NJLA Young Adult Services Section Meeting

November 20, 2015

South Brunswick Public Library

**In attendance**

Katie Bojanek, President, Warren Township Library

Megan England, Vice President, Atlantic City Free Public Library

Maureen Donohue, Secretary, Piscataway Public Library

Rosy Wagner, Member At Large, New Brunswick Public Library

Jessica Schneider, Member At Large, East Brunswick Public Library

Chelsea Woods, New Brunswick Free Public Library

Jocelyn Jimenez, Princeton Public Library

Saleena Davidson, South Brunswick Public Library

Katie Salerno, Bridgewater Public Library

Liz Burns, NJ State Library, Talking Book and Braille Center

Sharon Rawlins, NJ State Library

Jen Apgar, NJ State Library, Talking Book and Braille Center

Maddy Santore, Paterson Free Public Library

Kathleen Gruver, Burlington County Library

Stephanie Smith, GCLS Mullica Hill

Sue Grotyohann, Monroe Township

Michelle Petrasek, Hawthorne Public Library

**Welcome and Introductions**

* Welcome Jocelyn! New Teen Librarian at Princeton Public Library

**Member Updates**

* New Brunswick and Mullica Hills are very excited to announce that they were awarded the Curiosity Creates Grant! They are planning very exciting programs and we congratulate all NJ Libraries who received the grant
* Burlington hosted a Mini Con and it was very successful! The local 4H group came in did programs and the South Jersey Hell Hounds Quidditch Team did a demo!
* South Brunswick teens had a glow in the dark party. There was a dance and video games available, around 30 kids attended and they raised money for the friends- Great success!
* Congrats, Liz on your promotion

**Updates from around the state:**

* Children’s Services Section
  + Bylaws have been updated
* NJ State Library
  + ***See Attached***
* Statewide Summer Reading

o   Manuals should have gone out, if you don’t have them by the week after Thanksgiving, please email Sharon.

* NJ State Library Talking Book and Braille Center
  + Fall festival was a success there were book talks, crafts, and a walking tour
* Library Link NJ
  + ***See Attached***

**On Going Business**

* We are looking for a North Jersey host for our February 12, 2016 meeting.

**Garden State Teen Book Awards**

* Reading assignments have gone out, if you missed the deadline please contact Rosy or Jes.
* Because of the limited number of books, we can’t do a “Top 5” Please come prepared to defend a “Top 2”

**NJLA Conference Updates**

* May 16-18 in Harrah’s in A.C.
* Conference proposal will be sent by the end of day. Thanks Megan!

**TAB Summits**

* They have been successful in the past but last year was a bad year. Without librarian input the teens will not know about it or get excite. Saleena does not want to see it die because this is a great opportunity for teens. Saleena would like to see the TAB summits to  happen around March because summer is too busy for the teens and Fall is too busy with after school activities. Please reach out to her if you are interested in TAB Summits.

**Open Forum**

* Everyone check out the 2ndFloor App: [www.2ndfloor.org](http://www.2ndfloor.org)
* Kathleen is looking for program ideas for after school, she has a lot of teens in foster care who come their counselor and the programs she tried did not work out. She wants it to be fun and engaging but educational enough for the counselors to support the teens going to her programs. Rosy recommended Homework and a Movie. She sets up tables for homework but has a movie playing for those who need a break. Katie recommended gaming and pushing it as a  cooperative skill.
* ·      New Brunswick is look for information on immigration. Chelsea’s tweens are expressing interest and fear in the upcoming election and would like more info on the candidates and what will happen in the future. Jen mentioned Rock the Vote. The members recommended using humor as a way to educate the tweens without it being too political (facts and info in the form of comic strips and images)
* Megan is seeking advice. She recently held a TAG meeting and was confronted with 2 upsetting issues.
  + 1)  A.C schools are extremely diverse and there seems to be racial backlash from teachers. Teens are admitting that the teachers are playing favorites based on their race/ethnicity – She recommended to her teens that they get involved in a student government to talk about anonymous rating of teachers. Sharon recommended viewing a webinar from D&O for some tips. Stephanie recommended having the teens talk to a teacher that they have a positive relationship with. This teacher could go to the administration and might have a better response from the admin than if they teens went.
  + 2) A female teen admitted that she is being touched inappropriately on the bus when she comes to the library. Megan told the teen she needs to report incident. Liz recommended calling the bus company and asking about their system rules. Chelsea asked Megan to urge the teen not to interact with these men, she recommends Megan reaching out to a women’s group in A.C. for advice.
    - Megan, we are all here for you and your teens. Keep your head up. You’re doing a great job!

**Next Meeting** – Friday, December 18, coffee and snacks at 9:30am, meeting at 10:00am at the Mullica Hills Branch of the Gloucester County Library

**NJSL Report for YA Section Meeting, November 20, 2015**

Submitted by Sharon Rawlins, Youth Services Specialist, NJ State Library

**From Lifelong Learning:**

**The 25th Youth Services Forum**

This event held on October 7th at the Monroe Public Library was a great success, with 157 registered attendees. Marc Aronson, award-winning author, professor and historian was an excellent keynote speaker and all of the other nine presentations were packed. As one attendee said, "It was one of the best, the presenters were well prepared, articulate, lively and the topics timely." There were balloons and cake in hand as everyone enjoyed the workshops. The NJLA Store was also there selling lots of the literary goodies. James Keehbler, NJLA President, Janet Clark, NJASL President and Sharon Rawlins, Youth Services Specialist, NJSL gave brief updates about their organizations to the attendees.

**Statewide 2015 Summer Reading Statistics**

2015 Totals – All Ages

Total books read by all ages 1,767,373 (2014 - 1,912,195)

Total registration by all ages 139,678 (2014 - 130,504)

Total participants by all ages 149,667 (2014 - 166,368)

Total programs for all ages 30,542 (2014 - 27,119)

Total program attendance – all ages 623,896 (2014 - 592,714)

**Mental Health First Aid Training for Youth Services Librarians & Staff Very Successful**

The State Library offered Youth Mental Health First Aid Training to librarians or staff working with young people in public libraries and all the sessions filled up almost immediately. The State Library received a grant from the National Network/Libraries of Medicine-Middle Atlantic Region to offer these trainings that were designed to provide instruction on how to help an adolescent (age 12-18) who is experiencing a mental health or addictions challenge or is in crisis.

The eight-hour Youth Mental Health First Aid certification course was offered in two four-hour sessions in the following locations: .

* Bernardsville Public Library- Tuesday August 4th & August 11th 9:30 am -3:00 pm
* Mays Landing Branch- Monday August 10th & August 17th 9:30 am -3:00 pm
* Fairfield Free Public Library – Wednesday October 14th & 21st 10:00 am – 3:30 pm
* Monroe Township Public Library- Thursday October 15th & 22nd 9:30 am - 3:00 pm

The trainings were offered to all library types and for all library staff. Multi-type libraries were encouraged to participate. The trainings were provided by the Mental Health Association in New Jersey: <http://www.mhanj.org/>. The State Library has added additional mental health resources to its [website](http://www.njstatelib.org/services_for_libraries/training-for-librarians/the-importance-of-health-literacy/mental-health-resources-for-librarians/) to supplement the trainings. For more information, please contact***:***Sharon Rawlins at [srawlins@njstatelib.org](http://www.njstatelib.org/services_for_libraries/training-for-librarians/mental-health-resources-librarians/%20srawlins@njstatelib.org) or 609-278-2640 ext. 116

**2016 CSLP Teen Video Challenge (Statewide Summer Reading Initiative)**

NJ is participating in the 2016 Teen Video Challenge (2016 TVC), a [CSLP](http://www.cslpreads.org) sponsored national video competition for teens to create videos that promote reading, libraries, and the 2016 CSLP teen summer reading slogan, “*Get in the Game -Read*.” Teens across the country are invited to create a 30 to 90 second video with their unique interpretation of the 2016 teen slogan *Get in the Game -Read* in combination with reading and libraries. Teens are encouraged, before and during the summer months, to be a part of the summer reading process by showcasing their creativity and sharing their ideas before a national audience.

The winning video from each state that participates will be named one of the CSLP 2016 Teen Videos to promote summer reading nationwide. $150 will be awarded to the creator or creative team of the winning state video and their associated public library will receive a gift certificate for prizes worth at least $50 from CSLP, Upstart and CSLP partners. The winners will be announced by CSLP in April 2016. For full details about the CSLP 2016 Teen Video Challenge and to find out how to enter, go to the [NJ State Library’s website](mailto:http://www.njstatelib.org/services_for_libraries/consulting_services/youth_services/summer_reading/) and see the attached documents on the summer reading page here: <http://www.njstatelib.org/services_for_libraries/consulting_services/youth_services/summer_reading/> or visit [CSLP](http://www.cslpreads.org).

Your teens can join 14-year-old Meghan Tandon from Bridgewater Library, a branch of the Somerset County Library System, who was the 2015 video winner from NJ. View her video on [YouTube](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=VURTcP87Bv0). Or view last year’s winners from other states by visiting the [Teen Video Challenge](http://www.cslpreads.org/programs/teen-program/teen-video-challenge/) on CSLP’s website.

CSLP is a consortium of public libraries and state library agencies throughout the United States, its territories, and the Cayman Islands, who are working together, sharing ideas, expertise, and costs to produce a high-quality summer reading program for children, teens, and adults.

**Other Summer Reading Items:**

2016 Summer Reading Manuals: The manuals have been sent out to all public libraries and they are either already at your library, or will be there soon.

Summer Reading Workshops: Four workshops will be offered in March at the same locations as last year: Wayne, Monroe (Middlesex County), Franklin Township Public Library (Somerset County) and Gloucester County Library in Mullica Hill. Dates are still being determined.

**State Library Job Opening**

Jenn Podolsky, formerly the NJ State Library’s Lifelong Learning’s Technology and Training Project Specialist, is now the director of East Brunswick Public Library. Her position as Project Specialist for Business Outreach, Workforce Development and Library Technology in Lifelong Learning is posted on the [State Library’s website](http://www.njstatelib.org/about/employment-opportunities/):

<http://www.njstatelib.org/about/employment-opportunities/>

**Other items of interest from the field:**

**YALSA’s Great Books Giveaway Deadline Just Around the Corner!**  
Would you love to get new books for your YA collection? The YALSA Great Books Giveaway will provide free books to enhance the YA collection at up to three libraries. Applications are judged based on community and library needs, potential for improvement of service to young adults, age of current nonfiction collection, and the current board- approved collection development policy. Learn more and apply online [here](http://ala.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=b9b7f12a0545b1a14ef19a691&id=d2dc93c907&e=V632dpEnFw) by Dec.1st.

**YALSA** also has other grant opportunities. Most deadlines are Dec. 1st. To see the list go to the YALSA [website](http://www.ala.org/yalsa/awardsandgrants/yalsaawardsgrants?utm_source=YALSA+Members_Updated&utm_campaign=53dd56b772-YALSA_December_2012_E_News3_9_2012&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c641a596eb-53dd56b772-81525701).

**Best Books Lists**

***School Library Journal*** will unveil its Best Books and Top 10 lists of the year in a [week-long celebration](http://www.slj.com/2015/10/reviews/best-of/slj-editors-reveal-best-of-2015-via-weeklong-social-media-celebration/). The festivities began with Twitter chats that started on Nov. 18th, and culminates in a live November 23rd broadcast via [YouTube Live Stream](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uc4oCPibxhw)

Here’s the schedule—Join in by using the hashtag [#SLJBest2015](https://twitter.com/search?f=tweets&q=%23sljbest2015&src=typd):

Wednesday, November 18 at 3 pm: Twitter reveal of **Top 10 DVDs and Top 10 Audiobooks**

Thursday, November 19 at 3 pm: Twitter reveal of **Best Adult Books 4 Teens**

Friday, November 20 at 3 pm: Twitter Reveal of **Top 10 Latino Books, Top 10 Graphic Novels,** and **Top 10 Apps**

Monday, November 23 at 6pm: Google+/[YouTube Live Stream](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uc4oCPibxhw) of the **Best Books**.

**Kirkus** will release its list of Best Books for Teens on Dec. 14th; Picture Books on Nov. 23rd, and Middle Grade on Nov. 30th.

**Library Link NJ Report for YA Section Meeting, November 20, 2015**

**Strategies for Effective Web Writing**

**Presented by** [Heidi Steiner Burkhardt](http://www.heidisb.com/work-experience/), Norwich University

**Date & Time:** Wednesday, January 27, 2016 | 3:00 - 4:30 PM

[Registration will open at 9:00 AM on Wednesday, December 16](http://librarylinknj.org/content/strategies-effective-web-writing)

**Description**

Thoughtful, well-written content is integral to the user experience of your library’s online presence. Practicing effective web writing strategies reaches far beyond your website to anywhere people interact with your content online.

This webinar will cover the various types of web copy libraries create, as well as thinking about who your audiences are and how they read on the web. We will also talk about voice and tone, including the importance of being conversational, honest and kind. Finally, the talk will be chock full of essential tips for high impact writing such as structure, writing for scannability, good use of links and avoiding jargon. Once you start to care about quality web writing, there is no going back. Be prepared to think critically, brainstorm and get amped about the power of well-written content.

**Learning Objectives**

After participating in this webinar, you will be able to:

* Identify the various types of web content your library sends out into the world
* Initiate the development of established voice and tone guidelines for your library
* Write web content using best practices and strategies

**Save the Dates: Super Library Supervisor**

Mark your calendars now! We have booked the dates for the 2016 edition of this perennially popular series of workshops. All programs will be held at the Monroe Township Public Library in Middlesex County on the following dates:

* March 30, 2016
* April 13, 2016
* May 4, 2016
* May 11, 2016

The topics will be: **What it Means To Be a Supervisor**, **Evaluation & Documentation**, **Communications**,  and **Human Resources Basics and Running Successful Meetings** (a two-in-one workshop).

*Registration for Super Library Supervisor will open on Wednesday, February 10, 2016.* You can look forward to an updated and even more equitable registration process, with 30 seats available this year.