



Young Adult Services Section (YASS) 2021-2022

ZOOM: Meeting January 21, 2022

Note: The Zoom meeting was recorded.

9:45 am: Login & Introduction

10 am: Business Meeting, GSTBA Nonfiction Grades 6-12

Section Leadership:

Katie Salerno, President

Akeima Buchanan, Vice President

Maryjean Riou, Secretary

Elisabet Kennedy, Social Media Manager

Emily Mazzoni, Member at Large

Moira Whittington, Member at Large

Kate-Lynn Brown, Past President

Attendance: Katie Salerno, Moira Whittington, Maryjean Riou, Ann-Marie Aymer, David McMahon, Ann Kershner, Janis, Emily Mazzoni, Dana Vocht, Jenna Ingham, Sharon Rawlins, Akiema Buchanan, Rachel Talbert, Maureen Herman, Carolyn Aversano, Kristen Churchill, Ellen Ryan, Susan Lazzaro, Allison Ryan, Kate-Lynn Brown, Rebecca Osowski, Jason Wiessmann, Karen Jarzabski, Melaina Squicciarini, Jessica Gentile, Rachael Guerrero, Melissa Brinn, Erica Deb, Danielle Pitter, Danny Levin, Melanie Bruchet, Elisabet Kennedy, Heather Kristian, Sade, Cindy Simerlink

YASS Business Meeting

NJSL Report for YASS Meeting, January 21, 2022

Submitted by Sharon Rawlins, Youth Services Specialist for Lifelong Learning, NJ State Library, srawlins@njstatelib.org

Leap into Science Training Held December 9, 2021

Sharon Rawlins and the other state leadership team members led a Leap into Science virtual training on Dec. 9, 2021 for 42 participants. Leap into Science training is open to public or school library staff, afterschool organization staff and educators who want to learn to provide virtual training on STEM activities for children ages 3-10 and their caregivers in NJ urban and rural underserved communities. The training uses a science and literacy curriculum developed by the Franklin Institute. The team's commitment to training library and afterschool staff as part of a three-year Cohort with the Franklin Institute ended on Dec. 31, 2021. Anyone trained has until May 31, 2022 to offer the required Leap programs in their communities. To date, more than 256 programs have been held around the state by those trained in the Leap into Science program with over 3,400 children and adults participating.

SAVE THE DATES – March 2022 Summer Reading Workshops



The Statewide Summer Reading Committee has scheduled the dates for the 2022 Summer Reading Workshops, two of which will be in person and one will be virtual. All workshops will start at 10 am.

- Friday, March 4th - Livingston Public Library (in person)
- Friday, March 11th - virtual workshop
- Monday, March 21st - Gloucester County Library, Mullica Hill (in person)

Registration will open in February. More information will be forthcoming.

The 90-Second Newbery Award Film Festival

Challenge the youth up to age 18 that you work with to retell the plot of a Newbery Award winning book in just 90 seconds by creating their own videos! It's a great opportunity for a project to do with youth by combining literacy and the arts together in a project.

The State Library is sponsoring the 90 Second Film Festival and has invited author James Kennedy, the Festival's founder, to appear at the Film Festival on April 30, 2022 at 7 pm at the NJ State Museum's Auditorium in Trenton (located next to the NJ State Museum). In order to host this event, we need the young people to create fabulous films for the Festival so they, and their friends and family, can attend the in-person screening to show off their films. The deadline for students to create and submit the film to Mr. Kennedy has been extended to February 25, 2022.

Mr. Kennedy will be pre-recording a webinar to provide tips on how to create amazing 90 second videos of Newbery Award winning books for the youth you serve. I will share that information with you when it's available.

More information about the 90-Second Newbery Award Film Festival and how to submit a 90-second video can be found here: <https://90secondnewbery.com/>.

Other Organization Resources/Grants/Events/Webinars

School and Public Libraries Fact Sheet

In case you didn't see this fact sheet providing information about the goals of public and school libraries and their unique roles that was created by members of NJASL and NJLA, NJLA, here's the link from the NJLA website:

https://www.njla.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=984:public-and-school-libraries-fact-sheet&catid=26:njla-executive-board-statements-and-resolutions&Itemid=161

Call for Submissions for Booklist's fourth annual Guide to Graphic Novels in Libraries

Last year, Booklist published their third Guide to Graphic Novels in Libraries which included articles about collecting and cataloging superhero comics, decolonizing your



graphic novel collection, zine fests, sharing resources, and more. They are planning for this year's Guide and are looking for article ideas from public, school, or academic library workers working with comics and graphic novels, in a variety of capacities, to either contribute original articles or be interviewed by a Booklist editor about your work in the field. **[See the submission form for more information.](#)** Proposals are due Feb 4th, so get your ideas in soon!

NJ Stem Pathways Network (NJSPN) Mini-Grant

NJ STEM Pathways Network (NJSPN) has dedicated March 2022 as NJ STEM Month. They have a STEM mini-grant opportunity that organizations, including libraries, are welcome to apply for. The NJ STEM Pathways Network will award up to \$500 in grant funds to organizations hosting NJ STEM Month events. They are looking for events that will impact as many learners as possible, are STEM-related, and are held during March 2022 (NJMakersDay events are examples of events you might be offering in March). Here's the [grant application](#). For ideas on events, [here are the mini-grant stories from NJ STEM Month 2021](#).

NJSPN is always looking for examples of organizations, including public and school libraries, and afterschool organizations who are offering STEM programming for their communities. They invite anyone to share their STEM activities/events on their NJSPN calendar. I know some of you might be aware of them and have already added events to their calendar in the past, such as your NJMakersDay activities. Here's their [NJ STEM Month Official Calendar](#) that you can post your events on. If you do that, you're asked to use the official NJ STEM Month logo to publicize any STEM March event. You can download the logo from the official [NJ STEM Month webpage](#).

Here are several other ways you can participate in NJ STEM Month activities by using social media to publicize NJ STEM Month:

- **Twitter Contest:** Follow [@NJSTEMPathways](#) and use [#NJSTEMMonth](#), the official hashtag of NJ STEM Month. They also have a contest with prizes for anyone who tweets to support [#NJSTEMMonth](#). Everyone who uses [#NJSTEMMonth](#) will be entered to win a prize; winners will be selected randomly.
- **Virtual STEM Showcase:** Each year NJSPN showcases STEM work from across the state to state policymakers. Because of COVID, they have done this virtually via an online book: [here is 2021's](#). They encourage any and all groups to submit their work to be highlighted using [this link](#).

NJ STEM Pathways Network is a strategic public-private alliance, established in 2014 by the New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education, to define and guide a STEM vision for cradle to career pathways in New Jersey. The NJSPN is chaired by Laura Overdeck, Chair of the Overdeck Family Foundation and Founder of Bedtime Math and is managed by the Research & Development Council of New Jersey. The NJSPN aims to attract, cultivate and retain a 21st century workforce in New Jersey,



ensuring the state remains a top global competitor in STEM industry and continues its rich history of innovation.

National Education Association Announces Read Across America Digital Calendar

[Visit the Read Across America page.](#)

To encourage educators and parents to fill shelves with books, National Education Association announces the creation of its 2021-2022 Read Across America [digital calendar](#) which features 36 recommended titles - 12 picture books, 12 middle grade titles, and 12 young adults - for each month of the year. The recommended books include a wide selection of genres and formats.

Every recommended title featured includes activity suggestions, questions for discussion or reflective writing, related sources and more titles to try that relate to themes in the featured book.

Apply for the 2022 Will Eisner Graphic Novel Grants for Libraries- Deadline to apply February 13, 2022

The Graphic Novels & Comics Round Table (GNCRT) of ALA and the Will and Ann Eisner Family Foundation announce the opening of the 2022 Will Eisner Graphic Novel Grants for Libraries grant cycle. These grants recognize libraries for their role in the growth of graphic literature and awards funds and resources for graphic novel collection development and programming. The applying librarian or their institution must be an ALA member to be eligible and the grants are open to libraries across North America, including Canada and Mexico. [Learn More & Apply Here.](#)

NJ Talking Book and Braille Center: (Jen Apgar) No update.

NJLA Executive Board: No update.

Children's Services Section (CSS): No update.

NJASL: (Sharon Rawlins) Rapid response team to support school librarians.

Encouraging anyone, not just librarians, to support school librarians at board meetings, writing articles, writing letters, etc. [Rapid response form](#)

Library Consortiums and Systems: (Maira LMxAC) Changed monthly meetings to Tuesdays, email Maira for a link to join. Mwhittington@lmxac.org (Katie, SCLSNJ) Now fine free. (Jenna, PALSPlus) New teen section with upcoming meetings. (Janis, BCCLS) Mock YMA awards

YALSA: (Carolyn) Toolkit for teens and librarians for Earth Day programs, ready by end of January. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VfJcapDwAQE>

April 5 and 12 webinar on book challenges.

NJMD: (Kate-Lynn) Mini grants have been awarded. Custom ink fundraiser <https://www.customink.com/fundraising/njmd-2022> Professional development curriculum share, next week. Link to join on January 26 at 4 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84508325251>



YASS Business, Important Information and Reminders

GSTBA: (Emily, Moira) Next month, Middle Grades 6-8 fiction deliberations.

NJLA Conference: (Akiema) Looking for speakers about LGBTQ YA lit for a pre-conference session

Social Media: (Liz) Changed to new YASS logo.

Member Updates: (Erica, Matawan) Operation Gratitude virtual volunteer opportunity.

Teens write letters to veterans, 1 hour per letter. Training teens in puppet shows and

storytimes to do with kids. (Emily, Monroe) NJ Monthly doing an article in April on the

PenPal program, teens write letters to homebound seniors. (Melissa, Cherry Hill)

Online gaming roundtable for LLNJ, more information to come. (Kristen, Caldwell)

STEM Buddies via Zoom, teens conduct STEM programs for kids. Still not in the

building due to flooring from Ida. (Jenna, Verona) Winter reading program for kids and teens. Kids fill out a BINGO sheet. Teens using a point system to earn rewards.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1L1XKU2ja_L7B6twwM8ieEiM12in6DRh/view?usp=sharing

Blog post by Jenna.

<https://www.teenservicesunderground.com/alleviating-surface-pressure-in-2022/>

(Sharon, NJSL) If you need ARCs for prizes please email Sharon and she will send some to you. srawlins@njstatelib.org

GSTBA - Participants gathered to deliberate selections for the 2022 GSTBA nonfiction grades 6-12 ballot. 16 titles will be added to the ballot for the 2022 awards.

Next Meeting: Friday, February 18

Young Adult Services Section 2020-2021 Executive Board

Katie Salerno, President

Teen Services Librarian

SCLSNJ Bridgewater Library Branch

<https://sclsnj.org/>

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