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Dear Colleagues,

The sessions for Children and Young Adult libraries were full of information and ideas in Finland: you can read many interesting and inspiring papers from all over the world, from the conference in Joensuu “Breaking through Boundaries” and from the sessions in Helsinki: “Surprising Library”, “Picture Books in Libraries Now!” and “Sister Libraries Programme – new developments and evaluation of an international network for children and libraries”.

We are preparing for August 2013 now. First, there will be a 2-day conference in Bangkok, “Creating the future: preserving, digitizing and accessing all forms of children’s and young adults' cultural heritage”. Then, sessions in Singapore will follow. One will focus on the question of the training of children’s librarians: “Future libraries - future librarians - future skills: directions for the education and training of children and youth librarians”. Another one will be hosted by Jurong Regional Library and will be dedicated to services for teenagers and young adults. Two other sessions will be dedicated to the Section’s ongoing programmes: Sister Libraries and The World through Picture Books.

The illustrated catalogue of picture books selected by librarians from all over the world is online and can be printed.

But if you want to see the real books and show them in your library, you can borrow the collection: an exhibition is available, free of charge other than transport and insurance. It was shown in Finland and will next be exhibited in March at the 2013 Bologna Children’s Book Fair, where our IFLA section will have a stand. We hope some of you will be able to come, and if not, maybe you could tell the publishers of your country attending Bologna, to come and see the beautiful books that they have donated to us.

As you may have learnt through the IFLA mailing list, Maha Alwan, a member of the Section Standing Committee, died in an accident last December. A very special person has gone and is very much missed. Her library on Mount Lebanon, her life’s work, survives, under the care of her sisters.

With best wishes,

Viviana Quiñones
Paris, France
Chair of IFLA Section: CHILD
This issue of the Newsletter is not just about great ideas by librarians and libraries to nurture a love of literature amongst children and youths but it also contains a story of the determined spirit of a librarian who passionately gave her all to spread the joy of reading to others. This is the tribute to our dearest Section Standing Committee member Maha Alwan. Her passing saddened many but she continues to inspire with her story and what she had set up. After finding the pleasure and importance books were for her, she started on a journey to share that treasure with so many. Her life was extraordinary and her dedication an inspiration to us all. We will always remember her and she would be happy to know that the section will continue to play advocate to ensure our next generations be exposed to the riches literature can bring them.

On the topic of advocacy, a trend that has been building up over many years is that the reading appetites of people, after graduation or entering the workforce, are reduced to only materials related to work. Reading of literary fiction shows a sharp decline during this period of their lives and stays so for the longest time. It is a battle for many libraries to try and rekindle that love and joy these adults once had for reading. So this is a challenge for us. How do we, as children and youth librarians, make reading an absolute staple in the lives of children that continues into their adulthood?

I would not suggest the intensive and almost ruthless training Ender, the protagonist in the classic *Ender’s Game* by Orson Scott Card, had to go through in an environment of total uncertainty to save Earth. We are in a similar situation, with a lot of uncertainty as to what the future of the book or library will be (put aside black swans for now). Maybe there is a need to strive to be as creative, as Ender’s trainers were, to test out every possible “manoeuvre” in order that our young benefit from the riches stories bring them.

We definitely see our attempts at this in the articles that follow and they are encouraging to us all - The Bornova Public Library in Turkey went into deep research to design a system where young children, not able to read yet, could navigate the library for their own information needs. This builds a connection for these young minds with the library and mitigates the feeling of being lost amongst the vast amount of information that is available. Other libraries make reading fun through colourful library bikes, creative reading and poetry activities, celebration of authors and national book campaigns. All these are done amidst a changing tide.

Our landscape is changing with many new technological advances but our reading mission remains unchanged. Reading *A Monster calls* by Patrick Ness made me think of how we do sometimes try to resist or dismiss the inevitable future of change. It could be due to fear of the unknown and breaking away from traditions painstakingly set, or just plain frustration and anger that new situations keep changing our course. But I encourage one and all to face the truth (which helped the protagonist in the book to find release and peace to move on) and see the changes as new opportunities to take advantage of to further our cause! Enjoy the newsletter.

**Editor’s Note**

This issue of the Newsletter is not just about great ideas by librarians and libraries to nurture a love of literature amongst children and youths but it also contains a story of the determined spirit of a librarian who passionately gave her all to spread the joy of reading to others. This is the tribute to our dearest Section Standing Committee member Maha Alwan. Her passing saddened many but she continues to inspire with her story and what she had set up. After finding the pleasure and importance books were for her, she started on a journey to share that treasure with so many. Her life was extraordinary and her dedication an inspiration to us all. We will always remember her and she would be happy to know that the section will continue to play advocate to ensure our next generations be exposed to the riches literature can bring them.

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When 2012 was declared the National Year of Reading in Australia, Yarra Libraries decided to focus on outreach. We hit on the idea of an eye-catching customised “cargo bike” that could be used to promote library services and provide a focus for events in the community. We won a marketing award for the idea, providing some additional funds to help bring it to reality.

With a large bright green box on the front sporting library branding, the three-wheeled bike is highly visible, green as green and lots of fun to use. It is fitted out with an umbrella, picnic rugs, display stand, stools, brochures and merchandise, with room for more cargo tailored to fit the occasion. The beauty of the Book Bike is its adaptability: we can target different groups in different ways and we have (quite literally) a vehicle for library promotion that can be used many times over. The bike can promote events, enhance events, or it can be the event.

The Book Bike suits our situation: Yarra is a small municipality with five well-located library branches. We have great bike infrastructure, a riding culture, a local council committed to environmental improvement and a community that embraces the creative and the quirky. Our cargo bike is a neat addition to Yarra’s fleet of pushbikes and electric bikes; it conveys a positive message about healthy living and green transport and is a visible reminder that libraries are wonderfully sustainable. It has helped us to forge new connections with community groups and other council units.

We have attended community festivals, gone to parks and shopping precincts, giving out
balloons, bookmarks, crayons, flyers and cancelled books. We’ve used the Book Bike to deliver bulk loans to schools and kindergartens, and to transport sample books to show new parents at maternal and child health centres. We’ve put on outdoor story times and have developed an environmental story-time kit. The bike has been set up within and outside the libraries; it has functioned as a display stand, signpost and gathering point. We’ve been proud to ride it through the local streets and invariably we are greeted with smiles and waves. Children love the bike and are drawn to it (and not just because it looks like a gelati cart).

In coming weeks we will be taking the Book Bike out to the parks and swimming pools in Yarra as part of our Summer Reading program. In 2013, we look forward to further developing our use of the bike with potential to focus on creative writing and storytelling, community arts and local history. There is also scope to capitalise on the bike’s mobility to bring information access to hard to reach groups in the community.

A cargo bike may not suit every library service, but for those without the need for a large vehicle and where there are staff ready and willing to ride, it is a great option to consider.

Jill Allan
Australia
Team Leader
Children’s and Youth Services
Yarra Libraries
I get pretty jazzed about chances to remind children that there are many others, just like them, all over the world - Children with different cultures, languages and stories, but with the same basic needs for family, love and growth. So I was thrilled to learn about a project called International Dot Day this year. I was able to spend a week celebrating it with my elementary classes in the library.

The day centres around the theme of a children's book called *The Dot Book*, by Peter H. Reynolds. It is about a girl who is encouraged by a teacher to produce artwork she doesn't feel like she can do well in. The highlight of my own celebration came from the children who turned in permission forms that allowed me to submit a class video on the International Dot Day website. To see the children’s faces light up when they saw themselves "live" was a true joy, and I hope that it will help them remember, for the rest of their lives, the value of education.

You can view the class video by going to the International Dot day Facebook page: [http://www.facebook.com/InternationalDotDay](http://www.facebook.com/InternationalDotDay) and scrolling down to the "Vashti Made a Dot" post on 13 September 2012.

Anna G. Joujan
Kabul, Afghanistan
Librarian
Afghan School for children

Find out more at [http://www.thedotclub.org/dotday/](http://www.thedotclub.org/dotday/)
In 2005, the National Library Board started a nationwide initiative, READ! Singapore, to promote a reading culture among Singaporeans. Inspired by similar community movements such as “One City, One Book” in USA, Australia and other countries, the Singapore initiative aims to reach as wide a community as possible – including reluctant readers – while embracing the linguistic and cultural diversity within Singapore.

A Nationwide Reading Campaign

As a multi-cultural and multi-lingual country, a unique feature of our reading programme is that all our titles are selected in Singapore’s four official languages – English, Chinese, Malay and Tamil. In particular, our short story titles, normally featuring local works, are then cross-translated into the other three languages, which results in all the short stories being made available in all the four languages. In doing so, the goal is not just to promote reading across all language communities but to cultivate greater cross-cultural bonding through community activities and discussions around these titles.

Unlike the “One City, One Book” model, the READ! Singapore campaign hinges not on a single novel in one language, but on a selection of works in Singapore’s four official languages. Short stories were included in the hope that reluctant readers might find these less daunting than reading a novel. To assist with the selection process, a theme is determined each year and twelve short stories (three in each official language) are selected. A unique aspect of the READ! Singapore programme is the fact that these short stories are all translated from their original language into the other three vernacular languages, thus providing a very distinctive platform for cross-cultural engagement.

The two novels and one poem per language are similarly selected each year around a theme. Over the years, our English-language novels included *To Kill A Mocking Bird* (on the theme “Coming of Age” - 2005), *Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress* (on “Home and Away” - 2008), and *Jia: A Novel of North Korea* (on “Road Less Travelled” - 2010).

Currently in our eighth year, READ! Singapore’s theme is “Bridges”, an apt metaphor for the collection of translated short stories through which we hope to bridge the different experiences of people across different communities. The two novels in this year’s English selection are *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett and *The Housekeeper and The Professor* by Yoko Ogawa.

Our Community Programmes

Our core activities include “Meet the Author” sessions, storytelling sessions for children, and book clubs for all ages and language groups. During the “Meet the Author” sessions, members of the public get an opportunity to obtain
firsthand knowledge of the authors’ works and engage the authors in discussions. This year, we invited three overseas authors to Singapore to share their stories with local audiences.

Visiting Author: Ms. Sri Rahayu Mohd Yusop

In May, we hosted award-winning Malaysian writer Ms. Sri Rahayu Mohd Yusop. Her novel, *Warisnya Kalbu*, one of our selected titles for 2012, is a story about a boy who discovers his grandfather’s journal and is inspired to join a *pantun* (traditional Malay poem) competition. Her engagements included “Meet the Author” sessions and creative writing workshops at secondary schools for Malay students.

Visiting Storyteller: Dr Margaret Read Macdonald

In August, we hosted Dr. Margaret Read Macdonald, an acclaimed international storyteller known for her re-telling of Asian folktales. Her re-telling of the Malaysian folktale “Sang Kancil and Sang Buaya” (The Mousedeer and the Crocodile) is one of our short story titles for young readers in 2012. Besides enthralling children and their parents at primary schools and libraries with her storytelling sessions, she also conducted workshops on storytelling techniques for professional storytellers and librarians.

Visiting Translator: Dr. Stephen Snyder

In September, we had the opportunity to host Dr. Stephen Snyder, the English translator for Yoko Ogawa’s novel, *The Housekeeper and the Professor*, one of our selected English novels for 2012.

His maiden visit to Singapore was a great opportunity for book enthusiasts to find out more about the novel from the translator’s perspective. Dr. Snyder also made a guest appearance at the movie screening of “The Professor and His Beloved Equation”, a Japanese movie adapted from *The Housekeeper and the Professor*. Following the screening, Dr. Snyder had a discussion with the audience on the differing narratives in the book and the movie.
Join the CHILD-YA Mailing List!

Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section Mailing List.
The purpose of this list is to support the work of the Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section.
We aim to promote international cooperation in the fields of library services to children and young adults, and to encourage the exchange of experience, education and training and research in all aspects of this subject.


* The goals of the CHILD-YA mailing list
  - to aid in the distribution of reading and library related information and publications;
  - to facilitate sharing of information on matters of international interest to Children’s and Young Adults’ librarianship;
  - to promote the continuing education of library personnel;
  - to develop, maintain and promote guidelines for library services.

We encourage individuals and organizations to join in a world-wide dialogue to guide and promote librarianship and library development.

* To subscribe to the list
  Step 1: Go to [http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwsympa.fcgi/info/child-ya](http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwsympa.fcgi/info/child-ya) and Click <<Subscribe>>
  Step 2: Key in your Email Address then Click <<Submit>>
  Step 3: Key in your Password then Click <<Subscribe>>

You will receive an email to let you know that you have successfully subscribed to be part of the mailing list and further instructions on how to use it.
Organizing the books of pre-school children in libraries in a way they can understand, placing these books in a system enabling children to use them comfortably and keeping them in order has always set me thinking as a professional.

As it is known, books are the first tools which introduce children to the esthetical language of colors, lines and words and make them feel the beauty of their mother tongue starting from the preschool period. Children in this group have always been in peace with books. I worked with preschool children individually and in groups. I observed that they had no difficulties in finding the book in their domain of interest. They examined the material in their hands with ease and pored through each book for the visual material they were searching for, without hesitation.

For workshops conducted in the library aiming at preschool children, all the necessary preparations are made before the arrival of the children and there is support from teachers. However, for independent search by the preschool children, who wish to navigate the library and benefit individually from the library, the process of searching is not pre-arranged and managed.

Information is organized in libraries using standard
but it is especially difficult for our young readers to understand how things are arranged, as they have yet to learn how to read and write. How could we let them see that the information is categorized? Could the methods we know be also valid for them? How could we help them become good library users and access the information they are looking for? We decided to work on this subject together with groups which were regularly visiting Domova Public Library and continued our programme with the teachers and students of Dojlu Preschool.

Our goal

➢ Pointing out the importance of acquisitions obtained in early childhood for the life-long learning process.

➢ Making preschool children perceive the concept of access to information even when the fact that they cannot read and write hinders their access to information.

➢ Setting up a system of access to information by expressing the subject title and keyword components, using forms and symbols that can be easily used and identified by this age group.

➢ Establishing a model that can also be implemented in the children’s sections of public libraries and in children libraries.

The studies we conducted

We have shared the experiences of teachers in classes and the observations we made in the library. We have spoken and discussed with teachers about how children approach information and their methods to access the material in subjects they are searching or are interested in. Besides, we have also studied how teachers are orientating children to information and materials, which constitutes another important subject.

Studies have been pursued in environments where children and teachers coexisted such as classes and libraries. The tendency shown by this age group in accessing material/information has been examined and studies have been conducted.

Class Studies

First of all, we have discovered how children were expressing information and subjects. We have explained the subjects to children in a class environment one by one and asked them to express the subject with paintings.

Study on topic

We went to work on the subjects that we could not easily explain to children. We identified and examined the books on these subjects.

We made studies with the children once again. This
time we asked the children to reflect titles with drawings. At teachers guided the children during the drawing exercise. The teachers had prepared large sheets of paper with small boxes printed on them. In each box was written the title of the subject the children would draw a picture for. 

We created new pictures for each title by reexamining the pictures together with our artist. These visual titles would support pre school children to access information.

The Symbols

The choice of shelves that could be easily reached by the preschool group, that were appropriate for the open shelf system and that were convenient for the use of the symbols that had been prepared, has also constituted an important part of this study.

Conclusion

This study, aimed at helping preschool children access information easily, has been conducted with the support of preschool children. Preschool children, who do not know how to write and read yet, are led to create a common visual language in order to navigate library system and benefit from it the collections. Observation of preschool children’s behaviour in accessing the information in both school and library was primarily used within this framework. Subsequently, we determined common symbols for titles used in the library by making the children draw pictures for defined titles. In practice, we used these symbols as section subject categories in the library in order to enable preschool children to access information easily. It has been observed that they could develop a better sense of success in using the library for its full benefits and thus be good library and book users from the preschool age. Children will then also continue to use the library comfortably.

Drawing on Topics

We studied the forms and created representations of the subjects, frequently in consultation with the group on their perception of the forms and the symbols we designed.

Astaman Nesibe GÖK
Turkey
Library / Director
Domova Public Library
Making Connections on Poetry Friday

By Kristy Dempsey

Connections. As an international librarian working in collaboration with classroom teachers, I am always looking for ways to make connections. Connecting to the curriculum. Connecting with young students’ minds and hearts. Connecting across distance and cultures.

In my work with children, I have found that it is this final connection – across distance and cultures – that really speaks to my students. When they connect with others around the globe, be it through sharing pen pal letters, or a virtual author visit, or any variety of activities, the barriers of distance and culture are removed and personal connections are made.

All of this is why I am particularly excited about The Poetry Friday Anthology. Poetry Friday itself began as an initiative by children’s and young adults’ literature bloggers to celebrate. Many Friday blog posts are dedicated to sharing poetry and the wonderful ways in which we can connect with it. For children, poetry feels compact and focused. It doesn’t overwhelm. Poetry invites further inquiry. All the poetry being shared on Poetry Fridays made it easy to find poetry to share with my students. Schools all over the world began celebrating Poetry Friday. What an easy way to connect with others in a celebration of poetry!

Recently when poet Janet Wong and educator Sylvia Vardell created The Poetry Friday Anthology, my job of connecting poetry to the curriculum, connecting with young students’ minds and hearts, and connecting across
distance and cultures became one step easier. *The Poetry Friday Anthology* includes 36 poems for each grade level (Kindergarten through 5th) with a couple extra thrown in that span across grade levels. With over 75 poets represented, the anthology presents a diverse collection of poems. Alongside each poem are printed specific ideas to connect that poem to common learning standards.

I was privileged to submit poetry for inclusion in the anthology. With my poem “Rodeo,” I invite the reader into the drama of a rodeo through active language. Students may never have attended a rodeo but through the rhythm and vocabulary they experience movement and action. An excellent way for teachers to bring connection across distance and culture would be to Skype with students in an area where rodeos are a common experience. Students would be exposed to new vocabulary and culture.

Through my poem “Apprehended by Autumn,” students from a region that experiences little seasonal change can imagine themselves in a beautiful autumn day. Again, classrooms from different regions could share videos and pictures with one another to extend the learning.

**Rodeo**

*By Kristy Dempsey*

I’m going to the rodeo,
a bucking bronco show,
a whip-snapping, back-cracking bare-backing, nonstop action show,
this rodeo,
GO, Cowboy, GO!

**Apprehended by Autumn**

*By Kristy Dempsey*

A strong arm of wind
whistles at a crooked maple.
Caught red-handed,
the shady desperado raises
first one hand,
then another,
dropping its golden stash
in surrender.
other than their own. This could be taken one step further by using Skype sessions or emails to connect with other classrooms around the world to share our responses to the poem.

All this sharing of poetry creates a comfort level that gives students the confidence to create their own poetry. Using poems like the ones in The Poetry Friday Anthology as mentor texts, it builds confidence and gives my students a model to follow. The picture below is an example of the kind of poetry we have created as a class after reading one of the mentor texts. Choosing from a variety of word cards allowed the students to consider the structure of the poem using some of the tricks (repetition, description, onomatopoeia) they had observed in the mentor texts.

The cold water drops and flows, down and down/below the quiet black ground, under the tree/rolling like a river, sounding like drip drop splatter splat.

This class-written poem connected to the 1st grade unit of inquiry on water. Yes, this poem was written by 1st graders! All made possible by so much exposure to poetry. Hooray for connecting to the curriculum, hooray for connecting with minds and hearts, and hooray for connecting with others around the world! Hooray for Poetry!

Kristy Dempsey grew up in a Tennessee holler, became a teenager in a South Carolina town named for a truck stop and went to college thinking she would become something that would take her far, far away from hollers and small towns. She became many different “somethings,” the most recent of which has her a continent away from home working as a teacher and a librarian in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, a bustling city of 4 million people. Ironically she often finds herself writing about home and small towns, brave choices, family relationships and all the things she misses most from her childhood. She is the author of Me with you (Philomel), Mini Racer (Bloomsbury) and the recent Surfer Chick (Abrams) which received starred reviews from Kirkus and School Library Journal.
Updates from Russia

by Maria Evseeva

“Beautiful Librarian”

The main goal of the photo project “Beautiful Librarian”, which was organized by the young specialists of the Omsk City Libraries, was to demolish stereotypes of the library profession, to introduce a new, stylish and impressive image of a young librarian. By the terms of the project, participants had to choose a book (classical or contemporary fiction), to think of an image (style, costume, hairstyle) and to fix the place of shooting. As a result there was a video presentation: http://www.lib.omsk.ru/csmb.php?page=a7.

The creators paid special attention to promote the project using the mass media. It was supported by more than 15 information websites, newspapers and magazines, local TV and radio. One of the newspapers announced the contest “Choose the Most Beautiful Librarian”. Within the first three days about 300 people had voted. Omsk photo project “Beautiful Librarian” is a perfect way to create a positive image of libraries, to express oneself and to attract new users.

Young People Choose Reading

In December 2012, the Youth Book Week took place in the Vologda Youth Library. This was the second Youth Book Week which attracted young people’s attention. This time the Youth Book Week became a place for implementing ideas of the library’s Youth Reading Council. The main goal of the project is not only to attract young people to books and reading, but to give an opportunity for youths to communicate with their peers.

Each day of the Youth Book Week had its own theme: “Professional Book and Communication Day”, “Art Book Day”, “Healthy Book Day”, “Poetry Day”, etc. During the Youth Book Week different concerts, games, contests and meeting for the visitors took place in the library. One of the most impressive events was the meeting in the Literature Club at where the influence of the social networks on reading and young people was discussed.
[http://sisterlibraries.wordpress.com](http://sisterlibraries.wordpress.com)
Bologna Children’s Book Fair 2012 was a memorable event indeed for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award. This year, the award celebrated 10 years as the world’s largest award for children’s and young adult literature. A decade has passed since Astrid Lindgren, Sweden’s best-known and most translated author, passed away. An anniversary exhibition was featured at the Fair, presenting all the recipients since 2003, from Maurice Sendak to the 2012 recipient. The exhibition focused on the work of the jury as well as on Astrid Lindgren. The 2011 recipient, illustrator Shaun Tan’s award winning short film “The Lost Thing” was also screened at the exhibition.

Seven of the previous award recipients attended the Book Fair and participated in public programmes; Lygia Bojunga from Brazil (2004), Ryôji Arai from Japan (2005), Katherine Paterson from USA (2006), Maria Beatriz Medina from Banco del-Libro in Venezuela (2007), Sonya Hartnett from Australia (2008), Renad Qubbaj from the Tamer Institute in the Palestinian territories (2009) and Kitty Crowther from Belgium (2010).

The most important public event of the year was also accomplished – the announcement of the 2012 recipient. There was a palpable tension in the Illustrator’s Café on March 20, when the announcement was made live, streamed from Vimmerby in Sweden, the birthplace of Astrid Lindgren. The jury had their last meeting in the morning, and at exactly 1:00 pm, jury chairman Larry Lempert announced author Guus Kuijer from the Netherlands as this year’s recipient. He was unfortunately not present, however, he was represented by his pleasantly surprised Dutch publisher, Bärbel Dorweiler from Querido.

A presentation of the award and interviews with the previous recipients made in Bologna are available at www.alma.se/en.
In 2013, Sweden is the guest of honor at the Children’s Book Fair. Children’s and young people’s right to culture will be the overall theme.

As guest of honor, Sweden will present a major exhibition on contemporary Swedish illustration. The Swedish component of the program will also include seminars and activities featuring Swedish authors and illustrators, as well as, reading promotion projects. These will be held at both the Fair and other venues in the city of Bologna.

The Swedish Arts Council is preparing seminars at the children’s library, Biblioteca Salaborsa Ragazzi on March 27. This is targeted at librarians, teachers, students and editors.

Highlights of the Programme at Sala borsa:

- **Arts of Reading Project**
  This is presented by AnnCatrine Eriksson, Library consultant at Sörmland County library, and Tinne Wennerholm, Consultant at Gävleborg County library. The project describes how to establish different kinds of “houses of literature” for children, and ways to participate in and to create reading promotion activities.

- **Give Me Five**
  A project about how to explore and deepen the work for picture books and preschool children – by Gunilla Brink, library consultant at Västerbotten county library.

- **Accessible Media in Children’s Library Service**
  A presentation by Jenny Nilsson, Children’s librarian at the Swedish Agency for Accessible Media.

- **Trends and Tendencies in Swedish Books for Children and Young Adults**
  This seminar session is given by Åsa Warnqvist, Scholar and Public relations officer at The Swedish Institute for Children’s Books.

Swedish ambassador for young people’s reading

In 2011, the Swedish Arts Council appointed a national ambassador for young people’s reading. His name is Johan Unenge and he works under the auspices of Swedish Writers’ Centre – a non-profit organization for professional writers. The Swedish Arts Council is funding the ambassador. He has a website where he is blogging and he takes very active part in debates and discussions in the Swedish media.

We know that there are ambassadors in Ireland, USA, UK and Australia. We are very curious to know if there are others. Please write to me at cay.corneliuson@kulturradet.se

We plan to arrange a top-level meeting between ambassadors in Bologna, which would be great fun.
Mettre en pratique l'intergénérationnel en bibliothèque

L'exemple du prix littéraire Chronos

Par Céline Huault

L'espérance de vie a augmentée de 30 ans au XXe siècle. Cela constitue une chance mais également un défi, plus particulièrement lorsque nous assistons à la création d'un « fossé » entre des générations qui se rencontrent désormais peu et à l'isolement engendré inévitablement. Dans l'optique de rapprocher les générations entre elles et de créer du lien autour du livre, la Fondation nationale de Gérontologie à Paris octroie le prix littéraire Chronos chaque année depuis 1996.

Les livres sélectionnés, albums et romans, traitent exclusivement de problématiques peu abordées, voire tabous, telles que la mort, le travail de deuil, la place des personnes âgées dans nos sociétés, les relations entre les générations et la transmission du savoir. Cette année, un comité composé d'enseignants, de professionnels du livre et de professionnels de la gérontologie a sélectionné les 24 ouvrages en lice. Ils sont répartis en six catégories de niveaux, allant de la maternelle aux lycéens et plus de 20 ans.

Il est frappant de constater à quel point la participation à ce prix décomplexé et stimule le goût et la pratique de la lecture chez les jeunes, sensibilise chaque juré à la découverte de ces problématiques et permet à des personnes de tous âges (de la maternelle à 95 ans) de mener une réflexion active sur la valeur des étapes du parcours de vie et la transmission du savoir. Le leitmotiv devient « Grandir, c'est Vieillir ; Vieillir, c'est Grandir ». Au fil du temps, des lectures, des rencontres et des activités mises en place, chacun développe plus d’aisance pour aborder et échanger sur ces sujets sensibles et que l'on n'aborde souvent que très pudiquement.

Les enfants participent par le biais de leur bibliothèque, leur école, collège, lycée ou leur centre de loisirs ; les adultes par leur bibliothèque, leur club de lecture ou leur maison de retraite. La participation n'est pas limitée à la France : sur simple demande, la Roumanie, la Russie, Singapour, la Belgique, le Bénin, l’Espagne, la Suisse et le Royaume-Unis se sont également inscrits et prennent part au vote.

Chaque structure organisatrice se procure les quatre ouvrages appartenant au niveau sélectionné et mène des lectures et des activités annexes, par exemple des rencontres entre les enfants et les résidents de maison de retraite, des lectures conjointes, des rencontres avec les auteurs... Il est souhaitable de mettre en place des activités favorisant le rapprochement et le dialogue entre les générations afin que chacun acquiert la capacité d'écouter et de communiquer avec l'autre.
Chaque juré inscrit s'engage à lire ou écouter l'intégralité des quatre ouvrages ainsi que consulter les illustrations et voter pour son livre préféré. En 2012, 36000 jurés de tous âges ont ainsi exprimé leur préférence littéraire par le biais de 600 structures participantes.

L'inscription est gratuite, ainsi que la réception du kit de vote et du dossier pédagogique. Il est encore temps de s'inscrire, de manière à avoir le temps de lire, de débattre et de voter avant le 1er avril 2013.

Les bibliothèques sont des lieux où peuvent se croiser toutes les générations, lieux de transmission de la culture et du savoir, par conséquent lieux par excellence de la création de liens entre les générations, plus particulièrement en cette « Année européenne du vieillissement actif et de la solidarité intergénérationnelle ».

Pour plus d'information

Prix Chronos de Littérature
Fondation nationale de Gérontologie
http://www.prix-chronos.org/
prix-chronos@fng.fr
http://www.prix-chronos.org/traductions/
anglais/anglais_1.htm
49 rue Mirabeau
75016 Paris
+33 1 55 74 67 08

Céline Huault
Togo
Community center STEJ
Lomé, Togo
Intergenerational dialogue in libraries:  
The example of the Chronos Prize for Children’s Literature

Life expectancy increased by 30 years in the 20th century. This is a chance as well as a challenge, since there exists a gap between generations, that nowadays do not meet much and therefore, isolation grows. With the aim of getting different generations together, the National Gerontology Foundation created in 1996 in Paris the annual Chronos prize for Children’s literature.

The pre-selected picture books and novels focus on subjects seldom considered, even considered as taboo, such as death, mourning, old people’s place in society, relations between generations and the transmission of knowledge. In 2012 the jury, composed of teachers, book professionals and gerontologist, pre-selected 24 books, divided into 6 age categories, from kindergarten to high school and 20 +.

What struck us the most is the fact that participation to Chronos Prize helps young people to be more at ease with these subjects and to like reading more; it brings members of the jury to know these issues better and it gives to people of all ages, from kindergarten to people in their 90s, the chance to think actively on the value of each stage of life and on the transmission of knowledge. The leitmotif becomes “Growing up means growing older; growing older means growing up”. Over time, as readings, meetings and activities take place, everyone becomes more at ease to exchange on these sensitive issues that are generally only talked about very discreetly.

Children participate via their libraries, schools or community centers; adults participate via their libraries, reading clubs or retirement homes. Participation is not restricted to France: Romania, Russia, Singapore, Belgium, Benin, Spain, Switzerland and the United Kingdom have requested to register and they participate in the voting.
Each organization makes sure to have the four books of the level they choose and organizes readings and connected activities such as meetings between children and people in retirement homes, joint readings, meetings with authors... It is advisable to offer activities leading to contact and dialogue between generations, so that all learn to listen better and to communicate better with each other.

Every member of the Jury reads or listens to the four books and looks at the illustrations, then votes for his/her favourite book. In 2012, 36 000 members of the Jury, of all ages, have given their choice, through 600 institutions taking part in the Prize.

Registration for the Prize, the voting kit as well as instructions and advice for the programme are free of charge. Registration is still open for 2013, which leaves some time for reading, discussing and voting before April 1st.

Libraries are places where all generations can meet, places for the transmission of culture and knowledge, therefore excellent places for creating links between generations, especially when 2012 was declared “European Year for Active Ageing and Intergenerational Solidarity”...

More information:
Prix Chronos de Littérature
Fondation nationale de Gérontologie
http://www.prix-chronos.org/
prix-chronos@fng.fr
http://www.prix-chronos.org/traductions/anglais/anglais_1.htm
49 rue Mirabeau
75016 Paris
+33 1 55 74 67 08

Translation by Claire Nicolle and Viviana Quiñones
“Rapid and intensive changes in the information landscape cause changes in social relationships and, consequently, in relations between generations. Within their social role libraries should work actively to reduce age segregation and isolation, and build cohesive society through intergenerational services and programmes. The authors speak about the intergenerational dialogue in libraries - theories, research and practice - and about reading as a link between generations, thus offering to libraries strategies for establishing social cohesion.” – This is the summary of the 2012 IFLA published book *Intergenerational solidarity in libraries*. It explains how libraries need to take urgent action to see how our programmes and services do take into consideration the way different generations interact with each other.

The publication also contains the significant *Tunis Declaration* that was made at the International Symposium, *Reading as a link between generations: towards a more cohesive society*, organized in Hammamet, Tunisia from 21-23 September 2011. We append the declaration below and it is available in [English, French, Spanish and Russian versions](#).

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**The Tunis Declaration on Libraries, Reading and Intergenerational Dialogue**

*by Céline Huault*

We, the Tunisian Federation of the Associations of the Friends of Books and Libraries (FENAABIL) and The Literacy and Reading Section of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), meeting at the International Symposium on „Reading as a link between generations: Towards a more interdependent society“ in Hammamet, Tunisia, 21st-23rd September 2011, declare the following:

- Whereas libraries play an essential role in creation of lifelong readers, and
- Whereas libraries offer free access to all citizens and are committed to the social inclusion of all; and
- Whereas libraries are essential for a democratic society, and
- Whereas the importance of libraries is growing in the information age; and
- Whereas libraries provide a space for intergenerational dialogue, solidarity, experiences and programs, and
- Whereas libraries enrich the cultural life of communities; and
- Whereas learning is a lifelong activity facilitated by reading and access to information; and
- Whereas FENAABIL and IFLA are committed to respect for diversity, intellectual freedom, free access to information and knowledge, the promotion of literacy and reading for all;

Therefore we resolve:

- That libraries take advantage of their rich infrastructure to develop intergenerational programs as organized interactions of young and older age groups for the promotion of reading, mutual understanding and care for the benefit of both; and
- That libraries create opportunities and spaces for intergenerational dialogue and learning; and
- That libraries develop services that promote connections between different age groups such as:
  - Reading activities for babies, children and young people provided by older adults;
  - Story telling by older adults to pass on culture and tradition;
  - Homework help provided to children by teenagers and adults of all ages;
  - Training in information technology by young people to older people in order to bridge the gap between the “texto” and the “techno” generations.
- That libraries work actively to reduce age segregation and isolation and build cohesive society through intergenerational services and programs.

*Tunisia, Hammamet, September 23, 2011*
The IFLA Section Libraries for Children and Young Adults had a bevy of activities at the last IFLA Congress again with two open sessions (one for a sharing on the new The World through Picture Books Programme and another on Sister Libraries), an offsite session at Sello Library and the exhibition of The World through Picture Books at Pasila Library.

**Picture Books in Libraries Now! Session**

**Picture Books Exhibition**
Offsite Session *Surprising Library!* at Sello Library
Open Session on Sister Libraries Programme – new developments and evaluation of an international network for children and libraries

Creating the future: preserving, digitizing and accessing all forms of children's and young adults’ cultural heritage

August 14-15, 2013
Bangkok, Thailand

Check out the conference website for more information:
http://iflabangkok2013.tkpark.or.th/index.html
Maha Alwan (1962 – 2012)

Tribute to a True Librarian, Colleague & Friend

...I still can’t quite believe what I’ve read. I can’t believe that a warm and wonderful person such as Maha is gone. It was a joy to spend time in her company and I got to know her quite well through our work on the Sister Libraries and Picture Book project. The world has lost a very special person and our section will miss her very much. My thoughts are with her family and as well as adding my condolences to the sections, I would like an address for her family as I would like to write to them to let them know how much she touched my life.

Annie Everall
Maha, bibliothécaire libanaise, nous a quittés, écrasée par une voiture alors qu’elle venait de fermer la bibliothèque pour rentrer chez elle. L’année de ses cinquante ans. Maha Alwan était bibliothécaire à la Bibliothèque publique de Mtein dans le Mont Liban.

Son parcours est atypique : pendant la guerre civile libanaise, sa famille a dû fuir son village natal pour se réfugier en Syrie. Après sa scolarité à Damas, Maha part faire des études de Beaux-Arts en France. Pendant la durée de son séjour à Paris, grande lectrice, elle découvre les bibliothèques publiques et prend la décision d’en créer une dès que son retour au village serait possible. Avant son retour au Liban, elle effectue plusieurs stages dans des bibliothèques parisiennes pour se former et prend contact avec une association française, La Maison de sagesse, pour avoir un soutien financier.

La bibliothèque du « Centre culturel francophone » a démarré dans l’appartement familial puis déménagé dans un local municipal. Elle possède aujourd’hui une collection de 15000 documents (livres et cd) dont plus de la moitié destinés à la jeunesse, un espace animation et un espace multimédia avec accès à Internet. Elle est devenue un lieu de référence pour les bibliothécaires libanais.

Pendant plusieurs années, Maha a fait vivre la bibliothèque bénévolement puis a été salariée par la municipalité. Maha n’a cessé de se former et est devenue une spécialiste de la littérature jeunesse parue dans le monde arabe. Elle a participé activement à la revue *Quiraat Saquira*, une revue critique de livres pour la jeunesse du monde arabe.
Elle était membre de l’Association des Bibliothécaires Libanais et de la section Bibliothèques pour Enfants et Adolescents de l’IFLA, dans laquelle elle s’est beaucoup investie : en participant au projet Sister Libraries en partenariat avec la Petite Bibliothèque Ronde de Clamart (France) et au projet Le Monde à travers les communications pour les congrès, en effectuant des traductions...

Maha intervenait aussi en tant que formatrice dans les séances organisées par le Ministère de la Culture et par l’association Assabil, pour les bibliothécaires du Réseau de lecture publique. Elle a été membre de plusieurs comités au Ministère de la Culture pour le développement de la lecture publique et de l’édition jeunesse. Ces dernières années elle travaillait à mi-temps à la Bibliothèque nationale du Liban sur la reconstitution des collections détruites pendant la guerre civile.

Militante du livre, militante de la paix, Maha n’a cessé de développer dans sa bibliothèque des animations pour donner le goût de la lecture aux plus jeunes mais aussi pour favoriser une ouverture aux autres dans un village profondément divisé par des années de guerre. Du fait de sa formation artistique initiale, elle était très exigeante sur la qualité des animations. En 2006, pendant la guerre d’Israël contre le Liban, elle a accueilli dans la bibliothèque les enfants et les parents réfugiés du Sud Liban leur offrant un havre de paix et de culture.

Militante internationaliste, elle a participé à la construction d’une bibliothèque publique au Laos avec une association française (COBIAC) et a organisé un échange de jeunes libanais et mexicains.

Maha était appréciée de tous dans son village mais aussi parmi les professionnels du livre et des bibliothèques. Discrète, attentive aux autres, très professionnelle, elle vous accueillait avec un grand sourire dans sa bibliothèque et bien souvent vous invitait ensuite dans sa famille pour un échange autour d’un café et d’une pâtisserie dont elle avait le secret et qu’elle avait confectionnée tôt le matin. Maha, tu manques déjà beaucoup à tes proches et tes amis et tu manqueras beaucoup à ton pays et aux bibliothécaires du monde entier.
Maha, a librarian from Lebanon, has left us, crushed by a car just after having closed the library to go home. On the year of her fiftieth birthday. Maha Alwan was a librarian at Mtein Public Library, on Mount Lebanon.

Her background is unusual: during the Lebanese civil war, her family had to flee her native village to find refuge in Syria. After her education in Damascus, Maha left to study Fine Arts in France. During her stay in Paris Maha, a great reader, discovered public libraries and decided to create one as soon as she could go back to her village. Before returning to Lebanon, she undertook several internships at Parisian libraries, as training, and contacted a French association, “La Maison de sagesse”, to obtain financial support.

The library in the “Centre culturel francophone” opened in the family apartment, then moved into municipal premises. The library now has a collection of 15,000 documents (books and CDs), half of which are for children, an area for special programmes and one for multimedia, with access to the Internet. It has become a reference centre for Lebanese librarians.

For several years, Maha managed the library on a volunteer basis; then, the Municipality began paying her a salary. Maha never ceased to train, and she became a specialist in children’s literature of the Arab world. She participated actively in the journal *Quiraat Saquira*, that published reviews of children’s books of the Arab world.

Maha was a member of the Lebanese Library Association and of the Standing Committee of IFLA section Libraries for Children and Young Adults, where she committed herself strongly: participating in the Sister Libraries programme in partnership with the Petite Bibliothèque Ronde in Clamart (France) and in The World through Picture Books programme for which she co-ordinated the selection from Lebanon, writing papers for conferences, translating papers…

Maha also worked in training, in sessions organized by the Ministry of Culture and by Assabil, for librarians in the Public Libraries Network. She was a member of several Committees in the Ministry of Culture for the development of public libraries and publishing for children. In recent years, she worked half-time at the National Library, on the reconstruction of collections destroyed during the civil war.
A campaigner for the book and a campaigner for peace, Maha constantly sought to use her library programs to develop children’s love of reading and to encourage links and contacts in a village deeply divided by years of war. Because of her artistic education, she set high standards for the programmes in her library. In 2006, during the Israeli war against Lebanon, she welcomed child and parent refugees from South Lebanon into the library, offering them a haven of peace and culture.

Militant for international work, she participated in the creation of a public library in Laos with the French association COBIAC; she also organized an exchange between Lebanese and Mexican young people.

Maha was appreciated by everyone in her village but also by book and library professionals. Discreet, attentive to others, very professional, she welcomed you into her library with a big smile and very often invited you afterwards to her family home for an exchange over a cup of coffee and a pastry she knew the secret of making, which she had prepared early in the morning. Maha, you are already much missed by your close relations and your friends, and you will be much missed in your country and by librarians all over the world.

Maha with other presenters and conveners of the Sister Library Programme Session at IFLA Helsinki, Finland.

~ Translation by Viviana Quiñones and revised by Sue Roe
@ 32
I can't believe it. She was very kind and nice. I remember her smiling face.

I would like to send my condolences to her family.

May her soul rest in peace!

Kazuko Yoda

What a tragic loss. She had a very intelligent heart. We will miss her.

Cécile Trevian

It is a shock. We just met in August. She was a very smiling and generous friend, with so many good thoughts and ideas. Please send my warmest regards to her family.

Ingrid Källström

Maha presenting her choice of Lebanese books for the Section's open session on The World through Picture Books project.

Ian Yap

I spent one day in Helsinki with Maha, and we had a wonderful day sightseeing where Maha also bought presents for her nephews and nieces.

Maha was a wonderful person, she was very much alive and she was deeply interested in society, and in the people in it – and did a very fine job as a children’s librarian under difficult circumstances.

It is a very bad loss to our section, we have lost a very dear colleague. I will miss Maha a lot!

Kirsten Boelt

it is truly tragic news to hear that a good friend of ours has passed on - and in her prime. She’s been so committed in giving to her community. She was the very first to participate in the Sister Library programme and get collaborations up quickly so that others could also follow suit. Such passion can only come from within. It is a great loss to the library community for us. I will definitely miss her smiles and warm notes to me. I pray that her family and friends would heal and know that she will be in their hearts forever. From wherever she is, I am sure she will watch over us all - as it is in her nature to do so.

Kirsten Boelt
The conference held between 9 and 10 August, 2012 in Joensuu, Finland, has been organized by IFLA Section Libraries for Children and Young Adults, in cooperation with the Joensuu Regional Library, the Finnish Library Association and the authorities of Joensuu. The theme proposed aroused the interest of both professionals - librarians, teachers...- and the authorities, stakeholders etc.

The 17 papers selected for the conference proceedings have been divided over 5 thematic blocks, considering boundaries between ages, between libraries and other institutions, between public libraries and schools, between countries and between languages and cultures. To all these, two other presentations were added, on interesting Finnish projects. The speakers represented libraries and organizations in the library field from 15 countries (Australia, Bangladesh, Finland, France, Kenya, Norway, Philippines, Romania, Russia, South Korea, South Africa, Sweden, Togo, UK, USA).

Well organized and consistent, the proceedings have illustrated diverse kinds of expertise, locally, nationally and internationally, transgressing boundaries. In the first block, papers included TenThirteen – A library for all senses, for children aged 10-13 years from Sweden, a library that also has a kitchen where children are encouraged to experiment in unconventional environments, and Popcult – the revenge of the nerd library, a program designed specifically for adolescents, in the library of Drammen, Norway, based on its music resources and underground culture. In both cases the librarians’ efforts have to be noted in order to adjust themselves to the needs of the target groups, as well as their creativity and will to achieve successful communication between different ages and generations. A visible result has consisted in the impact of the library on the public, attracting and motivating some segments of public less taken into consideration.

In block 2 we have found the same resourcefulness, in the project called Houses of Literature, designed by a Swedish group of libraries, that take the most diverse forms: from a library as a physical presence to a virtual space or an website, from a festival to a network of people and workshops, from a cabinet for stories to a mobile library. Regardless of the variety, all these forms have in common the ambition to overpass the boundaries between the library and other institutions, to foster the dialogue between books and arts and to cooperate with other professionals for the benefit of children and adolescents. Another paper, entitled The Politzer Reading Resource Center from Guyancourt, has presented a center originally located in a primary school, that offered to disadvantaged young people an alternative by means of its specific resources and workshops organized by the library staff together with the teachers, as a contribution to the social integration of these teens. With its inclusion into a public library, it became a dual structure, one between the library and the school, afterwards also including a local entertainment center for young children and their parents, becoming an attraction point for all the children in the area.
The fourth block, dedicated to boundaries between the countries, two impressive library programs have been presented to support the social inclusion: the project belonging to the Lubuto Library, Zambia (Jane Kinney Meyers) and Borderless libraries: Community Center STEJ in Togo (Celine Huault). The first example illustrates a comprehensive approach of the library services in line with the national policy objectives, providing innovative solutions to the development problems. The initiative, involvement and partnerships were designed so that the library met the social needs, becoming relevant to the community. The second presentation describes the STEJ Community Center, a private initiative to provide access to books and education in a neighborhood of Lomé. To achieve its objectives, the Centre works through partnerships with schools, local and international organizations, participating in collaborative websites, international events and festivals, meetings and professional exchanges generating ideas. An open mind has created new opportunities and resources, applying new concepts and practices into successful projects which demanded only curiosity and creativity, rather than material resources.

The last block, Boundaries between languages, included some of the most interesting papers. I remember the South Korean - American partnership in which 300 Korean stories have been animated and translated into 5 languages, making accessible a literary heritage, helping the immigrants to learn Korean and encouraging multicultural dialogue. The illustrated and animated stories have been published in book form and on a DVD, released in South Korea's public libraries as educational material. The website is really a tool for cultural knowledge. The second paper presented a European project that provides education resources and teaching tools to literature teachers in high schools. Six European countries are involved: they are the Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Netherlands, Portugal and Romania. Beyond the European literature framework, the project provided lists of books, on each country, containing national and world literature readings, being able to establish a common list for young Europeans (aged 12-19 years), and also useful resources for the librarians. In this section, Annie Everall presented in a memorable way, the first results of the project called The World through Picture Books, the IFLA initiative of our Section, attended by 30 countries. The online catalog and the exhibition at the Regional Library of Joensuu showed in a convincing way the objectives and the opportunities created: the mutual knowledge of children's literature from the 30 already participating countries, the promotion of the language and culture of different countries, the building of a book collection for traveling exhibitions, and the stimulation of creativity and intercultural dialogue. This is what IFLA Satellite Conference in Joensuu has proposed, breaking the boundaries and what it succeeded to do, by the selection of papers, providing models and best practices in the library field.

The pre-conference in Joensuu has been truly inspiring for all the 100 participating delegates (the maximum possible), coming from 21 countries. The meeting has combined different approaches, being a real mixture between theoretical research and practical solutions. The delegates had the opportunity to address questions to the speakers, to make appreciations, share and exchange ideas, also during the long breaks, wished by the organizers to be real and profitable discussion groups. The colleagues from Finland ensured the smooth running and the high standards of this event. Ulla Pötsönen and her colleagues have done a tremendous, wonderful job!

Ms. Ruxandra Nazare
Romania
Librarian
“George Baritiu” County Library
This programme is about sharing local picture books from around the world recommended by librarians. It is a list of in-print books that can be used as a way of celebrating and promoting the language, cultures and quality of children’s book publishing from each country. The recommendations ease the selection process for libraries wishing to purchase books from other countries that are popular. Sister Libraries can use the list as a way of exploring the children’s literature of their Sister Library country. To date, more than 30 countries have participated. All information on the programme, the poster and the illustrated catalogue of the title lists (that can be printed for free) are online at http://www.ifla.org/node/6718.

A sharing session was held at the last IFLA conference, with papers exploring different countries’ picture book landscape: Haiti, US, Lebanon, Japan, Senegal and more. The selected books by country were also on exhibition in one of the Helsinki public libraries as well. The exhibition with the books, generously donated by publishers, is available for loan to any library. The loan is free of charge, the loaning library/agency only needs to cover the insurance and delivery expenses. The exhibition will be shown at next Bologna Children’s Book Fair, where IFLA Section Libraries for Children and Young Adults has a stand (Hall 30, Stand B7).

This is an ongoing programme and we encourage your country to participate if has not. For participation and exhibition enquiries, please contact Annie Everall
annie@alannie.demon.co.uk

Lastly, if you wish to comment on a country list, please contact the country coordinator, mentioned on the country page.
In Helsinki, the section had 2 successful meetings and many interesting topics were discussed. Here I’ll point out a few highlights and important issues.

**Section Membership.** The section has 101 members and we discussed how we can increase our communication with the members. We will send the Newsletter to all members and also include all members in the mailinglist.

2 newsletters have been made, the last in June bigger than usual with 11 articles. The newsletter is read by many librarians and when a new issue is released, many new subscribers go to the mailinglist. It is OK and a good idea to push the newsletter on our new Facebook page, it will give the newsletter and the section great PR.

**Mailinglist** has 374 subscribers, 100 have joined within the last year. There are many subscribers but only few posts! We use the list for calls for papers, conferences etc. It can very well be used for many more subjects, best practice etc.

**Projects / Section Work.** Section Child is very active and several projects and activities are going on. One is

**Sister Libraries** where much very positive work is going on. Now 139 libraries have registered and 39 pairings are made. Evaluator Carolynn Rankin has made the evaluation and it was presented in the session. The evaluation aims to improve the project, to change what needs to be changed in favour of sustainability and to celebrate success stories. The evaluation is now online in the projects website.

There is no more IFLA funding for the project after this year, so we will have a dialog with PC on what to do. We want sister libraries to be an IFLA program and we need funding in order to make a proper database and to make a Facebook profile. Sue, Cecile, Kazuko and Celine Huault volunteered to be godmothers.

**The World through Picture Books.** The project is still in progress and more countries are participating. Now more than 30 countries have sent list of picture books. The project has gotten very fine response in many countries. The publishers, whose books were chosen, have given 2 copies of each title for free. A prototype of the catalogue is online and we are working on making hard copies hopefully with some funding from IFLA.

We want to include more countries and we promote the project wherever we can.

The books will be able to loan by any library by paying the travelling expenses and the insurance. One exhibition set will be situated in Paris at the National Library and one will be in Japan, at the National Library.

The books have been exhibited at Joensuu library and are being exhibited at Pasila library close to the conference site and we can make an exhibition at the Bologna Book Fair spring 2013.

**FAIFE working group “Social Media and Privacy Guidelines.”**

The working group is still working and waiting for other sections to make their contribution. Our section Child has made ours and it is sent to the SC members.

**Partnerships.** ALMA - Section Child can nominate 4 candidates every year. Last year we nominated IBBY, The Lubuto-project in Zambia and Planète Jeunesse in Burkina Faso. Any suggestion to nominations is welcome and will be examined at midyear meeting: deadline is March 1st 2013. Are suggested: Assabil (Lebanon, suggested by Maha), Interbiblio (Switzerland, suggested by Helene Schar).

IBBY- Helene Schar represented the International Board on Books for Young people at our SC meetings and summed up IBBY’s activities for us. Conference in London this year. Section Child and IBBY participate in each other’s conferences and right now we collaborate on picture books project. Viviana is invited to talk about our Section at IBBY General Assembly in London.
Proposals for projects

**Picture Books**: we will apply for Project money for 2013.

**Young Adults.** We have been discussing projects on young adults and we agree on the importance on working with this group. But for now we do not start a new project now as there is plenty of work and coordinating in the sister libraries and picture books projects. We want to work with the young adults in the sister library project. And we could envisage a project “The World through Graphic novels” or Picture Books for YA, where librarians and YA would make the selection...

Young Adults is vital and very important for the section and we want to work on the issue. A working group will work on this and come up with a proposal to midyear meeting on how the section can work with the subject.

**Strategic plan 2011-2012 and 2012-2013**

Viviana and Kirsten will make the plans in coordination with the 5 IFLA key-initiatives.

A brief discussion pointed out that one new key initiative could be that IFLA provide frameworks for libraries’ activities in “communities of practice”.

**Conferences:**

**Satellite in Bangkok** is made in collaboration “IFLA Core Activity on Preservation and Conservation”[^1] and IBBY, Thailand. Focus is preservation and conservation of children’s literature in all its forms, digitization and how to use this materials for the future. We plan a 2-day conference on August 14th and 15th. The venue will most probably be Thailand Knowledge Park.

**2013 Singapore**: 2 sessions are being planned: 1 onsite and 1 off-site. Main session: Training of librarians for young people. Session is on training, both initial and ongoing professional development. Off-site Ian will organize the venue and it will be a suburban library with fine services to young adults. Subject is young adults.

**2014 Midyear**

2013: Bologna, during the book fair is first choice, so as to exhibit The World through Picture Books. The Fair is March 25 to 28, the SC meeting would take place on March 28 afternoon and on March 29 all day.

2014: For the moment, the possibilities are Russia and the UK.

**Elections**

This fall the election of new members to the SC sections starts. In section Child there are 20 members. We hope many colleagues find the section interesting and will go for a nomination. They must be nominated by an institution or association that is an IFLA member and one of our 101 section members. Kirsten can communicate the list of section members.

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About the Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section

The Section’s major purpose is to support the provision of the library service and reading promotion to children and young adults throughout the world.

Its main objectives are to promote international cooperation in the fields of library services to children and young adults, and to encourage the exchange of experience, education and training and research in all aspects of this subject.

The Section’s concerns include the provision of library services to all children and young adults in different cultures and traditions in cooperation with appropriate organisations and to adults interacting with children and young adults.