

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Midwinter Meeting, San Diego
January 7 - 11, 2011**

Topic:

Background:

Taskforce proposal was accepted as presented. Since that time staff worked out the logistics for this new list, based on the information laid out in the proposal. A draft policies and procedures document was submitted to the Executive Committee for review at their Oct. meeting. Based on their feedback, the document was modified and a final draft of the policies and procedures accompanies this message. The first committee has been appointed by Sarah Flowers and is began its work December 1st. In November the Board voted via ALA Connect to accept the policies and procedures as amended, based on Board feedback

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Committee: YALSA has a standing committee to oversee the nomination and voting process.

- **Charge:** To oversee the development of YALSA's annual Readers' Choice List, including confirming the genres/categories; receiving, organizing and vetting the nominations; and assisting staff with disseminating nominations and conducting the online vote in November.
- **Members:** Seven virtual committee members, including a Chair, are appointed by YALSA's President-Elect and may serve up to two one-year terms. The first year will be a trial year, and the member may serve an additional one-year term based on the member's first year performance and his/her interest and availability in serving another year.
- **Chair:** One member of the committee will be appointed by the President-Elect to serve as Chair for a one-year term. While the primary role of the Chair is to facilitate the work of the Committee, the Chair will have the right to participate in all Committee activities.
- **Organization:** The Committee may operate as a committee of the whole, collectively vetting the nominations in each of the categories, or it may wish to subdivide so that each of its members is responsible for vetting a single category. In order to ensure the timeliness of the list, each year's committee will have the latitude to select its own additional 'wild card' category, if it so chooses, to supplement the six broad categories that are used each year: horror/thriller, mystery/crime, nonfiction, realistic fiction, romance and science fiction/fantasy.
- **Responsibilities:**
 - The primary role of the committee is to vet and track the nomination forms and use that information to compile monthly nomination lists and to create the final ballot.
 - Nominations are only vetted to ensure that titles meet eligibility requirements, as stated below.
 - Each year the committee may opt to choose one 'wild card' category to be added to the existing six categories. 'Wild card' categories should be selected by genre, not format, and they may not conflict or overlap with other YALSA selected lists. If the committee opts to create a 'wild card' category, it will be in effect for a full year.
 - Periodically (every 3 to 5 years) the committee will evaluate the six recurring topics to ensure that they still have wide appeal with teens, and make any adjustments if necessary.
 - It is not the responsibility of the committee to nominate titles; however, committee members may cast their vote in the final ballot.
- **Ethics**
 - Committee members are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards at all times and to represent YALSA with integrity. Participation in YALSA's committees is subject to the observance of the organization's policies and procedures as outlined in YALSA's Handbook.
 - Committee members must not solicit publishers for free personal copies of books or materials. If members receive, or are offered, unsolicited copies of books or materials from publishers, they may accept the titles.
 - Committee members must not solicit publishers for favors, invitations, etc. If members receive these, however, they will use their own judgment in accepting in

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accordance with the conflict of interest policy mentioned above. Publishers understand that such acceptance in no way influences members' actions or selections.

- Committee members must not attempt in any way to manipulate the list of nominations, the final ballot or the voting process.

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current as of October 1. Readers' Choice List Committee members are each eligible to cast a vote in the final ballot.

Availability of Nominations, Ballot & Winners

The nominations will be updated at the start of each month beginning in February and made available through YALSA's web site. The final ballot will be available to YALSA members only the first week of November, and the winners will be posted online the first week of December.

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Sample citation

YALSA Readers' Choice List Committee. "2011 Readers' Choice List."
Young Adult Library Services Association. [insert date published on the web]. Young Adult Library Services Association, Web. [insert date accessed by user]. <www.ala.org/yalsa/rcl>.

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