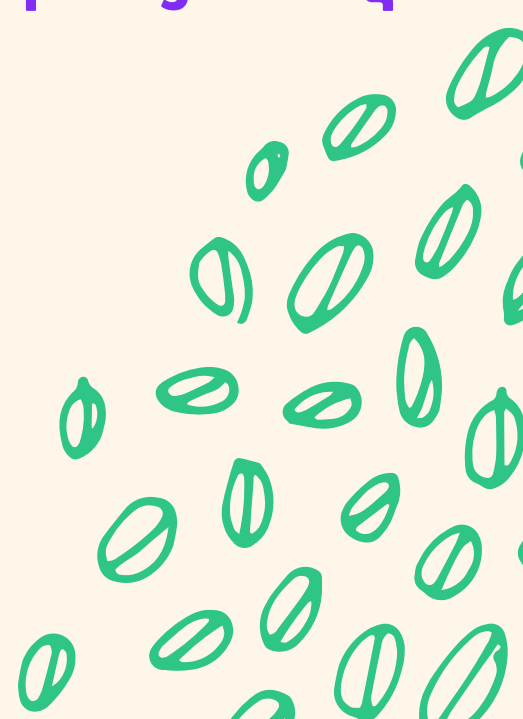




GET CERTIFIED IN
THE
PONGO METHOD!



**Cultivate youth resilience
in your community
through the healing
power of poetry writing.**



Be Among the First to Become Pongo-Certified!

OVERVIEW

Pongo Poetry Project is creating a certification program to increase the number of youth who benefit from the Pongo Method; our evidence-based poetry facilitation methodology. Anyone who is interested in using poetry writing to help people heal from trauma is welcome to attend Ignite Pongo; our training series. However, certification is the only way to receive ongoing, post-training support from Pongo in establishing your healing poetry programming.



Having operated for 28 years, Pongo's method of trauma-informed youth programming has been successful in myriad spaces including psychiatric hospitals, community organizations, juvenile detention centers, and more. As the number of youth experiencing trauma and mental health crises increases, it is crucial for such youth to find support and resources for healing. By becoming certified in Pongo's methodology, you will be part of a nationwide network of practitioners who can facilitate healing among youth in their local communities.

This method of training-the-trainer ensures that you will be able to bring the healing power of Pongo to young people who need our programming the most; not just those who are in the vicinity of Pongo's headquarters in Seattle.

WHAT YOU'LL RECEIVE

Whether you are an experienced facilitator of the Pongo Method or just learning about it, certification will help you become a better practitioner. Certification will provide you with:

- Access to The Pongo Peer Learning Network, an online forum to connect with fellow certified practitioners to share best practices, troubleshoot program challenges, and build community
- 1 Hour of coaching/consultation from Pongo (per year)
- Access to quarterly skill-building sessions led by experienced clinicians, arts therapists, and youth-serving program leaders
- Evaluation Support (template examples, data cultivation tools, etc.)
- And a Pongo toolkit to get started leading your own site!



WHO CAN BECOME CERTIFIED?

Anyone who has participated in one of our Ignite Pongo trainings and is currently operating or wants to start a Pongo-inspired program. In particular:

- Educators/teachers
- Therapists
- Employees or volunteers of youth-serving organizations
- Members of faith groups
- Anyone with a passion for serving youth who wants to start a Pongo site

HOW TO BECOME CERTIFIED

To be considered for the certification program individuals must meet these requirements:

- Agree with and practice Pongo's Race and Equity values
- Intend to serve young people
- Attend an Ignite Pongo training
- Agree to evaluate your program using materials developed by Pongo
- And to remain certified, agree to go through a brief recertification process on an annual basis



HOW MUCH DOES CERTIFICATION COST?

Pongo will charge annual fees on a sliding scale for certification:

- **\$100**: for individuals unaffiliated with any organization
- **\$250**: for individuals working at a nonprofit with an annual budget of less than 500k
- **\$400**: for individuals working at a nonprofit with an annual budget over 500k, or at a for-profit organization

HOW DO I APPLY?

Simply fill out this brief application form by March 31, 2023. Pongo staff will review and respond to submissions within one month of the application deadline.