



Incubate Creativity at Your Library
WebJunction, April 2016

Who am I?

Laura Damon-Moore

Co-Founder, Library as
Incubator Project

Community Engagement
Librarian, Madison Public
Library - Madison, WI



Laura (right) & LAIP Co-
Founder Erinn Batykerfer



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Pop des Fleurs Winter Pop-up Garden: Still Poppin'

by ERINN BATYKEFER on Feb 23, 2016 • No Comments

by Suzy Waldo In my last post I wrote about how the beautiful Pop des Fleurs project came to Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh- South Side and then became a system-wide project. If I had a nickel for every time I thought to myself, "What were you thinking?!" I could buy a...

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Materials

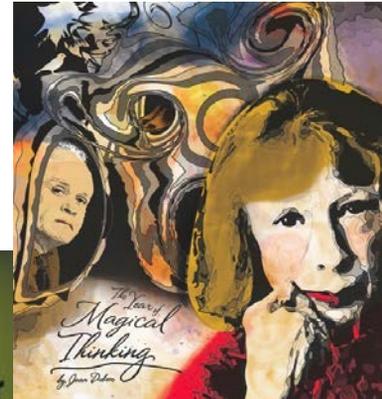


Library as Incubator
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Are you sitting on a pile of old #catalogcards? Artist Vickie Moore will turn them into art! owl.li/DJrCX owl.ly/i/7rAzd

11/9/14, 8:55 AM

Space



Subject



A word about creativity

- Creativity needs to be encouraged, at the very moment when the structure of our education system is doing much to discourage it.
- Creativity is not “for” a “special sort of people.” It is for and inherent in everyone.
- Creativity is a process. It is a process that can be taught.
- Cultivating a space for creativity is about “climate control.” Given the right **circumstances, opportunity, and attitude**, creativity has a shot.



Cultivating a “climate of creativity”

- *Permission*
- **Collections:** using what you have in a new way
- **Programs:** hands-on, participatory, collaborative
- **Partners**
- **Space:** inviting patrons to use the physical library to get creative



Programming: providing time, place, permission



Drawing tables at Night Light, Madison Public Library. Photo by Angela Richardson.

A quick word about PARTNERS



**LIBRARY
TAKEOVER**

Who are YOUR favorite partners?



Learn from local experts: The Bubbler at Madison Public Library



Kanji drawing workshop at Madison Public Library.

Learn from local experts: The Bubbler at Madison Public Library



Screenprinting workshop at Madison Public Library.

Collaborative art-making programs



Flower-making program for Pittsburgh's Pop des Fleurs Winter Gardens.

Collaborative art-making programs



Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Pop des Fleurs Winter Gardens.

Collaborative art-making programs



Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Pop des Fleurs Winter Gardens.

Collaborative art-making programs



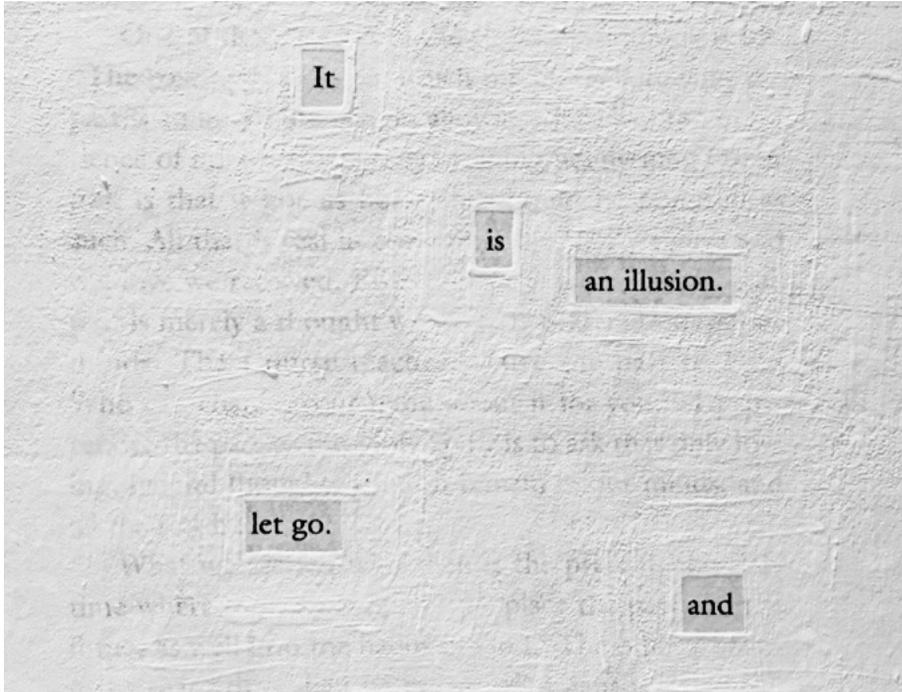
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Pop des Fleurs Winter Gardens.

Collaborative art-making programs



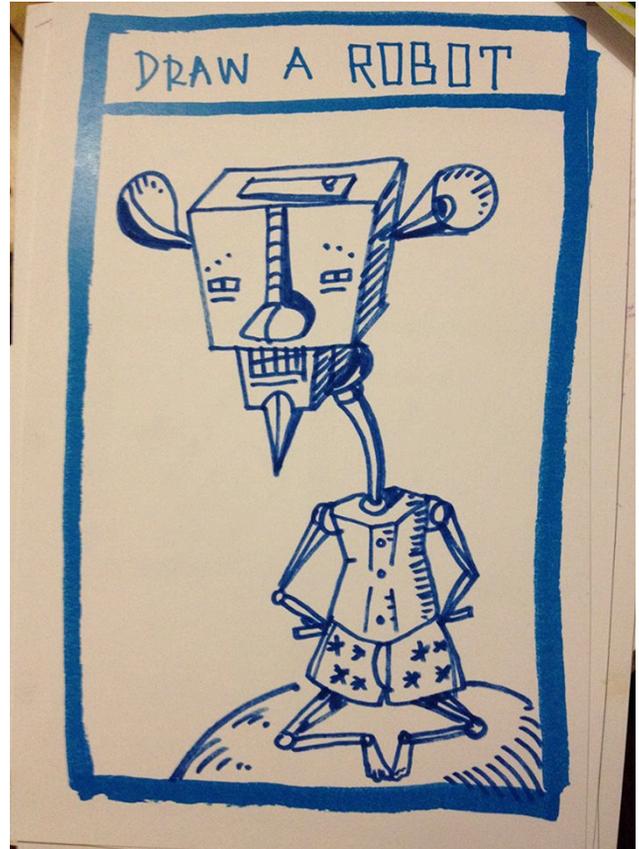
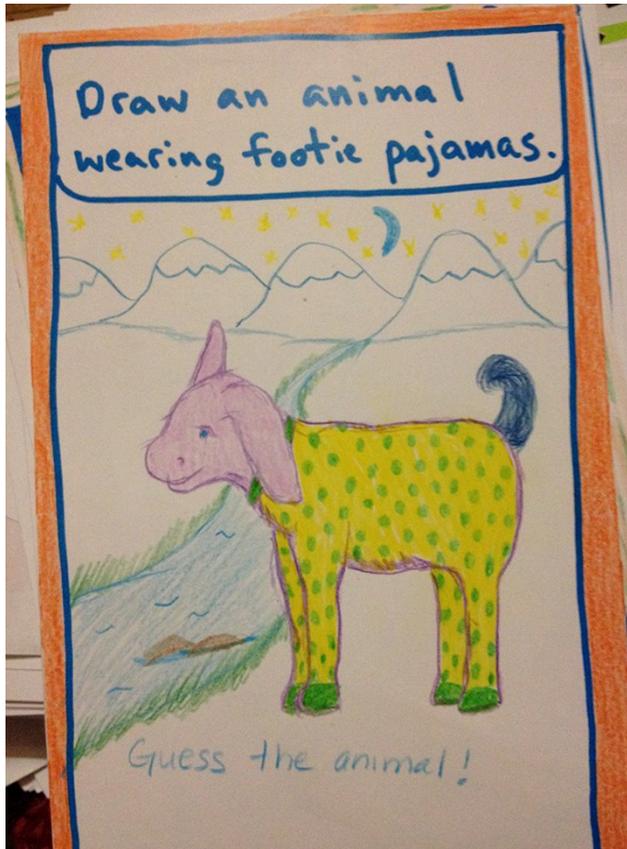
Falmouth Public Library's "Library Yarns" community art project.

Simple and scalable programs



Blackout poetry from Make Blackout Poetry blog.

Simple and scalable programs



Drawing prompts by Angela Richardson, Bubbler Artist-in-Residence, 2016.

Simple and scalable programs



Drink and Draw, Harmony Bar & Grill, 2016. Photo by Angela Richardson.

The Book to Art Club

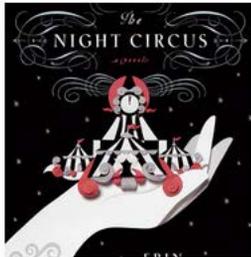
www.booktoartclub.org

THE BOOK TO ART CLUB

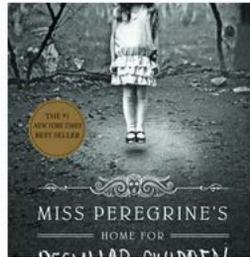
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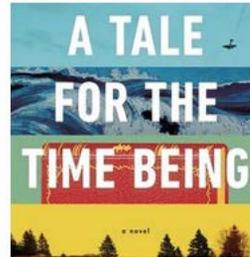
Read. Talk. Make.



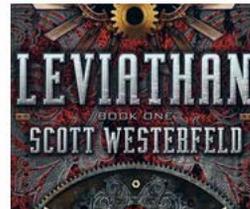
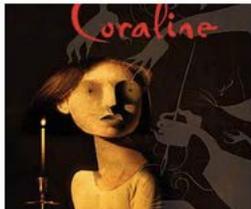
The Night Circus by Erin Morgenstern



Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children by
Ransom Riggs

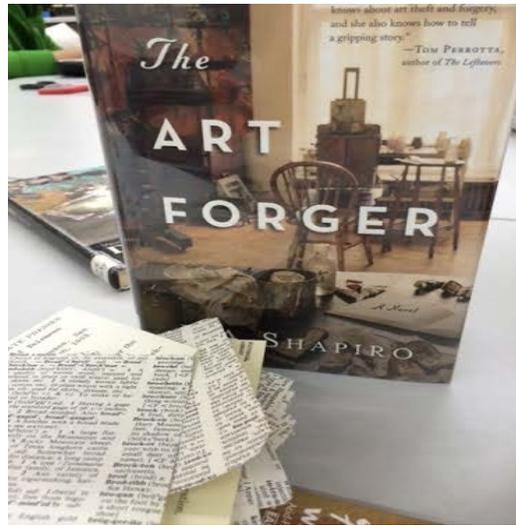


A Tale for the Time Being by Ruth Ozeki



The Art Forger by B.A. Shapiro

- Madison Chapter -







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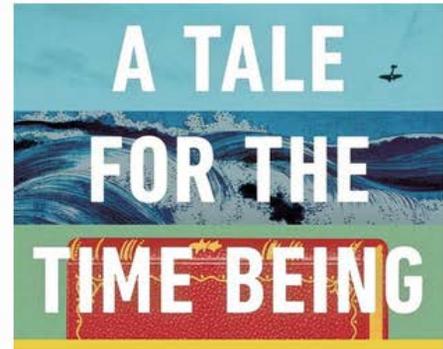
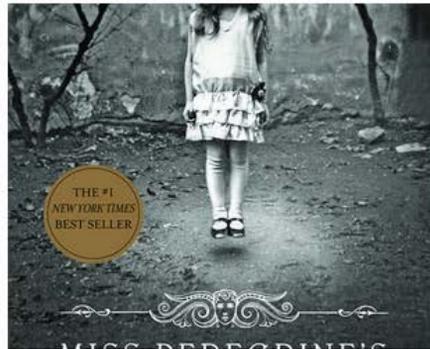
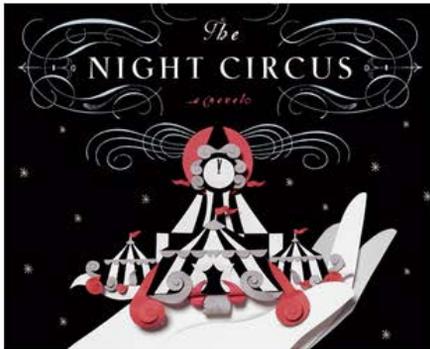
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Read. Talk. Make.



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Dayton Avenue Elementary School Chapter



Eastern Maine Community College Chapter



Kenai, Alaska Chapter



Lawrence, Kansas Chapter (Teens)



Madison, Wisconsin Chapter



Milwaukee, Wisconsin Chapter

Action item: Maker/Creative scene analysis

- Survey your community.
- Find out who's doing what.
- Talk to them. Ask how the library can support the work they do.
- Let those people lead to you to others.
- Take your time. Start small. Embrace this work as an ongoing process.

Creative programming resources

- Programming Librarian, programminglibrarian.org, @PLIGALA, Programming Librarian Interest Group on Facebook
- Library as Incubator Project, Program tag
- The Bubbler at Madison Public Library, madisonbubbler.org, @MadisonBubbler
- Lynda Barry, <http://thenearsightedmonkey.tumblr.com>

Where do you find your creative program ideas?

Make the most of your collections

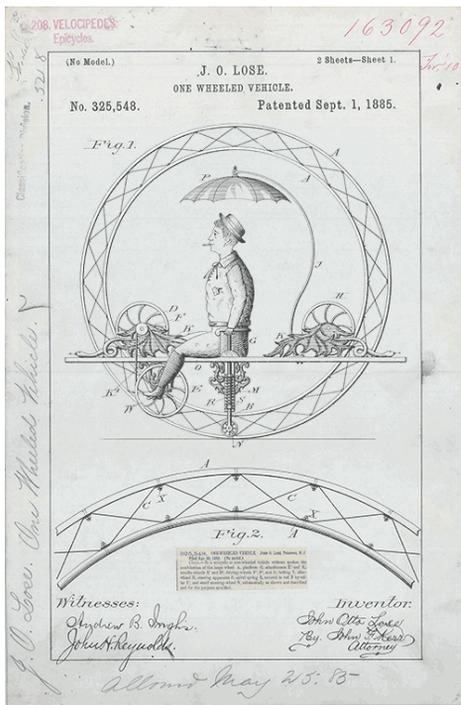
Watercolor illustration
by Chu Chia Chi.
Inspired by the
Scotland Collection at
the Edinburgh Central
Library.



Color Our Collections Week



Make it a community-wide event



GIF It Up submission by Darren Cole (DPLA)



Banned Book Trading Card by Lindsey Yankey (Lawrence Public Library)

What do you have in tucked-away places?



Orphan photos can provide lots of inspiration and a place to start.

Idea share: What do you have in your collection that could inspire patrons to make something new?

Sharing the work: Using the library as an arts venue

Kristen Hammargren presents her one-woman show, *Discovering Austen*, in libraries and other performance venues.



Sharing the work: Using the library as an arts venue

Alabama's Sanspointe Dance Company in "Life on a Shelf," a modern dance performance inspired by and performed in libraries.



Sharing the work: Activating the library space

Albany Public Library hosts an exhibition called *Homespun*, which made use of library spaces beyond the traditional gallery wall.



Sharing the work: Activating the library space



Sharing the work: Activating the library space



Watercolor painting installation by Carla Lobmeier, NYPL Mid-Manhattan Library.

Sharing the work: Activating the library space

Immortal Silence at the Glasgow School of Art Library, a series of “sound works” installed throughout the library by Justyna Ataman.



Action item: Invite the artists in

- Find a partner (an arts guild, commission, or board member) to help you craft the language for a Call for Participation
- Set up four times for artists to come in and explore the library
- Keep an open mind. How can you move from “no” to “yes”?
 - Caveat: balance with also knowing the physical and policy limitations of the space--can be tricky.
- Document the process--keep track of paperwork and policies you've crafted for future reference
- Document the end product--how will you share the active art space with the public? Art opening, ongoing exhibition, photo or video documentation

**Idea share: where is the
underused/under-activated space
in your library?**

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