

UHLS I Youth Services Advisory Council

October 14, 2016

Book Review

9:00 am – 10:00 am

Meeting

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Book Review

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Attendance:

Mary Fellows (UHLS), Diane Riganti (UHLS), Melissa Tacke (CAST), Lee Ricci (APLB), Debbie Sternklar (VOOR), Molly Chatt (EGRN), Dave Cole (COLN), Lisa Neuman (APLM), Ann-Marie Helldorfer (COLN), Carol Gaillard (HOOF), Lee Ackerman-Sawyer (WSTR/RVLL), Carol Roberts (TROY), Kathy Stempel (BERN), Sharon Hodges (PTRB), Jane Chirgwin (RENS), Mindy Fowler (SNLK), Ted Riese (MEND), Barbara Goetschius (RCSC).

Meeting Minutes:

UHLS Updates

- Summer Reading Program catalogs will go out in delivery in the next two weeks. We have extra 2017 Collaborative Summer Library Program catalogs to handout to schools in your library district. A sheet went around asking how many schools in your district. If you would like some catalogs, please contact diane@uhls.lib.ny.us.
- Central Library funds can no longer be used for Bookflix. The price was too expensive for individual libraries to purchase. Central Library funds can no longer be used to buy YA or J ebooks. Individual libraries will have to purchase their own.
- Is the Upper Hudson Kids catalog available on a computer in your children's section? Libraries are reminded to make it available.
- The BELLS Grant (Benchmarking Early Literacy Library Services first class will be Thursday, October 20, 2016. Joyce Laiosa will be presenting. Twenty eight people have signed up.

Beanstack Development

UHLS will create templates for a One Thousand Books Before Kindergarten program, a generic family reading program, and a generic adult program. Beanstack will copy these three programs to your sandbox sites. Then, using a questionnaire to help you make decisions:

1. You can customize one or more for your library, or
2. With your questionnaire answers, Rob can come out and work through it with you, or
3. With your questionnaire answers, Rob can set up the program for you

It will take us a little time to get these templates fully fleshed out, and then time for Beanstack to transfer them to your sites. In the meantime, if you're already underway with setup and want to forge ahead, by all means do.

There will be an app to getting to Beanstack. {Correction: Beanstack's website is optimized for mobile devices, so no app.}

Mary reviewed booklists in Beanstack:

- Booklists can be pulled from other libraries and/or created from scratch.
- If duplicating another's list, please check and make sure all the books are in Encore, available somewhere in UHLS. Delete those that are not.
- The library posting the list is responsible for updating the list when books are deleted and withdrawn.
- There is a Google Doc where you can view other "vetted" UHLS lists and add the list you have created:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ourEqoXb1uOK3zuVBqSsWJcXIKD5QnSU75ceF0IBbv8/edit#gid=0>

Ins and outs of program planning

Dave Cole and Ann-Marie Helldorfer (COLN) spoke about program planning and distributed a hand-out.

Issues in having a long lead time to planning a program:

- Some programs need to be planned 2-3 months in advance for management.
- A more a more detailed description of the program.
- You need to add the program to the Newsletter, flyer, Facebook.
- You can take longer to plan what you are going to do.
- The materials can be cheaper.
- Can distribute flyers to schools.
- Better advertising.

Issues in having a short lead time to planning a program:

- Vague description in a newsletter so you can change the program if needed. What is popular now might not be popular in three months.
- Idea: "Super Tuesday Special" which can be a STEM program this week & next time a craft program.
- Details of a generically advertised program can be written on a white board near the circulation desk.

Wi-fi free zones article

An article was passed around stating that some people need a Wi-fi free zone for studying etc. Cell phones can be a distraction when someone really needs to study or do homework. Some Wi-fi free zones are in places where Wi-fi is not available ex: a basement, out of the way room. Idea for libraries during pre-Regents or finals "study hall" sessions!

Highlights of the list-Mary gave a review of Highlights of the [YS book review list](#).

Great reads:

Towers Falling by Jewell Parker Rhodes

ISBN: 9780316262224

Publishers Weekly

With the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks approaching, Dèja's fifth-grade teacher draws the students' attention to the skyline outside their classroom window, pointing out where the towers once stood. At first, Dèja is unable to fathom how something that happened so long ago could have any bearing on her, especially when she has more immediate problems—her family is currently living in a shelter. But she learns that the events of 9/11 have a long reach, affecting those closest to her in ways large and small. Rhodes (Sugar) gives readers an approachable entry point to consider the terrorist attacks of 9/11, as well as homelessness, discrimination, divorce, and other subjects. Through Dèja's interactions with classmates from a range of backgrounds (Dèja is African-American, and her new friends Sabeen and Ben have Turkish and Mexican heritage, respectively), readers will develop a richer understanding of what it means to be American, as well as the interconnectedness of the present and past. Rhodes approaches a complex, painful topic with insight and grace, providing context to an event distant to the book's audience. Ages 8–12. Agent: Michael Bourret, Dystel & Goderich Literary Management. y)

Work rules! insights from inside Google that will transform how you live and lead by

Laszlo Bock.

ISBN: 9781455554799

Publishers Weekly

Bock, Google's head of people operations, debuts with a book about how Google hires and manages its employees. Most people know about the company's free lunches and shuttle services, but, according to him, there is more behind Google's five-time Fortune ranking as "Best Company to Work For." The company aims to "keep people in an environment of freedom, creativity, and play." However, there are rules underlying this culture, and values underlying these rules, to each of which Bock devotes one of the book's 14 chapters. Its bedrock is trust in the fundamental goodness of people. Some rules are easier to accept than others. For example, "given limited resources, invest your HR dollars first in recruiting." Less obvious is, "Swallow hard and pay unfairly." No matter the rule, however, its explanation is thorough. Regarding pay, Bock cites a "power law distribution" that proves "your best people are better than you think, and worth.

Everything, Everything by Nicola Yoon

ISBN: 9780553496642 Ages 12-14

*Kirkus

Suffering from "bubble baby disease," Madeline has lived for 18 years in a sterile, sealed house with her physician mother. Madeline is a bright, witty young woman who makes the best of life with a compromised immune system by playing games with her mother, studying with online tutors, and writing brief spoiler book reviews on Tumblr. Her life is turned upside down when a troubled new family moves in next door and she sees Olly for the first time. Olly, a white boy

"with a pale honey tan" and parours moves, wants to meet her, but Madeline's mother turns him away. With the help of an indestructible Bundt cake, Olly perseveres until he gets her email address. Madeline—half Japanese, half African-American—chronicles her efforts to get to know Olly as she considers risking everything to be with him. She confides to her wise and understanding nurse, Carla, the truth she keeps from her overprotective mother: that it's painfully hard to be a teenager with a crush, yearning to venture outside and experience the world. Spot art by the author's husband, occasional lists in Madeline's handwriting, emails, and instant-messaging transcripts add a lively dimension to Madeline's quirky character. In her debut, Jamaican-American Yoon gives readers complex characters and rich dialogue that ranges from humorous to philosophical. This heartwarming story transcends the ordinary by exploring the hopes, dreams, and inherent risks of love in all of its forms. (Fiction. 12-17)

My Lady Jane by Cynthia Hand

ISBN: 9780062391742 Ages 13-17

*Publishers Weekly

Hand (the Unearthly series), Ashton (the Everneath series), and Meadows (the Orphan Queen series) clearly had a ball working on this joyous rewrite of the story of Lady Jane Grey and King Edward VI, and readers will have just as much fun with it. The authors follow history to the point of tragedy, then toss it aside to allow love and good to triumph. One significant tweak is the creation of a shape-shifting people called Eðians, such as Jane's new husband, Lord Gifford Dudley, who spends his days as a horse and his nights as a man. This version of England is full of Eðians, and Edward's power-hungry sister Mary (aka Bloody Mary) is one of the Verities who want to purge the country of them. Alternating third-person narration scrolls smoothly among Edward, Jane, and Gifford in chapters packed with hilarious banter, authorial asides, and polite avoidance of nudity as characters shift into and out of animal forms at inopportune moments. It's an uproarious historical fantasy that's not to be missed. Ages 13–up. Agent: (for Hand) Katherine Fausset, Curtis Brown; (for Ashton) Michael Bourret, Dystel & Goderich Literary Management; (for Meadows) Lauren MacLeod, Strothman Agency. (June)

Wolf Camp by Andrea Zuill

ISBN: 9780553509120 Ages 4-8

*Kirkus Reviews

Homer, a goggle-eyed, middle-size houndish-looking canine, yearns to go to Wolf Camp, a place "Where every dog can live as a wolf—for an entire week!" Yes, a sleep-away camp for dogs. After persistent pestering, the mutt's given permission to go. On arrival it is introduced to the counselors, enormous, sharp-nosed, shaggy wolves named Fang and Grrr. Zuill's pen-and-ink drawings with watercolor wash perfectly conveys the dogs', er, sorry, campers' inner feelings, from the getting-to-know-you butt sniffs to their expressive eyes as they receive their instructions. Fang's safety-talk speech bubble is so extensive that the text bleeds off the page. Homer, like any child in a new situation, slowly warms up to the goofy golden retriever-like Rex and the tiny gray Chihuahua Pixie, the fellow campers forming a pack that learns to hunt, howl, and sleep outside like real wolves. Although Homer has a rough start, confiding in a letter home that the "food is yucky and has hair on it" and the bugs "are gross," when it is time to leave, the tears flow. Readers witness Homer's return to domesticated life, as the dog curls up on a comfy

round bed under a blue electric blanket. Homer is not an unchanged dog, though, but an honorary wolf with a certificate and a howl to prove it. This debut picture book will delight more than dog lovers. (Picture book. 5-8)

Best Friends in the Universe by Antoinette Portis

ISBN: 9781626721365 Ages 3-7

*School Library Journal

K-Gr 2—Employing eye-catching imagery and space lingo that will have children and their adults giggling, Portis emphasizes that friendship can be tricky yet rewarding. Yelfred and Omek, residents of the planet Boborp, have been pals (or "frints") since they were young. Though these two buddies love to engage in a variety of activities together (they give out "blurfday" gifts, play games such as "eye ball in the peedle pit"—which consists of flinging an eyeball through a sea of gaping maws—and eat "yunch"), they are quick to anger (which never happens on Earth, the author wryly points out). Yelfred and Omek's interactions do turn a bit rough (harsh words are exchanged, and a tail is gnawed off), but "frintship" prevails in the end. Portis has crafted a witty and energetic work that will appeal to children's sense of fun. There's a Tim Burton-esque feel to the zany, dramatic illustrations—Yelfred and Omek are spherical creatures with antennae, tails, clawlike arms and legs, and pointy "teef")—but also an adorable factor that will endear them to readers. Saturated colors, textured backgrounds, and a pared-down design, full of thick outlines and simple shapes, are ideal for the title's intended audience. These easily vexed alien pals capture the emotional ups and downs that children experience, and Portis's creative take adds a fun twist on a well-trod topic. VERDICT Those seeking materials on friendship, especially for storytimes, should add this wonderfully wacky take on the subject.—Mahnaz Dar, School Library Journal

Polar Bear's Underwear by Tempera Tupera

ISBN: 9781452141992 Ages 3-5

School Library Journal

Poor Polar Bear can't find his underwear, and so, with Mouse's help, he walks off in search of his missing undies. In the well-established pattern of "That's Not My..." books, the duo encounter a series of pages with die-cut underpants-shaped windows showing knickers of varying color schemes. Predictably, the undies always belong to some other animal. Each creature's skivvies reflect some characteristic of the owner. Zebra's underwear has colored stripes, Pig's has pictures of doughnuts and French fries, and Butterfly's are covered in flowers. Lively mixed-media collages illustrate the playful text. Young readers will delight in the visual gags; Squid wears a 10-legged pair of panties, and Bunny wears hers on her head. An eight-line song at the end of the book celebrates Polar Bear's underwear and asks readers, "Would you like to wear a pair, too?" VERDICT This silly import from Japan will quickly become a favorite with potty-training tots and fans of underwear humor.—Rachel Anne Mencke, St. Matthew's Parish School, Pacific Palisades, CA

Next meetings: November 10 (**Thursday**), December 9 (includes Best of the Best 2016 book reviews), January 13 – Youth Mental Health First Aid training, February 8 – SRP Planning Workshop (February 9 snow date), March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9

Upper Hudson Youth Services – Mary Fellows – 437-9880x228, mary@uhls.lib.ny.us

Quote of the day:

"The most common way people give up their power is by thinking they don't have any."

-Alice Walker