

Youth Services Advisory Council Meeting Notes

December 15, 2006, 2006

At

Bethlehem Public Library

Small library concerns discussion group 9:00-10:00

Meeting 12:00-1:00

Large library concerns discussion group 12:00-1:00

Attendance: Lisa Neuman (Menands Public Library) Debbie Sternklar (Bethlehem Public Library) Carol Roberts (Troy Public Library) Ann-Maire Cicchinelli (William K. Sanford Town Library), Polly Hartman (Bethlehem Public Library) Laura Jarvis (Bethlehem Public Library) Lee Ricci (East Greenbush Community Library) Debbie Canzano (Cohoes Public Library) Pat Sahr (Nassau Free Library) Carol Gaillard (Cheney Library) Gail Brown (Voorheesville Public Library) Rose Stuart (Albany Public Library--Pine Hills Branch) Elaine Albrecht (Westerlo Public Library) Julie Zelman (Brunswick Community Library) Sharon Hodges (Petersburg Public Library) Kathy Stempel (Berne Public Library) Barbara Sinacore (Guilderland Public Library) Jendy Murphy (Albany Public Library) Barbara Goetchius (RCS Community Library) Carolyn Durnin (Grafton Community Library) Beth Bomba (William K. Sanford Town Library) Beverly Provost (Bethlehem Public Library) Mary Fellows (UHLS) Diane Riganti (UHLS)

We wished a fond and appreciative farewell to Polly Hartman and Beverly Provost who will be retiring, Polly in December and Beverly in February.

UHLS UPDATES

Cookbook

The UHLS Cooking Grant cookbook will be sent to the publisher next week. The cookbook should be published sometime in February. Thank you to all libraries that sent in recipes. The cooking show will be aired sometime in January. Time Warner Cable is hoping to air promotions the week that school is on vacation.

Arts Grants

Nassau Free Library and Grafton Community Library have received grants. The Sounds True grant involving UHLS libraries submitted by Altamont has also been funded. UHLS received a grant for Riverway.

Family Literacy Grant

Mary asked if there were any other suggestions besides:

- Dads read
- Teen financial literacy
- Quadra centennial

No suggestions were offered. Mary is going to be in touch with Sue Rokos, MVLS, to see if UHLS & MVLS can partner on any of these.

Mary is willing to help anyone with grant writing, by reviewing proposals before submission or after being declined.

Children with Disabilities workshop-there is a chance that Jo-Ann can include this in her LSTA grant, currently being written.

Summer Reading Program materials

The order has been sent to Upstart. The materials should be arriving March 1, 2007.

UHLS purchases

UHLS has purchased the Dance Dance Revolution. It is ready to go and already on loan. We would appreciate feedback on the directions. If you don't plan on using a TV and you don't have your own LCD projector, you will need to borrow the UHLS LCD projector also. It does not automatically come with the DDR, so be sure to request it.

UHLS would like to purchase Ellison dies with some leftover money. We considered purchasing a paw print, although Colonie has one anyone could borrow. Bethlehem Public Library, Guilderland and William K. Sanford Town Library will send updated lists of Ellison dies that they own.

Weeded Pool Collection materials

The weeded pool collection materials will be offered to schools and other community agencies. Look for an email from Mary announcing this and its start date very soon.

It's All About Selection

Panel discussion

Beverly Provost (Bethlehem Public Library)

Jendy Murphy (Albany Public Library)

Debbie Canzano (Cohoes Public Library)

Barbara Sinacore (Guilderland Public Library)

Ideas from the discussion:

Selection is more than just looking at journals and catalogs. Have your criteria in mind. Your budget will be a large factor in choosing books. Think of your collection as a stream not a pond. Books should flow through the library, not remain on the shelf. Don't buy just all the starred reviews. Have fun things for the average kids. Think about the collections in libraries around you. (Ex. If William K. Sanford Town Library has a large parenting collection, most books can be interlibrary loaned.) See how much you have on a topic. Look at the circulation of those titles.

Various libraries, depending on the size, assign duties differently. In some libraries one person is assigned a journal to review and select from. Some libraries divide the ordering by Dewey numbers, non-fiction, fiction, picture books etc. In a larger library, the person ordering is also responsible for weeding. Every year the staff rotates the classification they are ordering.

If reviewing in B&T, they are set up to notify you of duplicate reviews. You can buy from Advanced B&T, Automatically Yours for standing orders and series. Romantic Times Book Club Magazine is a useful tool. They also review some YA's. BWI is a good tool for graphic novels. If you have the books processed, it will take a bit longer to receive, but it will be almost shelf ready.

Patron request will also play a part in ordering materials. You may take a request and research the book. It doesn't really matter that it isn't a starred review, it will circulate on popularity. The patrons must understand that there are also budget issues. You can't buy everything they want. How do we understand and take into account community values? Take in account the kind of people that live in the community. Who isn't coming in to use the library? Compare holdings to circulation.

Long-range plans are to be considered when ordering. Your community members might want a large portion of cultural awareness materials, which will take part of your budget. The community will play a role in what goals are to be met when ordering. Have a collection development policy in place. This will be very handy when dealing with gifts.

DK books have very pretty pictures, but not much real content. It is hard for children to write a report from these titles. The very best book on a subject might not go out.

Be aware of your own bias. Having an extensive collection on one subject matter could be a positive thing drawing patrons with the same interests in. How much outsourcing it too much? Is seeing salespeople a good idea? (Various opinions on this.) When dealing with salesman, tell them what you are interested in and limit the time you have to spend with them. Tell them you can see them twice a year for one hour. Penworthy is a good place to get your popular titles (Ex. Spongebob etc.) BWI Bee Wee bound books have a lifetime guarantee. BWI is also going to the audiovisual materials. B&T and Ingram link to the Opac. Horn Book Guide is excellent. By law, unsolicited preview books are yours to keep. Be careful ordering books such as pull-tab and pop-ups. Amazon reviews these types of books according to durability.

Next YSAC meeting: January 12, Mock Caldecott, at UHLS

GREAT READS

Minerva Clark goes to the Dogs by Karen Karbo

Minerva Clark has never liked popular, bratty Chelsea de Guzman. But when Chelsea pleads with Minerva to help her locate a missing diamond, the prospect of a new mystery is just too irresistible to pass up, especially after Minerva learns that it's a red diamond and potentially worth millions. Before long Minerva is doing what she does best: getting into trouble while getting to the bottom of things. And whether that includes digging through a day's worth of trash, tangling with some crooked animal shelter workers, dodging three mischievous corgis, or tracking a carrier pigeon with intestinal problems, Minerva is determined to get her man—or his best friend...

The Astonishing life of Octavian Nothing: Traitor to the Nation, Vol. 1 The Pox Party by MT Anderson

From School Library Journal

Starred Review. Grade 9 Up—In this fascinating and eye-opening Revolution-era novel, Octavian, a black youth raised in a Boston household of radical philosophers, is given an excellent classical education. He and his mother, an African princess, are kept isolated on the estate, and only as he grows older does he realize that while he is well dressed and well fed, he is indeed a captive being used by his guardians as part of an experiment to determine the intellectual acuity of Africans. As the fortunes of the Novanglian College of Lucidity change, so do the nature and conduct of their experiments. The boy's guardians host a pox party where everyone is inoculated with the disease in hopes that they will then be immune to its effects, but, instead, Octavian's mother dies. He runs away and ends up playing the fiddle and joining in the Patriots' cause. He's eventually captured and brought back to his household where he's bound and forced to wear an iron mask until one of his more sympathetic instructors engineers his escape. Readers will have to wait for the second volume to find out the protagonist's fate. The novel is written in 18th-century language from Octavian's point of view and in letters written by a soldier who befriends him. Despite the challenging style, this powerful novel will resonate with contemporary readers. The issues of slavery and human rights, racism, free will, the causes of war, and one person's struggle to define himself are just as relevant today. Anderson's use of factual information to convey the time and place is powerfully done.

NEWS FROM YOU

Five NY State children have been selected to go the National Storytelling Showcase in Tennessee. Three of the kids are from the Castleton Public Library. They will be performing at HVCC. Castleton Public Library has had new carpet installed and will reopen on Wednesday, December 20, 2006.

East Greenbush Community Library: Rensselaer County Civil Service Commission dates for three open competitive Examinations. The resulting eligible list will be used to fill vacancies as they occur.

EXAM NUMBER: 2007-02
EXAM TITLE: LIBRARIAN I
EXAM DATE: 1/17/2007
LAST FILING DATE: 1/17/2007

EXAM NUMBER: 2007-03
EXAM TITLE: LIBRARIAN II
EXAM DATE: 1/17/2007
LAST FILING DATE: 1/17/2007

EXAM NUMBER: 2007-01
EXAM TITLE: LIBRARY DIRECTOR I
EXAM DATE: 1/17/2007
LAST FILING DATE: 1/17/2007

Guilderland Public Library is looking into loaning video games.

William K. Sanford Town Library has an opening for part time children's librarian.

Brunswick Community Library Lap Sit 0-2 years old program was very successful.

Performer: Ellen Mnich

Next meeting: January 12 (Mock Caldecott), February 23, March 1 (Summer Reading Program workshop), April 13, April 27 (Storytelling workshop) May 18.