

Library as a Platform - Activities

The transformations of the digital age enable individuals and communities to create their own learning and knowledge. To that end, libraries become platforms—based on which individuals and communities create services, data and tools that benefit the community. The library as a community-learning platform is the innovative proposition of the public library in the digital age.

A great library platform is a “third place” —an interactive entity that can facilitate many people operating individually and in groups—and supports the learning and civic needs of the community.

The library’s platform includes all the resources that the library makes available to the community – librarians, books, video, technology, tools, images, software, other knowledge in the community and physical spaces.

The library can be a critical asset to help the community make sense of a world of information abundance and to help individuals without strong information literacy skills learn how to find high-quality and credible information—the right information for their needs.

Name

Role *

TML Comittee ▼

Looking at your own library, how are you: Helping the community to manage the fire hose of information available from many sources? *

Professional staff, online resources (vetted)

Looking at your own library, how are you: Connecting people seeking information to the resources, people or organizations that can provide it? *

Website, programming and staff

Looking at your own library, how are you: Curating information for those who want to consult material in the future and making it visible to the community? *

Online presence, designated location in collection

Looking at your own library, how are you: Facilitating discovery and serendipitous encounters with information and other people, whether at the library or outside the library's walls? *

Programming and working with surrounding community libraries

Looking at your own library, how are you: Helping people solve local problems? *

Discussions, workshop and informational sessions

Looking at your own library, how are you: Recruiting volunteers and specialists to participate in platform activities? *

Direct solicitation and patron suggestions

Looking at your own library, how are you: Engaging other members of the community to assist you with the functions noted in questions 1-6 above—analyzing, connecting, curating, facilitating, discovering and problem-solving—whether they are helping inside or outside of the library's walls? *

Programming

Looking at your own library, how are you: Hosting events that are both physical and virtual—where interaction can begin in one space and continue in the other? *

Unsure - website?

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Name

Kathleen Kent

Role *

TML Comittee ▼

Looking at your own library, how are you: Helping the community to manage the fire hose of information available from many sources? *

Librarians are the guides to use of online data resources.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Connecting people seeking information to the resources, people or organizations that can provide it? *

The website or Facebook can provide connections to online resources, like library catalog, online databases, and ebooks. It also provides connections with other town organizations. Library staff would help with detailed or complex research.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Curating information for those who want to consult material in the future and making it visible to the community? *

Important task, but not sure what or how it is done.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Facilitating discovery and serendipitous encounters with information and other people, whether at the library or outside the library's walls? *

The library displays new books, themed selections for children and various exhibits of historic, artistic, or nature themes. E-books are also organized to feature certain selections that vary over time.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Helping people solve local problems? *

The library facilitates discussion among community members through activities like Democracy Cafe.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Recruiting volunteers and specialists to participate in platform activities? *

Community members seem to volunteer to share special skills, activities of knowledge with the rest of the community,

Looking at your own library, how are you: Engaging other members of the community to assist you with the functions noted in questions 1-6 above—analyzing, connecting, curating, facilitating, discovering and problem-solving—whether they are helping inside or outside of the library's walls? *

T

Looking at your own library, how are you: Hosting events that are both physical and virtual—where interaction can begin in one space and continue in the other? *

The library hosts a wide variety of physical event but I am not aware of any virtual events. This seems to be an area for growth.

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Name

Sigrid Olson

Role *

TML Comittee ▼

Looking at your own library, how are you: Helping the community to manage the fire hose of information available from many sources? *

Helpful librarians, curated resources, classes/programs

Looking at your own library, how are you: Connecting people seeking information to the resources, people or organizations that can provide it? *

Librarians, books, on-line resources, speakers/programs, bulletin board

Looking at your own library, how are you: Curating information for those who want to consult material in the future and making it visible to the community? *

Book collection, year books (how important is this goal, given the resources of the library?)

Looking at your own library, how are you: Facilitating discovery and serendipitous encounters with information and other people, whether at the library or outside the library's walls? *

Programs, featured books,

Looking at your own library, how are you: Helping people solve local problems? *

Meeting space, devices such as the kill-a-watt thing, books and on-line resources

Looking at your own library, how are you: Recruiting volunteers and specialists to participate in platform activities? *

Good selection of speakers

Looking at your own library, how are you: Engaging other members of the community to assist you with the functions noted in questions 1-6 above—analyzing, connecting, curating, facilitating, discovering and problem-solving—whether they are helping inside or outside of the library's walls? *

Does the foundation do any of this?

Looking at your own library, how are you: Hosting events that are both physical and virtual—where interaction can begin in one space and continue in the other? *

Plenty of physical events. Are there on-line ones?

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Name

Sara Hirshon

Role *

TML Comittee ▼

Looking at your own library, how are you: Helping the community to manage the fire hose of information available from many sources? *

Not sure

Looking at your own library, how are you: Connecting people seeking information to the resources, people or organizations that can provide it? *

Being an advocate for the library

Looking at your own library, how are you: Curating information for those who want to consult material in the future and making it visible to the community? *

i'm not sure I am

Looking at your own library, how are you: Facilitating discovery and serendipitous encounters with information and other people, whether at the library or outside the library's walls? *

Talking about the great programming

Looking at your own library, how are you: Helping people solve local problems? *

i'm not sure I am

Looking at your own library, how are you: Recruiting volunteers and specialists to participate in platform activities? *

i'm not sure I am

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Name

Kiah Gardner

Role *

TML Staff



Looking at your own library, how are you: Helping the community to manage the fire hose of information available from many sources? *

Provide a place for patrons to access reliable, reputable sources and material.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Connecting people seeking information to the resources, people or organizations that can provide it? *

Use our library resources (through reading material, online databases, connections in the community, etc.) to help locate what the patron is looking for.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Curating information for those who want to consult material in the future and making it visible to the community? *

Using handouts, displays, flyers, online databases

Looking at your own library, how are you: Facilitating discovery and serendipitous encounters with information and other people, whether at the library or outside the library's walls? *

I've noticed that books with the "(staff name) recommends" slips in them circulate quite a bit now, when they may have been passed by or ignored. I've noticed that often at my programs for children, its the parents that are surprised that they enjoy making art, something they may not have done in the home.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Helping people solve local problems? *

Pairing with organizations, businesses, etc. in the community

Looking at your own library, how are you: Recruiting volunteers and specialists to participate in platform activities? *

-

Looking at your own library, how are you: Engaging other members of the community to assist you with the functions noted in questions 1-6 above—analyzing, connecting, curating, facilitating, discovering and problem-solving—whether they are helping inside or outside of the library's walls? *

Asking what the community needs (like the survey we did) is really important.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Hosting events that are both physical and virtual—where interaction can begin in one space and continue in the other? *

Our children's programs usually combine reading, music, art and creative problem solving. A good example of a great interaction space was our recent children's program The Farm, which was an exploration and learning space for children as well as an interactive and hands on art exhibit.

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Name

Nancy Russell

Role *

TML Staff



Looking at your own library, how are you: Helping the community to manage the fire hose of information available from many sources? *

Just by helping our patrons in children's. I find the parents, grandparents, nannies, etc, very appreciative of any additional help and information.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Connecting people seeking information to the resources, people or organizations that can provide it? *

I think we do that very well at the Adult Circ Desk but we do a lot at children's too. Rachel especially, is always eager to provide important information.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Curating information for those who want to consult material in the future and making it visible to the community? *

Rachel, Kevin, and Andy do this also all the time that I have witnessed.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Facilitating discovery and serendipitous encounters with information and other people, whether at the library or outside the library's walls? *

I think we all do this when a Patron "inquires" additional information.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Helping people solve local problems? *

I am not certain exactly what this entails

Looking at your own library, how are you: Recruiting volunteers and specialists to participate in platform activities? *

Janie is spectacular with this!!! Jenny, also has been wonderful with her volunteers.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Engaging other members of the community to assist you with the functions noted in questions 1-6 above—analyzing, connecting, curating, facilitating, discovering and problem-solving—whether they are helping inside or outside of the library's walls? *

All this applies to Rachel, Janie, Kevin, Alyssa -- perhaps Rick and Kiah with their programming goals.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Hosting events that are both physical and virtual—where interaction can begin in one space and continue in the other? *

The interaction begins at the circ desk when we offer the information. It can continue in the community room or wherever.

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Name

Jenny Vezina

Role *

TML Staff



Looking at your own library, how are you: Helping the community to manage the fire hose of information available from many sources? *

Front desk staff, materials selection

Looking at your own library, how are you: Connecting people seeking information to the resources, people or organizations that can provide it? *

Programs, materials, staff

Looking at your own library, how are you: Curating information for those who want to consult material in the future and making it visible to the community? *

Thoughtful, informed and balanced collection development

Looking at your own library, how are you: Facilitating discovery and serendipitous encounters with information and other people, whether at the library or outside the library's walls? *

Responding to needs and interests of users

Looking at your own library, how are you: Helping people solve local problems? *

Providing forums for discussions

Looking at your own library, how are you: Recruiting volunteers and specialists to participate in platform activities? *

Programming

Looking at your own library, how are you: Engaging other members of the community to assist you with the functions noted in questions 1-6 above—analyzing, connecting, curating, facilitating, discovering and problem-solving—whether they are helping inside or outside of the library's walls? *

Outreach

Looking at your own library, how are you: Hosting events that are both physical and virtual—where interaction can begin in one space and continue in the other? *

Online discussions, video conferencing, interactive social media and website.

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Name

Andy Ryer

Role *

TML Staff



Looking at your own library, how are you: Helping the community to manage the fire hose of information available from many sources? *

Tech programs for seniors. programs re: internet scams, fake news. Providing traditional library materials from reputable, well-reviewed sources

Looking at your own library, how are you: Connecting people seeking information to the resources, people or organizations that can provide it? *

via programming and responsible collection development

Looking at your own library, how are you: Curating information for those who want to consult material in the future and making it visible to the community? *

Physical collections. Potentially recording and archiving some relevant programming for future use or TML website

Looking at your own library, how are you: Facilitating discovery and serendipitous encounters with information and other people, whether at the library or outside the library's walls? *

collection development. creative and informative displays. good customer service and reader's advisory. programming on a wide array of topics. collaborative programming.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Helping people solve local problems? *

Providing facilities for discussion, deliberation dialogue. Programming focused around issues that affect CE. Potential for facilitating volunteer opportunities.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Recruiting volunteers and specialists to participate in platform activities? *

Reaching out to potentially interested volunteer collaborators who I've become acquainted with via conversations with patrons. Good customer service with a mind toward longer goals can help lead to useful connections of mutual benefit.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Engaging other members of the community to assist you with the functions noted in questions 1-6 above—analyzing, connecting, curating, facilitating, discovering and problem-solving—whether they are helping inside or outside of the library's walls? *

Surveys. Reaching out to interested patrons for collaborative opportunities. Reaching out to other libraries and volunteer orgs for collaborative opportunities

Looking at your own library, how are you: Hosting events that are both physical and virtual—where interaction can begin in one space and continue in the other? *

Create an online forum for discussions begun in the physical to be continued/furthered virtually. Opportunities for further reading, viewing, conversations, posting of reactions to prior conversations based upon further reflection. would require web design and funding.

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Name

Role *

TML Staff ▼

Looking at your own library, how are you: Helping the community to manage the fire hose of information available from many sources? *

Providing carefully selected physical materials; offering face-to-face guidance and readers advisory services

Looking at your own library, how are you: Connecting people seeking information to the resources, people or organizations that can provide it? *

Offering programs that are responsive to patron needs and interests. Providing knowledgeable staff that can connect with resources.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Curating information for those who want to consult material in the future and making it visible to the community? *

Our chalkboard displays let patrons know about DVDs that may not be in the library. The electronic bulletin board helps let patrons know about services they may not be aware of.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Facilitating discovery and serendipitous encounters with information and other people, whether at the library or outside the library's walls? *

Programs, plus outreach to the Cape Care

Looking at your own library, how are you: Helping people solve local problems? *

Programs that address local issue, materials that support local interests

Looking at your own library, how are you: Recruiting volunteers and specialists to participate in platform activities? *

Parent child workshop, lectures and workshops for adults.

Looking at your own library, how are you: Engaging other members of the community to assist you with the functions noted in questions 1-6 above—analyzing, connecting, curating, facilitating, discovering and problem-solving—whether they are helping inside or outside of the library's walls? *

n/a

Looking at your own library, how are you: Hosting events that are both physical and virtual—where interaction can begin in one space and continue in the other? *

n/a

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