

UHLS Youth Services Advisory Council

November 14, 2022 - 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Guilderland Public Library

Attendance (11): Mary Fellows (UHLS), Amy DuBrey (UHLS), Lee Ackerman-Sawyer (WSTR), Bryana Wachpwich (GUIL), Amy McCarthy (GUIL), Debbie Sternklar (VOOR), Gail Brown (VOOR), Jill Kobayashi (RCSC), Amy Caccia (VAFL). Colene Phoenix (NASS), Suzanne Cardinal (NASS)

Tours of GPL Thank you to Guilderland Public Library for hosting this month's YSAC meeting. Thank you also to Amy McCarthy and Bryana Wachowicz for the tour of your beautiful library. If you haven't had the opportunity to see their new space, please go visit soon.

UHLS updates

- **SRP Orders** are delayed as we are waiting on the physical catalog to arrive.
- **1KBBK** UHLS would like to support an effort to bring 1KBBK to our libraries, as well as support the ones already offering it. (Don't know what 1KBBK is? ...look [here](#)) Please contact Mary with suggestions of materials and incentives for adults that you might like to receive.
- **GOATS: The Greatest of All Time Teen Services Meet Up!** Come network and share ideas Tuesday April 14 at EGRN. More info to come!
- **CSLP SRP Training** CSLP SRP training on Thurs. Dec. 8 from 11-4:30 Register [here](#).
- **Ideas for SRP Workshop** Please send Mary ideas of what you might like to see in the workshop.
- **SRP Dies** Please let us know any suggestions you have for new Dies for next year's theme: *All Together Now*. Don't know what a "Die" is...see below! 😊



- **I'm Your Neighbor- The Welcoming Library Rotating Collection** There are 3 collections available to borrow for the Dec.-Jan rotation. Please contact Mary or Amy if interested or you want to book a collection for next Spring. Programming ideas are available and included with the collections, for example: *Alma and How She Got Her Name*, *I'm New Here* and *Together We Grow* have photos, news release and marketing copy. See [The Welcoming Library Toolkit](#) for ideas and more!

Voorheesville's collection diversity audit with Debbie Sternklar

For many years Voorheesville Public Library has been keeping track of the books they buy (first as a spreadsheet, then a Google Form) capturing reading level, many areas of diversity, subject, characters etc. as a way to audit their collection. (This also works as an amazing reader's advisory tool) [Here is a link to their form](#). Please do not submit any information on it! If you would like to make a copy, please email Mary, who can only grant that permission individually. (mary.fellows@uhls.org)

Here is more information supplied by Debbie:

This Google Form was created by Voorheesville Middle/High School librarian, Chris Menetti as a modification of an older "Youth Update" form that we had long used in Youth Services. After she had attended a training about performing a diversity audit of the school's collection, she shared the information that she was tracking to assure that she was offering titles that not only reflected our community, but also the wide world into which our students will graduate. At the Voorheesville Public Library, we did not go back and audit the entire youth materials collection, but started using the form to track the diversity/equity/inclusion reflected in new purchases over the summer of 2019 through the spring of 2022. We did not track digital collection purchases with this tool.

This does require a bit of time spent with each new title each week. The YS staff (2 librarians and an LA) had always looked over new items every Thursday, checking the shelf tags for accuracy, and familiarizing ourselves with items coming in. Our old "Youth Update" required us to type in new titles by collection (the general Picture Book, Reader, J Fic, etc.). Some were also listed under special topics, like Holidays, genres, and nonfiction classes. The questions on the new form required more investigation for each title. The author's ethnicity can frequently be found in their jacket blurb, character's religions, etc. are best found in Encore reviews (especially the ones written by Kirkus), if not easily found in the jacket description or by skimming some pages. In some cases we would have to check off "Unknown" and move on with our work. If more information is discovered later, one could always edit the form results.

This form is editable. Please make a copy and rename it with your library, then change the editing permission before use. [Mary's note - please email me for access to do this.] We are NOT trying to collect data from all UHLS libraries mixed together! You can also customize the questions, for example you can add more categories in religion. We received our first book with a Mormon protagonist, so added that. I did regret breaking out too many Asian countries, so have edited them back out for this form. It makes the resulting graphs hard to read when your categories are very small, but use it as fits your needs. Once you have data in a category though, you can't delete the category without disrupting your results.

The graphs provided by data entered into the form can be used to inform your future purchasing, display your commitment to providing diverse, equitable and inclusive materials to your community, and provide information to your director and board.

Cricut demonstration with Jane Chirgwin

A big THANKS to library director Jane Chirgwin from RENS for her Cricut demo. Also thank you GUIL for your wonderful Cricut item and craft display. It was very educational and fun! You can download a PDF of Jane's handout [here](#).

[ARC'S Available!](#)

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

(These ARCs cannot be added to your collection in any way.

By requesting ARCs, you are agreeing to give them to your kid, tween, or teen readers.)

Upper Hudson Youth Services

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

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

Quote of the day:

Libraries are relentlessly innovative.

- Christian Zabriskie

Youth services librarians are too!

- Mary Fellows