Message From Your Chair

As we near the end of 2016, I would like to encourage those of you who work with youth but have not yet joined the Youth Services Subdivision to consider joining. Membership is a bargain at only $5, if you are an ILA member. If you are wondering why you should join, here are three good reasons:

1. Your $5 subdivision dues support two scholarships awarded at each ILA conference to YSS members—one scholarship to attend ILA the next year and one to attend a national library conference.

2. Your subdivision dues also support the YSS pre-conference workshop at ILA, so the more YSS has to work with, the more options we have for our workshop. Lots of attendees at this year’s pre-conference workshop with Miss Carole have had overwhelmingly positive things to say about it.

3. YSS is not just for public youth librarians—it is for anyone who works with youth in libraries, and the more opportunities we have to talk with each other, share ideas, and collaborate, the better we can serve our youth patrons in both public and school libraries. Public and school library partnerships are powerful, as my own community can attest to.

Do you have a program in the works for next year that you’d like to share? As you are planning for next year, please consider submitting your ideas for publication in this newsletter. The more ideas that are contributed, the better and more useful our newsletter can be.

I hope you all have a wonderful end to 2016, and I hope to see you all at the Kids First Conference in May.

Best,

Kelly Stern, YSS Chair
Youth Services Librarian
As in many libraries, the Summer Reading Club has been the centerpiece of our Youth and Teen programming for many years. Generations of children have partaken in the summer ritual of registration, reading, and rewards. Recently, however, the Summer Reading Club has also generated much discussion and many questions.

Is, what basically is a bookkeeping job, for example, the best use of limited staff time and resources? Rather than staff devoting hours to recording levels of participation and recognition, could that time be better spent in direct contact with kids, perhaps providing a language rich and literature based Story Time or other programs? Is what in reality a rather modest program in the scope of the general Youth/Teen programming year, worth spending a good portion of the programming budget, as well as limited staff resources in what feels like a year-long process of planning, executing, and evaluating?

What message are we sending to kids about reading when they need to be rewarded with a prize to read? Is “bribing” kids to read the best approach to creating lifelong readers? Does it truly motivate anyone who does not already like to read? Does it encourage cheating? Where does the prize cycle end when every year incentives grow increasingly more expensive and less universally appealing?

Is the current system, even if tracking time, not inherently weighted to reward the better reader? After all, the more time you spend reading, the more raffle tickets you earn. Does requiring children to keep track and record reading time, encourage reading or turn them off as current research suggests? Do children read the same as in the past? Given that reading is taught and tested in schools based on a “compliance” rather than an enjoyment model, do children even view reading anymore as entertainment or only for information?

An illuminating article was published in the June 3, 2016, issue of The Atlantic detailing various recent studies suggesting that not only are extrinsic motivations (read: prizes) not effective in encouraging reading, but that the practice of reading logs may actually have a negative effect on students’ attitudes toward reading. The public library has many goals, but inarguably one of those goals is to help the young people in our community enjoy reading—and if that’s the case, what are we doing with all of this tracking? Is this really how we can best serve our patrons? Is this the best way to make reading fun?....To be Continued

Dianne Herzog
Youth Services Manager
Council Bluffs Public Library

Anna Hartmann
Teen Services Manager
Council Bluffs Public Library
Sneak Peek : Upcoming New Books

Picture Books . . .


Bill O’Reilly and James Patterson remind us all that a single word--"Please?"--is useful in a thousand different ways. From finding a lovable stray dog to needing a partner on a seesaw, from reading a bedtime story to really, really needing a cookie. Give Please a Chance depicts scenes and situations in which one small word can move mountains.

Chicken Story Time by Sandy Asher. ISBN: 0803739443. 12/13/2016

Why did the chicken cross the road? To get to story time at the library, of course! The children like the chicken, the chicken likes the children, and everyone loves story time. So it’s no surprise that more children (and more chickens!) get in on the fun until there are more kids and critters than the librarian knows what to do with.


"Can I keep it? It's so cute!" Brimming with laugh-aloud humor, enormous dinosaur children surprise their parents by bringing home a wild menagerie of highly unusual pets! What would happen if your child walked in the door with a pet tiger? Or an elephant, boa constrictor, zebra, or kangaroo? Would you smile?

Egg by Kevin Henkes. ISBN: 0062408720. 01/03/2017

This original picture book introduces young children to four eggs. One is blue, one is pink, one is yellow, and one is green. Three of the eggs hatch, revealing three baby birds who fly away. But the green egg does not hatch. Why not? When the three birds return to investigate, they’re in for a big surprise! What will happen next? With a compelling mix of comic-like panels, wordless pages and spreads, and a short text featuring word repetition, surprise, and suspense, Egg is an ideal book for emergent readers, as well as for sharing in a group.

Compiled by:
Danielle Day
Youth Services Manager
Carnegie-Stout Public Library, Dubuque, IA
This Book Is Magic by Ashley Evanson. ISBN: 0399543929. 01/17/2017

Do you know that you're a magician? In this interactive book, use your fingers to perform all kinds of magic tricks. Tap a hat to make a bunny appear, recite a spell to make books bigger, say "Gone-zo!" to make a ship disappear, and much more. But beware: the clever magic tricks don't always turn out the way you'd expect!

Everybunny Dance! by Ellie Sandall ISBN: 1481498223. 01/17/2017

Nobody is watching. Now's the perfect chance. Ready bunny, Steady bunny, EVERYBUNNY DANCE! Thus begins a whimsical celebration of movement, which will have children jumping out of their seats to dance, play, and sing with these cheerful bunnies—and one not-so-scary fox.

Hocus Focus (Adventures in Cartooning) by James Sturm. ISBN: 1596436549. 01/24/2017

All day long, the Knight peels turnips. This isn't what she had in mind for her first magic lesson. She wants to make a magic potion, not soup! Things get a lot more exciting when she steals the wizard’s magic wand and spell book. Her potion transforms Edward into a giant worm—and he’s hungry!

This & That by Mem Fox. ISBN: 1338037803. 01/31/2017

In this delightful tale, two mice set off on a storytelling adventure that takes them through cavernous caves, atop crazy giraffes, and over palace walls until they return safely home to the comfort of their beds. A sweet, rhyming story, This & That is perfect for helping children develop their sequencing skills!

The Rooster Who Would Not Be Quiet! by Carmen Agra Deedy. ISBN: 0545722888. 01/31/2017

La Paz is a happy, but noisy village. A little peace and quiet would make it just right. So the villagers elect the bossy Don Pepe as their mayor. Before long, singing of any kind is outlawed. Even the teakettle is afraid to whistle! But there is one noisy rooster who doesn't give two mangos about this mayor's silly rules. Instead, he does what roosters were born to do. He sings: "Kee-kee-ree-KEE!"
**Mighty, Mighty Construction Site** by Sherri Duskey Rinker. ISBN: 1452152160. 02/14/2017

All of our favorite trucks are back on the construction site—this time with a focus on team-building, friendship, and working together to make a big task seem small! Down in the big construction site, the crew faces their biggest job yet, and will need the help of new construction friends to get it done. Working as a team, there’s nothing they can’t do! The millions of fans of *Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site* are in for a mighty good time!

**Steppin’ Out: Jaunty Rhymes for Playful Times** by Lin Oliver. ISBN: 0399174346. 02/21/2017

This collection of nineteen original poems features little ones eager to explore, whether it’s splashing in puddles, riding in an elevator or through a car wash, or visiting the library. They go full-steam ahead to the park, the beach, and dance class, somewhat begrudgingly learn to share and get their first haircut, and enjoy lots of time with their families. Full of contagious rhythm and rhyme, this inviting picture book introduces young children to the sounds of poetry through familiar childhood activities.

**Little Ree** by Ree Drummond. ISBN: 0062453181. 03/28/2017

Little Ree trades in her city days for a country way of life when she moves with her family to her grandparents’ ranch. She’s excited to ride horses, swim in the pond, and help Grandma cook for everyone. But on her first day, she finds that living on a ranch can be tough. She has to get up at the crack of dawn, learn to herd cows, and make sure her horse, Pepper, doesn’t eat everything in sight. And that’s all before breakfast! Will she ever get used to this new place?

**The Pout-Pout Fish, Far, Far from Home.** by Deborah Diesen. ISBN: 0374301948. 04/04/2017

Swim along with Mr. Fish as he explores new places and meets new friends in this new book. He might just learn that a few bumps along the way are all part of the journey. Deborah Diesen and Dan Hanna are back with everyone’s favorite grumpy fish, to show that love doesn’t have to be packed, it travels with you always.

**The Nuts: Keep Rolling!** by Eric Litwin. ISBN: 0316322512. 04/18/2017

Hazel Nut and Wally’s Nut’s playtime roll down a muddy hill turns into a hilarious chase when they get covered in so much muck that they get bigger... and bigger... until they’re big as ELEPHANTS! Can anyone help get the Nuts back down to size? Eric Litwin offers an upbeat and inspiring message: What do you do when you roll into trouble? Keep rolling! In the third book of the Nuts series, Eric Litwin’s playful call-and-response rhymes and Scott Magoon’s hilarious illustrations invite readers young and old to join in on the fun.
What makes Isaiah so unique? First, his fur is as blue as the sky—which until recently was something he’d never seen, but had read all about. That’s right—Isaiah can read, and write. He can also talk to humans...if any of them are willing to listen! After a dramatic escape from a mysterious laboratory, Isaiah is separated from his “mischief” (which is the word for a mouse family), and has to use his special skills to survive in the dangerous outdoors, and hopefully find his missing family. But in a world of cruel cats, hungry owls, and terrified people, it's hard for a young, lone mouse to make it alone. When he meets an equally unusual and lonely human girl named Hailey, the two soon learn that true friendship can transform eight kids must learn to work together to survive.

The Warden’s Daughter by Jerry Spinelli. ISBN: 0375831991. 01/03/2017

Cammie O'Reilly is the warden's daughter, living in an apartment above the entrance to the Hancock County Prison. But she’s also living in a prison of grief and anger about the mother who died saving her from harm when she was just a baby. And prison has made her mad. This girl's nickname is Cannonball. In the summer of 1959, as twelve turns to thirteen, everything is in flux. Cammie's best friend is discovering lipstick and American Bandstand. A child killer is caught and brought to her prison. And the only mother figures in her life include a flamboyant shoplifter named Boo Boo and a sullen reformed arsonist of a housekeeper. All will play a role in Cammie's coming-of-age. But one in particular will make a staggering sacrifice to ensure that Cammie breaks free from her past.

Bad Kitty Takes the Test by Nick Bruel. ISBN: 1626725896. 01/03/2017

It’s something everyone has to do at least once. Kitty is no different. In this new edition of the beloved, bestselling Bad Kitty series, Bad Kitty faces . . . a test! Based on her previous bad behavior, the Society of Cat Aptitude has determined that Kitty is not only a bad kitty but a bad cat. In order to redeem her feline status, Kitty must take an aptitude test to determine if she deserves to be a cat. If she fails, she will no longer be able to be a cat. With the help of Chatty Kitty, who is the instructor at Cat School, and Uncle Murray, who thinks he’s just there to renew his driver’s license, Kitty learns all about being a cat and a little about herself.

House of Robots: Robot Revolution by James Patterson. ISBN: 0316349585. 01/16/2017

After a few early glitches in their relationship, Sammy and his “bro-bot” E are now fast friends. In fact, E is such a valued member of the family that the other electronic occupants of the House of Robots are feeling sorely unappreciated. And when Sammy’s inventor mom becomes distracted by a top-secret project, the robots soon begin to fall into disrepair. Cue a robot revolt, with the droids wreaking harmless havoc in the house! Armed with pranks like glue in the shampoo bottles and flying toast missiles, the robots demand to be cared for. It’s up to Sammy and his disabled sister Maddie to keep the peace until his mom reveals her secret project...and why it was worth the wait.
**Warrior Bronze by Michelle Paver. ISBN: 0803738846. 01/31/2017**

Hylas has returned to his homeland, and the fate of the world rests on his shoulders: He must find the prophesized dagger of Koronos and keep the Crows from wielding it in battle, or they will rule the land forever. But he must also locate Issi, his lost sister, to keep her safe from the impending war. Torn between his duty and his family, Hylas and Pirra split up to conquer their tasks. But fate has many surprises for them, and neither challenge is as straightforward as it seems. Aided by Havoc the lioness, Echo the falcon, and many old friends, Hylas and Pirra must defeat the Crows once and for all—or lose everything trying.

**Last Day on Mars by Kevin Emerson. ISBN: 0062306715. 2/14/2017**

It is Earth year 2213—but, of course, there is no Earth anymore. The human race has fled to Mars, but this was only a temporary solution while we have prepared for a second trip: a 150-year journey to a distant star, our best guess at where we might find a new home. Liam Saunders-Chang is one of the last humans left on Mars. The son of two scientists who have been racing against time to create technology vital to humanity’s survival: Liam and Phoebe. Liam and Phoebe will make a series of profound discoveries about the nature of time and space and find out that the human race is just one of many in our universe locked in a dangerous struggle for survival.

**Middle School: Escape to Australia by James Patterson. ISBN: 0316272620. 03/06/2017**

Rafe isn’t exactly considered a winner in Hills Village Middle School to say the least, but everything’s about to change: he’s won a school-wide art competition, and the fabulous prize is getting to jet-set off to Australia for a whirlwind adventure! But Rafe soon finds that living in the Land Down Under is harder than he could’ve ever imagined—his host-siblings are anything but welcoming, the burning temperatures are torturous, and poisonous critters are ready to sting or eat him at every step. So with the help of some new misfit friends, Rafe sets out to show everyone what he does best: create utter mayhem!

**Full List:**
https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B0JjIDkDQEabQWZXclhUcWIzX2s/view?usp=sharing
Take A Break!

"Be good to each other"

Link to print: http://bydawnnicole.com/2016/04/tombow-irojiten-giveaway-free-coloring-page.html
Up Coming...

Teen Tech Week – March 5-11
http://teentechweek.ning.com/

D.E.A.R - Drop Everything and Read - April
D.E.A.R. stands for "Drop Everything and Read," a national month-long celebration of reading designed to remind folks of all ages to make reading a priority activity in their lives.

School Library Month – April
School Library Month (SLM) is the American Association of School Librarians' (AASL) celebration of school librarians and their programs

National Library Week – April 9-15
http://www.ala.org/conferencesevents/celebrationweeks/natlibraryweek

Money Smart Week – April 22-29
http://www.moneysmartweek.org/

Kids First Conference – May 1-3 (save the dates and watch for details!)

Have events that you would like to be included in the next Issue? Email me at noreliuschild@frontier.com
http://www.iowalibraryassociation.org/index.php/youth-services-subdivision

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Happy Holidays!