The planning committee’s goal with this year’s theme, *Find Your Stride*, is to help our fellow youth library professionals find trends, practices and programs that will work for them, their library and their communities.

We are bringing back old favorites and introducing new ideas so that those new to the profession and our more seasoned members can walk away with something exciting to try. It’s our hope that you’ll use what you learn to FIND YOUR STRIDE!

**LUNCHEON SPEAKER:**

**Bruce Coville**

Bruce Coville is a native of Syracuse, where he found his stride as an avid reader and writer at a young age. He is the author of over 100 books for children and young adults, including the international bestseller *My Teacher is an Alien*, the “Unicorn Chronicles” series, and *Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher*. His work has appeared in a dozen languages and won children’s choice awards in a dozen states. His newest book is *Diary of a Mad Brownie (With Supporting Documents)*. Before finding his stride as a full time writer Bruce held many jobs including teacher, toymaker, magazine editor, gravedigger, and cookware salesman. He is also the creator of FULL CAST AUDIO, an audiobook company devoted to producing full cast, unabridged recordings of material for family listening. He is much in demand as a speaker and storyteller, and has performed on five continents! Bruce once again lives in Syracuse, New York, with his wife, illustrator and author, Kathy Coville.

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:**

**Jarrett J. Krosoczka**

Perseverance, optimism and above all a talent for visual storytelling, are traits that have helped Jarrett J. Krosoczka find his stride as the award-winning author-illustrator he is today. From picture books that capture the raucous behavior of exploring your creative side and letting your imagination run wild, to a graphic novel series that follows the exploits of a super-hero Lunch Lady, the more than twenty books Jarrett has created in the last fourteen years as an author, are infused with humor, heart, and a respect for his readers. These joyful childhood stories are far from what Jarrett experienced himself as the child of a addict who was raised by his grandparents. Come see how art classes, inspirational words and determination helped Jarrett find his stride as an author children love.

**Book Sales at the Conference**

Titles by Jarrett J. Krosoczka and Bruce Coville will be available for sale at the conference. Additional popular titles by other authors will also be for sale for donation to this year’s book service project recipient Giffen Memorial Elementary School.
Registration Confirmation: You will receive an e-mail confirmation of your registration. In your packet at the conference, you will receive a receipt for payment and a certificate of attendance.

Refund Policy: Due to contracts with the hotel and in fairness to all attendees, registrants who do not attend the conference will be liable for the entire conference fee. For emergencies on the day of the conference, written requests for refunds must be mailed to the Conference Registrar by Friday, April 22, 2016. Food charges plus 10% of the registration fee will be deducted from the amount refunded. After the deadline has passed, no refunds will be issued.

No registrations can be accepted online, by fax, or by e-mail. YSS is unable to accept purchase orders or credit cards as forms of payment for the registration and event fees. Detach and return this form with a check or money order made payable to NYLA/Youth Services Section to Conference Registrar: Elissa Valente, William K. Sanford Town Library, 629 Albany Shaker Road Loudonville, New York 12211 *There is a $20 charge for returned checks*

There is a $20 charge for returned checks.

Register early—space is limited! No on-site registration is available; walk-ins cannot be accommodated. Registration deadline is Wednesday, March 31st, 2016

Conference registration includes continental breakfast, workshops and luncheon.

Workshop Preferences—Pre-Registration Required
Please be sure to indicate both a 1st and 2nd choice of workshops in each time slot. Space is limited in some sessions.

Session 1
1st choice— A B C D E
2nd choice— A B C D E

Session 2
1st choice— F G H I J
2nd choice— F G H I J

Session 3
1st choice— K L M N O
2nd choice— K L M N O

Luncheon Menu Choices (please indicate one selection)
Chicken Parmesan_____
Steak Sandwich _____
Penne Mediterranean _____

Please specify here any special dietary needs (e.g., vegan, dairy-free, gluten-free) or other accommodations that need to be arranged for your attendance:

Please be sure to verify your NYLA membership to ensure that you are eligible for NYLA member pricing. Student registrants must send a copy of their current student bill or bursar’s receipt with their registration form. Members of youth divisions of out-of-state or international library associations may register for the conference at the member rate by sending a photocopy of their current membership card noting the expiration date.

Early Bird Registration - postmarked by February 29, 2016.

_____ $115 members of NYLA Youth Sections (i.e., YSS, SLMS), students in MLS programs and members of youth divisions of out-of-state or international library associations
_____ $150 non-members

Standard Registration—postmarked after February 29, 2016

_____ $125 members
_____ $160 non-members
_____ $39 Past President’s Dinner

NYLA Member No. ______________

$______ Total amount enclosed

_____ I will need a ride from the hotel to Reel Seafood.
_____ I can provide a ride from the hotel to Reel Seafood.

Past Presidents’ Dinner
Thursday, April 14, 2016
6:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.
REEL Seafood
195 Wolf Road
Albany NY 12205

$39.00 per person

No registrations will be accepted after March 31st, 2016. Please keep a copy of this form for your records.
**SPRING CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS**

Two scholarships are awarded to encourage continuing education in the field of library youth services by participating in the annual YSS Spring Conference. In addition to having the full registration fee of the conference paid, each recipient will receive a reimbursement for hotel charges, meals, and transportation costs in an amount up to $250.

**Application deadline: February 1, 2016**

For complete information, criteria and to download an application go to www.nyla.org

For further information, contact:
Michelle Waldenmaier
YSS Scholarship Committee Chair
Bethlehem Public Library
451 Delaware Avenue
Delmar, NY 12054
Michelle@bplkids.org

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**CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AND WORKSHOPS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m. —</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. Registration; Continental Breakfast; Booth Sales</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m. —</td>
<td>10:15 a.m. Welcome by Mary Jo C. Smith, YSS President and Liz Liddington, Conference Chair</td>
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<td>Keynote Address by Jarrett J. Krosoczka</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 a.m. —</td>
<td>11:30 a.m. Workshop Session #1 (select one)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(1-A) Whistle While You Work and They’ll Poke Your Eyes Out: Conflict Among Co-workers and How to Deal With It</td>
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<td>Conflict in the workplace is inevitable...and tricky to manage! Come expand your skills and confidence as we examine some useful techniques, then explore real-life conflicts involving coworkers, supervisors and board members and how they might be resolved.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Presenters: Mary Fellows, Manager of Youth and Family Services, Upper Hudson Library System</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(1-B) Flannel Stories &amp; Funky Tunes</td>
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<td>Learn about resources to make and use flannels, then get the lowdown on the best new tunes for dancing and playing during storytime.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Presenters: Rose Stuart, Youth Services Librarian, East Greenbush Community Library &amp;</td>
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<td>Lee Ricci, Youth Services Librarian, Albany Public Library</td>
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<td>(1-C) Building Blocks of a Baby Storytime</td>
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<td>Come join us as we focus on creating storytimes that serve parents and caregivers with children younger than 36 months. We will cover the audience that a “Baby Storytime” can serve, strategies and storytime plans, resources and favorites to pass along. Whether you are considering starting a baby storytime or are currently doing one, come share best practices and learn something new.</td>
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<td>Presenter: Bethany Koehn, Librarian, Guiderland Public Library</td>
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<td>(1-D) Making Sense of the Common Core</td>
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<td>Youth services librarians will enhance services and support new expectations for learners by understanding the important big ideas framing the Common Core State Standards. The State Education Department has identified libraries and librarians as important agents in student success with research to deepen understanding, inquiry, development of literacy, and English Language Arts skills in Social Studies and Science. This workshop will generate a new awareness, practice with CCSS essential ideas, and a tool kit for progress with careful guidance and support for 21st century learners.</td>
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<td>Presenter: Mary Raterz, co-author of Think Tank Library &amp; Rx for Common Core</td>
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<td>(1-E) Power Up Your Teen Patrons!</td>
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<td>Programming ideas and strategies designed specifically empower teens. Finding funding for programming will be discussed.</td>
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<td>Presenter: Syntychia Kendrick-Samuel, Librarian II Head of Teen Services, Uniondale Public Library</td>
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| 11:30 a.m. -  | 12:00 p.m. Networking, Book Sales and Autographing,                                             |
| 12:00 p.m. —  | Visit the YSS Booth, Raffle Sales                                                                 |
| 1:30 p.m. —   | 1:30 p.m. Luncheon with speaker Bruce Coville                                                    |
| 2:00p.m. -    | 3:00p.m. Workshop Session #2 (select one)                                                         |
| 3:00p.m. -    | 4:00p.m. Workshop Session #3 (select one)                                                         |
|               | (2-F) Get A Job                                                                                  |
|               | Networking, navigating civil service, preparing for, and interviewing for your next or first library job. Presenters: Evelyn Neale, Director, William K. Sanford Town Library |
|               | (2-G) Science From The Stacks                                                                   |
|               | Science/STEM is all about how the world works, not unlike fiction and non-fiction books. Everyday (on hand or inexpensive) supplies and a yen to explore and investigate can bring the world of science into your library. This is a hands on, minds on workshop to test the science. |
|               | Presenters: Lynn Cole, Interactive Exhibits Supervisor, Queens Library Children's Library        |
|               | Discovery Center                                                                                 |
|               | (2-H) Free Summer Lunch @ Your Library                                                           |
|               | Are you looking for an innovative way to enhance your library’s summer programming and is your library part of a low-income community? Join our presenters as they share their firsthand experiences with offering free summer lunch programs at their public libraries. This workshop will explore why offering a summer lunch program is a good idea, as well as tips for planning and promoting a similar program at your library. Presenters: Krystina Hardter, Youth Services Director, Newark Public Library; Sheila Koeberle, Palmyra Community Library & Caitlin Simonse, Newark Public Library |
|               | (2-I) Leaning to Evaluate Children's Books                                                         |
|               | You will hear about the process of evaluating and critiquing literature from the chair of the 2015 Newbery Committee! Plus members of ALSC Notable Books Committee and ALSC/YALSA Odyssey Award. What makes a book or recording a winner and what criteria do we look for? Do blogs and reviews enter into the discussion? Does diversity come into the discussion? |
|               | Presenters: Joyce Laiosa, UAlbany Adjunct, Sue Rokos, Youth Services Consultant &                 |
|               | Randy Enos, Youth Services Consultant                                                             |
|               | (2-J) Behind the Desk                                                                             |
|               | Planning and organizing are two big behind the scenes skills needed to be an effective librarian. Take a peek at the desk (and desktop) of a program coordinator for a small town library. Dive into excel, statistic reporting, program planning, and record retention tips. |
|               | Presenter: Brittany Cole, Program Coordinator, Schuyler Public Library                           |
**DIRECTIONS AND LODGING INFORMATION**

The Desmond Hotel and Conference Center is located at 660 Albany Shaker Rd., Albany, NY 12211 at Exit 4 of the I-87 Northway, less than 4 miles from the Thruway I-90 Exit 24, and convenient to these major cities.

- New York City: 2 hours, 30 minutes
- Syracuse: 2 hours, 10 minutes
- Rochester: 3 hours, 20 minutes
- Buffalo: 4 hours, 15 minutes

Over night accommodations can be made by calling the hotel at 518-869-8100 or toll free 1-800-448-3500 our Group Code is: 12D4DX or you can book online at the following: [http://bit.ly/ys2016](http://bit.ly/ys2016) Attendee Code: 6704

All room reservations must be made by March 31, 2016 to receive the special room rate: $129.00 (single or double). Rates are subject to 8% sales tax and 6% occupancy tax unless you present a valid tax exemption from New York State. A block of 43 rooms has been set aside for April 12 - April 16, 2016.

Check In: 4:00 pm  
Check Out: 12:00 pm

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**Book Donation Service Project**

Giffen Memorial Elementary School located in Albany, NY serves children from prekindergarten through grade 6. Giffen provides a variety of services to support academic activities scheduled during the school year. These services include the Basketball with Books program where students split their Saturday mornings playing basketball and reading books. Basketball with Books as well as Giffen’s ESL, media center, a new 3rd grade class, ISS, and lunchroom library are in need of books for all ages. As you pack your bag to attend the conference, please bring a new or gently used book with you. Everyone who makes a donation will receive one raffle ticket for a chance to win a raffle basket during the conference.

Special requests: For the ESL class – It would be helpful to get Spanish translations of Bud Not Buddy and Frindle. Other books that would be great are cultural awareness type books - holidays around the world, etc. Mr. Joyce’s 3rd grade class has no classroom library and would request books geared for grades 2-4. ESL requires bi-lingual books for 3rd and 4th graders. In School Suspension could use books can reach the reluctant student readers in all grades. The media center needs fiction books for 4th-6th grade that are on the 3/4th grade reading level, realistic fiction works best (ex: Orca books).

Please bring a book or two!

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**WORKSHOPS (CONTINUED FROM INSIDE PAGE)**

3:00 p.m. — 3:15 p.m. Break, Book Sales, Visit the YSS Booth

3:15 p.m. — 4:15 p.m. Workshop Session #3 (select one)

(3-K) Story Time Stars: A successful Community Partnership for Early Literacy

During this workshop, Dr. Iyengar will review the exciting science behind the importance of early literacy as it affects brain development and parent-child relationships. You will also learn about a new community-based initiative entitled **Story Time Stars**, which was presented at the Academy of Pediatrics in October 2015, and how you can implement such a program in your area. Story Time Stars teaches parents about concrete ways to enrich their child’s exposure to language, including dialogic reading.

**Presenter:** Dr. Sandhya Iyengar, Pediatrics Physician

(3-L) Little Scientists: STEM for Preschoolers

Did you know that much of what you already do in storytime and in your literacy programs is STEM! In this interactive session, you will learn how to identify math and science concepts in favorite read-alouds. Discover how to set up developmentally-appropriate, play-based math and science activities for families to explore together in your libraries.

**Presenters:** Rachel Payne & Jessica Ralli, Coordinators, Early Childhood Services, Brooklyn Public Library

(3-M) Geeking Your Library

Suffering from technology overload? Find out how you can use talented high school students to bring high quality tech support to both library staff and patrons with an innovative collaboration between your library and your local high school.

**Presenters:** Robert Odess, Board Treasurer & Cindy Maguire, Library Director, Cambridge Public Library

(3-N) More Than Just Summer Reading

Draw in patrons and promote library visits with (nearly) effortless reading programs all year long. Learn a variety of fun and creative ways to encourage reading for all ages and easy methods to keep track of everything.

**Presenter:** Julia Farrar, Children’s Librarian, Crandall Public Library

(3-O) Teen Envisioned + Teen Led = More Teens!

Are you looking for ways to reach out to your high school teens? Do your tweens disappear after 8th grade? This method takes the idea... “Guide on the Side, instead of Sage on the Stage” to a new level. What if your teens were the “Guide” and you were their advocate? Teen librarians have an opportunity to empower teens who want to lead their own programs. This idea will be demonstrated through 3 successful programs: The Kindness Club, Cyber Kids, and Teen Knitting Club.

**Presenter:** Elissa Valente, Youth Services, William K. Sanford Town Library

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**Questions?**

Contact Conference Chair Liz Liddington via e-mail at lliddington@sals.edu