



INSTITUTE FOR LEARNING INNOVATION

Learning is Everywhere



Understanding, fostering, and supporting lifelong learning

About ILI

Founded in 1986, the **Institute for Learning Innovation** is a nonprofit organization dedicated to understanding, facilitating, and supporting informal, free-choice learning—learning that fulfills a lifelong human quest for knowledge and personal fulfillment.



Driven by a philosophy of applied learning

ILI helps organizations integrate research and evaluation findings into their project plans and institutional missions. Our expertise in program and exhibit evaluation, learning research, project development, interpretive and strategic planning, teaching, and publishing offer an array of essential resources to help our clients and collaborators achieve their goals.

When you collaborate with us, you will have more than two decades of our learning on your side. Each new project offers ILI a unique opportunity to deepen our understanding and knowledge of the learning community; and our clients and partners, in turn, should benefit from this cumulative insight.

Shaping your ideas into powerful projects

The Institute for Learning Innovation can enrich your organization in many ways.

- Collaborate on learning research
- Design and conduct evaluations (institution, program, exhibition)
- Engage in strategic and interpretive planning
- Guide and support development of grant proposals
- Provide opportunities for professional development



Learning is an essential human activity. Throughout our lives, we learn in many places and through many different activities such as reading books and magazines, surfing websites, watching television programs, and visiting museums, libraries, and parks. When individuals engage in such learning they choose where, when, and how to access information. To ensure that these lifelong experiences are available and valuable to all, ILI aims to better understand, foster, and promote informal, free-choice learning.

Research

Disseminating findings and putting research into practice is the foundation of our work.

As a nonprofit organization, we are committed to participating in research that benefits the larger learning community. ILI has extensive experience in developing, managing, and implementing research projects that further the understanding of informal, free-choice learning and its role in a learning society—building upon and extending existing bodies of knowledge.

Evaluation

Evaluations take different forms depending on your goals and your planning needs.

ILI conducts evaluations of all types and levels of complexity. Our evaluation studies aim not only to inform our clients' decisions, but enable them to successfully implement recommendations and recognize the value of visitor feedback within organizational practice. We employ a wide range of methods to ensure our evaluation provides you with valid, reliable results and constructive information.

Strategic and Interpretive Planning

Connect your mission to your audience.

Are you designing a new exhibition space, rethinking your public programs, or opening a new museum? ILI can facilitate planning sessions, conduct program or logic modeling, implement evaluation, and work with you to define strategies and align activities to help support your mission and meet your community's needs.

Professional Development

Build your knowledge through our experience.

Develop and hone your professional skills and increase your organization's internal capacities with ILI's educational programs. Our staff can conduct onsite seminars and workshops tailored to your interests and concerns, and share research and evaluation findings with your team and your community. ILI offers a variety of resources and actively publishes and presents material on research and evaluation in numerous fields.

Why Work with ILI?

- **Focus on a quality experience.** Every project we undertake is planned, managed, and implemented with diligence and integrity, and is directed by highly qualified staff.
- **Work with experts, scholars, and practitioners on your team.** Our knowledge and expertise supports your project with over 20 years of experience in planning, research, and evaluation.
- **Experience across topics, disciplines, and organizations.** From museums and zoos to historic sites, community groups and public organizations, we have undertaken a diverse range of projects and initiatives—including family learning, learning through technology, youth development, and informal science and environmental learning.
- **Partner with a leader.** ILI is an acknowledged pioneer and leader in the field of informal learning. We have developed and implemented innovative practices in evaluation and research, and are at the forefront of applied learning research in informal contexts.



The Institute for Learning Innovation has conducted hundreds of projects with a variety of institutions. Our collaborations take on many forms and every project is unique.

Our evaluation clients include:

- Children's Museum of Indianapolis, IN
- Disney's Animal Kingdom, FL
- Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, WA
- Indigenous Education Institute, UT
- Liberty Science Center, NJ
- Maine Historical Society, ME
- National Gallery of Art, DC
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, MD
- New York Hall of Science, NY
- Park Canada, Quebec

Our research partners include:

- American Association for State and Local History, TN
- Association of Zoos & Aquariums, MD
- Astronomical Society of the Pacific, CA
- California Science Center
- Chabot Space & Science Center, CA
- The Franklin Institute Science Museum, PA
- Institute for Museum and Library Services, DC
- Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, MA
- Pacific Science Center, WA
- University of Minnesota

Contact ILI Today

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