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# Oyan Review

oregon young adult network

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## Megan Hoak Receives 2017 OYEA! Award By, Bobby Hernandez, MCL–Kenton

This year’s OYEA Award winner was The Dalles-Wasco County Library’s very own Megan Hoak. Although Hoak has only been the Wasco County Library’s Teen Librarian for a few years she has made a tremendous impact – not only for the library but



Megan showing off the circulating STEAM kit collection

also for the teens in her community. As one teen volunteer so eloquently put it, “Megan Hoak is a strong, positive impact on me, the teens in our community, and our library.

In the three years that I’ve known her, she’s completely revamped the library’s teen services, created countless programs and groups based on popular suggestions and ideas, and turned the library into a space where teens feel welcomed, loved, and encouraged. “  
  
Hoak had so many heart-warming letters from teens whose lives she has impacted as the Youth Librarian, it was

impossible not to shed a few tears. It was obvious that she deserved to be this year’s OYEA Award recipient. The teens spoke of Hoak’s persistent yet caring nagging (from the boy who never wears a coat) to the way she has helped create friendships through programming (from the teen that was so shy she was too scared to talk before Hoak started at the library).

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## Awarding Mock Printz! By, Ian Duncanson, Beaverton City Library; Lisa Elliot, Tigard City Library

On January 21, 35 folks attended the 2017 Mock Printz workshop at the Central Branch of Multnomah Public Library. Meanwhile, 100,000 people descended on downtown Portland for the Women’s March. That’s right, 100,000 demonstrators, 35 workshop attendees, and I still got a parking spot. For next

year, we’ll work a little harder to anticipate political upheaval, thus avoiding major advocacy schedule conflicts. For this year, however, I was happy to spend the afternoon in a warm, dry room with 35 librarians and teens in solidarity over our love of good books. Ian, how was your day?

I had a great time after I got off the packed MAX train! The panel of teens was a nice addition to the day and helped ensure that there was teen representation in each discussion group. Thank you to Lorene Forman for bringing her group all that way! We asked the panelists about how they choose books to read, what genres they

prefer, how they measure ‘literary quality’ and more. Our group discussions were not contentious and we found it hard to pick a clear favorite this year. I’ll take that as a testament to the quality of the book selections as a whole. Some of the book discussions helped me appreciate a book that I may not have liked as

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## Megan Hoak Receives 2017 OYEA! Award cont.

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However, Hoak is such a stand-out librarian that she has not only made a huge impact on the teens at the Dalles Library but the library itself. Megan Hoak wrote



Zombies eating the Teen Librarian at Zombies vs. Humans

and co-wrote several grants that her library received, including a Google Pro-

gramming Grant, an ALA Teen Tech Week Grant, an Oregon Cultural Trust Grant, and even a YALSA Future Ready with the Library grant. Let's not forget that she has also helped increase teen attendance at the library and created circulating STEAM kits and developed LGBTQIA and Spanish language print collections for young adults. These are just some of Hoak's accomplishments and reasons why she was this year's obvious OYEA Award winner.

Congratulations Megan Hoak and thank you for being an amazing advocate for teens!



Teen Anti-Valentine's Day party

## Congratulations to Danielle Jones for Winning the 2017 YALSA Writing Award

In February of this year, YALSA named the winners of the [2017 YALSA Writing Award](#). Danielle Jones, Youth Librarian at the Hollywood branch of the Multnomah County Library, was selected as a winner for her post to The Hub titled "[Racial and Social Justice Podcasts for Teens](#)." The winners of this award are chosen based on the following criteria: applicability to a variety of library settings, originality of ideas, timeli-

ness, relevance to young adult librarianship, persuasiveness, quality of writing, clarity of presentation, and contribution to the YALSA membership. The formal announcement can be read [here](#).

Congratulations Danielle and keep up the good work!

## Join the OYAN Board

OYAN is currently looking for nominees for OYAN chair. This is a three year commitment with only one year spent as active Chair. If you would like a chance to give back to the library community, consider running. Interested members should contact the current Co-Chairs [Violeta Garza](#) or [Bobbye Hernandez](#).

## A Room of Their Own: Teens Get a New Space at The Dalles-Wasco County Library

By, Megan A. Hoak, The Dalles-Wasco County Library

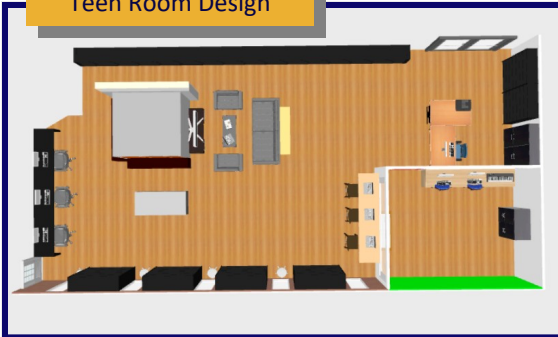
This summer, The Dalles-Wasco County Library will open a new teen area. This space has been specifically designed for students in 6-12<sup>th</sup> grade. The library is utilizing a \$40,000 Capacity Grant from Oregon Cultural Trust, in conjunction with matching funds from Google, in order to repurpose a 1,020 square foot section of the library's second floor.

Thick panels of sound-insulating glass will form the walls and doors of the space, so that tweens and teens can collaborate without disturbing other patrons. The new space will have four main areas: a study nook, a TV/video game lounge, a DIY Maker bar, and a digital media lab. The lab will feature equipment and software for movie making, sound recording, stop-motion animation, and digital artwork.

"I think the teen room will definitely be an enhancement for the library," said Sonja Jacobsen, a TLAB member. "Many teens in our community are already using the library as a place to study or hang out, and I feel the teen room, by giving them extra resources and a place of their own, will make them feel more welcome."

The construction project is currently in progress and is scheduled to be completed by mid-to-late May: just in time for Summer Reading.

Teen Room Design



The space will also have new floors, book-cases, furniture, and art: all of which will feature a steam-

punk/industrial design aesthetic. The design was discussed and voted upon by the Teen Library Advisory Board members, who have also pitched in to keep costs down by reupholstering furniture and painting the "green screen" wall in the digital media lab.

The library applied for the grant in April of 2016 after seeing an 87% increase in attendance at library programs for middle and high school students. This dramatic increase, along with the desire to help improve local high school graduation rates, served as the inspiration for this project.



TLAB Painting Greenscreen

## Awarding Mock Printz, cont.

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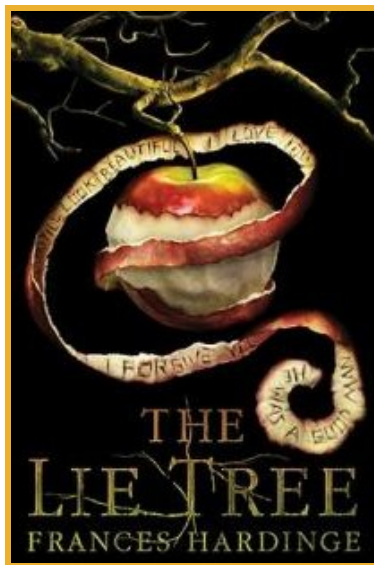
much after my initial read. The teens in my group all seemed to have a good time discussing the selections. Most had read all of the books, which can sometimes be a rarity at the Mock Printz.

Yah, me too. I went into the workshop with a clear favorite (*Passion of Dolssa* was the highlight of my year in books.) But after hearing from fierce defenders of *We Are the Ants...well, Dolssa*, was still my favorite, but I was convinced that *Ants* deserved the honor vote. In the end, the winner was Frances Hardinge's *The Lie Tree* and honors went to Julie Berry's *Dolssa*, Shaun Hutchinson's *Ants*, and Phillip Reeve's *Railhead*. Compare our picks to [real committee's selections](#) and we have one honor in common, *Dolssa*, proving once again that I AM RIGHT! (Except for failing to select *March* for our shortlist. That was a bit of an oversight.)

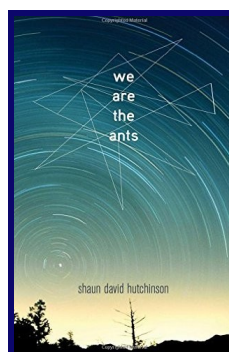
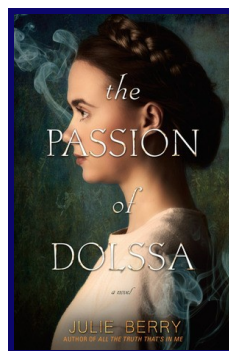
If I had to choose a favorite book of the crop I would have to go with *We Are the Ants*. I loved the main character's voice and the "out of place but they work" sci fi elements. That's the one that really stuck with me. I was surprised to find myself enjoying *Dolssa* so much; historical fiction isn't always

my favorite thing to read. We're already getting started on the 2018 Mock Printz list. Feel free to send stellar book or graphic novel suggestions to Ian ([jduncanson@beavertonoregon.gov](mailto:jduncanson@beavertonoregon.gov)) or Lisa ([lisa@tigard-or.gov](mailto:lisa@tigard-or.gov)) if you'd like them to be considered for next year's discussion!

### 2017 Mock Printz winner



### Honor Books



OYAN: Finding great reads for Oregon teens!



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The OYAN raffle sold all 200 tickets and raised approximately \$2,800 for the committee

The Book Rave Lists are up on the OYAN website. Links to the PDFs are below.

- Color
Black and White
Graphic Book Rave

If you are interested in running for OYAN Chair, please contact Bobbye Hernandez or Violeta Garza

Materials for the 2017 OLA Conference can now be found on Northwest Central

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

Table with 3 columns: Meeting Period, Date, Location. Rows include Summer 2017 (Friday July 21st, Hood River County Library), Fall 2017 (October 13th, Tualatin Public Library), and Winter 2016 (TBD, TBD).

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.