

2010 WPLC Summer Reading Program Children's Performers Selections

S&D Puppetry

Puppets

Come and meet a beautiful blond princess who is NOT a bimbo, a nerdy prince who keeps falling off of his horse, plus Sir Reginald the 3rd who is a big bully and a dragon who cannot breathe fire. Also Lighthouse 2010 puppet show "Mermaids Pirates & Storms" – the Story of the Port Austin Light House.

(website: www.SandDPuppetry.com)

PaleoJoe

Paleontologist

Join Paleontologist, Author, Storyteller, and Dinosaur Hunter - PaleoJoe as he takes you on a wild ride through our prehistoric past. Michigan was once covered by a shallow inland sea over 350 million years ago. Visit the ancient tropical seas of Michigan and explore the creatures that once lived here; see Trilobites that once roamed the sea floor and the famous corals we now know as Petoskey Stone. Learn about the critical role rivers and lakes play in the process of dinosaur fossil preservation. Join PaleoJoe for an exciting, educational and entertaining journey. *Requires one 8' table - PaleoJoe travels with all specimens and sound system needed for the program.* (website: www.paleojoe.com)

Capt'n Willie

The Great Lakes Pirate

It's time to get silly with Capt'n Willie and learn something too! Capt'n Willie, the Great Lakes Pirate, will take you on an adventure on the tall ship called Knowledge and share his treasures with you! Ye best believe that beauties, scurvydogs an' landlubbers on deck will be sure t' have a swashbucklin' good time while gettin' silly with Capt'n Willie an' learnin' somethin' too! (website: www.captnwillie.com)

Michael Deren – The Past in Person

Historical Program

The Past in Person programs are historical, musical, educational and audience-involving. Michael is an accomplished musician, songwriter and storyteller. Journey into the past through the music, songs and words of the common people whose labor built America.

1. The *Canal Boat Captain of 1840* takes you on a musical journey from Albany, New York to the Michigan wilderness via the newly built Erie Canal. He plays the banjo, concertina and penny whistle and shares songs and stories of the canal as well as teaching about the beginnings of the state of Michigan.

2. The *Lumberjack / Shanty Boy of the 1870's* from Northern Michigan plays concertina, fiddle, bones and button accordion and recreates life in the Michigan lumber camps. He shares songs and stories of daily life and work in the camps and the importance of the lumber industry.

3. The *Schooner Captain of 1875* takes the audience on a voyage of music and history of the Great Lakes. Using accordion and concertina he shares the songs, stories, history and resources of the Great Lakes region. Topics include geography, transportation, history (beaver, lumber, fishing, iron and copper) and conservation.

*Arts & Humanities Touring Program participant (website: www.pastinperson.com)

Paul Roose

Naturalist Program

Dive into Michigan's wetlands with professional naturalist Paul Roose. Find out what's hidden inside 'Touch and Guess' discovery boxes. Explore unbelievable wetland plants through an interactive game of 'Little Green Monsters.' Make a splash and join the wetland frog call chorus. Meet and greet a live wetland animal.

(website: lansingarts.org/artistProfile.php?x=48)

Rent a Rambling Naturalist

Naturalist Program

Rent a Rambling Naturalist utilizes theatrics and participatory interaction in its programs. Their programs, using a hands-on interactive approach, entice audiences to understand and enjoy nature, historical, and cultural topics. Program choices include:

1. *Yas Ennya Oyaka*: This character knows a lot about Great Lakes mammals. His information is about the rich ecosystem of the Midwest, and its inhabitants. Dressed as a woodsperson in an animal skin cape, a big black hat, an eye patch and moccasined feet, Yas will entertain as well as educate your audiences.

2. *The Marsh Mallow Man*: This strange looking person brings wetland wonders to life even though he is from another country. Immerse yourself in the wetland and learn what a wetland is, their value, and how to help preserve them. (website: www.rentaramblingnaturalist.ws)

Jolene Fowler

Jewelry Artist

Make a Michigan Bracelet: Jolene helps students string up their own Michigan stone themed bracelets using only stone beads found on the shores of Great Lakes. Using beading wire and clasps, they will make their own bracelets while learning about the geology of the state they are from. **Limited to 25-30 participants per program.**

Acting Up Theatre Company

Theatre

Acting Up Theatre Company has been entertaining Library audiences for over 10 years and, in 2010, they hope to make their biggest splash yet with their original interactive family play, "*Fish Tank Follies*". All of the sea creatures in the Smith family fish tank have a talent and are ready to make their debut... except of course for Hermie the Hermit Crab. Hermie is convinced he has absolutely no talent! With the help of his friends and books from the aqua-bary, Hermie makes the biggest wave in the tank. This show will feature comedy, pop-culture references, changing characters, colorful costumes, plenty of references to the importance of reading, and of course the Acting Up fan favorite --Audience Participation ... Dynamic, action-filled! Requires a 12' x 12' area with an 8 1/2' ceiling. (website: www.actingup.biz)

Miz Rosie

Storyteller

Miz Rosie has thrilled audiences of all ages with her unique storytelling style which utilizes lots of audience participation, instruments, artifacts and historical information. This summer, Miz Rosie brings stories that flowstories about mermaids, turtles, ships and so much more will be explored. The audience will be transformed into storytellers as they participate in the "river tales" and as they sing and act out the stories.

*Arts & Humanities Touring Program participant (Website: http://web.mac.com/mizrosie/Rosie_Chapman/Welcome.html)

Yvonne Healy

Storyteller

Enjoy waves of laughter, smooth sailing and hi-jinks on the high seas in *Splash! Splash! Stories!* Kids participate onstage or in their seats under the navigation of one of the Midwest's favorite storytellers. Programs tailored to families, school kids, or itty-bittys. (website: <http://yhealy.com>)

Eileen DeLorenzo

Storyteller

A dynamic teller of world folktales, Eileen's presentation captivates the youngest to the oldest participant. This year, Eileen will be telling stories of treasures lost and found in the most curious of places. Eileen shares vibrant storytelling programs that bubble with interactive audience participation, props, sparkling humor and a splash of wisdom.

*Arts & Humanities Touring Program Participant (website: <http://eileenstoryteller.googlepages.com/home>)

Steveanna Roose

Story Artist

Celebrate our watery world from the drop in your drink to our amazing Great Lakes with professional teaching artist Steveanna Roose. Soak your brain with aqua-themed activities that creatively blend stories, visual art, music and creative movement in this inter-act-live program. Meet a live animal friend too! (website: lansingarts.org/artistProfile.php?x=48)

Jenifer Strauss

Story Artist

This year, Jenifer will be telling *Michigan Legends and Lore: Stories from Shore to Shore*. Make a splash, ride the waves, and travel the Michigan Shores with Story Artist, Jenifer Strauss. Join in the singing of songs and the telling of tales about the ships and lighthouses, woods and waters, critters and loggers of Michigan. She is an enthusiastic Storyteller who enlists her audiences in the telling of tales. *Arts & Humanities Touring Program participant
(website: www.storybetold.com)

Kevin Kammeraad

Poetry, Puppetry, Music

Join Kevin Kammeraad in *It's Raining Rhythm & Rhyme.....* a fun program for all ages, an interactive family show featuring poetry, puppetry, music, and more! Kevin is a popular author/artist/performer at schools, libraries, and festivals and he's sure to motivate you to create, sing, and dance. Featuring popular songs like *Down by the Bay* and original songs like Alphabet Rain, this is an event you won't want to miss. Don't forget to wear your imaginary rain boots for a fun surprise! (website: www.PerformingArtistManagement.com)

The Music Lady

Musical Program

The Music Lady is a singer/songwriter that plays guitar and specializes in music and movement activities using a unique blend of familiar songs and original tunes. Splash and Sing with the Music Lady this year with songs about water, children and adults alike will be swimming, fishing and splashing in an oceanic orchestra of fun. (website: www.themusiclady.net)

Guy Louis

Musical Program

Guy Louis has been performing his *Chautauqua Express Musical Programs* since 1986 with a long list of happy library clients statewide. The 2010 Summer Reading program will incorporate traditional and contemporary songs such as Woody Guthrie's "Swimmy I Swim", Bobby Darin's "Splish Splash I was Taking a Bath", his own "If You Can Read", and more to delight all ages in a fast-paced musical celebration of reading and music!

*Arts & Humanities Touring Program participant (website: <http://guylouis.com>)

Merry Music Maker

Musical Program

It's always a Musical Adventure when the Merry Music Maker takes the stage! Paula Doak captivates her young audiences with her upbeat music, interactive stories, crazy characters and puppetry. Her educationally-based program incorporates sign language and language skill development in a playful and interactive way. Who knew learning could be so much fun?!? (website: www.merrymusicmaker.com)

Rick Kelley

Musical Program

Rick's energy is contagious. His songs are memorable. "v"Rick Kelley's Reading is FUN Beach Party" complete with my usual singalongs, dancealongs, beach balls, and even a hula hoop and limbo contest, all to original songs promoting reading and literacy. (website: www.rklive.com)

Kitty Donohoe

Musical Program

1. "Lighthouses and Legends": Using folk instruments such as guitar, concertina, and mountain and hammered dulcimers, Emmy-winning songwriter Kitty Donohoe presents a program that imparts the magic and history of the Great Lakes. With folk songs, poetry and tales, the presentation celebrates lighthouses and their keepers, sailors, voyaguers, fishermen, and some of the men and women who have lived on the wild inland coasts.

2. "Water, Water All Around": Accompanying herself with guitar, banjo, and mountain and hammered dulcimers, Kitty regales her audience with songs and stories about our states' abundance of water - our rivers, lakes (Great and small) and even the Mackinac Bridge! The native Michigander draws from her large collection of original songs as well as tapping into some traditional material. This is informative, interactive and fun!

*Arts & Humanities Touring Program participant (website: www.kittydonohoe.com)

Drumunity

Rhythme & Drums Program

Drumunity is hands-on, high-energy fun: a community rhythm and drum circle emphasizing improvisation, cooperation, creativity and diversity. Lori brings hundreds of instruments so everyone can try out different hand drums and percussion from around the world. You'll be thrilled when you hear your community playing and laughing together in their own in-the-moment drum orchestra! *Arts & Humanities Touring Program participant (website: www.drumunity.com)

Kevin Collins

Music, African Drums

This program is a wonderful, hands-on cultural experience! Kevin's energy, enthusiasm, and sense of community are what drive him to share and teach his expertise to all that are interested. Kevin is a respected percussionist who shares his love of African music through lively, participatory performances. *Arts & Humanities Touring Program participant

Tom Woodruff

Illustrator, Artist

Dive into a watery world of art and storytelling! Join children's book illustrator, Tom Woodruff, in an exciting Sea Quest to discover and reveal hidden treasures of both the ocean and the library. Watch as the story appears before your eyes. Simple lines and shapes transform an old treasure map into a believable, three-dimensional world, as unique as its artist - rich with texture and full of life. A bright overhead projector is required for all presentations.

The Balloon Meister

Balloon Artist

The Balloon Meister is sure to make a big splash making balloon creatures in and around the sea. He will put a humorous twist to storytelling while your families will be astounded by lobsters, whales, dolphins, turtles, fish, sea-horses, mermaids, penguins and even BEACH BALLS -- all made out of balloons! (website: www.balloonmeister.com)

The Bubbleman

Bubbleology

Ron Loyd "The Bubbleman" has performed his bubble magic for over 20 years. Ron creates cube bubbles, double merry-go-round bubbles, smoke filled bubbles, and bubbles inside of bubbles. The Bubbleman demonstrates bubble making with the assistance of the audience and shares his bubble creation secrets. There is no mess with this show and it is all self-contained. *An indoor area, free from drafts is required for this program.*

Skippy & Dave

Ventriloquist

Rock & Roll into Reading! is a fun-filled journey back to the roots of rock music. The audience travels briskly through the realms of blues, gospel, country and jazz styles that led to the earliest form of rock and roll. Dave performs clips from famous songs as Skippy makes no secret of his musical preferences as he engages Dave in humorous banter. Although these programs feature Dave Parker, an accomplished ventriloquist, he is always accompanied by a colorful cast of characters as well. (website: www.Dynamicwest.com)

The Amazing Clark

Puppetry

This brand new, large scale hand puppet show is sure to delight everyone in the audience. Audience members join Jo-Jo Fish and his friends Finn, Spike, Zavy, and Lu-Lu, as they try to recover the magic pearl from Rex the shark. Excitement and suspense await everyone as they travel with Jo-Jo on this underwater adventure, complete with four musical numbers that the audience can sing and clap along with. This show presents a message about the importance of friendship and courage. Great for all ages! Requires a 6' X 6' foot space for puppet theater. Can be performed in small or large spaces, on the floor or on a stage. *Arts & Humanities Touring Program participant. (website: www.amazingclark.com)

Zeemo

Yo-yo Demonstration

Make a Splash with Zeemo! The Yo-Yo Man of the 1950's comes to life as Paul Kyprie assumes his alter ego "Yo-Master" Zeemo. While just about everybody has played with a yo-yo at some point in their lives, few master the variety of tricks required to be a yo-yo pro. Zeemo has "The World on a String" as he can perform over 200 different yo-yo tricks. These range in difficulty from fundamental tricks like "Walk the Dog" and "Around the World" to complex tricks like "Whirly-Bird" and "Splitting the Atom". *Arts & Humanities Touring Program participant (website: www.zeemoshows.com)

Flying Aces Pro Frisbee Team

Pro Frisbee Demonstrations:

1. Brian & Ulysses, the Frisbee Dog: Flying Aces founder Brian Hayes has created yet another wonderful program. The history of Frisbees, a demonstration of Frisbee feats of wonder, *and* a lesson in dog training are included in this fast paced program. Brian is joined in this program by Ulysses the amazing Frisbee dog and at least one other dog.

2. Greg Nelson, Tricks & Kicks: Pro Hacky Sack Demonstrations: Twelve time world hacky sack champ Greg Nelson's show features more toys and tricks than imaginable. Juggling, rolla bolla, Diablo sticks, Frisbees, fling socks and an amazing hacky sack routine are just a few of the incredible feats included in this program. Works well in a small area.

3. Pro Frisbee Team Demonstrations: See feats of aerial dexterity as you watch unbelievable things that can be done with a Frisbee, hacky sack and snakeboards. This show will not only amaze you with incredible athletics, but will also bring things back down to earth for an instructional segment that everybody in the audience can apply to their own Frisbee game. This unique program is filled with excitement, humor and spectacular athletic tricks that are hard to imagine. Adaptable to any 40' area -- indoors or outdoors. (website: flyingaces.com)

Scheer Genius

1. Aqua-Kadabra --A little Splash of Magic

Forty minutes of wacky water jokes, off-the-wall games, insane contests - and even a few magical surprises - lead a laugh riot like you've never seen. This family funfest guarantees a great time with all the usual fun of a magic show, but with Water, Water, Water! It disappears, multiplies and even magically changes color. Kids laugh, adults are amazed. This show is all washed up--but in a good way.

2. Pollution Solution - Make Air, Land, and Water pollution disappear.

Everything you ever wanted to know about our endangered environment is included in this fast-paced, 40-minute ecology lesson packed with high-energy fun and exciting audience involvement. Through illustrative tricks and captivating demonstrations, kids discover the important role they play in protecting our natural resources. Everyone's a winner as we learn ideas to protect the air, land and water.

3. Wacky Science - Crazy Science with household items.

The Wacky Science show is Kooky, Nutty and a Whole Lotta Fun! But it's also a nationally ranked 40 minute show that makes the Scientific Method easy to understand. These experiments all use common household items with an emphasis on safety. Pull out your science books--the kids will make a dash for that section of your library once the fun is all done.

(website: www.BestLibraryShows.com)

Joel Tacey

Comedy & Juggling

1. "Joel's SURFari Juggling Show": Grab your friends and your sense of adventure! Featuring dazzling juggling and a creative whirlwind of new tricks and audience favorites, Joel's interactive new show will have kids & parents crazy about reading and laughing out loud! 45-minute program

2. "Joel's Juggling Workshop for Kids" is packed full of excitement. Perfect for children first grade and older, laugh along & learn to juggle with Joel in this 60-minute program! Practice juggling balls are provided.

(website: www.joeltacey.com)

Jeff Wawrzaszek

Professional Magician

1. Your summer reading program is about to become the one *everyone* is talking about! *Get in the swim* with Jeff Wawrzaszek's "*Splashtacular Magic & Fun Library Extravaganza*". Go ahead, *immerse* your readers in this high-energy, laugh-packed show of unforgettable magic, hilarious visual humor, pantomime, music and an ocean full of wonderful reading routines. A *splashtacular* program that's not to be *mist*! Book your program by November 2 and *receive a FREE "Make a Splash Magic Trick" for each child in attendance.*

(website: www.a2magic.com)

2. **The A2 Magic Workshop - Elementary Level** - They won't believe their eyes when your budding young wizards present the simply amazing, yet amazingly simple, magic tricks they'll learn in the *A2 Magic Workshop*. Jeff brings over 40 years of professional experience to your library, teaching your readers a variety of amazing illusions that they can present anywhere. They'll learn some simple "sleight-of-hand", astonishing mind reading stunts, and some rarely seen tricks with ropes, rubber bands, cards and money. Illustrated instructions and all props and materials are included in the special "magic pack" that each student gets to take with them. **Limited to a class size of 30 kids ages 6-12 years.**

(website: www.a2magic.com)

Michael Brown & Beethoven

Professional Magician

Arrrrrr Ya Ready To Read? Get ready to Make a Splash on the high seas as Beethoven is back and crazier than ever. We are looking for lost treasure, and where will we find this treasure? At your library! X marks the spot for the hidden treasure in every book when you open and read it! Delight your summer readers with an exciting, whirlwind, magical program that is designed to surprise and amaze! Space requirement preferred is at least 5' by 5'.

Baffling Bill, the Magician

Professional Magician

Splash into Summer Reading with Baffling Bill's amazing magic show! Baffling Bill cleverly incorporates "Make a Splash - READ" into a highly entertaining / educational 40 minute program for your Library. The show also includes comedy, audience participation, a message that promotes reading, and a magical appearance of "Gus the Bunny".

Appropriate for ages 3-12 (website: www.bafflingmagic.com)

Ben Spitzer

Professional Magician

Ben shares his joy of reading through hilarious magic and juggling routines. Ben's show is compact enough to play the smallest corner, yet can expand in minutes to fill a large stage. This fun packed, fast paced show includes lots of audience participation. (website: www.PerformingArtistManagement.com)

Ming the Magnificent

Professional Magician

Take a mystical trip with Ming. Delight your summer readers with an exciting, whirlwind, magical program that is designed to surprise and amaze! Designed especially to coordinate with this year's Summer Reading Program, Ming's show will feature a number of mystifying routines and illusions, including his magical high-diving flea, and a magically appearing water-filled fishbowl filled with fish.

Jania Taylor

Magician

"*Make A Magical Splash*" is a high energy, fun-filled, educational show that utilizes magic, storytelling, and lots of audience participation to teach children about the importance of reading. This enrichment program will get the children excited about reading, as the different types of books that came be found at the library are explored. They will learn that reading is a fun adventure, and that practicing good reading is well worth it. (website: www.magicbyjaniam.com)

Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum

Hands-On Science

Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum takes the mystery out of science by presenting fun, inquiry-based programs directly to the students at *your* library. Our programs provide exciting learning opportunities that engage students in using their minds to explore their world. *Bubbles All Around You* takes a look at surface tension in this interactive, bubble adventure. Students will learn how to make and measure different bubbles. Note: This workshop is messy; please dress accordingly. Large, flat tables; carpeted room preferred. (website: www.aahom.org see the outreach programs section)

Limited to students who have finished grades 1st – 3rd! Limited to 30 participants.

Animal Encounters

Stories & Live Animals

Our featured program for next season is "*Pirate Sails and Crocodile Tales*" and features stories about pirates (kid appropriate ones, or course) and creatures of the deep, particularly crocodiles. Our live animals this year are a parrot and of course an alligator as they seem to be the two most popular animals for libraries. Patches the Pirate will tell stories and be in his best pirate clothes. **Limited to 75 participants per program.** (website: www.animalencounters.org)

Wildlife Recovery Association

Live Animal Presentations

Biologist and wildlife educator, Joe Rogers, is accompanied by live birds of prey in this fast, funny and information packed presentation. Learn about raptors, while enjoying seeing these wonderful birds up close.

Limited to 75 participants per program.

Howell Nature Center

Live Animal Presentations

Since 1982, the Howell Center has been actively involved in rehabilitating sick and injured wildlife. Michigan Mammals - Furry and Fascinating highlights the variety of mammals in Michigan and the habitats in which they are found. Live mammals, skins, and skulls are part of this highly informative program. This is not a hands-on presentation.

(website: www.HowellNatureCenter.org)

Classroom Critters

Live Animal Presentations

Looking for something a little different? Classroom Critters has just the SPLASH you need in *Turtle Mania*. Turtles of all sizes and shapes from around the world will astound you with their unique colors and features.

Limited to 50 participants per program. Two program minimum required.