

## Youth Services Advisory Council

June 14, 2013

Upper Hudson Library System

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Book Review 9:00 - 10:00 Teen Discussion Group 12:00-1:00

Attendees: Mary Fellows UHLS, Diane Riganti UHLS, Beth Rienti GUIL, Barbara Goetschius RCSC, Mindy Fowler SNLK, Judith Wines ALTM, Lisa Neuman MEND, Chrissie Morrison EGRN, Stephanie Kogler EGRN, Judy Petrosillo BERN, Chris McGinty BETH, Lee Ackerman-Sawyer WSTR

### AGENDA

#### **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

#### **UHLS UPDATES**

UHLS is looking for a new Interface Library System to take the place of Horizon. A committee has been formed and it is looking at various vendors. The committee has selected four products and has had daylong visits with each vendor. Now committee members will do site visits at libraries that use the product. They will narrow it down to two or three and then invite vendors for another day, to which anyone interest will be invited. The recommendation from the committee as to which ILS to purchase is expected late fall. We need input on the friendliness for youth/youth materials of the products under consideration. Mary will take an active role; others are encouraged to test out the possible choices thorough as well when the time comes.

Thank you for your input on a joint youth program calendar. Joe T is working on a free calendar for our use and has hit some snags. Mary will keep you posted. In the meantime, here are a couple of websites where you can post your happenings for free: <http://www.capitaldistrictfun.com/>  
<http://albany.kidsoutandabout.com>

Great news: Central Library funds will be used to purchase TumbleBooks Library, which is a collection of ebooks for kids with fiction, non-fiction and foreign language titles, read-alongs and more. Although we have children's and teen titles in Overdrive, TumbleBooks gives us a collection for early learners/readers. We are going to have a link on our web page, under Emedia, which will hold links to Overdrive, Tumble books, and Project Gutenberg. TumbleBooks are not downloaded, but used through the Internet. In the meantime, access TumbleBook Library this way: [http://www.tumblebooks.com/library/asp/customer\\_login.asp](http://www.tumblebooks.com/library/asp/customer_login.asp)  
The username is UHLS. Password: libra

We brainstormed how to market the new resource. Word of mouth, link on your website, bookmarks to put in picture books as people check out were suggested. Mary will provide a downloadable bookmark. It was also suggested that we should use the same button on all of our websites for patrons to easily recognize. Mary will pass this along to Joe Thornton.

#### **RESOURCES TO KNOW ABOUT**

PEW Research Center Study: Parents, Children, Libraries, and Reading

<http://libraries.pewinternet.org/2013>

Very good statistics to use for Board meetings, Friends of the Library requests, reports to Director, legislative visits, internal budget meetings, in newsletters as filler, etc.

Brooklyn Public Library: Ready, Set, Kindergarten!

<http://www.bklynpubliclibrary.org/first-5-years/ready-set-kindergarten-english>

Excellent ideas in this website as you work on your Early Reading Literacy programs.

### ABookandaHug

The website **ABookandaHug** has a ten question assessment, “What Kind of Reading Superhero Are You?” to help students decide what kind of reading personality they are. There are four reading personalities for boys and four for girls. Once they find out if they are Jokester or Investigator, they can find books on abookandahug that are directed to that kind of reader – or they can ask you! Use this with your book discussion groups for fun – do it orally.

### **BOOK REVIEW PLANS AND BOOK FLASHES**

We will be testing a new process with the review books. The reason publishers send review copies is to encourage sales by allowing groups of librarians to look at the review copies and hopefully thus spark orders. Up to this point, we have been able to easily do annotated lists of the review copies, but our tool has been discontinued and there are no good (free) alternatives. What we’ll try going forward is providing a list with order information but no annotation of all books in that meeting’s review. At the meeting, Mary will distribute an annotated “Best of the review copies” list and do very short booktalks on those books.

**DIFFICULT BOOK DISCUSSION:** Sold by Patricia McCormick

### **GREAT READS/LISTENS/VIEWS – titles discussed:**

#### **Poison by Bridgette Zinn**

Annotation by Goodreads

Sixteen-year-old Kyra, a highly-skilled potions master, is the only one who knows her kingdom is on the verge of destruction—which means she’s the only one who can save it. Faced with no other choice, Kyra decides to do what she does best: poison the kingdom’s future ruler, who also happens to be her former best friend. But, for the first time ever, her poisoned dart . . . misses.

Now a fugitive instead of a hero, Kyra is caught in a game of hide-and-seek with the king’s army and her potioner ex-boyfriend, Hal. At least she’s not alone. She’s armed with her vital potions, a too-cute pig, and Fred, the charming adventurer she can’t stop thinking about. Kyra is determined to get herself a second chance (at murder), but will she be able to find and defeat the princess before Hal and the army find her? Kyra is not your typical murderer, and she’s certainly no damsel-in-distress—she’s the lovable and quick-witted hero of this romantic novel that has all the right ingredients to make teen girls swoon.

#### **One Came Home by Amy Timberlake**

Annotation by Goodreads

In the town of Placid, Wisconsin, in 1871, Georgie Burkhardt is known for two things: her uncanny aim with a rifle and her habit of speaking her mind plainly. But when Georgie blurts out something she shouldn’t, her older sister Agatha flees, running off with a pack of “pigeoners” trailing the passenger pigeon migration. And when the sheriff returns to town with an unidentifiable body—wearing Agatha’s blue-green ball gown—everyone assumes the worst. Except Georgie. Refusing to believe the facts that are laid down (and coffined) before her, Georgie sets out on a journey to find her sister. She will track every last clue and shred of evidence to bring Agatha home. Yet even with resolute determination and her trusty Springfield single-shot, Georgie is not prepared for what she faces on the western frontier.

### **Viva Jacqueline!** By L.A. Meyer (audio also highly recommended)

Annotation by Goodreads

The vivacious Jacky Faber returns in the tenth tale in L. A. Meyer's Bloody Jack Adventures, a rip-roaring young-adult series applauded for its alluring combination of adventure, romance, history, and humor. Once again under the thumb of British Intelligence, Jacky is sent to Spain to spy for the Crown during the early days of the nineteenth-century Peninsular War. She finds herself in the company of guerilla freedom fighters, poses for the famous artist Goya, runs with the bulls, is kidnapped by the Spanish Inquisition, and travels with a caravan of gypsies...all while hoping to one day reunite with her beloved Jaimy Fletcher.

### **Doll Bones by Holly Black**

Annotation by Goodreads

Zach, Poppy and Alice have been friends for ever. They love playing with their action figure toys, imagining a magical world of adventure and heroism. But disaster strikes when, without warning, Zach's father throws out all his toys, declaring he's too old for them. Zach is furious, confused and embarrassed, deciding that the only way to cope is to stop playing . . . and stop being friends with Poppy and Alice. But one night the girls pay Zach a visit, and tell him about a series of mysterious occurrences. Poppy swears that she is now being haunted by a china doll – who claims that it is made from the ground-up bones of a murdered girl. They must return the doll to where the girl lived, and bury it. Otherwise the three children will be cursed for eternity.

### **Scorpio Races by Maggie Stiefvater (audio also highly recommended)**

Annotation by Goodreads

It happens at the start of every November: the Scorpio Races. Riders attempt to keep hold of their water horses long enough to make it to the finish line. Some riders live. Others die. At age nineteen, Sean Kendrick is the returning champion. He is a young man of few words, and if he has any fears, he keeps them buried deep, where no one else can see them. Puck Connolly is different. She never meant to ride in the Scorpio Races. But fate hasn't given her much of a chance. So she enters the competition — the first girl ever to do so. She is in no way prepared for what is going to happen.

Audiobook

### **True Meaning of Smekday by Adam Rex**

Annotation by Goodreads

When twelve-year-old Gratuity ("Tip") Tucci is assigned to write five pages on "The True Meaning of Smekday" for the National Time Capsule contest, she's not sure where to begin. When her mom started telling everyone about the messages aliens were sending through a mole on the back of her neck? Maybe on Christmas Eve, when huge, bizarre spaceships descended on the Earth and the aliens called Boov abducted her mother? Or when the Boov declared Earth a colony, renamed it "Smekland" (in honor of glorious Captain Smek), and forced all Americans to relocate to Florida via rocketpod? In any case, Gratuity's story is much, much bigger than the assignment. It involves her unlikely friendship with a renegade Boov mechanic named J.Lo.; a futile journey south to find Gratuity's mother at the Happy Mouse Kingdom; a cross-country road trip in a hovercar called Slushious; and an outrageous plan to save the Earth from yet another alien invasion. Fully illustrated with "photos," drawings, newspaper clippings, and comics sequences, this is a hilarious, perceptive, genre-bending novel by a remarkable new talent.

### **One program or thing that your' most looking forward to about SRP.**

**APLM:** Cretaceous Crime Scene Investigation-- Who killed the Thescelosaurus? That's the question we'll be asking -- and answering! -- as we investigate a prehistoric crime scene. We'll learn about fossils, and consider the time periods and habitats of different dinosaurs. Then, we'll form evidence-based, scientific opinions of which dinosaur took down our Thescelosaurus.

**EGRN:** Hobbit Party for Teens; food, fun and games based on J.R.R Toliens The Hobbit, then stay for the a showing of the movie. Drive in movies for toddlers. They are going to make a care, then watch a short film.

**BERN:** Might sponsor a trip to Secret Caverns in Central Bridge, NY.

**ALTM:** Having a local History Scavenger Hunt.

**WSTR:** Program on growing crystals.

### **TEEN DISCUSSION GROUP**

Various programs were discussed for Summer Reading program.

Discussion held about library employees dealing with younger children and teens.

Reminder: request Advance Reader Copies from UHLS (to keep!) at

<http://horizon.uhls.lib.ny.us/cgi-bin/reports/arc.pl>

Next meetings: March 7 (SRP Planning Workshop at Schenectady Public Library), April 12, May 6 Workshop, June 14

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