NJLA Young Adult Services Section Meeting Minutes
Friday, November 17, 2023

Piscataway Public Library
500 Hoes Lane
Piscataway, NJ 08854

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: Katie Salerno, Kate Lynn Grimm, Jason Weissmann, Erica Deb, Emily Mazzoni, Sharon Rawlins, Rachel Talbert, Rita Post, Sloane Kazim, Melaina Squicciarini, Dana Vocht

V: Jenna Ingham, Maureen Herman, Cathy DeCampli, Ayoola White, Crysta Miller, Devon Boyer, Emily Macleod, Julie Ucelli, Matheson Westlake, Heather Kristian, Jen Gheller, Teresa Carlton

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YASS Updates from Around the State

NJSL

NJSL Report for YASS Meeting, November 17, 2023

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

Ready Now: Supporting Youth and Families During Crisis Project
This project expands on the co-design work implemented in the summer of 2020 and led to the publication of *Library Staff as Public Servants: A Field Guide for Preparing to Serve Communities in Times of Crisis* (fondly known as The Field Guide)*,* that outlines four Essential Tasks that libraries and their staff need to embrace to serve historically marginalized youth and families successfully.

Following the publication of the Field Guide, the project team recognized that many library staff would benefit from more training and resources for successful implementation of Field Guide principles. The ***Ready Now: Supporting Youth and Families During Crisis*** is delighted to receive funding from IMLS to further expand this work.

The project team is now recruiting teams across the United States to participate in a research study, the first phase of this work. Working with interested State Library agencies, they are seeking one team from states' that are interested in participating to apply. I am the designated person from the NJ State Library who will select an interested youth services front-line staff member who works with youth, and an administrator from their library, to be a part of the team. The project team will select 5 participating state teams from all the states' applications. **The deadline to apply is Nov. 21st. If you are interested in knowing more about this project check out the FAQ** and the **pre-screening survey**.

The five teams invited to participate in the project will be required to dedicate between 2-3 hours per week over a 10-12-month timeframe, starting in 2024, and receive a **$2000 payment made to their libraries**.

The Ready Now project team includes Dr. Mega Subramaniam (PI), a professor at the College of Information Studies at the University of Maryland; Linda Braun, a Consultant at LEO; and Nitzan Koren (co-PI), a PhD candidate at the College of Information Studies at the University of Maryland.

If you and an administrator (branch manager, department head, or member of leadership team) from your library might be interested in participating in this initiative, please let me know by Monday, November 20, 2023.

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

Palace Project
In partnership with Lyrasis, NJSL 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/.

Awards/Grants from Other Organizations

Joann Sweetland Lum Literacy Grant Applications Being Accepted Until Dec. 1, 2023

Gregory Lum is a retired school librarian and former president of the Oregon Association of School Libraries. The YALSA Joann Sweetland Lum Literacy Grant was started four years ago to honor Gregory's late wife, and applications for this year's grant are due on December 1st.

If you have a literacy project in mind, you are encouraged to apply for the $1,000 grant. Examples of literacy include, but are not limited to, digital, media, visual, computer, data, financial, civic/ethical, news, information, multicultural, and cultural. Applicants must work for and with youth (ages 10-19) in a library setting, which could be in a public, university, community college, school, or special library.

You do not need to be a member of YALSA to apply for the grant. However, if your grant is selected as the winning project, you must become a member. Grant funds can be used to cover the cost of YALSA membership. For more information: https://www.ala.org/yalsa/joann-sweetland-lum-memorial-grant

CSLP Updates:

CSLP 2024 Manual Code
Here is a link to a flyer with the CSLP 2024 Manual code.
https://www.njstatelib.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/New-Jersey-2024-CSLP-Manual-Access-Code.pdf
Please don't share this code with the public. School libraries don't have access to the code but are encouraged to reach out and partner with their local public libraries on the summer library program. I will also send a flyer with a link to the code to all libraries through the statewide delivery service with the printed CSLP incentives catalog soon. In the meantime, you can shop online for 2024 incentives.

CSLP Summer Symposium: Virtual Dec. 7th 11 am – 4:30 pm
The CSLP Summer Symposium is 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. To register:**
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0GU8zqO3TrGkLs3hdMF7gw#/registration

Sessions will include:
- Simplifying the Adventure of Summer Reading: Observations from a Seasoned Storyteller – Jenifer Strauss

- 2024 Manual Highlights: Adventure Begins at Your Library! – Alyssa Graybeal and manual committee chairs.
- Once Upon an Adventure: Practical Tips for Gathering Stories to Promote Your Library – Angela Hursh
- Taking Adventure Outdoors: Programming and Partnerships facilitated by Amanda Raiche

Not able to attend the virtual event live? Recordings will be available after the event. If you expect to only view the recorded sessions, you can sign-up at registration to have an email sent when the recordings are posted.

Virtual Events:

Hands-On AI Literacy Programs for Youth and Teens Webinar

Ready to learn something new? Sign up for our November Webinar to learn more about an AI Literacy Program for both youth and teens!

Webinar Description:

In this YALSA webinar, Hee Rin Lee and Kahyun Choi will present an open-source AI literacy program that they developed through a grant from IMLS. The program provides youth with core knowledge about AI and its social consequences. It also encourages them to use their own unique strengths and resources to make a positive impact on their communities. Through participatory design methodologies, youth co-create AI solutions that address community challenges and envision how to use AI for their future jobs and local industries.

Speakers:

- Hee Rin Lee is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Media and Information at Michigan State University. Her research focuses on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI) and Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) to design and evaluate robots for social good. Her work has been recognized with a Best Paper Award and four Best Paper Nominations at respected HCI conferences, including CSCW, HRI, UbiComp, and CHI. Additionally, she has received funding from prestigious institutions such as the IMLS, NIH, and NSF to further her work.

- Kahyun Choi is an Assistant Professor in the Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering at Indiana University Bloomington. Her research explores public library-based AI education programs, ethical AI for Libraries, Archives, and Museums (LAMs), music information retrieval, and computational analysis of lyrics and poetry. She has received the 2023 IU Trustees Teaching Award, the 2022 IMLS Early Career Research Development Project Grant, the 2021 IMLS National Leadership Grant, and the 2021 Luddy Faculty Fellowship.

Learning Outcomes:

- Learn how to teach core concepts of AI and its social implications to youth using open-source materials.

- Gain familiarity with strategies for engaging youth in co-creating AI solutions to address community challenges.

- Identify and address potential challenges in implementing the AI literacy program in your libraries.

- Get to know the insights and experiences of how our AI literacy program was implemented in three public libraries.

Date and Time:

Thursday, November 30th from 1:00-2:00 PM CDT (2:00 – 3:00 PM EST)

[Register Here (free to YALSA members)](#)

Penguin Random House, *Library Journal, and School Library Journal* [Winter 2023 virtual book and author festival](#), on Thurs. **Dec. 7, 2023**. It's a free day-long event celebrating reading, authors, and librarians.

TBBC - none

NJASL - none

LLNJ - none

CSS - Next meeting is going to be Dec. 8th (combined Nov/Dec meeting).

NJLA EXEC BOARD - none

BCCLS: BCCLS is having mock awards Jan 12 at the Washington Township Public Library.

LMXAC: We are rebranding LMxAC - stay tuned!

OTHER: BOOK SANCTUARIES - As of 11/3/2023, there are now 7 book sanctuaries in our state! Hoboken Public Library & the City of Hoboken, Westfield Public Library, Maplewood Public Library & Maplewood Township, Millburn Public Library, Jersey City Free Public Library, Garfield Public Library, and Ridgefield Public Library. We would like to collect data on how many other libraries in NJ are in the process of - or considering becoming - a book sanctuary. If your library is in the process of becoming a book sanctuary, please contact Jennie Pu at pu@hoboken.bccls.org.

YS FORUM: Full and waitlist is also full

Jenna's Book Champion Letter

NJ MAKERS DAY -

NJ Makers Day Grants are available! The maximum award money has been doubled from $500 to $1000 dollars. https://njmakersday.org/

Info about mini-grants and application (due December 8th at 5pm!!): https://njmakersday.org/mini-grants/

Recording link to "mini-grant best practices" : https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/fx3r8scjAYu72x37PuzeFGYAjx2ESU1s75E6patvFRbbSqxO 8YTSWbcfaShfXhQW.kh3HDNQhbcW_hab-

Passcode: 6nJi@g*=

Custom Ink Tote Bag Fundraising: https://www.customink.com/fundraising/new-jersey-makers-day-10-year-tote

Information about free Professional Development opportunities coming SOON!! Will be emailed to the site coordinator if your library is registered for NJMD.

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YASS Business, Important Information, & Reminders

GSTBA:
- New to GSTBA or just need a refresher? We have a FAQ here: https://tinyurl.com/gstbafaq30
- Ballots for the 29th annual GSTBA are still open! Deadline to vote is 12/31/23. Please encourage your teens to vote!
    - Link to all sorts of downloads and annotations are available here: https://njlamembers.org/content/voting-information-ballots
    - Please remember: the Canva document is editable, so if you'd like to make edits, please make a copy first. We're all sharing this. :)
- Shout-out/thanks/eternal gratitude to those of you who helped compiled the titles for the Master List and to those of you who have signed up to be readers! You are awesome and we appreciate and love you.
- For those of you who signed up, titles have been assigned to readers and reader feedback google forms have been sent out.
    - Please please fill out the Reader Feedback form all readers! There is a much simpler version for readers who plan to attend deliberations in person! It's like a choose your own adventure book!
    - As a reminder, deliberations will be IN PERSON only with no virtual or hybrid option. Deliberations will be at East Brunswick Public Library in 2024. Specific details can be found on YASS's meeting list. Those who cannot attend in person are required to fill out the extended Reader Feedback Form.
- We are going to announce the winners of the prior years winners for each category at each deliberation meeting. GSTBA deliberation meetings are open to all, not just voting members.
- If you have any questions, please email both GSTBA co-chairs: Jenna heymissjenna@gmail.com and Melaina mxmelaina@gmail.com

NJLA Conference:

Rachael Trotter of Verona (trotter@veronalibrary.org) is looking for panelists for two proposals:

- **Book talk on diverse and inclusive books!** We would love to get a big group together for this presentation, all presenting on different age groups/genres. Right now, we have someone for picture books, chapter book series, middle grade, and non-fiction. Still looking for: someone to discuss graphic novels (any age); YA books. *PLEASE NOTE THIS MAY CHANGE to something more like picking a topic to talk about and finding books for all ages about that specific topic depending on what the final group of panelists decides)
- **Book clubs for every age.** There should be a book club for everyone! If you run a book club with kids we'd love to have you be a part of this panel. Right now we have someone speaking about an early reader book club, a Baby-sitters Club themed book club, and a graphic novel book club for older teens and adults. Still looking for: someone who can speak on book clubs for older elementary kids; middle schoolers; high schoolers.

Ellen Ryan of Bernards (eryan@bernardslibrary.org) is looking for panelists for a GSTBA/GSCBA proposal:

The GSCBA committee may submit a conference proposal for a session that highlights titles from current GSCBA ballot with accompanying activity/ lesson/ program idea. Would you ask you group if anyone might be interested in being on a panel with some GSCBA members and doing the same for GSTBA titles?

Anyone interested in these panels please email Rachael or Ellen directly off-list.

Social Media: Send anything you'd like highlighted to the e-board!

Member Updates & Hot Topics:

Young Adult Services Section 2023-2024 Executive Board

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