oregon young adult network Review

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PLA Highlights: Teen Program Edition by Barratt Miller, Crook County Library

OYAN generously gave me a scholarship to attend the Public Library Association conference (PLA) in Indianapolis this March. I went to three panels that talked about teen programs and I'm here to share the highlights with all of you! If you want my full notes from any of the presentations or have more questions, send me an e-mail at bmiller@crooklib.org and I'll be happy to share any info I have!

Beyond Duct Tape Wallets: Dynamic, Effective, and Community-Centered Teen Programs

This program was presented by a few bloggers many of you probably know and love:
Angie Manfredo from Fat Girl Reading, Kelly Jensen from Stacked, Katie Salo from Storytime Katie, and Andrea Sowers from Book Blather.

One of the things I loved was that the presenters started off by talking about how discouraging it can be to attend conference presentations and hear nothing but success stories that seem impossible to replicate. They all talked about programs that completely BOMBED at their libraries...even though that same event had been successful for someone else.



Waiting for David Levithan & Rainbow Rowell at Kids Ink in Indy

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Teen Fandomania Party: A Report with .GIFs by April Witteveen, Deschutes Public Library

Feeling inspired by success stories from fellow OYANers Sonja Somerville and Barratt Miller, I hosted the first annual Teen Fandomania Party at the Downtown Bend Public Library on Saturday, March 22nd. I have a small but mighty (and nerdy) teen advisory board who all immediately jumped on the idea of celebrating their

favorite media obsessions—Sherlock, Dr. Who, and Harry Potter. We held a planning session which resulted in a white board filled with excellent ideas, and from there I worked to create a game plan for a 3-hour, Saturday afternoon event (http://bit.ly/OVgkkv).

I had no idea what to expect for attendance, since finding the perfect fit for program dates/ times/themes has been a bit of a struggle. When I did my head count and found myself surrounded by 50 teens I took a moment to do a little happy dance (something along these lines... http://bit.ly/1jKAwis) but was quickly drawn back into the world of

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PLA Highlights (Continued from Page 1)

Most Successful Standalone Programs

Zombify classic art
with duct tape
Chocolate War
(whopper nose roll,
unwrap kisses with
oven mitts, etc.)
Test out Pinterest
crafts
Fashion show for
prom
Teen Tech Week
Lockin

Most Successful Recurring Program

Monthly booktalks of new books Giveaway books for teen book club every month Yu-Gi-Oh/Games Club

Fandom Chats (Doctor Who, Walking Dead, whatever is popular)

Mock the Movie (use Muvchat or just talk and be relaxed)

Also, Katie BLEW MY MIND when she suggested using Google Forms to register teens for programs. Whenever anyone asked me how the conference went, my answer was, "Great! I realized we can use Google Forms for SRP registration!" That one idea was totally worth the price of admission for me.

Betwixt and Between: Reader's Advisory and Programs for Teens

This panel by Abby Johnson and Renata Sancken was part tween-friendly booktalks and partly tween-friendly programming. You can download the booklists from: http://www.placonference.org/programs/

Renata uses the same program format for tween and teen programs. I think it works really well, so I'm posting her 8-step outline here:

- Awkward Silence Filler (like coloring sheets)
- 2. Craft Project (from Pinterest, using button-maker)
- Music (YouTube playlist, Spotify, Grooveshark)
- 4. Interactive Activity (Spin the Bottle with hugs)
- 5. Poll/Debate
- 6. Costume Contest and/or Photo Booth (give Polaroid a try)
- 7. Books (related to program topic)
- 8. Snacks

One cool suggestion from an audience member was to use

school mascot names when you name middle school or high school specific programs. This doesn't necessarily work well if there are multiple schools in your service area, but this can be a great way for small communities to brand their programs!

Tinker With Technology: Simple and Creative Programs for Kids and Teens

Tinker is a Chicagobased group of youth librarians who meet regularly to share technology program ideas with each other. They shared some of their favorites at this PLA panel, plus they blog at: http://tinker-group.wordpress.com/

Most of the projects can be adapted for any K-12 age group, including teens! Their presentation handout is SUPER detailed and really useful. You can download it from http://www.placonference.org/programs/

Stop Motion Animation (using a digital camera and iMovie or Windows MovieMaker)

- Pencil Animation (free drawing animation software)
- 90-Second Newbery (video using regular filming, stop motion, or animation)
- Artbots (build out of pool noodles, electric toothbrushes, markers)
- WeDo LEGO Robotics (pair with Scratch 1.4 software)
- LEGO Mindstorms Robotics
- Light Painting
 (flashlights and either
 a digital camera set
 to long exposure or
 iPad loaded with free
 LongExpo app)

I LOVED the light painting idea. We wanted to have fire dancers for our teen SRP this year but couldn't find an affordable group in the area. We're going to try light painting instead! The presenters actually taped flashlights to a bunch of chairs in the conference hall and brought an iPad so we could light paint as a group.

Have a "learning experience" or success story to share? Tell us about it on the OYAN Facebook page.

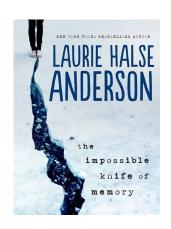
Teen Fandomania Party (Continued from Page 1)

sonic screwdrivers, Harry Potter wands (http://bit.ly/1halWRd), and that crazy wallpaper in Sherlock's living room.

As the only adult present (see earlier note about having no idea what to expect) it was an afternoon of barely controlled chaos—the ideas of group activities quickly went out the window, but that was just fine. The teens were happy to mingle and create with a group of like minds. We did hold a costume contest, the top three prizes going to an impeccably outfitted and gizmo'd StarTrek Starfleet commander, an Eleventh Doctor with a legit fez and suspenders (http://bit.ly/1mvhS2z), and a young teen girl with a papier-mâché headpiece inspired by the truly odd web comic Homestuck (http://bit.ly/1dvZVOJ).

Library staff let me know how excited and happy teens were as they left the event; having such a successful program highlights the need for my library to identify unique, truly attractive programs for teens. Our "crafternoons" don't offer this type of special experience, so it's back to the drawing board to use the lessons learned here to develop more programs that leave teens saying "the library is SO COOL" (http://bit.ly/1g1AH5c).

Have you planned
a great fandom
party for your
teens? If so, let
us know on our
the OYAN
Facebook page.



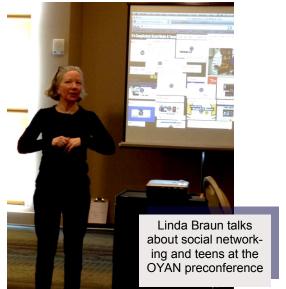
A downloadable PDF will is available on the OYAN Blog http:// oyanpeeps.wordpre ss.com/. Download your copy today!

Review: The Impossible Knife of Memory by Laurie Halse Anderson by Ian Duncanson, Beaverton City Library

Laurie Halse Anderson is known for tackling unpleasant subjects - sexual assault, eating disorders, killer flu epidemics. In The Impossible Knife of Memory, she turns her attention to post-traumatic stress disorder and its effects on the lives of veterans and their family members. Hayley's dad survived Iraq, but she doesn't know day-to-day whether he's going to survive the emotional fallout. On some days, he's lucid and similar to the man she knew, but on others he seeks escape in a bottle and spins out-of-control. What's more, Hayley is at a new school where she has no interest in fitting in. Enter Finn, a geeky but charming guy who seems to want to be let in to Hayley's life no matter how much resistant she may seem.

The writing in this book was strong and poetic, which goes without saying if you've read any of Laurie Halse Anderson's other novels. Hayley was believeable as a defiant teenage girl who doesn't want to let anyone else into her life for fear of exposing familial problems, and the portrayal of PTSD jibes with what I've read of the symptoms. As a boyfriend, Finn seemed a bit too YA novel-idealized, but he provides a good foil to Hayley's morose personality. My biggest issue was with the end, which comes across as overblown and perhaps a bit too perfect given the severity of her dad's PTSD. The Impossible Knife of Memory is worth reading for the quality of the writing alone and the way that it addresses an issue not commonly visited in teen fiction.

OLA 2014 Conference & Teen Programs at Woodburn by Elvira Sanchez-Kisser, Woodburn Public Library



OYAN sponsored a "Social Media & Teens" half-day preconference at OLA this year! The speaker was Linda Braun, teen librarian at Seattle Public Library and former YALSA president. We also have photos from Brad Clark's "School Campus Event Promotions" OLA presentation and two recent teen programs at Woodburn Public Library.

Brad Clark talks about school campus event promotions at OLA 2014.









Teens at Woodburn Public Library attend an Angry Birds event (above) and a t-shirt design workshop with Matt Stanton, a Portland-based graphic designer (left).



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OYAN [Oregon Young Adult Network] exists to provide a network for communication and growth among people who provide library services to teens, to increase awareness of teen library services in the state of Oregon, and to promote cooperation between school and public libraries.

Visit us online at http://tinyurl.com/8mzjq5n.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OYAN Elections

Publications Manager

The Publications Manager oversees the publication of the Division's quarterly newsletter, the OYAN Review. Using contributions from the membership, the Review may contain book reviews, program ideas, news of upcoming events, the agenda of the upcoming meeting, and any other information of interest to the OYAN membership. The Review is distributed prior to each quarterly meeting to OYAN members via electronic list.

CSLP Representative

2-year position. The CSLP Representative travels to the annual Collaborative Summer Library Program conference (travel funded by OYAN) to represent and advocate for OYAN. The CSLP Rep also coordinates the statewide Summer Reading Video Competi-

We welcome all your comments, articles, photos, book reviews, ideas, and suggestions for future **OYAN Review newsletters!** Please submit to oyanpublications@gmail.com.

Upcoming Meetings

Summer 2014	July 25	Central Oregon- Prineville or Bend
Fall 2014	TBD	TBD
Winter 2014	TBD	TBD