

**Four County Library System
Youth Services Meeting
7 October 2019 – Sherburne Public Library**

Libraries represented

In person: SID(2), NI, WP, SP, NO, SNB, ONA, OX, STA, SH(2)

Via GoToMeeting: SM, CV, BA, AF, WA, FE(2), DE

Quick things

- Asbestos abatement – The abatement is in progress in a number of locations throughout the 4CLS building. Juvenile books will be sequestered for several more weeks.
- Early Literacy Grant – Sarah has heard from a few libraries who are interested, but she'd love to have as many applications as possible! The deadline is October 22. You don't have to have attended the Ready to Read trainings to apply for the grant.
- Kevin O'Keefe – This is a performer that is highly recommended by Starr LaTronica (previous YS consultant at 4CLS). He may be having a residency at Binghamton High School, so if he's going to be in the area, Sarah will share information.

Presentation from a Harry Potter Alliance staff member

Katie Bowers, Managing Director for the Harry Potter Alliance (HPA) joined the group via GoToMeeting, and here are some of the things she shared:

- The HPA is intended to engage teens (and others!) in leadership training through the use of pop culture. It started with the excitement about Harry Potter, but they have used many other "fandoms" (ex. Marvel characters) in their programming.
- The HPA wants to connect with libraries to present Hero Training, which would be professionally facilitated programs and workshops specifically geared toward the goals for your individual library. There is a sliding scale for fees for the Hero Training, and the HPA would be happy to work with even the smallest of libraries! More information about the Hero Training programs can be found here (but if you're looking for something that isn't on the list, let them know and they'll build it for you!):
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1o39_gL5kOzKwkjJsr5o43h9gCeykGLL/view
- A HPA Chapter is a program that library staff could facilitate on their own, or the teens could do it on their own. The minimum requirement is 3 people, and they can participate in HPA's national initiatives, or they can focus on more local issues. There are free resources available on the HPA website:
https://www.thehpalliance.org/start_your_own_chapter
- A couple of other things that Katie sent to Sarah after the meeting:
 - o Resources Library (under construction and still growing!):
<https://www.thehpalliance.org/resources>
 - o Magic of STEAM Toolkit:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UliPPDZ6Akax7FJOs4G->

[WCAf7ySAIp37/view?userstoinvite=18848@students.gcsc.k12.in.us&ts=5bead862&actionButton=1](https://www.wcafp37/view?userstoinvite=18848@students.gcsc.k12.in.us&ts=5bead862&actionButton=1)

- o If you'd like to get in touch with Katie, you can reach her at katie@thehpalliance.org or 607-759-8900

Read for the Record – November 7 - <https://www.istart.org/activities-resources-toolkit-2/>

This is an annual national event led by JumpStart. The link above gives ideas for activities to go along with the book, which this year is *Thank You, Omu!* If you have an event already scheduled for that day, it would be great to include this book and be counted toward the world record!

Workflows issues related to juvenile items

- J item types – Sarah was asked by Collection Services just to remind people of the new item types and how they work. A handout with instructions can be found here: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1qB502kSx1ibpKChzNsUI3LrsxH_Ap-0
- Home locations and Item Category 1 – These lists in Workflows are long and have many locations and categories that are not being used. There are also some locations that seem a little too specific and some that seem redundant. For example, we have four categories that are assigned to beginning reader books: TRANS, ICANREAD, READERS, YR. 4CLS will be looking to consolidate those. Your call numbers can remain the same—we would just be looking to winnow down the massive lists of locations and categories. Sarah will be sending out a survey/poll at some point to find out what might be the best fit for what to call these different types of books.

Information/resources from the Association for Rural and Small Libraries conference

- Programming Librarian – www.programminglibrarian.org - A website created by the American Library Association's Public Programs Office. This has a huge amount of ideas, and you can browse them by audience, budget, topic, etc.
- Money As You Grow Bookshelf - <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/consumer-tools/money-as-you-grow/bookshelf/> - This is a set of reading guides created by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. They are designed for parents, but they could easily be incorporated into a library program, if financial literacy is something that you'd like to include in your programming. You can also order free resources from the CFPB, including a cardboard kiosk to hold the information.
- Books for Babies – http://www.ala.org/united/products_services/booksforbabies - An initiative from United for Libraries that offers some more materials for babies and their caregivers about the importance of reading and sharing books with even the youngest babies. (This could be another possibility for something to write the Early Literacy grant for.)
- Collaborative Summer Library Program – Sarah stopped at the booth for the CSLP materials, and the artwork for this coming year is AWESOME. It's created by LeUyen

Pham, who has done the artwork for Shannon Hale's Princess in Black and Real Friends. (On a related note, Sarah received the catalogs for the SRP materials, and meeting attendees were anxious to see them. Sarah will send them out in the brown Intra-System Mail folders this week.)

Makerspace/activity kits

- TEI Makerspace in a Crate – The kits can be purchased, but they also have a leasing program where you can receive a new crate every four months. The salesperson said that they send the instructions for the activities a couple of weeks ahead of when the crate will arrive, so you can be ready to implement the equipment as soon as you receive it. A flyer about the program can be found here: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1bqtAkd52wTokwGYDx8KlbeE8hcKuEFim>
- Penworthy STEAM to GO Kits – Sarah is looking into purchasing a couple (or a few) of these to house at 4CLS for member libraries to borrow. Meeting attendees gave some feedback about the options that seemed the most useful.

Ideas for encouraging discovery and imagination in the library

- This was a workshop Sarah attended at the ARSL presented by a Youth Services staff person from the Great Bend Public Library in Kansas. She was hoping to have the slides ready to share with you, but they haven't been posted yet. She will send them out when they are provided from the conference leaders.
- Discovery tables – add a few things (books and hands-on activities) on a theme to a table in your library and just leave it out for families to interact with. It's an opportunity for families to learn together and have conversations with each other. Be aware that people might use the materials for something different than you had in mind, and that's ok.
- Make and take area – Good place to make use of leftover craft supplies. Gives kids a chance to try new things with older supplies.
- Imagination space – Dedicate a corner of your space for a play area with props on a theme. This offers an unstructured play opportunity that you can switch out periodically to keep it fresh.
- Brown bag challenge – Give groups of kids a brown bag with different random objects inside that they will use to create a skit or a story.
- Remember: Play does not have to be perfect!

Sharing from the group

- Cassandra shared her excitement about a teen cooking class that has started in Sidney. Cornell Cooperative Extension sends staff to teach a 1.5-hour class once a month. They use electric skillets, so there's no need for the library to have its own cooking equipment.

- Barb from Hartwick shared that the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program is now available to families in Delaware and Otsego Counties, thanks to funding support from the United Way.
- Echo has started a library youth group (ages 10-15) in Springfield. Her aim is to give the kids a safe space to interact and to encourage them to have face-to-face interactions instead of just using their phones.
- Kathryn is weeding in Oneonta, and she has lots of juvenile non-fiction books to give away!
- Jess shared about the UnFinished Object group that meets in Oxford. They created small barn quilts with donations from Lowes and Sherwin Williams. The annual haunted house will be taking place on October 26. She is cleaning out her supplies, so if you need anything, let her know! Jess also shared about the community literary magazine that she has produced for the past several years. Her flyer about that program can be found here: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1RtHF2H9o3WJyQ-auXexmD9RDqjBqrPZX>
- Patty shared about the success that she's had with the Pre-teen Book Club at Sherburne. The kids really enjoy reading together, and they've taken on some very ambitious books! She got a grant from Dollar General to start a teen book club for ages 13-15, and she'd like some suggestions about which books might be good to use.
- April from Walton shared that the library is working on a Great Book Giveaway to coincide with the "Spend the Day in Walton" event on November 30.
- Linda from Nineveh was looking for suggestions of things to include in gift bags for a group of Head Start students that will be visiting the library. Other meeting attendees shared some ideas of books and resources to include.
- A question was raised about instructions for a repurposed book project, and Erin from Sidney sent some links to instructions after the meeting:
 - o Book Page Mobile Tutorial: <http://thepleatedpoppy.com/2014/01/diy-book-page-mobile/>
 - o Origami Easy Butterfly tutorial: <http://makeorigamieasyinstructionsforkids.blogspot.com/2010/10/origami-butterfly-2.html>
 - o A photo of Erin's project can be found here: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1kmFC38Jp3tDhHsUV9jL1xixHGJpoAAeV>

Next meeting – November 22, 10:00am, at the Mary Wilcox Memorial Library in Whitney Point. We'll spend this meeting focusing on programming and services for teens.