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FLYP Forward

January 2017

Volume 9, Issue 10

Newsletter Topics

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- C U on Social Media!
- Book Reviews From the Field

Quick Links

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Webinars

[The Magic of Music in Storytimes](#)
(Texas State Library and Archives)
1/31/17
3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Eastern

Check This Out!

FLYP Summer Workshops

January is the last stretch of workshops for the annual Collaborative Summer Library Program/Florida Library Youth Program. Youth services staff, media specialists and adult services staff are invited to attend these free, all-day workshops across the state. The theme for the summer is "Build a Better World."



For workshop dates and locations, please visit the [youth](#) and [adult](#) registration pages.

For more information about these workshops, please contact Jana Fine at jana.fine@dos.myflorida.com or 850.245.6629.

Digital Storytime: Kids, Apps and Libraries



The Public Library Development Team at the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction is proud to announce a [professional development course](#) about the role of apps and devices in the lives of young children and their families. **Digital Storytime: Kids, Apps and Libraries**

is a free online tool designed for public library staff serving youth and other educators.

For more information about the course, visit the Wisconsin Libraries for Everyone [blog](#).

January 2017 Celebration Weeks and Promotional Events

The links below will show you how to bring these promotions to your library. Don't forget to share your activities with others.

1/16/17

[Martin Luther King Day](#)

1/23/17

[National Handwriting Day](#)

1/28/17

[Chinese New Year](#)

1/29/17

[National Puzzle Day](#)

1/31/17

[Inspire Your Heart With Art Day](#)

Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) Teen Book Finder App

YALSA's free [Teen Book Finder app](#), available for both Android and iOS devices, is a helpful resource that lovers of young adult literature can use to access info about past YALSA award winners and lists on the go. App features include:



- The ability to search for books by author, title, award/list year, genre, award, and book list
- A Find It! button, powered by the OCLC WorldCat Search API, that will show users where to find a book in a nearby library
- The ability to share books from the Teen Book Finder on Twitter and Facebook

Both versions of the app are funded by the [Dollar General Literacy Foundation](#).



2018 CSLP Artist Announced

The [Collaborative Summer Library Program](#) is happy to announce that the 2018 artist for the Children and Early Literacy programs is [Brian Pinkney](#).

Acclaimed artist Brian Pinkney is the illustrator of several highly-praised picture books, including *The Faithful Friend*, *In the Time of the Drums* and *Duke Ellington*. He is a graduate of the University of the Arts in Philadelphia and holds a master's degree in illustration from the School of Visual Arts in New York. He lives in Brooklyn with his wife Andrea and his two children.

Brian will provide the music-themed artwork for the 2018 program, "Libraries Rock!"

National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards

The President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Institute of Museum and Library Services, is accepting applications for the [2017 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards](#).



Each of this year's 12 award winners will receive \$10,000 and an invitation to accept their award at a ceremony at the White House.

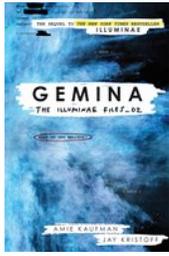
After-school and out-of-school-time arts and humanities programs, also known as Creative Youth Development programs, are encouraged to apply through the online National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards [webpage](#). The deadline for the application is Wednesday, February 8, 2017, at 8:00 p.m. Eastern.

C U on Social Media

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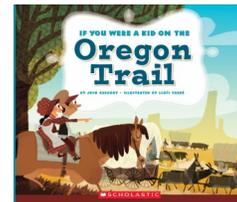
Kaufman, Amie, and Jay Kristoff. *The Illuminae Files 02*. New York: Random House, 2015.

The Illuminae Files 02 is an epistolary novel and the second installment of *The Illuminae* trilogy. It is thick and complex, and after you get a handle on the format, the book has a creative style that is fun. The story opens with a tribunal transcript, and there is a heated hearing taking place. Through a series of flashbacks (transcribed video footage, recovered electronic messages and even a teenage girl's journal with a bullet hole in a corner), the reader is introduced to a myriad of characters. If you had to compare it to a song, Shawn Mendes' "Treat You Better" would be a good pick. The artist even shares a striking resemblance to our "Romeo-esque" character, the drug lord Prince Nik Malikov. Every prince needs a princess, and the intelligent, beautiful Hanna Donnelly, a defense expert, is a resilient counterpart. Nik and Hanna have a Romeo and Juliet style relationship, with a very modern and intergalactic twist. This book would be ideal for teenagers and older. The majority of all profane language has literally been redacted, so there are many things left to the imagination.

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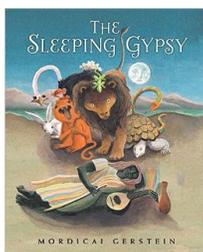
Gregory, Josh. *If You Were a Kid on the Oregon Trail*. New York: Children's Press, 2016.

It's the middle of the 19th century, and Stephen and Josephine are accompanying their families on the Oregon Trail. During their 2,000 mile trek, they see new landscapes and experience peaceful encounters with Native American tribes like the Ute. Josephine records these experiences in her journal -- until the day she loses it. Stephen stumbles upon her book and decides to keep it, hoping that he will find the owner. Their journey by horse and wagon lasts six months. During this time, the children keep busy with daily chores. But there's revelry as they near the end of the trail, and the settlers celebrate with music around a campfire. Josephine befriends Stephen and unexpectedly gets her journal back. Upon reaching their destination, Josephine's family will stay in town while Stephen's family plans to claim farmland. The children promise to keep in touch.



The author uses accessible language to explain what life was like at this point in American history. Furthermore, the inclusion of historical snapshots expertly blends fact and fiction: Josephine's journal keeping is typical, since cameras were uncommon; the death of fellow travelers is sad but not surprising because there weren't doctors to treat illnesses like the flu. At the back of the book, a simple illustration of the Oregon Trail provides readers with a visual reference for Stephen and Josephine's journey. There is also a timeline, a glossary of five key terms and an index. This book is recommended for its general overview of the subject supplemented by Lluís Farré's cartoonish illustrations.

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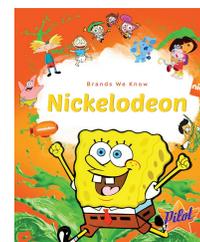
Gerstein, Mordicai. *The Sleeping Gypsy*. New York: Holiday House, 2016.

What happened to the girl in Henri Rousseau's painting *The Sleeping Gypsy*? Gerstein imagines the answer and depicts a delightful tale beginning with the gypsy traveling through the desert and falling asleep under a starry night sky. Slowly, a lizard, a rabbit, a lion and other animals approach and ask about the girl. Rousseau enters and explains that this is his dream and begins to paint the scene. Each of the animals begins to get restless and criticizes over Rousseau's shoulder. He eventually scrapes out each one, until only the lion is left, standing over the girl in the moonlight. The author's note ends the story, briefly describing Henri Rousseau's life and the painting. The artwork is vivid and a lively rendition of Rousseau's style. Inspired and playful, this book will entertain both adults and children. Recommended for kindergartners to third graders.

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Green, Sara. *Nickelodeon*. Minnetonka, MN: Bellwether Media, 2017.

Sporting a bright orange cover decorated with familiar cartoon characters, *Nickelodeon*, by Sara Green, has strong, visual appeal for younger readers. This nonfiction title chronicles the history of the *Nickelodeon* television network, beginning with its humble start as a children's educational channel called *Pinwheel* in 1977. An overview of cartoons created by *Nickelodeon* provides some interesting facts about their animators. The book concludes with descriptions of how *Nickelodeon* positively affects the lives of its viewers by encouraging them to be active outdoors and inspiring children to protect the environment.



While *Nickelodeon* and its cartoons are undoubtedly popular, this book falls short of creating an engaging summary. Parts of it, including a description of *Nickelodeon's* various channels and time slots, feel tedious. Its intended audience, readers in third through fifth grades, may be willing to overlook such shortcomings because of the energetic nature of both the format and the illustrations.

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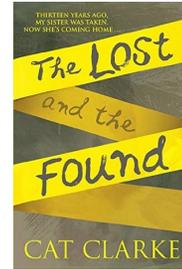
Romanoff, Zan. *A Song to Take the World Apart*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2016.

We've all heard legends about sirens – mythical creatures who lured sailors to their deaths with their enchanted voices. But what if you were told that sirens are real and that you are a siren and can influence people's feelings and actions by only singing a few notes? Lorelei thinks that she is an ordinary teenage girl who lives an uneventful life and has an ordinary, albeit slightly dysfunctional family. The only strange thing in her life is that she is not allowed to sing. And Lorelei wants – really needs – to sing; otherwise, she feels like she might explode. The novel presents an interesting take on a teenage girl's path to growing up that is complicated by her being a mythological creature with superpowers. The book is sweet and lyrical, a smooth and easy read, although at times it feels a bit unfocused. The author starts quite a few side plot lines, and not all of them get fully developed. Regardless, teen readers, especially girls, will enjoy the story. For strict parents and reader advisors: there are occasional curse words, a couple of scenes with drinking and drugs, and a few (not explicit) sexual situations. Appropriate for ages 13 and up.

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Clarke, Cat. *The Lost and the Found*. New York: Crown Books for Young Readers, 2016.

Faith has spent most of her life living in the shadow of her sister, Laurel Logan, who was abducted right from their front yard. Laurel's face is plastered everywhere. Laurel (or her absence) has been the dominating fixture in Faith's life. Her family, devastated by the loss, has splintered. But everything changes when Laurel returns. Faith has her sister back. It's a miracle... right?



Clarke weaves a very moving and realistic tale of family and loss. Faith's voice and conflicted feelings are very authentic. She misses her sister but sometimes resents all the attention Laurel gets. When Laurel returns, Faith is even more conflicted. She desperately wanted Laurel back. But now that Laurel is home (and acting suspiciously), Faith resents her presence even more than her absence.

Clarke does an excellent job showing the impact of Laurel's return on her family and building conflict between the two sisters. The story has wonderful character development, and the reader can really feel the impact that the abduction had on Laurel's family. However, too much time is spent painting this picture. Once Laurel returns, the story slows down. It isn't until nearly the end of the book that the plot really kicks into gear. The reader can sense that there is a big twist coming fairly early on, with a few hints here and there. Unfortunately, it plays out in a rather hurried and somewhat predictable manner right at the end, rather than building throughout the story.

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Vincent, Rachel. *The Flame Never Dies*. New York: Delacorte Press, 2016.

Nina's quest to save what remains of her family leads her to unfathomable choices. Is it within her power to save the life of her sister and that of her unborn child? The price may be her own life. People aren't always who they appear to be -- literally. Friend or foe? Learning the answer to that question might be fatal.

What seems innocent and pure can be pure evil in this sequel to *The Stars Never Rise*. Vincent's suspenseful twists permeate this page-turner. Young adults will be demanding more novels featuring these memorable characters.

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Florida Library Youth Program

FLYP Forward provides information about the Florida Library Youth Program and Florida's public libraries.

This project was funded under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Florida's LSTA program is administered by the Department of State's Division of Library and Information Services.

