

Division or Committee Name:

Teen Services Division & James Cook Book Award Committee

Submitted by:

Caitlynn Melick

Did you sponsor program(s) at OLC events? (Conferences, Convention and Expo, etc.)

Yes

List Professional Development program(s), date(s), and provide brief overview of program(s):

We're Back! Jumpstarting Your Teen Program Post-Pandemic presented as an unprogram on October 14th, 2021 at Convention. Presenter Elizabeth Strauss of Dover Public Library led participants through a discussion of plans to get teens back into Ohio's public libraries.

Building Better Youth Relationships with Staff presented on October 15th, 2021 at Convention. Presenters Tara Shiman and Desiree Thomas of Worthington Libraries discussed teen brain development; maintaining digital social connections with teens during a pandemic; and effective ways to break down the barriers that can exist with staff and teens.

Did you host an OLC Connects table at the Convention and Expo?

Yes

Did you distribute any print or electronic communications (newsletters, articles, publications)?

Yes

Briefly describe communications:

The "Steal These Ideas" for programming packet was updated and reformatted for Convention & Expo. These were so popular that all 250 (approximately) were handed out at Expo.

Did you utilize the OLC website?

No

Did you create any new partnerships or initiatives?

Yes

If yes, please describe partnerships/initiatives:

Christiana Congelio reached out to the Kaleidoscope Youth Center as a presenter for Convention & Expo. Amanda Erickson, Director of Education & Outreach, presented the session titled "LGBTQIA+ Inclusive Procedures, Policies, and Best Practices". Participants learned about inclusive policies and best practices that promote a welcoming environment for patrons across the gender spectrum.

Please list Goals and Objectives for next year:

1. Start a mentorship program where library staff who work with teens could be paired with a TSD mentor or a seasoned Teen Librarian volunteer who would offer support and advise on things like teen programming, behavior and outreach.
2. Submit a program for each of the standalone conferences and three programs for Convention and Expo.
3. Create an online Teen Advocacy resource to link via QR code in the Steal These Ideas book.
4. Update the Teen Services Division trifold.