A Message from the President

Summer is at its end and, while we are all tired, it is sad to see another energizing summer come to a close. The chaos of juggling three to six classes a day in July and August. The dash for kids to record the last book reviews for the summer reading program so they can claim their prizes. The rush to finish summer school assignments at the last minute, because that’s just kids! I hope all of you had a fun and successful summer.

September, for me, is the best time to go to the beach and adapt a slower pace. Luckily, I’m five minutes from the Fire Island ferry and 15-minutes from a bike ride to the bay! It’s also when our Teen Services Department starts attending school Parent Orientations and Open School Nights. We are gearing up for our library wide Fall Festival and planning the finishing touches for our October Haunted Garden. So essentially, we are still going full steam ahead on Long Island! It’s also time to reflect on what worked this summer, what didn’t, and what we’d like to change for this school year and even next summer.

I hope you’re all planning to be in Rochester this fall for the NYLA Annual Conference [November 7-10]. Our Conference Planner, Krystina Dippel, has planned some great programs for you. And don’t forget to support our Ann Gibson Scholarship Fund by attending our fundraiser event on Wednesday, November 7 at Genesee Brew House from 8:00pm-10:00pm! There will be some tasty appetizers, desserts, and great raffle prizes. Register in advance with your conference registration or pay at the door -- and don’t forget to bring a friend! The Ann Gibson Scholarship supports an individual who has chosen to pursue graduate studies that lead to New York State certification as a youth specialist in a public library or school media center. Can’t make our fundraiser? You can still donate through the NYLA website: https://www.nyla.org/max/4DCGI/donate/form.html

September brings our second professional development YSS webinar entitled “Building a Diverse and Inclusive YA Library Collection” which will be facilitated by Joyce Laiosa, a former YSS President, retired Head of Youth and Family Services of Voorheesville Public Library, and current adjunct professor at the University of Albany where she teaches Young Adult Literature. There is still time to register! If you are looking to identify inclusive literature for your teens, learn about recent releases and current titles that would make excellent additions to your YA collection, and discover resources that will help you access award-winning titles, this is a workshop not to be missed. (Plus, this webinar is FREE for YSS members!)

This has been a busy year of new initiatives for our YSS Board and I commend all of our Board members for their hard work to bring all of these great opportunities to our membership and youth providers. We are looking forward to a successful fall as our first Empowerment, Advocacy and Leadership Academy gets off the ground this October. We hope all of you take advantage of all YSS has to offer.

Laura Panter, YSS President
Incoming (2018-2019) YSS Board

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

**Past President:** Laura Panter, Sachem Public Library  
**President:** Lisa Neuman, Albany Public Library  
**1st Vice President***: Amanda Schiavulli, Liverpool Public Library  
**2nd Vice President:** Chinasa Seyse, Schenectady Public Library  
**3rd Year Director:** Liz Anastasi, Greenburg Public Library  
**2nd Year Director:** Angela Newman, North Country Library System  
**1st Year Director***: Chrissie Morrison, Mechanicville District Public Library  
**Conference Planning Chair:** Jessica Bowen, Dennis P. McHugh Piermont Public Library  
**Secretary:** Kim Hazen, Guernsey Memorial Library  
**Treasurer***: Elissa Valente, William K. Sanford Public Library  
**Web Liaison:** Amy Holland, Irondequoit Public Library

*Congratulations to our newly elected Board Members:

**1st Vice President/ (President-Elect)**  
Amanda Schiavulli

**Treasurer**  
Elissa Valente

**1st Year Director**  
Chrissie Morrison
SAVE THE DATE for the 2019 YSS Spring Conference!

April 26, 2019

Double Tree by Hilton in Tarrytown, NY

Congratulations to our YSS Empowerment, Advocacy & Leadership Academy Scholarship Winners!

Congratulations to the winners of the two Empowerment, Advocacy & Leadership Academy scholarships; Pamela Edholm (pictured below, left) from Buffalo & Erie County Public Library and Sarah Prosser (pictured below, right) from the Field Library in Peekskill. Both of these recipients will receive $349 to cover the cost of tuition for this seven session leadership program.

There are still a few spots available for the Empowerment, Advocacy & Leadership Academy. If you have not signed up already, we hope you will consider joining us. There are several wonderful speakers from around the state involved and there will be many great opportunities to network with your peers.

YSS is Proud to Present: Empowerment, Advocacy & Leadership Academy

This 7 month program is specifically designed for Y5 Providers who are interested in developing their leadership skills for personal and professional advancement.

- 3 full day in-person workshops
- 4 live 90 minute webinars
- 24 hours of continuing education
YSS Marketing Committee Update

Tired of doing the same old programs? WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? Follow YSS on social media!

Follow YSS on Facebook, Pinterest, and Twitter. See all the great articles, tips, ideas, and more that are being posted every day. Please send any ideas for content you would like to see to Tara Morris at tmorris@rcls.org, or to Lindsay Jankovitz at jankovitzl@gmail.com.

Don’t forget to subscribe to the YSS Listserv.
Share your favorite programming tips and tricks, and pick up something new!

To subscribe to the listserv, log into the NYLA Online Membership Center using your personal login and password. Click on "Personal Record Details" from the menu on the left, and then select the "Email Discussion Lists" link from the top of that page.

To send a message once you’ve subscribed, send an email to nyla-yss@list.nyla.org – but be sure to send that email from the email address to which you are subscribed to receive listserv emails!

Have you submitted your program for Pied Piper Award yet?

YSS is seeking submissions for the 2019 Pied Piper Award, which will recognize an exceptional program for youth that took place in New York State between Dec 1, 2017, and November 30, 2018. For more information on past winners and to learn how to submit your own program, contact Pied Piper Committee Member Ann Marie Helldorfer, and/or visit the Pied Piper Award page on the YSS website.
2018 Ann Gibson Scholarship Winner

The Scholarship Committee is thrilled to announce that the Ann Gibson Scholarship has been awarded to Jennifer L. Groth.

Jennifer comes to the field of librarianship after earning a Master's Degree in Music Education, which has inspired her to help children discover their own talents and interests. She currently works at the library where she grew up [Maxwell Memorial Library] and is working alongside youth services librarians there as well as substituting at local [West Genesee Central School District] elementary school libraries. Jennifer's coursework at the University of Buffalo has provided her with the opportunity to research how libraries can become more diverse and inclusive and foster creativity through technology.

Her passion for libraries, particularly children's services, shined through her application and her supporting statements were glowing. She is a very well deserving recipient!

Ann Gibson Scholarship Reception
November 7th, from 8-10pm

You are cordially invited to attend the 2018 Ann Gibson Scholarship Reception. This year, YSS will be hosting the event at the Genesee Brew House, located at 25 Cataract St. Rochester, NY, 14605.

This event is not only a meet-and-greet for people who want to do something fun between the CEYs and the official start of the conference, but it also raises money to support YSS’s Ann Gibson Scholarship.

Tickets are available for $15 in advance, or you can pay $20 at the door. Each ticketed guest will receive 5 FREE raffle tickets upon entry, and additional raffle tickets will be available for purchase during the event. Raffle prizes include a Boutique Backpack with an “Oh the places you’ll go!” personalization, Yankee Candle tea light holders and votive candles, a Norwex starter set, and more!
YSS Happenings & Sessions at the 2018 NYLA Annual Conference

Wednesday, 11/7/2018
8:00 PM - 10:00 PM
YSS Ann Gibson Scholarship Reception
(See full description on previous page.)

Thursday, 11/8/2018
Program Slot #1
1:00 PM - 2:15 PM
**Storytime for the Early Literacy Newcomer**
Anyone new to presenting a library storytime has asked the following questions:
*Which books should I read? Are crafts required? To puppet or not to puppet?* But it’s also important to ask: *How am I helping to build early literacy skills? How can I engage parents and caregivers? What is a manipulative, anyway?*

This interactive workshop will address the components of a successful storytime as well as how to incorporate best practices for early literacy into programs and outreach. We will certainly also be talking about where to find the best songs, rhymes, and fingerplays. Thanks to user-friendly research and a wide variety of online resources, presenting a storytime that helps children get ready to read has never been easier.

**Speakers:**
Angela Newman, N. Country Library System
Rebecca Donnelly, Potsdam Public Library

Program Slot #2
4:00 PM - 5:15 PM
**YSS Membership Meeting featuring Bob Shea**
Join us for a brief membership meeting followed by famous author Bob Shea. He seems nice. Bob will share unpublished work in a talk entitled “Bob Shea at his Worst”.

**Speakers:**
YSS Board Members
Bob Shea, Author/Illustrator
Promoting Compassion Through Radically Inclusive Story Times

Librarians Amy Holland & Matt Krueger received a grant to create a story time series with the mission of promoting compassion and self-acceptance among parents and preschool-aged children. Guest presenters included a drag queen, a Muslim refugee, a U.S. Army veteran, and more. This presentation will detail that process with the aim of empowering librarians to create similar programs.

Speakers:
Matt Krueger, Irondequoit Public Library
Amy Holland, Irondequoit Public Library

YSS Empire State Award Luncheon

The Youth Services Section is pleased to present the 2018 Empire State Award for Excellence in Literature for Young People to Ann M. Martin. Perhaps best known for the Baby Sitter's Club series, she has also written several other popular series, such as Main Street and the Missy Piggle Wiggle books and 29 other novels. Ms. Martin has won many awards, including a New York Times-bestseller listing for Rain, Reign and an American Library Association Newbery Honor for A Corner of the Universe. This year's luncheon presentation will be a unique experience, as Ms. Martin will be in conversation with her editor, Liz Szabla. Tickets for this event are $39.

Teen Volunteers Make Great Tech Tutors

In the Teen Tech Tutor program at Fairport Public Library, teen volunteers help patrons gain confidence with technology. Learn how you can build a similar program at your library.

Speaker:
Carly Dennis, Fairport Public Library
Building a Diverse and Inclusive YA Library Collection (webinar) presented by Joyce Laiosa

Why is it important for librarians to integrate culturally diverse literature into their collections? Readers need a rich and varied diet of material that reflects the many different ethnic, cultural, socioeconomic, and linguistic groups that make up multiple voices, individual lives, social attributes, and perspectives around the world. We are the advocates that help expand the borders of this culturally diverse literature, this inclusive literature, to aspects such as physical and mental disabilities, socioeconomic status, different family structures, such as foster families, and sexual and gender identification. We are striving to curate our collections to be the mirrors and windows of a teen’s life into adulthood.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Establish a set of criteria for identifying inclusive literature for young adults.
- Learning about recent releases and current titles that will make excellent additions to your YA collection as well as highlighting specific authors.
- Discover the many resources that will help access award-winning titles.

**Register here.** (This webinar is free to current NYLA YSS section members and fees apply for others.)

**Be a Library Advocate!**

You don’t need to kill yourself looking for ways to advocate for libraries. NYLA has an advocacy page that contains a lot of practical advice and plenty of resources to help you advocate for your library: [https://www.nyla.org/advocacy](https://www.nyla.org/advocacy)

One perfect opportunity to perform advocacy in Youth Services, by the way, is **Take Your Child to the Library Day**! It’s not until the beginning of February, so you still have plenty of time to plan – and the resources available on the NYLA website can help you plan and promote your event.

There are promotional posters you can print and use at your library, a promotional flier that gives ideas of what and how to plan for your event, and even postcards that families can fill out to send to your local legislators!
It’s been almost a year since Yancey made his debut at the YSS Booth during the 2017 NYLA Annual Conference... And what a busy year it has been!

Yancey took a trip (with YSS Past President Chrissie Morrison and family) to visit with some of his favorite storybook characters, like Curious George, at Universal Studios in Florida.

He also tried to meet up with the Order of the Phoenix at 12 Grimmauld Place, but no one was home – except that creepy house elf, Kreacher, who kept peeking out of the curtains.

After the YSS Spring Conference, Yancey even took a trip to the Gretna Public Library (in Gretna, Nebraska) with keynote speaker Rebecca McCorkindale. He looks so adorable in his Fancy Yancey costume!

Do you have any fun pictures of your adventures with Yancey? Send them along to our Marketing Committee Chair if you would like to see them posted to the YSS Facebook page. Or send them to our incoming YSS Newsletter Editor, Nan Brown, to see Yancey featured in future editions of our YSS Newsletter!
Member Spotlight - Juliet Sanchez

Juliet works as a librarian trainee at in Freeport Memorial Library [featured in this picture] and the Westbury Memorial Public Library.

**What has been the most rewarding part of your job?**

The most rewarding part of my job is being able to help children of all ages, and even parents, in finding resources they never knew the libraries had!

**What is the craziest/cutest/weirdest response you have received from a child?**

The craziest/cutest/weirdest response I've received from a child was, "Can you come home with us to read us bedtime stories!?"

**What would you say is a librarian "superpower" you rely on every day?**

A librarian "superpower" I rely on every day is my ability to speak both English and Spanish. The fact that I am bilingual means that I am able to reach out to the community in both languages and to better promote the library’s services!

**What will is your go to book to recommend to a child, a tween or teen?**

I would recommend *Because of Mr. Terupt* by Rob Buyea. This book will make you cry, laugh, feel hopeful, and challenge you to become better!

**If speaking to a new parent about an early literacy class, what would be one point you would want them to take away from the interaction?**

When speaking to a parent about early literacy programs, such as the circle times I conduct, I would highlight the point that these programs help with social and emotional development of the child and is provided free of cost to them!

**If you could pick an age to focus on, which would you choose?**

My focus is on youth services but I’m open to all areas of public libraries. I wouldn’t want to pick a specific age to focus on because I truly love children and working with every age. If I really had to pick, though, I would choose 0-3 months. Why? Because working with that age group definitely means working with their parents. I love to make connections for the parents, many of whom are first-timers. I love to highlight our numerous resources for them, such as our parent collection and/or programs and workshops suitable for them.