

# One Room, One World Schoolhouses: An Adventure Into Reinventing Education

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## I. OROWS

### Summary (TL;DR)

First of all, it's possible that someone else has already done this. If that's the case, awesome! Can we help your project instead of starting from scratch?

Otherwise... We want to build a community of self-directed schools. Will you join us?

We are looking for awake teachers, intentional community builders, early adopter parents and children of all ages. We don't know exactly what this will look like, but we are clear about a few values (simplicity, entrepreneurship, stillness, etc.) and a few inspiring models (Sudbury Valley schools, Carl Rogers, Agile, etc.) that give us a place to start.

### Projects

We are currently working on the following...

- Planning for Oct 1-4
  - A MEET Asheville micro-un-conference (Meditation, Education & Ecology for Transformation)
- Happening already
  - Weekly MEETups on Zoom, every Monday at 11am Eastern
- In the idea formation stages
  - Regional two-week guided tours of multiple alternative schools, so families and educators can compare & contrast Sudbury, ALC, Montessori, Waldorf, democratic, free, etc. schools
  - A community-written resource book, the "What Color Is Your Parachute" of alternative education

### Our Living Vision (v 1.0, as of April 29 2021)

We are a network of 100+ intentional living communities, close to nature, each centered around an alternative school that listens to and respects children, aiming to undo the damage that prison factory schooling has caused to all of our souls.

We are supported by a few values-aligned businesses we run ourselves with help from interested children, to stay diverse and either affordable or free. Our staff is a cadre of ensouled artists and modern mystics, comfortable with stillness, love and complexity of thought. Fully alive and connected to each other, some rooted and some nomadic, we teach and inspire not by coercion or conditioning, but by presence and example.

“One Room, One World Schoolhouses” means that we value both the intimacy of tribal, in-person community and the vast possibility of learning from and with thousands of like-minded and like-hearted people with diverse skills. We visit each other and co-create classes on Zoom. We are building a forever learning and evolving, Integral organization.

## Key Values

1. **Simplicity.** A gift in and of itself, also makes everything sustainable and saves the planet.
2. **Village-Mindedness.** We support each other in getting basic needs met, and learn to collaborate. We labor even when only future generations might hope to harvest the fruit of that labor.
3. **Contemplation.** Stillness will be woven into the fabric of our organization. May we all have rich inner lives.
4. **Integration.** Schools are pathological in isolation. Communities are lifeless with children locked away.
5. **Respect.** We listen to children’s voices.
6. **Aliveness.** We learn to measure the important things (the light in our children’s eyes), even if it's hard.
7. **Network.** Alone, we perish. We need many communities with a shared vision to survive and grow.
8. **Nature.** Everyone either lives in nature, on farms, near rivers and forests, or has easy access to it.
9. **Elegance.** We practice relaxed critical thinking that embraces paradox, complexity and magic.
10. **Humility.** Aware of the stultifying effect of dogma, we always question ourselves, learn, grow, improve.
11. **Coddiwompling.** We love the free flow of people, which leads to an abundance of connection & ideas.
12. **Entrepreneurship.** We learn it, we teach it, we value it

## The Origin Story

Not sure when to start, but within two days in October 2020, Mihai was invited to start an unschooling school in a barn, and met a mentor who had run a Sudbury School for decades. He decided to start not one, but 100 schools.

## How Can You Help?

In every way!! But the thing we need the most is an Integrator (if you’re familiar with EOS, the V/I split) or an Operations Manager. Collaborations, donations, offers of places to stay and work, nature-based locations to open schools, words of encouragement — please send them our way!