

**Four County Library System
Youth Services Meeting via GoToMeeting
8 November 2021**

Libraries attending: SID, EN, NI, JC (2), WP, MG, LI, CV, WA, SH (2), OX, FE, GR, SNB, BA, AF, VE, FR, ONA

WSKG Youth Voices

Jackie Stapleton-Durham, Director of Education at WSKG, shared about three contests open to young people:

- Student Writing Challenge – Grades K-12 - <https://wskg.org/education/student-writing-challenge/>
- Student Podcast Challenge – Grades 6-12 - <https://wskg.org/education/wskg-student-podcast-challenge/>
- Rod Serling Film Festival – Grades K-12 - <https://wskg.org/contests/rod-serling-film-festival/>
- Deadlines for entries into all three contests is May 27, 2022.
- This is a great opportunity for libraries to encourage creative young people in their communities to express themselves and share their voices with a larger audience—and maybe win a contest in the process!
- Digital files (entry forms and promotional pieces) for these contests can be found here: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/10ttWYJYYL-fgc01HxyieJ2LyGfKKY80J?usp=sharing>
- Jackie also highlighted two other items of possible interest from WSKG:
 - o A new podcast hosted by Crystal Sarakas with author interviews and book discussions: <https://www.npr.org/podcasts/1047019482/off-the-page-from-w-s-k-g-radio>
 - o PBS Media Literacy Academy is a training module hosted locally by WSKG. Many of the participants are classroom teachers, but library staff members are eligible, too. More information can be found here: <https://wskg.org/education/pbs-media-literacy-academy/>

Ideas for training

4CLS is working on scheduling trainings/continuing education for next year. If you have any ideas for Youth Services-related trainings, please let Sarah (4CLS) know: sreid@4cls.org.

Subscription boxes for teens

- Book “subscription” boxes for teens are a way to get them reading something new.
- The way that this is run by Kenneth (EN) is by putting together a small box for each participant with a library book (based on the participant’s reading style) and some snacks, small surprises, and/or a craft or activity. The teen returns the box and the book and keeps the rest.

- Molly (JC) was interested in starting something like this but thought that maybe it'd work better if a few libraries collaborated on it.
- Sarah (4CLS) will find out who might be interested in participating in something like this and see how the system might be able to help facilitate sharing resources on this program.

Summer Reading Program 2022

- The Summer Reading Program theme (from the Collaborative Summer Library Program) for 2022 is "Oceans of Possibilities." (You are not required to stick with this theme, but the State Library provides each library with materials to support programs on this theme.)
- The USB flash drives with the SRP manual have arrived, as have the catalogs of theme-related merchandise. These will be sent out to member libraries (in the brown Intra-System Mail envelopes) before Thanksgiving.
- If you would like to access the manual online, the NY State access code is **NY22!JQ93**
- The State Library will be providing one "Oceans of Possibilities" poster for each library this summer.
- The creators of the SRP manual will be holding a free online symposium on December 2. More information and registration can be found here: <https://www.csipreads.org/summer-symposium/> (Sessions will be recorded.)
- 4CLS has a few new materials that could be helpful with this summer's theme:
 - o Puppets: dolphin, narwhal
 - o Die Cuts: fish, sailboat, seahorse, sea turtle, shark, shell, submarine, whale.
- If you have ideas for presenters that would fit this summer's theme, please share them with the group. You can send an email to yslist@4cls.org, and that will go to everyone. Sarah will share out emails that she has received from performers, as well.

Favorite books

A few meeting attendees shared books that they really liked this year:

- Picture books
 - o *These Are Not My Underpants!* by Melissa Martin
 - o *The Scarecrow* by Beth Ferry
 - o *Reading Beauty* by Deborah Underwood
 - o *Everyone Loves Bacon* by Kelly DiPucchio
 - o *Jules vs. the Ocean* by Jessie Sima
- Middle grade
 - o *Chance* by Uri Shulevitz
 - o *Root Magic* by Eden Royce
 - o *Finding Langston* and *Leaving Lymon* and *Being Clem* – all by Lesa Cline-Ransome
- Teen
 - o *Dancing at the Pity Party* by Tyler Feder
 - o *Fable* and *Namesake* by Adrienne Young
 - o *All the Tides of Fate* by Adalyn Grace

Other notes

- A question was asked about whether non-MLS library staff have a requirement for continuing education. Sarah checked with Steve, and he pointed out the following section of the minimum standards: that each library “provides library staff with annual technology training, appropriate to their position, to address community needs, as outlined in the library’s long-range plan of service.” At this point, there doesn’t seem to be a set number of hours for this requirement.
- Franklin Free Library is hosting a Zoom event with author Uri Shulevitz on November 18 at 7:00pm. More information can be found on the flyer on their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/FranklinFreeLibrary/photos/a.1470572949827052/3098974673653530/>
- Sarah is having foot surgery on November 30 and will be out for a couple of weeks and then working from home for a little while. If you need to request puppets, etc., during that time, you can contact Ann (aziemba@4cls.org), but because her schedule is sometimes subject to change, you can also contact Megan (mbiddle@4cls.org).