A Message From the President

This will be my final message to you as your first ever, two term, YSS-Pandemic President. This would normally be the article where I would write about our achievements over the past year as they align to our 5-Year Goals and Objectives. Something that I have honestly not paid much attention to since the word “unprecedented” first entered my vocabulary. Now reviewing them, there’s definitely more work that can be done, but I think we nailed them with the resources we had! Our first ever Spring Virtual Conference allowed folks to attend wherever they were; our joint YSS/SSL Youth Advocacy Committee kept our goals in mind as they championed for library services; and we shared stories throughout the pandemic to engage children and families in new innovative ways! Virtual programming is not going away. Neither are Grab n’ Go Services! (Snow days might be going away though...) Engaging our communities is what youth services professional do best and we all nailed it!

Things are still looking different for NYLA 2021 and beyond. If you have questions about the events occurring with NYLA Council, visit the NYLA Council section of the website. Reach out to me if you have questions after reviewing the materials. It’s been a rough few months and we aren’t out of the woods yet. Know that your entire Executive Board has been actively involved in every decision I have made on behalf of our section to NYLA Council. You can read about all of our board meetings here. We also have representation on the new NYLA Governance Task Force. Don’t forget, if you want to get more involved, we are always
taking names for volunteers!

I hope to “see” and SEE you at NYLA 2021. With the hybrid conference model, we can’t do all the things in person, but we can learn from last year and do things similar! We will be welcoming in our new slate of officers at our October 22, 2021, 1pm Virtual Board Meeting. (Let me know if you need the link!) Then, we will be formally voting on our bylaw changes at our Membership Meeting on Thursday, October 28, 2021 at 4pm followed by an amazing presentation by Nina Crews. For those of you coming in person, the Ann Gibson Scholarship fundraiser will be at the Hotel Marriot Presidential Suite on Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at 8pm. More details at www.nyla.org/yss.

I’m also not going to lie, I totally looked at Lisa Neuman’s bylaw change recommendation Newsletter article before writing this. In case you missed it, here is where she proclaimed her love for bylaws.

Sincerely,
Amanda Schiavulli
YSS Pandemic President

Proposed By-Law Amendments
The YSS Board approved the following bylaw changes at the August 13, 2021 virtual board meeting for the membership to vote on at our YSS Membership Meeting on Thursday, October 28, 2021 at 4pm. Please register here to receive the link to this event: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEsf-qrqjksGdwTD_N6EcZQtZ2NCE4oJSjD

Article IV Officers
Currently:
4 Sections of information with 8 seats.

Proposed Change:
Adding an additional seat on the board to be the YSS Representative to NYLA Council.

Renumbering to have 5 sections. To read:
Section 3. One YSS Representative to NYLA Council will be elected by the membership for a 3-year term. To be considered for this position, candidates must had served as a YSS official in a prior year.
Section 4. The President, First Vice President/President – Elect, Second Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall perform the duties pertaining to their respective offices and such other duties as may be approved by the Board. If an officer of the Board does not fulfill the obligations of the office, they may be removed by a majority vote of the Board.
Section 5. All officers and all elected members of the Board shall serve until adjournment of the business meeting at the Annual Conference or until November 1 if no annual conference is held that year. All officers shall have their materials in good order to their successors at the annual conference.
YSS Marketing Committee

Congratulations on completing another successful Summer Reading program! As we say goodbye to summer and get ready for NYLA’s annual conference, be sure to stay up-to-date on all YSS news, announcements, trends, and inspiring topics by following YSS NYLA on social media. You can find us on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, and Instagram!

Have an upcoming program you’d like to share? Or have you created a really fun book display? Tag @YSSNYLA to be featured on one of our social media pages. Photos can also be emailed to committee chair, Lindsay at jankovitzl@gmail.com (please be sure to have permissions to share the photo!).

Ann Gibson Scholarship Winner, Jackie Lam

The Scholarship Committee is delighted to announce the winner of this year’s Ann Gibson Scholarship, Jackie Lam. A proud graduate of Smith College and current student in the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies at Queens College CUNY, Jackie is delighted to be a Children’s Librarian Trainee at Kings Park Public Library, a branch of the Smithtown Library on Long Island.

Jackie heads the children’s programming subcommittee of the Smithtown Library’s newly formed diversity committee, which she helped establish. She also focuses on building accessible and inclusive library collections: in particular, examining depictions of underrepresented groups in picture books. Outside of work, she runs programs for QCLISSA (Queens College Library & Information Studies Student Association) and volunteers at the Guide Dog Foundation in Smithtown.

Welcome Our New YSS Executive Board Members

Congratulations to our incoming board members Kim Hazen, Mary Jo C. Smith, and Julia Farrar!

YSS 1st Vice President/President-Elect:
Kim Hazen

Second Vice President/Membership Chair:
Mary Jo C. Smith

2023 Spring Conference Director:
Julia Farrar
NYLA Annual Conference 2021: “Libraries: We’re ALL In!”
Virtual October 28–29 and In Person November 3–6 in Syracuse, NY

YSS is thrilled to have the opportunity to offer NINE! programs at this year’s NYLA Conference, both virtually and in person.

For the virtual conference, we are looking forward to Frieda Toth, of the Crandall Public Library, presenting Welcome to the Teen Center on Friday, October 29th at 10:00 am. Learn tips to attract, engage, and sustain teen’s participation, even with a small staff or through a pandemic.

The YSS Membership Meeting will also be held during the virtual conference in October, on Thursday the 28th at 4:00 pm! Join us to hear what YSS has accomplished in the past year, and to learn more about how you can get involved. In addition, we are pleased to welcome Nina Crews (right) as our speaker.

Nina Crews’ career as an author and illustrator began in 1995 with the book One Hot Summer Day, which explores the energy and experiences of urban childhood. She studied painting, drawing, and sculpture in college, but it was photography that she fell in love with, and to which she turned to when she began writing and illustrating books for children. Her 2004 book, The Neighborhood Mother Goose, is an ALA Notable book and was selected by Kirkus & School Library Journals as one of the Best Books of 2004. The vibrant, double-page spreads illustrate modern-day urban scenes from classic Mother Goose rhymes.

Her most recent illustrated book (2020), A Girl Like Me (right), a poem written by Coretta Scott King & MacArthur Prize winner Angela Johnson. A celebration of the power of girls that encourages them to embrace their dreams and more!

For the in-person conference in November in Syracuse, YSS is pleased to announce five programs and one night of sweets and treats:

The Ann Gibson Scholarship Reception will be held Wednesday 11/3 evening from 8:00 pm until 10:00 pm at the Hotel Marriott Presidential Suite. Join us for free desserts, raffle prizes, a cash bar, and fun to support the Ann Gibson Scholarship Fund.

Table Talks are back! Thursday, 11/4 at 4:00 pm. Table Talk presentations will include:

- Girl Scouts at Your Cultural Institution by Margaret Martin, Onondaga County Public Library
- Fractured Fairy Tale Escape Room by Pied Piper Award winners Katie Brand & Jessica Leviness, Smithtown Library
2022 Summer Reading Program Crafts by Chrissie Morrison, Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library

OurStoryBridge: Connecting the Past & the Present by Jery Huntley

Creating Dandy Displays for Library Lovers, presented by Carole-Anne Weik of Valley Stream UFSD #13 & Peninsula Public Library on Friday, 11/5 at 8:30 am. This program will provide us with tips and tricks for ease and organization of physical and digital displays that will best showcase your library’s collections and community.

Lessons Learned from School Shutdown, by Sue Kowalski of Pine Grove Middle School, on Friday, 11/5 at 11:00 am. Sue and a panel of teachers, parents, and students will share their experiences from a school year interrupted, and offer suggestions and ideas towards achieving new goals and practices in transformed libraries.

Empire State Award Luncheon, Friday 11/5-12:30 pm - 2:00 pm. Brian Selznick (right), our 2021 ESA recipient, is an award-winning author & illustrator of countless titles for young people, including The Invention of Hugo Cabret and Baby Monkey, Private Eye.

Talking to Kids About Race, presented by Melanie Miller of Alfred Box of Books Library; OJ Shepard of SUNY Alfred State; and Kathy Sherman of Alfred Montessori School on Friday, 11/5 at 2:15 pm. Participants of this program will gain a ready-to-implement program for their communities about engaging with children and their caregivers in crucial conversations about race.

When We’re All In, Kids Are In, presented by Stacey Rattner of Castleton Elementary School and Alicia Abdul of Albany High School on Friday, 11/5 at 3:45 pm. How do librarians find avenues to share their own reading journeys and booktalks? The presenters will share their favorite recent books, encourage participants to begin thinking about their own reading habits, and discuss why it matters.

Please join us at the YSS virtual and in-person 2021 NYLA Conference programs-whichever works best for you. And speaking of what works best for you, maybe you want more input on what works best for YSS and the annual NYLA Conferences? If so, check out the YSS page on the NYLA website; you can learn more about YSS Committees and all that we do. For me personally, this has been quite an experience. It’s not what I expected to be, although I think we can all agree that 2020 was unexpected for all. Despite that, I have really enjoyed my time in this position. Not only have I learned a LOT, but I have also strengthened many of the skills I already had-including outreach, communication, time management, and flexibility. I’ve met many new contacts and made a good number of new friends along the way. I highly encourage you to join YSS as well as one of the committees and, if you have any questions, I’d be more than happy to chat with you.

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

Amy Relyea
Fall Conference Curation Committee Chair
Join us on April 8th in “The Electric City” for our conference at The Rivers Casino and Resort Event Center. Our keynote speaker, Chris Crutcher, is a YA novelist, family therapist, and self-proclaimed loudmouth who has won a variety of awards for both his writing and his intellectual freedom advocacy. In addition to Chris’ keynote and his breakout sessions, we have an amazing lineup of speakers who will help you to ensure that your library can stack the odds for success with regards to programming, partnerships, and more. Stay tuned for further details and registration information in the YSS Winter Newsletter.
New York State Library Announcements

Information on 2022 Summer Reading and Oceans of Possibilities: Planning is underway for the 2022 round of Summer Reading and Learning programs! Manuals for public libraries have been ordered by the State Library, and CSLP will begin shipping manuals to library systems in mid to late September. When the 2022 access code for the online manual is shared with state reps (usually around the same time that the manuals start shipping), it will be distributed to the Youth Services Consultants in each system. They will then share the code information with their member libraries so they can begin planning for Summer Reading 2022.

CSLP recently launched a new and improved web site! The site now has a slightly different look, and has improved accessibility and navigation features. CSLP also addressed some of the issues with the 2021 manual that caused problems earlier this year with access, so hopefully users will have a better experience when using program materials and the 2022 manual.

Does your library have an inspirational story or photos to share from exciting Tails and Tales programs or events this summer? Please consider sharing them by emailing nyslyouth@nysed.gov Please be sure to include the name and location of your library, the public library system you are affiliated with, and the name and email address of a staff person in case we need to contact you for follow up.

SAVE the DATE for the first ever CSLP national Summer Reading symposium. The symposium is open to ALL public library staff in member states, and will take place on December 2. There will be a keynote address and an afternoon of interesting and informational sessions to help with your Summer Reading program planning. Registration is scheduled to open on November 1 so keep an eye out for more information coming soon. Don’t miss out on this great opportunity to get and share ideas and information with CSLP members from around the U.S.

Teen Video Challenge update: CSLP recently shared the information that the Teen Video Challenge/TVC competition will be sun setting at the conclusion of 2021. There were only about 35 entries this year, and interest has been waning among libraries and teens, so the CSLP board voted to discontinue the contest after judging takes place for this year’s entries. The Teen Video Challenge may be incorporated into a future manual as a possible teen program that libraries could customize and run in their own communities. Information on winning video entries for 2021 will be shared when CSLP makes an announcement this fall.

CSLP is looking for committee members! Library staff have until October 8 to apply. This is a great way for staff to get involved and make their voices heard. Duties and time commitment vary for each committee, but all committee work is done virtually through email or via phone calls or online meetings. Committee obligations generally run for one calendar year. If you are interested or just want more information, go to https://www.cslpreads.org/join-a-cslp-committee/
SAVE the DATE! The State Library is planning a Ready to Read webinar on Story Walks for this November 9. Details about registering for this exciting and informative webinar will be shared on NYLINE in late September, so be sure to watch the NYLINE list for further information. Did you know anyone can sign up for NYLINE to get regular updates and information on library-related topics, news, and job openings around the state? Sign up at https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/nyline.htm It’s a great way to stay informed.

Training updates for Supercharged Storytimes and Transforming Teen Services T3: Two fall sessions of Supercharged Storytimes training are being offered and are currently full. But more sessions are being planned for spring 2022. Thank you for your continued interest in this popular training for library staff who serve young children and families. Two T3 training sessions were held in May and June on Connected Learning, and there continues to be high interest in this training for library staff working with teens. The State Library hopes to be able to offer some additional training sessions in 2021, but the YALSA grant does end in December 2021. Options are currently being explored for continuing the training beyond that date.

READsquared updates: Summer wrap-up and fall training sessions for libraries using the READsquared product will take place this fall. Full information on dates and sessions and how to attend can be found at http://www.summerreadingnys.org/readsquared/

NOVELny has a NEW look which includes a new logo and a new website. The newly redesigned www.novelnewyork.org site is solely for access to the databases. All information about the NOVELny program, including the fact sheet, toolkit with logo style guidelines, Help Desk and registration information and more is now on the State Library’s Division of Library Development page at https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/novelny/. There was a slight change in the NYS Newspapers database. It has been renamed The New York Times and only includes that publication with both indexing and full text from January 1985 to the present. The Gale OneFile: News database has not changed. Any newspapers included in the current NYS Newspapers database are still available in Gale OneFile: News. All database URLs will remain the same. Links to pages on the current NOVELny page will need to be updated. If you have any questions about the changes please email the NOVELny Help Desk at NYSLNOVEL@nysed.gov. Provided by the New York State Library, NOVELny connects New Yorkers to 21st century information. NOVELny is supported with temporary federal Library Services and Technology Act funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

Sharon Phillips
New York State Library Liaison
Collaborative Summer Reading Program 2022 Theme: Oceans of Possibilities

The posters and artwork for 2022 were designed by Sophie Blackall. She is an Australian illustrator now living in Brooklyn and the illustrator of over 45 books for children, including the New York Times best-selling Ivy and Bean series, the 2016 Caldecott Medal winner, Finding Winnie and the 2019 Caldecott Medal winner, Hello Lighthouse, which she also wrote. She is the four time recipient of The New York Times Best Illustrated Picture Book Award. She has collaborated with UNICEF and Save the Children on global health and literacy initiatives in Congo, India, Rwanda and Bhutan. CSLP posters below in order from left to right are Early Literacy, Children’s, Teen, and Adult.