

CONSULTANT COLLABORATIONS

panelist profiles


MAY MILLER-DAWKINS, CORELAB



Corelab is a formal collective of five consultants with one staff person and a larger informal network of campaigners, researchers, technologists, and creatives. At the consultant level, we retain the revenue we bring in, and then contribute financially to the costs of the business (office space and admin staff). We share a newsletter and social media but also maintain separate social media profiles. Our organizational members have access to the research, support, and advice of the collective up to a certain number of hours per month. Our website is corelab.co and @corelaborate on twitter. I'm @maykmd on Twitter.



DIANE LEONARD, DH LEONARD CONSULTING & SMARTEGRANTS

Founded in 2006, DH Leonard Consulting's current business model is where everyone is their own independent subcontractors, not retained. Teams are assembled for each client specific to their needs and individual's areas of expertise. Agreements are formal. Payment is addressed in the subcontractor agreement. It continues to be a work in progress. 

#Grantchat was started in April of 2013 as a collaborative venture with Jo Miller of JM Grants and has now grown into a collaborative business, SmartEGrants, of which #grantchat is now a program. We started as equal collaborators and are now a formal LLC Partnership with both firms owning 50%. Websites are: www.dhleonardconsulting.com and www.smartegrants.com. On Twitter, we are: @dianeleonard and @smartegrants.



DOUG KNIGHT, CONNECT THE DOTS



Collaboration is the "why" and mission of this organization — to encourage (and live) to concept of [The Connection Economy](http://TheConnectionEconomy.com). We not only need connection, but we *demand* connection to improve our communities. I connect partner consultants based on the scope of work, arrangement sometimes formal and sometimes informal. In collaborative spirit, I fill the marquee by citing ALL organization names during the work.

website: <http://ConnectTheDotsMovement.org> (www.ConnectTheDotsMovement.org)
twitter: <http://twitter.com/WeConnectDots> (@WeConnectDots)



HOLLY MINCH, LIGHTBOX COLLABORATIVE

LightBox Collaborative is a formal collaboration of roughly a dozen communications consultants who serve nonprofits, philanthropy, social entrepreneurs, and local government agencies. The mix/makeup of the collaboration has been fluid over our five years, with a core of us who've worked together since the beginning, and some other great folks who've since moved into other roles/adventures. We're always scouting for new folks who might be a fit in our mix, too. When we started out, folks were subcontracted to me as a sole proprietor, then we formed an LLC, and then last year two long time collaborators joined me as partners. Our model is a "Stone Soup" — everyone puts a little something into the mix of building the business, working on proposals for new clients, writing blogs, or leading workshops. Clients are contracted through the LLC, coming mostly through word of mouth and also from collaborators who want to bring more firepower/skills/capacity to their own client engagements. Our website is www.lightboxcollaborative.com and on Twitter I am @hollyminch of @LBCollab. 

