

Basic Detail Report

Title Interview with Luke McDonald

Date 25 March 2026

Medium born digital audio file

Description Audio file of interview with Luke McDonald. He was interviewed by Juliana Jaramillo on March 25, 2026 over Zoom. Luke McDonald was interviewed as part of the Connecticut Museum of Culture and History's Community History Project discussing moments of change in his life. Luke discusses his belief that change is related to the idea of people being light on their feet, and that it allows people to explore new ideas and topics, whether good or bad. Luke identified his moment of change as organizing his first show in his friend's backyard, which introduced him to organizing music events and planning arts-related events. He discusses the ways in which working in the arts field helped connect him to amazing people and experiences. He notes that the city of New Haven is slowly growing into an arts hub in Connecticut. Prior to organizing the show, Luke was already involved in arts-related scenes like the ECA (Educational Center for the Arts) theater program in New Haven. The original thought to host a music show was Luke's idea. Initially, he faced some technical difficulties when putting together the show. Throughout the process he learned that organizing a show requires far more effort and planning than he originally thought. Following his first show, Luke shifted his focus from performing music to being able to support others and foster community through event-planning. He talks about how he finds the communal aspect of art to be an incredible experience. Luke found

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himself facing challenges such as fair pay, representation, and ethical practices

when organizing a show. He mentions how balancing these different aspects as

an event planner requires focusing on the primary audience. Luke identified his

strengths from organizing events, emphasizing a focus on community gain

rather than personal gain. He discusses his struggle with being able to accept

artistic criticism. Luke has had to manage his anxiety regarding hosting

successful events. The advice he offers to people wishing to organize their own

event is that money should never be the motivation. Luke has found that profit

will lead people astray from the community that these kinds of events should

foster. Luke ends the interview by emphasizing that working with strong and

appreciative teams helps create the best results, which has helped him find

success in his field.

Dimensions Duration: 40 Minutes, 45 Seconds