

**American Library Association
Committee Information Update Report**

Report for Annual –The ALA-CBC Joint committee meets in the Fall and the Spring in New York – this report covers the Spring meeting which took place on March 13, 2015

Name of Committee: American Library Association – Children’s Book Council Joint Committee

Chair: Rocco Staino (chair until July 2015)

Members Present:

Rocco Staino, Contributing Editor, School Library Journal and Director, Empire State Center for the Book
Laura Arnhold, Upper Merion Township Library
Kathryn Camisa, Director of Marketing, Bearport
Monica Edinger, The Dalton School
Steve Floyd (via phone), President, August House
Elizabeth Fithian (via Katie Fee), Director of Marketing, Macmillan Children’s Publishing Group
Krishna Grady, Darien Library
Terry Nantier, Founder and Publisher, NBM Publishing
Michael Rogalla, Champaign Public Library
Arlene Salazar (via phone), University Library, Texas State University
Jason Wells, Executive Director of Publicity & Marketing, ABRAMS
Janet Wong (via phone), Editor and Publisher, Pomelo Books

Members Absent:

Tara Clark, Putnam Science Academy
Sven Larson, Vice President of Marketing, Papercutz
Jennifer Longee, Durham Academy Middle School
Molly Motch, School & Library Integrated Marketing Manager, HarperCollins
Lisa Van Drasek, Curator, Children’s Literature Research Collections, University of Minnesota Libraries

Others Present:

Ayanna Coleman, Manager, Events & Programs and Librarian, Children’s Book Council
Jon Colman, Executive Director, Children’s Book Council
Nicole Deming, Communications Director, Children’s Book Council
Beth Yoke (via Anna Lam on phone), Executive Director, YALSA

Accomplishments:

- The Day of Diversity on Friday, January 30th was a huge undertaking and an overall success. It was expressed that this Day of Diversity should most certainly happen again in 2016 along with other in-person meetings to continue to facilitate the hard discussions that people might feel more comfortable having in-person. At the same time, the online session hosted by ALSC open to the public was also lauded as a success and allowed people who were not able to travel to be involved in the discussion and action creation. Currently, please check out the website on ALSC for more information about the planning committee, the day, and resources to share here: <http://www.ala.org/alsc/dayofdiversity> as well as the

Seven Steps to Representative Reads for publishers and teachers & librarians that the committee helped create here: <http://www.cbcbooks.org/about/cbc-diversity-committee/>

Other comments/information:

- Received updates from YALSA and ALSC on Teen Read Week, the YALSA Symposium, Dia, and Media Mentorship.
- United for Libraries
 - On behalf of the ALA-CBC Joint Committee, Rocco encouraged CBC members of the publishing community to nominate & co-sponsor special locations nationwide that are tied to a deceased children's literary figure, author, or their work.
 - Participation in the Literary Landmark program includes a bronze plaque with the Literary Landmark™ insignia, to be unveiled at a dedication ceremony held during Children's Book Week. This is a fitting tribute to legacy authors and children's books celebrating publication milestones!
 - Landmark dedications for CBW 2015 include:
 - Carl Sandburg State Historic Site, Galesburg, Ill., April 25, 2015
 - The Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and Lincoln biographer was born in a three-room cottage adjacent to the site, and grew up in Galesburg. His book Rootabega Stories was written for his three daughters and The American Songbag is a collection of American folk tunes that are still taught to children today.
 - Westerly (R.I.) Public Library, May 2, 2015, in honor of Margaret Wise Brown
 - The Margaret Wise Brown papers are housed at this library, and include correspondence, photographs, manuscripts, poems, songs, stories and essays, books, and many ideas for records, television and radio programs. Brown was the author of many beloved children's books, including Goodnight Moon and The Runaway Bunny.
 - Norman (Okla.) Public Library, May 3, 2015, in honor of Harold Keith
 - Harold Keith, author and sports journalist, was born in Oklahoma's Cherokee Outlet. He pioneered the field of sports journalism as the first sports information director for the University of Oklahoma. His major works include sports histories and historical novels for young people. His book Rifles for Watie, emerging from interviews conducted with Civil War veterans from Indian Territory, won the 1958 Newbery Award.
 - George Bruce Branch, New York Public Library, May 4, 2015, in honor of Walter Dean Myers
 - "Harlem is the first place called 'home' that I can remember" said Walter Dean Myers in his memoir, Bad Boy. The neighborhood is the setting for many of his books, including Harlem, Monster, 145th Street, and Here in Harlem. His childhood was spent playing basketball on the courts of Harlem and checking books out at this branch of the New York Public Library. Myers went on to

become an award-winning author and National Ambassador for Young People's Literature (2012-13).

- Hamilton (Ohio) Lane Library, May 9, 2015, in honor of Robert McCloskey
 - Two-time Caldecott Award winner Robert McCloskey walked through the doors of the Hamilton Lane Library many times as a child. McCloskey was born in Hamilton and his first book, *Lentil*, featured several Hamilton scenes, including the library. Published by Viking in 1940, it told the story of a boy much like himself who played the harmonica.
- Received an update from the CBC about CCBA and CBW. Each year, publishers submit hundreds of titles to be evaluated and voted on by over 12,500 children. Throughout the school year, five review teams across the country work with their local classroom teachers and librarians to incorporate the books into classroom activities. The top titles are announced at the ILA Annual Convention in April/May. The fully annotated list of Children's Choices appears in the October issue of the ILA publication *The Reading Teacher*. At the beginning of February we received the results of the votes and take the top 5 from each category to populate the finalists for the Children's Choice Book Awards. The teen category comes from the votes cast on Teenreads.com.
- Three New Awards
 - In 2015, the three new award categories will be **Children's Choice Debut Author**, **Teen Choice Debut Author** and **Children's Choice Illustrator Award**. The five finalists for each of these awards will be determined by selection committees comprised of librarians, educators, booksellers, and children's literature experts appointed by Every Child a Reader; winners will be determined by votes from kids and teens.
 - These three new awards are in addition to the existing Kindergarten to Second Grade Book of the Year, Third to Fourth Grade Book of the Year, Fifth to Sixth Grade Book of the Year, and Teen Book of the Year awards, and will replace the former Author of the Year & Illustrator of the Year awards, in which finalists were determined by national bestseller lists.
 - Kids and teens will determine the winners in all 8 categories of the Children's Choice Book Awards by voting online.

Planned activities for upcoming year:

- The Building a Home Library Lists are well-received every other year that they are created by the ALA-CBC Joint Committee and, through the help of the ALSC Quicklist Committee, the committee will continue creating the lists for 2016.
- To ensure that the Quicklist Committee has as much time as possible to pull together their 30 picks for each of the four lists, the ALA-CBC Committee will reach out to them in July to:
 - thank them for their previous help
 - ask for their continued assistance for the upcoming year's list
 - provide them with the most recent list to help them start the process

- The CBC asks that if committee members come across well-balanced news articles or publisher websites that have dedicated Common Core pages to please share them with Ayanna so that the information may be added to the Common Core section of the CBC website.
- 2016 ALA Midwinter - The idea that all seemed to respond to the most was a “News You Can Use Session” publisher panel presenting their new, inclusive titles to an audience of librarians where the librarians will be able to respond to the titles and also share the needs of their communities with the publishers. Along with this was the thought that a Day of Diversity should happen in 2016. Questions were brought up about a committee meeting at ALA Midwinter instead of in New York, and it was explained that when this committee was formed, New York meetings were considered the best option because the publishers are all in New York and publisher committee members may most likely be otherwise engaged or not attending ALA Midwinter to be present at a meeting. A suggestion was raised to perhaps hold a mini-meeting during Midwinter for updates.
- Anna to follow-up about Mary Ghikas looking into an AASL representative to join the ALA-CBC Joint Committee rotation along with ALSC and YALSA. This would include changing the charge/mission of the committee to allow AASL representation.
- Reading List for Young Readers with High Reading Levels. Lisa and Monica to head this subcommittee before they roll off the committee in June. The subcommittee will create a draft of the rules of the list, which will include:
 - How many books the list will contain in any given year. How often the list will be updated and distributed.
 - Who will be responsible for creating the base list for the ALA-CBC Joint Committee to then weigh in on

Co-hosted Webinars with the CBC and LASC/YALSA/AASL or Booklist

- Ideas included:
 - CBW webinar
 - Mathical Reading List webinar
 - Publishers presenting their inclusive titles to librarians webinar
- It seemed to be most logical for the CBC to host these webinars through Go-to-webinar (with a max of 1000 participants) and extend the invitation for librarians to watch and participate in the sessions.
- Next Meeting. Tentatively, October 9, 2015 at 10:30 a.m. at the CBC Office in NYC.

Submitted by: Michael Rogalla (chair as of July 2015)

Date Submitted: July 2, 2015

Please return the completed form to Kerri Price, (kprice@ala.org) COO Staff Liaison, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611.