

Amendments to Rainbow ~~Book List~~Project Committee Procedures, July 2014

1 NB: This document is the current procedures for the Rainbow committee. It is based on the last version
2 that was adopted in July 2012. This information is displayed on the committee's homepage:
3 <http://www.ala.org/glbtrt/about/committees/jnt-rainbowprj>

4 To make changes to this document, use MS Word. Turn Track Changes on so that the amendments
5 document can be shared in the Versions section of the committee page. Using track changes also helps
6 web committee update text on the page. (Directions: Under the Review Tab, verify Track Changes is on.
7 Also select All Markup and Show Markup in the menus by the Track Changes button. Under Show
8 Markup, make sure all items are selected in the list and that Balloons display Comments and Formatting
9 Changes. Note that Macs with Word will allow you to see all this information but the controls will be
10 different.)

11 -----

12 Rainbow ~~Book List~~Project Committee

13 Charge [web template page heading]

14 To select from the year's publications, books that reflect gay/lesbian/bisexual/trans-gendered/queer-
15 questioning (glbtq) experience for young people from birth to age 18 and to annotate selected titles.
16 2009

17 ~~Formal committee charges are forthcoming from the GLBTRT steering committee. Previous GLBTRT~~
18 ~~bylaws contained procedural language which served as charges for each committee. Since the round~~
19 ~~table as adopted new bylaws, without procedural language, formal charges must be drafted and~~
20 ~~adopted.~~

21 Roster [web template page heading]

- 22 • Etc.
- 23 • Etc.
- 24 • Etc.

25 Previous Year / Next Year

26 Displaying active committee roster as of 07/02/2012. Last retrieved on 07/02/2012. Members can log in
27 to view full contact information for committee members.

28 About [web template page heading]

29 The Rainbow Book List is created by the Rainbow Project Committee, a joint-committee of the Gay,
30 Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender and Social Responsibilities Round Tables of the American Library
31 Association (ALA). The committee creates an annual book list of recommended LGBTQ fiction and
32 nonfiction titles for young readers from birth through age 18. Books on the final bibliography, to be
33 determined at the ALA Midwinter Meeting, are published within the assigned calendar year or between
34 July 1 and December 31 of the previous calendar year.

35 We invite recommendations for this bibliography from anyone not affiliated with the author or the
36 publisher of the proposed book prior to September 30 of each year. A short statement explaining the
37 book's merit should accompany the recommendation. [Nominations-Titles for consideration](#) from jury
38 members are to be submitted by October 31. Complete information about the jury process is available
39 at the Rainbow Book List blog.

40 [Nominations-Titles under consideration](#) and information can be found at the following:

- 41 • Rainbow Books List
- 42 • MySpace
- 43 • Twitter
- 44 • Facebook
- 45 • LibraryThing

46 ~~Questions about Rainbow Books and suggested titles may be sent to: Past-Chair, Lynn Evarts:~~
47 ~~LEvarts@aol.com~~

48 **Public Posts from ALA Connect [web template page heading]**

- 49 • Rainbow Project Task Force Meeting (SRRT / GLBTRT)
- 50 • Rainbow Project 2012 Midwinter Committee Report
- 51 • The Rainbow Project Task Force Meeting (GLBTRT/SRRT)
- 52 • Rainbow Project Book List Committee I (GLBT RT / SRRT)
- 53 • Rainbow Project Book List Committee II (GLBT RT / SRRT)

54 **Composition [web template page heading]**

55 The ~~Rainbow Book List C~~committee consists of nine members appointed from GLBTRT and SRRT
56 membership, serving two year terms, and led by a chair. [The committee has a liaison from the GLBTRT](#)
57 [Board and an ALA Staff Liaison.](#)

58 **Procedures [web template page heading]**

59 **General Information**

60 Books considered for the bibliography are to have been published within the assigned calendar
61 year or between July 1 and December 31 of the previous calendar year. Eligibility of books originally
62 published outside the United States will be determined according to the original publication dates
63 in the United States. Books must be distributed in the United States during the period of eligibility
64 to be considered for the list. Revisions of previously published titles will be considered if the
65 revision is to such an extent as to make the book substantially different from the previous edition.
66 Any book removed from [nomination-consideration](#) at the beginning of the first ALA Midwinter
67 Meeting is eligible for [nomination-consideration](#) during the following year if it meets the eligibility
68 requirements. Any book [nominated-considered](#) and discussed at ALA Midwinter Meeting will be
69 ineligible for nomination during the following year.

70 Both fiction and nonfiction shall have readable text and format appealing to children and/or teens.
71 Although the list attempts to present a variety of reading tastes and levels, no effort will be made
72 to balance the list according to subject, area of interest, age, or genre. Annotations for the
73 bibliography are written so as to attract the young reader.

74 ~~The American Library Association Rainbow Project committee~~ prepares an annual annotated
75 bibliography of books displaying commendable literary quality that relate to the gay, lesbian,
76 bisexual, transgender, and queer/questioning experience and are recommended for young readers
77 from birth through age 18.

78 ~~The Rainbow Project is a joint undertaking of GLBTRT and SRRT (Social Responsibilities Round~~
79 ~~Table) with the expectation of continued monitoring by the ALA Office for Literacy and Outreach~~
80 ~~Services (OLOS). Rainbow Project Policies and Procedures will in no way conflict with the GLBTRT~~
81 ~~Bylaws and the SRRT Bylaws.~~

82 Eligibility of Books

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96 bibliography are written so as to attract the young reader.

97 Rainbow Project Committee

98

99 The committee consists of nine members appointed from GLBTRT and SRRT membership, serving
100 two year terms, and led by a chair. ~~The committee has a liaison from the GLBTRT Board and an ALA~~
101 ~~Staff Liaison. Members will serve two year terms that begin and end at the conclusion of the ALA~~
102 ~~Midwinter Meeting. All members are appointed from GLBTRT and SRRT membership by the by the~~
103 ~~GLBTRT Chair-elect/Chair and the SRRT Coordinator.~~

104 ~~The chair-elect serves in that capacity for one year and then assumes the chair position the~~
105 ~~following year chair serves a one-year term. During the year following service as chair, the past~~
106 ~~chair will serve as a resource to the new chair. The setting chair-elect coordinates committee~~

107 ~~membership to nominate the next chair-elect by an anonymous process. The nomination must be~~
108 ~~received by the GLBTRT Chair-elect/Chair and SRRT Coordinator by December 1. The and is~~
109 ~~appointed by the~~ GLBTRT Chair-elect/Chair and SRRT Coordinator ~~appoints a chair-elect from~~
110 ~~committee membership or GLBTRT/SRRT membership by January 1.~~

111 Members serve a two-year term beginning at the conclusion of the ALA Midwinter Meeting and will
112 complete a one-year hiatus before being eligible for reanother appointment beginning at the
113 conclusion of the ALA Midwinter Meeting to the committee. All members are appointed from
114 GLBTRT and SRRT membership by the by the GLBTRT Chair-elect/Chair and the SRRT Coordinator.

115 When possible, appointments will maintain a balance of geographical regions of the United States,
116 racial and ethnic groups, types of libraries, and gender.

117 ~~Reappointments are allowed only in extenuating circumstances. Following two terms (four years),~~
118 ~~a one-year hiatus is required before a member is eligible for reappointment.~~

119 **Bibliography Selection Process**

120 All Project jury members will ~~nominate-recommend~~ books for final list consideration; all field
121 submissions are to be nominated by a Project jury member. Field submissions may be sent by
122 anyone to the committee via the suggestion form on the website:
123 <http://glbtrt.ala.org/rainbowbooks/>. any Rainbow Project jury member listed on the GLBTRT
124 Contacts page. Jury members shall read the books before ~~nominating-recommending~~ them.
125 Nominations-Recommendations will be submitted in the following format: Author. Title. Ilus. by (if
126 applicable). Year. Pp. Publisher, price. (ISBN-13). Grade level.

127 The person submitting a nomination-recommendation should carefully check the bibliographic
128 information for accuracy and eligibility. A one- or two-sentence annotation, suitable for publication
129 with the list, is to be included with all nominations-recommendations. If the primary character(s) is
130 (are) not glbtq, a brief explanation should detail why the title should be considered for the list.
131 These nominations-recommendations shall be sent electronically to all jury members of the Project
132 and are to be received by midnight on October 31. Field submissions must be provided by
133 September 30 to be considered for nomination-recommendation.

134 Recommendations for nomination-books to consider will not be accepted from the publisher of a
135 proposed book, agents or representatives of the author, or anyone else who may stand to gain
136 directly from the nomination-recommendation of the book. Jury members of the Rainbow Project
137 may not nominate-recommend a book that they have contributed to, edited, or in any other way
138 been affiliated with, or a book coauthored or edited by a member of their immediate family or
139 anyone with whom they currently share a household.

140 Review copies of each nominated-title under consideration title will be requested from its publisher
141 for each Project member. During the course of the year, Project jury members actively participate
142 in ongoing discussions of books, both those nominated-recommended and those being titles
143 considered for nomination under consideration. Project jury members are also expected to read

144 book reviews of ~~nominated~~ books [under consideration](#), either by consulting review sources
145 directly available to them or by reading reviews posted or otherwise distributed by Project jury
146 members.

147 **Meetings**

148 All Project meetings are open to persons with guest badges. These observers may speak if
149 recognized by the chair. Before the committee discusses each suggested title, an opportunity will
150 be given to observers to make short comments about the books (two minutes or fewer per
151 observer); the Chair reserves the right to cut short the comments if necessary. Publishers'
152 representatives are requested to refrain from participating in discussion or asking for comments
153 about their own books.

154 During the last meeting at ALA Midwinter Conference, the jury will jointly prepare final
155 annotations, verify bibliographic information, and write the introduction for the list.

156 **Voting**

157 Project jury members will ~~nominate~~ [recommend](#) titles, discuss ~~nominations~~ [recommendations](#), and
158 participate in straw polls electronically prior to the ALA Midwinter Meeting. This nonbinding vote
159 indicates the status of books within six weeks before the ALA Midwinter meeting. The results of
160 this straw poll will be compiled and disseminated to the jury members of the Project within a week.

161 After the results of the straw poll, a book may be withdrawn by the person who ~~nominated~~
162 [recommended](#) the title. If another Project jury member wishes to keep that title on the list for
163 discussion, that person must indicate this; otherwise the book is dropped from the ~~nomination~~
164 [recommended titles](#) list.

165

166 The final discussion and selection of the bibliography will be conducted at the ALA Midwinter
167 Meeting. Decisions will be reached by consensus, meaning that each member accepts the decision.
168 If the group cannot come to consensus, the decision will be made with no more than one person
169 dissenting. For a book to be put on the list, at least five jury members must have read the book and
170 agreed to its inclusion. Consideration for the final list is not based on a certain number of fiction or
171 nonfiction titles, nor is it based on a certain number of titles for different age groups. Only jury
172 members attending the ALA Midwinter meeting and participating in all discussions about the book
173 will be allowed to vote on a specific title. Jury members can vote only on books they have read in
174 their entirety. The top four or five and the top ten books are also selected for purposes of
175 highlighting exceptional titles for publicity. After the final discussion and selection, titles are then
176 annotated by the committee.

177 **Announcement of the Rainbow Project Bibliography**

178 Following its last meeting, the committee will provide the ALA Public Information Office with the
179 final list of selected titles in the form of a press release. The press release will be posted on the
180 [Project website](#) and on the [Project MySpace](#) and [Project Facebook](#) made available to GLBTRT and

181 SRRT for their newsletters and websites, and provided to various sources such as magazines
182 directed toward teens, GLBTQ issues, and library professionals and discussion groups on the
183 Internet. The final bibliography, or a portion of it, will also appear in a spring issue of Booklist.

184 **Requirements/Duties of Rainbow Project Jury Members**

185 Jury members must be members of the American Library Association, the GLBT Round Table, and
186 the Social Responsibilities Round Table. ~~They must commit to attending the Rainbow Project~~
187 ~~meetings at the ALA Midwinter Meeting. Jury members are required to attend committee meetings~~
188 ~~at two consecutive ALA Midwinter Meetings. Jury members who are unable to attend committee~~
189 ~~meetings held at ALA Midwinter without first obtaining an excused absence from the committee~~
190 ~~chair, may be asked to resign from the committee.~~

191 Jury member responsibilities:

- 192 • Maintain knowledge of current glbtq publishing, actively seeking appropriate books.
- 193 • Read and critically evaluate current glbtq books.
- 194 • Submit Rainbow Project ~~nominations~~ of glbtq books to consider through the year.
- 195 • Participate in jury discussions of glbtq books.
- 196 • Read books nominated for the Rainbow bibliography.
- 197 • Communicate book reviews and other pertinent information regarding glbtq books with
198 other jury members.
- 199 • Follow the rules and procedures of the Rainbow Project and meet the deadlines established
200 by the jury chair and chair-elect.
- 201 • Perform other duties that the jury chair and chair-elect deem necessary.

202 **Requirements/Duties of the Rainbow Project Assistant**

203 The function of the Assistant includes the following:

- 204 • maintain electronic sites for the Project;
- 205 • help with publicity;
- 206 • and represent the Project in SRRT and/or GLBTRT meetings as necessary.

207 **Requirements/Duties of the Rainbow Project Chair ~~and Chair-elect~~**

208 The Project Chair ~~and Chair-elect~~ must be a ~~members~~ of the American Library Association, the
209 GLBTRT, and the Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT). They must commit to attending the
210 Rainbow Project meetings at the ALA Midwinter Meeting. ~~The chair and chair-elect will work~~
211 ~~together in a collaborative manner.~~

212 The chair ~~and chair-elect~~ shares s the privilege and responsibility of reading,
213 ~~nominating~~ recommending, discussing, and voting for books with the Project jury members as
214 described under Requirements/Duties of the Rainbow Project Jury Members.

215 ~~In addition~~ Chair responsibilities: they share the following responsibilities as mutually agreed upon:

- 216 • Ensure that the Rainbow Project complies with policies and procedures.
- 217 • Maintain an accurate database of all nominated titles.
- 218 • Communicate frequently with jury members regarding nominated books.
- 219 • Report to OLOS, GLBTRT, and SRRT as needed.
- 220 • Provide publicity as needed regarding the Project and its bibliographies.
- 221 • Facilitate Project discussion.
- 222 • Communicate with publishers regarding the mission of the Project and request preview
- 223 copies of books for jury members.
- 224 • Provide the final bibliography to publishers.
- 225 • Work with GLBTRT and SRRT leadership to establish meeting location and times at ALA
- 226 [annual](#) conferences and midwinter meetings.
- 227 • Coordinate a breakfast at ALA Annual Conference during even years.
- 228 • Attend to all other business matters and duties as deemed necessary by the Rainbow Project
- 229 jury.

230 ~~During the year following service as chair, the past chair will serve as a resource to the new chair.~~
231 ~~That person may be, but is not required to be, a voting Project member.~~

232 **Revision History**

- 233 • [2014 July Amendments PDF - kb -- Amendments to further align procedures with the GLBTRT](#)
- 234 [Bylaws and the GLBTRT Leadership Responsibilities document.](#)
- 235 • [2012 July amendments to procedures PDF: 245kb](#) -- Alignment of procedures with the [GLBTRT](#)
- 236 [Bylaws](#) adopted 2011 ALA Election and the [GLBTRT Leadership Responsibilities](#) document
- 237 adopted on 7 March 2012 by GLBTRT Steering Committee.
- 238 • [2009 procedures PDF: 82kb\]](#)

239 **Origin [web template page heading]**

240 The Rainbow Project was created as a grass-roots effort in 2007 to provide young people with
241 books that reflect GLBTQ individuals, groups, and experiences. Although many more books with
242 glbtq content are available to this audience than in the past, many of these are not identified as
243 such, necessitating such a bibliography. The Rainbow Project was originally a Social Responsibilities
244 Round Table (SRRT) task force but became affiliated also with Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and
245 Transgender Round Table (GLBTRT) during the ALA Midwinter Meeting 2009.