

Teen Talk

Volume 1, Issue 1

April 2007

The Third Annual Fran Romer Memorial Teen Services Workshop What Teens Want: What's Hot & What's Not Reader's Advisory for Teens

The Third Annual Fran Romer Memorial Teen Services Workshop was held at Northport Public Library on Thursday, April 12th from 9:30-3:00 p.m. This year's theme was "What Teens Want: What's Hot and What's Not Reader's Advisory for Teens". Our keynote speaker was Patrick Jones who discussed how to connect with the teen reader using tips, titles, and tools. We also welcomed back New York City Public Library's Teen Central Librarians, Melissa Jenvey and Anne Rouyer, who demonstrated the art of the book talk. In the afternoon session the librarians broke up into break-out groups to discuss chick lit, books for boys, graphic novels, realistic fiction, mystery/adventure, historical fact and fiction and fantasy/science fiction. We are pleased that the Fran Romer Workshop has become an annual event bringing together young adult librarians, authors, and the books that they love best.

Candace Reeder
Northport Public Library



Patrick Jones, Author

Inside this issue:

Fran Romer	1
Hail & Farewell	1
Teen Tech Week	2
TAB News	2
Teen Happenings	3
Upcoming Events	4
Officers & Committees	4

Hail & Farewell

If you or someone you know has moved libraries or has retired, please contact me at either:

Email:
littlebookworm4@optonline.net

or at the

Connetquot Public Library:
567-5079

Teen Tech Week

Podcasting 101: A Template for Running a Podcast

To some, podcasts are a foreign concept, or are viewed, as some sort of fancy, cutting-edge technology that only super tech-savvy people are able to participate in. This is far from the truth. Podcasting is easy, inexpensive, and a very powerful program to implement. Podcasting, in simpler terms, is a radio show that is in a digital format and posted on the Internet. One of the biggest differences is that a podcast radio show can be put on an mp3 player or a computer and listened to without a radio frequency. The show is listened to much like a regular mp3 file: it can be paused, fast-forwarded, rewound, and listened to multiple times.

To create a podcast, very minimal equipment is needed and the hardware required is very basic. All that is needed is a computer, a basic microphone, and a mixing board (for example: the Behringer Xenyx 802 Mixer, I would suggest this model because the power source needed comes installed). Having the mixing board is nice because ultimately you can hook up multiple microphones and record multiple people at once. It also allows you to control the sound depth and volume. One option for recording software is called Audacity, which is free software available on the internet and it allows you to layer sounds, fade in/out, and have multiple tracks. The ap-

proximate cost for the additional hardware is under \$200. It is possible to get the podcast equipment for less, but you should keep in mind how you are going to use the equipment. Are you going to record public speakers, music performances, or individual people? Once you figure out what equipment is best for you and put together a show, the next step is recording your show.

After it is recorded, you need to position the Internet in a place where people can find it. There are many options you can make it available through from iTunes to an RSS feed where people would be able to subscribe to it and be notified when a new podcast is available. It could also be placed on your webpage as an individual download (mp3), or streamed so it starts playing within that page. I have also heard of people posting their podcasts on YouTube.com and setting it to a slide show so the listener has something to watch while they listen. Use whichever platform your patrons are able to access. One of the most important things with podcasting is to make sure people can find it and listen to it.

I wanted to have the teens of my library record a podcast throughout Teen Tech Week and then by the end of the week have it posted as a finale. I hosted an organizational meeting on

the first day of TTW to get a feel of what the teens wanted to contribute to the podcast. I was going to leave it open to them whether they wanted to have a specific theme or not. I advertised the program by saying that the teens were able to recite poetry, report on current events, play clips of their favorite songs, or review their favorite CDs, books, or movies. At our organizational meeting teens signed up for a recording slot during the week so they could pick the times when they were available, and to avoid an overload of kids recording at one time. I knew there was a lot going on with school and other activities so I decided this would be the best way to organize the program.

With the technology available in the library it is very easy for librarian's to make a podcast with their patrons. Podcasting is something that teens can associate with, and see themselves participating in. The program itself is inexpensive, self running, and very rewarding for you and the participants.

Andrew Bollerman
Hampton Bays Public Library

TAB News

Huntington Public Library's YA Galley Project

This past summer, the South Huntington Public Library's Teens Read Book Discussion Group had the honor of being accepted into YALSA'S Galley Project!

YALSA began this pilot project in the late 1990's with the hopes of connecting publishers to their teen readers. After years of testing, the YALSA Galley Committee became official in 2003. The committee selects fifteen groups from all over the country from both school and public libraries for a two-year term of service.

The groups receive pre-published books from over thirty publishers who offer a wide range of fiction

and non-fiction books for teens in middle through high school. All participants in the fifteen groups are expected to submit reviews of the books they have read. Five of the groups are designated as nominating groups and have the added responsibility of nominating titles for the Teens Top Ten List.

Needless to say, this has generated a lot of excitement at the library, with meeting attendance growing from eight teens to approximately twenty! The teens meet every month to check out the new arrivals and discuss the books read. After everyone is done with a particular title, the galleys are theirs to keep! Most cannot even wait until the

next meeting and come in often to see the new titles. As the group's advisor, it has been such a pleasure to participate in this extremely rewarding project. I am continually impressed with the teens' writing and book talking skills.

Applications for the 2009-2010 terms of service will be considered by the committee in June 2008. Anyone interested in more information should contact the YALSA office at yalsa@ala.org.

Janet Scherer
South Huntington Public Library

Teen Happenings

Harborfields Goes Graphic

In April 2006, the Harborfields Public Library, located in Greenlawn, started a Graphic Novel Club for their teen audience. Brian Cooper and Sarah Schnepf, the two Young Adult Librarians at Harborfields, wanted to reach out to a new audience and they came up with the idea to start the program, which continues to meet monthly. "We do so many wonderful monthly teen programs" states Brian, "and reaching out to new audiences is a terrific challenge and we always look for fresh ways to attract teens here". So that is when the Graphic Novel Club was created. "Our motto is always to bring a graphic novel with you, or bring a friend. The teens do both" states Brian. The teens were the ones who named the club and they came up with Manga Maniacs.

As this club keeps growing each month, so does the excitement within the program. During the program, graphic novel titles (new as well as older), authors and illustrators are all discussed, as well as all the graphic novels the teens bring with them. Some type of fun game is always played as well, such as a Jeopardy related game, a graphic novel Bingo game, or a Secret Phrase Game involving all the titles discussed throughout the program. The program has been a total success since day one.

According to Brian, the best part of the program is when the teens head to the Teen Room afterwards and leave with more graphic novels, as well as Teen fiction and nonfiction books. "People have to realize that when teens are read-

ing graphic novels, they are still reading. Sure it is a different type of reading, but it is still reading and many times it leads to them reading other areas of literature as well. Sarah and I now have twenty five additional monthly readers that we reached out to due to this program, half of whom are boys. When you have parents thanking you for putting a book in their teen's hands and thanking you for getting them excited about a library program, well, there isn't a better feeling as being a Teen Librarian".

Brian Cooper
Harborfields Library

Middle Country's Teen Advisory Council

Our Teen Advisory Council has been active for about three years, and for a while we struggled to find activities – they weren't interested in decorating, attempts to start a newsletter got nowhere, and it was hard to tell what would spark an interest. Although they enjoyed selling water, snacks and t-shirts at our annual Battle of the Bands, that was only once a year.

We had tried to run a Haunted House for teens, with limited success. When we decided that we would like to do something similar for children, we struck gold – the Children's Department loved the idea of teens running a program for children, but wanted to make sure that it wasn't too scary or too "Halloweeny." As we discussed these new limits, we came up with a great idea – instead of a scary program, we would put on a fun

program appropriate for kids of all ages, with carnival games, crafts and storytimes.

Our Drop-In Fall Festival was a hit, with over 70 kids and their families attending. They enjoyed games such as spoon racing and pumpkin bowling; made pipecleaner spiders, had their faces painted, and listened to stories. The program was such a success that we decided to hold similar programs this Spring – our Drop-In Pajama Party unfortunately coincided with the St. Patricks Day ice storm, but we are expecting a good turnout for our Spring Carnival. We've invested in an inflatable Skee-Ball kit and are looking forward to another fun afternoon.

Lorraine Squires
Middle Country Public Library



Upcoming YASD Events

Third Annual Fran Romer Memorial Teen Services Workshop
April 12th, 2007
Northport Public Library
What Teens Want: What's Hot & What's Not Reader's Advisory for Teens with Patrick Jones

Long Island Library Conference
May 3rd, 2007
Crest Hollow Country Club
Reaching the Teen Market with Jen Calonita

YASD Meeting
June 14th, 2007
SCLS
Teen Volunteer Opportunities

Suffolk County Battle of the Books
August 18th, 2007
Huntington Hilton

YASD Meeting
September 20th, 2007
Harborfields Library
Summer Reading Club Wrap Up, Online Reading Clubs, Programming: What Worked, What Didn't

YASD Annual Luncheon
October 11th, 2007
Mama Lombardi's, Holbrook

YASD Meeting
November 8th, 2007
Hampton Bays Library
Understanding Teen Behavior

YASD Meeting
December 13th, 2007
SCLS
Year in Review

Visit us at:
<http://scla.net/yasd/index.html>

YASD Officers & Committees

President:
Laura Panter
Middle Country Public Library

Vice-President/President Elect:
Candace Reeder
Northport-East Northport Public Library

Treasurer:
Cheryl Conenello
Sachem Public Library

Secretary:
Michelle Vagner
Northport-East Northport Public Library

Membership:
Brian Cooper
Harborfields Public Library
Brian Schwartz
Patchogue-Medford Public Library

Programming/Publicity:
Tracy Van Dyne
Connetquot Public Library

Teen Talk is published three times a year by the Young Adult Services Division of SCLA.

If you would like to contribute please send submissions to:

Tracy Van Dyne, Editor
Connetquot Public Library
760 Ocean Avenue
Bohemia, NY 11716
littlebookworm4@optonline.net

Want to be on the Teen Talk mailing list?
Want to join YASD? Fill out the application below or go to:
<http://scla.net/yasd/joinus.html>

Young Adult Services Division
c/o Youth Services Department
Suffolk Cooperative Library System
627 North Sunrise Service Road
Bellport, NY 11713

Name: _____

Library: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____