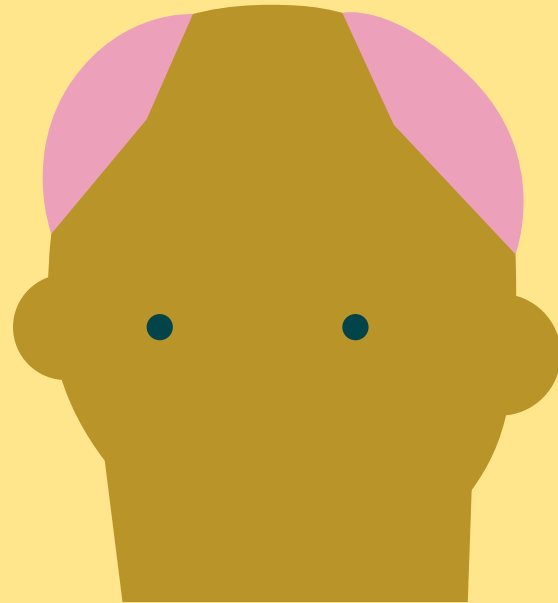
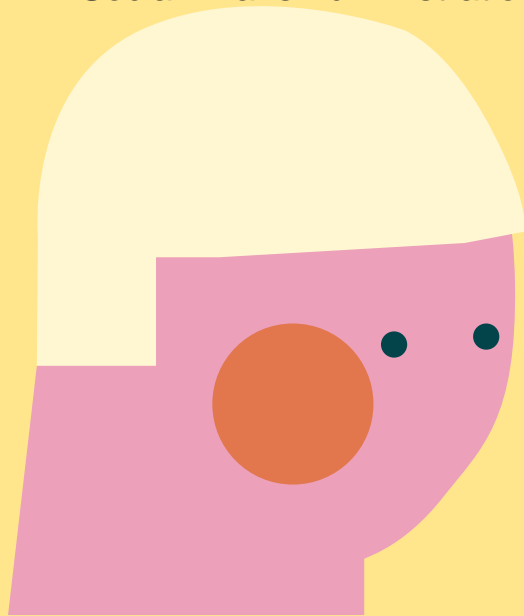



Generationsmöten i centrum

(Intergenerational meetings in the center)

Conference Creative Ageing 19-20 may, 2021

Presentation: Organisation developer Drude Björningstad Quiñones
Social Affairs Administration Centrum, City of Gothenburg





Age integration is the key word for
Generationsmöten i centrum, (Meetings across generations in the
center).

We start from an all-age perspective and work to
enable equal meetings.

Age segregation → Age integration → All-age perspective



Background intergenerational- meetings in Gothenburg

In the years 2011- 2012, initiatives were taken independently of each other by the district administration Centrum and by the city's central security promotion and crime prevention council Safer and more Humane Gothenburg, to promote meetings between age groups in order to create trust and thereby reduce prejudice.

Gradually, this work came to be called Generationsmöten, "Intergeneration meetings", meetings across ages. Then the local district Centrum ran an extensive activity where children in preschools met the elderly in nursing homes.

The Generation Theatre association and the Filmfactory association were born, Seniors in school grew rapidly and countless activities with meetings over generations as signs took off.



Continuing...

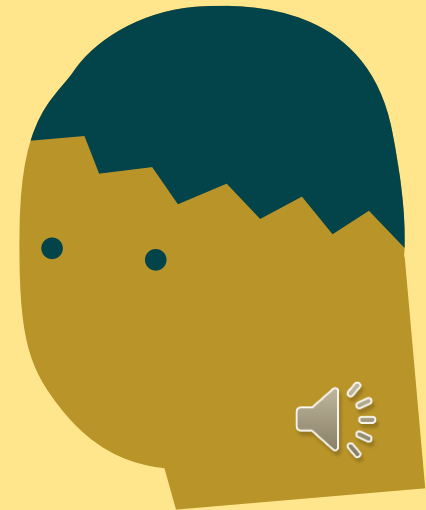
Background Intergenerational- meetings in Gothenburg

Gradually, the concept of all-age perspective emerged and the way of thinking that "regardless of age meet in common interest" became increasingly accepted.

The work and approach was judged innovative and eye-opening and was followed with interest by the city's politicians who began to see age segregation as an overlooked issue of segregation.

The City of Gothenburgs budget 2017 called for "Intergenerational meetings between young and old to be tried in all parts of the city".

As of today 2021 two organisation developers is working full time with Generationsmöten, "Intergeneration meetings" in the Social Administration of Centrum, City of Gothenburg.
My colleague Lotta Lord and myself.

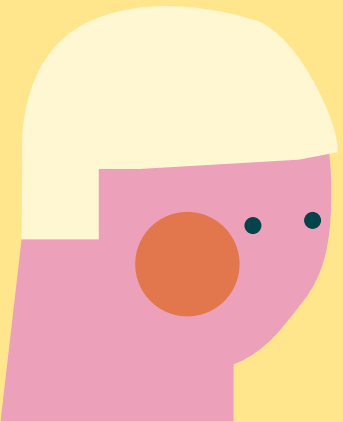


Intergenerational meetings changes lives!

We work together with all ages with the purpose of inspiring them to meet and keep an open mind as to what these meetings could entail.

All meetings should be equal and respectful, exchanges should be built on a reciprocity where all participants are valuable and important.

These meetings should be based on the curiosity, the interests and the commitment of the participants.



We meet at eye level and participate on equal terms





We create conditions

Those of us who work as Organisation developers at “Generationsmöten i centrum” are tasked with ensuring that people of all ages are able to meet in an equal social exchange with each other.

Our hopes are that this will lead to people being able to experience things together and influence things within their own city as well.



Volunteers

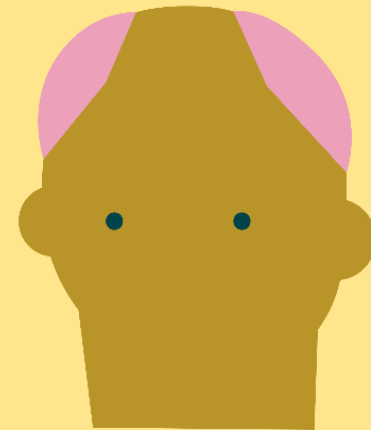
Pre-school and elementary school volunteers are adults who act as an additional resource and their primary purpose is to help the children and the students in various ways.

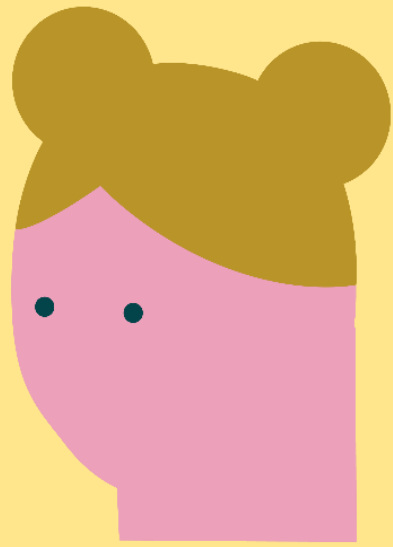
Those who are interested in volunteering are scheduled for an induction meeting where we'll be able to better get to know them as well as an introductory education.

After that the volunteer will be placed according to their wishes and requirements in a participating class.

This organisation is founded on voluntariness and therefore comes without financial compensation.

Volunteer 2020
- I miss school!
(Covid-19)





Cultural meetings

Culture is an enriching way for us to meet despite borders put in place by age. By creating and experiencing things together we bridge the gap and strengthen our community.

We gather and relate to each other through art, poetry, theatre, film and music.

We collaborate with the City of Gothenburg's Cultural institutions for example Libraries and Museums, other Administrations, actors of free cultural life and last but not least important civil society with associations and citizens.





Community Involvement

All citizens across all ages and of different experiences can participate. We all feel good when we get to feel needed and seen as valuable citizens.

Meetings across generations create encounters between people of varying ages in different contexts. It strengthens the community and allows for a greater understanding for others which in turn leads to less prejudice and safer conditions for all. A way for all citizens to gain influence in society regardless of age.

Reciprocity and respect make up the very foundation of Generationsmöten's activities.

Examples of meetings related to community involvement could be gathering for discussions, popular education, outdoor activities or supporting your peers.

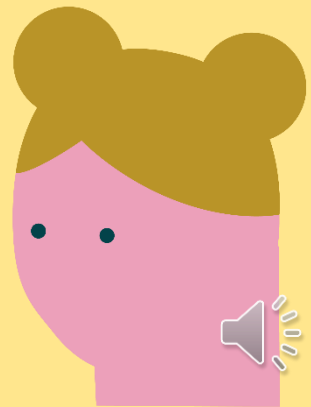


How to do it

How should you think? Throughout our whole lives we are split into groups according to our age. In our day-to-day lives we are separated from each other, in retirement homes and student housings.

How are we to understand and learn from each other when we're not sharing our everyday lives. Through these types of intergenerational meetings, you can close the distance. There are certain starting points you can use when creating meeting opportunities for different generations.

Consider what kind of opportunities there would be in your near vicinity. It could be a textile group, a choir, study groups or the like. It could be a meeting point for workshops involving dancing, choir, baking, biking or why not skateboarding.

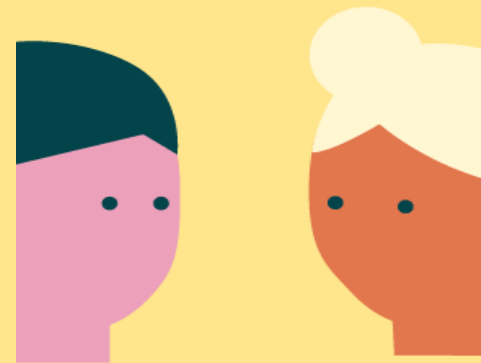


Continuing...

Let people of all ages paint together, pod together and animate movies together. You can start working from the location when creating these types of meetings. For example, public meeting spots like libraries or schools. Retirement homes and pre-schools are usually built near each other. Let them meet!

When you plan these types of activities it's important to make sure everyone feels included. Remember to be bold enough to try something new! The people involved need to be dedicated and enthusiastic to be able to create intergenerational meetings.

It's important that an organisational coordinator is present to be able to create the circumstances needed for these meetings to come together.





How do we move forward?

We do it together!





Göteborgs Stad

Generationsmöten i centrum, Socialförvaltning Centrum

Organisation developer Lotta Lord

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