

THE MIDWIVES

Dear Friends,

Hope this finds you in high summer spirits. Chicago is lovely these days, and we hope wherever you are, you can find a moment to soak up a little sunshine.

We are writing to invite you to participate in Term 2 of The Midwife Circle.

WHAT IS TERM 2?

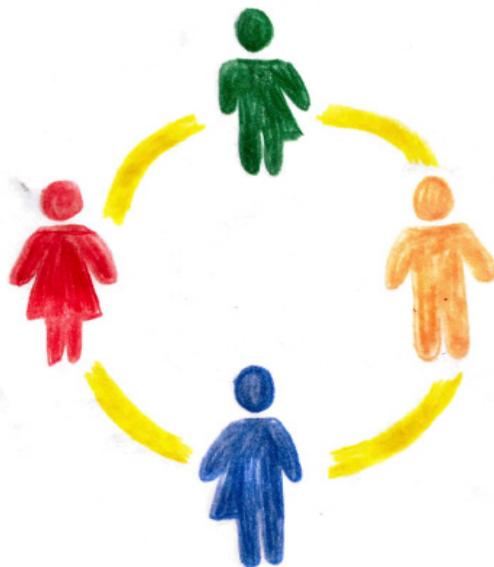
We're so glad you asked. Term 2 is our second year of experimenting with what peer support, artistic development, and mentorship can look like - what we call artistic midwifery. Do you have a personal project or idea you want to bring to life? By joining Term 2, you'd be connected to a circle of other makers, where you would receive support in your project's development, as well as offer support to another creator in their process.

EXPLAIN THIS "CIRCLE."

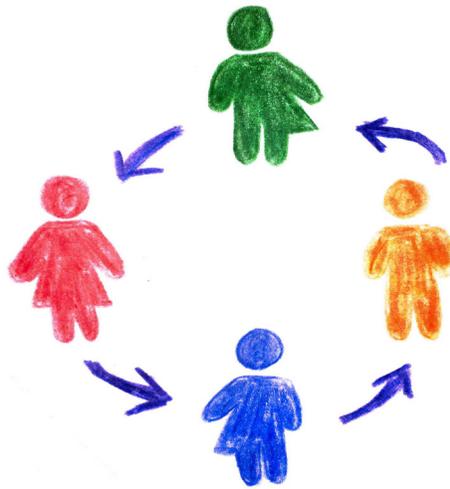
We start with you.



We put you in a circle with other amazing people.



Each individual in the circle serves as Midwife to another maker in the circle.



So you are both serving and being served, creating a community of artists serving artists.



Along the way you will be supported by us, The Midwives, as we create a community of Artist+Midwife Circles.



WHAT'S A MIDWIFE?

A Midwife works alongside you in your process, bearing witness, reflecting what they see, and offering accountability and advocacy.

BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW TO MIDWIFE!

Then you're exactly where you need to be! That's part of the experiment. It's a process-driven experience, both for the Artist and Midwife. For the Artist, it's an opportunity to learn to value your own creative needs and watch yourself expand alongside a mentor, growing your perspective and project in the space your Midwife offers. For the Midwife, it's a chance to practice bringing your full self into a collaborative artistic relationship - how do you support someone else's creative impulse? How do you recognize and celebrate growth? How do you open yourself to allow another person the space to bravely fumble forward?

WHAT KIND OF PROJECTS DO PEOPLE WORK ON?

We answer that question with one of our own: What does it mean to be an artist? We seek to honor and widen the concept of being an artist - to acknowledge the creativity in each person and everything we do. In this spirit, projects can take on all shapes and sizes. This past year we developed plays, musicals, poetry, novels, and video games. But we've also served individuals starting a new business, applying to grad school, and making a career change. Our aim is to not only nurture an artist's project, but the artist as a whole person.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

You Give:

- Service as a Midwife to another Artist
- Attendance at sharings in your city
- Feedback to artists in your circle
- Sharing on our online forum
- Membership contribution

You Recieve:

- Support from a Midwife
- A community of other art makers
- Feedback on up to two projects
- Access to the online forum of articles, grants, etc.
- Representation and advocacy on our website

And along the way, you will have trimester check-in meetings with a lead Midwife to help aid the process

THAT ALL SOUNDS GREAT, BUT WHAT'S THIS ABOUT A MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION?

Your membership contribution goes toward sustaining our community. It will support community events, website, online forum, and the artists who make this community and guide its development.

We ask for a contribution of \$20 a month.

WHEN DOES THIS START?

Term 2 will be a ten-month Artist+Midwife circle, running from *September 15, 2018 - July 15, 2019.*

SOUND INTERESTING?

To sign up, go [here](#).

Applications close on *Wednesday, September 5th.* So if you're curious, give us a holler!

GOT QUESTIONS?

Email emilyritger@themidwives.org