

SPRING INSTITUTE SAMPLE PROPOSAL

This proposal was enthusiastically accepted into the Spring Institute 2021 schedule.

Include a brief biography and qualifications regarding your chosen topic:

Speaker has been the Head of Youth Services at the Public Library for 3 years. She previously worked at the District Library. She has worked in libraries for 9 years, and graduated from Wayne State University with a MLIS in 2013. Her work focuses on implementing early literacy initiatives, and she also enjoys creating community connections and new outreach opportunities.

Describe previous speaking experience:

I have presented at two previous conferences, MLA Annual Conference 2016 as well as Spring Institute 2017. The topics include creating community connections for programming and building relationships with schools. Both of these topics are components to our presentation this year. We also have extensive experience with a school outreach program at our library. Established in 2006, we have recently made some changes that have streamlined our processes. These types of changes are exactly what will be addressed in our proposed presentation.

Proposal Title:

Reimagining Traditional Programming - Battle of the Books

Proposal Description:

The saying "if it isn't broke, don't fix it," applies to how many libraries continue to host long standing, traditional programming like Battle of the Books-we definitely weren't looking to do anything different! Enter a global pandemic. What always worked about Battle had to be changed if we wanted to host anything at all. In this presentation, we will show you how being forced to reinvent a well-loved, long standing program resulted in increased team participation, better retention, and fun & innovative activities that were highly successful. We will provide attendees with ideas to implement in other programming and introduce the concept that experimenting with change even when you don't think you need to can bring about surprising results

Tell us about this proposal in 140 characters or less:

How we took the roadblocks presented by the pandemic and came out on the other side with a more robust and welcoming traditional program.

Type of proposal:

60-minute session

How does this proposal contribute to wider representation of diverse groups and points of view?

Battle of the Books is inherently a diverse program. We strive to choose books that represent all backgrounds, points of view, and diversity. We seek out visiting authors who have diverse backgrounds or stories, and the program encourages students to read outside of their comfort zone. With this presentation, we will be covering how you can cater the program to your community's needs using different ideas and different media options, including a variety of virtual and in person activities that encourage participation from all different types of readers, and will last beyond the pandemic.

Session Style:

Case Study

What is the primary focus of this proposal?

School Age

Please provide 2-3 attendee outcomes for this proposal:

1. Think more positively about implementing change to current long-standing programming to make things even more successful
2. Leave with 2-3 new ideas to update traditional program offerings
3. Learn 2-3 new ways to incorporate virtual ideas into traditional programming