

## **How do you provide outreach services to underserved teens?**

This program will include successful outreach initiatives from the 2020 book, Outreach Services for Teens: A Starter Guide by Jess Snow published by ALA Editions.

Are you responsible for teen services in your library? Do you consider outreach as part of those services? You will leave this session with four new ideas you can implement that will help you in your role as teen services librarian in providing outreach services; what outreach may look like, how to create partnerships, how to identify goals and outcomes for outreach services and how to create a core collections for outreach.

### **Learning Objectives:**

- At the end of this program, the learner will be able to apply knowledge to identify at least two possible outreach partners.
- At the end of the program, the learner will be able to identify goals and outcomes for outreach services in their library.

**EDI:** Under goals; Establish resources and support so libraries and librarians can be effective advocates for the inclusion of all individuals in the life of their community.

Under strategies;

Gather, develop, and disseminate research documenting the value of equity, diversity, and inclusion.

**Topic:** Transforming: Community Relationships

## **HEAL=Help Educate & Learn**

Explore Teen Service Learning Projects that promote healthy choices. Students help create Healing Backpacks for every classrooms. They also planned, shopped & assembled healthy snack bags for all students before Thanksgiving, winter & spring breaks. Plus discuss additional service projects including many that are free & easy for students.

### **Learning Objectives:**

- Upon completion participants will be able to create HEAL projects for their youth population.
- Upon completion participants will have a variety of ideas & resources to begin to develop student service learning projects (both on site & distance learning)
- Upon completion participants will have tools to evaluate & revise programs to serve their unique populations.

**EDI:** Provides strategies for working with diverse students to support their service learning ideas & activities.

**Topic:** Transforming: Services

## **Celebrating #Ownvoices with Rock Star Young Adult Authors**

Are you looking for ways to connect rock star Young Adult authors to your tweens and teens in your library? At the Delray Beach Public Library we hosted a virtual event of five diverse authors speaking to

over 100 teen fans. Teen Read Day, as it was called, focused on equity, diversity, and inclusion. Learn how we pivoted in person author visits to virtual events, involved teens in the planning and implementation, and connected and gathered buy-in from local schools and organizations.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Upon completion, participant will be able to examine ways in-person author events can be pivoted to virtual.
- Upon completion, participant will be able to identify tools and skills needed to market the event and collaborate with community organizations.
- Upon completion, participant will be able to describe ways in which to include teens into the planning and implementation of the event.

**EDI:** During this day and age, we of all backgrounds are fighting for equity and inclusion in our country. We have made significant strides, however, we still have a long way to go. Literature is an important tool in the fight against injustice and to reflect who we are as a society. There are more books published that showcase a diverse cast of characters not only within the book, but on the cover as well. Therefore, I wanted to make sure that I created an event that celebrates what makes us different, unique, and diverse. With that, we hosted several #ownvoices authors to join us and connect with our diverse teens. This was particularly important because our community's population is 25% non-white and about 12% are living in poverty. Therefore it was imperative for me to give my community a chance to connect with authors that look like them and have similar backgrounds and create those connections.

**Topic:** Books & Authors

**From Pandemic to Progress**

How one library turned a pandemic into an opportunity to transform library services and partner with their local schools

**Learning Objectives:**

- Upon completion, participants will have concrete ideas to develop more meaningful library/school partnerships.
- Upon completion, participants will be able to expand library services to underserved communities using outreach services, including partnerships, technology and data driven decision making.
- Upon completion, participants will be able to connect with community organizations, civic leagues and city departments to better engage students and caregivers in nontraditional learning settings.

**EDI:** Virtual learning has increased the gaps in education for BIPOC communities. Without direct attention to the communities without adequate access to technology, internet services and technology training, students in communities with lower socioeconomic outcomes face greater challenges in learning. Partnerships such as the one with the Chesapeake Public Library and Public Schools is vital to provide any hope to bridge said gaps in learning.

**Topic:** Transforming: Services

## **Lawyer, Teacher, Librarian: How One Talented Information Professional Meshed Varying Strategies to Successfully Engage High School Students To Enjoy Reading**

Kiera Vargas incorporates a model that encompasses an interactive approach to instruction to assist students who are deemed "at-risk."

### **Learning Objectives:**

- Upon completion, participant will be able to understand the importance of being an open-minded librarian.
- Upon completion, participants will be able to foster the need for diverse literature for all students.
- Upon completion, participant will be able to gain a new perspective regarding how diverse texts offer students the ability to critical think and connect with the entire world.

**EDI:** This will provide a diverse panel of students, and a Black woman educator who can provide practical experiences to helping with an issue that seems to be prevalent in the the education sector.

**Topic:** Transforming: Teaching & Learning

## **Be an Action Hero! Themed Live Action Roleplaying Events in the Library for Tweens and Teens**

Secure big numbers of tweens or teens with a real-life video game event where they are the heroes! Live Action Roleplaying (LARPing) games allow for a one-of-a-kind opportunity that youth can't get anywhere else. With the help of high-interest themes like zombie apocalypse, Harry Potter, or dinosaur disaster, players complete a variety of challenges while avoiding a villain in order to be the first team to finish the adventure. Get an in-depth look at this revolutionary event type and even play a mini-version of a game.

### **Learning Objectives:**

- Organize a theme-based action challenges for a Live Action Roleplaying Game, utilizing criteria for suitable challenges, game play area schematics, and challenge sorting charts that are presented in this workshop
- Apply principles of instruction writing to compose challenge sheets for the game's action challenges that tweens and/or teens are able to understand and then execute during the high-energy, high-excitement event
- Experiment with different types of challenges that cover a wide range of topics where tweens and/or teens can learn while they play, including survival skills, first aid, or information literacy

**EDI:** The framework for the event covered in this workshop allows for a great deal of flexibility and equity in the final game's execution, meaning libraries of all shapes and sizes can take the skills learned and apply them in a way that best suits their needs and their communities.

The game itself is a perfect example of diverse and inclusive programming. Tweens and/or teens who ultimately participate work together in inclusive groups to meet the requirements of a variety of diverse challenges that can be learned on the spot or helped along by individuals who already have a background in a challenge area. This game has proved to be very important in my library's community where there is a very large mix of different household incomes. Having the event for free at the library,

allows youth to participate in a unique game unavailable anywhere else without having to worry about cost. Also, having such a high-energy, high-excitement game means that the groups of tweens and/or teens tend to focus so hard on winning that teamwork becomes instinctive -- whether they were originally friends with their teammates or not.

**Topic:** Transforming: Services

### **Teen Programming Brain Hurricane: When a Brainstorm Isn't Enough!**

Creating new and unique teen library programs gets more difficult every year. The Brain Hurricane Method helps you collaborate with the rest of your programming department, other library professionals, or even your Teen Advisory Group to make one-of-a-kind events for your community's youth. The workshop covers current teen program trends, a step-by-step guide on holding a Brain Hurricane, and a full Brain Hurricane experience with a group of other library staff. Along with knowledge of this brainstorming method, participants will walk out with a minimum of 10 brand new library program ideas for teens!

#### **Learning Objectives:**

- Interpret and apply Brain Hurricane brainstorming methods to create practical outside the box programs for teens
- Connect with other programming staff to develop unique and/or unusual teen events as well as form relationships that will help with programming assistance and feedback
- Develop and maintain Brain Hurricane workshops in their home libraries with their programming departments and/or Teen Advisory Groups

**EDI:** The problem with program ideas (in a book or online) is that they do not take into account the needs of a particular library's community. This workshop will give library staff the tools to create their own unique programming while keeping their specific community needs in mind, especially in terms of equity, diversity, and inclusion. Also, the workshop is useful in bringing together library staff from multiple communities and backgrounds to expose participants to different ways of thinking and various program options. Everyone gets a chance to have their voice heard and the ability to express their creativity.

**Topic:** Transforming: Library Workforce

### **Take Your Show on the Road: Bringing Public Library Traveling Maker Fairs into Schools**

With the traveling maker fair, you can interact with multiple teachers and up to hundreds of students in the span of a single day. Get all the details of how best to establish school connections, plan the best activities, and execute a maker fair in your neighborhood schools. Then, enjoy a hands-on experience to fully appreciate all the benefits and fun of these events. Whether you are a staff member in a public library or a school library, this step-by-step workshop is valuable for bringing maker culture and unique experiences to your community's tweens and/or teens.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

- Demonstrate and apply the steps necessary for creating a full-day maker fair within a middle or secondary school to best reach as many students and teachers as possible

- Identify the best activity stations for the maker fair that can be used to support the curriculum for different grades and courses
- Take action steps to create a strong partnership between a public library and a middle or secondary school

**EDI:** In communities where tweens and/or teens have difficulty getting to the local library and places where cash-strapped schools have issues providing even basic resources, the public library has the ability to help. By providing traveling maker fairs, libraries can bring more equity to tweens and/or teens in the community by supplying technology, crafts, and artistic expression. The way that the stations are set up for the maker fair also support diversity and inclusion as the instructions are merely a suggestion of how to use the available supplies. Tweens and/or teens are encouraged to use the materials at the stations however they wish and to explore their creativity to the fullest.

**Topic:** Transforming: Community Relationships

### **It's Alive! Bring History to Life with Primary Sources from the Library of Congress and Other Resources**

Calling all wannabe Sherlock Holmes and Veronica Mars!--Become a history detective with primary sources. Teaching and programming with primary sources can be used for every age level and for every subject. These raw materials of history are also great tools to teach visual literacy and empathy. Learn best practices for identifying resources to find primary sources, evaluating primary sources, and using primary sources in your library or classroom to help bring history to life.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

- analyze and evaluate primary sources including photographs, sound recordings, journals, letters, maps, and newspapers.
- implement the use of primary sources into the classroom or library while engaging students and patrons who will become history detectives.
- utilize the Library of Congress' electronic database as well as to locate and utilize collections of primary sources local to the school or library.

**EDI:** Primary sources are the raw materials of history and, as such, seeing them and analyzing them allows readers to build empathy--reading a freed slaves journal can be more compelling than reading a history text book. Through primary sources, history detectives are encouraged to seek other, diverse voices and to include, understand, and evaluate all sides of a story or argument. Many primary sources were created by diverse voices so can also be used to compare/contrast with secondary sources to teach and show potential bias.

**Topic:** Transforming: Teaching & Learning

### **The Forgotten Generation: Equitable Library Services For Teens**

Providing equitable service to patrons is difficult, especially so when some patrons come with their own unique set of challenges. Library services for teens are often an afterthought for many libraries, and sometimes even actively avoided by staff. However, even though services for teens might look a little different doesn't mean they aren't as important as services for youth or adult patrons. In this presentation we'll talk about some of the challenges of building successful relationships with teens

including tools to help staff understand the teen brain, recognize and accommodate for trauma, and connect with teens on an authentic level.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Upon completion, the participant will feel confident serving teens patrons and their unique needs in a library setting.
- Upon completion, the participant will be able to better recognize the root of behaviors in teens due to issues such as trauma or based on developmental milestones.
- Upon completion, the participant will be able to demonstrate their knowledge of providing equitable services to teens by facilitating a training for their fellow library staff.

**EDI:** This proposal supports the strategic direction goal of establishing resources and support so libraries and librarians can be effective advocates for the inclusion of all individuals in the life of their community." Oftentimes teen patrons are categorically overlooked with concern to equitable creation and application of library policies and procedures.

**Topic:** Other

**Poetry in Action: The National Student Poets Program as an incubator for innovative arts literacy programs with community impact**

Since 2011, the National Student Poets Program has existed to not only celebrate the talent of five young poets across the country, but also to develop young leaders who serve as "literary ambassadors." Each year, the student poets develop impactful service projects that make poetry (and the arts) accessible to youth in creative, scalable ways. In this session, we will share inspiring past service projects that could be replicated in your library, and ways you can work with present and future National Student Poets to reach your community.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Upon completion, participant will be able to develop simple yet effective poetry programming in their libraries.
- Upon completion, participant will be able to engage the youth in their communities, using poetry to build a bridge of communication among their peers and other members of their communities.
- Upon completion, participant will be able to identify ways to establish local, regional, and/or national partnerships for increasing arts literacy in their communities.

**EDI:** The purpose of the National Student Poets Program is to elevate the voices of five young poets each year; poets who represent extremely diverse sociocultural, economic, educational, and geographic backgrounds. It's critical to the success of this program that these student poets give voices to the voiceless and help underrepresented youth throughout the country feel like they can pursue their passion for the arts because they have a role model that looks like them.

**Topic:** Transforming: Community Relationships