

creativity:

approaching a need, a task, or an idea from a new perspective

Put your thinking cap on!

Creativity *n* 1: the quality of original thinking 2: bringing about; causing to exist 3: imagination; the ability to visualize

Creativity is bringing a fresh idea to an old problem. It is expanding one's frame of reference, thinking outside the box, pressing beyond the status quo, and then finding ways to apply the ideas discovered.

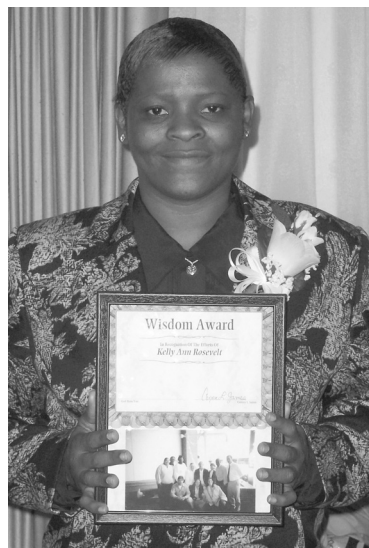
Creativity is not a coincidence. It is discipline. Creativity comes from preparing the mind in at least two ways: how I view the situation and what data I bring to the situation.

Creativity is a character quality with a "can do" attitude. When a task looks impossible, creativity is the

persistence to keep looking at it from different angles, confident that there is a right solution. A creative person views every task with the mindset that a better, more efficient way to do it always exists.

Let yourself think optimistically. Even if experts think an idea impossible, do not be so quick to give up. Positive thinking is foundational for positive action, but thinking alone does not change the facts. An optimistic attitude simply dissipates hindrances that we suppose to be there but really are not.

When facing a problem that has your mind stuck in a rut, creativity is knowing how to clear your mind in order to find the solution.



The Topeka Moving Ahead Program (T-MAP) is a creative response to critical issues facing homeless adults.

The program is administered through Kansas Legal Services Employment Training Division. Each Student in T-MAP participates in a 13 week career growth class. The students learn how to choose, obtain and retain employment by overcoming

barriers, exploring their skills and examining their interests. Permanent housing and gainful employment are goals of the program. The community is an important component to the success of the program. Continued support is needed in the way of donations of business-related clothing and shoes, personal care products, household goods and furniture. Businesses and agencies are also needed to provide internship sites for the participants.

Pictured to the left is Connie James, a recent graduate from TMAP. For graduation, Connie created awards for each of her classmates recognizing each for the various character qualities they modeled throughout their experience at T-MAP.

"Whatever Creativity is, it is in part a solution to a problem."

(Brian Aldiss)

"Originality is simply a pair of fresh eyes."

(Thomas W. Higginson)

"The significant problems we face today cannot be solved at the same level of thinking we were at when we created them."

(Albert Einstein)

creativity vs. underachievement

Creativity is:

- Using my talents for good.
- Seeing things from more than one perspective.
- Using principles to solve problems.
- Learning all I can.
- Looking for new ways to develop good character.

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Topeka City of Character April 2006

Come See Creativity at Work:

A unique Topeka fundraising event introduces creativity through design and renovation. ERC Resources & Referral's Designers' Show-house is in its 26th year and has treated over 100,000 visitors to trend-setting decor including landscaping, wall coverings, window treatments, and other home improvement concepts.

This year's Designers' Showcase is located at 134 SW Woodlawn in the historic Potwin neighborhood in Topeka and features fourteen design areas, including

beautiful new landscaping and fabulous cutting edge decor.

The Show-house will be open from April 22 - May 21. Plan to visit and experience interior design creativity at its best in northeast Kansas. All proceeds support ERC in its mission of providing resource and referral services in the areas of child care, employment, housing, parenting, emergency assistance, and general community information. For more information, call 785-357-5171.

Come to our 2nd Annual Family Character Fair!

**At the Topeka Zoo
Saturday, April 22, 2006
10a.m. - 4:00p.m.**

The first 500 families will receive a free copy of the Achieving True Success book.

There will be fun for the whole family with booths, rides, games, drawings, prizes, and more!

If you are interested in being a sponsor, please contact Dawn Wright at Topeka City of Character @

*(785)233-3699
or
tcoc@sbcglobal.net*

Prize donations given will ensure your signage on the prize table as well as recognition in the Topeka City of Character Newsletter.

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Good character is the key to success!