

GROWING CREATIVE AGING FOR IDAHO

A statewide convening of Idaho adult services library staff, arts organizations, and senior service leaders

Thursday, June 6, 2024, 8:45 am-4 pm

Idaho Commission for Libraries River Room, 325 W State Street, Boise ID 83702



This convening is part of a [5-state effort](#) to support the advancement of creative aging across the western states, presented by [Idaho Commission on the Arts](#), [Idaho Commission for Libraries](#), and [Lifetime Arts](#).

The Creative Aging Model for Lifelong Learning

Creative aging is an evidence-based approach that utilizes the arts to enhance the well-being, social connection, and quality of life of older adults. It's not just about painting or music; it's about unlocking potential, fostering community, and combating ageism in our work.

At this Convening, We Will:

- Learn about the benefits of Creative Aging: Discover how arts programming can improve the lives of older adults in our state, and why it matters to your work.
- Connect with cross-sector leaders: Network with representatives from arts organizations, libraries, and aging services.
- Share your expertise: Contribute to developing actionable strategies to embed arts education in older adult services.
- Be part of the solution: Help build capacity in Idaho for ongoing collaboration and investment in creative aging initiatives.

Meeting Guidelines

- We follow meeting etiquette by arriving on time, coming prepared, speaking clearly, and sticking to the agenda
- We strive for mutual respect by valuing the strengths and input of others
- We listen as allies and make sure all voices are heard, allowing uninterrupted opinions
- We participate as equals with shared responsibility for the outcomes
- We have no hidden disagreements or questions; if we disagree, we do so with grace and tact
- We end meetings with clear action items that include deadlines and responsible person(s)

AGENDA

Thursday, June 6 | 8:45 AM – 4:00 PM Mountain

WHEN	WHAT	WHO	SLIDES & MATERIALS
8:45	Check in, Coffee		
9:00	Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stephanie Bailey-White, State Librarian, Idaho Commission for Libraries Laura Curry, Executive Director, Idaho Commission on the Arts 	
9:10	Introduction Activity	Deana Brown, Adult Services Library Consultant, Idaho Commission for Libraries	
9:20	Housekeeping & Hospitality Convening Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deana Brown, Adult Services Library Consultant, Idaho Commission for Libraries Laura Roghaar, Arts Learning Services Director, Idaho Commission on the Arts 	
9:30	What We Know about the Needs, Worries, and Quality of Life in Idaho’s Elders <i>Idaho Commission on Aging presents recent research on the needs of older Idahoans with an interactive focus on how we in the room can help close the gaps identified. This session will emphasize the need for support to reduce loneliness for Idaho seniors.</i>	Judy B. Taylor, MSN.RN, Director, Idaho Commission on Aging	Idaho Commission on Aging Slides 2023 ICOA Needs Assessment Booklet
10:15	Facilitated Discussion <i>Think – Pair – Share</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laura Roghaar Judy Taylor Janet Miller, ICoA 	
10:30	BREAK		15 min
10:45	Creative Aging: Transforming How We Age <i>Older adults thrive when they are actively and creatively engaged, valued, and contributing to cultural life—and so do our communities. In this dynamic session, you will learn how lifelong learning in the arts benefits older adults' health and well-being and helps to transform the way older adults are served across sectors.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heather Ikemire, Executive Director, Lifetime Arts Liza Cucco, Director of Strategic Communications, Lifetime Arts 	Lifetime Arts Slides Handout, Creative Aging on Demand Professional Development Handout, S.A.F.E. Workshop Planning
11:15	Turn-and-Talk: Exploring Our Relationship to Creativity and Learning	Lifetime Arts	Handout, Convening Guiding Questions

11:45	<p>Flashes of Inspiration: Creative Aging in Idaho Libraries</p> <p><i>With support from Lifetime Arts and the May & Stanley Smith Charitable Trust, three Idaho Libraries piloted Creative Aging workshops this past spring. Each library will share a five-minute review of what they learned by inviting artists to lead older adult learners at the library. Following the flashes, this panel will discuss audience questions.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jennifer Nelson, Assistant Branch Manager, Ada Community Library Victory Branch • Beth Swenson, Assistant Director, Idaho Falls Public Library • Lynn Johnson, Director, Lewiston City Library • Panel Moderator: Deana Brown 	<p>Ada Community Library Victory Branch Slides</p> <p>Idaho Falls Public Library Slides</p> <p>Lewiston City Library Slides</p>
12:15	LUNCH		45 min
1:00	<p>Boise Art Museum's Seniors Create! Lifelong Learning Arts Masterclass</p> <p><i>Learn about Boise Art Museum's new workshop series for people 55 and better.</i></p>	Melanie Fales, Executive Director, Boise Art Museum	Boise Art Museum Slides
1:30	<p>Creative Aging Model Lesson</p> <p><i>Participate in a hands-on printmaking project during which the philosophical and educational underpinnings of the Creative Aging program model will be shared.</i></p>	Amy Nack, Teaching Artist, Boise Art Museum	<p>Model Lesson Slides</p> <p>Handout, Mini Mixed Media Monotypes Lesson</p>
2:30	BREAK		15 min
2:45	<p>Flashes of Inspiration: Creative Aging in Arts Organizations</p> <p><i>With support from Lifetime Arts and the May & Stanley Smith Charitable Trust, two Idaho arts organizations piloted Creative Aging workshops this past spring. Organization leaders will share a five-minute review of what they discovered by inviting older adults to learn in a setting designed for them. Following the flashes, this panel will discuss audience questions.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meghan Minshall, Development and Adult Programming Coordinator, McCall Arts & Humanities Council • Karin Wedemeyer, Executive Director, Music Conservatory of Sandpoint • Panel Moderator: Laura Roghaar 	<p>McCall Arts & Humanities Slides</p> <p>Music Conservatory of Sandpoint Slides</p>
3:00	<p>Next Steps to Grow Creative Aging for Idaho</p> <p><i>What's next in your work to help Creative Aging grow in Idaho? Convening organizers will provide a framework for turning your visions into plans. You will use this time to begin exploring what Creative Aging looks like for your organization.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deana Brown • Laura Roghaar • Lifetime Arts 	<p>Handout: Translating Visions into Plans for Program Managers</p> <p>Handout: Sample Creative Aging Budget</p>
3:45	Conclusion & Farewell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deana Brown • Laura Roghaar 	

CONVENING PRESENTERS

Stephanie Bailey-White has been with the Idaho Commission for Libraries for 33 years, starting in 1991 as the Commission's Public Information Officer. In 1997 she helped get the Read to Me early literacy program up and running and in 2016 she moved into the Deputy State Librarian position, followed by the State Librarian role in 2019. A favorite part of her job is visiting libraries around the state to see programs and services in action. She loves being part of the Idaho library community and living in such a beautiful state.

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Laura von Boecklin Curry is the Executive Director of the Idaho Commission on the Arts. Before joining the Commission, she served as the Executive Director of Ballet Idaho for four seasons, helping successfully guide the company through the Pandemic. Prior to that she was the Executive Director of the College of Western Idaho Foundation. Before moving to Idaho in 2017, she served low-income residents and senior citizens during her tenures as the Executive Director of Lift-Up of Routt County and Routt County Council on Aging in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Curry holds a BA in English with a Minor in Public Relations from Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas. She is the board vice president of Idaho Concerts in Care, a 501c3 organization that presents professional musical performances to enrich the lives of residents in care homes.

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Deana Brown is a maker and educator who has worked in public, academic, and state libraries since 2004. She holds a master's in library science and a bachelor's in fine art. As ICfL's Adult Services Library Consultant, she partners with local, state, and national organizations to create grant and professional development opportunities for adult services library staff. She enjoys creating experiential learning opportunities for library staff around STEAM, adult services, and emerging trends. She has taught college courses and facilitated workshops on information literacy, research skills, learning skills, design thinking, makerspaces, zines, and 3D printing. Who says you can't have fun while getting to an ah-ha moment!

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Laura Roghaar is the Arts Learning Services Director for Idaho Commission on the Arts. She is a poet, arts administrator, and teaching artist who has designed creative writing workshops in a range of community settings including schools, juvenile detention, shelters, and libraries. She previously served as adjunct writing faculty at Boise State University, Idaho statewide coordinator for Poetry Out Loud, and Program Director for The Cabin literary center in Boise. She holds a B.A. in Communications and English from University of California, Santa Barbara, and an M.F.A. in Creative Writing, Poetry from Boise State University.

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Judy B. Taylor began her healthcare career as a licensed EMT in 1980. She graduated from LA County/USC Medical Center School of nursing and obtained her RN license in 1985. She earned her bachelor and master's degrees in nursing from Cal State University. Her career has varied from work as a family Clinical Nurse Specialist, A professor in a BSN education program, and Executive Nursing management positions at various hospitals. In 2013 she started the current chapter of her career in public policy as Associate Executive Director at the Board of Nursing. In 2017 she was appointed by Governor Otter as Director of the Commission on Aging, and subsequently reappointed by Governor Little. Under her leadership the Commission on Aging uses a public health prevention based lens to planning programs and services designed to promote healthy aging, and prevent early institutionalization.

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Heather Ikemire is Executive Director of Lifetime Arts, a national service organization that accelerates the integration of creative aging practices into the fabric of communities. Previously, Heather served as Chief Program Officer at the National Guild for Community Arts Education, where she directed a substantial investment in Catalyzing Creative Aging, played a pivotal role in the Creative Youth Development National Partnership, and organized annual conferences and regular professional development opportunities for hundreds of arts education stakeholders nationally. Heather received a Ph.D. in Theater for Youth from Arizona State University and a B.A. in English Literature from Vassar College.

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Liza Cucco draws on over a decade of experience in nonprofit leadership, media arts, and strategic planning, in her current role developing a holistic communications strategy for Lifetime Arts. A firm believer in the unique power of art to engage communities, motivate action, and expand horizons, her career has incorporated both a vibrant artistic practice and a commitment to community development. She holds a MFA in Media Art from the Slade School of Fine Art at University College London (UCL).

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Jennifer Nelson has been with Ada Community Library for over 15 years. She has a BS in Biology from Boise State University. During her time at the library, she has developed a passion for working with adults especially adults with IDD. She provides programming and outreach to help foster lifelong learning.

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Beth Swenson has worked in libraries since 2001 and has done a little bit of everything: shelving, reference, outreach, management, etc. Currently, she's an Assistant Director at the Idaho Falls Public Library, where she fills her days managing people, attending meetings, and reading endless emails. She earned her Master of Library and Information Science degree from the University of North Texas in 2012. Beth lives in Idaho Falls with her family and two evil cats. Her favorite things in this world are bacon, T-Rex, sharks, and jellyfish. She's often found reading, trying in vain to keep plants alive, and napping.

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Lynn Johnson has been the Director of the Lewiston City Library since 2019. She is a graduate of the University of Idaho in Elementary Education, received her Library Media Endorsement through the University of Montana and Montana Western, and her master's degree in Educational Technology from Boise State University. She has taught public school in Idaho and Montana, worked as a School District Library Media Specialist and was a Lilead Fellowship member. Lynn lives with her husband Dale, on acreage about thirty minutes from Lewiston where they entertain themselves with house and property projects and Lynn's six Spinoni Italiano.

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Melanie Fales is the Executive Director/CEO of the Boise Art Museum. She previously served as the Curator of Education. Fales holds a B.A. in Art History and Painting and an M.A. in Education with an emphasis in Art and Museum Education from Boise State University. She pursued Art History and Museum Studies at the Ecole du Louvre in Paris, with a Rotary Scholarship and completed a museum internship at the Musée d'Art Américain. She received a fellowship to attend the Performance Measurement Program at Harvard's Kennedy School and was selected to participate in the Getty Leadership Institute, Claremont Graduate University.

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Amy Nack's love affair with paper began with a career in marketing for a national paper and packaging manufacturer. At 55, she returned to school to receive a BFA in Printmaking and Art History at Boise State University. Amy serves as a teaching artist with the Idaho Commission on the Arts, Boise Art Museum, Idaho Parents Unlimited and Idaho Juvenile Corrections. In addition, she is an adjunct instructor in the Printmaking and Art Education programs of Boise State's Department of Art, Design and Visual Studies.

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Meghan Minshall works as McCall Arts and Humanities Council's Development and Adult Programming Coordinator. Minshall moved with her children to McCall in 2014, knowing it would be their forever home. Here she met her husband, and they have built a life in McCall around enjoying and contributing to the community as much as possible. Meghan has a Masters degree in Community Counseling, a B.S. in Psychology with a Minor and A.A. in Communications. She has a broad background that includes counseling, entrepreneurship, event planning, management, service and nonprofit work. She has a heart for McCall and the local people who keep this beautiful town running through service, hard work and ingenuity.

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Karin Wedemeyer was born and raised in Bremen, Germany. She has performed as a dramatic soprano in Germany, Italy, Japan and USA for over 30 years. Her teaching experiences are equally extensive. Ms. Wedemeyer is the founder of the Music Conservatory of Sandpoint and Bel Canto Opera. Ms. Wedemeyer has done her graduate work in History and Archaeology at UCLA but has decided to pursue a career in music. She is currently also a member of the Historic Preservation and Art commission for the city of Sandpoint.

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