

# YAACING

Summer 2017



Smashing Gender Stereotypes  
in a Careers Workshop for  
Teens

Facilitating Mixed-Age  
Buddy Programs

PAWS 4 Stories



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## **Call for Submissions**

YAACS (Young Adults and Children's Services) is a section of the British Columbia Library Association. Founded in 1980, our members include librarians, teacher-librarians and other library workers interested in services to youth in British Columbia. Our purpose is to promote the exchange of ideas among library personnel who work with children and young adults.

YAACING is published 4 times per year.

**Editors:** Julia McKnight & Jane Whittingham

**Art Director:** Afton Schindel

If you are interested in submitting anything for publication, send it to [yaacing@gmail.com](mailto:yaacing@gmail.com)

Next Deadline: **August 31, 2017**

# MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING CHAIR

Hi folks,

This year has flown by- and what a fantastic year it's been. I'd like to highlight all the incredible work done by YAACS members to provide high quality continuing education opportunities, to share articles, questions and thoughtful discussion over the listserv and social media channels, to support young readers' book awards and to produce this gorgeous publication. Our YAACS members are everywhere!

I wanted to congratulate Colleen Nelson again on receiving this year's YAACS Award. I have had the honor of getting to know Colleen personal and professionally over the last couple of years and could not think of a more worthy person for this award. Colleen embodies the very values of librarianship and is a leader in both her community and organization. I'd also like to thank the YAACS Award Committee for their work, which elevates our profession, and certainly could not have been an easy task.

As I hand over the torch to Sarah Harrison, incoming YAACS Chair, I could not be more excited. Sarah brings a quiet energy and creativity to everything she works on and I am really looking forward to the year ahead. If I may make one final request it would be this: this year, challenge yourself to get involved or participate in a new way. Whatever that looks like for you, whether it be writing a review for YAACING, commenting on a story shared on the YAACS Facebook page or lending your time on a committee, our organization is made great by the people in it. It's my hope that we continue to develop ourselves, elevate the status of our profession and in turn improve the library services we provide to our communities.

Thanks for a great year!

- Dana Horrocks

# MESSAGE FROM THE INCOMING CHAIR

I'm excited to be stepping into this role and starting my term as the new Chair. I hail from Greater Victoria Public Library where I provide and support community-inspired library services with a focus on school-aged and tween literacy, Summer Reading Club and school partnerships.

I'd like to express my thanks to out-going chair Dana Horrocks for the unbelievable work she's done this past year, most noteworthy, bringing the Youth Services Institute to BCLA. I look forward to working with Kate Longley, the new Vice-Chair and Jennifer Struckman, the new Secretary, as well as all of you who contribute to YAACS in all your various ways. Please continue sharing ideas and news, asking questions and connecting with your colleagues through the YAACS listserv, quarterly meetings and social media. These spaces connect us under our common interest, excellent library services of all kinds to kids and teens, and deepen our experiences in the profession.

We have an exciting year ahead! Many of us came together at the AGM this past April. This was a time to celebrate what we've accomplished, pause and consider how amazing the Youth Services Institute was, and look ahead to where we want to go over the next year. We look forward to many things: reviewing YSI and thinking about next steps, continuing our discussion on the new BC curriculum, considering how we can bridge the distance gap among professionals throughout BC, building on the ideas discussed at YSI on inclusivity and, lastly supporting one another with conference presentations and proposals. Whew, fun lies ahead!

- Sarah Harrison

# MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

It's the most wonderful time of the year - and the busiest - as librarians around the province gear up for Summer Reading Club!

We've got a fantastic issue of YAACING for you this summer. Discover some great new blogs thanks to Jbrary's *We'll Link to That!*, learn about the adorable Paws for Stories program, get tips and tricks for managing mixed-age programs, and so much more!

We're also thrilled to introduce our new co-editor, Julia McKnight. Julia is a Teen Services Librarian with the Vancouver Public Library. Welcome, Julia!

Have a great summer, everyone!

All the best,

- Jane Whittingham and Julia McKnight  
YAACING Co-Editors



# YAACS Puppet Party

A big thank you to everyone who came out to the YAACS Puppet Party on May 31 at the City Centre Library in Surrey. Participants shared their favourite ways to use puppets with kids of all ages, and we all learned great new songs, stories and rhymes to use in our different library settings.

Be sure to check out the YAACS youtube account to see clips from the event! You can find us at:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/YAACSweb>

Stay tuned for our next (as yet undecided) Continuing Education event coming up in fall 2017!

Your Continuing Education committee,

Tina Lee and Jane Whittingham





# PNLA Young Reader's Choice Awards

The Pacific Northwest Library Association's Young Reader's Choice Award is the oldest children's choice award in the U.S. and Canada. The award was established in 1940 by a Seattle bookseller, the late Harry Hartman, who believed every student should have an opportunity to select a book that gives him or her pleasure. The provinces and states included in the Pacific Northwest are Alaska, Alberta, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana and Washington.

## The winners for the 2017 PNLA YRCA are:

Junior Division: *El Deafo* by Cece Bell

Intermediate Division: *The Iron Trial* by Holly Black and Cassandra Clare

Senior Division: *Four* by Veronica Roth

*The War that Saved my Life* by Kimberley Brubaker Bradley  
*Crenshaw* by Katherine Applegate  
*Fuzzy Mud* by Louis Sachar

## Intermediate Division (Grades 7-9)

*Magnus Chase – The Sword of Summer* by Rick Riordan  
*The Nest* by Kenneth Oppel  
*The Blackthorn Key* by Kevin Sands  
*Nimona* by Noelle Stevenson  
*Goodbye Stranger* by Rebecca Stead  
*Saint Anything* by Sarah Dessen  
*Illuminae* by Amie Kaufman  
*The Darkest Part of the Forest* by Holly Black

## Senior Division (Grades 10-12)

*Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates  
*Carry On* by Rainbow Rowell  
*Red Queen* by Victoria Aveyard  
*Six of Crows* by Leigh Bardugo  
*A Court of Thorns and Roses* by Sarah J. Maas  
*I was Here* by Gayle Forman  
*We Are All Made of Molecules* by Susin Nielsen  
*Finding Audrey* by Sophie Kinsella

The next slate for the 2018 Young Reader's Choice Award Nominees are as follows:

## Junior Division (Grades 4-6)

*Roller Girl* by Victoria Jamieson  
*The Terrible Two* by Mac Barnett  
*Masterminds* by Gordon Korman  
*Unusual Chickens for the Exceptional Poultry Farmer* by Kelly Jones  
*Circus Mirandus* by Cassie Beasley

Noreen Ma  
 PNLA YRCA - BC Representative





## Red Cedar Award Gala 2017

The Red Cedar Award, British Columbia's young reader's choice award, held its annual gala on May 6, 2017, at the Vancouver Public Library's Central Branch. We were thrilled to announce that Kevin Sands' "The Blackthorn Key" won the fiction award, while "Animal Hospital" by Julia Coey took home the nonfiction prize. A big congratulations to both our winners!

We were lucky enough to have a great group of authors present at the gala - a massive thank you to Merrie Ellen Wilcox, Sharon Jennings, Jordan Stratford, Tanya Lloyd Kyi, Janet M Whyte, Robin Stevenson, Jennifer Sook-Fong and Linda Bailey for sharing their time with us!

A big thank you too to our sponsors, Kids Books, Interlink, United Library Services, and the Vancouver Public Library, for helping make this great program possible.

We look forward to seeing everyone again next year!

Red Cedar Award Committee

# 2016/2017 YAACS Award Winner

For those of you who did not attend the YAACS AGM, Colleen Nelson (Vancouver Island Public Library) was the recipient of the 2017 YAACS award. Congratulations Colleen! Her breadth and depth of work, leadership role in the library and community and her collaborative approach through unique partnerships made a huge impact on the committee.

If you would like to help decide next year's award, please consider joining the committee. A heartfelt thank you again to all those who promoted their colleagues by submitting an application. It was a hard decision to make and the committee wishes to thank you for your time and efforts.

Yours sincerely,

2017 YAACS Award Committee

Sarah Harrison, *chair*  
Robert Bittner  
Lara Harker  
Andrea Hoff  
Lee Losell



# Inclusive Children's Libraries





# Youth Services Institute

The Youth Services Institute took place April 19th at the Central Branch of the Vancouver Public Library. The two keynote presenters, Chris Kliwer and Tess Prendergast, are renowned researchers in the area of literacy and inclusion. They not only offered up passionate and compelling presentations, they challenged us to step it up and apply their findings in the library.

Organizers seated attendees at small tables in a pre-arranged seating plan so that we were largely separated from our coworkers and more likely to meet new colleagues. After the keynote presentations, several scenarios were circulated around to the tables. In small groups, we discussed how we might apply what we learned so far, then we went around the room to share at large. I thought this format was really effective. Attendees could both reflect on the presentations and apply the learning at the same time.

In the afternoon speakers from across

BC expounded on a range of exciting and inspiring topics including serving incarcerated youth, successful community partnerships, supporting teachers to access indigenous resources for their classrooms, programming for Tweens, the list goes on!

What a day it was! 55 people attended representing almost 20 libraries and organizations. Youth Services Institute organizers shared some of the written comments from the flip-chart feedback people shared on the day of:

## **What worked well?**

- The structure of the whole day was great! Loved the info first, then application, then lightning talks.
- Fantastic planning! Thank you all! Like the assigned seating too.
- Assigned seating, combo of lecture and group work.
- The variety of presentations and interactive activities



## What inspired you?

- It was cool hearing research from outside the library world and excellent presenters all day!
- Meeting like-minded colleagues.
- Hearing about amazing programs other librarians are offering!
- Loved hearing Chris' research! So relevant and his videos helped make the topic real and relevant.

Did you miss the Youth Services Institute? That is truly unfortunate because it was a fantastic day for our profession. However, if you couldn't be there, Dana Horrocks has your back. She posted Christopher Kliewer and Tess Prendergast's PowerPoint presentations on inclusive children's library services in the Library Toolshed at [www.librarytoolshed.ca](http://www.librarytoolshed.ca). Also the Lightning talks will be available on the [YAACSweb YouTube channel](#).





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EXTRA ST

BRING BRAVE!

QUESTION  
OUR NORMATIVE  
MODELS

CREATING

APART

SOLIDAR

RELATI

36 FLOW/OLE

INVITE CHAOS!

CREATE  
WIDE RANGE

- QUIET
- ENERGETIC
- SENSORY

KELLY BANKS, LIBRARIAN

(no perfect program)  
- BUFFET PROGRAM  
- VARIETY

STAFF

- Don't Assume

DIVERSITY OF PROGRAMS

CHOICES  
- CHOICES  
- CHOICES

INITIATIVES

UNITY VS. SEGREGATION

ONSHIPS w/FAMILY

INCLUSION

SHARE RESOURCES  
w/ALL PARENTS

Expose ALL  
parents/families



## We'll Link to That!

By Dana Horrocks and Lindsey Krabbenhoft

It's been two years since we shared some new and new-to-us blogs focused on youth services. We're always on the lookout for fresh content we can add to our [blogroll](#) and share with others. Here are some of our favourite new blog finds that we highly recommend adding to your RSS feeds!

### EVERYDAY DIVERSITY:

This blog, written by Anna from [Future Librarian Superhero](#), has storytime picture book reviews featuring racially diverse characters in modern, every day situations. It's a great way to learn about new books to feature in storytime - she even includes theme ideas!

### STORYTIME STATION:

If you do toddler storytimes, this is a can't miss! Find toddler storytime plans and be amazed at the way the extension activities bring the stories to life. We especially loved the [Kid-Friendly Storytime Car Wash](#).

### FELT-TASTIC FLANNELBOARD FUNTIME:

Mr. Keith shares his brilliant and intricate Kawaii style felt stories. He also shares [early literacy display ideas](#) and songs that are [sure to get a chuckle](#) from the caregivers.

### TALES FOR THE TINY:

Julie did an amazing [Flannel Friday guest post](#) on our blog, so we were thrilled when she decided to start a blog of her own! Her innovative and creative ideas have given us so much inspiration. Check out her [Mini Masters of Library Science Program](#) and [Hula Hoop](#) for babytime to get started.

### RADICALIBRARIAN:

Katelyn digs through all the news, research, and updates so you don't have to! She has a monthly round-up of articles related to children's librarianship called [Youth News](#) that is a goldmine of information.

### STORYTIME UKULELE:

We have the unique pleasure of working with April, the blogger and uke-enthusiast behind Storytime Ukulele and now you do too! Her blog fills a major gap for all those uke-strumming library folks out there and we love how she arranges songs by tune and often includes her own beautiful felts.

## ONTARIAN LIBRARIAN: K LIBRARIAN:

Where to begin with this blog? Karissa is a fellow Canadian and shares programs for kids, teens and new adults. Her posts are full of gorgeous pictures, robust resources, and instructions. She's committed to sharing ideas, has a maple leaf in her header image, and loves E.E.Cummings. Where shall we address the fanmail, Karissa?!

## LIGHTSOME LIBRARIAN:

Allison transitioned from a storytime librarian into school-age librarian and couldn't help but notice the blogosphere for school aged programs and services is not as developed as it is for the younger crowd. She has set out to change this! Check out her awesome list of resources, themed school-age programs and special events.

Kathia or the K Librarian has created a site rich with resources which would be helpful for new library staff or for seasoned practitioners looking for a new craft or book to share. Bonus: she has several videos of songs and rhymes in Spanish!

## LADY LIBRARIAN'S LITERACY, LIFESTYLE AND LOOKBOOK LOG:

We love alliteration and this blog certainly delivers! Heather is a new children's librarian and she's got lots of great themed storytime ideas, with several books to choose from. Also, her felts are to die for! We love her version of Little Mouse, which you can find [here](#).

Have you discovered any blogs or websites that are particularly helpful to children and teen librarians? Shoot us an email at [jbrary@gmail.com](mailto:jbrary@gmail.com) and let us know!

# FACILITATING MIXED-AGE BUDDY PROGRAMS IN THE LIBRARY

By Marianne Huang

Mixed-age buddy programs that pair school-aged children with teens come with rich rewards and mighty challenges! They create opportunities for teens to act as mentors and provide community service by encouraging and supporting their Little Buddies in fun, literacy-based activities. All while engaging with the library! At Vancouver Public Library, the Reading Buddies and Coding Buddies programs both follow a one-to-one Big Buddy + Little Buddy model albeit with different literacy tools; books for Reading Buddies and iPads for Coding Buddies.

These programs can be rewarding experiences for both the Bigs and the Littles. We've seen strong bonds form as the children and youth hit their stride together and look forward to seeing each other the following week. Mixed-age buddy programs are not without their challenges for facilitators, though! How do we train teens to be good mentors? How do we support teens on an ongoing basis during the program as they apply their training?

When facilitating buddy programs, communicating the library's expectations from the outset is key to establishing a standard of behaviour from the group. Maintaining that standard is the trick! We want to encourage positivity, interaction and engagement between teens and their little buddies. At VPL the facilitator is always available after the program to debrief with the Big Buddies but teens may or may not take the initiative to check in after the program or reflect on how a session went.

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Here are some suggestions for facilitators to support teen mentorship in buddy programs:

- Start with refreshments. Sharing a snack adds a social element to the program and creates a space for conversation between the Big and Little Buddies.
- Be hands-on! Rove and check-in frequently with each pair. Engage with them to encourage interaction and keep an eye on their dynamic.
- Remind teens that if their Little Buddy is getting too rambunctious, they can contact a library staffer for help!
- Consider making a post-session debrief with the facilitator mandatory - if the facilitator feels there's no need for a meeting they can let the Big Buddies go.
- Alternatively, the facilitator could take time at the end of each session, after the Little Buddies have been picked up, to debrief with the group as a whole. Bring up points arising from today's observations - what worked or didn't work. Offer suggestions and invite input from the group. That way everyone benefits!

Supporting Big Buddies in a hands-on manner throughout the program helps create a more positive and meaningful experience for school-aged participants, and prepares teen volunteers for future success in school and beyond!

Marianne Huang  
Library Technician  
Vancouver Public Library





# SMASHING GENDER STEREOTYPES IN A CAREER WORKSHOP FOR TEENS

By Lindsey Pagnucco

During Spring Break, the Renfrew Branch of Vancouver Public Library presented a Careers Workshop for Teens. We invited guest speakers from a variety of industries. Our goal was to encourage youth to think outside of gender stereotypes and open up a space for them to imagine their futures in a new way. As such, the panel included:

1. Plumber and small business owner Anne Fraser of Princess Plumbing
2. Electrical Engineer – Sarah Nguyen – Elite Engineering, Seattle
3. Computer game administrator – Daphne Mui – East side games
4. Librarian – Jorge Cardenas
5. Education Assistant – Sam Dyck
6. Nursing students from Langara- Jade, Aaron, and Katherine.
7. Men in Nursing Representative – Alvin Salazar

After a welcoming message and introductions, each speaker presented and took questions from the audience. This portion took approximately one hour followed by a twenty minute “working lunch” to encourage informal chats. Librarian Jorge Cardenas presented resources available at VPL including literature

and an online database called Career Cruising. We then opened the floor up for a Q & A.

This workshop exceeded our wildest expectations for attendance with 65 teens in attendance. In fact, we were oversubscribed and had to take a waiting list. Due to the success of this spring break careers workshop, we are already planning for a similar event in 2018. Stay tuned!

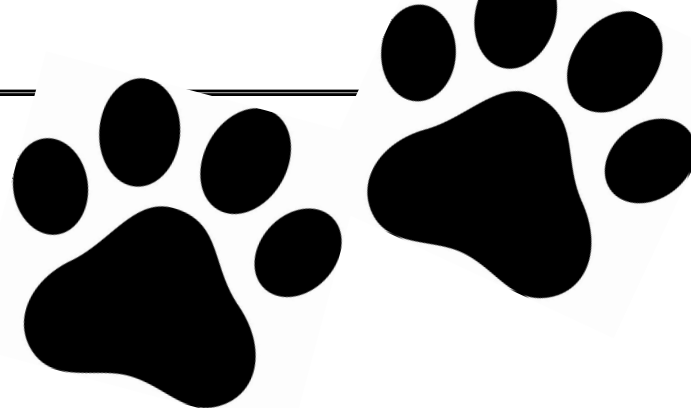
Lindsey Pagnucco  
Teen Librarian  
Vancouver Public Library







  
St. John Ambulance  
Therapy Dogs



## PAWS 4 STORIES

By Eleanor Acker

During the last five years of my career as a Library Technician at the Vancouver Public Library, I have had the pleasure of working mainly in the Children's Library at the Central Branch where I facilitate the PAWS 4 Stories program in the Children's Library. I find the program very valuable, and very much enjoy working with it.

To begin, for anyone unfamiliar with PAWS 4 Stories; it is a program where children, between the ages of six and twelve read one on one to a trained therapy dog, to improve their reading, gain confidence reading aloud, and generally learn to enjoy reading. The dogs are trained through the St. John Ambulance's Therapy Dog Program and have calm and gentle temperaments. The owner, who volunteers with his or her dog, is present during the sessions and provides reading assistance when needed. They play a very encouraging role in helping the child feel comfortable to read aloud.

The partnership between the Vancouver Public Library and St. John Ambulance has been wonderful. When you consider that all of the volunteers come in with the goal of encouraging a love of reading in children,

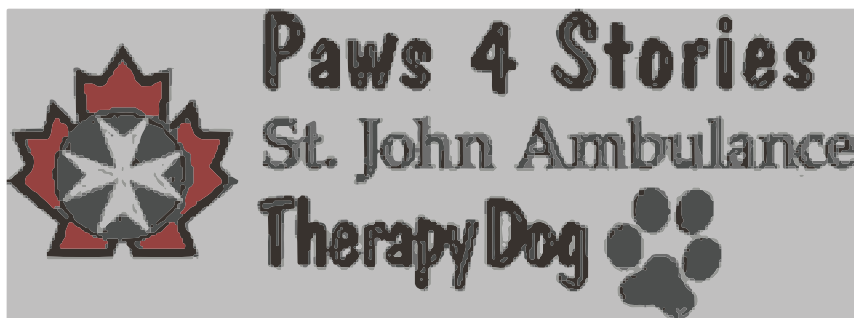
you can see how perfectly that aligns with the library's objectives of encouraging literacy and learning.

The program is quite straightforward to run. My tasks involve assessing what dates our library wishes to run the program for the season and coordinating with our St. John's Ambulance volunteer. Kids can sign up in person on the day of the program for one fifteen minute timeslot to read to the dog. The program runs for an hour. I put up small

posters featuring the therapy dog's picture and time of the program. I print up dog colouring sheets for interested children and

evaluation forms for feedback from parents. I prepare the space by putting some easy readers and dog books on display. Prior to the dog's arrival, I make an announcement on the public address system to encourage interest. I also rove the Children's Library informing all eligible patrons of the opportunity to read to a therapy dog.

There are many things that I love about the program including the benefits that it brings to young readers. I can see and hear from both the children and their parents that it really has a positive impact on them. There have



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been comments such as, “He was worried about reading to the dog but he enjoyed it and is very happy that he tried.” “It is a calming situation to read to a dog, and it helps create beautiful memories of reading”. “The kids liked interacting with the dog and the handler. It was a wonderful opportunity”. “It was the first time he ever finished a whole book”.

PAWS 4 Stories is a wonderful program to offer at any library with so many benefits attached to it. Our current volunteers Andee and pug dog Sunny truly promote a love of reading and animals in children and it helps shrink any misgivings that a child may have about reading aloud when she or he interacts with this team. I encourage staff to contact the St. John Ambulance Organization in their area and arrange a partnership.

Eleanor Acker  
Library Technician  
Vancouver Public Library



# CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

YAACING is published four times per year and is always looking for submissions that might interest children's and teen specialists in BC libraries. We accept news pieces, articles, program descriptions and ideas, conference reports, and much more. If you would like to write a regular column, send us a brief pitch.

Submissions should be no more than 2500 words, sent in an editable format (not PDF). Please include a byline with your job title and workplace, or for students: your school, program and class information, if applicable.

YAACING invites your contributions to our Reviews and Felt Story sections:

**Reviews:** Please send us reviews of books, blogs, websites, or other resources. Submissions should be no more than 300 words. Longer reviews may be considered for publication as featured articles.

**Felt Stories:** Share your creativity! YAACING is looking for felt story patterns. Submissions should include a printable pattern, photograph of the finished product, and related rhyme or note about the origin of the story.

The deadline for the Fall 2016 issue of YAACING is **August 31, 2017**. Email your submissions to the editors at [YAACING@gmail.com](mailto:YAACING@gmail.com).

## STAY CONNECTED



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## BC LA WEBSITE

<https://bclaconnect.ca/divisions/young-adults-and-childrens-section>