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December 2022/January 2023 Newsletter

Welcome New READS Board Member



Gail Zachariah has been a librarian for many years but before she was a librarian she was a museum educator at the Los Angeles Children's Museum, Denver Children's Museum, and the Denver Art Museum. She works at the Keene Public Library and has worked at the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District, Ohio Valley Area Libraries, and the Springfield Town Library in Springfield, VT. Currently she is the Head of Engagement and Youth Services, which means that she manages the Youth Department collection and staff and that she plans the library's youth and adult programs as well as outreach, which involves community book discussions. She has served on several ALA committees including the ALSC Newbery Award, Arbutnot Honor Lecture Award, and Quicklist Consulting Committees, the YALSA Writing Award, Michael Printz Award, and Margaret Edward Award Committees.

Gail likes to read a variety of genres. Right now she is rereading the *Mars Trilogy* by Kim Stanley Robinson.

READS Award of Excellence Recipient



Congratulations to Courtney Vashaw (right), from the Whitefield Public Library, on being named this year's READS Award of Excellence Recipient! This award was presented at the READS Annual Business Meeting at the NELA/NHLA Joint Conference by READS Past President Kersten Matera (left).

Before becoming Director at her library, Courtney was a High School Principal which gave her a number of skillsets which have been invaluable to the Whitefield Public library. This year Courtney raised more than \$70,000 through grants and donations to add to her library's budget and offer services that her library's budget didn't have room for. Her goal has been to make the library the heart of the community and she's done this by:

- receiving 100% approval on the grants she has written this spring alone
- starting a Little Free Pantry
- making home Covid test kits and masks available at the library
- making it possible to hire the library's first, full-time employee to assist her
- upgrading their Carnegie library into the digital age
- and while doing all that, she still welcomes all patrons - providing help and patient assistance.

Our winner this year has gone to great lengths to serve the needs of her community. Thank you for all that you do, Courtney!

READS 2022 Election Results



Thank you to all who voted in the READS 2022 Election! At our annual Fall Business Meeting, we announced the winners of this year's election:

- Brianna Hemmah was elected to serve a three year term as the READS Vice President/President Elect/Past President.
- Laura Pezone was elected to serve another term as the READS Treasurer.

Thank You for Joining READS at NELA/NHLA



We hope you all enjoyed connecting with READS at the NELA/NHLA Conference. Whether you attended one of the presentations with our READS Executive Board Members or joined us at our Annual Fall Business Meeting, we hope that you gained some new ideas for your library!

Couldn't make it to one of our presentations? View the following presentations from your READS Executive Board below:

Book Club Kits: READS-To-GO & the NH Kitkeeper Program

Handling Book Challenges

Craft Alley: Providing Socially Distanced Craft Programs to Adults, & Transitioning Back to In-Person Programs One More!

Renew Your READS Membership



Renew your READS membership in the New Year! You won't want to miss out on these great benefits of being a READS member:

- Bi-Monthly newsletter featuring news, programming ideas, reference resources, editorials, and event reminders!
- Member-discounted rates for BOTH the READS Spring Roundtable and Fall Conference!
- Networking opportunities to serve on READS Committees and the Executive Board!
- Specially curated event reminder and announcement emails!
- A dedicated and knowledgeable group of librarians and library staff who are ready to share ideas!

For just \$5, you'll get another fun year of adult services related news, highlights, and events. Renew both your NHLA and READS memberships [HERE!](#)

Thank you for continuing to be a part of our READS family!

The READS Programming Committee Wants You!



READS is once again looking for individuals to join the Programming Committee. This committee typically organizes 3-4 Roundtables, the Annual READS Fall Conference, and occasional event collaborations with other sections. Responsibilities include arranging for speakers, choosing venues and caterers, and reviewing surveys. The approximate time commitment is 2-3 hours per month.

Please contact Eileen Gilbert, Programming Committee Chair, at director@belmontpubliclibrary.org for more information or if interested.

New Year, New Programming Ideas



Planning programs for the new year? Take a look at the [READS Programming Database](#)! From Sustainability and Hobbies to History and Health & Wellness, there are SO MANY programs for you to choose from. Each program listing contains reviews and all of the information you'll need to book your next program.

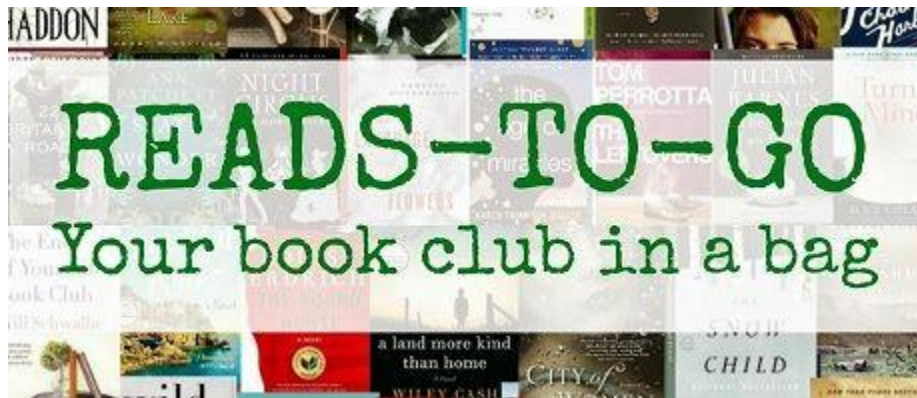
Make your program planning even easier with promotional materials from the [READS Repository!](#) From flyers and social media posts to Canva templates and graphics, there are fun ideas to browse and use for your own programs.

Both the Program Database and READS Repository are living organisms that are full of submissions from libraries across the state. Anyone who has hosted or created an Adult Services related program is encouraged to share on both platforms.

Submission couldn't be easier:

- **For the repository:** Email your PDF, png, jpeg, or Word document, to READSrepository@gmail.com and use the subject line: Steal This Content!
- **For the Programming Database:** Simply fill out the questions on the [Adult Program Recommendations Form](#).

NEW READS-To-Go Kits



Borrow one of these new READS-To-Go Kits in the New Year!

- *Project Hail Mary* by Andy Weir (Manchester City Library)
- *Rooted* by Lyanda Lynn Haupt (Concord Public Library)
- *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins (Concord Public Library)

For more information about Kit Keeper, or READS-To-Go, click [HERE!](#) If your library is interested in hosting a READS-To-Go kit, please email rtgchair@nhlibrarians.org.