# **Innovation and Improvisation**It's All About Focus

ATD Management Community
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Webcast
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#### Why improv? Why now?

Creativity under stress

Constrained

Team-engagement



#### **Today**

**Brainstorming and Innovation** 

Improvisational behaviors

Importance of the Ridiculous

Getting past the Lull

Non-experts

Focus & Flow



# Creativity

#### What is it?



#### **Innovation**

#### What is it?



#### **Definition**

Innovation = Creativity + Application



#### The Front Line

More and more, true innovations are occurring at the granular level, where we interact with the client: call centers, cash registers, events, conversations.



# ImprovEdge Principles











# ImprovEdge Principles

Bring positivity and creativity into the workplace.











# ImprovEdge Principles







Take something small and build it into something exceptional.







#### The Power of Yes, and...

#### **NBBJ**

Global architecture firm

Behaviors that allow for creativity to flourish.



# **Brainstorming**

Yes, and... allows the ridiculous.

Lock out the critic/devil's advocate.



# **Continuum of ideas**





#### John Cage

#### Rule 8

Do not try to create and analyze at the same time.

They are different processes.



#### The Lull

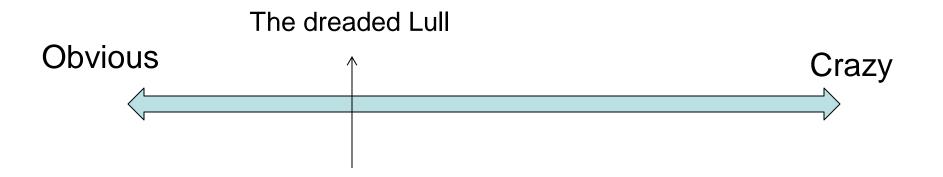
Discomfort

Desire to bail out

Fear



# **Continuum of ideas**





#### **Thomas Edison**

"Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up."



### Non-experts

"There are precious few Einsteins among us. Most brilliance arises from ordinary people working together in extraordinary ways."



#### **Robert Allen**

"Everything you want is just outside your comfort zone."



## **Creativity and Creation**

Focus

Flow

Being "in the moment"



# **Detractors of Focus**

# Multi-tasking Distractions

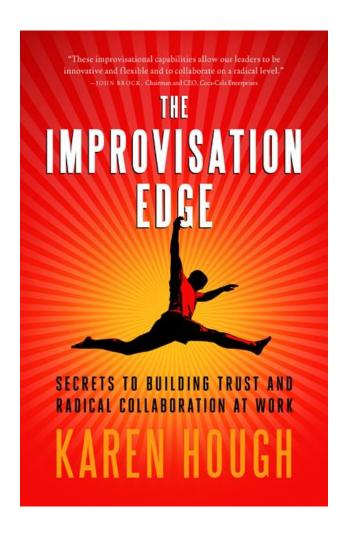




#### Remember

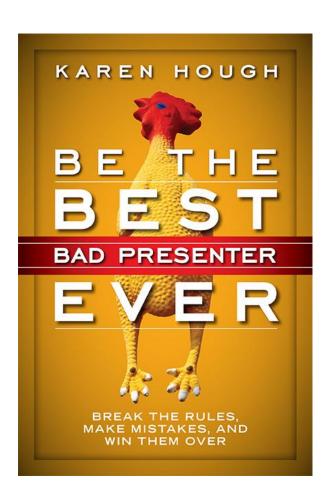
Positivity – "Yes, and!"
Go for ridiculous
Push through the Iull
Allow laypeople to attend
Find your flow

# Amazon #1 Bestseller 800CEOREAD Top 25 Biz Book





#### Award-winning new book!





# Margaret J. Wheatley

"It turns out that the things we fear most in organizations – fluctuations, disturbances, imbalances – are the primary source of creativity."



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