

The Raving

MANIAC

Issue 31

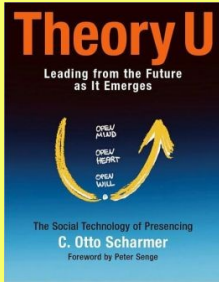
July 8, 2013

MANIAC Book of the Month:

For this issue we would like to
feature

Theory U: Leading from
the Future as It Emerges

By C. Otto Scharmer



In this ground-breaking book, C. Otto Scharmer invites us to see the world in new ways.

What we pay attention to, and how we pay attention is the key to what we create. What often prevents us from 'being present,' is what Scharmer calls our blind spot, the inner place from which each of us operates.

Becoming aware of our blind spot is critical to bringing forth the profound systemic changes so needed in business and society today.

First introduced in Presence, the U methodology of leading profound change is expanded and deepened in Theory U. Through this process we are able to shift our awareness to allow us to connect with our best future possibility--and to realize it.

Do you have ideas for breakfasts for the upcoming year? [Fill out this survey and let us know!](#)

Upcoming MANIAC Events

Jammin' Innovative Networking Workshop

Tuesday, July 23, 2013
3:00pm-4:30pm
Union South—See "TITU"
FREE!

The "Jammin" networking session is similar to a facilitated workshop. It includes thinking about important questions, working on your "how you quickly communicate elevator speech," and doing one-on-one speed networking. People leave with a more comfortable and activity-filled experience. They get to share with the whole group, hear from everyone, and go deeper one-on-one with many people. They actually get to connect and converse!

This is connection-making learning, where you will get ideas for your own projects and offer ideas to others.

Jammin' in action!



The Story behind "Jammin"

MANIAC Darin Eich tells the story of how Jammin' came to be!



A few summers ago I attended a "networking event" where I didn't get the chance to talk to very many new people, and the conversations I had weren't really very helpful...it was small talk. I saw this as a problem and an opportunity for innovation since networking and communication are so important. I noticed that I had better networking effects at workshops than at "networking events." I was thinking about this problem and a potential solution on a flight back from Europe, and I sketched out a concept. I like to experiment with launching new programs for the MANIAC audience and thought that this was the one to experiment with next. I

contacted Harry Webne-Behrman and Marian Fariior and we met to talk about the idea. The idea was to build a 1.5 hour long workshop that got people networking and communicating with each other about what they were currently working on...the important stuff. It was a facilitated experience. We were able to schedule the first Jam Session within the week and had a nice sized group attend. We've done this program a number of times since making adjustments after that first session to focus in on helping people better communicate what it is they are working on so they have a better chance to get ideas.

**MANIAC Resource
of the Month:**

For this issue we would
like to feature

Sector67



Sector67 is a non-profit collaborative space in Madison founded by Chris Meyer, a UW Engineering graduate. It is dedicated to providing an environment to learn, teach, work-on, build, and create next generation technology. Be sure to check out their website to learn more!

Find more resources in our **MANIAC Tool Box**



Don't forget about our **UW-MANIAC Facebook Page!**

"Like" our page to see updates on upcoming MANIAC events as well as MANIACal articles and links on your Facebook News-feed!

The Raving MANIAC

Issue 32

August 26, 2013

Upcoming MANIAC Events

UW-MANIAC Breakfast: Alex Rivera

Tuesday, October 15, 2013
8:00am-9:30am
Gordon Dining & Events Center
FREE!

We are thrilled to feature Artist in Residence Alex Rivera as our speaker at the first fall UW-MANIAC Breakfast. Alex is a digital artist and filmmaker whose work explores critical social and cultural issues, such as labor, immigration, and cross-border exchanges. In this MANIAC Breakfast, Alex will share his personal story: How did he come to do what he is doing? What is he passionate about in his work, and why?



This promises to be an engaging and fascinating presentation that invites each of us to reflect on the artist within us and aspects of our personal journeys that could be expressed in many creative ways. Don't miss this opportunity to learn with Alex Rivera and consider how his journey can impact our own work lives.

This workshop is made possible by our partnership with the UW-Madison Arts Institute and LACIS Program

Know Your MANIAC: Harry Webne-Behrman



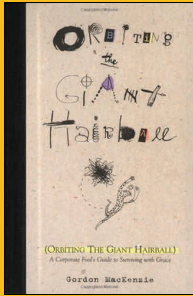
Harry Webne-Behrman is a Training Officer and Consultant with the Office of Human Resource Development on campus. In that role, he coordinates and facilitates professional development programs under the "Fully Prepared to Engage" (FP2E) cluster of workshops and learning communities, including UW-MANIAC. Harry teaches a variety of classes, including conflict resolution, mediation, facilitation, and how to convene public deliberation processes.

"UW-MANIAC is one of the true high points of my professional life," says Harry. "The people who come and share their stories and creative skills are amazing and diverse, often seeing opportunities that most of us would never imagine. Sometimes, I might initially be drawn to an event for one reason, but when I am there I learn several other really important points in their experiences that I can apply directly to my work! That's the thing about MANIAC programs: They teach skills that really can be transferred to a wide range of situations, both across campus and in the community. And the people who attend UW-MANIAC events are often filled with a positive energy that is sometimes in short supply around here... so MANIAC really does help keep me sane."

MANIAC Book of the Month:

For this issue we would like to feature :

Orbiting the Giant Hairball:
A Corporate Fool's Guide to
Surviving with Grace
By Gordon MacKenzie



Creativity is crucial to business success. But too often, even the most innovative organization quickly becomes a "giant hairball"-a tangled, impenetrable mass of rules, traditions, and systems, all based on what worked in the past--that exercises an inexorable pull into mediocrity. Gordon McKenzie, in his deeply funny book, exuberantly illustrated in full color, shares the story of his own professional evolution, together with lessons on awakening and fostering creative genius.

Check out our slideshow to find over 30 other book recommendations!

Feel free to leave comments with ideas for other books to add!



OFFICE OF
HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT
University of Wisconsin-Madison
www.rhd.nisc.edu

The Raving MANIAC

Issue 19

October 2, 2013

Upcoming MANIAC Events

UW-MANIAC Breakfast: Alex Rivera

Tuesday, October 15, 2013
8:00am-9:30am
Gordon Dining & Events Center
FREE!

We are thrilled to feature Artist in Residence Alex Rivera as our speaker at the first fall UW-MANIAC Breakfast. Alex is a digital artist and filmmaker whose work explores critical social and cultural issues, such as labor, immigration, and cross-border exchanges. In this MANIAC Breakfast, Alex will share his personal story: How did he come to do what he is doing? What is he passionate about in his work, and why?

This promises to be an engaging and fascinating presentation that invites each of us to reflect on the artist within us and aspects of our personal journeys that could be expressed in many creative ways. Don't miss this opportunity to learn with Alex Rivera and consider how his journey can impact our own work lives.

This workshop is made possible by our partnership with the UW-Madison Arts Institute and LACIS Program

Jammin' Innovative Networking Workshop

Friday, November 15, 2013
3:00pm-4:30pm
Union South—See "TITU"
FREE!

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This is connection-making learning, where you will get ideas for your own projects and offer ideas to others.

UW- MANIAC Breakfast: For the Love of Vanilla, Chocolate and Nuts

Tuesday, November 19, 2013
8:00am-9:30am
School of Human Ecology
FREE!

Three local women will be telling their stories in bringing their food niche businesses to reality. Come hear Julie Wiedmeyer of the Vanilla Beanery, Megan Hile of Madison Chocolate Company, and Nicole Drives of Lala's Nuts present about their inspirations, motivations, and journeys to create their micro-businesses. And if we're lucky, attendees will have the opportunity to taste their products.

Website Links:

<http://www.madisonchocolate.com/>
<http://www.thevanillabeanery.com/>
<http://www.lalasnuts.com>



Check out our
**UW-MANIAC
Facebook Page!**

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ALEX RIVERA

On October 15th campus and community members attended a UW-MANIAC breakfast to listen to an engaging talk by Alex Rivera, the current Interdisciplinary Artist in Residence. Having grown up in a multi-cultural family (his father had emigrated from Peru, his mother is Irish-American from Brooklyn) Alex's digital multi-media work draws upon stories being lived out daily in Latin America and the United States. Rivera creatively melds reality and fiction, past and future, low-tech and high-tech, weaving the personal and political into dramatic tales of immigration, labor, technology, and globalization. His artistic portfolio of "mockumentaries," sci-fi features, political action shorts, and drone performance art asks viewers to look closely at the painful realities of a global economy in which information and goods travel freely across national borders, while the movements of people are more scrutinized and restricted.

Another important feature of the talk was Alex's perspective that his work isn't necessarily creative, but merely a synthesis of diverse talents that collaboratively contribute to the creative process. Over-arching questions Alex posed about creativity are:

- **What is the creative process?**
- **How does it come about?**
- **Does creativity always involve something new?**

Post your thoughts on the UW-MANIAC Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/UWManiac>, regarding what constitutes a creative process, your creative processes, and the role collaboration may play in your creative process.

The Raving

MANIAC

Issue 34

October 22, 2013

Upcoming MANIAC Events

Jammin' Innovative Networking Workshop

Tuesday, November 5, 2013: 3:00pm-4:30pm

Union South—See "TITU" **FREE!**

The "Jammin'" networking session is similar to a facilitated workshop. It includes thinking about important questions, working on your "how you quickly communicate elevator speech," and doing one-on-one speed networking. People leave with a more comfortable and activity-filled experience. They get to share with the whole group, hear from everyone, and go deeper one-on-one with many people.

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Breakfast Series: For the Love of Vanilla, Chocolate and Nuts

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

8:00am-9:30am

School of Human Ecology

FREE!

Three local women will be telling their stories in bringing their food niche businesses to reality.

Come hear Julie Wiedmeyer of the Vanilla Beanery, Megan Hile of Madison Chocolate Company, and Nicole Drives of Lala's Nuts present about their inspirations, motivations, and journeys to create their micro-businesses. And if we're lucky, attendees will have the opportunity to taste their products.

Website Links:

<http://www.madisonchocolate.com/>

<http://www.thevanillabeanery.com/>

<http://www.lalasnuts.com>

Developing Innovation through Collaboration, Creativity & Communication

December 10 & 17, 2012

1:00-4:30pm

220 Ingraham Hall

Cost: \$90

The three C's can help you to develop new innovations that can contribute to doing meaningful new things, improving processes for problem-solving, and having greater success in your work. You will meet new people and work with others to systematically generate and develop new ideas for the challenge of your choosing. Be guided step-by-step and activity-by-activity through an innovation process to develop and take action on new ideas for your real project.

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The Raving MANIAC

Issue 35

November 12, 2013

MEET THE SPEAKERS

MEGAN HILE



As a chocolatier, Megan Hile is able to combine two of her favorite things: a challenge and chocolate. It was Megan's passion to create the perfect bite of chocolate that inspired her to

open her own company. Since Megan believes no two chocolates should ever be the same, customers can expect to try something new each time.

JULIE WIEDMEYER

Julie Wiedmeyer's creativity was sparked after she tasted the difference good vanilla extract could have on her favorite recipes.

Her successful effort to recreate this vanilla lead to the founding of The Vanilla Beanery right here in Madison, WI.



NICOLE DRIVES



After years of helping her grandmother make nut confections in the kitchen, Nicole Drives decided it was time to share the deliciousness of these nuts with the rest of the world.

Today Lala's Nuts can be found on store shelves in 13 different states!

Upcoming MANIAC Event

Breakfast Series: For the Love of Vanilla, Chocolate and Nuts

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

8:00am-9:30am

School of Human Ecology

FREE!

Three local women will be telling their stories in bringing their food niche businesses to reality. Come hear Julie Wiedmeyer of the Vanilla Beanery, Megan Hile of Madison Chocolate Company, and Nicole Drives of Lala's Nuts present about their inspirations, motivations, and journeys to create their micro-businesses. And if we're lucky, attendees will have the opportunity to taste their products.

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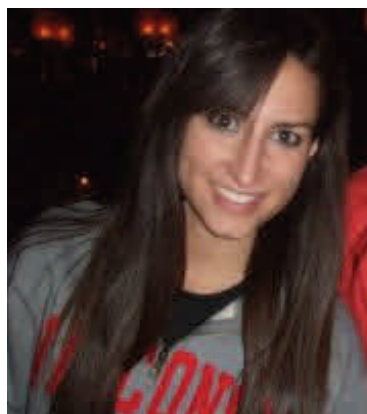
<http://www.thevanillabeanery.com/>

<http://www.lalasnuts.com>

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Know Your MANIAC: Krista Hertel



Hello MANIACs!

My name is Krista Hertel. I'm a student here at UW-Madison studying International Business and Management and Human Resources. I'm thrilled to be working as a student intern at the Office of Human Resource Development over the next year and more specifically with UW-MANIAC. Despite only being an intern with UW-MANIAC for two months, I am already really enthusiastic and intrigued about the work they are doing to promote innovation and collaboration in the workplace. We have lots of great events coming up in the next few months and I hope you all get the chance to come out and participate in them. As a chocolate fanatic I can tell you I'm personally really excited for the upcoming Breakfast Series: For the Love of Vanilla, Chocolate, and Nuts. I look forward to working on future events and meeting all of my fellow MANIACs!

The Raving MANIAC

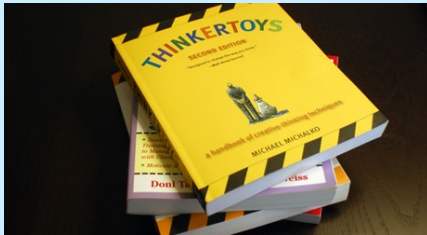
Issue 36

December 17, 2013

WHAT IS

THINKERTOYS?

A Handbook of Creative-
Thinking Techniques



Rethink the Way You Think

In hindsight, every great idea seems obvious. But how can you be the person who comes up with those ideas?

In his groundbreaking book, *Thinkertoys*, creativity expert Michael Michalko reveals life-changing tools that will help you think like a genius. From the linear to the intuitive, this comprehensive handbook details ingenious creative-thinking techniques for approaching problems in unconventional ways. Through fun and thought-provoking exercises, you'll learn how to create original ideas that will improve your personal life and your business life. Michalko's techniques show you how to look at the same information as everyone else and see something different.

With hundreds of hints, tricks, tips, tales, and puzzles, *Thinkertoys* will open your mind to a world of innovative solutions to everyday and not-so-everyday problems.

Upcoming MANIAC Events

UW-MANIAC BOOK GROUP:

Thinkertoys

Wednesday, January 22 & 29, 2014

11:45am-1:15pm

Union South— See TITU

FREE!

Reading the book is not necessary in this book group! In this two-part discussion, we will be focusing on some highlights and exercises from the book which registrants will be given in advance. While we encourage you to purchase the book or borrow it from the library, it will not be essential to participation.

Come to both days if you can. Bring your lunch and your creative energy!

Check out our
[UW-MANIAC
Facebook Page!](#)

“Like” our page to see updates on upcoming MANIAC events as well as MANIAC articles and links on your Facebook Newsfeed!

SPRING FORAY: Madison Circus Space

Thursday, Late January, 2014

3:30m-5:00pm

2100 Winnebago Ave

Come join us in a visit to the Madison Circus Space, 2100 Winnebago Ave. The foray will take place on a Thursday afternoon, 3:30-5pm in late January or early February. (Watch your email and the UW-MANIAC Facebook page for the finalized date.) Besides learning about how MCS came into being and was transformed from an idea to reality, participants will have an opportunity to play with some of the fun toys, such as hula hoops and juggling balls.

UW-MANIAC will be hosting three afternoon forays this spring to explore the fringes of innovative thinking in a variety of contexts. In addition to the Madison Circus Space we will be going to the “Bubbler” at the Madison Public Library, and “100 State” Co-Working Place. Dates and times coming soon!

Have a great Winter Break!

-From the UW-MANIAC Team

**UPCOMING
EVENTS FOR
SPRING 2014**

**1/22 & 1/29: UW-
MANIAC Book
Discussion: Thinkertoys**

**2/6: MANIAC Foray:
Madison Circus Space**

**2/20: MANIAC Foray:
The Bubbler**

**3/11: “Jammin”
Innovative Networking
Workshop**

**3/11: UW-MANIAC
Breakfast Series:
Fostering Student
Innovation**

**4/1: UW-MANIAC
Interdisciplinary Artist
in Residence Series:
Luncheon with
Rhodessa Jones**

**Coming in Spring —
Foray to: “100 State” Co-
Working Place**

The Raving MANIAC

Issue 37

January 15, 2014

Upcoming MANIAC Events

MANIAC Forays:

During spring semester UW-MANIAC will be sponsoring three **free** forays, or field trips, to exciting new spaces in Madison that foster innovation, collaboration, and creativity.

Madison Circus Space

Thursday, February 6, 2014

3:30pm-5:00pm
2100 Winnebago Ave

The first of these forays will be to the new Madison Circus Space (MCS). The space was created as an area of celebration for the circus arts. The MCS hosts circus arts clubs and classes. Juggling, German wheel, stilt walking, aerial arts, aerial yoga, and hoop dancing are some of the activities taking place in the space. Two MCS founders, Josh Casey, juggler, and Rob Summerbell, German wheeler, will talk about how the Madison Circus Space came into being and how it was transformed from an idea to reality. Participants will also have an opportunity to play with some of the fun toys, such as hula hoops and juggling balls. So come, and bring your inner child with you.

Please register at: <https://www.ohrd.wisc.edu/OHRDCatalogPortal/Default.aspx?CK=44724>

The Bubbler

Thursday, February 20, 2014

3:30pm-5:00pm
4340 Tokay Blvd

Visit the downtown library's new space for maker-focused programming on a foray with UW-MANIAC. The Bubbler is for all ages to participate in hands-on pop-up workshops. These workshops introduce participants to a variety of local experts who share their talents and physical resources. Learning in The Bubbler may include animation, screen printing, music, clothing design, dance, or painting. Discover how you can use this great space to experience innovation and creativity! Our foray may also include other areas of this dynamic new library in the heart of the city.

More information on a third foray to “100 State,” a Co-Working Place, still to come. Please remember participants should meet at the location all the forays,

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The Raving

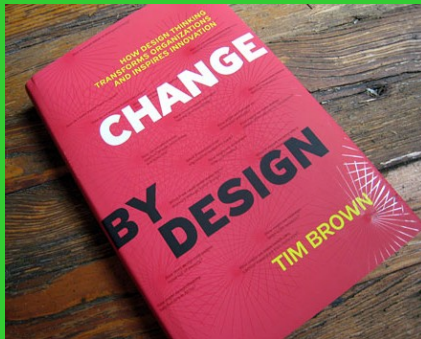
MANIAC

Issue 38

February 4, 2014

MANIAC Book of the Month:

Change by Design: How
Design Thinking Transforms
Organizations and Inspires
Innovation—Tim Brown



In his book, *Change By Design*, Tim Brown, CEO of IDEO, introduces the idea of design thinking, the collaborative process by which the designer's sensibilities and methods are employed to match people's needs not only with what is technically feasible and a viable business strategy. In short, design thinking converts need into demand. It's a human-centered approach to problem solving that helps people and organizations become more innovative and more creative.

Upcoming Maniac Events not featured:

2/6: MANIAC Foray:
Madison Circus Space

4/1: UW-MANIAC
Interdisciplinary Artist in
Residence Series: Luncheon with
Rhodessa Jones

Coming in Spring —
Foray to: "100 State"
Co-Working Place

Upcoming MANIAC Events

The Bubbler

Thursday, February 20, 2014

3:30pm-5:00pm
201 W Mifflin St

Visit the downtown library's new space for maker-focused programming on a foray with UW-MANIAC. The Bubbler is for all ages to participate in hands-on pop-up workshops. These workshops introduce participants to a variety of local experts who share their talents and physical resources. Learning in The Bubbler may include animation, screen printing, music, clothing design, dance, or painting. Discover how you can use this great space to experience innovation and creativity! Our foray may also include other areas of this dynamic new library in the heart of the city.

Please remember that participants should meet at the location for all the forays.

Breakfast Series: Fostering Student Innovation

Tuesday, March 11, 2014

8:30am-10:00am
Gordon Dining & Event Center

Join UW-MANIAC in a discussion of how student innovation is fostered and supported on campus. Panelists will include John Surdyk, director of the Initiative for Studies in Transformational Entrepreneurship (INSITE) in the School of Business; Andrew Long, a UW-Madison student and the president of Enactus, an entrepreneurship-focused student group that emphasizes social responsibility over profit; and others TBD. You can expect to learn about the many ways UW-Madison helps students in all majors grow into future innovators, leaders, and creative thinkers.

Jammin' Innovative Networking Workshop

Tuesday, March 11, 2014

3:00pm-4:30pm
Union South—See "TITU"

The "Jammin'" networking session is similar to a facilitated workshop. It includes thinking about important questions, working on your "elevator speech," and doing one-on-one speed networking. People leave with a comfortable and activity-filled experience. They get to share with the whole group, hear from everyone, and go deeper one-on-one with many people.

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The Raving MANIAC

Issue 39

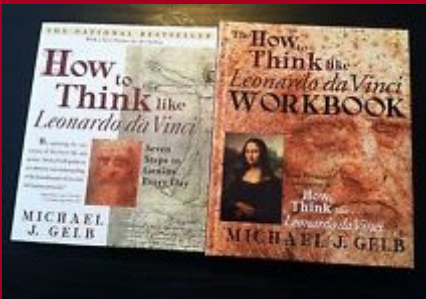
February 26, 2014

MANIAC Book

of the Month:

How To Think Like
Leonardo da Vinci: Seven
Steps to Genius Every Day—

Michael J. Gelb



Drawing on Da Vinci's notebooks, inventions, and legendary works of art, acclaimed author Michael J. Gelb introduces Seven Da Vincian Principles—the essential elements of genius—from *curiosità*, the insatiably curious approach to life to *connessione*, the appreciation for the interconnectedness of all things. With Da Vinci as your inspiration, you will discover an exhilarating new way of thinking. Step-by-step, through exercises and provocative lessons, anyone can harness the power and awesome wonder of their own genius, mastering such life-changing skills as problem solving, creative thinking, self-expression, goal setting and life balance, and harmonizing body and mind.

Please note that the Breakfast Series: Fostering Student Innovation scheduled for next month has been postponed until Fall 2014.

Upcoming MANIAC Events

Jammin' Innovative Networking Workshop

Tuesday, March 11, 2014

3:00pm-4:30pm

Union South—See "TITU"

This unique learning event offers participants the opportunity for a highly engaging, interactive approach to networking. Do you have an idea that is half-baked, but really needs some attention to get it off the ground? You've got to Jam! Do you have the inkling of a creative spark that could really improve your customer service, but you lack the connections to resources that can make it practical? You've got to Jam! Do you enjoy connecting with people who are doing some innovative thinking on campus and the community? You've got to Jam! We invite you to this experiment in learning, where you will make connections, get ideas for your own projects, and offer ideas to others that can help them make progress on their own initiatives. We'll meet for 90m, and see what happens.

Check out our [UW-MANIAC Facebook Page!](#)

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Artist in Residence Series: Rhodessa Jones

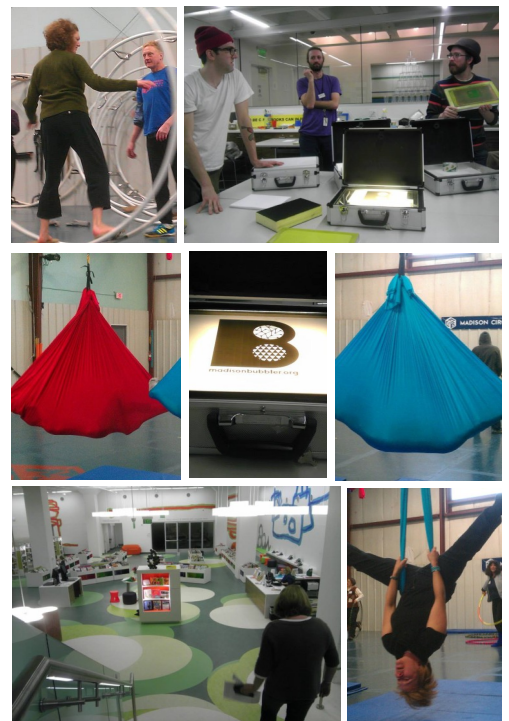
Tuesday, April 1, 2014

11:30pm-1:00pm

Union South

Join UW-MANIAC in welcoming our Spring 2014 Artist in Residence Rhodessa Jones. Rhodessa is an actress, dancer, singer, writer, and teacher. She is also founder of the Medea Project: Theater for Incarcerated Women. In this MANIAC lunchtime event, Rhodessa will share her personal story: How did she come to do what she is doing? What has been her personal journey? What is she passionate about in her work and why? This promises to be a highly engaging and fascinating presentation. Don't miss this important opportunity to learn about Rhodessa Jones and consider the implications of her journey for our own lives.

Pictures from January and February's Forays



A Short Biography: Rhodessa Jones



Rhodessa Jones is Co-Artistic Director of the San Francisco acclaimed performance company, Cultural Odyssey. She is an actress, teacher, singer, and writer. Ms. Jones is also the Director of the award winning Medea Project: Theater for Incarcerated Women, which is a performance workshop that is designed to achieve personal and social transformation with incarcerated women. In 2004, Rhodessa was honored with an Honorary Doctorate from California College of the Arts. She has also received a GOLDIE Lifetime Achievement Award, an Otto Rene Castillo Award, and a San Francisco Foundation Community Leadership award. Her work with incarcerated women was used as the subject of a book by Rena Fraden titled *Imagining Medea: Rhodessa Jones and Theater for Incarcerated Women*.



The Raving MANIAC

Issue 40

March 19, 2014

Upcoming MANIAC Events

Artist in Residence Series:

Rhodessa Jones

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

11:30am-1:00pm

Union South

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This event is brown bag. However, snacks and refreshments will be provided.

UW-MANIAC BOOK GROUP:

Orbiting the Giant Hairball

Wednesday, May 7 & 14, 2014

11:45am-1:15pm

Union South- See TITU

FREE!

Gordon McKenzie worked at Hallmark Cards for thirty years, many of which he spent inspiring his colleagues to slip the bonds of Corporate Normalcy and rise to orbit--to a mode of dreaming, daring and doing above and beyond the rubber-stamp confines of the administrative mind-set. In his deeply funny book, exuberantly illustrated in full color, Gordon McKenzie shares the story of his own professional evolution, together with lessons on awakening and fostering creative genius. In this two-part discussion, we will be focusing on some highlights and exercises from the book which registrants will be given in advance. While we encourage you to purchase the book or borrow it from the library, it will not be essential to participation.

Come to both days if you can. Bring your lunch and your creative energy!

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