

Wednesday, September 21, 2022

Meeting Time: 3:00-4:00pm

Virtual via Zoom

Attendance:

Jennifer Larsen - Sayreville Library

Rachel Talbert - Parsippany-Troy Hills Public Library System

Sharon Rawlins - NJ State Library

Maribeth Fisher - Scotch Plains

Linda Garfinkel - West Caldwell Public Library

Joy Robinson -Piscataway Public Library

Meeting start 3:05pm

I. Brief Introductions

II. Conference Ideas

- Feedback from 2022 attendees
  - Sharon got a shout out as a favorite
  - RA 101 got a shout out as a favorite.
  - Table was successful
    - Thanks to Sharon for more galleys
  - Brown bag lunch
    - Successful
    - Looking to propose it for 2023
  - Suggestions from 2022 Conference
    - More RA Discussions
    - Collection Development on all ages and topics
    - Diversity audits
    - Publisher speakers
      - ALMA - Association of Library Markets
      - Sharon's counterpart in CT - Diversity audits
      - Can do remote Feeds
    - BookToks, and social media
- Suggestions for 2023 Conference
  - Censorship in Public Library Spaces
    - Self-censorship
    - "Clean books" - existence

- Doing an alternating series 101/102 -
  - NJLA moving to enhanced institutional membership - present it for “non-librarians” - focusing on circ staff, etc
- Looking for people who do Book Tok/ Social Media – use as an RA tool, not just marketing
- Podcasts as RA suggestions
  - Children’s related
- Booklists - Books in Ukrainian – possible poster session
  - Addressing needs - Ukrainian individuals here to stay, not necessarily just Ukrainians in Ukraine - Goodnight Moon example
  - Recent books? Showcase for what has been published
    - World KidLit sources - wish would be translated, but a short list
  - Compile which state libraries has which languages
  - Partner with Collection Development Section
  - Compile the lists

### III. Open Discussion/Future Topics

- Previous goals - publisher interactions, but now everything has gone virtual - still something we can do - based off Booklist
  - Under the Radar - backlist favorites that we may have missed
  - ~90% of books sells less than 5,000 copies - representation and author visibility - important tasks
  - Someone from publishing to address these issues to librarians
  - What other resources do we have? Vendor alternatives? Amazon not posting reviews
  - Wade and Cheryl Hudson - Publishing Company in New Jersey - Jersey City – all Black books, etc.
- Books published with accessible thought - neurodivergent, character was losing their hearing - Readers don’t necessarily read in the same way
  - True Biz - book about a deaf school
  - Fonts
  - Spacing
  - Capitalism of fonts → poster session?
  - Communicating with deaf/hard of hearing patrons
    - Union County College - has and ESL program
      - Instructors presenting with students

- Who can we co-sponsor with?
  - Adult Services?
  - Diversity and Outreach?
  - Reference?

#### IV. What Are You Reading?

- Sharon
  - *The Final Gambit* by Jennifer Lynne Barnes
- Joy
  - *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer
- Linda -
  - *The Family Chao* by Lan Samantha Chao
  - *The Many Daughters of Afong Moy* by Jamie Ford
  - *Homeland Elegies* by Ayad Ashtar
  - *The Latecomer* by Jean Hanff Korelitz
- Maribeth -
  - *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby van Pelt
  - *The Measure* by Nikki Erlich
- Rachel
  - *Mr. Perfect on Paper* by Jean Meltzer
  - *Finlay Donovan is Killing it* by Elle Cosimano
  - *The Paris Apartment* by Lucy Foley
- Jennifer
  - *Daisy Darker* by Alice Feeney
  - *Sinkable* by Daniel Stone

#### V. Announcement:

- Morristown Festival of Books - October 7-8 2022
  - Looking for volunteers
- NJLA Ref & Adult Services Forum will be held Thursday, October 20th 1pm-4:30pm at Monroe Twp Library

Next Meeting: November 16 3:00pm

Meeting adjourned: 4:11pm