



## Joan Almon 1944 - 2019

It is with heavy heart that I am writing to share the news of the death of Joan Almon on July 14th due to pancreatic cancer. Joan co-founded the Alliance for Childhood in the US in 1999 and served as its director until 2012, when she continued to serve the Alliance as director of programs.



In addition to our monthly lunches, Joan and I spent many hours and days together envisioning the future of the Alliance for Childhood, hashing out where the next opportunity might present itself to further our mission, and traveling to meet with both long-time and new partners. Her laser focus was always on how to shed light on issues of deep concern for all children to experience a healthy and joyful childhood.

Representing the Alliance, she brought together professionals from many sectors...education, health, business, child welfare and many more to identify unaddressed issues contributing to the growing stress and strain in children's lives - working collaboratively to strengthen childhood for all children. She treasured the opportunity to converse regularly with our Alliance for Childhood partner organisations in Europe and South America - eager to gain new global perspectives on children's issues.

Joan worked tirelessly as an advocate and wrote and lectured extensively on child development, early education, and the need to restore play for children and youth with a special focus on the need for play-based learning in preschools and kindergartens. She wrote many articles and chapters in books and co-authored the Alliance for Childhood report, *Crisis in the Kindergarten: Why Children Need to Play in School*.

More recently, Joan compiled and edited *Playing It Up-With Loose Parts, Playpods, and Adventure Playgrounds* to highlight unique and impactful play opportunities across the U.S. One of her ongoing commitments was to seek out and support emerging leaders and new or innovative programs, and to promote the amazing work of others engaged in efforts to improve the lives of children.

Joan was formerly a Waldorf early childhood

educator who taught for 18 years in Maryland and then consulted with schools around the world. Her concern for childhood on the global level never waned, and she worked to highlight the needs of children worldwide and the wonderful programs serving children. At the end of her life, Joan was working on a book to be called, *Learning with Children*. Though incomplete, it will be published.

Joan would want us to keep pushing to eliminate the many influences detracting from the healthy development of children. During my last conversation with her, she shared that she was content and grateful for the life she had. In fact, I believe her exact words were, "I've had a great life!" While cut too short, her impact on children worldwide is her legacy.

### **In memory of Joan, all my best,**

Linda L. Rhoads, Executive Director, Alliance for Childhood in the US, July 15, 2019

### **Memorial Service for Joan**

Joan's husband, Clopper, has scheduled the memorial service for Joan as follows:

Date: Sunday, October 6, 2019

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Location: Old Parish House, 4711 Knox Road, College Park, MD 20740

All are welcome to attend and we hope to see you there as we celebrate the life and legacy of Joan. For those wishing to send a card, please mail it to:

Clopper Almon, c/o Alliance for Childhood, PO Box 5758, Annapolis, MD 21403.

### **In Memory of Joan - 'will act'**

The Alliance for Childhood in the US has established the Joan Almon Childhood Legacy Fund in Joan's honour. In reflecting on Joan's motto, 'will act', your gifts in her memory will support the activities that were so important to her.

Often under-the-radar, to advance and promote play, Joan would allocate and provide resources for:

- new and innovative play projects;
- early career playworkers and emerging leaders;
- collaborations with our international Alliance for Childhood partner organisations;
- advocacy initiatives to strengthen networks

## Tributes to Joan Almon

The following are a few of the many tributes to Joan that capture both the essence of who she was and the legacy of her work:

I had never met Joan before I attended a 'talk' advertised on childhood and technology. I was inspired by the magical way in which she awoke those present to explore both their own and children's, relationship to technology.

With simple yet vivid pictures of children playing, she inspired and invited conversation. She led parents to draw their own conclusions on how a child might develop more life skills if they were encouraged to explore the world with all their senses. At no point did she infer technology was bad; she embraced every point of view. Parents were encouraged to share stories and what had been advertised as a 'talk' became a warm, partly biographical workshop. Habits in small children were brought up. It became apparent via anecdotes from the group that establishing good habits in the early years would make parenting through the teenage years, somewhat easier. Parents also drew round to sharing examples of their own, often unconscious interactions with technology and considered the effects on their children.

The evening was brought to a conclusion by touching on the future. Joan told us that research funding into communications technology had reached its pinnacle. She revealed the biotechnology industry is the focus of current research. Parents explored the benefits of microchips in the case of childhood diabetes and the conversation journeyed through further possibilities. Possibilities that currently appear extreme. No judgements were made.

The parents left, not with reels of information, but with an inner experience of healthy child development and crucially, how technology might effect it. They had engaged wholeheartedly in what can be a controversial topic and emerged with a new depth of understanding, including the truth that their own education and consciousness were necessary starting points.

The depth of Joan's experience of childhood, her trust in the experiential process, her lack of judgement and warm inclusivity, left a deep impression. **Helen Kinsey, Waldorf Teacher**

"Joan was a founding steering committee member of the US Play Coalition, sharing with us, for the last decade, her passion for and expertise in the value of play for all children. Her legacy of caring for the health and well-being of young people is indelible. She has left a big hole in the hearts of many play advocates," said **Stephanie Garst, Executive Director, US Play Coalition.**

Aside from her heroic advocacy work, Joan was a generous and gracious spirit. I have fond memories of staying with her and her husband in Maryland a few years back. **Tim Gill, Author and Independent Researcher on Play**

So sad to hear this news. I was only just thinking about the wonderful evening we shared last year, and how much it impacted my parenting, which at the time I was really struggling with. Her immense wisdom and knowledge one could have been over awed by, but when this is intertwined with grace and humility which she had in abundance, is a combination that is unbeatable. On behalf of The Salvation Army in Deptford, our love and prayers to the family and friends of Joan. **Dave Cotterill Pioneer Development Worker The Salvation Army in Deptford**

Joan was that most precious of play campaigners; an early education scholar and practitioner who profoundly understood the importance of children being afforded time and space to play, free of adult agendas for them.

She had a great affinity with the British adventure playground movement and seems to have done as much as anyone in taking the concept of playwork to the USA, where those seeds continue to take root. Colleagues on both sides of the Atlantic have lost a powerful and passionate advocate for children and their right to play; and a strong, collegiate, friend and ally too. **Adrian Voce Chairman, European Network of Child Friendly Cities**

Joan was and will continue to be a great Pioneer and inspiring champion for a quality of childhood and our Alliance work... she will be sadly missed and dearly remembered. **Clara Aerts, IASWECE and the International Group of the Alliance for Childhood**

Our dear colleague Joan Almon passed away on the 14th July 2019. As a co-founder of the AfC in 1997 in Forest Row her energy, commitment and insightful enthusiasm provided a stalwart and supportive presence that provided a precious resource during the first steps in creating the network and throughout all the years that followed.

Her on-going commitment was an inspiration and she was never satisfied by half-measures. She led the work in the USA with zeal and dedication and that will be sorely missed.

Before our collaboration in the AfC she had been a Waldorf kindergarten teacher and these experiences with the young children never left her. In meetings and conversations she often referred to these interactions with humour and deep understanding and that kept our idealism well

## Knowing Joan Penny Wilson, Playworker



I had borrowed some money from my Mum and bought tickets, a hotel room and a place at the IPA USA conference in Baltimore in the early years of the 2000s. I don't remember now why I had felt the need to do this, but I do recall that it was slightly cheaper to attend the conference if I were to present a workshop. So I sat down to write up stories from the Inclusive Adventure Playgrounds that I was running in London, thinking that these might make for a pleasingly interesting presentation.

I suppose that I had been naively thinking that The United States of America would be ahead of the curve when it came to play provision and that I might hear new and exciting thoughts and ideas.

What I actually learned was the under the Presidency of Bush the state of play was appalling. There was little or no recess time in schools for children and the pressures of 'No Child Held Back' policies had led to adults organising educational or sports activities in the out of school hours that had traditionally been used for children's free play.

Most of the stories I had prepared for the workshop talked about the play deprivation that we had seen our work in London, playing for children with multiple and profound disabilities, their siblings and friends. These stories also showed the huge impact the introduction of freely chosen child led play had on the lives of these children.

In short the stories that I had thought would be mildly entertaining to an American audience took on a totally different quality.

Stories of play from a Playwork perspective were new to the ears of my audience.

At the end of my workshop I was approached by Joan. 'I want to talk to you' she said.

And my life changed.

She quizzed me about Playwork, about inclusive Playwork, about organisational structures supporting play in the UK, about funding and training.

We swapped contact details.

She said, 'I will find a way to get you over here to do some work.'

I was flattered but thought little of it.

But I didn't know Joan then.

Within months she had identified a district in Chicago, Franklin Park Parks district along with funding to cover my expenses and off we went on our first adventure.

I spent ages writing presentations and preparing training.

The presentations stayed, but the training had to be entirely re-thought and ad-libbed as the wonderful team, employed by Joe Modrich, realised what was missing from the life of their parks.

The experience was moving for all of us as the team realised that they had forgotten what free play was, and reached back into their memories to recover the spirit of what was lost.

Play ceased to be a Four Letter Word, and became the single most important goal for the parks team.

Joan and Ed (Miller) and I were stunned, shocked maybe, by what we had seen happen. We sat in a curry house in Oak Park and tried to work out what came next.... because none of us doubted that there would be a next. The intimacy and profound experiences that we had shared with this beautiful team had shown us all that change was not only possible but yearned after. We learned what we needed to do from them.

There was no squeezing back of the toothpaste into the tube. Joan had seen a way forward to 'Rekindle Play' and there was no looking back.

At this point I should mention some of the talents unique to Joan that are less well known than her tenacity, searingly intelligent strategical nous, phenomenal networking, unnerving instincts and dogged hard work.

1 She could always find the parking space she needed.

2 She always found the best places to eat, that were never stupidly expensive, just exquisite.

3 She always made sure we had fun on our many road trips.

4 Fortuitous coincidences happened to her so frequently that she almost, but never quite, took them for granted.

So we found Frank Lloyd Wright Houses in Oak Park and on almost every trip thereafter a theme of Frank Lloyd Wright visits and superb dining experiences became a subplot to our work and gave gracious backdrops to our precious reflective practice.

We spent an inspirational weekend delivering workshops at Sarah Lawrence. It was here we met Nancy Barthold who was in charge of playgrounds and rec staff in the New York with the Parks Department. Together we introduced the idea of child led Free Play using loose parts as a viable alternative to highly structured adult led activities in all on the NY Parks. We presented our thoughts and plans at The Arsenal with Adrian Benepe adding his support (and showing us his collection of Sponge Bob Square Pants memorabilia.)

We worked with Rockwell in advising and testing out Imagination Playground blocks and loose parts with Marc Hacker, Cas Holman and David Rockwell himself.

We were present at the birth of the New York play coalition ('please don't call it nyc4play') and spent beautiful time with Roger Hart and his team.

We travelled to the west coast to San Francisco to meet with Community Playthings who supported our work big style, to San Jose, which our GPS system could not find (do you know the way to San José?) to make a pitch to a Silicon Valley funding consortium.

We became frequent trainers at children's museums and speakers at conferences, recorded a PBS documentary, 'Where the Children Play' in Flint Michigan, staying in Ann Arbor with the beautiful Dr Liz GoodEnough. We dined with Vivienne Gussin Paley, talk about a power lunch! I sat and listened in awe of the company.

We went to Philadelphia, to Bryn Mowr, speaking there was like speaking in Hogwarts, but oh the people! Magical.

We went to zoos and museums in Chicago and in Providence, with Janice Mac Donald, Richmond when Pogo Park was still a drug and gun dealership.

We flew to Alaska after criss crossing the state in a tiny tiny plane, arriving in time for the first of 24 hour sunlight day; ('Don't go for a walk Joan. There's a bear in the garden.') We were visiting KaBOOM! to make film about play when Darel Hammond came back to the office and called everyone round to tell them that Marion Wright Edelman had just introduced him in a meeting to Michelle

Obama who had listened and spoken passionately about children's play. All of us felt emotional at the possibilities enshrined in that moment.

And again at a KaBOOM! conference where she left me sitting with a dear colleague Ingrid

Kanics while she chased a Senator down a corridor to 'have a word' with him. ('We won't get this chance again ' she muttered.)

She seemed to know everyone, except the people she hadn't met yet. And she soon put that right.

Everywhere we went we networked and listened and talked and were profoundly moved by each experience.

She got me to write The Playwork Primer. Ed edited it. We called a Play Symposium of the most amazing and inspirational people from all across the states. It was held in the hall across the road from Joan and Clopper's beautiful buttercup-lawn house. Joan did the catering and orchestrated the whole event.

Such ideas, such inspiration gathered all in one place! I met her neighbours and their children, Clopper cooked The-Best-Pancakes-Ever using home milled flours. He also taught me about french gardens of the Roman era.

We drank coffee all over the states, most often in her niece's flat in New York. But in so very many, many other places.

We had rows. We made up. We were inspired and inspired each other.

I met Joan several times in London, as she networked with new people, saw play environments, talked to playworkers. She never tired of seeing play spaces and hearing about Playwork and play, squirrelling away information that would be useful and sharing her reflections. No opportunity, no experience, no time was ever wasted with Joan.

I met her in Greenwich two years ago. She was poorly but we still managed to go and wonder at the painted ceiling of the Maritime Museum and have good coffee and a good meal.

The last time I saw her was, coincidence, in Baltimore. I was spending time with Free For All Baltimore doing some work with Courtney Gardiner and Ben Dalby. Joan picked me up in her car and took me on a tour of her youth, telling me stories I hadn't heard before. She had decided where we would eat, we had never shared southern food.... uncharacteristically a parking space was not immediately outside the restaurant, so she turned up a side road. There we found waiting for us a treasure trove of quirky houses, chalked games on the pavements, toys in gardens and a signs that she asked me to take pictures of for her. We had stumbled on a playable street and it gave us joy. It seemed like a shred of hope in a bleak political landscape.

We ate a great meal, then the tour of Joan's youth continued to the house she had shared, the Waldorf School she had started and the exact spot where she and Clopper were married, she told me the stories. She was a great teller of true stories.

These last two visits were entirely times of friendship. The closeness we felt surprised us both. After the business and turmoil what was left was a joy of knowing each other.

She drove me back to my hotel and we sat with Courtney, Joan still networking and drinking a glass of wine in the roof top bar with the whole of the city laying like a map of possibilities beneath us.

We stayed in contact after that meeting.

Over the years she had prepared me, and many others I suspect, for her death. This was so characteristic. She wanted her work, our work, to continue. She wanted to make sure that we were in a good place. Wise and strong and determined.

The political landscape continues to dip and swoop and spiral with stomach churning vertiginous plummets.

More clearly than ever I hear her voice telling me that I 'can't just sit around knitting socks', I feel the kick of a sensible shoe in the small of my back and a crocheted cap beating me over my head whenever I become complacent or feel things are hopeless.

I was writing an essay that was a rerun of one of our tour presentations from my home in France. It was about water running through our village and how this was a constant player in the lives of children and the people of the village. About how the river of play runs through us all.



(Battram). I was writing it because I knew that there were experiences that had to be shared to support other folk to know that change is desirable and doable.

I finished the piece with Joan's quote from that tour. 'Play is like a spring that bubbles up from deep within a child.'

I finished writing those words, and knew that she was gone.

I am proud and happy to have known Joan. I doubt if ever again I will spend so much time with someone who made the world so very much better, and allowed me to help with this work even a tiny bit.

### Founding the Alliance for Childhood in Deptford Wednesday 17th July 2019

We held a few minutes silence to remember our colleague and cofounder of the Alliance for Childhood, Joan Almon, who passed away on Sunday 14th July peacefully in her sleep. Joan visited Deptford last year and gave a talk which was more a conversation on children's appropriate use of technology. It touched and inspired those who took part\*.

Left to right: Helen Corcoran, Warda Farah, Joyce Jacca and Monique Jacca.

Our main agenda item was the organisation of a Festival of Play on 23rd November 2019 to mark 30 years since the signing of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. In the process of our discussion, the idea emerged of creating play boxes with loose parts to give to primary schools to encourage free play and help children cope better in school.

The culmination of our meeting was the decision to found there and then the Alliance for Childhood in Deptford with those of us present as the founding members, namely Joyce Jacca, Helen Corcoran, Warda Farah and Marion Briggs.



## Celebrating Universal Children's Day in Deptford

A Festival of Play and Activities for Children and Young People

Save the Day - Saturday 23rd November 2019  
10 am to 4 pm

The 20th November 2019 marks the 30th anniversary of the signing of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The UNCRC ask us to act in the best interest of the child and gives them, among other things, the right to play and leisure and the right to have a say in matters that affect them.

We plan to celebrate in a day of play, games, story telling and more with Deptford's children and young people and their families.



For more information, please contact Pepys Community Library, Deptford Strand SE8 3BA  
020 8691 3146 Email [pepyslibrary@outlook.com](mailto:pepyslibrary@outlook.com)  
A joint venture hosted by the Alliance for Childhood and Pepys Community Library



## Towards the Child Friendly City: children's rights in the built environment

A new international conference on children's rights in the built environment will be held in Bristol on 27-29 November 2019, hosted by Bristol City Council and curated by the European Network for Child Friendly Cities and partners.

'Children in cities need a variety of places in which to play and to learn ... an unspecified, outdoor home base from which to play, to hang around in and to help form their notions of the world.' (Jane Jacobs)

As children take centre stage in the movement for sustainable living, this event will be an opportunity to explore how the public realm is responding. This three-day international conference is for all those engaged in research, policy and practice in the built environment sectors; it is for practitioners and advocates working with children and young people to champion their rights as citizens and stakeholders in shared public space; and it is for developers and planners who want to meet the needs of their youngest residents.

The three-day conference will be held at Bristol City Hall and other locations in the city.

To register and submit a paper go to [child/conference](#)

## Alliance for Childhood London Forum

The next London Forum meeting will take place on Wednesday 23rd October 2019 from 3 to 5 pm at City Hall.

The main theme will be the final draft of the New London Plan, which has now been published.

For details, please contact Marion Briggs,



[marion@allianceforchildhood.org.uk](mailto:marion@allianceforchildhood.org.uk)

Photo: City Hall EiP session

## **Building a Solid Foundation in a Digital Age A talk by Joan Almon**

*Salvation Army Hall, Deptford, London Thursday  
11th January 2018*

Joan Almon's talk on Building a Solid Foundation in a Digital Age was well attended and enthusiastically received.

She began by describing the 7 healthy essentials for childhood as:

1. A relationship with a caring adult
2. Connection with nature
3. Language experiences
4. Expression through the arts
5. Movement of the body and use of hands
6. Play
7. A sense of the sacred

Joan wanted to have an informal evening where she would introduce three areas and encourage questions and discussion. The three areas are: the 7 healthy essentials for a strong childhood; the effects of digital screens on childhood; and what digital challenges are coming in the not so distant future.

She asked the question whether the digital world should be the 8th. Is it necessary for children to be immersed in the digital world in order to become fully themselves, or is it more important to develop the seven essentials and then enter the digital world?

Many people working in IT in Silicon Valley want their children to wait before they enter the digital world. Steve Jobs is one notable example, but the Steiner School in Silicon Valley has many parents who are executives in IT. They want their children to have time to develop their full range of human capacities first. Every child who achieves this can pick up digital skills at a later stage. Employers today are looking for creativity, social skills, and problem solving. Early immersion in the digital world can interfere with the development of these basic abilities.

There are two questions to ask about screen use: how much? and what's the content?

A few years ago children in the US between ages 8 and 18 spent 7.5 hours per day in front of screens outside of school. That is widely recognised as too much, but today that number is probably higher because children are encouraged to use screens as infants and toddlers, Preschools



and kindergartens frequently include large amounts of digital technology even though the American Academy of Pediatrics say that screen use at early childhood centres should not exceed 30 minutes per week — and even that is not necessary.

More information on the use of screens by young children can be seen at “Facing the Screen Dilemma” at [www.allianceforchildhood.org/publications](http://www.allianceforchildhood.org/publications).

Question: What about Gameboy? It can help interaction through the technology, when children play with each other on their devices.

Answer: Yes, though it can lead to problems in direct interaction and communication later in life.

Giving a good foundation in the early years by focusing on the healthy essentials means that the effect of the digital world doesn't go as deep. Children know what it feel like to use their own capacities. By age 17 or 18, they often begin working their way out of their deep fascination with technology.

Question: Difficulties can arise for parents when their children have little or no access to screens and they want to play with friends who do.

One mother tackled this by gathering together bits and pieces from around the house - 'loose parts' - and left them to played with by her son and a visiting friend who were having difficult finding a way to play together. With the loose parts they played happily for three hours. Offering open-ended play materials and encouragement to play is needed to stimulate children's original play.

We are on the cusp of a new kind of technology, that is devices implanted in the body. Photos often show children building robots. One young boy who was diabetic was offered the choice of having a chip placed under his skin to regulate his blood sugar level. He turned it down because, he said, it would turn him into a robot. He was clear in his mind that he did not want the technology. This is not to argue against the use of chips for medical reasons. It is important to be aware though that this can acclimatise people to



*Left to right: Emma Stow, David Cotterill, Attendee, Joan Almon, Marion Briggs*

accepting more intrusive devices.

Things have been changing so fast it can be difficult to be mindful of what it is to be human.

Comment: Barbour outlined three attitudes to technology - it will save us, it will destroy us or it can be used as an instrument of power.

We can adopt the approach of flooding the child with technology or leading into it and strengthening their humanness.

Comment: Regarding AI and deep learning, the people who develop and use it do not fully understand it, it is so complicated.

The more mindful children can be, the better they can decide what they want. It is easy to overdo it. They need to be awake. The key is that parents also need to be mindful about technology.

Question: What about addiction to screens.

Addiction programmes often focus on the arts and on immersion in nature. Therapists have found that it can take up to 6 months of wilderness experience before individuals are able to overcome their screen addiction. It is already a big problem in South Korea because they adopted technology fully from the start. They have clinics to help people break their addiction.



In the field of play research, a study on play included asking children: If you could design the perfect day of play, what would it be? The majority said: Playing outside with friends. Very few mentioned digital technology.

Comments:

- Research into grounding shows that media create a disconnection with nature. Walking barefoot on the earth brings calm. The difference can be seen immediately.

- When people share their best childhood memory, it is playing outside.

- There is a computer firm which invests in putting computers in schools. Often it is the poorest schools where this happens, because this is seen where the greatest need is. It is helping to create a social divide, where better off or !educated families are more able to limit screen use for their children.

Restricting use of computers is not a moral question. Markets deliberate about manipulation and increasing addiction. People are addicted to tobacco and alcohol, as well, but we do not encourage children to use them, so why computers?

Regarding the question, "How much screen time at different ages," it is important to establish healthy boundaries, such as no screens during meals or in the bedroom, or saying no screens in the week, only at the weekend.

Basically we want children to have time to develop their own human capacities before being



**This beautiful and inspirational Alliance for Childhood publication offers insight about child initiated, creative play, shared by Play Activists and Leaders from across the US.**

**Contact us & get involved**

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UK site: [www.allianceforchildhood.co.uk](http://www.allianceforchildhood.co.uk)

International site: [www.alliancechildhood.org](http://www.alliancechildhood.org)

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## Healing Storytelling The Art of Imagination and Storytelling for Personal Growth

Nancy Mellon  
Hawthorn Press

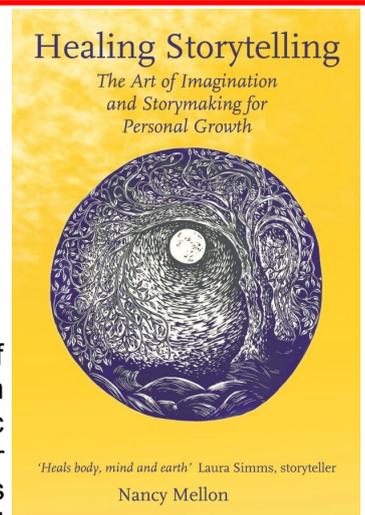
'Food for the soul, a healing well to dip into for storytellers at all levels...offers wonderful guidance, inspiration and encouragement for imaginative storymaking and storytelling.'

Susan Perrow, Author, Healing Stories for Challenging Behaviour

In this step by step companion guide, Nancy Mellon explores the secrets of what makes a good story and how to become a confident storyteller from scratch. The healing power of stories is a strong antidote to today's electronic screen world. Storytelling is an engaging, meaningful way of sharing our thoughts and feelings. As a path of self-development, storytelling awakens archetypal experiences, symbols and forces within for healing oneself and others.

Nancy Mellon shows how to create a magical atmosphere for the telling of tales, how to use movement and direction within a story, how to set a storyscape, beginnings and endings, how to best use the rhythms of voice. Here are also the more subtle ingredients of storytelling including moods, the elements, seasons and the symbolism of magic words, objects and weapons which represent the external and archetypal forces in our world.

The cover features the beautiful Apple Tree Moon print by Arthur J. Penn.



### Team London and Thrive LDN Grants – Applications now open

In partnership with Thrive LDN and the #iWill Fund, Team London are offering grants of between £10,000 - £15,000 to organisations to deliver one year projects which encourage young Londoners who are more susceptible to developing mental health issues to volunteer or take part in social action.

For the final round of this grant programme we have broadened the cohorts of young people this programme will support to include young people from the traveller community, young people who have experienced domestic violence, LGBT+ young people and young people with physical disabilities.

For more information please click [here](#). Applications close at midday on 18 October 2019.

*Chloe Holness*

**Youth Social Action Project Officer, Team London and Sport**

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