

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Annual Conference, Las Vegas
June 27 – July 1, 2014**

Topic: **Updating the Selection & Award Committee Evaluation Taskforce Charge**

Background: **At the 2014 Midwinter Meeting the Board voted to establish a task force to evaluate the selection and award committees to review the current operations and outputs of these committees, identifying best practices, and advising potential courses of action to improve 1) the overall volunteer experience for members, 2) committee work processes, and 3) the committees' work output. Activities include 1) seeking recent chair feedback in order to create an overview of how the committees are functioning; 2) identifying opportunities to standardize committee processes, policies and procedures, where possible; 3) further investigating the recommendations that the board ad-hoc group on selection committees put forward at Midwinter 2014; 4) seeking member feedback on the degree to which the existing lists and awards support their readers' advisory and collection development work in a timely and effective manner and whether there are any gaps or overlap in what YALSA provides; and 4) compiling findings and making recommendations to the board by Midwinter 2015. In the process of their work, the taskforce come up with an idea for an additional job for their group. Pam Holley is presenting the following information for the Board's consideration.**

Action Required: **Action**

Proposal

Expand the charge of the Selection and Award Evaluation Taskforce to include piloting a panel that would provide policy oversight to the selection and award committees. Piloting a potential selection and award committee advisory panel now can help the board determine whether it has merit for moving forward.

Rationale behind a selection and award committee advisory panel

- The panel could be another member engagement opportunity for those members whose interest and expertise lies primarily with selection and award committees
- Creating a panel whose sole focus was on the selection and award committees instead of leaving that role with the Board of Directors, who are tasked with overseeing the entire organization, could improve the support, efficiency and outputs of the selection and award committees

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- Committee liaison duties for board members is time consuming, and with the recent establishment of the standing board committees, there's a need to free up time so they can focus on the work of those board committees and their strategic plan implementation
- Board members do not all have selection or award committee experience, which can make being an effective liaison to those groups challenging

Current Taskforce Charge

The purpose of the taskforce is to review the current operations and outputs of YALSA selection and award committees, identifying best practices, and advising potential courses of action to improve 1) committee work processes, 2) the committees' work output, and 3) the overall volunteer experience for appointees. Activities include 1) seeking recent chair feedback in order to create an overview of how the committees are functioning; 2) identifying opportunities to standardize committee processes, policies and procedures, where possible; 3) further investigating the recommendations that the board ad-hoc group on selection committees put forward at Midwinter 2014; 4) seeking member feedback on the degree to which the existing lists and awards support their readers' advisory and collection development work in a timely and effective manner and whether there are any gaps or overlap in what YALSA provides; and 4) compiling findings and making recommendations to the board by Midwinter 2015.

Proposed Taskforce New Charge

The purpose of the task force is to review the current operations and outputs of YALSA selection and award committees, identifying best practices, and advising potential courses of action to improve 1) committee work processes, 2) the committees' work output, and 3) the overall volunteer experience for appointees. Activities include 1) seeking recent chair feedback in order to create an overview of how the committees are functioning; 2) identifying opportunities to standardize committee processes, policies and procedures, where possible; 3) further investigating the recommendations that the board ad-hoc group on selection committees put forward at Midwinter 2014; 4) seeking member feedback on the degree to which the existing lists and awards support their readers' advisory and collection development work in a timely and effective manner and whether there are any gaps or overlap in what YALSA provides; and 4) compiling findings and making recommendations to the board by Midwinter 2015. In addition, a subgroup of the taskforce will pilot a Selection & Award Committee Advisory Board concept that will provide an oversight and support role to the committees in matters relating to policy. Based on the outcome of the pilot, the taskforce will make a recommendation to the board as to whether or not to move forward with formally establishing such a group.

Recommended Board Action

Adopt the new charge for the taskforce

Additional Resources

- 2014 Midwinter document on establishing a selection and award committee evaluation taskforce, <http://ow.ly/xZkAK> (.pdf)