



# The Village View

June 23, 2021

Pam & Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson,  
Editors

## Coming Up--

- *Pathwork, July 11*
- *Human Relations Laboratory 2021, August 8 to 14 at Sahale*

## To View, to Look, to See

Pamela Jarrett-Jefferson

**T**o view anything requires light. Light is illuminating, the eyes are receiving, and the brain is interpreting. When I approach a new or familiar situation, my eyes are scanning rapidly while my mind wants to interpret what is going on, looking for danger or a problem. I want to know---and know quickly--where or whether I fit in. I make many value judgments to check if I know what and who is before me, do I like it or not, and is the vibe is pleasing to me. It is purely subjective on my part.

To see does not require any of these. What if I could learn to see, as Nietzsche instructs, "to accustom the eye to calmness, to patience, and to allow things to come up to it; to defer judgment, and to acquire the habit of approaching and grasping an individual case from all sides." Is it possible to be that neutral long enough to really see what I'm looking at as it really is or is it still just my subjective point of view?

Is my point of view "a dangerous luxury when substituted for insight and understanding" as Marshall McLuhan suggests? How can I know what I see is reality? Well, I can't by myself. When I remember to join with other people, ask questions, and negotiate what is truly in our shared view, then I can begin to trust in what I'm looking at because we are looking together.

Many years ago, John Hoff taught about the nature of respect. He said it meant to look again. To take a second look, to respect what is true inside and what is outside will get me a much bigger picture of reality. Is it the whole picture? Let's get together at Lab and find out!

## On-Line News of the Goodenough Community System

American Association for the Furtherance of Community  
Convocation: A Church and Ministry / Mandala Resources, Inc.  
Sahale Learning Center / The EcoVillage at Sahale

# RE-ENTRY INTO THE ATMOSPHERE OF RELATIONSHIP



## RE-ENGAGING AFTER A LIGHT YEAR OF ISOLATION

*Collectively we have experienced an unusual event which gives us an opportunity to reimagine our lives.*

Humans are relational beings who thrive with interaction. As you emerge from enforced isolation, how is it going? Where have you been? Where are you now? Where do you want to go?

You're invited to the 52nd Human Relations Laboratory (Lab), a 7-day intergenerational experiential learning & training event that offers many ways to encourage your learning. At Lab you can:

- 👁️ Connect deeply with others who are also growing themselves
- 👁️ Enjoy creative expression of all kinds
- 👁️ Live in the natural world, explore freedom and energy, and live in the present
- 👁️ Stretch into personal empowerment
- 👁️ Learn how your own inner dividedness contributes to the current polarization of our world and how healing leads to understanding.

A design team of experienced facilitators will lead you in large and small groups and in individual processes designed to cultivate warmth, intimacy, insight, and learning.

**WHERE** Sahale Learning Center, nestled on 68 tranquil acres on the Tahuya River near Belfair, Washington.

**TUITION** \$750. The Lab fee includes food service, camping or indoor accommodations, and learning materials. Special rates are available for groups of three or more, seniors, students, families, and interns. Please consider an additional tax-deductible donation to the scholarship fund. If you wish to discuss tuition, please contact Registrar Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson. [elizabeth.ann.jarrett@gmail.com](mailto:elizabeth.ann.jarrett@gmail.com)

**TO REGISTER & PAY ONLINE [CLICK HERE](#)**

Or visit [www.goodenough.org/lab](http://www.goodenough.org/lab)



## **"To View" – The Human Relations Laboratory**

*Barbara Brucker*

**W**hat a treat! Over the past weekend, a group of lab-leader types **actually met in person** at Sahale. As we meet in preparation for Lab, our Lab begins. It actually began May 15 when we joined together for a Saturday gathering via Zoom. What a difference in-person makes. I think I speak for everyone present when I say we left excited for an in-person Lab.

Our purpose this weekend was to view where we are headed with this summer's Human Relations Lab. The weekend was rich with reconnection and looking forward as we emerge from our pandemic induced distancing and re-enter the atmosphere of relationship. Lab evolves in part from the work of leaders in these meetings. Our own work informs us about where we are now and allows us to view the direction we want to move. With the skillful facilitation of Pam Jarrett-Jefferson and Tom George we began to reconnect and look toward Lab. Colette was in the role consultant.



***Barbara's Collage***

We're learning that reconnection isn't necessarily easy or automatic. It takes intention. It takes good listening and good questioning. It's worth it. It also takes a willingness to be self-revealing. We started our weekend with activities to reconnect – sharing in triads. And we valued good conversation. As the weekend continued, we began to talk about the issues around connecting, reconnecting, deepening relationships and being true to oneself. Some of the themes that emerged were around joining well, choosing to join, negotiating rather than assuming, the impact of often unrecognized double binds, and the pandemic as a major reset with the challenges and opportunities it offers. All of these are part of our re-entry into the atmosphere of relationship. So far I'm finding re-entry fun, and at times challenging. I love the opportunity to re-establish relationships and explore what's right in those relationships now.

This past weekend, I had the opportunity to view the beginnings of this year's Lab and I'm excited about what I saw. Oh, and did I mention we spent "happy hour" socializing and making collages in an exercise facilitated by a well-prepared Deborah Cornett? It was fun. I can hardly wait for Lab.

## Walking Sticks with Stories to Tell – Claudia Fitch, Sculptor

Introduction by Joan Valles

**C**laudia Fitch was in Fort Lauderdale, FL, this past weekend for the dedication of her public art project *Walking Sticks with Stories to Tell*, a site-specific artwork of sculptures designed to serve as a gateway to the historically black Sistrunk neighborhood in northwest Fort Lauderdale. Many of us are familiar with Claudia's public art in the Seattle area. This time she was working in a place culturally and historically very different from the Northwest. And she was a white artist working in a black community. It is a credit to Claudia, the people of the neighborhood, and the Broward County Cultural Division's Public Art & Design Program that the project and dedication went off beautifully.



The sculptures are stunning and stand on a high traffic area near the African American Research Library and Cultural Center, of which the community is justly proud, and are part of a safe streets improvement project that will include walking and bicycle lanes. They reflect the West African traditions of the linguist staff, ornamental hairpin, Adinkra symbols, and kente cloth colors. On one “walking stick” you will notice a bicyclist sculpted by Claudia; on another a panther, the mascot of neighboring Dillard High School. The people of the neighborhood are hoping to make Sistrunk a destination. If you want to learn more, you can read the excellent press release put out by the Broward folks:

<https://webapps6.broward.org/NewsRelease/View.aspx?intMessageID=12638>

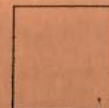
And better yet talk to Claudia. It is a story of great skill—artistic, intellectual, technological—and relationship, relationship, relationship. As part of her contract, Claudia provided four outreach events. She met with high school students and elders; she learned about what it was like to grow up in the neighborhood from impromptu conversations, and she immersed herself its history. All the while she was designing, sculpting, contracting with fabricators, working with the powers that be. Claudia is open and generous in sharing her work and talking with her is impressive.

Be sure to check out the next page for information on Linguists Staff meanings.



## *Walking Sticks with Stories to Tell, 2021*

**Claudia Fitch**  
**Sculpture**



The five sculptures reference West African traditions of the Linguist Staff, Ornamental Hairpin, Adinkra Symbols and Kente Cloth colors, as well as the stories of those who live, work, and go to school in the Sistrunk neighborhood. Community outreach activities facilitated by the artist provided the underlying themes for the artwork concept and imagery.

### Linguist Staffs Meaning:

- ✎ Sculpture #1 – Community represented by young person on a bike. Kente colors: gold and green representing high worth and growth.
- Sculpture #2 – Ivory hairpin with Adinkra symbol, SESA WO SUBAN, representing transformation. Kente color: blue representing harmony, peace, and love.
- Sculpture #3 – Copper scorpion hairpin meaning self-sacrifice for the good of future generations.
- Sculpture #4 – Panther's head, the mascot of Dillard High School (DHS); Kente colors gold and black representing high worth and maturity. Also includes the DHS colors, blue and gray.
- Sculpture #5 – Wood ornamental comb with Adinkra Symbol BOA ME NA, ME MMOA NO, meaning community, cooperation, interdependence. Kente color: maroon representing mother earth, healing.

For more information visit [Broward.org/Arts](http://Broward.org/Arts).



*William W. Combes*



## Mindful Mike's Blog: Foundation

Mike deAnguera

We have just had a Lab Training weekend. Now I am processing it. Let's see what comes up this time. Who knows? May be this time I will have some insights I have never had before.

Life is mostly a mystery to me. I am often the last to get what's going on. The fact that I am still here means I am doing the right things.

Relational skills were never my strong point. Of course, it is impossible for me to develop them alone. I need other humans to practice with. Practice? Practice carries the possibility of failure. So it has to be in a safe environment.

Certainly, dealing with an employer, especially a potential employer is a high stakes game I can't afford to fail at. My livelihood is at stake. If I blow an interview, I am left to figure out why on my own.

Another high stakes game is a date. Have to prepare for this one. The first time would be a real trial for me without a community to be nurtured in.

In each case I was faced with an unhealthy relational environment where isolation was the norm. A place like Lab and the Goodenough Community allow me to work on my relational life in little steps.

Trying to build relationships with big steps has never worked for me.



One of the best ways for me to create friendships is with artwork. Thank you, Deborah Cornett, for providing the space for us to do this work. In the right-hand photo, one can see Colette Hoff, Tom George, Ashley Shields, and Marley Long enjoying each other's company at Sahale.

Taking an art class doesn't work in quite the same way. I can have fun but at the end of it everybody goes back to their other lives and I never see them again. Maybe people just take art classes but don't care to form friendships as a result.

Lab work goes on all the time at Sahale. I have been at Sahale for 13 years so, for me, I can barely imagine what relationships look like outside this context.

Somehow the outside world expects me to already know how best to relate to others without any training. It's like building a house with no foundation.



Perhaps the outside world doesn't care how any of us relate to each other. We are livestock for the corporate world. Hmm.....and I am supposed to find friends in this environment? Of course nobody cares whether chickens find friends or not. After all they are going to be our food someday.

The corporate world feeds off of me over a period of time before getting rid of what's left.

I have to admit institutional life of any kind doesn't interest me. I want out. Escape! To what? Fortunately, I have Sahale. We have invested in each other. The returns are immediate and large. I have what I need to face the world.

Hey, it was recently Kirsten Rohde's birthday! We celebrated it at Massimo's Italian Restaurant in Purdy. You can see Kirsten is having a good time. Did she ever do this with her co-workers at her former job? I know I never did.



**A Collage of Dear Friends**



**Collage by Kirsten Rohde**



## A Collage of Collages

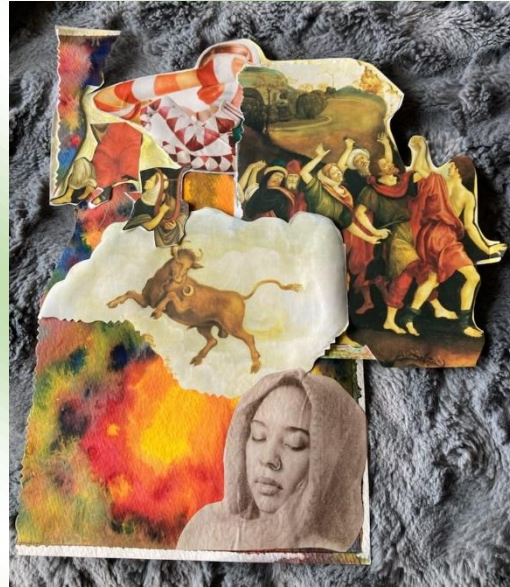
*Inspired by Deborah Cornett*



**Marley Long**



**Deborah Cornett**



**Rose Buchmeier**

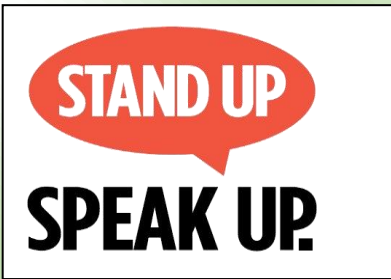


**Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson**



**Pam Jarrett-Jefferson**





Now we (members and friends of the Goodenough Community) are taking a stand for love and equality over all the expressions of racism and injustice and inequality against People of Color. We, as mostly white, will educate ourselves and learn to make a difference. We will continue to speak out about racial injustice.

**Reprinted from last week**

*The following is an excerpt from an interview with the Rev angel Kyodo Williams, a Black Zen priest. <https://angelkyodowilliams.com/> The link to the full podcast is at the end.*

Aired for the 3rd time on the esteemed podcast, On Being, the prescience of the exchange is humbling in times of great uncertainty and shift. Listen to it again and again:

**"This prophetic conversation, which Rev. angel Kyodo Williams had with Krista in 2018, is an invitation to imagine and nourish the transformative potential of this moment — toward human wholeness."**

*She's an esteemed Zen priest and the second Black woman ever recognized as a teacher in the Japanese Zen lineage. To sink into conversation with her is to imagine and experience a transformative potential of this moment towards human wholeness. —Krista Tippett, On Being*

**ANGEL KYODO WILLIAMS:** There is something dying in our society, in our culture, and there's something dying in us individually. And what is dying, I think, is the willingness to be in denial. And that is extraordinary. It's always been happening, and when it happens in enough of us, in a short enough period of time at the same time, then you have a tipping point, and the culture begins to shift. And then, what I feel like people are at now is, "No, no, bring it on. I have to face it — we have to face it."

**MS. TIPPETT:** I'm Krista Tippett, and this is *On Being*.

**REV. WILLIAMS:**...The way that I think of love most often these days is that love is space.

**MS. TIPPETT:** Say some more about that. What do you mean?

**REV. WILLIAMS:** It is developing our own capacity for spaciousness within ourselves to allow others to be as they are — that that is love. And that doesn't mean that we don't have hopes or wishes that things are changed or shifted, but that to come from a place of love is to be in acceptance of what is, even in the face of moving it towards something that is more whole, more just, more spacious for all of us. It's bigness. It's an allowance. It's flexible.

**REV. WILLIAMS:** ... if any of us were willing to be just a little bit sane [laughs] and look, we would recognize, “Oh, my goodness. How extraordinary that black people, in particular — indigenous people, as well — could live the lives of dignity that they have chosen for themselves in the face of the onslaught of what this country’s history has been and continues to be and continues to put upon them.” So grace, I think, is a gift that Black peoples have inhabited for a great deal of time. Fearlessness, though —

**MS. TIPPETT:** It’s such a wonderful word to call out too, as you say.

**REV. WILLIAMS:** Yeah, but fearlessness is a really bold statement because we are expected to not be fearless. And in fact, our fearlessness is dangerous and threatening. And so having people of African descent, people that identify as Black, to choose fearlessness is a very, very [laughs] bold statement of defiance.

Listen to the full re-aired interview here: <https://onbeing.org/programs/angel-kyodo-williams-the-world-is-our-field-of-practice/>

## **Programs and Events of the Goodenough Community**

*Because of our unpredictable times, dates and descriptions shown represent our plans for now.*

**Community is about adapting to change, and that has been the case with the pandemic as we have adapted many of our ways to connecting, many of which are via Zoom.**

Throughout the year our intention is to offer programs that help you participate in your own development, learn about relating well with others, and help you discover your potential to have a good time in life and with others.

Information about programs and upcoming events can be found on our website:  
[www.goodenough.org](http://www.goodenough.org)



**The Goodenough Community’s governing body, the General Circle, meets monthly, 7:00 PM, via Zoom.**

For additional information, contact [Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson](#)





**The Women's Program** is a long-established and ever-growing way for women to enjoy each other's company, learn about themselves as women, and even perhaps to experience the Divine Feminine. For more information, contact [Hollis Ryan](#).



**The Third Age** - Those age 60 and older have been gathering monthly, Friday evenings, 7:00 PM. With the pandemic, meetings are virtual. Contact [Kirsten Rohde](#) for more information

**The Men's Program** - Our Men's Circle is an expression of brotherhood and practice with wisdom, gathered from our own lives, other men's work, advocates, and the founders of this circle.



**Pathwork, a Program of Convocation: A Church and Ministry** – Pathwork offers you a spiritual home in which to rest and to share your heart and mind as you move through these unpredictable times. We come together under the leadership of Pastor Colette Hoff and find support and encouragement as we clarify our personal goals and develop the practices we choose for a spirit-filled life, gaining wisdom from the world's faith & wisdom traditions. All are welcome to join. Meetings are held via Zoom on alternate Sundays from 7pm to 9pm. Contact Colette: [hoff@goodenough.org](mailto:hoff@goodenough.org) for Zoom information. *\*Note the next Pathwork will be July 11.*



**True Holidays Celebration, Saturday, December 4, 2021**

We are planning our 2021 event! Hold this date on your calendar. We traditionally hold this event on Mercer Island. Stay tuned for details.



**Human Relations Laboratory, August 8 to 14, 2021**

This intense and joyous week-long event is a communal experience of personal growth and relational development within a rich culture with art, music dance, song, drama and more. This summer we will celebrate 52 years! Contact: Colette Hoff, [hoff@goodenough.org](mailto:hoff@goodenough.org)



**Work and Play Parties throughout the Year.** Traditionally, the Goodenough Community sponsors work parties over Memorial Day weekend as well as other times to express gratitude for the presence of our beloved retreat center, Sahale, and to experience the satisfaction of playing and working together. Please email [hoff@goodenough.org](mailto:hoff@goodenough.org) with questions during these times of the Pandemic.



### **Quest: A Counseling and Healing Center**

Our belief is that mental and emotional health is a prerequisite for spiritual wellbeing, collaboration, and the expression of compassion. Quest's counseling and education programs, open to all interested individuals, focus on empowering individuals, couples, and family groups to be happier and more effective in relationships. *Call Colette (206-755 8404) if you find you need to talk out your feelings regarding the pandemic crisis.*