



YOUTH
SERVICES
SECTION



NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Voice of the Library Community

Volume 1: Spring

2015-2016 YSS Board

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Contact Us

yss.nyla@gmail.com

A Message from the President

Spring is on its way. So says the groundhog. It's a little hard to believe, when [as I write this] the thermometer reads 2 degrees and the wind chill is -25, but I'll give the furry prognosticator his due. The coming of spring brings one of the highlights of the year: the YSS Spring Conference! On April 15, we will gather at the Desmond Hotel for an exciting conference put together by Third Year Director Liz Liddington and her hard working committee. With Jarrett Krosoczka as the keynote speaker, Bruce Coville as the luncheon speaker, and breakout sessions like Flannel Stories and Funky Tunes and Science from the Stacks, you're sure to find something to enlighten and invigorate you! Join the Executive Board on Thursday at the YSS Past Presidents Dinner. Register now (well, as soon as you're done reading this newsletter).

At our last Executive Board meeting, we started work on revising our bylaws. The bylaws had not been revised since 2007, and as such were badly in need of updating. Examining the bylaws, however, lead us into an archeological search of sorts, when we found reference to a goals and objectives statement about which we knew nothing. With the able assistance of our archivist, Lisa Wemett, I was introduced to an YSS Long Range Plan that seemed to be the missing document. The Long Range Plan, however, expired in 2012. Now, in addition to revising the bylaws, we need to devise a new Long Range Plan. To this end, I would like to ask all YSS members for their input. Where do you see YSS heading in the next 5 years? What are the changes in our profession to which we need to respond? What tasks would you like to see us undertake? The more input we get, the better, stronger, and more representative of our section the final document will be. Please send me your thoughts at: maryjo.smith@libraryweb.org.

At NYLA Council meetings we have been working on NYLA's Strategic Plan. We discussed Membership Engagement at the February meeting. Each section is being asked to come up with suggestions for recruitment of new members and strategies for getting existing members more involved in the organization. I think it's important that we all take responsibility for the health and growth of our professional organization. The NYLA office has rack cards for each section that members can hand out at any appropriate meeting, conference, or gathering. The rack cards are glossy, oversized bookmarks with information about the section on one side, and NYLA's logo and mission statement on the other. Recently I distributed them at a meeting of the Monroe County Library System's Children's Service Librarians. If you are attending a professional meeting of any kind, distributing these cards would be a great way to work toward increasing membership. I would be interested in hearing any additional ideas you have for recruitment, which you can send to me at the above email address.

The second part of that directive is to suggest strategies for getting existing members more involved in the organization. To that end, I would ask each of you to consider what more you could do for YSS. You may want to join one of our committees. You may be able to serve as a room monitor or a presenter at a conference. You may even consider running for a position on the Executive Board. You will meet fantastic people and have a great deal of fun! Please fill out an Active member form (found at nyla.org/yss), and we will contact you. See you all in Albany!

What *is* the Past Presidents' Dinner all about, anyway?!?

It's a time that YSS sets aside to honor all Past Presidents of our section. It's also a fun night where you can meet new colleagues and catch up with old friends from every corner of NY State. Even though the event's name contains the title "Past President," everyone is welcome to attend!

In addition to food and fraternization, there will be a silent auction to benefit the Anne Gibson Scholarship. We hope to see you there!

It's easy to **sign up for the Past Presidents' Dinner...**
It's right on the conference registration form!



Early Bird Registration - postmarked by February 29, 2016.

_____ \$115 members of NYLA Youth Sections (i.e., YSS, SLMS),
students in MLS programs and members of youth divisions of out-of-
state or international library associations

_____ \$150 non-members

Standard Registration—postmarked after February 29, 2016

_____ \$125 members

_____ \$160 non-members

_____ \$39 Past President's Dinner

NYLA Member No. _____

\$_____ Total amount enclosed

Past Presidents' Dinner

Thursday, April 14, 2016

6:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.

REEL Seafood

195 Wolf Road
Albany NY 12205

\$39.00 per person

I will need a ride from the hotel to Reel Seafood.

I can provide a ride from the hotel to Reel Seafood.

2016 YSS Spring Conference

FIND YOUR STRIDE!

Friday, April 15th, 2016

The Desmond Hotel, Albany

<http://bit.ly/2016YSSregistration>



Registration for the NYLA YSS Spring Conference is still open. (All registrations must be postmarked by March 31st.) The conference will feature keynote speaker, author and illustrator, Jarrett Krosoczka and luncheon speaker, author, Bruce Coville.

Fifteen program sessions throughout the day will focus on an array of topics for library professionals serving youth of all ages. Books will be offered for sale by conference bookseller, *The Little Book House*. Don't forget to bring cash for our raffle and booth sales. There will be something for everyone!

I look forward to seeing you there!

Liz Liddington

Third Year Director/ Spring Conference Planner

Welcome to our Newest YSS Committee Members!

The YSS Committees run on a three year cycle. The 3rd year member serves as a mentor to the newer members of the committee, and the 2nd year member serves as the committee chair person. The "year" of the committees runs from one NYLA Annual Conference to the next, so the newest members will begin their tenure at the NYLA Annual Conference in Saratoga Springs [November 2 - 5, 2016].

This year's incoming, 1st year, members of the committees will be:

Conference Planning Committee: Krystina Hardter, Newark Public Library

Empire State Award Committee: Joanna Goldfarb, Monticello Public Library

Pied Piper Award Committee: Jessica Gordon, Finkelstein Memorial Library

Publications Committee: Tara Morris, Haverstraw King's Daughters Public Library

Scholarship Committee: Jennifer Daddio, Valley Cottage Public Library

If you are interested in being a member of a YSS Committee, please take a moment to fill out and return the Active Member Form – available on the [YSS website](#) and at the end of this newsletter!



YSS Member Spotlight - Liz Anastasi

by Lisa Neuman, 2nd Vice President/Membership

Please introduce yourself, your title, and what you do at your library?

I am Liz Anastasi, and I am the Teen Services Librarian at the Greenburgh Public Library, which is in Westchester County, right next to White Plains NY.

How did you get into libraries, and can you share some of your previous experiences?

I started as a page when I was sixteen and I really liked it. My local library was a great community center where everyone could go for help for anything they needed.

What is your favorite children's or YA book to suggest to patrons?

I love to suggest the *Finishing School* series by Gail Carriger– it's super fun, contains a mix of genres, and has strong main female characters.

What is a program you have done that you are particularly proud of?

The Westchester Battle of the Books! I was the president for the first two years and I'm proud that over half the libraries in Westchester County participate – that's 19 libraries with brackets for kids in grades 4 to 6 and 6 to 10. It's a huge event for our libraries and our readers.

Why did you choose to get involved with NYLA and YSS?

NYLA does great advocacy and they are our voice at the state level. I choose YSS because I'm in youth services and wanted to connect with other like-minded people in our field.

Ann Gibson Scholarship



ANN GIBSON

This scholarship is given annually to honor the memory of Ann Gibson, a dynamic and dedicated librarian, storyteller, and teacher, in recognition of her many contributions to the field of youth service librarianship.

Ann's career in Western New York was spent in public libraries and several colleges and universities. As a founding member of the Genesee Storytellers, Gibson provided in-service training in children's literature for librarians and teachers. She was a guiding force in the University of Rochester's annual storytelling conference. Ann was also an active volunteer for local charities involving children with special needs. The Ann Gibson scholarship is a memorial to Ann's passionate abilities to share her love of children's literature and the art of storytelling with thousands of children and adults. Details of the scholarship follow.

Purpose: To provide financial assistance to a person who has chosen to pursue graduate studies that will lead to New York State certification as a youth specialist in a public library or school media center.

Amount: \$1,000 plus NYLA full conference registration fee at student rate

Deadline: May 27, 2016

Notification: by September 2, 2016

Qualifications:

- Applicant must be a full-time or part-time graduate library student who has completed a minimum of 18 credit hours in a Master's Program in Library and Information Studies.
- Applicant must be a regular or student member of NYLA/YSS at the time of submitting the application.
- Applicant must be directing their course of study towards youth services.
- Applicant must NOT be an officer or employee, or relative of an officer or employee, of the New York Library Association, New York Library Association Council, or the Executive Board of the Youth Services Section of the New York Library Association.
- Applicant must not have completed their course work prior to December of the year of the award.
- Applicant must be a resident of (or employed in) New York State at the time of the award.

Narrative Statement:

Please present a brief statement that cites relevant experience you have had in youth services and your philosophy and/or future goals in terms of youth services librarianship. For further information, please contact the Scholarship Committee Chair.

Send the completed application form, two supporting statements, transcript(s), narrative statement, and verification of your current NYLA membership in print or electronic form to:

Michelle Waldenmaier
YSS Scholarship Committee Chair
Bethlehem Public Library
451 Delaware Avenue Delmar, NY 12054
Michelle@bplkids.org

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED OR POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN MAY 27, 2016!

Empire State Award

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 and/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 YSS Empire State Award Luncheon during the NYLA Annual Conference, which will be held on Friday, November 4th, in Saratoga Springs.

This year's winner will be revealed at the YSS Spring Conference!

Any member of the Youth Services Section is eligible to submit a nomination to the ESA Committee Chair. We are currently preparing to accept nominations for our 2018 Empire State Award. After nominations are received, the Committee members 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 the active member form at the end of this newsletter! 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 receive your nominations of worthy authors and illustrators for the 2018 Empire State Award!

Joshua Carlson,
Empire State Award Committee Chair



If you plan on attending the YSS Spring Conference, look for our nomination form in your conference packet. People who cannot attend the conference are encouraged to download a nomination form from the [ESA page of the YSS website](#).

Previous winners of the Empire State Award:

Vivian Vande Velde (2015), Jacqueline Woodson (2014), Laurie Halse Anderson (2014), Bruce Coville (2012), Laura Vaccaro Seeger (2011), Cynthia DeFelice (2010), Linda Sue Park (2009), Rafe Martin (2008), Joseph Bruchac (2007), Donald Crews (2006), M. E. Kerr (2005), Alice Provinsen (2004), Seymour Simon (2003), Jerry Pinkney (2002), Jean Fritz (2001), Peter Spier (2000), Vera B. Williams (1999), 1998 - Jean Craighead George (1998), Richard Peck (1997), Nancy Willard (1996), Ed Young (1995), Paula Fox (1994), Russell Freedman (1993), Leo and Diane Dillon (1992), Madeleine L'Engle (1991), Maurice Sendak (1990)

Pied Piper Award



Hey Youth Services Librarians:

Have a program you're proud of, and has been noticed by your community? Here is one way you can get some professional credit, and share your refreshing and original idea with your colleagues. The Pied Piper Award recognizes excellence in the creation of promotional materials for a library program, or the creation of an individual program that promotes library service – literacy, enrichment, and entertainment – to the young people of New York State.

The 2016 winner will be announced at the YSS Spring Conference luncheon, and the 2017 award is already open for entries. YOU could be the next Pied Piper Award winner!

Entries for the 2017 Pied Piper Award must be received by December 2, 2016. All you have to do is send in a description of your program [*offered between December 1, 2015 and November 30, 2016*] with copies of your promotional materials. The winner receives a \$50 bookstore gift certificate, an award certificate, and bragging rights.

Make your library organization proud and enter to win the 2017 Pied Piper Award today!

Chinasa Seyse,
Pied Piper Committee Chair

Check out the YSS website for more information on how to enter and/or to [download a submission form](#).

And don't forget to check out the [previous winners](#) of the Pied Piper Award so you can put their awesome ideas into practice at *your* library!

Spring Conference Scholarship Recipient Mia Orobona, Castleton Public Library

Mia Orobona is currently a youth services librarian at the Castleton Public Library in Castleton, NY. She received her Master of Science in Information Science at the University of Albany, SUNY in December 2014. Her other library experience includes work as a Library Assistant at the Albany Public Library in Albany, NY.

At the Castleton Public Library, Mia is responsible for creating and presenting youth programs, creating resource guides and displays, providing readers' advisory to children and teens, developing and refining youth collections, promoting programs, conducting outreach efforts to children in the community, and strengthening connections to local schools, preschools and day care centers. She participates in youth services library system meetings and is receptive to new ideas and approaches in working with children and teens.

In her free time, one of the things Mia does most is a lot of reading. She also loves art and graphic design and has recently really gotten into hand lettering cards. She admits that she is obsessed with the musical *Hamilton*. She follows a lot of blogs and loves Tumblr for fun as well as for finding great ideas for her library jobs.

Mia is passionate about her work in youth services. As a new librarian, she is always looking for ways to learn new things and develop herself. She views the YSS Spring Conference as the perfect opportunity to do just that!



Spring Conference Scholarship Recipient Kenneth Roman, Syracuse University

Kenneth Roman is currently pursuing a Master of Library & Information Science/School Media Specialist at the Syracuse University School of Information Science in Syracuse, NY and plans to complete the degree in May 2016.

He is currently an intern at the George F. Johnson Library in Endicott, NY. In this position, he works at the youth service reference desk, helping youth and young adult patrons. He is currently involved in planning summer 2016 programs and teaching classes in the library's Tech Center.

In addition, he is an elementary library intern within the Owego/Apalachin Central School District and has done fieldwork the Union Endicott School District. Earlier work includes an internship in the area of youth services and outreach within the Four County Library System.

When Kenneth finds time to relax, he enjoys listening to a book, going to the movies, or seeing a show. He likes to write audio book reviews and would love to someday be on an award committee for audio books. He likes to compare movie adaptations to actual books. His favorite shows are Phantom of the Opera and Wicked.

As a strong believer in professional development, Kenneth wishes to attend the YSS Spring Conference to learn from and share ideas with other library professionals in the field. He will use this opportunity to build contacts, learn new trends and obtain information that he will use in his career as a youth services librarian.



in



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 _____

**** Submit Active Member forms to neumanl@albanypubliclibrary.org ****