

# Every hero has a story!

Programs by Vermont performers and speakers  
prepared for the 2015 summer reading program



Vermont Department of Libraries  
109 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05609



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# EVERY HERO HAS A STORY

## **BACKGROUND**

Every year the Department of Libraries sponsors a performing artist program designed to help public libraries bring high quality programs to their communities. To go along with the theme “Every Hero Has a Story,” we asked performers and speakers if they had, or would like to create, a program on a topic relating to the theme of Heroes. The following program descriptions are what they sent in reply.

## **HOW DOES THE FUNDING WORK?**

The Department of Libraries will give grants of \$100.00 each to at least 50 libraries that meet standards. This grant **must be used as partial payment for one of the listed programs**. Each individual library is responsible for paying the difference between the artist’s fee and the \$100.00. Other expenses, such as mileage fees, will also be covered by the library.

## **HOW TO APPLY**

**Only libraries that meet standards and have sent in their summer statistics for 2014 may apply.**

1. Decide which performance you would like.
2. Contact the artist and set up the date and time of the performance. The performances can take place any time between June 1, 2015 and October 31, 2015. All performances must be held in a place that is accessible to people with disabilities.
3. Complete the attached application form and **send it by Friday, March 6, 2015** to:

Sharon Colvin  
Youth Services Consultant  
Vermont Department of Libraries  
109 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05609  
OR  
email: [sharon.colvin@state.vt.us](mailto:sharon.colvin@state.vt.us)

If your library is selected, you will receive a check for \$100.00 in April. The local library will then be responsible for paying the artist the total amount on the day of the performance.

**All news and publicity releases *must* include a statement that the performance has been funded in part by a grant from the Vermont Department of Libraries.**

## **SUGGESTIONS TO HELP MAKE YOUR PROGRAM MORE EFFECTIVE**

- ❑ If your library's programs traditionally attract a large preschool audience, make sure you select a performance that is recommended for that age.
- ❑ If you would like to know more about a particular performer, request a list of the places where the person has performed within the last year, and then call them for feedback.
- ❑ Good publicity is vital to attract an audience; be sure to ask the performer about the availability of preprinted or downloadable publicity such as photographs, press releases, resumes, etc. This will save you time in preparing publicity and it may look more professional.
- ❑ We strongly recommend that you consider block-booking with a nearby library (two libraries located close to one another have performances on the same day). This will cut down on mileage for the performer and may help you in negotiating a lower fee.
- ❑ When you know you have funding, send a letter to the performer to confirm time, date, place, and to give directions.
- ❑ Reconfirm the time and date of the performance several days in advance to make sure you and the presenter are in agreement.
- ❑ Call the day before to make sure everything is all set.

## **AMOS NATURAL SCIENCE EDUCATION SERVICES (ANSES)**

921 Burroughs Road  
Wheelock, VT 05851  
(802) 626-5561 or (802) 535-2520 (cell)  
Email: [ansesvt@yahoo.com](mailto:ansesvt@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.ansesvt.com](http://www.ansesvt.com)

### **To Be Nature's Hero**

We all depend on Nature – for food, for resources, for medicines, and for our enjoyment and state of mind. There have been plenty of heroes that have helped to protect and build upon our knowledge of nature; Charles Darwin, Alfred Russell Wallace, Teddy Roosevelt, and more recently Steve Irwin and Jane Goodall are just a few among many.

This program will introduce children to the mysteries of nature and the discoveries made by early adventurous explorers. We'll then learn about the passion of some of nature's heroes currently in our world today, and we will also consider how each of us can be a local "hero," protecting Vermont's wildlife, habitats, and resources. Kids will even have an opportunity to list and discuss with the presenter what kind of "Nature Hero" they would like to be, and what can be done to further that dream.

Props, pictures, live animals, stories and an activity will enhance this lively presentation.

Steve Amos, founder of Amos Natural Science Education Services (ANSES), is a naturalist, biologist, teacher, and author of nature books. He has performed hundreds of nature programs for children at libraries, schools, afterschool programs, and summer camps over the last 15 years. Steve has been a zoo curator working with Atlantic seabirds and Tropical Rainforest animals, and as a museum curator he researched and interpreted a broad selection of animals from across the globe to schools and the public. Steve has a broad background in the knowledge of "Nature," with many early explorers being some of his own heroes. He has traveled to many parts of the world and has met with, gone on expeditions with, and performed research with some of the recent experts in the natural sciences that will be discussed in story-telling fashion during this presentation.

Ages: 6 to adult

Length: 45-60 minutes

Fee: \$185 (\$145 block booking), plus mileage (60 cents/mile, max of \$60)

Special requirements: (2) 6-8 foot tables for displays and take-away materials, and space large enough to easily accommodate tables and audience; photocopier for copies of materials.

## **ART FOR ALL ART HAPPENINGS**

PO Box 59  
Marshfield, VT 05658  
(802) 426-3717 (home) or (802) 426-3581 (work)  
Email: [susangreen@fairpoint.net](mailto:susangreen@fairpoint.net)  
Contact person: Susan Green

### **Every Hero Has a Story Art Happening**

We will have lots of fun expressing our creativity while we make a collage of one or more of our favorite heroes, decorate a frame for our collage, and make our own super hero capes and masks. If you have photos, pictures, or drawings of your favorite heroes please bring them to the workshop, or you can use the ones we supply. Please wear clothes you don't mind splattering with art materials. Old t-shirts and aprons will be provided for extra protection. You can find heroes in your family, in your community, from history, and from your imagination. There are heroes everywhere; they can be people, animals, and yourself!

Ages: preschool to age 12

Length: 1 hour

Fee: \$200 (includes all materials). \$25 off for each block booking; .52 per mile if over 30 miles from Marshfield.

Special requirements: Workspace to accommodate the number of artists, access to water, and 3 large tables. The event can be outside, weather permitting, and a hose hook-up is fine. No worries! I will bring protection for the floors and tables!

### **SIMON BROOKS, STORYTELLER**

253 Barrett Road

New London, NH 03257

(603) 877-0033

Email: [simon@diamondscree.com](mailto:simon@diamondscree.com)

Website: [www.SimonBrooksStoryteller.com](http://www.SimonBrooksStoryteller.com)

**Every Hero Has a Story**, from poor old Jack to Xena, Warrior Princess! In Switzerland, William Tell freed people from tyranny. Lady Godiva saved the people of Coventry, in England, from heavy taxation, and Ariadne helped Theseus kill the Minotaur. There are many other heroines and heroes from folk and fairy tales, and Simon will be sharing these stories, and more, for the summer reading program.

Simon's presentations have the intimacy of a one-on-one conversation, yet the intensity of a stage show! Even the most jaded audience will find the power and magic in the stories Simon tells, whether 5 years old, 13, or an adult or care provider. These family shows, engaging all listeners, are highlights in many New England communities; bring Simon's stories to yours.

**Local Hero Workshop:** Simon offers a community workshop where we invite grandparents, parents and children to share stories with each other and learn how to tell their tales in an engaging manner, promoting public speaking skills and confidence. We will use a number of hands-on (and body) activities, exploring movement, voice, and presentation skills to bring out the best in as many tales as we can in the time. Workshops run for a minimum of 90 minutes and are best for a maximum of 10 participants.

Simon will provide all materials needed. Please provide an approximate head count prior to the event where possible. Additional materials may have to be photocopied at the venue.

Ages: Family audience, 5 and up  
Length: 40-60 plus minutes (depending on fidgety bums)  
Fee: \$250.00 plus mileage (Federal rate). 15% discount on fee for multiple bookings, maximum of three in one day.  
Special requirements: If an outdoor gig, please ensure power is available for a PA (which artist will provide), and the same for large halls which are acoustically challenged! I can travel anywhere in New England.

## **PETER BURNS**

PO Box 134  
Winooski, VT 05404  
(802) 399-7095  
Email: [heatofhistory@gmail.com](mailto:heatofhistory@gmail.com)

Storyteller Peter Burns tells traditional and original stories about heroes from around the world and right here in Vermont. These highly interactive stories will entertain family members of all ages. But wait, there's more! Peter will also provide practical instruction on how every child can be a hero. Topics include magic tricks, stunts, brain training, fitness tips, selecting a heroic name and costume design. You won't want to miss this show.

Peter Burns has been telling stories in Vermont for more than 25 years. His work has been featured on NPR and has received numerous awards.

Ages: 3 years and up  
Length: 1 hour  
Fee: \$225; \$175 block booking. Mileage is included.

## **MICHAEL CADUTO**

PO Box 1052  
Norwich, VT 05055  
(802) 649-1816  
Email: [michaelcaduto@p-e-a-c-e.net](mailto:michaelcaduto@p-e-a-c-e.net)  
Website: [www.p-e-a-c-e.net](http://www.p-e-a-c-e.net)

### **Heroes & Tricksters—Wisdom & Wile: Epic Stories & Songs from Nature**

Popular author, master storyteller and musician Michael Caduto performs indigenous nature tales with a twist about epic great deeds and good intentions gone awry. How do the Cranes make a Turtle fly? (Tibet). Who will save a golden egg that falls from the sky? (Czech Republic) Who will mend the Pumpkin Seed Bird's broken wing? (Creole) How does Turtle save his best friend? (Chippewa) and how does Gluscabi capture every animal in the world? (Abenaki) Using a range of dynamic voices and expressions, Caduto creates a host of humorous and dramatic animals and human characters. The audience is invited to accompany the songs, chants, native instruments and dance. Includes original Earth music from Michael's CD *All One Earth: Songs for the*

*Generations*, as well as stories from his newly released CD's: *The Rainbow Garden* and *The Wisdom of Nature*.

Michael J. Caduto—a juried artist with the Vermont Arts Council and the New Hampshire Council on the Arts—is well known as co-author of the national best-selling *Keepers of the Earth®* series and *Native American Gardening: Stories, Projects and Recipes for Families*. His *Earth Tales from Around the World* received the Aesop Prize for literary and artistic excellence from the American Folklore Society. Michael has traveled throughout North America, Europe and the Middle East performing stories and music for audiences of all ages. His children's books include *Catch the Wind, Harness the Sun* (Teacher's Choice Award) and *The Crimson Elf: Italian Tales of Wisdom* (Storytelling World Honor Award). His other books include *Riparia's River, Abraham's Bind, A Child of God, In the Beginning* and *A Time Before New Hampshire: The Story of a Land and Native Peoples*. His recordings include a musical CD, *All One Earth: Songs for the Generations* (ASCAP Popular Award) and two storytelling CD's: *The Wisdom of Nature* and *The Rainbow Garden*. Michael has worked closely with many indigenous peoples.

Ages: 5 and up

Length: 1 hour

Fee: \$275 + 45¢/mile (\$300 maximum total)

Block booking: \$550 plus shared mileage for 2 programs in same region on same day.

Special requirements: A space that can be darkened or semi-darkened for a story or two by (electric) candlelight is nice, but not essential.

### **STEPHEN CORONELLA**

62 Jones Rd.

Putney, VT 05346

(802) 258-0438

Email: [swcoronella@gmail.com](mailto:swcoronella@gmail.com)

### **Legendary Historical Characters Through Song and Story: The Hero's Journey**

A children's/family concert that brings to life the likes of King Arthur, Johnny Appleseed, Robin Hood, and others. A wonderful presentation of music and history performed with various instruments including guitar, hammer dulcimer, and flute. Enjoyable for all ages, with songs and stories that warm the heart and inspire the soul.

Stephen Coronella has been delighting audiences throughout New England for many years. A seasoned and enthusiastic musician, he performs in the time-honored but vanishing tradition of the one-man troubadour. A well-known singer/songwriter and guitarist, he is also an accomplished hammer dulcimer and flute player. His music has been recognized as heartwarming, educational, and fun.

Ages: All

Length: 45-60 minutes

Fee: \$250 (\$300 if over 100 miles away)



## **ERICC CRAM**

58 Bridge St.

White River Junction, VT 05001

(314) 288-7819

Email: [ericccram@gmail.com](mailto:ericccram@gmail.com)

Website: [www.imaginericc.weebly.com](http://www.imaginericc.weebly.com)

### **Be Your Own Hero! Comics, Colors, and Everyday Super Powers**

Have you ever thought about the meanings of colors? About why we tend to prefer some colors over others, and make favorites? About how colors relate to our thoughts and feelings, our moods, and our personalities? Perhaps this knowledge is the key to accessing our own inner super powers!

In this specialized art program for kids, Ericc will present, in a simple way, the idea of the Chakras, a system of invisible energy which corresponds with the colors of the rainbow; seven Chakras, or “wheels,” which are represented by seven colors of the visible spectrum, exist in the body as power centers. Thus, each color has its own qualities, which are made accessible through art and imagination!

First, Ericc will give a basic presentation of the powers of colors – red is passionate and physical, for instance, while blue is soothing and emotional. We’ll also discuss what kind of everyday hero uses each color – an athlete could be red, a singer could be blue! Finally, we’ll make single-sheet comic books about our own hero, (self, friend, family, famous or fantasy!) and how they use their special color to access their powers, to help make the world a better place!

If interested, this program can be marketed toward older students (ages 10+); 7 is the age minimum.

### **Tell your own story, with comics!**

Also offered by Ericc is a more basic program on drawing/making comic books. Ericc provides a simple and accessible formula for young people to make their own comic books. First, a series of drawing lessons, using lines and shapes to create basic figures, to get warmed up. Doodling encouraged! Then, a brief discussion: what are comics, how are they made and what makes them a special art form? Let’s brainstorm! Finally, we’ll produce comic books of our own, as children are encouraged to tell their own stories – real or imagined, fantasy or biography. You can too! The possibilities are endless within the frames of comics!

Ages: 7 and up

Length: 1 hour (plus)

Fee: \$100 plus mileage, 25% block-booking discount

Special requirements: Colors necessary! Markers especially; colored pencils and crayons are also preferable. Also require standard computer printer paper, and an easel for presentation. Pens and pencils (with erasers) helpful, as well as disposable cups to distribute tools. Any books in the library which relate to the topics (colors, comics, heroes) may also be useful. Best in a meeting room or separate library space.

## **GARY DULABAUM**

911 Dorset Street #46

South Burlington, VT 05403

(802) 862-2988

Email: [garydamberc@att.net](mailto:garydamberc@att.net) or [garydulabaum@yahoo.com](mailto:garydulabaum@yahoo.com)

Website: [www.garydulabaum.com](http://www.garydulabaum.com)

### **American Folk Heroes and Their Stories in Song and Poem**

The world of American song and poetry is full of lively lyrics and catchy tunes about everyday folk heroes who did something special at least once in their storied lives. Some are real and some are just great stories that we all wished were real. But these folk heroes have captured our imaginations and hearts through their sometimes amazing accomplishments that have been documented and shared in song, poem and story – such as the great John Henry who with his bare hands and a hammer, out-drove a steam-powered drill. Join Gary in this interactive, participatory concert as we get to meet folk heroes such as John Henry, Laura Ingalls Wilder, Johnny Appleseed, Annie Oakley, Humpty Dumpty, Paul Bunyan and Babe the Blue Ox and a teacher who thinks they are Elvis – to name a few. Through song, dance, movement and poem, we explore their worlds. As we travel along this journey, we'll also get to meet some songwriters and authors who are real heroes to Gary and who have inspired his work as an author, poet and songwriter.

Ages: preschool to grade 5

Length: 1 hour

Fee: \$225 for one program – mileage may be added for distances 100 miles from South Burlington. \$200 per show for block booking.

Special requirements: No special equipment is needed and Gary can work in almost any space inside or out of doors. If needed, Gary can supply his own sound system. Gary has performed throughout the state of Vermont and beyond and will travel to any venue wishing to book a program anywhere in the state and beyond.

### **ELLIE'S PRESCHOOL PARTIES**

274 Justin Morgan Drive

Colchester, VT 05446

(802) 878-7809 or (212) 464-8936 (cell)

Email: [elliesparties@comcast.net](mailto:elliesparties@comcast.net)

Contact person: Ellie Tetrick

Ellie Tetrick of “Ellie’s Preschool Parties” entertains preschool age children (ages 1-5 years) with fun, interactive musical activities including a guitar sing-a-long with instruments (bells, shakers, tambourines and maracas), movement to music, dancing, parachute fun and lots and lots of bubbles! Ellie’s warm, engaging approach along with her age-appropriate “hands-on” activities always provides a positive setting where preschoolers are encouraged to share their creative ideas, which are incorporated into the fun!

In keeping with the theme “Every HERO Has a Story,” Ellie will engage preschoolers with active, music and movement FUN! While encouraging them to see that heroes are all around us, the children will enjoy a guitar sing-a-long with instruments and sing “Who Are the Heroes in Your Neighborhood?” Movement activities will include the use of colorful hoops to allow the children to sing and “drive” several types of HERO vehicles such as fire trucks, police cars, ambulances, and school buses! The children will also dance with scarves to “flying music,” which will give them the opportunity to soar through the skies, as heroes in airplanes, spaceships and helicopters! Parachute fun and LOTS of bubbles will round out the activities!

Ellie Tetrick has worked for over 20 years as a preschool music teacher and children’s entertainer. She is also a singer, musician and professional actor.

Ages: 1-5 (preschoolers) – maximum 30 children

Length: 45 minutes – 1 hour

Fee: \$200 (Plus mileage if location is beyond a 40-mile radius of Colchester. For extra mileage, please add 60 cents a mile.)

Special requirements: A large, open space for movement (carpeting is preferred, but hard floor is fine); a small table for program materials; electrical outlet for CD player (which will be provided).

## **EXORDIUM**

1635 Watertower Road

Enosburg Falls, VT 05450

(802) 238-3697 or (802) 285-2025

Email: [mrk@exordium-adventure.com](mailto:mrk@exordium-adventure.com)

Website: [www.exordium-adventure.com](http://www.exordium-adventure.com)

Contact person: Kurt Valenta

Super heroes come in many shapes, sizes and disguises. Although we mostly think of tights, masks and otherworldly powers when we think of super heroes, we need only look to the world of nature to see true super heroes that shape the world around them and quietly go about doing deeds that help us live better lives. The programs are intended to give participants a better understanding of insects, animals and plants they may come into contact with while spending time outside.

### **Nature’s Super Hero as Engineer: The Amazing Beaver**

A discussion with hands-on artifacts describing the many adaptations a beaver has that allow him to be nature’s most successful engineer in building habitat for others and himself.

### **The Super Heroes That Provide Our Food: Nature’s Pollinators, Bees et al.**

Join Mr. K as he dresses up as a beekeeper and opens the inside of a beehive. Explore the world of a honey bee and see how they have specific jobs as they grow from larva to field bee. Look at bee specimens up close and identify the various body parts that help it be successful as a pollinator.

### **The Super Hero in His Leafy Costume: The Mighty Tree**

A look at trees and the important role they play in our world. Look at a tree cross-section, understand the meaning of tree rings and the story they might tell; see the insides of a tree trunk and how the branches grow; learn the different shapes and parts of a leaf.

Ages: 4 – adult

Length: 1 hour

Fee: \$130 plus mileage outside of 30 mile radius. Block booking available.

Special requirements: Table(s) and power source; otherwise self-contained.

### **JON GAILMOR**

P.O. Box 65

Lake Elmore, VT 05657

(802) 888-3625

Email: [gailmurph@pshift.com](mailto:gailmurph@pshift.com)

Website: [www.jongailmor.com](http://www.jongailmor.com)

Original and traditional songs with rampant audience involvement, designed to make everyone feel powerful and talented, just like heroes of old and the contemporary variety. Jon's tunes are about mythical, magical and everyday heroes. His performances will uplift, entertain and maybe even enlighten and educate. They are fraught with laughter, full of emotion, low in cholesterol and high in hopefulness.

An hour songwriting workshop, during which the group will create and record an original song, is also available, for an added fee.

Ages: All

Length: 40-45 minutes

Fee: \$300 per show, \$250 if block-booked

Special requirements: No special equipment, any space is fine, and any location in the continental United States will do.

### **TIM JENNINGS & LEANNE PONDER**

PO Box 522

Montpelier, VT 05601

(802) 223-9103

Email: [Tim@folktale.net](mailto:Tim@folktale.net)

Website: [www.folktale.net](http://www.folktale.net)

Contact Person: Tim Jennings

### **WOLVES! Folktales where the wolf is *not* the bad guy**

It seems like folktale wolves are always the villains of the stories they are in. But wolf-lovers rejoice! Here are three traditional tales from Asia and Eastern Europe that show these wonderful animals in a very different light: as heroes, fully worthy of our love and respect.

The tales include the Georgian comic crowd-pleaser “*Hungry Wolf's Lucky Day*,” the lovely and touching Irish legend of “*St. Ailbe's Wolf Mother*,” and (when time permits) a Ukrainian tale of friendship and loyalty, “*The Dog and the Wolf*.”

Jennings and Ponder perform their stories in a unique style: vibrant, compelling and dramatic, yet honest, intimate and direct. They also play harp and concertina, weaving traditional Celtic music around and through their tale-spinning to set the mood and deepen the story's impact. There may also be singing, comedy, and a bit of vaudeville.

A live CD of this program was awarded a 2003 Silver Honor by the Parents' Choice Foundation. Two of the couple's other live-performance albums have been ALA/ALSC Notable Children's Recordings. *School Library Journal* has called their work “Masterful, incredible, highest level, not to be missed.” Pamela Polston recently wrote in *Seven Days*. “Tim Jennings and Leanne Ponder are simply Vermont treasures, and hearing their stories never grows old.”

Tim and Leanne have been performing together for over 25 years. They are married, and live in Montpelier with a feisty little dog and a marmalade cat.

Ages: School-age children and their families  
Length: Variable, 30 to 60 minutes, according to sponsor needs  
Fee: \$300 plus mileage

### **TOM JOYCE “THAT FUNNY MAGIC GUY”**

211 Corn Hill Rd.

Pittsford, VT 05763

(802) 483-2294

Email: [tomjoycemagic@mac.com](mailto:tomjoycemagic@mac.com)

Website: [www.tomjoycemagic.com](http://www.tomjoycemagic.com)

### **You Are a Hero Magic Show**

“Books Come Alive Like Magic!”

A new hour-long show every year, with New Magic Tricks and New Books. All related to our current national summer library themes.

You will hear, “Well that’s the end of that book”..... “ahhhhh” ..... “But I have more books”..... “YEEAAAA!” As I bring the books alive like Magic!

I reach into my Book Bag for the new books, then I reach into my Magic Box for the new Magic Tricks. The Books and the Magic are selected especially for the current summer theme. So you always can expect a new show that encourages the children to get involved in all the fun at your library.

Your patrons will be talking about the show for weeks to come. You will be amazed at how the kids relate to the magic tricks when they are combined with books that they have at home or are on your shelves.

I have been to just about all the libraries in Vermont, so ask your fellow librarian if you think this program will be good for your library. Booking for the summer begins in January, so call or email early and get your first choice of dates.

Ages: 4 and up  
Length: 1 hour  
Fee: \$100 - \$300, includes mileage

### **KRISTEN LITTLEFIELD**

#### **Wildthings! Nature Program**

95 Sadler Lane

Williston, VT 05495

(802) 872-9987

Email: [wildthingsvt@gmail.com](mailto:wildthingsvt@gmail.com)

Website: [www.wildthingsvt.com](http://www.wildthingsvt.com)

Each hour-long workshop begins with a story and puppet show led by Professor Fizzywig (Kristen in costume). The introduction is followed by an indoor or outdoor hands-on activity that ties to a science theme. Some examples for this year's Every Hero Has a Story:

#### **Heroes in Nature: Keystone Species**

Keystone species are plants and animals that create food, shelter, breeding and nesting sites and a variety of other ecological advantages for a variety of living things – including us! We'll explore everything from wild honeybees to woodpeckers, gopher tortoises to goblin sharks. Take home projects include paper plate sharks, toilet roll "wildlife trees" and fingerprint beehives.

A brief wrap-up follows each activity and children will take home their theme-based projects. Handouts for caregivers are also provided at the end of each workshop. The handout may include book lists, science vocabulary, song lyrics, experiment ingredients, and/or art extension activities.

#### **About Wildthings!:**

Kristen Littlefield, M.Ed., certified Elementary Education teacher, Four Winds Nature Institute instructor, and Keeping Track trainee, has educated pre-kindergarten and elementary-aged children in a classroom setting for the past twenty years. An eight year instructor of the Four Winds Nature Program, Kristen has imparted her knowledge of the natural world to children ages 3-10 in schools and libraries through puppetry, hands-on experiments, outdoor exploration, literature, and song and drama.

Kristen's Wildthings! program is designed to teach children ages 3-10 about natural and physical science through art, literature, puppetry, outdoor exploration, hands-on experiments and drama.

Kristen's original curriculum is based on the Vermont Core Standards for Science and each workshop includes activities that encourage critical thinking and problem-solving skills. A wide variety of science materials accompany each workshop which children are encouraged to touch and explore.

Ages: 3-10, but most workshops can be adapted for any age group.

Length: 1 hour

Fee: \$125 (plus mileage if outside Chittenden County). Currently there is no fee for materials. Littlefield provides all workshop materials.

Special requirements: 3-4 tables for exhibits and art materials.

## **MAD SCIENCE OF WESTERN NEW ENGLAND**

PO Box 1265

Northampton, MA 01061

(413) 584-7243

Email: [mail@madsciencewne.com](mailto:mail@madsciencewne.com)

Website: [www.westnewengland.madscience.org](http://www.westnewengland.madscience.org)

Contact Person: Sara Clark

At Mad Science of Western New England, our creative team is busy refining science-related scenarios and programming for the summer Hero theme. Here are some examples:

**Science Heroes for Humankind!** - There are many scientists who have changed the world and become heroes in their own rights. Kids can experience the creative ingenuity of these scientists and experience their most well-known inventions and discoveries. Mad Science will have a workshop available on this topic appropriate for school-age children.

**Superheroes!** - Superheroes bend the rules of force and motion. Mad Science loves demonstrating the laws of motion and can relate them to the superhero feats kids see in movies and comics. Kids can also experience the science-based secrets of superhero movie-making "magic" and perhaps create their own superhero or storyline. Mad Science will have a stage show discussing forces with a superheroes theme. There will also be workshops covering forces, motion, and movie "magic," all with a superhero theme. Most of these topics will also be available as a booth.

Of course, all the amazing standard programming is still available from Mad Science! Mad Science of Western New England conducts workshops for Preschool and Elementary School age children on many different science topics. All Mad Science workshops are inquiry based and include cool demonstrations and a fun hands-on component. For preschoolers, Mad Science has 24 different workshops covering life sciences, senses, earth and beyond, and general science exploration. Example topics include: Animal Friends, Smell and Taste, Sea, Sand, & Surf, and Color Lab. For elementary school-aged children Mad Science has over 50 different workshops covering physical sciences, earth & space sciences, life sciences and space/rocketry. Example topics include: Dry Ice Capades, Super Power Sources, Sun & Stars, Dinosaurs, Life in the Sea, and Slime Science. School-age workshops are capped at 25-30 children, and Preschool

workshops are capped at 15-20 children to ensure everyone gets a chance to participate. Prices include a science take-home for every child. Resource packets related to the topic of any workshop are available as well.

Mad Science also offers Stage Shows for larger groups or those interested in a demonstration show only. Show topics include: Fire & Ice, Fun-tastic Forces, and Spin, Pop, Boom among others. Another option that can be scheduled with a show or alone are our hands-on activity booths. Booths run for an hour and can accommodate about 80 participants per hour. Booth topics include: Zap Attack, Bubbling Potions, Comets & Asteroids and Silly Sounds, among others.

Ages: 4-12

Length: School age: 60 minutes; Preschool: 30 minutes; Stage show: 60 minutes

Fee: School age workshops: \$179 plus mileage. If two or more workshops are booked on the same day, second one is \$159. Preschool workshops: \$189 for two back-to-back ½ hour workshops. If booking more than two ½ hour workshops on the same day, the third and up are \$88 each. Stage Shows: \$160-425 depending on size. Booths: \$155-\$175 per hour.

Special requirements: Mad Scientist needs access to a table, electric outlet and water. Territory includes Windham County. Other locations may be considered depending on distance and event.

### **GAIL MARTIN**

37 Pleasant St.

Bristol, VT 05443

(802) 989-8208

Email: [origaili@yahoo.com](mailto:origaili@yahoo.com)

There are many stories with heroes. Now you can be a hero for others! In this origami class, we will make flowers, cranes, and other items that make great gifts for friends and family members who could use a smile. Do you have a community member who needs cheering up? We can make a whole bunch of paper flowers! Be a hero of happiness!

Ages: 6 years to adult

Length: Formally 1 ½ - 2 hours (I often stay longer with people who are really “into it”)

Fee: \$100 + up to \$30 mileage. Discounts for block booking.

Special requirements: Each participant will need elbow room at a table. Materials will be supplied by Gail.

### **THE NATURE MUSEUM AT GRAFTON**

PO Box 38

Grafton, VT 05146

(802) 843-2111

Email: [lynn@nature-museum.org](mailto:lynn@nature-museum.org)



Website: [www.nature-museum.org](http://www.nature-museum.org)

Contact person: Lynn Morgan, Environmental Educator

Discover how the native bumblebee is nature's greatest hero! The Nature Museum's Environmental Educator will present on the life history of the bumblebee, the role they play in our ecosystem, and their current status in Vermont. Bumblebees are essential pollinators of local food crops as well as a key indicator of the overall health of Vermont's ecosystem. Through games, activities and crafts, kids will learn how bumblebees are the hero of our natural ecosystem.

Ages: Mixed ages

Length: 1 hour

Fee: \$90 plus mileage (75 cents per mile)

Special requirements: Only locations near Grafton, VT.

### **RIK PALIERI**

66 Koza's Run

Hinesburg, VT 05461

(802) 482-3185

Email: [Rik@banjo.net](mailto:Rik@banjo.net)

Website: [www.banjo.net](http://www.banjo.net)

Contact person: Marianna Holzer

### **If I Had a Hammer: The Songs and Life of Pete Seeger**

This program is based on my 35 year friendship with Pete. It will not only feature his songs but personal stories and some of his letters from my archive. This program will cover many of Pete's most popular pieces with something for every generation accompanied with my long neck banjo and 12 string guitar.

Ages: All

Length: 1 hour

Fee: \$250 plus gas and mileage

### **THE PUPPETREE**

PO Box 130

Post Mills, VT 05058

(802) 785-3031

Email: [vtpuppet@gmail.com](mailto:vtpuppet@gmail.com)

Website: [www.vtpuppettree.org](http://www.vtpuppettree.org)

Contact person: Ann Legunn

### **How about 2 Heroes for the Price of 1?**

*Swimmy/Swimmer* is two puppet shows presented in 40 minutes.

In Leo Lionni's classic children's story, *Swimmy*, a little black fish in a school of red fish becomes a **hero** when he hatches a plan that helps the red fish overcome their natural enemies. The PuppeTree brings this Caldecott Honor Book to life with shadow puppets and stunning animation. *Swimmy* shows that it only takes one person to change the lives of others, and that being a hero takes a little imagination and the will to take a risk.

The second story, *Swimmer*, is about a young girl who swims in the Connecticut River. Along her journey, she encounters pollution, mostly discarded plastic bottles. The *Swimmer* becomes a **heroine** when she confronts the problem that everyone else just ignored, by organizing a cleanup and repurposing the plastic. She, too, uses her imagination by encouraging others to change the polluting plastic into wonderful things.

Ages: 3-12 years old, and families

Length: 40 minutes

Fee: \$300 each show plus \$50 mileage fee; Block Booking: \$300 for each library show, no mileage fee – locations no more than 1 hr. apart and on the same day.

Special requirements: Audience size limited to 100 – usually seated on floor; screens and projectors require flat, clean floor; area must be a minimum of 8 ft. wide by 11 ft. deep, with a minimum ceiling height of 7 ft. (corner okay). Blackout not required. One electric outlet needed. Must be indoors. One-hour set-up time is required.

### **ROCKIN' RON THE FRIENDLY PIRATE**

PO Box 233

Jeffersonville, VT 05464

(802) 644-6632

Email: [rockinronthefriendlypirate@gmail.com](mailto:rockinronthefriendlypirate@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.rockinronthefriendlypirate.com/>

Contact person: Ron Carter

### **Black Sam Bellamy: Pirate Hero?**

You might think the term Pirate Hero is an oxymoron. Pirates are defined as thieves on a body of water, and heroes are those admired for their achievements and qualities. Heroes are also defined as mythological or legendary figures, and chief characters in dramas. In my song 1717 (Black Sam Bellamy), I examine the life of the pirate Samuel Bellamy, who was known as the Robin Hood of the Sea. After hearing the song, you can decide if he was a hero... or not.

I will also perform other entertaining and educational pirate songs from my albums **Give me an RRR!** and **Pirate PaRRRty!** My main ports o' call are Smugglers' Notch Resort in Jeffersonville and Buttered Noodles – the Feel Good Kids Store in Williston. I have appeared in schools and at events throughout Northeastern North America. In 2013, I visited over 20 Vermont libraries for the "Dig Into Reading" program.

Ages: PreK and up

Length: 45 minutes

Fee: \$125 plus mileage (negotiable)

Special requirements: Access to electrical power, space for speaker, mic stand, and props.

## **REBECCA RUPP**

61 Fadden Road  
Swanton, VT 05488  
(802) 868-2879

Email: [rebeccarupp@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccarupp@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.rebeccaruppresources.com>

Scientists are heroes! And they've got some great stories!

### **Cool Chemists**

Who invented plastic? What about soda pop? Oxygen? Buckyballs? Let's find out – and try some experiments of our own. We'll make polymers, check out some erupting soda bottles, and separate oxygen and hydrogen (using pencils and a battery).

### **Brilliant Biologists**

Who discovered DNA? Who discovered cells? What about antibiotics? We'll experiment with mold and yeast, try extracting DNA, and make a great cell model.

### **Fantastic Physicists**

Who invented the rocket? The parachute? The battery? What about the windmill? We'll find out – and then do some cool experiments with balloons, electricity, and more.

Ages: 6-12

Length: 1-1 ½ hours

Fee: \$250

Special requirements: Tables and access to water.

## **SOUTHERN VERMONT NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM**

7599 VT Route 9

West Marlboro, VT 05363

(802) 464-0048

Email: [vermontmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:vermontmuseum@gmail.com)

Website: [www.vermontmuseum.org](http://www.vermontmuseum.org)

Contact person: Michael Clough

### **Super Animals!**

Who can hold their breath for four months? Who can survive freezing solid? Who can see a cricket from 100 yards away? Find out in this engaging and exciting program from the Southern Vermont Natural History Museum. **We will bring live animals, active storytelling, touchable artifacts and interactive demonstrations** to explore the super-human world of animals found right here in our own back yards.

Ages: Pre-K to adult

Length: 45 minutes to an hour

Fee: \$175 plus mileage from Museum at IRS rate (\$.56/mi 2014). Discounts for block booking available including shared mileage. Additional fees may apply for extreme distances and inclusion of bald eagle.

Special requirements: We require a 6-8 foot table and room to move through the audience. A multi-media presentation is available to accompany this program and will require a projection screen/wall.

### **SUMMER ENCORE**

22 Stratton Rd.

Rutland, VT 05701

(802) 770-1134

Email: [carcher@rutlandhs.k12.vt](mailto:carcher@rutlandhs.k12.vt)

Contact person: Cathy Archer

Summer Encore is a troupe of students in grades 7-12 who develop a play each year that fits the theme of the reading program. This year's play will be: **Who will save [insert your town here]?** The story will include a hero of your community or the name/character of one of your librarians as the hero. We will be asking each town that books us for something real or imaginary that is threatening their town which the hero can defeat/change. The final story will reflect elements of your particular location and the hero/librarian. The hero could be invited to the performance and recognized if that is something you would like to do. Some dangers facing a city might be a flood or other natural disaster, bullying, blight? The play will include audience participation as it has in the past two years. We look forward to coming to your town this summer.

Ages: 5 and up

Length: 40-50 minutes

Fee: \$200; mileage included

### **SWING PEEPERS**

c/o Witten

1355 Shaker Hill Road

Starksboro, VT 05487

(802) 434-3236

Email: [matt@swingpeepers.com](mailto:matt@swingpeepers.com)

Website: [www.swingpeepers.com](http://www.swingpeepers.com)

Contact person: Matthew Witten

This year the Swing Peepers bring audiences along on a tour of heroes, be they mariners who rescue a shipwrecked crew, hens laying eggs and pecking around the yard, a Korean chef making spicy kimchi, or an egotistical frog who just maybe gets away with his life.

Ever inventive, spontaneous and responsive to kids, John and Matthew of the Swing Peepers tell stories and sing songs that explore a wide variety of larger-than-life characters, whether human or animal. At the height of their show, the Swing Peepers request ideas from the audience and

weave them into an impromptu tall tale. Instruments strummed, swung, and tapped include: guitar, mandolin, harmonica, banjo, ukulele and accordion. Come sing, move, and participate like a hero with the Swing Peepers!

The Swing Peepers duo Matthew Witten and John Hadden have been performing in Vermont and elsewhere in the Northeast for over 20 years at festivals, schools, parks and libraries. The Swing Peepers are on the Vermont Arts Council's Juried Roster of Teaching Artists and are based near Camel's Hump in Northern Vermont. They have produced four CD recordings.

Ages: 4-12 and their families

Length: 45-60 minutes

Fee: \$300 plus mileage. Discounts for block booking negotiated.

Special requirements: The Swing Peepers most often perform *without* a sound system to maximize intimacy with our audiences. We do have an excellent sound system available, however, for outdoor events and large audiences. An additional fee of \$50 applies for this service.

### **BRENDAN TAAFFE**

118 Prospect St. #2

Brattleboro, VT 05301

(802) 770-0857

Email: [brendan@brendantaaffe.com](mailto:brendan@brendantaaffe.com)

Website: [www.brendantaaffe.com](http://www.brendantaaffe.com)

Crankies are magic, a low-tech form of moving pictures that completely captivates any audience. Crankies, for the uninitiated, are scrolling illustrations, wound inside a wooden box and then hand-cranked so that the images move across a viewing screen.

Brendan Taaffe is a musician, storyteller, and crankie maker from Brattleboro. In this performance, he will present crankies and songs that look at the unsung heroes of everyday life: the generosity of two brothers in an old Armenian tale; Giono's "Man Who Planted Trees;" the heroism of old Irish man who braves a stormy sea to save the books from an island school. Plus songs and music for young and old.

Ages: 5 and up

Length: 50 minutes

Fee: \$300 plus travel if more than 50 miles from Brattleboro

### **TARADIDDLE**

c/o Jean Roberts

84 Ruby Road

Poultney, VT 05764

(802) 287-5815

Email: [taradiddle77@gmail.com](mailto:taradiddle77@gmail.com)

Website: [www.taradiddleduo.com](http://www.taradiddleduo.com)

Contact person: Jean Roberts

Taradiddle is a storytelling duo (former public librarians Jean Roberts and Daphne Bartholomew) whose specialty is weaving mostly traditional songs and stories into fun, affordable theme-based programs. Everyone's invited to join in at a Taradiddle event, and whether the mood is slightly scary or seriously silly, audiences leave with smiles on their faces and maybe even a new tale or tune to pass along. For Summer 2015, we're wondering...

### **Who Will Save the Day?**

What does it take to be a hero? Bravery? Persistence? Ingenuity? Dumb luck? And would you recognize a hero if you met one? If it's true that *Every Hero Has a Story*, it's also true that almost every story has a hero. Join us for an exploration in story and song of some intriguing characters who save the day – or try to!

Ages: family/elementary/preschool

Length: 40-60 minutes

Fee: \$100 per program (\$25 mileage surcharge for bookings outside Rutland/Addison counties)

Special requirements: No special equipment needed. No library or audience too small!

### **THE TRAVELING STORYTELLER & CO.**

188 Sheldon Hts.

Sheldon, VT 05483

(802) 933-5075 or (802) 393-2697

Email: [verydramatic@rocketmail.com](mailto:verydramatic@rocketmail.com)

Website: [www.travelingstoryteller.com](http://www.travelingstoryteller.com)

Contact person: Rina Choiniere

### **Nanuk's Arctic Adventure**

Nanuk the little polar bear and his Arctic friends enjoy a peaceful life together full of games and jokes, until one day an Inuit boy named Nukak comes near their homes to hunt. The animals must join together to save the life of one of their animal friends. But in the end they save Nukak.

Ages: 3-10

Length: approximately 1 hour

Fee: Small Public Library: \$100 (\*plus in-state mileage charge)

Medium Public Library \$110 (\*plus in-state mileage charge)

Large Public Library \$120 (\*plus in-state mileage charge)

\*In-State Mileage: \$15 for the first 30 miles and then \$5 for each additional 10-mile increment. We charge you mileage for one way.

Special requirements: We need approx. a 6'x6' area for the stage. Children can be seated on floor in front of stage. Other requirements: an electrical outlet close by.

## **VERMONT INSTITUTE OF NATURAL SCIENCES (VINS)**

6565 Woodstock Road  
PO Box 1281  
Quechee, VT 05059  
(802) 359-5000 x221  
Email: [info@vinsweb.org](mailto:info@vinsweb.org)  
Website: [www.vinsweb.org](http://www.vinsweb.org)  
Contact person: Linda Conrad

### **Superpowers of Survival**

Faster than a speeding car, able to leap tall fences in a single bound, tougher than the sharpest teeth... LOOK! It's an animal superhero! Discover the amazing adaptations animals have to be the heroes of the natural world. Get up close with two birds, a reptile, and other amazing animal artifacts. You will walk away with the power to be a champion of nature.

Ages: youth

Length: 45 minutes

Fee: \$275 plus \$1/mile; can book block bookings to share mileage fees.

Special requirements: 6ft-8ft table and space for a seated audience.

### **MATTHEW WITTEN**

1355 Shaker Hill Road  
Starksboro, VT 05487  
(802) 434-3236  
Email: [mwitten@gmavt.net](mailto:mwitten@gmavt.net)  
Website: [www.matthewwitten.com](http://www.matthewwitten.com)

This year Matthew tells stories and sings songs that explore a wide variety of human, animal and fantastical characters. Matthew draws on his knowledge of various folk traditions as well as Vermont history to bring colorful tales of foibles and triumph to his audiences. He will take you along on a tour of heroes, be they mariners who rescue a shipwrecked crew, hens laying eggs and pecking around the yard, a Korean chef making spicy kimchi, or an egotistical frog who just maybe gets away with his life.

Playing guitar, banjo, ukulele and accordion, Matthew invites you to come sing, move, and participate like a hero!

Matthew Witten is a musician, storyteller and educator, who started performing folk music on the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater singing to school groups and performing on stage with his hero Pete Seeger and other folk musicians. Using guitar, accordion, banjo and percussion, Matthew has been performing for family audiences in Vermont, New York, and elsewhere in New England since 1988. He has produced four CD recordings with fellow Swing Peeper, John Hadden.

Ages: 3-10 and their families

Length: 45-60 minutes

Fee: \$200 plus mileage. Discounts for block booking as well as other mitigating factors negotiated.

Special requirements: Matthew is best able to engage kids and their parents in movement when there is open floor space left in front of the stage. This enables the audience to spread out and move around with the music!



# Vermont Department of Libraries

## **EVERY HERO HAS A STORY**

### Performer Grant Application Form

The performer(s) **MUST** be from this program booklet.

Name of Library: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Employer ID # of Library: \_\_\_\_\_ (You **must** have this to apply)

Name of Performer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Performance: \_\_\_\_\_ Program Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand and agree that only libraries meeting standards may apply and that the grant may be used only for performer/s from this program booklet.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Position at library: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Submission deadline: Friday, March 6, 2015**

**Send to:**

Sharon Colvin  
Youth Services Consultant  
Vermont Department of Libraries  
109 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05609  
OR  
email: [sharon.colvin@state.vt.us](mailto:sharon.colvin@state.vt.us)  
OR  
fax: 802-828-2199

This form is online at:

[http://libraries.vermont.gov/services/children\\_and\\_teens/summer\\_reading/children\\_and\\_teens](http://libraries.vermont.gov/services/children_and_teens/summer_reading/children_and_teens)