

THE WORLD BUILDING GUIDE FOR LIBRARIES

YSS Spring Conference
April 28, 2023

Courtyard Marriott, Lake George, New York

Join us in Lake George for a great line up of speakers, breakout sessions, vendors, and networking activities. Plan to leave recharged and ready to help youth and teens in your community build their worlds!



NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
The Voice of the Library Community

Keynote Address: a conversation with Alex Gino

Queer, Quirky, and inQuisitive:

Writing Middle Grade with Wit and Sincerity

Alex speaks to the importance and joy of LGBTQIAP+ literature for young people, and how that translates to a better future for all of us. They will chat and answer questions about writing MELISSA, one of the first traditionally-published middle grade books with a transgender main character, as well as their writing process, upcoming projects, and the value of stories written from within the community.



Luncheon Speaker: Chris Grabenstein

"SAYING YES ALL THE WAY TO MR. LEMONCELLO'S LIBRARY."

Chris talks about how the "Yes, and" rules of improvisational comedy have guided his journey from a kid with a big imagination to a #1 New York Times bestselling author. Be prepared to laugh while you learn the power of saying Yes!



Friday, April 28th Conference Schedule

8:15 AM--Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00 AM--Welcome and Keynote

10:45 AM--Breakout Session 1

12:00 PM--Luncheon and Speaker

1:30 PM--Vendors and Networking Activities

2:00 PM Breakout Session 2

3:15 PM Breakout Session 3

Thursday, April 27th Preconference Activities

Solar Science Preconference Workshop presented by *STAR Net*

Get ready for the next eclipse with this free Solar Science workshop presented by the Space Science Institute's *STAR Net* team! Workshop will be held at the Courtyard Marriott on **Thursday, 4/27 from 1-4.**

Space is limited, so please sign up early and select the workshop during registration.

YSS Pre-Conference Dinner

Thursday, 4/27/23, 6:30 pm

Adirondack Pub and Brewery, 33 Canada Street, Lake George

ALL ARE WELCOME at this event, formerly known as the Past Presidents' Dinner. Join the YSS Executive Board, Past YSS Presidents, and fellow conference attendees for an evening of food, friendly faces, and a fun trivia night! Bring your friends and colleagues and form a team. We'll also be selling tickets to win some fabulous gift baskets! Funds raised go towards YSS-sponsored scholarships. Each \$40 ticket includes food, a non-alcoholic beverage, and a FREE ticket for the door prize!

Breakout Sessions

Session 1, 10:45-11:45

Club Cricut +

Sabrina Hoster, Seneca Falls Library

Attendees will learn how to use the Cricut to create a variety of fun projects for the library, for use in programs, decorating, and fundraising. As we talk, attendees will follow the steps to make a decal from start to finish. They will be able to bring the decal home with them as inspiration to start creating for their own library and for themselves.

Note: This program will be repeated in Session 2.

NYPL After School: Enriching Your Community through Academic Support Kelly Smith, Morgan Boyle, Beth Dukes, New York Public Library

Discover how NYPL After School, a drop-in homework help program, is providing academic support for school-age children throughout diverse communities across NYC and how you can use enrichment activities, staff collaboration and community of practice to create your own.

Create Safer and Healthier Library Settings

Sue Kowaleski, Southern Adirondack Childcare Network

Following the standards of Eco-Healthy Child Care® (EHCC), a national program whose mission is to reduce children's exposures to potentially harmful toxins in their environment, we will share science-based, eco-healthy best practices on topics like air quality, household chemicals (AKA cleaning supplies), plastics, and art supplies.

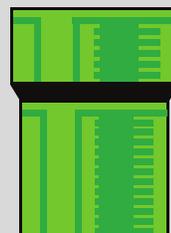
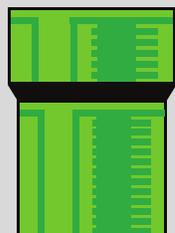
A Teen-Led Approach to Programming, Allee Manning, Hastings-on-Hudson Public Library

This workshop will help librarians identify and empower passionate teens in their communities to lead their own programming, fulfilling the needs of local young people while guaranteeing attendance. Youth services librarian Allee Manning will draw from her own successes and missteps, discussing themes of outreach, building trust, and creating a welcoming/affirming library environment.

Youth Services Hacks,

Krystina Dippel, Victor Farmington Library Sarah Matthews, Wadsworth Library

Make your job easier! By thoughtfully planning your programs and services, you can provide high-value resources for children and teens with minimal effort and stress. Krystina Dippel and Sarah Matthews will share hacks for program content & scheduling, collection development, book displays & organization, finding high-quality free resources, and more!



Breakout Sessions

Session 2, 2:00-3:00

Building Your Own Imagination Stations **Stephanie Olson, Schenectady County** **Public Library**

Learn about this flexible, socially distant story time option, created with hopes to still offer story time during pandemic insurgences. "Imagination Stations" is like a story time...but different! Full of STEAM related pre-school activities, crafting, and a lot of imagination!

Little Free Pantry in Your Library **Kristi Dougherty, Buffalo and Erie** **County Public Library**

Learn about the process of setting up a free pantry for families in your library, with tips for items, storage, and community resources.

Club Cricut + (second session!) **Sabrina Hoster, Seneca Falls Library** (See previous description)

Table Talks (Attendees will choose 3 presentations)

Be Creative at the Library **Jenelin Ynfante, New York Public Library**

Learn about Be Creative at the Library, a K-3 children's program that uses art as a universal language to reach all children, despite their native and/or second language. Children and parents explore colors and shapes to express themselves, while building literacy skills and engaging in hands-on activities.

Combining STEAM and Popular Series **Sarah Heukrath, North Syracuse Public Library**

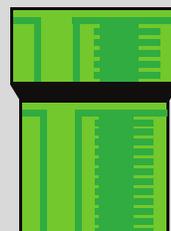
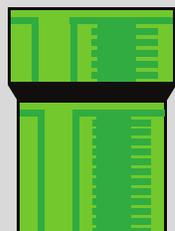
This table talk will showcase programming that combines STEAM with popular series like Dog Man, Magic Tree House, and Mario.

Creating a Welcoming Teen Space **Rakisha Kearns-White and Emma Karin Eriksson, Brooklyn Public Library**

Explore ways library workers can create a safe space for teens from marginalized racial, ethnic, and LGBTQ+ identities. We will discuss ways to promote allyship and cultural sensitivity among staff and library messaging. Discussion may also include countering book challenges and creating inclusive programming ideas.

Lessons Learned in Hosting a Virtual Author Visit for Banned Books Week **Kristine Schultz and Sarah Stanwicks, Albany Public Library**

The number of attempts to ban books has been on the rise, and Albany Public Library began a series of virtual talks featuring banned-book authors Jarrett Krosoczka and Kelly Yang to find out how they responded. Learn about our experience in planning and hosting these visits, including finding an agent, planning the itinerary, running the Zoom webinar, and recording and sharing the event.



Breakout Sessions

Session 3, 3:15-4:15

Kpop 101: Make Your Debut!
Derek Ivie-Reed, Tory Young, and Darla Salva Cruz

Suffolk Cooperative Library System

Learn all about the growing trend of K-pop, from history and bands-to-know to dances and fan edits! In this workshop you'll find out everything you need to engage with your tweens and teens around this popular topic, and come away with program ideas too!

**Reach Out and Include Someone:
Creating library programs for individuals with disabilities**

Amy Chesman, New City Free Library

As librarians, we do all that we can to provide diverse, equitable, and inclusive services. This effort conveys a message of belonging and value to every member of our communities. However, individuals with disabilities are a commonly underserved demographic. This presentation will provide examples of inclusive programs and open dialogue to share experiences and ask questions.

New and Upcoming Elementary Books, Spring/Summer 2023
Charlie Kelly

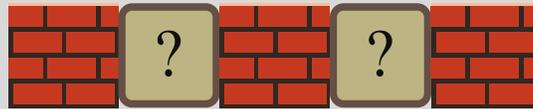
Rochester City School District

Hundreds of books are published every month. But who has the time to read so many books? In the form of book talks, Charlie Kelly will highlight new and upcoming culturally relevant elementary books which include picture books, chapter books, novels, graphic novels, poetry, biography, and nonfiction books.

Storytime Hits and Misses
Rose Stuart

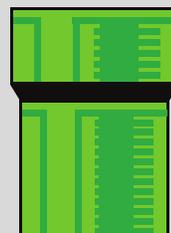
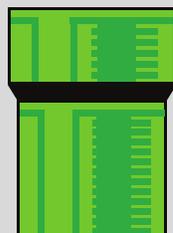
Colonie Town Library

Join Rose Stuart for an energetic facilitated all-attendees discussion of story time elements that have worked well or failed notably. Come share or just listen and walk away with fresh ideas!



**Open During All Sessions and Breaks:
Play All Day Table**

Come see and try games, toys, and sensory manipulatives. Leave with new ideas to refresh your space or programming, and maybe even achieve a new high score!



Service Project

This year's conference service project will benefit WAIT House in Glens Falls, NY. WAIT House services include an emergency shelter for youth and a transitional living program for pregnant and parenting teens. Contribute toward the project (details TBA) and receive a bonus raffle ticket!

Vendors and Raffles

Several vendors will be in attendance to showcase their offerings. Books will be available to purchase, including titles by Alex Gino and Chris Grabenstein for signing. Don't forget your cash for the popular YSS raffle baskets!

Volunteers needed!

Want to help out? Volunteer as a room monitor to make sure the workshops run smoothly and receive free raffle tickets! Email yssconference2023@gmail.com to volunteer.



Register now at
nyla.org/yss



Early Bird through March 17, 2023:

\$140 NYLA Member
\$170 non-member
\$125 student/retiree

Regular registration March 18- April 14, 2023:

\$155 NYLA Member
\$185 non-member

Lodging Information

Courtyard Marriott

365 Canada Street, Lake George, NY 12845

Thursday night rooms can be reserved for \$139-\$149 by **3/27/23**. Friday night lodging discount available (\$199); to reserve the two nights together, please call manager Jennifer Carusone directly at 518-685-3402.

Reserve just Thursday night online through the link at nyla.org/yss.

Planning Committee

Chair: Julia Farrar, Crandall Public Library
Michele Barron, Stillwater Public Library
Catherine Brenner, Saratoga Springs Public Library
Alex Desourdy, Bethlehem Public Library
Heidi Eckerson, Finger Lakes Library System
Emily Forbes-Wood, Hudson Falls Free Library
Kate Lambert, Saratoga Springs Public Library
Amy McCarthy, Guilderland Public Library
Chinasa Seyse, Schenectady County Public Library