Message From Your Chair:

Happy 2007….oh, wait 2017! I feel like I am in a time warp and I am back 10 years writing my welcome letter for the printed YSS newsletter. You are once again stuck with me for a year. Olivia Stoner was going to move into the role of chair but is now expecting her second little reader and thought it would be better to wait a year. Olivia will be busy when things start gearing up in the fall for conference.

Ahhh, 10 years where has the time gone. I have seen a lot of changes (professionally and personally), as I am sure you all have too! There has been a lot of changes for YSS in the past few years as well. YSS has taken over the Performance Showcases (with the leadership of the incredible Rick Brammer). Next summer, I will be asking for help with registration and serving as a manager of each of the three sessions held in Iowa. Remember YSS/ILA is a volunteer organization and needs to have members help out to make it run.

YSS has also taken the Bridge to Reading Award. For those that don’t know Bridge to Reading Award was originally started by member Danielle Day for Dubuque area children. After a few years it became a state wide award to fill the need for a preschool age kid award. If anyone would like to be part of this committee that picks the books, please let myself or Danielle know. New titles will be chosen next fall for the 2019 award. Don’t forget to read this year’s selections at your story times. Voting begins in February 1, 2018 and goes through April 30 with the winner announced in May.

As most of you know the majority of our funds and efforts are spent bringing speakers/presenters to the Fall ILA conference. The 2018 conference will be held in Cedar Falls on Oct 3, 4, and 5, 2018. If anyone has a suggestion or a speaker/presenter for the conference, please let me know. Traditionally, YSS has had a preconference every other year and 2018 would be the year to host one. Pre-conferences are a little different as the subdivision is responsible for the cost of presenter. If the subdivision doesn’t make money off the preconference, they are responsible for the cost. Please consider joining us for a preconference.

Best,

Katie Dreyer, YSS Chair

Pella Public Library
The online manuals are available. You can access them through the CSLP website, at [www.cslpreads.org](http://www.cslpreads.org). Create an account if you have not yet done so. Once you are logged in, go to the Proprietary Downloads tab and click the 2018 Manual. You will be asked to identify our state, and the system will then give you an access code. Provide the access code to get the 2018 manual. This is a one-time process. After you provide the access code once, you will be able to go to the online manual whenever you log in to the CSLP website.

Jack lives with his friends. He plays with his friend Rex, meets a lady, and takes a purse that is not his. Jack is a good guy, but he can also be bad. This book has a snappy, rhythmic structure that is perfect for reading aloud.

I Can Be Anything! Don’t Tell Me I Can’t by Diane Dillon. ISBN 1338166905. 2-27-2018

Zoe enthusiastically embraces the wonders of our world and its infinite possibilities. "I can be anything I want to be!" she tells us, presenting herself in a range of careers. "But what if you fail?" asks a voice of doubt that attempts to undermine her confidence. Zoe ignores the voice and is confident that she can be anything she wants to be.

Old Hat by Emily Garvett. ISBN 1534409173. 2-27-2018

Trends are always changing, and Harbet just wants to fit in. He keeps buying new hats, but they seem to become “old” and out of style rather quickly. Harbet doesn’t think he will ever fit in. Until one day Harbet discovers how much more fun it is to be yourself and stop following others.

The Big Bed by Bunmi Laditan. ISBN 0374301239. 2-06-2018

This story is a twist on the classic parental struggle of not letting kids sleep in their bed. This story is about a girl who doesn’t want to sleep in her little bed, so gives her dad a camping cot so that she could take his place in the big bed.

Wordy Birdy by Tammi Sauer. ISBN 1524719293. 02-06-2018

Wordy Birdy loves to talk, but does not like to listen. One day when Wordy Birdy is walking through the forest, she is too busy talking about all of the pretty things that she ignores dangerous things. It is up to her friends Squirrel, Raccoon and Rabbit to save their distracted friend.

Unplugged by Steve Anthony. ISBN 1338187376. 02-27-2018

Blip loves being plugged into her computer. When a blackout occurs, Blip trips over her wire and tumbles outside. Blip’s gray world that she is so used to is now filled with color and excitement. She plays with her new friends and has adventures all day long, something she has never done before. When Blip finally returns home, she realizes that the world can be even brighter once you unplug. This is a great story about coming out of your comfort zone and what those opportunities can bring.
What Do You Do with a Chance? By Kobi Yamada. ISBN 1943200734. 02-01-2018

In this story, a child has a chance and lets it go. The second chance he gets he reaches for it and falls. The boy then begins to ignore all the chances that pass by because he is embarrassed. The boy one day realizes that he doesn’t need to be brave all of the time—but at the right time to discover that amazing things can happen if you take a chance.

Ducks Away! By Mem Fox. ISBN 1338185667. 01-20-2018

Mother Duck and her Ducklings waddle across a bridge until a gust of wind sweeps away one of the ducklings into the river. Mother Duck is frantic because she wants to save the ducking in the water but doesn’t want to leave the other ones. As she paces and frantically quacks, the remaining ducklings playfully plop one by one into the river until all of the siblings are happily floating along.

Sleepover Duck! By Carlin Bramsen. ISBN 0385384173. 01-20-2018

It’s Duck’s first sleepover, and it’s in Cat’s barn! A “Hoot, Hoot” is keeping the Duck awake, so Duck and Cat go on an adventure to find out who is making all of this noise. Children are bound to love this barn animal filled, funny and endearing story!


Little Penguin Pip-Pip is scared of the water and can’t join his friends in swimming in the sea. This is a story of how a little bit of encouragement and a whole lot of heart can help to make that leap to be brave! This book provides a positive message of confidence and encouragement with funny and heart warming illustrations.


Dear Girl, is a remarkable love letter written for a very special girl. This book will assure any girl that she is perfect, and encourages girls to always be themselves and to love the person you are. This book ensures beauty inside and out for girls.

The Pink Hat by Andrew Joyner. ISBN 1524772267. 12-26-2017

A pink hat is swiped out of a knitting basket by a pesky kitten, blown into a tree by a strong wind, and used as a cozy blanket for a new baby, then finally makes its way onto the head of a young girl marching for women’s equality. This book celebrates girls and women’s rights and empowers readers to promote strength in the diverse and active feminist community.
The Word Collector by Peter H. Reynolds. ISBN 0545865026. 1-30-2018
Jerome collects words. He discovers the magic of the words all around him -- short and sweet words, two-syllable treats, and multisyllable words that sound like little songs. Words that connect, transform, and empower. This book is about celebrating your own words and the impact they have when you share them with the world.

Dino Duckling by Allison Murray. ISBN 031651313X. 1-09-2018
Dino Duckling does not seem to fit in with the other ducklings, because well, when he’s born he is actually a dinosaur. There is plenty of room for difference in the family, but since dinosaurs can’t fly, going south for the winter might be a problem. This is a heartwarming story for anyone who has ever wondered how to fit in.

Love by Matt De La Pena. ISBN 1524740918. 1-09-2018
This book depicts the many ways we experience love. Love carries us from the day we are born, throughout our childhood and even further. This story has inspiring lyrical text and is a needed comfort that will resonate with readers of every age.

The New Libearian by Alison Donald. ISBN 0544973658. 1-09-2018
Children find a bear sitting at the librarians desk. The new LiBEARian opens a book about bears and lets out a loud growl. The kids love this universal story telling experience. The real librarian then appears and sends the bear back into the book he came from.

Fancy Nancy: Oodles of Kittens by Jane O’Connor. ISBN 0062269879. 1-02-2018
On a rainy day, Nancy and Bree find oodles of kittens outside. They find some of the kittens good homes and each keep one. But Nancy’s new kitten and her puppy Frenchy don’t get along.

100 Things I love to Do with You by Amy Schwartz. ISBN 1419722883. 12-05-2017
From making faces and running races to snapping beans and wearing jeans, here is a warm picture of a collection of things to do with someone you love.
Chapter Books

The 78-Story Treehouse by Andy Griffiths. ISBN 1250104858.  3-13-2018

Andy and Terry live in a 78-story treehouse with a movie theatre, a car wash, and even a sports stadium! While Terry is in the works of becoming a famous movie start, Andy gets cut from the movie and the two get into a fight resulting in them not being best friends anymore. Andy and Terry’s story ideas are at jeopardy, but can they make up before it’s too late?

Time Jumpers by Brandon Mull. ISBN 1442497122.  3-13-2018

This is the fifth and final book to the Five Kingdoms series. Cole and his friends are pushed to the limit while they try to restore magic to the world of the Outskirts and find their way back home.

The Wild Robot Escapes by Peter Brown. ISBN 0316382043.  3-13-2018

This book tells the story of what happens when technology and nature collide. Stranded on an island after a shipwreck, Robot Roz learned from unwelcoming animals how to adapt to the environmental changes. However, can she survive the challenges of the civilized world and find her way home to Brightbill and the island?

The Hazel Wood by Melissa Albert. ISBN 1250147905.  1-30-2018

Seventeen-year-old Alice and her mother have spent most of Alice’s life on the road, where she has had rather bad luck. When Alice’s grandmother who is the author of a book of pitch-dark fairy tales, dies on her estate, the Hazel Wood, Alice’s luck gets worse. Her mother is stolen away from an evil figure from her grandmother’s stories. To retrieve her mother, Alice must venture first to the Hazel Wood, where she is forbidden to go.

The Journey of Little Charlie by Paul Christopher Curtis. ISBN 0545156661.  1-30-2018

Twelve-year-old Charlie is not having the best luck when his sharecropper father dies and the scariest man in Possum Moan, South Carolina named Cap’n Buck has come to collect a debt. Charlie strikes a deal with Cap’n Buck and agrees to track down some folks accused of stealing from him in attempt to save his own life. Charlie gets to know the fugitives and his conscience kicks in. Charlie is torn between saving the fugitives or saving himself.

Supergifted by Gordon Korman. ISBN 006256384X.  1-02-2018

Donovan Curtis has never been what anyone would call “gifted.” But his genius friend Noah Youkilis is actually supergifted, with one of the highest IQs around. Tired of striving to be perfect, Noah wishes to have the opportunity to fail if he wants to. Noah joins the same school as Donovan and seems to get himself into some trouble. A freak accident makes Donovan a hero, and Noah steps in and becomes “superkid.” Noah goes from genius to titan, and he begins to think a bit too highly of himself.
Obsidio by Amie Kaufman. ISBN 055349919X. 03-13-2018

Kady, Ezra, Hanna, and Nik narrowly escaped with their lives from the attacks on Heimdall station and now find themselves crammed with 2,000 refugees on the container ship, Mao. When resources become scarce, they must return to Kerenza. When Asha’s old flame appears on Kerenza, the two find themselves on opposite sides of the conflict. Time is running out, a final battle will be waged on land and in space, heroes will fall, and hearts will be broken.

The Cruel Prince by Holly Black. ISBN 0316310271. 01-02-2018

Jude’s parents were murdered when she was seven years old, and she and her two sisters were stolen away to live in the treacherous High Court of Faerie. Ten years later, Jude wants nothing more than to belong at the Court. However, many of the fey hate humans, and she must defy Prince Cardan—the wickedest son of the High King. A civil war threatens to drown the Courts of Faerie in violence, and Jude will need to risk her life in a dangerous alliance to save her sisters, and Faerie itself.

Broken Beautiful Hearts. ISBN 1250079209. 02-06-2018

Soccer player Peyton Rios has dreamt of going pro, and she received an offer by a college to play. When she discovers her boyfriend’s dark secret, she confronts him and finds herself falling down a flight of stairs. Peyton’s knee, and future pro is shattered. Everyone is talking: Was she pushed, or did she fall? She stays with her Uncle in Tennessee to focus on her recovery, where she meets with a boy named Owen. She senses that Owen is hiding something. When their secrets are finally exposed, Peyton has to decide if love is worth fighting for when you can’t trust your heart.

Thunderhead by Neal Shusterman. ISBN 1442472456. 01-09-2018

The Thunderhead cannot interfere in the affairs of the Scythedom, but can only observe, and things aren’t looking too pretty. Rowan and Citra take opposite stances on the morality of the Scythedom. When Citra’s life is threatened, it becomes clear to her that not everyone is open to the change of the “new order.” As the perfect world begins to crumble, it is the Thunderhead’s decision to continue watching, or to do something about it.

Purple Hearts by Michael Grant. ISBN 0062342215. 01-30-2018

Rio, Frangie, and Rainy are on the front-line battles in North Africa and Sicily. These three female soldiers must lead their allies through one of the deadliest battles yet. This battle takes place on June 6, 1944—also known as D-Day. Others look took the three girls for guidance and leadership. This war will leave sixty million dead. The women must find a way to lead while watching the world turn into shambles right before their eyes.

A Reaper at the Gates by Sabaa Tahir. ISBN 0448494507. 04-24-2018

Beyond the Empire and within it, the threat of war looms ever larger. Helene Aquilla, who is the Blood Shrike, is assailed on all sides. As Helene searches for a way to hold back the upcoming darkness, her sister’s life and the lives of all those in the Empire hang in the balance.
Up Coming Events

Take Your Child to the Library Day
February 3, 2018

When is it?
What can I do?
And why bother?!?

When is Take Your Child to the Library Day (TYCttLD)?
TYCttLD is the 1st Saturday in February.

When and how did TYCttLD begin?
Nadine Lipman, the retired Head of Children’s Services at the Waterford (CT) Public Library, came up with the idea for TYCttLD. TYCttLD was first held in 2012, but [thanks to listservs!] librarians across the country began to join in for TYCttLD 2013.

Why should you participate in TYCttLD?
Regardless of population or economic status, your library serves children in your community. Take advantage of the positive PR this nation-wide celebration provides as you do more of what you already do so well!

What can you do to celebrate TYCttLD?
The possibilities are pretty much endless. Many libraries opt to have a special event, but you can simply highlight a program that you already do – or even just show off your library space. No matter your budget or staffing, there are many ways for your library to participate.

Oh, the Possibilities!

Not sure what you can do for TYCttLD? Here are some programs/activities you could try!

Author visit: Invite a local author [or a few!] to read to kids and/or to have an author meet & greet.

Book character visit: Rent an elaborate costume or create your own at home.

Bookmarks: Have a bookmark design contest or set up a DIY bookmark station in the Children’s Area.

Games: Play board games, do Book BINGO, or set up a video game system… No matter the type of gaming, you’re likely to score big points with intergenerational gaming programs!

Goodies: Order a cake. Bake some cookies. Put together a fruit and/or vegetable platter. Invite the Friends of the Library to have a bake sale… We all know, “If you feed them, they will come!”
One of my favorite, repeat programs has been our Advent calendar making project. It started 4 years ago with about ½ dozen moms getting together and grew to a crowd of 40 last year.

We start with 4 ½ x6 ½ pieces of Christmas cardstock. (I buy these is in a pad at Hobby Lobby) They are rolled into tubes and fastened at one end. We fill each tube with a piece of candy, a note, poem or Bible verse, a small ornament, stickers or even confetti. Twist the tube and fasten on the other end. (twist so it keeps its shape—you can see in the picture) Then for however many packages you have, you count down to Christmas by opening one each day. One of my moms strings them on festive ribbon and it becomes part of her holiday decorating. Others pile in a basket and the kids choose at random. Others carefully number the packages and include notes that need to be read in order. For my own grandkids, I included notes to encourage them to do random acts of kindness. It can be individualized in a 1000 ways, yet everyone comes together and has fun creating.

I require pre-registration for this program so I have enough materials. We have some floor outlets in the library, and every time I open one of them I am reminded of this program. There’s still a lot of red glitter in there! — Cathy Van Maanen
Pokémon League

By Libby Martin
Carnegie-Stout Public Library

One of the most successful and fun programs I have run has been our Pokémon League. I capitalized on the Pokémon hype last summer when Pokémon GO and the new Pokémon Sun and Moon 3DS games debuted. We have anywhere from 12 to 20 kids who come twice a month to play Pokémon against each other and trade cards.

When I had the idea, I looked up the requirements to start an official Pokémon League on The Pokémon Company’s website. You must apply, complete a test on the rules of the card game, and pass a background check in order to be a “Pokémon Professor.” Of course, this step is optional. You can run a perfectly good Pokémon Club without the official Pokémon League title. The benefits to collaborating with The Pokémon Company include a support system of other Professors and free cards to give away to your players each month. You can find more information here: https://www.pokemon.com/us/play-pokemon/organize/become-a-professor/

I require pre-registration for this event, but it has never been so out of hand that I turned anyone away at the door. This program has been a huge success with the boys ages 7-12 in our community, but we have a few brave girls as well!

At our Pokémon League meetings, we have two tables set up. One for playing the trading card game, and one for trading cards. Some kids bring their Nintendo 3DS systems and battle each other, but they seem to prefer to sit on the floor. We have extra cards, damage counters, dice, and a couple of the pre-made decks that The Pokémon Company sells. Kids bring their own cards and decks. When kids want to trade cards, I have a strict policy that I have to approve all trades. I look up the prices of the individual cards to make sure the trade is fair, and then I make sure both kids really want to make the trade. I already know how to the play the trading card game, and have been playing it for a long time. Because of this, I was able to teach the kids who did not know how to play. Be prepared to be challenged by the kids! My kids seem to treat me like a gym leader and all want to battle me. They have even asked me to create a gym badge they can win if they beat me! – Libby Martin
Captain Underpants

We recently had a Captain Underpants Party to celebrate the release of the new movie. Captain Underpants is always popular, so this party was a hit. The program lasted about 2 hours. We played games and did crafts for the first half hour, and then watched the movie.

We limited this program to ages 6-12, though younger kids would have probably enjoyed it as well. Registration was required, and was limited because we had Captain Underpants Activity Books to give away to each attendee.

At the start of the program, I had everyone find out what silly name Professor Poopypants would give them. This made for a lot of giggles. Then we decorated underwear that I had cut out from printer paper. While the kids were coloring, I did a couple Captain Underpants themed Mad Libs with them. When everyone finished coloring, I passed out some popcorn and started the movie. Everyone took home an activity book, which was a nice touch. – Libby Martin

Creative Kids After-School Maker Club

For the past two years, I have been running a successful STEAM club twice a month. Each time we meet, we conduct a different science or technology experiment. We have worked with different robots, squishy circuits, MaKey-MaKey, and Hour of Code. We have created kinetic sand, slime, and done candy science. We have made ice cream, built catapults, and designed 3D Models in TinkerCAD. We also had a “Take Apart Day” where people donated items for the kids to take apart and see how they work. We took apart computers, toasters, and an old radio!

This program is easy to set up, and I find most of my ideas on Pinterest. I have adapted other people’s lesson plans. I also found the Iowa Active After School website and seminars to be helpful in making my own outlines that were more STEAM focused.

Overall, this program has been successful. The kids have enjoyed doing all of the different experiments, and I have learned a lot along the way, too! – Libby Martin
The lists are in!

It is that time of year when everyone is publishing their list of the best books of 2017. Check out these list.

*Washington Post: http://tinyurl.com/yaglykdm
*Publishers Weekly: http://tinyurl.com/yazwdnrcr
*Parents Magazine: http://tinyurl.com/yb6aza79
*Chicago Public Library: https://tinyurl.com/y86ujwgo
*Evanston Public Library: https://tinyurl.com/y9r74nt4
*New York Public Library: https://tinyurl.com/y7jj5qo3

Did You Know?

What do you call a group of Librarians?

Answer: a hush

Iowa’s Youth and Young Adult Librarians have a place to share ideas and communicate and it is a Facebook page called IaYaYa Hush. Join now at:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/573795529383431/
Join local schools, libraries, and child care providers across the state of Iowa in voting for the Bridge to Reading Picture Book Award. This award was created to encourage reading aloud, school readiness, early literacy skills and the lifelong love of reading. Children kindergarten age and younger can vote for their favorite from February 1 to April 30. Ballots can be picked up at the Carnegie-Stout Public Library or online at www.bridgetoreading.com. The winner will be announced in May.

Bridge to Reading Picture Book Nominees 2018

- Walter's Wonderful Web by Tim Hopgood
- Go to Sleep in Your Own Bed! by Candace Fleming
- Is That Wise, Pig? by Jan Thomas
- Do Not Take Your Dragon to Dinner by Julie Gassman
- This Is NOT a Cat! by David La Rochelle
- There's a Bear on my Chair by Ross Collins
- Where is Bear? by Jonathan Bentley
- Spunky Little Monkey by Bill Martin Jr. and Michael Sampson
- The Giant Jumperee by Julia Donaldson
- Everybunny Dance! by Ellie Sandall
For more information about Youth Services Subdivision please visit:
http://www.iowalibraryassociation.org/index.php/youth-services-subdivision

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Happy Holidays!