



The Participatory Museum

By Nina Simon

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Visitor participation is a hot topic in the contemporary world of museums, art galleries, science centers, libraries and cultural organizations. How can your institution do it and do it well? The Participatory Museum is a practical guide to working with community members and visitors to make cultural institutions more dynamic, relevant, essential places. Museum consultant and exhibit designer Nina Simon weaves together innovative design techniques and case studies to make a powerful case for participatory practice.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Nina Simon's new book is essential for museum directors interested in experimenting with audience participation on the one hand and cautious about upending the tradition museum model on the other." -- Elaine Gurian, international museum consultant and author of *Civilizing the Museum*

"This book is an extraordinary resource. Nina has assembled the collective wisdom of the field, and has given it her own brilliant spin. Her book will make you want to go right out and start experimenting with participatory projects." --Kathleen McLean, participatory museum designer and author of *Planning for People in Museum Exhibitions*

"I predict that in the future this book will be a classic work of museology." --Elizabeth Merritt, founding director of the Center for the Future of Museums

"Nina neatly balances practical ideas for immediate implementation with broader strategic thinking, making *The Participatory Museum* the go-to recipe book for the coming years." --Sebastian Chan, Head of Digital, Social and Emerging Technologies, Powerhouse Museum, Australia

The Participatory Museum has the resonance of a manifesto and the potential to make a transformative impact on museum practice and visitors' experiences in museums in the coming decades. --Eric Siegel, Director and Chief Content Officer, New York Hall of Science

About the Author

Nina Simon is an independent experience designer with expertise in participatory design, gaming, and social technology. She is the principal of Museum 2.0, a design firm that works with museums, libraries, and cultural institutions worldwide to create dynamic, audience-driven exhibitions and educational programs. In addition to design work, Nina lectures and gives workshops on visitor participation. She is an adjunct professor of social technology in the University of Washington Museology program. Nina authors the Museum 2.0 blog, which also appears as a column in Museum magazine. She is also a member of the board of the National Association of Museum Exhibitions. Previously, Nina served as Curator at The Tech Museum of Innovation in San Jose, CA, and was the Experience Development Specialist at the International Spy Museum in Washington, D.C. Nina lives in Santa Cruz, California. She spends her free time rock climbing and building tree houses.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Robin Blakely:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to complete! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or their friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, likely to beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing same task every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book might be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing that you will ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the guide untitled *The Participatory Museum* can be good book to

read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

Billy Salazar:

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