

2009 Executive Director's Report for YALSA Membership Meeting

Member Data:

- YALSA is still the fastest growing (and youngest by average age) Division in ALA, and is ranked 4th in size out of the 11 Divisions. YALSA's total membership for May was 5,717.
 - 21% of you are graduate students
 - 31% work in school libraries
 - 32% work in public libraries
 - 16% you represent other fields such as retirees, education, consulting, trustees, international members, publishers and more
- Over 900 YALSA members are here at the Annual Conference
- 1,177 YALSA members voted in the last ALA/YALSA election
- Over 600 YALSA members came to the first ever YA Lit Symposium
- About 250 YALSA members currently serve on our 60+ advisory boards, committees, juries and taskforces
 - Our association is what you, the members, make of it. So, please get involved! Visit YALSA's web site to learn about how, or talk to any of the Board members who are here today, or contact the YALSA office.
- As the saying goes, there is strength in numbers. During this tough economy it's important to pull together. Think about how you can be involved in YALSA.
 - Think about becoming involved in one of our Interest or Discussion Groups. If you haven't found your niche in YALSA yet, then consider making your own. Interest and Discussion Groups can be formed with as few as 15 signatures from interested members.
 - If you're not already on a committee, jury or taskforce, I'd like to encourage you to consider it giving some of your time and talent to one of them that fits your talents and interests.
 - Be a blogger, write an article, submit a program proposal, join the Road Trip, hold a mock Printz election, host an institute, nominate books for the selected lists, share ideas on the wiki
 - Can you help get us to 6,000 by this time next year? I bet you can think of a coworker, friend or colleague who would benefit from membership. Why not encourage them to join? Or give membership as a gift. The more members we have the more impact the organization can have in terms of advocating for teens and young adult services.

YALSA Office & Staff Information:

- The office is open from 8:30 to 5:30 (central) Mon. through Fri.
- We're happy to answer any questions you have about your membership, the association, or YA services. Call or email whenever it's convenient for you. If You are welcome to call after hours and leave a message. We'll do our best to get back to you w/in 24 hours. Staff:

- Amy Gelbman, Program Officer for Continuing Education: anything related to continuing education, including e-courses, licensed institutes, mentoring and certificate programs
- Letitia Smith, Program Coordinator for Membership: contact info, general questions about membership and the association
- Nichole Gilbert, Program Officer for Conferences & Events: awards, selected lists, events, conferences, e-courses
- Stephanie Kuenn, Communications Specialist: publications, YALS, YAttitudes, web site, blog, wiki, PR/media relations
- Beth Yoke, Executive Director: grants, partnerships, corporate sponsors, budgeting, policies, procedures, governance liaison (Board, committees, etc), legislative advocacy
- We're happy to provide you with brochures and YALSA swag if you're presenting or hosting a meeting somewhere

Upcoming YALSA Events and Initiatives:

- Teen Read Week & the WMRC, Oct. 18-24, 2009
- Teen Tech Week, March 7-13, 2010
- Support Teen Lit Day & Operation Teen Book Drop, April 15, 2010
- New e-courses
- Additional member grants and awards
- Additional publications (Cool Teen Programs Under \$100, Best of YALSA-BK, Multicultural Programming for Teens)
- Revamped web site
- Online chats and webinars
- Another round or two of the YALSA Road Trip
- A blog for teens and librarians focused on young adult literature
- A mentoring program for members

*Respectfully submitted,
Beth Yoke, Executive Director
July 13, 2009*