

KIDS, BOOKS AND THE ARTS ROSTER 2018  
**STEVE BLUNT**

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Contact: Steve Blunt  
Arts Discipline: **Music**

**Program Descriptions: Three Programs available**

**Steve Blunt (solo) “Rockin’ Sing-Along”**

Shake it up, baby--at the library! Award-winning children’s musician, Steve Blunt, delivers a little rock ‘n’ roll & lots of fun for families with kids of all ages. He’s sure to top the charts with a brand new hit single for summer reading 2018, “Libraries Rock--Let’s Rock ‘n’ Roll & Read!” This highly interactive presentation fosters musical participation in a variety of modes: singing, listening, clapping, fingerplay, ASL, foreign language & large motor movement--because kids who make music make rockin’ readers. And there’s always a whole lotta shakin’ going’ on when Steve passes out shaker eggs for all to play! Meanwhile, this seasoned library performer sings and plays guitar, harmonica, djembe drum, low brass horn & more, providing exposure to a surprising assortment of instruments & styles--in a fun, upbeat musical celebration for the whole family.

**Steve Blunt & Marty Kelley (duo) “Let’s Rock ‘n’ Roll & Read!”**

Get into the rhythm of reading at the library--with original songs & stories for the whole family! For summer reading 2018, Steve & Marty perform “Libraries Rock--Let’s Rock ‘n’ Roll & Read!” and other folk-rockin’ tunes on a variety of musical instruments--including guitar, harmonica, congas, spoons & more. Marty reads several of his crowd-pleasing books, such as *Summer Stinks* and *Almost Everybody Farts*--with projected illustrations. Together, this award-winning children’s musician and best-selling author/illustrator keep everyone singing, reading & laughing along--with imagination, humor & plenty of audience participation. (Top secret for NH libraries: Marty is currently working on a book about a dog who travels to outer space--a nice fit for the 2019 summer reading space theme, “A Universe of Stories.”)

**Steve Blunt & Friends (band) “Rockin’ Kids’ Music for the Whole Family!”**

Dance to the music--and be a rockin’ reader! Award-winning children’s musician, Steve Blunt, brings the band to perform songs from his repertoire of original tunes--including “Libraries Rock--Let’s Rock ‘n’ Roll & Read!” This motley crew of musical friends features author/illustrator, Marty Kelley, on drums & harmonica; Berklee grad, Joe Pierog, on bass; and Noelle Boc, the Singing Librarian, on tambourine & ukulele--with shaker eggs & jingle bells for all to play. Selected audience members join the band to keep the beat on simple percussion. (More cowbell, anyone?) With catchy tunes & lively rhythms for singing & dancing, Steve Blunt & Friends rock the library with a high-energy show that’s sure to keep the crowd moving’ & grooving’ along!

**Length of program:** 45-60 minutes

**Program suited for:** Ages 0-10

**Program can be performed:** Indoors or outdoors (for duo shows with Marty, an indoor space is needed to project his illustrations)

**Fee:** \$300 solo, \$450 duo, \$600 band

**Mileage charge:** \$0.25 per mile

**Block booking rates available**

**Performance space requirements:** Electrical outlet & performance space; for duo performance with Marty Kelley, a small cart or table and screen are requested.

**Link to online video:** <https://youtu.be/ueFmPnXgsig>

KIDS, BOOKS AND THE ARTS ROSTER 2018  
**CACTUSHEAD PUPPETS**

131 Ashley Ave Apt D4  
West Springfield, MA 01089  
816-392-6763  
CactusHeadpuppets@gmail.com

Contact: Megan Regan  
Arts Discipline: **Puppetry**

[www.cactusheadpuppets.com/http://www.cactusheadpuppets.com/](http://www.cactusheadpuppets.com/)  
<http://www.cactusheadpuppets.com/>

**Program Description:**

**The Bremen Town Musicians**

What are a donkey, a dog, a cat and a rooster to do when they have to leave the farm? Try and become world famous musicians, of course! Join CactusHead Puppets for the hilarious tale of four farm animals who set out on the road to Bremen to pursue their dreams of fame and fortune, and come together to create beautiful music and a new home.

After the performance, puppeteers John and Megan Regan lead a puppetry demonstration and audience

Q & A.

**Length of Program:** 45 minutes

**Program Suited for:** Ages 4 to 12

**Program can be performed:** Indoors

**Fee:** \$400

**Mileage Charge:** Federal rate

**Block booking rates available**

**Performance Space Requirements:** A smooth, flat floor space 11 ft. wide by 8 ft. deep with at least 8 ft. high ceilings and access to an electric outlet.

**Workshop Description:**

**Shadow Puppet Workshop:** This workshop begins with a demonstration of different types of puppets, focusing on shadow puppets. We then provide instruction and materials for all the participants to create their own shadow puppet. Once the puppets are complete, we offer training in basic puppet performance, and each participant gets a chance to demonstrate their puppet for the group as part of a short puppet parade.

**Length of Workshop:** One hour

**Workshop Suited for:** Ages 5 and up

**Number of Participants:** Maximum of 25

**Fee for One Performance and One Workshop:** \$500

**Workshop Space Requirements:** Table space for each participant

**Link to online video:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PsQtgAfoop4>

KIDS, BOOKS AND THE ARTS ROSTER 2018  
**STEVE CORNING**

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Lewiston, ME 04240  
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[stevecorning.com](http://stevecorning.com)

Contact: Steve Corning  
Arts Discipline: **Juggling, Comedy & Variety**

**Program Description:**

Hailing from Maine, Steve Corning has brought his unique brand of variety arts and off-beat comedy to theaters and resorts across the country, and even internationally on Disney Cruise Line. Steve's one-man variety extravaganza features fast-paced juggling routines, mind-blowing escape artistry, contortion, comedy magic, and nearly endless amazing sideshow stunts. If you're looking for non-stop entertainment and laughs for the whole family, this show has it all! For this year's show, Steve has put his own spin on "Libraries Rock!" by producing an all new soundtrack of original electronic music for the show, as well as new routines that bring the audience into the show.

**Length of Program:** 45 minutes

**Program Suited for:** All ages

**Program can be performed:** Indoors or Outdoors

**Fee:** \$400

**Mileage Charge:** 50 cents a mile

**Block booking rates available**

**Performance Space Requirements:** A performance space and electricity. Small indoor stage or open indoor space with high ceilings is preferred, Steve's show is pretty adaptable and he can work with just about any situation indoors or outdoors.

**Workshop Description:**

Have you ever wanted to learn to juggle? Now is your chance! Professional juggler and touring performer Steve Corning will provide a fun, high-energy juggling demo, followed by hands-on instruction and lessons for all ages and skill-types. Juggling is not only a great skill to break out at a party, it also can become an exhilarating hobby, and it's a healthy exercise for both the body and mind! Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn an awesome new skill!

**Length of Workshop:** one hour

**Workshop Suited for:** Ages 8 and older ideal, but anyone is welcome

**Number of Participants:** maximum 25

**Fee for One Performance (30 min) and One Workshop (30 min):** \$450 plus travel

**Workshop Space Requirements:** Almost any space will work; 8 ft+ ceilings and adequate space for attendees to spread out is preferred.

**Link to online video:**

<https://vimeo.com/237660181>

KIDS, BOOKS AND THE ARTS 2018 ROSTER  
**HAMPSTEAD STAGE COMPANY**

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Center Barnstead, NH 03225  
800-619-5302  
[info@hampsteadstage.org](mailto:info@hampsteadstage.org)  
[www.hampsteadstage.org](http://www.hampsteadstage.org)

Contact: Anna Robbins  
Arts Discipline: **Theatre**

**Program Description:**

Hampstead Stage's interactive educational tours run year-round and are performed by two professional actors, each playing multiple roles. Our scripts are original adaptations, based directly on literary classics, and include children and adults from the audience. We travel to your space and bring our own realistic sets and costumes, designed using extensive historical research, which are flexible enough to fit into any assembly/performance space.

**Programs for Summer 2018-** You may book one performance or both!

**American Folktakes and Songs:** At the height of the Great Depression two traveling workers find themselves sharing the same camp one frigid night. Alone and without work, they find warmth in the mutual discovery of traditional American folk songs and tall tales. Through music and storytelling, these new friends bring classic folktales to life! Join us on a great adventure as we travel from sea to shining sea discovering great American legends. When times are tough, what keeps you going? Recommended ages 5+.

**Treasure Island:** Robert Louis Stevenson's novel *Treasure Island* is a fantastical tale of pirates, adventure, and buried treasure! It tells the story of young Jim Hawkins and his perilous search for the buried treasure of the infamous Captain Flint. Students will meet Long John Silver and his band of marauding pirates, and take an exciting journey across the seven seas. Throughout this swashbuckling tale, we teach the danger of greed and the importance of helping others. (Recommended Ages 5+)

**Length of Program:** 45 to 55 minutes followed by a brief Q & A session

**Program suited for:** ages 5 and up

**Program can be performed:** Indoors or Outdoors. Outdoor shows must be in an area with low winds and temperature must be below 85 degrees.

**Fee:** \$375

**Mileage Charge:** none

**Performance Space Requirements:** We need a minimum space of 10' x 10' and 7' tall. Community rooms, meeting rooms, town halls, etc. are ideal. Our set is very adjustable and can be made to fit into most spaces. The shows can be performed outside, but temperatures must be below 85 degrees and wind must be minimal for the safety of our actors and set. We recommend securing an alternative space if booking an outside show.

**Workshop Description:** We have several workshops to choose from including the following: *Building a Performance, Animal Physicality, Creating a Character, Improvisation, and Stage Combat*. For detailed descriptions, please go to our website and click on Workshops!

**Length of Workshop:** 45 minutes

**Workshop suited for:** See website for information about age suitability for the different workshops.

**Number of participants:** maximum of 35 students

**Fee for one performance and one workshop:** \$475

**Workshop Space Requirements:** None

**Link to online video:**

<https://youtu.be/ZBmqJfA4BdM>

KIDS, BOOKS AND THE ARTS ROSTER 2018  
**AARON JONES**

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770-298-6482  
[rattleboxstudio@gmail.com](mailto:rattleboxstudio@gmail.com)  
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Contact: Aaron Jones  
Arts Discipline: **Music**

**Program Description:**

Join Mr. Aaron on a thrilling musical journey! With his fun, upbeat music, humor and wit, even grown-ups will want to get up and dance. We'll celebrate just how much "Libraries Rock," with peppy tunes, instruments to play, musical books and story songs. The show is interactive and participatory; kids of ALL ages will be singing and dancing along.

**Length of Program:** 45 minutes to one hour

**Program Suited for:** Ages 0-10

**Program can be performed:** Indoors or Outdoors

**Fee:** \$300

**Mileage Charge:** \$.40 per mile

**Block booking rates available**

**Performance Space Requirements:** Space for kids to sit, dance and move, and a table for Aaron's supplies.

**Workshop Description:**

Songwriting and Instrument Building with Mr. Aaron!

Bring recycled materials like cardboard boxes, jugs, sticks, and cans, and create your own musical instrument! We'll talk about how music works, learn about some of Mr. Aaron's instruments, and then see what we can build to make a band out of our recycled materials. We'll also learn about songwriting—how songs are structured, elements of song—and write our own song together, as a group, using our recycled instruments.

**Length of Workshop:** 1 hour

**Workshop Suited for:** Ages 2-10 and their grown-ups (to help the young ones)

**Number of Participants:** up to 15 children

**Fee for One Performance and One Workshop:** \$550

**Workshop Space Requirements:** Tables and chairs for kids to sit and build their instruments

**Link to online video:**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xexjul\\_MCSs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xexjul_MCSs)

KIDS, BOOKS AND THE ARTS ROSTER 2018  
**BRYSON LANG**

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Boxford, MA 01921  
818-679-6303  
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[www.brysonlang.com](http://www.brysonlang.com)

Contact: Bryson Lang  
Arts Discipline: **Comedy, Juggling**

**Program Description:**

Everyone from elementary school kids through senior citizens enjoy Bryson Lang's interactive, family-friendly Comedy-Juggling show. Bryson uses ball-spinning, flying sombreros, giant bouncing rings, object manipulation, original comedy and audience participation to create a unique and visual entertainment experience. He combines performance to music and comedy to create an exciting, interactive show. You will definitely see things you've never seen before and you'll be laughing along the way. The *Reno Gazette Journal* said, "A talented juggler who wins the audience with his charm." *Tahoe Spotlight Magazine* called him, "Outstanding and a fast-paced mix of world-class juggling and comedy!" He's technical, he's fun, he's silly and he's entertaining. Come see why Bryson Lang is "The Cure for the Common Show!"

**Length of Program:** 45 to 50 minutes

**Program Suited for:** All ages

**Program can be performed:** Indoors or Outdoors

**Fee:** \$425

**Mileage Charge:** No

**Block booking rates available**

**Performance Space Requirements:** One electrical outlet and ideally a 15' x 15' space to perform. The higher the ceiling the better for a more dynamic show, but if it isn't available, Bryson can adapt to a low ceiling without a problem.

**Workshop Description:**

Bryson will teach the fundamentals of the basic juggling pattern step by step, as well as a few basic tricks and moves. Bryson begins with the whole group and then focuses on those individuals who need extra assistance.

**Length of Workshop:** 45 minutes

**Workshop Suited for:** All ages

**Number of Participants:** Maximum of 100

**Fee for One Performance and One Workshop:** \$500

**Workshop Space Requirements:** Library needs to provide three plastic grocery bags for each workshop participant.

**Link to online video:**

<https://www.youtube.com/user/brysonlang/videos>

KIDS, BOOKS AND THE ARTS ROSTER 2018  
**MAGIC BY GEORGE**

P.O. Box 394  
Holden, MA 01520  
978-937-5900

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[www.magicbygeorge.com](http://www.magicbygeorge.com)

Contact: George Saterial  
Arts Discipline: **Magic**

**Program Description:**

**Magic, Music, Readin' and Rockin'**—Soon after reading a magic book from his hometown library, George's world began to change. That first ensemble of simple tricks really struck a chord. George was able to arrange and orchestrate a career that has taken him across six continents and 32 countries, entertaining audiences with his unique style of magic.

By performing internationally, George discovered that combining magic with music not only bridged language gaps, but also formed lasting friendships. "Every culture has an instinctive sense of wonder. Both magic and music resonate that emotion," says George. "Combined, it's pure enchantment!" This then is now incorporated into George's newest fun-filled performance, "**Magic, Music, Readin' and Rockin'.**"

This fast-paced show harmoniously combines George's playful persona with jaw-dropping magic, various genres of music, lighthearted humor, captivating storytelling and plenty of audience participation. Your audience will be rockin' and rollin' as they are thrilled by the appearance of two LIVE BIRDS and the actual LEVITATION OF AN AUDIENCE MEMBER! Patrons, young and old, will be inspired to learn more about magic and music and how to utilize the many resources the library has to assist them on their quest. Everyone will be shouting "Encore!"

**Length of Program:** 45 to 50 minutes

**Program Suited for:** Ages 5 to 105

**Program can be performed:** Indoors or Outdoors

**Fee:** \$425

**Mileage Charge:** No

**Block booking rates available**

**Performance Space Requirements:** Access to an electrical outlet. Performance space approximately 12 ft. by 8 ft. or larger is preferred.

**Workshop Description:**

**Get Ready to Compose Your Own Magic Show!** In this workshop, children will construct their own magic tricks using everyday household objects and be encouraged to read and learn more about magic and the history of famous magicians from the past. Participants will build the confidence to perform for their family and friends and also discover that sharing their magic will create continuing opportunities to form friendships.

**Length of Workshop:** one hour

**Workshop Suited for:** Ages 8 and up

**Number of Participants:** Maximum of 20

**Fee for One Performance and One Workshop:** \$675

**Workshop Space Requirements:** Table space and adequate seating for all participants.

**Link to online video:**

[www.vimeo.com/magicbygeorge/chilis](http://www.vimeo.com/magicbygeorge/chilis)



KIDS, BOOKS AND THE ARTS ROSTER 2018  
**JUDY PANCOAST**

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603-716-3646  
[judypancoast@comcast.net](mailto:judypancoast@comcast.net)  
[www.judypancoast.com](http://www.judypancoast.com)

Contact: Judy Pancoast  
Arts Discipline: **Music**

**Program Description:**

Find out how much a library can rock with New Hampshire's Grammy nominee, Judy Pancoast. Judy has been presenting concerts of fun-filled original tunes like "Take Me to Your Reader" and "The Lost Library Book Blues" for 21 years. For 2018 Judy will invite children into "Judy's Tune Room" to enjoy a 45-60 minute concert featuring songs in a variety of styles from pop ("Once Upon a Time") and rock ("A Little Bit of Elvis") to country ("The Only Bug at the Rodeo") and jazz ("The Dog Did It"). During the concert Judy will also share her songwriting secrets about how she gets inspired and what goes into creating her songs. The children will even help Judy turn one of their own ideas into a short, memorable and melodic song. And of COURSE Judy will talk a little bit about the King of Rock and Roll when introducing her song about him! There will be lots of dancing and singing along as Judy's enthusiastic, kid-friendly personality makes each concert experience special. In 2011 Judy was nominated for a Grammy Award for Best Children's Album for her one-of-a-kind CD, [Weird Things Are Everywhere!](#) She is proud to say that she lost to the legendary Pete Seeger!

**Length of program:** 45-60 minutes

**Program suited for:** Ages 5-9 (younger and older ages also welcome)

**Program can be performed:** Indoors or outdoors

**Fee:** \$350

**Mileage charge:** none

**Block booking rates available**

**Performance space requirements:** Electricity and 8' x 6' area to set up piano and sound system.

**Workshop Description:**

Judy's songwriting workshop, informed by her Master's Degree in Education (Reading) and her classroom teaching experience, enhances and broadens children's concept of writing while using the processes familiar from the classroom. Using a variety of writing strategies, Judy guides the children through a creative musical experience that is challenging and exciting. Every child takes part in the process and in the end, is a true composer of the lyrics and melody. Participants develop a rudimentary understanding of the song writing process. They use the vocabulary of song writing, including "rhyme," "meter," "verse," "pattern" and "chorus." They brainstorm to develop the idea and "hook" of the song and will participate in the revision process. At the end of the workshop, Judy will videotape the children singing their song and make the video available to parents who provide their email address, along with an email that includes the song lyrics.

**Length of Workshop:** two hours (with a 10-15 minute snack break)

**Workshop Suited for:** Ages 6-11

**Number of Participants:** Maximum of 20

**Fee for One Performance and One Workshop:** \$500

**Workshop Space Requirements:** It would be useful for the library to provide chart paper, a stand and markers. Please let Judy know if this is not possible.

**Link to online video:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mKQVvE1V5cM>

KIDS, BOOKS AND THE ARTS ROSTER 2018  
**MODERN TIMES THEATER**

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East Hardwick, VT 05836  
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moderntimestheater@gmail.com  
[www.moderntimestheater.com](http://www.moderntimestheater.com)

Contact: Rose Friedman  
Arts Discipline: Comedy/Clowning, Music, Puppetry,  
Theatre

**Program Description: "That's What I Call Sweet Music"**

The hills are alive with the sound of music in this all-ages puppet production. "Sweet Music" follows the troubles and travails of puppetry's favorite loudmouth, Mr. Punch as he sings his way through trouble, adventure, and triumph. Included in the cast are the Bozo Brothers, who delight audiences with their dynamic percussive dance routines. This is hand-puppetry at its best in a style that has entertained children for centuries. In addition to the puppet show, the program also features a mini concert, offering selections from an extensive repertoire of early jazz, classic American folk songs and original novelty numbers, performed on the cornet, ukulele, upright bass, five string banjo, and bicycle pump, as well as homemade instruments.

The program can also be paired with a junk music and sound experimentation workshop, in which participants create and learn to play instruments made from everyday household objects.

Rose Friedman and Justin Lander have been making and performing puppet shows together since 2003. They are co-founders of Vermont Vaudeville, Vermont's premier Vaudeville troupe. Librarians say Modern Times Theater "engages all ages with their superb talent, wit and enthusiasm", and "you must, must see them in person"!

**Length of Program:** 45 minutes

**Program Suited for:** Ages 3 and up

**Program can be performed:** Indoors or outdoors

**Fee:** \$350

**Mileage Charge:** \$.50 per mile

**Block booking rates available**

**Performance Space Requirements:** Access to an electrical outlet and a performing area measuring 6 x 8 feet minimum, with an 8-foot ceiling.

**Workshop Description: Junk Music and Sound Experimentation**

Music is everywhere, if you know how to listen for it: right outside the window, coming out of our clothing, and available in the objects of everyday life. In this workshop, participants are guided through a series of listening exercises, rhythm games, and sound improvisations to develop the ear, as well as to gain experience in being part of an ensemble. Participants will then learn to make a variety of functioning musical instruments and noisemakers from common household items and garbage. For both the accomplished musician as well as the novice, these explorations of the uses of non-traditional sound are accessible and fun. Justin Lander, a life-long Junk Musician and author of *How to Make Junk Instruments*, has been leading junk music workshops for over ten years. He is a co-founder of Modern Times Theatre and Vermont Vaudeville. He also plays the bicycle pump.

**Length of Workshop:** 1 hour

**Workshop Suited for:** Ages 7 and up

**Number of Participants:** 5-25

**Fee for One Performance and One Workshop:** \$500

**Workshop Space Requirements:** An open room and a table.

**Link to online video:**

<http://hctv.us/2017/09/modern-times-theater-presents-punchs-predicament/>