

UHLS Youth Services Advisory Council

April 20, 2021

1-2:30 pm

Virtual

Attendance: (ZOOM, 18) Mary Fellows (UHLS), Amy DuBrey (UHLS), Leanna Sweet (GRAF), Lee Ackerman-Sawyer (WSTR), Amy Relyea (TROY), Jane Chirgwin (RENS), Suzanne Cardinal (NASS), Bryana Wachowicz (GUIL), Joelle Adler (CAST/EGRN), Liz Maynard (RCSC), Debbie Sternklar (VOOR), Judy Crilley (RVLL), Molly Chatt (EGRN), Carol Roberts (TROY), Jen Lubbers (EGRN), Rose Stuart (COLN), Anita Wilson (PTRB), Lisa Fesmire (VOOR)

UHLS Updates

RIF (Read It Forward) - deadline April 30 to notify UHLS of how many copies to order for you. Titles: Warcross by Marie Lu and Ghost by Jason Reynolds. See email from 4/13 for more details.

Annual Award for Program of the Year-cash prize- deadline May 7- see email from 4/19

READsquared help is available if needed.

“Summer Reading Resources for Younger Readers with Print Disabilities” is now available on the New York State Library’s Department of Library Development’s webinar page:

<http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/webinars/index.html>

ATF Update

ALC 401 was held on the article [America's Enduring Caste System](#) by Isabel Wilkerson on April 20.

Project READY is underway. Task Force is looking at speakers to bring in for all UHLS staff from the monies raised from Project Ready.

SRP Poll

Mary shared some of the results of the SRP director’s survey. Highlights of the survey included:

- 23/25 of Upper Hudson libraries are offering outdoor programs this summer, with one unsure and one not offering programs
- The programs will accommodate 10-100+ people. Note: Some libraries will use alternate spaces such as parks, ball fields, or parking lots

Some other notes of interest shared and discussed with the group:

- 21 libraries will require masks for all participants
- 13 will request participants to raise hands for assistance, to be approached by a staff member

Library Mascots The group discussed the use of library mascots, and how those libraries having mascots use them to market the library. Mary shared five things you can do with a library mascot:

1. Pose your mascot in funny places to market the library in a light-hearted way.
2. Get your mascot its own Facebook page or Instagram account. The library message comes from your mascot's mouth and can be heard better by kids and teens!
3. Have your mascot be the star of SRP! Let your mascot "entertain" at the library: it can host the stuffed animal overnight and lead the hijinks!
4. Let your mascot celebrate holidays, including just-for-its species holidays. Like National Raccoon Break Dancing Day.
5. When not doing official library business, your mascot can brighten the life of staff by appearing in odd places, wearing costumes, doing odd things, or with a funny sign. How else can a mascot be used?

Some other things you can do with a library mascot that the group discussed:

- write letters between mascots of different libraries- pen pals!
- UHLS meeting of mascots (maybe a future expedition?)
- EGRB- Charlie Cheer, notes/jokes to kids from Charlie in their book bundles
- mascot in attendance at programs, interacts with patrons
- bring them into storytime or other programming videos

UHLS known mascots:

RVLL: Owl (Remy or Rennie)

GUIL: Grufus the cow

EGRN: Charlie the elephant

RENS: Robert (?) the Ram

APL: Owly

Some references: <https://eglibrary.org/children/welcome-charlie/charlie-story/>
<http://www.5minlib.com/2015/05/why-your-library-needs-mascot.html>

Program Ideas:

Painting Rocks: Mary shared ideas about partnering with a garden center or independently presenting a rock painting program. The group shared ideas about putting the rocks around town as a scavenger hunt, asking a local garden center to give one away to each customer (marketing!) as well as using [oil markers](#) to make them waterproof and using reclaimed slate too, instead of rocks.

- <https://buggyandbuddy.com/30-cool-things-painted-rocks/>
- 0.40 cu. ft. 3 in. to 5 in. 30 lbs. Large Egg Rock Caribbean Beach Pebbles \$12 at Home Depot
- Great outside program!

Mary also shared some ideas from the Public Library Innovation Exchange Ideas: (STEAM ideas co-designed with MIT researchers and PLIX librarians) PLIX website: <https://plix.media.mit.edu/>

Public Library Innovation Exchange Ideas:

<https://plix.media.mit.edu/activities/inflatables>

<https://plix.media.mit.edu/activities/databasic>

<https://plix.media.mit.edu/activities/paper-circuits> <https://plix.media.mit.edu/activities/space-food>

Be the Change You Wish to See program idea shared by Debbie Sternklar of Voorheesville library.

- Exploring social issues through books, grades 6-12, earn community service hours and a tote bag!
- Provide book lists, the TAG (teen advisory group) will choose tote bag
- Participants will make slides with book title to share
- Local school librarian will send out info to their school Amnesty International/ Key Club, etc.

Another idea: Partner with a teen to develop a program together with them on a topic of interest to them.

Fandom Parties: Mary shared the idea of having “fan” parties for kids of all ages.

Rainbow Rowell’s new book *Any Way the Wind Blows* coming out July 6! It’s the third and final book in the series (Simon and Baz) This popular book series started with the book *Fangirl* which introduced Simon and Baz as characters in a Harry Potter-like (think older though) book series that the main character of Fangirl is obsessed with. Simon and Baz and the world they live in became hugely popular with fans. Their fanfiction inspired Rowell to tell the story of Simon and Baz in *Carry On* and *Wayward Son*. (Suitable for teens)

Stranger Things party: <https://zen-teen.com/2019/07/02/in-a-world-of-tens-be-an-11/> Season 4 just finished filming and will hopefully be released later this year or early 2022. (suitable for tweens and up)

Fandom party ideas (Breakout Rooms): The group broke out into groups to brainstorm ideas for other fandom parties for young kids through tweens. The instructions were to:

- Plan for outdoor OR virtual OR in-library OR hybrid
- Consider
 - Food if possible
 - Art activity
 - Game
 - Movement
 - Take-home
 - What else would make it fun?

First we “practiced” as a large group, on developing a Where the Wild Things Are party:

Where the Wild Things Are Party:

- Crown making
- Wild rumpus playlist for dancing with tails!
- Growling contest
- Create your own monster
- Make sailboats and play in water
- Trail mix
- Wild thing maze with boxes
- If virtual play with filters
- Freeze dance with monster faces

Party ideas from breakout rooms:

Young children:

Bark, George:

- wear drs jackets and long gloves for the program,
- have kids act out the different animals pulled out,
- dog biscuits for snacks,
- animal sounds game,
- animal masks,
- dance to shoo-fly,
- variation of simon says, \act like a dog,
- sing old macdonald,
- craft: paper George with smaller animals to take out of him, popsicle stick puppets,
- use puppets to retell the story
- Hold a Bark, George animal clinic
- Visit or host a local vet

Very Hungry Caterpillar:

- copy-cat Eric Carle art project, use cut out animal shapes with tissue paper
- work on a collage together
- freeze dance with butterfly song
- have food from the book
- Life cycle of a caterpillar activity

Clifford (movie coming out)

- making dog biscuits
- bring stuffed animal dogs
- making collars
- related craft, sponge paint large clifford cut outs
- have a movie night when movie comes out on dvd or watch Clifford cartoons
- large Clifford outline for kids to draw on, spray paint Clifford on grass or in chalk on your building,

Older Children:

Dog Man: (the 10th book was just released in March)

- invent a robot
- dog treats, cocoa puffs
- how to draw Dog Man
- tattoos
- make a dog man hat with ears with younger kids
- trivia
- melting crayon activity

Also consider:

Captain Underpants

The Bad Guys (movie coming out)

101 Dalmatians ("Cruella" movie coming out)

Teens/tweens:

Jurassic World Camp Cretaceous:

- Someone wear t-rex inflatable suits
- air dried clay and footprints
- bath bomb with sponge pill dinosaur
- dinosaur dig with coconut husks soaked in glue half buried with dollar store dinosaur skeletons in it
- dino dig zen garden
- Trivia
- escape room
- [dinosaur egg oatmeal](#) packets in a take and make

Also consider:

Space Jam (sequel coming out)

Stranger Things (TV series)

Upper Hudson Youth Services

Mary Fellows - 437-9880 X228 – mary.fellows@uhls.org

Amy DuBrey – 437-9880 X231 – amy.dubrey@uhls.org

Request an ARC! New books added semi-monthly!

<http://reports.uhls.org/cgi-bin/staff/arc.pl>