

Individual and Organizational Learning, Leadership and Creativity



Peter Gamwell, Ph.D.

Author, Professional Speaker, Consultant

Peter's philosophy is simple: the health and prosperity of any organization is directly proportional to the manner in which it values its people, affords them autonomy to make decisions and allows them creative rein. Peter has spent a career inspiring people with this leadership philosophy and, put it into practice leading a ten-year transformational culture change through a 7,000-employee organization which has embraced the notion of creativity being the lifeblood of the any successful organization. Valuing creativity has led to innovative change that is ongoing and dynamic.

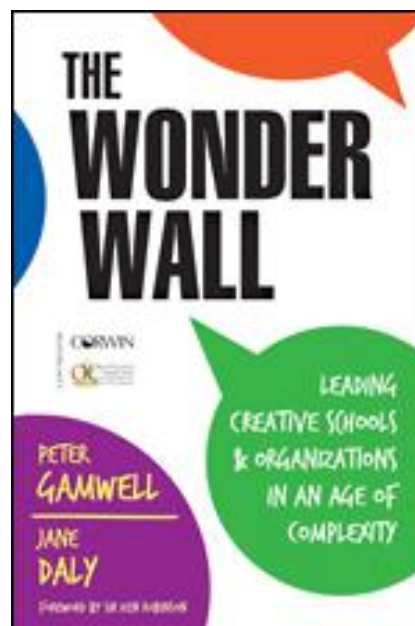
Drawing on his research in the field and his wealth of practical experience, Peter challenges his audiences to consider fundamental questions that will foster that positive growth, vibrancy and progressive thinking in their organizations. His background is strongly rooted in education but in addition to addressing that secotor Peter has advised multiple levels of government, private industry, municipalities and non-profit organizations. His message resonates across these disciplines and that is why he is frequently invited to speak both nationally and internationally.

Born in Liverpool, England, Peter is the co-author of [*The Wonder Wall: Leading Creative Organizations in an Age of Complexity*](#), a speaker, and consultant in the fields of individual and organizational leadership, learning, creativity and health.

He has worked in Canada and abroad. Peter was a Superintendent with the 75,000-student Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) responsible for District Leadership. He also served as the Board lead for Aboriginal education from 2006 until 2012. Working closely with such renowned creativity experts as Sir Ken Robinson and Sir John Jones, Peter has become recognized nationally and internationally as a catalyst for creative change initiatives that inspire and advance organizational cultures.

In 2013, Peter was awarded the Distinguished Leadership Award by the Ontario Public Supervisory Officers' Association, for his work in Learning, Leadership and Creativity in one of the most successful education jurisdictions in the world.

More recently, Peter's book, [The Wonder Wall: Leading Creative Schools and Organizations in an Age of Complexity](#), written with Jane Daly, describes three imperatives and four conditions critical for leading creative organizations. The Wonder Wall includes powerful and poignant real life stories and examples from individuals and organizations around the world. The book has received outstanding reviews among learning, leadership and creativity leaders such as Sir Ken Robinson, (who also wrote the Foreword), Richard Gerver, Pasi Sahlberg, and Sir John Jones.



Praise for *The Wonder Wall*

"The Wonder Wall focuses on tapping into the creativity within ourselves to instill fundamental changes in the way people lead organizations and schools. Peter and Jane capture the pragmatic ways in which creativity and innovation can be stimulated and harnessed by bringing the best out of people in every sort of organization. This book isn't just another bag of tricks for managing organizational change. It is a heartfelt, deeply grounded manifesto for the more visionary and creative styles of servant leadership."

Sir Ken Robinson, Author/Consultant

"I love this book. I am a huge fan of storytelling, and this book is one great story blended with cutting-edge academic work in the field of human mind and creativity. In The Wonder Wall Peter Gamwell and Jane Daly bring together decades of firsthand experience in creativity, leadership and learning into this volume that I indeed will, as the authors suggest, read twice. I would urge you to do the same if you want to be in the frontline of finding ways to improve your organizations"

Pasi Sahlberg, Author

Finnish Lessons 2.0: What can the world learn from educational change in Finland Helsinki, Finland

With a reputation for engaging, compelling and practical ideas, Peter has presented to and advised an array of organizations and individuals including:

- International Principals' Conference in Australia;
- World Creativity Forum in Oklahoma;
- Escola Concept, Brazil;
- Government of British Columbia;
- Eidos, Buenos Aires and London;
- City of Ottawa;
- Canadian Association of School Administrators;
- Numerous schools and school districts in Canada and internationally;
- Government of Newfoundland and Labrador;
- Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne.

In addition to these speaking and engagements, Peter sat on the Global Distinguished Leadership Panel at the Canadian Principals' Association and on the Creativity Expert Panel at the World Creativity Forum; a conference of over 2,000 international delegates. Widely recognized for his inspirational and

transformational leadership, Peter was appointed to the Board of Directors for the U.S. National Creativity Network in 2011.

In 2015, Peter presented the first EdTalk by the Ontario Ministry of Education, Research Branch. The speech, also entitled [The Wonder Wall](#) was subsequently featured on Sir Ken Robinson's social media.

Peter plays in a blues/rock band, and has been featured as an entertainer on provincial and national radio and television. He uses these talents to make sure that humour, hilarity and plenty of inspirational audience participation leads to the undeniable understanding that the power of unleashing creativity can advance the vibrancy, brilliance, and health of individuals and organizations. Peter is a dynamic and engaging speaker who can bring out the best of your organization – or better said – teach them how to continually bring out the best in themselves.