

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Annual Conference, Orlando
June 24 - 28, 2016**

Topic: Confirmation of Jury Appointments Change

Background: During the organizational planning session at the 2016 Midwinter Meeting, the consultants encouraged the Board to embrace newer member engagement models that would allow YALSA to be faster and more flexible, while at the same time better meeting member needs. President-Elect Sarah Hill has already begun appointing the chairs of the juries. Usually she would also appoint the jury members, but is recommending that the below action takes place instead. On April 4th YALSA's Board approved the proposal below. Including the item as a part of this meeting simply ensures it will be entered into the official record of the association.

Action Required: Consent

Proposal: For 2016 the Board will experiment for one year with a new model for juries wherein they are only assembled for 3 months (Nov-Jan.) and that jury members opt-in to participating instead of being appointed. Chairs will be the only appointed members, and will continue to be appointed by the President-Elect. This proposal is specifically for those juries that vet the member grant and award applications that have a Dec. 1 due date.

Rationale

- Juries complete their work in about a three-month time period, yet are required to serve a one-year term.
- YALSA members have stated that they prefer short, virtual volunteer opportunities rather than long-term ones and ones with in-person requirements.
- The juries would be a perfect place for the Board to experiment with a new model of member participation in the work of YALSA, because the juries' workload is well defined and limited to a short time period.
- By allowing members to opt into this volunteer opportunity, it frees the time of the President-Elect and Membership Marketing Manager so they can focus on other responsibilities.

Recommended Implementation Steps:

1. Sarah appoints jury chairs in March - April. Chairs and members who expressed an interest in juries on their volunteer forms are informed of the new juries format for 2016.
2. A call for jury members will be posted by YALSA staff in the YALSA eNews in October. Their volunteer commitment will run from Nov. 1 through January 31.
3. Members can opt-in for the opportunity simply by contacting the YALSA office to confirm their desire to participate. For this year only, members who already volunteered

for juries via the volunteer form will be given the first opportunity to opt-in to serve on the juries.

4. Jury members are selected by Nov. 1st on a first come, first served basis. They must still comply with existing eligibility requirements, such as current membership and service on fewer than three appointed groups.
5. In Nov. jury members receive instructions and a scoring sheet.
6. Dec. 1 applications for member awards closes
7. Dec. 2 - Jan. 31 juries review applications, choose winners and send information to the YALSA office so press releases can be developed.
8. The appropriate board standing committee will evaluate the success of this pilot project in early 2017 and submit a recommendation to the Board for moving forward with juries.

Fiscal Implications

- No funds are needed for this change
- By allowing members to opt into this volunteer opportunity, it frees the time of the President-Elect and Membership Marketing Manager so they can focus on other responsibilities.

Recommended Board Action

The Board votes to experiment for one year with a new model for juries as outlined above, directs the President-Elect and Executive Director to work with staff to implement the change, and directs the Board to evaluate the success of this effort in early 2017 in order to determine a future course of action around the process of collecting and vetting member grants and awards.

Additional Resources:

- [BWI/YALSA Collection Development Grant Jury](#)
- [Conference Travel Scholarships Jury](#)
- [Frances Henne/VOYA/YALSA Research Grant Jury](#)
- [Great Books Giveaway Jury](#)
- [MAE Award for Best Literature Program for Teens](#)
- [Volunteer of the Year Award](#)
- [Writing Award Jury](#)
- Draft Organizational Plan via ALA Connect YALSA Board space
- [What Makes Member Volunteers Keep Coming Back \(Associations Now\)](#)
- [Leadership and the Future of Volunteering \(Associations Now\)](#)
- [How Micro-volunteering builds association ownership \(Associations Now\)](#)