POWER OF PLACE | Participant responses to prompts:

What Questions Do You Have on this Topic?

- What is an effective process for inviting community conversation about the exhibit/learning goals you wish to achieve?
- How can we most effectively serve communities with partners doing good work but with different goals or approaches for how that looks?
- How to increase participation- ownership
- How to advocate and stress importance in a resistant Museum?
- How to strategize funding that can be set on a national level to meet community?
- How to engage youth into the development of exhibition creation and program development?
- How can libraries adopt museum/ exhibit practices and develop those spaces?
- How can we include people who can’t afford our services?
- Sometimes, place-based education can feel contrived or overdone- How do you think out of the box?
- How can we genuinely create exhibits reflecting our community with a staff that does not reflect that community?

What are some of the biggest challenges in creating exhibits or programs that reflect your community?

- Time (2)
- Financial resources
- Managing donor expectations
- Getting various community stakeholders to spend time to engage and give feedback
- Money (2)
- Skilled and available craftsman
- Major points of pride in community are so overdone/have become cliché
- Our staff doesn’t reflect our diverse community
- Team composition that doesn’t reflect the community (2)
- Staff and Members don’t reflect our local neighborhood community
- The approach- how to start the conversation
- Forming collaborations with community
- Engagement
- Experience/knowledge
- Distance and Diversity
- Scope- neighborhood? City? State?
- Ever changing neighborhoods
• We have a regional vision for our museum, but the individual communities want to be unique from each other.

**Have you ever created an exhibit that aims to reflect your community, or are you in the process now? Yes/No, Tell us where!**

• Yes! This is how we do exhibits at Children’s Museum of Southern Minnesota
• Yes, in process now, opening in 2021 in Finnsnes, Northern Norway
• Recent exhibits that are cultural- Children of Hangzhou (traveling) and Lindo Mexico (in house)
• Opened in September 2018. Well loved. Created school field trips that use the space and align with school standards.
• Yes, Glacier Children’s Museum, MT
• Yes, Denver Zoo Bear Habitat, camping and backyard safety with bears
• Yes- opens spring 2021 in Central Florida
• Oakland Museum of California
• Working to learn about the culture of Kuwait as we design a new children’s museum
• When we launched in 2011, we attempted to give local-regional context to all our exhibits. We have an ongoing “Jackson Jobs” exhibit that highlights our more “unique” professions. (Jackson Hole Children’s Museum)

**Maybe you haven’t done an exhibit... Have you created a program that reflects your community? Where? What?**

• We work hard to connect our science learning opportunities to the N.G.S.S. and local science standards to make sure that what we are teaching is relevant to what students are learning in schools.
• Global conservation, community curriculum that highlights animal/human interaction. (Denver Zoo)
• Inviting in diverse, local creators, and performers (adult & youth)
• Exhibit= regional history in miniature

**What has worked well when you have developed something that reflects/engages your community?**

• We’ve been able to leverage local funding as well as in-kind support.
• Partnering with other organizations
• Increased attendance
• If you feed them, they will come
• The sense of place seen in a child
• Making exhibits open-ended and fun
• Important to local self-identity
• Repeat visitors
• Engaging partners/schools in the development process
• Engaging many members of the community in the process and listening and responding to their experiences and wisdom.
• Engaged caregivers = engaged kids
• Crowd sourcing
• Community buy-in/support
• Using the local colors, shapes, interests in design
• Start by listening