

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting  
ALA Midwinter Meeting, Seattle  
January 19-24, 2007**

**Topic:** Recommendations from Selected DVDs Evaluation TF

**Background:** At the 2006 Midwinter Meeting this taskforce was established to review the current status of the committee and make recommendations to the Board for improvement. The concern was that the list was not as useful as it could be for librarians to use as a collection development and/or readers' advisory tool. The time limit in particular was a concern, because it eliminated quality films with teen appeal, such as the Lord of the Rings trilogy. The taskforce is recommending the following changes, as listed below.

**Action Required:** Action

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Selected DVDs and Videos Task Force

TASK FORCE CHARGE

To evaluate the charge, policies, and procedures for the Selected DVDs and Videos Committee, to make recommendations for any changes needed to improve the overall committee structure and its process for selection, to ensure that its selected list is both useful and relevant to YA librarians, and to submit recommendations to the Board by Annual 2006.

RATIONALE

The Selected DVDs and Videos Committee requested changes to committee policies and procedures to expand the number of films available for consideration, to include better quality videos and DVDs, and to facilitate more effective roundtable discussion. This Task Force was established to address the concerns of the committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS

At Annual 2006, the Task Force made three recommendations to address the specific requests of the committee.

Lengthen time of videos and DVDs eligible for consideration from 60 to 90 minutes. This change serves several purposes, including allowing more films for consideration and allowing for a greater variety of subject matter.

Change stopping times to 10, 20, and 25 minutes, and include additional stopping times after the last scheduled stopping time at the discretion of the Chair. With longer films, the committee will need at least one additional opportunity to cease viewing films that do not meet selection criteria.

Alter the discussion of titles to proceed in a roundtable fashion, with the nominator of the film speaking second to last, and the Chair speaking last. Committee members who have nominated an item will have the opportunity to address criticism and concerns of other members, and the Chair remains neutral until the last possible moment.

These recommendations were accepted by the YALSA Board, and at the request of the current Selected DVDs and Videos Committee, the recommended changes were made effective immediately.

#### ITEMS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

This Task Force requested and was granted a six month extension of time to evaluate the following:

The duties of committee members, the Administrative Assistant, and the Chair. The current committee policies and procedures do not explain in detail what role each position is expected to fill. Additional documentation will allow potential committee members to determine the time and effort required of those serving on this selection committee, and will provide the Board Liaison, Chair, and Administrative Assistant with guidelines to determine whether committee members are fulfilling their obligations.

The current charge and purpose of the committee as they relate to the YALSA Strategic Plan and National Youth Participation Guidelines. In particular, several questions have been raised regarding the role of series and entertainment DVDs in relation to the selected list, and the perceived “esoteric” nature of published lists.

This Task Force has discussed the above issues via email. We now submit recommendations for changes to the policies and procedures of the Selected DVDs and Videos Committee as follows for review by the YALSA Board. Additionally, the Chair of this Task Force will be available at the Midwinter meeting to complete any further work required of this group. With the permission of the YALSA Board, the Task Force expects to conclude all work and dissolve the workgroup by the end of the Midwinter conference.

#### **Selected DVDs and Videos for Young Adults Policies and Procedures Charge**

To select videos and digital video disks especially significant to young adults from

those released in the past two years; to prepare an annotated list for publication in Booklist, School Library Journal, the YALSA web site, and other appropriate publications; and to present an annual showcase of selected items.

[No changes]

### **The List: Philosophy and Purpose**

YALSA believes that access to library collections which reflect young adult interests and needs is essential and that multimedia and video formats are necessary to accommodate varied interests.

The Selected Videos and DVD's for Young Adults List is tangible evidence of YALSA's recognition that the belief that moving images play an important role in the life of a young adult.

The purpose of this list is to identify for collection developers videos and DVD's that will appeal to young adults in a variety of settings.

Selection criteria consistent with the Library Bill of Rights shall be applied throughout the selection process. Titles chosen are of acceptable quality and are effective in their presentation. Although titles will be selected to appeal to young adults with varied tastes and interests, no effort will be made to balance the list according to subject matter.

[No changes]

### **Audience**

The list is a collection development tool for librarians and others serving diverse young adults ages twelve through eighteen.

[No changes]

### **Eligibility**

To be considered for the list, videos and DVD's must be ninety minutes or under in length and have been released in the United States in the previous two calendar years. (For example, the committee meeting at Midwinter 2006 would consider titles released in 2004 and 2005.)

In general, a whole series will not be included on the list. Individual titles from a series may be nominated and included.

At the Chair's discretion, the committee may consider multi-part programs, provided each segment is ninety minutes or under. All segments must be previewed.

Titles that are re-edited or re-released must contain a significant amount of new material to qualify for consideration and will be treated as new titles.

[No changes]

### **The Nomination Process**

The nomination period runs from the end of ALA Midwinter to October 31.

Nomination forms will be available from the committee Chair, the committee Administrative Assistant, YALSA Office, and the YALSA Web page.

Titles may be nominated by committee members as well as from the field. Field nominations must be confirmed by a committee member. Film makers, distributors,

or producers may not nominate their own productions. They may request that a particular title be viewed by a committee member for list consideration.

Nominations for titles to be considered must be forwarded on official nomination forms to the Administrative Assistant in a timely manner, and received no later than October 31 of each year. The Administrative Assistant will regularly disseminate a list of nominated titles to the Chair and committee members.

Each committee member will receive items to preview throughout the year. These items are often sent by producers and distributors per committee request, although many are unsolicited.

To be nominated, a title must have been viewed by at least one committee member. Committee members are encouraged to solicit the opinions of young adults on titles being considered for nomination.

[No changes]

### **Committee Composition and Function**

The committee will include thirteen members, including the Chair, appointed by the YALSA Vice President/President-Elect. Members are appointed for two-year terms, and the Chair is appointed to a one-year term. The current YALSA President will fill any committee vacancy. Terms begin and end at the conclusion of the Midwinter Meeting. Members shall be appointed on a staggered basis to maintain a balance of new and continuing members. Reappointment of the Chair or committee members is not automatic and is based on participation in the work of the committee and recommendation by the Chair. After the end of the second consecutive term, a member must wait five years before he or she is eligible to serve again. [REMOVED: Barring emergency, committee members are required to participate in the nomination process, to evaluate videos and digitala video disks, to attend all committee meetings and to actively participate in discussions.] An Administrative Assistant will be appointed, in consultation with the committee Chair, by the YALSA Vice President/President-Elect. The Administrative Assistant may serve for three successive years as a non-voting member of the committee.

The editor, or editor's designee, of the Audiovisual Media section of Booklist will serve as an ex officio member of the committee.

### **Committee Member Responsibilities [ALL CONTENT ON RESPONSIBILITIES IS ADDED]**

Each committee member must be responsible for soliciting review copies as assigned by the Chair. All members are required to evaluate videos and DVDs. Members must attend both the Annual and Midwinter meetings. Members should participate actively in the work of the committee, including electronic correspondence between meetings. Members will assist the Chair in writing annotations for films.

### **Administrative Assistant Responsibilities**

The Administrative Assistant will assist the Chair in duties that include the following: assigning titles for viewing, maintaining the database of nominations,

ordering copies of nominated titles and arranging to have those available at committee members, ordering equipment for meeting use, assigning annotations, tabulating votes, returning films after the Annual conference, assisting with the program at the Annual conference, and other duties assigned by the Chair.

### Chair Responsibilities

The Chair presides at all committee meetings and serves as both moderator and pace setter for discussion. The Chair also manages an electronic discussion list created by ALA at the request of the YALSA Program Officer. It is also the responsibility of the Chair to notify committee members of times and locations of meetings. The Chair plans and presents a program at the ALA Annual conference. The Chair presents the final annotated list of Selected DVDs to the YALSA office after the final midwinter meeting. The Chair is a voting member of the committee with all the rights and responsibilities of all other members.

### **Acquiring Titles for Screening**

The Administrative Assistant will automatically assign a committee member to view titles that meet list criteria which are favorably reviewed in Booklist, School Library Journal, Science Books & Films, SLJ Directory of Current and Forthcoming Videos or other professional journals. The Administrative Assistant will also automatically assign award-winning and notable titles that meet list criteria from regional and national film festivals. It will be the decision of the committee member viewing the item to determine if it should be nominated for the list. Outstanding popular titles may be considered for inclusion to be added based on responses from the committee.

[NO CHANGES]

### **Creation of the List**

All selection decisions for the YALSA Selected Videos for Young Adults List will be made at the annual Midwinter Meeting.

Members must be present in the viewing room and must have viewed the entire title to be able to vote on that title. There will be no proxy voting.

Each title must be viewed in its entirety to be considered for inclusion on the list.

A simple majority of the members present at each session during the Midwinter Meeting will suffice to place a video or DVD title on the list. If a title fails to receive a majority vote, it will not be included in the current list, nor will it be reconsidered for subsequent lists.

After ten minutes of viewing, members present will vote as to whether or not they want to continue viewing the video. If the vote to discontinue is unanimous, viewing will cease and the title will be dropped from consideration. If the vote is not unanimous, the timer will be reset for an additional ten minutes. After this period, members will vote again, and if the vote to discontinue watching the video is unanimous, viewing will cease and the title will be dropped from consideration. If the vote is not unanimous, the timer will be reset for an additional 25 minutes.

After this period, members will again vote, and if three-fourths or more of the

members want to discontinue watching the video, viewing will cease and the title will be dropped from consideration.

Once a title has been viewed, each member will have the opportunity to critique that item. Titles must be evaluated on their own merits and may not be compared to other similar works. [ADDED: Discussion of titles proceeds in a roundtable fashion, with the nominator of the film speaking second to last, and the Chair speaking last.]

After each member who desires to comment has done so, voting takes place in the same order. The Administrative Assistant tabulates this vote and announces the results. [REMOVED: The Administrative Assistant will assign a committee member the responsibility of preparing an annotation of the selected title]

The Chair will ensure that the annotated list is turned in to the YALSA staff before leaving the Midwinter Meeting. This final list must be submitted on disk, in a format approved by the YALSA office, and in hard copy. It should include complete and accurate bibliographic information, annotations, and producer information with current addresses.

The Chair will ensure that the press release is written and turned in to the YALSA staff before leaving the Midwinter Meeting.

### **Distribution of the List**

It is YALSA's aim to achieve as wide a distribution of the list as possible. The list will be made available to the library press through ALA's Public Information Office. It will be sent to Booklist and other professional library journals, and also will be made available on ALA's home page and other appropriate web sites. In addition, reprints of the list appearing in School Library Journal will be available from ALA Order Fulfillment.

Committee members and the Administrative Assistant will continue to look for other ways to promote the list.

[NO CHANGES]

### **Suggested Selection Criteria**

Technical qualities

Is the photography effective and imaginative? (e.g. choice and handling of visuals, composition, color, focus, exposure, special effects).

Is the sound acceptable? (e.g. good fidelity and synchronization, realistic sound effects, relevant interplay between sound track and image).

Is the editing satisfactory? (e.g. continuity, matching, rhythm, pacing, length).

Do the actors have good voice quality, diction and timing?

Is the acting believable and convincing?

Does the narrator have good voice quality, style, diction and timing?

Content

Is it well organized?

Is the script well written and imaginative?

Is it timely or pertinent to young adult needs and interests?

Is the treatment appropriate for the subject? (e.g. animation, dramatization, documentary).

Utilization

Will it stimulate and maintain interest?

Are the format, vocabulary and concept(s) appropriate?

Will it affect attitudes, build appreciation, develop critical thinking and/or entertain?

Overall Effect

Are the technical qualities, content and utilization combined into a pleasing whole?

[NO CHANGES]

Approved by the YALSA Board, July 1996, and amended July 1998. Revised by committee March 2000 and by the Board July 2000. Revised August 2006.