

## UHLS Youth Services Advisory Council Meeting

**December 14, 2018**

**Small Library Discussion Group  
Reception for Diane Custard  
Meeting**

**9:00 am - 10:00 am  
10:00 am – 10:30 am  
10:30 am - 12:00 pm**

### **Attendance:**

Mary Fellows (UHLS), Diane Custard (UHLS), Barbara Goetschius (RCSC), Elissa Valente (COLN), Gail Brown (VOOR), Beth Rienti (GUIL), Lee Ackerman-Sawyer (WSTR), Joelle Adler (CAST/EGRN), Kathy Stempel (BERN), Tracey Clague (NASS), Jenna Zaborowski (EGRN), Mary Dugan (BETH), Cassandra Krom (APLW), Lee Ricci (APLY), Lexi Consler Neudecker (APLD), Christine McGinty (BETH).

### **Meeting Minutes:**

#### **UHLS Updates:**

Amy DuBrey has been hired as System Support Associate, Youth and Family Services. She will start January 7, 2019.

The position of, Manager, Adult and Outreach Services is open at UHLS. Application review begins 12/19.

The Expedition has been extended until December 31, 2018. This has been an overwhelming success. There were 73 people who visitedWSTR in 5 hours on a Saturday. Please send patron comments to Mary.

#### **Teaching adulting skills to teens Handout: [Adulting Programs for Teens](#):**

A discussion was held about the possibility of starting a Life Hacks workshop series for teens at your library. You will be preparing teens for success in the real world.

#### **Every Child Ready to Read evaluation Handouts: [Evaluating ECRR](#); [Evaluating ECRR Highlights](#):**

A discussion was held on the evaluation of Every Child Ready to Read. A helpful hint from the discussion: when informing your director about how much time it takes to plan a storytime, keep track for a month, adding in all your helpers' time (cutting craft supplies, getting books together, etc. ) Include the time you spend talking to the adults before and after story time.

#### **Supercharged Storytimes for All Training presented by Beth Rienti (2019):**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/supercharged-storytimes-for-all-training-presented-by-beth-rienti-2019-tickets-52006122713>

#### **Book Boxes Handout: [Book Boxes Article](#):**

Lexi Consler-Neudecker gave a presentation on what she does with the Book Boxes at the APLD branch. She has 10 boxes ready to go with a book, snack and other things. There is a waiting list for teens to receive these boxes.

### **500 Books Before Middle School presented by Beth Rienti:**

Beth Rienti presented 500 Books Before Middle School. After children do 1000 Books Before Kindergarten they can jump right into the next phase. This is what is included in her folder: Your folder gives you lists of suggested reading, everything from "Read through New York" and "Imagining the Past," to "Readers Go Batty" and "Seasons Readings." So go online right now and register at [guilderlandlibrary.beanstack.org](http://guilderlandlibrary.beanstack.org). Not only will you read a lot of great stories, you'll also win prizes for each level you reach. Happy Reading!

### **Highlights of 2018:**

Some high lights of 2018 were:

APL - Teen Food, Escape room, Lifesize Pac Man, Lifesize board games. Possible Oregon Trail program. Star Wars Party.

COLN – Outreach at The Crossing with the Food Bank.

CAST- Great Storytimes.

WSTR- Successful Lego Club and Steam Lab.

BETH – Very large family storytimes.

BETH- Rubber Duck Club, Lots of cooperation with Five Rivers.

EGRN- Successful Teen club, Food drive for healthy food.

GUIL- Had to double the amount of Storytimes, more participation.

### **Great Reads:**

*Bob* by Wendy Mass and Rebecca Stead

ISBN: 9781250304148

Five years ago, Livy left her friend Bob, who she describes as a zombielike creature, in the closet of her grandmother's house in Australia without saying goodbye. Bob has loyally awaited Livy's return, dressed in the chicken suit she made to disguise him, and hopeful about the promise she made to help him find his way home, wherever that may be. ... A perfectly paced plot, supported by secondary characters to whom readers will relate and luminous artwork by Gannon, fill out a story that readers will eagerly embrace. A must-have ... this novel delights."—School Library Journal, starred review

*Babies and Doggies* by John Schindel (board book)

ISBN: 9780544640474

"Written in rhyming and near-rhyming couplets, the upbeat verses do a good job of pointing out similarities, but the crisp, colorful photos of babies (and sometimes toddlers) and their canine counterparts steal the show."

*Resistance by Jennifer Nielsen*

ISBN: 9781338148473

Sent away from her Krakow home in April 1941, 16-year-old Chaya Lindner becomes an activist in the Jewish armed resistance movement Akiva by October 1942. With features and coloring that belie her ethnicity, as well as fluency in Polish and a smattering of German, she can pass as the Polish Catholic Helena Nowak, which makes her the perfect courier. Confident Chaya is dismayed when she is paired to work with seemingly timid Esther, who possesses "every possible look and mannerism to radiate her Jewishness" and who is to blame for a failed Akiva mission. As they travel from a ghetto in Krakow to one in Lodz, the young women witness horrific events and undergo harrowing experiences before arriving at their ultimate destination: the Warsaw Ghetto, where the action culminates in the historic uprising of April 1943. Suspense mounts continually as Chaya survives her ordeals, gaining strength and faith in her mission. The courage and self-sacrifice of many characters is inspiring, but the book is unapologetically grim and violent, like the events it so persuasively depicts, and may not suit readers at the younger end of its stated range. Ages 8–12. Agent: Ammi-Joan Paquette, Erin Murphy Literary Agency. (Aug.)

*How I Resist: Activism and Hope for a New Generation by Maureen Johnson*

ISBN: 9781250168368

Gr 9 Up—In an anthology for young adults discontented with today's political climate and looking to take action, Johnson has pulled together a lineup of authors that are sure to excite teens, from Jason Reynolds to Hamilton actor Javier Muñoz. There are interviews, poems, artwork, sheet music, comics, lists, calls to action, and short stories. The topics are varied as well, each speaking to a different kind of activism. One message is clear: no one is too young to have a voice and to make a difference. Multiple authors call out the current presidential administration and speak to feelings of hopelessness about the 2016 presidential election. The overarching theme of activism and resistance transcend this one election, calling young adults to take action now and make the future different than the past. VERDICT The editor has done an exceptional job calling on different voices to share their wisdom and thoughts on making a difference. A worthy addition to YA collections.—Kat Paiva, Rye Public Library, NH

*Epic Adventures of Huggie and Stick by Drew Daywalt*

ISBN: 9780399172762

Huggie, a blue stuffed animal, and Stick, a wooden stick with a face, arms, and legs, fall out of their boy owner's backpack into the ocean. They narrate in diary entries, taking turns. Stick's an eternal optimist, cheerful and oblivious, calling pirates "nice guys in super awesome hats." In contrast, Huggie's grumpy, realistic, and perpetually annoyed. Spencer's pen-and-ink-and-digital art is full of sharp lines and angles, emphasizing exaggerated perspectives and expressions. As the accidental adventurers hop from continent to continent, the places they visit

fall into disturbing categories. Australia, Asia, and Africa feature wilderness and animals but neither humans nor industrialization, while Europe and North America feature humans, industrialization, and news media. South America (in text, not pictures) has people who use Stick "as a blowgun to shoot at monkeys and sloths all morning." Such coding breathes new life into old, inexcusable messages about race and culture. Humor for the butt-jokes crowd and playfulness ("sharks are allergic to stuffed animals") can't outweigh the deplorable Western-centric attitudes and one massive geographical misstep: The protagonists fall off an African coast on the right-hand side of a spread into the Atlantic. This misleads readers who don't know geography yet and confuses those who do. (An only-somewhat-clarifying map on the closing endpapers does not mitigate this fault.) Moreover, the suspension of disbelief demanded by the story is so staggeringly large that it's distancing.

*To All the Boys I Loved Before* by Jenny Han

ISBN: 9781534438378

Gr 7–10—In this lovely, lighthearted romance, high school junior Lara Jean writes never-to-be-mailed letters to every boy she's ever liked. The teen falls for Josh, the boy next door. The catch: he's her older sister's very recent ex-boyfriend. But when her letters are accidentally sent out, the protagonist is desperate to convince Josh that she's over her crush. Peter, a popular boy at school, also received one of Lara Jean's love letters, and—hoping to make his ex-girlfriend jealous—agrees to be her "pretend" beau. Once older sister Margot leaves for college in Scotland, Lara Jean's interactions with Josh are more complicated. Lara Jean also must take care of her younger sister, Kitty, since their mother died six years ago. Unlike typical teen romances, this is as much the story of a family as it is about falling in love. Family traditions are skillfully woven into the first-person narrative, including some from the mother's Korean heritage. Though the three sisters are very close, they also have conflicts to resolve, and Lara Jean's perspective as a middle child suddenly left in charge is compelling. Readers will be intrigued by the narrator and Peter's complicated relationship. Does she really love Josh, or is Peter the one for her? Most teens will guess the outcome but enjoy the many twists and turns along the way in this lyrical novel. Readers will remember the Song sisters and the boys in their lives long after the final page turn.—Miranda Doyle, Lake Oswego School District, OR

*Delicious and Dungeons Vol. 1* by Ryoko Kui (Manga series)

ISBN: 9780316471855

Kui kicks off a surprisingly charming and tasty treat of a manga series in which any danger can be eaten. Deep in a dungeon within a cursed kingdom hidden underground, leader Laios and his intrepid troop escape from a dragon but leave his sister behind—in the dragon's belly. Fortunately, video game tropes apply in this world, and there is time to rescue her before her "final" death. Short on coin and provisions, honorable and single-minded Laios, neurotic magic user Marcille, and cunning thief Chilchuck decide to survive by eating monsters on their way back and are joined by the dwarf Senshi, a veritable monster gourmand. Huge scorpion and walking mushroom hot pot, roast basilisk, and mandrake kakiage and big bat tempura are only some of the imaginative recipes in this combination of role-playing adventure, bestiary, and cookbook (complete with a nutritional chart for each meal). The characters and plot are

lightweight and breezy, and the artwork is humorous, creative, and expressive, making for a tasty ongoing series. (May)

*Movies:*

Dumplin'

Love, Simon

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

**Next meetings:**

**January 11 – YSAC**

**February 7 – (snow date Feb. 8) – Summer Reading Program Planning Workshop**

**March 8 – YSAC**

**April 11 (Thursday) – G.O.A.T Teen Librarian Meetup2**

**May 10 – YSAC**

**June 14 – YSAC**

**Upper Hudson Youth Services – Mary Fellows – 518-437-9880 x228  
mary@uhls.lib.ny.us**