

Spring 2025

TEEN TALK

Hey All,

We know it's been a hot minute, but Teen Talk is back and ready to take on the worlds of all things teen and all things library!

For our rebrand issue, we've got a lot of content submitted by our amazing members and want to thank each and every one of you who took the time to send us your content! If you missed the submission period this time around, fear not! Teen Talk is always looking for more material and we want to hear from you to get it! Our inbox is always open to hear about new hires, great programs, amazing books/book displays or anything else you may want to share with YASD members. Drop us a line at youngadultsd@gmail.com to be a contributor for our next newsletter!

In the meantime, enjoy our fresh grown spring newsletter and check out some of the amazing work being done by teen librarians in Suffolk!

Liz Hughes,
YASD Webmaster



In This Issue:

YA Program Highlights
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YA PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Valentines for Veterans

Submitted by Amanda Hayman, Teen Librarian at Half Hollow Hills Community Library:

The teens at the Half Hollow Hills Community Library in Dix Hills created Valentine's for Veterans Jars filled with chocolates and little notes this February! The jars were donated to the Long Island State Veteran's Home at Stonybrook University, which is a 350-bed skilled nursing facility that provides round-the-clock nursing and sub-acute care to veterans of the United States armed forces.



Crocheting for Cats

Submitted by Michele Nevola, Head of Teen Services at Brentwood Public Library



I'm thrilled to share the success of a new program we tried called "Crocheting for Cats," run by our teen department. This program introduced teens to crocheting, offering three levels of difficulty for crochet patterns, along with pom-pom makers for those who had trouble picking up crocheting. We had two of our awesome librarians teach the teens how to crochet, and a third librarian man the pom-pom station. After making the toys, the teens bagged and labeled them to give them a more professional look. In the same week we hosted a school visit from the Middle School National Junior Honor Society, where we ran the same type of program again, allowing us to expand our efforts and create even more crocheted toys! We had over 50 teens participate in both programs, and together the teens crafted and bagged over 150 toys to be donated to the Islip Animal Shelter for future cat adopters! We were extremely proud of our teens, and the creativity and effort they put forth to volunteer for shelter cats.

YA PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Hygge Lounge

Submitted by Daphne DiFranco, Youth Services Trainee at West Babylon Public Library:

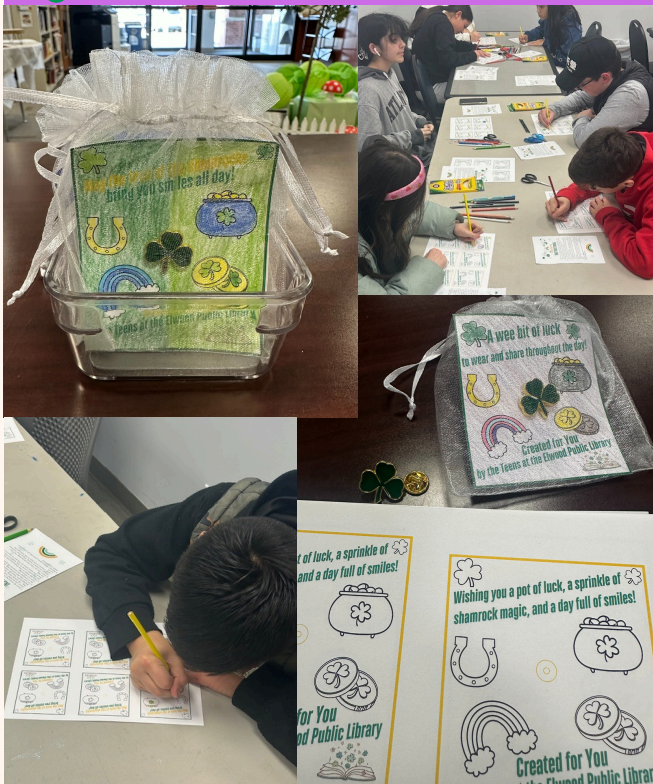
Just yesterday, I decorated our Teen Room around the hygge theme (think cozy and comforting) to draw some teens in. We had a video fireplace playing; I set up an area to grab cookies, tea or hot chocolate; I also set up fairy lights and flameless candles on the tables, and curtain lights over our windows. I also put a display of books that fit the hygge theme, like fairytale or folklore (e.g. Winterwood, This Fatal Kiss, The Language of Thorns, etc.) and put a flyer out describing what hygge means.



Lucky Charms

Submitted by Liz Hughes, Head of Information Services at Elwood Public Library

I loved doing this Lucky Charm program with the teens at Elwood. All we needed to make them was shamrock enamel pins (which came with the bags), cardstock which was designed using Canva, crayons and scissors to complete the craft. Participants were instructed to color the cardstock, cut them out, stick the pins on the backing and bag them to complete the project. The charms were then set out on the Public Service desk and the Circulation Desk for patrons who may have needed an extra piece of luck during the day. Teens received community service when they completed their sets.



BOOK DISPLAY IDEAS



Dying to Read a Scary Story?

Submitted by Jill Sollazzo, Head of Young Adult Services at East Hampton Library

"Our October book display was "Dying to Read a Scary Story?" and featured a wall full of creepy portraits covered in cobwebs, a candelabra, skulls and some of the scariest books in our collection!"



Blind Date with a Book

Submitted by Melissa Somoza, Teen Librarian at Half Hollow Hills Community Library

Amanda & I created a Blind Date with a Book Display for February and the books are already flying off the shelves 2 days before!

For this display we chose a variety of different genres across Teen and Tween and wrapped them with a pocket. We made sticker sheets, bookmarks, and included a fun pen in the pocket!

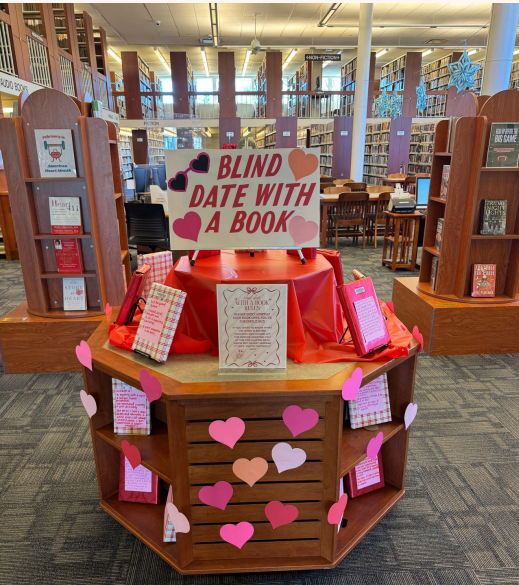


Warm Up with a Good Book

Submitted by Jill Sollazzo, Head of Young Adult Services at East Hampton Library

"Our December book display was "Warm Up with A Good Book" and featured our decorated book fireplace with a "working" fire inside!"

BOOK DISPLAY IDEAS



Blind Date with a Book

Submitted by Michaela Schlosser, Teen Librarian at West Islip Library

"This one was so much fun! This was our Blind Date with a Book display for Valentine's Day and I included both adult and teen titles but it is easily customizable to make it strictly YA titles for your teen space. I selected books of various genres, wrapped them in paper, and wrote up a small blurb for each one that gave just enough detail to entice potential readers without giving away the plot. I copied, cut out, and taped the barcode for each book on the front so the Circulation department could easily check the books out to patrons without revealing the title to them beforehand."

Reading Shapes of Our World and Fa La La

Submitted by Daphne DiFranco, Youth Services Trainee at West Babylon Public Library:

The first display "Reading Shapes Our World" was set up in September. They are 3D triangles that I (along with our page, Victoria, who was a HUGE help) put together out of a tetrahedron template. The second display "Fa La La" was set up in December and shows a reindeer singing carols in a wintery setting.



NEW FACES IN THE TEEN DEPT

Chase Filasky, East Hampton Library

Submitted by Jill Sollazzo, Head of Young Adult Services at East Hampton Library:

We have a new face in our YA Department - Chase Filasky! Chase started in October of last year and comes from an education background. She has jumped right in with both feet and is busy creating lots of great programs for us!

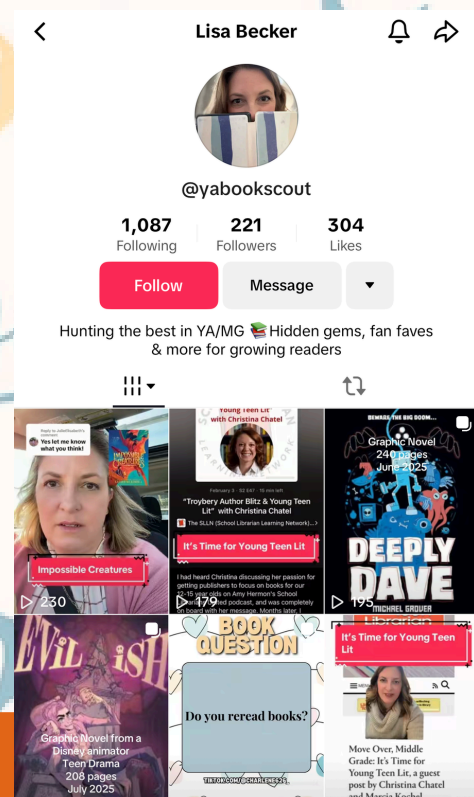


Hi! My name is Lizzie Lopez. I have been working at Sayville Library since September of 2023, but I started working in the Teen Department in May of 2024 as a Librarian Trainee! I have been loving Teen a lot and look forward to this upcoming Summer Reading Club! Some things I love are, of course, reading, as well as puzzles and watching new TV shows and movies! I look forward to seeing the other new Teen librarians!

Meet Lisa Becker!

I am a new Face in the Teen Department!

I am a University at Buffalo student (anticipated December 2025) and the new PT Clerk in Teen Services at Sachem Library. I have 20+ years of marketing/communications background and am trying to keep those skills relevant with my fledgling TikTok channel: @YAbookscout



UPCOMING YASD EVENTS

2025 ANNUAL FRAN ROMER MEMORIAL BOOKTALK WORKSHOP

WHEN & WHERE:
THURSDAY, APRIL 10
10AM-1PM

PATCHOGUE-MEDFORD
CARNEGIE TEEN CENTER

THEME:
TWISTED TALES
WITH SPECIAL
GUEST SPEAKER:
AUTHOR JEN CALONITA

INCLUDES: RAFFLE PRIZES, CEU CREDITS, LUNCH!

DISCUSSION GROUPS:



FAIRY GODMOTHER
BY JEN CALONITA



THIS POISON HEART
BY KALYNN BAYRON



THE DARKEST PART
OF THE FOREST
BY HOLLY BLACK



THE BONE SPINDLE
BY LESLIE VEDDER

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER:
[TINYURL.COM/FRANROMER2025](https://tinyurl.com/franromer2025)

**FEE OF \$45 FOR MEMBERS OR
\$50 FOR NON-MEMBERS
IS NON-REFUNDABLE**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS
APRIL 1**



YOUNG ADULT
SERVICES DIVISION
OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY
LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



UPCOMING SCLS EVENTS


COMMUNITY SERVICE ROUNDTABLE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9TH

ONLINE
10AM

COME DISCUSS COMMUNITY SERVICE
PROJECTS, PROGRAMS, AND IDEAS WITH
EACH OTHER.
FEEL FREE TO SHARE TRAGEDIES AND
TRIUMPHS!

[REGISTER HERE](#)



The Healthy Libraries Program (HeLP) &
Stony Brook Cancer Center Office for
Community Outreach and Engagement

Vaping and Smoking

How it Impacts Your
Lung Health and Cancer

APRIL 16, 2025 - 2PM - ZOOM

This presentation for Young Adult Librarians will focus on the dangers of vaping, tobacco use, and explore risk factors for lung cancer. Cessation resources local to Long Island and New York will be highlighted, facilitating the dissemination of information from librarians to their young adult patrons. The guidelines and policy surrounding vaping, tobacco, and lung cancer screening will also be discussed.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Click on the flyer for more information and to register!

THE SCIENCE OF READING

And What This Means For
New York Public Librarians

Thursday, April 17th
2:00-3:30
Online

The Science of Reading has been a hot topic in education, but what does it mean for public libraries? Literacy Consultant, Lu Benke, PhD, will be joining us for an online informational workshop exploring the key principles of the Science of Reading. We will address the opportunities and challenges it brings to the work of Youth Services Librarians.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

PLEASE LET US KNOW IN ADVANCE IF YOU WILL
NEED AN ACCOMMODATION THAT WILL MAKE
THIS EVENT ACCESSIBLE TO YOU.

NEW LIBRARIAN ROUNDTABLE

TUESDAY, APRIL 22ND
10AM AT SCLS

Join us for a gathering of new
Youth Services Librarians.
Ask questions, discuss ideas,
and meet new colleagues!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

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ACCOMMODATION THAT WILL MAKE THIS EVENT
ACCESSIBLE TO YOU.

UPCOMING LILRC EVENTS

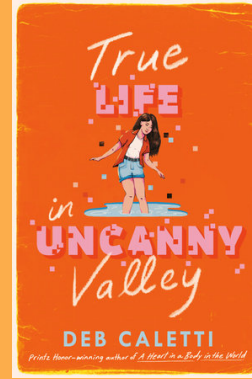
Starting a GSA Club in Your Library
Thursday, April 17 @ 1:00pm on Zoom



Having a Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) available for members of the LGBTQ+ community is essential. This program helps participants learn how to successfully start up, and further develop, their own GSA.

[Register Here](#)

YA Author Deb Caletti:
True Life in Uncanny Valley



**Tuesday, April 22,
2025 @ 2:00pm**
Zoom

[Register Here](#)

Creating Community through Art:
A Talk with Shinnecock Artist Jeremy Denis
Wednesday, May 7 @ 2pm on Zoom



Join Shinnecock artist Jeremy Dennis for an engaging Zoom talk where he delves into his dynamic art practice and the inspiring story behind Ma's House & BIPOC Art Studio, Inc.

[Register Here](#)

Supporting Children's Mental Wellbeing
with Just-Right Reads
Tuesday, May 20 @ 2:00pm on Zoom



Books are one of the most ubiquitous, accessible, and powerful resources available to support children's mental wellbeing. Topics will include grief and loss, anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorder, autism, and more.

[Register Here](#)

A Dangerous Experiment:
Comics and Graphic Novels about Scientists
Tuesday, June 10 @ 11am over Zoom

Comics about scientists? Presenter Jim Ottaviani's niche is comics about science and engineering, and in this talk we'll discuss why and how he makes them.

This program is being presented in cooperation with NASA's Solar System Ambassador program.

[Register Here](#)

FINAL THOUGHTS

Thank you all so much for reading this issue of Teen Talk! We have so much more coming up for all our members this year! Please be sure to follow us on Instagram, check out our website and renew your SCLA membership to stay in the loop with all things YASD!

If you're heading to this year's Long Island Library Conference in May, stop by the table to say hi to some of our board members, check out the YASD sponsored panels throughout the day and enter to win some great raffle baskets created by SCLA divisions and committees!

And as always, feel free to send us an email to let us know what you'd like to see from YASD.

Happy Spring!



YASD Website
<https://scla.net/yasd/>



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youngadultsd@gmail.com

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