1-1-2004

About the (Original) Emotional Intelligence Website

John D. Mayer
*University of New Hampshire, Durham, jack.mayer@unh.edu*

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**Recommended Citation**

Mayer, John D., "About the (Original) Emotional Intelligence Website" (2004). *UNH Personality Lab*. 7. [https://scholars.unh.edu/personality_lab/7](https://scholars.unh.edu/personality_lab/7)

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Overview of the Original Site circa 2004

Learn about general site information, contributors to the site, the editorial policy, contact information, and other aspects of the site.

General Site Information


- Have you found the wrong John Mayer? Try "Other Guys named John Mayer." at the site http://www.narr8.com/Others.html
- This site was first posted August 5th, 2004.
- Links to this site from all legal and reputable web sites are welcomed.

Editorial Policy of the Site

Interesting and thoughtful contributions about emotional intelligence are welcome (please submit them as e-mails to me -- see contact information).

Note that, though I will try to be fair and open in my decisions as to whether or not to post a contribution, for the present, there is no editorial board. That is, I retain full discretion as to whether or not to post the submission.

Submissions

Submissions are welcome and will be selected on the basis of:

- the quality of the writing
- interest level
- relevance to emotional intelligence
• (where relevant) support of high-quality scientific reasoning and/or openness to empirical evidence
• length (shorter pieces -- < 1,000 words -- are preferred

For all authors, I pledge to:
• check with you before I post anything of yours
• contribute editing, with your permission
• ...and, if I respond to what you have written with my own opinion piece or thought piece...
• I will show you my response before posting it, and allow you to comment on it.
• Give you the option to withdraw both your piece and my response (this latter policy is to reassure authors that my goal is to teach and learn on this site).

List of Contributors
This web site has been greatly enriched by the participation of some especially talented people. The following individuals have helped develop various portions of this web site. Where they have given permission to single out a specific work, their specific contribution(s) is/are noted on the web pages or other material(s) they have authored or have otherwise participated in developing.

• David Caruso, Work * Life Strategies, Stamford, CT, USA
• Joseph Ciarrochi, Associate Professor, University of Wollongong, New South Wales, Australia
• Nathalie Dalle, Department of Psychology, University of Blaise Pascal, France
• Joshua Freedman, 6 Seconds Organization, USA
• Kathryn Jane Gardner, University of Central Lancashire
• Richard Hetley, graduate student in psychology at the University of New Hampshire.
• Frank Landy, Professor Emeritus in Industrial and Organizational Psychology at Penn State University, USA
• Lori Mackay, Integrated People Strategies Australia Pty Ltd
• John Michela, Associate Professor of Industrial/Organizational Psychology at the University of Waterloo, Canada
• Paula Neidenthal, Professor, Department of Psychology, Universite Blaise Pascal, France
• David Rosete, University of Wollongong, New South Wales, Australia
• Peter Papadogiannis, MHS Research Department and York University
• Peter Salovey, Dean of Yale College, Yale University

About the Colors of the Home Page for this Site
A screen capture of most of the original website front page:
Many people have commented about the vibrant colors on the home page. The colors are in recognition of my mother, Edna Mayer, who, as young adult, was very interested in emotions. She, in turn, interested me in emotions. My mother spent much of her life drawing and painting, often using the vibrant colors represented on the home page here.

The last version of the home page was a bit overwhelming in terms of its colors but I believe the current version (posted early Spring, 2006) is easier on the eye, while representing the bold colors of my mother's canvases.

I am going to try to post some electronic pictures of her paintings sometime soon.
Emotional Intelligence Controversies

Here is a brief description of her career as painter, written by my wife and I, and used for an exhibition of her paintings at the Durham Public Library, here in New Hampshire. Later, her work also was shown in White Plains, NY.

About the Artist

Edna Mayer attended the School of Design in Chicago when Moholy-Nagy was director. After moving to New York in 1952, she studied at The Art Students’ League under Harry Sternberg. She taught drawing to boys at Children’s Village, Dobbs Ferry, NY on weekends for five years during the 1960’s.

A 1969 press release for a gallery showing of her work in “Exhibits Unlimited,” in Ardsley, New York ran:

Flowers will bloom in unique color and design this Columbus Day when Exhibits Unlimited will show a collection of paintings and drawings by Mrs. Edna Mayer. The Ardsley (NY) artist and exciting fantasy florals will be introduced at a champagne opening…

Painting as a hobby developed into serious work in 1961 for Edna Mayer when her canvasses commanded the attention of leading art connoisseurs. “Delightful!” commented Everett Ellen, curator of the Guggenheim Museum…Stephen E. Weil of Marlborough-Gerson’s was equally impressed. “Her sense of color is extraordinarily good,” he said, “and there is a fine sense of fantasy which runs throughout.”

Of her work, Edna Mayer says: “I like to paint flowers – but in an abstract way. Because once when I was very depressed and consumed with the drabness around me, I saw a gay and lovely floral arrangement. Suddenly I felt that if there was such beauty to be seen, life was worth living after all. I resolved at that time that when I felt better I would try to express to others the emotion I had when I saw those flowers; that I would paint flowers in some way, shape or form. I wanted to share that strong feeling of affirmation with others.”

In 1980, she wrote of her objectives as a painter; she hoped:

…To use color in such a way that it will please me and my memories of how I saw color as a child. I saw color as an extremely exciting entity that could absorb the eye and brain to the exclusion of much else. It could be soothing especially like the green of the grass.

Shapes should be simple and precise excepting the flowers which should give the impression that they could move if given the chance.

By 1997, according to a brief autobiographical note, Edna Mayer had created over 100 drawings (one of which was purchased and run as the cover for Scandinavian Airlines’ in-flight magazine), and had painted what was likely an equal number of oil paintings. The artist sold approximately 30 paintings during the earlier part of her career, among them several for display in corporate offices in New York. Another buyer remarked that he wanted to buy a painting of flowers for his wife because they would never wilt. Later, she preferred to keep her work rather than to sell it.

Edna Mayer occasionally draws, however over the years, her interest has turned to writing and correspondence and presently she is more involved in those pursuits. [Original continues with show-specific information].
Contact Information
For information about this site, please use the following e-mail address -- but omit the spaces between the characters:
sorry, you cannot cut & drop this into your e-mail. You must delete the spaces in the address (that cuts down on automatic e-mail address harvesting): ja ck. ma yer @ unh.edu
(that is, the above address should be spaced like this: xxxx.xxxxx@xxx.xxx)
Have you found the wrong John Mayer? Try "Other Guys named John Mayer." at the site http://www.narr8.com/Others.html

General Disclosures
I am one of the authors of the Mayer-Salovey-Caruso Emotional Intelligence Test. Along with my co-authors, Peter Salovey and David R. Caruso, I receive royalties from that test, which is published by MHS of Toronto, Canada.
I am the web site author and the general content reflects my thoughts and perspective. Special contributions by others are so noted.
- John D. Mayer