

## **Youth Services Advisory Council**

November 13, 2015

Upper Hudson Library System

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

Meeting 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

Large Library Concerns Discussion 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Attendees: Mary Fellows UHLS, Diane Riganti UHLS, Debbie Sternklar VOOR, Sharon Hodges PTRB, Terry Volpe MEND, Molly Chatt EGRN, Beth Bomba COLN, Barbara Goetschius RCSC, Stephanie Anderson APLM, Lee Ricci APLB, Nora Burrows APL intern, Jane Chirgwin RENS, Natalie McDonough BETH, Mia Orobona CAST, Lee Ackerman-Sawyer WSTR, Mindy Fowler SNLK.

### **UHLS updates**

- Workshop - The Tween and Teen Maker space workshop is at APLM, Thursday, December 3, 2015. Still time to register; ferry service to APL offered.
- RIF Meeting - The meeting date for the first 2016 RIF meeting is Monday, November 16 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at UHLS. We'll review parameters for RIF, decide how they should change for 2016, and then start talking titles. Expect a second meeting to agree on the title(s) in January. If you're not able to attend and have input on how RIF should change, or titles that should be considered, please email Mary.
- 1KBBK - Orders Due December 1, 2015. An email went out to on 11-9-15 with the order form attached.
- Orders for the Summer Reading materials is due on November 30, 2015. This early ordering will make it easy to do school visits using some of these materials.
- Public speaking training workshop: Our deliverables for the ProPEL project include training on public speaking. So we've created a training opportunity for ProPEL but we're opening it to all staff in UHLS libraries. More information is on the YS blog and was sent out in email. Please respond by Wednesday, November 18, 2015.
- YS shared calendar book marks are coming.
- We have 202 books from a company called Bare Books. They have a blank puzzle to color and a blank book to fill in. As per group's wishes: they will be one of the Summer Reading Program Workshop prizes.
- We are revisiting the use of the Youth Service Blog. Is it used enough to maintain? Minimal interest.

- Take Your Child to the Library Day is February 6, 2016. Some suggestions: a story walk, ice cream sundae for breakfast (it's also Ice Cream for Breakfast Day!)
- Suggested programming: Tale on the Trail, an outside Story walk. Library Hop idea – patrons go to different libraries, have a “passport;” get a stamp from each library visited.

### **Sierra user forum: Kids' Search**

What do you like? Very cute page/graphics. What do you dislike? The search brings up just juvenile titles, not YA. Can't limit search to one library. Joe Thornton will follow up with specific questions to iii and Users Group. Mary will report back.

### **The book and the controversy: A Fine Dessert**

The group learned about the controversy surrounding this book and discussed the roles and responsibilities of authors, illustrators, and books in portraying “open wound” subjects for young children, and our own responsibilities as evaluators and programmers.

### **Libraries are Education discussion: How do we contribute?**

Group brainstormed this topic:

1. Community education “classes”
2. Assisting people in using the Internet.
3. Stem Programs.
4. Sensory Storytimes.

Other thoughts relating to libraries and education: terminology. Some libraries call programs “events and classes.” Some libraries incorporate the term “early literacy program” rather than “storytime.” Some children call storytime “library school.”

### **You name it:**

VOOR did skull T shirts for “Hallowtween” using the Day of the Dead theme.

### **Great Reads:**

#### **Lockwood & Co. Book Three: The Hollow Boy by Jonathan Stroud**

From: Barnes & Noble

As a massive outbreak of supernatural Visitors baffles Scotland Yard and causes protests throughout London, Lockwood & Co. continue to demonstrate their effectiveness in exterminating spirits. Anthony Lockwood is dashing, George insightful, and Lucy dynamic, while

the skull in the jar utters sardonic advice from the sidelines. There is a new spirit of openness in the team now that Lockwood has shared some of his childhood secrets, and Lucy is feeling more and more as if her true home is at Portland Row. It comes as a great shock, then, when Lockwood and George introduce her to an annoyingly perky and hyper-efficient new assistant, Holly Munro. Meanwhile, there are reports of many new hauntings, including a house where bloody footprints are appearing, and a department store full of strange sounds and shadowy figures. But ghosts seem to be the least of Lockwood & Co.'s concerns when assassins attack during a carnival in the center of the city. Can the team get past their personal issues to save the day on all fronts, or will bad feelings attract yet more trouble? Danger abounds, tensions escalate, and new loyalties form in this third delightfully terrifying adventure in the critically acclaimed Lockwood & Co. series.

### **Masterminds by Korman Gordon**

From Publishers Weekly

Several teens learn that their idyllic small-town existence is a sham in this first entry in Korman's Masterminds series. Serenity, N.Mex., has the best standard of living in the country, with zero unemployment and total peace and prosperity. Thirteen-year-old Eli and his friends have never known anywhere else. Honesty, harmony, and contentment aren't just valued in Serenity, they're a way of life. Then Eli and the others start to notice odd things: when they try to leave town, they get sick; their Internet is remarkably sanitized compared to outside sites they accidentally come across; and some kids are considered special, while others are less so. After they discover the truth about why Serenity is so peaceful, they must face the fact that their lives have been ruled by a gigantic lie. Rotating among several young narrators, Korman builds tension as the mystery unfolds, leading to several surprise twists that upend the status quo. While an awful lot of dumb luck is involved in the kids' discoveries, this tense, fast-paced story will have readers racing toward the cliffhanger ending. Ages 8–12. (Feb.)

### **The Rest Of Us Just Live Here by Patrick Ness**

From Publishers Weekly

Having written both exquisite fantasies and heartbreaking contemporary stories, Ness (*More Than This*) forays into satire, and mostly succeeds, poking fun at the Chosen One trope—imagine a novel about Bella and Edward's classmates wrestling with exams, college admission, and unrequited love, with all those vampire/werewolf shenanigans as backdrop. Siblings Mikey and Melinda know something sinister is happening when the "indie kids" start dying in mysterious ways. Zombie deer and eerie blue pillars of light suggest apocalypse (again) in their remote town in Washington State, but they are busy trying to survive familial dysfunction (their father is an alcoholic, their mother a power-hungry politician) that has worsened Mikey's anxiety and given Mel an eating disorder. Their diverse circle of friends includes Henna (Mikey's crush) and Jared who is (secretly) part god. Each chapter opens with an ominous (and hilarious) synopsis about the imminent showdown between the Immortals and the hipster clique, and while the payoff after all the supernatural and emotional buildup is minimal, this is Mikey's story to tell and he's not trying to save the world, just himself. Ages 14–up. (Oct.)

### **The Hired Girl by Laura Amy Schlitz**

From Publishers Weekly

Desperate for the education her father denies her on their Pennsylvania farm, 14-year-old Joan runs away to Baltimore in 1911, where a well-to-do Jewish family hires her to help their obstinate, aging housekeeper. Schlitz (Splendors & Glooms) has crafted another exquisite literary gem, one told entirely via Joan's vivid, humorous, and emotionally resonant diary entries over a year and a half. Through Joan's naive perspective, Schlitz frankly discusses class, religion, women's education, art, literature, and romance. Joan has trouble reconciling her devout Catholic faith with Judaism, mixing up kashrut and even attempting to convert her employers. Yet because Joan is a hard worker, the Rosenbachs are forgiving and good to her, even encouraging her to read from their library. Joan is reminiscent of heroines like Anne Shirley, Jo March, Cassandra Mortmain, and her own favorite character, Jane Eyre (Joan even gives herself a fittingly literary alias, Janet Lovelace). Her overactive imagination, passions, and impulsive disregard for propriety often get Joan into trouble, but these same qualities will endear her to readers everywhere. Ages 12–up. Agent: Stephen Barbara, Inkwell Management. (Sept.)

**Reminder: request Advance Reader Copies from UHLS (to keep!) at**  
<http://horizon.uhls.lib.ny.us/cgi-bin/reports/arc.pl>

**Next meetings:**

- December 3 (Librarian MakerDay at APL – all day)
- January 8, UHLS (book review before/after meeting; teen services discussion after meeting)
- February 4 (SR workshop, COLN; snow date February 5)
- March 11, UHLS (youth book award meeting)
- April 15 – attend the NYLA YS Section Spring Conference – it's in Albany!
- May 13, UHLS (book review before/after meeting; teen services discussion after meeting)
- June 10, UHLS (discussion group before/after meeting)

**Upper Hudson Youth Services – Mary Fellows - 437-9880 X228 –  
mary@uhls.lib.ny.us**

**Quote of the day:**

Never say, "I don't have enough time." Replace it with, "I'm choosing to prioritize here."

- Roxanne Emmerich, Thank God It's Monday!