

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Midwinter Meeting, Chicago
January 30 – February 2, 2015**

Topic: YALS Editor Midwinter Report

Background: Linda Braun, the Member Editor of YALS, has provided the Board with a semi-annual report. The purpose of the journal is: 1) to serve as a vehicle for continuing education for librarians and library workers serving young adults; 2) to publish articles of current interest to the profession; 3) to showcase research and best practices in the field; 4) to provide news from related fields; 5) to spotlight significant events of the organization; 6) to offer in-depth reviews of professional literature and resources; and 7) to serve as the official record of the association.

Action Required: Consent

YALS 2014

Each fall the issue's theme is determined by the editor, YALSA staff and the YALS Editorial Advisory Board. In 2014 the fall issue theme was Yes I Can! The volume included a variety of articles that demonstrate how libraries are moving forward with the ideas presented in the YALSA *Future of Libraries for and with Teens: A Call to Action* report. The issue launched a next phase in YALS' support of the findings of the report as the journal will now include a section each month titled #act4teens. The section will highlight the work that libraries are doing to support the future of library services for and with teens.

Throughout 2014 YALS continued to include articles from those working in organizations outside of libraries. This included several articles co-written by librarians or library staff and staff at community partner organizations. For example, the summer issue included a co-authored article by a staff member at the Pennsylvania Humanities Council and a library staff member at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. The fall 2014 issue included an article by a library educator and a Project Director at the Forty to None project. These articles are another way to demonstrate to readers the value of collaborations and partnerships between libraries and community agencies.

Thanks to the work of YALSA office staff, YALS launched its digital version in the fall. This version of the journal posts the same time as the print issue mails and is available immediately to YALSA members - an ALA login is required in order to access the content for the first three months of the volume's availability. Non-members continue to have access to the journal content online 3 months after the journal is available in print to members and subscribers.

The work of the YALS Editorial Advisory Board (EAB) continues as members of the Board are posting content that supports each print issue of the journal on the YALS companion website. While a couple of EAB members continue to actively support this focus, it is proving more

difficult than expected to have a commitment to posting content on a regular basis from all EAB members. As a result I think it's time for YALSA to re-consider the role that the YALS site plays in the life of the journal. This consideration falls at the perfect time as later this year, the EAB will evaluate the impact of the digital version of the journal on the use of the companion site and whether or not the site should continue now that the digital YALS is available.

YALS 2015

The winter 2015 issue of the journal is scheduled to mail to members and subscribers on January 19. The theme of the issue is Teens and Tech and includes articles on how the Houston Public Library's Community Engagement Team provides digital literacy and connected learning opportunities to youth via its mobile services and an article on the work of YALSA's National Guidelines Oversight Committee. The issue also includes articles related to the 2015 Teen Tech Week theme - Libraries are for Making... - written by members of the Teen Tech Week Committee.

Additional Resources

- YALS' website <http://www.yalsa.ala.org/yals/>