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# *YAACING*

*SUMMER, 2010*

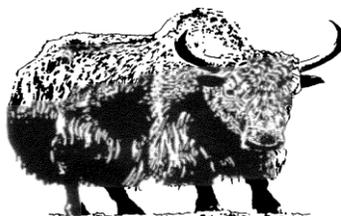
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The Newsletter of the Young Adult & Children's Services Section of BCLA  
<http://www.bcla.bc.ca/YAACS/>

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# CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

We would love to hear from you!

YAACING is published four times a year and is always looking for submissions that might interest our membership. If you have tried something new at your library, would like to write a column, report on a conference session, or know of an upcoming event for the calendar, please share it with us. Mail, email or fax your material to:

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Deadlines are as follows:

*Spring issue for March/April – Feb 1st*

*Summer issue for May/June – April 1st*

*Fall issue for September/October – August 1st*

*Winter issue for December/January – November 1st*

**Next Deadline:  
Spring Issue: August 1st**

Please contact the BCLA Office or website for subscription information, back issues, or advertising: email:

[office@bcla.bc.ca/](mailto:office@bcla.bc.ca/)

## **Message from the Chair**

**Sarah Donald, Librarian, West Vancouver Public Library**

This is my first message to you as Chair of YAACS.

I would like to begin by thanking Susan Redmond for her hard work and dedication as YAACS Chair over the last year. I look forward to working with Susan again this year in her role as Past-President.

It was nice to meet and re-connect with so many people at the BCLA Conference in Penticton this spring. The conference had some interesting and engaging sessions for those of us who work with children and teens. There was a great turnout for YAACS sponsored sessions, especially Margaret Mackey's session, "Toys and Technology, Libraries and Literacies, Practices and Play," which sold-out completely.

The money raised from this year's BCLA Conference Awards Luncheon went to the Sheila A. Egoff Children's Literature Prize. Attendees donated over \$1600! Also, YAACS raised over \$200, which was added to the prize. Thank you to everyone who donated.

In May, representatives of BCLA, including YAACS and the Public Librarians' Interest Group, sent letters to Premier Campbell, Education Minister MacDiarmid and others to support the BC Teacher-Librarians' Association's position on cuts to learning specialist positions. You can read this letter on the BCLA website.

I wish everyone a happy and fun summer! Reading Rocks!

Sarah Donald

## Message from the Editor

Joanne Canow, YAACING Co-Editor  
Children' Librarian, Early Years Community Program, Vancouver Public Library

Welcome to this summer edition of *YAACING*, my first fully electronic edition (Phillippa produced the colourful first edition in the spring). The BC Library Association, 2010 Conference, in Penticton, is now a pleasant memory for those fortunate to have been able to attend (I'm particularly envious of those who were able to enjoy the Okanagan wine tours). From all reports the sessions were wonderful. This edition includes a few reports on YAACS sponsored sessions – written for everyone in the province who could not attend in person.

At the YAACS AGM in Penticton, many new members were welcomed into executive positions, including a couple of individuals interested in sharing the editorship of *YAACING*. Before the end of 2010, April Ens and Pamela Fairfield will be at the editing helm.

As I write this rather late note, the 2010 Summer Reading Club is just beginning to attract and register eager young readers in some libraries. The themes and illustration this year are wonderful!

In the meantime, we've just received disappointing news that the Teen Reading Club will end in September, unless someone other than the Public Library Service Branch financially supports it. This important program for teens, which has been extremely popular and has steadily grown to be a very successful national program is the most recent victim of the all too common and pervasive budget cuts that have eliminated many of our successful children's literacy programs, the very ones promised and enshrined by our duly elected provincial government not long ago.

Included in this edition, is the first of our new Teen Column that Amy Dawley has so enthusiastically agreed to submit. There are recent press releases from Red Cedar and 2010 Conference Reports from Kate Lowe and Darby Love. Two SLAIS student features include an oral storytelling program from Emileigh Kinnear and Corene Margaret Brown and Kelly McElroy's Collection Management paper on GLBTQ Materials. Leah Pearse, the new Teen Reading Club Coordinator, has submitted information about how to participate in this great program and Laura Thomas is promoting the third year of a provincial Junior Author's Summer Short Story Contest.

Hope you have a grand summer and find interesting ideas in this edition of *YAACING*.

Enjoy! Joanne.



## Red Cedar Winners Announced

May 14, 2010

Vancouver –

Young readers from across British Columbia have selected a novel about internet predation and a book tracing the history of candy as the Red Cedar Book Award winners for 2009/2010.

*Dear Jo: the story of losing Leah...and searching for hope* by Christina Kilbourne, tells the story of Maxine, whose life is turned upside down after her best friend is abducted by an internet predator. It was the winner in the Fiction category. To learn all about fudge, ice cream cones and Gummi Bears, you'll want to check out *Sweet: the delicious story of candy*, this year's winner in the Information Book category, which was co-written by Ann Love and Jane Drake and illustrated by Claudia Davila.

Each year, thousands of children in grades 4 through 7 participate in Red Cedar reading groups where they read, review, discuss and eventually cast votes for their favourite Canadian children's books in two categories; fiction and information.

The Red Cedar Awards, administered by the Young Readers' Choice Awards Society of BC, were started to promote quality Canadian children's literature and to increase literacy among youth. Participation in the program is free, and students need to read at least 5 of the nominated titles between November and April to be eligible to vote. For more information about the Red Cedar Book Awards and the Young Readers' Choice Awards Society of BC, please visit our website at [www.redcedaraward.ca](http://www.redcedaraward.ca)

Kate Adams and Jennifer Wile  
Co-Presidents, Young Readers' Choice Awards Society of BC  
[redcedaraward@gmail.com](mailto:redcedaraward@gmail.com)



## Red Cedar 2010/2011 Nominees Announced

May 14, 2010

Vancouver – The Young Readers' Choice Awards Society is pleased to announce the nominees for the 2010-2011 Red Cedar Book Awards, in preparation for the new Red Cedar season in November.

### 2010-2011 Red Cedar Fiction Nominees

*Pete's Gold* by Luanne Armstrong  
*Feather Brain* by Maureen Bush  
*Zach and Zoe and the Bank Robber* by Kristin Butcher  
*The Girl in the Backseat* by Norma Charles  
*Graveyard of the Sea* by Penny Draper  
*Dear Canada: Days of Toil and Tears* by Sarah Ellis  
*Libertad* by Alma Fullerton  
*Diary of Laura's Twin* by Kathy Kacer  
*The Nine Lives of Travis Keating* by Jill MacLean  
*Star Climber* by Kenneth Opper  
*Dear Toni* by Cyndi Sand-Eveland  
*The Shadow of Malabron* by Thomas Wharton

Thank you to the Red Cedar Fiction selections committee: Our thanks to the Red Cedar Fiction Selections Committee: Devon Tatton, Librarian, Greater Victoria Public Library; Shelby Rogers - TOC, School District 61; Judith Brand, Freelance Editor and Indexer; Amber Rider, Cadboro Bay Book Company; Angela Dorsey, Author.

## 2010-2011 Red Cedar Information Book Nominees

*One Peace: True stories of young activists* by Janet Wilson

*Super Crocs & Monster Wings: Modern animals' ancient past* by Claire Eamer

*Who Discovered America?* by Valerie Wyatt

*Science on the Loose: Amazing activities and science facts you'll never believe* by Helaine Becker, illustrated by Claudia Davila

*The Curse of Akkad: Climate upheavals that rocked human history* by Peter Christie

*Dirt on Dirt* by Paulette Bourgeois, illustrated by Martha Newbigging

*Polar Worlds: Life at the ends of the Earth* by Robert Bateman

*Everything But the Kitchen Sink* by Frieda Wishinsky and Elizabeth MacLeod, illustrated by Travis King

*Alien Invaders: Species that threaten our world* by Jane Drake and Ann Love, illustrated by Mark Thurman

*A Native American Thought of It: Amazing inventions and innovations* by Rocky Landon with David MacDonald

*Ballplayers and Bonesetters: One hundred ancient Aztec and Maya jobs you might have adored or abhorred* by Laurie Coulter, illustrated by Martha Newbigging

*Inside Hockey!: The legends, facts and feats that made the game* by Keltie Thomas, illustrated by John Kicksee

Thank you to the Red Cedar Information Book Selections Committee: Kelly Woods - Public Librarian; Erinna Gilkison - Publisher's Assistant / Editor; Leslie Buffam - Historian, Bookseller, and Author; Norma Charles - Author, Retired Teacher-Librarian; Rachelle Delaney - Author.

The Red Cedar Book Awards, administered by the Young Readers' Choice Awards Society of BC, was created to promote quality Canadian Children's literature and to increase literacy among children in grades 4 through 7. Starting in the fall of 2010, students from across BC will read, review and discuss the nominated titles, and then they'll have a chance to vote for their favourite title. For more information about the Red Cedar Book Awards, please visit our website, [www.redcedaraward.ca](http://www.redcedaraward.ca).

## 2010 British Columbia Library Conference Reports

Submitted by Darby Love, North Vancouver District Public Library and Burnaby Public Library

### **BC Library Association's "Seriously Entertaining: learning through fun and games" Session Report**

The BCLA conference in Penticton this year was my first and certainly not my last. My conference began and ended very nicely with a car full of children's librarians singing silly songs -the part in between wasn't bad either! I'd like to share what I learned at two of the sessions I attended.

#### **How to Run Successful Teen Programs on a Budget & with No Staff**

Session Presented by Amy Dawley, Teen Librarian at Prince George Public Library, [adawley@lib.pg.bc.ca](mailto:adawley@lib.pg.bc.ca)

While the title was not strictly accurate, the session did provide several great ideas for those with some staff time available to them and an openness to forming partnerships.

#### **Teen Programs:**

Providing teen programming can be a daunting task but it is important to remember that each library has unique users and you have to be willing to fail and try again. Prince George Public Library's Teen Librarian, Amy Dawley, stressed that she had failures along the way to creating a thriving teen scene at her library. Tapping into the area's anime/manga fan base has delivered some of her most successful programming. There is an anime/manga club called "Otakus for life" (otaku is a Japanese term for someone who is obsessed with manga, anime, and/or video gaming). Members of this group engage in "cosplay" (dressing in costume as favourite characters), create crafts, and watch anime movies screened at the library. Amy found an anime movie distributor called Operation Anime that would give her copies of movies to add to the collection and let her screen them at the library in exchange for the teens filling out a short marketing survey afterwards. Other hits included goth sock puppet making, a teen writers' circle, the "Where is cosmic space frog?" contest that allowed teens to enter a draw for a book, and a teen bingo where teens got to know their library better to erase some of their fines (idea borrowed from Halifax Public Library).

Check out the Teen Bingo Card for library fines on the next page, or Halifax Public Library's version here: <http://www.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca/teens/contests/duck-your-fines-bingo.html>

Operation Anime: <http://www.operationanime.com/>



# SUMMER SPACE OUT!

teen bingo

We dare you! Show us your best zombie walk.	Check something out from the library.	Library trivia challenge: what year was the Bob Harkins Branch built?	Tell us the name of your favourite band / musician.	Enter the "Where Is Cosmic Space Frog?" contest.
Library trivia challenge: what kind of fish is the biggest fish in our tank?	Attend a summer teen event at the library.	Say hi to a staff member at the info desk. Find one thing you have in common.	Visit the library's Facebook page. Find the Facebook <i>Spaced Out</i> code word.	Find a book about something you love.
Visit the Public Library's teen web page. Find the <i>Spaced Out</i> code word.	We dare you! Do your best impression of Cosmic Space Frog.		Library trivia challenge: how many TVs do we have in the library?	Recommend a book for our Best Summer Reads list.
Suggest something in the teen suggestion box in the Teen Corner.	Visit teenrc.ca. What's the theme this summer?	Read a magazine from the magazine section.	Visit the Nechako Branch.	Library trivia challenge! What's the name of the library's teen council?
Tell us why you <3 the library.	Visit the Bob Harkins Branch.	Library trivia challenge! What is the name of the library snake?	Tell us the title of your favourite book or graphic novel.	Visit the library 3 times this summer.

This Card Belongs To:

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1. Complete one of the activities on the bingo card and get a staff member at the Children's Information Desk to stamp it.
2. Black out an entire row and you'll get a draw form to enter the grand prize draw, to be given out at the end of summer. You can black out a maximum of 5 lines for a maximum of 5 entries.
3. Black out the whole card and you'll get a bonus draw form for the grand prize.
4. Open to teens ages 12 - 18. Contest ends Friday, August 20.



## Teen Volunteers:

Session Presented by:

Vicki Donoghue, Youth Services Librarian, Port Moody Public Library,  
[vdonoghue@telus.net](mailto:vdonoghue@telus.net)

Sarah Donald, Youth Librarian, West Vancouver Memorial Library,  
[donald@westvanlibrary.ca](mailto:donald@westvanlibrary.ca)

Instead of turning away teens trying to fulfill graduation requirements, Port Moody Public Library and West Vancouver Memorial Library have put them to work. Both libraries use teens to run their Reading Buddies/Book Buddies programs instead of relying on grants to pay students. Teens go through an application process and are then matched up with a little buddy, who they will stay paired with for the duration of the program term. The teens really enjoy their little buddies (many of whom are English language learners). Volunteers are offered reference letters for their work with the program.

Port Moody invested some start up money in literacy games for the buddies to play along with reading, and money was budgeted for weekly food for teens coming in on a Saturday. There is definitely a supervision component as well as time costs for the interviewing process and checking references but each round of the program still runs for less than \$1000 when the staff time is accounted for. To allow for teens who may not show up, Port Moody always schedules a few extras to come. West Van's Teen Advisory Group (TAG) often can be counted on to set up and run movie nights with minimal supervision.

Check out <http://eprints.rclis.org> and search for the presenters' handouts, including sample budgets, forms, and program posters, using their names in the author search field.

## Toys and Technology, Libraries and Literacies, Policies, Practices and Play:

Session Presented by Dr. Margaret Mackey, School of Library and Information Studies, University of Alberta

Drawing on her research in this area, Dr. Mackey raised many questions for us to consider regarding how we are responding to the changing literacies of young people, particularly given our tendency to privilege the reading of text on paper over other literacies. A "literacy", in this case, is a proficiency in understanding and partaking of a system or form of media, such as World of Warcraft, manga, or text messaging. And in case you were trying to attract younger users, you should know that blogging and Twitter use are on the decline with young people. There was a lot of discussion around social media (Facebook, etc), online fan activities such as fan fiction, gaming, and branded blockbuster spin-offs.

Audience participation characterizes many of these new media and creates a culture of production instead of just reception. Mackey used an example of a male gamer who saw reading as "futile" because he could not influence the outcome of the story and it would always unfold the same way. She also spoke about changing formats and reader interaction in the context of a YA book called [Cathy's Book](#): it was first published as a multi-media book with text, drawings, annotations, embedded phone numbers and advertising, and an envelope of "clues" for the story's mystery. After being published in a disappointingly flattened paperback version in which the artifacts are on paper and inserted into the middle section of the book, Cathy's Book, part 1 has been made into an

iPhone/iTouch app with hyperlinks and animation (check it out via iTunes for a mere 99 cents!). One of the most notable questions of the session asked what is to be done with those who are excluded because they do not have access to increasing mobile technologies and gadgets.

Of the vast array of seemingly competing formats and media that are part of contemporary life, Mackey concluded that it doesn't have to be either/or, it can be both/and. It is important to remember that quality materials exist in many media and to respect different forms of reading and creating. I think that as people who tend to like paper a lot and who have had success with traditional forms of reading (or else we wouldn't have completed 6 years of post-secondary education), we need to be particularly vigilant to accommodate differing literacies that might not seem worthwhile to us.

To get into this kind of headspace, I would recommend listening to CBC's The Spark and thinking about where your library fits in a multi-media world. You can catch it on iTunes as a podcast or at <http://www.cbc.ca/spark/>.

## ***BC Library Association, 2010 Conference, Penticton, BC***

Submitted by Kate Lowe, Children's Librarian, Vancouver Public Library

### **Plenary Session: Tim Ellison**

The speaker for our plenary session loves working in the food industry. He also loves teaching. He has made it a goal to incorporate Fun and Games into his teaching work. He provided practical ideas that I have already started to incorporate into a grade 9 school presentation I am planning. Adapting his ideas I have created three 30 second quizzes that will create some excitement and energy throughout my 1 hour library instruction class.

- Quiz 1: The first table of students who can put all of the CDs and DVDs into their correct cases wins (I will be using discard CDs and DVDs)
- Quiz 2: I will give a summary of a book or read a paragraph from the book – the first student to tell me which book it is, wins. The books will be spread out on the student's tables.
- Quiz 3: The first student to draw a GOOD manga illustration wins (the get only 30 seconds to draw)

Tim's talk emphasized that people need to have a healthy attitude towards work and towards teaching. He told us that learning is not just about studying the core material, but playing around, making something new and doing something different. He also felt that when the students take the lead in your class you have succeeded as a teacher. He truly believes that when you want students to learn a lesson, to internalize a lesson, you've got to have fun. I plan to take this advice to heart.

### **Session: Novelist as a Tool for Readers Advisory**

This session was a detailed look at the features of the Novelist search engine. It was a database that, in the past, I haven't used very much. Some of the new features I learned about made me think I could use this database more. However, VPL has cancelled their subscription to this database.

The feature that interested me the most was the “My List” feature. I thought it might be a good way to create quick, basic booklists. I am always looking for a quick way to create booklists that have: the book cover, the title, the author, and the publication date. When visiting a school I find it is nice to provide students and teachers with a list of the books you have just book-talked. When I got back to my library branch and discovered that our Novelist subscription had been cancelled I tried using the “My List” function from VPL’s library catalogue. I found many of the books I needed had book covers available. So I have been creating basic booklists using the library catalogue’s “My Lists” function.

### **Session: Free Speech and the Olympics**

This session was extremely interesting. It was the session that conference attendees talked about during social events. Beth Davies spoke briefly about how the Olympic impacted VPL and then she turned the session over to the head of BCCLA and Simon Fraser Professor Chris Shaw. Having been a Host City volunteer it was valuable to hear about some of the negative aspects of the Olympic Games. The power point presentation for this session is supposed to be linked soon to the BCLA conference website. I am unable to add a link to this report because the presentation is not yet online. I suggest that anyone living in the lower mainland read the power point presentation. The session provided a huge amount of valuable information.

### **Session: The Misunderstood Patron**

Librarians from two library systems (Chilliwack and North Van City) partnered with the head of the Vernon Youth Society Drop in Center to give this presentation. The librarians provided excellent ideas for helping teens find their place in the library. Debbie from the drop-in center gave us some great ideas about how the library can partner with community groups to better understand the teens in our neighbourhoods. She also provided examples of the type of challenges that some teens face. Hopefully we all left the session with a healthy attitude towards teens in general and specifically at-risk teens.

### **Session: Consumer Health Resources**

Three librarians from the Health Librarians’ Association provided us with tons of information. They introduced us, briefly, to 10 different free consumer health sources. Because they were covering so many sources it was difficult to spend much time on each one. However they provided excellent handouts on each source. I plan to go through each of these handouts in order to learn more about the websites. I also spoke to my sister who is a doctor and there were few of the resources that she hadn’t heard about so I am going to send her copies of the handouts. This was a great overview of what is available for the general public.

## Where'd you find that?!: Amy's Favourite Teen Resources on the Web

Submitted by Amy Dawley, Teen Librarian, Prince George Public Library

A year ago at the 2009 BC Library conference, the lovely ladies of YAACING asked me if I would be interested in writing a regular column that would focus on teen services. At the time, I was only in my job as teen librarian at the Prince George Public Library for a few months, so I felt pretty green. But now, more than a year has gone by and I'm feeling a little more competent in my knowledge of teen services, and I'm thrilled to have this opportunity to share the things I've learned with others who are just as enthusiastic about serving teens in libraries as I am.

When I'm talking with people about programs and services to teens, one of the most common questions I get from others is, "How did you come up with that?" I hate to spill my dirty little secret, but the truth is I get the majority of my ideas from other librarians via web sites, blogs, and list-servs. Like any good Gen-Y gal, I'm plugged in both at work and at home, and in my wanderings around the internet during the evenings and on my days off, it seems that not a moment goes by where I'm not bookmarking things and e-mailing myself possible ideas for teen programs, services, and collection development. In this issue I'd like to share with you some of my top favourite go-to web resources that save my bacon every time.

### **Reading Rants: Out of the ordinary teen booklists** **<http://www.readingrants.org>**

Reading Rants is one of those sites that I've been visiting for a long time. To be honest, the reason I love this site so much is that I trust what Jen (the reviewer and brains behind Reading Rants) has to say about teen books. Her reviews are usually bang-on with what teens think, which is a plus. What started out as a book review blog has morphed into a book, and you can purchase *Reading Rants: A guide to books that rock* (2007), although her blog suits me just fine. With themed book lists like Boy Meets Book, Closet Club, and Graphic Fantastic, Reading Rants is my go-to blog to find out what's up in teen fiction.

### **YALit** **<http://yalit.com>**

Let's be honest. We don't have enough time to do all the stuff we want to do or should be doing. I try my best to keep up with all the *Booklist*, *School Library Journal*, and *Publisher's Weekly* magazines, but when I'm covering the reference desk, neck-deep in programs and projects, and just generally run off my feet, reading professional journals is what ends up sliding off the radar. And that's where YALit comes in. It provides a list of teen books slated for publication over the next year. While it does not provide a complete picture of what's being published (ie. Canadian books), it *does* have all the big popular stuff. I check this list regularly to make sure I haven't missed any new or series releases from popular authors in all the programming craziness. It's a great one-stop place to look to be sure you are keeping up with ordering!

**4YA: Inspiration for Youth Advocates**  
**<http://www.the4yablog.com>**

I came across this blog quite by accident, but it was such a happy accident that I'd like to share it with the rest of you. 4YA describes itself as being "a blog for youth advocates looking for cool projects, creative inspiration and insight into the world of youth." For me, it's a place to go when I have teen projects and programs to plan and my brain has run completely dry and I'm desperate for ideas. So much neat and innovative stuff makes it onto this blog, and some of my most successful teen craft ideas have come from 4YA, including paper crafts and magnet making.

**YALSA List Servs**  
**<http://lists.ala.org/wws/info/yalsa-bk>**  
**<http://lists.ala.org/wws/info/ya-yaac>**

My most secret-est of not-so-secrets is that I'm a big reader of the Young Adult Services Association's two most popular e-mail list servs, YALSA Book Discussions (yalsa-bk) and YALSA Young Adult Advisory Councils (ya-yaac). These lists are subscribed to by librarians all over Canada and the United States, and have been some of the most helpful resources I have accessed in my quest to become the best teen librarian I can be. Everything from book list suggestions to programming ideas and help to dealing with awkward situations... these awesome librarians have covered it all. You can access past discussions by searching their online archives, or just throw the question out there. You'll be surprised by the intelligent and supportive responses you get from this kind and enthusiastic bunch.

A warning though: they talk A LOT, so if you don't relish the thought of reading hundreds of emails a week, the best thing to do is to subscribe to the lists using a separate e-mail address for just that purpose. I have a special Gmail (<http://mail.google.com>) account that bunches e-mail discussions together rather nicely and keeps things organized for me. To sign up, head on over to the URL above, select "subscribe" on the left hand side menu, enter your e-mail address and hit the grey "submit" button. Welcome to the world of YALSA list servs!

I hope you find these resources as helpful as I do. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions for teen services topics I should cover, I'd love to hear them! You can contact me at [adawley@lib.pg.bc.ca](mailto:adawley@lib.pg.bc.ca).



## CANADA'S ONLINE TEEN READING CLUB

[www.teenrc.ca](http://www.teenrc.ca)  
[www.twitter.com/TeenRC](http://www.twitter.com/TeenRC)

March 2010

Dear TeenRC Libraries,

### Re: Teen Reading Club Membership Drive

Canada's online Teen Reading Club ([www.teenrc.ca](http://www.teenrc.ca)) marks its sixth year of operation in 2010 with new administration under the Greater Victoria Public Library, British Columbia. As you know, TeenRC is a fully moderated website which offers booklists, contests, discussion forums and author chats.

Recently, TeenRC was affected by funding decreases. With generous support from the Greater Victoria Public Library, the Public Library Services Branch of the Government of British Columbia, and a Times-Colonist Raise a Reader grant, TeenRC will continue until September 2010. **Without the support of members, TeenRC will not have the resources to continue beyond September 2010.** We look to participating libraries to purchase TeenRC memberships, which will enable us to continue to provide a safe, fun, and positive online space for over 3,000 Canadian teens who love to read and write. Please note that through support from the Public Library Services Branch of the Government of British Columbia, British Columbia libraries are exempt from membership dues in 2010.

### *Member Benefits*

In addition to contributing to Canadian teen literacy, buying a TeenRC membership gives you exclusive access to many member-only benefits, including:

- Free starter pack of posters and bookmarks with the 2010 artwork
- Your teens will be eligible for grand prizes and site-wide contest prizes
- Discounts on prizes
- Promotion kit
- Access to your teens through the site by email
- Opportunity to promote your library events on the site
- Access to member and moderator only listserv and forums
- First priority support from TeenRC administrators

### *TeenRC Membership Fees*

TeenRC membership fees are based on the number of locations in your library system. All fees will directly contribute to the administration of the Teen Reading Club.

- 1 to 2 locations: \$ 25.00
- 3 to 6 locations: \$ 200.00
- 7 to 13 locations: \$ 400.00
- 14+ locations: \$ 600.00



## **Exclusive Benefits to Teen Reading Club Member Libraries**

To ensure the continuation of the Teen Reading Club (TeenRC) beyond 2009 it is essential that participating libraries contribute financially to the program through membership dues. Due to the generous support of the Public Library Services Branch, British Columbia libraries are exempt from membership dues in 2010.

### **Member Benefits:**

#### Free starter pack of posters and bookmarks

- 1 poster per branch and 50 bookmarks per branch
- Member libraries outside BC will pay shipping and handling
- Additional posters and bookmarks are available for purchase

#### Prizes

- While any teen can participate in TeenRC, only teens who belong to member libraries will be eligible for grand prizes and periodic contests prizes through the site
- Member libraries receive 10% off prize purchases
- Prizes include water bottles, journals, post-it notes, book bags, and pens

#### Promotion kit

- TeenRC letterhead
- Sample press release (editable)
- Sample letter to sponsors in your community (editable)
- Sample letter to teacher librarians (editable)
- PowerPoint presentations: one for library staff and one for teens
- List of ideas for promoting TeenRC to your teens
- Ready to go 2010 TeenRC logo and short program description to put on your library's website and in program guides

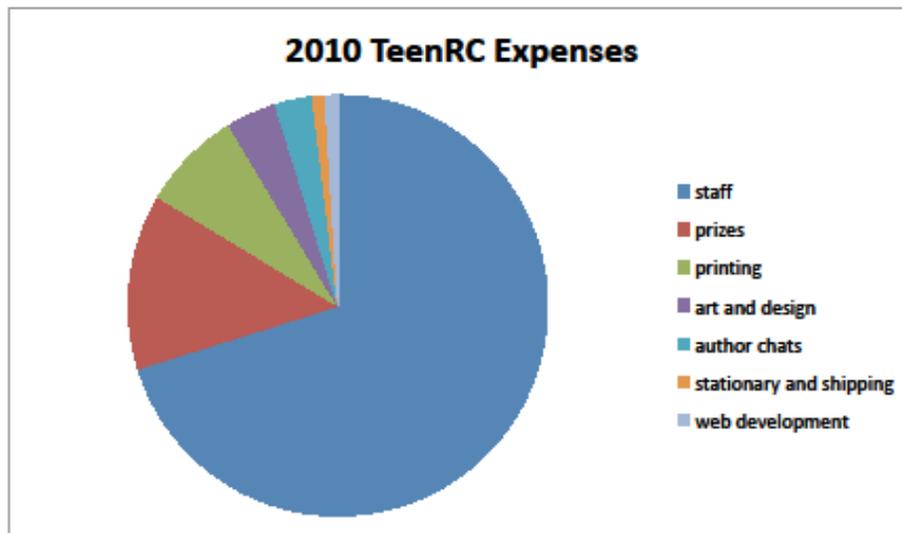
#### Website Features

- Easy ability to contact your teens via the site
- Ability to advertise your library events on the site, with regular features promoting your library on the homepage on a regular basis
- Access to member and moderator only listserv and forums
- First priority support from TeenRC administrators

And more! This is a primary list of member benefits. We would like to work with you to tailor member benefits according to your needs. Please send questions and suggestions to Leah Pearse, TeenRC Coordinator, at [leah@teenrc.ca](mailto:leah@teenrc.ca).

## TeenRC Expenses

All membership dues will be directly invested in the TeenRC program.





Greater Victoria Public Library  
 Teen Reading Club 2010  
**Membership Dues Form & Invoice**  
 Librarians' website: <http://teenrc.bclibrary.ca>

**Instructions:**

1. Please complete this form and fax to:  
**Greater Victoria Public Library, Victoria BC | Attention: Teen Reading Club**  
**Fax: 250-382-7125**
2. You will receive an email confirming the order and final total
3. Complete the section below and mail completed hard copy of this form with a cheque made payable to the  
**Greater Victoria Public Library with the final total to:**  
**735 Broughton Street, Victoria BC V8W 3H2 | Attention: Teen Reading Club**

Library System:	Library Contact Person:
Mailing Address:	
City/Town:	Province: **
Postal Code:	Email Address:
Phone Number:	Fax Number:
Library URL:	Library Teen Site URL (if applicable):

Indicate your institution's membership category with a check mark in the right hand column below:

# of Library Locations	Membership Due	Membership Due Category
1 to 2 locations	\$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 to 6 locations	\$200.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
7 to 13 locations	\$400.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
14+ locations	\$600.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

**\*\* Please note: Through support from the Public Library Services Branch of the Government of British Columbia, British Columbia libraries are exempt from membership dues in 2010.**

To view more information about membership in TeenRC visit: <http://teenrc.bclibrary.ca/membership>

If you require further information, contact: [info@teenrc.ca](mailto:info@teenrc.ca)



# **BABA YAGA**

*An Oral Storytelling Storytime by Emileigh Kinnear and Corene Maret Brown*

Submitted for SLAIS Course: Services for Children

## Sources for Baba Yaga Tale:

From *Folk Tales from the Russian* by Verra Xenophontovna Kalamatiano de Blumenthal at <http://www.sacred-texts.com/neu/fttr/chap06.htm>

Mayer, M. *Baba Yaga and Vasilisa the Brave*. K.Y. Craft Illus. New York: Morrow Junior Books, 1994.

Our version of the *Anya Meets Baba Yaga* can be found at:

[http://docs.google.com/View?id=dfzsxhj3\\_4cm3pk7dm](http://docs.google.com/View?id=dfzsxhj3_4cm3pk7dm)

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## **Stories wanted for third-annual Junior Authors Summer Short Story Contest**

Delta, BC—April 19, 2010—Delta author and storyteller Laura Thomas, known as Agent Story, has once again teamed up with Delta Parks, Recreation and Culture to offer a province-wide summer writing contest for young scribes.

Last year, more than forty young writers between the ages of 11 and 17 from across the Lower Mainland submitted short stories. The top three entries in each age category, 10-13 and 14-17, won prizes that were generously donated by organizations such as Kidsbooks in Vancouver and Tsawwassen First Nation.

Thomas is pleased to announce that this year the top six writers in each category will take home a prize. And, as in previous years, the winning story in each category will be published in *The Delta Optimist* newspaper.

Other changes this year include the addition of an "incentive" category for young writers between the ages of 6-9 and a new slightly lower word count: 1000 rather than 1500 words. "As news about the contest spreads across the province, we anticipate a record number of entries," said Thomas. "And since the judging is done by volunteers, we need to keep the work load reasonable."

Thomas said that the judges, including herself and former MacMillan editor Joanne Ashdown, are looking for short stories that focus on one main character with one specific problem that is resolved or not during the story. She also said that the winning stories will have less plot and more descriptive, sensory detail. Examples can be found on Thomas' website where the top stories from the 2009 contest are available for reading.

Aspiring authors, who are between the ages of 10 and 17 as of August 31, 2010, are asked to submit three copies of their best short story of no more than 1000 words, typed or neatly printed and with a creative title. Entrants are also asked to include a separate page with their name, age and complete contact information. There is no fee to enter.

The contest opens June 15 and closes August 15. Entries can be mailed to the JA Short Story Contest c/o South Delta Recreation Centre at 1720 56 Street, Delta, B.C., V4L 2B1. Winners will be announced mid-September. Complete details and a printable contest poster are online at [www.agentstory.net](http://www.agentstory.net).

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KellyMcElroy  
Collection management of young adult GLBTQ materials  
LIBR 527  
7 December 2009

Books about homosexuality, whether fiction or non-fiction, often land in headlines for being challenged in school and public libraries. A quick look at the American Library Association's annual lists of most frequently challenged books over the past five years reveals at least ten books challenged for addressing homosexuality.<sup>1</sup> These titles include picture books, young adult novels, classic literature, and non-fiction about human sexuality. According to the ALA, 2001-2008 saw 269 challenges specifically regarding homosexuality – however, it is likely that some of the 1225 books challenged for "sexually explicit" material also include homosexuality or other queer issues.

This climate of challenge creates a collection management issue: public and teacher librarians must understand the needs and interests of their users, recognize concerns within their communities, and still locate and provide access to material on this subject. In this paper, the term GLBTQ will be used to include gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, two-spirit, queer, and questioning. Non-fiction in this category may focus on sexuality, romance, heterosexism, homophobia, and gender more generally. GLBTQ fiction includes materials that address issues including gender norms, same-sex partners, sexuality, sexual identity, sexual orientation, as well as books with GLBTQ characters, whether or not their sexuality is explicitly discussed. It can also include the work of GLBTQ authors, even if these works do not directly address queer issues. Research suggests that young people may seek factual and social information about sexuality from fiction materials, so the content of literature must be considered with those uses in mind.<sup>2</sup> It is for this reason that both fiction and non-fiction

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<sup>1</sup>American Library Association, "Frequently challenged books of the 21<sup>st</sup> century"; available from <http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/banned/frequentlychallenged/21stcenturychallenged/index.cfm>; Internet; accessed 5 December 2009.

<sup>2</sup>Amy Pattee, "Sexually Explicit: Young Adult Literature as an Information Source," *Young Adult Library Services* 4, no. 2 (2006): 38.

must be considered in tandem in this subject area, particularly with materials for youth. This paper will survey issues in collection policies, selection, cataloguing, and reader advisory for GLBTQ materials for young people and children.

### *Collections policies*

The first step in collection management is to define the policy. Most public library systems will already have an existing policy, which can be examined to see whether and where GLBTQ materials fit. For example, the Vancouver Public Library Collection Development Policy states its mission to "enrich and empower lives," "meet the diverse needs and interests of individuals," and "respect and reflect communities of various cultural, ethnic, religious, and philosophical backgrounds."<sup>3</sup> Even these general statements provide support for the collection of GLBTQ materials for young people. The collections policy also emphasizes the library's endorsement of the Canadian Library Association's Statement on Intellectual Freedom. Although there is a process for reconsidering challenged materials, the library is dedicated to freedom of choice. Again, these statements support the collection of GLBTQ materials, and can support the library in the case of challenges.

Some libraries may have specific policies for youth material. For example, the Geneva Public Library in New York state gives specialized guidelines for collections of children's and teen materials. The policy for children's materials notes that "Literary quality, good design and format, and illustration are important criteria in the evaluation of children, as are accuracy, relevance, and appropriateness for the intended audience."<sup>4</sup> This statement leaves some ambiguity for sexuality education, accuracy is absolutely necessary, although "appropriateness for the intended audience" is

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<sup>3</sup> Vancouver Public Library, "Collection Development Policy"; available from [http://www.vpl.vancouver.bc.ca/about/details/collection\\_development\\_policy](http://www.vpl.vancouver.bc.ca/about/details/collection_development_policy); Internet; accessed 1 December 2009.

<sup>4</sup> Geneva Public Library, "Library Collection Policy"; available from <http://genevapubliclibrary.net/about-us/censorship/library-collection-policy>; Internet; accessed 5 December 2009.

an awkwardly stated goal. This policy goes on to give specific goals for the teen collection, including four questions asked for materials in this section: "Does it say something to teens? Is it worth saying? How well is it said? Does it appeal to teens?"<sup>5</sup> Again, these specific guidelines can be useful in justifying the inclusion of GLBTQ materials, or in defending challenged materials.

In sum, though it is unlikely that a public library would specifically mention GLBTQ issues in collections policies, it is imperative to have a robust statement on intellectual freedom, and commitment to representing a diversity of information. Specific guidelines for children's materials may also help clarify concerns. In addition, outlining a procedure for reconsidering books already in the collection will give patrons a way to voice complaints and for the library to respond in a fair way.

### *Selection*

Selection of GLBTQ materials, like other materials, will likely begin with looking at reviews. As addressed above, GLBTQ materials for youth range from picture books to chapter books for various ages, to non-fiction, as well as various kinds of media. However, not all books with GLBTQ content necessarily presents a positive or balanced view. In her exploration of YA GLBTQ fiction, Angie Manfredi recommends that librarians aim to advocate and integrate GLBTQ materials into their collections.<sup>6</sup> This means including a wide range of portrayals, and encouraging young people to think critically about those portrayals. As more books published for young people include GLBTQ issues, librarians have the opportunity to be more critical and more demanding.<sup>7</sup>

A 2000 examination of reviews of GLBTQ fiction for young adults in publications commonly used for library selection revealed that reviews of books addressing these issues may not fully address the content. Although the majority of the reviews analyzed indicated the queer content

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<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Angie Manfredi, "Accept the Universal Freak Show," *Young Adult Library Services* 7, no. 4 (2009): 27.

<sup>7</sup> Michael Cart, "Gay and Lesbian Literature Comes of Age," *Booklist* 101, no. 15 (2005): 1366.

and were ultimately positive, some reviewers used euphemistic or vague language, or portrayed homosexuality as either exotic or problematic.<sup>8</sup> So, librarians looking for GLBTQ materials may need to read reviews carefully in order to catch GLBTQ books, as well as to understand the content of books.

There are several specific review tools which support this work. The GLBT roundtable of the American Library Association publishes a quarterly newsletter with reviews of GLBTQ materials, although they cover adult as well as children's materials. The roundtable also maintains bibliographies, which currently includes one for teens.<sup>9</sup> Annual awards include the GLBT Roundtable Rainbow List as well as the Lambda Literary Award, which is sponsored by the Lambda Literary Foundation, and includes a Children's/Young Adult category. Two handbooks for librarians also include extensive bibliographies: Michael Cart and Christine Jenkin's *The Heart Has its Reasons: Young Adult Literature with Gay/Lesbian/Queer Content, 1969-2004* and *Serving Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning Teens: A How-to-do-it Manual for Librarians* by Hillias Martin Jr. and James Murdock.<sup>10</sup> Librarians may also work directly with patrons to encourage requests for new material, for example by working with a local high school gay/straight alliance or GLBTQ youth group.

### *Cataloguing*

Although it is not explicitly a part of collection management, cataloguing facilitates retrieval by both patrons and librarians. As may be expected, the cataloguing of GLBTQ materials has a troubled past. Library of Congress Subject Headings reflect societal attitudes about many controversial topics, and homosexuality is no exception. The LCSH term for homosexuality was "Sexual perversion" until

<sup>8</sup> Paulette Rothbauer and Lynn McKechnie, "The treatment of gay and lesbian fiction for young adults in selected prominent reviewing media," *Collection Building* 1 (2000): 11.

<sup>9</sup> GLBT Roundtable, "Bibliographies and other resources," available from <http://its.usc.edu/~trimmer/glbtrt/biblist.htm>; Internet; accessed 5 December 2009.

<sup>10</sup> Manfredi, 27.

1946, when "Homosexuality" was added.<sup>11</sup> "Queer" still had not been included in LCSH. A 2007 study of the subject headings given to YA and adult GLBTQ fiction in Canadian public libraries indicates some trends. For example, YA titles generally got the general but consistent heading "Homosexuality" while adult titles were given more specific identity terms such as "Lesbians" or "Gay men."<sup>12</sup>

As indicated by a 1999 study of the availability of GLBTQ literature for young people in Canadian public libraries, subject headings are not applied equally. Even when libraries held many titles, the homosexual content was not always identified in the catalogue. For example, Madeline L'Engle's book *A House Like a Lotus*, which was placed anywhere from the children's section to the adult section in different libraries, was not given any subject headings indicating its GLBTQ themes.<sup>13</sup> Just as with reviews, librarians must critically consider how cataloguing affects access to these materials.

It is unlikely that public services librarians in large systems will have any influence on the cataloguing of GLBTQ materials, but they can certainly be aware of the trends used within their system. This issue can be also brought up as part of training and awareness for staff. For example, a list of commonly used subject headings can be available on the reference desk, both for librarians and for patrons.

#### *Access, reference, and reader's advisory*

Although reference services are not explicitly part of collection management, in an environment where circulation statistics inform purchasing, it is important to consider the use of materials once

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<sup>11</sup> Carrie McClary, "From 'Homosexuality' to 'Transvestites': An Analysis of Subject Headings Assigned to Works of GLBT Fiction in Canadian Public Libraries," *The Canadian Journal of Information and Library Science* 31, no. 2 (2007): 151.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, 157.

<sup>13</sup> Paulette Rothbauer and Lynne McKechnie, "Gay and lesbian fiction for young adults: a survey of holdings in Canadian public libraries," *Collection Building* 18, no. 1 (1999): 36.

they've been selected, acquired, and finally put onto the shelves. A recent report indicates that children select materials primarily by browsing materials on the shelves, an approach unmediated by library staff.<sup>14</sup> This suggests that GLBTQ materials must be easily located on the shelves. Although this same report shows that children also will commonly ask for help from library staff, it is possible that children will be more reluctant to ask about GLBTQ issues. The experiences documented in Ann Curry's 2005 study of reference services to youth seeking information about gay and lesbian issues indicates that there may be barriers to access to these materials. When approached with questions about gay-straight alliances, librarians showed embarrassment and confusion, and rarely came up with an effective search strategy. As Curry notes, "The two subject headings ideal for this inquiry are „gay teenagers" and „lesbian teenagers," but unfortunately, no one used them."<sup>15</sup> Once again, although cataloguing is a separate step in the process, the consistent use of subject headings could also support discovery for librarians.

Children are also likely to select books from displays, as well as to search using the library catalogue, so these are two additional ways to raise awareness about GLBTQ materials available.<sup>16</sup> Including GLBTQ materials in general booklists is a way to normalize these works.<sup>17</sup> It may also reduce anxiety for young people who do not want to publicly pick out gay books. However, displays and booklists specifically covering GLBTQ issues, such as a display to celebrate gay history or identifying local GLBTQ writers can also be a powerful outreach tool.<sup>18</sup>

### Conclusions

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<sup>14</sup> Gisele Fasick et al, *Opening Doors to Children: Reading Media, and Public Library Use by Children in Six Canadian Cities* (Regina: Regina Public Library, 2005): 45-46.

<sup>15</sup> Ann Curry, "If I Ask, Will They Answer? Evaluating Public Library Reference Service to Gay and Lesbian Youth," *Reference and User Services* 45 no. 2 (2005): 71.

<sup>16</sup> Fasick et al, 45-46.

<sup>17</sup> Manfredi, 27-8.

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid*, 28.

I chose specifically not to address challenges to GLBTQ materials. Each public library will have its individual procedure for dealing with complaints, hopefully established by policy over time. I believe that a carefully coordinated collections development plan is the best defense against intellectual freedom challenges. When librarians have made decisions justified by collections policies, and are aware of how GLBTQ materials are being located and accessed, they will be well prepared to meet concerns of patrons. A 2007 survey of librarians asked why GLBTQ materials are not being challenged in their communities. The answers are mixed: some librarians believe that the liberality of their community or administrative support keep books from being challenged, while others believe that people simply do not know materials are there.<sup>19</sup> If adults do not know that GLBTQ materials are there, it is quite possible that young people also do not: flying under the radar is simply not an acceptable way to avoid controversy.

Whether for queer teens, children with gay parents, or just for general knowledge, it is important that GLBTQ people are represented in library collections. No matter the community, there are GLBTQ people present, and it is the obligation of the public library to include their stories.

Word count: 2077

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<sup>19</sup> Linda B. Alexander and Sarah D. Miselis, "Barriers to GLBTQ Collection Development and Strategies for Overcoming Them," *Young Adult Library Services* 5, no. 3 (2007): 47.

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## The Canadian Children's Book Centre

Bringing Canadian Books and Young Readers Together

### TD Canadian Children's Book Week Moving from Fall to Spring

*After 30 years, big changes are coming to Book Week;  
the annual touring program will re-launch in the spring of 2011.*

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**Monday, March 22, 2010 (Toronto, Ontario) — The Canadian Children's Book Centre (CCBC) is moving its annual TD Canadian Children's Book Week touring program from the fall to the spring. The next Book Week tour will run from May 1 – 7, 2011. There will not be a Book Week tour in 2010.**

TD Canadian Children's Book Week is Canada's largest national festival celebrating Canadian children's authors, illustrators, books and the importance of reading. Established in 1977, the Book Week tour sends emerging and established Canadian authors, illustrators and storytellers to schools, libraries, community centres and bookstores all across Canada.

For over 30 years, Book Week has traditionally been a fall program of the Canadian Children's Book Centre, running each November. However, in recent years, winter weather has affected some of the tours and the busy fall schedule for schools and libraries has made it increasingly difficult for the CCBC's volunteer Book Week Coordinators to organize the tours between the time when school resumes in September and the start of the Book Week tours in November.

Shannon Howe Barnes, the CCBC's Program Coordinator, explains: "The weather in parts of Canada in November can be very unpredictable and in past years, we've had to cancel readings because of snowstorms. Also, we felt that Book Week was not reaching its maximum potential. The tight scheduling left very little time for publicity and promotion of the tour, or for authors and illustrators to arrange book sales prior to their visits to the schools and libraries."

The Canadian Children's Book Centre did not make this decision lightly. In February 2009 they conducted a survey of over 75 teachers and librarians who have participated in Book Week over the years. A majority of the respondents thought moving Book Week to the spring was a good idea. This would give them more time to prepare their students for Book Week and introduce them to the work of the author, illustrator or storyteller who would be visiting.

The new schedule has the Book Week touring program following the school calendar year, with the touring authors, illustrators and storytellers being announced on the Book Week website ([www.bookweek.ca](http://www.bookweek.ca)) in September. Schools and libraries will still apply in the fall, but the Book Week Coordinators will have more time to plan the tour with the many schools and libraries who are interested in hosting a Book Week visitor. By February, the schools and libraries who will be receiving a Book Week author, illustrator and storyteller will be notified so that they can begin preparing for the special visit.

# ***YAACING***

***NEWSLETTER OF THE YOUNG ADULT AND CHILDREN'S  
SERVICES SECTION - BCLA***

