

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

**Topic:** Establish a Program Guidelines Taskforce

**Background:** A librarian reached out to YALSA via Twitter in the fall of 2012 to ask if the organization had any guidelines for best practices in planning, implementing and evaluating library programs for and with teens. YALSA does not currently offer such a resource; however, Jack Martin felt the idea had merit and was a good fit with YALSA's mission to build the capacity of libraries and librarians to engage, serve and empower teens. A proposal to establish a taskforce to develop a set of teen programming guidelines is presented below.

**Action Required:** Consent

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### **Proposal**

Establish a taskforce to develop a set of guidelines for best practices in planning, implementing and evaluating library programs for and with teens.

### **Rationale**

- Creating and delivering educational and recreational programs for and with teens is an integral part of a library worker's job whose delegated the responsibility of overseeing library services for and with teens
- YALSA's current portfolio of national guidelines does not provide members with any substantial guidance in what constitutes best practices in developing, carrying out and evaluating library programs for and with teens.
- In the September 2012 member survey, respondents indicated that identifying and supporting best practices was the 5<sup>th</sup> most important activity that YALSA carries out (out of 19 activities).
- Creating programming guidelines fits with YALSA's research and best practices goal in the strategic plan because it can help position YALSA as the recognized source for access to targeted research and best practices relating to teen and young adult library services.

### **Proposed Taskforce Charge**

Review the current library literature to determine existing best practices in library programming for and with teens and use the findings to develop a set of guidelines. Submit a draft of the guidelines to the Executive Committee by October 1, 2013. Incorporate feedback received from the committee and present a refined draft to the YALSA Board by Feb. 1, 2014. Make further edits based on board feedback, then work with YALSA staff to open up a call for public comments on the draft guidelines by June 1, 2014. Based on public feedback, make final edits to the document and submit it to YALSA's Board by October 1, 2014. Taskforce size: 5-7 virtual members. Term: March 1, 2013 through January 31, 2015.

**Recommended Board Action**

The Board move to approve the establishment of a Program Guidelines Taskforce and direct the President to appoint members to the group by March 1, 2013.

**Additional Resources**

- 2012 Member Survey results, <http://ow.ly/gzqKL>