NJLA Diversity & Outreach Section Meeting

July 27, 2023

11:00am

Meeting Held on Zoom

Meeting start time: 11:05am

Attendees:

Rachel Talbert - Parsippany Library

Sharon Owens - Newark Public Library

Carina Gonzalez - Piscataway Library

Joy Robinson - Piscataway Library

Christina Campbell - Cumberland County Library

Danielle Pitter

Jennifer Haise - Plainfield LIbrary

Laura Giacobbe

Liz Kelly - State Library Talking Book and Braille Center

Lorraine Ruiz - Kenilworth Library

Michelle Yeager - Cherry Hill Library

Jeff Cupo - Elizabeth Library

Ashley Mitchell

Yesenia Lopez

First Meeting of the 2023-2024 NJLA Year

Member Updates:

* EDI Initiative and Meeting Updates:
  + Statewide EDI coalition
  + restructuring how the group is functioning used to be different subcommittees; now they are working on specific projects
    - EDI professional development
    - DEI toolkit for directors/administrators
  + Next EDI meeting August 10 11:00am
    - Creating a roster for projects
* Talking Book and Braille Center - TBBC
  + Promotional videos
    - <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?app=desktop&list=PLfajGieVHxO3VvacmCx4-GzFgP6crqcS9>

Projects for 2023-2024

* Add to the PSA for LWOC and continue to collaborate with LWOC
* Recruiting and collaborating for grant through NJLA
  + LWOC meeting at NJLA Mr. Smith, Librarian from East Orange PL mentioned there was a need for more Black male librarians.
  + Modeling PLA - IAI inclusive inclusive internships for recruiting Black males - invest in early ages for careers in libraries
    - Scholarship Endowment
  + Sections can apply for funding and collaborate to create initiatives - not a lot
* Malawi Project –
  + [Urban Promise Learning Network (1).pdf](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1TxESLU-BfUsIJt05wy7R2OlaYJuLZHWU)
  + Benefit the citizens of Malawi
  + Build a library and mentoring librarians in Malawi
  + Review and decide if we will share and promote to NJLA membership - let Sharon know by COB on Monday, August 7.
* Findhelp.org
  + Zoom meeting to find out more about the services- Laura Giacobbe volunteered to attend
  + Free services - social services

June Minutes approved

Literacy Enhancement - more Diversity – Miss New Jersey

* Inclusive literacy for diversity and early literacy
* Youth Literacy Initiative across the nation
* Joint Meeting/ Project with CSS & YASS?

Summer Programing:

* Laura mentioned that she had attended a session on racism -a 15 year old had spoken about her experiences – Cumberland County offers programs in Mental Health for BIPOC teens
  + “Hear their voices” platform to share their experiences
* Recruiting TAB members for jobs in libraries
  + Get teens interested in library work
* Will look into collaborating with the YASS section.

Other Comments/ Announcements:

Next meeting: Thursday, August 24, 2023 at 11am. Via Zoom

End of meeting: 11:39 am