

Portal: A Space for Human Flourishing

In an era of seemingly impossible global challenges - from climate crisis to rising inequality, from AI safety to bioterrorism, from social fragmentation to a growing sense of meaninglessness - we need new ways of coming together, learning, and creating positive change. Portal emerges as an experimental space that integrates clear thinking with emotional wisdom, transforming understanding into meaningful action.

The Challenge

Our existing institutions and systems are showing signs of strain. Traditional education focuses on transferring information rather than developing wisdom. Workplaces have reduced human potential to units of productivity, where meaning and purpose are secondary to profit. Our social fabric has thinned to the point where authentic connection has become rare - replaced by superficial interactions in increasingly scarce communal spaces. Meanwhile, rising global challenges demand individuals who can think clearly, relate deeply to oneself/others and act effectively.

We need spaces that cultivate not just knowledge, but wisdom; not just connections, but community; not just skills, but agency. Most importantly, we need spaces that recognize how these elements interweave - how clear thinking emerges from inner emotional clarity, how meaningful action flows from both deep understanding and genuine care, and how personal growth and collective flourishing can reinforce each other rather than compete. This requires new ways of seeing our connections with each other, moving beyond the zero-sum mindset that dominates our current world.

A Different Kind of Space

We're creating something that's part learning lab, part community hub, part curiosity-driven playground for human development. Portal is where people gather to:

- Take growth seriously without taking ourselves too seriously
- Mix deep inquiry with creative exploration
- Make space for both profound insights and joyful discovery
- Let authentic relationships emerge through shared experience
- Transform understanding into meaningful action

Our Exploratory Approach

Portal weaves together three dimensions of human experience:

Think: We're exploring ways to develop clearer understanding of ourselves and reality. This journey includes questioning our assumptions, building better mental models, and learning from fields like rationality, cognitive science, and systems thinking. We believe bringing people together in this exploration will help us discover more effective ways of seeing and thinking - often in unexpected ways.

Feel: We recognize that emotional depth and authentic relationships are vital, yet often neglected. Through practices like meditation and focusing, we're learning to navigate our inner landscapes and build meaningful connections. We're creating a container where people can safely explore vulnerability, practice deeper ways of relating, and discover what emerges when we move beyond superficial interactions.

Do: Ideas and understanding need to manifest in the real world. We're curious about how insights translate into meaningful action, how knowledge becomes change. By bringing together people who care about making a difference, we hope to discover and experiment with ways to tackle important problems more effectively.

The Physical Space

Portal manifests as a thoughtfully designed environment for exploration and growth:



Dedicated spaces for meditation and emotional work



Flexible areas for workshops, talks and group discussions



A curated library blending wisdom with wonder



Co-working spaces where connections spark collaborations



Cozy corners for both deep conversations and comfortable silences

An Emergent Vision

We believe magic happens when you create the right conditions and then get out of the way. Like a garden that invites diverse species to thrive and cross-pollinate, Portal nurtures an environment where ideas and perspectives can blend in unexpected ways. For instance, we are excited about:

- The insights that spark when a meditation teacher talks to a systems designer
- The projects that emerge when artists and rationalists collaborate
- The solutions that appear when ancient wisdom meets modern local and global challenges
- The innovations that arise when we transcend traditional disciplinary boundaries

We're creating a space where unbounded thinking is the norm - where the next breakthrough might come from mixing cognitive science with artistic practice, or where a conversation between a programmer and a poet might unlock new ways of seeing. Most importantly, we

believe that by breaking down the artificial walls between disciplines, between inner work and outer impact, we open up entirely new territories of possibility.

We are also excited about creating containers where people can be both serious and silly, both structured and spontaneous, both focused and free-flowing. Where deep work on crucial problems can coexist with playful experimentation and pure fun.

An Invitation

Portal welcomes those who sense that traditional institutions aren't fully serving our current needs - the curious, the thoughtful, the experimental. Whether you're focused on personal growth, building meaningful relationships, tackling crucial problems, or simply finding your people, Portal offers a space where both purpose and possibility have their place.

Together, we're not just learning about the world - we're exploring what becomes possible when we create spaces for both wisdom and wonder, where meaningful work and genuine connection flourish side by side. Come add your unique energy to this experiment in human flourishing.