



TYTHEdesign provides social impact strategies to bolster the capacity of government, nonprofits, and foundations to amplify resilient cities and healthy communities.

TYTHEdesign was founded to address social sector challenges and cultivate community and institutional resiliency. We utilize human-centered design, collaborative and civic-based engagement, and identify insights gleaned from community-based research to help our social sector clients innovate, pilot, and scale effective and equitable strategies, programs, and services that further create social value.

Our mission is to democratize decision-making by bringing traditionally marginalized voices into the processes that impact their everyday lives. We have led engagements and projects that intersect with community development, civic engagement, library innovation, education, workforce development, affordable housing, reentry planning, arts and culture, and more.

TYTHEdesign is a certified Women-Owned Business Enterprise (WBE) based in New York City.

How we Work

We facilitate creative and productive conversations that lead to action.

We bring a collaborative framework to each project, infusing the design thinking process into our daily practice. We focus on understanding your stakeholders' unique challenges, tailoring outcomes to your community's needs, and making informed design decisions.

Our methods shift the paradigm of traditional forums.

We don't assume that a prescriptive process will provide the solutions for your team but, rather, we work with you to build a foundation of collective expertise and facilitate pertinent, feasible opportunities.

People are at the heart of our work.

Our multidisciplinary team brings skills and expertise from wide-ranging backgrounds and industries across sectors to meet your dynamic needs. Throughout each phase of the process, our team designs with--not for--our partnering clients and their direct

Our Impact

Our projects range from community-driven to city wide, supporting our clients in improving people's lives at all scales.

Throughout our 13 years, we have:

connected with over
18,250
community members through our public engagements

facilitated over
720
workshops, classes, and community events

trained over
7,500
civil servants and social impact workers

partnered with over
165+
organizations in the social sector, including 35 government agencies and offices across the US

Take a Course, and Learn with Us!

Throughout our 13 years, TYTHEdesign has facilitated trainings, workshops and courses for the public as well as our clients. Courses are interactive and include a combination of lecture, case studies, activities, discussion, and reflection. They are a great professional development opportunity that allows you to connect with like-minded individuals seeking to create community impact.

At TYTHEdesign our courses can:

- be adapted for your team's unique needs
- be customized to the duration that best suits your team from 2-hours to a half- (4-hrs) or full-day (7-hrs).
- range from introductory to advanced, as we all approach content all levels of expertise.

ENGAGEMENT TRAININGS

Planning and Leading Through Facilitation

Boost your skills in facilitating roundtables, workshops, and discussions while building your confidence. This training bridges the gap between theory and practice through facilitation. Expect to receive best practices in facilitation to support the discovery of your own style. We use a participatory model to demonstrate tips for planning a guided collaborative experience, while developing your leadership skills. You'll also have an opportunity to identify specific tools and strategies that maximize your impact alongside your various stakeholders on your current initiatives and highlight techniques for successful group dynamics to ease difficult situations. This workshop can be modified for beginning or advanced facilitators.

Stakeholder and Community Engagement

Go beyond traditional paper or online surveys by learning how to conduct meaningful and intentional dialogue with your community. This training will provide you with multiple approaches and techniques to support planning and leading community engagement with stakeholders. Develop strategies for setting achievable and timely objectives and goals, determining what best practices to evaluate, and how to best manage expectations. We'll model connection, knowledge-sharing, and empathy through activities that promote active participation and collaboration. You'll walk away with a menu of activities and best practices you'll be able to bring back to your constituents right away. This workshop can be modified for beginning or advanced engagement leaders.

Tools and Techniques for Participatory Decision-Making

Participatory decision-making is a creative process that gives ownership of decisions to an entire group. It works to find effective options that work for everyone, often called consensus. This training will help you build a toolkit of techniques and approaches for facilitating productive brainstorming, planning and decision-making meetings, or strengthening voice and choice among young people. In this training, you'll gain clarity on the collaborative decision-making process through hands-on activities. Additionally, you'll examine best practices for setting and managing expectations and constraints, all while supporting productive conversations. This workshop is available for organizations, city agencies or youth service providers.

Client highlight:

NYC Department of Small Business Services

We partnered to provide a set of five hands-on trainings on effectively planning for participatory and inclusive dialogue during public engagement experiences. To supplement the training, we developed an extensive public engagement support guide compiling best practices for participatory planning and facilitation techniques.

Design Thinking Fundamentals

Design Thinking (or Human-Centered Design) is a creative, user-centered problem-solving approach that leads to codesigned and need-based solutions to drive enduring impact with community. With a design thinking approach to problem solving, you'll bolster your collaboration and increase empathy, while gathering valuable feedback that supports innovation and growth. In this course, we'll discuss creative problem-solving approaches and strategies adaptable to your workplace. You'll identify tools that generate ideas, boost community relations, and promote collaborative problem-solving processes. This workshop can be modified for beginning or advanced practitioners.

Community Need Assessments

Community need assessments are rooted in human-centered research that supports intentionality in community engagement. In this training, we'll discuss human-centered and qualitative research methods to adapt for your stakeholders. We'll share tools that increase your understanding of the opportunities and challenges that your community may face. By sharing practices that support the selection of an accurate research technique for your specific project (and budget), you'll gain the confidence to make intentional community-based decisions. This workshop can be modified for beginning or advanced practitioners.

Community-Based Planning and Strategy

Gain the confidence to lead your community plans through collaboration with a strategy that supports your goals. This training provides a process for building an inclusive, community-based plan and executing it with an intentional strategy that promotes accuracy, coordination, communication, and empathy. Participants are encouraged to bring in a project or initiative they are working toward building or implementing for troubleshooting and strategic advice. We'll workshop and troubleshoot them through interactive activities you can adopt for your toolkit. Activities may include building a strategic action plan, conducting community asset mapping, and journey mapping. This workshop can be modified for beginning or advanced practitioners and to otherwise meet you and your team where you are in the planning process.

Arts and Culture for Community Building

A great strategy for cultivating community spaces that promote inclusion, comfort, and trust, while building empathy is to infuse your engagement with an arts and culture practice. In this training, you'll workshop a series of activities that promote community connection, strengthen collaboration, and bridge consensus when it comes to analyzing community-based issues. Activities may include community tree building, Forum Theatre, or story circles. This workshop can be modified for beginning or advanced practitioners.

Speaking and Presenting Publicly with Empathy

Craft and present compelling arguments to a public audience. In this course, you'll learn to deeply understand the typical challenges that organizations and individuals can face when presenting to the public and identify your personal public speaking style and how to leverage your personal strengths. By practicing presentation skills and refining key messages for getting the larger message across your community, you'll build the empathy that strengthens your intent.

Client highlight:

New York Public Library

We designed and led an interactive, half-day training to teach tactical design thinking skills to library staff who conduct a broad range of programming across NYC neighborhoods. We focused the training on how to plan different ways to effectively engage with diverse community members

YOUTH CIVIC ENGAGEMENT TRAININGS

Integrating Civic Engagement into Afterschool Programming

This training session is intended for leadership at youth-facing CBOs. We will introduce the principles of civic mindedness and walk through the various ways these concepts can be built into youth programming across disciplines. Participants will walk away with curriculum strategies and civic engagement activities to support the social-emotional development of young people. This workshop can be modified for beginning or advanced practitioners.

Strengthening Youth Voice & Choice

Build a foundation for civic literacy skills and how to hook young people into becoming active, informed citizens. This training will review the principles of participatory decision-making, a collaborative process that gives power, voice, and ownership to participants, through the lens of the voting process. Explore techniques for building empathy, activating respect, and developing listening skills through hands-on, practical exercises. Training attendees will leave with an understanding of the variety of ways one can build civic literacy skills and attitudes into their programming and best practices for creating opportunities to engage students in choice-making within their organizations.

Building Civic Engagement Through Project-Based Learning

Utilize project-based learning to connect the young people you serve to their history, communities, and the world. Develop and explore student-centered projects to incorporate civic engagement into your programs. This training will be guided through TYTHE's Civic Engagement Planning Workbook to design a project-based learning experience that connects young people to community histories, social movements, physical environment, and global events that matter to them. This training will also provide strategies for meaningful reflections and discussions following civic action.

Arts and Culture as a Tool for Youth Civic Engagement.

This training will focus on designing and/or repositioning arts and culture programming as an intentional access point for youth civic engagement. The training will review and practice a variety of arts and culture-based activities and pedagogies that center civic dialogue, action, and the social-emotional skills. We will explore storytelling, Theatre of the Oppressed pedagogies, and other ways of harnessing visual arts to amplify students' voices and connections to their communities.

Client highlight:

NYC Department of Youth and Community Development

We partnered on a multi-step plan to ensure successful implementation of a Framework for Civic Engagement including, evaluation, capacity-building, resource creation, and case study development. We have facilitated a total of 32 standalone workshops, serving over 405 unique representatives from youth-based organizations across NYC.



Let's Collaborate!

The services we provide can be adapted for any type of social sector client. **Get in touch!**
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