

## **DLA Reports from Committee Chairs and Division Presidents for January 21, 2016**

### **ALA Councilor Report, Hannah Lee**

Report sent to DLA List.

### **Membership & Web Report submitted by Sara Thomas**

#### **For membership:**

We currently have 271 active members. I sent out the link to the google drive at the end of December.

#### **Website:**

We are adding new information as we receive it and enjoy highlighting special events around the state. we can publish division meetings and events and updates.

### **Treasurer Report, submitted by Ed Goyda**

See attached reports

### **Youth Services Division, Lea Rosell**

#### **Blue Hen**

Most of YSD's movement over the past two months has been focused on the Blue Hen Book Award. 2016 winners have been chosen and will be announced to the public on 2/1/2016. The winners are as follows: Young Readers – I Am a Witch's Cat by Harriet Muncaster, Middle Readers – The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell by Chris Colfer, and Teen Readers – The Selection by Kiera Cass. The winners will also be announced en masse to the attendees at the DLA/MLA conference in May. Each of the award winning authors will be notified and receive a certificate in March.

2015 was a record year for voting. The inclusion of the online ballot was helpful, but the majority of votes were still collected in local public libraries and school libraries. We had a total of 1750 votes, a 100% increase from the previous year.

The nomination period for 2017 has concluded. Reading committee members will have their votes turned into committee chairs no later than the last week of February. The five top choices in each category will be announced to Youth Services librarians in March. The new

voting cycle begins in April. The closing number of books for each category is: Young Readers – 31, Middle Readers – 15, and Teen Readers – 12.

Additionally, the Blue Hen Book Award Facebook page has grown exponentially over the past year. With renewed focus and attention, the likes on the page grew 54% between October 2015 and January 2016.

### **YSD**

The strategic planning committee is set to meet with interested parties at DDL on Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the strategy meeting is to discuss the overall loss of participation in the Summer Reading Challenge throughout the state, find solutions, identify best practices, and set a common, statewide, goal moving into the upcoming years.

The Spring Youth Services meeting has been set for Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at DDL.

### **Summer Performers**

The two performers that are provided by the State for the upcoming Summer Reading Challenge have been selected. They are: 123 Andrés (suitable for young children and families) and Hip Hop Fundamentals (most appropriate for tweens and teens). Calendars of performance dates for each library have been disseminated.

### **From Long Range Planning Committee Jan 2016, Beth Borene Reporting**

We created suggestions on revisions to the DLA President, Vice President, Past President, Secretary and Treasurer roles as written in the Handbook. Councilor and committee chair roles will be examined at a future meeting, TBA in February. Adjusting the Executive Director roles is on hold for the moment.

Other suggestions:

In another effort at creating more continuity, we suggest that this committee become a standing committee. If Board agrees, the committee will review and make revision suggestions to their stated duties in handbook to present at the next Board meeting in March.

We suggest that we look into advertising among our membership for a Secondary Conference Chair. That person could serve as a helper to the chair / VP by splitting attendance in Baltimore with the chair (if Cathay is unavailable). They would also be encouraged but not required to attend Board meetings as needed, and serve as needed to the Chair. We would estimate the time

needed would be on average 2-3 hours a week. We would like the Board to consider offering 2 day conference registration (including food/room?) as incentive. Idea came up to see if a UD school media specialist student intern or other library school student might be excellent candidates for the role.

Although we are not yet ready to implement a fundraising plan, we did come up with some suggestions as to how to get started. DLA could sponsor NCC Reads and/or Dover's Comic Con as well as the Festival of Words. Sponsorship could involve more than just getting our name on materials by paying a fee. 6 authors are in town during each February in the Red Clay school district. Could we sponsor a secondary author / signing event with these authors at other locations? Jen Delgado would be willing to share information about the future author visits.

Thanks!  
Beth

**Jobs Webpage, submitted by Julie Brewer**

See attached report.