Message From Your Chair

The Kids First Conference is just around the corner, so if you have not yet registered be sure to do so by April 25. As always, there is a great lineup of sessions that cover a wide array of topics in youth and teen services, so it will be a great conference.

Social justice issues have been in the news more than ever lately, it seems, and at my own library I recently had a situation in which it was important for me to take a stand on a controversial (to a segment of the general public, anyway) issue. To do so can sometimes seem scary, but there are tools to help us and a network of librarians to support us right here in Iowa through our IaYaYa Hush Facebook page, Library Talk, the State Library’s wiki for communicating with other Iowa librarians and our state conferences like Kids First and ILA. Storytime Underground, a group of youth librarians who maintain a web page and a Facebook page, have a downloadable Storytime for Social Justice Kit available that contains a lengthy book list, flannel ideas, action rhymes, and extension activities that will help us celebrate the diversity of our communities and our country to make it more likely that the books we share, in the words of our current Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden, are both windows through which we see the world and mirrors in which we can all see ourselves. The downloadable kit is available at http://storytimeunderground.org/2016/12/30/storytime-for-social-justice-kit/.

I hope to see you at Kids First!

Kelly Stern
Kid First Conference

Monday and Tuesday, May 1-2, 2017

Things to know!

Location:
Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport
Ask for the Kids First Rate -- $95.00 (plus tax)/night

Registration Deadline:
April 25th!

Key Note Speakers:

"Miss Carole" Stephens
A nationally renowned music specialist

Linda Braun
An Author and Learning Consultant with (LEO) Librarians & Educators Online

Candace Fleming
Acclaimed author of more than twenty books for children and young adults

Kelly Barn Hill
Author and recent winner of the Newbery Award

Registration Form


Sponsored by the State Library of Iowa and the Hazel Westgate Foundation in cooperation with the Youth Services Subdivision of the Iowa Library Association
Scavenger Hunts

Erin Silva, Youth & Teen Services, North Liberty Community Library

Many of us are on the scavenger hunt bandwagon. Why? They are easy, low-cost, and best of all, SELF-DIRECTED! Even preschoolers understand the basic concept of a look-and-find. Choose a theme, find some copyright free images or clipart, print them out, and hide them in the library. Then, make a page with the items that need finding, print that out, have them on hand for patrons to take, and voila!

If you want to make it more complicated (because kids can always figure out a way to bend the rules), try this idea from the Clarion Library: Print your images on cardstock or glue the paper to tag board. Tape the image to a clothespin, and hide them in books that correlate to the theme for the month. The kids would have to write the title of the book where the clothes pinned image was hiding. Their example centered on a Halloween theme, so one image on the “find” page was of a wand - the corresponding “hidden” image was on a Harry Potter book. Or, follow Beth at the Marcus Library, and have them take a picture of the object with a smart phone or tablet.

To make it more fun, you might use actual objects to hide around your library. Mini-pumpkins in the fall or actual candy canes in December, but realize these items might “walk away.” The trend to give away a small token for completing the scavenger hunt is strong. Stickers, tattoos, and small pieces of candy are all popular.

When complete, take the scavenger hunt sheets and count them toward your statistics; this is after-all, a program being offered!

One more piece of advice - write down where you’ve hidden your items. Trust me, this will make your life, and your scavenger hunt, much easier.
Summer Reading Program

Get inspired!

http://pin.it/zr6v4f7

http://www.cslpreads.org/
Take a Break!

You seriously rock.

Created by: http://bydawnnicole.com/

Up Coming...

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

Children’s Day/El día de los niños (Día) - April 30  
http://dia.ala.org/

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

Have events that you would like to be included in the June Issue? Email me at noreliuschild@frontier.com
Iowa Library Association

http://www.iowalibraryassociation.org/index.php/youth-services-subdivision

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Have a Great day!