Can't Afford a Traveling Exhibit?

Make One!

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CAN'T AFFORD A TRAVELING EXHIBIT? BUILD ONE!

- Theme
- Audience
- Design Principles
- Accessibility
- Resources/Citations
How do I find a theme that'll work for my organization?

- SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
- EMPLOYEE INTERESTS
- LOCAL HISTORY
- COMMUNITY PARTNERS
- LIBRARY EVENTS
Example: Oregon Aviation Historical Society

- Cottage Grove Partners in History member
- Yearly exhibit in the library
- Interesting collections items

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Theme

Demographics
Do some research about your library population: census data helps, so does looking at card holder and programming stats.

Programming
Is it related to an age specific program? Adjust your vocabulary to match.

Local Interest
Every place has interesting history.

Diversity
Educational outreach via exhibits: what underrepresented groups are in your community?
• Theme comes first
• Build a central idea
• Brief intro description
• Sections
• Objects
• Conclusion
• Credits/Citations
Curation: select a few objects to represent an idea or phenomenon.


Types of Exhibition Labels

Introductory text
- 200 words or less

Group (or section) labels
- 100 words or less

Object labels
- Object ID & 50 word caption
- Object ID: Artist or maker; Title, date; Medium; Credit line

Credits and acknowledgements
- cite your sources and thank your sponsors/partners
Hands-On Exercise
Make an object label for this object:
• 50 words or less
White Space

If you crowd a presentation or visual with too much text, it gets overwhelming. Social scientists call the effect "cognitive overload."
- Easy to see
- Easy to read
- Easy to understand

ACCESSIBILITY


• Cite your sources
• Use the same citation style everywhere
• Check for usage rights on images
RESOURCES

- **Canva:** free design tool
- **Large format printers**
- **Costco photo printing**


