

Outcome Report



Summer  
2024

# We Read Bubbler Artists in Residence

A summer of making  
and learning at  
Madison Public Library



87 Programs  
1,526 Attendees



# Budget and Resources

## Budget Expenditure:

- \$13,500 on Artist Time
- \$1500 per library + \$500 in supplies
- 87 total programs June - August

## Goals & Intentions

Our artists were encouraged to think of open-ended, accessible projects and experiences that would allow children and families to explore, play, and put process over product. These open-ended experience, we hoped, would allow children to take the lead, and encourage social and emotional connections between children and caregivers, as well as the artists and librarians. This is exactly what we observed. Our most common indicators ere of creativity and self expression, followed closely by social emotional engagement.

# Conclusion

Rather than spending money on a tour of varying performers throughout the summer, The WE READ Bubbler Artists were able to prioritize relationships over the course of the whole summer. Learning children's names, being responsive to requests and successes from patrons, and building experiences that were enriching and joyful to the unique perspectives of individual library communities.

## 2024 Bubbler Artists in the Neighborhood

14

Programs  
Observed

87

Programs  
across 9  
libraries

1,520

Attendees  
June - August  
2024

### Dimensions

#### Creativity & Self Expression

times seen: 46



Creativity & Self Expression

- 46 Observations



Social Emotional Engagement

- 38 Observations



Initiative and Intentionality

- 15 Observations



Making Connections

- 35 Observations



Unknown, curious

- 2 Observations



Problem Solving

- 19 Observations

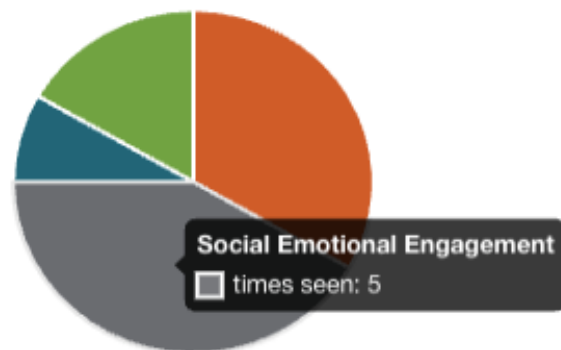
## Outcome Observation with the Observation Deck

Observations of the WE READ Bubbler Artist in the Neighborhood were done with the Bubbler's observational framework - developed over the last 8 years to identify the desired outcomes in Bubbler programs. We recognize that not every program will achieve every outcome, but rather, use the framework to identify what is present, what is absent, and if we achieved the intended goals of a program based on what we can observe. This is not an exact science, but rather a way for us to gain more insight into the impact of our programs based on what we can see, hear, and experience happening in the moment.



Sequoia Library

# Artist Highlight Meghan Rosing



## Family Engagement

- With easy to access projects, Meghan created an environment that encouraged children and adults to work together or side by side learning new skills like weaving



## Focused Makers

- We observed very focused children who worked for extended amounts of time - often the full hour! - on their projects
- Children were able to set their own goals, drive their own progress, and actively make choices about their designs.



## Busy hands

### New Experiences

- With crafts like weaving or cardboard construction, young learners were exposed to new tools and materials
- They often needed to ask for help or observe others around them as they learned how to do new things.

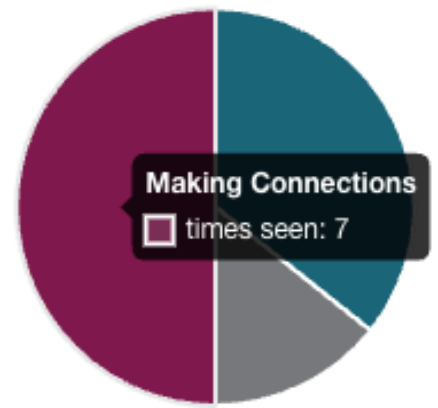
8 Programs

289 Attendees





# Artist Highlight: Lashay the Artist



Lashay's residency centered individual identity and positive self reflection. Observers notices kids helping each other, making suggestions, finding content and offering it to friends based on perceived interests; plenty of verbalized self reflection about likes, dislikes, and personal characteristics.

Librarian Ros Faulker reflected, "It was exciting to see how kids expressed their inner worlds through their vision boards, AND how they collaborated to help friends express themselves, too."

## Exploring Identity

- This kiddo used her vision board to capture the fact that she wants to go into cosmetology
- Young patrons explains that while her whole theme is miles morales/spiderman, she has specifically chosen quotes to pick out that sound like they're in her voice
- For first 30-ish min of class, whole group joyfully flipped through magazines, scanning for items that feel like "them" to add to their vision boards



10 Programs

137 Attendees

Pinney Library

# Artist Highlight Renee Gavigan

With open ended projects and materials, Renee creative an atmosphere of exploration.

Creativity & Self Expression

times seen: 18



## Process Exploration

- Renee's projects allowed for prolonged engagement and exploration with projects. Observers noticed "Slow and meditative art making" as kids really focused on their work
- With a variety of materials at hands, kids were able to set their own intentions and given the time and space to see them through: "From the jump this kiddo had a very clear vision of using only yellow, pink and orange tshirt yarn. As she got going she realized we didn't have enough of those colors; she iterated and found the next best thing... a yarn that was a similar thickness so she could remain consistent with the texture of her creation."

10 Programs

390 Attendees