YSS Board 2012-2013:

Joyce Laiosa, President
jrlaiosa@gmail.com

Jennifer Ogrodowski, 1st VP
jogrodowski@sals.edu

Christina Ryan-Linder, 2nd VP
clinder@rcls.org

Rosanne Cerny, Past President
RCERNY1@nyc.rr.com

Terry Rabideau, 1st Year Director
trabideau@wppl.lib.ny.us

Cathy Henderson, 2nd Year Director
chenders@libraryweb.org

Laura Panter, 3rd Year Director
panterlaura@mcl.lib.ny.us

Anne-Marie Helldorfer Cicchinelli, Secretary
amh@nysli.org

Dorothy Morehouse, Treasurer
dmorehouse@pln-net.org

Cathy Brenner, Conference Chair
brennerc@uhlclib.ny.us

Victoria Russo, Web
Victoria.russo@gmail.com

Tracy Van Dyne, Newsletter Editor
tracyvandyne@gmail.com

Inside this issue:

Message from Your President 1
2013 YSS Spring Conference 2
2nd Call for Submissions 3
Community Support 3
YSS Involvement 4
2013 YSS Executive Board 4
NYLA Fall Conference 5
YSS Active Membership Form 6-7

A Message From Your YSS President

YSS/NYLA Board Meeting ~ September 7, 2012 ~ President’s Report

I am proud that Lisa Wemett’s Ad Hoc Task Force was successful in obtaining the privilege of hosting the 2013 ALSC Arbuthnot Lecture in Rochester, NY. She has a full report on this, but I want to acknowledge her leadership on this important event. Lisa saw the opportunity in applying to ALSC (Association of Library Service to Children) to host the lecture and she also realized that the event could be tied to the YSS Spring Conference. It was her vision, her contacts with Nazareth College, and her dogged perseverance that included 23 letters of support for the lecture.

I have served on the ALSC Arbuthnot Committee and I explained to Lisa that the committee looks favorably towards organizations that try to tie the lecture into an “event” with the host organization. I also knew that a former Arbuthnot application was an inspiration to future committees because of the letters of support and the complimentary programs. It was the lecture by Walter Dean Myers hosted by the Alex Haley Farm and the Children’s Defense Fund. Lisa and her committee requested letters of support from the City of Rochester to the Seneca Zoo, all the library schools situated on the path of the old Eric Canal, as well as every library organization she could think of. Her organization skills were tested as the application was late being posted on the ALA website. However, it has all paid off for YSS. Come next May 16-19, all youth librarians will know that Rochester New York will be the “center of the universe.” A great big thank you to Lisa for her hard work and inspiration!

Serving on NYLA Council in my capacity as President of YSS has had the special duty of choosing a new Executive Director of NYLA. Michael Borges resigned to take a new job as Executive Director of the New York State Association of School Business Officials. He had served eight years with NYLA. NYLA Council appointed Jeremy Johannesen as Interim Director. The President of NYLA, Matt Bollerman, posted the job, combed through resumés and prepared for telephone interviews, followed by in-person interviews for the final three candidates. I was able to attend the final three in-person interviews at the NYLA office. Jeremy Johannesen was chosen to lead NYLA and continue the work of advocating for libraries and librarians; to make NYLA a place for professionals to find professional development courses, information on jobs, and continue to support our work.

I attended the SSL Summer Institute at Cornell University in Ithaca. It was an eye-opening program that exclusively dealt with the Common Core and training school librarians to work with teachers to implement it. I found it sad that public librarians were not part of the conversation at all. The teacher librarians are feeling the pressure that all teachers are under with evaluations of their own teaching and must test children during library time. Shrinking budgets only compound the problems facing so many of these librarians. With the people I sat with I spoke about collaborating with their public counterparts and this seemed like a totally new concept to many of them. Many of the librarians knew their public colleagues, but hadn’t thought to work together. I mentioned using the libraries for extra copies of classroom books; checking out new books with the public librarians; agency library cards for schools; keeping the public libraries informed (when possible) about upcoming assignments; and meeting a couple of times a year.

Lastly, Jen Ogrodowski, Rosanne Cerny and I met with the State Librarian, Bernard Margolis, recently returned from his medical leave. Karen Balsen, Carol Ann Desch, and Cassie Artale from the Division of Library Development were also in attendance. Mr. Margolis is most gratified that the NYS Education Commissioner, John King, spoke about the importance of the Summer Reading Program. It is important, but public youth librarians need more than that crumbs coming our way. The money for Early Literacy will be re-allocated. It is still there, but how it will be distributed throughout the state with grants, webinars, and/or face-to-face training is still in the planning stage. There is no way Youth Service Coordinators will be mandated for the 26 library systems. Right now there are only 13 systems that still employ a full-time YS Coordinator. Of course he would love to see that number go up, and the state’s economic future is getting better, but don’t hold your breath. At the State Library, there is not going to be an employee dedicated to only Youth Services. That was definite. Karen works diligently for Youth Services, but she has other job responsibilities, too. DLD will get one new hire soon. Yes, it would be great to have collaboration between public and school libraries, especially to implement the Common Core, but there are no clear cut plans for that to happen. We may have to rely on “Race to the Top” funds from the federal government for future collaboration. Mr. Margolis has many avenues to move the libraries of the state forward. Right now he is working hard to meet with as many different stakeholders as possible. We must continue to advocate and make ourselves heard.

This summer I had a busy Summer Reading Program, but was able, through YSS and NYLA to see more than just my library and my “kids.” I saw how hard it is to keep libraries in the public eye through the changes in teaching with the Common Core. But it is so important. And I saw from the 10th floor of the NYS Library that we are invited to the conversation, but we must work as a group to raise the status of our “kids.” We must focus our message, get parents to use our resources, and make the legislature and Governor Cuomo take notice of our work.

Respectfully submitted, Joyce R. Laiosa
The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) announced that the 2013 May Hill Arbuthnot Committee has chosen the Youth Services Section (YSS) and Nazareth College as the hosts and site for the 2013 Arbuthnot Honor Lecture which will be delivered by Michael Morpurgo in Rochester next May.

Morpurgo’s lecture will be the start of a three-day lineup of literary events in Rochester presented during Children’s Book Week (May 13-19). On Thursday evening, May 16, Morpurgo will speak in the Linehan Chapel on the Nazareth College campus. The 38th annual YSS Spring Conference will follow on Friday, May 17, at the Holiday Inn Rochester Airport. Conference goers will also want to stay in Rochester for the Greater Rochester Teen Book Festival which will be held on Saturday, May 18, on the Nazareth College campus.

YSS has given a one-day conference annually for close to four decades, nearly as long as the Arbuthnot Honor Lectureship has been held. A choice of fifteen presentations and panel discussions will be offered on a wide variety of topics selected to provide an outstanding continuing education experience for librarians and paraprofessionals who work with children, tweens, and teens. The conference’s theme is “Among the Readers and Beyond.”

On Friday, author Margaret Peterson Haddix will be the luncheon speaker. Winner of numerous awards from the International Reading Association, YALSA/ALA, and state groups, Haddix will provide the audience with an exciting possibility to hear more about her works. Nationally syndicated advice columnist and NPR commentator Amy Dickinson will provide the keynote talk focusing on early literacy and her initiative with the Family Reading Partnership, “A Book on Every Bed.”

Reduced registration fees for the conference are offered for library school students and New York Library Association members in YSS and the Section of School Librarians. Those registered for the conference will have the first opportunity to secure free tickets for the Arbuthnot Honor Lecture.

On Saturday, TBF Live! The Greater Rochester Teen Book Festival (teenbookfestival.org) will celebrate eight years and counting with a line-up of 30 nationally-known authors with incredible appeal to tweens and teens. It will be a day for teens, but all adult readers and book lovers are also welcome to this free event. Over the years, the attendance has continued to grow, with an average of 3,500 teens, their families, librarians, and school faculty enjoying a day set aside to celebrate authors, books, and fun. Young adult author Ellen Wittlinger has called TBF “the Woodstock of YA lit!” and this nationally-renowned festival means lots of fans, great publicity, and “rock star treatment” for all the authors involved.

Lisa C. Wemett, Chair of the Ad Hoc Task Force for the May Hill Arbuthnot Lectureship, partnered with Professor Laura C. S. Jones, Ph.D., of the School of Education at Nazareth College to develop the application to host the Lectureship. Arbuthnot Chair Susan Pine stated “The Youth Services Section submitted an application that was carefully prepared and embodied incredible community collaboration from local library systems, colleges, and even the Seneca Park Zoo Society. The lecture presents a wonderful opportunity for ALSC to partner with a vibrant state-wide library association.”

Established in 1969, the annual lecture celebrates May Hill Arbuthnot, who served as a strong voice for children’s literature. Each year a lecturer is chosen who will prepare a paper considered to be a significant contribution to the field of children’s literature. The paper is delivered as a lecture and is subsequently published in *Children & Libraries*, the journal of ALSC.

Born in England in 1943, Michael Morpurgo was teaching when he discovered the magic of storytelling and began writing. With more than 100 titles for young people, his books are noted for their imagination, power, and grace. Morpurgo is the author of *War Horse* which has enthralled both theater goers who have attended the play in London and across North America and movie audiences seeing Steven Spielberg’s award-winning 2011 film. Morpurgo is an Officer of the Order of the British Empire and served as Britain’s third Children’s Laureate from 2003 to 2005.

Although it has not been determined if Mr. Morpurgo will be participating in either the YSS Spring Conference or TBF, there are hopes that he will be in the Rochester area following the Thursday evening lecture. Due to the addition of the Arbuthnot Lecture, the YSS Conference registration brochure will now be posted in January 2013 on the YSS and NYLA Web pages. Questions may be directed to YSS Conference Chair Cathy Henderson at chenders@libraryweb.org or (585) 723-2488.

Submitted by, Lisa Wemett
2nd Call for Submissions!

With the craziness of summer finally over, we hope you’ll find time this fall to share your best or most successful Tween program ideas for inclusion in our next NYLA YSS publication! Send us a description of your best or most successful Tween program idea that you have designed and/or conducted during the past 5 years. Programs should be low cost, promote youth involvement and be adaptable to a variety of library environments. You can also include suggested professional resources on related topics, such as marketing, technology, outreach and policy, which may be included in a bibliography on best practices and practical applications related to this audience. Program submissions MUST include one electronic copy and a signed copyright / permission statement.

Please complete the form found at http://www.nyla.org/max/4DCGI/cms/review.html?Action=CMS_Document&DodID=319&MenuKey=yss and send to 1st Year Publications Committee member Gail Brown at Gjb71563@aol.com. Signed copyright / permission statement and additional materials may be sent by email (scanned copy), fax or mail. The deadline is December 31, 2012. The NYLA Youth Services Section Publications Committee looks forward to receiving your best tween program submissions!

Beth Zambito,
Publications Committee, Chair

Community Support

Most people want a library in their community, and recognize its value, even if they aren’t library users! Your community supporters are there—you just have to leave the library to find them.

Look for supporters at community clubs such as Rotary; Lions or craft guilds; sports organizations – baseball, soccer, swimming, etc; community centers; schools; churches; daycare centers; even town halls! Once you find some likely suspects, take a look at the causes that they champion. Think of ways to get them to either visit your library, or show them how your library supports their causes – often through materials and programs - and ask them to publicize the library’s programs on their real and virtual “bulletin boards.”

Don’t forget to invite them to meet in the library, or even ask them to sponsor a program. Look for opportunities to speak to them about what your library can do for their group, and how the library is supporting the same goals. If you see that elected officials will be visiting in your community, go and make sure they know you’re from the library. It can bring some good connections to the library that you wouldn’t get so easily otherwise.

Sue Rokos
YSS Legislative Liaison
As I was doing research on voting and the political process, I came across several sites dedicated to the 2008 campaign and the importance of the voice of the American people in that particular election. Now that we are in the midst of the 2012 campaign I was hoping for some up-to-date websites encouraging the American people and young voters to become more involved. Much to my dismay there are hardly any new sites and information about the significance and impact of voting in this year’s election. Is this because in 2012 we are so sure of the outcome?

When sitting down to write an article for the Fall Newsletter I realized that this analogy can be used with our voice and participation in YSS. Many youth service providers have taken the first step and become members of NYLA/YSS but have stopped there. Just like the 2008 campaign, individuals worked hard (and loudly) at reminding the rest of America of the importance of voting but don’t seem to be as invested in this current election. Should our involvement end when the need isn’t so pressing? Making substantial change is an effort that must be nurtured and attended to every day. Resting on a past win is not going to assure success in the future. Members need to be involved to help cultivate that change from within. What better way than to take the next step and become an active YSS member. Active Member involvement can be as small as helping monitor a workshop panel to becoming a part of a committee such as the Pied Piper Award or the Empire State Award to presenting your knowledge during one of the two conferences held annually. At the end of this newsletter you will see an Active Member Form. Please take a few moments to fill it out and send it in to clinder@rcls.org. Your voice will be the next one to help make libraries and children’s services that much better for future generations!

Christina Ryan-Linder, YSS Second VP
We have some stellar programs coming up in Saratoga this Fall for youth and teen programming.

Author Josh Lewis is joining us for a talk on Friday about books that have Kid Appeal. Josh Lewis is the author of the Disney-Hyperion chapter book series, *Super Chicken Nugget Boy*. In addition, he's worked as an actor, director, and writer in theater, television, and film for over twenty years. As a member of the comedy group, The Bert Fershners, he worked frequently creating and performing comedy for Comedy Central and MTV. He was also an original cast member and Co-writer of "Crepuscule," which evolved into the Tony Award winning, "25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." TV acting work includes appearances on "Late Night with Conan O'Brien," The Daily Show, "Law & Order: Criminal Intent," and commercials for burgers, beverages, and gas. He has taught acting and writing to both children and adults at numerous institutions including: NYU/Atlantic Theater Acting School, Yale School of Drama, the 52nd St. Project, Lee Strasberg Institute, New York Film Academy, and NYC public schools.

YSS is pleased to present the 2012 Empire State Award for Excellence in Literature for Young People to Bruce Coville. He is the author of the *Magic Shop* books, the *Sixth Grade Alien* series and the *My Teacher is An Alien* series as well as many other titles. His latest book *Always October* was published in August. Bruce recently collaborated with Elizabeth Levy to write *Amber Brown is Tickled Pink*. He is also the founder of Full Cast Audio, an audiobook company dedicated to creating unabridged, full cast recordings of the best in children’s and young adult literature.

We’ll wrap up the weekend with a double session of table talks about current topics in youth services. Hope to see you there!

Submitted by, Cathy Brenner
YOUTH SERVICES SECTION

YSS ACTIVE MEMBER FORM

Name:________________________________________________________

Institution:___________________________________________________

Address:_____________________________________________________

City:_________________________ State:_________ Zip Code:_________

Work Phone:____________________ Home Phone:__________________

Fax:_________________________ *Email:___________________________

*We send our newsletter by email only.

I am interested in helping in the following ways:

- Presenter—YSS Spring Conference_____ NYLA Conference—YSS Tabletalks _____
  (Presenting a workshop is based on your knowledge and expertise.)

- Room Monitor—YSS Spring Conference_____ NYLA Conference_____  
  (Handing out evaluation sheets before the program and collecting them after.)

- Running for an elected position on the YSS Executive Board____

- Being on a YSS Committee ______
  (See reverse side for list of committees.)

- Working at the YSS booth at the Spring Conference_____ NYLA Conference_____  

- Writing an article for the newsletter____

- Planning YSS programs for the NYLA Conference______

- Local Arrangements person for the YSS Spring Conference_____ NYLA Conference_____  

- Web/Computer Work____

- Work on a task group to develop a YSS publication____
COMMITTEES AND LISTS OF SKILLS

COMMITTEES:
Scholarship ___
Pied Piper Award ___
Empire State Award ___
Publications ___
Conference Planning ___
3 Apples Award ___

LISTSERV:
I am interested in joining the YSS Listserv. This member benefit will offer YSS members another resource for networking and interacting with peers from across the state. Discussions are open to anything related to NYLA/YSS as well as questions and discussions about general youth services work in libraries.

**Member News:**

Did you have a recent career change, promotion, special activity or honor related to youth services librarianship? Do you have something that you would like to share (new child, grandchild, etc.? If so, let us know and we will put it in the YSS Transitions section of the YSS newsletter. Take a few moments to let other YSS members know about you.

Name: ___________________ Position: ___________________
Library: ___________________
Address: ___________________
Phone: ___________________ Email: ___________________

I would like to share:

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Please fill out and return to:
Christina Ryan-Linder
2nd Vice President
Pearl River Public Library
80 Franklin Ave
Pearl River, NY 10965
clinder@rcis.org