

UHLS I Youth Services Advisory Council Meeting

October 13, 2017

Book review
Meeting
Book review

9:00 am - 10:00 am
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Attendance:

Mary Fellows (UHLS), Diane Riganti (UHLS), Natalie Hurteau (BRUN/GRAF), Mary Dugan (BETH), Christine McGinty (BETH), Jen Lubbers (EGRN), Ann-Marie Helldorfer (COLN), Joelle Adler (CAST), Lee Ackerman-Sawyer (WSTR/RVLL), Barbara Goetschius (RCSC), Carol Gaillard (HOOF), Bryana Wachowicz (GUIL), Amy Relyea (TROY), Elissa Valente (COLN), Lee Ricci (APLB), Lisa Neuman (APLM), Jane Chirgwin (RENS)

Meeting Minutes:

UHLS Updates

- The Summer Reading Program statistics are all in and Mary sent them to the state. Thank you for getting them in on time.
- The Middle Childhood Matters: Revitalizing Your library Service to 6-12 Year Olds is Thursday, November 2, 2017 at the Guilderland Public Library from 10:00 am – 3:30 pm. Registration starts at 9:30. Deadline for registration is October 27, 2017.
- The Teen Librarian meetup is April 26, 2018 at the East Greenbush Community Library. More information to come.
- There have been no Beanstack bills yet. When we get them, we will send them to you.
- We are looking into a Collaborative order for 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten.
- The first meeting for the Public Speaking Class was held on October 6, 2017.
- The Library Hop meeting was held on
- Mary thanks everyone for their input on the YSAC Meeting Survey. Your input is important and suggestions are considered for future meetings. Your input is valuable to us as it helps us to meet your needs.
- The review copy books will be sent the Monday after the Friday Directors meeting. The books will be sent to your library, with a bright colored slip in the top book and the books will be rubber banded together.

Book Talking

Mary discussed the books on the 10-13-2017 Highlights Book list.

Youth Service Kit Speed Dating

All of the Youth Service kits were on display so everyone could look at them. A discussion was held about adding to the collection of kits and what kits would be useful to libraries. Some suggestions were new CDS for the Karaoke Machine, black lights, Block booking character costumes, a collection of Storytime ideas, X-boxes. A kit with a lot of information on Renewable

energy. Finch Robots, Bloxels, Dot & Dash Robots, Mana Tiles, a kit with board games and Ozobots. A suggestion was made for a list of kits other libraries would be willing to loan. A suggestion was made to split the Early Literacy Kids Coding Kit. The group will revisit the iPads in Storytime in six months.

Fun at Work:

Mary gave a brief presentation and group shared ideas and positive stories.

Teen OWL Crates & Teen Book Boxes

A discussion about Teen OWL Crates and Teen Book Boxes were held. UHLS will investigate coordinated ordering. The Teen Book Boxes were the one the group would like to explore. One suggestion was you could hold a pick up Teen Book Box party and Teens could introduce themselves to each other. Book Boxes is \$23.00 a month plus \$6.50 shipping. Libraries could make their own box, this could be a DIY program for Teens.

Great Reads:

The Shadow Cipher by Laura Ruby

ISBN: 9780062306937 Ages 8-12

In this entertaining race through an alternate-history New York City, first in the York trilogy, several children attempt to unravel their city's greatest unsolved puzzle in order to save their historic apartment building from an unscrupulous real-estate tycoon. Twins Tess and Theo Biedermann and their friend Jaime Cruz are determined to solve the clues left behind by the Morningstarrs, legendary architects and inventors who dazzled New York with fantastic technology and skyscrapers before vanishing. As the intrepid trio follows a chain of previously undiscovered hints, they're drawn deeper into the truth behind the so-called Old York Cipher. Printz Award-winner Ruby (Bone Gap) conjures a compelling vision of a city rife with enigmas and secrets through third-person narration that highlights the key roles played by the friends and a young neighbor named Cricket. The details of Ruby's alternate New York fascinate—this is a world that features familiar pop culture references (Legos, Nancy Drew, Marvel superheroes), which are subtly tweaked and accompanied by intriguing tech, such as the robotic caterpillars that keep the Underway (aka subway) clean. The cliffhanger ending will leave readers clamoring for book two. Ages 8–12. Agent: Tina Wexler, ICM. (May)

The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

ISBN: 9780062498533 Ages 14-17

Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed. Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what really went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr. But what Starr does—or does not—say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life -PW

Meditate with Me: A Step by Step Mindfulness Journey by Mariam Gates

ISBN: 9780399186615 Ages 4-8

"A jewel-toned palette, sweet animal faces, and soothing landscapes—combined with a text infused with care—ensure that a child or adult can pick up any part of this book to take a needed break from stress. An impressive, thoughtful collaboration." —Kirkus

Starfish by Akemi Dawn Bowman

ISBN: 9781481487726 Age 12

Graduating from high school and attending Prism Art School in New York City is the only thing keeping half-Japanese, half-white Kiko Himura going. Her Asian features and roots have made her feel like an outsider in her community, and her low self-esteem stems from the cruelty she endures from her distant and emotionally abusive mother. After Kiko reconnects with her childhood friend Jamie, gets rejected by Prism, and faces the return of her sexually abusive uncle, she opts to drive to California with Jamie to check out art schools. There, she meets artist Hiroshi Matsumoto, who recognizes Kiko's talent and mentors her. In an empowering novel that will speak to many mixed-race teens, debut author Bowman has created a cast of realistically complex and conflicted characters. She elegantly channels Kiko's anxieties, and each chapter ends profoundly with a description of her drawings that reflects her growth, setbacks, or newfound understanding ("I draw the sun teaching the moon how to shine"). Through art, Kiko gains a voice and finally understands that she is worthy, desirable, and talented. Ages 12–up. Agent: Penny Moore, Empire Literary. (Sept.) -PW

They All Saw a Cat by Brendon Wenzel

ISBN: 9781452150130 Ages 3-5

"The cat walked through the world, with its whiskers, ears, and paws," writes Wenzel (Beastly Babies) at the opening of this perspective-broadening picture book. What those features add up to depends on the eyes of the beholder, not to mention scale relationships, instincts, and history. To a child, the cat looks like a pet: affectionate, big eyed, and adorable. But a flea sees a vast forest of dense hair to conquer. A mouse cowers before the dragonlike creature of horror that bounds out of a blood-red background with blazing yellow eyes. And a bee sees a collection of multicolored dots—a pointillist pussycat. The simple text ("the skunk saw a cat, and the worm saw a cat, and the bat saw a cat. Yes, they all saw the cat") creates a powerful, rhythmic juxtaposition between word and image, and inventively varied renderings showcase a versatile, original talent at work, in media ranging from collage to pencil and watercolor. This is Wenzel's first book as both illustrator and writer, and it's marvelous—no matter how you look at it. Ages 3–5. Agent: Steven Malk, Writers House. (Aug.)

Beautiful Oops! By Barney Saltzberg

ISBN: 9780761157281 Ages 3-11

A celebration of creative thinking, Saltzberg's small-format book encourages readers to view mistakes not as failures but opportunities. To wit, "A torn piece of paper..." (the cardboard page is actually torn) "is just the beginning": the beginning of a smile for an alligator. Various spills and blobs are transformed into animals, a crumpled piece of paper becomes wool for a sheep, and in the book's standout scene, a panel with a hole in the center telescopes outward, accordion-style, to reveal a tiny creature way at the bottom. Inspirational without being saccharine, this has gifty crossover potential. Ages 3–up. (Oct) PW

Book of Mistakes by Corinna Luyken

ISBN: 9780735227927 Ages 4-8

Almost any child knows the feeling: one errant mark or smudge, and an in-progress drawing or painting is as good as ruined. Not so, says Luyken, in a children's book debut that's as candid as it is encouraging. The pages are virtually blank, at first, and readers watch as a character takes shape: a girl's round head appears, traced in pencil, but one of her large, dark eyes winds up noticeably larger than the other. "Making the other eye even bigger was another mistake," Luyken admits as the problem seems to get worse. "But the glasses—they were a good idea." Additional "mistakes" mount: the girl winds up with an overlong neck and an odd "frog-cat-cow thing" makes an appearance, but Luyken finds a way to turn each one into a success by changing direction or perspective: "The second frog-cat-cow thing made a very nice rock," she writes after inking it in. The idea of setbacks being opportunities in disguise is no stranger to picture book pages, but rarely has it been illuminated with such style, imagination, and compassion. Ages 4–8. Agent: Steven Malk, Writers House. (Apr.)

Reminder: request Advance Reader Copies from UHLS (to keep!) at
Staff can request titles here: <http://reports.uhls.org/cgi-bin/staff/arc.pl>

Next Meetings: November 2, Middle childhood workshop at GUIL,

December 8, 2017, January 12, 2018, February 1, 2018 - SRP Workshop at COLN, March 9, 2018, April 13, 2018, May 11, 2018, June 8, 2018.

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