Hello fellow Youth Services Librarians!

The month of March always brings so many things: snow, rain, warmth, cold, basketball brackets (Rock Chalk!), and of course the growing sense of panic (or calm, for those of you who are supremely organized) that SUMMER READING IS COMING! Fear not friends, for we are all here to support and help one another through the next 5 months of preparation and programming. I encourage anyone who feels overwhelmed to reach out on the YS_talk listserve with questions or concerns. We’ve all had those moments of terror and triumph, and there are many SRP veterans throughout the state willing to talk you down from the ledge, build you up, and generally encourage your awesomeness!

Switching gears a bit, if you haven’t joined our local Storytime Underground chapter, please do so. Katelyn Browne is heading up this endeavor and you can send her an email to join – katelyn.browne@uni.edu Not sure what Storytime Underground is? Check them out at http://storytimeunderground.org/ I promise it will be worth your time. We’re hoping to grow our little chapter and figure out ways to meet in person and virtually to share ideas, maybe have a flannel board making day, and whatever else our members are interested in trying.

Shine on, you crazy diamonds!

Erin

Erin Silva

YSS Chair

Kalona Public Library
Shenandoah Public Library will be using a local park and adjusting the obstacle course for younger children!


Norelius Community Library will have a presenter from Iowa State Extension and Outreach Office teach children about healthy summer snacks!

http://www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/child-nutrition-schools

Don’t Forget to visit these sites!

http://onyourmarkgetsetread2016.weebly.com/
http://www.cslpreads.org/
Biographies

It’s always surprising to me when we get a sudden rush of books about a person who’s rarely been featured in the past. Somehow, something gets in the air and everyone’s talking about Kate Warne! Here are two women who are finally getting their historical due:

Ada Lovelace played a major role in the development of computer science as we know it today. (She has a fascinating life story, too--after Ada’s father, the poet Lord Byron, took off, her mother made sure she would grow up in the world of math, science, and absolutely no poetry.) Last year, we got *Ada Byron Lovelace and the Thinking Machine* by Laurie Wallmark and April Chu (Creston Books); in 2016, we’ll see *Ada’s Ideas* by Fiona Robinson (Abrams) in August and *Ada Lovelace, Poet of Science* by Diane Stanley and Jessie Hartland (Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman) in October. All three are picture-book biographies.

Kate Warne worked for the Pinkerton Agency in the mid-nineteenth century as its first woman detective. Last year, she appeared as a supporting character in Kate Hannigan’s middle-grade novel *The Detective’s Assistant* (Little, Brown), which gave her a fictional niece to help solve mysteries. This spring, Elizabeth Van Steenwyk and Valentina Belloni’s nonfiction picture book *How Kate Warne Saved President Lincoln* (Albert Whitman) tells a factual version of one particular daring event in her career.
Get to Know: Katelyn Browne

How long have you worked in youth services?
I started “working” in my elementary school library when I was in the 3rd grade, but I’ve been a full-time librarian since 2011.

Did you come to the library from another profession? If so, what was your previous career?
Nope! I went straight into library school out of college. Before I came to UNI, though, I was a school librarian and I spent some time in a public library before that, so I’ve seen many sides of youth services.

What inspired you to work in a library?
I had been volunteering in libraries for a long time, and so I knew the nature of the work and that I would enjoy it. I ended up volunteering in an elementary school library for most of college, and the mix of teaching, programming, cataloging, collection development, and other tasks tapped into a lot of different interests I had, so I applied to go to library school. (I also worked in my college library for money, but I liked the school library work better!)

What has been your biggest surprise about working in a public library or with kids?
It’s always fun and surprising to watch kids make connections, and to find out what they make connections to. I can never predict all the answers to my questions during storytime, or what a new book will seem “just like” to a child.
If you could become a character in a book, who would you choose to be?
It’s no secret that I love the Hamster Princess books, and I’d love to spend a day as Princess Harriet Hamsterbone! She’s invincible (for a while), pretty fearless, great at fractions, and an excellent problem-solver. And she has a riding quail! It seems like a pretty amazing life.

What do you like best about your profession?
I love getting to learn a little bit about lots of different things, and I love getting to hear about people’s passions, interests, and long-term projects. In the school library, as well as in the academic library, I get to be a part of thousands and thousands of research projects every year, so I’m always learning something new and helping other people discover better ways to find and organize the information they need. And then I also get to do the same thing with readers and books, matching a reader’s interests and information needs to the perfect set of texts. It’s the best job!

Fun Facts:
- Favorite Author: L.M. Montgomery
- Prefers a nice library hardcover

If you could have an ideal children’s department, what would it include?
First--enough money to have the materials, space, and enthusiastic staff we’d need to get stuff done! Then, I’d want to make sure we had lots of space for reading, sharing books, and some hands-on passive programming, and I’d probably recruit some families and opinionated kids to help me figure out the rest.
Up Coming...

School Library Month - April 2016:
http://www.ala.org/aasl/slm

D.E.A.R - Drop Everything and Read -
April 2016

National Library Week - April 10-16, 2016
http://www.ala.org/nlw - The 2016 theme is Libraries Transform.

National Library Workers Day - April 12, 2016 (Tuesday of National Library Week): http://ala-apa.org/nlwd

National Bookmobile Day - April 13, 2016 (Wednesday of National Library Week): http://www.ala.org/bookmobiles

Children’s Book Week – May 2-8
http://www.bookweekonline.com/

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

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Have a Great day!