

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Midwinter Meeting, Seattle
January 25 – 29, 2013**

Topic: Mission Moment: 2012 YA Literature Symposium

Background: YALSA's 2012 Young Adult Literature Symposium was held Nov. 2 – 4, 2012 in St. Louis, MO. This event is closely aligned with YALSA's strategic goals, particularly: research & best practices, capacity building and continuous learning. It also offers members an opportunity for engagement in the organization through serving on the planning taskforce and presenting programs and fills a stated member need for opportunities to network with peers.

Action Required: Discussion

Highlights

- 488 registrants
- Approximately \$36,000 in net revenue
- The hashtag for the event (#yalit12) trended nationally on Twitter on 1/3/12
- Quotes from attendees who responded to the post-symposium survey:
 - I had a great time, was very inspired, and am still going through my extensive notes!
 - Thanks so much, the symposium was absolutely fantastic! I left feeling professionally enriched and excited about my career.
 - I loved shopping in the YALSA store for little presents to take back to co-workers. I also loved that someone was video-interviewing people randomly during the whole symposium.
 - This is my second symposium. The presentations are great, getting to speak with authors in a comfortable setting is fabulous, and meeting other teen librarians is terrific! I love the smaller scale than an ALA/PLA setting, and I would rather attend this conference over the others. Thank you for another incredible conference. It was truly top notch.
 - It was fun and relaxed and the sessions were spaced out well and it was the perfect size. I would come every year if my library system's budget allowed it
 - This conference opened up a whole new world for me. Thank you so, so much!
 - Love that you are hitting the smaller cities for these.



Author Andrew Smith with symposium attendees



Breakout session at the symposium

Additional Resources

- Andrew Smith's blog post about the symposium, www.goodreads.com/author_blog_posts/3259853-yalsa-symposium
- Sarah Flowers' blog post about the symposium, "It's all About the Connections," <http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2012/11/07/its-all-about-the-connections/>