

## **Youth Services Advisory Council**

November 8, 2013

### **Upper Hudson Library System**

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

9:00 am - 10:00 am Small Meeting Concerns Discussion

10:00 am – 12:00 Meeting

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Celebratory lunch for Joyce Laiosa

Attendees: Mary Fellows UHLS, Diane Riganti UHLS, Sue Rokos MVLS, Barbara Goetschius RCSC, Tor Loney APLM, Joyce Laiosa VOOR, Carol Roberts TROY, Sharon Hodges PTRB, Lee Ackerman-Sawyer WSTR, Molly Chatt EGRN, Debbie Sternklar GUIL, Jane Chrigwin RENS, Terry Volpe MEND, Judith Wines ALTM, Kathy Stempel BERN, Christian Collins GRAF, Beth Rienti GUIL, Bethany Koehn GUIL, Ann-Marie Heldorfer COLN, David Cole COLN, Jen Duvelius EGRN

## **AGENDA**

### **Welcome and introductions**

Welcome to new director, Christian Collins from Grafton Community Library, and to YS librarian Terry Volpe from Menands Public Library.

### **UHLS updates**

#### Teen Message For Directors

The white paper from the Teen Services went to the Directors Meeting. The directors wanted to know what outcome was expected from this paper? Answer: it is an opening for conversation with their staff serving teens and better yet the whole staff about how their library can more effectively serve teens.

#### “Read It Forward” Teen Collaboration Idea (handout)

Today is the last day to indicate interest in exploring the RIF idea. (Description: A summer program where teens (approximately grades 6-12) read a featured title and pass the book to their peers who continue the cycle of reading and sharing. An in person or virtual author visit at libraries and potentially schools during Teen Read Week (October 12-18, 2014) marks the end of the program. Purpose: foster teen reading and communication about books, promote collaboration with schools, call attention to quality teen literature, encourage parents to read and discuss books with teens.) Next step: Mary will arrange meeting of interested libraries and we'll explore the possibilities.

#### Reminder

The 2014 NY State Summer Reading Program UHLS Material Order form is due to UHLS on November 18, 2013. Contact Mary or Diane Riganti if you need help.

### Tween/Teen Workshop

For a variety of reasons (some involving grants and money), the Tween/Teen workshop is postponed until April 24, 2014. The workshop will be held at Schenectady Public Library on that day in the morning. More information to come as we get closer! (The originally scheduled date was December 5.)

### News Release

Mary has a news release on Tumblebooks that you can post in your newsletters, websites, etc. She will send it to news outlets and out to you next week.

### Take Your Child To The Library Day

The first Saturday in February, February 1, 2014 is Take Your Child to the Library Day (TYCtLD). The group explored ways UHLS might help facilitate library celebrations. New releases and printing of the postcard were ideas. (Postcard: parents and children can write the importance of libraries. Then you – or your director – have these available any time you want to do some library advocacy.)

### Mock Awards

December 20, 2013 – Mock Caldecott and Geisel– 10:00 – 12:00

January 10, 2014 – Mock Newbery, Sibert and Printz – 10:00 – 12:00

This year we'll just discuss the books and make predictions rather than voting. Books being buzzed about as possible winners will be posted to the (UHLS/MVLS) Kidbytes Pinterest page: [www.pinterest.com/librarykidbytes](http://www.pinterest.com/librarykidbytes). You need an Pinterest account to view the page. See [www.pinterest.com](http://www.pinterest.com).

Look often as we are continually adding titles. Add your comments! If you would like to pin your own favorite books, we'll need to give you pinning permission. Email Mary.

Late November we'll focus in on specific titles that we'll be sure to cover on December 20<sup>th</sup>. In December, we'll pull out specific titles for focus on for the Newbery and Sibert discussion in January.

### Wish lists

It's good to have a wish list for when money pops up unexpectedly, like the end of a grant.

Mary asked the group what types of resources would be most useful. Ideas:

Squishy circuits

Raspberry Pi (or at least demo)

Arduino (or at least demo)

Lego Mindstorms

3D Printer

Digital access to School Library Journal

Maker Space Kits

Shimmer n Sparkle Cra-Z-Loom Rubber Band Bracelet Maker

Smash Brothers for the Wii

### **Reorganizing The Picture Book Collection (Handouts)**

Presentation by Sue Rokos of MVLS about the multi-library project to reorganize picture book collections according to topical categories. Mary will gather and send Sue's and other information on this topic out soon.

### **Genrefying the teen Section: Pros and Cons ([Handout](#))**

What it is: shelving fiction according to genres, such as mysteries, science fiction etc. Group discussed when it's useful. Other possibilities include paper lists (GLBTQ lists are a must!) and genre stickers on books.

### **Text Leveling: What's the Public Library's Role? ([Handout](#))**

Group discussed text leveling systems (instructional systems used by schools) and whether libraries should level their books in any way.

### **Youth eBooks – Effective Purchasing, Effective Marketing**

Currently children's and young adult books account for 7% of Overdrive checkouts (past six months). This number is influenced by OverDrive's less-than-robust statistics and odd categorization. No details on holdings were available.

Ideas for keeping up, for effective purchasing, and effective marketing were presented and discussed. To know about : Blio is a new eReading application that does better at pictures (think picture books). Baker & Taylor offer ebooks in Blio.

### **Great Reads:**

#### The Year of Billy Miller by Kevin Henkes

When Billy Miller has a mishap at the statue of the Jolly Green Giant at the end of summer vacation, he ends up with a big lump on his head. What a way to start second grade, with a lump on your head! As the year goes by, though, Billy figures out how to navigate elementary school, how to appreciate his little sister, and how to be a more grown up and responsible member of the family and a help to his busy working mom and stay-at-home dad. Newbery Honor author and Caldecott Medalist Kevin Henkes delivers a short, satisfying, laugh-out-loud-funny school and family story that features a diorama homework assignment, a school poetry slam, cancelled sleepovers, and epic sibling temper tantrums. Illustrated throughout with black-and-white art by the author, this is a perfect short novel for the early elementary grades. (Annotation from Goodreads)

#### Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Hard Luck by Jeff Kinney

Greg Heffley's on a losing streak. His best friend, Rowley Jefferson, has ditched him, and finding new friends in middle school is proving to be a tough task. To change his fortunes, Greg decides to take a leap of faith and turn his decisions over to chance. Will a roll of the dice turn things around, or is Greg's life destined to be just another hard-luck story? (Annotation from Goodreads)

#### Daughter of Smoke and Bone #1 by Laini Taylor

Meet Karou. She fills her sketchbooks with monsters that may or may not be real, she's prone to disappearing on mysterious "errands", she speaks many languages - not all of them human - and her bright blue hair *actually* grows out of her head that color. Who is she? That is the question that haunts her, and she's about to find out. When beautiful, haunted Akiva fixes fiery

eyes on her in an alley in Marrakesh, the result is blood and starlight, secrets unveiled, and a star-crossed love whose roots drink deep of a violent past. But will Karou live to regret learning the truth about herself? (Annotation from Goodreads)

Days of Blood & Starlight – Daughter of Smoke and Bone #2 by Laini Taylor

Once upon a time, an angel and a devil fell in love and dared to imagine a world free of bloodshed and war. This is not that world. Art student and monster's apprentice Karou finally has the answers she has always sought. She knows who she is—and *what* she is. But with this knowledge comes another truth she would give anything to undo: She loved the enemy and he betrayed her, and a world suffered for it.

In this stunning sequel to the highly acclaimed *Daughter of Smoke & Bone*, Karou must decide how far she'll go to avenge her people. Filled with heartbreak and beauty, secrets and impossible choices, *Days of Blood & Starlight* finds Karou and Akiva on opposing sides as an age-old war stirs back to life.

While Karou and her allies build a monstrous army in a land of dust and starlight, Akiva wages a different sort of battle: a battle for redemption. For hope. But can any hope be salvaged from the ashes of their broken dream? (Annotation from Goodreads)

The Big Disconnect: the story of technology and loneliness by Giles Salde

Smart phones and social media sites may be contemporary fixations, but using technology to replace face-to-face interactions is now a new cultural phenomenon. Giles Slade reveals how consumer technologies changed from analgesic device that soothed the loneliness of a newly urban generation to prosthetic interfaces that act as substitutes for companionship in modern America. The history of this transformation helps explain why we use technology to mediate our connections with other human beings instead of seeking out face-to-face contact. (Annotation from Goodreads)

How Children Succeed: Grit, Curiosity and the Hidden Power of Character by Paul Tough

The story we usually tell about childhood and success is the one about intelligence: Success comes to those who score highest on tests, from preschool admissions to SATs. But in "How Children Succeed," Paul Tough argues for a very different understanding of what makes a successful child. Drawing on groundbreaking research in neuroscience, economics, and psychology, Tough shows that the qualities that matter most have less to do with IQ and more to do with character: skills like grit, curiosity, conscientiousness, and optimism. (Annotation from Goodreads)

The Statistical Probability of Love at First Sight by Jennifer E. Smith

Today should be one of the worst days of seventeen-year-old Hadley Sullivan's life. Having missed her flight, she's stuck at JFK airport and late to her father's second wedding, which is taking place in London and involves a soon-to-be stepmother Hadley's never even met. Then she meets the perfect boy in the airport's cramped waiting area. His name is Oliver, he's British, and he's sitting in her row. A long night on the plane passes in the blink of an eye, and Hadley and Oliver lose track of each other in the airport chaos upon arrival. Can fate intervene to bring them together once more? Quirks of timing play out in this romantic and cinematic novel about family connections, second chances, and first loves. Set over a twenty-four-hour-period, Hadley and Oliver's story will make you believe that true love finds you when you're least expecting it. (Annotation from Goodreads)

### If You Could Be Mine by Sara Farizan

In this stunning debut, a young Iranian American writer pulls back the curtain on one of the most hidden corners of a much-talked-about culture. Seventeen-year-old Sahar has been in love with her best friend, Nasrin, since they were six. They've shared stolen kisses and romantic promises. But Iran is a dangerous place for two girls in love—Sahar and Nasrin could be beaten, imprisoned, even executed if their relationship came to light. So they carry on in secret—until Nasrin's parents announce that they've arranged for her marriage. Nasrin tries to persuade Sahar that they can go on as they have been, only now with new comforts provided by the decent, well-to-do doctor Nasrin will marry. But Sahar dreams of loving Nasrin exclusively—and openly. Then Sahar discovers what seems like the perfect solution. In Iran, homosexuality may be a crime, but to be a man trapped in a woman's body is seen as nature's mistake, and sex reassignment is legal and accessible. As a man, Sahar could be the one to marry Nasrin. Sahar will never be able to love the one she wants, in the body she wants to be loved in, without risking her life. Is saving her love worth sacrificing her true self? (Annotation from Goodreads)

### Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library by Chris Grabenstein

Kyle Keeley is the class clown, popular with most kids, (if not the teachers), and an ardent fan of all games: board games, word games, and particularly video games. His hero, Luigi Lemoncello, the most notorious and creative gamemaker in the world, just so happens to be the genius behind the building of the new town library. Lucky Kyle wins a coveted spot to be one of the first 12 kids in the library for an overnight of fun, food, and lots and lots of games. But when morning comes, the doors remain locked. Kyle and the other winners must solve every clue and every secret puzzle to find the hidden escape route. And the stakes are very high. In this cross between *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and *A Night in the Museum*, Agatha Award winner Chris Grabenstein uses rib-tickling humor to create the perfect tale for his quirky characters. Old fans and new readers will become enthralled with the crafty twists and turns of this ultimate library experience. (Annotation from Goodreads)

### Rose Under Fire by Elizabeth Wein

While flying an Allied fighter plane from Paris to England, American ATA pilot and amateur poet, Rose Justice, is captured by the Nazis and sent to Ravensbrück, the notorious women's concentration camp. Trapped in horrific circumstances, Rose finds hope in the impossible through the loyalty, bravery and friendship of her fellow prisoners. But will that be enough to endure the fate that's in store for her?

Elizabeth Wein, author of the critically-acclaimed and best-selling *Code Name Verity*, delivers another stunning WWII thriller. The unforgettable story of Rose Justice is forged from heart-wrenching courage, resolve, and the slim, bright chance of survival. (Annotation from Goodreads)

### For Darkness Shows the Stars by Diana Peterfreund

It's been several generations since a genetic experiment gone wrong caused the Reduction, decimating humanity and giving rise to a Luddite nobility who outlawed most technology. Elliot North has always known her place in this world. Four years ago Elliot refused to run away with her childhood sweetheart, the servant Kai, choosing duty to her family's estate over love. Since then the world has changed: a new class of Post-Reductionists is jumpstarting the wheel of progress, and Elliot's estate is foundering, forcing her to rent land to the mysterious Cloud Fleet, a group of shipbuilders that includes renowned explorer Captain Malakai Wentforth—an

almost unrecognizable Kai. And while Elliot wonders if this could be their second chance, Kai seems determined to show Elliot exactly what she gave up when she let him go. But Elliot soon discovers her old friend carries a secret--one that could change their society . . . or bring it to its knees. And again, she's faced with a choice: cling to what she's been raised to believe, or cast her lot with the only boy she's ever loved, even if she's lost him forever. (Annotation from Goodreads)

### Eleanor & Park by Rainbow Rowell

Set over the course of one school year in 1986, ELEANOR AND PARK is the story of two star-crossed misfits – smart enough to know that first love almost never lasts, but brave and desperate enough to try. When Eleanor meets Park, you'll remember your own first love – and just how hard it pulled you under. (Annotation from Goodreads)

### **News from You**

Rensselaer Public Library and East Greenbush Community Library are collaborating in doing a mini-convention. The convention will be a lot of different interest groups coming together such as Anime, Science Fiction and Video Gamers. (Similar to RPI's Genericon). Jane/Dan will send information to Mary, who will share it.

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

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

**Next meetings: December 20 (Award mocks meeting #1) January 10 (Awards mocks meeting #2), February 6 (SRP Planning Workshop), March 14, April 11, April 24 (Tween/Teen Workshop) May 9, June 13**

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