## **Designing Visitor Experiences for Engagement and Inclusion**



Oregon Museums Association September 16, 2019



1. Introduce yourself to someone new and tell them why you came to this session?

2. What do "engaging and inclusive visitor experiences" mean to you?

#### Your **ORGANIZATION**

Ensuring access to arts, history, science, etc...

# Why does it matter if we engage our audience?

meaningful experiences

"I SUPPORT organizational goals."

"I feel CONNECTED to the organization."

"I seek EXPERIENCES/KNOWLEDGE, & feel VALUED."

"It's a REFUGE for me, I return for BELONGING, NOSTALGIA."

"I visit for RECREATION, CULTURE - time with family & friends."

## Experience Design

WHERE/WHO WHAT HOW Invitation **CONTEXT** 2. Welcome (site/history) 3. Orientation **ENGAGEMENT** 4. Comfort & INCLUSION 5. Communication **AUDIENCE** 6. Sensation (motivations) 7. Common Sense Finale



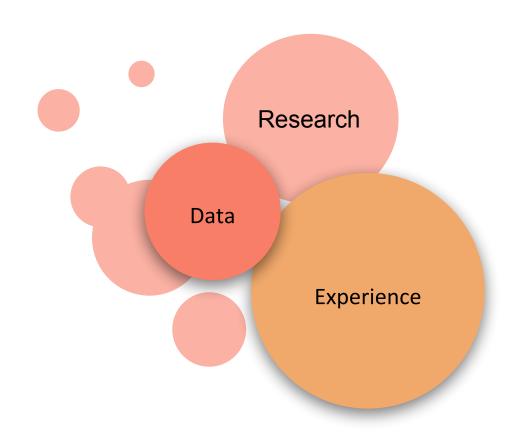
Human-centered means you prioritize the perspectives and experiences of the people you're designing with.

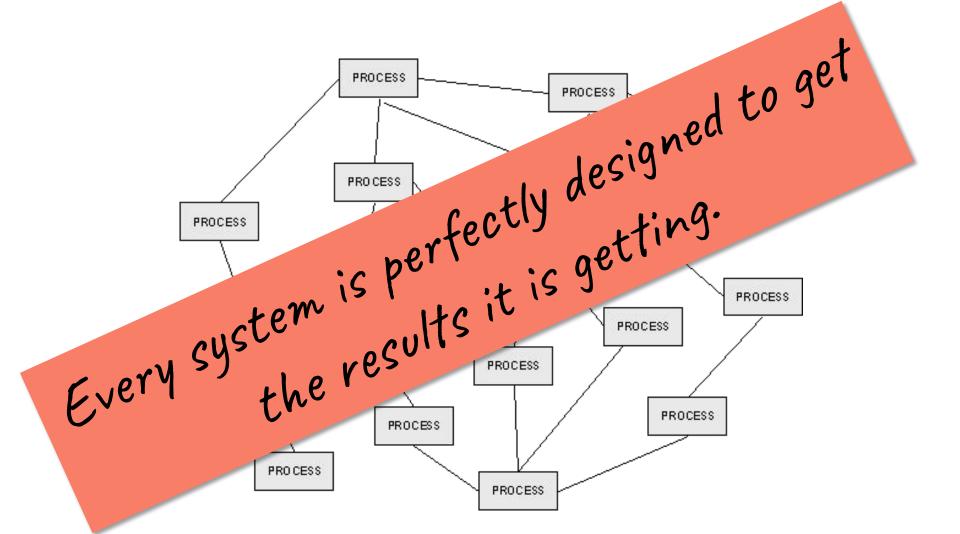
**Diversity:** Differences that occur among any and all individuals

Inclusion: Creating environments in which any individual or group can be and feel welcomed, respected, supported and valued to fully participate and bring their full, authentic selves.



## See the system





# Problem of Practice

Our visitor experiences are not inclusive

# Empathy

Empathy means trying to more deeply understand the experiences and feelings of other people.



#### Engage



Immerse



Observe

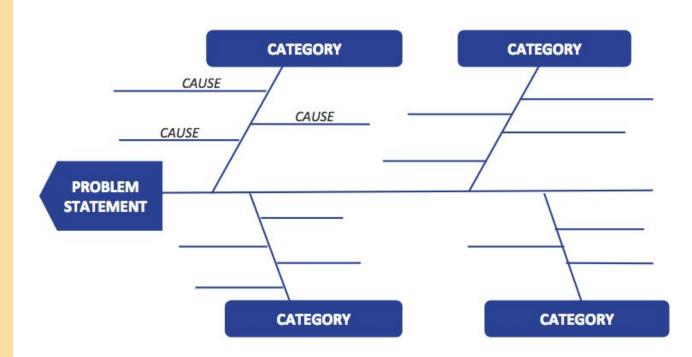
### Partner Interviews

#### Find a partner to interview

- Ask
- Listen (really listen)
- Follow up to encourage stories
- Take notes



# Root Cause Analysis



If I had an hour to solve a problem,
I'd spend 55 minutes thinking
about the problem and
5 minutes thinking about solutions.

## Questions?



Mary Kay Cunningham
MaryKay@visitordialogue.com



Julie Smith
Julie@CommunityDesignPartners.com