Toolkit

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Introduction

Welcome to YALSA's new teen initiative, TeenTober!

TeenTober is a new, nationwide celebration hosted by libraries every October. It aims to celebrate teens and promote year-round teen services and literacies. Throughout the celebration, libraries can highlight the innovative ways they help teens learn new skills and fuel their passions in and out of the library. TeenTober replaces YALSA's previous Teen Read Week™ and Teen Tech Week™ celebrations, allowing libraries the flexibility to celebrate all types of literacies (traditional, digital, financial, etc.) and more (science, technology, engineering, art, music, etc.) according to their library's schedule. Library staff are also encouraged to utilize this new celebration to advocate for and raise awareness of the importance of year-round teen services in libraries. In June of 2019, YALSA held a naming contest that allowed teens from all over to submit name suggestions for the new celebration. The names were then vetted by a task force and a shortlist was shared with the public and put to a vote. TeenTober was voted as the winning name.

In this toolkit, you will find instruments to successfully start your TeenTober activities. This toolkit includes a press kit with samples of press releases, social media posts, and community partner letters. Also included is a checklist/timeline you can follow to ensure you are able to plan a successful celebration, and advocacy tools to help you discuss libraries and their services to teens, as well as sample programming ideas that you can implement and adapt. Finally, there are evaluation forms not only for library staff, but also for feedback directly from the teens you serve.

If you have any questions, comments, or feedback, we want to hear it! Please do not hesitate to reach out to us at *yalsa@ala.org*.

Press Kit

Sample Press Release – Public Library:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[Date]

[Name of library] brings first-annual TeenTober programming to local teens.

[City, State] – This October, the [Name of Public Library] is participating in the Young Adult Library Services Association's (YALSA) annual TeenTober celebration. Developed by YALSA, this month-long event strives to raise awareness of the importance of year-round teen services and connect teens with services and materials provided by their local institutions that will help them develop new skills and fuel their passions. **TeenTober** merges YALSA's successful and long-standing Teen Tech Week™ and Teen Read Week™ initiatives into one program to celebrate teen services in libraries and enhance relationships with community partners.

[Name of library's] first **TeenTober** program, [name of program] will take place on [program info and date] and [something about this event – what teens will do, learn, etc.]. Upcoming programs will provide opportunities for teens to [summarize types of things they'll be doing in other programs; can be bullet pointed if providing a list with event details]. The library is collaborating with [insert people or businesses who are partnering to provide/lead programs] to offer [program info]. Teens can visit the library at any time to view displays showcasing [list display themes or items on display]. Funding for the program is provided by [insert organizations provide financial support such as Friends groups, local officials, businesses, and corporations].

"We are ecstatic to bring this type of programming to our teens in the [name of town] community," said [name of Library Director or program contact]. "We are committed to providing materials and services to our teens and connecting them with community partners to help them learn new skills, discover interests, and fuel their passions."

For a full list of activities and more information about the TeenTober celebration at [LIBRARY NAME], contact [contact person] or visit [library website]. Find out more about YALSA and the TeenTober national initiative, visit www.ala.org/yalsa/teentober

The [Library name] is located at [address]. [Phone number]. [Website]. [Social media, if applicable].

<u>Sample Press Release – School Library:</u>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[Date]

[Name of school] brings first-annual nationwide TeenTober programming to students.

[City, State] – This October, the [Name of School] is participating in the Young Adult Library Services Association's (YALSA) annual **TeenTober**. Developed by the YALSA, this month-long event strives to raise awareness of the importance of year-round teen services and connect teens with services and materials provided by their local institutions that will help them develop new skills and fuel their passions. **TeenTober** merges YALSA's successful and long-standing Teen Tech Week™ and Teen Read Week™ initiatives into one program to celebrate teen services in libraries and enhance relationships with community partners.

The [Name of school] is celebrating **TeenTober** by offering/engaging students in [describe programs or events and what teens will do, learn, etc.]. The library is collaborating with [insert people or businesses who are partnering to provide/lead programs] to offer [program info]. Teens can visit the library at any time to view displays showcasing [list display themes or items on display]. Funding for the program is provided by [insert organizations provide financial support such as PTA/PTO, local officials, businesses, and corporations].

"We are ecstatic to bring this type of programming to our teens in the [name of school]," said [name of Principal or program contact]. "We are committed to providing materials and services to our teens and connecting them with community partners to help them learn new skills, discover their interests, and fuel their passions outside of the classroom."

Sample letter to potential community partner
Note: When considering partners within the community, there are a variety of businesses and organizations to consider. The following letter can be adjusted for contacting organizations and businesses for fundraising, volunteering, and in-kind donation requests.

[Date]
[Name of community contact]
[Name of community business or organization]
[Address]
[City, State Zip Code]

Dear [community contact],

I am excited to announce the [name of library]'s participation in the **TeenTober** event! Developed by the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), **TeenTober** strives to connect teens with their local libraries and enhance relationships with community stakeholders. Throughout the month of October, [library name] will join libraries nationwide in promoting innovative ways for teens to learn new skills, fuel their passions, and develop lasting connections with local businesses and organizations.

The [library name] is in the process of planning events that will provide teens the opportunity to [summarize the types of things they'll be doing in programs/things they'll learn]. I am reaching out to your [organization/business] in hopes that you would be willing to [collaborate on a program/donate/fund an item]. [Insert brief explanation of what specific donation/collaboration seeks to achieve and value it brings to teen participants].

I look forward to discussing how we can collaborate to [provide a program as part of/fund] this event to best serve and celebrate the teens in our community!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

[Name]
[Position]
[Organization]
[Email and phone number]

In addition to publishing a press release, you may also consider reaching out to the following press contacts to increase awareness about your library's participation in TeenTober.

Suggested Press Contacts:
- Town and State newspapers
- Town and State digital media outlets
- School Media Centers and libraries
- School Newspapers and digital media outlets
- Local Teen Groups
- Local legislators
- Local businesses and organizations
- Local news channel and radio station

Tools for Social Media

(Sample posts for Facebook, Twitter, website, etc.)

Web Graphics: The TeenTober logo and other web graphics are available on our [webpage](#) and a digital [poster](#) and [bookmark](#) is available in the [ALA Store](#).

The web graphics can be used to create flyers and promotional materials that will be used to create anticipation for upcoming events.

Hashtag: #TeenTober

Sample Posts:
Did you know there is now a month-long celebration of teen services in libraries? That's right! Teens can swing by [insert library name here] to participate in #**TeenTober** events throughout the month of October. Take a look here for more details.

82% of public libraries offer after school programs to teens. Never attended one? Check out [insert library name here] teen programs during #**TeenTober** this month!

97% of public libraries offer a dedicated section for teen books and materials. Teens, stop by [insert library name here] and pick up a book today. Don't know what to choose? Just ask a library staff member for help or check out these booklists made just for teens! #TeenTober

Hey teens, celebrate #**TeenTober** all October long at [insert library name here]. Stop by our events, pick up a book, or use a computer.

School libraries count! Teens get involved! What will you find at your school library during #**TeenTober**?

Students make almost 1.3 billion visits to school library media centers during the school year, the same as attendance at movie theaters in 2014, or four times as many visitors to national parks. What will you discover at your school library? **#TeenTober**

Timelines and Checklists

Suggested Weekly Themes

For those looking for guidance on topics to celebrate and plan programming around, below are suggested themes to celebrate each week during the month of TeenTober. Feel free to adjust the themes, schedule, and time frames according to what best fits your library and teen patrons. TeenTober is meant to allow flexibility. Celebrate all month long or for just one week.

- Week One: Literacies (View our Teen Literacies Toolkit for more information about literacies)
- Week Two: Writing
- Week Three: Technology & Gaming
- Week Four: Art & Music

Note: Teens' Top Ten voting starts August 15 and ends mid-October every year. This is a great opportunity to incorporate it into your TeenTober programming/celebration.

Get Started
June/July (12-14 weeks ahead of TeenTober)

LOGISTICS
- Set a budget. Reach out to potential partners who may be willing to sponsor parts of your celebration.

- View the list of YALSA's webinars on-demand for relevant topics that may be helpful as you plan your celebration

- Involve your Teen Advisory Group (TAG)-- get ideas from them! Brainstorming is a key step, as is teen input!

- Include your Teen Advisory Group (TAG) in programming planning to maximize teen interest driven programming and feel free to share the toolkit with your teens.

- Consider collaborating with other branches, groups, or organizations who serve a similar population.

- Plan specific events and set dates and times.

- Utilize existing partnerships with local organizations or program providers or consider setting up new partnerships to maximize resources. Collaborations should be beneficial

to both parties and ongoing throughout the year. Set a meeting or conference call schedule. Draw up a list of responsibilities and deadlines and shared goals.

- Reach out to staff/volunteers, especially teens, you may need for your event. Think about photography, supplies, decorations, and entertainment. If you are booking outside presenters, book them as early as possible.

- If you have other members of your team working on the celebration, meet together, or virtually, and assign jobs.

- Determine if registration is required and what program attendance caps there will be.

- Does your library have teen volunteers or pages? How about young adult staff who are college age? Involve them!

MEDIA & PROMOTION
- Draft and distribute a calendar announcement/press release to newspaper calendar sections, as well as local television and radio calendar editors. For school libraries, consider having your PR, if you have one, reach out to local radio and news stations, and posting to on-school social media sites and announcement channels. School librarians should also consider reaching out to teachers directly about TeenTober programming. Canva is a free tool that can be used to create promotional material, librarians can also refer to their IT coordinators or departments for other suggestions.
- Send out graphics and promotional materials to local partners.

MATERIALS
- Outline your event programs.
- If you don't already have materials about your library's teen program, develop a program fact sheet or brochure. Visit YALSA's Handouts and Flyers page for examples.

Next Steps
August (8 weeks ahead of your event)

LOGISTICS

- Reconfirm with staff/volunteers on what you need for celebration events.

MEDIA & PROMOTION
- Post signs and posters in public places.
- Notify teens who currently attend library programs and promote the event in presentations to schools/community partners. Community partners can and should include cross-generational populations or populations who share the same spaces.
- School and public libraries should try their best to collaborate, following local protocols to foster and create partnerships, especially regarding programming and marketing. Meeting with school leadership, admin, parent groups, can be a great starting point to

fostering these partnerships. Look to establish partnerships between public and school libraries during the summer months. With this relationship public libraries can reach the teens during the summer and in turn promote what their school system will be offering come October.(Ex: These libraries can co-host a special book club where students meet and discuss the book at the school and then watch the film version at the public library). These relationships should be built all year long, summer break is a great place to start.
● Add information about the celebration to your library or school newsletter if you have one. Also, update your websites and social media pages (if applicable).

Home Stretch
September (4 weeks before celebration)

LOGISTICS

● Connect with any guest presenters or partners for events to ensure that you're on the same page such as:
  o How presenters will be paid (ex: by invoice or check) and by when.
  o Time and content of program
  o Time of presenter arrival
  o Presenter room set-up and other needs
  o Directions to the library and presenter parking information
● Prep for a possible a virtual alternative
● Prep any crafts or technology events that you have planned.
● Prep any displays/passive programs that you have planned.

MEDIA & PROMOTION

● Post on library social media about events/celebrations.
  o Consider having a teen takeover and allowing your Teen Advisory Board (TAB) or teen volunteers to do a promotional event on social media for a day.
● Post adverts before the celebration month begins, during, and post photos as a wrap-up at the end.
● Email your teen/parent mailing list to remind them of the events coming up.

MATERIALS

● Make sure to pick up any materials needed for the celebration (ideally with more than a week to spare for non-consumable items)

Advocacy Tools

TeenTober aims to raise awareness of the importance of year-round teen services and connecting teens with services and materials provided by their local institutions that will help them develop new skills and fuel their passions. YALSA, American Association of School Libraries (AASL), and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) have a number of supporting materials on the importance of libraries to teens. Check out the below resources to help you put together talking points applicable to your library. A good place to start is the issue briefs, brochures, and infographic, listed below.

- YALSA's Teens Need Libraries webpage
  - The Future of Library Services for and with Teens: a Call to Action
  - The Future of Library Services for and with Teens: Information for Community Members (.pdf)
  - Issue Brief: Libraries Help Teens Build STEM Skills (.pdf)
  - Issue Brief: Libraries Keep Teens Safe Online (.pdf)
  - Issue Brief: Teens Need Libraries (.pdf)
  - Teens Need Libraries brochure (.pdf)
  - Youth & Library Use Study (.pdf)
  - What Public Libraries Do for Teens (Infographic)
- AASL Advocacy webpage
  - AASL Advocacy Tools webpage
    - Infographic
    - *School Library Programs Improve Student Learning* brochure
    - *School Library Programs Create Lifelong Learners* brochure
    - From Third Place to Makerspace: Public Libraries and Teens (IMLS)

If you're looking for more information on advocacy for staff supporting teens in libraries, check out YALSA's Advocacy webpage for an Advocacy Toolkit with some great Talking Points located on pages 22 and 23.

Additional Resources:
- Libraries as the Community Partner
- Library Advocacy Community Partnerships
- Library Partnerships Bring People Together
- Critical Collaboration: -- Public Library and School Partnerships
- Food Center: Meeting Food Insecure Patrons Outside the Library
- Community Connections: Break with Tradition!
- The Importance of Partnerships & Collaborations in Libraries

YALSA is committed to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI), read our statement here.

Remember that you alone do not have to do the talking! Chat with the teens you work for and with and ask them if they would be willing to share their stories about the library, and advocate for the library themselves! Take a look at the sample letter to policymakers from a teen:

<u>Sample letter to policymakers</u>

[Your Name]
[Library]
[Library Address]
[City, State Zip Code]

[Date]
[Legislator Name]
[Office Address]
[City, State Zip Code]

Dear [Board member, Mayor, Assembly Member, Senator] [Last name],

My name is [your first and last name], [position] at [library name]. I am writing to introduce you to an exciting inaugural nationwide event in which our [public or school] library will be participating. This October marks the first annual **TeenTober** event to spotlight and raise awareness for teen services in libraries. Developed by the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), **TeenTober** merges YALSA's successful long-standing Teen Tech Week™ and Teen Read Week™ initiatives into one program to connect teens with library services and enhance relationships with community partners.

The [library name] is hosting special events throughout the month of October with the goal of celebrating teens in our community and promoting innovative ways for them to learn new skills, fuel their passions, and bridge connections to community partners. **TeenTober** programs will provide opportunities for teens to [summarize types of things they will be doing in programs]. We are collaborating with [insert people or businesses who are partnering to provide/lead programs] to offer [program info]. I am honored to personally invite you and/or members of your staff to join us in celebrating **TeenTober** by [provide active and concrete ways in which policymaker can participate]. We invite you to come and see the innovative services that [name of library] provides to our community members every day.

For more details about our **TeenTober** activities, please visit our website at [website] or feel free to reach out to [main contact's name] at [telephone and/or email of contact].

We hope you can visit [name of library] for one of our **TeenTober** events to join us in celebrating the library and teens in our community!

Sincerely,
[Name], [Organization]

Sample outreach letter from teen advisory group

[Your Name]
[Library]
[Library Address]
[City, State Zip Code]

[Date]
[Legislator Name]
[Office Address]
[City, State Zip Code]

My name is, and I'm [insert age here] and I wanted to let other teens know about the great resource we have in town and at school for free entertainment: the library. I use the [insert library name here] for more than my homework and school projects. They have cool programs like [insert name of event you've been to here] and they're free. The other thing I like about the library is that they have all kinds of stuff to read like magazines, stories, graphic novels, manga, and more. My favorite book from the library is [insert title of book here]. Even if you don't like to read, I bet if you look hard enough in the library, you'll find something good. For instance, my library also has computers I can use for homework, to keep in touch with my friends and family and to play games and relax. It also has [insert different resources or technology your library offers like 3-D printing, podcast equipment, video cameras, etc]

My library mentor, [insert name here] says that this October marks the beginning of **TeenTober** which is an event made to spotlight and raise awareness for teen services in libraries. I'd like to tell other teens who may not be using the library that they should definitely check it out. There is more to do here than they may think, and there are people here who can help you get your questions answered.

I am really looking forward to [insert name of program during TeenTober here], but there are many more to check out take a look here [insert hyperlink to webpage/web calendar or add physical attachment with programs], I suggest you check one out too!

Sincerely,

[Name]

Sample Program and Display Ideas

Below are sample program ideas created by fellow librarians. Remember that you can group your programming according to our suggested weekly themes:

- Week One: Literacies
- Week Two: Writing
- Week Three: Technology & Gaming
- Week Four: Art & Music

Each program also identifies learning outcomes based on those on YALSA's [Basic Learning Outcomes](#) resource. Find detailed explanations of each outcome [here](#).

Find more programming ideas, visit YALSA's [Teen Programming HQ](#). Use this web site to find and share library programs for and with teens as well as to connect with others who plan, implement, and evaluate teen programs. Programs featured on this site are those that align with the standards in YALSA's [Teen Programming Guidelines](#).

***Denotes a program that can be easily transitioned into a virtual program

Passive Programs:

Post-It Programming
- Description: This crowdsourced challenge asks teens to collaborate on a coding project without the use of a computer. As the code evolves, teens can see how fundamentals of coding, like order of operations, and teamwork matter. This program is adaptable to accommodate community-driven objectives depending on the teens' level of engagement and literacy.
- Setup: Ask your TAB (teen advisory board) or teen groups to set an objective using a popular coding language, like Python or Java. Ask the teens to write lines of code on Post-Its and place them on an unobstructed space. Once the program is complete, run the submitted code to see if the objective was met.
- Supplies: an unobstructed window or wall space, sticky notes, pens, computer with chosen coding language software, coding language books
- Teen Services Outcomes: Creativity (Collaborative Problem-Solving), Community (Building Partnerships), Leadership (Teen Driven), Learning (College & Career Readiness, SEL), Literacies (Digital Literacy)

Take and Make
- Description: A take and make is a passive program in which craft supplies are left out for general access, and instructions are supplied on how to complete a craft with said supplies. This particular suggestion is for bookmarks, but can be related to any general craft.

- Setup: On a table in an accessible area, leave supplies and general instructions for completing your craft. It is best to leave materials you do not need to be returned. Having an example of the completed craft as a display on the table will help garner interest and provide direction!
- Supplies: a table in a public area, scissors, paper, markers, crayons, magazines for cutouts
- Teen Services Outcomes: Creativity (Self-Expression), Literacies (Library Resources)

Piece it Together
- Description: Encourage problem solving, critical thinking, and teamwork with literary jigsaw puzzles. This program is particularly nice due to its inclusive-friendly design (cross-generational, special needs populations, etc.).
- Setup: Purchase literary jigsaw puzzles, like these from Zazzle. Alternately, print literary designs or book covers and use a Cricut machine to create your own. School libraries may reach out to local libraries for puzzles. Library staff can choose titles to jigsaw as a way to promote certain parts of the collection, like manga or graphic novels.
- Supplies: table space, a selection of literary-based jigsaw puzzles, brightly colored puzzles put in high traffic areas tend to be more successful
- Teen Services Outcomes: Community (Diverse Population Interactions), Creativity (Collaborative Problem-Solving), Learning (SEL), Literacies (Library Resources)

***Spine Poetry
- Description: Encourage teen creativity by designing poems using only the titles on book spines. This program offers shy or marginalized teens an alternate mode of expression. For virtual or social distanced programming, you may try blackout poetry, which involves multiple non-shared copies of a single document, where participants can then blackout or color over certain words to have the remaining words form a poem.
- Setup: Any books will work for this as long as there is a wide selection. One suggestion is to choose books that have not recently circulated or overlooked formats as a way to draw attention to them. Preselecting books can help you manage possibilities of offensive content. You can also use sticky notes to selectively block out certain words on book spines in order to facilitate easier poetry.
- Supplies: books and 1-2 examples of poems, markers, sticky notes
- Teen Services Outcomes: Creativity (Self-Expression), Leadership (Amplifying Voices), Literacies (Library Resources, Affirm Multiple Forms of Knowledge)

***Nailed It/Failed It
- Description: Teens are encouraged to discover a new recipe in a cookbook from the library's catalog and share the results on social media. This program is designed for libraries without kitchens, but it can be easily transitioned into a standard program. Nailed It/Failed programs can also be adapted to other creative activities such as drawing, photography, poetry, etc.

- Setup: Coordinate with the **Teen Advisory Board (TAB)** to establish which hashtags you wish to use (e.g. library specific, YALSA) and encourage teens to tag their posts. Consider showcasing these posts on your library's social media or offering prizes!
- Supplies: a selection of cookbooks, design or use an existing guide for social media etiquette and best practices
- Teen Services Outcomes: Creativity (Authentic Content, Self-Expression), Digital Citizenship (Leveraging Technology, Learn and Use Digital Citizenship Skills), Leadership (Amplify Voices, Teen Expertise), Learning (Teen Interests, Career Readiness), Literacies (Library Resources, Affirm Multiple Forms of Knowledge)

***Digital Storytelling
- Description: Teens are invited to share original works on their favorite social media platform and tag the library. This program is designed for teens interested in a variety of creative communications (e.g. animation, fan fiction, poetry, etc.). This programming can also be specified to be fanart or book cover redesign contest where teens can also be prompted to provide a brief artist statement discussing their work.
- Setup: Coordinate with the **Teen Advisory Board (TAB)** to establish the scope of the program and which hashtags you wish to use (e.g. library specific, YALSA), and encourage teens to tag their posts. It is encouraged to use a hashtag, so that art can be collected and displayed in a virtual art exhibit on your library's social media pages.
- Supplies: a selection of storycrafting books based on the scope of the program
- Teen Services Outcomes: Creativity (Authentic Content, Self-Expression), Digital Citizenship (Leveraging Technology, Learn and Use Digital Citizenship Skills), Leadership (Amplify Voices, Teen Expertise), Learning (Teen Interests, Career Readiness), Literacies (Library Resources, Affirm Multiple Forms of Knowledge)

Programs:

***Music Mix Masters
- Description: Help teens explore the world of music production through free online apps. This program is designed to encourage teens passionate about music to explore the intricacies involved in digital musicianship.
- Setup: If possible, invite a local musician to speak with the teens prior to the program about their experiences with digital musicianship. Open up a web browser on each computer to a web-based music program, like [Looplabs] or Garageband. If the teens are interested, create a digital forum where the teens can listen to each other's samples and provide constructive feedback.
- Supplies: computer stations with internet connection, headphones, flash drives or cloud service, topical books
- Teen Services Outcomes: Community (Building Partnerships, Diverse Population Interactions, Connect with Mentors), Creativity (Authentic Content, Self-Expression), Digital Citizenship (Equitable Access, Leveraging Technology), Leadership (Amplify Voices), Learning (Teen Interests, Career Readiness), Literacies (Library Resources, Affirm Multiple Forms of Knowledge)

***How to Selfie

- Description: Instruct teens on the tips and tricks to snapping the best versions of themselves. This program is designed to instruct teens not only on how to take a selfie, but how to evaluate whether a photo should be shared on social media.
- Setup: Library staff can either self-instruct, recruit a teen photographer practiced in taking photos (e.g. school newspaper), it may be possible to hire a local photographer or community member, depending on budget, who may be able to provide instruction on photography techniques. During the program, include a discussion about digital responsibility and when it is appropriate to share personal digital images. If possible, provide the teens with a digital forum to upload their before and after selfies to garner constructive feedback from their peers.
- Supplies: projection setup for instructor, camera, or cell phone (teen brought), topical books, consider providing other digital equipment such as iPad or other camera devices for teens without their own cell phones.
- Teen Services Outcomes: Community (Building Partnerships, Connect with Mentors), Creativity (Authentic Content, Self-Expression), Digital Citizenship (Leveraging Technology, Learn and Use Digital Citizenship Skills), Leadership (Amplify Voices, Reflective Risk-Taking, Teen Expertise), Learning (Year-Round Focus, Teen Interests, Career Readiness), Literacies (Library Resources, Affirm Multiple Forms of Knowledge)

***Cleaning up the Digital Footprint

- Description: Guide teens towards best practices when sharing personal information online. This program is designed to instruct teens on how to navigate the digital world and keep their information secure. The Public Library Association, a division of ALA, has created a Digital Learn Library with open source materials. YALSA also has a Teen Literacies Toolkit that may be a helpful primer before implementing this programming.
- Setup: Libraries can either self-instruct or hire/recruit a local professional. Considerations to address can be educational, employment, and financial repercussions. Additional persons and entities to potentially contact are employment agencies, state libraries, high school career counselors, college recruiters, multitype cooperative, and local bank reps. Transition teens that attend this program into Digital Specialists that can assist other teens in cleaning up their digital footprint.
- Supplies: presentation, projection setup for instructor, topical books
- Teen Services Outcomes: Community (Building Partnerships, Connect with Mentors), Digital Citizenship (Equitable Access, Leveraging Technology, Learn and Use Digital Citizenship Skills), Leadership (Teen Expertise), Learning (Year-Round Focus, Teen Interests, Career Readiness), Literacies (Library Resources, Affirm Multiple Forms of Knowledge, YPAR)

***It Was First a Book

- Description: Select a teen book-inspired movie or series (Netflix, Hulu, Canopy, Hoopla etc.) to screen for teens. This combination book club/movie screening reminds teens that stories can evolve depending on the voice and medium. Consider using services to

which your library already subscribes and make sure that you acquire streaming permissions.
- Setup: Libraries can adapt this program to meet the population's interest and budget constraints. To make this virtual use Google Meet/Zoom and the Netflix Party Chrome Extension or similar extensions. Hold a discussion after the film to talk about not only the differences between mediums, but also whether the director was successful in conveying the author's vision (e.g. was it harder reading or watching Starr's experiences in *The Hate U Give*). If you want to add interactive elements to your movie screening for in person programs, goodie bags can be distributed in person or via curbside pick-up.
- Supplies: featured book, featured film, projection area, movie license
- Teen Services Outcomes: Learning (Teen Interests), Literacies (Critical Stance, Affirm Multiple Forms of Knowledge, Promoting Reflective Literature/Mediums)

Characters and Cosplay
- Description: Teens are invited to dress up as a character from their favorite book and roleplay them. This program is designed to provide teens a safe space in which to creatively embrace their favorite characters. This program can also be paired with a cosplay crafting program prior to this one.
- Setup: The scope of this program can be as simple as a cosplay party to a full-blown convention. Connect with local seamstresses, costume designers, or SCA groups (Society for Creative Anachronism) groups to find instructors willing to teach teens how to develop their costumes. Ask your **Teen Advisory Board (TAB)** for suggestions on preferred activities. Suggestions include a themed party, a cosplay contest, or even an interactive book discussion.
- Supplies: themed food and decorations (ex. Black Panther, Wakanda flags), associated books
- Teen Services Outcomes: Creativity (Authentic Content, Self-Expression), Community (Building Partnerships, Diverse Population Interactions, Connect with Mentors), Learning (SEL, Teen Interests), Leadership (Amplify Voices), Literacies (Library Resources, Critical Stance, Affirm Multiple Forms of Knowledge, Promoting Reflective Literature/Mediums)

***Zoom/Green Screen Book Blasts
- Description: Utilizing green screen technology or Zoom's virtual backgrounds, teens are encouraged to create their own 30-second book promos to share with their peers. Backdrops can be made with free software such as Canva or Piktochart. Using their favorite book covers as a backdrop, teens can promote their favorite titles. These book reviews can be shared on the library's digital media platforms to further promote reading. This program is designed to both afford teens the opportunity to play with technology while offering peer-generated readers advisories.
- Setup: Select a location where traveling sound is minimal. The choice of chroma key (green screen) software depends on your recording device, but "Do Ink" is a popular app to use on Apple products and "Chromavid" is a popular app to use on Android products.

If you do not use an app on the recording device, there are several free Windows-based chroma key software choices available, but be wary of embedded watermarks.
- Supplies: video recording device (phone, tablet, web cam), green screen/sheet, good lighting, computer (optional)
- Teen Services Outcomes: Creativity (Authentic Content, Self-Expression), Community (Diverse Population Interactions, Serving Teens), Digital Citizenship (Leveraging Technology), Learning (Year-Round Focus, Teen Interests, Career Readiness), Leadership (Amplify Voices, Model Continuous Learning, Teen Experts), Literacies (Library Resources, Affirm Multiple Forms of Knowledge, Promoting Reflective Literature, YPAR)

***Get Graphic
- Description: An instructional session for teens to learn how professional artists use technology to design artwork for graphic novels. This program is designed to encourage teens passionate about drawing or storycrafting to explore the intricacies involved in digital art creation. This program can be a series or standalone session.
- Setup: Libraries should choose a location with tables and chairs to allow for interactive participation. Instructors to run such programs can be found on web forums, like the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund's Comics Connector, or local art schools, like The Kubert School. This program can be adapted into a school or workforce development type program (e.g. learning how to design infographics). If the teens are interested, create a digital forum where the teens can upload digital copies of their work for peer-guided constructive feedback. Without tech, you can simply do a workshop on storyboarding and capturing motion and visual characterization with local comic artists.
- Supplies: paper, pencils, additional supplies depending on artist's needs (projector, laptop, etc.)
- Teen Services Outcomes: Creativity (Authentic Content, Self-Expression), Community (Diverse Population Interactions, Serving Teens), Digital Citizenship (Leveraging Technology), Learning (Year-Round Focus, Teen Interests, Career Readiness), Leadership (Amplify Voices, Model Continuous Learning, Teen Experts), Literacies (Library Resources, Affirm Multiple Forms of Knowledge, Promoting Reflective Literature, YPAR)

Displays:

Teen Takeover
- Description: Libraries can allow their Teen Advisory Board (TAB) to lead a teen takeover display about what teens in the community are interested in. One could be a general topic they pick and vet submission for (like video game reviews or fan collections or memes); or it could be a collection of teens telling their story about their life in the community - e.g. favorite ice cream store, best outside place to visit, books or movies that remind you of your hometown.

- Set up: Invite TAB members to vote on a display idea and create a display based on their interests. The board can include photos, drawings, or other past creations. The TAB will have creative control over the creation and set up of the display.
- Supplies: Craft supplies, tape, printer
- Teen Services Outcomes: Creativity (Meaningful Content), Learning (Teen Interests), Leadership (Teen Expertise)

Fact or Fiction
- Description: Teens are encouraged to evaluate the world around them with this interactive display. This display is designed for teens to demonstrate their critical evaluation skills of media posts and to build upon their existing knowledge through informative content.
- Setup: Invite **Teen Advisory Board (TAB)** members to choose news articles to highlight for discussion. Display a collage of these articles on a cork board and ask patrons to indicate with either green or red push buttons whether they think the articles are factual. Hang the IFLA poster nearby and provide a fact-checking resource guide listing authoritative websites, like FactCheck.org, Snopes.com, etc.
- Supplies: news articles, cork board, green & red push pins, IFLA poster, fact-checking resource guide, relevant reading materials.
- Teen Services Outcomes: Community (Diverse Population Interactions), Creativity (Meaningful Content), Digital Citizenship (Learn and Use Digital Citizenship Skills), Leadership (Teen Expertise), Learning (Teen Interests), Literacies (Library Resources, Critical Stances, Affirm Multiple Forms of Knowledge, YPAR)

ARCheology
- Description: Teens are invited to dig into a collection of advanced reader copies and find the hidden gems. This display provides teens an opportunity to directly influence the library's collection by providing valuable feedback on upcoming titles. For libraries with a lack of ARC's, this would be a chance to promote newly released titles.
- Setup: Design a book review form for the teens to grab and go. Include the details that you normally use for evaluating new additions to the collection. Display a collection of advanced reader copies for teens to 'dig into.' As an incentive, offer the teens a small amount of public service credit if they return the book review on the ARC and the option of keeping the ARC if they enjoyed it.
- Supplies: advanced reader copies, book review forms, attendance/email lists
- Teen Services Outcomes: Leadership (Amplify Voices, Teen Expertise), Learning (Teen Interests), Literacies (Library Resources, Critical Stances, Affirm Multiple Forms of Knowledge, Promoting Reflective Literature)

The Power of Imagination
- Description: Display the power of creative engineering by designing an interactive Rube Goldberg machine. This display is designed to demonstrate to teens that creative problem-solving can be fun.

- Setup: Coordinate with your **Teen Advisory Board (TAB)** to create a rudimentary Rube Goldberg using miscellaneous supplies for the patrons to interact with. If possible, reach out to a local expert to run a session on structural engineering with the **Teen Advisory Board (TAB)**. Examples of Rube Goldbergs can be found on YouTube and in the Teen Section of the 2017 Collaborative Summer Library Program Pinterest Page. Display a collection of books on engineering and biographies about Rube Goldberg.
- Supplies: Rube Goldberg setup supplies, books about Rube Goldberg and engineering
- Teen Services Outcomes: Community (Building Partner Relationships, Connect with Mentors), Creativity (Self-Expression, Collaborative Problem-Solving), Leadership (Risk Taking, Teen Expertise), Learning (SEL, Career Readiness), Literacies (Library Resources, Affirm Multiple Forms of Knowledge)

Find and share display and programming ideas on YALSA's Teen Programming HQ site.

Survey and Evaluation Tools

All forms can be copied/created on Google or Survey Monkey for dissemination or created long hand.

Example of a Library Staff Feedback Questionnaire (can be used on Google or Survey Monkey, feel free to modify or create your own): https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScHwO2qYJ5Tkx22z4_WuRtk0adUMnTgE8vIJI4mPTlUpivsOA/viewform?usp=sf_link

Example of a 'Program Attendee Feedback Questionnaire' (Sample Google Form can be sent to each library as well as YALSA):

Sample Suggestion Form on **TeenTober Page**: This can be done with any survey/form-making template. Be sure to include: name, email (optional), role (library staff, parent/guardian, or teen/patron), and a section for their comment on how to improve the event.

Example:

TeenTober**Suggestion Box

1. Your name (optional):
2. Email address (optional):
3. Are you:
☐ Library Staff
       ☐ Public
       ☐ School
☐ Teen/Patron
☐ Parent/Guardian

*4. Please leave your suggestion (with as much detail as possible) in the box below:

Lastly, we want to hear from you and know what's working so we can improve future TeenTober celebrations! Want to share your TeenTober story on the YALSA Hub? Email yalsa@ala.org.

Acknowledgements