A Message from Your YSS President

People at my library often ask me how I can handle spending afternoons in The Cave (a.k.a. the Teen Area of my library). They don’t understand how I can handle the dimmer room, the higher level of noise, or the “stinky” teens. As a matter of fact, The Cave actually came by that name because our Head of Youth Services, Miss Molly, kept teasing that the room had all the ambiance of a cave, and it just stuck! But, I digress.

I honestly find, more often than not, that spending time with my teens is fun. Sure, I sometimes find it difficult to focus when I am trying to work on a very detail-oriented project... but I do my best not to bring those into The Cave in the first place. Time in The Cave is best spent with projects like catching up on email, planning and scheduling programs, and book ordering – because those tasks still allow my mind the flexibility to be semi-engaged in the conversations throughout the room or with the teens who wander over to talk with me directly.

It’s good to know, when I’m having a bad day, that I’ve got at least three hugs waiting for me when I get to The Cave. Some people would probably add “hugs from the teens” to the reasons they would NOT want to work in this room, but I am a very huggy person and definitely appreciate the healing powers of a good hug. In addition to hugs, my teens are also quick to dispense corny knock-knock jokes and recommendations for funny YouTube videos to combat stressful and generally “meh” days.

The most difficult part of working in The Cave, to tell the truth, is trying not to eat tons of junk food – because I sit next to the snack cart for about three hours a day! Since we don’t have a vending machine at our library, and the teens were walking on a fairly dangerous road to get snacks at a convenience store about half a mile up the road, I started getting snacks at BJs and selling them [at cost] in the afternoons. While the teens like the fact that our snacks cost less than the ones at the store, and I appreciate that I don’t have to worry as much about anyone getting hit by a car, I find the daily test of my resolve to eat healthier a bit taxing at times.

Working with teens sounds insane to some people, but it’s really not very different from working in the Children’s Room. Teens and small children have a tendency toward being loud, self-centered, and very physical. I like to explain to people that teens are pretty much just toddlers in bigger bodies with some hormones sprinkled into the mix. So, yeah. Maybe I am crazy to put myself in this situation on a daily basis, but I like to think of it as a *good* kind of crazy... and I’m glad school is back in session so I can go back to The Cave, where I belong!

- Chrissie Morrison, YSS President
Everything was new and full of opportunities as the planning began for the 39th annual YSS Spring Conference! Many people seized upon this new opportunity. They deserve special recognition and thanks for all the creativity and hard work they invested into coordinating the successful event. Inspiration for our theme began with Brian Kenney, Director of The White Plains Public Library. The planning committee and special advisors to the committee took the theme and ran with it as everyone assumed responsibility for the many different aspects of the conference.

Tee Cotter, Port Chester-Rye Brook Public Library, was the registrar for the 229 attendees and preparer of the conference evaluation summary. Nancy Coradin, Westchester Library System (WLS), coordinated the Westchester Library System Multi-Language Book Fair, which took place the day before the conference. Raquel Cavalcanti, White Plains Public Library, arranged for the food menu at the Dinner For All In Honor of Past YSS Presidents the evening before the conference (attended by 45 people) and negotiated the agreement with the conference book vendor, The Voracious Reader of Larchmont, NY. Rosemary Rasmussen, White Plains Public Library, mapped out the New Library Spaces: An At-Your-Own Pace Tour for attendees who wanted to visit libraries in the area before and after the conference and assisted with coordination of the workshops. Debra Gaffey, White Plains Public Library, coordinated all the attendee folder materials, labels, including nametags, receipts, certificates, fliers, as well as author/illustrator materials. Donna Pesce, Chappaqua Library, coordinated a popular raffle of 16 gift baskets. Bonnie Grant, White Plains Public Library, coordinated the displays of 14 enthusiastic vendors. Rebecca Newman, Mount Vernon Public Library, coordinated the exciting Westchester Author/Illustrator Garden that included 14 children’s and YA authors and illustrators who greeted attendees and signed books. Tata Cañuelas, White Plains Public Library, coordinated the Conference Service Project and presented a workshop. Zahra Baird, Yonkers Riverfront Library, contributed the idea for the Westchester Author/Illustrator Garden and facilitated the League of Extraordinary Librarians photography shoot. Kimberly Zettwoch, The Hampton Library, presented a workshop and assisted with the raffle, workshops and service project. Deborah Hempe, Middle Country Public Library, presided at a workshop and ably served the committee from a distance, preparing for her role as 2015 Spring Conference Chair. Liz Liddington, Waterford Public Library, assisted with the raffle and managed the YSS Booth in her capacity as 1st Year Director. Rebecca Gerald, Dutchess Boces School Library System, lead a team of four people to coordinate all the audiovisual and technical needs for the conference: Merribeth Advocate, Dutchess Boces School Library System; Melinda Grey, Arlington Central School District; David Laiosa, Retired Math Teacher; and Rick Rabideau, MassMutual Financial Group.

Thanks and appreciation is expressed to all the speakers and workshop presenters, 35 in total, who shared their knowledge, experience, expertise and wisdom throughout the day. They included: Roger Sutton, The Horn Book, Inc.
Steve Sheinkin, Award-winning Author
George O’Connor, Graphic Novel Author
Michael P. Buono, Librarian, Adult and Teen Reference, Patchogue-Medford Library
Gail J. Brown, Librarian, Youth and Family Services, Voorheesville Public Library
Marie Aspinwall, Children’s Librarian, New Canaan Library
Sharon Cox, Manager, Children’s Library Discovery Center at Queens Library
Siva Ramakrishnan, Manager of Out of School Time, The New York Public Library
Cassie Guthrie, Executive Director, Pioneer Library System
Jeff Davignon, Library Director, Walworth-Seeley Public Library
Tata Cañuelas, Children’s Librarian, The White Plains Public Library
Fumiko Nishino, Chairperson, New York Children’s Cultural Society and Friends
Lauren McClelland Mendoza, Youth Services Library Technical Assistant/Programmer, Greenwich Library
Betsy Bird, Youth Materials Specialist of BookOps, Shared Technical Services Organization of New York Public Library (NYPL) and Brooklyn Public Library (BPL)
Chris Shoemaker, Director, Rye Free Reading Room
To facilitate with the presentations, 26 conference attendees agreed to serve as workshop presiders and monitors. Other jobs done by volunteers included registration and distribution of conference materials, assistance with the YSS booth, raffle, Author/Illustrator Garden, book sales and photography. It is clearly evident that the Spring Conference is a total team effort!

Who attended the conference? NYLA President Sara Kelly Johns and NYLA Executive Director Jeremy Johannesen joined attendees, many of whom (58 out of 132 who completed the evaluation), were attending a YSS Spring Conference for the first time. Of the total number of attendees who completed the evaluation, 98 out of 132 reported that they worked in children's services in a public library or library system, while 64 out of 132 reported that they worked in tween/young adult/teen services in a public library or library system. There were also 10 graduate students and one undergraduate student in attendance.

The featured speakers, Roger Sutton and Steve Sheinkin, received the comment “Both speakers are great!” Of Sutton's presentation, “The Future Of Publishing For Young People,” one attendee noted that it was a “nice perspective hearing from an editor.” The same attendee noted of Sheinkin’s presentation, “Real Stuff Makes Great Reading,” that it was “very appropriate with all the Common Core stuff.”

The top five rated workshops, in terms of the number of E ratings received, were: “Essentials of Book Blogging For Youth” with Betsy Bird; “Table Talks: Best of Tween and Teen Programs” with Ken Petrilli, Steve Fondiller, Lorraine Squires, Donna Pesce, Joyce Rienzo, Jessica Centuori, Jolie Hamer-Conroy, Erin Singleton and Ben Lainhart; “Family Science Night” with Priscilla Scaife and Pamela Tebbano, “Developing a Diverse Graphic Novel Collection” with George O'Connor and Mike Buono; and “Early Literacy Storytime: Blending Tradition with Technology” with Gail J. Brown and Marie Aspinwall.

Anyone wishing to view the handouts, supplementary information and links from the Spring Conference presentations can access them online from the YSS Events page: http://www.nyla.org/max/4DCGI/cms/review.html?Action=CMS_Document&DocID=672&&MenuKey=nomenucms#Handouts
The Westchester Author/Illustrator Garden was a lot of fun, also! Conference attendees enjoyed cheering the authors during introductions at the luncheon. One evaluator suggested to “Please continue to incorporate authors” and went on to say “it is invaluable to meet them face to face and exchange feedback.” Thanks goes out to The Westchester Library System and The White Plains Library Foundation for sponsoring this aspect of the conference.

There was an overwhelming response to the Conference Service Project. A total of 360 books and 10 board games were donated. These materials have been donated to two centers for at-risk youth -- Woodfield Detention Cottage in Valhalla, NY and The Hawthorne Cedar Knolls Union Free School District, located in Hawthorne, NY. Thank you, everyone who participated in the service project!

Adding to the excitement of the day were the photography opportunities for the “League of Extraordinary Librarians.” John Aiello, of the Pearle River Public Library, photographed librarians in super hero accessories for the League of Extraordinary Librarians Calendar. Check out the YSS Facebook page for the photos. The best of the best will make the cut for the calendar! Thank you, John, for catching librarians in action!

Finally, to all the conference attendees: Thank you for your part in making the day a success! You registered, showed up and engaged! Be sure to do it again -- join YSS at the upcoming 2014 NYLA Annual Conference, November 5 – 8, in Saratoga Springs, NY and 2015 YSS Spring Conference, March 27, in Islandia, NY.

And, keep in mind, every spring and fall, YSS conference planners need speakers and helpers. You may have a great program or set of skills worth sharing with other colleagues in youth services. Think of this as a new opportunity. Don’t hesitate to volunteer! Look for the YSS Active Member Form in this newsletter. Please fill it out and send it in to let the YSS Board know how you would like to help at future events.

-Terry Rabideau, Third Year Director and Conference Chair

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**Order Your Super Librarian Calendar!**

We are super excited about our new Super Librarian Calendar! There are three ways you can get your hands on a copy:

1. Pre-order online and pick up at the YSS Booth during the NYLA Annual Conference for $7
2. Pre-order online with direct shipping for $10
3. A limited number of "cash & carry" calendars will be available at the YSS Booth for $10, but pre-ordering is the only way to guarantee getting a calendar.

NYLA YSS 2015 Spring Conference
Inform! – Inspire! - Ignite!
Friday, March 27, 2015
Islandia Marriott Long Island

Make your plans now, and set aside Friday, March 27 to attend the 2015 YSS Spring Conference to be held at the Islandia Marriott Long Island. With a theme of Inform - Inspire - Ignite! – this daylong conference promises to inform you about trends and practices in youth services, inspire you with new ideas, and ignite excitement about what’s happening in our libraries each and every day.

Conference highlights will include:

**Keynote Speaker - Pam Sandlian-Smith**

As Director of Anythink Libraries, she has worked with a collaborative team to reinvent libraries in Adams County, Colorado. Anythink has been awarded the IMLS 2010 National Medal of Honor for innovating library services and the 2011 John Cotton Dana award and the Library Journal 2011 Landmark Library Award. Pam was awarded the 2012 Charlie Robinson Award for innovation and risk taking in public libraries and was the Colorado Librarian of the year in 2010.

**Luncheon Speaker - Matt Phelan**

Matt Phelan is the illustrator of many books for young readers, including *Xander’s Panda Party* by Linda Sue Park, *Flora’s Very Windy Day* by Jeanne Birdsall, and *The Higher Power of Lucky* by Susan Patron, winner of the 2007 Newbery Medal. He is the author/illustrator of the award-winning graphic novels *The Storm in the Barn, Around the World, and Bluffton*. His latest books include his first picture book as both author and illustrator, *Druthers* (Sept. 2014), and *Miss Emily* by Burleigh Mutén (March, 2014). Matt lives in Ardmore, Pennsylvania. You can visit [www.mattphelan.com](http://www.mattphelan.com) to find out more about Matt and his books.

**15 program sessions** throughout the day focusing on a variety of exciting and pertinent topics of interest to library professionals serving youth of all ages.

**Long Island Author Illustrator Garden** - where you will have the opportunity to meet, greet, and have books signed by local authors and illustrators. The Long Island Author Illustrator Garden is made possible with financial sponsorship by the Suffolk Cooperative Library System, the Children’s Librarian Association of Suffolk County and the Young Adult Services Division of Suffolk County Library Association.

Join us to be informed and inspired at the 2015 NYLA YSS Spring Conference - it’ll ignite your enthusiasm about youth services at New York libraries! For further details, go to [www.nyla.org/yss](http://www.nyla.org/yss) and click on “Events” or contact Conference Chair Deborah Hempe at hemptedeborah@middlecountrypubliclibrary.org
YSS Sponsored Programs

Thursday, 6 November 2014
Program Slot #1
1:30 PM - 2:45 PM
After School Parties, Games, and Clubs
Come hear a panel discuss a number of fun activities public libraries offer children after a long day of school, such as arts and crafts, Battle of the Books, LEGO, and Minecraft.
Track: School & Youth Programs, Services, and Literacy
Speakers:
Molly Chatt, East Greenbush Community Library
Ann-Marie Helldorfer, William K Sanford Town Library

Thursday, 6 November 2014
Program Slot #2
4:00 PM - 5:15 PM
YSS Membership Meeting
Track: School & Youth Programs, Services, and Literacy
Speaker: Charles R. Smith, Jr.

Thursday, 6 November 2014
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Telling Tales with Aunt Helen’s Closet
Aunt Helen’s Closet takes students on an incredible journey from the African Savannah to the Australian Outback. A hands-on museum approach to learning enables students to discover various cultures in a friendly and exciting manner. Tickets are $15 per person and benefit the Ann Gibson Scholarship Fund. Please see registration form for details.

Friday, 7 November 2014
Program Slot #3
8:30 AM - 9:45 AM
Teen Cons
What does it take to put on a teen science fiction and fantasy convention at your library? Rose Burdick will share lessons learned from working with local teens, community partners, and the media to create a successful event that will bring in new patrons and stir the imagination of regular library users.
Track: School & Youth Programs, Services, and Literacy
Speaker: Rose Burdick, Maxwell Memorial Library
YSS Sponsored Programs, cont.

Friday, 7 November 2014
Program Slot #4
11:00 AM - 12:15 PM
Social Media Tools YS Librarians Use
Come hear the panel discuss how to use social media tools, including Instagram, Pinterest, Tumblr, Twitter and Weebly, for communication, programming, and sharing with tweens, teens, and each other.
Track: School & Youth Programs, Services, and Literacy
Speakers:
Amy Peker, Castleton Public Library
Stephanie Kogler, Albany Public Library
Siobhan Webber, Albany Public Library
Frieda Toth, Crandall Public Library

Friday, 7 November 2014
12:30 PM – 2:00 PM
YSS Empire State Award Luncheon
YSS is pleased to present the 2014 Empire State Award for Excellence in Literature for Young People to Jacqueline Woodson. A prolific and accomplished author, she has won several lifetime achievement awards including the 2006 Margaret A. Edwards Award in writing for young adults, the 2010 St. Katherine Drexel Award, the 2012 Anne V. Zarrow Award for Young Reader’s Literature and was shortlisted for the 2014 Hans Christian Andersen Award. She has received three Newbery Honors for the books After Tupac & D Foster, Feathers, and Show Way. She won the Coretta Scott King award and the Los Angeles Times Book Award for Miracle’s Boys and had three Csk author honors for From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun, I Hadn't Meant to Tell You This, and Locomotion. She won a Caldecott Honor for Coming on Home Soon, the Jane Addams Peace Award for Each Kindness and has been a National Book Award finalist twice for Hush and Locomotion, in addition to a long list of notable books recognized nationwide. Ms. Woodson currently resides in Brooklyn, New York. Tickets are $35 per person. Please see registration form for details.

Friday, 7 November 2014
Program Slot #6
3:45 PM - 5:00 PM
Raising a Reader Baby Shower
Sponsor: YSS
Albany Public Library’s Raising a Reader Baby Shower invites expectant parents and parents with infants and toddlers to experience an afternoon of the best hospitality the library has to offer. At the event, participants attend a storytime showcase, take part in literacy-based shower games, sign up for baby-related raffle prizes, visit with professionals from various youth and family services community agencies, and take a family portrait with a professional photographer. The program encourages parents to return to the library for more early childhood programming.
Track: School & Youth Programs, Services, and Literacy
Speakers:
Jaimee Meyer, Albany Public Library
Lisa Neuman, Albany Public Library

Saturday, 8 November 2014
Program Slot #7
9:30 AM - 10:45 AM
Table Talks
Sponsor: YSS
Roundtable discussions and hands-on activities about children’s and young adult programming and services.
Track: School & Youth Programs, Services, and Literacy
YSS Needs Room Monitors!

The Youth Services Section is in need of room monitors for the 2014 NYLA Conference. If anyone is interested in being a room monitor this year, please e-mail Lee Ricci at leejricci@yahoo.com with your program choices.

A room monitor MUST be assigned to each conference program. He or she is someone separate from the speaker(s). This ensures that if there is an issue, the program can continue while that person seeks help to remedy the issue.

A room monitor MUST be assigned to each conference program. He or she is someone separate from the speaker(s). This ensures that if there is an issue, the program can continue while that person seeks help to remedy the issue. While room monitors serve an important role at the NYLA conference, they do not receive free conference registration. Please let Lee know if you are interested as soon as possible.

Room Monitor Responsibilities:
1. Meet the program speaker(s) in a designated area, such as the conference registration area, hotel lobby, etc. before the start of the program. A registration packet will be assembled for all speakers. This packet may be picked up in the registration area by the monitor, speaker, or some other designated person.

2. Introduce the speaker. If someone is serving as a moderator of a program and will be participating throughout the program, then they should be listed as a panel moderator or speaker and cannot serve as the room monitor.

3. Determine the location of convention center/hotel emergency exits and restrooms.

4. Check the program meeting room. Is the room set up appropriately? Is the audio/visual equipment ordered in the room and working? Is the lighting suitable? Is the temperature of the room comfortable?

5. Check badges to ensure that only NYLA conference registrants are attending the program. Exhibit “Fast Passes” cannot be used to enter a conference program.

6. If applicable, distribute the materials to be used by speakers or panelists.

7. Distribute and collect program evaluation forms that your group has developed. These forms are for your group's use only and should not be returned to the NYLA office.

Empire State Award

The Youth Services Section of the New York Library Association is pleased to host author, Jacqueline Woodson, winner of the 2014 Empire State Award for Excellence in Literature for Young People, at a luncheon on Friday, November 7, 2014 during the Association's annual conference in Saratoga Springs, NY. Ms. Woodson will be honored for her significant contribution to youth literature and will speak about her experiences as a writer. If you plan to attend the annual NYLA conference, make sure to purchase a ticket for the Empire State Awards Luncheon as part of your package. For further information about the luncheon go to www.nyla.org and check out the conference special events under Section Luncheons.

-Laura Panter, Committee Chair
Pied Piper Award

Congratulations to the Satchem Public Library for winning the 2014 Pied Piper Award for its “Dig into Reading” children and teen Summer Reading Program!
Indoctrinate the Next Generation of Librarians!

I recently began a new position in Youth Services at the Finkelstein Memorial Library in Spring Valley, NY. There are 18 staff members that currently comprise this Youth Service department, three of which are still in the process of getting their library degree. It began with a small conversation in the back office about NYLA and what this organization is and what it does. As it turns out the majority of this Children’s and YA staff were already members of both NYLA and YSS. This was a great thing! I was extremely happy to hear this being the Vice President of Membership. However, the three students, having heard of NYLA, did not know much about the association or the many benefits of membership. After I finished speaking about conferences, help with networking, professional development, scholarships, etc. these three students were more than interested. And of course, I saved the best for last; it is only $15 for a student membership. Yes, you read that correctly, fifteen dollars! So the next time you meet up with an aspiring librarian there is no better deal than a membership to NYLA (and YSS) with all the privileges that come with membership and a great beginning to a life-long network of opportunities, information, peers and friends.

Christina Ryan-Linder
2nd Vice President/Membership

Congratulations to the 2014 Scholarship Winners!

YSS SPRING CONFERENCE WINNERS

Jennifer Mcdonald – Jennifer is hoping to complete her MLS degree this December at Syracuse University. She is currently working at LaFayette Public Library in Children and Youth Services. She has a background in Education and previously taught Social Studies. She also has organized archaeological digs for middle school students at a Haudenosaunee Village site in Pompey NY.

Stephanie Kogler - Stephanie is currently employed at the Albany Public Library as a Library Assistant. She has recently completed her MLS from the University of Albany and is eager to begin her career as a youth services librarian. She has a skill for story time programs and maker spaces for both children and teens. In addition to winning the 2014 YSS spring conference scholarship, Stephanie was also a past recipient of the Ann Gibson Scholarship.

ANN GIBSON SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Ellisa Valente – Ellisa works at the William K Sanford Town Library and is a current graduate student in the Masters of Information Science Program at SUNY Albany. After attending SUNY Geneseo and receiving a Bachelors degree in both psychology and art, she went on to earn a Masters Degree in Art Therapy from Vermont College. She has practiced art therapy in Kauai, Hawaii and returned to NY where she worked with tweens and teens. She is currently working in the circulation department of the Sanford Library but hopes to begin her career in youth services librarianship in the near future!
Take Your Child to the Library Day  
February 7, 2015

Way more than ... 470 Libraries in 3 countries and 2 Caribbean islands!!!, 42 states, 1 province!, 2 school libraries! and counting! Will YOU join us?

Is your Library planning an event for "Take Your Child to the Library Day?" Send your webpage or calendar link to http://takeyourchildtothe library.blogspot.com/p/events.html to get it listed on the official site!
Do you have an online article or press release? Send the link and it will be posted. You can also visit the Facebook page for more events and ideas.

Take Your Child to the Library Day is a way to champion youth, as well as offer an opportunity for parents and caregivers to discover library services for our youth. Take advantage of the NYLA advocacy links for publicity, as well as postcards that are available to download and use as a way to present positive library stories about how libraries make a difference to our legislators on NYLA Advocacy Day, February 25, 2015, at our State Capital in Albany. This year YSS will be asking everyone to contact their local assembly/state senate representatives and tell them about the day, requesting that they write resolutions supporting NYS's Take Your Child to the Library Day. Information on how to write a resolution will be forthcoming on the www.nyla.org!
In the meantime, here is how to get started planning:

When is Take Your Child to the Library Day (TYCttLD)?
TYCttLD is the 1st Saturday in February, February 7, 2015.

When and how did TYCttLD begin?
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, and in New York in 2014. YSS hopes to have libraries all across NYS signed on and participating in 2015.

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.
Teen Read Week 2014

What is Teen Read Week (TRW) and how did it begin?
TRW is a national adolescent literacy initiative created by YALSA. TRW began in 1998 and is held annually during the third week of October. Its purpose is to encourage teens to be regular readers and library users.

Why should you participate in TRW?
Regardless of population or economic status, your library serves teens in your community. Take advantage of the positive PR this nationwide celebration provides as you “spotlight all the great resources and activities you provide to inspire teens to succeed in school and beyond!”

What can you do to celebrate TRW?
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 teen space. No matter your budget or staffing, there are many ways for your library to participate. Here are some programs/activities you could try!

⇒ Author visits—Invite a local author to come in for a meet & greet — or even schedule a virtual visit [using a free service like Skype or Google Hangouts] to “meet” with an author who lives far away.
⇒ Bookmarks—Have a bookmark design contest or set up a DIY bookmark station in the Teen Area. You might be surprised to find out how much your teens enjoy simple crafts with coloring and stickers!
⇒ Games—Play some board/card games or set up a video game system... No matter the type of gaming, you’re likely to score big points! (Some popular “analog” games for teens are Apples to Apples, Munchkin, and Settlers of Catan.)
⇒ Goodies—Order a cake. Bake some cookies. Put together a fruit and/or vegetable platter. Invite the Friends of the Library to have a bake sale. Make a “wish list” of items and ask each teen to bring something to share.
⇒ Giveaways—Clear out your leftover incentives from Summer Reading, donated books, and other swag you’ve picked up from conferences. You can have door prize raffles at TRW events or give out prizes for specific games & reading goals like a mini SRP!
⇒ Library Card Sign-Up—Put up posters and talk to teens about signing up for their own library cards. Use your leftover incentives, buy some more, or seek donations so you can offer a prize to all teens who get a card during TRW.
⇒ Lock-Ins—After hours lock-ins allow teens to explore the library and have tons of fun without worrying about disrupting other patrons. (P.S. You don’t have to stay overnight if you don’t want to — a lock-in can be as long or short as you make it!)
⇒ Passive Programs—Start a display where your teens can give book recommendations. Set up a “make and take” craft table. Shred a discarded book to create a “book in a jar” and have teens guess the title. (There are TONS of ideas on Pinterest.)
⇒ Performers/Presenters—Ask your teens what they would like to do and find a performer or presenter who can help. Many people in your community have skills that match your teens’ interests, and you can also utilize the NYS Performers Database.
⇒ Readathons—Teens collect pledges from sponsors and then read at the library to raise money for charity.
⇒ Scavenger Hunts—Hand out clue sheets and encourage teens to try to find items/pictures hidden throughout the library. (This can be a passive program or it can be an activity at a special TRW event.)
⇒ Virtual Readathons—Encourage teens to tag your library when they post book-related pictures, quotes, and book reviews on social media sites during TRW.

 Teens competing in a Scavenger Hunt @ the East Greenbush Library’s 2014 TRW Lock-
Teen Read Week 2014, cont.

Get Started in in 6 Easy Steps

1. **Decide how you're celebrating.** Are you asking teens to track their reading that week? Are you having an event @ your library? Both?

2. **Plan your celebration.** Don't forget to book your space and/or performers! How can you collaborate with local schools?

3. **Arrange for goodies!** We all know the saying, “If you feed them, they will come!” If your budget is tight, make a wish list and ask teens to bring an item to share.

4. **Advertise** – via press releases, on social media, announcements at teen programs, in your newsletter, and with in-house posters.

5. **Register** at the YALSA ning site and TRW @ NYS [http://bit.ly/trw-nys]

6. **Order TRW materials** from ALA [http://www.alastore.ala.org]

**TRW Resources**

**ALA Store**
You aren’t required to purchase anything to participate, but TRW products, including posters, bookmarks and digital downloads, are available for purchase at the ALA Store. www.alastore.ala.org

**ALA/YALSA TRW Website**
It doesn’t cost anything to register on the TRW website or to participate.
http://teenreadweek.ning.com

**NYS Performer Database**
If you would like to hire a performer to come to your library, you can choose your region & search by category or keyword for performer contact information, program descriptions, and prices.
www.performersandprograms.com

**Pinterest**
Find activities via keyword search and then “pin” ideas to your virtual bulletin boards to go back to later.
www.pinterest.com

**TRW @ NYS Libraries**
Sign up with YSS [via Evanced's summer reading software] to help us keep track of participation around the state and to share programming ideas for the future.

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Have questions? Contact:
Chrissie Morrison, YSS President
East Greenbush Community Library
chrissiemorrison@gmail.com
518-477-7476 x 105
Ready to Read at New York Libraries: an Early Childhood Public Library Staff Development Program

The New York State Library's new initiative Ready to Read at New York Libraries: an Early Childhood Public Library Staff Development Program is designed to improve public library services that will help young children start kindergarten with the skills needed for school success. The State Library received a 2014 Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program Collaborative Planning Grant which is funding the design of this program. A Training Cohort composed of 30 New York State public librarians with expertise in youth services will offer regional training to public library staff across New York State covering the five Foundation Training Components:

1. Early Literacy Community Asset Analysis
2. Using 'Every Child Ready to Read®' (2nd ed.) (ECRR2)
3. Early Learning Spaces
4. Strategies for Successful Partnerships and Outreach to Families with Young Children
5. Everyone Serves Families with Young Children.

The Training Cohort members have been trained in the first component of training, “Early Literacy Community Asset Analysis,” and will begin to train local library staff this fall.

In addition to the creation of the staff development program, the Advisory Group for Ready to Read at New York Libraries has begun developing partnerships with local, state, and national organizations; among these are the Public Library Systems Directors Organization (PULISDO), New York Library Association (NYLA) in collaboration with the Youth Services Section (YSS), New York State Head Start Collaboration Project, Reach Out and Read, and WNED/WBFO Buffalo.

Interactive Website for Families with Young Children: DaybyDayNY

In early 2014 as part of Ready to Read at New York Libraries, the New York State Library created DaybyDayNY (http://daybydayny.org/), an early literacy website designed to engage families and young children in reading, learning and public libraries. DaybyDayNY is a virtual calendar with content that changes every day. This unique setup gives families with young children numerous daily activities and a story to read together. In addition, the website includes monthly activities, storytelling and nursery rhyme videos, rhymes for young children, craft activities for children and their caregivers, a link to “Find Your Public Library,” a New York State map of museums with activities for young families, health information, and reading lists. The website is designed to help parents and caregivers increase their young child’s cognitive skills and have fun together at the same time. The State Library invites libraries to link to the site and spread the word to families with young children in local communities. Visit http://daybydayny.org/share-this-site/ for full information about sharing the DaybyDayNY site.