Even though this is my last newsletter article as the Board Chair I will stay involved as Chair Emeritus. This involves assisting the Chair, overseeing the Booktalking the Best for next year, and recruiting for next year’s election. Being involved with CAYAS can come in many different forms and we had a rousing discussion about that at WLA. Meeting minutes will follow soon for more information on that. In June our new board will be the following people:

- Jennifer Wooten: Board Chair
- Rosalie Olds: Chair Emeritus
- Incoming Chair: Conan McLemore
- Secretary: Beth Bermani
- Board Position 1: vacant
- Board Position 2: Ryan Dzakovic
- Board Position 3: Catherine Schaeffer
- Board Position 4: Erin Speaks
- On-Campus Student Liaison (Shared Position): Sunny Kim and Katie Riley
- Distance Learning Liaison: Erika Miller

If you’re considering serving on the board in the future you can check out what's involved by going to our Contact Us page at [www.wla.org/cayas-contact-us](http://www.wla.org/cayas-contact-us). You’ll find a description of duties for each position. Besides a formal board position we also talked about other ways to participate such as serving on the committee to choose the Visionary Service Award winner, staffing the information table at annual conference, contributing ideas and support for workshops, and presenting a session or sharing ideas for sessions at conferences.

My CAYAS involvement has included connecting with multiple authors and their agents online, having dinner with several well-known authors, meeting library workers from all around the state, attending informative workshops, and of course hearing great book talks. As a professional and a leader I’ve had a lot of opportunity for growth and learning. Oh wait I forgot the all expense paid trip to Providence, Rhode Island where I did the Cliff Walk and saw the oldest circulating library in our country along with majestic mansions on the cliff.

How did I go to Rhode Island? I was our representative to CSLP (Collaborative Summer Learning Program) at their annual conference where they decide on themes and slogans for future summer learning programs. We’re considering how to incorporate this into a regular board position. Check out the annual meeting minutes coming up for more information on that too.

I’m excited to see so many new people getting involved and look forward to trying out some new things to increase participation. We’re also working on communication and updating our database so everyone is getting our communications. Stayed tuned because we may actually get a social media presence soon. Thanks to everyone who has made being the Board Chair an exciting and rewarding experience.

Rosalie Olds, CAYAS Board Chair
CAYAS Breakfast and Visionary Service Award Winners

by Whitney Winn — CAYAS Board Member

The CAYAS Breakfast at the WLA Conference in Spokane showcased the Visionary Service Award winners and featured a rousing talk from author Kelly Milner Halls. The Marie Antoinette Ballroom at the Historic Davenport Hotel served as a lovely backdrop to the morning’s festivities.

This year’s CAYAS Visionary Service Award went to Gwendolyn Haley and Mary Ellen Braks from the Spokane County Library District for their work supporting children and those who work with them, both in the Spokane County area and across the state. In their acceptance speech, they talked about the importance of saying “yes.” Each yes led to an opportunity to say yes again. And the more they say yes to new ideas, the more the community says yes to the library.

Breakfast-goers were also treated to a keynote talk from Kelly Milner Halls, an author of non-fiction books for children. Halls shared much of the talk she regularly gives at school visits throughout the country, where her goal is to let kids know it’s okay to be weird. She also compares research to a video game, where you have to level up your skills to find out more, and uses her book about cryptids to teach critical thinking skills—could these creatures be real and how would you find out?

CAYAS hosts a breakfast at every WLA Conference, so if you are headed to the next one, be sure to consider it for your schedule. We also seek nominations for the Visionary Service Award annually in January/February and take suggestions for the author keynote (email incoming chair Jennifer Wooten jwooten@kcls.org).

Storytime Underground Washington State Chapter

Are you interested in networking with local storytimers in Washington State? Perhaps you have a question, are seeking advice or just want to get together with like-minded professionals.

Check out the new Storytime Underground Washington State Chapter Facebook page.
• CAYAS Election Results

A new slate of board members will start in June. Thanks to all of our members who voted in February. Welcome to our new board members:

   Incoming Chair: Conan McLemore
   Secretary: Beth Bermani
   Board Position #2: Ryan Dzakovic
   Board Position #4: Erin Speaks
   On-Campus Student Liaisons: Sunny Kim & Katie Riley
   Distance Learning Liaison: Erika Miller

• Evergreen Teen Book Award

The Evergreen Teen Book Award is sponsored by the Washington Young Adult Review Group (WashYARG), a group comprised of school and public librarians from the state of Washington. The award was created to give teens in the state a voice in deciding the best literature aimed at their age group.

The winner of the 2016 Evergreen Teen Book Award is The 5th Wave by Rick Yancey.

Nominees for the 2017 Award are:

   ◇ The Crossover by Kwame Alexander
   ◇ To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before by Jenny Han
   ◇ The Story of Owen: Dragon Slayer of Trondheim by E.K. Johnston
   ◇ Positive: A Memoir by Paige Rawl
   ◇ Divided We Fall by Trent Reedy
   ◇ Jackaby by William Ritter
   ◇ The Port Chicago 50 by Steve Sheinkin
   ◇ The Rule of Three by Eric Walters
   ◇ Noggin by John Corey Whaley
   ◇ Ms. Marvel by G. Willow Wilson & Adrian Alphona

Promotional materials and booktalks for the 2017 titles are available at the Evergreen Book Award website.
Want to share news, a success story, or an upcoming event in the next issue? Email newsletter editor Whitney Winn at wwinn@kcls.org.

Follow WLA on Twitter @WALIBASSN

2015-16 CAYAS Board

Chair Emeritus: Jennifer Fleck
Chair: Rosalie Olds
Incoming Chair: Jennifer Wooten
Board #1: Jessica Lucas
Board #2: Shelley Mastalerz
Board #3: Catherine Schaeffer
Board #4: Conan McLemore
Newsletter: Whitney Winn
iSchool Liaison: Erin Speaks