

**OYAN Winter Quarterly Meeting – 1/29/2021 - 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Zoom Remote Meeting**

Attending

Ian Duncanson – Beaverton City Library

Katie Anderson – WCCLS

Keli Yeats – Multnomah County Library, Rockwood Branch

Rachel Timmons – Hood River County Library District

Lisa Elliott – Tigard Public Library

Amy Grimes – Lake Oswego Public Library

Aimee Meuchel – Tualatin Public Library

Brianna Sowinski – North Plains Public Library

Bobbye Hernandez – Multnomah County Public Library

Tara Morissette – Oregon City Public Library

Greta Bergquist – State Library

Star Todd – Jefferson County Library District

Marilyn Kearney – Tillamook County Library

Katie Patterson – Aloha Community Library

Marian Rose – Seaside Public Library

Denise Auld – Multnomah County Public Library, Holgate

Sonja Somerville – Salem Public Library

What is your favorite icebreaker to use with teens?

- If you were a plant, which would you be?
- What's the last thing you read and what did you think of it?
- What's your LEAST favorite thing about X holiday?
- What is your favorite candy?
- Zoom Pictionary using the whiteboard feature
- What has been getting you through the pandemic?
- What have you been watching or listening to?

Publications Report / OYAN Blog Themes and Ideas (Katie Anderson)

Katie Anderson shared the publications report and asked the group for OYAN Blog Themes and Ideas.

Publications report:

- Facebook seems to be doing okay. From the public view, we aren't getting many likes and shares. Please like and share facebook posts because the more we do that the more they will be pushed to the top of followers' news feeds and the more reach we'll have. From the administrative view, each post is pretty regularly "reaching" 15-25 people. For example, the post promoting the Mock Printz event was liked by 5 people and shared by 7 people and reached 483 people. We can also tag CSD to help promote, and we encourage them to tag us.
- The blog is doing great in all aspects. She just needs more topic suggestions. She currently has social justice and mental health on the list of future topics. Are there any other blog topic ideas?
- **Katie Anderson** is working on the Annual Review now and hoping to publish it in late March. She asked someone to please send her the editable template for the OYAN Review. **Sonja** will check to see if she has the publisher file. Canva and Library Aware also came up as possibilities to shift the newsletter over to. Newsletters can be done for free on Canva. **Katie Anderson** will look into these.
Library staff have contacted **Katie Anderson** about writing article on the following topics:
 - An interactive virtual library role playing game library staff created called "Library Fantasy"
 - Discord
 - Escape rooms
 - YALSA's Outstanding Books for the College Bound
 - Jackbox Games by Sonja Somerville, Salem Public Library (received!)
 - A multi-generational book club on discord written by a teen!
 - Book review written by teens at Cedar Mill Community Library submitted by Mark Richardson (received!)

Other topics coming up – social justice, mental health, and support for LGBTQIA+ teens. **Katie** encourages anyone to send ideas to her!

Book Rave (Sonja)

Sonja shared a presentation on the Book Rave to show how the voting came out. There were 56 viable nominations and we need to narrow the list down to 20.

2021 Book Rave Results

Top tier ~ 11-21 votes	Top tier ~ 8-11 votes	Lower tier - 7 votes
Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You by Jason Reynolds (21)	We Are Not Free by Traci Chee (11)	Kent State by Deborah Wiles (7)
Elatsoe by Darcie Little Badger (14)	Girls Save the World in This One by Ash Parsons (11)	The Rise and Fall of Charles Lindbergh (7)
Clap When You Land by Elizabeth Acevedo (14)	Red Hood by Elena Arnold (9)	The Black Flamingo by Dean Atta (7)
Cemetery Boys by Aiden Thomas (13)	We Are Not from Here by Jenny Torres Sanchez (9)	Felix Ever After by Karl Callender (7)
This Book is Anti-Racist by Tiffany Jewell (12)	Punching the Air by Ibi Zoboi (9)	Not So Pure and Simple by Lamar Giles (7)
The Left-Handed Booksellers of London by Garth Nix (11)	Darius the Great Deserves Better by Adib Khorram (8)	The Extraordinaries by T.J. Klune (7)

Comments ...

Objection - STAMPED - 21 votes

Stamped! Many inaccuracies throughout. I have a BIPOC friend who is a history buff and a librarian. She noted many errors and inconsistencies and was disappointed in this young readers' edition. She felt Jason just endorsed it and did not do his due diligence. Be careful if you add this to the Book Rave!

Support - Elatsoe - 14 votes

"Elatsoe", because it's a fantastic book, but also because it's rare (though becoming less so, thank goodness) to see a Native American writer recommended.

Support - This Book is Anti-Racist - 12 votes

(1) This Book is Anti-Racist has an immediacy and is put together in digestible chunks - very accessible. (2) "This Book is Anti-Racist" is excellent because it includes identity exercises for readers, something I don't always see in YA books. "Stamped" is a fascinating history book that covers things we should be taught in school but are not. (3) "This Book is Anti-Racist" provides a wonderful global context and give people actionable items to focus on. While slim, it provides more meaningful information than most H.S. history text books.

Support - We Are Not Free - 11

We are not free - Excellent perspectives from 12 or 13 teens. Well written and well developed characters. I was able to keep each of the characters straight in my mind.

- We discussed *Stamped* by Jason Reynolds, which received the most votes, and the objection to it. **Lisa** recalled that teens in her Mock Printz group did not particularly like it and didn't like the conversational writing style. **Sonja** recalled teens in her group being more positive about it. **Sonja** was unable to find corroboration for the comment about the inaccuracies. We talked about how the Book Rave list will inevitably reflect the perspective of the people who vote on the list. **Ian** said he thought it was a good book for middle grade readers and a jumping off point for the topic, but that it was inevitably going to be different from the Ibram X Kendi version, which is the full book. **Bobbye** pointed out that *American Dirt* was also a well-reviewed book

that was later revealed to be very problematic. **Denise** pointed out that history books are written from different perspectives. We discussed that this was not intended to be an in-depth history and that Jason Reynolds himself said, "This is not a history book..." **Lisa** said that she thought this was a euphemism to mean "not boring," but that she thought it was definitely a history book.

Decision – After discussion and a vote, it was decided that the book belongs on the Rave list. **Sonja** said that she would still follow-up to be sure.

- Breakdown of the inclusion stats:

Top 18 Stats

Middle School - 8
High school - 16

Fantasy - 4
Realistic Fiction - 8
Science Fiction - 2
Non-Fiction - 3
Historical Fiction - 2

Latinx representation - 3
African-American representation - 6
Asian-American representation - 2
Native American representation - 1
International representation - 3
LGBTQ+ representation - 8

Oregon Author/Setting - 2

To Consider for Round 2 Voting ... 5-6 votes

High school ...

Burn by Patrick Ness (fantasy/historical fiction; NW author/setting)

The Hand on the Wall by Maureen Johnson (mystery)

Tigers, Not Daughters by Samantha Mabry (magical realism)

Middle school ...

Prairie Lotus by Linda Sue Park (historical fiction)

Clean Getaway by Nic Stone (mystery/thriller)

Comments ... About Prairie Lotus ...

FOR ... Prairie Lotus--it's a very well-done response to the Laura Ingalls Wilder "Little House" books, and I think it needs not only more attention, but more knowledge of what the book is trying to do (spark conversation about both this book *and* the books it's responding to).

AGAINST ... Prairie Lotus is a HOT mess! Hanna is NOT 1/2 Chinese as mentioned throughout the storyline. She is 1/4 Chinese, 1/4 Korean, and 1/2 European. For Linda Sue Park to want to write a Korean girl into this time period is inaccurate! Just because Park loved the Little House series, she should not be recognized for this effort. It is insulting as a person of Chinese decent to have a character who is actually 1/4 Chinese, but is mentioned as 1/2 Chinese throughout the storyline. Why would you want to denounce your other heritage (i.e. Korean)? This book is getting a lot of pushback from the Korean communities!

- We discussed the balance of the list. **Sonja** felt that we had solid middle school picks and representation from different voices and communities. We discussed *Prairie Lotus* by Linda Sue Park and the for / against comments on it. **Greta** said that it was just awarded an Asian Pacific American Library Award in the YMAS. She said that maybe there should be room for texts that aren't perfect for everyone and questioned if we are having different standards for books that are written by BIPOC. She said that we should analyze the harm that the books have the potential to do – i.e., *Little House on the Prairie* is very harmful.

Decision – We decided to move forward with the book on the secondary ballot since it has been vetted by the library world and garnered a major award.

To Consider for Round 2 Voting ...

Missed in Error ...

Black Brother, Black Brother by Jewell Parker Rhodes (middle school, realistic fiction)

The Voting Booth by Brandy Colbert (middle/high school, realistic fiction)

Fighting Words by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley (middle school; realistic fiction)

Lobizona by Romina Garber (high school; fantasy)

New Nominations ...

Sanctuary by Paola Mendoza and Abby Sher

It is an engaging book that deals with very relevant social issues. It probably fits best under science fiction/dystopian, but it is really a book about US immigration policy. It has strong representation, especially regarding families that have mixed immigration statuses.

The Last Tree by Beth Turley

Puerto Rican protagonist dealing with family, sister's mental illness, Puerto Rican identity. A quiet book without much press. This is my dark horse for the Newbery!

- **Sonja** realized that four books were not included on the initial ballot, so these will be added to the secondary ballot. There were also two new nominations that came up that will be included.

Other books – 2–4 votes

A Song Below Water by Bethany Morrow (fantasy; Oregon author)

Yes, No, Maybe So by Becky Albertelli and Aisha Saeed

Foul is Fair by Hannah Capin

Song of Wraiths and Ruins by Roseanne Brown

Raybearer by Jordan Ifueko

Woven in Moonlight by Isabel Ibanez

A Good Girl's Guide to Murder by Holly Jackson

What I Carry by Jennifer Longo

Watch Over Me by Nina La Coeur

The Kingdom of Back by Marie Lu

The Fell of Dark by Caleb Roehrig

Bent Heavens by Daniel Kraus

You Know I'm No Good by Jessie Ann Foley

The Feminist Agenda of Jemima Kincaid by Kate Hettemer

Anna K: A Love Story by Jenny Lee

The Mall by Megan McCafferty

Furia by Yamile Saied Mendez

Everything Sad is Untrue: A True Story by Daniel Nayeri

Girl from Nowhere by Tiffany Rosenhan

The Falling in Love Montage by Ciara Smyth

- **Lisa** asked if we should include the Printz winner, *Everything Sad is Untrue*. We also decided to include *What I Carry* by Jennifer Longo – **Sonja** advocated strongly for it. **Bobbye** and **Katie Anderson** both advocated for *Furia* by Yamile Saied Méndez. We decided to add the 7 vote books to the second ballot. **Sonja** will have the second ballot out soon.

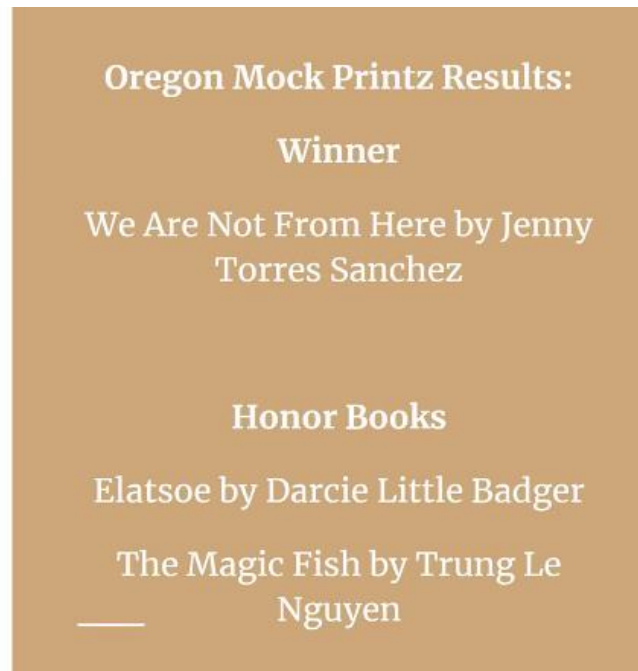
Mock Printz (Sonja)

MESSAGES FROM AUTHORS!

What incredible news and I'm so honored!! Many thanks to you and all the readers and coordinators of the Oregon Young Adult Network Mock Printz committee. To know We Are Not From Here was read and discussed in this way is amazing and wow, just truly means a lot to me!! Thank you all from the bottom of my heart for this honor, and for taking the time and care with this book.

Most sincerely,

Jenny



- **Sonja** shared slides as a report from the Mock Printz Workshop. She felt it went well in a virtual environment and liked that we had more people – especially more teen participation! The virtual nature eliminated the geographic / ride problems and created more equity. **Sonja** suggested trying a virtual workshop next year. She also said that a hybrid format where people in small groups have a laptop with virtual participants might also be a good possibility.
- All three authors wrote back with gracious notes:

What incredible news and I'm so honored!! Many thanks to you and all the readers and coordinators of the Oregon Young Adult Network Mock Printz committee. To know We Are Not From Here was read and discussed in this way is amazing and wow, just truly means a lot to me!! Thank you all from the bottom of my heart for this honor, and for taking the time and care with this book.

Most sincerely,
Jenny

Oh wow!! Thank you for sharing this wonderful news and for honoring Elatsoe! It's been several months since publication, but I still can't believe that people are reading my book. Every time I see Elatsoe listed alongside titles like We Are Not From Here, The Magic Fish, and Clap When You Land, I'm tempted to pinch myself and make sure that I'm not dreaming :D Please extend my gratitude to everyone who participated in the Oregon Mock Printz; the support (and enjoyment) of Elatsoe is deeply appreciated.

Now, I got to share this good news with everyone at Levine Querido!

All my best,
Darcie

What an incredible honor! Please extend my thanks and appreciation for everyone who loved The Magic Fish! It's in some excellent company!

All my best,
Trung

Raffle (Rachel / Denise)

- **Rachel** talked about the 2021 OYAN Raffle, which will have no in-person component this year. A lot of people who would normally give donations are struggling. She asked about whether or not we should have the Sylvia Beach prize this year. **K'Lyn** previously suggested doing a 50/50 raffle, where the winner gets a percentage. It was discussed that this would probably run afoul of ethics rules. **Rachel** is looking into this format and has contacted Shirley and Buzzy about the rules. Another possibility would be to donate a percentage of the money to an organization of the winner's choice.
- Other possibilities that came up – a low amount of prizes that are easy to mail, i.e. e-gift cards or gift cards and certificates that can be mailed in normal envelopes.
Donating the money to a library of the winner's choice.
- **Decision** – We will purchase some gift cards and contact Sylvia Beach to see if they will donate one night. If not, we will purchase additional gift cards. We will purchase gift cards from Oregon businesses. Businesses were suggested, including Made in Oregon, Columbia Sportswear, Portland Center Stage, Keen, and more. **Rachel** and **Denise** will continue working on it.

Summer Reading Rep Role (Lisa)

- **Lisa, Nicole Newsom** (the CSD rep), and **Greta** have discussed the summer reading rep role and how to communicate with members. She has been chatting with **Katie Anderson** about using the blog to post resources for OYAN members while still keeping it focused on teen services.
- **Lisa** asked the group what they expect from the summer reading rep now that we have switched to iRead and it is no longer a big national meeting. She encouraged people to e-mail suggestions and questions to her - lisae@tigard-or.gov.
- **Greta** will dedicate the last Tuesday office hours of every month to summer reading discussions.

OYAN Check-Ins (Keli)

- **Keli** checked in to see if the group was interested in restarting the Thursday OYAN check-ins, which were discontinued. **Lisa** said that maybe we should try for a more informal, off-work happy hour.
- **Decision** – **Keli** will look into setting up a casual happy hour with Jackbox games or other activities outside of work hours, once per month. She encouraged people to send ideas. She will share it via Memberclicks and with people in CSD and OASL.

OYAN Anti-Racist Statement (Keli)

- **Keli** shared [the draft](#) of the OYAN EDI statement with the group for feedback. All of the [OLA units](#) are making EDI statements. [The EDI task force](#) will also develop toolkits for libraries. We looked at this draft at the executive team meeting earlier in January. The statement draft was written before the January 6th events in Washington DC, which made her decide that she wanted to strengthen the statement further. After the statement has been developed, we will develop a specific action plan.
- **Marian** suggested moving the OYAN statement in the final paragraph to the beginning for clarity and introduction purposes.
- **Lisa** suggested expanding the statement about libraries historically reflecting the dominant culture.
- **Katie Patterson** suggested changing “racist oppression” to “racial oppression.”
- We brainstormed anti-racist action plan ideas. **Lisa** suggested collection diversity audit training, tools to develop an equity lens that members can apply to library policies, and trauma-informed care. Trainings on civic engagement / safe protest / political action. **Katie Anderson** suggested workforce development trainings and more booklists for the blog. She pointed out that the [LGBTQIA+ booklists](#) are some of the most downloaded resource on the blog. OYAN could support this more intentionally along with the action plan. **Ian** suggested trainings from community groups that work with BIPOC youth, i.e. [Self Enhancement Inc.](#) and [Unite Oregon](#). **Katie** suggested [Naya](#). **Keli** said that other ideas can be emailed to oyan@olaweb.org.

OYEA! Award (Keli)

- **Keli** asked if OYAN should reopen nominations or go with the single nomination from last year that was not awarded.
- **Lisa** suggested opening it to multiple recognitions for work during the pandemic.
- **Sonja** suggested having two winners, the one from last year and this year, and making it a double ceremony. She said that we could also plan a social time near OLA; an OYAN virtual reception has been planned during OLA.

- **Decision** – We will open nominations up again this year and make it a double ceremony to include last year’s winner, who was not officially awarded.

Next Meetings (Keli)

- Spring virtual meeting – **Friday, May 7th**.
- (Tentative) for summer meeting – **Friday, July 9th**.

Final Announcement from Greta - I just wanted to let everyone know Danielle Jones and I have been working on revamping a YALSA project we've been working on since Nov 2019 with April Witteveen - We are offering workshops online for teen-serving librarians in March, using the State Library's Niche Academy online platform. More details coming soon!

Final Announcement from Sonja – Salem is gearing up to move back into the library! Potential fall meeting – a virtual tour or hosted in-person. She shared pictures of the new Teen Scene at Salem!



