A Message From the President

Do you ever feel like there is too much to consider on any given day? I recently remembered learning about decision fatigue. (Like we need another fatigue!) This term has been around for a while now, but never really recognized it in myself until recently. Yes I’ve wasted a decision here and there about what to wear… I know some of you have definitely seen me sneaking in and out of the conference hotel with at least 5 bags of clothing and accessories… But the overwhelming amount of information thrown at you at any given day now…social media…emails…constant meetings online… continuing education opportunities…planning said continuing education opportunities…Netflix… What do you go to? What do you share? What do you ignore? How do you make that decision?

At the writing of this article, we are all making a decision about mask policies, vaccinations and summer programming. Keeping up with all the changes is a full time job in itself!

I’m not planning on tossing all the fun masks I’ve acquired, but I’m also looking forward to being able to communicate in real life with other humans and not keep saying “What?” or simply smiling to someone on the street while wearing sunglasses or even being misinterpreted when telling a joke because you can’t “smize” and your mask is muffling your laugh.

Life is confusing. Clear, consistent, communication is so important, especially in our roles with children and families. Kids are desperate for socialization and activities away from screens. There are families with toddlers that have never been to storytime. Will they come now? What will the storytime environment be like? Will parents/caregivers
actually start to respect the storytime flannel boundary bubble or will we lose that new audience to fear and vaccination rules? There are going to be more questions than answers this summer for sure, but another something to think about.... Libraries are for everyone right? We have never asked for someone’s proof of vaccination from measles, chickenpox, polio, etc. While I recognize that opens up another can of worms, and I probably should have just shared more pictures of my cat on a leash instead of bringing it up, here we go... Library doors have had plenty of non-vaccinated folks in our buildings for years. We aren’t a school or daycare. We are the great equalizer... But will your library now have a policy on all vaccines? Will children be able to enter your library because they currently are not eligible for a vaccine?

Good thing summer is looking different yet again. Programs are moving outside. Make and Takes/Grab and Goes are here to stay. Libraries now have the COVID Slide to consider in addition to the Summer Slide. When can a slide just be a slide?

As usual, I probably left more questions than answers. But hey, it’s warming up outside and it looks like NYLA 2021 really IS coming to Syracuse! Hopefully we can keep the nice weather up through the Fall.

Have a fantastic summer and don’t forget to VOTE for NYLA leadership!

Amanda Schiavulli
YSS Pandemic President

YSS Marketing Committee

Summer is here! We would love to hear what your Library has planned for your Summer Reading program this year! Please tag @YSSNYLA in your library’s photos of programs, book displays, events, and more, to be featured on our social media pages. Photos can also be emailed to committee chair, Lindsay at jankovitzl@gmail.com.

The Marketing Committee has been working hard to ensure that our members stay up-to-date on all YSS news, announcements, trends, and inspiring topics through our social media channels! If you don’t already, be sure to follow YSS NYLA on Pinterest, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.
YSS Executive Board Candidates

1st Vice President/President Elect Candidate

Name:
Kim Hazen

Present Position:
Librarian I Youth Services Librarian, Guernsey Memorial Library, Norwich, NY (full-time)

Prior Professional Experience:
- Librarian II Children’s Manager, Niagara Falls Public Library, Niagara Falls, NY (full-time)
- Librarian I Youth Services Librarian, Ontario Public Library, Ontario, NY (full-time)

Education:
- MS, SUNY Polytechnic Institute, Graduate School of Information Design and Technology, Utica, NY
- MLS, SUNY at Buffalo, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Buffalo, NY
- BA, SUNY at Buffalo, Sociology, Buffalo, NY
- AAS, Villa Maria College, Early Childhood Education, Buffalo, NY

Professional Activities and Affiliations:
Member NYLA/YSS 2000-present, YSS Board Secretary Nov. 2016-2019, presenter at NYLA Conference 2015, 2016
Member ALA/YALSA- 2000-present

Position Statement:
In 2020 our lives changed and likewise so did youth services. Now instead of concentrating solely on in-person programming, the youth services profession has taken programming online. We have become even more creative and adaptive due to the circumstances. In addition, in many cases, we are facing personal battles and hardships. YSS is one of the ways we can draw together as professionals facing some of the same challenges and changes to our profession. My ability to be composed under stress, even-temperedness, positivity, flexibility, and passion for positive change make me a good candidate to serve as your 1st Vice President/President Elect. In the past, I enjoyed having the opportunity to serve on the board as YSS Secretary.

I will bring my 19+ years of professional experience working with youth; my enthusiasm and passion for the profession; and my technology expertise to the position of 1st Vice President/President Elect. I look forward to increasing awareness for services to youth in libraries in New York State and bringing innovative ideas to the YSS librarian community.
Second Vice President/Membership Chair Candidates

Name:
Mary Jo C. Smith

Present Position:
Children’s Services Librarian, Gates Public Library, 902 Elmgrove Road, Rochester, NY 14624 (May 1988-present)

Prior Professional Experience:
- Farmington Branch Library, Farmington, CT (January 1985-May 1988)
- New Britain Public Library, New Britain, CT (September 1982-January 1985)

Education:
- MLS, University of Buffalo, February 1983 (coursework completed August 1982, but credit transfers caused my diploma to say February 1983)
- BA, Magna Cum Laude, English, SUNY Geneseo, May 1981

Professional Activities and Affiliations:
- ALA Member 2015-present
- NYLA Member 1988-present
- YSS Vice President/President Elect 2014-2015
- YSS President 2015-2016
- YSS Past President 2016-2017
- YSS Conference Chair 2012 or 2013
- YSS Second Vice President way back (Beverley Fahey was YSS President at the time)
- President of the Youth Services Section of the Connecticut Library Association 1985 or so

Position Statement:
Raise your hand if you never want to hear the phrase “unprecedented times” again. If this pandemic has shown us anything, though, it’s how important human connections are. While so many of us were working at home, lounge pants on, cats in our laps, we connected through webinars, zoom meetings, and the like. As the world begins to come together face to face once more, we can strengthen our connections by our membership and activities in those organizations that are meaningful to us. NYLA and YSS provides so much to members, through conferences, training and educational opportunities, and advocacy efforts. An association is only as strong as its membership, though. As Second Vice President/Membership Chair, I would strive to not only increase YSS Membership, but try to encourage members to actively participate in making an already amazing Association even better.
Name: Julia Farrar

Present Position: Head of Children’s Services, Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls NY

Prior Professional Experience: Librarian I and II, Children’s Services, Crandall Public Library

Education:
- M.S.I.S. from University at Albany, Albany NY
- Bachelor of Arts in English and History from the College of Wooster, Wooster OH
- NYLA Leadership and Management Academy Certificate, 2014

Professional Activities and Affiliations:
- Member—NYLA/YSS, 2008-present
- ALA/PLA, 2018-present
- Served on YSS Conference Planning Committee, 2016
- Presented workshop at YSS Conference in 2016 and Table Talk at NYLA Conference in 2014
- Served on 3 Apples Committee, 2013-2016
- WSWHE BOCES School Library Council—Public Library Representative, 2014-2019

Position Statement:
Throughout the uncertainty of the past year, connecting with other library staff has become more and more important. From best practices in sanitizing toys to take-home programming to virtual story times, I have found myself looking time and again for advice, ideas, and sometimes even commiseration from other librarians. YSS has always been a resource for sharing innovative ways to serve our communities, and now it plays an important role in providing support and connection to Youth Services library staff post-pandemic.

With the changes of the past year, we have all adjusted to different, often virtual, ways of connecting—and it is a great time to consider how YSS can expand our reach and engage both current and future members throughout New York. I look forward to working with the YSS board to reach new members, strengthen member engagement, and advocate for how essential libraries really are for children, families, and our communities.

Now that you’ve studied up on the candidates...
Don’t forget to vote!

Login and cast your ballot between June 15th—July 15th.
NYLA Annual Conference 2021: “Libraries: We’re ALL In!”
Syracuse, NY - November 3 - 6

YSS Conference sessions include:

YSS Membership meeting featuring author and illustrator Nina Crews. Nina Crews’ career as an author and illustrator began in 1995 with the book *One Hot Summer Day*. She creates energetic, affirming books for young children. Her most recent book is *A Girl Like Me*, 2020, written by Coretta Scott King winner Angela Johnson. This book celebrates the power of girls and encourages them to embrace their dreams and more!

YSS Empire State Award Luncheon. YSS is pleased to present the 2021 Empire State Award for Excellence in Literature for Young People to Brian Selznick. Read more about Selznick, an award-winning author and illustrator, in the Empire State Award Announcement.

Creating Dandy Displays for Library Lovers. presented by CaroleAnne Weik, Valley Stream UFSD #13 and Peninsula Public Library

Lessons Learned from School Shutdown. presented by Sue Kowlaski, Pine Grove Middle School-East Syracuse Minoa Schools with a panel of school community members

Talking to Kids About Race. presented by Melanie Miller, Alfred Box of Books Library and OJ Shepard, SUNY Alfred State, and Kathy Sherman, Alfred Montessori School

When We’re All In, Kids Are In. presented by Stacey Rattner, Castleton Elementary School and Alicia Abdul, Albany High School

Welcome to the Teen Center! presented by Frieda Toth, Crandall Public Library

YSS Table Talks* include:
- 2022 Summer Reading Crafts
- Girl Scouts at Your Institution
- New & Upcoming Elementary Books
- Fractured Fairy Tales Virtual Escape Room by 2021 Pied Piper Award winners
- OurStoryBridge
- other programs TBD

*Table Talks are about 15 minutes each and are repeated so that attendees are able to see three different presentations during the session!

Don’t forget!:
Join us for the Ann Gibson Scholarship Reception Wednesday in the evening from 8:00pm-10:00pm at the Syracuse Marriott. We will have free desserts, fun raffles, and a cash bar. Food, friends, and fun!

Stop by the YSS Booth for cool raffles, chat with fellow Youth librarians, and find out how you can be more involved with the Youth Services Section (YSS) of NYLA.

We hope you’ll join us for #NYLA2021 -- the #BestConferenceEver!

Amy Relyea
Fall Conference Curation Committee Chair
Culturally Fluent Teaching

Programming for youth today continues to evolve, and in the past year and a half, this is no different. The Pandemic and the ongoing social movements for Black Lives and Asians provide an opportunity to assess, plan and reflect on how we are infusing cultural literacy into engagements with our community’s young people.

I recently came across a post from Culturally Fluent Families, an organization that provides trainings on diversity and believe that “diversity is not enough, you need culturally fluent people”. I have adapted their questions for us to begin thinking about how we can best support young children from all backgrounds and all socio-economic positions in life.

We often see in libraries messages of acceptance, and in a time where advocates are called on to take a stand, and be a visible participant in their community, we could all benefit from taking a moment to see how well we are practicing cultural fluency in our library work.

As a librarian providing service to children, does your mannerisms and activities:

- Teach the child to love the parts of him/herself that society fears, doubts, questions, and rejects?
- Teach the child to externalize assaults on their looks, economic disadvantage and micro-aggressions, and love themselves when they feel excluded because of race?
- Teach a child to stand in a room and feel secure and proud even when they are questioned about their abilities, intelligence, and integrity?
- Prepare this child to embrace and cherish the differences in their appearance when their skin color is considered a weapon?
- Encourage them to stand up straight and use their voice even when others find their very presence intimidating?
- Teach them how hard and how loud to push back and when to use silence as their greatest defense and protection?
- Teach them to push through the pain of racism, discrimination, and to externalize the consistent and persistent messages of perceived inferiority?
- Teach a child to value their differences when they don't see it represented in personnel, in performers, or in how those like them are treated in the library space?
- Give them the tools to access closed doors, insight to visualize their future and strategies and plans to stop over landmines, avoid trap doors, and complete their journey?
- Teach your child to love him/herself and value their culture and community when the media messaging only reports negative information?
- Teach this child to look in the mirror and love the reflection they see?
- Teach the child to see their birth and body as a beautiful and unique creation?
- Teach children to love themselves, to value themselves, to define themselves in positive and affirming ways?

If you can't answer yes to these questions yet, identify the professionals, coaches, and groups that can be brought into the library space to offer this support.

If you have already begun the journey, then use this to assess how well you are doing and
what work you still need to do. The future of our youth depend on the trusted adults in their lives to build them up so they can grow to be strong, contributing citizens of their communities and their library.

Some professionals may think that many of these questions fall out of the scope of the responsibilities of our work, and I would argue that we are all molding the minds of children that interact with our lives. We are a part of the “village” raising the child.

Chinasa Seyse
2nd Vice President

Summer Greetings from the Empire State Award Committee!

First presented to Maurice Sendak in 1990, the Empire State Award is given annually to an author or illustrator currently residing in New York State, acknowledging their significant contribution to the field of literature for young people. Nominations are made by librarians across the state, and the winner is selected by a 3-person committee. Please consider submitting a nomination for your favorite author or illustrator by using the online form on the YSS page of the NYLA website. Your input is invaluable!

The Empire State Award Committee is delighted to highlight the winner of the 2021 Empire State Award for Excellence in Literature for Young People: Brian Selznick.

Brian Selznick is an award-winning author and illustrator of countless titles for young people. He’s perhaps best known for his books including The Invention of Hugo Cabret, Wonderstruck, and The Marvels. Selznick is also known for illustrating the 20th anniversary edition of the Harry Potter series, and won the 2008 Caldecott Medal for picture book illustration recognizing The Invention of Hugo Cabret: this is groundbreaking, because it marks the first Caldecott for a long book (and Hugo comes in at 533 pages, 284 pictures). Other awards include a 2002 Caldecott Honor, as well as the Texas Bluebonnet Award, Rhode Island Children’s Book Award, and the Christopher Award.

Brian Selznick will be honored at the Empire State Award luncheon during the annual conference in November in Syracuse, NY. We hope you’ll plan to join us at the Empire State Award Luncheon to celebrate Mr. Selznick and his significant contribution to the kid-lit world.

The ESA Committee
Alexandria Abenshon
Mallory Marinaro
Gail J. Brown
YSS Spring Conference Winners

Our 2021 YSS Spring Conference winners were Felicia Cecere and Samantha Mairson-Dougherty. The Spring Conference Scholarships are awarded to encourage continuing education in the field of library youth services by participating in the annual YSS Spring Conference. Both Felicia and Samantha were awarded the New Member scholarship.

Felicia Cecere is the Children’s Librarian at the Community Free Library in Holley, NY. Felicia previously worked at the Richmond Memorial Library and the Stephen J. Woosley Library, totaling 8 years in Library services since she graduated high school in 2014. Felicia received her master’s degree from Syracuse University in March of 2020. In typical librarian fashion Felicia loves her cat, coffee, and cardigans in that order.

Samantha Mairson-Dougherty is the Children's Librarian at Rye Free Reading Room in Rye, NY. Samantha has worked as a children’s tutor and daycare provider before becoming a children’s librarian. While attending Syracuse University for her MLIS degree (2019), she worked in academic archives and as a program assistant. Samantha aspires to one day to serve on the NYLA YSS board to help run the conferences.

Congratulations to both our winners and we wish them success.
Jennifer Caccavale
YSS Scholarship Committee Chair
Jennifer.Caccavale@libraryweb.org

Pied Piper Award Winners

We are excited to announce that the Pied Piper Committee has selected Katie Brand & Jessica Leviness of the Smithtown Library as the 2021 winners of the YSS Pied Piper Award for their program “Fractured Fairytale Escape Room!”

This year was unique because the Coronavirus pandemic forced librarians to adapt how they did their programs. The winners succeeded at that! Their outstanding program offers children and teens a way to connect virtually while taking on the fun mystery and challenge an escape room can offer. The twist on traditional fairytales was an engaging central theme that kept the participants interested.

You can easily replicate the Fractured Fairytale Escape Room at your library! Katie & Jessica have provided clear instructions and a rich list of resources, accessible on the YSS website www.nyla.org/yss. You will also find links to previous year’s winners, a wonderful way to get inspired! These, too, are easily replicated.

And don’t forget, you could be next year’s winner with one of your fabulous programs! The entry form for the 2022 Award will be available soon on the website. The winner receives a $200 Barnes & Noble gift card. Congratulations Katie & Jessica, and thank you to all the Youth Services librarians who submitted their top-notch programs!

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Brown, Pied Piper Award Committee Chair
Lyla Grills, 3rd Year
Anne Nelson, 1st Year
New York State Library Announcements

**Summer Meals:** Did you know there are many ways for public libraries to be involved in the Summer Meals program even if they can’t be a Summer Meal site?

Public libraries should be sure they include information about Summer Meals in their grab and go activities or materials pickup, and distribute Summer Meals outreach information to students and families in their library and community. Find details and downloadable outreach materials and flyers on the Hunger Solutions NY partner page of the Summer Reading at New York Libraries site at [https://www.summerreadingnys.org/hunger-solutions/](https://www.summerreadingnys.org/hunger-solutions/)

Another great way to be involved is to reach out to your local school district and suggest bringing a library activity or event to a Summer Meals distribution site at the school. This is also a great way to collaborate and partner with the schools and districts in your area. The CSLP web site also has tons of resources and ideas for being a part of Summer Meals to make sure kids have access to nutritious food over the summer. Join the CSLP Facebook group dedicated to child health, nutrition and wellness!

Add a summer meals button graphic to your website and social media. Embed a colorful button, like the one above, linked to [SummerMealsNY.org](https://www.summerreadingnys.org/librarians-educators/librarians-educators), on your library’s website, on your library’s website, social media channels, or e-newsletters to help families find summer meals near them. Year-round, embed a modified version of the graphic that encourages more community groups to serve summer meals. To view and download a variety of options, click here. [https://hunger solutionsny.org/federal-nutrition-programs/summer-food-service-program/resources/](https://hunger solutionsny.org/federal-nutrition-programs/summer-food-service-program/resources/)

**Resources to promote Summer Reading:** Make use of the short and informative PSAs available from CSLP and on the Summer Reading site at [https://www.summerreadingnys.org/librarians-educators/le-kids-video-audio/](https://www.summerreadingnys.org/librarians-educators/le-kids-video-audio/) The PSAs are in English and Spanish and are a great way to generate interest in signing up now for Summer Reading! The PSA shorts [https://www.summerreadingnys.org/psa-shorts/](https://www.summerreadingnys.org/psa-shorts/) are perfect for posting to social media! You can also find a link to the YouTube video for the 2021 CSLP Summer Reading Champion on the home page of the Summer Reading site at [https://www.summerreadingnys.org/](https://www.summerreadingnys.org/)

**Wondering how to involve students with print disabilities in Summer Reading?** View the recording and resources from the March 31 “Lunch and Learn” session presented by Jane Bentley, Senior Librarian at the New York State Talking Book and Braille Library here [https://www.summerreadingnys.org/2021/04/archive-of-summer-reading-resources-for-younger-readers-with-print-disabilities/](https://www.summerreadingnys.org/2021/04/archive-of-summer-reading-resources-for-younger-readers-with-print-disabilities/)

**Check out the Summer Reading community partner pages** at [https://www.summerreadingnys.org/librarians-educators/le-resources/](https://www.summerreadingnys.org/librarians-educators/le-resources/) for links to information, resources and ideas to help support your Summer Reading programs. NEW this year
is a link to the New York State Museum and their education portal which has online exhibits and activities that can be used as part of Tails and Tales.

**Another important Summer Reading partner is New York State 4-H Youth Development.**

Regional 4-H offices and STEM educators are eager to help with Summer Reading activities and have a lot of expertise on animal topics! View the recording of the April 29 “Lunch and Learn” session with the 4-H STEM team on the partner page listed below. Also find links to local 4-H offices and additional resources at https://www.summerreadingnys.org/librarians-educators/le-resources/#4h

**Encourage the teens in your community to create short videos to promote libraries and Summer Reading and Learning and enter the Teen Video Challenge!**

Teens can compete for a cash prize and national and state recognition if their video is chosen as one of the 5 national winners. New York State has had a TVC winner the past 2 years, so we look forward to some creative submissions this year! Find full details and a downloadable poster at https://www.summerreadingnys.org/teens/teens-video-challenge/

**Summer Reading Champion for 2021**

It is with great pleasure to announce our 2021 Summer Reading Champions Theresa Stern and Wills from Guide Dogs for the Blind! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E4AGXxgowCA

Since 1942, Guide Dogs for the Blind has been creating partnerships between people, dogs, and communities. With exceptional client services and a robust network of instructors, puppy raisers, donors, and volunteers, they prepare highly qualified guide dogs to serve and empower individuals who are blind or visually impaired from throughout the United States and Canada.

All of the services for their clients are provided free of charge, including personalized training and extensive post-graduation support, plus financial assistance for veterinary care, if needed. Their work is made possible by the generous support of our donors and volunteers; they receive no government funding. For more information visit: https://www.guidedogs.com/

**Don’t forget to check out all the updated resources on the Summer Reading at New York Libraries site** at https://www.summerreadingnys.org/

**There’s still time for public libraries to sign up for a FREE READsquared account to use for 2021 Summer Reading online registration and participation.** Find sign up and training information at https://www.summerreadingnys.org/readsquared/

Sharon Phillips
New York State Library Liaison
Hello to anyone reading this! Hopefully, my short tale will entertain you and inspire you to create new programs for young adults and, when they get a tad bit older, new adults. My name is Aisha Cooper; as a Library Trainee in my home library, I was given a chance to do a few programs. One of which was personally created for me by my supervisor Syntychia "Innovator" Kendrick-Samuel, Librarian II - Head of the Teen Services Department at Uniondale Public Library. When the pandemic started and we realized that the physical library would be closed for a while, she did not hesitate to begin revamping our programs to fit the virtual world better. (Welcome to the Matrix!)

There was a stronger emphasis on posting on the library's social media. (I was luckily not arrested for gluing rainbows randomly throughout Uniondale!) She encouraged us to create exciting posts to highlight programs, fun scavenger hunts, record videos of us recommending books, and other informative things that our patrons could perhaps need or entertain during this troubling period. One day she asked me if I could create recipes that were easy to do and related to teas. (Did I look at this request in horror at first? Most definitely. It's been a tricky business figuring out the exact measurements when I usually do them by feel) If you know me even vaguely, then you know I love books, crochet, and tea. (Amongst my oldest friend group, my nickname is Nana, and you can guess why.) So I began writing up recipes that I have done at home for myself, then designed a collection of posts to be uploaded regularly into a series entitled “Tea Love”.

But being the innovator that she is, Syntychia believed that I could do so much more. (oh no) With the wonderful School Media Specialist Salamah Adjoua-Mullen, who helped with editing, I created a recipe book with over thirty recipes and still growing. This book is used in my new adult program, “Tea Love”, where I share my recipes, knowledge on tea, recommend further reading on the subject, give tea treat bags, and demonstrate my program. (Did I forget to turn my hot plate on at one point mid-demonstration and had a quiet freak out? Yes, but the show went on successfully!) Since my program is a virtual one, they cannot taste what I make during my demonstrations. I do give out tea treat bags as a substitution. While it would be too expensive to give them all the ingredients they need, I provide them with other useful and delicious items. These items include the month's recipes, a shopping list, teas, individually wrapped cookies of the month, different sweeteners, and sometimes information on other teas that I have enjoyed.

So this was all to say, try and combine what you enjoy doing into a program to introduce to patrons who may not have heard of it or never tried it before. I was lucky enough to assist in the past with a crochet program, and now we have teens who enjoy doing so as a hobby and even offer crochet hooks and books to be lent out to
them. I am also a presenter in the Dress It Up! program for teens and introduce fun DIYs and crafts like raffia basket weaving and hand knitting. One family found weaving so much fun they shared that they continue to do so. You never know what will catch a person’s interest if you never share what you love!

Aisha Cooper

**Bookclubs for Children: The Southworth Library, Dryden**

**American Girls History Book Club**

The Southworth Library American Girls History Book Club meets weekly to examine life in the US in the 1950’s using the American Girl History Books featuring Maryellen Larkin, a lively and lovable schemer and dreamer growing up in a large family in Daytona Beach, Florida. We look at a country undergoing huge changes, many of which are very relevant to today’s world, including the polio vaccine, the Cold War and mistrust of immigrants, rocket science and women’s roles. We will make poodle skirts, do some science activities, learn some Italian and the twist! The club will meet at the library outdoor reading area, to discuss the books, look at MaryEllen’s life, do some period crafts and activities and find out more life for kids in the 1950’s in our area and nationwide.

Each participant will also meet with an older adult to interview them and find out what life was like for them during the 50’s. The books are written for age 8 to 12 year olds. Registration is limited to a maximum of 15 children. Participants are expected to come to all of the meetings and do the required readings. The library will provide copies of the books and materials for the crafts and activities. There is no cost for the program. The focus of the club is on the history and the reading, but all participants who complete all the reading and come to all the programs will get a free doll to keep at the end of the sessions.

**Magic Tree House Ninja Training Camp – May 22 at 2 pm**

Our Magic Tree House Book Club continue with Book #5 and a Ninja Training camp with local martial arts instructors, Lisa and Gregg Schader. With this fact AND fiction program, we will talk about the books, find out about the world of ninja and samurai, learn Japanese, fold origami butterflies, learn the way of the Ninja and learn some martial arts moves!

Diane Pamel
June Programs: Port Jervis Library

**Save Those Scraps with the Chicken Librarian**
Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 6:30pm  
Ages: Teens and Adults  
Description: Join Kristin White, aka The Chicken Librarian, and learn how to utilize every last bit of the food you cook with. Zero Waste cooking has grown in popularity recently and helps reduce waste in landfills. Learn the benefits of zero waste cooking and how easy it is to be a zero waste household. Registration Required by 5/27/21. This event is free of charge. No library is needed.

**Sunrise Scimitar with Joe Rao**  
Thursday, June 8, 2021 at 6:30pm  
Ages: Teens and Adults  
Description: Early risers in the Tri-State area on Thursday morning, June 10th, will – weather conditions permitting – be treated to the most unusual sunrise of their lives, for we will not see a yellow-orange circle of light, but an 80% solar eclipse which will transform the Sun into a fiery scimitar! Eclipses of the Sun and Moon are dramatic natural events which have been described in records going back for centuries in many civilizations. In this presentation we’ll examine the mechanics of what causes eclipses as well as look at events coming our way in the future, including the total eclipse visible from upstate New York and New England in April 2024. Registration Required by 6/1/21. This event is free of charge.

**Juneteenth: Virtual Author Visit with Brittney Morris**  
Celebrate black voices and join this live virtual event with Brittney Morris author of SLAY, The Cost of Knowing, and Marvel's Spider-Man: Miles Morales - Wings of Fury, Brittney has also written for video games such as The Lost Legends of Redwall and Subnautica: Below Zero. She is a founder and former president of the Boston University Creative Writing Club. Her books have been on the NYPL Best Teen Books List and Publishers Weekly Annual Best Books Selections, and were lauded on Indies Introduce for Children's Literature and ALA's Best Fiction for Young Adults.  
*Registration Required by 06/11/21. This event is free of charge. No library card is needed.

**Genre Neutral: Virtual YA Book Club**  
Month-long discussion | Virtual Meeting 4th Thursday  
Ages: Teen and up  
Genre-Neutral is a 13+ YA book club, with no age cap, and a mission to read outside of the box. Our Teen Library Staff has created a discussion board, on GoodReads.com, to facilitate a month long discussion. Missed the discussion, or just wanna talk more, join our end of month virtual meeting. Registration Required. Active card required to check out book  
June Book: Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe by Benjamin Alire Sáenz

Danielle DeLorenzo