YSS Summer Board Meeting
August 5, 2022
Virtual
1:00 PM-3:00 PM

Voting Board Members In Attendance: Jenny Burke - President, Kim Hazen - Vice President/President-Elect, Amanda Schiavulli - Past President & 2022 Council Representative, Mary Jo Smith - 2nd Vice President - Membership, Ashley Bressingham - Secretary, Elissa Valente - Treasurer, Chrissie Morrison - 2022 Spring Conference Director, Julia Farrar - 2023 Spring Conference Director

Non-Voting Board Members In Attendance: Sharon Phillips - NYS Library Liaison

E - vote between meetings - Kim Hazen motion to appoint Stephanie M. Olson to the Pied Piper Award Committee, Elissa Valente seconded, motion approved May 4, 2022

E - vote between meetings - Kim Hazen motion to approve Jaclyn Rohan from St. John’s University for the Ann Gibson Scholarship award, Julia Farrar seconded, motion approved June 30, 2022

E - vote between meetings - Amanda Schiavulli motion to appoint Katie St. Laurent as our 2024 Spring Conference Director, Chrissie Morrison seconded, motion approved July 20, 2022

E - vote between meetings - Kim Hazen motion to approve Jenna Wygal to begin in August on the Scholarship Committee, Chrissie Morrison seconded, motion approved August 2, 2022

1:03 PM President Jenny Burke called the meeting to order

Motion to approve the agenda for today’s meeting - Elissa Valente, Mary Jo Smith seconded - motion approved

Motion to approve April 7, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes - Amanda Schiavulli, Chrissie Morrison seconded - motion approved

Motion to approve April 22, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes - Amanda Schiavulli, Elissa Valente seconded - motion approved

Treasurer’s Report - Elissa Valente (see attached #1)
   a. Reimbursement Policy Change - YSS Representative to NYLA Council
   b. Approval of the Report
Motion to approve the Treasurer’s proposed amendment to the YSS Reimbursement Policy - Amanda Schiavulli, Chrissie Morrison seconded - motion approved

Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report - Mary Jo Smith, Julia Farrar seconded - report approved

President’s Report - Amanda Schiavulli (see attached #2)
   a. NYLA Council Updates
   b. Liaison Reports
      i. Awards & Recognition
      ii. Communications/Website
      iii. Continuing Education
      iv. Intellectual Freedom
      v. Legislative
      vi. New York State Library
      vii. Sustainability

President’s Report - Jenny Burke (see attached #3)
   a. Updates
   b. Intellectual Freedom Breakfast - Motion Anticipated
   c. SSL Liaison Report

Motion to contribute $1,000 towards the the Intellectual Freedom Breakfast at the Fall 2022 NYLA Annual Conference to support Laurie Halse Anderson speaking - Chrissie Morrison, Amanda Schiavulli seconded - motion approved

2nd Vice President - Membership Report - Mary Jo Smith (see attached #4)

Vice President/President-Elect’s Report - Kim Hazen (see attached #5)
   a. Committee Reports
      i. Empire State Award
      ii. Fall Conference Planning
      iii. Marketing
      iv. NYS Battle of the Books
      v. Pied Piper Award
      vi. Scholarship
      vii. Youth Advocacy

Motion to appoint Kristine McClune for the Empire State Award, Caitlyn Larry for the Marketing Committee, Shai-ana Grippaldi for the Scholarship Committee, and Sophia Brandt for the Youth Advocacy Committee to begin in the Fall - Kim Hazen, Mary Jo Smith seconded - motion approved

2022 Spring Conference Director’s Report - Chrissie Morrison (see attached #6)
Unfinished Business

New Business

a. Newsletter Editor

We’re going to need a Newsletter Editor since Nan Brown, the current individual in the position, is going to be our new Treasurer starting in the Fall. Both Amanda Schiavulli and Chrissie Morrison volunteered. Amanda Schiavulli will look into finding someone new for the position via the Jotform.

Adjournment - Motion to Adjourn - Amanda Schiavulli, Elissa Valente seconded - motion approved
Treasurer’s Report

2021-2022 INCOME
   Projected $44,460.00
   Received (through 3/2022) $8,813.50

2021-2022 EXPENSES
   Projected $44,460.00
   Incurred (through 3/2022) $27,958.38

2022-2023 INCOME
   Projected $44,460.00
   Received Unavailable

2022-2023 EXPENSES
   Projected $44,460.00
   Received $2750.00

General Comments

The YSS section is well situated for heading into the 2022-2023 fiscal year. However, due to rising costs, the section must closely monitor the income/expense going forward. Additionally, the new budget for 2022-2023 is based on numbers from the previous fiscal year, through March only. Therefore some adjustments may need to be made once the last quarter of the year is available to review.

The treasurer proposes an amendment to the YSS Reimbursement Policy as the following:

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

NYLA Council Representative
   • travel to NYLA Council meetings
Since the travel line, as it stands, was not depleted last year, I believe the amount can remain the same, with this addition.

This will be an off-year for Continuing Education, which leaves this line at $0 for this budgeting year.

**Membership Income**
As per reporting from NYLA up through March 2022, YSS has taken in $565 in Membership Dues. This is not an accurate reflection of what this number will be once the last quarter is reviewed.

**Budget**
Included in this report is the budget for FY 2022-23 and conference comparisons.

Respectfully submitted,

*Elissa Valente*
Elissa Valente
YSS Treasurer

2. Past President’s Report

**YSS Past President/2022 NYLA Council Representative Report**

*Prepared by Amanda Schiavulli*

*August 2022*

**NYLA Council Highlights:**

Met on May 17 at Spring on the Hill.
Meeting Yesterday: August, 5, 2022 from 1-2.

Highlights included:

The final program for NYLA 2022 was released on August 1 and registration opened for early bird pricing. Keynote Speaker will be Courtney Harge, the executive director of OF/BY/FOR ALL (https://www.ofbyforall.org/). Her keynote is entitled “The Beautiful Revolutionary Future.

**Budget:**

- Under budget, but still at a deficit.
- A lot of the overages are part of the ULU Trauma Study Grant.
- IMLS Pathways to Librarianship was approved.
· Went through the audit review:
  o Less in scope than the Audit. (Less detailed testing done).

· Membership dues are on a cash basis.

· Does not include the activities of sections.

· 1.9 million assets. More assets than current obligations.

· Bulk expenses are salaries and benefits.

· Look at revenue and expenses for sections.

Made a drive for the Council Packet Materials

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rIWy51sZtAE0X3livkRg5138yqzeHgnY?usp=sharing

Voted to approve BST as auditor. They have webinars available as part of the contract. (page 6 of proposal) to ensure we have the information we need. Not sure if these will be open to all members of NYLA.

Awards Committee: No nominations for Academic or Special were not received.

Checkout the Capital Pressroom Podcast: https://t.co/u2JiHcTdIW

Candidates for Public Library Councilor at Large

Advocacy Day 2023 is locked in. February 28th.

Friends Group White Paper. After two years of hard work the Task Force on Rural Friends has completed its mission. The Best Practices resource sheets have been completed and posted to the FLS webpage as well as an introduction and link to “Resources for Friends Groups Supporting Small and Rural Libraries.”

Check FLS Webpage:

PLS:

PLS is offering 5 NYLA 2022 Conference Scholarships of up to $1,200 for conference expenses.

Applicants do not need to be a current member of NYLA or PLS to apply. A professional degree is not required. Application, in the form of a letter, must include:
• Why you wish to attend the Conference
• How you plan to integrate the experience into your work
• How you plan to share your experience with your fellow professionals
• How the award will influence your professional goals

Additional details can be found at


PLS still has openings for the 2023 PLS Board. Anyone interested in becoming active on the board can contact Nominating Committee Chairperson Kelly Yim at Phone: 718-494-1642 or email her at kellyyim@nypl.org.

Form for Book Challenges: Intellectual Freedom Committee Page:

Any questions for me to bring back to Council?

Past President Report:

Filling 2024 Spring Conference Director Position email vote: CLAYTON.

Liaison Reports:

Awards & Recognition – Mallory Marinaro
No report received.

Communications/Website – Jackie Bleich

News
Communications committee work:
• Gave Google Drive access to committee members.
• During the NYLA Communications Meetings. We updates the Social Media Policy and then began discussion on the NYLA Website policy. There was also extensive discussion on changing the NYLA website so all NYLA sections will be the same layout. We talked about need to accessibility, drop down tabs, and a guide for general font sizes and headers for future web committee officers.

Website Updates
• Archived and added links of presentations from the 2022 YSS Conference.
• Updated job titles for board members.
· Added info for YSS Board Elections.
· Added info for YSS Conference Planner.

Current Projects
· YSS Drive Ownership – There are still many people (past and present committee/board members) who have ownership of certain YSS folders and/or documents in the YSS Google Drive. I have created an excel sheet with everyone who currently has ownership with direct links to the drive. Once we get as many people as possible to switch ownership to YSS, the ones we can’t switch will be downloaded and re-uploaded to the drive under the YSS name. I will also be creating a guide on how to switch ownership for those that might need it.

Questions for YSS board
· None

Report prepared by Jaclyn Bleich, Onondaga County Public Libraries
jbleich@onlib.org or jaclynbleich@gmail.com
315-435-1853

Continuing Education – Claire Lovell

Do you think youth services librarians would be ready or interested for a CE webinar any time soon?

I’m so overdue to put one together, but still personally burned out on all the webinars. If you or the rest of the board thought there was interest, I can get something going!

Otherwise, my not-so-exciting report is:

The CE Committee is pulling itself together as NYLA staff has turned over and rearranged responsibilities. C Romeo is now our contact on the NYLA staff. The CE Committee is building out a guidebook for all future CE Committee members, NYLA members, and NYLA staff. This guidebook is a compilation of all known NYLA documents and policies regarding professional development and events, plus any additional instructions and policies we find are missing and needed. Look for the final, published version late this fall.

Conference curators, which would include Sarah Heukrath for YSS, have submitted hotel requests for speakers and final program descriptions. NYLA staff is finalizing the promotional material for the conference. Notably, any speakers this year (contrary to what an earlier speaker agreement might have said) are only receiving complimentary registration for the day they are speaking. This includes preconference workshop speakers, which may be something for YSS to keep in mind next year when it will be YSS’s turn to offer a preconference workshop. Registration for NYLA’s Annual Conference opens August 15.

Intellectual Freedom – Anthony Stenta

· looking at ways to define Intellectual Freedom.
- We are about to choose the next Intellectual Freedom Award

- We are still keeping track of contested books in the state of NY.

**Legislative Committee Liaison – Mary Fellows**

For your calendars: Advocacy Day 2023 is Tuesday, February 28. Although unconfirmed, it’s likely that there will be pre-Advocacy activities (CE, legislator reception) on Monday.

The final State budget painted a different (and less appealing) picture than what we’d hoped for based on the one-house budgets, though still an improvement over last year. 2022 Library funding came in at $99.6M and construction funds at $34M. In 2021, Library Aid $94.1M and Library Construction $34M.

Of further interest to YSS members, the budget released $150K of the monies in the “Love Your Library” fund (source: license plate and tax check-off). This money went to systems to support Summer Reading Program 2022 (preferred by State) and/or 2023. Check with your system if you’re interested in how it’s spending the money.

Three of the quartet of school library/media literacy bills (media literacy standards, LMS requirement, professional development) are stalled in committee, while the fourth (media literacy advisory group) passed the Senate but not the Assembly. It remains to be seen whether they will be kept as legislative priorities for the coming year. The book fair tax exemption bill is also stalled in committee.

For more detailed information on the budget and legislative priorities, please see NYLA’s advocacy page [here](#). NYLA Legislative Committee meets on August 17 to identify legislative requests and priorities for next season. More information to come!

Please always reach out to me if you have questions.

**New York State Library – Sharon Philips**

**Summer Reading at New York Libraries and Transforming Teen Services**

- Public libraries have launched into their busy Summer Reading and Learning seasons! The State Library wants to thank all public libraries and library staff who work tirelessly to provide so many different and exciting programs and events all summer long. Keeping kids engaged and learning during the summer is more challenging and more important than ever.
- **Love your Library fund update** – the 2022-23 Executive budget included authorization language for the State Library to expend $150,000 of the fund to support Summer Reading 2022 (per Ed Law 273(9)). The allocation chart and guidelines are posted on this [Love Your Library fund overview page](#). FS-10 fiscal forms have been sent out to each public library system for directors to sign and return to the State Library so that payments can be processed.
- A new resource is available to help foster collaboration between public and school libraries. The [Summer Reading toolkit for schools and school libraries](#) replaces the previous School
Library partner manual and consolidates information and resources that can be shared with local schools and school libraries about Summer Reading. Public libraries are encouraged to use the toolkit to reach out to the schools in their communities.

- The theme for 2023 is kindness and friendship, and the slogan will be “All Together Now!” The artist is Frank Morrison.
- The CSLP annual meeting for state representatives will take place in Detroit August 29 through Sept. 1. The State Library will attend via the virtual option. State reps will be voting on the 2025 slogans and 2026 themes at this meeting as well as discussing future planning for CSLP. Encourage library staff to attend one of the CSLP Listening Sessions taking place August 15 or August 17. Information and details to join one of the sessions will continue to be shared on NYLINE. The next annual CSLP Summer Symposium will be held on December 8. Tracy Hall of ALA will be the keynote speaker.
- READsquared software is available free to NY state public libraries under the current contract through December 2022. The RFP process to solicit vendor bids for a new 5-year contract is underway.
- Summer Reading 2021 participation figures and information have been updated at https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/summer/information.htm. Thanks to all libraries and systems that submitted photos and anecdotes from their Summer Reading programs in 2021.
- Lunch and Learn sessions for Summer Reading 2022 took place on a wide variety of interesting topics. Recordings and slides for these sessions can be found at www.summerreadingnys.org/lunch-and-learn-sessions-2022/.
- Summer Meals – Summer Meal program waivers that were in place during the pandemic expired at the end of June. On June 24, 2022, Congress passed the Keep Kids Fed Act, allowing for waiver extensions through this summer. Sponsors and sites are awaiting guidance on implementing the waivers and how to adapt their plans. Hopefully this extension will allow more public libraries to participate in Summer Meals. Local sponsors and sites provide the most up-to-date information on their meal service; find contact and location information on the SummerMealsNY.org Summer Meals mapper or in the sponsor directory Sponsor Directory.
- National Student Poet Program - The State Library is working with other State Libraries in the Northeast to arrange program sessions for library staff and teens involving the next group of National Student poets. Selected student poets will be announced by IMLS in August or September. More information will be shared as plans come together.
- Transforming Teen Services/T3 training update – There continues to be high interest from the field for T3 training sessions. The T3 YALSA/COSLA grant ended in December 2021, but the State Library continues to explore options for providing training in 2022 and beyond. Updates from YALSA were shared at the July T3 Zoom for cohort states, and they are awaiting IMLS approval for a no-cost extension to the original grant. If approved, YALSA plans to offer additional onboarding training that will take place this fall to add new T3 trainers. More details will be shared as they become available.

Questions about Summer Reading at New York Libraries or Transforming Teen Services may be directed to Sharon B. Phillips, Program Manager at Sharon.Philips@nysed.gov
Ready to Read at New York Libraries

- **Supercharged Storytimes training** – Planning is taking place for more offerings in fall 2022 and/or spring 2023. Please remind staff to fully participate if they do sign up. The Supercharged Storytimes page at [http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/earlylit/ssa/training.htm](http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/earlylit/ssa/training.htm) will have details when new training sessions are scheduled.
- The **One More Story** resource, which is part of the [DayByDayNY](https://www.summerreadingnys.org/one-more-story/) Family Literacy Calendar has some new features. See the new flyer recently added to help promote the new features and this free statewide resource: [https://www.summerreadingnys.org/one-more-story/](https://www.summerreadingnys.org/one-more-story/)
- The two Youth Services Facebook pages (Ready to Read and Teen NY) are in the process of being merged with the NYS Library’s Facebook page, which will allow for more frequent posting as well as outreach to a larger audience. See [www.facebook.com/NYSLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/NYSLibrary)
- Check out the new DayByDayNY resources including an updated museum map for families looking to explore all that New York State has to offer: [https://daybydayny.org/explore-ny/](https://daybydayny.org/explore-ny/)
- Questions about Ready to Read at New York Libraries may be directed to Sharon B. Phillips, Program Manager at Sharon.Phillips@nysed.gov or nyslyouth@nysed.gov

Additional Updates

- Two Solar Eclipses Coming to North America! An Annular Eclipse in 2023 and a Total Eclipse in 2024. The Space Science Institute and StarNet have created a website of Solar Eclipse Activities for Libraries. The **SEAL** site contains a wide variety of information and resources, including an eclipse simulator to see what the eclipses will look like at your specific location. Find the SEAL site at [https://www.starnetlibraries.org/about/our-projects/solar-eclipse-activities-libraries-seal/](https://www.starnetlibraries.org/about/our-projects/solar-eclipse-activities-libraries-seal/) This would be a great collaborative activity for public and school libraries to work on for the 2023 and 2024 eclipses! Public libraries can place orders NOW for the official solar eclipse glasses.
- Our team at the NYS Library is excited to share [News from the New York State Library](https://www.nypl.org/news/news-from-the-new-york-state-library), a quarterly newsletter highlighting current initiatives, recent donations, upcoming programs, and resources to support the work of libraries and community. [Sign up to receive future newsletters](https://www.nypl.org/news/news-from-the-new-york-state-library)!

Sustainability – Raena Pellichet

NYLA Sustainability Committee Meeting Notes

4/14/22

- We were joined by Mandy Travis to represent the NYLA conference planning committee for this year so that we could share our ideas on helping NYLA become a more sustainable conference. **ALA and PLA recently included a voluntary carbon offset option during their conference registration.** The carbon offset option is a small cost donation that is meant to help negate the travel consumption and carbon output of traveling to a conference, which is usually around $3-5. We are hoping to find a New York based company that does environmental work that we could work with to help our carbon offset. Another option that was seen with PLA was a sustainability pledge page at registration. This would involve registrants saying that they
commit to things like using travel mugs rather than disposable cups for water or coffee and not using housekeeper at hotels if staying at a hotel for the conference to be more environmentally friendly during their stay at the conference. Any steps we can take, even small ones are great to get us started in being more sustainable and we hope the upcoming conference for this year will agree with some of our suggestions.

- **We talked a lot about vendors at conferences and if there are ways that we can work with them to be more sustainable.** One thing mentioned was the move away from small, disposable plastic take-aways to draw people to their tables and to consider doing larger raffle baskets with nicer items instead. A lot of people like those more so it might be in the interest of vendors if it means more people at the conference will visit their table and speak with them. We also spoke about vendors possibly helping sponsor the conference in some way to help boost their table traffic, with options such as donating a set of reusable mugs for coffee and drinks during the conference as opposed to using disposable paper cups. Or even doing a giveaway at their table for a reusable coffee mug or travel mug that could be used throughout the conference. This could also be something we work with the hotel on to see if they will use ceramic mugs rather than paper.

- We spoke about possibly using this as a fundraising opportunity as well by creating NYLA branded items like reusable water bottles or even bamboo cutlery sets and having a percentage of those sales go into the NYLA Disaster Relief fund. We are looking for resources on carbon offset options to give to the conference committee to help them think about options for the conference.

NYLA Sustainability Committee Meeting Notes

6/10/22

- **We have started looking at options to recommend to the NYLA conference planning committee on groups who offer carbon offset options.** We will put together some information on these companies that we discussed and present it to the planning committee at a future meeting so that they can decide if it is something they want to go forward with for the conference this year. We were able to find one New York based group that a member of this committee has worked with in the past, the Finger Lakes Climate Fund, so we are hoping to look more into this company because we really want to support a group in New York as much as possible. Some other groups in New York including University of Buffalo and Colgate University have used this company in the past and they do work including addressing climate inequality by helping lower income homes become more sustainable.

- We are also planning to work with the conference planning committee on language they can use when sending out to information on sustainable practices for those who register for the conference. Reminding people to use reusable drinkware and walking or using public transportation as much as possible, etc.

- We discussed The Great Give-Back which is partnered with the sustainability round table of ALA and is a huge community service project that libraries around the state can participate in to put together donation drives or anything that helps give back. We would
like to work on promoting this and sharing libraries that are participating when it comes around next year to showcase all the things libraries are already doing to give back and let libraries who may not know about this project see what is happening in other areas of the state.

- I am going to be working with 1 or 2 other members of the committee going forward as part of a sub-committee on collecting and sharing resources from around the state on difference sustainable practices and information. One focus we would like to work on is resources aimed at younger people and the ways that they can help and be sustainable and sharing this information with New York libraries. If you know of any great resources already that you want more people to know about, please send them along to me.

- Our next meeting will likely be in early August.

3. President’s Report

YSS President Report
August 5, 2022

I attended the Section of School Librarians (SSL) Board Meeting on Thursday, May 19 at Turning Stone Casino in Verona. It was great to see how another board runs their meeting. I enjoyed meeting various board and committee members. Two things came up that I’d love to discuss:

1. SSL uses Boardable, a software platform that organizes meetings, including a place for documents and files. YSS may want to look into Boardable as an alternative to Google Drive (considering the ongoing struggle to keep files organized).

2. Dawn signed a MOA for YSS/SSL. We’ll need to make sure this is updated yearly with the new SSL representative to YSS.

I attended the SSL Spring Conference on May 20-21 at Turning Stone Casino. The theme was “Reboot. Refresh. Reimagine.” It was an awesome conference and it was nice to meet new colleagues and reconnect with those I know. I attended helpful workshops on Book Challenges, Leadership, and Using Social Media With Teens. The keynote speaker on Friday was Dr. Adolph Brown III, who gave the BEST speech I have ever heard at a library conference! He was engaging and the entire audience was glued to every word he said. The keynote speaker on Saturday was author and illustrator Victoria Jamieson, who spoke about the importance of graphic novels and how she got started writing and illustrating them. The closing keynote was author Malinda Lo who spoke of the importance of diversity in YA literature.

Frank McKenna, Chair of the Intellectual Freedom Roundtable, reached out to me to see about YSS being a co-sponsor of the Intellectual Freedom Breakfast at NYLA Annual Conference. Laurie Halse Anderson is the speaker and her talk will focus on the recent rise in book challenges and how we can fight against them. She is charging $5000 plus expenses. SSL is contributing $1000. I was Chair of the Empire State Award committee the year Laurie won, and she was amazing, so I am in favor of this. I’d like to discuss this as a board and see what amount we can contribute.
I’m happy to report that I finally feel like everything is moving in the right direction in terms of Membership concerns and information. As you all know, my tenure in this position started out in a very frustrating way. Despite sending several emails myself and others sending emails on my behalf, I wasn’t being informed of meetings or anything else that was taking place in regards to membership.

- NYLA now has a Membership Services Coordinator, Lauren Hoyt, as well as a Director of Communications and Member Engagement, C Romeo. Both of these people seem ready to work with the Membership Committee to get us what we feel we need. The biggest positive change, though, is we have a new Membership Committee chair, Tony Iovino. He ran the July Membership meeting, and is great at talking about what we need (basically, data) and what we can do. We discussed the Fall Membership survey, and agreed these longer surveys were not likely to be completed. The Committee will be evaluating these results and, hopefully, past survey results, to recreate how we survey the membership.

We also talked about the goals of the committee, and how we really needed data to be able to set goals and strategize. Tony stressed to the NYLA staff not to wait until they could provide us with everything perfectly, instead giving us as much as they could as soon as they could. The information we requested was:

- Data (number of members, number of members by class/compensation category, $$ raised by membership dues)
- Reports issued by the Committee over the last few years
- Surveys and results

There will be a New Member Meet and Greet combined with the Past Presidents Dinner at the conference. There was also discussion about other ways to engage new members at the
conference. One intriguing one was something called Dine Aroun ds, where NYLA would reserve tables at a restaurant and attendees would sign up to sit and network.

We considered a fairly lengthy list of projects we may want to pursue. At the next meeting, committee members will be invited to sign up for one of these projects.

I was a bit dismayed to see so few representatives from other sections at these meetings. Most of the people there were Members At Large. However, I feel energized by new leadership, and I’m looking forward to change happening!

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo C. Smith

5. Vice President/President-Elect’s Report

YSS 1st Vice President-President Elect Report
August 5, 2022

1st VP Report

I have been in contact via email with committee members to answer any questions they have. I made sure all committee reports were uploaded to Google Drive.

I have been working on getting all the committee positions filled which has been quite the job because we have had many volunteers that have decided to vacate their positions. However, we also have quite a few volunteers that are pretty excited about stepping up to fill the positions.

I would like to approve the following volunteers to begin in the Fall to replace the third year members on the committees:

Kristine McClune for the Empire State Award
Caitlyn Larry for Marketing Committee
Shai-ana Grippaldi for Scholarship Committee
Sophia Brandt for Youth Advocacy Committee

Anne Nelson will be staying an extra year on the Pied Piper Award Committee. I still need someone to fill the Conference Planning – Committee position.
Committee Reports:

Name of Committee: Conference Planning

I have secured a speaker for the YSS Membership meeting. YA Author Alex Sanchez will be speaking. His first novel, Rainbow Boys was selected by ALA as a Best Book for Young Adults. He has signed the contract and is very excited about speaking to a group of librarians!

I have also secured the sessions for YSS. Everyone has signed the contract. I tried to get a variety.

1. Think outside the Box (Program about teens and summer reading)
2. Beyond Baby and Me
3. Picture Book Neighborhooding: Highs & Lows of Genrefication
4. Blurring the Line between Collections and Programming
5. YSS Membership Meeting
6. YSS Table Talks

For Table Talks I currently have 3 people. Table Talks typically has 6 slots and I am working on getting the other 3 slots filled. We usually have the pied piper winner as one but alas there was not one this year. If anyone knows of someone who had a cool Youth Services program that would work in a Table Talk format let me know!

Respectfully Submitted by Sarah M. Heukrath

Name of Committee: Empire State Award

2022 ESA Business

Kate Messner is the selected ESA recipient for 2022. The announcement was made at the spring conference. Professional journals, Kate’s publishers and other appropriate agencies received press releases about Kate’s award. One of her hometown news agencies plans on interviewing her for an article.

Kate has been a pleasure to work with so far. I am up-to-date about information needed from her in regard to travel, lodging, arrival time, etc. for the ESA Luncheon on November 4.

Here is a list of updates and what has been done since the announcement in April:

1. The publishers have been very generous and sent several copies of different titles that can be used for the raffle baskets. Kate has agreed to sign the books.
2. I contacted AnnaLee Dragon, NYLA Executive Director, to have the medallion engraved.
3. I emailed Kate Messner (dealing directly with her, not her publicist, which is great!) to finalize details about her coming to Saratoga Springs. She and her husband will be traveling from Plattsburgh by car Friday morning, 11/4. Since transportation costs are covered for the ESA winner, mileage costs will be submitted to YSS to reimburse Kate.
4. Kate Pauly is the new NYLA Events Planner. I have been working with her about the food choices for the ESA luncheon and ordering books to be sold at the event in addition to other details about the ESA luncheon.
5. I made a selection for a plated meal for the luncheon - it is less cumbersome and better for the format of the event as opposed to having a buffet. Of course, there will be options for those who have dietary restrictions. The selections have been sent to Kate Pauly at NYLA.
6. I filled out the NYLA Book Stock Request Form to order numerous copies of several of Kate's titles - some of her most popular and her newest published books - which will be provided by Northshire Bookstore in Saratoga. These can be purchased at the ESA luncheon and at booth sales. Kate will sign copies that people would like autographed.

The next on the list of tasks is to prepare the ESA luncheon brochure. It is hoped that Margaret Martin will work with me to prepare that to send to NYLA in preparation for the luncheon.

Tamora Pierce has gratefully accepted the nomination for the 2023 Empire State Award. Margaret Martin, 2023 ESA Chair, will be working with her.

The ESA committee will work together to make Kate Messner’s acceptance of the 2022 award and speech a memorable experience at the NYLA conference in November. I will be the only one from the ESA committee in attendance.

**ESA Nomination Bank Update**

The 2022 ESA Committee will continue to work on compiling a list of authors and illustrators residing in New York State to supplement nominations received through traditional means and to solicit nominations from YSS members. There is an ongoing challenge to collect nominations from YSS members. We brainstormed ideas on different ways to get out the word more broadly perhaps by targeting certain dates, areas, listservs, social media, etc.

Thank you.

Respectfully Submitted by the 2022 ESA Committee:
Gail Brown
Alexandria Abenshon
Margaret Martin

**Name of Committee: Marketing**

**Committee Updates:**
• Facebook – Up 5 new followers since March at 635 total followers
• Instagram – Up 28 followers since March at 309 total followers
• Twitter – Up 107 new followers since March for a total of 599 Followers
• Pinterest – Up 2 followers for a total of 55 Followers
• Engagement is growing on all platforms, primarily on Twitter with over 100 new followers!

Short Term Goals:
• Increase followers and engagement on all social media platforms. Specifically we will work on getting more involvement on our Facebook and Instagram pages.
• Work with all YSS Committees to promote the Youth Services Section.

Long Term Goals:
• Coordinate with contacts from other sections to ensure our members have access to relevant news, updates, and other important information, including conference updates, scholarship/award winners, webinar information, and more.
• Work cohesively with other committees and to discuss possible solutions to ensure that information is shared in a timely, organized, and complete manner.
• Discuss possible ways to increase YSS membership and enthusiasm.
• Increase engagement on our social media pages.
• Work as a committee to begin reaching out to colleges and universities throughout the state to increase membership with those just entering the youth services field.

If there is anything you’d ever like shared on our social media platforms, please do not hesitate to contact me! Information/posts can be emailed to jelinskij@buffalolib.org

Respectfully submitted 7/22/2022

Jennifer Lelinski
Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries

Name of Committee: Pied Piper Award
• Emily Forbes-Wood and Stephanie Olson have both joined the committee.
• We were not able to send anyone to be a table presenter at the YSS conference since there was no eligible 2021 winner.
• I've been working on updating the Pied Piper submission form--instead of a mailed or emailed document it will be a Google form. The other awards/scholarships appear to all be doing this and it seems easier on the applicants.
• Rickele Bello from the Scholarship Committee was nice enough to share their email list to help us spread the word via email to various listservs, etc.

Name of Committee: Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship committee had 7 applicants for the Ann Gibson Scholarship. Although all were wonderful, aspiring librarian students, the one that stood out the most was Jaclyn Rohan of St. John’s University. Jaclyn has interest and experiences with working with children of all age groups, and even acknowledges the needs of their caregivers. She demonstrates a very patron-focused approach to librarianship, which allows her to serve the patrons of her community with dignity and respect, and provide them with the resources they need. We feel she is deserving of the Ann Gibson Scholarship because her dedication to the field of children’s services will honor the memory and work of Ann Gibson.

Respectfully submitted by Rickele Bello (She/Her), Librarian

Name of Committee: Youth Advocacy Committee

Committee work has stalled a bit as our chair deals with some family/health issues.

I hope to be able to report activities in our next cycle.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Fellows, Youth Advocacy Committee member (SSL holds the chair this year)

Name of Committee: NYS Battle of the Books Committee

Liz Anastasi has nothing to report at this time.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Hazen

6. 2022 Spring Conference Director’s Report
2022 Spring Conference Director’s Final Report
August 2022 YSS Board Meeting

● A huge thank you to the 2022 Spring Conference Planning Committee members:
  ○ Dan Barker (Albany Public Library)
  ○ Amy DuBrey (Upper Hudson Library System)
  ○ April Fernandez (Schenectady County Public Library)
  ○ Marybeth Hassett-Murphy (Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library)
  ○ Diana Hurlbert (Schenectady County Public Library)
  ○ Ariana Quattrocchi (Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library)
  ○ Barb Reese (Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library)
  ○ Anne Skrebutenas (Schenectady County Public Library)

● The YSS Pre-Conference Reception (formerly called the YSS Past Presidents’ Dinner) was held at Druthers (in Schenectady) on April 7th
  ○ 36 people attended, including 8 Past Presidents of YSS
  ○ Chris Crutcher and his partner attended as our special guests

● 2022 YSS Spring Conference Summary
  ○ Theme: May The Odds Be Ever In Your Favor
  ○ Location: The Event Center at Rivers Casino & Resort
    (1 Rush Street Schenectady, NY 12305)
  ○ Keynote Speaker: Chris Crutcher, YA Author & anti-censorship champion
  ○ Registration: 100 attendees (including registrants, vendors, speakers, etc.)
  ○ Service Project: over 300 items collected (toiletries for babies and kids)
  ○ Vendors: Open Door Bookstore, NY Hunger Solutions, and Diana Kane (presented “Magic of Music” session)
  ○ Fundraising: we collected a total of $654 for YSS scholarships via the silent auction raffles at the Pre-Conference Reception and the conference day raffles

● YSS Conference Evaluation Highlights (39 Completed):
  ○ Survey results uploaded to Google Drive as PDF (includes charts) and as a spreadsheet (breaks it down into individual responses).
  ○ Comment Highlights:
“Chris Crutcher was an unexpected delight. While he didn't have the structured speech I would've expected from a keynote speaker, it was wonderful to just listen to him speak to his many amazing experiences.”

“The location was convenient and the facilities were very modern. It was well-organized and very informative.”

Lots of comments stated that people were VERY happy to be back in person again!

Suggestions for the future that jumped out at me:

- How to support librarians mental health/burnout in the field
- Organization: both in our office spaces and craft storage. I think that is a topic most Children's Librarians would be interested in, but not one that is often covered.
- Panel of experienced story time providers: how to handle when x happens (ie. problem-solving for child and adult behaviors)

-- Respectfully Submitted By Chrissie Morrison

7. 2023 Spring Conference Director’s Report

YSS Board Report—August 5, 2022

Submitted by Julia Farrar, 2023 Spring Conference Director

Committee: The planning committee roster has been filled at 8 members as follows:
Michele Barron (Stillwater)
Catherine Brenner (Saratoga Springs)
Alex Desourdy (Bethlehem)
Heidi Eckerson (Finger Lakes Library System)
Kate Lambert (Bethlehem)
Amy McCarthy (Guilderland)
Chinasa Seyse (Schenectady)
Emily F. Wood (Hudson Falls)

The committee met 2/1/22, 3/3/22, 5/3/22, and 6/7/22. Next meeting is scheduled for 8/23/22.

Conference location: A contract is signed with the Courtyard Marriott Lake George at 365
Canada Street, Lake George and meal options are selected. The Marriott includes AV set up for all breakout rooms in their flat fee.

**Keynote/Author speakers:** Alex Gino is tentatively booked for the keynote address; we’re still waiting on a few details to sign an agreement. Chris Grabenstein will present an interactive talk during the luncheon. Both authors are traveling from within the state, so travel expenses are minimal.

**Workshops:** A call for proposals is active through the end of July. As of the time of this report, we have 8 proposals. We may extend the deadline as needed.

**Other conference details:** Committee members are working on locations for the pre-conference reception, charity partners, and vendors. Several vendor agreements are in the works.

**Other position tasks:** I attended a meeting with NYLA staff who help with conference planning and have a better idea of who to contact for different needs. Kate Pauly will be handling the registration, and C. Romeo has a master list of potential vendors to contact and can process credit card payments for vendor table fees. I have been reviewing the SSL Spring Conference Planning Handbook and would like to continue to organize some of our planning information into an easy to find format for future directors.