

Oyan Review

oregon young adult network

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Teen Mystery Program

By, Marian Rose; Seaside Public Library

I consider myself lucky that my library is right across the street from our district middle school. The teen events are held after school on Tuesdays for one hour (unofficially an hour and a half). Although, it's easy ac-

cess for teens to attend after school, keeping it interesting and fun (while introducing what the library has to offer) to keep them coming back and wanting more can be a challenge. When I scheduled a murder mystery in the library I had no idea where to start. But, like many of us, I turned to other

libraries who have taken the challenge on before me. I found a library district that offered a free download of their teen mystery program and re-wrote the whole thing to fit my library. I made a brochure with information about the event and delivered them to the mid-



Catalog search for clue

dle school. The victim was a librarian, the six suspects (book charac-

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QPR: Question. Persuade. Refer.

By, Julie Jeanmard; Cottage Grove Public Library

Cindy Womack presented a workshop at the OYAN fall meeting from the QPR Institute about suicide prevention. Suicide is preventable and

intervention does help. In fact, survivors of suicide attempts report immediate regret once the action was taken and a want to live. It is often a solution to a perceived problem that stems from pain and hopelessness. Three signs of suicide can be

direct/indirect comments, behavioral cues, or situational circumstances. Comments can include "I am going to... (harm myself)." or "I don't want to be here anymore." Behavioral cues might be previous attempts, giving away one's belongings, clean-

ing out their room/locker, or religious interest gain or loss. Some circumstances that can trigger suicidal thoughts are expulsion from school, loss of a relationship, death of a loved one, financial insecurity, fear of punishment (for example, juve-

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Teen Mystery Program, cont.

ters; Harry Potter, Katniss Everdeen, etc.) motives pertained to reasons patrons get upset with the library at times (computer time is up, have to pay fees before you can check out another book, etc.), the weapons (stapler, cup of coffee laced with poison, etc.), and where the crime took



Fireplace search for next clue

place (teen room, kids room etc.) all enticed their interests to be involved. With 17 teens at the event we broke them up into 5 teams. Each team started with 3 cards and a clue of how to get the next card and another clue. With most of the clues they had to find a specific copy of a book, in a specific section of the library and they had to keep the books as they continued. Some clues sent them to areas or landmarks in the library that they might not think about. We have a geochron world clock, a free seed exchange, free paperback exchange, and an old travel trunk that they never really pay attention to or

know where they are located. If they found all of those and still were not confident to solve the crime, they could earn more clues by reading a-loud a page from

one of the books they found or decode a Morse code message. The part that tripped them up the most? NOT reading the whole clue or

looking in the catalogue for the author or title or location. For example: "Percy was assigned to read Shakespeare's classic play "The Tempest." He didn't get past the first five words and flunked his assignment, but if you find the **adult copy** of this book, you

just might be rewarded with a clue." This team did not read the whole clue and went straight to a Shakespeare biography. Finally they went to the catalogue and

entered The Tempest, found the play in 822.33 with a card and another clue. They all read-a-loud and they all decoded a Morse code message, but 2 teams ran out of time and had to make a best guess and 2 teams solved the crime. The event took the whole hour, but they could've used about 15 more minutes to really feel confident about solving the crime. They were surprisingly quiet throughout the library once they realized how much thinking and searching was involved. They all had a lot of fun and would love to do it again. I would be happy to share the process to anyone interested. Contact me at mrose@cityofseaside.us or 503-738-6742

New YALSA Teen Services Competencies for Library

YALSA has updated their Competencies for Librarians Serving Youth with a rebrand. [Teen Services Competencies for Library Staff](#) is intended to be a resource for all staff who serve youth in libraries regardless of whether the library has the capacity to dedicate a full-time position to serving teens. It is intended to set a foundation for the education and professional development of all library staff, regardless of job title, and to provide guidance for determining practitioner skills and knowledge.

Cat Winters Visits Cedar Mill Library

By, Mark Richardson; Cedar Mill Library

On November 8th, Author Cat Winters visited the Cedar Mill Library to discuss her *The Steep and Thorny Way* and her new book, *Odd and True*. There were nearly thirty teens in attendance and some of them had read everything she had written. Cat went through her writing process in detail regarding *The Steep and Thorny Way*, an historical fiction book set in Oregon about a biracial girl investigating her father's death in the 1920's. She said that the book was inspired by Hamlet.



Teens strike a pose in front of the *Odd & True* Poster



Ms. Winters told the kids about Oregon's particular history regarding

African Americans and the exclusion laws that kept them from settling in Oregon long after we became a state. She discussed the history of the Klan in Oregon and how many place names and famous buildings are named for Klan members. For example, the recently renamed Unthank Hall at the University of Oregon was previously named for former UO professor and KKK leader Frederick Dunn. For Ms. Winters, story ideas evolve from historical events that stick with her. The exclusion laws were events that she felt current teens should know about. *The Steep and Thorny Way* came out of that genesis.



Cat Winters presents her slideshow on *The Steep and Thorny Way*

compare the language and events. It was interesting to see how she worked in some of the ideas from *Hamlet* into her novel.

During the last half hour, kids asked some great ques-

tions about her writing process and posed in front of a large poster of her new book. She even brought props so they could pretend to be either *Odd* or *True*.

In general, the event was a great success and enlightening to the kids in attendance. Have her out if you get the chance!

For an interactive part of her presentation, Ms. Winters had several teens come up and read scenes from her novel and from *Hamlet* to

For more information about Cat Winters' books or events, check out her website.
WWW.CATWINTERS.COM

QPR: Question. Persuade. Refer. cont.

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nile detention), or rejection from peers/friends.

The first step in prevention is to question the person. Asking about suicidal thoughts doesn't cause someone to think about suicide or follow through; it opens the door to helping them. If in doubt, ask. Use a private setting when there is time to have a full discussion. When asking, make sure to listen and not argue. Questions might be direct, "Are you thinking of killing yourself?" or, "When there's a loss, people wish they're dead. Do you feel

that way?" Questions can also be indirect, "Do you ever wish to go to sleep and not wake up?" One thing not to do is be judgmental or leading as it may prevent the person from feeling comfortable sharing and they might simply respond, "No." An example of such a question is, "Surely you're not thinking of suicide."

The next step is persuade the person to get help. While listening, be non-judgmental and offer hope; express how important they are to you. Say things such as, "Will you let me help you get help?" or

"Let's call this number together and just see what they have to say." This can lead to the last step, refer. The best approach is to take them directly to get help. The next best is to get a commitment from them to accept help. The third best option is to offer resources and try to get them to promise that they will seek help before acting on committing suicide. After the talk, follow up. Call them or talk to them in person and ask how they are.

Find out more at the [QPR Institute](#)

Events and Opportunities

[90-Second Newberry Film Festival](#)

April 14, 2018
Open Signal, Portland
[Reserve your free seat](#)

[OLA Annual Conference—Many Points of Light, One Bright Future](#)

April 18-21, 2018
Eugene Hilton

[Oregon Reference Summit](#)

Friday, June 1, 2018
Lasells Stuart Center,
Oregon State University

[The Minoru Yasui Day Essay Contest](#)

Middle and High School students can win a cash prize by writing an essay after watching a video about Minoru Yasui Submissions due March 1, 2018.

[Geek Squad Academy](#)

Best Buy and Geek Squad will lead a tech camp for under-served youth ages 10-18. Submissions due February 1, 2018

[Ezra Jack Keats Foundation Mini-Grant](#)

Up to \$500 for a public school, library, or pre-school for programs that support Common Core standards. Submissions due 11:59pm EST March 31, 2018

[ALA Pat Carterette Professional Development Grant](#)

Up to \$1,000 for professional development taking place between Sept 1, 2018 and August 31, 2018. Applications due February 15th, 2018. Open to nonmembers.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome Greta Bergquist as the new Youth Services Consultant at the State Library. Her first day will be January 31st

OYAN offers scholarships of up to \$350 to members in good standing to attend local, state and national conferences relating to library service to young adults

The OYAN Goodreads profile has been remade as a Goodreads group. This will allow us better support library services to youth. Suggestions or submissions can be sent to oyanpublications@gmail.com

We welcome all your comments, articles, photos, book reviews, ideas, and suggestions for future OYAN Review newsletters!
Please submit to
oyanpublications@gmail.com.

Upcoming Meetings

Winter 2018	January 26 11:00-3:00	Springfield Public Library
Spring 2018	May 4th 11:00-3:00	Tillamook County Library
Summer 2018	July 27th 12:00-4:00	Deschutes Public Library

OYAN [Oregon Young Adult Network] exists to provide a network for communication and growth among people who provide library services to teens, to increase awareness of teen library services in the state of Oregon, and to promote cooperation between school and public libraries.

Visit us online at <http://tinyurl.com/8mzjq5n>.