Teen Librarians Meeting
Monday, December 3rd, 2018 @ RCLS
Co-Chairs: Dianne Aimone and Jessica Gordon

Attendees: [Bold denotes a new attendee]
- Dianne Aimone- Albert Wisner Public Library, Warwick
- Risa D’Angelo- Tuxedo Park Library
- Kimberly Carletta- Orangeburg Library
- Jennifer Cohen- Suffern Free Library
- Felicia DaVolio- Newburgh Free Library
- Meaghan Doyle- Cornwall Public Library
- Randall Enos- Ramapo Catskill Library System
- Linda Geissler- Woodbury Library
- Joanna Goldfarb- Valley Cottage Free Library
- Karen Golding- Goshen Public Library & Historical Society
- Jessica Gordon- Finkelstein Memorial Library
- Kim Naples- The Nyack Library
- Mary Phillips- New City Free Library

1. Welcome & Introductions
   a. Sunshine Fund Report- We have plenty of money in the fund so no collection is needed at the moment.

2. Chair News- Dianne has been working on finding the teen librarians a field trip that we can take for professional development day. She has been trying to get through to Simon and Schuster but has not received a response back which is a shame because their location right by Penn Station would be extremely convenient. She also looked into School Library Journal but they are located all the way down by the World Trade Center so it is not as easy to get to.
   a. LARC News- Scrawl plans on having a presence at the YSS conference in April as Jessica and Joanna will probably be doing some kind of presentation on the annual book, filled with the writings and drawings of Rockland County tweens and teens in grades 6-12. Submissions for the 2019 edition of Scrawl are due to rocklandteenswrite@gmail.com by Tuesday, January 22nd, 2019. Jessica has again applied for the Young Adults Write Now endowment program from the Horror Writers Association, which gives $500 each year to up to five libraries to establish or support writing programs for young adults.
   b. May Luncheon- While our annual luncheon was originally planned to take place at Finkelstein Memorial Library again, there has been a change
in plans. Michael Cart, who does presentations on literature for teens, is already going to be doing a presentation at RCLS headquarters in May. If we have our luncheon at RCLS, he could be our speaker for the luncheon. His presentation is usually three hours long so our final meeting of the year will have to be shorter than usual. If Michael Cart is our speaker, RCLS will take care of purchasing lunch for us.

3. Conference Feedback
   a. Fall Into Books - The 20th Annual Fall into Books conference took place on Wednesday, October 24th. Joanna led the “May the Force Be With You” Star Wars books discussion, which was a lot of fun. Listening to Sandra Uwiringiyimana, the author of *How Dare the Sun Rise* and the closing speaker, was extremely powerful; people were in tears as she told her family’s story of escaping the Congo and being attacked while in refugee camp in Burundi.
   b. NYLA Conference - This year’s conference took place Tuesday, November 6th to Saturday, November 10th in Rochester. Since the conference was so far away only Randy, Karen, and Joanna attended from our group. “The line between service and safety” presentation was very good, focusing on patron harassment of staff members. The speaker gave helpful information, such as about how employers have a legal responsibility to follow up on the harassment if they are informed of it, without repercussions for the employee being harassed. On a related note, volunteers and workers who are at the library for ten or more hours per week are, by law, going to need to participate in anti-sexual harassment training. Randy attended a table talk where there was a presentation on volunteers. Karen went to the teen tech tutors table talk; the presentation she saw is completely online - if you want a link to the presentation, contact Karen at kgolding@rcls.org. We can also add a link to it on the teen librarians’ libguide.

4. Randy’s Notes
   a. Publishers Previews: Randy attended a Penguin Young Readers preview where the main book being promoted was Laurie Halse Anderson’s *Shout*, a memoir made up of free-verse poetry. The book will be published on Tuesday, March 12th, 2019.
   b. RCLS
      - The RCLS juvenile preview is now over and its books are being distributed to those who requested them.
      - October workshop reports:
1. **Bookface & Beyond: Creating Engaging Content for Social Media:** Dianne attended this workshop. The speaker mentioned that Facebook has recently changed its algorithm, leading to decreased page engagements. The presenter taught some workarounds for this problem, such as posting videos consisting of photos, rather than just the photos themselves. Another piece of advice was that patrons want information about local history and library services on their social media, rather than information on programming.

2. **Long Overdue: Enhancing Library Services for LGBTQ Individuals & Families:** This presentation focused on trans issues. The presenter advised those attending not to go to presentation on trans issues if the speaker at that presentation isn’t trans themselves.

3. **Making the Most of Library Volunteer Recruitment and Retention:** No one from the teen librarians group went to this workshop.
   - As mentioned earlier, Michael Cart will be doing a presentation at RCLS on Monday, May 6th, 2019.
   - The job description for the youth Services consultant job that Randy is retiring from has been posted online. Applications are due on Friday, December 7th. This is a vital position and RCLS is looking for extremely qualified candidates for the job.

4. **New York Library Association’s Youth Services Section**
   - Mark your calendars! NYLA’s YSS spring conference will be taking place on Friday, April 26th, 2019 in Tarrytown.
   - The YSS Empowerment, Advocacy & Leadership Academy began in October 2018 and will be running through April 2019. According to NYLA website, “This 7 month program is specifically designed for YS Providers who are interested in developing their leadership skills for personal and professional advancement.”

5. **Summer Reading Program News**
   - The Collaborative Summer Library Program theme for Summer 2019 is **“A Universe of Stories.”** The space theme is to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the first moon landing.
     1. Flash drives containing the CSLP teen manual were distributed by Randy at the meeting.
2. A print copy of the manual and its accompanying DVD are available for loan from RCLS. To borrow it, contact Randy at renos@rcls.org.

3. More information about the program, as well as access to the digital version of the manual and the official merchandise shop, are available online at http://cslpreads.org. Please note that you will need to create an account in order to download the manual or make a purchase.

■ Each RCLS library will receive one copy each of the CSLP’s children’s, teen, and generic program posters, for three posters total per library.

5. Committee Updates

a. The Battle of the Books Committee voted and the following will be the books for the 2019 Battle of the Books:
   ■ Classic: *The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams
   ■ Contemporary: *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas
   ■ Fantasy: *I am Number Four* by Pittacus Lore
   ■ Graphic Novel: *Illegal* by Eoin Colfer and Andrew Donkin
   ■ Historical Fiction: *The Girl in the Blue Coat* by Monica Hesse
   ■ Humor: *Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda* by Becky Albertalli
   ■ Mystery: *Beyond the Bright Sea* by Lauren Wolk
   ■ Nonfiction: *The 57 Bus* by Dashka Slater

b. Mock Printz Committee-The committee is looking for a new chair. Nominations were called for at the meeting and two were nominated: Karen Golding and Kristie Revicki. The actual vote for chair will take place at the Mock Printz Award. Another thing to keep in mind about this year’s Mock Printz Award is that we will not be betting with money this year on what book will win the real Printz Award. The Mock Printz Award contenders are as follows:
   ■ *Dry* by Neal Shusterman and Jared Shusterman
   ■ *The Hazel Wood* by Melissa Albert
   ■ *A Heart in a Body in the World* by Deb Caletti
   ■ *Hey, Kiddo* by Jarrett J. Krosoczka
   ■ *The Poet X* by Elizabeth Acevedo
   ■ *Sadie* by Courtney Summers
   ■ *We’ll Fly Away* by Bryan Bliss

6. Topic

a. Teen Room Policies-Not all teen librarians have a corresponding teen room; some just have a corner for teen books. Even those who have
rooms don’t usually have a librarian desk in them to keep an eye on teens at all times. Adults are often allowed in the teen room during school hours but complain when they’re not allowed to loiter there when school is out of session. Besides restrictions on adults, some teen rooms don’t let younger children in either. Sometimes teens bring their younger siblings to the room and librarians have to figure out whether they can stay in the teen room or if they need to go to the children’s room instead. There are the usual disciplinary issues with teens: loudness, playing obscene stuff on phones or computers, eating, etc.. Sometimes you have to call parents and ban teens for a while. However, sometimes workers in other parts of the library don’t realize that the teen room policy might have differences from the rest of the library and teens are made to feel unwelcome even when they’re not really doing anything wrong.

7. Next Meeting
   a. The Mock Printz Award program will take place on Monday, January 14th, 2019 from 2:00-4:00 PM. The snow date for the event will be Tuesday, January 15th, 2019.
   b. Our next teen librarians meeting will be on Monday, February 4th from 10:15 AM-12:00 PM. The special topic for the meeting will be teen volunteers.