American Library Association  
Committee Information Update Report


Name of Committee:  ALA-CBC Joint Committee

Chair:  Michael Rogalla

Members Present:  Michael Rogalla (Chair), Laura Arnhold, Kathryn Camisa, Krishna Grady, Sven Larson (via phone), Jennifer Longee, Molly Motch, Kathryn O’Leary (via phone), Susan Polos, Amy Sears, Margaret Tice, Jason Wells, Janet Wong.

Members Absent:  Elizabeth Fithian, Steve Floyd, Arlene Salazar

Others Present:  Shaina Birkhead (CBC Staff), Josalyn Moran (CBC Staff), Alexa Frank (CBC Staff), Aimee Strittmatter (ALSC).

Accomplishments:

The ALA-CBC Joint Committee is pleased to announce that upon invitation from the committee, AASL will provide updates as to their association activities at each ALA-CBC Joint Committee meeting. They will join their colleagues from ALSC and YALSA.

Regarding the 2016 Building a Home Library Lists, the ALSC’s Quicklists Consulting Committee proposed 30 titles for each age category to the committee. Non-CBC member titles from the list, along with five other titles based on the librarians’ on the Joint Committee’s personal recommendations. There were some new titles not originally on the Quicklists Committee lists were added by the Joint Committee. The ideal Building a Home Library List is diverse and representative of the CBC membership base. As in past editions of these biennial lists there will be categories for ages 0 – 3, 4 – 7, 8-11, and 12- 14.

Regarding a new initiative of the Joint Committee, work has started on Reading Lists for Young Readers with High Reading Levels, “Reading Up”. The Joint Committee is creating a bibliography to provide guidance to those looking for titles for advanced readers. The Joint Committee is to crowdsource submissions from various blogs that meet list criteria (i.e. KidLitCon, SYBLLS, Storytelling Underground). Submission period will be April through August for each edition of this new biennial list. The Joint Committee will focus on odd number years on the Reading Up list, and on even number years on the existing biennial Building a Home Library lists. When the Reading Up list is finalized, the committee will discuss media publicity. The list is looking for librarian recommendations from all over, rather than just library professionals from ALSC. The committee is aiming for a diverse list, which spotlights newer publications. The CBC to create a Google Doc form for submissions.

Regarding participation in a follow up to the 2015 Day of Diversity, the Joint Committee is considering smaller-scale programming pending any umbrella effort by the recent ALSC Diversity Task Force. For the 2016 ALA Annual Conference in Orlando, CBC member publishers hosted by the ALA Exhibits Round Table with support from the Joint Committee presented on Sunday, June
26, 2016 at 3 p.m. a session entitled “We Publish Diverse Children’s and YA Books, More Than 40 Publishers Share Their 2016 Titles”. The current Joint Committee chair received several indications of positive response to the session and the bibliography provided, with the hopes that such an event will occur next year.

Regarding Co-Hosted Webinars, Joint Committee publisher representative Sven Larson wrote a proposal to host a webinar on how to organize a mini comic-con.

Other comments/information:

For the upcoming July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 year, the ALA-CBC Joint Committee will feature two new co-chairs: Susan Polos representing ALA, and Janet Wong, representing the Children’s Book Council member publishers.

Planned activities for upcoming year:

The Joint Committee will discuss helpful criteria to give the ALSC Quicklists committee for the next set of Building a Home Library lists. Aimee Strittmatter of ALSC will be the liaison in this conversation, and Shaina Birkhead of CBC will reformat the quicklist guidelines based on Joint Committee discussion at the March 11, 2016 meeting.

The Joint Committee is considering several other possible diversity efforts, plus a follow on to the We Publish Diverse YA and Children’s books session.

The Joint Committee will complete and publish via CBC the 2016 Building a Home Library lists.

The Joint Committee will continue to gather title suggestions and prepare for the publication of the inaugural 2017 Reading Up lists.

The Joint Committee will follow up on webinar ideas.

The Joint Committee will encourage and support liaison between CBC and ALSC regarding the National Ambassador Summer Reading materials to include a digital toolkit.

The Joint Committee will encourage and support CBC/Every Child a Reader presence at upcoming conferences and festivals, sending of e-mail blasts to CBC contacts about programming and relevant content, outreach to National Parent Teacher’s Organizations, and participation in the National Reading Festival in Washington DC, on the Labor Day weekend.

Submitted by: Michael Rogalla (2015-2016 Chair)
Date Submitted: July 18, 2016