

Healing through Storiez

April 25 and April 26

About Dr. Meagan Corrado

Meagan Corrado is a Doctor of Social Work and a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. She is the creator of the Storiez Trauma Narrative intervention and has authored eight books. She is a full-time faculty member at Bryn Mawr College's Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research. She provides therapy to inner city youth in the Philadelphia and Camden, NJ areas. She earned her DSW from the University of Pennsylvania in 2016, her Masters of Social Services from Bryn Mawr College in 2009. Meagan serves as a board member on the Campaign for Trauma Informed Policy and Practice. She specializes in work with children and teenagers who have had difficult life experiences. She completed trainings in a variety of modalities. Her experience includes clinical work in a variety of settings including community mental health agencies, residential treatment facilities, schools, hospitals, and homes. She takes a creative approach to her work with children, adolescents, and families, incorporating elements of art, music, poetry, and play therapy in her clinical practice. Dr. Meagan is also a mixed media mosaic artist who works in alcohol ink, collage, and tempered glass. She creates layered artwork to express inner emotions, personal experiences, and elements of her life narrative. Her work has been featured in juried art shows and solo exhibitions. Dr. Meagan's interest in creatively helping others process difficult life experiences began at a very early age when she helped family members and friends process feelings about significant life issues. Dr. Meagan's work is inspired by her interactions with children and families as well as her own personal experiences with trauma.

Event Goals:

- To provide a forum for trauma-exposed youth to exhibit art that highlights their sources of strength and resilience
- To educate the larger community about the importance of arts-based strategies in supporting trauma survivors
- To inspire individuals, communities, and organizations to implement arts-based methods in their own work with trauma survivors
- To create opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration and resource sharing

Target Population

- Urban youth
- Mental health providers
- Community arts providers
- Interested community members

Part 1: Community Art Exhibition

Every youth's story includes positive and negative experiences. The ability of youth to overcome barriers is a testament to their inner strength and resilience. This multi-media community art show will celebrate youth's ability to overcome challenges.

Through this event, Storiez will partner with community mental health and arts-based organizations servicing youth in the Greater Philadelphia area. Youth will create artwork in response to the following prompt:

Everyone has a story. Use an artistic medium of your choice to share a part of your story. As you create, keep these questions in mind:

How did this part of your story make you feel?

What challenges did you face?

How were you able to use your strengths to keep going?

There are no limits to your creativity for this project! Your work can include paper, pencils, paint, clay, collage, creative writing, or photographs. If you think of another creative idea, go for it!

This show is open to youth between the ages of 5 and 19.

Each organization will collect the artwork and permission slips for participating youth in their program. Storiez will schedule a visit at each site between to take high-resolution images of the artwork and/or obtain copies of artwork in other formats (poetry, photography, videography, etc.). Images of artwork will be printed on posters for inclusion in the community pop-up exhibition. During the community exhibition, youth, community members, and professionals will be invited to join together to view and create art. Youth artwork will also be featured in an online exhibition.

Part 2: Formal Program

A formal program of events will be offered to youth, community members, and professionals. This formal program will include dance, music, and spoken word performances. Professionals and youth representing diverse agencies and experiences will be featured in panel discussions. Philadelphia trauma experts and community leaders will present on the importance of the arts in supporting individuals and communities in healing from the impact of trauma.

Part 3: Tabling

Community partners will be invited to sponsor a "make and take" project for youth, community partners, and professionals. Make and take projects will center around the themes "create, voice, and honor." Community partners will also be invited to provide marketing material about the services provided by their organization.

Potential Partners

Delaware River Support

Event set-up

Technology/ AV

Distribution of flyers/promotional materials to contacts

Provision of space