

# MLA 2016 Performer Showcase Guide

<b>Babaloo Music and Fun</b>		
	<p>Babaloo is a one-man musical comedy act for kids of all ages (and parents, too). His award-winning act is high-energy, interactive fun, and EVERYBODY participates. Babaloo averages more than 75 library shows each summer, and he's always looking for new branches to invade. He is a Missouri Arts Council Touring Performer and winner of the International Songwriting Contest -- the largest songwriting contest in the world -- for his kids' tunes. St. Louis Magazine named him "the best regional children's entertainer;" Worldwide Childrens' Web called him "the best musical performer for school-agers;" and Mushroom Magazine called him "a real fun-gi."</p>	
	<p>Phone: (636) 390-4014            Email: <a href="mailto:babaloomusicandfun@gmail.com">babaloomusicandfun@gmail.com</a>  <a href="http://www.babaloomusicandfun.com">www.babaloomusicandfun.com</a></p>	<p>\$300 to \$500 for one hour, depending upon location and circumstances. Discount for multiple same-day bookings. All that is required is a table, and electric outlet, and a bunch of wound-up kids.</p>

<b>Brian Wendling: Juggling! Comedy! Energy!</b>		
	<p>My 2017 summer reading program is Build a Better World/Be a Better World! Award winning juggler Brian Wendling uses his hyperactive juggling skills to reinforce the message that building a better world is done one step at a time... just like learning anything, including how to read or to juggle, is done one step at a time. And what fun steps they are! Brian's program involves everyone in his audience, both young and old, and creates a fun feeling about the library and reading. Countless library audiences in Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma remember his energy, his skills and his positive attitude.</p>	
	<p>Phone: (816) 561-4695            Email: <a href="mailto:brianwendling@kc.rr.com">brianwendling@kc.rr.com</a>  <a href="http://www.brianwendling.com">www.brianwendling.com</a></p>	<p>Length of Show: 45-55 minutes            Cost: Immediate Kansas City area/\$225            Outside immediate Kansas City area/\$200 + mileage (50-55 cents per mile)            Group bookings can help reduce/eliminate travel costs.            I am part of the Missouri Arts Council touring program for all settings except for school assemblies.</p>

## The Fishin' Magicians



Catch the Magic. Read.

...And Build a Better World Through Books. Watch books about architecture, building, construction, magic and many other subjects mentioned in the programs fly off the shelves. The Fishin' Magicians build castles out of cards, create tricks with blocks and use the alphabet to build books during their programs. When asked how to do anything from building a better world to how to do a trick, The Fishin' Magicians suggest, "Go check out a book from the library." They encourage young people to become lifelong readers and motivate all readers to read what interests and inspires them. Magic happens when anyone opens a book. Fiction and nonfiction books come to life during this program through magic, puppets and humor.

Steve Craig and Amy Short

Phone: (417) 725-5800

Email: [fun@fishmagic.com](mailto:fun@fishmagic.com)

<http://fishmagic.com/catch-the-magic-read/>

45-minute program

cost - one program \$250.00 plus travel

## Jay & Leslie's Laughing Matters



"Plan To Laugh"

Every summer we put together a program to go with the summer reading theme. We also have juggling workshops and other performances that are available year round. Contact us to learn more!

2017 Summer Reading Show - "Build A Better World" Theme

Jay and Leslie of Laughing Matters have designs on your funny bone with juggling, stories, and wacky dialogue. Plan to laugh, but also plan to learn about the tools we use to improve our world—ideas and imagination. Everyone age 4 and up will enjoy this rollicking good time at the library!

Jay Cady and Leslie Seifert-Cady

Phone: (913) 660-3162 (Jay) or (913) 660-5853 (Leslie)

Email: [laughing@leslieandjay.com](mailto:laughing@leslieandjay.com)

Mailing Address: PO Box 1312, Mission, KS 66222

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

[www.facebook.com/JayAndLeslie](http://www.facebook.com/JayAndLeslie)

Full price for most programs is \$300 + travel expenses.

Regional discounts and block booking prices may be available.

## Korso



With his hilarious comedy and fantastic magic, Korso always entertains his audience. Get lost in the show as he invites you into his world of mystery and laughter. People might say he's the next Houdini. I mean they don't say it, but they might. Maybe...

Phone: (913) 912.3024  
Email: [Korso@skyparadecircus.com](mailto:Korso@skyparadecircus.com)  
[www.Korsomagic.com](http://www.Korsomagic.com)

Show length – 30-45 minutes  
Cost – Dependent on travel & number of bookings

## Mad Science of Greater Kansas City



Mad Science is the world's leading science enrichment provider. Mad Science encourages scientific literacy in children in an age when science is as vital as reading, writing and arithmetic and we don't stop there. For over 30 years, we have invested in research and development and continue to do so. We believe in the importance of being at the forefront of our industry and continue to create hands-on science programming for kids. Our approach to teaching science invites children to pursue STEM careers.

Build a Better World - Through SCIENCE of course!  
It starts with our youth and what better way than to open a world to make it better through experimenting and hypothesizing . Experience the "What if" and "What could happen" if we all try together! Digital Dave and many other Scientists from the Mad Science Lab will show you the way!

Kathy Smythe  
Phone: (913) 888-8877  
Email: [kinetickathy@madsciencegkc.com](mailto:kinetickathy@madsciencegkc.com)  
[www.kansascity.madscience.org](http://www.kansascity.madscience.org)

45 Minute Show  
\$350.00 plus travel charges

## Marimba Caliente



Marimba Caliente...playing the music that makes you smile.

Marimba Caliente specializes in the rich tradition of Mexican folk and dance music, played in the traditional manner with multiple performers on one shared marimba (similar to a large xylophone). The marimba is the national instrument of Mexico, and marimba groups of 3-7 players are a common sight in parks and at festivals throughout the region. Our sound is big, but our footprint is small -- we require only an 8'x7' space in which to set up and play. The lively rhythms and engaging melodies provide a unique musical experience for audiences, and the "close quarters" of the performers make for an exciting visual treat as the mallets battle for space on the keyboard!

Susanna Reichling  
 Phone: (417) 368-0775  
 Email: [susreichling@yahoo.com](mailto:susreichling@yahoo.com)  
[www.marimbacaliente.com](http://www.marimbacaliente.com)

Standard program length is 60 minutes, but can be tailored to fit individual needs.  
 A single performance is \$350; additional performances on the same day in the same space are \$200 each.

## Mr. Saxophone



Mr. Saxophone is a music program for children, performing year-round in the St. Louis area since 1997. Musician Dave Farver plays the saxophone and acoustic guitar (with recorded accompaniment) while the kids sing and dance! The performances have monthly themes and are very interactive with costumes and props to let the kids get in on the fun. There are currently 6 preschools that feature Mr. Saxophone on a monthly basis, and around 50 that have him a few times a year. The shows are entertaining and educational, with an emphasis on the wondrous variety of musical styles from around the world. Over 140 organizations have invited Mr. Saxophone including area public schools, YMCA's, public libraries, Kindercare, The Goddard School, La Petite Academy, and countless private centers. He has recorded three albums of his own music, garnering radio airplay worldwide, and receiving the Children's Music Web Award in 2003.

Phone: (314) 740-3714  
 Email: [dave@mrsaxophone.com](mailto:dave@mrsaxophone.com)  
[www.mrsaxophone.com](http://www.mrsaxophone.com)

30 minute program - \$110  
 45 minute program - \$130  
 2 x 30 min. programs - \$150  
 More programs can be negotiated.  
 (Additional fee for travel if over an hour drive time.)

## OMG Josh



The Oh My Gosh Josh Build A Better Story Show!

Everyone knows that OMG Josh is the King of wacky stories. For years he has been entertaining audiences with his own personal blend of magic, juggling, comedy, circus skills and of course silly storytelling. This year audiences will get to construct the direction of the zany story he performs! Like a real life Mad-lib the audience picks the props, costumes, locations and plotline! This will be a hilarious, choose-your-own adventure show not to be missed!

Ginger Routh  
 Phone: (314) 803-5180  
 Email: [ginger@circuskaput.com](mailto:ginger@circuskaput.com)  
[www.OMGJosh.com](http://www.OMGJosh.com)

1 or 2 shows \$275 each show  
 3-5 shows \$250 each show  
 6 or more is \$225 each show  
 Block Booking is available with discounted prices. Block booking is defined as three or more shows on ONE contract.  
 Our service area is Missouri and Southern Illinois, up to Quincy & Springfield. We are no longer serving Kansas or Northern Illinois.

## Parasol Puppets



Parasol Puppets has kept audiences happy for 30 years. Libraries in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa regularly book not just Summer shows, but Christmas, Halloween, and just for fun puppet shows as well. We bring everything needed to perform a first class puppet show for your library. The only things needed from you are a receptive audience and an electrical outlet close by. We make our living being constantly rebooked by satisfied sponsors. We enjoy performing in smaller venues for audiences no bigger than 250. Our shows always tie in with the summer's theme. Our 2017 show, BUILDING A BETTER WORLD - ONE STORY AT A TIME, features Folk Tales from different cultures that highlight the character traits needed to build a better world.

Parasol Puppets is based in Jamesport, Missouri. We perform year round all over the country at schools, libraries, theaters and puppet festivals.

Debbie Lutzky Allen and Peter Allen  
 Phone: (660) 684-6825  
 Email: [dlpallen@grm.net](mailto:dlpallen@grm.net)  
[www.parasolpuppets.com](http://www.parasolpuppets.com)

Average length of performance: 35+ minutes.  
 Workshops and lectures are also available.  
 Average fee: \$235 per show plus travel expenses. Group bookings share the travel fee and save money!  
 Parasol Puppets is proud to be included in the Missouri Arts Council Touring Roster Directory.

## Professor Farquar & Polecat Annie



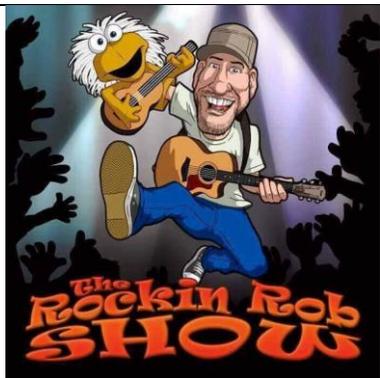
For three decades, Professor Farquar and his diminutive sidekick, Polecat Annie, have set entertainment back more than 100 years, enchanting audiences of all ages with their “Great American Medicine Show.” With acoustic guitar, banjo, and a unique collection of primitive percussion instruments, they present a dulcet tapestry of Americana; woven with timeless toe-tapping tunes, bucolic ballads and droll ditties.

Professor Farquar spins yarns (comic chronicles and unabashed balderdash). Polecat Annie spins ropes, sticks and plates. She loves nothing better than to engage a volunteer from the audience to join her on stage for a lesson in contact juggling. The good professor is also a mystifying master of illusion. With demonstrations of psychic vision, chicanery and flimflam, he confounds even the most skeptical spectators.

Sanford Lee & Associates  
 Phone: (660) 463-4010  
 Email: [sandy@sanfordlee.com](mailto:sandy@sanfordlee.com)  
[www.sanfordlee.com](http://www.sanfordlee.com)  
 Check out our videos on YouTube!

PROGRAMS: 45-minutes to 1 hour.  
 FEE: \$400-\$500 per show (with discount for multiple shows).  
 Funding available through the Missouri Arts Council Touring Artists Program.

## The Rockin Rob Show



The Rockin Rob Show is a completely interactive & educational musical kids’ show and rock concert, geared for children ages 2-10 and their families. It promotes FUN & education, through the benefits of music and movement. Storytelling, puppetry, magic and age-appropriate musical instrumentation (i.e. shakers, tambourines, maracas, bongo drums, etc.) are also explored.

Rob Mathieu, a.k.a. Rockin Rob  
 Phone: (913) 963 - 1513  
 Email: [rob@therockinrobshow.com](mailto:rob@therockinrobshow.com)  
[www.therockinrobshow.com](http://www.therockinrobshow.com)

The show lasts about an hour.  
 The cost is \$250.  
 The only requirements are a small performance area & an outlet.

## Sammy J



### The Build It Better With Balloons Show

Join SAMMY J as he shows different designs, styles and structures - using BIG BALLOONS! With help from audience members, he will assemble them into amazing frameworks to teach the history of architecture, types of construction and styles of buildings. Filled with comedy and surprises, the Build It Better With Balloons Show emphasizes books that encourage kids to learn about construction and design. Sammy will ignite imaginations, the hands-on hijinks will inspire, and the periodicals will infuse young minds with the desire to learn.

Ginger Routh

Phone: (314) 803-5180

Email: [ginger@circuskaput.com](mailto:ginger@circuskaput.com)  
[www.kaputkorner.com](http://www.kaputkorner.com)

1 or 2 shows \$275 each show

3-5 shows \$250 each show

6 or more is \$225 each show

Block Booking is available with discounted prices. Block booking is defined as three or more shows on ONE contract.

Our service area is Missouri and Southern Illinois, up to Quincy & Springfield. We are no longer serving Kansas or Northern Illinois.

## WildHeart



### WildHeart Presents....Build a Better Wild-World!

Explore nature's very own architects with Emmy® Award winning singers and songwriters, WildHeart! Discover silk spinning spiders who build intricate webs, hovering hornets who make their own houses from paper, and busy beavers who can change the course of rivers! These are nature's mighty builders! WildHeart is the Parents' Choice® recommended duo of Jan and George Syrigos, conservation educators and entertainers who have performed at Silver Dollar City, the Gateway Arch, the Missouri Governor's Mansion and schools and libraries throughout the Midwest. Kids will love to sing along and learn about Nature's Builders, grooving to new moves and joining in on the adventure! Also, get ready to meet a live, wild, backyard builder animal! It's WildHeart...bringing the heart of the wild, to the heart of the child.

WildHeart also provides adult programming including Outdoor Cooking, Camping Skills, Canoeing, Wild Edibles and Native Plant Gardening! Plus a Nature Concert just for adults..."WildSongs."

Jan & George Syrigos

170 Dogwood Drive

Holts Summit, MO 65043

Phone: (573) 229-8815 or (573) 645-7076

Email: [Syrigos@juno.com](mailto:Syrigos@juno.com)

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

Missouri Arts Council funding available.

## Will Stuck



Will is a high energy storyteller and (off key) singer that is sure to have library patrons, young and old, laughing. With more than two decades experience working as a children's librarian, Will knows how to keep a summer reading audience engaged and entertained. The two shows available are:

**Hoopla! Stories and Songs to Make you Wiggle and Giggle** - This show is a combination of Will's favorite silly stories and songs. It is a raucous show with plenty of audience participation. All Ages.

**BOOM! Stories and Science** - Not only is this a fun and educational show that teaches the difference between fiction and non-fiction it also works well alongside any STE(A)M programming your library might offer. The first half of the show focuses on fiction and the power of imagination and then transitions into demonstrations of some of Will's favorite science experiments. Best for audiences 7+ years old.

Phone: (816) 390-4176  
Email: [willstuck@willstuck.com](mailto:willstuck@willstuck.com)  
[www.willstuck.com](http://www.willstuck.com)  
Mailing address: 4015 Terrace Ave.  
St. Joseph, MO 64504

Average length of performance: 50-60 minutes  
Cost: \$250-plus, depending on location and number of shows in the area.