

# The YAC

*A Newsletter for Iowa Library Staff Who Work with Youth and Children  
Brought to You by Iowa Library Services*

## September 2012

### Upcoming Events:

September - **Library Card Sign-Up Month**

September 30 - October 6 - **Banned Books Week**

October 7-13 - **Fire Prevention Week** ([www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org))

October 14-20 - **Teen Read Week**

October 16 -26 - **Summer Library Program Workshops**

January 18, 2013 (Johnston Public Library) and Saturday, January 19, 2013 (Waterloo Public Library) - **Performers' Showcases**

April 29-30, 2013 - Kids First, Des Moines

### Occasions for Special Displays/Program Themes to Plan for in November:

- Aviation History Month
- 8 - Bram Stoker Birthday
- 10 - Neil Gaiman Birthday
- 12 -- Kevin Henkes Birthday
- 15 - America Recycles Day (<http://americarecyclesday.org/>)
- 18 - First Mickey Mouse movie - *Steamboat Willie* - was shown
- 25 - P. D. Eastman, Marc Brown and Andrew Carnegie Birthdays
- 26 - Charles Schulz Birthday
- 29 - C. S. Lewis and Madeleine L'Engle Birthdays



## International Games Day @ your library - November 3<sup>rd</sup>

National Gaming Day is now International Games Day! The ALA website at <http://ngd.ala.org/> has promotional materials and ideas about how your library can participate.

This would be an ideal time to introduce games in your library - whether electronic or board games. Classic games have been a hit in many communities. When selecting games for your library, consider age levels, time it takes to finish each game, noise/activity levels, and space required. A few games recommended by Iowa library staff are: Apples to Apples, Backseat Drawing, BINGO (for large groups), Clue, Connect Four, Cranium, Family Fluxx, Headache, Jenga, Phase 10, Pictureka, Pit, Scrabble Slam, Twister, Uno and Yatzee. For older kids you might try Settlers of Catan, Dominion or Ticket to Ride. ("Thanks!" to Jill Doyle of Dubuque County Library for surveying libraries recently on the ys\_talk list.)

If you decide to offer games every day, consider putting the game boards/boxes out on a shelf but keep the small pieces behind the desk so that patrons must ask for them. Oversized game boards for chess and checkers are popular if you have the space.



## Why Celebrate Banned Books Week?

Banned Books Week (September 30 - October 6) serves as a reminder that we should not take for granted one of our most basic freedoms - the right to choose what to read. You can create a nice display by printing the material on "Books Challenged and/or Banned -- 2010-2011" found at

[http://www.ala.org/advocacy/banned/bannedbooksweek/ideasandresources/free\\_downloads](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/banned/bannedbooksweek/ideasandresources/free_downloads).

ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom encourages libraries to report efforts to ban materials from their shelves. See the website at

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/banned/frequentlychallenged/> for more information.

## Thanksgiving/Autumn Themes

• Learn the **Turkey Tango** from this YouTube video:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LFWuqNOK7WI>. Or, a simpler version for younger kids at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MBf-vHwkgcc&feature=related>.

• A paper **bag turkey with popcorn stuffing**: <http://www.favecrafts.com/Thanksgiving-Kids-Crafts/Paper-Bag-Turkey-with-Popcorn-Stuffing-from-One-Charming-Party/ct/1>.

• A **bulletin board** idea for November:



Honor your board, staff and volunteers with this bulletin board. Your District Office can provide the letters in brown or orange and the hands in shades of brown and cream. (Request the number of hands you need and the size of letters - 3, 4 or 5" - to suit your space. The example above shows 3" letters. Use the online order form at <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/diecuts> or just call your District Office.) The "sleeves" are rectangles (about 2 ½ by 5"). I rounded the wrist end with a corner rounder and trimmed the other ends at various angles to meet the edge of the bulletin board. Assorted fall colors or patterns that look like sweaters would be nice for the sleeves.

## Now about that website . . .

Updating the library website may not be the job of the youth services staff, but it *is* one of the best tools for you to use in promoting your programs and services. Here are just a few thoughts:

First, a static (unchanging) youth services web page will not encourage kids (especially teens) to visit your site. If you do not have the ability to update the website yourself, consider asking for a link to a blog or Facebook page that you can update regularly (great idea, Boone - [www.boone.lib.ia.us/teens!](http://www.boone.lib.ia.us/teens!)). Outdated materials should also be deleted or "unpublished."

Make sure that youth services are represented on the library home page - ask for a tab, link to FaceBook , a portlet for youth news, etc. - something that links to material just for children and teens.

Adding photos from special events is one of the best ways to get youth to visit your website or Facebook page. Consider using LibraryThing ([www.librarything.com](http://www.librarything.com)) to feature newly-added materials.

Your District Office staff (<http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/do>) can help with your website - give us a call!



## Just To Get Started . . .

Since it's always a good idea to start planning early for the winter holiday season, here are a few ideas to start thinking about:

- Reclaim Your Holidays -- this website has suggestions for a more "green" and meaningful holiday season -- <http://www.uni.edu/ceee/hometown/reclaim-your-holidays/reclaimyourholidays>. (Some of you met the creators at the ILA Conference last fall.)
- Plan a "Winter Solstice" or "Longest Night" celebration for teens and tweens. Play a game based on the urban legends about Christmas at <http://www.snopes.com/holidays/christmas/christmas.asp>.
- A life-size Candyland game would make a great theme for a family holiday event. Laura Guth-Hanson, Youth Services Librarian at the Adel Public Library, reports that they've had great success with this idea. They give out real candies to match the sites in the game (peppermints at the Candy Cane Forest, etc.). Here are a few websites with photos for inspiration: <http://www.findandgoseek.net/uploads/KTDifutf2R.jpg>; <http://recreationguy.com/how-to-put-together-a-life-size-candy-land-game-part-1/>;

<http://craftyengineering.blogspot.com/2012/04/board-game-theme-party-life-size.html>;  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OFg4qvQWfXA>.

- Decorate your tree with die cut shapes. Your District Office can supply paper mittens (about 5" - string 2 of them together with yarn and hang over branches!); gingerbread persons; old-fashioned Christmas light bulb shapes (add glitter to the base part!); and candy canes (order white and have kids color the red stripes!). You may call your District Office or order online at <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/diecuts>.
- And here's a early peek at our bulletin board suggestion for the winter season:



Your District Office can provide the book shapes, snowflakes, mouth dots and instructions for the snowman!

## Recently Added to the Iowa Library Services Collection . . .

The following are among the newest youth services titles available for you to borrow from the Iowa Library Services (State Library) collection:

- *Mostly Manga: A Genre Guide to Popular Manga, Manhwa, Manhua, and Anime*  
by Elizabeth F. S. Kalen
- *Urban Grit: A Guide to Street Lit*  
by Megan Honig
- *Comic Book Collections for Libraries*  
by Bryan D. Fagan
- *Librarian's Guide to Passive Programming: Easy and Affordable Activities for All Ages*  
by Emily T. Wichman
- *Serving Teen Parents: From Literacy to Life Skills*  
by Ellin Klor
- *Crash Course in Library Services to Preschool Children*  
by Betsy Diamant-Cohen

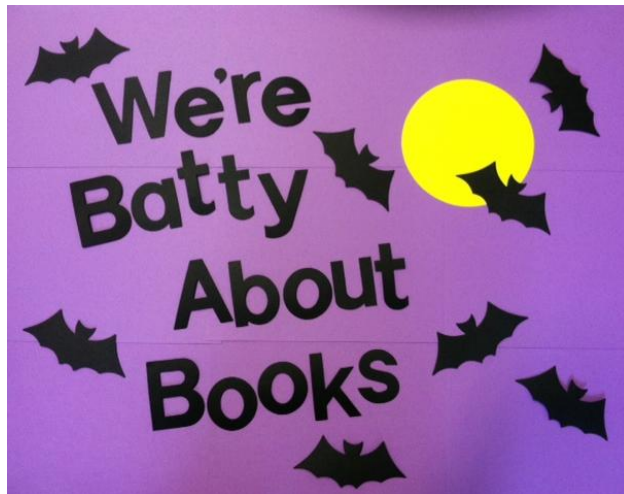
- *From Boardbook to Facebook: Children's Services in an Interactive Age*  
by Adele M. Fasick
- *Multicultural Storytime Magic*  
by Kathy MacMillan
- *Teens Go Green!: Tips, Techniques, Tools, and Themes for YA Programming*  
by Valerie Colston
- *Let the Games Begin! Engaging Students with Interactive Information Literacy Instruction*  
by Theresa R. McDevitt
- *Pop-Up Books: A Guide for Teachers and Librarians*  
by Nancy Bluemel

These titles may be requested through SILO interlibrary loan. See the website at <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/k-p/librarians/resources> for more information.

### Odds & Ends . . .

- 8 Great Picture Book Biographies - from Reading Rockets at <http://www.readingrockets.org/articles/books/c1270/>.

• Our simple Halloween bulletin board suggestion below features lettering, moon and bat shapes from your District Office. Lettering shown is 3" size and fills a space about 2' by 3'. You might add book covers, etc. to fill a larger space and complete the display.



- Two good interactive websites for teens:

Figment ([www.figment.com](http://www.figment.com)) is a website being used by thousands of budding teen writers—and their teachers and librarians. A good summary of this website is in the August 2012 issue of *School Library Journal*, and is available online:

<http://www.thedigitalshift.com/2012/08/k-12/connecting-the-plots-figment-is-turning-teenage-angst-into-published-prose/>

Another is Rookie (<http://rookiemag.com/>), a web-based magazine published by Tavi Gevinson, a 15-year-old girl who lives in Oak Park, Illinois who started it when she was 11. Here is a link about Tavi and Rookie:

<http://booktable.net/event/tavi-gevinson-rookie-yearbook-one>

~Thanks to Merri Monks of the Des Moines Office, Iowa Library Services for these suggestions!

