

BLOCK BOOKING:

Coordinating Inter-agency Partnerships to Maximize Cultural Programming

Oregon Library Association Conference 2024
Thursday, April 25, 2024 | 4:00 PM - 5:15 PM

Mindy Linder | Springfield Public Library and History Museum



Building Community through Arts & Culture is Good Medicine.

World class professional artists and culture keepers are typically out of reach for many Public Libraries. I will share how at Springfield Public Library we maximize limited resources to coordinate cultural tours that expand community access with block booking.





BLOCK BOOKING:

When 3+ presenters coordinate to book an artist or culture keeper.

Our booking model is **replicable, scalable** and **YOU can join us!**

The goal is for you to leave with concrete examples of how to leverage relationships with a variety of partners including public schools, higher education, performance venues, parks and recreation, fellow Libraries, Museums and more.

We are ALL stronger together!

ABOUT ME



She/Her

Oregonian

Mom

Disabled

**♥ Playing Music
& Singing**

Theatre Artist

Visual Artist

20+ Years Experience

**100's of
Events**

BA & MS from UO

**Community
Engagement**

Public Service



MISSION

Discover, Connect, Grow

VISION

A community where everyone belongs

VALUES

Access
Community
Collaboration
Equity, Diversity & Inclusion
Curiosity



SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC
LIBRARY



SPRINGFIELD
**HISTORY
MUSEUM**
SPRINGFIELD, OREGON

Public Service = Currency of Trust

- Relationships
- Listen
- Learn
- Responsive Action
- Humble
- Accountability
- Fail forward
- Keep showing up



Summer Reading Outdoor Multicultural Series



2021



2022



2023

13 Events

1,330 Attendees

2 Grants

1 Sponsor

15 Events

2,665 Attendees

452 Activity Kits

2 Grants

1 Sponsor

7 Partners

12 Events

4,056 Attendees

500 Activity Kits

3 Grants

1 Sponsor

8 Partners

2022

15 Events
2,665 Attendees



SPRINGFIELD WELCOMES THE WORLD



FREE FUN FOR ALL AGES



OUTDOORS ON FOUNTAIN PLAZA

Partnerships

- Springfield Utility Board
- Coos Bay Public Library
- Eugene Public Library
- SPL Foundation Board (Airbnb)
- Willamalane
- Springfield History Museum
- Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission
- Springfield Public Schools (ODE)

Audience

- Pre-school group
- Caregivers and clients
- Neighborhood residents



2023

12 Events

4,056 Attendees

Partnerships

- Springfield Utility Board
- Springfield Public Schools
- Willamalane
- Jazz Station
- Beyond Toxics
- UO Many Nations Longhouse & Home Flight Scholars Program

Summer Reading 2023: Find Your Voice!

June 20th - August 16th



FREE FUN FOR ALL AGES



OUTDOORS ON FOUNTAIN PLAZA

- Native Youth Wellness Program of Lane ESD
- Chifin Native Youth Center
- City of Springfield Environmental Services Division



Summer School

Okaidja Afroso



Seffarine

Summer School



Summer School



DJ Prashant



Painted Sky Northstar Dance Company



**Chifin Native
Youth Center**



Willamalane

Kunu Bearchum & Local Native Youth



2023 Highlights

8+ Languages

- English
- Spanish
- Zulu
- Arabic
- Portuguese
- Chinese
- Hindi
- Gadangme
- Klamath/Modoc
- More!



2023 Highlights

15+ Cultures & Creative Expression

- Circus Arts
- Ballet
- Folklórico
- Bollywood
- Bhangra
- Hip-hop
- Lion Dance
- Zimbabwean & South African Music & Dance
- North African & Middle Eastern Music
- More!



BREAKING IT DOWN

BUDGET

- What are the minimum \$ resources you have to leverage?

PARTNERS

- Who do you want to work with and how? Shared values/priorities?

ARTISTS

- How do you maximize inclusive representation?
*Relationships | Listen | Learn | Responsive Action | Keep showing up

BOOKING

- Dates, partners and \$ by priority

FORGING NEW PARTNERSHIPS

Public Schools

- Local summer school, student enrichment, transportation

Higher Ed

- Niche departments & programs in your region

Performing Arts Venues

- Contacts with few degrees of separation? Target audience? Mission?

Parks & Rec

- Parallel or complimentary programs

FORGING NEW PARTNERSHIPS Cont'd

Libraries

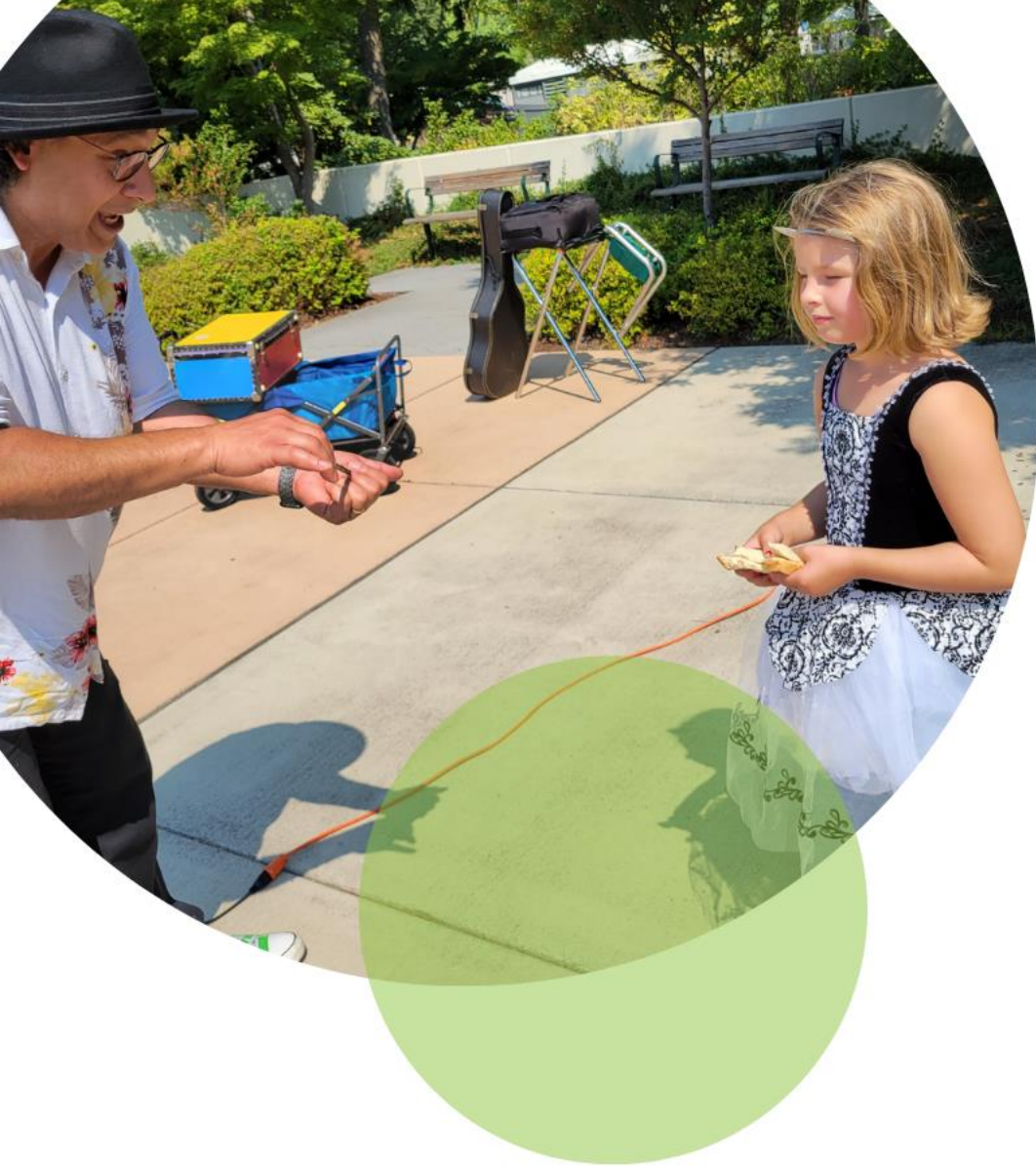
- Local | Regional (2-3 hrs) | State | West Coast

Museums

- Audience, mission, programs

Other Government Depts & Agencies

- Contacts with few degrees of separation? Target audience? Mission?



QUESTIONS?



Activity: Partner Networking - PART 1

GOAL - Leave with a few new collaborators for 2025

- Get into Groups
- Introduce Yourself (*30 sec or less!*)
 - Name
 - Pronouns (if you have/wish to share)
 - Work place/role
 - Why you're here in this session
- Share contact info (if you wish)



Activity: Partner Networking - PART 2

GOAL - Leave with a few new collaborators for 2025

- Small group discussion:
 - Briefly describe ONE booking partnership you have?
 - Share ONE thing you will carry with you after this session today?





THANK YOU!

Mindy Linder

She/Her Pronouns

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