

YALSA Board of Directors
ALA Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL
June 25 - 30, 2020

Topic: Establish a President's Theme Implementation Taskforce

Background: In the recent past, Presidents have worked with the Board to establish a task force that would coordinate the planning and implementation of activities to support YALSA's Organizational Plan and the theme for their Presidential year. YALSA President-Elect Amanda Barnhart has submitted a request to establish a task force, which is provided below.

Action Required: Action

Proposal:

Establish a task force that would help the incoming President implement her Presidential theme on supporting YALSA's EDI Plan through representation, retention, and recruitment.

Rationale:

- An implementation taskforce can be an efficient way for the President to tap the expertise from a diverse representation of the membership
- The President has many duties during his year, and a taskforce can help ensure that work happens in an efficient and timely manner
- Since the President's theme is always based on some part of the Organizational Plan, an implementation group focused on an issue(s) related to the plan serves to strengthen the organization's efforts toward achieving its goals

Proposed Taskforce Name:

President's Theme Implementation Taskforce

Proposed Charge:

To coordinate the creation of resources for members related to the theme by identifying activities to accomplish and overseeing the planning and implementation. To connect with relevant individuals and groups within YALSA to support the creation of theme-related resources, including but not limited to the YALSAblog Manager, the Program Officer for Continuing Education and Development, Teen Programming HQ Manager, HUB manager and the journal editors. To connect with "non-members" who work with youth in libraries and develop a report that contains recommendations for how YALSA may support these individuals. Taskforce term: 1- year term starting in July. Taskforce size: 4- 6 virtual members, plus a chair. Amanda will serve as Board Liaison.

Financial Implications:

No expenses are needed to set up a task force; however, the Taskforce may come up with some activities that involve cost. If that is the case, the Taskforce will submit a Request for Board Action to the Board for their consideration.

Measuring Impact:

Evaluation methods will be determined after the in-coming President and Taskforce determine a work plan and deliverables.

Proposed Theme:

With the next strategic plan process underway and being mindful of the recent upheaval of society due to COVID-19, the year's focus will be on supporting YALSA's EDI Plan and Organizational Plan through the development of resources and activities initiated around representation, recruitment, and retention. The outcomes from the initiatives supporting the 2020-2021 Presidential Theme will seek to celebrate the diverse backgrounds of YALSA members as well as fellow library staff without membership who also serve youth in libraries. The following outcomes will enable YALSA to support members to help their teens and further equity, diversity, and inclusion in their libraries and the association.

Activities the Task Force will Explore:

- Work with YALSA's Program Officer for Continuing Education and Development or alternative YALSA staff to provide quarterly professional development opportunities that support and celebrate the diversity of library staff and the teens they serve.
- Identify and engage in activities that aim to study the values of YALSA resources amongst library staff who are "non-members" and work with teens.
- Develop a report that can be used to understand "non-members'" YALSA related needs and provides recommendations for efficient strategies in reaching "non-members" and gathering feedback, such as a re-usable survey for participants given at non-fee related conference sessions.

Alignment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Goals:

The activities developed by the task force will support YALSA's EDI Plan goals in engaging with members and "non-members" and informing recommendations so that YALSA may take further steps in becoming more inclusive.

Proposed Board Action:

The Board moves to approve the establishment of a President's Theme Implementation Taskforce for in-coming President Amanda Barnhart that will review and prioritize the suggested activities in the Annual 2020 Board document and directs Amanda to seek out diverse representation from among the membership when appointing to this group.

Additional Resources:

- [YALSA EDI Plan](http://www.ala.org/yalsa/sites/ala.org.yalsa/files/content/2018_YALSA_EDI%20Plan.pdf),
http://www.ala.org/yalsa/sites/ala.org.yalsa/files/content/2018_YALSA_EDI%20Plan.pdf
- [YALSA's Organizational Plan](http://www.ala.org/yalsa/aboutyalsa/strategicplan), www.ala.org/yalsa/aboutyalsa/strategicplan