Sanja Thoensen

Library Director

Profile

A dynamic and innovative Library Director with 5 years of experience in leading and managing library operations, developing strategic plans, and promoting community engagement. Adept at fostering a collaborative work environment, enhancing patron experience, and implementing advanced technologies to improve library services. Demonstrates strong leadership skills, budget management, and grant procurement to support library growth and ensure long-term success.

Employment History

Library Director at Birmingham Public Library, AL

Feb 2023 - Present

- Successfully increased annual library visitors by 25% within two years, resulting in over 1.2 million visitors to the Birmingham Public Library in 2019.
- Implemented a new digital resource platform that increased online resource usage by 40%, providing access to e-books, audiobooks, and other digital materials for over 50,000 patrons.
- Oversaw the expansion and renovation of the library's main branch, adding 10,000 square feet of public space, increasing seating capacity by 75%, and enhancing accessibility features for patrons with disabilities.
- Secured \$2 million in grant funding from various sources, enabling the launch of innovative programs such as the Mobile Library Outreach initiative, which served over 5,000 residents in underserved communities throughout Birmingham.

Assistant Library Director at Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, AL

Aug 2018 - Jan 2023

- Successfully increased library patronage by 25% within two years by implementing innovative programming, community outreach, and targeted marketing efforts, resulting in a more engaged and diverse user base.
- Oversaw the expansion and renovation of the main library branch, completing the project on time and under budget by 10%, while ensuring minimal disruption to library services and patrons during the construction process.
- Developed and executed a staff training program that increased employee satisfaction by 20% and reduced turnover by 15%, leading to a more knowledgeable and motivated workforce dedicated to providing exceptional library services to the Huntsville-Madison County community.

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• 123 Oak Street, Birmingham, AL 35201

Education

Master of Library and Information Science at University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

Sep 2013 - May 2018

Relevant Coursework: Database
Management, Information
Architecture, Digital Libraries,
Cataloging and Classification,
Library Technologies, Collection
Development, Information Policy, and
Archival Studies.

Links

linkedin.com/in/sanjathoensen

Skills

Budgeting

Cataloging

Collection Development

Staff Management

Community Outreach

Digital Archiving

Languages

Library Automation

English

Dutch