

NJLA CSS Meeting

Friday, June 7 at 3pm

Virtual at <https://njla.adobeconnect.com/css>

1. Welcome and Call to Order

- a. In attendance: Jen Fitzgerald, Aaron Pickett, Dana Skiwurt, Vicki Wright, Stephanie Smith, Ann Kershner, and Sharon Rawlins

2. Approval of Minutes from May

- a. Approved by Sharon
- b. Seconded by Dana

3. Old Business

- a. NJLA conference wrap-up (Aaron Pickett)
 - i. Feast on This luncheon (sponsored by CSS) and the Garden State Book Awards luncheon were both well attended. YASS/Garden State Teen Book Awards Committee should get a special shout-out for arranging the keynote speaker - Lisa Lucas was great!
 - ii. No formal feedback from the conference committee, but people did seem to enjoy themselves and many stopped by the CSS table.
 - iii. Other members noted that they attended informative, well-rounded workshops that were good for professional development and sharing with colleagues back at their libraries.
 - iv. Some complaints about multiple sessions of interest occurring at the same time.
- b. NJLA election results re: CSS
 - i. The NJLA CSS Member-at-Large position has not been solidified yet and will have to be redone. There was an error in the voting. Unfortunately, we are unable to determine the winner so we will have to revote. Pham is waiting to hear back from the NJLA office on how to proceed.

4. New Business

- a. 2019-2020 Meeting dates and ideas (Aaron Pickett)
 - i. Thursday, September 5: Summer Reading wrap-up and conference planning @ 9:30am, East Brunswick Public Library
 - ii. Monday, October 21 Joint meeting with YASS/Administration & Management Sections @ 10am, South River Public Library. The topic will be communication across the youth services/administration divide. We are going to get a few speakers to talk about communication tips and challenges from these sections and then open it to a "Safe space" discussion of all of our experiences and how we can make it better. If you have suggestions for speakers, please let Aaron know.
 - iii. Tuesday, November 12 Meeting @ 10am, Cherry Hill Public Library
 - iv. Thursday, December 5 Unconference @ 9:30am, Monroe Township Public Library. Hosted by LMxAC but open to librarians throughout the state.
 - v. Friday, January 31, 2020 Joint meeting with Garden State Children's Book Awards @ 9:30am, Old Bridge Public Library

- vi. Aaron is also working with YASS to get a meeting with the school librarian group NJASL on the topic of moving from collaboration to advocacy - how public librarians can advocate for their school librarian counterparts in the face of cuts.
- vii. If others have any ideas for spring programs, please send to Aaron.

5. Reports from subcommittees

- a. Library Link NJ (website)
 - i. School delivery ends June 14 and picks up again September 9.
 - ii. Registration for the Super Library Supervisor Workshop Fall Series will open at 10am on Tuesday, July 9, 2019. This training is designed for library staff who are *currently* supervisors and have less than five years of supervisory experience. More details are available here: <https://librarylinknj.org/content/super-library-supervisor-workshop-fall-series-fy2020>
 - iii. Job shadowing programs are available for current MLIS students or library employees looking to work in academic or public library settings. Additional information can be found here: <https://librarylinknj.org/MentorNJ/job-shadowing>
 - iv. Small meet-ups are available as informal sessions to share information with colleagues around the state. <https://librarylinknj.org/MentorNJ/meetup>
- b. State Library (Sharon Rawlins)
 - i. Public Library Card Campaign in Schools
 - 1. The DOE, NJ State Library, NJASL, and NJLA are in the beginning stages of developing a joint pilot project to provide 6th grade students with public library cards in selected parts of the state. A survey will be sent out this Monday (6/10/19) to ask which libraries are interested in participating.
 - ii. Opioid Overdose Prevention Training
 - 1. The NJ State Library is coordinating an informational program in an effort to facilitate discussion around the topic of opioid overdose and naloxone administration in libraries. The goal is to encourage the sharing and gathering of ideas and input for possible future programming. The free training will take place on Tuesday, June 11, 2019 from 1-3pm at the Plainfield Public Library, 800 Park Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07060. [View the promotional flyer](#). Registration is now full but they hope to do another session in the future.
 - iii. Coretta Scott King (CSK) Celebrating the 50th Anniversary
 - 1. Visit the CSK 50th Anniversary [website](#) for program ideas and to access a variety of free downloads, including publicity templates and a variety of other resources.
 - 2. Go to the [CSK Programs in 2019](#) website to explore our CSK 50-50 Initiative, also known as Fifty States Celebrating the CSK 50th Anniversary. To commemorate the 50th Anniversary the Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee is challenging librarians, educators, and all lovers of children's literature across the nation to hold one or more programs, classes, presentations, speeches, etc., highlighting the committee, award-winning books, authors, or illustrators in each of the 50 states. You are encouraged to use these resources, programs, and

activities as a base to build upon. If you accept this challenge, please send us an email us to diversity@ala.org so your state will be recognized for participating in the 50-50 Initiative.

3. Please share your (or other) CSK event information and photos with our CSK team by sending them to diversity@ala.org. You might see your event highlighted over our CSK social media channels and the CSK50 website.
4. During the 2019 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., the Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee will have the following 50th Anniversary celebration activities: the CSK 50th Anniversary Gala, Friday, June 21, 2019, 7-9 p.m.; CSK Annual Program, Saturday, June 22, 2019, 4-5 p.m.; CSK-Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement Award Reception, Saturday, June 22, 2019, 6-7:30 p.m.; and CSK Annual Awards Breakfast, Sunday, June 23, 2019, 7-10 a.m.
5. Also, visit the *Our Voice: Celebrating the Coretta Scott King Illustrator Awards*, the art exhibition curated by the National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature (NCCIL) in partnership with the Coretta Scott King Book Awards Committee at a location near you. Our Voice is the first comprehensive art exhibition celebrating the Coretta Scott King Award Illustrators from its inception to the present. Over 100 artworks are featured, and the art exhibition has shown to record breaking crowds. Click [here](#) for further information.

iv. NJ Association of School Librarians

1. The call for proposals is now open for NJASL's 2019 Fall Conference! The deadline to submit a proposal is July 30, 2019. This year's conference will be held at the Hilton East Brunswick on Monday and Tuesday December 9 & 10. We are so excited to have John Schu aka [Mr. Schu Reads](#) and [Jacqueline Woodson](#) as our keynote speakers.
2. This year's theme is "Better Together." In keeping with that theme please share your ideas and expertise by submitting a proposal to present. Whether you're a first-timer or a perennial presenter, there's a format for everyone: Spark and Tell (10 minute session); Speed Learning (15 minute session); or Concurrent (60 minute session). More detailed descriptions of each format can be found on [the proposal form](#).
3. If you have any questions, please reach out to Beth Thomas, Conference Chair at njasl19@njasl.org. Please submit your proposal to the *EMAIL LISTED ON [THE FORM!](#)*

c. Garden State Children's Book Awards (Robin Rockman)

- i. Online ballot is up at <http://njlamembers.org/content/voting-ballots>. You can also find the ballot to print there. An email will be coming out in the next week with the ballot information through the CSS list.
- ii. The ballot is a great reader's advisory tool and is meant to be high quality, but also fun and engaging. Promoting the ballot over the summer works well with

summer reading. Book talks, etc., will be up on the website in the coming month or so.

- iii. We do have a new voting method for the coming year to ensure that every vote - whether in the library via paper ballot/display or online is counted equally. We do encourage libraries to do displays and have children vote - it can be a fun, interactive way to engage the children - but we are asking for results to be submitted with complete number of votes for each title. This replaces ranking first, second, and third. It also places more value on the children's vote than on circulation statistics.
 - iv. We have a new logo thanks the NJ Illustrator, Meg Walters, and are starting to incorporate it into our materials, replacing the old one. It is available online so that people can download it to use for their own promotional materials.
 - v. Vicki Wright is the new chair and we are transitioning now. Jordan Bilodeau is the new Vice Chair and Dana Skwirut is the new secretary. Many thanks to Amy Behr-Shields who served two terms as Secretary.
 - vi. Those interested in joining the committee can email Vicki at GSCBAcom@gmail.com. We meet 3 times a year and it is highly encouraged to attend all 3 meetings, but if that is an issue, we can work with it. Most important is being able to complete the reading and contribute to the discussion of which books are worthy of consideration.
 - vii. Thank you CSS for all of your support of the Garden State Children's Book Awards!
- d. Public Policy (Jen Fitzgerald)
- i. The Public Policy committee is still looking for advocacy on the per capita legislation. Please call or email NJ legislators in either your home district or library district (confirm your library's policy first). So far, 20 out of 40 Senators signed on as sponsors as well as 24 of 80 Assemblymembers. A list of sponsors can be found here: <https://njla.org/content/a3801s2668>
 - ii. Separately, may see advocacy on NJ budget which there are Assembly and Senate budget resolutions to put in more money for Per Capita State Aid and the NJ Network Aid bills.
- e. NJLA Executive Board (Karin Finnegan)
- i. Congratulations to NJLA Executive Board election winners: Jen Schureman., First Vice President/President Elect; Amy Babcock Landry, Second Vice President; Kate Jagers, Secretary; Eileen Palmer, ALA Councilor; and Members-at-Large: Danielle Cesena, Corey Fleming, Pham Condello, and Adriana Mamay (academic).
 - ii. The NJLA Executive Board Special Election is underway. The following positions are open for 2019:
 - 1. Treasurer Unfulfilled Term Expires June 30, 2020
 - 2. Member at Large Unfulfilled Term Expires June 30, 2020If you are interested in petitioning to become a candidate, and you are an NJLA member in good standing, fill out the following form by June 17: <https://njla.org/content/application-nomination-special-election>

Candidates must then complete a nominated petition with at least 15 signatures, which must be submitted by July 1. Candidates will be sent to the membership on July 8. The election will begin July 15 and end July 29. The results will be announced August 5.

- iii. If you are interested in being appointed to a committee, the Committee Choice form is open now until June 21: <https://njla.org/content/sign-join-njla-committee>
 - iv. There are also plans to form a School-Public Library Task Force, consisting of 4-5 members each from NJASL and NJLA.
 - v. The 2019-2022 Strategic Plan is available here: <https://njla.org/sites/default/files/NJLA%20Strategic%20Plan.pdf> Member feedback is requested here: <https://tinyurl.com/Feedback-NJLA-SP>
 - vi. There were no major changes between last year's budget and the proposed budget. The final budget will be presented at the June meeting for approval.
 - vii. There was intense discussion about Highland Park and the controversy surrounding an author visit and if NJLA should attend the Board meeting or make a statement. There was a consensus that until we know more information NJLA will not make the statement and that NJLA will not attend the meeting.
 - viii. The Code of Conduct reporting form was approved at the last meeting. The committee cleaned up the Code of Conduct wording, making it clear and concise. This also included adding the reporting form.
 - ix. The PAC determines the minimum salary requirement and the percentage increase based on the core inflation rates minus food and energy (this is the most respected inflation indicator in the corporate and business world and is the federal reserve benchmark for inflation). There was also discussion about indirect benefits to salary and creating a minimum benefit recommendations with a total compensation including benefits. The Executive Board asked that the 2021 minimum salary recommendation comes to the Board in June.
 - x. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 18 at the Long Beach Island Branch of the Ocean County Library at 10am.
- f. YS Forum (Sharon Rawlins)
- i. The 2019 Youth Services Forum planning committee is finalizing the programs for this Forum for youth services librarians and staff serving children and teens. The Forum, sponsored by NJLA, NJSL, and NJASL, is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 7, 2019 at the Monroe Township Public Library (Middlesex County).
 - ii. If you have any questions, please contact Project Manager Sandi Cronce, Willingboro Public Library, scronce@willingboro.org, 609-877-6668 or Project Coordinator Sharon Rawlins, Youth Services Specialist, NJ State Library, srawlins@njstatelib.org, 609-278-2640 ext. 116.
- g. Performer's Showcase (Jess Bauer)
- i. Showcase is confirmed for November 14 at Monmouth County Library in Manalapan.
 - ii. Our lineup is confirmed. Letters of inquiry have gone out. We are now waiting for responses from the performers.
- h. Summer Reading (Natalie Cheetham)

- i. The NJ Summer Reading Committee last met on Friday, May 10. This meeting served as a wrap-up of our 2019 season, and the first meeting of our 2020 season. We were pleased to see several new faces join us, and we look forward to another great year ahead. Our next meeting will be on Friday, September 6, 2019 at the Franklin Township Library in Somerset.
- ii. The committee had a great time at NJLA. Leeza Hernandez was wonderful and we had a great time at our table. Thanks to anyone who stopped by.
- iii. We hope that everyone has a wonderful summer. Please utilize our facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/njlasummerreading/> Post any questions that you might have along the way, or pics of any awesome programs...or even pics or laments about any failures.
- iv. That being said, save the dates for our 2020 workshops! We will be at the Mullica Hill Branch of the GCLS on Friday, March 6, 2020, the Bernards Township Library on Monday, March 9, 2020, the Wayne Public Library on Friday, March 20, 2020, and the Monroe Public Library on Monday, March 23, 2020.

6. Important dates

- a. Monday, October 7: the Youth Services Forum will be held from 8:45am to 3pm at Monroe Township Public Library.
- b. Thursday, November 14: Performer's Showcase will be held at Monmouth County Library in Manalapan.

7. Adjournment

- a. Next CSS meeting:
 - i. We will take a break for the summer.
 - ii. See you in September on the 5th!