

Youth Services Advisory Council
Meeting of February 8, 2008
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
at UHLS

Book Review 9:00 -10:00 AM; 10:00 AM-12:00 PM Meeting; Book Review and Teen Services Discussion Group 12:00 PM-1:00 PM

Attendees: Barbara Goetschius (RCSC Community Library) Darlene Miller (Castleton Public Library) Candy Wilson (Rensselaerville Library) Geoffrey Kirkpatrick (Bethlehem Public Library) Judith Wines (Altamont Free Library) Carol Roberts (Troy Public Library) Ginger Hewitt (Watervliet Public Library) Carol Gaillard (Cheney Library) Maureen DeLaughter (William K. Sanford Town Library) Pat Sahr (Nassau Free Library) Rose Stuart (East Greenbush Community Library) Lisa Neuman (MEND) Mindy Fowler (SNLK) Meta Reid (APLM) Debbie Canzano (COHS) Josalyn Gervasio (GUIL) Mary Fellows (UHLS)
Juvenile review center later—GRAF & COLN.

9:00-10:00 AM Book Review and playing of the DVD author interview of Caldecott winner Brian Selznick for The Invention of Hugo Cabret.

10:00 AM meeting called to order by Mary Fellows

- Introductions

I. UHLS Updates

- Thank you for all the input on the Youth Services Survey. There were some good suggestions, which will be incorporated. The time and day of the meeting will be the same.

II. Grants

- Picturing America Grant from National Endowment for the Arts applied for.
- Summer Reading Program mini grant. We have double the money now because our statistics were over 30,000. The Grant has been set up as a marketing challenge, with each library getting an amount of money for each tier completed. More information when we get word that we've got it.

III. LSTA Grant –Systems can apply for \$22,055 for 2 years. Topics were discussed. There was most interest in a grant on the Quadricentennial from attendees. Many ideas were generated for Mary to pursue.

IV. How to Get a Second Life by Geoff Kirkpatrick

Second Life is an Internet-based virtual world launched in 2003, developed by Linden Research, Inc (commonly referred to as Linden Lab), which came to international attention via mainstream news media in late 2006 and early 2007. A downloadable client program called the Second Life Viewer enables its users, called "Residents", to interact with each other through motional avatars, providing an advanced level of a social network service combined with general aspects of a metaverse. Residents can explore, meet other Residents, socialize, participate in individual and group activities, create and trade items (virtual property) and services from one another.

V. Technology Tune-up

Discussed and made recommendations for the databases YSAC would like included in Aquabrowser as follows. YSAC would like the following ten databases searched and included in the main results:

Novelist
Twayne's Author Series
Primary Search
Encyclopedia of Animals
Fun & Wagnall's
Kids Search
InfoTrac Jr
Primary Search
Topic Search
New York State Newspapers

YSAC would like these five databases included in the ten searched in the general AquaBrowser (in no special order):

Novelist
Funk & Wagnall's
Science Resource Center
InfoTrac Jr
Topic Search

VI. Guest performer: Nancy Rosencranz

Next meetings: March 13 (Summer Reading Program workshop at Schenectady), April 4, May 16, June 13

**Youth Services Advisory Council
Teen Discussion Group meeting of February 11, 2008
12:00-1:00 PM**

Attendees: Maureen DeLaughter (COLN), Rose Stuart (EGRN), Mary Fellows (UHLS), Diane Riganti (UHLS)

Mary called the meeting to order at 12:00

Maureen was granted more space for the teens in the William K. Sanford Town Library. She gave the board a presentation on comparisons of money allocated for children and teens, spacing for children and teens etc. The teen attendance is up 56% from last year. Maureen had 150 kids at the last coffee house.

Discussion held on teen issues in the library. Example: How to ease the staff into accepting the behaviors of teen patrons.

Program Discussion

- Teen Café—set up laptops
- Readers Theatre

Book Discussion

Boot camp by Todd Strasser

(From School Library Journal)

Grade 8 Up—In this vivid and realistic novel, Strasser describes the horrifying violence and injustices experienced by teens sent to a disciplinary boot camp at the behest of their parents. Abducted by transporters in the middle of the night, 15-year-old Garrett finds himself handcuffed in the back of a car trying to make sense of why he is being sent to a facility for troubled teens. Convinced that he does not belong in Lake Harmony, he has difficulty conforming to the camp's standards. As a result, he is subjected to continuous physical and mental abuse. Drawn in by two other students, Garrett takes part in an ambitious plot to escape this never-ending "behavior modification." Throughout the story, readers are given a strong sense of the hopelessness the teen feels, especially when he realizes that he is completely isolated from anyone who can help him. The ending is both realistic and disturbing as his fate at Lake Harmony is revealed. Writing in the teen's mature and perceptive voice, Strasser creates characters who will provoke strong reactions from readers. While most teens will undoubtedly identify with the protagonist's sense of being misunderstood by his parents, many will be outraged by the manipulation, torture, and hopelessness experienced by the residents at Lake Harmony. However, all of them will certainly find themselves engrossed in this fast-paced and revealing story about the hidden side of teenage incarceration.

68 Knots by Michael Robert Evans

This edgy novel about a diverse group of teens who commandeer a sailboat and support themselves by pirating during one summer full of adventure and discovery, is also a subtle yet powerful novel of awakening, of coming to grips individually with the issues they face as they are on the cusp of adulthood. Written with restraint and authenticity, this powerful debut will appeal to older YA readers.

Butterflies in May by Karen Hart

(From School Library Journal)

Grade 8 Up—A rather ordinary tale of teen pregnancy. Ali Parker is a bright, middle-class, suburban girl headed for college. She and her boyfriend are usually careful about birth control, but she ends up pregnant after one lapse. She schedules an abortion but can't go through with it. When she tells her parents, they are disappointed but supportive, as are her friends and teachers. Ali weathers the ups and downs of pregnancy, befriends another expecting teen, and deals with her sometimes loving, sometimes distant boyfriend as she tries to plan for an uncertain future. She meets a perfect couple who want to adopt her child but wonders if she can bring herself to part with the baby. Ali could be almost any young woman struggling with this issue, which gives the story a bland feel, as does the adequate but rarely sparkling prose.

Wonder Woman-Love & Murder by Jodi Picoult, Terry Dodson, & Drew Johnson

Best-selling author Jodi Picoult, the writer of best-selling novels *The 10th Circle* and *Sister's Keeper*, takes Wonder Woman on a collision course with her long-missing people, the Amazons. The action begins when Wonder Woman is assigned the task of capturing Wonder Woman while in her disguise as Special Agent Diana Prince of the Department of Metahuman Affairs. How will she be able to accomplish the impossible task of capturing herself without revealing her secret identity? This is just the start of the Amazon Warrior's problems, as Diana must relearn how to exist as a human woman while a deadly foe begins closing a net on her that will lead to a catastrophic outcome!

Waiting for Normal by Leslie Connor

Twelve-year-old Addie tries to cope with her mother's erratic behavior and being separated from her beloved stepfather and half-sisters when she and her mother go to live in a small trailer by the railroad tracks on the outskirts of Schenectady, New York.