

JEZ LAYMAN

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Engaging & Educational Programs for Your Library, Community Center, or School

Jez is a Programming Librarian in the Chicago suburbs who not only teaches a variety of popular programs, but knows the ins and outs of library programming to make the process easy on you. Jez has presented for over 80 libraries, universities, and community centers and has a lot of experience to offer.

CRAFTS & DIY

Beginning Cross-stitch

Cross-stitching isn't just for grannies anymore! Learn how to get started with cross-stitching and make a cute design to hang in your home or give as a gift.

Bullet Journaling for Beginners

Want to try bullet journaling, but are too intimidated by the museum-quality examples on Pinterest and Instagram? Learn the basics of bullet journaling, including sample layouts and possible uses to find the right fit for you to remove some stress with artful organization.

Fingerknitting (in-person only)

Make a fashionable scarf with nothing but your fingers! No needles or experience necessary here—anyone can learn.

Handlettering

Learn the basics of hand lettering to create beautiful custom cards, signs, and gifts. Jez teaches a variety of techniques for modern and classic styles, as well as demonstrates the tools of the trade and DIY methods to replicate the effects with everyday pens.

Macrame Gnomes

Make an adorable gnome ornament or door hanger with simple macrame knots. (Can be customized for Christmas, Valentine's Day, or other holiday)

GENERAL PROGRAMS

30 Things to Do in Chicago under \$30

From big museums to little-known attractions, learn how to take advantage of everything our beautiful city has to offer—without breaking the bank. Discover free activities and great deals to make the most of your weekend or staycation, ranging from history to culture to green spaces and quirky sites off the beaten path.

Astrology 101

Learn about sun, moon, and rising signs; planets; and how to read your natal chart to avoid future problems, learn your strengths, and embrace your best self.

Intermediate Astrology

Go beyond your horoscope with this deeper dive into astrology. Learn about campanus and whole-sign house systems, planetary rulerships, and axes to better understand your natal chart and yourself. Then use profecions to prepare for what's to come in your next year.

Discover DuPage on a Budget

Chicago has lots to offer, but there's also plenty to do in DuPage County! Learn about deals, activities, and free options for all ages and interests.

Discover Lake County on a Budget

Chicago has lots to offer, but there's also plenty to do in Lake County! Learn about deals, activities, and free options for all ages and interests.

Dress Codes De-Coded

Where's the line between work casual and too casual? What does festive black tie even mean? Whether you're getting ready for a party or a job interview, learn how to dress appropriately and make sense of the many kinds of dress codes.

Life Lessons from the Happiest People on Earth

Every year, the World Happiness Report is dominated by the same countries: Denmark, Iceland, Finland, Sweden, and Norway. What is it about these Scandinavian countries that makes living there so pleasant? Learn to improve your own life by embracing the practices of *hygge* and *lykke* (Danish coziness and happiness); *lagom* (Swedish balance); *sisu* (Finnish determination); *Niksen* (Dutch disassociation); *Petta reddast* (Icelandic optimism); and *friluftsliv* (Norwegian outdoor life).

Taylor Swift's Literary Lyrics

Taylor Swift is one of the biggest pop stars in the world. Her songs cover the full emotional spectrum, from love and friendship to heartbreak and grief, but did you know many also contain literary references? Explore Taylor's reading shelf through her discography, including *The Great Gatsby*, Pablo Neruda, Robert Frost, Sylvia Plath, Emily Dickinson, and more. (Reading list included!)

JOB HUNTING

Resume Workshop

Learn how to craft an eye-catching and informative resume that'll help land the job you want. Discover how to create a document unique to your skills, experience, and goals, as well as how to avoid common mistakes and overcome issues like work gaps or age discrimination.

Cover Letters Made Simple

Learn how to write a standout cover letter employers will want to read. Cover letters are often the most stressful and confusing step of the job hunting process and can be what determines whether a candidate gets an interview. Follow along as Jez breaks down the process step-by-step to help create a cover letter unique to you that complements your resume and highlights your skills.

No Stress Phone and Video Interviews

Phone and video interviews can be just as stressful as an in-person interview, but involve more difficult circumstances that can help or hurt your case to move forward in the job hunting process. Learn the difference between types of interviews and how to prepare for them, as well as tips on presenting your best self when you're not actually in the room.

Ace Your In-Person Interview

Wow an employer at your interview! Job coach Jez Layman explains the before, during, and after of the most crucial part of the job hunting process. Learn how to prepare, research a company, dress the part, answer questions with ease, sell yourself better, and follow up afterwards.

LIBRARY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Beyond Book Talking: Whole Library Promotion

Every library employee has heard someone say they didn't know the library offered something, whether it's a program, service, or any of the dozens of things we provide on a daily basis. Libraries can better spread the word when they realize that promotion and advocacy aren't secluded to the marketing staff, but is part of everyone's job. Learn how to engage your staff at all levels and prepare them with the tools to "book talk" your library and services to boost access, circulation, and attendance.

Custom Consulting

Book Jez for a custom consultation on any of the below topics. Don't see what you're looking for? Email jezlayman@gmail.com to inquire about other topics.

- Programming or Marketing for 20-30somethings
- Large-scale Library Programs (author fairs, pop culture conventions, etc.)
- Readers' Advisory Training
- Merchandising and Passive Promotion