



Children and Young Adult Services (CAYAS) Newsletter

Winter 2015

• Welcome from the Chair

In the previous newsletter I mentioned that we would be having Kelly Milner Halls as our speaker for the CAYAS breakfast at the WLA Conference. For those of you that aren't familiar with her work I thought I'd go a bit more in depth to tell you about her and why she's so important to the body of work for children and young adults.

Kelly is an award-winning author of nonfiction who loves animals, nature, and discovery. This is evident in her over 1500 articles for children's and adult magazines on various science topics and in her multiple nonfiction titles for children and teens. It's clear that her mission is to make scientific information fun and accessible for children. In response to an online interviewer she said "I want kids excited about discovery and research, and I feel I have the chance to spark their flames through exposure to my own enthusiasm."

Reviewers repeatedly describe her books as well-researched and well-organized. One reviewer from School Library Journal noted "Halls's curiosity and awe of albino animals is evident in her writing." Multiple reviewers recognize that besides being well-researched her titles bring unusual and curious scientific phenomena to life.

Many of her books have won awards. Some of these include: the National Science Teacher Association Recommended Book Designation for *Dinosaur Mummies*, the Quick Pick for Reluctant Readers award for *Albino Animals*, and the Benjamin Franklin Award and American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Award for *Wild Dogs*. *Saving the Baghdad Zoo: A True Story of Hope and Heroes* is one of her more recent titles about a US Army Captain who was instrumental in saving a lot of animals who were in trouble from neglect during the war.

Kelly's work focuses on bringing real life, special interest stories to life for children. As she says, "Kids love nonfiction if it's written with kids in mind-sparky rather than text-book driven." And according to her reviewers she's been successful in doing that. I encourage you to attend the CAYAS breakfast and hear more from the author herself on her passion and accomplishments in writing nonfiction for children and teens.

Rosalie Olds
CAYAS Board Chair

● **CAYAS Fall Workshop Recap**

by Jessica Lucas — CAYAS Board Member

The CAYAS Fall Workshop was well attended. The theme was the future of library services to youth and families and included hour long workshops on iPad App selection, STEM Programs, Teen and Tween booktalks, and outreach to immigrant and refugee families. If you are interested in more information about any of these, there are resources and presentation slides available here: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0BwPLjSBGcTW2dzJjWkdycFpGWEE>

iPad selection was very popular and included selection of apps to use in the children's area, to enhance story time and to recommend to parents. Each included some recommendations of specific apps but also gave helpful tips for evaluating and finding useful apps in the seemingly endless number that exist. Look for more on this subject at the WLA Conference in April!

STEM Programs included lots of interesting and exciting tech and tips on how to use them with school age children and teens. Ozobots were an instant hit--I bought one online immediately for our kids and recommended them to our Program and Events Manager when I returned to work.

Booktalks with Jerene and Angie were amazing. I wanted to read every book they recommended for teens and tweens. Many of the surveys marked them as a favorite.

In Building Connections, Meira presented a lot of great information on immigration and refugee background and resources, how to reach people where they are in the community and create a welcoming environment for people of different cultures and backgrounds in the library.

● **Library Legislative Day**

Join WLA in Olympia on January 21 for Library Legislative Day. This is a great opportunity to network with library supporters from around the state and meet with State Legislators and their staff to discuss the value of libraries and the impact laws have on them.

[Online registration for the 2016 Library Legislative Day is now OPEN!](#)

- **WLA Award Nominations**

[WLA Awards Nominations](#) are now being accepted! Washington Library Association Awards will be presented at the 2016 WLA Annual Conference, April 27-29, 2016, in Spokane, WA at The Historic Davenport Hotel. Several awards are given each year, including the **CAYAS Visionary Award**. This award recognizes an individual who, through practice and example, provides inspiration and leadership for others who serve children and young adults in libraries. May work in a public, school or special library. May acknowledge cumulated efforts over several years in the field of library service to youth, or may be a singular and exceptional effort that sets new standards for practice. This award will bring attention to the remarkable and tireless efforts of all individuals who work with young people in libraries.

[Click here to submit your nomination](#) for any of the awards.

All nominations must be submitted by February 29, 2016.

- **2016 CSLP Teen Video Challenge**

The Washington State Library and the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) have launched the 2016 Teen Video Challenge, a national video competition for teens to get involved with reading and their public library's summer reading program.

Teens are invited to create a 30 to 90 second video with their unique interpretation of the 2016 teen slogan Get in the Game - READ. The idea is to involve teens in summer reading, before and during the summer months, by being part of the process. This is an opportunity for teens to showcase their creativity and have their ideas heard before a national audience. The winning video will be named one of the CSLP 2016 Teen Videos to promote summer reading nationwide.

\$150 will be awarded to the creator of Washington's winning video. If a high school library wishes their students to get involved with 2016 Teen Video Challenge, the student should get their local public library to sponsor them. If your student wins, their associated public library will receive prizes worth at least \$50 from CSLP and Upstart. Winners will be announced by CSLP in April 2016.

For full details about the CSLP 2016 Teen Video Challenge and to find out how to enter Washington's competition, please visit <http://sos.wa.gov/q/teenvideo>.

● 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 2016 Top Ten is:

- ◇ *The Nazi Hunters: How a Team of Spies and Survivors Captured the World's Most Notorious Nazi* by Neil Bascomb
- ◇ *The Testing* By Joelle Charbonneau
- ◇ *Swagger* by Carl Deuker
- ◇ *Jumped In* by Patrick Flores-Scott
- ◇ *Dogs of War* by Sheila Keenan
- ◇ *Eleanor and Park* by Rainbow Rowell
- ◇ *Steelheart* by Brandon Sanderson
- ◇ *Nothing Can Possibly Go Wrong* by Prudence Shen and Faith Erin Hicks
- ◇ *Counting by 7s* by Holly Goldberg Sloan
- ◇ *The 5th Wave* by Rick Yancey

Book talks for these titles are available at <http://www.evergreenbookaward.org/2016-nominees>. Voting will take place March 15–April 1, 2016.

Librarians are invited to submit 2014 titles for consideration for the 2017 Award: [Click here to submit your recommendation.](#)

● WLA Conference Preview

The [2016 WLA Annual Conference](#) takes place April 27-29, 2016, in Spokane, WA at The Historic Davenport Hotel. Preconference workshops will be held on Wednesday, April 27 and conference sessions will be held on Thursday, April 28 and Friday, April 29. Online Registration opens soon. Here are some youth services-oriented events to put on your radar!

Wednesday, April 27:

- ◇ Preconference: Maximize Your Powers with Supercharged Storytimes and Storytime Underground! (additional fee)

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• WLA Conference Preview (continued)

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Thursday, April 28:

- ◇ Growing Every Kid: Using Developmental Assets Framework to Create Great Programs
- ◇ Branching Out: All-Ages STEM in Your Library
- ◇ Oh Baby! Unconventional Programming for your Youngest Patrons
- ◇ Bringing Families Together With the Transformative Power of Story
- ◇ Training for the Future: Teen Service Learning

Friday, April 29:

- ◇ CAYAS Breakfast and Keynote by Kelly Milner Halls (additional fee)
- ◇ Booktalking the Best
- ◇ Music Programming for Tweens
- ◇ Storytime... Is there an app for that? Technology & the Young Child
- ◇ Linking City and School Libraries: Sharing Resources to Support 21st Century

Want to share news, a success story, or an upcoming event in the next issue? Email newsletter editor Whitney Winn at wwinn@kcls.org.

Upcoming issues:

- ◇ February 2016
- ◇ May 2016
- ◇ August 2016
- ◇ November 2016



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