

Reawakening Your Love of Teaching

Permissions to rejuvenate your teaching experiences.

Intended audience: Teachers interested in rejuvenation, student transformation, spiritual healing.

Instructor: John Bickart, Ph.D.

Prerequisites: none

Web Page: <https://www.bickart.org/>

Recommended Reading: [*The Next Version of You, Bickart's Just-in-Time Fables, 20 Opportunities to Transform Yourself While Teaching*](#)

Workshop Abstract:

Four interactive exercises that reawaken your love of teaching. Do you constantly love teaching? Or are you like the rest of us - falling in and out of love? We teachers need forgiveness, accolades, compassion, and understanding. How will we get this? By looking through the eyes of our students!

Workshop Proposal:

I don't know about you, but I went to the school of hard knocks. When I was very young, everything looked good. As I got older, not so much. I guess the hard knocks got to me. Life brought difficulties, responsibilities, good days, and hard ones, too. Then, I started teaching. The youth I taught have given me a fresh start! If I consciously use their eyes to perceive the world, I have a window into the beautiful and the good. Yes, I have to make the effort, but it works. I believe that it works because the world is inherently good and the youth are innately wise enough to know this. They have a spiritual knowing that is true. They KNOW that the world is good. So, when I need to reawaken my love of teaching, I look into their eyes and through their eyes ... and there it is - the knowing that I had temporarily forgotten.

The interactive exercises we will do to reawaken this spiritual knowing are:

- Exercise #1: Entertaining other **Points of View** by appreciating without needing to agree.
- Exercise #2: Achieve enough **Vulnerability** to put yourself in your students' hands.
- Exercise #3: Searching for **The Unseen** world of ideas to find one you may have had all of your life.
- Exercise #4: Giving yourself permission to have **Fun** - the deep sense of joy you deserve.

Bios for the Workshop:



John is an over half century veteran teacher of both children and adults. He offers spiritual opportunities that he has presented over the last 50 years in business settings, public and private schools, and prisons. He has worked in the background up until the last two years, usually affecting only a small group or even one individual at a time. Like many others at this time, he has 'come out to the public' and become a workshop presenter to bring practical, spiritual opportunities to the mainstream.

Literature Review

- **Wisdom Teaching and Practical Exercises** (Laozi, 2005/circa 500 BC)
- **Childhood & Spirituality** (Hart, 2001, 2010, 2014a, 2014b; L. Miller, 2015; L. W. E. S. Miller, 2021)
- **Awareness and Mindsight** (Siegel, 2010, 2018)
- **Mindfulness and Nondual Awareness** (Chopra, 2021; Chopra, Ford, & Williamson, 2010; Lantieri, 2008; Palmer, 1993, 1998, 2004; Palmer, Zajonc, & Scribner, 2010)
- **Emotional and Social Intelligence, Presence** (Goleman & Boutsikaris, 2006; Goleman & Senge, 2007; Goleman & Whitener, 2005; Senge, 2000, 2008)
- **Belief** (Dispenza, 2017; Dispenza & Boyce, 2016; Dispenza, Knight, & Encephalon, 2005; B. H. Lipton, 2005, 2006, 2014; B. H. Lipton, Bhaerman, S., 2009)
- **Left Brain Dominance** (McGilchrist, 2009)

- **Early Opposition to the Mechanical View of Humans** (Dewey, 1910, 1916/2005)
- **Historically Assumed Separateness** (Kuhn, 2004)
- **Reduced Importance of Childhood** (Piaget, 1929/2007, 1950, 1959, 1965, 1973, 1976; Piaget & Inhelder, 1969; Piaget & Valsiner, 1927/2001)
- **Excessive Testing** (Darling-Hammond, 2010; González & Darling-Hammond, 1997; Gurwitz, Darling-Hammond, Pease, Education., & Corporation., 1981; Haggstrom, Darling-Hammond, Grissmer, & Center for the Study of the Teaching Profession (Rand Corporation), 1988; Koppich, Merseeth, Darling-Hammond, American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education., & National Commission on Teaching & America's Future (U.S.), 2000; Millman & Darling-Hammond, 1990; Wise, Darling-Hammond, Berry, Profession., & Education, 1987; Wise, Darling-Hammond, & Klein, 1986; Zeichner et al., 2000)
- **Education:** Students-only, Community-centered, Right Answers, Restricted Resources, Not tests, Not algebra, Not control, Not norms, Brick & Mortar Schools, Integrated Disciplines, Inspirational Content (Dintersmith, 2018; Hart, 2001)
- **1800s Factory Model** (Skinner, 1953; Thorndike, 1913/2010)

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