



ArtsEngage Learning Community Resources from Core Session 2: Participation

Session Overview:

- Session summary
- 2-minute Video: [The 2020 Rome Charter](#)

If you have 5 minutes...

- Article: [Here's why we need to stop 'empowering' people](#), by Stella Duffy
 - "The work we usually call 'community engagement' or 'participation' is supposed to be different. We bring them in to work with us, we reach out, we engage. Yet these terms all imply a doing-to that is just as lacking in inclusion as bringing an audience in at the end of a process and telling them they're part of the whole."
- 3-minute video: [InChorus: Dancing in the Street](#)
 - A community-engaged project in which 700 people of all ages from Peebles, UK, joined together to film a music video for their choir's recording of "Dancing in the Street"

If you have 30 minutes...

- 10-minute article: [Summary of A Restless Art](#) "How participation won, and why it matters" (Book by François Matarasso)
 - 30-minute video: François Matarasso's [Digital Farm Keynote](#)
- Blog post: [Lessons from Communicating the Arts](#)
 - Post from Ontario Presents, reflecting on Agenda's 2019 *Communicating the Arts* conference, the theme of which was Empathy, Inclusivity, and Well-Being

If you want to dive deeper...

- Article: [Cultural Participation Policies, A Poverty of Ambition](#), by David Stevenson
- Book: [A Restless Art "How participation won, and why it matters"](#), by François Matarasso



- Book: [The Participatory Museum](#), by Nina Simon
 - Chapter 5: [Defining Participation at Your Institution](#)
 - This book, available as a free PDF, provides “a practical guide to working with community members and visitors to make cultural institutions more dynamic, relevant, essential places. Simon’s ideas are applicable not just to museums, but cultural organizations of all kinds.
- [The Empathetic Museum](#)
 - An organization of museum professionals who “value and advocate for diversity of thought and authentic integration of empathy in museum practice.” Like Nina Simon, The Empathetic Museum’s resources are useful for cultural organizations of all kinds.
 - [Maturity Model](#): A model for “categoriz[ing] the institutional and operational priorities of an Empathetic Museum” – from Regressive to Proactive.
- More examples of projects that invite participation in different ways:
 - [Units of Power](#)
 - [Take on Me](#) - Theatre in Community Spaces
 - [Older and Reckless](#)
 - [Art at Work](#)
 - [Syrian Trojan Women Project](#)