

Program Provider Directory



State Library of Iowa - Main Library
Ola Babcock Building
1112 E. Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319



Contact Karen Randleman with corrections or questions at 1-800-248-4483,
515-281-7572, or email karen.randleman@lib.state.ia.us

Program Provider Directory

Contact Information

Todd Frank

Phone: (319) 981-2346

email: tfrank@gwaea.org

Descriptors:

Music

Performance Description:

I don't play at kids, I play with kids. My music either involves them by using their names, having them sing, or using actions. Usual program 30 min. 2nd grade and below is best audience.

Travel Area/Expense:

35 cents per mile - depends on gas situation.

Contact Information

Cletus Henke

1221 500 50th St.

Cherokee, IA 51012

Phone: (712) 225-2926

email:

Descriptors:

Magician

Performance Description:

Magic show - Cards, rings, appearing and disappearing birds, flowers, mind reading if requested. Program to fit audience.

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa especially likes NW Iowa, but will travel. Mileage

Contact Information

Honesty Parker

827 26th St.

Des Moines, IA 50312

Phone: (515) 274-8046

email: simplyhonesty@yahoo.com

Descriptors:

Storyteller, Writing

Performance Description:

Poet, storyteller, writer

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa

Contact Information

Jack Pearson

4533 16th Ave., South

Minneapolis, MN 55407-3603

Phone: (612) 722-1106

email: jack@jackpearson.org

www.jackpearson.org

Descriptors:

Music Stories

Performance Description:

Promotes joy of reading. Songs, stories, guitar, banjo, jawharp, spoons, and the unique amplified toy box lid all blend into an unforgettable program. Full sound/lighting system provided.

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa (but prefers northern half of state)

Contact Information

Rafaela Vidal

244 SS Livingston Ave.

Des Moines, IA 50315

Phone: (515) 422-0386

email: Rafaelmaria2000@yahoo.com

Descriptors:

Bilingual, Clown, Multicultural

Performance Description:

Pilucha and the Gang (3 clowns), Storyteller, (Spanish-English) and activities after the stories.

Travel Area/Expense:

Contact Information

Patricia Coffie

203 Emery Drive

Waverly, IA 50677

Phone: (319) 230-0659

email: maemaude@webiowaplus.net

Descriptors:

Storytelling

Performance Description:

Storytelling 4th grade through adults

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa

Program Provider Directory

Adam Miller - Folksinger, Storyteller, and Autoharp Virtuoso Old Songs for Young Folks

Contact Information

Adam Miller

P.O. Box 951

Drain, OR 97435

Phone:

email: autoharper@earthlink.net

Folksinging.org

Descriptors:

Folksinger Storyteller Autoharp Virtuoso

Performance Description:

GET CREATIVE AT YOUR LIBRARY! It wasn't that long ago when only kings and queens were rich enough to have other people play music for them. In the old days, regular folks like you and me had to make our own music. That's why it's called "folk music". This entertaining and interactive sing-along Summer Reading Program introduces youngsters to one of the oldest forms of human creative expression: the oral tradition of folksongs.

Travel Area/Expense:

Everywhere References: Carol Hoke, Cedar Rapids Public Library; Linda Lowler, Burlington Public Library

Alaska's Fiddling Poet

Contact Information

Ken Waldman

3705 Arctic #1551

Anchorage, AK 99503

Phone: (337) 258-5994

email: ken@kenwaldman.com

www.kenwaldman.com

Descriptors:

Interactive Music, Fiddling, Storytelling

Performance Description:

Writer and musician, Ken Waldman, has been touring as Alaska's Fiddling Poet since 1995. His combination of old-time Appalachian-style fiddling, original poetry, and Alaska-set storytelling has engaged audiences from Barrow to Boston, Seattle to Tallahassee.

Travel Area/Expense:

USA

Amazing Arthur The Balloon Brigade Poppin Penelope

Contact Information

122 Castle Pine Dr.

Papillion, NE 68133

Phone: (402) 597-2579

email: theamazingarthur@gmail.com

www.amazingarthur.com

Descriptors:

Comedy, magic, Juggling, Yoyo, Balloon Show

Performance Description:

Travel Area/Expense:

Anywhere

Animal Encounters

Contact Information

Suzanne McKechnie

PO Box 245

Lombard, IL 60148

Phone: (888) 264-6280

email: robjames@ticon.net

www.animalencounters.com

Descriptors:

Exotic Zoo

Performance Description:

Dr. James teaches respect for and safety with animals, as well as sharing this earth with all creatures great and small.

Dr. James takes each animal to each member of the audience to meet and safely pet. Each animal that is, except the ostrich, which will meet and greet each audience member all by himself.

Travel Area/Expense:

Midwest - no extra travel fees

Program Provider Directory

Architecture for Children

Contact Information

Mel Shivvers

645 46th Street

Des Moines, IA 50312

Phone: (515) 277-5082

email:

Descriptors:

Very Interactive Architecture

Performance Description:

Description: Architecture for Children: Workshops in architecture and design. Shivvers, architect, offers creative problem-solving workshops in architecture and design with geometric shapes. The focus is on how circles, squares and triangles generate every other geometric shape. Part of the excitement of his classes is the building of a project by each child. He modifies there workshops into several different formats, which can run from one hour classes to full day sessions.

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa

Bat World Heartland

Contact Information

Vera Blevins

Bettendorf, IA 52722

Phone:

email: mvblevins@aol.com

www.batworld.org, click "rescue centers"

Descriptors:

Bats

Performance Description:

Indigenous bats of Iowa and importance of the role they play in our environment. Real bats come to the programs giving audiences the opportunity to see these amazing nocturnal mammals. Program can be modified as per your needs.

Travel Area/Expense:

Pleae call.

Creations with a Twist! Or Air Mania! Ages 12 up

Contact Information

Daniel Poe

Ankeny, IA

Phone: (515) 371-0109

email: creationswithatwist@hotmail.com

www.creationswithatwist.com

Descriptors:

Ballons, Storytelling, Balloon, Workshop

Performance Description:

Over 20 audience volunteers (age 5 to adult) become the characters in the story when they don their twisted costumes and act out the stories narrated. Air Mania is a balloon wksp. Limited to 12. Ask about room set-up requirements for both programs.

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa. Libraries more than 45 miles away from Ankeny will need to pay for travel at federal rate of reimbursement.

Dennis Warner Kids Concert

Contact Information

Main Trail Productions

PO Box 365

Clearwater, MN 55320

Phone: (320) 558-6940 800-870-1770

email: info@warnersongs.com

Descriptors:

Music

Performance Description:

Blend of music and humor intended for kids (4-12 year olds) and others who like to have fun! Dennis has performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and has hosted his own program for National Public Radio.

Travel Area/Expense:

Nationwide as low as \$250 if multiple shows in area. No additional expenses for mileage or motels.

Program Provider Directory

Dizzy's "All American Reading Show"

Contact Information

Desi Payne

P.O. Box 1816

Ottumwa, IA 52501

Phone: (641) 684-7055

email: twd@awsllc.net

www.timewithdizzy.com

Descriptors:

Clown, Magic, Comedy

Performance Description:

Fast paced, high energy show encourages children K-6 to read. Patriotic theme, magic and comedy woven throughout the program with lots of audience participation. Over 25 years of experience working with children.

Travel Area/Expense:

Central, South Iowa/traveling fees based upon travel distance. Can split cost with multiple library bookings.

Doc Anderson, Honest Hokum, Flim-Flam and Fun!

Contact Information

Erik Anderson

P.O. Box 176

Nevada, IA

Phone: (515) 238-2996

email: doc@flimflamshow.com

www.flimflamshow.com

Descriptors:

Magic

Performance Description:

Provided by Judy from West Des Moines: "It was more than a performance; he made sure each child was able to recreate a magic trick. He sent materials home with the children so they can continue to practice and learn."

Travel Area/Expense:

Don't Just Sit There - Read Something

Contact Information

Rick Kelley

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Phone:

email:

www.rkklive.com

Descriptors:

Sing-a-longs, Dance, Hula Hooping, Music Writing

Performance Description:

Travel Area/Expense:

Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre

Contact Information

Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre

319 N. Calhoun St.

West Liberty, IA 52772

Phone: (319) 627-2487

email: owlglass@avalon.net

<http://www.puppetspuppets.com>

Descriptors:

Puppets

Performance Description:

Large repertoire of international folktales, including Sal Fink, Catfish Wrangler, The Musical Ant, the Adventures of Great Rabbit, Little Red Riding Hood, and many others. Original scripts, whimsical scenery, live music and beautifully crafted puppets, including miniature marionettes, near life-size hand-and-rod puppets, shadow puppets, and giant parade puppets. Puppet building and performance workshops available.

Travel Area/Expense:

Everywhere

Program Provider Directory

Fun, Magic & Puppets Creative Entertainment for a Brighter Future

Contact Information

Williamson Productions

David & Gayle Williamson 402 52nd Street

West Des Moines, IA 50265

Phone: (515) 222-2241 888-710-2803

email: David@WilliamsonProductions.com

www.funmagicandpuppets.com

Descriptors:

Magic, Puppets, Ventriloquism, Juggling

Performance Description:

Gayle works with Willy the Worm and Abby-Kay-Dabra, the Magic Rabbit, as they share in telling a story from a 4' tall book filled with AMAZING MAGIC as David "pulls from the pages" several tricks that COME TO LIFE. Very Interactive.

Travel Area/Expense:

20% discount for multiple performances

Greathall Productions

Contact Information

Greathall Productions

P.O. Box 5061

Charlottesville, VA 22905-5061

Phone: (800) 477-6234

email: greathall@gareathall.com

www.greathall.com

Descriptors:

Storytelling

Performance Description:

Storytelling presentations for children, adults and/or families by Jim Weiss. Weiss specializes in classical literature and history and has received over 80 national awards for his Greathall line of CD's.

Travel Area/Expense:

Unlimited travel range.

Hurley & Dancers

Contact Information

Kathleen Hurley, Artistic Director

Hurley & Dancers PO Box 65562

West Des Moines, IA 50265

Phone:

email: hurleydancers@hotmail.com

www.hurleydancers.com

Descriptors:

Dance

Performance Description:

Public performances, workshops and arts-in-education residencies.

Travel Area/Expense:

Central Iowa

Innovations

Contact Information

Mad Science of Iowa

300 SW 5th St.

Des Moines, IA 50309

Phone: (515) 283-8343

email: madsciciowa@lisco.com

www.madscience.org/centraliowa

Descriptors:

Performance Description:

High energy eclectic sets of "super-sized" experiments with many having a connection to art and music. Also a "guest appearance" by a famous scientist of the past. Very Interactive.

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa & adjacent

Program Provider Directory

Jay and Leslie's United Imagination

Contact Information

Jay Cady

P.O. Box 1312

Mission, KS 66222

Phone: (913) 432-4555

email: laughing@leslieandjay.com

Descriptors:

Variety - Juggling, mime magic, and other nonsense

Performance Description:

2010 Program: Jay & Leslie in "Something Fishy" Jay and Leslie Cady of Laughing Matters combine wild and wacky juggling, stories, and humor with a look at the water cycle and the role of water in nature. The earth is mostly made of water, and we must take care of it. But not all is as it should be --something's fishy!

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa

Jim Jays Puppeteer & Magician

Contact Information

601 9th Avenue, SW

Austin, MN 55912

Phone: (507) 434-0945

email: [jcyjays@charter.net](mailto:jcjays@charter.net)

Descriptors:

Puppets, Magic

Performance Description:

Hand carved marionettes and hand puppets. Any age.

Travel Area/Expense:

150 miles from Austin, MN

K.G. and the Ranger - Classic Cowboy Songs and Rope Tricks

Contact Information

Karen Gogolick

2517 Waunona Way

Madison, WI 53713

Phone: (608) 222-4084

email: kg@kgandtheranger.com

<http://www.kgandtheranger.com>

Descriptors:

Yodelling, Cowboy songs, Rope tricks on stilts

Performance Description:

Family program, western props and costumes. Features classic cowboy songs and humor and "Shortcut Curly," the 8-foot tall lariat-spinning cowpoke.

Travel Area/Expense:

All of Iowa

Keith West Magic & Illusion Show

Contact Information

Keith West Entertainment Group LLC

2400 Easton Blvd.

Des Moines, IA 50317

Phone: (515) 564-0785 800-470-7948

email: keith@entertainmentgroupcomedy.com

www.entertainmentgroupcomedy.com

Descriptors:

Magic

Performance Description:

Lots of audience participation. Audience members become Keith's assistants. They've been cut in half, floated in midair and had their shoes explode - all the while the message of the limitless possibilities that await them at their library is presented in a fun and enjoyable way.

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa and USA.

Program Provider Directory

Make a Splash with Magician Eric Vaughn

Contact Information

Eric Vaughn

PO Box 8553

Kansas City, MO 64114

Phone: (913) 262-7561

email: info@magicbyericvaughn.com

www.magicbyericvaughn.com

Descriptors:

Magic

Performance Description:

Join veteran library entertainers Eric & Kelly Vaughn and their fine, feathered friends as they dive into the world of magic. With their psychic duck onboard and audience participation tricks a-plenty, it's sure to be a memorable, laughable, head-scratching, good time. What a great way to "Make a Splash" at your public library.

Travel Area/Expense:

\$200 + mileage and \$100 per diem. We prefer block bookings and offer a generous price break for them. We are willing to travel to ANY part of Iowa but acknowledge that it would not be the best use of time/and or resources to book us for one-off shows.

Making a Living Telling Secrets and Lies

Contact Information

Carol Gorman

Phone: (319) 363-7850

email:

Descriptors:

Creative Writing

Performance Description:

Works with Prairie Writers to present writing workshops, however will perform alone.

Travel Area/Expense:

Negotiable

Mimes, Masks and Magic

Contact Information

Fax Gilbert

PO Box 1893

Fairfield, IA 52556

Phone: (888) 514-5678

email: fax@lisco.com

www.faxgilbert.com

Descriptors:

Mime Magic, Comedy

Performance Description:

Fax uses mime, masks, and magic illusions to create characters and skits that involve kids. See a robot go beserk, a marionette that does magic, a bodybuilder out-muscled by kids, a jester entertain a reluctant queen, a transplant operation you'll never forget and more.

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa

Music Time for Parents and Grandparents

Contact Information

Pat Denson

3603 SW Court Ave.

Ankeny, IA 50023

Phone:

email:

Descriptors:

Music 101 for New Parents, Grandparents

Performance Description:

Central Iowa

Travel Area/Expense:

Free

Program Provider Directory

Once Upon a Midnight Dreary

Contact Information

Duffy Hudson

Phone: (818) 726-2738

email: info@edgarallanpoelive.com

www.edgarallanpoelive.com

Descriptors:

Actor

Performance Description:

One man Edgar Allan Poe show. Imagine Edgar Allan Poe comes out, tells his life story and performs his most popular material, The Raven and The Tell Tale Heart. Video of performance at www.edgarallanpoelive.com

Travel Area/Expense:

USA

One Woman Band

Contact Information

Sharon Seuferer

24498 240th Ave.

Lacona, IA 50139

Phone: (641) 537-3227 641-891-4295

email: sharoncarol@iowatelecom.net

Descriptors:

Music, Singing, Interaction, Marionette

Performance Description:

Sharon can play half a dozen instruments at a time and is very good at interacting with audience.

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa

Parasol Puppets

Contact Information

Debbie Allen

32529 State Hwy F

Jamesport, MO 64648

Phone: (660) 648-6825

email: dlpallen@grm.net

www.parasolpuppets.com

Descriptors:

Puppets

Performance Description:

30-45 minute length puppet shows ranging from "Nursery Rhymes and Tales" for very young children, "The Pied Piper" for older children, hand puppets, shadow puppets and simple marionettes. An extra 15 minutes for questions and Peter's presentation of "How We Build a Puppet" can be added when requested in advance. Will create a new puppet show for summer 2009.

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa Travel Fee agreed upon before booking show.

Patchwork Puppets

Contact Information

Carol J. Taylor

3425 Witmer Pkwy

West Des Moines, IA

Phone: (515) 279-1102

email: Citaylor12@mchsi.com

www.patchworkpuppets.com

Descriptors:

Puppets, Music

Performance Description:

Come on In! The Water's Fine! Multimedia performance includes puppets, costumed audience participants, dance and music.

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa and neighboring states.

Program Provider Directory

Pockets Fullof Fun

Contact Information

Lisa Laird

315 7th St. NE

Orange City, IA 51041

Phone: (712) 737-2639 712-441-1682

email: alaird@orangecitycomm.net

www.pocketsfulloffun.com

Descriptors:

Puppets, Ventriloquism, Magic Songs, Stories

Performance Description:

30-45 min. programs which encourage reading as well as entertain and educate. Program reflects summer reading theme. Audience participation is encouraged and each child is given a small prize which will be a reminder of some of the things taught during the show. Puppet making craft classes can be included as well for an extra fee. Magic classes are also available.

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa

SARS (Search and Rescue Team)

Contact Information

Diana Ronald

c/o Diana Ronald 475 NW 51st Place

Des Moines, IA 50313

Phone: (515) 979-1007

email: Ronald-mcdonald@hotmail.com

www.isark9.org

Descriptors:

Dogs

Performance Description:

Canine Search and Rescue; how dogs find missing children.

Travel Area/Expense:

Depends on location; they have members around Iowa.

Silly Sally

Contact Information

Silly Sally the Clown

1203 Scott Avenue

Ames, IA 50014

Phone: (515) 232-5050

email: silysallythec clown@yahoo.com

www.silysallythec clown.com

Descriptors:

Clown Magic, Ventriloquism, Storytelling, Music

Performance Description:

A fun, educational and entertaining program. Iowa Arts Council approved performing artist. Program will reflect summer library theme.

Travel Area/Expense:

Midwest

Splish Splash Science!!!

Contact Information

Jim Birkel

300 SW 5th Street

Des Moines, IA 50309

Phone: (515) 283-8343

email: madsosciowa@lisco.com

www.madscience.org/centraliowa

Descriptors:

Performance Description:

Anything that splashed, or appears to splash, is fair game for this summer's reading theme custom-created show by Mad Science of Iowa. We will need plenty of kid volunteers to pull off these creative and totally fun science experiments. Very interactive.

Travel Area/Expense:

Program Provider Directory

Storytelling

Contact Information

Janis Gray

3624 38th St. #4

Rock Island, IL 61201

Phone: (309) 786-6508

email:

Descriptors:

Storyteller

Performance Description:

State Library

Travel Area/Expense:

State Library

The Bassmeister - Fishing Comedy/Ventriloquism

Contact Information

Curt Strutz

N58 W23891 Clover Dr.

Sussex, WI 53089

Phone: (262) 820-8944 262-271-7327

email: curt@thebassmeister.com

www.thebassmeister.com

Descriptors:

Fishing Comedy, Ventriloquism

Performance Description:

The Bassmeister is a fun and energetic guy who brings the excitement of fishing into the lives of children. His shows are both entertaining and educational, and are chock full of fast-paced ventriloquism, comedy, audience participation, visual props, and puppets. Children will enjoy being directly involved on stage with demonstrations and become "stars" of the stage right along with the crazy antics of The Bassmeister himself! Shows run 30-45 minutes long and have been well received at events across the USA and Canada. Each show includes important educational pointers that cover such topics as water safety, environmental awareness, and fishing techniques. (The Bassmeister is also a balloon artist, if the need arises.)

Travel Area/Expense:

USA nationwide and Canada

The Dean of Juggling

Contact Information

Dean Franzen

5915 Symond Rd.

Cedar Falls, IA 50613

Phone: (319) 266-6911

email: unidean@aol.com

www.deanofjuggling.com

Descriptors:

Juggling, Comedy

Performance Description:

Juggling, unicycling, comedy and lots of participation

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa. Travel expenses added if over two hours from Cedar Falls.

The Magic of Larry Dunbar and Company

Contact Information

Larry Dunbar

Fort Dodge, IA

Phone: (515) 955-4625

email:

www.larrydunbarmagic.com

Descriptors:

Magic

Performance Description:

45 minute show. Interactive. Ask for references.

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa

Program Provider Directory

The Magic of Mike Prestby

Contact Information

Mike Prestby

635 10th Street NE

Mason City, IA 50401

Phone: (641) 424-1010

email: mike@goldenmagicproductions.com

<http://www.goldenmagicproductions.com>

Descriptors:

Magic

Performance Description:

Typical program consists of magic, puppetry, comedy, live animals (doves, rabbits & a duck) as well as a lot of audience participation! Programs are designed to fit the summer reading program themes. We offer special programs throughout the year for special events to keep your patrons and guests coming back! Such events include: Halloween & Hoiday shows and magic workshops in which we teach magic to your guests. We also offer fundraising programs for libraries needing to raise some needed funds. All of the programs are geared for all ages and are "G" rated! They make for a great family event!

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa. Fees vary

The Not So Quiet Librarian

Contact Information

Tom Milligan

PO Box 143

Amana, IA 52203

Phone: (515) 799-9775

email: tmilliganactor@aol.com

www.humanitiesiowa.org, click on Tom Milligan

Descriptors:

One Man Play

Performance Description:

In 1938, Forrest Spaulding wrote the Library Bill of Rights, which was adopted by the American Library Council. Spaulding served as director of the Des Moines Public Library from 1917 to 1919 and from 1927 to 1952. His story is bigger than Des Moines or even Iowa. Spaulding's words and life touched everyone who loves not just books, but freedom of speech. 30 minute program portrays Spaulding with gentle good humor he was known for, as well as his devotion to the library to civil rights. Spaulding was a very unquiet librarian and the play shows what one good man can do in the world.

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa

Tubabu

Contact Information

Dan Kopatich

915 39th St.

Des Moines, IA 50312

Phone: (515) 282-3565

email: iowadrumcircle@yahoo.com

www.myspace.com/tubabu

Descriptors:

Drums Multi-cultural

Performance Description:

Percussion ensemble that performs traditional West African rhythms and songs. Interactive and educational and can be geared to any age group. High energy program features rhythms from Mali, the Ivory Coast and Guinea played on hand-made drums from Africa.

Travel Area/Expense:

Central Iowa

Program Provider Directory

Tulip and Friends

Contact Information

Barb Funke

2425 Cooper Ave.

State Center, IA 50247

Phone: (641) 483-2638

email: tulip@tulipandfriends.com

www.tulipandfriends.com

Descriptors:

Magic, Ventriloquism, Storytelling, Puppets

Performance Description:

Barb Funke is on the Iowa Arts Council Education Roster. Programs include magic, music and audience participation.

Travel Area/Expense:

Please Call or email.

Water Around The World

Contact Information

Maria Koschmeder

2347 L. Avenue

Williamsburg, IA 52361

Phone: (319) 688-1355 319-329-9821

email: koschmeder@commspeed.net

Descriptors:

Naturalist

Performance Description:

Kids in Nature Naturalist Maria Koschmeder will tell a story about "Koluscap and the Water Monster". Participants become a water drop and "travel" the world through the water cycle and make a craft as they travel. They will meet water creatures (live water animals from Iowa) along the way. Participants will find out how important water is, how it is recycled and how many other living things need it.

Kids in Nature Programs are all hands-on, experiential, "get-dirty" activities. They are best done with small groups (30 or less), however, multiple programs can be scheduled for the day. Programs can be adapted to preschool through 8th grade aged students.

Travel Area/Expense:

Iowa
