

- 1) Read this short essay on courage
- 2) Create inspiring shapes with the Ball of Whacks creativity tool
- 3) Have a conversation about tapping and applying courage to our work in helping customers apply *their* intelligence when using artificial intelligence

Reflections on Courage

Courage comes from the intent to make things better. It is the quality to maintain the dedication to press on and complete the goal. It helps the team tap its potential and put it to work. Courage of this nature doesn't focus on confronting external threats per se, but instead, accepts challenges as opportunities to stretch our skills, strengthen our heart, and sharpen our mind.

Plato taught that “courage is knowing what not to fear.” Emerson said something to the effect that courage is using knowledge wisely to improve life. It gives “the cutting edge to every profession.”

For librarians, we can support courage within our organizational teams by creating a culture of thinking things through. This culture includes learning how to criticize not by wallowing in imperfections but by discerning the root of the challenge, bringing out the talents of others, and encouraging and developing clear thinking. This kind of support can uplift a team to see a challenge or problem with fresh insight.

Courage means the strength to persevere. It means getting to the heart of connecting with the best in life – under any circumstance. Team members can apply courage to learn new ways to be helpful, unlearn harmful habits, find creative and often unexpected solutions, and – in the long-run – strengthen the organization.

Excerpt adaptation from *Transform and Thrive: Ideas to Invigorate Your Library and Your Community* by Dorothy Stoltz with Gail Griffith, James Kelly, Muffie Smith, & Lynn Wheeler. (Chicago: ALA Editions. © Copyright 2018 by Dorothy Stoltz, Gail Griffith, James Kelly, Muffie Smith, & Lynn Wheeler. All Rights Reserved.)

- 1) Read this short piece on creating a balance outlook using AI
- 2) Create inspiring shapes with the Ball of Whacks creativity tool
- 3) Have a conversation about creating a balanced outlook on AI

Creating a Balanced Outlook

Don't get sidetracked by the illusions and the razzle-dazzle of AI

Don't settle for the misnomer that AI is "intelligent"

Don't allow gloom-and-doom to overshadow our approach of AI

Do use curiosity

Do recognize that AI is technology with many flaws

Do discover and adapt Plato's universal concepts or big ideas to enrich our thinking, such as:

Benevolence

Generosity

Unity

Strength

Forbearance

Grace

Discernment

Serenity

Gratitude

Hope

Integrity

Harmony

Charity

Wisdom