**NJLA YA Services Section Meeting**

December 12th, 2014

**In Attendance:**

Erica Solomon, President, Piscataway Public Library

Katie Bojanek, Vice President, North Plainfield Library

Megan England, Secretary, Atlantic City Free Public Library

Rosy Henderson, Member At Large, New Brunswick Free Public Library

Michelle Yeager, Member At Large, Cherry Hill Public Library

Sarah Kramer, Margaret E. Heggan Free Public Library

Doneanne Soult, Bordentown Regional HS, Burlington County Library HQ

Balmeet Kaur, Carteret Free Public Library

Dana Giusti, Atlantic County Library System, Galloway Twp.

Amanpreet Kaur, Rutgers University Libraries

Samantha Baird, New Brunswick Public Library

Shannon Fagon, Burlington County Library System, Cinnaminson

Marisa Hall, Bergenfield Public Library

Christen Orbanus, Camden County Library System, Voorhees

Liz Burns, NJSL Talking Book and Braille Center

Jenn Fisher, Matawan-Aberdeen

Jen Shureman, Gloucester Public Library System

Lupita S. O’Brien

Sophie Brookover, LibraryLink NJ

Kathleen Gruver, Burlington County Library

Jennifer Apgar, NJSL Talking Book and Braille Center

Samantha Marker, Mount Laurel Library

Sandi Cronce, Willingboro Public Library

Saleena Davidson, South Brunswick Public Library

NJLA – you should be a member! Lots of benefits! [Click here](http://njla.org/)!

[NJ State Library](http://www.njstatelib.org)

[Talking Book and Braille Center](http://www.njstatelib.org/talking_books_and-braille/)

[NJLA YA Section new website](http://njlamembers.org/yasection)

**Member updates:**

* Megan: Financial troubles in Atlantic City are causing behavior issues in teens. See NJLA YA listserv for discussion of after school programming ideas.
* Christen: Her Instagram has 60 followers! Gave away a Yogurtland giftcard to followers. There are lots of libraries on Instagram, check NYPL and popular hashtags like #bookfacefriday. No shame, jump on the bandwagon! Shelfie of the day, Caturday.
* Cinnaminson Library: My Little Podcast: Friendship is Booktalks! Starting a podcast with her teens! Sounds amazing.
* Melissa: What to do when your ENTIRE TAG group graduates! Megan: get them while they’re young. Go to the lower schools, get in contact with lower school librarians, pull in the 7th and 8th graders. Saleena: Allow yourself to grieve, miss them, and acknowledge that you have to reinvent yourself every few years because not every group wants to do the same thing. Michelle: Ask local media specialist to nominate people so you know you’re getting quality teens. Katie: Summer reading visits at the end of the year, explain who you are and what you do. Same when school starts. Surveys! Connect with one kid and they can bring all their friends. Sandi: It’s a cycle. You’re going to have a lot, then none, and just don’t take it personally.
* Michelle: What will we do without Evanced Summer Reader? Wandoo reader (just for kids, teen and adult coming?), AADL summer games. You don’t have to do digital, paper is fine! Readingrewards.com for $360

**Updates from around the state**

* State library
  + Full updates attached to the minutes e-mail
  + 2015 Multicultural Program Award ($1000 honorarium!)
  + Evanced Summer Reader is gone.
  + Upstart has begun shipping early summer reading materials
  + 2015 Teen video challenge to promote SRP
  + 15 NJ libraries received Lego makerspace kits
  + MentorNJ – [Click for details](http://librarylinknj.org/projects/MentorNJ). Building an online resource for libraries in NJ. Looking for project team members. Connecting people with NJ librarian mentors.
* LibraryLinkNJ
  + [About LLNJ](http://librarylinknj.org/about-us)
  + Many many webinars – register in advance to participate in realtime, or check them out on their website for FREE after the fact. [Click here for archived webinars](http://librarylinknj.org/ce/past-classes).
  + Full updates attached to the minutes e-mail.
* Another Toolbox is coming up in North NJ in February. Presenters needed. Get in touch with Michelle Petrasek for details.
* Annual conference, April 20-22, Ocean Place Resort & Spa, Long Branch, [www.oceanplace.com](http://www.oceanplace.com)
  + We should know programs by the end of next week
* More NJLA events
  + Getting comfortable with coding half day workshop
  + NJ Makers Day, March 21st
  + Maker toolbox at Monroe on March 10th

**Ongoing Business**

* TAB Summits: connecting teens from around the state in big group meetings at central locations.
  + South Brunswick, Burlington County Main Branch, Montclair, Livingston
  + Check for e-mail from Saleena soon
* Garden State Teen Book Awards
  + [What is GSTBA?](http://njlamembers.org/content/frequently-asked-questions)
  + [Feedback forms](http://njlamembers.org/content/reader-guidelines) – use them even if you are attending, and be sure to send them in if you can’t make it.
  + Voting is still open until December 31st for this year’s awards! Get printable ballots or the online voting link [here](http://njlamembers.org/content/voting-information-ballots).