

STARTED FROM THE BOTTOM, NOW WE'RE HERE.

Presented by:
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Warren County Public Library

*Implementing new teen
programming into the
public library*





TEENS ARE OUT THERE

We promise

- We realized we did not have programs that were created specifically with teens in mind.
- After attending the YALSA Symposium in Louisville, KY – we were inspired to change that.
- With the support of the YALSA programming prize, we developed plans to begin what would later become the foundation of our teen programming.



Theatre Camp!

- With the help of a local community theatre, BG Onstage, WCPL hosted a Theatre Camp for teens.
- This was a 5 day, all day camp, which ended in a production of *Fantastic Mr. Fox*.
- This was a great starting point to connect and build relationships with teens in our area.
- Relatively low-cost with simple costumes and props the teens can make themselves.



TEEN ADVISORY BOARD (TAB)

The goal of TAB is to involve teens in the implementation and decision making process of programming for their age group.



DEVELOPING A TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

Set Clear Expectations:

- When advertising, be direct about what becoming a TAB member means.
- Develop an application and interview process. This will set a professional standard and give the applicant valuable learning experience. It is also a good time to convey library policies.
- Communication is very important. Set ground rules from the beginning on communication expectations.
- Meet regularly! Listen what they have to say. If they have a great idea (and they will), you get to facilitate their vision and help make it a reality.



- Most of our TAB applicants found out about our Teen Advisory Board from flyers like this we posted in the library.
- Teens were already using the library, they just did not have a clear a way to become involved with the library until now.
- We also communicated this opportunity to Middle and High School librarians in our area, they were some of our biggest advocates!

WARREN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

APPLY TODAY!

WHAT IS A TEEN ADVISORY BOARD?

A Teen Advisory Board is a group of teens that are passionate about cultivating and improving library services for teens. TAB members meet on a regular basis to discuss ideas and plan events and programs centered around making WCPL a teen-friendly space in our community. TAB members attend and lead teen library programs, work as volunteers for special projects, and act as library ambassadors in their community by spreading the word about library programs and events in their schools, clubs and other social groups.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS?

A TAB applicant must be between 13-18 years of age, be passionate about library services, and be able to commit to at least one hour long board meeting a month in addition to volunteering for special teen events and programs. The TAB board will meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of every month from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Bob Kirby Branch Library. **Each TAB member is expected to attend at least one meeting a month.**

HOW DO I APPLY FOR TAB?

An online application is available at www.warrenpl.org/tab. A PDF application is also available for download and can be returned to any WCPL location.



WARREN
COUNTY
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

For more information about our Teen Advisory Board, please visit www.warrenpl.org/tab or contact Laura Beth at laurafox@warrenpl.org.



CHALLENGES

- Not all TAB members will have the same access to transportation.
- While it is important they remain involved, it is equally important that the facilitator is understanding about their other obligations and restrictions.
- Teens are B U S Y.
- Stay patient and realistic about what they can do, and be understanding with what they can't.



VICTORIES

- Since its establishment early this year, the TAB has grown to 11 members.
- Friendships have been made, programs have been planned!
- Criminal Activity: A Murder Mystery Contest, was the first program completely planned and run by teens - it was a huge success!



FUTURE PLANS

The TAB is excited to start their long-awaited book club: Reader's Anonymous, next month. We are also launching a DIY program that will focus on engaging teens who are creatively inclined.

READER'S ANONYMOUS

A Book Club for Teens

Join us for our first meeting!
Tuesday, October 16th from 5:00 - 6:00 PM
Bring any book you'd like to discuss!

WHEN Every 3rd Tuesday, 5:00-6:00PM

WHERE Bob Kirby Branch Library

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT LAURA BETH:
LAURAFOX@WARRENPL.ORG



DIY TEEN Tuesdays

3:30 - 4:30PM
In the Idea Lab @ Bob Kirby

10/23/18: BUTTON MAKING
10/30/18: POTTERY PT. 1
11/6/18: POTTERY PT. 2
11/13/18: BYOT-SHIRT

REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED.
FOR MORE INFO CONTACT

LAURA BETH: LAURAFOX@WARRENPL.ORG



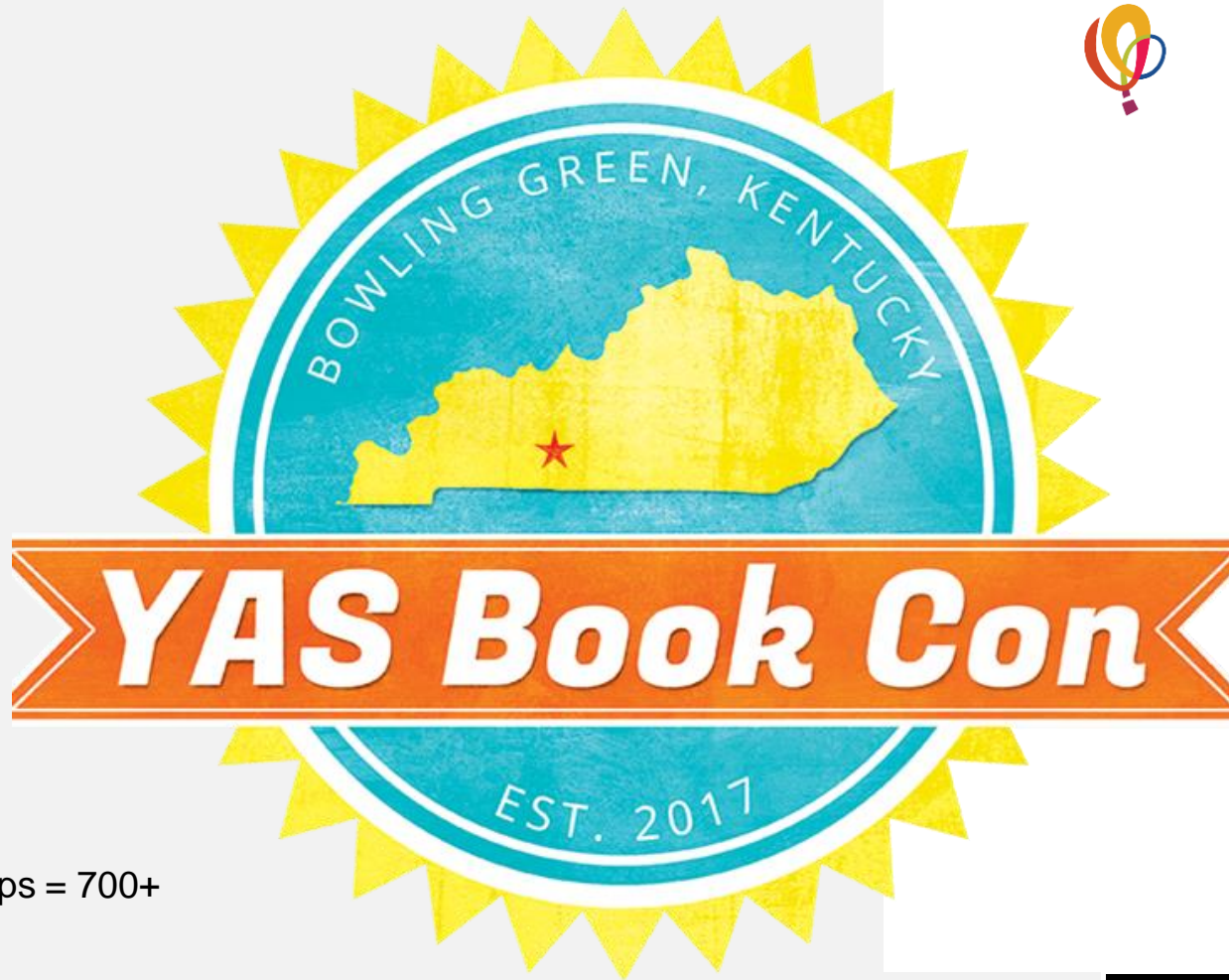
YAAAAAS!

• **YAS Book Con** (Young Adult Southern Book Convention) is a counterpart to our SOKy Bookfest.

YAS Book Con takes place annually, mid-October, and this October 19 will mark our 2nd year!

- Our response to our growing teen audience at SOKy Bookfest.

50 authors + 1 day + panels/workshops = 700+ attendees (teens & adults)



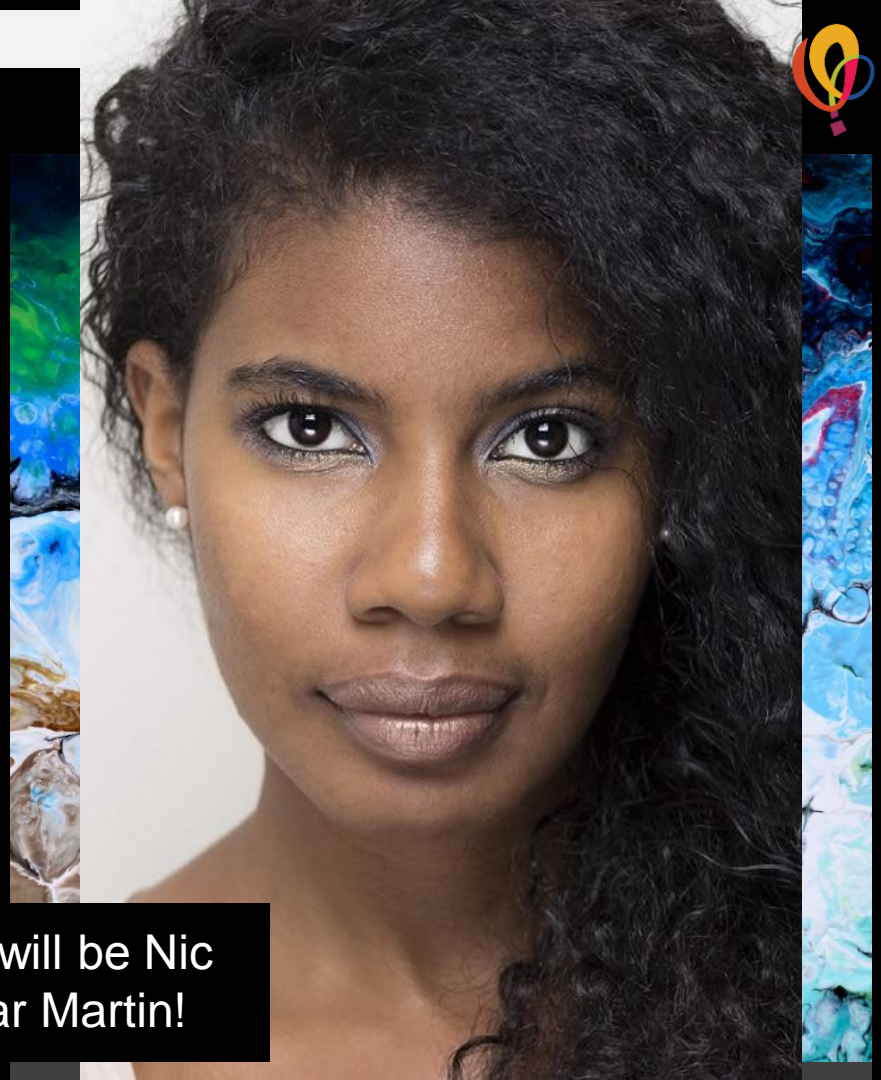
What we learned

from our first year

And how we made it make sense...

- **MAKE IT ACCESSIBLE** - This year it will take place on our college campus to reach more of our target audience.
- **MAKE IT MANAGEABLE** - We are going to limit the book con to one day, morning and evening sessions.
- **MAKE IT REPRESENTATIVE** - Our author list is more well rounded and diverse.

This year's headliner will be Nic Stone, author of Dear Martin!



Project LIT: incorporating diversity into your teen programming

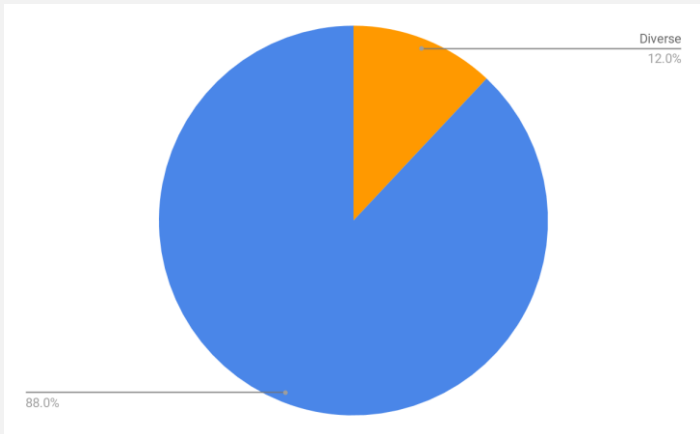


The Problem:

- “...for many students in impoverished areas nationwide, **"book deserts"** hinder their ability to build and practice those crucial literacy skills. In a book desert, residents don't have print books immediately available via public libraries or bookstores for a couple of miles or much more.” - **Education Dive, 2018.**

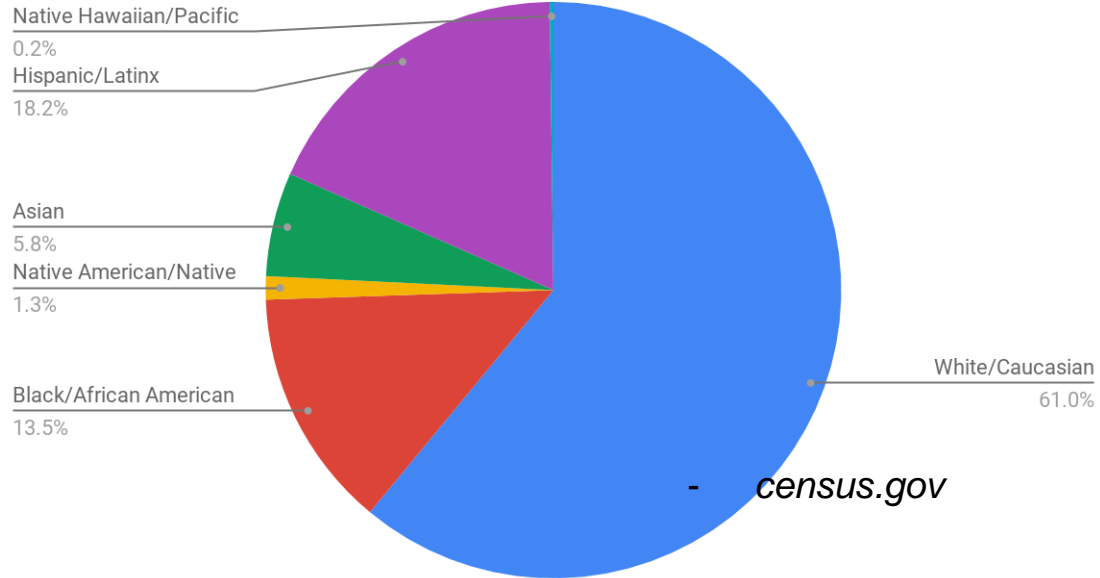


Minorities in U.S. vs Representation in the Publishing Industry



- *“People Of Color Accounted For 12 Percent Of Children's Books Characters In 2016”*

Race and Origin in the U.S.



Project LIT: incorporating diversity into your teen programming



The Solution:

Jarred Amato of Maplewood High School in Nashville, TN started Project Lit as an initiative to target and potentially eradicate book deserts.

Funds for free books are raised, the books bought with the proceeds are then given to the teens that need them. Book clubs are also hosted to support conversation centered around tough topics.



\$\$\$ + TIME = increased representation overall



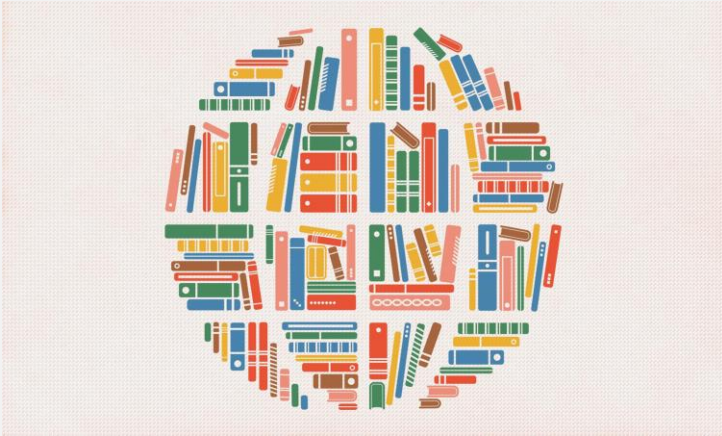


How we responded...

1. Became a chapter

- You can apply to become a chapter of Project Lit directly through Jarred!
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScO_t0siaRIC_ZdjvzAWZ99xRQCs5ZRx62Bcmael7HJ4X0Ug/viewform
- Think about how YOU want to manifest Project Lit in your community.
- Talk to your teens and look for opportunities for literacy based service projects, book discussions, book selection, etc.
- Get your community invested! (promote, promote, promote)

2. Made a plan



3. Responded to Partnerships & Sponsorships!

Matched our second book purchase & helped coordinate community-wide events



SOKY Book Fest

BARNES & NOBLE
BOOKSELLERS



WKU
Libraries



DOLLAR GENERAL
LITERACY FOUNDATION

Funded our initial purchase of Project Lit Book selections for 2018/19 via YALSA contest funds!



YALSA

Young Adult Library Services Association

CONNECT • DEVELOP • GROW



What Project Lit looks like for us now...

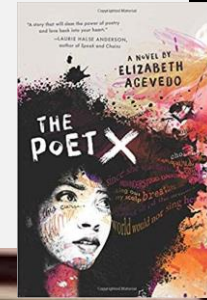
Our first Project Lit event is happening...RIGHT NOW!

- Approx. 400 books purchased and distributed September - October.
- Three panel discussions scheduled: WKU Campus, Main Library and local coffee shop/institution, Spencer's.
- Author appearance at YAS Book Con.
- Group movie viewing of *The Hate U Give* (YAS).
- Project Lit sessions will take place three times a year and our 2019 selections are:

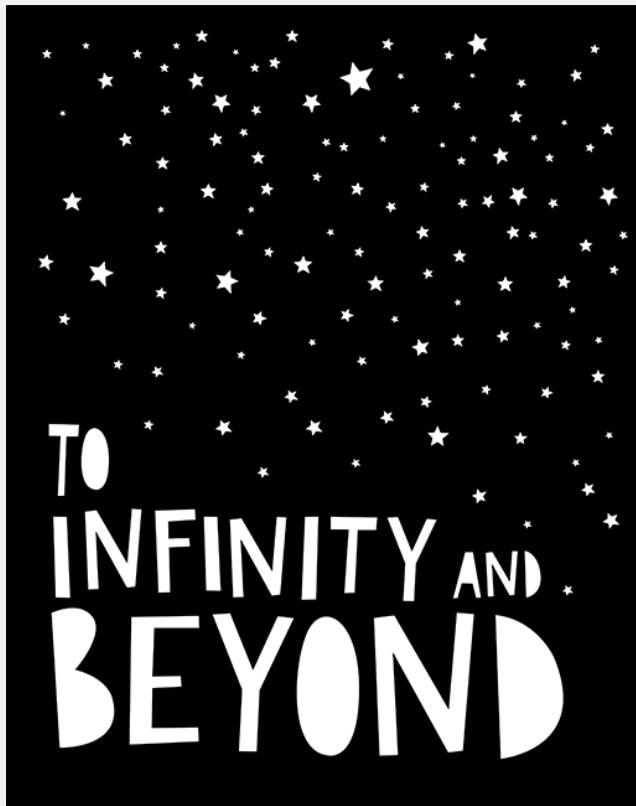
On The Come Up - Angie Thomas (Winter/Spring 2019)

Dread Nation - Justina Ireland (Spring/Summer 2019)

Poet X - Elizabeth Acevedo (Fall 2019)



2017 - 2018 - 2019... and beyond!



- Failures?
- TAB
- Theatre Camp
- ROUND TWO
- Readers Anon
- Teen program series'
- Illustrators Workshop for Teens
- Project Lit
- SOKy Bookfest

Resources



Link to presentation: <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1bCicQ2Mcdsh-tJDSgKrYIEzzp61sy9elbWVaK0sRYXE/edit?usp=sharing>

Project LIT: How a Nashville educator turned a class project into a nationwide movement:<https://www.educationdive.com/news/project-lit-how-a-nashville-educator-turned-a-class-project-into-a-nationw/518766/>

People Of Color Accounted For 22 Percent Of Children's Books Characters In 2016:<https://www.npr.org/sections/codeswitch/2017/02/17/515792141/authors-and-illustrators-of-color-accounted-for-22-percent-of-children-s-books>

Project Lit on Twitter:

@ProjectLitComm & @warrenpLIT

Diverse Book Finder: <https://diversebookfinder.org/>

Apply for Project Lit:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScO_t0siaRIC_ZdjvzAWZ99xRQC5ZRx62Bcmael7HJ4X0Ug/viewform

Resources, Cont'd

YAS Book Con: <https://2018.yasbookcon.org/>

We Need Diverse Books: <https://diversebooks.org/>

YALSA Symposium Stipend: <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/yasymposium/stipend>

Teen Book Finder: <http://booklists.yalsa.net/>

WCPL's Teen Advisory Board Page: <http://warrenpl.org/tab/>



THANK YOU

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Q's?

