



NJLA Young Adult Services Section Meeting Minutes

January 2023

Meeting Canceled Due to Snow

Section Leadership:

Emily Mazzoni, President
Dana Vocht, Vice President
Jason Weissmann, Secretary
Jenna Ingham, Member at Large
Melaina Squicciarini, Member at Large
Devon Boyer, Social Media Manager
John Campbell, Social Media Manager
Katie Salerno, Past President

In attendance: n/a

YASS Updates from Around the State

NJSL



NJSL Report for YASS Meeting, Jan. 19, 2024

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

NJ State Library Year End Wrap-Up

Check out the [NJSL 2023 Year End Wrap-Up Report!](#) This is an overview of some of the many accomplishments at the New Jersey State Library during the 2023 calendar year.

State Librarian's Monthly Updates

November's update is posted, along with previous monthly updates on the NJ State Library's website under the *About the State Library* tab, then under the *New Jersey State Library Publications* tab, then under State Librarian's Updates.

Smokey the Bear Reading Challenge

The US Forest Service has offered to provide materials for a reading challenge to celebrate Smokey the Bear's 80th birthday in 2024. The challenge (and accompanying materials) will be available January - December of 2024 and will be sent to the State Library for me to distribute to libraries in late January 2024. The materials each library will get includes 1 roll of 500 Smokey stickers, 1 pack of 50 Smokey cards, and 1 Smokey stamp.

This is a great tie-in to the CSLP Summer Reading adventure theme for 2024 and the slogan "Adventure Begins At Your Library", connecting families to outdoor activities and state/national parks. This is an optional program and you don't have to participate, but I will still send your library the packet of information just in case. The US Forest Service has created a digital toolkit for you as well. Here's the link: <https://smokeybear.com/library-toolkit-reading-challenge>
The US Forest Service is working with Beanstack and READsquared to make this challenge available electronically to all paid account holders too. I will be surveying all the libraries at the end of December 2024 to see if you participated and to ask for some basic statistics. If you have questions, just let me know.

CSLP Theme and Slogan Suggestions Needed – Deadline Feb. 16, 2024

Each year CSLP seeks feedback from participating public library staff for future summer slogan and theme suggestions for summer reading programs for all ages. Libraries from across the nation also contribute, and together, we come to consensus. Now is your time to be heard! Please complete this brief survey:

<https://forms.gle/ertcz2EMkqtvvcVC49> to suggest a slogan for the 2027 theme of Mystery/Detective/Suspense and a fresh, new theme for 2028.

Some tips for themes and slogan suggestions:

- Adaptable for all ages (children to adults)
- Translatable into Spanish
- Avoid puns and wordplay
- Catchy, memorable, concise
- Inclusive, accessible, applicable across settings

For a list of previous themes and slogans go to:

<https://www.csllpreads.org/themes-and-slogans/>. Please share your suggestions via the survey by **Friday, February 16th, 2024**.

Palace Project

In partnership with Lyrasis, NJSL has rolled out a statewide virtual barcode for the Palace Project, providing access to eBooks and digital audiobooks for every New Jersey resident who chooses to sign up. This content includes the Digital Public Library of America-curated Palace Bookshelf of approximately 17,000 items, perpetually-licensed Boundless (formerly Axis 360) titles in the New Jersey State Library's eRead New Jersey collection, and items purchased through the Palace Marketplace by the State Library. New Jersey residents can create a virtual barcode in the Palace app, with just an email address and authentication through geolocation (anywhere in NJ). Read more at <https://www.njstatelib.org/thepalaceproject>, and download the app at: <https://thepalaceproject.org/>.

CSLP Summer Symposium – Archived Recordings Available

The CSLP Summer Symposium was held on December 7th. It was a half-day virtual offering for public library staff to connect, learn, and collaborate as we plan for summer

library programming around the 2024 theme of **Adventure Begins at your Library**. If you couldn't make it, here's the link to the recordings of the sessions: [CSLP Summer Symposium 2023 page](#). Feedback on any of the sessions is appreciated! Summer Symposium Evaluations: <https://forms.gle/PqKDiTA8UM2tJecD7>.

Awards/Grants from Other Organizations

NJ Stem Pathways Network Mini-Grant: Application Deadline: January 26, 2024

Deadline to apply for this mini-grant is January 26, 2024. The grant is valued at up to \$500, to enhance your STEM Month event or programming. These grants provide financial support to help you create engaging and impactful activities for your community. Apply [here](#).

Will Eisner Graphic Novel Grants for Libraries – Deadline January 28, 2024

The Graphic Novels & Comics Round Table (GNCRT) of ALA and the Will and Ann Eisner Family Foundation are pleased to accept applications for the [2024 Will Eisner Graphic Novel Grants for Libraries](#). 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. For more information:

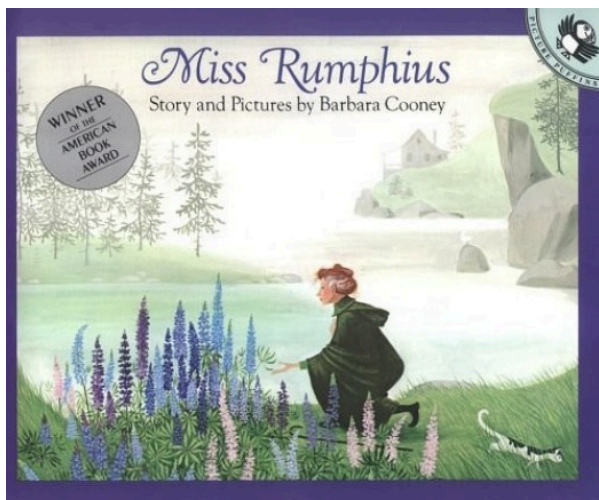
<https://www.ala.org/rt/gncrt/eisner>

Questions? Contact ALA Graphic Novels & Comics Round Table Staff Liaison: Tina Coleman, ccoleman@ala.org

ALA's Annual Library Programming Award Grants – Deadline to apply February 1

- The Libraries Transform Communities Engagement Grant will provide two libraries with \$2,000 to expand their community engagement efforts: <https://programminglibrarian.org/articles/apply-now-libraries-transform-communities-engagement-grant>
- The Peggy Barber Tribute Grant aims to help ease library budget challenges by awarding three libraries \$2,500 to support a proposed program, program series, or programming effort: <https://programminglibrarian.org/articles/apply-now-peggy-barber-tribute-grant>

Applications for both awards close on February 1, 2024. Please email publicprograms@ala.org with any questions.



Miss Rumphius Award – Deadline to Apply March 15, 2024

This is open to YA folks as well as children's library staff.

The New Jersey Center for the Book proudly presents the annual *Miss Rumphius Award*, based upon the title character of the

National Book Award winner by Barbara Cooney.

In the spirit of Miss Rumphius, we seek to amplify the work of exemplary librarians, library staff, library students, and school librarians who implement creative and engaging programs to improve their environments. We hope the *Miss Rumphius Award* inspires other librarians to plant the seeds of these ideas to enhance literacy in their own communities!

Eligibility: The candidate must be employed in New Jersey as a professional librarian, library staff member, library student, certified educator or teacher assistant, and must have developed a creative activity or program to enhance learning and literacy. The activity or program should be collaborative, innovative, and able to be replicated by other librarians and educators. Candidates may be nominated by colleagues or community members or self-nominate.

Application: A link to directions for completing and submitting your application can be found [here](#). The *Miss Rumphius Award* will be presented to the winner(s) at an upcoming library association meeting. A \$300 honorarium is offered to the winner(s). For additional information or clarification, **please contact Sharon Rawlins at srawlins@njstatelib.org**. Check out our [previous award winners](#).

Talk Story: Sharing Stories, Sharing Culture Grant 2024 Grant Information

Talk Story: Sharing Stories, Sharing Culture is a family literacy initiative that connects Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander (AANHPI), and American Indigenous or Alaskan Native (AIAN) communities across generations. The Talk Story micro-grant celebrates and explores AANHPI and AIAN stories through books, oral traditions, and cultural arts to provide interactive and enriching experiences for all ages. This grant provides financial support to libraries and community organizations who are motivated to promote intergenerational literacy through programming, services, and collections. Talk Story programs may be conducted in-person or virtually.

The Grant Information and Application fields are below and can also be accessed on the APALA website: apalaweb.org/talkstorytogether/grant/ and the AILA website: ailanet.org.

To submit your proposal, please use the online form: <https://forms.gle/3vUy3EuCFUxBuiKZ9>. If you need an alternative method for submitting your application, please do not hesitate to reach out to the program contact of the organization through which you intend to apply for a *Talk Story* grant.

Deadline: March 15, 2024

Awards Announced: May 1, 2024

Grant Amount: \$500

Grants Offered: 4 total; 2 by each organization

Grant Period: May 1, 2024 - November 30, 2024

Program Contact

familylit@apalaweb.org

AILA.TalkStory@gmail.com

TBBC

If you or your library are hosting an event, program, or are interested in trainings or presentations from TBBC, please contact us. We are happy to work with you and see how we are best available to support you or your programs. We can also provide material or information in support of your programs, as well.

NJASL - None

LLNJ - None

CSS

CSS Executive Board leadership is changing as the President has stepped down. Jenise Sileo will now be running CSS. Their next meeting will be on Friday, January 26th at 10:00am via Zoom.

NJLA EXEC BOARD - None

BCCLS: None

LMXAC: None

OTHER: None

YASS Business, Important Information, & Reminders

GSTBA:

As today's meeting was canceled, GSTBA deliberations for Nonfiction Grades 6 to 12 are postponed. Instead of typical deliberations, Jenna and Melaina will extend the deadline of the Reader Feedback Form and will compile a contingency ballot for members to vote on as a whole at the next meeting. Feedback forms will close on the morning of Thursday, February 15th - one full day in advance of the next meeting, so that we may compile the data. *Readers, please submit your feedback, regardless of whether or not you plan to attend the meeting - you never*

know when snow may interrupt our proceedings!

The nonfiction winner for 29th annual GSTBA will be announced along with the Fiction Grades 6 to 8 winner on February 16th at the start of deliberations.

It's time to start thinking about running for Member-at-Large for YASS! There is one open position for the 2024-2025 year and if you love GSTBA and spreadsheets, please think about running! Ask Jenna and/or Melaina if you have any questions about the position.

NJLA Conference: None

Social Media: None

Member Updates & Hot Topics: None



Young Adult Services Section 2023-2024 Executive Board

Emily Mazzoni, President

(she/her)

Teen Services Librarian

Monroe Township Public Library

<http://www.monroetwplibrary.org/>

(732) 521-5000, emazzoni@monroetwplibrary.org

Dana Vocht, Vice President

(she/her/Ms.)

Youth Services Librarian

East Brunswick Public Library

<https://www.ebpl.org/main/index.cfm>

(732) 390-6789, dvocht@ebpl.org

Jason Weissmann, Secretary

(he/him/Mr.)

Young Adult Librarian

Livingston Public Library

<https://livingstonlibrary.org/>

(973) 992-4600, jason.weissmann@livingston.bccls.org

Jenna Ingham-Furlong, Member-at-Large

(she/her/Ms.)

Head of Youth Services

Verona Public Library

<https://www.veronalibrary.org/>

(973) 857-4848, heymissjenna@gmail.com

Melaina Squicciarini, Member-at-Large

(they/them/Mx.)

Youth Services Librarian

Highland Park Public Library

<https://www.hpplnj.org>

(732) 572-2750, msquicciarini@hpplnj.org

Katie Salerno, Past President

(She/her/Ms.)

Youth Services Librarian

SCLSNJ Watchung Library Branch
<https://sclsnj.org/>
908-458-8455, ksalerno@sclibnj.org

John Campbell, YASS Intern & Social Media Manager

(he/him)

Teen Library Assistant

Fort Lee Public Library

(201) 592-3614, john.campbell@fortlee.bccls.org

Devon Boyer, YASS Intern & Social Media Manager

(she/her)

Library Associate

Atlantic County Library System, Galloway Branch

(609) 652-2352, dboyer@aclsys.org