

BAYA

Bay Area Young Adult Librarians

Vol 1 No 6

November 2005

Next Meeting

Tuesday, Nov 29 2005
9:00 am—12:00 pm

Pleasanton Public Library
400 Old Bernal Road
Pleasanton, CA
925 931-3400

Program

Annual Book Sale

Elections 2006 Executive
Board

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BAYA Website

www.baya.org

Minutes

September 27, 2005
Berkeley Public Library

2006 Institute Update

Theme is Novels in Verse/Poetry/Spoken Word.
Let a BAYA officer know if you are interested in helping out.
We will need support promoting and organizing daylong event.

Book Reviews

Gary asked if members wanted him to include the ARC's he receives from publishers in addition to the books that can be added to reviewer's collection. Response was a YES!
Gary asked that reviewers please follow the template and be sure to include publishing information etc. Details are listed on BAYA website at <http://www.baya.org/reviews.html>

Proposed Dates for Future Meetings 2006

Jan 24 SFPL-MAIN
Mar 28 SAN LEANDRO
May 23 BERKELEY-M AIN
July 25 FREMONT-MAIN
Sept 26 OPL (Cesar Chavez Branch)
Nov 28 MILLBRAE

Rainbow Party / Banned Books discussion

(Based on a book that was on the YALSA-Book List Serve and getting some media attention)

Below are some links to articles mentioned in the discussion about the book: "Getting Over the Rainbow Party: What's really going on in the world of teenagers and reading" by Marc Aronson -- 8/15/2005
<http://publishersweekly.com/article/CA634508.html?text=getting+over+the+rainbow+party>

'You're Reading...What?' This season, publishers are rolling out more volumes for teens that are full of heavy themes, from binge drinking to incest.

By Sally Beatty Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL -6/24/05
<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB111956889635168198.html>

The author of Rainbow Party was a guest of The Commonwealth Club in San Francisco on October 4th, 2005 Title: Oral Sex and Teens? Is Oral Sex a Taboo Subject for Teens?

Panel Members: Bethany Buck, Simon & Schuster publicist; Joyce Maynard, author; Paul Ruditis, author and Margaret Simpson children's book buyer.

As of this date, broadcast of the program has not appeared on <http://www.commonwealthclub.org/> and Santa Clara County decided to add the book to it's Teen Collection.

Some comments from some librarians who attended the program :

"Initially Bethany Buck and Paul Ruditis indicated that the idea for the book

[San Francisco] Bay Area Young Adult Librarians is an organization for teen services librarians from public and school libraries. We review fiction and nonfiction books, and publish our annual **Hot Picks**. We also provide continuing education for librarians. Members meet in January, March, May, July, September and November at various San Francisco Bay Area libraries. Membership is open to all those interested in promoting and improving library service to teenagers.

came up because of several talk shows (Oprah) that had mentioned Rainbow Parties. It was decided that this was a "hot" and important topic and Paul Ruditis was asked by the publisher to write a book about a rainbow party."

"The subject of whether or not oral sex was an appropriate subject matter for teens came up only a few times. The panel members as well as any members of the audience who brought the subject up seemed to feel that the subject was already part of teens' lives and could legitimately be included in fiction for teens. All felt that to censor the book for that reason was wrong."

"Margaret Simpson indicated that she did not include the book on her shelves initially because she had read it in galleys and felt it was poorly written. She later included it because of the controversy surrounding the book."

"I thought the whole discussion was very disappointing. The author and publisher began with a description of why they wrote the book and then the bookstore owner and other author (Joyce Maynard) spent the rest of the meeting talking about how bad the writing was. It was supposed to be about whether oral sex is a suitable topic for teen literature but wallowed in, 'This book just isn't well written' "

"I think the message from audience was let people read what they want. Any topic is okay. And people read different things for different reasons so there is room for trash as well as treasure."

"This is all about teens and examining issues that are of vital importance to them... It is not a bad book, and it has a lot to say about a very important topic. And since when have we ever been about finding excuses for not having something in our collection? In the past, all we were asked for was the tools to defend something."

This book is not on the shelves of any of the big chain bookstores but can be bought online and at some independent bookstores.

Libraries that own the book are: Santa Clara County, Alameda County, Oakland, Pleasanton & Los Gatos Public Library.