

**Four County Library System
Youth Services Meeting
21 May 2018 – Richfield Springs Public Library**

Libraries represented: FE(2), BCPL, RS, SNB, SID (2), BA/AF, NO, WO, STA, CV, CO, HART, SP, SM
(via GoToMeeting)

Quick things

- A discussion was held at Governing Council on May 18 about the possibility of creating a system-wide practice of eliminating fines on children's materials. Many library staff at that meeting seemed very positive about it, so the conversation will continue, and hopefully a decision will be made in the near future. A question was raised at the YS meeting about how to deal with lost and damaged items, and this (along with several other details) will be part of the discussion as we go along.
- Sarah shared about a training opportunity from the New York Library Association's (NYLA) Youth Services Section called the "Empowerment, Advocacy and Leadership Academy." It provides 24 hours of continuing education credit, both online and in person. More information and registration can be found here: <https://www.nyla.org/max/events/yss-empowerment-advocacy-and-leadership-academy-eala/292/> Scholarship information (deadline June 30) can be found here: https://www.nyla.org/max/userfiles/YSS/EALA_Scholarship.pdf
- The State Library has contacted us to let us know that they have selected a vendor for online registration for the Summer Reading Program; however, the contract has not been finalized. Sarah will send out information as soon as it is available.
- Linda (SID) expressed her appreciation for all of the information and ideas that she's received from other member library staff over the years that she's been working with the children at the Sidney Memorial Public Library. We will miss her after she retires at the end of this summer!!

myON

- Sarah gave an overview and demonstration of the myON ebook platform that is being made available from now through September 30 from the NYS Department of Education and the State Library. The handouts have been sent out via email, and they can also be found on the Youth Services page of the 4CLS Intranet.

Arranging picture books by category

- Kaitlyn (RS) shared about "Picture Book City," a way to arrange picture books in the children's section by category instead of by author. She worked with this system in previous library positions, and she said that it really empowers patrons, including young children, to find things on their own.

- “Picture Book City” is a copyrighted set of categories, but when Kaitlyn and Sarah and Emily (Head Cataloger at 4CLS) sat down to go over this, they didn’t really like all of the categories, so they came up with a modified set that will be supported by 4CLS.
- The categories/genres are as follows: All About Me, Animals, Build-Drive-Ride, Celebrations, Concepts, Dinosaurs, Favorites, Make Believe, Our World, Play & Movement, Science & Nature, Songs & Rhymes, Stories. (Emily has created a document with more detailed information about the categories—it can be found on the 4CLS Intranet: <http://libraries.4cls.org/4cls/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Juvenile-genres.pdf>)
- Each genre is assigned a color, and that colored dot can be attached to the spine of the books that fit that genre, making it easier for children to find the topics that they’re interested in.
- The books can be assigned to their different categories by using Item Cat4 in Workflows. We are hoping to make this category visible in the patron catalog—it’s currently being investigated by SirsiDynix. If this proves impossible, libraries may choose to indicate the genre/color in the book’s call number.
- Libraries can categorize their books as seems most appropriate for them and their patrons. (For example, a book that is categorized as “Animals” in one library might be categorized as “Favorites” at another library.)
- Fiction and nonfiction picture books can both be categorized in this manner.
- Using this system is completely optional. Not every library will find it useful, but we wanted to create a framework for those whose patrons might find it easier to navigate the picture books in this way.
- A question was raised about the holds list—would the Item Cat4 be able to be included on the list? Sarah will try to find out about this.
- If you have any questions about this, please get in touch with Sarah or Emily!

New resources available at 4CLS

- Sarah shared about two new STEM resources available at 4CLS:
 - o [Goldiblox Craft-Struction Box](#) – Ages 6+ - 5 sets available
 - o [Elenco Snap Circuits](#) – Ages 8+ - 5 sets available (requires 4 AA batteries)
- These are intended for member libraries to use for programming. If you would like to borrow them, please get in touch with Sarah.
- Someone suggested the possibility of a circuit program with makerspace materials, which is an interesting idea!

SRP evaluation

- The Summer Reading Program evaluation form has been finalized before the SRP starts this time around! The form will be sent out along with the meeting notes, and it is also available for download on the Youth Services page of the 4CLS Intranet. (The major changes are detailed in the notes from the March 2018 Youth Services meeting.)

Highlights from member libraries

- Springfield – Echo is excited that she’s got a former circus performer helping to lead the summer program this year!
- Hartwick – Hosting a karaoke night, an opera performance, the Ross Park Zoo, and a program about musical instruments.
- Cooperstown – Animal programs include Dan the Snake Man, the Ross Park Zoo, and a State Police K-9 unit. Other programs this summer include Jim Talbot Drum Quest and a rock painting program led by an artist from Cobleskill.
- Cherry Valley – Hosting a rock painting program and hoping to have a giant instrument made out of PVC pipes!
- Stamford – Baby goats will be visiting in May! This summer, children will be working on projects like rain sticks made of paper towel rolls.
- Worcester – Mindy is brand new to the library, so she’s just starting planning for the Summer Reading Program. She’s excited about getting teens back into the library!
- Norwich – Summer performances will be held outside this year in their lovely park. They’re also planning a field trip to Howe’s Cavern.
- Sidney – Summer programs include a Pete the Cat night, a performance by the community band, and an elementary book club. There will be programs for teens, and there will be a messy art program that focuses on art processes more than a specific project.
- Bainbridge – This summer will include programs presented by musicians, including a program highlighting Greek music. There will also be a performance by a magician, and participants will have a chance to try out readers theater.
- South New Berlin – Working on escape rooms for middle and high schoolers, and a scavenger hunt for younger patrons.
- Richfield Springs – Storytimes will be held in different places in town this summer, and the community center is working with the library on the Summer Reading Program. There will be performances by Emily Ellison and Ira McIntosh, and free yoga will be offered for teens and adults.
- BCPL – Dan the Snake Man will be presenting, and STEAM programs will be held for children. Crafts are planned for teens, and there will be interactive movie showings, where audience members will have opportunities to participate instead of just watching.
- Fenton – The summer kicks off with a 5K fundraiser and promotions during the parade and booster days. Programs include a presentation from the Kopernik Observatory, a trivia night led by a gym teacher, a petting zoo of instruments led by the Philharmonic, and an event with a DJ who specializes in music for children.

Next meeting – September 14