



The Library YNOTS
(Youth Network Of Two States): WI and NY
1:00 - 2:00 pm Central Time (WI)
2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time (NY)
October 17, 2023

Attendance: ZOOM (27)Mary Fellows & Amy DuBrey (UHLS), Lee Ackerman-Sawyer (WSTR), Lisa Fesmire (VOOR), Amy Caccia (VAFL), Emily Viscuso (GPL), Sarah Stanwicks (APL), Elisabeth Smith (GPL), Gail Brown (VOOR) Debbie Sternklar (VOOR), Christiann Gibeau (COHS) + Wisconsin Friends

Introductions:!

We met each other and had a fun check-in.

Intro to our systems

The South Central Library System (WI)

- 54 urban, rural and suburban libraries
- covers most of Wisconsin?
- levels of libraries dependent on population

The Upper Hudson Library System (NY):

- 29 libraries, 36 locations
- Four types of public libraries in NYS
- UHLS is one of 23 public library systems in NYS – several, like Brooklyn and Queens, have branch libraries instead of members. Some have both branches and members!

Discussion

Seasonal joke swap:

Jokes are a great enticement to your public service desk and into a conversation with staff – for both children and adults! Post the joke on one side of a card and the answer on the flip side.

Poll:

How many post jokes at your service desk?

91% DO NOT

9 % DO

Here are some joke highlights:

- Why didn't the skeleton cross the road? He didn't have the guts!
- How do you mend a broken pumpkin? With a pumpkin patch.
- What is a ghost's favorite dessert? I-Scream
- What is a scarecrow's favorite fruit? STRAWberries
- Where do spiders shop? World Wide Web
- What kind of pants do ghosts wear? Boooooo Jeans
- Why did the zombie skip school? She was feeling rotten!
- Who helps the little pumpkins cross the road when they go to school? The crossing gourd!
- Why did Dracula go to the library? To find a book to sink his teeth into!
- Why did the vampire fail art? He only knew how to draw blood.
- Where does the library keep books about Bigfoot? In the Large Print collection!
- How many vampires does it take to screw in a lightbulb? It depends if you Count Dracula!

How about a joke scavenger hunt? Put up jokes around the library for kids to find! Complete the hunt and get a prize! (sticker, pencil, etc.)

Some libraries made calling and telling the librarian a joke a task on their SRP BINGO card!

Survey:

We'd like your help in developing this two-state partnership! Here is a [survey](#) to share your thoughts. What do you want to know from each other? Help create future YNOTS meeting agendas!

Program ideas

What are you looking forward to doing in the coming months?

- GUIL: Trunk or treat in upper parking lot for the 2nd time, doubling candy this year!, day before Halloween, lots of non-candy treats will also be available-UHLS
- COLN: Book Tasting Café, [Puzzle Chess](#) -UHLS

- APL: Period Party with Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood and Cooperative Extension on 12/5 -UHLS
 - This was inspired by a Madison Public Library program: [Learn about Menstruation at the Period Party | Madison Public Library](#)
- Jess (VER): T-Rex Tea party (Tea-Rex 😊): books, snack, craft and special dance with a dino! -SCLS
- Poynette WI is doing a "Six-Word Story Contest" in November. Write a six-word story on the theme of Thankfulness. Any age patron may participate (3-11, 12-18, 18+). One random participant in each group will win a Poynette Library book bag.
- Andrea: Collaborative Art Night, make a gift to give- SCLS
- Cupcake Decorating- SCLS
- Trick or treat in library and Thanksgiving Bingo
- The daycares come around and trick-or-treat and we hand out candy to them. But, on Halloween, we put books out on the table and the kids that trick-or-treat then get to choose a book!
- We are doing NaNoWriMo Junior this year. A local author who teaches creative writing courses here at the library has agreed to do this with us--three sessions to kick off, check in and wrap up with the kids!
- We had our first Bubble Bash! Lots of attendees
- We make and take ornaments during Thanksgiving break. Just have them set up so folks can make them as they come in.
- We're also doing a Not-So-Spooky Storytime on Halloween where the kids will trick-or-treat to the Checkout, Information, and Children's Desks. They'll get a sticker, a stamper, and a cute plush candy corn toy.
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- Trick or treat in library and Thanksgiving Bingo
- teen programming coming up that was planned and will be run by our teen advisory group for the first time!
- Belleville is celebrating our 145th anniversary party November 4th. We are doing escape rooms, virtual reality, cake, crafts and more.

What plans do you have for school winter break weeks?

- Winter Reading Program geared toward graphic novel readers in middle and high school
- SUN has done a Tea with T-Rex party every January for 3 years! We have to do two sessions because we get so many people!
- Winter break for littles (under 5) = Library Playdate - we set up the program each day at the same time with themed toys & books (math, art, science, motor, etc) Parents and little can come in and out to meet/play/socialize

- December holiday break - 1 literacy & cooking program using the book Mac & Cheese; 1 multi-age and family program using LEGOs and Ozobots; 1 coding program for teens
- Besides our storytimes and regularly scheduled programs during winter break we're doing the following series: Crafts and seasonal festivities during Winter Break here at Washington Avenue! They're fairly passive, each day runs for 3 hours.
 - Tuesday, 12/26: Paint your own bookmarks
 - Wednesday, 12/27: Learn how to make snowflakes while sipping cocoa
 - Thursday, 12/28: Help out with a sticker-by-number
 - Friday, 12/29: Take home some homemade felt cookies
- January we host a jigsaw puzzle exchange.
- We also do Drop-In Video Games during school break weeks. We hook up our two Nintendo Switch consoles - one with Super Smash Bros. Ultimate and one with MarioKart 8. We have a 2-3 hour timespan when the kids can drop-in to play together. It's always a lot of fun and we often get kids who don't have these consoles at home, so it gives them an opportunity to play these popular games.
- [Adventsfenster](#) is a life-size Community Wide Advent Calendar
- Sammy: Yule Ball Harry Potter Themed! [Yule Ball Pics](#) DJ, Crafts, snacks, activities, photo ops and more!
- Christmas Trivia and Bingo
- Gingerbread houses use tissue boxes instead of milk cartons or use cups
- More drop in/ passive programs since in person programs are not as well intended.

Break into individual system discussions

SCLS topic: program kits

UHLS group meeting notes:

- Group was surveyed about CE lead time needed. Recommendation: at least 3 months lead time for in person meeting, about 1 month for virtual
- CCBC Shorts – November 8, 10-10:45 registration!
<https://ccbc.education.wisc.edu/event/ccbc-shorts-new-ya-fiction/>
- Youth Mental Health First Aid – schedule for first part of Dec or early January

- Storytime Bootcamp – November 16 Register [here](#)
- [Talk Saves Lives TM | AFSP](#) - 45-60 minutes on suicide prevention - group gave thumbs-up to including it as a future CE or part of YSAC meeting
- SRP workshop – the group was surveyed about preferences for in-person or multi-system virtual? Preference: multi-system virtual with perhaps some more time for networking and/or questions, maybe in breakout rooms
- Group was surveyed about a workshop on “how to schmooze,” suggested by member library staff. Lukewarm reaction; thought was training on cultivating relationships with school districts/ teachers” would be more helpful.

Wrap-Up

How did things go today? Suggestions for next time?

- Here’s a link to that [Survey](#) again!

Register for upcoming CCBC webinar:

- [CCBC Shorts: New YA Fiction](#)

Registration is on the page if you scroll to the bottom and click on View Event Website. Or register from the link below:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_bZw9HFIVSU6Yp8DdP59kbA#/registration

Next YNOTS meet up:

Tuesday, Dec. 12th

1:00 pm Central Time/2:00 pm Eastern Time

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89814082581?pwd=ZVVBUhnUCtSQWhzRHVVSkx6VjJrUT09>

Helpful links:

System Calendars:

[South Central \(WI\)](#)

[Upper Hudson \(NY\)](#)

Recent archived Continuing Education recordings

[CCBC Shorts webinar recordings archive](#)

SCLS continuing education webinar [recordings archive](#)

Upcoming virtual publisher previews

[Simon & Schuster Spring Children's preview, 11/8/23](#)