



**2019**

# **SUMMER PERFORMER SHOWCASE**



**PERFORMER LIST  
COMPILED FROM  
SUGGESTIONS BY  
MAINE LIBRARIANS**



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The 2019 Performer Showcase is intended to help Maine librarians find performers for family-friendly summer programs (and perhaps for other times of the year). All of the performers listed here are suggestions from your fellow Maine librarians.

*\*When you contact performers, ask if they are available for block booking. You may be able to share performers (and some of the costs) with a neighboring library.*

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## STORYTELLING

# Jean Armstrong

### Program

Storytelling workshops that includes folklore and/or gives kids a chance to learn the elements of creative storytelling.



### Recommendation

*"Amazing! She will customize for any size audience, any age, anyTHING at all."*

- McArthur Public Library (Biddeford)

### Contact Info

Telephone: 207-229-2822

Email: [strongvoice12@yahoo.com](mailto:strongvoice12@yahoo.com)

Web: [www.jeanarmstrong.com](http://www.jeanarmstrong.com)

## MUSIC & STORYTELLING

# Jennifer Armstrong

### Program

Programs include songs, stories, and folklore with bagpipe, fiddle, banjo, dancing puppet and surprises! *For summer 2019, check out her Blue Moon Songs program.*

### Recommendations

*"A very talented musician. Kids and adults enjoy Jennifer's performances."*

- Belfast Free Library

*"Jennifer has always been easy to work with and a pleasure for our audiences."*

- Jesup Memorial Library (Bar Harbor)

*"We absolutely love Jennifer! We have families who ask for her. She is a very strong and versatile storyteller who includes music and interactive parts to her stories."*

- Southwest Harbor Public Library

### Contact Info

Telephone: 207-322-2265

Email: [jenwrenmusic@gmail.com](mailto:jenwrenmusic@gmail.com)

Web: [www.jenniferarmstrong.com](http://www.jenniferarmstrong.com)



Photo credit: William Burlingham

MUSIC & STORYTELLING

# Steve Blunt

## Program

"I'm a singer/storyteller... my shows feature original compositions as well as traditional American and multicultural material that appeals to a wide audience."

- *Performer's website*



## Recommendation

*Based on YSS Board research*

## Contact Info

Telephone: 603-888-3866

Email: [steveblunt@comcast.net](mailto:steveblunt@comcast.net)

Web: [www.steveblunt.com](http://www.steveblunt.com)

MAGIC

# Peter Boie

## Program

"Magic isn't real... but Peter will make you believe it is for the length of his show. Combining original mind blowing magic, and a heavy dose of humor is his secret to succes." - *Performer's website*



## Recommendation

*A super fun and entertaining magic show that will make you laugh and keep kids, teens, young adults, and full on adults engaged.*

- YSS Vice Chair

## Contact Info

Telephone: 800-643-2924

Email: [info@peterboie.com](mailto:info@peterboie.com)

Web: [www.peterboie.com](http://www.peterboie.com)

WORLD CLASS FRISBEE SHOWS

# Todd Brodeur

## Program

"Two-time Freestyle Frisbee Champion, Todd Brodeur, educates, entertains and motivates his audience with captivating Frisbee shows and interactive playshops."

- *Performer's website*



## Recommendation

*"Super fun! Todd performs amazing frisbee tricks then kids get a chance to learn some and get a frisbee to take home."*

- McArthur Public Library (Biddeford)

## Contact Info

Telephone: 508-883-6371

Email: [todd@frisbeeshows.com](mailto:todd@frisbeeshows.com)

Web: [www.toddbrodeur.com](http://www.toddbrodeur.com)

PUPPETRY

# CactusHead Puppets

## Program

CactusHead Puppets is made up of John and Megan Regan. Since 2010, they have created several shows based on favorite, familiar folktales, and toured New England.



## Recommendation

*Based on YSS Board research*

## Contact Info

Telephone: 816-392-6763

Email: [CactusHeadpuppets@gmail.com](mailto:CactusHeadpuppets@gmail.com)

Web: [www.cactusheadpuppets.com](http://www.cactusheadpuppets.com)

## GEOLOGY

# Katie Coppens

### Program

Based on Katie's book, *Geology is a Piece of Cake*, this program offers a baked approach to thinking about rock formation, tectonic plate movement, fossils and more.



### Recommendation

*"You provide layer cakes, and she demonstrates the principles of geology. As a teacher, she is great with kids. Great summer program."*

- Witherlee Memorial Library (Castine)

### Contact Info

Telephone: 207-326-7345

Email: [ktcoppens@gmail.com](mailto:ktcoppens@gmail.com)

Web: n/a

## MAGIC

# Conjuring Carroll

### Program

"Encouraging patrons about the wonder and magic of reading is always the main purpose, as it's a fundamental skill that lasts a lifetime. Always willing to work on a theme."  
- *Performer's website*



### Recommendation

*"Conjuring Carroll has always captivated our audiences. He is funny, great with kids, and promotes using the library."*

- Winslow Public Library

### Contact Info

Telephone: 207-399-3937

Email: [magic@conjuringcarroll.com](mailto:magic@conjuringcarroll.com)

Web: <http://conjuringcarroll.com/index.htm>

JUGGLING, COMEDY, VARIETY

# Steve Corning

## Program

"Steve presents a variety show of ultimate proportions, featuring fast-paced juggling routines, mind-blowing escape artistry, comedy magic, contortion, balancing, and nearly endless amazing stunts, all mixed with a hearty dose of off-the-cuff comedy."

- *Performer's website*



## Recommendation

*Based on YSS Board research*

## Contact Info

Telephone: 207-200-8017

Email: [stevecorningshow@gmail.com](mailto:stevecorningshow@gmail.com)

Web: [www.stevecorning.com](http://www.stevecorning.com)

MUSIC

# Rob Duquette

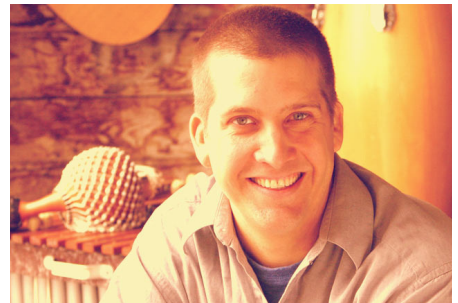
## Program

"Rob Duquette incorporates world musical genres and infuses important lessons about kindness, empathy and environmental responsibility. " - *Performer's website*

## Recommendation

*"Rob is a great musician who keeps audiences of any size and age entertained. Plus, you can't beat the foot percussion!"*

- Windham Public Library



## Contact Info

Telephone: NA

Email: [rob@robduquette.com](mailto:rob@robduquette.com)

Web: [www.robduquette.com](http://www.robduquette.com)



## MUSIC

# Earth Jams

### Program

"I started Earth Jams as a way to put music back into the hands of the many. We express our souls through singing, and the gift of making music belongs to everyone. Through song, Earth Jams teaches, excites and empowers people to live in a peaceful way with each other and with this earth we share. Have fun and sing on!" - *Performer's website*



### Recommendation

*"Matt is a great performer who kept our audience entertained and dancing."*

- Windham Public Library

### Contact Info

Telephone: 207-891-9593

Email: [info@earthjams.com](mailto:info@earthjams.com)

Web: <http://earthjams.com/>

## PERFORMING ARTS MARINE EDUCATION

# Mr. & Mrs. Fish

### Program

Based at Southern Maine Community College, Mr. and Mrs. Fish are dynamic educators who teach marine science by costuming themselves as humorous sea creatures and acting out life in the sea. Geared to elementary aged children and their families. - Performer's website



### Recommendation

*"Mr. & Mrs. Fish are fabulous, dynamic, and funny! Their shows are educational and keep the giggles going! We hope to have them back at our library soon!"*

- South Portland Public Library

### Contact Info

Telephone: 207-767-3629

Email: [mmfish@maine.rr.com](mailto:mmfish@maine.rr.com)

Web: [www.mrandmrsfish.com](http://www.mrandmrsfish.com)



JUGGLING AND COMEDY

# Bryson Lang

## Program

"Bryson Lang has entertained thousands around the world with his creative, high-energy, family-friendly Comedy - Juggling act." - *Performer's website*



## Recommendation

*Based on YSS Board research*

## Contact Info

Telephone: 818-679-6303

Email: [brysonlang@hotmail.com](mailto:brysonlang@hotmail.com)

Web: [www.brysonlang.com](http://www.brysonlang.com)

PUPPETEER

# Lindsay & Her Puppet Pals

## Program

"Year round, Lindsay brings her larger than life Puppet Pals to audiences across New England. Filled with silliness, audience engagement, and memorable characters, this series of charming short stories will delight the young and the young at heart! Ideal for ages 3-8." - *Performer's website*



## Recommendation

*"Lindsay is Fantastic! We have had her at our public library and plan to have her again! She is wonderfully animated and funny! Her puppets are fabulous! Check out her website!"*

- South Portland Public Library

## Contact Info

Telephone: (603) 393-5565

Email: [LindsaysPuppetPals@gmail.com](mailto:LindsaysPuppetPals@gmail.com)

Web: [www.lindsayspuppetpals.com](http://www.lindsayspuppetpals.com)

JUGGLING & COMEDY

# Michael Menes



Photo credit: Andree Kehn Photography

## Program

"I'm a contemporary vaudevillian who has performed all over the world. Through a combination of dance, mime, movement, character work, and technical virtuosity, I'm known for my elegance, classy style, precision and originality."

- *Performer's website*

## Recommendation

*"Michael was fantastic! The kids were completely engaged and entertained for his entire program. Highly recommended!"*

- South Portland Public Library

## Contact Info

Telephone: 207-440-9147

Email: [msmenes@gmail.com](mailto:msmenes@gmail.com)

Web: [www.michaelmenes.com](http://www.michaelmenes.com)

MUSIC & PUPPETS

# Modern Times Theater

## Program

Librarians say Modern Times Theater "engages all ages with their superb talent, wit and enthusiasm," and "you must, must see them in person!"

- *Performer's website*



## Recommendation

*Based on YSS Board research*

## Contact Info

Telephone: 802-472-8987

Email: [moderntimestheater@gmail.com](mailto:moderntimestheater@gmail.com)

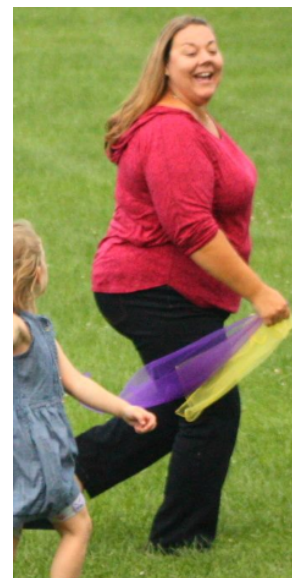
Web: [www.moderntimestheater.com](http://www.moderntimestheater.com)

STORYTIME & NUTRITION EDUCATION

# Ms. Jenn & the Nutrition Detectives

## Program

Ms. Jenn makes fruit, vegetables, and moving and grooving fun! Her storytimes are great fun for the whole family.



## Recommendation

*"We've been having Ms. Jenn visit us monthly for years and have never regretted it. She is amazing and our families love her."*

- Winslow Public Library

## Contact Info

Telephone: NA

Email: [mynutritionmatters@yahoo.com](mailto:mynutritionmatters@yahoo.com)

Web: <https://www.facebook.com/MsJennTheStoryTeller/>

MAGIC

# Norman Ng

## Program

"Based in Portland, Norman is known for bringing a fresh and dynamic energy to his shows. He views his show as a conversation with an audience rather than a performance for them." - *Performers' website*



## Recommendation

*Based on YSS Board research*

## Contact Info

Telephone: 800-307-8959

Email: [norman@normanmagic.com](mailto:norman@normanmagic.com)

Web: [www.normanmagic.com](http://www.normanmagic.com)

## ASTRONOMY

# Northern Stars Planetarium

### Program

There are lots of different astronomy programs to choose from, such as solar eclipse and looking at the constellations. Let this planetarium come to you!



### Recommendation

*"John Meader, the owner, is super knowledgeable. Patrons have raved about his program afterward. It's great for them to have this experience right in their town."*

- Winslow Public Library

### Contact Info

Telephone: 207-453-7668

Email: [info@northern-stars.com](mailto:info@northern-stars.com)

Web: [www.northern-stars.com](http://www.northern-stars.com)

## MUSIC

# Judy Pancoast

### Program

"Effervescent, energetic, entertaining....all of these words describe Judy Pancoast; a singer, songwriter and recording artist who radiates joy in her music."

- Performer's website



### Recommendation

Based on YSS Board research

### Contact Info

Telephone: 603-716-3646

Email: [judypancoast@comcast.net](mailto:judypancoast@comcast.net)

Web: [www.judypancoast.com](http://www.judypancoast.com)

## DRAWING WORKSHOP

# Jay Piscopo

### Program

Looking for someone to lead a drawing workshop for kids at your library? Jay is a great choice.



### Recommendation

*"One of the best programs EVER. I have him back every other year. "*

- McArthur Public Library (Biddeford)

### Contact Info

Telephone: 207-229-2822

Email: [jaypiscopo@captneli.com](mailto:jaypiscopo@captneli.com)

Web: [www.captneli.com/artist.php](http://www.captneli.com/artist.php)

## PUPPETRY

# Sir Doug & His Puppets

### Program

"With decades of experience entertaining kids and teens at special events, Sir Doug has never failed to leave a lasting impression." - *Performer's website*



### Recommendation

*Based on YSS Board research*

### Contact Info

Telephone: 207-725-8786

Email: [callmesirdouglas@gmail.com](mailto:callmesirdouglas@gmail.com)

Web: [mainechildrentertainment.com](http://mainechildrentertainment.com)

## MAGICIAN

# Phil Smith

### Program

"Phil Smith, master magician, entertains children, and adults. He entertains at homes, schools, and many other settings from Maine to Boston and beyond." - *Performer's website*



### Recommendation

*"Magical - he will do hands on magic and teach the kids to perform tricks!"*

- McArthur Public Library (Biddeford)

### Contact Info

Telephone: 207-797-7800

Email: [psmith@corporatemagician.com](mailto:psmith@corporatemagician.com)

Web: [abracadabraprod.com](http://abracadabraprod.com)

## ANIMAL EXPERTS

# Sparks' Ark

### Program

Sparks' Ark can bring a fun and affordable , customized, educational program with critters to your library.



### Recommendation

*"Always fills the house."*

- McArthur Public Library (Biddeford)

### Contact Info

Telephone: 207-926-3077

Email: [sparksark1@gmail.com](mailto:sparksark1@gmail.com)

Web: [www.sparksark.com](http://www.sparksark.com)



KUNG FU

# Two Dragons Path

## Program

You may know Paul and Rosalie DiCrescenzo as booksellers, but they also moonlight as Kung Fu instructors.



## Recommendation

*"I've hosted them several times and it is a blast. The kids and parents LOVE it. They are high energy and funny. Kids really got their bodies moving at this event."*

- McArthur Public Library (Biddeford)

## Contact Info

Telephone: 617-823-7330

Email: [info@twodragonspath.com](mailto:info@twodragonspath.com)

Web: [www.twodragonspath.com](http://www.twodragonspath.com)

WRITING

# Unwritten Roads

## Program

A mobile, multi-genre creative writing/filmmaking program for young adults in Southern Maine. We believe writing is an adventure for youth. - Performer's website



## Recommendation

*"Nicoll and Laura are fun, engaging women who offer a variety of workshops on writing and filmmaking. They always arrive with plenty of costumes and props to help kids get into their creative zones. Highly recommend the 'Make Your Own Music Video' workshop- it was a blast at our library!"*

- South Portland Public Library

## Contact Info

Telephone: 617-272-7305

Email: [unwrittenroads@gmail.com](mailto:unwrittenroads@gmail.com)

Web: [www.facebook.com/unwrittenroads](http://www.facebook.com/unwrittenroads)

FAIRY PARTIES, GHOST HUNTING & WRITING WORKSHOPS

# Liza Gardner Walsh



## Program(s)

Liza Gardner Walsh has worked as a children's librarian, high-school English teacher, writing tutor, and museum educator. Her programs are based on her books about fairies, ghost hunting, and the writing process.

## Recommendation

*"We had her for ghost hunting which the kiddos LOVED!"*

- McArthur Public Library (Biddeford)

## Contact Info

Telephone: 207-691-1785

Email: [form on website](#)

Web: [www.mossandgrove.com](http://www.mossandgrove.com)

MUSICIAN

# Wayne from Maine

## Program

"For nearly two decades, I have been writing and performing family style music for the young and young at heart. Writing music and playing for kids is the greatest. I perform at schools, preschools, libraries, festivals, and children's events." - Performer's website



## Recommendation

*"I've had Wayne as a performer a number of times. He never fails to entertain. His shows are super lively, the music catchy, and are a lot of fun. He is affordable- very willing to work with libraries and tight budgets. He also does shows with the summer reading themes."*

- South Berwick Public Library

## Contact Info

Telephone: 207-450-5814

Email: [wayne@waynefrommaine.com](mailto:wayne@waynefrommaine.com)

Web: [www.waynefrommaine.com](http://www.waynefrommaine.com)

# Space Resources



## CSLP Pinterest Boards

Collaborative Summer Library Programs has Pinterest boards for Book Suggestions, Adult Programming, Teen Programming, and Children's Programming.

[www.pinterest.com/cslpreads/boards](http://www.pinterest.com/cslpreads/boards)

## MSL's Summer 2019 Pinterest Board

Maine State Library has more ideas for you including crafts, books, display ideas, STEM activities, sensory play, and more.

[www.pinterest.com/MESLib/summer-2019-universe-of-stories](http://www.pinterest.com/MESLib/summer-2019-universe-of-stories)

## Night Sky Network

Find local astronomy clubs, use the Night Sky Planner, etc.

[www.nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov](http://www.nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov)

## STAR Net

CSLP and STAR Net are partnering to share science and technology-related resources.

[www.starnetlibraries.org/universe-of-stories](http://www.starnetlibraries.org/universe-of-stories)