

More Mistakes Were Made!

Session Chair

Kathy Gustafson-Hilton, Hands On! Studio

Presenters

Trudi Plummer, Director of Education, Maine Discovery Museum

Devon Hamilton, Experience & Learning Director, Blue Rhino Studio

Jane Werner, Executive Director, Children's Museum of Pittsburgh

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April 26-28, 2023

Our definition of a mistake:

There was really something lost: resources, time, goodwill, pride. The example should be a bit embarrassing. It should have helped our organizations or us, as professionals, grow in a significant way. Experimentation is, of course, an excellent way to develop new programming and operations, but that's different from a mistake in this sense.

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**A common mistake that people make
when trying to design something
completely foolproof is to underestimate
the ingenuity of complete fools.**

Douglas Adams, Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy

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Learning from your mistakes does not happen automatically, it requires thinking and reflection.

Oscar Auliq-Ice, South African author, venture capitalist

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**If you aren't making mistakes then
you aren't doing anything. I'm
positive that a doer makes mistakes.**

John Wooden ,UCLA basketball coach who won 10
NCAA national championships in 12 years

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Japanese Proverb: Saru mo ki kara ochiru

Translation: Even monkeys fall from trees.

Meaning: Everyone makes mistakes. Monkeys are very good at climbing trees, but even they mess up sometimes.

**Appreciate your mistakes for what they are:
precious life lessons that can only be learned
the hard way. Unless it's a fatal mistake, which,
at least others can learn from.**

Former Senator Al Franken, writer for Saturday Night Live

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There are no stupid mistakes.

There are mistakes. These moments teach us something.

Then there's stupid. This happens when we refuse to learn from our mistakes.

Seth Godin, Author & former dot com business executive

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"I was hoping to learn from my mistakes."

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**A mistake that makes you humble is
better than an achievement that
makes you arrogant.**

Sheikh Hamza Yusuf, Islamic scholar

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**Mistakes are the portal to
discovery.**

James Joyce, Irish novelist & poet

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**Some of the worst mistakes in my
life were haircuts.**

Jim Morrison, Musician, lead vocalist of The Doors

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