

# NJLA Young Adult Services Section Meeting Agenda

Monday October 21st

South River Public Library

13 attendees at YASS meeting, 1 attendee on Zoom; 36 attendees at Management/CSS/YASS Joint Discussion

---

- 9:30am Coffee & Networking
  - 10am YASS Business Meeting
  - 11am YASS/CSS/Administration and Management Joint Discussion
- 

Welcome & Introductions

10am YASS Business Meeting

- Updates from around the state
  - NJ State Library
    - 150 people came to YS Forum
    - Fill out YS Forum Survey if you attended.
    - Summer Reading Results from SRC Survey being compiled now.
    - Final Report due end of October.
    - Research Study with Rutgers for School Media Specialists for High School.
      - Seeking participants for a statewide research study to explore the value of certified school librarians in providing instruction and resources to prepare students for academic work; bridge situations of inequity, information poverty; and identify gaps relating to academic preparedness among freshmen students in New Jersey colleges.
      - Led by Dr. Joyce Valenza of Rutgers University, the research team will select a sample of 20 to 30 high schools that meet the American Association of School Librarians' (AASL's) [Definition of an Effective School Library Program](#).
      - Here is the link to the recruitment instrument: [https://rutgers.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3UDfr1IyYcQ7M2h](https://rutgers.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3UDfr1IyYcQ7M2h)
      - or <https://tinyurl.com/librarianrecruitment>
      - If you have questions about volunteering to take part in this study, you can contact the Principal Investigator, Dr. Joyce Valenza, School of Communication and Information, Department of Library and Information Science at Rutgers University.

- email: [joyce.valenza@rutgers.edu](mailto:joyce.valenza@rutgers.edu)
    - 45 libraries for library sign ups
  - NJ Talking Book and Braille Center
    - More flexible Large Print books collection for children and teens ready to circulate. Do not need to qualify with as stringent qualifications for Large Print now. But need to be signed by principal or library director.
  - NJLA Executive Board
  - Children's Services Section (CSS)
    - CSS has a webform for people to suggest conference presentations. CSS will link to it from the CSS page on the NJLA website, but the long URL is:
      - [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdag42kzU-fFIVOm95vO-SJmlxwwMiDqjppmFTqfAoS9DYxFw/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdag42kzU-fFIVOm95vO-SJmlxwwMiDqjppmFTqfAoS9DYxFw/viewform?usp=sf_link)
      - CSS next meeting will be at Cherry Hill Public Library on 11/12 from 10am-12pm
  - NJASL
    - There was a State Board of Ed meeting held on September 4. Jen Park, an Academic Librarian testified on behalf of school libraries. Even better, her son, Blake, who is in 3rd grade testified as well. Both testimonies are available on [www.unlockstudentpotential.org](http://www.unlockstudentpotential.org) under the Blog section. I highly recommend checking it out!
    - With that being said, the Unlock Student Potential website is now live. Please direct any questions or wants to help out.
    - The commercial with NJEA is still happening and we are looking forward to its debut in November.
    - The task force is attending the NJ School Board Association conference in AC this week.
  - Library Consortiums and Systems (LMXac, BCCLS, etc.)
    - BCCLS boot camp: November 15 Maywood Library 10am.
- YASS Business, Important Information, and Reminders
  - GSTBA Updates - Karen & Melissa
    - Reading Assignments go out next week.
    - October 21 last day to sign up for GSTBA reading.
    - Nonfiction first meeting out of the three GSTBA meetings.
  - NJLA Conference Proposal Updates - Kate-Lynn
    - Deadline for proposals is November 30
    - This year's theme is: Know Your Why
    - Proposals so far:
      - YA section needs more!
      - Please submit ideas.
      - A reminder will be sent to the section.
    - Conference Proposal Idea Networking - bring your ideas and business cards! Please Volunteer for below ideas:
      - Creating teen programming from the ground-up
      - Weeding for YA Materials
      - Canva and other free online tools

- Libraries = Success (Library Card Sign Up Month campaign)
      - Nonfiction for Teens: Breaking the Stigma
    - NJLA YA will add section to proposal form to reach out to list serve to add additional speakers.
  - NJLA Core Values Discussion #1
    - Access: we strive to provide equal access to a variety of materials in all formats and make information both findable and accessible to all people whenever it is needed.
      - Chromebooks, iPads, Video Games (no fees), comfy window seating nook, read/relax, teen cafe
  - Member updates and hot topics!
    - Fall teen social at Paint/Sip, Caramel Apple Bar at Paterson
    - Gun Violence in Paterson: Advice: connect with boys/girls club, Resource with other safe places.
    - Make mess, clean it up (cleaning supplies out in front of teens)
  - Tour of the library.
- 

#### 11am YASS Business Meeting

- Discussion - Predetermined Topics from Survey
- Q&A with members of the Administration Management Section
  - Staff Weekly Check Ins: What Proud of/ What are the Challenges
  - Responsibility of management to visit staff programs
  - Advice to youth librarians looking to move up:
    - who come admin with problems but also has ideas on how to solve problems--shows initiative and management skills. Managers solve problems
    - Volunteer and lead committees in libraries, doing it in NJLA, getting active, as long as you have leadership doesn't matter the area you are from in library. Or outside of library: Rotary Club, Census Committees, PTA, etc.
    - Not getting involved with drama: rise above gossip and drama
    - If director asks you to do something out of comfort zone, give it your best shot--do not decline.
    - Show you are willing to invest in yourself, they might invest in you.
    - Go to events on time off and do the work, if your job isn't supportive of getting involved.
    - YASS GSTBA and CSS Performer Showcase do not need to attend meeting to participate.
  - As a manager, encourage staff to be proactive.
  - Strategies to talking to managers
    - Using "I feel" is important instead of accusing. Not putting on the other person.
    - Give solution to problem but not try until manager signs off
    - CC managers to keep them in loop.
    - Be upfront as manager of shortcomings.

- Take 'temperature' of room. Right before big deadline and manager is stressed, that's not when you propose an idea. Wait until manager is calm.
  - Know support staff (secretary etc)
  - Director primary person to talk to the board members.
- Strategies to talking to managers How to best advocate for staff/patrons with tight budget:
  - Statistics
  - Communication
  - Specific proposal including costs and timeline and purpose
    - Work on your persuasiveness for proposals
- Staff should be evaluated on an annual basis
- Staff day where each staff member tells them what they do.
- Ask children/teens, why it's important to have a teen/youth librarian in Teen Advisory Board. Youth and Young Adult Librarians are advocates for their patrons.

Thank you everyone! Next meeting is **Friday November 15 Voorhees/Vogelson Branch Camden County Library System**. This is a joint meeting with CSS and Administration & Management Section.

## **Youth Adult Services Section Executive Board**

### **Maureen Langley, President**

Youth Services Department Supervisor

SCLSNJ North Plainfield Branch

<https://sclsnj.org/>

908-458-8435 ext. 1392, [mlangley@sclibnj.org](mailto:mlangley@sclibnj.org)

### **Kate-Lynn Brown, Vice President**

Teen Services Librarian

Piscataway Public Library, John F. Kennedy Memorial Library

[www.piscatawaylibrary.org](http://www.piscatawaylibrary.org)

732-463-1633, [kbrown@piscatawaylibrary.org](mailto:kbrown@piscatawaylibrary.org)

### **Katie Salerno, Secretary**

Teen Services Librarian

SCLSNJ Bridgewater Library Branch

<https://sclsnj.org/>

908-458-8415 ext.1197, [ksalerno@sclibnj.org](mailto:ksalerno@sclibnj.org)

### **Erica Deb, Social Media Manager**

Youth Services Librarian

Matawan-Aberdeen Public Library

<https://www.matawanaberdeenlibrary.com>

732-583-9100, [edeb@lmaxac.org](mailto:edeb@lmaxac.org)

**Melissa Brinn, Member-at-Large Teen Librarian**

Cherry Hill Public Library

[www.chplnj.org](http://www.chplnj.org)

856-667-0300, [MBrinn@chplnj.org](mailto:MBrinn@chplnj.org)

**Karen Jarzabski, Member-at-Large Young Adult Librarian**

Highland Park Public Library

[www.hpplnj.org](http://www.hpplnj.org)

732-572-2750, [kmitchell@hpplnj.org](mailto:kmitchell@hpplnj.org)

**Keisha M. Miller, Past President**

Teen Librarian & Volunteer Coordinator

South Orange Public Library

[www.sopl.org](http://www.sopl.org)

973-762-0230, [kmiller@sopl.org](mailto:kmiller@sopl.org)