

Over the Rainbow Project Ad hoc Committee Report

Steering Committee Meeting 1 – San Diego, CA – January, 2011

Our projects since the Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. were as follows--

- Transferring our “homemade” Wordpress blog to the ALA server. Most of the work was done by David Vess. <http://www.glbtrt.ala.org/overtherainbow/>
- Creating a Facebook page which was linked with our blog and seemingly the entire universe because our number of hits are increasing daily. Thanks again to David Vess for his mad Web 2.0 skills.
- Finding ourselves in the final process of evaluating 138 books chosen from over 300 titles that were initially examined. The final decision for the bibliography entries will be made at the committee's meetings during ALA Midwinter 2011.
- The committee began its search, reading, analysis, and deliberations in mid-April when the GLBTRT Steering Committee approved the committee. Our first list will include books published during the 18 months prior to January 2011. It is intended to help librarians and readers in selecting quality books and may be used as a collection development, reader’s advisory tool, and recommended reading list for interested librarians and patrons.
- As of the end of December, over 90 books have a sufficient number of positive votes to be included in the final annotated bibliography. The committee anticipates a larger number of books for the first year than next year because the eligibility date range covers 18 months, because this is our inaugural year.
- The committee is pleased with the enthusiasm shown for this endeavor by publishers, media outlets, and individuals. Approximately 75% of our nominated books are self-published or from small publishers, which makes them less accessible to potential readers than books from mainstream publishers. All of these entities have expressed the perception that this committee fills a vital need for the LGBTQ community.
- The list of all nominated books is available at <http://www.glbtrt.ala.org/overtherainbow/>
- The 2011 Over the Rainbow ad hoc committee is comprised of 8 members: Arla Jones (Chair), Lawrence, Kan.; Jane Cothron, Newport, OR.; Cecil Hixon, New York, NY.; Brent Husher, Kansas City, MO.; Jesse NACHEM, Oakland, CA; Danielle Pollock, Albuquerque, NM; Larry Romans, Nashville, TN; and Nel Ward, Newport, OR.
- No agenda items.

**Respectfully submitted,
Arla A. Jones, Chair**