Topic: Establish a Future of Teens and Libraries Taskforce

Background: Supported by a grant from IMLS, YALSA held a year-long discussion to explore the future of library services for and with teens. The product of this discussion was a report which was released in early January 2014. In order to promote the report to various stakeholders as well as help members incorporate its “paradigm shift” into their everyday work lives, a taskforce is needed. Shannon Peterson has provided a proposal below for the Board’s consideration.

Action Required: Action

Proposal: establish a new taskforce to carry out tasks related to the implementation of YALSA activities to the roll-out of YALSA’s new report on the future of libraries and teens.

Rationale
In order to pursue the “call to action” that the Futures report has outlined, YALSA is planning a slate of conversations, activities, and tasks through the work of the board, select committees, and staff. However, there are still a number of potential strategies that have no clear “owner” within the organization. A Futures Taskforce could bolster roll-out efforts and ensure that consistent time and attention is dedicated to marketing and engaging members in adopting its contents over the coming year.

Proposed Future of Teens & Libraries Taskforce Charge
Support the roll-out of The Future of Library Services for and with Teens report by prioritizing and overseeing implementation of the following activities. Secure article placements in various publications related to youth and/or libraries. Encourage further discussion via regular Twitter chats and programs at ALA conferences. Identify potential conferences to target beyond the YALSA/ALA community, and work with staff to coordinate a YALSA presence there. Oversee the creation of supplementary resources such as rubrics for GSLIS faculty and students, canned presentation materials, and one-sheet materials for specific audiences as well as for topics (i.e. what does the report mean for teen spaces, staffing, etc). Taskforce size: 5-7 members, including at least one report author and at least one current Board member. Term: March 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

Recommended Board Action
The Board move to approve the establishment of a Future of Teens and Libraries Taskforce and direct the President to appoint members to the group by March 1, 2014.

Additional Resources:
The Future of Library Services for and with Teens: A Call to Action report
http://www.ala.org/yaforum/project-report

Roll out activities staff are working on:
  - Snail mailing to partners, GSLIS and researchers
  - Working with YALSAblog to incorporate report-related content into editorial calendar via a themed month and/or weekly column
  - Scheduling webinars or Google Hangouts
    - For sections of the report, different topics
    - Invite different audiences

Activities already accomplished
  - Press release
  - Media interviews
  - E-news article
  - Social media outreach
  - Listserv postings
  - Posts for IMLS’ Up Next blog & YALSAblog
  - Report shared with all contacts related to the year-long forum
  - Members’ only webinar to discuss the report (held on 1/16)
  - Exhibiting at ALISE
  - Hosting a session at Midwinter
  - Scheduled a program for the 2014 ALA Annual Conference
  - Planning a presentation at the 2014 National After School Convention