A Message From Your YSS President

Sometimes, my non-librarian friends don’t understand why I am so excited to go away to library conferences. Perhaps they think we just sit around all day talking about which rubber stampers last the longest? I mean, some people have actually had the nerve to ask me WHY I need to have a master’s degree to be a librarian in the first place – since all I do is “stamp books and put them back on the shelf.” (Bow down before my restraint, as I have yet to strangle anyone who uttered those words!)

I think what my non-librarian friends don’t necessarily get is that library conferences are NOT just about libraries, programs, and books. Yes, we certainly have workshop sessions where we learn about the ways school and public librarians can work together to navigate the Common Core, sneak science and technology into our summer reading programs, and reach out to families “living on the spectrum”… but we also get to eat some delicious food, listen to [and meet!] amazing speakers/authors like Roger Sutton and Steve Sheinkin, and spend time with friends we only see a few times a year.

For me, the fun starts as soon as I leave my house and pick up the rest of the carpool. Sure it’s better for the environment and saves us all money when we pay collectively for gas and tolls, but that isn’t my main motivation for carpooling. The main reason I like carpooling is because it’s practically a party on wheels! We bring snacks, play fun music, and chat all the way there. And the party doesn’t stop when we get arrive, since I always share my hotel room. My husband teases that my hotel room sounds like a pajama party, and he’s pretty much right – because there’s not much I enjoy more than hanging with a friend or two and chatting while we watch cheesy wedding-planning or house-hunting reality shows the night before a conference.

Unless the conference is right in your neck of the woods, you will probably be in town the night before the conference, too. After all, there’s nothing worse than waking up at the crack of dawn in an attempt to give yourself enough time to make up for potential congestion and traffic jams. And, if you’re anything like me, you won’t want to simply eat dinner by yourself and spend the rest of the evening alone in your hotel room. So, it’s a good thing YSS offers you an additional opportunity to share a great meal with some fun people — the Past Presidents’ Dinner!

This year’s Spring Conference Chair, Terry Rabideau, wanted to make sure everyone realized that the Past Presidents’ Dinner is NOT just for YSS Past Presidents, so she renamed the event “Dinner For All In Honor of Past YSS Presidents.” It’s kind of a mouthful, but it gets the point across! This event is for everyone in YSS (and even guests) to come together for a night of food, friends, and fun. I’m especially looking forward to taking a tour of The Edge – the new teen space in the White Plains Public Library – and seeing what items are up for bid at the silent auction (which raises money for the Ann Gibson Scholarship).

Even if you’re not coming with me in my car, or staying with me in my hotel room, feel free to find me for a quiet chat at the Past Presidents’ Dinner and throughout the day of the conference. I have plenty of smiles, handshakes, and hugs to go around. And if you haven’t made arrangements to come to the conference yet, what are you waiting for? There’s still plenty of time to get your own party people together to share a ride, share a room, and share some fun you’ll remember for years to come!
Pick Up Great Program Ideas at the 2014 YSS Spring Conference!

With this summer’s science related theme (“Fizz, Boom, Read!”), you may want to attend the conference workshop, “Family Science Night” to be conducted by Priscilla Scaife, Co-Founder of the Family Science Night Project. You will be guided through a variety of cool science activities and learn how to adapt this function to your library.

And, there are those ever-popular table talks, all to be presented by fellow youth services librarians who will share experiences with their best tween and teen programs including:

• No More Schedules: Teen Passive Programming
• Teen Book Clubs for All
• Using iPads in Library Programming For Teens
• Repurposing Books
• Pet Lover’s Programming
• Library Mystery Scavenger Hunt
• Candy Sushi
• Tech For Tweens

The date of the conference is Friday, April 4, 2014. The place is The Crowne Plaza, 66 Hale Avenue, White Plains, 10601. The time is 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

You will find all the details in the online conference brochure. To access the brochure, please visit www.nyla.org/yss, click on Events, then click on “Everything is New Every Minute: Full of Opportunities.”

Do you have questions? Contact Conference Chair Terry Rabideau via email (trabideau@whiteplainslibrary.org) or phone (914-422-1499).

Take advantage of this OPPORTUNITY!

The 2014 NYLA YSS Spring Conference Planners:

Zahra Baird – Yonkers Riverfront Library  
Raquel Cavalcanti – The Trove at The White Plains Public Library  
Tata Cañuelas - The Trove at The White Plains Public Library  
Nancy Coradin – Cataloging Department, Westchester Library System  
Tee Cotter – Port Chester-Rye Brook Public Library  
Debra Gaffey – The Trove at The White Plains Public Library  
Rebecca Gerald – Dutchess Boces School Library System  
Bonnie Grant – The Trove at The White Plains Public Library  
Deborah Hempe – Middle Country Public Library  
Rebecca Newman – Mount Vernon Public Library and The Trove at The White Plains Public Library  
Donna Pesce – Chappaqua Library  
Terry Rabideau – The Trove at The White Plains Public Library  
Rosemary Rasmussen – The Trove at The White Plains Public Library  
Kimberly Zettwoch – The Hampton Library
You may be considering whether or not to attend the 2014 NYLA YSS Spring Conference, scheduled for Friday, April 4, 2014 at the Crowne Plaza in White Plains, NY. Well, here is another great reason to make that commitment to attend: **The Westchester Author/Illustrator Garden**.

This will be an opportunity to meet, greet and have books signed by popular children’s and young adult authors and illustrators who have been specially invited to the conference. They include: Nora Raleigh Baskin, Judy Blundell, Alyssa Capucilli, Vicki Cobb, Tommy Greenwald, Charise Mericle Harper, James Howe, Alan Katz, Annabel Monaghan and Mary O’Keefe Young. They will be joined by keynote speaker, Roger Sutton; luncheon speaker, Steve Sheinkin; and workshop presenters, Betsy Bird and George O’Connor, who will also be signing books at the conference. Books will be available for purchase and signing from the Conference Book Vendor, The Voracious Reader, the award winning children’s and young adult bookstore in Larchmont, NY.

The Westchester Author/Illustrator Garden at this year’s YSS Spring Conference is made possible through special sponsorships by the Westchester Library System (WLS), a network of 38 libraries located throughout Westchester County, and the White Plains Library Foundation, an organization that raises private funds to help the White Plains Public Library (WPPL) meet its long range goals.

To access the online conference brochure, including the registration form, please visit [www.nyla.org/yss](http://www.nyla.org/yss), click on Events, then click on “Everything is New Every Minute: Full of Opportunities.” For additional information, contact Conference Chair Terry Rabideau via email at trabideau@whiteplainslibrary.org or phone (914) 422-1499.

By Terry Rabideau

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**ALSC’s Everyday Advocacy Initiative**

Hey YSS Colleagues! Point your cursor to ALSC’s *Everyday Advocacy Initiative Site*, [http://www.ala.org/everyday-advocacy/](http://www.ala.org/everyday-advocacy/) and sign on today! Everyday Advocacy is “a grassroots effort that starts with you and the incredible things you’re already doing for the youth and families you serve. Here you’ll find a dynamic collection of resources empowering you to take action. Think quick. Think easy-to-implement. Think, “I can do this!”

Take Action Tuesday is a splendorifous weekly challenge “to unite all of us in simple, intentional, and high-impact action for the children and families we serve.”

The first weekly challenge is:

**The Challenge: Tuesday, February 25**

Spend 15 minutes talking with your supervisor about your role as an Everyday Advocate. Clarify expectations and limitations, then chat about your first steps in getting started!

Need a few talking points? Check out **The Everyday Advocate—You!** to help guide your conversation.

Thanks ALSCI! Sign on YSS!

By Sue Rokos
YSS Legislative Liaison
The Empire State Award is a one-time award presented to a living author or illustrator currently residing in New York State. The award honors a body of work that represents excellence in children’s or young adult literature and has made a significant contribution to literature for young people. The Award is presented to the winning author or illustrator at the Annual Conference of the New York Library Association. This year’s winner will be speaking on Friday, November 7, 2014 in Saratoga Springs at the YSS Empire State Award Luncheon. The 2014 winning author will be revealed at the YSS Spring Conference scheduled for Friday, April 4, 2014 in White Plains, New York.

Any member of the Youth Services Section is eligible to submit an author nomination to the Committee Chair. Currently, we are getting ready to begin accepting author nominations for our 2016 Empire State Award. If you plan on attending our YSS Spring Conference, look for our nomination form in your conference packet and send in a nomination for an esteemed New York author. Once nominations are received, the Committee members will consider these suggestions along with their own. The decision for the Award rests with the Committee and is approved by the YSS Executive Board.

Are you interested in serving on our Empire State Award committee? Fill out an active member form at our YSS Spring Conference expressing your interest to be a part of the committee. The three committee members must have a working knowledge of children’s and young adult literature, and sufficient experience in Youth Services to have developed an understanding of the body of children’s and young adult literature. We look forward to involvement from our New York Youth Services community and hope to have a wealth of fantastic author nominations.

By Laura Panter

I Promise to Be More Diligent!

Being the Vice President in charge of membership for YSS, one of my responsibilities is to send out email messages to remind members that their membership has either expired or is about to expire. This list of members comes from NYLA’s Director of Membership Services, Lois Powell. I usually send my reminder messages within hours of receiving this list. At the beginning of the year I was a bit behind from the holidays and when Lois sent out the December message I ended up sending my reminder emails out about a week late. Boy did I get a flurry of emails from concerned members! Most of this correspondence stated how they had already renewed and did their renewal go through. At first I was so frustrated with myself for not having taken care of the email reminder earlier but then I realized it was such an opportunity. I connected with so many YSS members one-on-one in the days that followed, reassuring that their membership was in good standing and hoping that I would get to see them at the upcoming YSS conference. So, I want to thank all those members for renewing so quickly and I offer my apologies for not being as diligent as I should have been. In the future I will make sure to do so with hopes that people will still email and connect even if it is just to say hello!

Please take note that I have changed jobs! My email has not changed but my address has, so if you fill out an Active Membership Form make sure that it is with my new address. There may be a few old forms floating out there but I want to make sure your form reaches me as fast as possible.

Christina Ryan-Linder
Finkelman Memorial Library
24 Chestnut Street
Spring Valley, NY 10977
crinder@rcis.org
Want to Get More Involved in YSS?

Want to get more involved in YSS? Consider serving on one of our committees! It’s a great way to meet other youth services librarians and grow professionally. Here are the committees that help YSS throughout the year and what they do:

**Conference Planning** – plans and implements the YSS programs and activities presented at the NYLA Annual Conference with input from the membership and YSS Board

**Empire State Award** – selects the winner of this award given annually to honor a New York State author or illustrator whose body of work represents excellence

**Pied Piper Award** – reviews promotional materials or programs created by YSS members to select the one which promotes library service to young people in New York

**Publications** – explores possible and viable ideas for future YSS publications that could be developed to support the section’s members as well as providing a revenue source for YSS

**Scholarship** – promotes, solicits applicants, and recommends recipients for the scholarships awarded annually by YSS: Spring Conference Scholarships (2) for the YSS Spring Conference and the Ann Gibson Scholarship for a graduate student with an interest in youth services

**3 Apples** – works with the committee from SSL to promote the nomination process for this New York State Children’s Choice Books in libraries throughout the state each year. These 3 awards have been developed to encourage the joy of reading for pleasure and to give the children and teens in New York State the opportunity to participate in honoring their favorite books

**Web Advisory Committee** – assists the YSS Webmaster in providing up to date and helpful information on the section’s webpage.

The best way to show your interest in serving on a YSS committee is to complete the Active Member form found on the YSS webpage. We’d love to have you actively involved in YSS!

Mary Ferris
YSS First Vice-President

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**Members on the Move**

*Natalie Schipano is now a Librarian I in Youth Services at the Castleton Public Library in Castleton, NY.*

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**3 Apples Award**

Voting for the 2014 3 Apples Book Award begins April 1st. Please check out the website [www.3applesbookaward.org](http://www.3applesbookaward.org) for more details on how to participate. Updated ballots will be available to print towards the end of March.
Join the YSS List-serv

If you have not already, join the YSS listserv! You are not automatically signed up for our listserv; you must elect to join us. The Executive Board would like to use this list to send you reminders about our programs, awards, and other information we think will be valuable to staff and professionals working with youth. We are encouraging people to sign up. Here’s how easy it is to become a member of this valuable resource:

From NYLA’s home page, www.nyla.org, on the Membership tab, select Membership Benefits. Go to the paragraph labeled “Exclusive Members-Only On-line Membership Directory.” Select the link, “online membership directory.”

You will need your Web login and your password for the next screen. When you joined NYLA, you received a user name and logon. You will find this at the bottom of your e-mail receipt for your membership dues payment. If you have no record of your Web login and password, you may contact Lois Powell, Director of Membership Services, by clicking the link on this page: “Forgot Your Logon Information? Click here.” The link opens up a form you can complete and submit. Your logon information will be sent to your e-mail.

Enter the login and password. At the next Welcome screen, on the left sidebar, select Personal Record Details.

“Email Discussion Lists” is the last hyperlink under “Person Detail.” Choose this link.

The list name is NYLA-YSS. Check that your e-mail address is correct on the screen. Use the drop down menu to set the “Subscription Type” to “Subscribe Single” (or choose “Subscribe Digest”). Click the “Submit Changes” button.

You will then be subscribed to the YSS listserv! We hope you join us and we look forward to hearing from you.

by Lisa C. Wemett/Submitted by Christina Ryan-Linder 2nd Vice President/Membership
YOUTH SERVICES SECTION

YSS ACTIVE MEMBER FORM

Name: __________________________ Date: __________________________

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 _____
Web Advisory _____

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 some personal news 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 make sure you have provided your email on the first page.

Please fill out and return to:
Christina Ryan-Linder
Finkelstein Memorial Library
24 Chestnut St.
Spring Valley, NY 10977-5594
845-352-5700 x283
crlander@rcbs.org

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