Supporting Teen Success Through School Library Partnerships

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- B.A. in Journalism, University of South Carolina
- Master of Library Media, Georgia State University
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What We’ll Cover Today

- Identifying the Need
- Combining Resources
- Matching Skills with Services
- Building Community
Identifying the Need

- If 50% of low-incomegrads are enrolled in college, the other 50% will need a trade or a well-paying job
- Reasons for opting-out of college are varied
  - Low performance in high school
  - Desire to get “out on their own”
  - An unclear idea of their future goals
Identifying the Need

- Talk to your students/patrons about what they see as their “next step”
- Create a short survey using Google Forms
  - Will you/Did you graduate in four years?
  - Will you attend college?
  - Are you interested in job skills training?
  - How much money do you want to make once you’ve graduated?
Identifying the Need

- Talk to your students/patrons about what they see as their “next step”
- Create a short survey using Google Forms
  - Will you/Did you graduate in four years?
  - Will you attend college?
  - Are you interested in job skills training?
  - How much money do you want to make once you’ve graduated?
- Share the data with your local public/school library branch
Matching Skills with Services

High School Graduate and High Income Minded

- Interview Skills
- Certification Awareness (Realtor, Medical Transcription, Court Reporting)
- Interest Identification Programs (Myers-Briggs, etc.)

Low School Performance with a Need for Immediate Income

- GED Preparation
- ASVAB Study Tools
- Soft Skills Workshops
  - Create a Resume
  - The Importance of First Impressions
  - Writing a Thank-You Note
  - Sending Business Emails
- How to Start Your Own Business
# Combining Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public Library</th>
<th>School Library</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access to Various Paid Databases</td>
<td>A Captive Audience of Teens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Leaders who may donate time and expertise</td>
<td>Counselors, Coaches and other Teaching Partners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extended Hours</td>
<td>Existing Relationships and Personal Knowledge of the Audience</td>
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Building Community

- Resume Bootcamp (Dual Offering)
- Cross-posting
  - Pick up flyers and posters and display them in the school/public library
- Program Outreach and Sign-Up drives at Football/Basketball or Parent Open House
- Coordinated/Themed workshops
  - How to Build a Website (School)
  - Elements of Marketing (Public)
  - Understanding Social Media (Public)
  - Typing Classes (Both)
Building Community

- Recent Graduate Check-In
- Alumni Book Clubs
- Alumni Speaker’s Series
- Public/Community College/School Partnerships about certificate programs and financial aid
- FAFSA for returning students
Further Resources

- Trade Organizations

- Your Local Recruiters
  - [https://www.typing.com/](https://www.typing.com/)

- Psychology Today Career Aptitude Test
  - [http://tinyurl.com/h6hzdu6](http://tinyurl.com/h6hzdu6)
Audrey Hopkins

- B.A. in Art History, Texas Woman’s University
- Master of Library & Information Sciences, Texas Woman’s University
- Teen Services Librarian for Smith Public Library, 2014-Present
- Member of Texas Lone Star Committee, 2014-Present
- Reviewer for VOYA (Voice of Youth Advocates) Magazine, September 2015-Present
- YALS/YALSA Blog Editorial Advisory Board Member, 2016-Present
- Follow my blog: https://audviral.wordpress.com/
- Follow me on Twitter @aplateisaplate
What We’ll Cover Today

- Identifying shared mission/vision
- Combining resources & creating partnerships
- Ideas for Collaboration
Identifying Shared Vision/Mission:
What are the needs of your direct community?

- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics)
- Makerspace
- Literacy
- Career Readiness
- Research Models
- Cultural Competency/Global Citizenry
- Fine Arts
Things to consider when approaching prospective partners

- **Research & Observe:**
  - What is it that they are emphasizing? Pick one mutual goal to build on. (ex. S, T, E, or M)
  - Don’t try to reinvent. Instead, enrich and add. There is already a set agenda. How can you add and insert yourself?
  - Choose one campus to work with initially and grow with them.
  - Training Schedules and opportunities. Can you hop on board?
  - Find someone who thinks like you.
Ideas for Collaboration:

- **Literacy** – contact school librarians, library outreach coordinators
- **STEM** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) - Contact Gifted and Talented programs, school science/STEM Institutes, universities and educational service centers.
- **Cultural Competency & Global Citizenry** - Multicultural clubs, foreign language programs.
- **Fine Arts** - contact school theater and visual arts departments, magnet schools
- **Career Readiness** – Contact local businesses that hire teens, volunteer organizations for teens, and vocational schools
School Partnerships
Fashioning Circuits Electronic Textile Fashion Camp. Collaboration with UT Dallas’ Arts & Technology Department and Professor Kim Knight
Local authors and community partnerships
By partnering with local organizations that share the same goal of promoting community growth, literacy, and education, we were able to reach a large audience.

**What:** Teen Job Fair  
**Date:** April 13, 2013  
**Location:** Haggard Public Library, Plano, TX  
**Attendee Total:** 235  
**Vendors:** Barnes & Noble, Old Navy, Market Street, Collin College  
**What We Had to Offer:** Local vendors seeking summer talent, Mock Interviews, What Not to Wear, Resume assistance, Door prizes!
Erica Compton

- Idaho Commission for Libraries
  Project Coordinator, 2010-2015
  - Co-developed & implemented Make It at the Library
- Idaho STEM Action Center
  Program Manager, 2015-current
  - Statewide PreK-Career initiatives, funding & support to expand Idaho’s workforce & economy

Contact me at erica.compton@stem.idaho.gov
What We’ll Cover Today

- Leveraging existing relationships, fostering new ones
- Be intentional and design for success; materials, training, follow-up
- Rural communities require unique structure & support
- Broad participation – academic, school, and public libraries increases and diversifies impact
The Power of Partners

Buying power & new ‘maker’ focus

BARNES & NOBLE

Existing network & maker know-how

ICfL Idaho Commission for Libraries

Statewide reach, funding & expertise

yals...
Develop with Intention

WHY
IS THIS IMPORTANT?

HOW
DO WE ACHIEVE OUR GOALS?

WHO
IS OUR TARGET

WHAT
TOOLS WILL HELP US SUCCEED?
Our Model

A Plan For Success

Training Workshops
- Foundational + Technical skills,
  Hands-on,
  Rural focus

Community Maker Kits
- Tool expands for ages/levels
- Aligned with standards
- Engaging & fun

Ongoing Support
- Enlist experts
- Frequent check-ins
- Veteran makers as mentors

Reflect & Improve
- Collect data
- Talk to partners
- Revise and repeat
Rural Communities

- Regionalize the trainings
- Provide travel support (& stipends if possible)
- Build in sustainability through tool choice & a kit that’s the ‘whole enchilada’
- Encourage unique partnerships and thinking outside the box
Cross-Pollinate

• Bring together public, school & academic library staff
• Encourage collaboration & resource sharing
• Foster ongoing communication to build relationships that will last
Is it Worth It?

➢ 40 - 45 libraries – 1 kit each (~$1,500 each)
➢ 3 Regional Trainings – including teacher stipends and/or travel ($12,500)
➢ Content development – Common Core and/or NGSS alignment + extension activities. ($2,500)

~ $75,000 - $85,000

Estimated Student Impact Year 1 – 4,000-5,000
$16 - $21 per student/year

NOW THAT’S A DEAL!
A Bit about the Kit

You're Edventure into Robotics

You're a Programmer

Lego Technic

Edison

EdMat

Yalsal

Young Adult Library Services Association
Further Resources

- Stem.idaho.gov
- Libraries.idaho.gov/make-it-idaho
- Meetedison.com
Ideas, Comments, Questions

- What would you like to know in more detail?
- Any questions?

Thank you for participating!