

Note: This column did not run because the editor didn't think it was a column. I thought differently and think the information and links are still valuable. --Tim

Experience Leadership!

by Tim Pearson

"The only real training for leadership is leadership." – Anthony Jay

Looking for the experience of leadership in bite-sized chunks? Block out your Friday lunch hours in March and April and head over to the Wilda Marston Theater at the Z. J. Loussac Public Library from noon to 1 pm. Leadership Anchorage and Anchorage Municipal Libraries are sponsoring a "Lunch and Learn Series on Leadership" with several of Alaska's leadership trainers. The March 7 & 14 sessions have been held, but the session resources are valuable and more sessions are up-coming:

Friday, March 7 "Leadership: An Art of Possibility"

The video of the same name (with Ben and Roz Zander) provides a new definition of leadership where everyone "becomes part of the song." The leader's job becomes a job of possibility. Carolyn Rowe of [Connections](#) leads the discussion of the insights provided by this inspiring video. Resources: [The Art of Possibility](#) (2000) by Rosamund Stone Zander and Benjamin Zander. Web:

www.rosamundzander.com and www.benjaminzander.com

Friday, March 14 "Leadership Moments"

Barbara Brown, Director of Leadership Anchorage, uses the video, [A Personal Matter: Gordon Hirabayashi vs. the United States](#), to spark discussion of the leadership moments that pop up when we least expect them and the leaders and visionaries who choose well. Resources:

www.artsci.washington.edu/newsletter/Winter00/Hirabayashi.htm and www.aclunc.org/911/backlash.pdf

Friday, March 21 "Serious Play: Increasing Group Effectiveness"

Leaders enable others to act. Come experience The Big Question, Back to Back, Offers and Requests and more. Explore how leadership = creativity + collaboration + action with Tim Pearson of MindJazz. Bring project challenges and leave with new energy, connections, and resources. Resources: [Serious Play](#) (1999) and [No More Teams!](#) (1995) by Michael Schrage. Interview with Michael Schrage:

www.linezine.com/3.1/features/msmcosp.htm

Friday, March 28 "The Power of Questions"

Consider the purpose and effectiveness of the questions you pose: will they lead to dialogue? Mia Oxley, local mediator/facilitator and trainer for the Understanding Neighbors project, will lead you through discussion and exercise to new awareness. Resources:

www.understandingneighbors.org and www.publicconversations.org

Friday, April 4 "Lessons from Complexity Science"

Gwen Kennedy, Ph.D. will introduce you to some of the principles of complexity science that can help you move ideas forward. Identify yourself as a connector, maven, or salesperson. Whom do you need to bring to the party if you want to advance ideas,

causes, or products? Resources: www.gkennedy.com/journeylit.htm,
www.gladwell.com/1999/1999_01_11_a_weisberg.htm and
www.Plexusinstitute.org

Friday, April 11 “Go Slow to Go Fast...Lessons in Building Trust and Relationship Before a Team Gets into Action”

High performance teams take time early on to build trust, learn to value their differences and thinking preferences, and agree on team processes. Carolyn Rowe of [Connections](#) leads a discussion of the Grove Team Performance Model and some lively audience interaction. Resources: [The Team Performance Model Abstract](#) (2000) by Allan Drexler, David Sibbett, and Russ Forrester and www.grove.com/services/tool_modeltp.html

Friday, April 18 “Leading Diversity: Champions of Change”

If more organizations are investing in diversity initiatives, why hasn't the conversation changed? Munirah Mawusi of Higher Visions will explore how diversity practitioners – and organization leaders – can prevent the “illusion of inclusion” and institute sustainable change in their organizations. Resource: www.westernstatescenter.org/resource/assessingorgracism.pdf

Not sure what to expect? Remember, creating value out of the unexpected is the essence of leadership. Have more questions? Contact Barbara Brown of Leadership Anchorage at (907) 272-5324 and for more information about Leadership Anchorage, visit: www.akhf.org/leadership.htm. Come and share in the experience of leadership!

Tim is a Professional/Business Coach who helps people design meaningful careers and build great companies. He is at www.timpearson.net and can be reached at (907) 562-1568 or by e-mail at tim@timpearson.net.