

BAYA Meeting Minutes
January 27, 2009
Pleasant Hill Library - Contra Costa County

Introduction: What are you reading?

- Boost
- Dragon Spell
- If I Stay
- Kiki Strike
- The Book Thief
- Mars
- Artemis Fowl
- War for the Oaks
- Hunger Games
- The Graveyard Book
- Out Stealing Horses
- Ask Me No Questions
- I Am the Messenger
- I Can See Clearly Now: A Novel
- Hot, Flat and Crowded: Why We Need a Green Revolution and How It Can Renew America
- Half Moon Investigations
- Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance
- My Sword Hand is Singing
- Ultimate Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy
- Pacifism as Pathology: Reflections on the Role of Armed Struggle in North America
- The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wilde
- Girls Like Us: Carole King, Joni Mitchell, Carly Simon and the Journey of a Generation

Book Reviews:

- We have only received 12 new books for reviewing from the publishers. Gary is not sure why. It could be that the publishers are cutting back on what they send out in advance.
- Gary and Shawna are drafting a letter to the publishers to thank them for sending us books and to let them know we are still interested in continuing to receive advanced copies.
- We are asking that everyone review books that you may be reading from your own libraries to continue our review newsletter.
- Reminder: the guidelines for book reviews are on the BAYA website:
<http://baya.org/guidelines.html>
- Amazon and Goodreads accounts:
Amazon:
 - After much deliberation, the Book Review Editor will have sole access (at least for now) to the BAYA Amazon account. We need to maintain control of what is posted as an official BAYA reviewer. After the review deadline, the Book Review Editor (Carol) will upload all reviews submitted to BAYA for our review publication.
 - Carol will add a statement to our book review page on our website stating this new procedure, that reviews submitted to BAYA will be posted on our website as well as Amazon, and that if a reviewer does not want their review uploaded they must indicate that when they submit them.Goodreads:
 - Since Goodreads seems to be a lot more casual, everyone will have access to the BAYA Goodreads account. The Book Review Editor will be drafting a letter to all BAYA members with the login information for the Goodreads account.

- Please upload your reviews on Goodreads as you write them.
- All BAYA members may use our BAYA book reviews to promote books in our own libraries.

Expenses:

- Should we or should we not offer our guest speakers an honorarium or some other 'thank you' gift for presenting at our meetings? This was a big topic among the officers over the past week. We wanted to bring it to all BAYA members to see what you thought. Some of us thought that offering an honorarium to people who come during work time was, in a sense, double dipping. But we wanted to offer something as appreciation for their time and expertise. This is what we decided:
 - We want to offer some sort of tangible appreciation to all non-BAYA member speakers. (We feel that BAYA members should volunteer their time if they are presenting during a meeting.)
 - The gift should not exceed \$25 and could include something like flowers or a gift card and a letter of appreciation. Kathy Middleton and Amy Cheney will be the first recipients of this.
- Since no one person should have to send out letters with their own personal money, we discussed and agreed on spending \$100 for administrative expenses like stationary with the BAYA letterhead, business cards and postage.

Youth Book Awards:

- Jellicoe Road: This seemed to come out of nowhere. No members had read this before it was awarded Printz award.
- Brandi Bette Smead, Benicia Public Library, was happy to see that many of the Newberry Honor books were middle grade or teen books.
- If you are interested in listening to *The Graveyard Book* in its entirety, read by Neil Gaiman, go to www.mousecircus.com. You can stream the whole book online.

Program Sharing:

- Sue?: \$225- www.hennalounge.com. Darcy from Henna Lounge brings all of the supplies and the teens do the painting on themselves with her guidance. She also does private parties.
- Jack Baur, Berkeley Public Library: California Center for the Book offers a free graphic novel book discussion program. They give 20 copies of the book for the teens to borrow, discuss and then return. One of the books was *Pedro and Me*. Not only do they send the books, but they also send posters and discussion questions. (They have books other than graphic novels as well.)
- Sandi Imperio: Santa Cruz Public Library offers Book Discussion Kits, which contain 10 copies of the book, discussion questions and a list of like reads. They offer this in adult kits as well. The adult kits have 10-20 copies of the titles.
 - Amanda J. Foust: Novato Library also offers something like this to their patrons.
- Michelle Rosenthal, Sacramento Public Library, wants to know if everyone is doing the theme, Be Creative, for our Teen Summer Reading Programs?
Yes, it seems like most everyone is choosing the theme.

Cynthia Rider, San Mateo County Library: What are some good suggestions for someone starting a teen book club?

- The Lightning Thief ~ Rick Riordan
- The Ranger's Apprentice series ~John Flanagan
- Graceling ~ Kristin Cashore (a little like Tamora Pierce)
- Hunger Games ~ Suzanne Collins (and sequel, Catching Fire 09/09)
- Gregor the Overlander ~ Suzanne Collins
- Dead and Gone ~ Susan Beth Pfeffer (Sequel to Life as We Knew It)
- Eon: Dragoneye Reborn ~ Alison Goodman
- Diamond of Darkhold ~ Jeanne DuPrau (4th book: City of Ember)
- Unwind ~ Neal Shusterman
- Into the Wild ~ Jon Krakauer

What are some good suggestions for *memoirs*?

- The Glass Castle ~ Jeannette Walls
- Tweak ~ Nic Sheff/ Beautiful Boy ~ David Sheff
- Look Me in the Eye ~ John Elder Robison
- A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier ~ Ishmael Beah
- King of the Mild Frontier ~ Chris Crutcher
- Knucklehead: tall tales & mostly true stories of growing up Scieszka ~ Jon Scieszka.
- Grace After Midnight ~ Felicia Pearson
- Lucky ~ Alice Sebold
- Hole in My Life ~ Jack Gantos
- Always Running: la Vida Loca, Gang Days in LA ~ Luis J. Rodriguez
- Soul Surfer ~ Bethany Hamilton
- Piece of Cake ~ Cupcake Brown
- Lang Lang: Playing with Flying Keys ~ Lang Lang
- In My Hands: Memories of a Holocaust Survivor ~

Website:

- Annemarie Meyer, Webmaster, says we are running out of space on the website.
- Someone suggested that maybe we could convert the PDFs into html text on the actual pages. The PDFs take up most of the space that the website uses.
- How long do we need to keep minutes on the website? Can we create an archive for them? Do we need to keep copies of the old minutes? We need to discuss this a little more.

Kathy Middleton, Antioch Library, Contra Costa County: Presentation

How I See It: My Place- a grant from the California Council of the Humanities

- 21 libraries and 300 teens participated statewide in this program last year.
- With the grant came \$1000 cash, 5 digital cameras, a laptop computer (if your library is CIPA compliant), a color printer and supplies, two days of training in LA, and a binder and tool kit to complete the program.
- Since the Antioch Library is across the street from a high school and middle school, they didn't have a problem recruiting teens for this.

- They met once a week for 1-½ hours for 10 weeks. Each week they focused on something different including guest speakers like a history professor, a photography professor (from Los Medanos College), guest artists, 4 subjects (palimpsest, transformation, mystery, serendipity), curatorial work and of course the exhibit installation and show.
- There were 18 teens who signed up and 10 who completed the 10-week course. The participants averaged 13-18 years old.
- Each teen took 300 photos and had to choose 5 to display in the exhibit.
- Theme: Notice the Unnoticed
- This exhibit was at the Antioch Library online at California Council of the Humanities and at Lynn House Gallery, a local art gallery.
- Some of their additional expenses were gifts for each speaker, frames for the photos and flash drives for the teens to keep.

Wednesday Club:

An ALA award-winning program for adults with developmental disabilities

- Goal: to make these adults feel comfortable and welcome in the library and to enable them to use library resources
- This group meets once a month and has fun and educational programs including arts and crafts as well as speakers from local organizations.
- The participants got to know behind the scenes at the library through an orientation at the beginning of the program.
- The Library has a special Summer Reading Program just for this group of patrons. Local merchants are willing to give away prizes for their summer reading program. (ex. gift cards to Raley's and free pizza)
- Most organizations will send speakers (and animals) for free when they hear it is for people with developmental disabilities.

Cheap Program Ideas and Low Cost performers:

Amanda J. Foust, Novato Library:

Design Your Own Journal:

- 12 Design Your Own! White Journals
\$12.99 Per Dozen
- Crayola® Trayola™ 48-Color Fine Tip Washable Markers
\$19.90 1 Set(s)

Rachel-Anne Palacios Workshops (Spanish Speaker)

devikaspalacio@yahoo.com

Henna:

Henna Workshops are two hours for \$150 and include a short lecture on the history of henna and a henna practice kit. Space is limited to 20 teens, and Rachel-Anne will create a design in henna for each teen.

Day of the Dead:

The workshops below are \$200 for a 2-hour session (including supplies) with Rachel-Anne and David Taffolla. Workshops can be one time or a series in conjunction with the creation of an altar at the library for Days of the Dead. Here are the workshops in the series of classes:

- Papel Picado/Paper Flower Making Workshop
- Candle Making Workshop
- Calavera/Mexican Mask Making Workshop
- Real Sugar Skull or Model Magic Skull Workshop
- 'Tin' (Foil) Retablo/Nicho Workshop

Buki the Clown (Spanish Speaker)

<http://www.bukitheclown.com/>

510/522-2229

800/352-8004

- Face Painting
- Magic Show
- Balloon Animals

Cheryl Herbsman, Creative Writing Workshops

sunshineche@comcast.net

www.cherylreneeherbsman.com

I do a "Finding the Voice of Your Character" workshop, which is about making characters specific and unique, and a "Finding Your Writing Voice" workshop, which is about giving you the freedom to write what's inside, to silence the critic, etc. Ages 11-15 are perfect. My fee is \$100, but I can be flexible if there are budgetary constraints. I can also do a more basic "Getting started" workshop if you want something less specific than the other two I mentioned. My first YA novel, BREATHING, will be coming out with Viking in April. I also have a master's degree in clinical psychology from UC Berkeley, where I taught undergraduates and worked with teens in individual, family, and community settings.

826 Valencia Writing Workshops

A Writing Workshop based on David Egger's "What is the What"

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This two hour workshop will use Egger's dramatic structure for telling the protagonist story in the context of events that somehow link the present to the past.

The first half hour would be a discussion of what the book is about, since attendees may have read only part or none of the book.

The first writing exercise will take 30 minutes. The exercise is:

- *Think of a powerful event in your own life, something that changed you in some way forever. It could be something you did, something that happened to you, some important decision that you made.*

- *Imagine a character who is about to enter into that same situation, or one that is similar. Start with a description of who they are, where they are and what is about to happen.*
- *You are a voice in their head, a ghost, a dream they are having, an unseen witness. You are someone trying to communicate with this person about this important event, but you can't be heard. The fact that you can't be heard makes you try harder to break through to this person.*
- *Explain your experience to this person. Tell them how important it was, how it changed you. What advice would you offer them and why?*

Recap:

- 1. Describe the person you are going to address.*
- 2. Describe their situation.*
- 3. Speak to them directly about your experience, how it went, what they might do differently.*

After this exercise, we will take a ten-minute break.

The second part of the evening will be reading out the work. Participants can either read their own work, or hand it to me and I will read it for them. We may not get to everyone, but I will try to cover a good number of the essays. I suspect there will be some conversation, which is good.

If the participants and the library are amenable, we can run over the two hours. Sometimes these things take on a life of their own. Otherwise, I will close things off and we will be done.

Bio: Stan Heller is a teacher and digital storyteller in the Bay Area. He's conducted writing workshops at 826 Valencia and the San Francisco Center for the Book for several years.

PostSecret/ Mail Art Program: in an email to Amanda

PostSecrets are a way for people to tell their deepest secrets in a confidential way. They also allow people to express themselves artistically. There is an idea going around about doing a PostSecret program with partnering libraries. The teens would do the post card art and secrets in a program at your own library but then the PostSecrets would be sent to a partnering library where they would all be displayed but remain confidential. This idea was presented at CLA. You can take a look at it here: <http://www.cla-net.org/summer-reading/workshop.php>

Mail Art: You could do the art without the secret component. It could still be mailed to partnering libraries to display. Or it could end up being some sort of pen pal project with post card art.

Dana Aleshire, San Pablo Library:

- Origami

- Poetry Readings
- Poetry Slam
- 3 D paper dolls: www.readymech.com
- Giant Pictionary
- Teen Programs in a box

Marie Richardson, Mountain View Public Library:

- They offer a coupon for a certain \$\$ amount off the teens' fines.
- Music club
- Art displays with themes
- YouTube commercial contest
- Cosplay: dressing up as manga or animé characters
- Crafts:
 - www.makezine.com
 - www.blog.craftzine.com
 - www.readymade.com
 - www.postsecret.blogspot.com

Rob Spitzel, Hayward Library, Weekes Branch:

- Teen Eats: a program where the teens actually make something with food
Rob does this in a regular program room with a double hot plate.
 - ice cream
 - sushi
 - rice crispy treats
 - truffles

Brandi Bette Smead, Benicia Public Library:

- Casa Buena: a multicultural event
The idea was to have international food and multicultural entertainment for an evening. Most people were willing to perform or dance for free if it is going to be for 15-20 minutes if they can advertise their organization. (They had a whole troupe of local belly dancers perform.) Look to your teens to find out who dances or plays an instrument (or has some sort of other talent for example, as a demo, two of their teens made sushi rolls while people watched. As for the food, just ask your teens if they can cook something foreign or ethnic. Benicia had more than 30 teens who brought in food. Four restaurants also donated food for the event. At the end of the day, there was enough food for over 100 people, 60 teens came and the event only cost \$50. The teens also wore traditional clothing from other cultures. Check local thrift stores for international clothing. BB got lots of clothing for \$3 an item. What people didn't wear was used to decorate the program room.