**Universal Design at Your Library**

<https://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction/universal-design-at-your-library.html>

As we work to ensure that our library spaces, services, and programs are welcoming to all members of the community, it is important to know how to design for inclusion. The principles of Universal Design offer guidance on how to design in ways that prioritize usability and accessibility for all. This presentation will introduce the concept of Universal Design, explain how it contrasts with accessibility, and offer concrete advice for how to apply each of the principles of Universal Design at any library. The examples and ideas provided will focus on high-impact changes that can be done within a range of budgets from low (or even no) cost ideas to advice for planning for large-scale renovation projects.

Presented by: **Carli Spina**, Associate Professor and Head of Research & Instructional Services, Fashion Institute of Technology, and Author, *Creating Inclusive Libraries by Applying Universal Design*

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| **What are your goals for viewing this webinar?** |
| **Personal Goals** |  |
| **Team Goals** |  |
| **The Who of Universal Design** |
| Consider the definitions of Universal Design shared in the webinar and reflect on your community and those patrons whose experience might be limited or impacted by current designs. Identify examples of Universal Design that could create more inclusive experiences for these user groups.* Patrons with disabilities
* Patrons of all ages
* Patrons of all sizes
* Patrons who speak different languages
* Patrons with limited access to technology
* Patrons who are caregivers
* Patrons who are distracted
* Who else?
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| **Prioritizing Universal Design** |
| Recognizing some Universal Design principles are likely already implemented at your library, identify those examples you’d like to prioritize for further improving your library’s Universal Design. List three ways you can apply the principles of Universal Design at your library for little or no cost.1.
2.

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| **Buy-in for Universal Design** |
| The work of Universal Design requires buy-in from both staff and leadership to be most beneficial to the library and community. Consider or discuss any concerns you have, or resistance you anticipate from others, on learning about and implementing Universal Design. Identify potential responses to their concerns and work towards a clear and shared commitment to designing for inclusion. Reviewing how this work fits into the library’s strategic plan can be a good place to build the case for moving forward.* How does Universal Design fit into your strategic plan?
* Can you make clear connections to specific goals?
* How will these principles be reflected in ongoing workflows?
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| **Dream Big** |
| List three ways you would apply the principles of Universal Design at your library if money were no object. (Once you generate the ideas, you can consider starting with smaller scope changes, applying for grants, or otherwise budgeting for this work).1.
2.

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| **Action Plan: (include next steps, when, who, etc.)** |

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