

Dear friends,

*Are you interested in e-learning?
Are you interested in non formal learning?
Are you interested in experiments combining those two?*

...and you are active in the field of non-formal education and European youth work?

If so, then mark in your diary the “TALE’s Open LOFT Week” from 13-17 September 2010.

TALE is a long-term training for trainers in Europe (2009-2010) organised by the Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth. The course supports 30 European trainers in their professional development to competently design, implement and evaluate European training activities promoting the values underlying European youth work and non-formal education. More detailed information on the course you can find here: <http://youth-partnership-eu.coe.int/youth-partnership/training/trainingoftrainers.html>

From the very beginning TALE has attempted to explore the potential of non formal learning online. The LOFT (<http://tale-eu.coe.int/>) is the online space of TALE where more in-depth explorations into non formal e-learning take place. The first experiment to open LOFT to a wider public than the 30 participants and the team of the course was the Open LOFT Day, which took place on 1st December 2009.

Learning from this event and being eager to try out more we have developed the **Open LOFT week**. Each day from the 13th to the 17th of September one “event” on LOFT, organised by TALE-participants, inviting interested guests to join in and participate. The events will have different formats (2 of them will include live connections to on-going training courses of TALE participants), different time frames (from 60 minutes to 3 hours), different contents (value based education, exchange of tools, NFE, etc.) – however all of them will ask active participation of the visitor-participants. This is indeed a key to success for such an initiative as it is not intended as a mere opportunity to visit LOFT but a chance to share, learn, reflect, debate and exchange altogether and at the same time

Who can participate?

Everybody who is interested in non formal learning and its realisation in a virtual environment is welcomed on the Open LOFT week. There is no need for advanced IT-skills – an Internet-connection, readiness to follow the event you chose to participate in from the beginning to the end and, most important, motivation and curiosity to engage in e-learning experiments are all you need.

Why should you participate?

- To learn more about possibilities and tools for non-formal learning online.
- To discuss with TALE-participants interesting topics around training and youth work.
- To share tools, ideas, experiences related to non-formal education and e-learning.
- To learn more about TALE and its protagonists.

Enclosed you can find a first draft programme of the Week. You can already note in your calendar the one or two events you would be interested to take part in. By the end of august we will send out an updated programme with more details in relation to the different events. At that time you will be able to register to participate in the event(s) of the Open LOFT week you are interested in.

Hope to see many of you at the Open LOFT week!

Your TALERS