this challenging moment when our very futures and the future of our planet is at stake. This is a unique opportunity to engage in deep listening, to move beyond limiting beliefs, and to think out of the box about the power we have to shape tomorrow, together. Explore these and other questions of possibility...

- *From where you sit today in the cycle of life, what do you most fear and most yearn for as you think about the future?*
- *What assumptions about the older or younger generation do you need to question in order to collaborate well across generations? What about elders/youngers would you like to never hear or feel again?*
- *What do you care about doing in the world that might be enhanced by intergenerational collaboration? What can you contribute to make that happen?*



SHARE YOUR PERSPECTIVES ON FILM!
WE ALSO HAVE THE UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO A NEW DOCUMENTARY ABOUT THE POSITIVE AGING MOVEMENT WHICH WILL BE SHOT AT THE WISER TOGETHER CAFÉ!

SPACE IS LIMITED!

There is no cost to participate in this special invited gathering, but space is limited to 20 elders and 20 youngers.

Fill out the form at <http://bit.ly/29pcuMl> and we will contact you by August 15 to confirm your participation. Contact kari@silvernes.com or 860-778-7115 if you have questions.

With Maria Kozak (Facilitator/Networking), Dawn Shaw (Chairman/Executive Director, UC Santa Cruz), Stephanie Brown (Graphic Recorder), Juanita Brown & David Isaacs (Co-Founders, The World Café)

Learn more about the conference at www.csa.us/page/PositiveAgingConf

How can we access the unique contributions of all generations to foster wise and committed action for life-affirming futures—for our organizations, our communities and our beloved planet? That was the overriding question that stimulated a pioneering World Café-style dialogue among 40 invited older and younger leaders at the Positive Aging Conference on August 26, 2016. Here is a brief overview of the collective wisdom shared at that two-hour event.



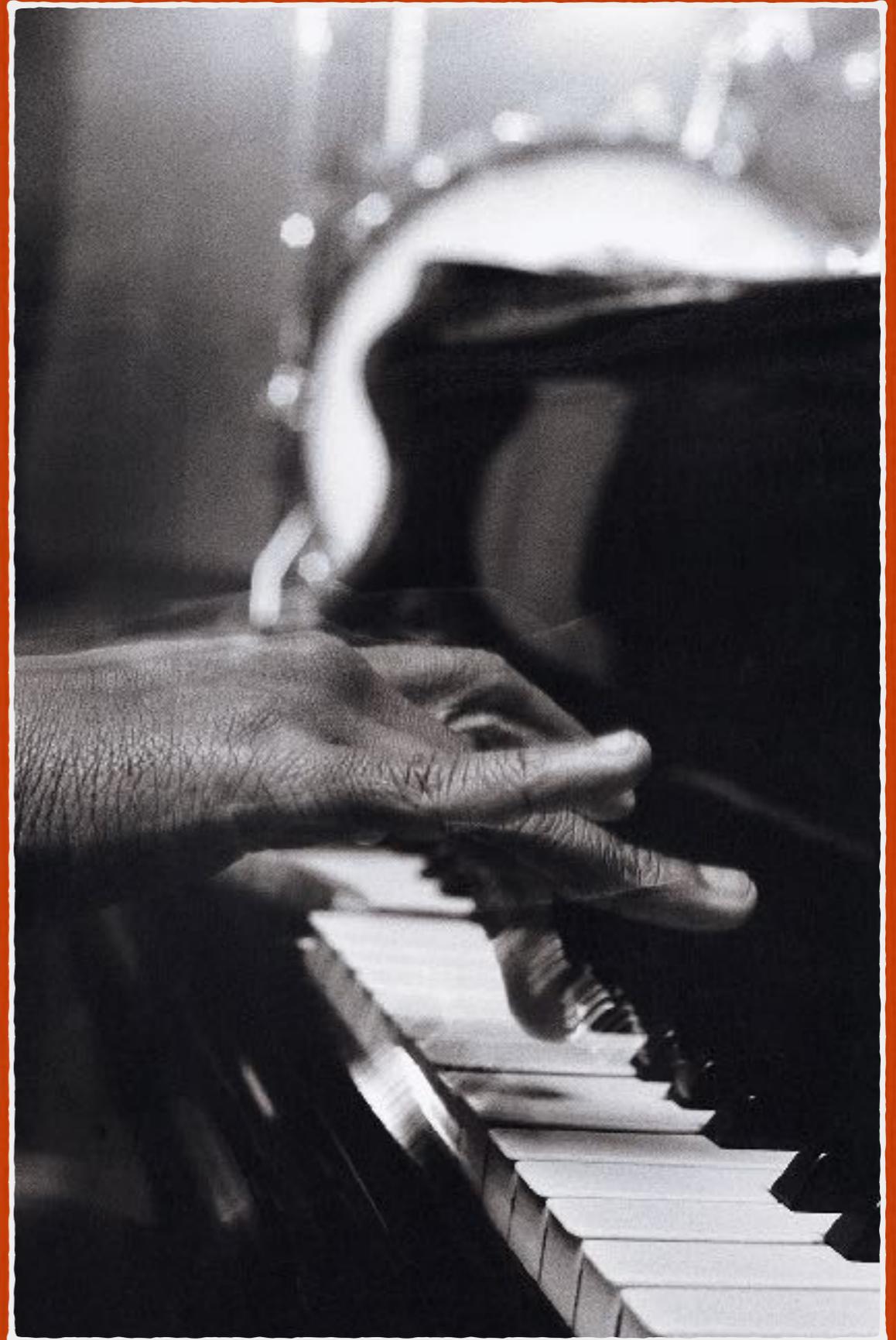
Left to right: Juanita Brown, David Shaw, David Isaacs, Stephanie Brown (Moira Allan not pictured)

All of us, whatever our generation, are alive together at this challenging moment when our very futures and the future of our planet is at stake. As the two facilitators for the program, Moira Allan, from the Pass It On Network, and David Shaw, from Wiser Together emphasized the value of this unique opportunity to engage in deep listening, to move beyond limiting beliefs, and to think out of the box about the power the group has to shape tomorrow, together. They introduced Stephanie Brown, whose images illustrated what was said; and Juanita Brown and David Isaacs, co-founders of The World Café who had participated in the co-design of the Cafe process.

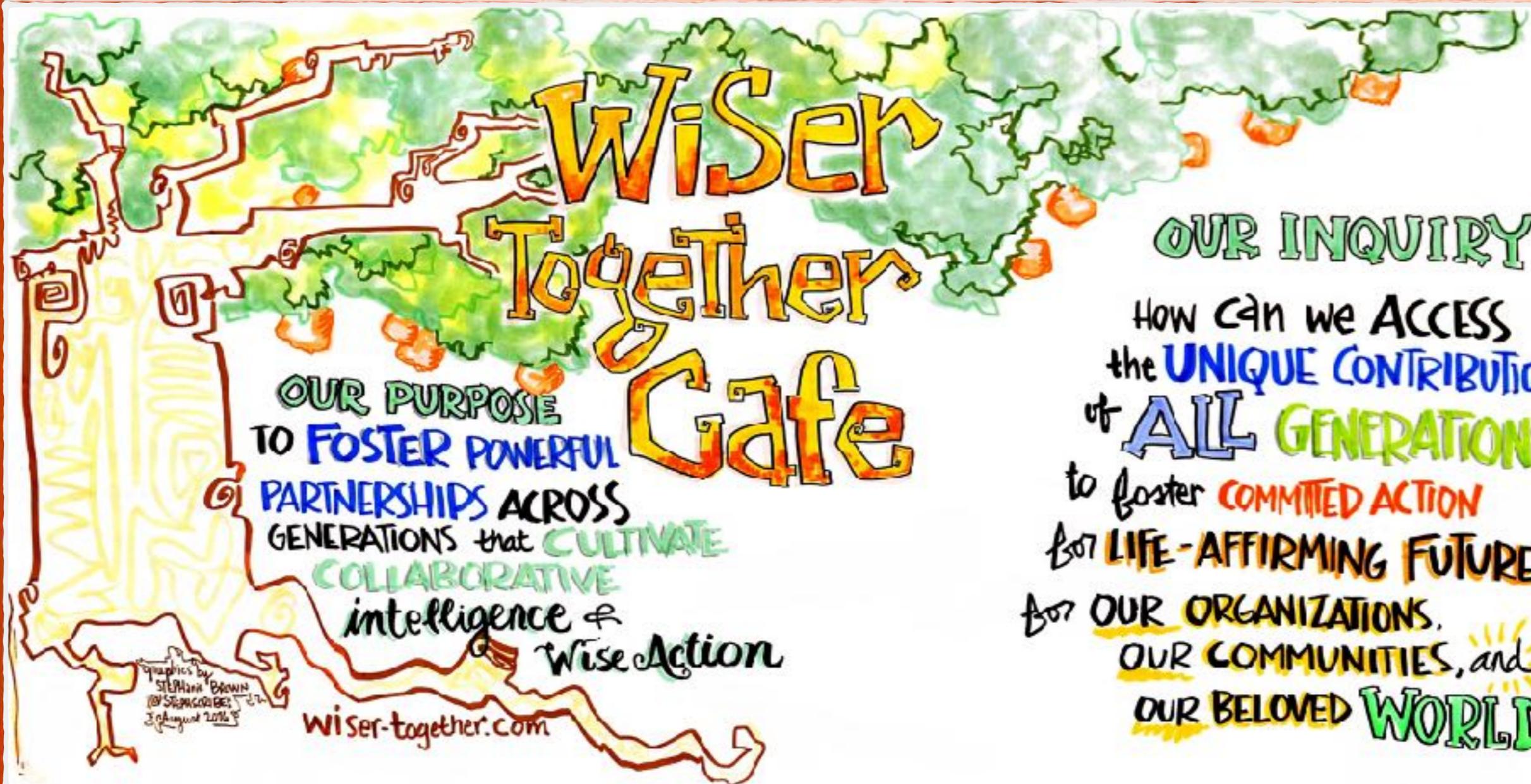
Cafe Questions

Here are the main themes of the table reports that resulted from the generative power of personal connection. The reports responded to four questions:

1. Think of a time when you had a really great inter-generational connection, or conversation? What was it? What enabled that to happen?
2. What about elders/youngers would you like to never hear or feel again?
3. What you would love to hear or feel? What could you hear or feel from the other generation that would make you feel excited to be in a partnership?
4. Where in your life would you most want to have inter-generational collaboration? What can you contribute personally to helping that happen?







OUR INQUIRY

How can we ACCESS
the **UNIQUE CONTRIBUTIONS**
of **ALL GENERATIONS**
to foster **COMMITTED ACTION**
for **LIFE-AFFIRMING FUTURES** -
for **OUR ORGANIZATIONS**,
OUR COMMUNITIES, and
OUR BELOVED WORLD

OUR PURPOSE
TO **FOSTER POWERFUL**
PARTNERSHIPS ACROSS
GENERATIONS that **CULTIVATE**
COLLABORATIVE
intelligence &
Wise Action

graphics by
STEPHAN BROWN
FOR WISER-TOGETHER.COM
August 2016

wiser-together.com

Wiser Together Purpose

www.wiser-together.com



Wiser Together Guiding Principles (Left) & Multi-Generational Tree (Right)



Think of a time when you had a really great inter-generational connection, or conversation. What enabled that to happen?

Great ideas popped up, like “cooking with my grandmother”, “asking, not giving advice”, “feeling safe and being allowed to express differences”, “music”, “compassion”, “respect” and “mutual concern”





Circle Of Life

After our opening remarks, we gracefully moved into a circle of life to look around at our learning community. “We have everything we need right now in the room, all the wisdom and resources, to solve all of our problems.” From there we formed intergenerational groups of 4 for our first Cafe conversation.







INTERGENERATIONAL
 FROM CROWD
 SPREAD + STAYING
 HOLD
 HOLD



AS A ~~EDGE~~ ~~WISER~~
 I'D LIKE TO
 NEVER HEAR/FEEL

ABOUT US
 ADMIN

FEELING I AM
 BEHIND THE LINES

Transitions in life
 Inter-gen. garden

Together - David
 Show

Love
 Compassion
 connection/collaboration
 Sustainability

Consciousness Shifting

ROUND 1

2 1/2

2 1/2

GREAT I.G.
 WHAT ENAS

TIME
 Judgment
 - ADJUST



EJECT DIFF ROLES
 JUST BE = PEOPLE



LEARNING
 TRANSITIONS

NEVER DOUBT the POWER of a small group of committed multi-generational people to CHANGE the WORLD!

WHERE in Your Life WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO HAVE **INTER-GENERATIONAL COLLABORATION**

What can you CONTRIBUTE PERSONALLY to MAKE that HAPPEN?



multi-gen healthcare practitioners conversations

MOVE the POLITICAL REVOLUTION FORWARD

PLAYFUL COMMUNITY FUN & INVITE INTER-GEN'

CREATE a inter-generational entrepreneur community at workplace

HOLD 3 MEETING TOGETHER in the DARK to overcome ASSUMPTIONS & STEREOTYPES

intergenerational career mapping lunch dates

MAKE BOARDS inter-generational

CULTIVATE MULTI-GEN COMMUNICATION engaging ALL RESIDENTS of a 60 UNIT AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMUNITY

JOBS for YOUTH

CONNECT YOUNGER & OLDER LEADERS in MOVEMENT TOGETHER to SUSTAIN & TRANSITION

intentional inter-gen' communities

inter-generational co-working space for entrepreneurs & others

LAUNCH DIALOGUE of MULTI-GEN' in HIGHER EDUCATION

INCLUDE ALL HOMEOWNERS & RESIDENTS of ALL AGES in NEAR COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

MAKE the 'GENERATIONS LAB' (w/ PAUL ALDSON & GINA) 'INTER-GENERATIONAL'

WISER TOGETHER CAFES for HIGHER ED COMMUNITY

HOUSE CRAWL

YOUTH COLUMN in NEWSLETTER

RURAL INCUBATOR for SELF-SUFFICIENCY & COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

inter-gen model UN. COLLECT WISDOM & SHARE HOPE and including many communities not typically included

FAMILY IMPACT FAMILY VALUES

INTER-GEN LONG TERM CARE PLANNING

FOSTER MORE INTER-GENERATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS - CREATE A COMMUNITY FAMILY

GUITAR B.QUES & STORYTELLING CIRCLES & MUSIC with TRADITIONAL & YOUNGER FARMERS

COACHING YOUNGER WOMEN to be MANAGERS

HELP ACROSS TECHNOLOGY

VISIT my ELDERS and ASK MORE QUESTIONS

SHARED PARENTING of MULTI-GEN' FAMILY

Graphics by STEPHANIE BROWN @STEPHANSCRYBLES August 2016

Where in your life would you most want to have inter-generational collaboration?

What can you contribute personally to helping that happen?

Where in your life would you most want to have inter-generational collaboration?

What can you contribute personally to helping that happen?

A wonderful crop of ideas and projects ...

- Never doubt the power of a small multi-generational group of people committed to change the world!
- Move the political revolution forward
- Cultivate multi generational communication engaging all residents of a 60 unit affordable housing community
- Playful community fun and invite inter-gen'
- Youth column in newsletters
- Visit my elders and ask more questions
- Help access technology
- Intentional inter-gen' communities
- Hold a meeting in the dark to overcome assumptions and stereotypes
- Make boards (of organizations) inter-generational
- Include all homemakers and residents of all ages in community directories
- Intergenerational career mapping lunch meetings
- Collect wisdom and share hope in communities not typically included
- Inter-gen Model U.N.
- Wiser Together Cafés for Higher Education community
- Guitar B-Ques with story telling circles and music with traditional and younger farmers
- House crawl
- Jobs for youth
- Coaching younger women to be managers
- Connect younger and older leaders in movement together to sustain and facilitate transition
- Multi-gen' healthcare practitioners and conversations
- Rural incubators for self-sufficiency and community resilience
- Inter-gen' co-working space for entrepreneurs and others
- Launch multi-gen' dialogue in higher education
- Shared parenthood of multi-gen' families
- Family impact, family values
- Make the Generations Lab' (at Palo Alto Senior Center) inter-generational
- Foster more inter-generational relationships – create a community family

With the energy and commitment generated in our Wiser Together Café, what's stopping us? Let's get going! "We are the ones we have been waiting for!"



Some of our major learnings and recommendations, as hosts of this dialogue?

From the Event

Ideally the Wiser Together World Cafe would be a morning plenary, with all participants at the conference, as opposed to a breakout session.

It was challenging to have the session open via pre-event registration, but then also be advertised in the conference program. This allowed for unexpected drop-ins at the last minute.

Plan to work directly with the hotel staff on the Cafe setup (layout, appropriate sized tables, A/V).

Plan to have a strong local base of support to help with recruitment.

Building momentum, shaping expectations

The energy and enthusiasm generated by the Wiser Together Intergenerational Café is destined to grow in moment and meaning!

H Rick Moody, flame carrier of the Positive Aging Conference, has confirmed that the 9th PAC will be held in Denver, Colorado, in 2018 – date to be announced - in collaboration with the Certified Senior Advisors.

The Wiser Together Team – The World Café and the Pass It On Network invites you to take the next step and expand the exciting opportunities identified in Washington, DC, in August 2016.

Register now for the Virtual Wiser Together Café in 2017

Continuing the focus on intergenerational themes of both the 7th PAC (Sarasota) and 8th PAC (D.C.) World Cafes, and in anticipation of the 9th PAC in 2018, we invite you to a virtual Wiser Together Cafe in Fall 2017.

We have the technology and all you need is your computer, tablet or smart phone.

We look forward to continuing the conversation with you!

[CLICK HERE](#)

to join the Wiser Together email list to receive confirmation of the exact date of this online cafe.





If you would like to host a World Café conversation, on any subject, please visit www.theworldcafe.com. In particular you might enjoy our “Café To Go” guide to hosting.

If you would like to become active in the global World Café Community, you may sign up for our email list and online community at www.theworldcafecommunity.org

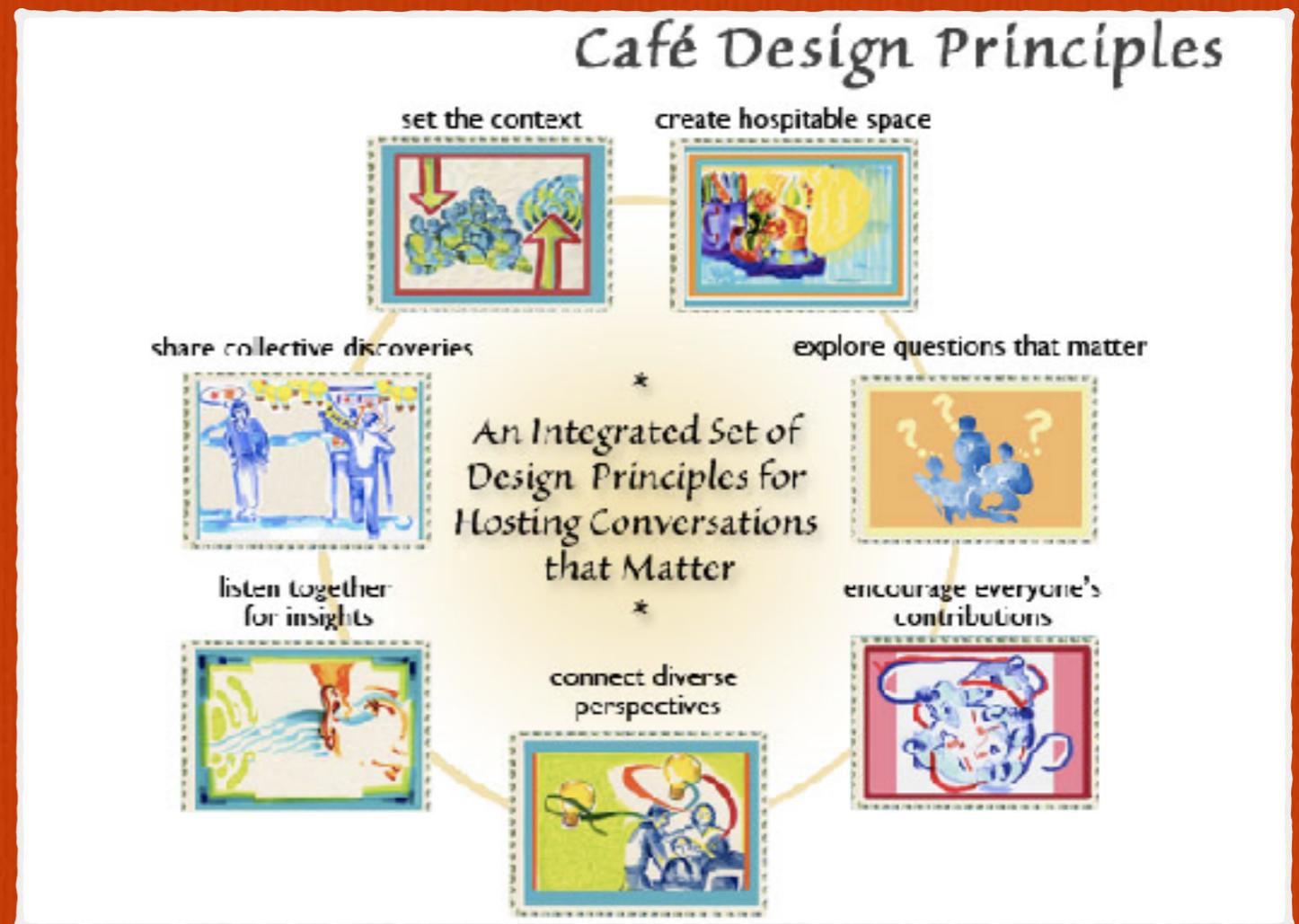


illustration by Nancy Margulies

A Quick Reference Guide for Hosting World Café

the WorldCafe

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Special thank you to the ambitious team who worked together to host the Wiser Together Cafe.

Co-Hosts: Moira Allan and David Shaw

Graphic Recorder: Stephanie Brown

Core Team: Juanita Brown, Jan Hively, Kari Henley

Video and Photo Production: Leni Herschman and Brian Pratt

Team Support: Carol Gorelick, Judy Rough, Rick Moody

