

## **BCLA Readers' Advisory Interest Group**

### **Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, November 18, 2014, VPL Central branch**

*Attended by:* Jenny Fry, Co-Chair (Surrey Libraries); Tara Matsuzaki, Co-Chair (West Vancouver Memorial Library); Michael Gray (Library Bound); Matthew Murray (SLAIS student co-rep); Theresa de Sousa (Richmond Public Library); Meghan Savage (Surrey Libraries); Heidi Schiller (North Vancouver City Library); Anna Ferri (SLAIS student co-rep); Cathy Mount; Claire Westlake (North Vancouver District Library)

*Regrets:* Tim McMillan (Vancouver Public Library); Michelle Whitehead (Greater Victoria Public Library); Joyce Quach (Langara library technician student rep); Barbara Edwards (Vancouver Public Library); Caroline Crowe (Vancouver Public Library); Anthea Goffe (Fraser Valley Regional Library)

**Meeting reminder: the next meeting is Tuesday December 16, from 9:15-11am, at Langara College in Vancouver.**

*\* Apologies to Michelle and anyone who tried to connect with Skype – we had a bad connection and technical difficulties.*

*Interesting RA tidbits:*

- Theresa: fun booktalks for teens, using book trailers on YouTube, went to 2 highschoools and talked to 1000 kids, 3<sup>rd</sup> year of doing it, really boosts circulation of YA collection
- Anna: went to the ASSI&T [Association for Information Science and Technology] conference in Seattle with 4 other SLAIS students, did a poster session (Nov 2-4)
- Meghan: Governor General awards announced today; Thomas King won for fiction. The other winners? [Click here.](#)
- Tara: developed notes for staff training re: using Bibliocommons for RA and discovery. Tara will send them to Jenny, who will attach them by email to the listserv. Note: Bibliocommons will be inserting Lexile data soon into their records.
- Heidi & Tara: planning the next North Shore Writers Festival for April 17 & 18, 2015, they are in the process of booking some major authors, stay tuned for more details.
- Heidi: the Giller Prize Party went well on Nov 10<sup>th</sup> and raised almost \$1000 for the North Shore Writers Festival, JJ Lee was great MC, about 65 people attended. She had lots of ideas on how to make it bigger and better for next year.
- Jenny attended the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Literacy Breakfast fundraiser held by the Whatcom Literacy Council at the Bellingham Technical College on Nov 14, 2014. Nancy Pearl spoke and recommended the following books as her 2014 favorites:
  1. 2 a.m. at the Cat's Pajamas by Marie-Helene Bertino (first novel, well-written)
  2. Aviary Wonders Inc.: Spring Catalog and Instruction Manual by Kate Samworth (picture book, odd humour, serious message)

3. Bad Debts by Peter Temple (award-winning Australian mystery thriller series, not light reading, a bit dark, for readers with a social conscience)
4. Blazing World by Siri Hustvedt (very intelligent author, similar to Iris Murdoch, great for a bookclub)
5. Dear Committee Members by Julie Schumacher (very funny, thin book, written in academic letters of recommendation)
6. Diamond Lane by Karen Karbo (Hollywood satire novel about two sisters, marriage and making it in Hollywood)
7. The Distance by Helen Giltrow (English thriller series, well-written, exciting, intense, violent, and scary)
8. E-mergency by Ezra Fields and Tom Lichenheld (picture book, fun and witty)
9. Murder at Brightwell by Ashley Weaver (cozy English mystery series, young British couple solving crimes in the 1930s)
10. Poets in Their Youth by Eileen Simpson (biography of a group of poets, very readable for lovers of poetry and biography)
11. Soldier Girls: the battles of three women at home and at war by Helen Thorpe (fascinating despite the writing, after 9/11 three very different women join the Indiana National Guard, a different world)
12. Sorcery and Cecelia Or, The Enchanted Chocolate Pot by Patricia Wrede and Caroline Stevermer (YA, written in letters between two cousins, read this if you love Jane Austen plus a bit of fantasy/magic)
13. Soul of Viktor Tronko by David Quammen (a great American spy novel, similar to le Carre, very narrative heavy, not exciting, requires concentration, great ending)
14. Station Eleven by Emily St. John Mandel (post-apocalyptic literary fiction, well-written, about a travelling Shakespeare and music troupe)
15. Take Away the A by Michael Escoffier (picture book, fun game to play with kids)
16. Whiskey Tango Foxtrot by David Shafer (fiction, similar to Neal Stephenson and William Gibson, intelligent writing about the role of computers and information)

*BCLA Browser*: on hiatus during revision process. Heidi and Anna are on the new Browser board and will keep us posted on upcoming opportunities.

*Social Media/Blog*:

- November: Thompson-Nicola: Audrey is coordinating
- December: Vancouver
- January: West Vancouver
- February: North Vancouver
- March: TBD
- April: SLAIS

New Westminster is interested in talking about this in the new year, Heidi will follow up. Tara will follow-up with Burnaby.

*RA in a Half Day: follow-up*

- Jenny will draft a master checklist for planning the next RA in a Half Day and will send it to Tara for review.

- Matthew will post the 2014 Speed-dating through the Genres handouts on the blog's sidebar. Please send them electronically to him. After that, Jenny will post the older ones created by Tim. Theresa will get the RPL folks to send their handouts to either Jenny or Matthew.
- Heidi will pass over the video footage to Anna, who will edit and post video clips to our social media channels.

*Webpage editing:* Jenny is sending anything that needs to be posted to BCLA staff for posting, until we receive documentation on how to do it ourselves. Virginia from Port Moody has volunteered to help update our webpage. Jenny will ask BCLA what to do with the old website, and will edit the old site, if directed.

#### *BCLA Conference Proposal 2015: discussion & ideas*

1. Keeping up with RA: book trailers on YouTube, Google Hangouts, Vine videos, social media channels, engaging with emerging technologies to generate excitement about RA (Jenny, place)
2. Creativity and creators, recommending and supporting authors, the library as a studio and library programs to create stuff (Tara, place)
3. The power of community-engaged programming, create and foster with examples, the benefits, building a core of library programming champions, creating strategy (Heidi, place)
4. Academic literature on RA (Anna and Caroline, evidence)

Jenny, Tara, Heidi, and Anna and Caroline will draft a proposal for their ideas and will share it the group for review.

**The deadline for proposals is December 10<sup>th</sup>.**

*PNLA Conference:* Aug 5-7, 2015 in Vancouver, WA: Jenny suggested approaching Sarah Ward, David Wright, and Stephanie Chase about creating a joint proposal. Anna has a contact in Alaska and will check to see if they are thinking about attending PNLA. Jenny will reach out and see if there is any interest.

*Recruiting:* Tara suggested that we create an RA poster to send out, for staff to put up in their staff room. Jenny will ask Virginia for assistance.