

YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Midwinter Meeting, Dallas
January 20 – 24, 2012

Topic: STEM Resources Taskforce Update

Background: At the 2011 Annual Conference the Board came to the consensus that it would be beneficial to members if YALSA created and distributed STEM-focused resources. In the fall of 2011 Sarah Flowers appointed a taskforce. Their first report is provided below.

Action Required: Discussion

STEM Resources Coordinating Taskforce

Chair: Amber Creger

Charge: The taskforce will create a variety of resources to help members implement STEM-focused programs and services through their libraries, including a "STEM in libraries" toolkit to be released in conjunction with 2012's Teen Tech Week; implementing a STEM programming contest for members to highlight best practices; establishing and maintains a STEM page on YALSA's public wiki and encouraging members to contribute to the content there, including a list of recommended reads relating to STEM; as requested by the YALSA blog Manager, identify bloggers to regularly create STEM related posts; as requested by the YALS Editor, identify authors to write STEM related articles.

Progress to Date:

The taskforce has been using email and ALA Connect's chat feature to meet virtually.

Tool Kit Progress: Since our taskforce started in November, we have been primarily focused on the creation of the toolkit. Thus far, we have created time table for the STEM Toolkit and a loose outline of content. Currently we are in phase one of this project, where we are gathering and creating the content for the toolkit.

Timeline:

November - January 16: Collect Information for Tool Kit

January 16 - February 20: Edit Content

February 20 - March 1: Submit to YALSA for final edit suggests and approval

Outline:

1. Overview of STEM: What is STEM and why were are talking about it? Research about importance of STEM. Librarians role in working with STEM.

2. STEM Programming Ideas: Real life examples of STEM programming happening in libraries around the country.
3. Partnerships: Not a science expert no need to worry, who is there in your community you can work with?
4. Resources: Websites, Reading Lists, News and Trends (how to keep informed)
5. Promotion, Media, and Marketing

YALSA Blog Posts: In January the taskforce will begin contributing regular STEM posts to the YALSA blog.

YALS Articles: One of the taskforce members has agreed to write an article for YALS next issue. We will be looking to identify more contributors over the next few months.

STEM WIKI: