Things We've Learned: Collaboration is Not a Sales Pitch



Jesse McGowan

Partner, Account Director



Good morning.



I'm here to talk about collaboration, but first...

Just let me explain.

"Success on someone else's terms don't mean a cussin' thing."

Collaboration fits with my definition of SUCCESS.













Success is happiness.



Happiness is mostly about not taking shit.

Here's proof!



Happiness isn't always where you expect it to be.

Happiness is better as a surprise than as an expectation.



The experience was more important than the outcome.

Collaboration is key.

Collaboration keeps us sane.

Collaboration builds stronger cultures and better outcomes.

The world is not used to collaboration.

Here's proof!

Client side: Why do companies hire agencies?

"We need a thing!"

"We have a problem."

"We can't do it ourselves."

Companies need stuff done.

Agency side: What do agencies do to or when they get hired?

Whatever a client wants.

Whatever the agency wants.

Whatever feels right.

Agencies do stuff.

Companies need stuff done.

Agencies do stuff.

Companies need stuff done.

For

Agencies do stuff.

Companies need stuff done.

With

Agencies do stuff.

The "for" mentality is toxic.

"Collaboration" is a misused word.

Welcome to the grayest of gray areas.

"Collaboration" is of the sales cycle.

rarely heard outside



"We are true partners."

"We work hand-in-hand and side-by-side with our clients."

"We guide them every step of the way."



"We'll give you a call every few weeks with updates."

"You can provide a couple of rounds of feedback."

"Just hurry up and hire us."

Collaboration is not a sales pitch.

Empty promise.

Missed opportunities.

Bring more enjoyment to your job.

Spread the love.



And do better work while you're at it!

What should collaboration look like?

Not once in history...

Collaboration is engagement.

Collaboration is active participation.

Collaboration is meaningful connection.

Collaboration leads to:

- Sharing opportunities
- Inclusion
- Belief
- Ownership

Faster knowledge transfer

Here's proof!

Workshops.



We were kind of stuck.

Let's try something new.

Let's invite someone new.

Let's go somewhere new.

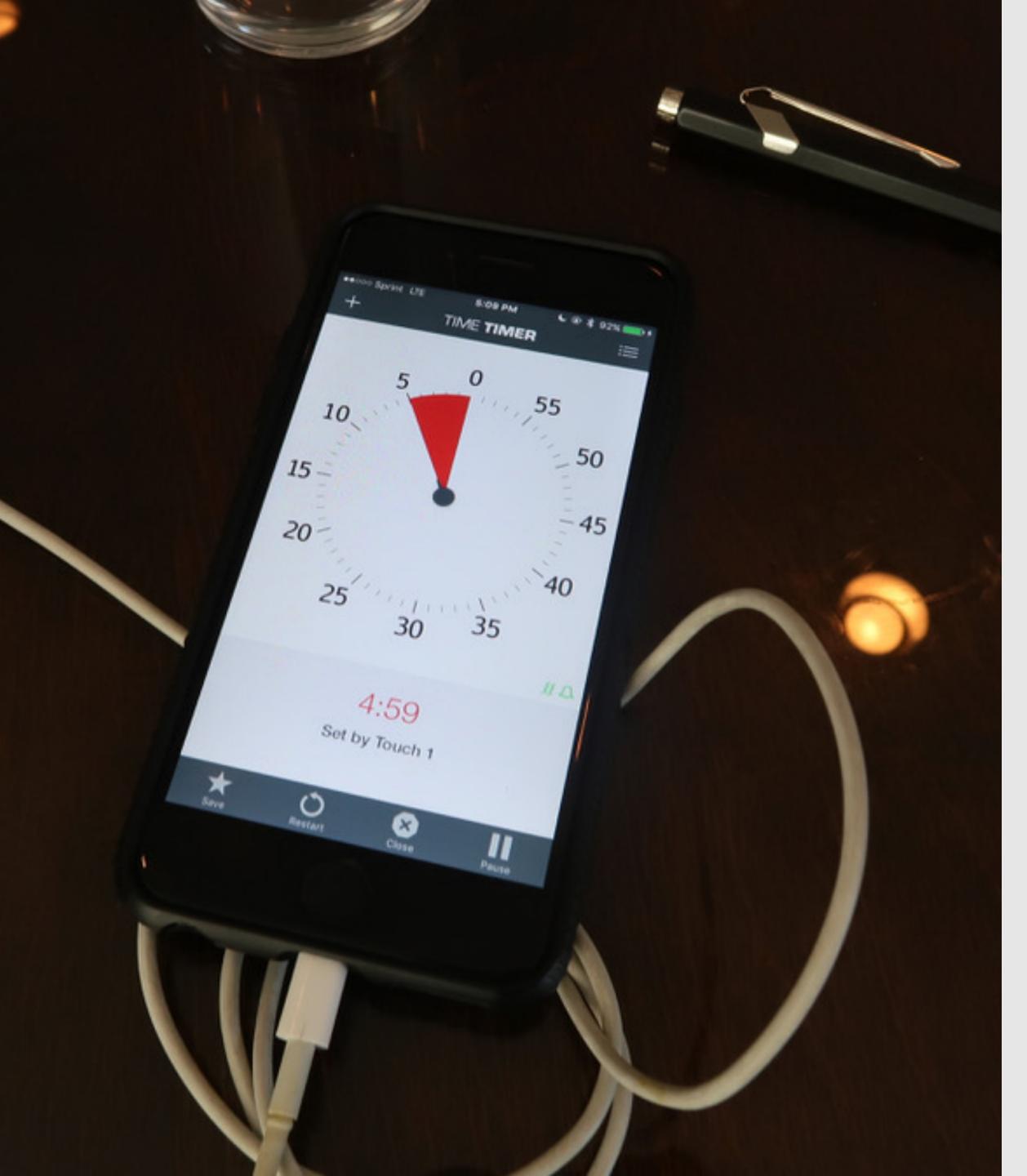
Let's make some new rules.

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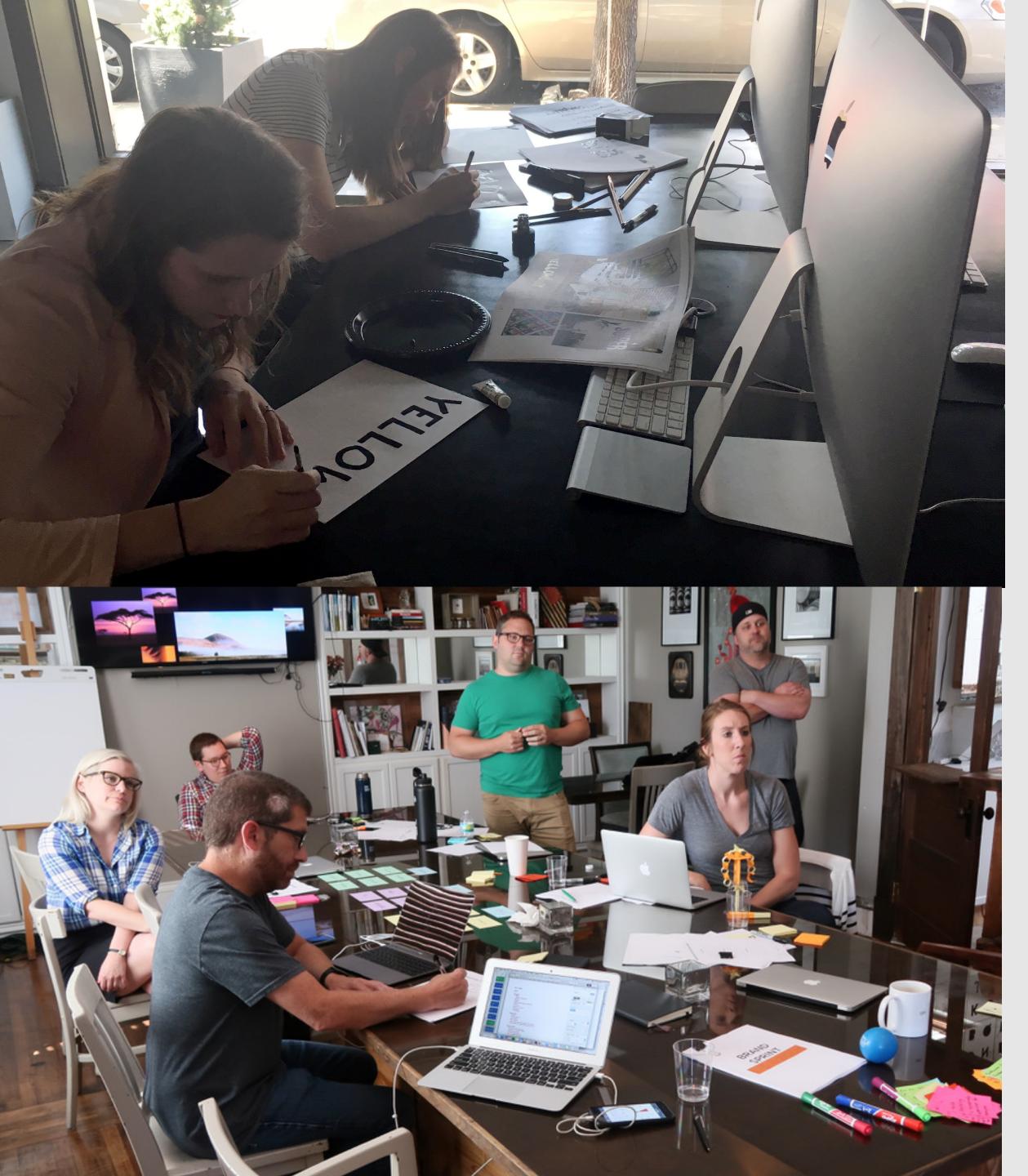
Introduce structure (agenda) and variety (activities) in the brainstorming process.



Designated time in a distraction-free environment.



No roles = no consequences.



Planned individual and group activities.



Clear deliverables at the end of the process.

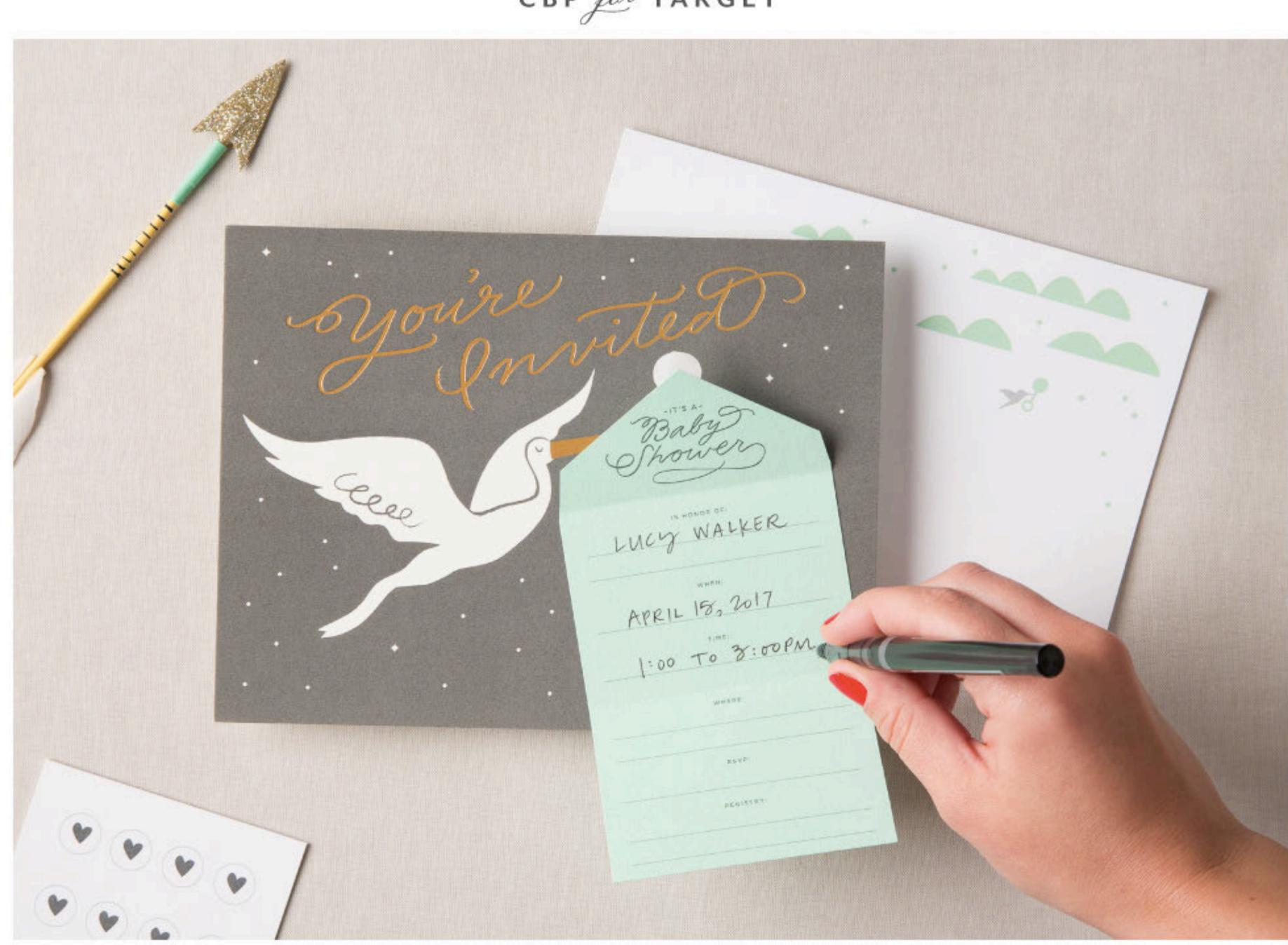
One example.



CHEREE BERRY









Workshop goals: See audience in new light Define key brand themes Work through campaign tactics

What's in the cart?

Outcomes:

language

Immediate adoption of new

Outcomes:

- language
- Deep understanding by diverse team

Immediate adoption of new

One exercise:



The Brand Deck!

Great way to check alignment and focus a team.



Define the perfect commute in five words.

Calm Effortless Plush Scholarly Imaginative Relaxed Effortless Glamorous Fun Surprising

Calm Effortless Plush Scholarly Imaginative Relaxed Effortless Glamorous Fun Surprising

CalmRelaxedEffortlessEffortlessPlushGlamorousScholarlyFunImaginativeSurprising

Calm Relaxed Effortless Effortless Glamorous Plush Scholarly Fun Imaginative Surprising

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less	Simple
orous	Dependable
	Futuristic
ising	Adventurous

The pieces.

Events: Impromptu chats





Events:

- Impromptu chats
- Standing meetings



Events:

- Impromptu chats
- Standing meetings
- Workshops



Events:

- Impromptu chats
- Standing meetings
- Workshops
- Retreats



Activities: Building a foundation



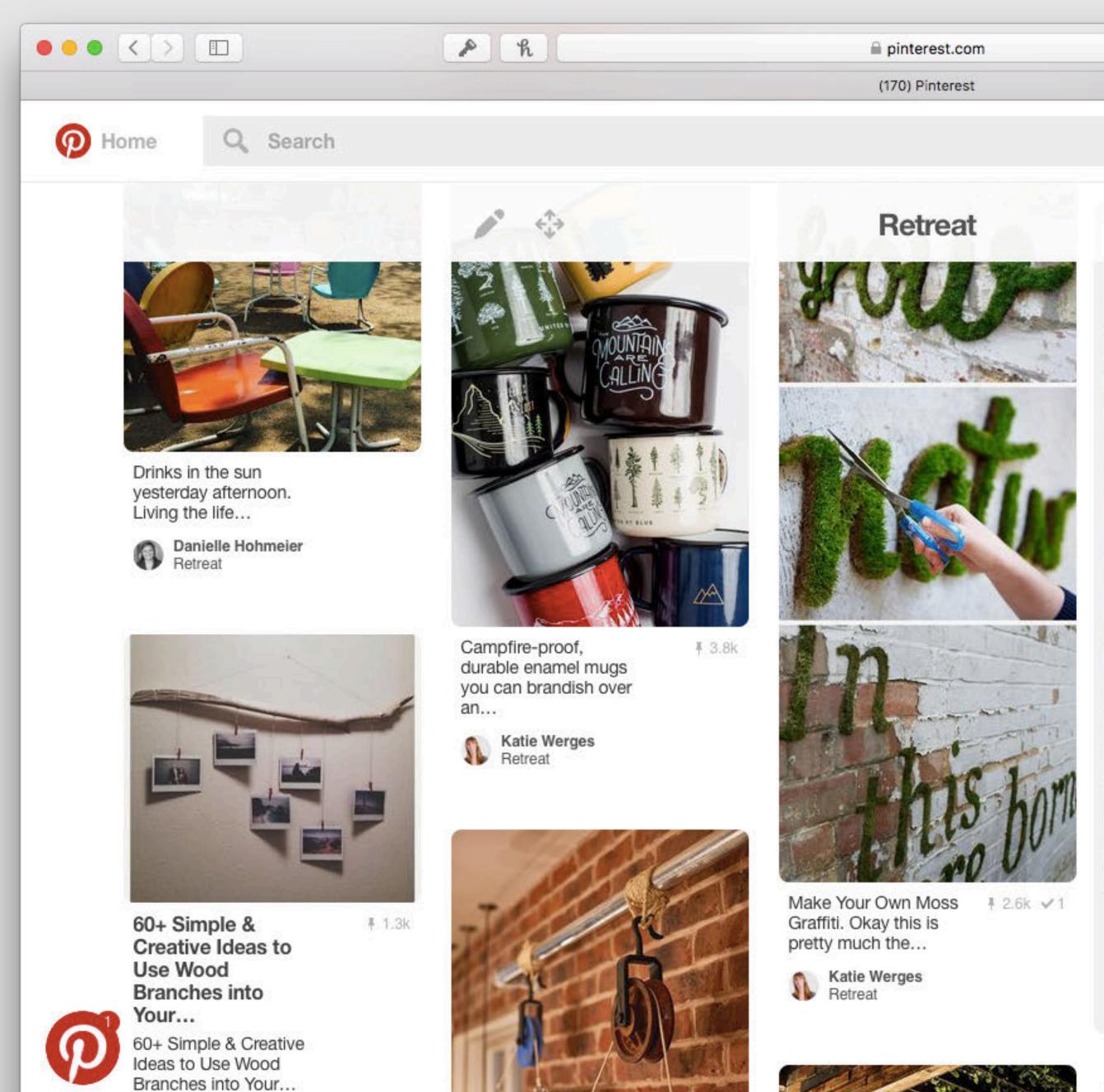
Activities: Building a foundation Role playing



Activities: Building a foundation Role playing Verbal vs. visual











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Learn more at recyclart.org

Are you living near a forest? If yes, you should take a walk...

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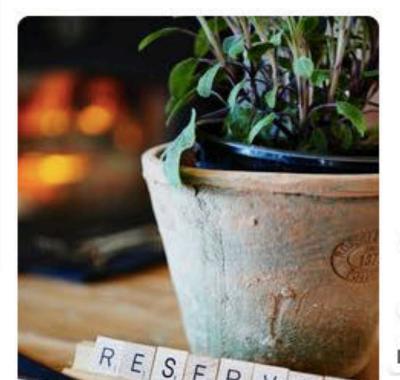
Anniversary Edition - Stout and Brass Snake Bite Keychain...

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The Anniversary Edition Snake Bite is our highest quality...







Privacy

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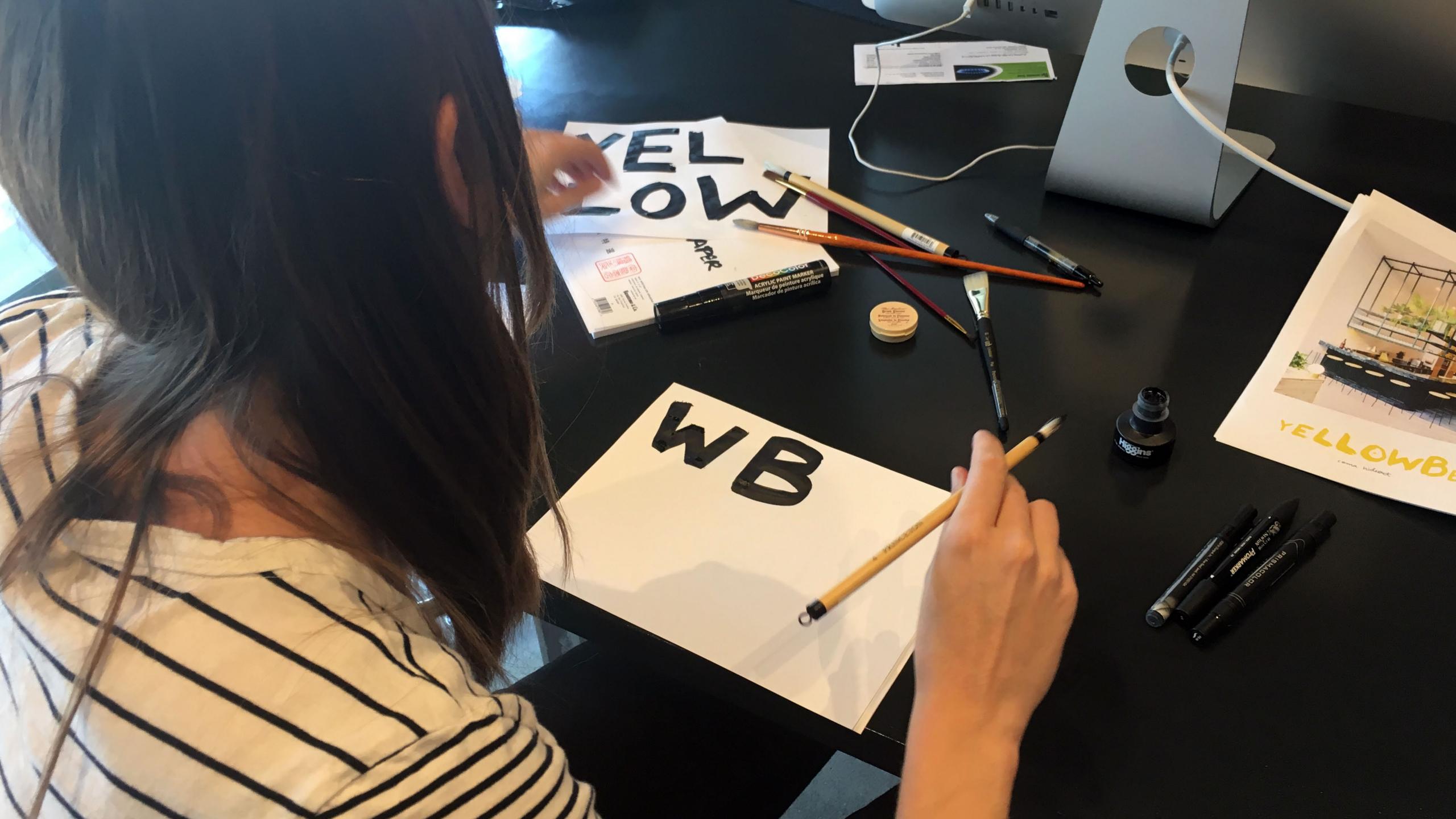
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Activities: Building a foundation Role playing Verbal vs. visual Non-writers write

"Stop aspiring and start writing. If you're writing, you're a writer. Write like you're a goddamn death row inmate and the governor is out of the country and there's no chance for a pardon."

Activities:

- Building a foundation Role playing Verbal vs. visual Non-writers write Non-artists draw/paint



Terror:

- Trying something new
- Most ideas are terrible, but necessary Vulnerability is endearing

• Thinking with an audience

Tips: Stock up.

Tips: Take it off-site.

Tips: Pair introverts with introverts and extroverts with extroverts.

Tips:Take it out back.Cut it up.

Tips: Do one thing every day.

Tips:Make sure it's uncomfortable.

Back to the beginning.



We're happy when we enjoy what we do and who we do it with.

It makes for great relationships and great work.

Collaboration is at the heart of it all.

And it helps keep the shit to a minimum.



Thank you.

