A Message from the President

Summer has come to an end and it is time for the kids to go back to school. For us in the Children’s department this could finally mean a well-deserved vacation but it can also be a time to clean up and revitalize our work environment to get a jump on the fall season. Make sure to schedule in some time in November to be out of the building because along with fall comes the NYLA conference. This year it is once again in Saratoga. I have been a part of NYLA/YSS for many years and I have traveled all over the State of New York and visited many lovely locations but still one of my favorite spots is Saratoga. I am hoping many YSS members will be joining us in the city of Benedict Arnold, horse racing and Steve Sheinkin a past ESA winner, for the conference is packed with wonderful events, sessions and workshops. This year the Empire State Award goes to James Howe and he will be speaking on Friday, November 10th at the ESA luncheon. Some other wonderful happenings at the 2017 conference will be the revamping of the old Telling Tales event. This year come tell your tale at the Dessert & Drinks Extravaganza happening at Jacob & Anthony’s on Wednesday, November 8th starting at 8:00pm. All proceeds will benefit the Ann Gibson Scholarship Award. Thanks to our conference planner Chrissie Morrison, attendees will also enjoy an array of workshops including; Fostering Digital Literacy with Kids, Youth Services Sustainability; Growing Our Own, NYS Battle of the Books, The Membership Meeting Featuring Author Todd Strasser, YSS Table Talks and so much more. If you are lucky enough to attend make sure to stop by the YSS booth during the trade show for your membership gift and receive goodies to help you do what you do better! Now that fall is here take a breath, stop and look at the foliage and enjoy the upcoming holidays. Hope to see you all soon!

Christina Ryan-Linder
YSS President
Incoming (2017-2018) YSS Board

The calendar year for YSS Board positions runs from NYLA Annual Conference to NYLA Annual Conference. At the 2017 NYLA Annual Conference, we will transition to our incoming (2017-2018) YSS Board.

**Past President:** Christina Ryan-Linder, Greenburgh Public Library  
**President:** Laura Panter, Sachem Public Library  
**1st Vice President:** Lisa Neuman, Albany Public Library  
**2nd Vice President:** Chinasa Izeogu Seyse, Schenectady Public Library  
**3rd Year Director:** Jennifer Burke, DeWitt Community Library  
**2nd Year Director:** Liz Anastasi, Greenburgh Public Library  
**1st Year Director:** Angela Newman, North Country Library System  
**Conference Planning Chair:** Krystina Dippel, Victor Farmington Library  
**Secretary:** Kim Hazen, Guernsey Memorial Library  
**Treasurer:** Pat Connor, Lyell Branch Library  
**Web Liaison:** Amy Holland, Irondequoit Public Library

Congratulations to our most recently elected board members!

Lisa Neuman,  
1st Vice President/President Elect

Chinasa Izeogu Seyse,  
2nd Vice President/Membership

Angela Newman,  
1st Year Director

Want to become a more active member of YSS?!?  
Head to the YSS “Get Involved” page to find out more about Board and Committee positions and/or to fill out our online ACTIVE MEMBER FORM!
Congratulations to 2017 Ann Gibson Scholarship Winner, Jennifer Fratello!

Jennifer Fratello is pursuing her Master's of Library and Information Science with a concentration in School Librarianship at The University at Buffalo. Jennifer is a NYSED certified teacher in the fields of Early Childhood Education Birth-2nd, Childhood Education 1-6, Students with Disabilities 1-6 and 7-12, and Social Studies 7-12. She has worked as a Special Education teacher in the Florida UFSD, Warwick Valley CSD, Somers SD, White Plains CSD, Eastchester UFSD, and currently works in the Newburgh Enlarged City School District. Furthermore, she is currently a substitute librarian assistant in the children’s and youth services department at Finkelstein Memorial Library.

While in this position, Jennifer has demonstrated many qualities that prove she will be a wonderful librarian. She provides reference help to teens, children, and their families in a bustling library setting. She makes sure to spend time with the patrons to help them find just the right book. Jennifer also administers a program called Homework Academy which is in place to help grade school children with their afterschool homework requirements. The library must accommodate anywhere from 30 to 50 children a day, and Jennifer uses her talents as a teacher to help keep things organized and calm, while still helping each student. Outside of work and studies, Jennifer loves to travel and hopes to visit Greece or Scotland on her next trip. She just purchased her first home, and is an avid soccer fan – especially when Arsenal, USA, and Germany are playing! (She even coached soccer for 7 years.)

Jennifer’s goal is to be able to combine her experience from teaching and her passion for books to motivate children, teens, and adults in an age of ever changing technology. She loves technology and what she can do with it when teaching her students, but she also wants to encourage a love of books to all the people she serves.

More information about the Ann Gibson Scholarship is available on the YSS website.

*** YOU’RE INVITED! ***

YSS/Ann Gibson Scholarship Reception

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8th from 8-11PM
@ Jacob & Anthony’s American Grille

If you’re arriving early for the pre-conference CE workshops, or just to get settled in to Saratoga before Thursday, join YSS for a DESSERT reception to raise money for the Ann Gibson Memorial Scholarship!

Tickets to this event are $15 in advance and $20 at the door. (cash bar)
NYLA 2017 Annual Conference
“Choose Your Own Adventure”
Saratoga Springs, NY
November 8th-11th

Wednesday, November 8th

Enhancing Library Services for LGBT Youth (morning CE workshop)
Presented by Lyndon Cudlitz

YSS/Ann Gibson Scholarship Reception (evening ticketed event)
See event details on previous page!

Thursday, November 9th

YSS Membership Meeting
Featuring YA author Todd Strasser

Beyond Bilingual, Making ELL-Friendly Storytimes
Rachel Payne & Jessica Ralli

Friday, November 10th

Youth Services Sustainability, Growing Our Own
Rebekkah Smith Aldrich & Lisa Kropp

NYS Battle of the Books (panel discussion)
Liz Anastasi, Randall Enos, Kathy Galvin, & Derek Ivie

YSS Empire State Award Luncheon
Honoring James Howe (tickets are $35 per person)

Best Practices for Youth Councils & Teen Leadership
Karen Keys & Erin Shaw

Saturday, November 11th

YSS Table Talks
Roundtable discussions/hands-on activities. Topics include: A Read Aloud as a Partnership Building Tool, ASL Programs for Infants Through Teens, Building Education Partnerships through Public Library Archives, SCRAWL Publish Your Teens, See You at the Prom [Planning a Dance with Your Teens], and Summer Reading Crafts!
NYLA YSS Spring Conference 2018

Friday, April 13, 2018

Libraries Are For Everyone

Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel & Conference Center

Syracuse, NY

www.nyla.org/yss
Take Your Child to the Library Day:  When is it?

What can I do?
And why bother?!?

When is Take Your Child to the Library Day?
TYCttLD is the 1st Saturday in February.

How did it get started?
Nadine Lipman, the retired Head of Children's Services at the Waterford (CT) Public Library, came up with the idea for TYCttLD. TYCttLD was first held in 2012, but [thanks to listservs!] librarians across the country began to join in for TYCttLD 2013. YSS hopes to have libraries all across NYS signed on and participating in 2018.

Why should you participate in TYCttLD?
Regardless of population or economic status, your library serves children in your community. Take advantage of the positive PR this nation-wide celebration provides as you do more of what you already do so well!

What can you do to celebrate TYCttLD?
The possibilities are pretty much endless. Many libraries opt to have a special event, but you can simply highlight a program that you already do – or even just show off your library space. No matter your budget or staffing, there are many ways for your library to participate.

Check out the NYLA Advocacy page for TYCttLD for program and activity ideas. You can even download materials like postcards that help connect your patrons to your elected representatives!
2018 Pied Piper Award

Have you created a new and innovative youth services program that serves the needs of your community? You could be eligible to win the 2018 Pied Piper Award. One award will be presented at the 2018 YSS Conference – with a $200 Barnes & Noble gift card!

The Pied Piper Award recognizes excellence in the creation of an individual program that promotes service to the young people of New York State Libraries and is replicable at other libraries. Submissions are judged on originality, program implementation, program content, and marketing of said program. Programs produced between December 1, 2016, and November 30, 2017, are eligible to for submission.

The deadline is approaching fast! Submissions are due December 1, 2017. Visit the “Award and Scholarships” section on the YSS page of www.nyla.org for guidelines, criteria, and entry form. Submissions are accepted by mail and email.

Please direct questions to 2018 Pied Piper Awards Chair, Jessica Gordon.

 Surprise Victory for Bill Supporting Summer Reading Program

by Mary Fellows, YSS Legislative Liaison

On August 23, Governor Cuomo signed into law “the tax check-off bill” permitting corporate and personal income taxpayers to contribute to the State’s “Love Your Library Fund” when filing their annual taxes. The money gathered in this fund is used exclusively to support the NYS Summer Reading Program.

This same legislation, vetoed in 2010, was among many similar “tax check-off” bills this year. The Governor’s signature on the library bill was an unexpected win in a tough legislative season. Your advocacy work made a difference!

There are a few hurdles to getting the money appropriated, which NYLA and the Division of Library Development will work on. When it’s released, the funds will be distributed through the Systems. Stay tuned for more on the outcome as the process is worked through.
Turn your To-Do List into your TA-Done List!
by Lisa Neuman, YSS 2nd Vice President/Membership

I have a confession. I’ve been flirting with getting organized for most of my adult life. I say flirting because I read organizational books, attend workshops, even buy that guy a new outfit; my snazzy pink moleskin bullet journal! Have I committed to the relationship, not completely but I keep trying because that’s what life’s all about; making changes, making improvements and increasing our own self awareness.

Here is what I’ve learned so far:

Marie Kondo writes good books, *The Magical Art of Tidying Up* was AMAZING! My tee shirts, shoes, socks and underwear have never been better organized, my closet not so much. Did I get rid of all the clothes, books and papers that I should? No, but maybe someday I will. I did spend a big part of Labor Day weekend helping my daughter clean her closet, so hey I’m making progress on someone else’s clothes.

*Getting Things Done; The Art Of Stress-Free Productivity* by David Allen is organizational thinking at a whole new level. My filing cabinet is more organized and I’ve made a tickler file for things to think about in the future. Now I just have to incorporate it into my routine. Check out this pdf for a very condensed version of his method – [http://gettingthingsdone.com/pdfs/gtd_workflow_advanced.pdf](http://gettingthingsdone.com/pdfs/gtd_workflow_advanced.pdf)

*Eat That Frog!: 21 Great Ways to Stop Procrastinating and Get More Done in Less Time* by Brian Tracey is the book I’m flirting with now. It’s a surprisingly short and funny book with simple tips to improve your ability to organize and prioritize all the things you need to do. This book got me motivated to make calls and appointments I had been procrastinating about and I felt very good after I had dealt with those things, I also got back to work in the snazzy pink moleskin, making lists, prioritizing what needs to be done first, second, third... and figuring out what can be delegated to whom.

So if you need help organizing yourself, your desk or your kids, look no further than your own library’s catalog for inspirations, ideas and solutions. You might not be able to make all the changes you want right away but once you’ve started you too can keep flirting with organization; someday you might even hook up with it permanently!