Next Library 2014 – Conference Sessions

Next Library activities sessions will be high-energy, interactive and highly participatory. In addition to inspiring keynote presenters, there will be facilitated sessions organized around the following four learning paths which mirror the overall conference theme:

**PATRON AS THE CENTER OF DESIGN:** Explore how Human Centered Design principles can be applied to program and service development. Discover how libraries are involving patrons and communities in their service and program design efforts. These sessions will highlight the critical importance of co-creation in supporting a community of learners.

**LEVERAGING PARTNERSHIPS FOR ENHANCED LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Explore the library’s role in building a more effective and comprehensive learning ecosystem within a community. Participants will share ideas, experiences and best practices that help their library create collaborative relationships that best support learning for diverse patron groups.

**LEARNING THROUGH CREATION:** Share the experiences, ideas, opportunities and challenges of engaging users in creative activities. These sessions will invite conference participants to connect with and explore emerging practices in connected learning, makerspaces, arts and STEM learning initiatives within libraries and other institutions.

**LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY FOR LEARNING:** Identify, explore and discuss technology trends or breakthroughs that are leading to new models of learning, training and connecting - from simulations to gaming or interactive learning to virtual schools. Explore how libraries are using technology to accelerate 21st century learning.
Friday, June 20
1:30 PM  Next Library Preconference Tours
  • UIC Innovation Center
  • 1871

Saturday, June 21
1:00 PM  Next Library Preconference Tours
  • University of Chicago Arts Incubator
  • Chicago Public Library – YOUmedia
  • Chicago Public Library – Maker Space
  • Chicago Children’s Museum

Sunday, June 22
5:00 PM  Next Library Registration & Opening Session

Monday, June 23
8:00 AM  Welcome & Breakfast
9:00 AM  Keynote: Bo Stjerne Thomsen, Director, Research & Learning, LEGO Foundation
10:45 AM  Learning Sessions – Track 1
  • YOUmedia and Learning Labs: Connected Learning in Action
  • What’s in Your Digital Backpack - Recognizing Learning Anytime, Anywhere
  • Human Centered Design: Using the Service Journey to Improve Library Services
  • From Global to Local: Infuse Your Library’s Partnership Strategies with Global Perspective
  • Our Business is Economic Growth
  • Connecting Make & Community
  • Nimble is the Name of the Innovation Game
  • Library as Studio: Designing for Creativity

12:30 PM  Lunch
Monday, June 23 - continued

1:30 PM  Learning Sessions – Track 2
- Summer Learning Challenge
- What’s In Your Digital Backpack - Recognizing Learning Anytime, Anywhere
- Mapping the Experience: Go on a Service Safari
- Libraries Leading Learning Partnerships
- Re-Imagining the Civic Commons
- Look Through Your Community Lense: Technology Planning
- Creating a Culture of Innovation

3:15 PM  Keynote: Tina Sciabica, Executive Director, READ Global

4:30 PM  Celebration & Wrap-up

6:30 PM  Next Networking Dinner
Tuesday, June 24

7:30 AM  ULC Member Breakfast – The Palmer House Hilton
8:00 AM  Welcome & Breakfast
9:00 AM  Keynote: John G. Palfrey, Jr., Head of School, Phillips Academy
10:45 AM Learning Sessions – Track 3
   • Are you HIVE Curious? Global Connected Learning Networks for Youth
   • Successful Library Partnerships: Are They the Same Worldwide?
   • Library Living Labs
   • Human Centered Design: Using the Service Journey to Improve Library Services
   • YOUmedia and Learning Labs: Connected Learning in Action
   • Connecting Make & Community
   • Design Backwards to Move Forwards: Creating Interactive Technology Learning Strategies
12:30 PM  Lunch
1:15 PM  Closing Ceremony
2:00 PM  Unconference Sessions Discussion

Wednesday, June 25

8:30 AM  Welcome & Breakfast
9:00 AM  Unconference Sessions
12:00 PM  Adjourn
Session Descriptions

YOUmedia and Learning Labs: Connected Learning in Action
Gia Arbogast, Branch Administrator, Miami-Dade Public Library
Taylor Bayless, Librarian II, Chicago Public Library, YOUmedia
Jennifer Collins, Teen Services Coordinator, San Francisco Public Library
Kendra Davey, Assistant Branch Manager, Pima County Library
Amy Eshleman, Program Leader for Education, Urban Libraries Council
Danielle Patrick Milam, Director of Development, Las Vegas-Clark County Library District
Corey Wittig, Digital Learning Librarian, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

Connected Learning revitalizes the educational process by forging links between students' academic studies, their personal passions, and opportunities to engage with peers who support and share their interests. Join a discussion with members of the YOUmedia and Learning Labs community of practice who are using Connected Learning to create new pathways to college, career and civic pursuits. Engage in an exercise to begin to reimagine and redesign your programs using the Connected Learning framework.

What’s in Your Digital Backpack - Recognizing Learning Anytime, Anywhere
Tene Gray, Digital Youth Network
Sybil Madison-Boyd, Digital Youth Network

Badges can support learners as they acquire, accelerate and demonstrate skills. Badges can also support institutions like libraries as they connect out of school learning to school and make transparent the learning that happens in digital spaces, maker spaces and summer learning experiences. This session will dive into badges, discuss how badges have been implemented in cities and libraries and provide participants with an opportunity to work through a badge-building activity. Participants are asked to come to the session with an idea of a program or set of skills to be badged in their library or city.
Human Centered Design: Using the Service Journey to Improve Library Services

Jason Driver, Children’s Services Librarian, Chicago Public Library Hall Branch
Joshua Farnum, Children’s Services Librarian, Chicago Public Library Legler Branch
John Glynn, Branch Manager Chicago Public Library Albany Park Branch
Melissa Kaszynski, Branch Manager, Chicago Public Library Dunning Branch
Jesper Kirkegaard, Library Specialist, Aarhus Public Libraries
Marianne Krognaek, Designer, Aarhus Public Libraries
Brandy Morrill, Children’s Service Librarian, Chicago Public Library Chinatown Branch
Jannik Mulvad, IT-Consultant and Idea Developer and Idea Developer, Aarhus Public Libraries
Sidsel Bech-Peterson, Library Transformer, Aarhus Public Libraries

This session will begin with a general overview of the concept of Human Centered Design (HCD) and design thinking practices and will go on to highlight Chicago Public Library’s and Aarhus Public Library’s recent experience working in conjunction with IDEO, a design and innovation consulting firm. There will also be a facilitated activity around the HCD concept of the service journey. The activity will demonstrate simple ways of finding out and evaluating the highs and lows of a customer/patron’s service journey and the HCD process of designing tools or services based on this information.
From Global to Local: Infuse Your Library’s Partnership Strategies with Global Perspective
Gates Global Libraries Training Working Group, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Libraries play a vital role in the learning ecosystems of their communities. Forging effective partnerships is essential in this role, especially when resources are limited. Get fresh ideas from around the globe about building powerful partnerships. Drawing on experiences from more than 10 countries, explore how partnerships serve to accelerate learning for library leaders, library staff, and members of the public. This interactive session is led by members of the Training Working Group, a cohort of grantees of the Global Libraries program of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Training Working Group members are responsible for implementing nationwide training programs that have impacted thousands of library staff around the world. Through their own active collaboration, the Training Working Group accelerates learning, building global perspective while adapting ideas to fit local needs.

Our Business is Economic Growth
Jennifer Byrnes, Business Information Specialist, Rochester Public Library
Rebecca Ryan, Library Manager, Saint Paul Public Library
Pang Yang, Community Services Coordinator, Saint Paul Public Library

Public libraries have a crucial role as partners for local economic vitality. Two key elements of their multi-faceted work in this arena support the skills of job-seekers and help local businesses grow and thrive. In this session, leaders from two U.S. libraries will share their approach to supporting adult learners as job-seekers and business leaders.

Connecting Make & Community
Sidsel Bech-Petersen, Library Transformer, Aarhus Public Libraries
Lisa Brahms, Director of Research and Learning, Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh
Jeremy Dunn, Director, Teen Services, Chicago Public Library
Jorge Garcia, Library Page, Chicago Public Library
Brandon Klevence, Digital Gypsy, Free Library of Philadelphia
Sasha Neri, Librarian II, General Information Services, Chicago Public Library
Louise Overgaard, Team Leader - Main Library, Aarhus Public Libraries
Jane Werner, Executive Director, Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh

Come and join the conversation about makerspaces in libraries. Get an inspiration injection from makerspace prototypes and experiments - and tell us what you know and have learned about the maker movement in your library and in your local community.
Nimble is the Name of the Innovation Game
Betha Gutsche, Program Manager, OCLC WebJunction
Dale Musselman, Operations Manager, OCLC’s WebJunction

Libraries serve as strong connectors to lifelong education in communities throughout the world. This session will reinforce the importance of modeling and supporting that pursuit through a responsive and pro-active approach to meeting staff training needs. In this interactive session, participants will co-create learning models to help library staff find a path to relevant, rapid, on-demand learning to enhance the patron and community experience in the library. Participants will work together to determine solutions to realistic problems and scenarios related to accelerating learning – they’ll also face unexpected twists and turns, with surprise rewards for their group and individual efforts.

Library as Studio: Designing for Creativity
Rolf Hapel, Director of Citizens’ Services and Libraries, Aarhus, DK
Margaret Sullivan, Principal, Margaret Sullivan Studio

Libraries in the US and Denmark are offering new service models rooted in learning experiences that incorporate information gathering, creating and sharing. Not only is this changing what the 21st century library looks like, it is also changing HOW the 21st century library is being designed. Learn about Denmark’s Model Programme for Libraries and a new creative-centric approach to library design called “Library as Studio,” developed in partnership with the Richland Library (SC). Attendees will work in small teams to apply these concepts to a hypothetical library new building project.

Summer Learning Challenge
Liz McChesney, Children’s Services Director, Chicago Public Library
Bryan Wunar, Director of Community Initiatives at the Museum of Science and Industry

Summer slide is a national conversation for libraries and out of school time providers. This session will focus on the re-designed Summer Learning Challenge the Chicago Public Library undertook to align ourselves against 21st Century learning skills and the key areas of impact which CPL is focusing on. Through a partnership with the Museum of Science and Industry, we brought STEM/STEAM skills into the program in order to foster hands-on learning, collaboration and creativity with Chicago’s kids. This session will include exploration into the American STEM crisis in education, and hands-on exploration of STEM projects created by the Museum of Science and Industry including balloon racers made by participants.
Mapping the Experience: Go on a Service Safari
Melanie Huggins, Director, Richland Library, SC
Patrick Quattlebaum, Managing Director, Adaptive Path

A typical library has hundreds or thousands of interactions with its customers within a given day. Whether occurring between people or via technology, the accumulation of these interactions shapes the experiences of your customers and, ultimately, the strength of your relationship with them. If your goal is to create great customer experiences, you have to examine these interactions and understand the customer context in which they occur. In this session, you will get a framework to explore service experiences in fun Chicago locations and identify a framework for understanding a service experience from the customer's perspective. You'll learn a method that you and your fellow staff can use to better serve your patrons. Participants will also leave with a handy template to use when conducting service safaris in their own practice.

Libraries Leading Learning Partnerships
Melinda Cervantes, Director of the Pima County Library Association (AZ)
Nick Mayr, Manager of Community Initiatives for the National Summer Learning Association

Today’s complex challenges demand that leaders work across sectors to meet the urgent needs of children, youth and families – especially those needs that drive learning, school achievement and healthy development. A key feature of transformative leadership in the 21st century is bringing people, agencies and systems out of traditional silos, inspiring and empowering them to work together and achieve community goals. This session features Melinda Cervantes, Director of the Pima County Library Association, AZ and Nick Mayr, Manager of Community Initiatives for the National Summer Learning Association who will dissect key elements of effective partnerships with local government leaders, school systems and civic leaders that leverage resources to create enhanced learning experiences for children and youth, in and out of school.

Re-Imaging the Civic Commons
Carol Coletta, Vice President for Community and National Initiatives, Knight Foundation
Mary Rowe, Director, Municipal Art Society of New York
Claire Weisz, Principal, WXY Studio

In urban environments around the world, the importance of a shared civic commons is crucial to creating livable, safe and democratic spaces where people’s needs and aspirations can be met. What are the new opportunities for libraries to catalyze new partnerships and shared approaches with institutions, with the private sector, with community groups, local media, the entrepreneurial community, etc.? This session will engage participants in an interactive process to describe the civic assets in their cities, their challenges and opportunities and to explore new forms of shared spaces that meet current and future needs. The session discussion will contribute to a national inquiry underway to “Re-Imagine the Civic Commons,” funded by the Knight Foundation
Look Through Your Community Lense: Technology Planning
Lourdes Aceves, Senior Program Manager, Edge, Urban Libraries Council
Crystal Schimpf, Librarian, Kixel

Edge was developed with an understanding of the challenges libraries face today. Technology demands and challenges are different for every library, just as each community has unique needs and demographics. By participating in this session, attendees will be introduced to and discuss a framework to think about and authentically evaluate their current services and identify opportunities for improvement based on community need. This session will be built on the framework of the Edge that assesses technology based on community value, engaging the community and organizational management. From this shared understanding, participants will begin to build their resources to connect their technology to their community outcomes including advocating for technology and building partnerships. Central to this discussion, each participant will share solutions and best practices in using technology to advance learning.

Creating a Culture of Innovation
CM Winters-Palacio, Host, “The Professors” - WYCC PBS-TV20
Carter G. Woodson Library, Department Chairperson, City Colleges of Chicago
Barbara M. Jones, Director of the Office, Intellectual Freedom/Executive Director, Freedom to Read Foundation

How do successful organizations maintain an environment where new ideas and risk-taking are encouraged? And how do these organizations ensure that their users stay fully involved in this process? Several academic librarians will illustrate how you can create and maintain a culture of innovation within your organization and why empathy toward your users is an important part of the process.

Are You Hive Curious? Global Connected Learning Networks for Youth
Hallie Gordon, Director, Steppenwolf for Young Adults, Steppenwolf Theatre Company
Chris Lawrence, Senior Director of Mozilla Webmaker Mentor Community, Lead-Hive Learning Network, NYC

Fragmented youth learning experiences have become the driver for building new, collaborative models of more robust learning environments. Learn about how the global Hive movement is working across disciplines to strengthen communities and foster engaging and relevant opportunities for youth. Participate in an interactive session with Chicago teens to illustrate how Chicago’s Steppenwolf Theatre has been working with youth and Chicago Hive members to explore topics of choice, identity and intolerance in order to make positive change in their communities.
Successful Library Partnerships: Are they the Same Worldwide?
Kenzang Cholden, Program Officer, READ Bhutan
Susan Schnuer, Associate Director, Mortenson Center for International Library Programs, University of IL
Ruhi Seth, Training Officer, READ India
Durgesh Kumar Yogi, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, READ Nepal

Join this interactive session to learn how READ Global approaches community library partnerships in Bhutan, India, and Nepal. READ partners with rural villages to establish community library and resource centers (READ Centers) as vehicles for social and economic transformation. READ works in communities where literacy rates are often less than 50%, and most people live below the poverty line. Centers are owned and operated by the local community, and offer educational resources, services and training programs to people of all ages and backgrounds. Partnerships are a critical component of the READ Global approach.

Library Living Labs
Adjunct Faculty & Research Associate, Institute of Design, IIT Chicago

The workshop will allow attendants to learn how to approach designing for complex social systems. The course will focus on using design methods for framing the problem in a new way and helping unveil new potential approaches, with particular emphasis on how to conduct design research and ideation involving key stakeholders and how to facilitate the community to designing their own solutions through a Living Lab approach.

Design Backwards to Move Forward: Creating Interactive Technology Learning Strategies
Angeline Kapferer, Adult Services Supervisor, Cuyahoga County Public Library
Rebecca Ranallo, Information & Technology Literacy Manager, Cuyahoga County Public Library

Libraries striving for innovative ways to meet customers’ learning needs can struggle to be everything to all people, especially in the world of ever changing technology. How do we ensure that our investments in equipment are relevant, responsible and sustainable? How do we plan so that technology supports the library’s mission as community learning center rather than distracts precious staff time or diverts limited funds from more impactful methods? Makerspaces, recording studios, and self-publishing in the library all come from the same desire to engage customers in participatory, active learning. The Literacy and Learning Division of Cuyahoga County Public Library has had growing success using outcome-based, backwards design processes to select technology that supports Connected Learning for youth and Lifelong Learning for all.