Teen Librarians Meeting  
Monday, May 7th, 2018 @ Finkelstein Memorial Library  
Co-Chairs: Dianne Aimone and Jessica Gordon

Attendees: [Bold denotes a new attendee]  
- Dianne Aimone, Albert Wisner Public Library, Warwick  
- Olga Bell, West Nyack Free Library  
- Kimberly Carletta, Orangeburg Library  
- Jennifer Cohen, Suffern Free Library  
- Felicia DaVolio, Newburgh Free Library  
- Emily Dowie, Pearl River Public Library  
- Randall Enos, Ramapo Catskill Library System  
- Liz Fisher, Cornwall Public Library  
- Jessica Gordon, Finkelstein Memorial Library  
- Maria Martinez, Florida Public Library  
- Kristie Revicki, Nanuet Public Library

1. Welcome & Introductions  
   a. Sunshine Fund Report- There are no new updates about the Sunshine Fund.
2. Chair News  
   a. LARC news- Scrawl has finished printing. The launch party will take place on Thursday, May 10th at 6PM at the Valley Cottage Free Library. No legislators will be attending the party this year, even though they were invited. JG Faherty and Carolyn MacCullough, authors who are guest editors for Scrawl, will be attending.
   b. May is Mental Health Awareness Month. Orange County has Text 4 Teens, a program where teens can text volunteers after school and on weekends if they’re having a rough time. Orange and Ulster County also have Mobile Mental Health teams that are available 24/7 to help those having a mental health crisis. Contact information for these organizations, as well as mental health resources for teens in Rockland County, will be made available on the teen librarians LibGuide.
   c. The Harry Potter: Hogwarts Mystery RPG for smartphones was released on April 25th. The teen librarians who have played it are giving it mixed reviews (all actions in the game take up too much energy at the moment and it would cost money to get more energy) and not many teens seem to be playing it. Wizards Unite, the Harry Potter game made by the Pokemon Go team, is expected to come out this summer but no official release date has been given yet.
3. Randy’s Notes  

a. Publishers Previews  
   ■ Sourcebooks, which used to only publish reference books, now also publishes quite a bit of YA books. The following are the release dates for some upcoming books for teens that have either recently come out or will come out soon:  
      ● *August and Everything After* by Jennifer Salvato Doktorski- May 1st, 2018  
      ● *Out of Left Field* by Kris Hui Lee- May 1st, 2018  
      ● *Furyborn* by Claire Legrand- May 22nd, 2018  
      ● *The Last Summer of the Garrett Girls* by Jessica Spotswood- June 5th, 2018  
      ● *What You Left Me* by Bridget Morrissey- June 5th, 2018  
      ● *Doing It!* by Hannah Witton [Nonfiction book about sex]- July 3rd, 2018  
      ● *Bellewether* by Susanna Kearsley- August 7th, 2018  
      ● *The Dark Beneath the Ice* by Amanda Berube- August 7th, 2018  
      ● *Someone I Used to Know* by Patty Blount- August 7th, 2018  
      ● *The 7½ Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle* by Stuart Turton- September 18th, 2018  
   ■ Abrams used to be an arthouse but now publishes YA books as well. The following are the release dates for some upcoming books for teens that have either recently come out or will come out soon:  
      ● *The Faithful Spy* by John Hendrix [Graphic novel about Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s plot to kill Hitler]- September 4th, 2018  
      ● *The Good Demon* by Jimmy Cajoleas- September 18th, 2018  
      ● *Beneath the Citadel* by Destiny Soria- October 9th, 2018  
      ● *Easy Prey* by Catherine Lo- October 16th, 2018  
      ● *The Anna Karenina Fix: Life Lessons From Russian Literature* by Viv Groskop- October 23rd, 2018  
      ● *Showtime at the Apollo: The Epic Tale of Harlem’s Legendary Theater* by Ted Fox- January 8th, 2019  

b. Special Workshops  
   ■ Reports:  
      ● The YSS Spring Conference was held at the Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel and Conference Center in Syracuse, New York on Thursday, April 12th. The keynote speaker was Rebecca McCorkindale, Hafuboti Blog author
and creator of the “Libraries are for Everyone” artwork. She is a youth librarian from Nebraska who talked about making the library a welcoming place. She handed out customized mardi gras beads and spoke about the importance of making sure to look at and acknowledge patrons who come into the library. She also discussed how to get rid of librarians in civil service positions that aren’t working out due to poor customer service. Randy went to a session on partnerships between school and public librarians where the theme was “Two Heads are Better Than One.” Sometimes administrators of schools make it almost impossible for interdisciplinary librarians to connect but try to keep at it because getting kids into the library is much easier when you have contacts and the ability to speak to students at local schools. For those of you who are interested in attending YSS but don’t want to make the trip upstate, next year’s conference will be in Westchester County!

- The GOAT (Greatest of All Time) teen librarian meetup took place at East Greenbush Community Library in East Greenbush, New York on Thursday, April 26th. The meetup lasted all day, which many of the RCLS teen librarians found to be way too long, but librarians from consortia without teen librarian groups that have regular meetings probably got more out of the event. Much of the conversation at the conference had to do with how to best communicate with teens (examples included Snapchat, Instagram, email, and good old-fashioned paper flyers). There were also discussions about programming ideas, such as incorporating slime, Minecraft, and Nerf Guns into teen events. Representatives from the Hudson Valley LGBTQ Community Center in Kingston were at the event and showed an interest in presenting to our teen librarians group as a special topic next year.

- **Coming Up:**
  - Day of Dialogue will be taking place on Wednesday, May 30th at New York University. While the event is currently sold out, there is a waitlist.
  - BookExpo will happening at the Jacob Javits Center in New York City from Wednesday, May 30th to Friday, June 1st.
Immediately following BookExpo will be BookCon, which will be held on Saturday, June 2nd and Sunday, June 3rd.

- Fall Into Books will be on Wednesday, October 24th at the Crestview Conference Center in West Nyack. The speakers will be activist and author Sandra Uwiringiyimana (*How Dare the Sun Rise*) and Nick Glass, founder and executive director of TeachingBooks.net.

**SRP News:** If you are having trouble accessing the digital version of the Collaborative Summer Library Program manual and need to manually access the hard copy version instead, you can borrow it from RCLS for a few days. Contact Randy by email at renos@rcls.org if you need to do so.

4. **Topics**
   a. The RCLS teen librarians’ LibGuide is now available at [http://guides.rcls.org/c.php?g=566564&p=3902145](http://guides.rcls.org/c.php?g=566564&p=3902145). If you’d like to submit something to the LibGuide, you can send content to Dianne at daimone@rcls.org. However, if you frequently attend teen librarian meetings and already have your own LibGuide account, chances are you have been made an editor of the teen LibGuide and can post content yourself. If you don’t have your own LibGuide account yet, contact RCLS’s Martha Sullivan at msullivan@rcls.org and she can help you set one up.
   
   b. On April 20th, when many students were walking out of school to protest gun violence in memory of the Columbine school shootings, students in Cornwall were prohibited from walking out of school. More than a dozen students did not go to school that day, instead spending their day at the Cornwall Public Library, which gave them a spot outside to protest and a room inside where they could write letters to legislators. The library received some significant pushback from the public for supporting the students but the library director felt that the teens’ right to protest was a matter of free speech.
   
   c. The theme for this year’s summer reading program is “Libraries Rock,” a celebration of music. However, a lot of the teen librarians are using the title of the theme to promote other programs that aren’t music-related such as the animal program “Marvelous Mutts (Rock),” as Cornwall is holding. Finkelstein will be having an all-day Disney movie marathon while Nanuet will be painting rocks to look like punk rockers. Other popular events to hold during summer reading programs are henna workshops and karaoke competitions.

5. **Committee Updates**
a. Battle of the Books Committee: This year’s Battle will be on Saturday, September 8th. The location isn’t confirmed yet but has been narrowed down to either SUNY Orange (the usual location) or the Palisades Mall. Contact Dianne by Friday, June 1st if you’re participating. Participating libraries have until Sunday, July 15th to send in their participation fee of $75; if your library needs an invoice for this, contact Randy. The schedule for buzzer practice is also now available, with two separate buzzer systems available to practice with, one for Orange County teams and one for Rockland County teams. To find out what dates the buzzers are available and schedule a practice for your own team, once again, contact Randy.

b. Mock Printz Committee
   - The date of the next meeting is to be determined, but most likely will be in the last week of June. Stay tuned for an email from Mary Phillips with upcoming meeting dates and times.
   - For a complete reading list of the books currently in contention for the Mock Printz, email Mary at mphillips@newcitylibrary.org.

6. Next Meeting: The teen librarians will not be meeting again until the fall- at the moment, the next meeting is planned to take place at RCLS on Monday, October 1st. Have a great summer reading program everyone!