

Anywhere is a playground

Introductory workshop during the first session for the newly formed International Youth Think Tank, at Svenska Mässan.

The 30 international participants were introduced to our thoughts on Game / Play through two short writing exercises (in notebooks produced for the occasion) where they were to remember their school playground and then reflect on Why an Open Society (which was a part of the theme for the conference).

After the writing we entered the area for the workshop, which was a playing field-like with white lines on the ground. The group was given 600 wooden laths, painted in the 4 colors of the IYTT.

2000 cable ties for connecting and black markers for writing on the laths.

Workshop time: 2,5 hours

The participants were to write on the laths from prompts / questions given on site:

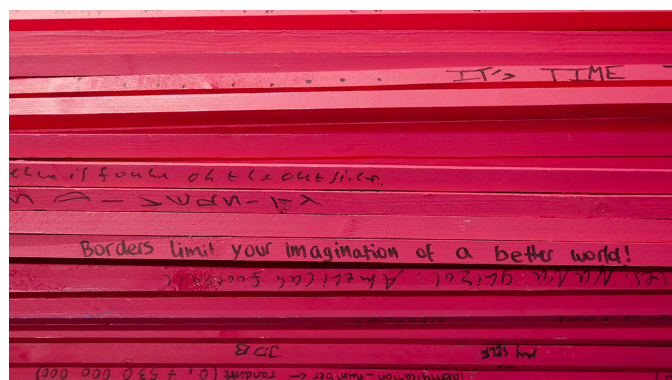
- I am a person who...
- What is in a name?
- What is a border?
- When I am on the inside...
- If I was in charge, I would...
- My heroes are...

Then the laths were to connected with the cable ties in a collective structure within the defined space at Svenska Mässan during Kvalitetsmässan.

The structure stayed on site during the IYTT conference.

For this workshop we drew from our previous work with wooden laths and text, connecting to the workshops Multiplayer structure 2011 and If you build a rainbow I promise to follow 2012.

To play is to believe.



For us (Cell - Mattias Gunnarsson and Oskar Broberg), this workshop has re-activated processes of collective work that have been resting for a while. As teachers at Gothenburg university we are both used to working with adults, but within the structure of Cell, we have worked mostly with a younger audience with this type of process. The merge of an academic group of participants and our methods of collaborative work was very interesting. We also had the possibility to dive deeper in the discussion on Game / Play and how these concepts can be applied to the various themes of the confere

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