

UHLS Youth Services Advisory Council

April 5, 2023

1:30 – 2:30

Virtual

Attendance(13): Mary Fellows (UHLS), Amy DuBrey (UHLS), Bryana W (GUIL), Leanna Sweet (GRAF), Liz Maynard (RCSC), Suzanne Cardinal (NASS), Jane Chirgwin (RENS), Rose Stuart (COLN), Lee Ackerman Sawyer (WSTR), Cologne Phoenix (NASS), Amy Caccia (VAFL), Anita Wilson (PTRB), Jen Lubbers (EGRN), Kathy Stempel (BERN), Carol Roberts (TROY)

UHLS updates

- READSquared: new [webinars](#) to help set up for SRP 2023; UHLS available to help! Contact Mary if support is needed at mary.fellows@uhls.org
- GOAT 3!- April 18th, at East Greenbush Community Library. [Register here](#)
- May YSAC, 10 – 11:30; book review
- The Expedition has begun!
Many libraries have already enjoyed handing out the “maps” and stamping them! [The Expedition Store](#) is getting a lot of love! If anyone has any questions please contact Mary at mary.fellows@uhls.org
- Don't forget: we have a 45 ft. Parachute with a mini megaphone ready to borrow for a possible fabulous community drone photo or just a great community togetherness event!
- We also have a few new die cuts of puzzle pieces to support your community art projects or decorate your YS area. Contact Amy at amy.dubrey@uhls.org to borrow.

Small Library Discussion Group

Mary asked for feedback on the Small Library concerns Discussion Group. as a result of that feedback, new dates and a new format where the discussion topics are brought by participants have been announced. Any staff members are welcome to attend. Judith Wines and Mary will share convening responsibility.

Dates:

- Friday, April 14, 10-11
- Friday, May 19, 10-11
- Friday June 9, 10-11
- Friday, July 21, 10-11
- Friday, August 18, 10-11

Programming:

Check out the article:

Planning future programming when staffing is uncertain

Some mentions from the discussion that followed were:

- **Ongoing passive programs:**
 - Perennial themed scavenger hunt – this library: all 8 of the hidden signs in the department choose a sticker or bookmark as a prize.
 - Make & Take craft table going. A new craft is put out each Monday and offered until supplies run out. Prepped far in advance; each staff member preps some.
- Keep a program wish list for when you have staff for it.
- Inform your boss about your process, so they know that your decisions were deliberate and strategic.
- Have to have manageable in-library programming to do effective outreach programming

Distraction by shiny object: when something new seems more appealing than any (formerly shiny) program currently planned

- A little bit in a rut – are current programs same old, same old? If so, plan something that excites you – even if you need to plan it for six months from now. We have to keep ourselves engaged in our work.
- If you know yourself to be just distractible, then note the new idea for a future program, but go back to the upcoming program that now seems less shiny and write down three good things that you expect to come out of it. Such as: the kids will be really happy about the finger painting, I'll feel good watching them have fun, it will be interesting to see their creations.
- Have easily interchangeable plans to switch out if you “aren't feeling it”!

What do you love [other than the library]? How to incorporate your interests into programming to boost work engagement

Whatever interests you outside of work and family, whatever you know a lot about or would like to learn more about, create a program around it! Bringing our interests into our work helps to keep us engaged when engagement is more elusive (and we almost all go through those times).

Highlights:

- **Sports fan:** host a Tournament of Books a la March Madness
 - <https://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2017/04/excite-your-kids-about-books-with-a-tournament-of-books/>
- **Animals:** bring in animals for programs
- **Nature:** Preschool morning with nature play, programs on local hikes you like
- **Flying:** hire a hot air balloonist to give a talk and maybe inflate their canopy on the library's lawn

Hot! Hot! Hot! Some programming ideas

- The floor is lava -
<https://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2023/02/low-budget-program-in-a-post-the-floor-is-lava/>
- Lego Checkout Club
 - o <https://www.hafuboti.com/2014/07/07/lego-2-electric-legoloo/>
 - o <https://jennyandthelibrarians.tumblr.com/post/86744346490/inspired-by-this-blog-post-from-bryce-at-the>
- Hunts
 - o Expedition Scavenger hunt!
 - o Paired to a new entry in a popular series coming out
 - <http://www.futurelibrariansuperhero.com/2013/10/wimpy-station.html>
 - o To encourage collection exploration
 - <http://readingwithred.blogspot.com/2013/09/gnome-hunting-at-library.html>

Good to share!

Mary: [Coven by Jennifer Dugan](#) (graphic novel) 10th-11th grade

Amy: [12 Years a Slave by Solomon Northrup](#)

Upper Hudson Youth Services

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

Quote of the day:

Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.

- Desiderata